


THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 22, issue 4
April 1999

<p>Houston Ham Help Line 24-Hours 281-495-3495</p> <p>Get information about local clubs and testing sessions.</p>	<p>Membership renewal information:</p> <p>Members whose membership has expired or is near expiration will find their membership date highlighted on the mailing label.</p>	 <p>http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc</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 Irv, KK5QQ at 281-437-6755 for information

<p>What's in this issue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Notes from the Prez – P. 2 ➤ BVARC Activities – P. 2 ➤ Board of Directors Minutes, March 1999 - P. 2 ➤ Board of Directors Minutes, April 1999 - P. 3 ➤ Houston Shot News - P. 4 ➤ BVARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4 ➤ VE Exam Results - P. 5 ➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 5 ➤ Monday Night PSN Check-ins - P. 5 ➤ PRB-1 - P. 5 ➤ Field Day Participation - P. 6 ➤ Ads - P. 7 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Hot Dawg</i></p> <p><i>Hot Dogs and Drinks for Members - FREE</i> <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></p>
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<p>A Special Thanks to the First Colony Church of Christ for the use of their facilities which make this newsletter possible.</p> <p>Also, Thanks to Claude Sessions, K5HFY, for being in charge of production.</p>	<p>Board of Directors: John Moore, President - KK5NU, jwm@hal-pc.org Larry Jacobson, Vice-President - K5LJ, k5lj@nstci.com Doug Woodruff, Recording Secretary - KC5VYZ, dwoodruff@houston.geoquest.slb.com Irv Smith, Corresponding Secretary - KK5QQ, kk5qq@aol.com Gene Russell, Treasurer - N5XGT, hbrussell@aol.com Robert Moore, 3-Year-Director - KK5UO, kk5uo@hal-pc.org Darrell Kirk, Two-Year-Director - KC5JAR, darrellk@swbell.net Bruce Paige, Past President - KK5DO, kk5do@amsat.org Claude Sessions, 1-Year-Director - K5HFY, claudes@juno.com</p>
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Bill Randolph, KC5KGJ, home 713-468-3771

Notes from the President - April 1999

Well -- the 'cost' of being bad *and* getting caught has apparently escalated. My mention of the FCC Notice of Apparent Liability (translated as "FINE - you owe u\$ money") in my last column needs to be adjusted upwards to \$11,000. They really do mean business, when, accompanied by local law enforcement officers, the FCC Engineer- in-Charge; or his designated representative, comes knocking on your door and asks to inspect your station.

As you read this, Field Day 1999 is *now* not quite eight weeks away. Last full weekend in June, June 26th and 27th should be on your calendar. Current B-VARC plans are operations from Katy County Park located at the intersection of Katy-Hockley Cut Off and Morton Road that has been reserved for our use. Contact our Field Day Chairman, **Rex Ritz, KC5EEU** for further details.

As an update to the club project agenda; Robert, KK5UO is soliciting a cadre of instructor type volunteers to put together a comprehensive Amateur Radio Theory and CW class schedules. We're hoping for not only an entry level Novice/Technician - Technician Plus group; but possibly a General and Advanced level program. As of this writing, tentative plans are for an entry level CW course to about 8 wpm to begin on the first Tuesday in June. Wouldn't it be nice to see a majority of B-VARC members advance at least one level in the license structure by the start of the millenium ??

Louis, KD5GM has kindly volunteered to serve as the Assistant Treasurer for the club in the continued absence and road to recovery of Gene, N5XGT; and has been so authorized by your Board of Directors. Gene's continuing to improve but is not nearly ready to assume all of the burdens of treasurer just yet.

73 de John Moore, KK5NU

Schedule of BVARC Activities

May 1999

6 - General Meeting

Al Mattis , N5AFV, 10 - 10 International.

11 - VE Test

13 - BOD meeting.

(see the December 1998 issue for a long-term schedule.)

Upcoming Public Service Events

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, home 713-771-4625 work 713-463-0022 n5vcx@worldnet.att.net

Doug Woodruff, KC5VYZ, home 281-232-8452, work 713-350-4575, kc5vyz@arrl.net

Event	Date	Hams needed
Katy Flatland Bike Ride	July 25, 1999	35
Wings Over Houston Air Show	September, 1999 (not set)	60 (3 day event)
Alamo Challenge Bike Ride	October 9 & 10, 1999	55 (2 day event)
20K Warm-up Run	October 17, 1999	25

Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club March 11, 1999

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on March 11, 1999. The meeting was called to order by the President at 7:33pm. The following board members attended: President John Moore - KK5NU, Vice President Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, Recording Secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ, Corresponding Secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ, three year board member Robert Moore - KK5UO, two year board member Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR and one year board member Claude Sessions - K5HFY. Absent were Past President Bruce Paige - KK5DO and Treasurer Gene Russell - N5XGT. Guest attending was Cameron Mitchell - AC5QZ.

Corrections to the February 11, 1999 BOD minutes concerning minor wording were discussed. Motion to approve February minutes as corrected by Claude and seconded by Irv, no opposition, approved.

Corresponding Secretary report by Irv reports that BVARC membership list 101 active members, 21 family members and 11 life members totaling 133 members. 55% of the BVARC members indicate they are members of ARRL.

Treasurer's report by Irv in the absence of Gene was given. Anyone needing a detailed treasurer's report is asked to contact President John Moore or Corresponding Secretary Irv Smith.

VP Report that the April meeting will be Rick Hiller - W5RH to discuss building antennas for 10, 12, and 15m operation. Al Mattis will discuss 10-X International and SHOT for the May meeting. A program to include the South Texas Section Manager or other ARRL representatives is being worked on. Any suggestions for future presentations are always welcomed. Andy - W5ACM will give an AMSAT program in the summer.

President's report by John - Members Bill Randolph and Gene

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Russell and Margaret Wilson are recovering from recent medical procedures. The BVARC web page has had 7607 hits as of today. A Field Day location is reserved for Katy Park as a tentative location unless a more suitable location can be acquired in the mean time. Robert stated that a church field is available. Rex Ritz - KC5EEU is considering and exploring other locations from suggestions made by the membership. We have 7 days before Field Day to cancel Katy Park if needed. Steve WA3PMT has tentatively agreed to serve as the ice cream social chairman. We need someone to chair the Chili Supper/Elections event in November. Having the January banquet at San Francisco steakhouse again is being considered.

Old Business - Irv stated that Randy Pollard - AK5G and the audit committee has completed the BVARC audit and the report was given. Claude made a motion that the audit report be accepted, seconded by Irv, motion carried unanimously. A letter was received from Rick Hiller - W5RH expressing appreciation for BVARC's contribution and assistance for the Boy Scout's Jamboree-On-The-Air. A budget for Field Day expenses was discussed to cover food and that we will cook our own food. Cameron asked that the minutes for the BOD meetings be published in the following month's newsletter.

New Business - There will be no Gulf Coast Ham Convention for 1999 according to a response from Bruce - KK5DO. We may be able to contact other clubs in the area to see if any interest exist for a Gulf Coast Ham Convention for 2000. Claude asked about the status of new Ham classes. Robert will work to organize instructors for Novice and Technician theory classes. The board discussed selecting a temporary interim Treasurer until Gene can recover to assume his position again. Other business - Darrell asked about the status of the CW beacon proposed several months ago. The equipment is on hand but time is needed to put it into place.

Motion to adjourn by Darrell and seconded by Claude. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm.

Respectfully Submitted by the Recording Secretary
Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ

Board Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club April 8, 1999

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at Sugar Land Community Center on April 8, 1999. The meeting was called to order by President John Moore, KK5NU at 7:30PM.

The following Members were Present: President John Moore - KK5NU, vice president Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, corresponding secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ, three year board member Robert B. Moore - KK5UO, one year member Claude Sessions - K5HFX, past president Bruce Paige - KK5DO, Louis House - KD5GM.

Absent were recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ, treasurer Gene Russell - N5XGT, and two-year board member Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR.

Guest attending William L. Fulton and past president Carl Cunert - AB8CC from Ohio.

A motion to approve the March minutes was made by Larry Jacobson, and seconded by Claude Sessions. There was no opposition and so approved.

Corresponding secretary Irv Smith discussed renewal membership, finding new members, and duties of B-VARC membership secretary.

Vice president Larry Jacobson discussed programs and will have Rick Hiller - W5RH discuss antenna line and matching networks in October.

Rex Ritz - KC5EEU was not present to discuss Field Day preparations.

Claude Sessions reported he has 4 caps, 1 shirt and 32 patches for sale. He has \$49.50 cash \$88.00 to be ordered, and \$218.00 total.

Robert Moore reported that Bert Adkins - W5HJL would like to have a Fox Hunt. Bert can be contacted at 713-468-0271.

Louis House was appointed by the board to be assistant treasurer of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.

Treasurer's Report: \$2225.60, \$2283.90 solvent. Louis reported he had not reconciled the books yet.

Irv reported our board meeting will be the second Thursday in May, and June, then on July 7th a Wednesday, August 12th a Thursday, September 13th a Monday, October 18th a Monday, November 15th a Monday and December 13th a Monday.

Motion was made to adjourn by Larry and seconded by Claude. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by Robert Moore - KK5UO and recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ.

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HOUSTON SHOT NEWS for April 1999 **by Al Mattis - N5AFV**

The 1999 Ten Ten International Convention will be held June 10-13, 1999 at the Garden Plaza Hotel in Oak Ridge, TN. The Springbok Chapter (ZS) is hosting the convention, and James Whittlesey, KC4RHW, is the convention chairman. Advance registration for the convention began on January 1, 1999. For information about convention registration contact Tom Henderson, K4CIH, at k4cih@earthlink.net.

The Houston SHOT chapter is pleased to welcome K5HTX as its newest local member. The chapter currently has 386 local members, and 1339 non-local members, for a total membership of 1725.

Local Houston Shot member Ron Bolyard, KA5GYG, has retired and moved to California. Bolyard may be reached by E-mail at rbolyard@nstci.net.

A new addition to the chapter web page consists of a database listing all SHOT members in order by 10-10 number and their point value. The SHOT number does not appear in the database, and can only be acquired by working the member over the air. This current list of the point value of all SHOT members will help those working on the SHOT upgrade program. To check out the membership database, visit the Houston SHOT chapter home page at <http://www.clarc.org/shot/>. The site also 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 server space for the page.

Many of the chapters of Ten Ten International 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.

Paper chasers continue to be active on 28.345 MHz, 28.425 MHz and 28.825 MHz. The Flying Tigers (RI), GB Ten (G), Portland 500 (OR) and Electric City (FL) chapters are conducting specials for paper chasers to promote activity on the band. A number of chapters have specials each month.

Word has been received that Helen McElroy, VE3PUA, of Scarborough, Ontario, has begun receiving medical treatment for lung cancer. McElroy is a member of Houston SHOT chapter, and has earned the Discovery award. The chapter wishes her a full recovery and hopes to hear her on the air

again soon. Jacob Rutz, WK6S, from Lodi, CA, continues to recover from surgery and has unable to be on the air. The SHOT chapter also wishes him a speedy and full recovery.

Propagation on ten meters continues to be generally good, however, there have been a few days with poor propagation. DX contacts continue, and domestic propagation has also been good. It has been possible to make contacts on ten meters every day while mobile running 25 watts.

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 for March **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.

3/3/99--KE5SR (NCS), K5CEK, KK5W, KA0TEN, W5GHK, K5LJ, KD5GM, AB5BA, K5VRJ, W5EFB. (10)

3/10/99--W5GHK (NCS), KE5SR, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, N5VXU, W5EFB, KK5UO, N5OAC, KK5W, KA0TEN, W5TEM, N5CPA. (13)

3/17/99--N5CPA (NCS), W5GHK, W5EFB, N4AEP, N5OAC, KB5DNT, WB5VYR, KM5TO. (8)

3/24/99--N5CPA, WN5A, KK5W, KA0TEN, KB5DNT, W5GHK, KM5DG, W5EFB, N5VXU, K5VRJ, AB5BA, K5CEK, K5LJ, W5HFF, WB5VYR, W5TEM, KM5ID, N4ZTU. (18)

****NOTE**** N4ZTU was added to the check-in list after the net, when his e-mail was received saying that he had listened to the net. He is Gregory Foster, ex Houston area resident and ex B-VARC member, now living in Dallas, Georgia.

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RESULTS OF THE APRIL 13TH AMATEUR EXAMS

by: Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, April 13, 1999 at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

V. E. TEAM:
 John Moore, KK5NU
 Lanny Poteet, KB5VTB
 Tom Weldon, KK5VE

ASSISTANTS:
 Carl Albrecht, AA5JW
 Cass Germany, KG5IT
 Harold Parker, ND5F
 Don Schexnailder, AB5IV

A total of 3 exams were administered during the evening to 2 applicants. A total of one (1) element was passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 33% .

Congratulations to George H. Parker who passed the Element 2 Exam.

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

SCANNER JACK'S Corner by Jack Roberts, KB5TMY

Here are U. S. A. military freqs. for H. F.

4.724	Global Cmd		
6.739	" "		
8.992	" "		
11.175	" "		
13.200	" "		
15.016	" "		
15.031	" "		
6.712	Air Combat Cmd		
6.742	" "	" "	
6.760	" "	" "	

6.761	" "	" "
11.244	" "	" "

5.197	Military Air Cmd
9.014	Tactical Air Cmd
9.013	" " "
9.016	" " "
9.017	" " "
11.214	" " "

Scanners AM mode

372.2	Global
311.0	ACC
321.0	ACC
342.2	ACC
349.4	MAC
381.3	TAC
292.1	TAC

Monday night PSN check-ins (KK5DO net control)

3/22/99 - 21 (KB5YTA)
 3/29/99 - 22 (KC5VYZ)
 4/5/99 - 29 (KC5VYZ)
 4/12/99 - 27 (KD5FWE)
 4/19/99 - 26 (KC5VYZ)

PRB-1 BILL CLEARS TEXAS SENATE (ARRL Newsletter, April 23, 1999)

The Texas Senate has approved the Amateur Radio "tower bill," and the measure appears headed for passage. The measure passed its second and third readings Monday, April 19. It now goes back to the House because of a minor change in an amendment first made on the House side.

The Texas bill, HB-1345, would incorporate the essence of the limited federal preemption, PRB-1 into state law. The measure would amend the Local Government Code in Texas to prevent local jurisdictions from enacting or enforcing ordinances that fail to comply with PRB-1. The bill further would require ordinances dealing with Amateur Radio antenna placement, screening, or height based on health, safety or aesthetics to "reasonably accommodate amateur communications" and "represent the minimal practicable regulation to accomplish the municipality's or county's legitimate purpose."

Johnson Space Center Amateur Radio Club President Karl Silverman, N0WWK, who's been a primemover behind the bill says that, because the Senate made only a change to an amended portion of the House bill, it will not have to be heard

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by the full House. Instead, the bill's sponsor, Rep Patricia Gray, just has to agree to the change.

this week, the bill should be headed to the Governor's office," Silverman said.

After that, the Speaker of the House will send the measure to Gov George W. Bush's office for signing. "So, by the end of

A similar measure has been inching its way through the Maine legislature.

*The annual ARRL Field Day is just around the corner
only 20 weeks, or three more meetings away:*

Saturday June 26, 1999

We need to think about it, discuss it, make some decisions, and get on with it! We need to know. What do you want? Please complete this questionnaire now, or take it home for further study:

What location/operating site? _____
last year w/CLARC in Clear Lake. Your suggestion?

Saturday night supper ideas? _____
catered meal?, pot luck + meat provided?, etc?

Sunday morning breakfast? _____

Do you know a group/person that wants to cook? _____

Volunteers and gear are needed in the following areas. Please check where appropriate:

Technical Foreman & assistants Night shift crew chief & sleep-overs

Contestors radios _____ / _____ / _____

antennas _____

Operators ATV _____ satellite _____ packet _____

other _____

Talk in station

Public information contact person photographer net shots

Kitchen crew & grounds clean up

Logistics set up Saturday

Logistics take down Sunday

Refreshments service : snacks & drinks server

Logistics needs you can help with:

truck or trailer for logistics _____

portable electrical power & accessories _____

tents & shelters _____

air conditioned trailers/vehicles _____

portable lighting & fans _____

water containers, ice chests & coolers _____

lawn furniture _____

camping and cook gear : tables & chairs, mosquito netting, etc. _____

Your printed name call land line fax e-mail



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Remember that after you complete this questionnaire you have the right to grumble and complain! Please return to John Moore. Larry Jacobson, or Rex Ritz, or just call in to volunteer.

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Bruce Paige, KK5DO



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Exchanges welcome.

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