



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 1977, 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.

Volume: 15 Issue: 7

July 1992

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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



B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thurs, July 9	General Meeting
7:30 pm	Sugar Land Community Center
	Program: <i>Ice Cream Social, QSL Swap, & Forum on Repeater Operation</i>
Thurs, August 6	Board Meeting
7:30 pm	Missouri City Fire Station

Allen Mattis N5AFV
5314 Wigton
Houston, TX 77096

July 1992

B-VARC CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
5 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	6 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 & linked repeaters	7 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 10:00pm AMSAT 147. 10	1 8:00pm B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy?) + 3 Khz)	2 6:30pm RACES AMTOR Net 7.080 7:30pm Board Meeting: Missouri City Fire Station	3	4 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9: 30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
12 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	13 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 & linked repeaters	14 7:00pm Amateur Exams (Strake Jesuit College Prep) 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 10:00pm AMSAT 147. 10	8 8:00pm B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy?) + 3 Khz)	9 7:30pm General Meeting: Sugar Land Community Center	10	11 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9: 30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
19 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	20 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 & linked repeaters	21 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 10:00pm AMSAT 147. 10	15 8:00pm B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy?) + 3 Khz)	16	17	18 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 8:00am Sidewalk Sale 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9: 30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
26 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	27 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 & linked repeaters	28 8:00pm 10 X SHOT 28.488 10:00pm AMSAT 147. 10	22 8:00pm B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy?) + 3 Khz)	23	24	25 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9: 30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
3	10	17	24	31	3	10
10	17	24	31	7/2/1992		

Notes From The President . . .

by Randy Pollard, AK5G

have heard people say that "Ham Radio is not like it used to be." With all of the new people on now a days, people are complaining about bad operating practices. The system has changed! Now you can go to Radio Shack, but a study guide, read it and memorize the answers on Monday night, and go to the test session on Tuesday night and pass the test. Remember the days of Elmering? Have we forgotten what the word Elmer means? Well, Elmer is a Ham slang word for someone who takes a new or fledgling Ham under his/her wing and shows them the ropes. Haven't tried it you say? Then let's get busy! If we don't start now, we have only ourselves to blame. Don't expect Hams to know the rules and operating procedures unless we tell them what they are!

Our meeting on July 9, 1992, will be hosted by N5OUT and will be the annual Ice Cream Party, Special Event Station QSL card swap, and a forum on proper operating procedures on the repeaters. Contact Dick to find out what type of ice cream to bring for this meeting. I suppose that I will make the first ceremonial taste of ice cream for the evening. - what a chore!

The speaker for the August 13, 1992, meeting will be Andy McAllister, WA5ZIB, who will talk on and show the South Texas Balloon Launch.

73 de AK5G

The World of 10-10 International

by Al Mattis, N5AFV

Unofficial results of the 10-10 Spring Phone QSO Party have been released by the Suncoast Chapter in Florida. The Houston S.H.O.T. Chapter has again won the Summer Phone QSO Party. The S.H.O.T. Chapter had a score of 13,570 points, with 31 logs submitted. The Old Dominion Chapter from Virginia took second place with 12,085 points and 32 logs submitted. The S.H.O.T. chapter thanks all Houston area stations that participated in the contest and helped them win.

The victory came about, in part, because Texas had good propagation during the weekend of the contest.

B-VARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS 3.960 MHz 8:00 pm Wednesdays Compiled by Melvin Thatcher KB5ION

June 10, 1992

KE5SR NCS, W5EFB, KB5ION, N5AFV, K15SC, W5IHY, W5GHK, WA5ETS, KB5LFU, W5/J73TW, K15FO, WB5SRN, N5YKR

June 17, 1992

KB5ION NCS, W5IHY, KB5NL, K15SC, W5EFB, W5/J73TW, WA9YNJ, N5KXU, W5GHK, WA5SCE, KB5LFU, KE5SR, N5WMB, WA5ETS, N5UNE/AG

June 24, 1992

KB5ION NCS, W5IHY, N5AFV, K15SC, W5EFB, N5KXU, WA5ETS, W5/J73TW, N5WMB, KE5SR, KB5LFU, W5GHK, KA0TEN, KG5KV, KK5W, N05C, W5/VP2MCW

July 1, 1992

KB5ION NCS, W5GHK, KA0TEN, W5EFB, KB5LFU, K15SC, KB5IL, WB5SRN, KE5SR, N5AFV, WA9YNJ

The Republic of Texas Chapter in Dallas-Fort Worth took fifth place; the Lone Star Chapter, also in Dallas-Fort Worth, took 11th place; and the South Texas Light Horse Brigade Chapter in San Antonio took fourteenth place. Texas was well represented!

The S.H.O.T. Chapter was lucky to win this contest. Participation by local members has dropped off, and the chapter will need help in the upcoming 10-10 Summer Phone QSO Party scheduled for August 1-2, 1992. The Summer QSO Party is difficult because of poor propagation and low participation because of vacations. We have many new amateur operators on HF, and I would like to encourage these operators to join 10-10 International and participate in the exciting activities on ten meters.

Remember the Houston S.H.O.T. net every Tuesday evening at 8 pm local time on 28.488 MHz. All amateurs are welcome to check in, even if they do not have a 10-10 number. If you are not a member of 10-10 International and wish to join the organization, please check in to the net. There are a lot of exciting activities in 10-10, and many friendly people can be found on the 10-meter band.

73 de N5AFV

Public Service News

by Stephen Dundelberger, N5JBL

Thanks to everyone who worked the MS-150 and the ALA Clean Air Bike Challenge recently. I'm sure all of you that worked the event had fun, the participants appreciated your assistance, and the benefiting organizations valued your efforts.

Some people may be asking "What is public service?" It is the use of our amateur radio communication skills and equipment to assist in an event which benefits the public. The event could be sports related, such as a running or bicycle race, or it could be something different like the Houston International Festival. Recently, members of B-VARC have assisted in providing amateur radio communications for the Houston Marathon and the MS-150 bike tour.

Many people enjoy participating in these outings because it allows them to use and improve their amateur radio skills while benefitting the general public. You may wish to work one of the upcoming events if these kinds of activities interests you.

So what is ahead for B-VARC in terms of public service events? Typically, there are fewer races, runs, etc. held in the summer because of the heat and thus fewer potential events where we can participate. But there are plenty of activities coming in the fall!

Public Service Class

We will be repeating the Public Service Training Class in the late summer. This class introduces common principles of working public service events. The class will include live in-class communications practice. If you are new to public service, this class will get you ready for the fall public service events.

Upcoming Events - Mark Your Calendar!

- **Alamo Challenge** - October 17th and 18th, Saturday and Sunday. Houston to San Antonio bike ride. Similar to the MS-150 bike tour.
- **Houston Marathon Warmup Series** - long distance running events to prepare runners for the Houston Marathon:
 - 20K warmup run - October 10, Saturday
 - 25K warmup run - November 15, Sunday
 - 30K warmup run - December 12, Saturday
- **Houston Marathon** - January 24, Sunday

Sign up sheets for the events will be distributed as we get closer to the events. If you have any ques-

tions about public service events, feel free to give me a call or catch me at the next meeting.

Results of the June Amateur Exams

by Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, June 9, 1992, at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

The V.E. Team

Ray Dillard, WA5F
Randy Pollard, AA5G
Joe Ross, AA5BD

Assistants

Carl Albrecht, AA5JW
Cass Germany, KG5IT
Harold Parker, ND5F

A total of twenty-nine exams were administered during the evening to seventeen applicants. Eight unlicensed candidates received their new licenses: seven no-code Technicians and one General. Ten others upgraded with a total of twenty-two elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was seventy-six percent.

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

Jesse Brookover, N5XKY - Advanced
Richard Culver - Element 2
Steven Garrett, WB5TTS - Element 4A & 4B
Auzie Grogan, Jr., Pending - Technician
Ronan Gregg - Element 2
Robert Helton - General
Leonardo Magallon - Technician
Laurie Nerling - Technician
Robert Nerling - Technician
Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS - Advanced
Stuart Smith - Technician
Thomas Tieman - Technician
Christopher Trask, pending - 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

B-VARC Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes, June 4, 1992

by Paula Holcombe, N5ULY
Recording Secretary

Cash on hand in the club treasury was \$3,784.68.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved.

To date, there are 201 paid members of B-VARC.

A thank you note on behalf of the club was sent to Don Busick for the previous meeting's presentation as well as all of his help in the club's other activities.

The club also received a letter from the American Lung Association thanking us for being of such great assistance during their fund raiser.

Rag chew check-ins are suffering from the summer vacation with the average somewhere between ten and fourteen check-ins.

The special events station was a success with approximately six hundred and twelve contacts. It has been estimated that approximately thirty percent of these contacts were in the U.S. One hundred and x QSL cards have been received so far.

There will be specially printed certificates available for those who participated in the special events station.

Field Day preparations are in full swing. Sign up sheets will be available for those wishing to work a station on field day. The Saturday dinner is to be catered and will cost \$5.00 per person with soft drinks available for \$.50 each. There will also be a donation jar.

The Warm Up Series races are coming soon; the following dates and places have been set:

- 1st race — Saturday, October 10th at Brazos Bend State Park
- 2nd race — Sunday, November 15th in downtown Houston
- 3rd race — Saturday, December 12th in Sugar Land

Due to a cancellation, Andy McAllister will be our speaker for the August meeting, and he plans to discuss recent balloon launches.

The July meeting will be our annual ice cream social.

On The Bands

by Randy Pollard, AK5G

Thanks to Jim, KE5HE, for the great talk to us on digital radio and for driving all the way from Hearne ... Many B-VARC members seen at Dallas: N5UNE, KG5CB, AA5BD, N5PRC, WB5IBT, N5UOG, N5PJI, K5BDZ, W5IHY, WA5ZIB, K5AAD, N5ULY, K5CNU, N5WMA, KH9AE, ND5E, ND5F, WA5F ... New rigs purchased: N5OUZ Kenwood 741; KG5KV and WB5IBT Yaesu FT-5200 ... N5UOF lost and found his car in Ham Comm parking lot ... Lots of RF in hotel room 1814 at midnight: 6 radios going at the same time ... The trip to "Big D" is a lot shorter when you talk on the radio ... Thanks to KG5CB, alias "Billy Jones", and all of his crew for a GREAT job at this year's Field Day ... Good old HOT days of summer, sure is fun and exciting working on antennas isn't it? ... N5TGM has a new wig for sale at the sidewalk sale ... Another LARGE crowd at the June sidewalk sale. My, how this B-VARC event has grown! ... N5VRR's wife allowed him to buy some toys at Madison for his birthday ... N5UOG has a new TS-450 ...

73 de AK5G

RUN YOUR BUSINESS CARD AD HERE!

Contact: Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN
bus. 785-4646, res. 933-7249

Beltone

BELTONE
HEARING AIDS
AND AUDIOAIDS

Better Hearing Through Professional Care

LAWRENCE COX, BC, NBC-HIS
CERTIFIED AUDIOPROSTHETICIST N5OUZ

BELTONE HEARING AID CENTER

2410 AVENUE H
ROSEBURG, TEXAS 77471
713/342-1205

5708 POMEREN
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77036
713/977-8781

1992 ATTENDANCE ROSTER
B-VARC GENERAL MEETINGS

		A P R	M A Y	J U N
WOKN	Ernest Anderson		✓	
KB5LHT	Steve Anderson		✓	
KB5RZ1	Don Barnett			✓
AA5ZK	Bob Brigham		✓	✓
N5PKW	Beth Brown	✓		
N5NTO	Don Brown, Jr.	✓		
KB5KLY	Don Brown, Sr.		✓	
K5AAD	Don Busick		✓	
VP2MCW	Wilbert Cannonier	✓		
N5MHV	Larry Cobb, Jr.		✓	
N5OUZ	Lawrence Cox		✓	
KB5PAJ	Marion Chambers		✓	
K15SC	Michael Chambers		✓	
KB5DNT	Ralph Cheek	✓		
K15ZD	George Clark		✓	✓
N5XWT	Bill Clemmons	✓		
N5OUZ	Lawrence Cox	✓		✓
N5TGN	Alan Crawford		✓	✓
N5YKY	Barbara Creel			✓
N5LYB	Fred Creel	✓		✓
	Craig Culver			✓
N5UNE	Tony Cypert	✓	✓	✓
WD5AIN	John Davidson		✓	✓
WA3PMT	Steven Deaktor	✓	✓	
N5KXU	Bill Dessens	✓	✓	✓
N5YKX	Bob Duer	✓		✓
5JBL	Stephen Dunkelberger	✓	✓	
WB4LZG	Glenn Edwards	✓		
WN5TEN	Wade Eilers	✓		
N5XWO	Jesse Estrella	✓		
KE5MY	Mark Fields		✓	
N5XVZ	Rick Fitch		✓	
WA5OEN	Steve Gottlieb	✓	✓	✓
	John Grimes			✓
WA5SCE	Ron Grimes			✓
N54QO	Sharon Grimes			✓
KB5LDY	Carl Hacker	✓		
N5VRR	Don Hadley	✓	✓	✓
WB5SRN	Dick Hagerman	✓	✓	
N5VCX	Mike Hardwick	✓		✓
KB5SKU	James Haselwood			✓
	Smith Haselwood		✓	
WB1CCH	Earle Herbert	✓		
N5JQH	Paul Holcombe	✓		
KE5SR	Doug Holley			✓
N5ULZ	Kelly Hughes			✓
N5R2N	Emmett Jackson		✓	
N5YKV	Marc James		✓	
KE5HE	Jim Jennings			✓
ND5E	George Jolly	✓		
KG5CB	Bill Kemp	✓		✓
N5XGW	Charles Keng		✓	✓
N5UOG	Bud King	✓	✓	✓
N5QVI	Jordan Kossack		✓	
W5IHV	Lou Kronberg		✓	
N5OUT	Dick Kruse			✓

N05C	Elton Kytle	✓		✓
	Martha Kytle			✓
N5PTN	Michael Lay	✓	✓	✓
W5KRG	T. J. Layton			✓
WD5DRB	Larry Levy	✓	✓	✓
K15CE	Glenn Lewis	✓		
N5VHU	David Litchford		✓	
N1GZQ	Grace Maglin			✓
KC1VW	Roy Maglin			✓
N5AFV	Al Mattis	✓	✓	✓
KA5DKS	Ken McAninch			✓
WB5UTM	Scott Merryman	✓	✓	
KA5YSL	Rick Meyer	✓		
N5WLY	Robert Meyers	✓	✓	✓
N5YKS	Terry Michnimer	✓		
N5GHG	Lonnie Moak	✓		
KB5PLA	Brian Molsberry		✓	
N5LPZ	Mike Morgan	✓		
AA5LF	Steve Moynihan			✓
N5TBI	Max North			✓
WA5ETS	Vincent Orlando	✓	✓	✓
ND5F	Harold Parker	✓	✓	
N5YQU	Tim Pearce			✓
KB5LFU	Roger Pokladnik	✓	✓	✓
AK5G	Randy Pollard	✓	✓	✓
KG5KV	Charles Prochaska			✓
	Jessica Ricco			✓
	Jody Ricco			✓
N5YKR	Michael Ricco	✓	✓	✓
	Robert Ricco			✓
N5NAS	Vic Richard	✓		✓
N5VRP	Dennis Rogers	✓	✓	
AA5BD	Joe Ross	✓		
N5XGT	Gene Russell		✓	✓
WA5G	Steve Schuster	✓	✓	
K5HFY	Claude Sessions	✓	✓	
N5URI	Guy Shachter	✓	✓	
N5SDL	Steve Shirk	✓	✓	
N5PRC	Steve Skelton			✓
KB5EXM	Irv Smith			✓
KB5QYF/KT	Llew Smith	✓	✓	
	Stuart Smith			✓
N5YYO	William Smith	✓		
N5VTV	Richard Snitkin	✓	✓	
N5WMA	Oraida Starr	✓		
WB5VYR	Charles Taylor			✓
KB5IQN	Melvin Thatcher	✓	✓	✓
KD5JC	Ed Truitt	✓	✓	✓
N5KID	Terri Van Slyke			✓
WB5IBT	Don Wade	✓	✓	
KB5DXP	Van Ward	✓		
N5XWB	Donn Washburn			✓
N5ZUE	Gerald Webb	✓	✓	✓
KA0TEN	Betty Wilcox	✓	✓	✓
J73TW	Tony Williams			✓
N5YYP	Larry Wilson	✓	✓	
N5CPA	Sam Wilson	✓	✓	✓
W5GLD	Frank Wood			✓
KK5W	Al Zarneno	✓		

TOTAL: 59 66 52

