


# THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 21, issue 7  
July 1998

<p><b>Houston Ham Help Line</b> <b>24-Hours</b> <b>281-495-3495</b></p> <p>Get information about local clubs and testing sessions.</p>	<p><b>Membership renewal information:</b></p> <p>Members whose membership has expired or is near expiration will find their membership date highlighted on the mailing label.</p>	 <p><a href="http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc">http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc</a></p>
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**ARRL Membership - Members are urged to renew their ARRL membership through BVARC, allowing the club to take advantage of reduced insurance rates. Contact Larry, K5LJ, at 281-341-0436 for information**

<p><b>What's in this issue?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Notes from the Prez – P. 2</li><li>➤ 1998 Meeting Schedule – P. 2</li><li>➤ July Board of Directors Minutes - P. 3</li><li>➤ Houston Shot News - P. 3</li><li>➤ BVARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4</li><li>➤ VE Exam Results - P. 4</li><li>➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 5</li><li>➤ Field Day Results - P.5</li><li>➤ Ode to Code - P.5</li><li>➤ Monday Night PSN Check-ins - P.6</li></ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Hot Dawg</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Hot Dogs and Drinks for Members - FREE</i></b> <b><i>Come one, come all to the BVARC monthly meeting and join us for Hot Dogs and Soft Drinks. Starting with the June meeting you can visit with your friends and enjoy a hot dog and drink on the club. Serving starts at 6:30pm and goes until 7:30pm. There is no charge for club members. We will have mustard, catsup, onions and pickle relish as dressings for your dogs. Drinks will include Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite and Diet Sprite.</i></b></p>
<p><b>A Special Thanks to the First Colony Church of Christ for the use of their facilities which make this newsletter possible.</b></p> <p><b>Also, Thanks to Claude Sessions, K5HFY, for being in charge of production.</b></p>	<p><b>Board of Directors:</b></p> <p>Bruce Paige - KK5DO, <a href="mailto:kk5do@amsat.org">kk5do@amsat.org</a> John Moore - KK5NU, <a href="mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org">jwm@hal-pc.org</a> Steven Deaktor - WA3PMT, <a href="mailto:wa3pmt@aol.com">wa3pmt@aol.com</a> Rex Ritz - KC5EEU Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, <a href="mailto:LHJacobson@worldnet.att.net">LHJacobson@worldnet.att.net</a> Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR, <a href="mailto:darrellk@swbell.net">darrellk@swbell.net</a> Gailen Marshall - N4SKR, <a href="mailto:marshall@heart.med.uth.tmc.edu">marshall@heart.med.uth.tmc.edu</a> Bud King - K5CEK, <a href="mailto:ceking@hal-pc.org">ceking@hal-pc.org</a> Claude Sessions - K5HFY, <a href="mailto:cesjr@wt.net">cesjr@wt.net</a></p>

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## PRESIDENT'S Article - Bruce, KK5DO

We had hot dogs again at the July meeting and everyone is enjoying them. We will once again have Hot Dogs and Cold Drinks for the members at our meeting in August. Come by between 6:30 and 7:30 and enjoy a dog on the club and a good chin wag with those you talk to on the repeater.

This month is the Annual Ice Cream Social. That's right, time to eat again. Right after you finish your hot dog, have some ice cream. Bring the kids, bring the spouse, but whatever you do, be sure to bring yourself. At 7:30 we break out the ice cream with all the trimmings. The emphasis this time will be on homemade ice cream and there will be a prize for the best homemade ice cream. I know this will be a very popular event. Thanks to Rex, KC5EEU for organizing the Ice Cream Social this year.

Next month for the September monthly meeting, we will have a speaker on Balloon Launches. This should be a very interesting meeting as there will be a balloon launch on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Find out more about what it takes to launch balloons and how to find it when it comes back down. Also hear about all the neat radio experiments that will be carried on board.

Here it comes, elections. They are right around the corner. It will take place at the November Chili Super (food again). The Nomination Committee will be chosen in the next month. We will let you know who they are so if you would like to help guide the club, you can be placed on the ballot.

See you at the meeting.  
73...Bruce, KK5DO

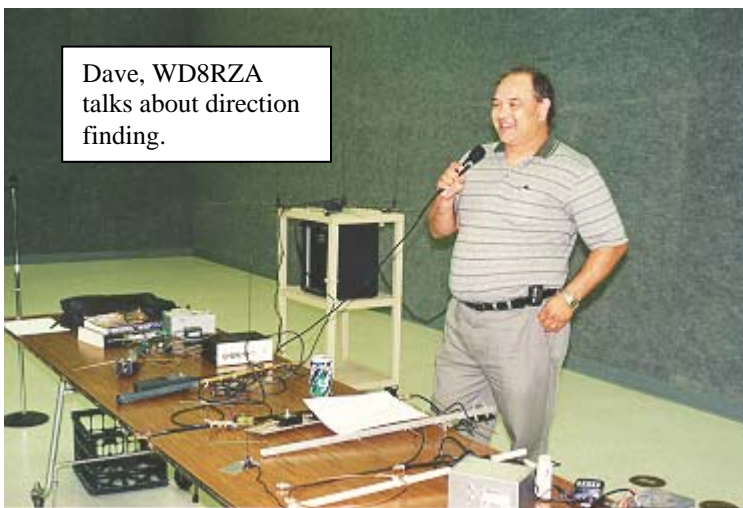
## Schedule of BVARC General Meetings for 1998

B-VARC Program Calendar - 1998

August 1998

6 - General Meeting  
Ice Cream Social

10 - BOD  
11 - VE Test  
September 1998  
3 - General Meeting  
ATV  
8 - VE Test  
17 - BOD



October 1998

1 - General Meeting  
10 - 10 International  
N5MT  
Mike Davidson  
5 - BOD  
13 - VE Test

November 1998

10 - VE Test  
20 - General

Meeting

Chili

Supper/Elections

27 - BOD

December 1998

3 - General Meeting  
Homebrew

Night

nexus15@flash.net

8 - VE Test  
14 - BOD

## Other Dates:

Contests:

June 20 - 21, All Asia DX CW  
June 27 - 28, ARRL Field Day

## Public Service Events Needing Ham Volunteers:

- October 10 & 11, 1998 - Alamo Challenge - contact Mike Hardwick
- October 17 & 18, 1998 - Wings Over Houston Air Show - contact Bill Terrell
- October 18, 1998 - 20k Warm-up run - contact Steve Dunkleberger
- November 15, 1998 - 25K Warm-up run - contact Allen Mattis
- December 6, 1998 - 30K Warm-up run - Position open
- January 17, 1999 - The Houston Marathon - contact Carl Hacker

You can always contact me if you are unable to contact the event coordinator.

Please let me know if you are interested!!!!

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Thanks,

Mike Hardwick  
N5VCX

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## July Board of Directors Minutes :

Board of Directors Meeting  
The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club  
July 9, 1998

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on July 9, 1998. The meeting was called to order by the President. The following board members attended: President Bruce Paige - KK5DO, Vice President John Moore - KK5NU, Recording Secretary Rex Ritz - KC5EEU, Treasurer Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, one year Director Bud King - K5CEK, and two year Director Claude Sessions Jr. - K5HFY. Absent were Corresponding Secretary Steven Deaktor - WA3PMT, Past President Gailen Marshall - N4SKR, and three year Director Darell Kirk - KC5JAR.

Treasurer Larry Jacobson - K5LJ reported that the current balance is \$4208.06. Last year's audit performed by Randy Pollard - AK5G, D. Lanny Poteet - KB5VTB, and John Moore - KK5NU on July 2, 1998 was received by the Treasurer. The starting balance on January 1, 1997 was \$5050.75 and an ending balance on December 31, 1997 of \$4993.18. Recording Secretary Rex Ritz - KC5EEU presented the June minutes which were approved with one correction - the inclusion in the record of the Past President Gailen Marshall - N4SKR who was absent from the June meeting. It was also noted for the record that the Board of Directors position of Past President had been omitted from the previous minutes of February through May as well, by error, and that Past President Gailen Marshall - N4SKR was not present for those meetings.

President Bruce Paige - KK5DO reported that the B-VARC "gin pole" had been sold this week to Ken Eckhols, a CLARC member, for \$220.00. The board ratified and confirmed the sale for the record. Bruce also reported that the monthly complimentary hot dog and soft drink offering has been costing the club about \$30 each time. Vice President John Moore - KK5NU asked about any correlation in attracting attendees and/or new members vis-a-vis the free "dinners". It was determined by the board that we do not keep a monthly meeting attendance record, however Bruce Paige advised that we are attracting some new member sign ups.

Bud King - K5CEK introduced discussion regarding supplies needed for the annual ice cream social in August. It was reported by Rex Ritz - KC5EEU that the club would purchase

and supply paper goods, bowls & spoons, and that members who have signed up to furnish the ice cream would be reminded (by land line) and asked to also bring scoops. Bud King also presented our scheduled room assignments from the Sugar Land Community Center for the remainder of this calendar year and for 1999.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Bruce Paige - KK5DO at 8:02 PM.

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## HOUSTON SHOT NEWS for July 1998 by Al Mattis - N5AFV

Ten Ten International is seeking applicants for the position of Worked All Continents award manager. Mark Murphy, KC4HIT, who has held the position for several years, has remarried and finds less time for amateur radio in his new life style. Anyone interested in the position should contact Ed Redwine, K5ERJ, by E-mail at K5ERJ@aol.com.

July is the time for vacations, and two of the 10-10 award managers are on vacation. Ten Ten members are asked to hold off sending in award applications until the managers return home. Carl Fisher, W0HIK, the VIP award manager will be on vacation until July 10th. Hank Richroath, K5HWI, the Counties Award manager will be on vacation until July 15th.

The Ten Ten International Board of Directors meeting was hosted by the Houston SHOT chapter on June 12-13, 1998, at the Hobby Airport Ramada Inn. As a result, Houston area 10-10 members had an opportunity to meet the officers and directors of the organization.

The annual Paper Chasers Gathering in Reno, Nevada will be held August 13-16, 1998 at the Circus-Circus Casino and Hotel. Ten Ten members usually ask for rooms on the second floor of the Main Tower. A special room rate is available for those attending. Further information may be obtained from Phil Harlos, WB6NYM, by E-mail at wb6nym@softcom.net or by telephone at (916) 725-6800.

Ten Ten International has announced that the 1999 Ten Ten International Convention will be held June 10-13, 1999 at the Garden Plaza Hotel in Oak Ridge, TN. The convention will be hosted by the Springbok Chapter (ZS), and James Whittlesey, KC4RHW, is the convention chairman.

The Houston SHOT chapter is pleased to welcome W5CTV as its newest member. The chapter currently has 382 local members, and 1320 non-local members, for a total membership of 1702.

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Visit the Houston SHOT chapter home page at <http://www.clarc.org/shot/> when you get on the Internet. The site contains information about the chapter, past editions of the Houston SHOT News, and the Ten Ten DX column written Mike Davidson - N5MT, the SHOT chapter head. The chapter thanks Bruce Paige - KK5DO, for constructing and maintaining the page, and the Clear Lake Amateur Radio Club (CLARC) for providing space on their server for the page.

Paper chasers continue to be active on 28.345 MHz, 28.375 MHz, and 28.425 MHz during band openings. The Fort McHenry (MD), Cornerstone (MD), GB Ten (DX), Peshtigo Fire (WI) and Restoration Project (DX) chapters are conducting specials for paper chasers to promote activity when the band is open. Many of the chapters have home pages on the Internet. Links to these pages may be found on the Ten Ten International page. The Houston SHOT page contains a link to the Ten Ten International page.

Summer E-layer propagation has been present many days on ten meters during the past month. These domestic openings usually produce weak to moderate signals; however, a few openings this past month had very strong signals. The E-layer openings usually occur in the afternoon and evening, but may occur any time of the day. DX propagation to Latin America and the South Pacific was also reported in recent weeks.

Remember, the Houston SHOT (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 in to the net. There are many exciting activities in Ten Ten, and many friendly people can be found on the ten meter band.

## **B-VARC RAG CHEW Net Check-Ins** by Sam Wilson, N5CPA

3.960MHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 8:00PM

Just WHAT IS the Rag-Chew Net? Well it's a chance for you to get on the low bands and hang out with other B-VARC members, as well as hams from

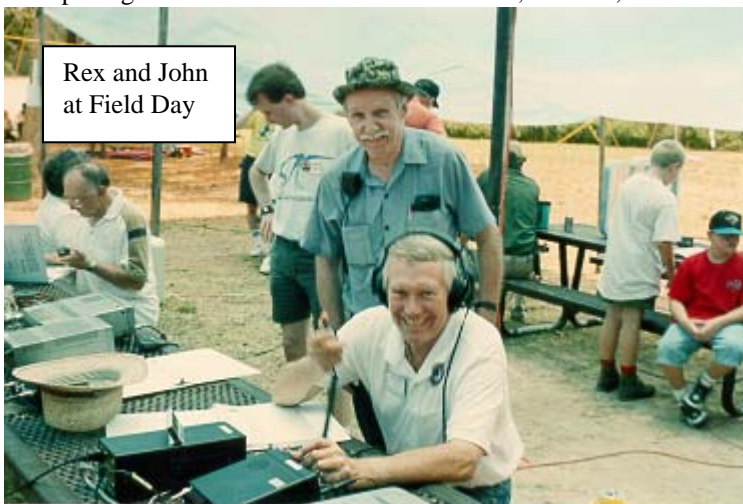
around the south central US! What?? Don't have voice privileges? Got a short-wave receiver? Dial in and listen, then check in using the telephone number announced at the beginning of each net.

6/03/98---N5CPA, K5CEK, K5LJ, W5EFB, KM5DG, N5OAC, KB5DNT, NM5K, W5IHY, N5VXU, KC5JAR, KK5W, KA0TEN, KC5SQD, KG5KV (15)

6/10/98---N5CPA, W5EFB, N5OAC, KM5DG, N5KXU, N5UFR, WB5VYR, K5LJ, K5CEK (9)

6/17/98---N5CPA, KG5KV, W5EFB, WN5A, KM5ID, N5OAC, K5CEK, N5VXU, KB5DNT, W5GHK, K5LJ, WB5VYR, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, K5HCX. (15)

6/24/98---N5CPA, K5CEK, KG5KV, KB5PGY, N5OAC, W5GHK, KB5DNT, KU4NE, WB5VYR. (9)



## **RESULTS OF THE JULY 14<sup>TH</sup> AMATEUR EXAMS** by: Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, July 14, 1998 at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

### V. E. TEAM:

Allen Mattis, N5AFV  
Harold Parker, ND5F  
George Walker, KQ5W

### ASSISTANTS:

Carl Albrecht, AA5JW  
Cass Germany, KG5IT  
John Moore, KK5NU  
Don Schexnailder, AB5IV

A total of 3 exams were administered during the evening to 3 applicants. One applicant upgraded his license with a total of 1 element passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 33%

Congratulations to the following:

Allen Baker, KD5BVS - Technician Plus

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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  
ND5F

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## SCANNER JACK'S Corner by Jack Roberts, KB5TMY

Here is the band plan for 800 MHZ and 900 MHZ trunking radios:

Mobiles	Base
806.0 to 811.0	851.0 to 856.0
811.0 to 816.0	856.0 to 861.0
816.0 to 821.0	861.0 to 866.0
821.0 to 823.9875	866.0 to 868.9875

### 900 MHZ Band Plan

Mobiles	Base
896.0 to 902.0	935.0 to 940.0

Alief Community VFD is now using the Clodine and Harris County trunked systems.

Fire 2 Channel is 866.050 and 866.4875 as of now.

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## CLARC/BVARC Field Day Results from Bob Biekert KA5GLX

The CLARC/BVARC Field Day Score is as follows:

80M	010 CW	18 SSB
40M	067 CW	147 SSB
20M	209 CW	113 SSB
15M	005 CW	135 SSB
10M	000 CW	073 SSB
6M	000 CW	145 SSB
2M	000 CW	018 SSB
1.25M	000 CW	003 SSB
70CM	000 CW	004 SSB
1.2G	000 CW	003 SSB
Sat	000 CW	001 SSB

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Total 291 CW 660 SSB

PLUS

Nov/Tec 000 CW 81 SSB

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291 CW 741 SSB

CW 291 x 2 = 582 points

SSB 741 x 1 = 741 points

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Total points - 1323 x 2 (for 150 watts or less) = 2642 Points

PLUS BONUS POINTS

\* 100 Public Place

\* 100 Media Publicity

\* 100 x 8 (emergency power for 8 A operation) = 800

\* 100 for Information Booth

\* 100 for Message origination to ARRL Section Manager

\* 100 for copying the W1AW Field Day Bulletin

\* 100 for one satellite contact (RS/12)

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1400 BONUS POINTS

So, 2642+1400 = 4042 POINTS

Not bad!

Bands that really helped us:

20m CW - 209 contacts

40 SSB - 147 contacts

6 SSB - 145 contacts

15 SSB - 135 contacts

Thanks again to all who came out and made our 11th Field Day a big success.. this includes the FD leads (Tim and Nick), the set up crews, the PR coordinator, the food group, the operators, those who brought out equipment, and the visitors and guests.

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## FOUND ON THE WEB BY RICK HILLER:

An Ode to CW:

<http://www.abcnnews.com/sections/tech/DailyNews/KWMorse980716.html> (no spaces).

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## Monday night PSN check-ins

Here are the check-ins for the Monday night Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Public Service Information Net for the month of July 1998:

7/6/98 - 25

7/13/98 - 21

7/20/98 - 20

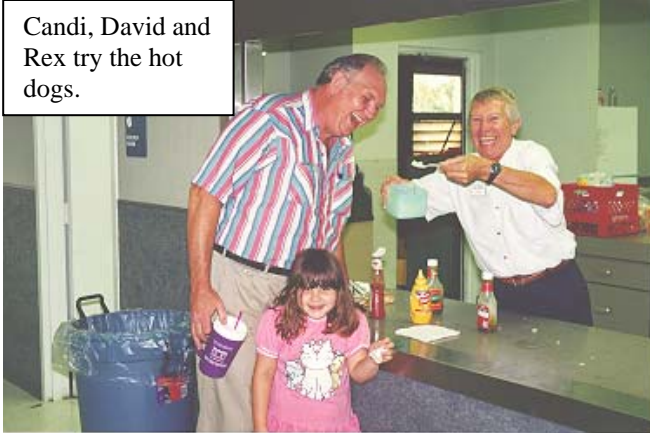
July Meeting



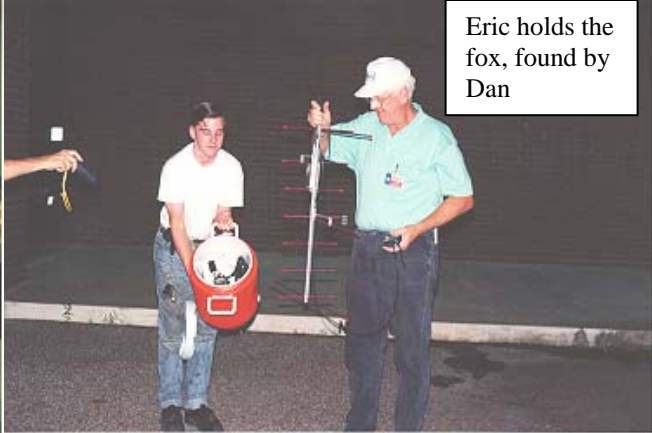
Field Day



Candi, David and Rex try the hot dogs.



Eric holds the fox, found by Dan



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