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## Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, K5FD

October, 2018 Alpine, Texas

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### **Club to Hold Discussion on Propagation**

The Big Bend ARC will hold its regular monthly on Tuesday, October 9, at 7:30 pm in the West Texas National Bank Community Room.

The club will conduct necessary business after which we will have a discussion about propagation led by Bill, KE5OG. In particular the discussion will focus on the available indices and what they mean.

All are invited to attend.

### ***Club Raffle Tickets are Available***

During the last meeting, the club's Finance Committee recommended the club hold a raffle. Tickets are now available for sale.

We will raffle off three items in time for Christmas. First Prize will be a \$700 gift certificate, Second Prize is a \$200 gift certificate and third prize is a \$100 gift certificate. The certificates are redeemable at Morrison True Value Hardware, Morrison True Value Garden Center or Lucy's Christmas Cottage. All are located on Fifth Street in Alpine. The drawing will be held December 13 right after the "Talk to Santa Clause Event" at Morrison True Value.

Cost of the tickets is \$10 each and only 300 were printed. Tickets are available from club members

or by contacting Bill Brooks at bill.ke5og@gmail.com or at 432-244-8863.

Club members can pick up their allocation of tickets from KE5OG anytime.

### ***ARRL, FCC Discussing Issue of Uncertified Imported VHF/UHF Transceivers***

ARRL has taken a minor exception to the wording of a September 24 [FCC Enforcement Advisory](#) pertaining to the importation, marketing and sale of VHF and UHF transceivers and is in discussion with FCC personnel to resolve the matter. The *Enforcement Advisory* was in response to the importation into the US of certain radio products that are not FCC certified for use in any radio service, but identified as Amateur Radio equipment.

"While much of this equipment is actually usable on Amateur bands, the radios are also capable of operation on non-amateur frequencies allocated to radio services that require the use of equipment that has been FCC-certified," ARRL said. "Such equipment is being marketed principally to the general public via mass e-marketers and not to Amateur Radio licensees."

ARRL said the upshot is that the general public has been purchasing these radios in large

quantities, and they are being used on the air by unlicensed individuals. “

“Radio amateurs have complained of increased, unlicensed use of amateur allocations by people who are clearly unlicensed and unfamiliar with Amateur radio operating protocols,” ARRL said. But while it supports the general tenor and intent of the Enforcement Advisory, ARRL said it disagrees with the FCC on one point.

“In several places, the *Enforcement Advisory* makes the point that ‘anyone importing, advertising or selling such noncompliant devices should stop immediately, and anyone owning such devices should not use them,’” ARRL pointed out. “The Advisory broadly prohibits the ‘use’ of such radios, but our view is that there is no such prohibition relative to licensed Amateur Radio use — entirely within amateur allocations — of a radio that may be capable of operation in non-amateur spectrum, as long as it is not actually used to *transmit* in non-amateur spectrum.

ARRL has had extensive discussions about this issue with FCC Wireless Bureau and Enforcement Bureau staff, and those discussions are ongoing.

“It is important to protect the flexibility of the Amateur Service as essentially an experimental radio service, but it is also very important to stop the unlawful importation and marketing of illegal radios in the United States and the use of those radios by unlicensed persons,” ARRL maintained. “We will keep our members informed as our discussions with FCC on this subject continue.”

## Investigation into International Space Station Leak Continues

NASA has issued a statement regarding a leak affecting the International Space Station ([ISS](#)). On August 29, a mysterious 2-millimeter hole was discovered on a *Soyuz* capsule docked to the ISS, resulting in a pressure leak.

The *Soyuz* capsule last carried to the ISS cosmonaut Sergey Prokopyev, and astronauts Serena Auñón-Chancellor, KG5TMT, and Alexander Gerst, KF5ONO. It is scheduled to return them to Earth in December.

The hole, which appeared to have been drilled, was repaired by the crew. Roscosmos said this week that the hole was not drilled by accident, opening the possibility of sabotage. Roscosmos Director General Dmitry Rogozin earlier ruled out a manufacturing defect.

“[This] indicates that this is an isolated issue which does not categorically affect future production,” the NASA statement said. “This conclusion does not necessarily mean the hole was created intentionally or with mal-intent.”

Roscosmos has claimed the hole may have been drilled by a technician on the ground.

NASA and Roscosmos continue to investigate the incident to determine the cause, and a November spacewalk is planned in order to gather more information.

On October 11, US Astronaut Nick Hague, KG5TMV, and Russian Cosmonaut Aleksey Ovchinin will head to the ISS aboard a Russian *Soyuz* MS-10 spacecraft. NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine is scheduled to attend the launch and plans to meet with Rogozin at that time.

## FOR SALE

Offered by Rusty Herman, KB5R

Kenwood: TM-221-A VHF Transceiver  
Kenwood TM D-700 UHF / VHF Mobile  
Transceiver with manuals, power cord, and  
programming disk

Palomar SWR Meter, 0 to 1000 watts

Kenwood TL-922A 2 KW SSB Linear Amplifier 160 to 15 Meters with Manuals

Yaesu FT-1000MP dual VFO, HF Transceiver, 160 to 10 Meters with Desk Mike, power cable, and Manuals

Heathkit SB-604\* External Power Supply / Speaker

Heathkit SB-104A\* 100 W HF Transceiver, 80 to 10 Meters  
\*to be sold as a unit

*Please call 432-837-0002 for details*

***Request for News, Classified Ads***

The BARK editor is requesting club members and readers provide news items and classified ads for inclusion in this newsletter.

“To provide a newsletter that meets the needs of our members and readers we are reaching out,” said Editor Bill Brooks, KE5OG. “We can better serve club members if we know better what they want to see in the newsletter.”

Personal equipment for sale is also suitable.

You can send appropriate items for inclusion to [bill.ke5og at gmail.com](mailto:bill.ke5og@gmail.com).

Deadline for copy is the Monday the week before the club meeting on the second Tuesday of each month.

Of course, the editor reserves the right to include or exclude materials submitted.

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**BIG BEND EMERGENCY NET REPORT**  
**From WA5ROE**

Date	Net Control	Check-ins	Length	Remarks
09/30/18	W5NPR	41	32	Add W5LF, Cliff, Dripping Springs
09/23/18	W5NPR	28	32	
09/16/18	W5NPR	46	30	
09/09/18	WA5ROE	40	29	
09/02/18	WA5ROE	38	33	

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 meets EVERY Wednesday at 8:00 PM (local time) on the clubs repeater system network. These are good training grounds for potential emergency situations as well as helping new hams in the area to have an easy way to get use to "talking on the radio"!

Our club website ([www.bigbendarc.com](http://www.bigbendarc.com)) has all the information about our 2 meter net. This includes the Net Control members schedule, the "script" (supplied only as a guide to insure that 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 as an operator, please call me (432/837-2257) or holler during the Wednesday Net. The script and "check-in roster" are both posted on the club website for you to download and use as a NCS!

The month of September we had four Wednesday's and it went this way:

Date	Check-ins	Net Control
09/05/18	13	N5BBJ
09/12/18	17	KA5PVB
09/19/18	14	KG5LMG
09/26/18	22	KA5PVB

\*\*\*\*\*Total of 66 check-ins for the month of September.

If you don't have the time to check-in to the net and participate in the round-table discussion, take a minute of your time and check-in as an "in-and-out" (you're in for the head count, but not participating in the actual net). ALL participation is appreciated and encouraged!

During the month of August we had check-ins from the following hams on the Echo-Link System as follows:

W5RHN - Bob from Crystal Falls, MI. (3 times)



**BBARC Club Officers**

President – Marvin Voiers, KG5LMG  
Secretary - Billy Roberts, W5NPR  
Treasurer - Angie Otoupol, N5MVV



**THE BARK**

**Newsletter of the BBARC**

Big Bend Amateur Radio Club  
1402 N. 5<sup>th</sup> St.  
Alpine, Texas 79830

Publisher: Bob Ward, WA5ROE  
[wa5roe at juno.com](mailto:wa5roe@juno.com)  
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[bill.ke5og at gmail.com](mailto:bill.ke5og@gmail.com)



K5FRN – Fran from Crystal Falls, MI. (3 times)  
KG5DW – Don checked in from Denton  
KG5HEJ – Al from Terlingua (2 times)  
N5MDB – Matt from Austin

\*\*\*Note – September 5 net, EchoLink System computer crashed and system wasn't available\*\*\*

I would like to thank KG5HEJ - Al in Terlingua for keeping up appraised of the Echo-Link activity during our net times! VERY MUCH APPRECIATED!

I want to specifically thank our five (5) Net Control stations for all of their efforts on behalf of the club's 2 meter net for the entire year. It just wouldn't have happened if you were NOT there! Our Net Control stations are: KF5KMA - Dan, KG5BMK - Chuck, KG5LMG - Marvin, N5BBJ - Bruce, and W5RHN - Bob

73,  
Chuck Dobbins - KA5PVB  
2 meter Net Manager

**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**

**2018 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.

Dues can be mailed to Bob Ward, WA5ROE at 1402 N. Fifth Street, Alpine, Texas 79830.

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

145.230- Emergency Repeater



### ABOUT THE BBARC

### Big Bend ARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Founded December 17, 1974

ARRL affiliate since 1986

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

Big Bend ARC Club Meeting, October 9 , 7:30 pm, West Texas National Bank Community Room.

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB, 0000Z, Oct 27 to 2400Z, Oct 28

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW, 2100Z, Nov 3 to 0300Z, Nov 5

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB, 2100Z, Nov 17 to 0300Z, Nov 19

[www.contestcalendar.com](http://www.contestcalendar.com)

### Big Bend Emergency Net, 3.922 MHz

Founded September 18, 1977

Meets every Sunday morning at 8:15 A.M. CST/CDT

Controlled net format. Welcomes new participants and visitors.

Established by Bob Ward, WA5ROE.  
Net Manager, Bob Ward, WA5ROE, [wa5roe@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@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.

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|----------|---|
| 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    |