



Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, K5FD

February, 2018 Alpine, Texas

Club To Hear Tim Duffy, K3LR, Super Ham

The Big Bend Amateur Radio Club program for February will be by Tim Duffy, K3LR. Tim is a contester and owns the an 11-acre multi-multi station in Pennsylvania. He will participate in the World Radiosport Championship in 2018 on a sponsored team. Tim also owns DX Engineering, a ham radio retailer.

The meeting will be via Skype and will be held at the SRSU Turner Range Animal Science Center in Room 130. Time is 7:30.

Big Bend ARC To Offer Licensing Class

The Big Bend Amateur Radio Club will sponsor a licensing class beginning on March 5, 2018. Upon completion of the class, students will be able to take the Technician Class exam for a Ham Radio License with all the privileges associated with that license class. Cost of the class is \$29.95 which is the cost of the license manual. The exam costs \$15.

The class will be held one night per week at the Sul Ross Turner Range Animal Science Center, Room 130 beginning at 6 p.m. Each class will last about 3 hours. For additional information contact Bill Brooks, KE5OG, at 432-244-8863 or bill.ke5og@gmail.com.

Club members recently voted to assess \$15 to help improve the financial stability of the club.

Members may add the assessment to their annual dues if they have not yet been paid, bring funds to the next regularly scheduled meeting, or mail a check to Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, 1402 N 5th Street, Alpine, Texas 79830.

A fund raising committee is also being formed to address the club's longer term financial needs.

ARRL Board Backs Off On Gagging Board Members; Pledges More Transparency

From ARRL:

The ARRL Board of Directors took action on a number of items at its Annual Meeting, January 19-20, in Windsor, Connecticut, including adopting a motion to a review the entire code of conduct for Board members, known officially as the [ARRL Policy on Board Governance and Conduct of Members of the Board of Directors and Vice Directors](#). ARRL Officers, Directors, and Vice Directors will review the code of conduct and complete a final draft version 60 days ahead of the Board's July 2018 meeting. In the same motion, the Board deleted and suspended sections that were considered ambiguous and in conflict with the intent of the code of conduct requiring Board members to act in the best interest of the League's membership.

The Board also voted unanimously to amend a policy affecting candidates for ARRL elected offices, including Directors and Vice Directors. The new policy calls for candidates to be informed in writing at the outset of the nomination process that decisions of the Board's Ethics and Elections Committee concerning candidate eligibility will be made public unless the candidate requests otherwise. In addition, if the Ethics and Elections Committee rejects a candidate's petition, the candidate may ask that the reason(s) for rejection not be made public. Unless confidentiality is requested within 10 business days, the reason(s) for rejection may be made public.

A proposed addition to the [ARRL Articles of Association](#) regarding the personal liability and indemnification of Directors will be reviewed by the Executive Committee, the General Counsel, and ARRL Connecticut corporate counsel. Proposed amendments to the [ARRL Bylaws](#) regarding Life Membership were referred to the Administration and Finance Committee for further consideration.

It was decided that if these or any additional changes are proposed, they will be made available to the membership and will be accompanied by explanatory "white papers" before the Board considers action on them.

The Board approved an amendment, effective immediately, to Section II, Rule 1 of ARRL's [DXCC Rules](#) (Political Entities) that will confer DXCC entity status to an entity that has its own International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) [member society](#) and is included on the US Department of State's list of [Independent States in the World](#). In 2004, the Board had removed a rule that extended DXCC status by virtue of having been admitted as an IARU member society. ([See related story.](#))

In other action, the Board approved a motion requiring that minutes of Board meetings be

published only after being formally approved by the Board.

The Board unanimously adopted ARRL's 2018-2019 financial plan. Up to \$30,000 was allocated to fund the discovery and strategy phase of the Lifelong Learning Initiative. The Board will receive a progress report on the project at its July meeting.

Addressing administrative matters, the Board unanimously adopted a motion to form a CEO Search Committee to identify a candidate for Chief Executive Office for Board election. The committee, which is authorized to engage a search consultant, will report periodically to the Board and at the July meeting. Committee members will include Treasurer Rick Niswander, K7GM (chair), Central Division Director Kermit Carlson, W9XA; Roanoke Division Director Jim Boehner, N2ZZ, West Gulf Division Director Dr. David Woolweaver, K5RAV, and First Vice President Greg Widin, K0GW.

3Y0Z Dxpedition Aborts

The Bouvet Island Dxpedition team has had to abort their DXpedition. They arrived at the island via ship and were waiting for the weather to clear so they could begin helicoptering to land on January 31. On February 3, they were still expecting another four days before the weather cleared when the ship captain announced there was a problem with one of the ship's engines.

There intent was to return to Punta Arenas, Chile. On February 5, the captain decided it would be better, and safer, to head for Capetown, South Africa.

The team is safe but very disappointed. They are pledging to try again when they can.

Bouvet is the number two most needed country.

The island has been described as “The Most Isolated Island on Earth.” It is located in the South Atlantic just north of the Antarctic.

From Alpine, the beam heading is 138 degrees.

The 20-man team was to be on the island until the end of February. More info can be found at <https://www.bouvetdx.org/>

Kosova, Z6, Now On The Air As New DXCC Country

From ARRL:

A new on-the-air team is taking the reins at Z60A, as “Project Goodwill Kosovo” moves into its second week, with only 2 weeks to go until the actual 10th anniversary of Kosovo’s independence. Hams from 10 countries will take part in the Project’s current phase. Z60A has been on the air since January 21, steadily winnowing down demand for Kosovo as a DXCC entity; the republic jumped to the top of Club Log’s [DXCC Most Wanted List](#) after attaining DXCC status, putting it ahead of North Korea and Bouvet Island.

The Z60A operators are operating split, UP/DN from their transmit frequency. Pay attention to operators’ instructions.

A recent reception celebrated Kosovo’s new DXCC status, with remarks by IARU member society [SHRAK](#) President Vjollca Belegu Caka, Z61VB; the Chair of Kosovo’s telecommunications regulator (ARKEP) Kreshnik Gashi, ARRL Honorary Vice President Jim Fenstermaker, K9JF; IARU Region 1 Secretary Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T, and Project Goodwill Kosovo Coordinator Martti Laine, OH2BH.

During the celebration, some 40,000 contacts have been logged so far at Z60A, with operators

focusing on Asia and North America. A LoTW upload and early QSL card are under consideration.

Fenstermaker said this week that noise continues to be an issue. He’s flying back to the US later this week so he can add Z60A to his own DXCC tally.

CLASSIFIEDS

From Grady, K5EP

Ameritron AL-84, amplifier, \$ 350
Collins 51J3, \$ 600
Grundig Satellit 3400, \$ 150
Hallicrafters SX-18, \$ 225
Kenwood TS-2000, \$ 850
Swan 350 w/ power supply, \$ 150
Ten-Tec Omni A w/ external speaker, \$ 200
Ten-Tec Century 21, \$ 175
Yaesu FT-200 w/PS and ext. VFO, \$ 200
Contact: K5ep@geomadre.com
[\(325\)716-0450](tel:(325)716-0450)

ESTATE SALE

From Rusty, KB5R

Elecraft K-3 \$2,300.00
MFJ 4416B Battery enhancer \$75.00
Heil Pro 5 Headset \$85.00
DX Engr.MBVE-5AE Vertical \$350.00
MFJ 1026 Noise Cancel \$80.00
Daiwa CS20 2 pole antenna switch \$15.00
Alpha-Delta 4 port ant. Switch \$50.00
MFJ 4601 Window feedthru panel \$20.00
AR-303 rotor \$60.00
Pixel Tech. Loop Antenna RFPRO1B \$200.00
Ameritron RCS-4 Remote Ant. Switch \$75.00
Alpha-Delta Center Insulator \$5.00
Alpha-Delta DXDD 40/80 Dipole(82') \$50.00
DX Engr. RTR-1A XCVR Interface \$100.00
Alpha Delta TT3G50 (500MHZ)-1KW \$200.00

Array Solutions AS303 (70MHZ)-3KW \$25.00
 K9SDV 160M Pre-Amp \$40.00
 Wilson WiFi Yagi (700-2700MHZ) \$30.00
 Military Metal Box \$10.00
 Tucker Antenna Tuner in metal case \$75.00
 RG8x Coax - 100' \$25.00
 Hallicrafters S-108 SW Rcvr \$75.00
 Jetstream 2M/440 Mag mount \$20.00
 5/8 wave mag mount \$15.00
 Larsen 2M mag mount \$15.00
 S9 Vertical with tripod and radials \$70.00
 Yaesu YRC-1 Digital Rotor Control \$225.00
 Antenna Trap (Inductors) \$20.00
 Radioshack mic foot switch \$10.00
 Heath HD1410 Keyer \$50.00
 Coax patch cords \$25.00
 Yaesu FT-450D Transciever \$600.00
 Realistic 10M Tranciever \$100.00
 Ladderline dipole in bag \$30.00
 DX Engr. PL-259 connectors \$15.00
 8 conductor rotor cable \$5.00
 55Ah batteries in black boxes \$120.00
 J-38 telegraph key \$5.00
 Telegraph relay \$10.00
 Loading coils in grey box \$5.00
 2 inch copper strapping \$5.00
 2 inch copper strapping \$5.00
 MFJ 4230 30A power supply \$45.00
 Vibroplex Key \$150.00

**Contact: Jerry Reasner through Rusty, KB5R
 Tyler, TX**

**BIG BEND EMERGENCY NET REPORT
 From WA5ROE**

Date	Net Control	Check-ins	Length	Remarks
01/28/18	W5NPR	45	40	
01/21/18	WA5ROE	45	47	
01/14/18	WA5ROE	49	38	
01/07/18	WA5ROE	46	40	

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 January had five Wednesdays in it and it went this way:

Date	Check-ins	Net Control
01/31/18	22	N5BBJ
01/24/18	15	KG5LMG
01/17/18	16	KG5BMK
01/10/18	19	KA5PVB
01/03/18	12	KF5KMA

84 Total check-ins for December

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 January we had check-ins from the following ham on the Echo-Link System as follows:

- KG5DW - Don checked in from Denton, TX.
- KD5KC - Mike checked in from El Paso, TX.
- W5RHN - Bob checked in from Searcy, AR. on their way to MO.
- K5FRN – Fran checked in from Searcy, AR. As a Navigator on the trip.
- KD5FBH – Roy checked in from the Fort Worth, TX. Area.

I would like to thank KG5HEJ, Al in Terlingua, for keeping us apprised of the Echo Linkl
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BBARC Club Officers

- President - Allen Moore, N5NYM
- Vice-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. 5th St.
Alpine, Texas 79830

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

Editor: Bill Brooks, KE5OG
[bill.ke5og at gmail.com](mailto:bill.ke5og@gmail.com)

activity during our net times! Very Much Appreciated.

I want to specifically thank our five net control stations for all of their efforts on behalf of the club's two meter net for the entire year. It just wouldn't have happened if you were not there.

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.

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](http://wa5roe.at.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

Big Bend ARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Club Meeting, February 13, 2018, 7:30 p.m.,
SRSU Turner Range Animal Science Center,
Room 130.

North American Sprint, CW, 0000z-0400z, Feb. 4

ARRL International DX Contest, CW 0000z, Feb
17 to 2400Z, Feb 18

CQ 160-meter Contest, SSB, 2200z, Feb 23 to
2200Z, Feb 25

North American QSO Party, RTTY, 1800Z, Feb
24 to 0559Z, Feb 25

www.contestcalendar.com/