



Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, K5FD December, 2018

Alpine, Texas

Big Bend ARC to Hold Election of Officers and Silent Auction

The Big Bend ARC will hold the election for 2019 officers at the club's regular meeting Tuesday night, December 11. The nominating committee will present the names of the recommended slate but members may also nominate from the floor.

Members are invited to bring their junk...er stuff...er unused equipment, for a silent auction to benefit the club. The auction will be held immediately following the business portion, including the election, of the meeting.

The club meets at 7:30 pm at the Community Room of the West Texas National Bank.

Polish Team to Try Bouvet Island Dxpediton

A team of Polish amateurs is spearheading another attempt at Bouvet Island in the South Atlantic. A previous attempt to land on Bouvet was aborted when the ship they were on suffered a broken engine and the captain scrubbed the mission.

From the team's website:

“A robust seagoing vessel has been secured for the expedition’s purposes. It is also prepared to sail in extreme weather conditions including ice pack. Expedition tents will become our shelter during our stay at the island and will protect us from harsh weather conditions.



“Our expedition will begin in the Republic of South Africa, from where we’ll sail to Bouvet. We will cross over 2800 miles across the far South Atlantic. That is over 5200 km! Once we land at the island, we will install a camp and ham radio equipment at the ice cap covering 93% of Bouvet. If weather permits, we will climb the highest point of the island, Olavtoppen, reaching 760m above sea level.

“Our expedition is planned for the southern hemisphere’s summer time. Exact dates will be announced when closer to our departure. Our cruise will take 12 days one way. If we are lucky with weather, our stay at the island will last for 2 weeks. We assume the entire journey will take approximately 1.5 months.”

Currently the team is still training in South Africa. It is unknown when they will leave for Bouvet. By the way, if you are interested they are looking for two more team members.

Bouvet is the second most needed DX country on the Club Log list. North Korea is first on the list.

FT8 to Undergo Change Monday

If you are using the new soundcard digital mode FT8, we hope you are aware of the changes coming next week. On December 10, you need to be ready to switch to version 2.0.

The new version will use a 77-bit information payload versus the 75-bits in previous versions. That means the two versions are not compatible. This change also applies to all the other modes included in WSJT-X.

Recent testing by beta testers has demonstrated considerable confusion among users. Many users apparently are not aware of the pending change so when they were presented with the new version on the air they could not decode the messages.

That led to a lot of confusion. Many users also upgraded without reading the installation guide to know what was different.

The new version can be found at:

<https://www.physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/K1JT/wsjt.html>.

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@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
11/04/18	WA5ROE	37	28	
11/11/18	WA5ROE	44	40	
11/18/18	WA5ROE	44	35	
11/25/18	W5NPR	35	25	

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) 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 November we had four Wednesday's and it went this way:

Date	Check-ins	Net Control
11/07/18	26	KA5PVB
11/14/18	13	KG5BMK
11/21/18	12	W5RHN
11/28/18	12	KG5LMG

*****Total of 63 check-ins for the month of November.

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 November we had check-ins from the following hams on the Echo-Link System as follows:

KD5KC – Mike from El Paso
 KC5MLL – Joe from Terre Haute, Indiana
 K4IHD – Don from Varnville, South Carolina
 KC5WFH – Bill from Kingston, Washington
 KG5HEJ – Al in Terlingua

I would like to thank KG5HEJ - Al in Terlingua for keeping up apprased 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

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ABOUT THE BBARC

Founded December 17, 1974

ARRL affiliate since 1986

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

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BBARC Club Officers

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

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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)

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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 at juno.com](mailto:wa5roe@juno.com)

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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

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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)

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MEMBERSHIP AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

2019 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 at gmail.com](mailto:bill.ke5og@gmail.com) to be put on the list.

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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

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Big Bend ARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 11 – Big Bend ARC Club Meeting at 7:30, at the Community Room of West Texas National Bank. Election of 2019 Officers and Silent Auction.

December 13 – Santa Net on the Repeater System. Drawing for the Raffle Winners

ARRL 10-Meter Contest, 0000Z, Dec 8 to 2400Z, Dec 9

ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW, 1800Z-2359Z, Dec 9

ARRL RTTY Roundup, 1800Z, Jan 5 to 2400Z, Jan 6