



Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, K5FD

September, 2017 Alpine, Texas

BBARC To Hear Fowler On Radio Astronomy

The Big Bend Amateur Radio Club will hear a program on Radio Astronomy presented by Jim Fowler, KD5KBU. Fowler is the Computer Group Manager of the Hobby-Eberly Telescope at McDonald Observatory.

The Club meeting will be held September 12 at 7:30 p.m. The West Texas National Bank Community Room is the site of the meeting.

Cycle Fest Coming Up: Operators Needed

The 41st Fort Davis Cyclefest is happening on September 16th-17th. This event always brings a couple of hundred bicyclists for a sponsored ride around Jeff Davis County.

The principal events are a series of rides along Hwy 166 and Hwy 118. The longest of which is a 75 mile loop ride starting at Prude Ranch, going through the mountains along Hwy 166 and Hwy 118, and back to Prude Ranch. There is also a Hill Climb on Sunday morning from the Solar Park to the top of My Locke for the brave (foolhardy) souls that still have legs to pedal with.

The events on Saturday start at 8 AM and finish at 4 PM. There is a cook out at Prude Ranch following the loop rides. Sunday's hill climb starts at 9 AM and is typically over by 11 AM.

Because of the limited communication capabilities around Hwy 166 we have been asked to station amateur radio operators at the water/food stops around the course.

This is typically a fun event without the need to keep track of riders. Our job will be to relay logistics messages when a water stop runs out of supplies and health/safety messages if a rider is hurt. We typically have operators at all the water stops as well as some of the areas of the course where there are safety hazards.

Jim, KD5KBU, has been net control for this event for the last 10 years or so but if anyone wants to try operating as net control he would be delighted to assist.

Operators need to meet Saturday morning at 7 AM in the parking lot of Mad Dog's Cantina (currently closed) in Fort Davis. If you would like to help out, come on out. It is not necessary for every one to remain for the entire eight hours of the event. If you have things to do on Saturday afternoon, let Jim (or the net control) know and they can assign you to a water stop closer to town that finishes early. Afternoon operators can be accommodated as well but typically most of the riders are already in by 2 PM. Of course, all operators are invited to the cook out at Prude Ranch after the event. Come on out and practice your emergency skills.

Texas QSO Party This Month

The Texas QSO party, sponsored by the Northwest Amateur Radio Society, a full-service ARRL recognized club in Northwest Houston, Texas, is scheduled on the last full weekend in September. We do this each year to encourage contacts between Texas amateur radio operators and amateur radio operators throughout the world.

One of the planning goals each year is to have operators in each of the 254 counties in Texas. This is the best - and in fact it may be the only - opportunity to make contact with operators in some Texas counties. For more information on operator density in Texas, see the [Where are all the Hams](#) website.

TQP mobile operators, be careful and have a good time. Fixed station operators, get on the air and look for the mobiles! Regardless of how you like to participate, get on the air, make some contacts, and have fun!

Operating times for the 2017 contest are from **1400Z on SATURDAY, September 23 to 0200Z on SUNDAY, September 24** and from **1400Z to 2000Z on SUNDAY, September 24**. Stations may work the entire contest period.

If anyone is interested in operating contact Bill, KE5OG at bill.ke5og@gmail.com. We can turn in our scores as a club aggregate.

For more info see txqp.net

Classifieds:

For Sale: WX0B Six-Pack antenna switching system. Two transceivers in, six antennas out. Excellent condition with control box. \$300.

Steppir DB18 40 meter through 6 meter Yagi. Has two trombones. Good condition and partially disassembled on the ground in Alpine, Texas. Includes controller. Price is less than half of what it costs new. \$1,600.

Also, 3-element Steppir Yagi. Fiberglass covers are faded somewhat but still in excellent operating condition. Includes controller. Less than half price. \$900. Partially disassembled on the ground in Alpine, Texas.

Contact Bill, KE5OG, at 432-244-8863 or bill.ke5og@gmail.com.

For Sale: Alpha 99, Original owner, purchased in January, 2000. Has original 4 CX800-A7s. Works Fine. \$2,700 plus.

ALS-600 Solid State Amp. Purchased, October, 1994, AES. Works Fine. \$650

Ameritron AL-572. Took unit in Trade 2016. Applied AC and tubes and dial lights lit ok. Did not operate. Asking \$600.

Two Kenwood TS-940s, both checked out by Cal Fisher in Dallas. Both work fine. MC-60 mike available as option. \$700 each.

Kenwood TS-180 Transceiver w/speaker and PS, works fine, very nice condition. \$300.

Kenwood TS-820 w/VFO, spker, PS, works fine. \$425

Kenwood TS-850S, no tuner. \$600

Kenwood TS-520, SE, Re-tubed and aligned, with MFJ 4-pin mike. \$225

Yaesu FT-990 very nice, almost new, was in storage for many years. No mike. \$650

Yaesu FRG-7700 solid state receiver. Was sent in for general checkup several years ago, works fine. \$200.

Ameritron ATR-30 tuner. Sent in for checking to MFJ, works fine. \$375

Ameritron ATR-10 tuner, works fine. \$75

Murch 2000 Tuner, works fine. \$75

Plus receivers, speakers, power supplies, amp parts, mikes, rotator, tubes, military receivers, tower parts.

Tom Gius, N5NYZ, 206 West Arcadia Ave, Alpine, Texas 79830 Call 432-837-3679



**BIG BEND EMERGENCY NET REPORT
From WA5ROE**

Date	Net Control	Check-ins	Length	Remarks
08/27/17	W5NPR	50	35	
08/20/17	WA5ROE	37	34	
08/13/17	WA5ROE	42	36	
08/06/17	WA5ROE	43	37	

Remember – the BBEN meets **every** Sunday on 3922 KHz at 8:15 a.m. Central time (either CST or CDT). Visitors are always welcome. Early check-ins are welcome beginning around 8:05 a.m. on 3922 kHz or on the BBARC repeater system or on EchoLink.

2 Meter Net Report

Our 2 meter net meeting EVERY Wednesday at 8:00 PM (local time) on the clubs repeater system network. These are good training ground for possible emergency situations, as well as helping

the new hams in the area to have an easy way to get use to "talking on the radio".

The club website (www.bigbendarc.com) has ALL the information on the 2 meter net. Included is the Net Control members schedule, the "script" (supplied ONLY as a guide to ensure the important information is given out weekly - you can use it anyway you see fit) and a list of the recent check-in members.

If you have an interest in joining the Net Control stations please call me ([432/837-2257](tel:4328372257)) or holler at me during the Wednesday evening net (either before or after the net).

The month of August had five (5) Wednesdays in it and it went this way:

Date	Check	Net Control
08/30/17	14	KA5PVB
08/23/17	15	KF5KMA
08/16/17	11	KB5R
08/09/17	18	N5BBJ
08/02/17	14	KG5LM,G

75 total check-ins for August.

If you don't have the time to check-in to the net and stick around for the round-table discussion, take a minute of your time and check-in as an "in-and-out" (where you're there for the head count but don't have the time to participate). All participation is much appreciated and encouraged.

Any of the new hams in the community, if you have questions or problems with trying to get radios and antennas set-up feel free to bring them up during the net. We may not have the answer right off the cuff, but somebody can find the info and get back with you shortly!

During the month of August the net had check-ins from the following hams on our Echo-Link System:

***Special thanks to Al KG5HEJ for helping us out by monitoring the Echo-Link System for us, so we DON'T miss anyone! ***

KD5KC – Mike, El Paso
KG5DW – Don, Denton

Our prayers go out to all in the Houston, Southeast Texas and Southern Louisiana areas affected by the Hurrican Harvey event.

73's and hope to talk to you soon.
Chuck Dobbins – KA5PVB
2-meter Net Manager



BBARC Club Officers

President - Allen Moore, N5NYM
Vice-President - Bill Brooks, KE5OG
Secretary - Billy Roberts, W5NPR
Treasurer - Angie Otoupol, N5MVV

THE BARK Newsletter of the BBARC

Big Bend Amateur Radio Club
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BIG BEND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

<http://www.bigbendarc.com>

Meetings on the second Tuesday of each month at the West Texas National Bank Building in Alpine, 7:30 P.M. CST/CDT.

ARRL Affiliated Club

MEMBERSHIP AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

2017 Dues are due

Annual membership is Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 each year. Dues are \$36 per year for individual or individual & spouse.

Membership allows you to participate in all club activities and vote at the monthly meetings.

Newsletters are available by e-mail for members, subscribers, and interested recipients. Send your e-mail address to [bill.ke5og at gmail.com](mailto:bill.ke5og@gmail.com) to be put on the list.

ABOUT THE BBARC

Founded December 17, 1974

ARRL affiliate since 1986

The BBARC is a 501(C)3 organization. Contributions are tax deductible.



Big Bend Emergency Net, 3.922 MHz

Founded September 18, 1977

Meets every Sunday morning at 8:30 A.M. CST/CDT

Controlled net format. Welcomes new participants and visitors.

Established by Bob Ward, WA5ROE.
Net Manager, Bob Ward, WA5ROE, [wa5roe at juno.com](mailto:wa5roe@juno.com)

Big Bend 2-meter Net

Founded July 9, 2008

Meets every Wednesday evening at 8:00 P.M. CST/CDT

Controlled net format. Welcomes new participants and visitors.

Established by Bob Ayer, KA1AAJ (SK)

Net Manager, Chuck Dobbins, KA5PVB,
[charles.dobbins52 at yahoo.com](mailto:charles.dobbins52@yahoo.com)

BBARC REPEATER SYSTEM

All standard offsets. All repeaters require 146.2 Hz PL tone encoded on your transmit signal. All repeaters are linked.

147.120+	Shafter, Cibolo Creek
147.020+	Elephant Mt. south of Alpine. System hub
146.620-	Ft. Davis located at McDonald Observatory
146.720-	Alpine, Pearce Mountain
146.820-	Terlingua, Study Butte
146.920-	Glass Mountains, Alpine / Ft. Stockton
145.230-	Emergency Repeater

BBARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Club Meeting, September 12 , 7:30 p.m., West Texas National Bank Community Room.

WAE DX Contest, SSB: 0000Z, Sep 9 to 2359Z, Sep 10

North American Sprint, CW: 0000z-0400Z, Sep 10

North American Sprint RTTY: 0000z-0400Z, Sep 17

Texas QSO Party: 1400Z, Sep 23 to 0200Z, Sep 24 and 1400Z-2000Z, Sep 24.