



# B-VARC BULLETIN

The Monthly Publication of the  
**BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**  
Serving Fort Bend and Harris Counties

Editor in Chief: Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS 774-7651 (0800-2100 hrs)

About the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club . . .

Organized in 1978, the club has been growing steadily. It is a gathering place for HAM radio operators in Fort Bend and Southwest Harris Counties, and surrounding communities. It is a general-purpose type of HAM club offering a variety of activities open to all interested persons. Membership is open, not only to licensed HAM operators, but also to anyone interested in the hobby. In addition to regularly-scheduled membership meetings, the club each year conducts classes leading to amateur radio licenses, and each month sponsors a volunteer-examiner team that offers examinations in all levels of HAM licenses.

To obtain information about the club and its various activities, please call the Houston Amateur Radio Helpline (713) 488-4HAM (488-4426). For information about joining the club, contact Randy Pollard AK5G: residence 729-6484 or work 224-3930.

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Volume: 15 Issue: 3

March 1992

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

From: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
P. O. Box 1630  
Missouri City, Texas 77459



## B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

**Thurs. Mar. 12** General Meeting  
7:30 pm Sugar Land Community Center  
Program: *The Criminal Justice System* by District Attorney,  
John Holmes, Jr., W5ALG

**Thurs. Apr. 2** Board Meeting  
7:30 pm Missouri City Fire Station

Allen Mattis *NSAFV*  
5314 Wigton  
Houston, TX 77096

# March 1992

## B-VARC CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:00pm Harris County RACES 146.94 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	<b>2</b> 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47	<b>3</b> 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00pm Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10	<b>4</b> 8:00pm B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy?) + 3 Khz)	<b>5</b> 6:30pm RACES AMTOR Net 7.090 7:30pm Board Meeting: Missouri City Fire Station	<b>6</b> Lunch Bunch -- Talk-In 442.5/145.47	<b>7</b> 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Houston Emergency Management Net 146. 84 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
<b>8</b> 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:00pm Harris County RACES 146.94 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	<b>9</b> 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47	<b>10</b> 7:00pm Amateur Exams (Stroke Jesuit College Prep) 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00pm Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10	<b>11</b> 8:00pm B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy?) + 3 Khz)	<b>12</b> 7:30pm General Meeting: Sugar Land Community Center	<b>13</b> Lunch Bunch -- Talk-In 442.5/145.47	<b>14</b> 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Houston Emergency Management Net 146. 84 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
<b>15</b> 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:00pm Harris County RACES 146.94 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	<b>16</b> 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47	<b>17</b> 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00pm Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10	<b>18</b> 8:00pm B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy?) + 3 Khz)	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Lunch Bunch -- Talk-In 442.5/145.47	<b>21</b> 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 8:00am Sidewalk Sale 9:00am Houston Emergency Management Net 146.84 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
<b>22</b> 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:00pm Harris County RACES 146.94 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	<b>23</b> 7:00pm NOVICE/ TECHNICIAN CLASSES BEGIN 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47	<b>24</b> 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00pm Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10	<b>25</b> 8:00pm B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy?) + 3 Khz)	<b>26</b> 7:30pm West Side Social	<b>27</b> Lunch Bunch -- Talk-In 442.5/145.47	<b>28</b> 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Houston Emergency Management Net 146. 84 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
<b>29</b> 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:00pm Harris County RACES 146.94 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	<b>30</b> 7:00pm NOVICE/ TECHNICIAN CLASSES 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47	<b>31</b> 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00pm Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10				

## Notes From The President . . .

by Randy Pollard, AK5G

VARC has a full lineup of events for the members to participate in. So far these events are:

EVENT	DATE	CONTACT
Novice/Tech Classes	March 23	Glenn, WB4LZG
MS-150 Bike Ride	April 25-26	Glenn, WB4LZG
ALA Clean Air Ride	May 3	Carl, KB5LDY
B-VARC Special Event	May 16-17	Bill, N5KXU
B-VARC Field Day	June 27-28	Bill, N5KXU

Also don't forget about the Monday and Wednesday night weekly nets or the Saturday breakfasts.

Scheduled to speak to us for the March 12th meeting is Mr. John B. Holmes, Jr., W5ALG, who is the District Attorney of Harris County. This plans to be a grand evening; so make plans now to be there. His program will be about the criminal justice system.

The April 9th meeting will feature the history of our club. Also we will discuss the upcoming B-VARC 15th Anniversary Special Event Station operation.

73 de AK5G

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## The World of 10-10 International

by Al Mattis, N5AFV

The S.H.O.T. (Space Houston On Ten) chapter of 10-10 International wishes to thank all B-VARC members who helped the chapter in the Winter Phone QSO Party held February 1-2, 1992. Local participation was down somewhat from previous contests, and competition from other chapters, especially Fort McHenry in Maryland and Possum Trot in North Carolina, was well organized. We will know in about 6 weeks if the S.H.O.T. chapter can keep its winning streak going.

The S.H.O.T. net is held Tuesday evenings at 8:00 local time on 28.488 mhz, and all amateurs are welcome. This is a good net for novice and technician operators to check into on HF. The net was previously held higher in the band, but after novice enhancement, the decision was made to move down below 28.500 mhz so that novice and technician operators could participate.

## B-VARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS

3.960 MHz 8:00 pm Wednesdays  
Compiled by Melvin Thatcher KB5ION

*February 5, 1992*

KB5ION NCS, W5IHY, KE5SR, WA5SCE, W5RNK, N5MPN, W5GLD, WN5A, KG5KV, N5AFV, N5KXU, KI5SC, KB5LFU, KI5CE, AK5G, WA5OEN

*February 12, 1992*

KB5ION NCS, WN5A, N5AFV, W5IHY, W5GLD, KE5SR, KB5LDY, KI5SC, WA5SCE, WA5OEN, N5KXU, W5RNK, KG5KV, N5ECP, N5OAC, KK4QL, N5VRR, N5WMB, KI5KI, N5MPN, WB5NES

*February 19, 1992*

KB5ION NCS, KG5KV, N5MPN, W5IHY, KB5IIL, KB5LDY, W5EFB, W5GLD, KB5LFU, KI5CE, KK4QL, WA5SCE, N5AFV, N5JKY, N5WMB, N5KXU, WA5ETS, N5NXS, K0BDT/M

*February 26, 1992*

N5MPN NCS, KG5KV, WB4LZG, N5AFV, KB5IIL, W5EFB, WN5A, KB5LFU, W5IHY, KE5SR, WB5SRN, KK4QL, N5XYG, W5GHK, N5KXU, KB5ION, AK5G, N5VRR, N5WMB, KI5QU

It's time to begin planning for participation in the Spring CW QSO Party which will be held May 2-3, 1992. If you haven't renewed your 10-10 membership, the cost is \$7 per year, and Grace Dunlap, K5MRU, (Box 445, LaFeria, TX 78559) is manager for the 5th call area. Dues must be current for your score to count in the contest. The S.H.O.T. chapter usually has local nets each evening during a contest, and the CW nets are run at a fairly slow speed to encourage participation. This is a good chance to improve your CW ability, and help the S.H.O.T. chapter.

If you are not a member of 10-10 International and wish to join, please check in on Tuesday evening. There are a lot of exciting activities in 10-10, and many friendly people can be found on the 10-meter band. If space in the B-VARC *Bulletin* is available, this column of news about 10-10 International may continue on a monthly basis.

73 de N5AFV

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## **B-VARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, February 6, 1992**

by Paula Holcombe, N5ULY  
Recording Secretary

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

Cash on hand in the club treasury was \$3,372.58.

Randy has appointed field day chairman. Bill Kemp, KG5CB, will begin work this month with the understanding that it will be held at Bear Creek Park in the same shelter as last year. Randy has received confirmation from Bear Creek via letter.

Ron Grimes, WA5SCE, and Jack Van Demark, WN5A, have been working on the 1991 audit and plan to have a written report by next board meeting.

Over 52 letters were sent to past and not yet renewed B-VARC members in hopes of boosting membership.

Carl Hacker, KB5LDY, has graciously volunteered to act as Parliamentarian for B-VARC. He attended the board meeting to get a feeling for what the position will require.

Steve Dunkelberger, N5JBL, has acted as ARRL liason while also being chairman of RACES and Public Service Events. However, due to a new family addition, he will be unable to continue this function. The ARRL liason acts as club representative to provide the ARRL with statistics and information as needed. Gerry Borg, N5APW, volunteered for this position and will become active immediately.

The possibility of B-VARC becoming an ARRL special service club was discussed, and Ralph Cheek, KB5DNT, will review all information and advise us as to the best path.

It was also mentioned that it would be helpful if those sending in ARRL dues would specify on the application if it is a renewal or new application as there is a difference in the club benefits derived.

The possibility was discussed of placing the B-VARC program schedule for the year on the Houston HAM Help Line 488-4HAM.

Allen Mattis reviewed correspondence thanking those merchants who donated door prizes for the banquet.

Gerry Borg presented the idea of a new assistant to help him with the Monday Night net.

Bill Dessens, N5KXU, announced that the B-VARC 15 Year Special Events Station will be held on the weekend of May 16th from 7 p.m. Friday until 7 p.m. Sunday and will be located at the M. D. Ander-

son Cancer Center. Bill would also like to talk to any former or charter members who may have information regarding the formation of the club.

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### **Results of the February Amateur Exams**

by Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, February 11, 1992, at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

#### **The V.E. Team**

Bill Kemp, KG5CB  
Steve Moynihan, AA5LF  
Harold Parker, ND5F

#### **Assistants**

Carl Albrecht, AA5JW  
Cass Germany, KG5IT  
Irene Gordon, N5AYX

A total of twenty-six (26) exams were administered during the evening to seventeen (17) applicants. Five (5) unlicensed candidates received their new "no-code" Technician licenses, and one (1) upgraded with a total of twelve (12) elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was forty-six percent (46%).

Congratulations to all the following who upgraded and/or passed exams:

Steven Agee — Technician  
Luis Covarrubias, N8MSM — Element 3B  
William Herrmann — Element 2  
Karl Herrmann — Element 2  
Bruce Kading — Technician  
Steven Lockhart — Technician  
George Loidas — Technician  
Douglas Payne, N5XWJ — General  
Gerald Webb — Technician

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assistants who volunteer their valuable time and effort each month.

All of us at B-VARC again thank Vincent, WA5ETS, and everyone at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

73's ... ND5F

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## April Bulletin Deadline

### On The Bands by Randy Pollard, AK5G

N5ECP has a new Radio Shack 2m talkie ... AA5BD and Woody are doing a lot of formation flying with RC airplanes ... N5AFV has a new HF rig — Icom 735 ... Saturday breakfast has many attendees — come for the fun ... At meetings, please help N5UOG with set up and take down of all the tables and chairs ... Please help KB5ION with coffee pot at meetings ... Sidewalk sale on February 15th was BIG; had over 200 people show up! ... Lot of Bill's, Steve's, Don's on 145.47 repeater ... 10m still good and hot, how are the other bands? ...

73 de AK5G

Articles and other material destined to be printed in the April issue of the B-VARC *Bulletin* should be submitted by no later than March 26th. Please give such to Vincent Orlando WA5ETS; 8900 Bellaire Boulevard; Houston, Texas 77036-4699 or FAX (713) 774-6427.

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## 1992 B-VARC PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL

Compiled by Stephen Dunkelberger, N5JBL

### A. Houston Marathon

Borg, Gerry	N5APW	A	Kozinetz, Claudia	N5VCZ	A
Cheek, Ralph	KB5DNT	A	Lay, Michael	N5PTN	A
Dessens, Bill	N5KXU	A	Levy, Larry	WD5DRB	A
Dillard, Ray	WA5F	A	Mattis, Allen	N5AFV	A
Edwards, Glenn	WB4LZG	A	Morrison, Henry	W5RIY	A
Edwards, Susan	KB5ICO	A	Orlando, Vincent	WA5ETS	A
Freedenberg, Henry	N5HF	A	Parker, Harold	ND5F	A
Garland, Trey	N5RXZ	A	Pederson, Scott	KI5DR	A
Gordon, Irene	N5AYX	A	Shirk, Stephen	N5SDL	A
Hacker, Carl	KB5LDY	A	Smith, Irv	KB5EXM	A
Hagerman, Dick	WB5SRN	A	Stanley, Tim	N5PHM	A
Hardwick, Mike	N5VCX	A	Van Demark, Jack	WN5A	A
Harris, Ron	N5MKO	A	Wade, Don	WB5IBT	A
Hughes, Kelly	N5ULZ	A	Warden, Mike	WB3HZP	A
Jackson, Emmet	N5RXN	A	White, Bob	KF5ZL	A
King, Bud	N5UOG	A			

Please report corrections or additions to N5JBL

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Chairman of the Board  
**W5IHY**

**1992 ATTENDANCE ROSTER  
B-VARC GENERAL MEETINGS**

		<b>F E B</b>			
AA5JW	Carl Albrecht	✓	N5YUE	Shuchia Lin	✓
KB5MUF	Jim Bledsoe	✓	KB5IGK	Don Lipke	✓
KB5KLY	Don Brown, Sr.	✓	N5AFV	Al Mattis	✓
N5XWT	Bill Clemmons	✓	N5WLY	Robert Meyers	✓
N5OUZ	Lawrence Cox	✓	N5GHG	Gerry Moak	✓
N5LYB	Fred Creel	✓	AA5LF	Steve Moynihan	✓
N5UNE	Tony Cypert	✓	N5TBI	Max North	✓
WD5AIN	John Davidson	✓	WA5ETS	Vincent Orlando	✓
N5KXU	Bill Dessens	✓	ND5F	Harold Parker	✓
WA5F	Ray Dillard	✓	N5MCK	George Pavlik	✓
	John Dugat	✓	KI5DR	Scott Pederson	✓
N5JBL	Stephen Dunkelberger	✓	KB5LFU	Roger Pokladnik	✓
WB4LZG	Glenn Edwards	✓	AK5G	Randy Pollard	✓
N5XVZ	Rick Fitch	✓	KG5KV	Charles Prochaska	✓
WA5OEN	Steve Gottlieb	✓	N5YKR	Michael Ricco	✓
WA5SCE	Ron Grimes	✓	AA5BD	Joe Ross	✓
KB5LDY	Carl Hacker	✓	N5PNX	Eddie Runner	✓
N5VRR	Don Hadley	✓	KB5OBB	Eddie Runner, Jr.	✓
WB5SRN	Dick Hagerman	✓	N5XGT	Gene Russell	✓
N5VCX	Mike Hardwick	✓	N5HFY	Claude Sessions	✓
N5JQH	Paul Holcombe	✓	N5PRC	Steve Skelton	✓
N5UJY	Paula Holcombe	✓	N5VPC	Victor Skinner	✓
5RZN	Emmett Jackson	✓	KB5QYF	Llew Smith	✓
A9YNJ	Mike Kelly	✓	N5VTV	Dick Snitkin	✓
KG5CB	Bill Kemp	✓	N5WMA	Oraida Starr	✓
N5UOG	Bud King	✓	KB5ION	Melvin Thatcher	✓
N5VCZ	Claudia Kozinetz	✓	WB5IBT	Don Wade	✓
W5IHY	Lou Kronberg	✓	N5XWB	Donn Washburn	✓
N5PTN	Michael Lay	✓		Gerald Webb	✓
K5LTW	Greg Lefebvre	✓	N5UOA	Mark Widerstrom	✓
			KA0TEN	Betty Wilcox	✓
			J73TW	Tony Williams	✓
			KA5GHI	Bill Wilson	✓
			Tech/KT	Larry Wilson	✓
			N5CPA	Sam Wilson	✓
				TOTAL:	65

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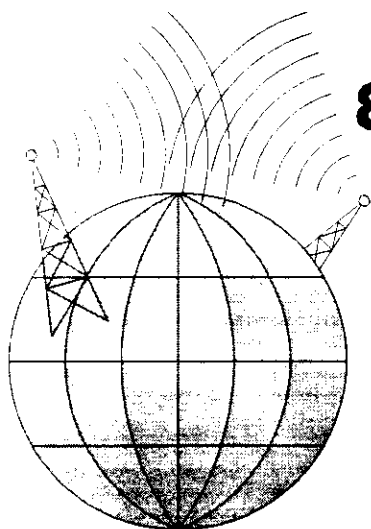
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