



B-VARC BULLETIN

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

Editor in Chief: Kelley Hughes N5ULZ (713) 499-9806 FAX: (713) 499-0279 Compuserve ID: 72603,623

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (BVARC) was originally organized in 1978, primarily as an emergency communications group available to assist the communities of Missouri City and Stafford when required. Since that time, BVARC has grown and expanded its activities to become the most active Ham radio club in the southwest Houston area.

Today, BVARC is truly a general-interest club, with an impressive record of Public Service. This commitment to service has been recognized by the Amateur Radio Relay League with the coveted status of Special Service Club. We are proud of our members, who represent the finest in Amateur Radio. Membership is not limited to licensed operators, but is open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio. Meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Sugar Land Community Center. Talk-in assistance is available on the 145.47 and 442.5 MHz repeaters.

To obtain information about the club and its various activities, as well as information about joining the club, contact Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN, at (713) 859-6512.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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



Allen Mattis N5AFV
5314 Wigton Drive
Houston, TX 77096



B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, Sept. 1	Board of Directors Meeting
7:30 pm	Sugar Land Community Center
Thursday, Sept. 8	General BVARC Membership Meeting - Sugar Land Community Center
7:30 pm	

September 1994

B-VARC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>4</p> <p>7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters</p>	<p>6</p> <p>8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7:30 PM Membership Meeting Sugar Land Commu- nity Center</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)</p>
<p>11</p> <p>1:30 PM Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters</p>	<p>13</p> <p>6:00 PM Amateur Exam Session Strake Jesuit College Prep. 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10</p>	<p>14</p> <p>8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)</p>
<p>18</p> <p>7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters</p>	<p>20</p> <p>8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)</p>
<p>25</p> <p>1:30 PM Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters</p>	<p>27</p> <p>8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10</p>	<p>28</p> <p>8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>	

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Please report any changes or corrections to *Aley Hughes, N5ULZ, 499-9806*

Notes From the President

by Doug Holley, KE5SR

I hope that everyone enjoyed our July meeting featuring the Ice Cream Social as much as I did. Of all the meetings we hold each year, my favorite is the Ice Cream Social. A special thanks to Claude (K5HFY) for the organization and Betty (KA0TEN) for the serving.

Each six-month period BVARC must secure a monthly meeting room for the board and general meetings. Meeting rooms at the Sugar Land Civic Center are very much in demand by both private and public groups. Most of these meeting rooms are rented on a fee basis by the city of Sugar Land. However, BVARC qualifies as a non-fee status, thank goodness. Someone must arrive at the site very early in the morning when each scheduling is done. Bud King (N5UOG) has once again been in line for BVARC around 5 a.m. on this scheduling morning just so that we as a group will have a room for our meetings each month. I hope that the club members realize and appreciate the dedication and effort that goes into this task. Please go by and thank Bud for what he has done. By no means is this all we have to thank Bud for, as he is extremely active in many areas for our club's benefit.

BVARC was organized in 1978 as a general-interest club, but also dedicated to public services. Our diversification in our interests and involvement with public services has made BVARC a great club. Our membership number of 225 people to date signifies our ability to offer something for all interests. Our ability to assemble at meetings, dinners, camp-outs and field days proves that there is something that bonds our group with both common and diversified interests. These are some of the things that make BVARC what we have become today.

Within our organization which is comprised of many, there are but a few that do the bulk of the work. Help in many areas is needed. Our public service events, our newsletter publication, our training sessions, both theory and code and net control operations, are just some of the areas that so few people put so much work into. There is much need for additional help. Probably ten percent of our members do ninety percent of the work. Duties such as setting up tables and chairs, cleaning up, and being an Elmer are jobs that are critical. Please try to volunteer to be more involved and be more a part of your club.

The Skywarn program that I arranged for BVARC on June 29 was attended by very few members. The class was publicized in the newsletter, both BVARC nets, and I spent a day of my personal time calling to remind members of the

BVARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS
3:00 PM - 8:00 PM - Wednesdays
Compiled by Mel Thatcher, KB5ION

July 6, 1994

KE5SR (Net Control), W5EFB, K15SC, N5AFV,
N5CPA, W5GLD, N5UOG, WN5A, KB5PAJ

July 13, 1994

KB5ION (Net Control), K15SC, KB5PAJ, N5CPA,
W5EFB, WB5VYR, N5OAC, W5GLD, N5AFV,
N5UOG

July 20, 1994

N5CPA (Net Control), N5UOG, N5YKR, K15SC,
KB5PAJ, AB5OK, W5GHK, KG5KV, WD5CJL,
KF5NUJ

July 27, 1994

KB5ION (Net Control), N5UOG, N5OAC, W5EFB,
KE5SR, N5CPA, W5GLD, KB5ZRV, N5YKR,
N5AFV, AB5OK, W5GHK, KB5LFU, KG5KV

August 3, 1994

KB5ION (Net Control), W5GHK, W5EFB, K15SC,
KB5PAJ, N5AFV, N5OAC, N5UOG, N5YKR,
W5HFY, N5CPA, W5GLD, WB5VYR, KA5GXV/M,
AB5OK, KE5SR, KG5KV, K5HFY, KB5JOG

class. All of this resulted in very little turnout for this vital public service seminar. We as Hams are committed to public service of many types, and now is the time to become more responsive and get involved.

A reminder again— Ft. Bend Emergency Management will conduct a seminar on hazardous materials that are transported through this area. If you can fit the time in your schedule, this is a seminar with much useful information that may one day save a life. The seminar will be held at the George Memorial Library in Richmond on Tuesday, Sept. 6. There will be two time sessions to choose from. The early session will be held 7 a.m. until noon, and the later session will be held 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. I look forward to seeing you there.

73's and good DX.
Doug (KE5SR)

I Speak - - -

Randy Pollard, AK5G

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Board of Directors Meeting

by Bud King, N5UOG

A quorum of the B-VARC Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on August 4, 1994. This was the eighth meeting of the Board for the 1994 calendar year. The following Board members were in attendance: Doug Holley, KE5SR; Sam Wilson, N5CPA; Victor Richard, N5NAS; Bill Dessens, N5KXU; Claude Sessions, K5HFY; and Bud King, N5UOG. President Holley, KE5SR, opened the meeting at 7:40 PM. The minutes of the July Board meeting were submitted by Bud King, N5UOG, and approved unanimously. The Club Treasurer, Sam Wilson, N5CPA, reported a balance of \$3,748.01 in the treasury as of July 31, 1994. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

A report concerning the B-VARC Rag Chew Net indicates it is recovering from the summer doldrums. The check-ins are back up to the normal numbers.

Kelley Hughes, N5ULZ, the Editor in Chief of the B-VARC BULLETIN, advised the Board that the new cut-off date for the submission of articles will be the 15 th. of the month. Kelley, once again, stated the need for additional articles for publication. A discussion concerning Application Forms, additional Bulletins, and informative articles relating to B-VARC, resulted in the need being recognized and additional copies will be printed.

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, Public Service Event chairman, stated that October would be a busy month with the following events scheduled: "MS Enduro Skate" - October 1, Saturday, with a participation of 500 skaters anticipated; "America's Number One Challenge against Violence" - October 8, Saturday, a 5K Run with 2200 runners anticipated; "Alamo Challenge" - October 15 and 16, with 600 riders anticipated to participate; "20 K Run" - October 16, with 1800 to 2000 runners expected to participate; "Texas Coastal Bike Ride" - October 30, with an expected participation of 1800 to 2000 riders. The "25K Run" is scheduled for November 13.

Sam Wilson, N5CPA, was brought up to date on the Club equipment inventory.

President Holley adjourned the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Adolph

Alex - WA5UHT

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Lou Kronberg
Chairman of the Board
W5IHY

Tom Taormina (K5RC)

by Doug Holley (KE5SR)

At the July 14 general meeting, we at BVARC had the pleasure of hearing Tom speak on several subjects of interest to our group.

Tom thanked BVARC for their participation in the construction of their tower this past spring. A program presented by Tom showing the history of the old fallen tower and the building of the new tower is in our plans for the near future.

Tom also announced that he will be running as a candidate for a Vice Director of the West Gulf Division of the A.R.R.L. We need someone of Tom's talents to represent our interests with A.R.R.L. For many years I have felt that our division has not been represented and that our concerns have been overlooked. I think Tom will be responsive to our concerns. Please keep Tom in mind during the upcoming elections.

The World of Ten Ten

International

by Al Mattis N5AFV

Many Ten Ten International members are looking forward to the Las Vegas 1994 Bash, which will be held August 18-21, 1994, at the Hacienda Hotel and Casino. Preliminary results have been announced for the 1994 Spring CW QSO Party, held May 7-8, 1994. The Possum Trot (NC) chapter took first place, with thirty logs submitted. Houston S.H.O.T. came in fifth, with only five logs submitted. The Ten Ten Board of Directors met July 22, 1994, in St. Louis, MO. This year's annual board meeting was hosted by the Gateway (MO) chapter.

The Houston S.H.O.T. chapter wishes to thank all Houston area amateurs who participated in the 1994 Summer QSO Party, held August 6-7, 1994. Propagation was not very good in Texas, but stations located in Colorado and Illinois reported excellent conditions. Applications for the S.H.O.T. chapter's Lunar Landing commemorative certificate continue to pour in. Many out-of-town operators qualified for the certificate during the August QSO Party. The S.H.O.T. chapter is pleased to welcome its newest member, the M. D. Anderson club station, KK5W.

Ten Ten paper chasers continue to be active on 28.345 mhz. Ten Ten chapters with specials for paper chasers this month include Steel City (IL), Texas Gamblers (TX), Quahog (RI), Branding Iron (TX), and Branding Iron II (TX). Due to a job change by the chapter head and certificate manager, the Columbian of Colorado (CO) chapter has gone QRT effective June 1, 1994. New certificate managers have been named for the Samuel Clemens (CT), Branding Iron II (TX) and City of Lights (IL) chapters. Certificate managers for the Earthquake Country (CA), Camelia Capitol (CA), Kings and Queens (MT) and Dancing Dolls (MT) chapters are recovering from recent surgery, and ask that paper chasers hold upgrades for those chapters until further notice. We all wish them a speedy recovery.

The summer E-layer openings have not been as good this past month, however, band openings continue to occur. The

summer propagation conditions may bring E-layer openings at any time of the day or night, so check ten meters occasionally to see if it is open. In general, domestic propagation has been fair to good. DX propagation has generally been poor to good, with occasional openings to Latin America and the South Pacific.

Remember, the Houston S.H.O.T. (Space Houston On Ten) net meets 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 Ten Ten number. If you are not a member of Ten Ten International and wish to join the organization, please check into the net. There are a lot of exciting activities in Ten Ten, and many friendly people can be found on the ten meter band.

Field Day 1994

by Doug Holley (KE5SR)

BVARC field day was held June 25th and 26th at Katy County Park. The total point count came to 2444, but the emphasis was on having a good time by all. We made 441 contacts on CW, mainly thanks to Allen Brier. 340 phone contacts were made, 73 satellite contacts, and 1 ATV contact. We made extra points by having a novice station, operating on emergency power, having media coverage, information booth, message to our section manager, packet station, and having a UHF/VHF station. Approximately eighty-five people operated or just came by for the food and social fun.

We had a catered evening Bar-B-Que meal and a delicious breakfast to start out our Sunday morning. We appreciate Betty (KA0TEN) for cooking the breakfast meal and serving our catered evening meal Saturday afternoon.

Our station call was KK5W and Al Zermeno was our field day chairman for the second year in a row. We owe many thanks to so many that made our field day a success. My sincere thanks to all that helped and already we are making plans for next year's field day.

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KJ5BG
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