



Newsletter of the Big Bend Amateur Radio Club, K5FD

November, 2019 Alpine, Texas

Club Meeting Tuesday

The Big Bend Amateur Radio Club will meet this coming Tuesday, October 8, at 7:30 pm at the Community Room of West Texas National Bank in downtown Alpine.

Stephen Cook, KE5WCP, will present a program on station grounding.

The public is invited.

Preparations Resume for 3Y0I Bouvet Island DXpedition

Another attempt to activate Bouvet Island is in the planning stages, according to the 3Y0I website. Efforts are under way to secure the necessary funds.

“As you probably know, our first attempt to reach



the island of Bouvet in March 2019 failed,” the news update said. “Despite complex preparations and training received in Cape Town, South

Africa, our vessel got hit by a big storm so badly that we had no choice but to sail back to Cape Town to reshuffle our plans. We were so close — just 63 nautical miles offshore!” The 3Y0I sponsors estimate that a second attempt would cost around \$170,000. “[W]e have already secured half of the required budget to go back to Bouvet,” the announcement said, adding that it’s beyond the capacity of the DXpedition team members to cover the entire cost, so they are trying to collect \$85,000 to fund the second attempt.

The 3Y0I team has a [GoFundMe page](#), set up by 3Y0I team leader Dom Grzyb, 3Z9DX. No time frame was given for the second attempt by Grzyb’s team, and it’s not known if Grzyb has obtained operating permission from the Norwegian government. The 19-square-mile subantarctic island is a Norwegian dependency.

“Our intentions are clear: If we don’t reach our fundraising goal, we won’t receive nor spend a single cent you donate and it would be returned to your GoFundMe account for withdrawal or to support any other GoFundMe project of your choice,” the announcement says.

“The future of amateur radio expeditions, especially in terms of activating entities placed across cold high-latitude seas, isn’t bright,” the 3Y0I statement [says](#). “Apart from the uncertainty of future solar cycles’ strength that may badly

reflect radio propagations, there are still very few of us who realize that visiting remote cold islands may become very seldom or even almost impossible.”

According to Club Log’s [DXCC Most Wanted List](#), Bouvet Island is No. 2, right behind North Korea. The unrelated 3Y0Z DXpedition attempt to land on Bouvet in early 2018 failed after the vessel transporting the team developed engine issues as it lay just offshore. The last successful Bouvet activation was 3Y0E, during a scientific expedition over the winter of 2007 – 2008. — *Thanks to Southgate Amateur Radio News via OPDX*

Boy Scouts Sound Last Call for US Jamboree on the Air Reports

The Boy Scouts are urging stations that participated in the 2019 Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) to [submit](#) a report telling about their experiences. Information will be compiled into the US Jamboree on the Air Report.

If you don’t have exact numbers for some of the information, provide a judicious estimate. An additional page seeks a list of communication modes used at your location as well as your stories, suggestions for improvement, and states/countries worked.

You’ll also have a chance to submit photos and videos. Held every October, JOTA is the largest Scouting event in the world. In 2018, more than 14,700 Scouts and visitors took part in JOTA in the US.

From ARRL

W1AW to Commemorate 98th Anniversary of First Amateur Radio Signals to Span the Atlantic

December 11 marks the 98th anniversary of the success of ARRL’s [Transatlantic Tests](#) in 1921, organized to see if low-power amateur radio stations could be heard across the Atlantic using

shortwave frequencies (i.e., above 200 meters). On that day, a message transmitted by a group of Radio Club of America members at 1BCG in Greenwich, Connecticut, was copied by Paul Godley, 2ZE, in Scotland.

While the first two-way contact would not take place until 1923, the 1921 transatlantic success marked the beginning of what would become routine communication between US radio amateurs and those in other parts of the world — literally the birth of DX.

To commemorate this amateur radio milestone, Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on the air through the day on December 11 with volunteer operators. The goal is to encourage contacts between radio amateurs in the US and Europe while showcasing the significance of the transmissions that pioneered global communication and laid the groundwork for technology widely used today. The event will run from 1300 until 0000 UTC. Some details are still being worked out, but operation will focus on 40 and 20 meters (SSB).

[Contact](#) Clark Burgard, N1BCG, for more information.

BIG BEND EMERGENCY NET REPORT From WA5ROE

Date	Net Control	Check -ins	Length	Remarks
10/06/19	W5NPR	33	35	
10/13/19	WA5ROE	39	38	0
10/20/19	WA5ROE	38	37	
10/27/19	WA5ROE	37	35	

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

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 (432/386-0756) or holler during the Wednesday Net. We could really use a couple of extra hands to be NCS! 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 October we had five (5) Wednesday's, and it went this way:

Date	Check-ins	Net Control station
Oct. 2	14	KG5LMG - Marvin
Oct. 9	unreported	KI5ANQ - Scott
Oct. 16	19	W5RHN - Bob
Oct. 23	12	KF5KMA - Dan
Oct. 30	18	KA5PVB - Chuck

*****Total of 63+ check-ins for the month of October! *****

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

W5RHN - Bob from Crystal Falls, MI. (summer home) (1 time, as they are headed home)
K5FRN - Fran from Crystal Falls, MI (1 time, headed home with W5RHN).
KG5HEJ - Al from Terlingua, TX.
N5BBJ - Bruce from South Padre Island, TX.
KD5KC - Mike from El Paso, TX
K5RIC - Rick from No Hill Mesa, NM. (near Ruidoso)
W5JSR - Steve and KK5ROB - Robin from Phoenix, AZ. (2 times)

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, KG5LMG - Marvin, N5BBJ - Bruce, W5RHN - Bob, and KI5ANQ - Scott

When you see them, thank them for all their efforts for the 2 meter net!

73,

Chuck Dobbins - KA5PVB
2 meter Net Manager

BBARC Club Officers

President – Bill Smith, K5WSA
Vice-president - Stephen Cook, KE5WCP
Secretary - Billy Roberts, W5NPR
Treasurer - Angie Otoupol, N5MVV

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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

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MEMBERSHIP AND NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

2020 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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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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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 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_dobbins@yahoo.com

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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

November 12 – Big Bend ARC Club Meeting at 7:30, at the Community Room, West Texas National Bank.