


# THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 23, issue 10  
October 2000

<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>
--	---	--

**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><b>What's in this issue?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Notes from the Prez – P. 2</li> <li>➤ B-VARC Activities – P. 2</li> <li>➤ Board of Directors Minutes, October 12 - P. 2</li> <li>➤ 25K Race, November 12 - P. 3</li> <li>➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 4</li> <li>➤ V.E.C. Exam Results - P. 4</li> <li>➤ Monday Night PSN Check-ins - P. 4</li> <li>➤ B-VARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4</li> <li>➤ Public Service Events - P. 5</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Hot Stuff</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Our annual Chili Supper/Annual Election of Officers and Directors is in the spotlight for the November meeting.</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PLEASE</b> Contact Kevin Foto, KD5O, 281-277-5886 or <a href="mailto:alpine@wt.net">alpine@wt.net</a>, if you plan or are willing to bring food, including chili, dessert, condiments, drinks, etc.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>B-VARC members offer courses in Extra Theory</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Robert, KK5UO, Ross, K5HFF, and Lanny, KB5VTB, are offering an Extra Class Theory course which will begin November 7 and will last 6 weeks. The sessions are on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 P.M. and will be held in Fellowship Hall, room F2, at St. Paul Presbyterian Church. Contact Robert, KK5UO, for information.</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Many thanks to John Moore for printing this month's issue and to Claude Sessions for production.</b></p>	<p><b>Board of Directors:</b> Larry Jacobson, President - K5LJ, <a href="mailto:k5lj@nstci.com">k5lj@nstci.com</a> Glen Jenkins, WB4KTF, vice-president - <a href="mailto:wb4ktf@pipeline.com">wb4ktf@pipeline.com</a> Doug Woodruff, Recording Secretary - KC5VYZ, <a href="mailto:kc5vyz@arrl.net">kc5vyz@arrl.net</a> Irv Smith, Corresponding Secretary - KK5QQ, <a href="mailto:kk5qq@aol.com">kk5qq@aol.com</a> Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, Treasurer - <a href="mailto:K5CAM@arrl.net">K5CAM@arrl.net</a> Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, 3-Year-Director, <a href="mailto:n5vcx@worldnet.att.net">n5vcx@worldnet.att.net</a> Robert Moore, 2-Year-Director - KK5UO, <a href="mailto:kk5uo@hal-pc.org">kk5uo@hal-pc.org</a> Darrell Kirk, One-Year-Director - KC5JAR, <a href="mailto:darrell@ev1.net">darrell@ev1.net</a> John Moore, Past President - KK5NU, <a href="mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org">jwm@hal-pc.org</a></p>

**SILENT KEY**  
**Jim Jefferies, W5EFB,**  
 passed away in October. He was a long time member of  
 BVARC. Our condolences to his family and friends.

**Notes from the President - October 2000**

Prez Sez:

We are drawing to the close of another year. Next month is the annual chili supper and club election. It has been a good year for the club, membership is up over last year, license restructuring has brought in new blood without the mayhem some had prophesized, the club is financially sound, and we have had a number of very interesting programs. Now, if we could only get rid of those restrictive covenants!

At the next meeting I will be circulating a sign-up sheet for the new B-VARC standing committees (Public Service, Entertainment, Field Day, Newsletter, and Nets). Find something on there that interests you and put your name down. The Board needs to know who is interested in what and can be contacted to help out with these functions. A club can only be successful to the extent that the membership becomes involved in it.

The Awards Banquet is coming up (Jan. 5, 2001) and will be at the Old San Francisco Steak House on Westheimer. This brings up two points. We need awardees! Who has worked hard on public service activities? Who has promoted HF operation within the club? Who has given hours of dedication to the VE program? If you know of someone deserving of recognition, please let your board know. Finally, we need attendees. The banquet will feature two entree selections: London Broil (beef) and Mixed Grill (chicken and shrimp). Dessert will be included as will the beverage. All this for only \$22/person! And great company! A cash bar will also be available. Come one come all. We will have a sign-up sheet starting at the next meeting.

See you at the chili supper!

Larry K5LJ

**SCHEDULE OF BVARC Activities**

**VE Sessions Change of Location:**

The ARRL VEC amateur license tests which are given by B-VARC on the second Tuesday of each month has been moved to:  
**Houston Community College,**  
**Scarcella Technology Center, Room W106**  
**10141 Cash Road, Stafford, TX**  
 Parking in the rear --

**BVARC Awards Banquet**

The Awards Banquet will be held at the Old San Francisco Steak House, Friday, January 5.  
 Cash bar opens at 6:30 and dinner at 7:30.  
 Contact Cameron, K5CAM, for reservations.  
 You must choose between London Broil (beef) and Mixed Grill (chicken and shrimp).

Month	General Meeting	Program	BOD Meeting	VEC Test
Nov	2	Chili Supper/Elections	16	14
Dec	4	Satellite Antennas by Gerald Brown, K5OE		12
Jan	5	Awards Banquet		
Feb	1	TBA	8	13

(A long-term calendar of B-VARC events is available in the January 2000 issue.)

**Bruce Paige, KK5DO**  
 Authorized Sales & Service for:

**EPSON**  
**OKIDATA**

**LEXMARK**

Warranty & Non-Warranty Repairs

7625 Boone Rd.  
 Houston, TX 77072  
 281-933-8385 Ext 201  
 Fax 281-933-3544

**Houston Area PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS**

Event	Date	Hams	Contact
25K Warm-up Run - Houston	November 12	27	Allen Mattis
Novemberfest Bike Ride - Sealy	November 11	25	KARS
30K Warm-up Run - Houston	December 2	25	Looking for a ham coordinator
Houston Marathon - Houston	January 14, 2001	130	Carl Hacker

**BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
 Board of Directors Meeting - October 12, 2000**

President Larry Jacobson called the meeting to order at 7:31pm with a quorum. Those in attendance were president Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, vice president Glen Jenkins - WB4KTF, treasurer Cameron Mitchell - K5CAM, past president John Moore - KK5NU, 2-year board member Robert Moore - KK5UO, and recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ. Not in attendance were corresponding secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ, 3-year board member Mike Hardwick -N5VCX and 1-

year board member Darrel Kirk - KC5JAR. Visiting was Paul Gray - NØJAA.

Recording secretary report by Doug. Reviewed the September minutes. Motion made by John to accept the September BOD minutes and seconded by Larry. Motion carried unanimously.

Corresponding secretary report was not available.

Treasurer report by Cameron. Members can contact the treasurer for a current copy of the club account status. The awards banquet is coming up and decision on cost to the members and club will be decided soon.

Vice president report by Glen. Last general meeting was a good meeting on antennas. Still need a program for December and February meetings.

President report by Larry reported that KUHF radio station wants to do a feature on Amateur Radio and Larry will proceed with a followup to see what the radio station requires.

<b>Complete Computer Solutions</b>	<b>Services and Products:</b>
	Custom Built Computers Repairs/Upgrades Network Design/Installation Components/Software/Accessories
13891 Southwest Freeway Sugar Land, TX 77478 Phone: (281) 277-0220 Fax: (281) 277-0230 Website: www.completecomputers.com	

Old business: VE session by John reported had seven candidates show up with six passing elements to include two new technicians, one technician with HF privileges, two generals and one extra upgrade. Storage USA donated a 10 x 10 storage area for the club to store items. The board wishes to express its appreciation to Storage USA for this benefit. It is off the Southwest freeway at Greenbriar. The HAL-net account has been renewed for the next six months. The web page has had 3560 hits since 01/01/2000. The 2001 board election still needs a president nominee. Robert reported on the general class currently in progress with the class now with one participant. Louis House has agreed to hold a code class starting in January assuming a suitable location is found and students available. John showed a code keyer project that could be built for around \$15 plus. Larry discussed the standing committees and a sign up sheet will be passed around at the next meeting.

New business: Robert reported that an extra class will start on 7th of November for six weeks. Robert reported that Jim Jeffries - W5EFB was a silent key. The board wishes to express its deepest sympathy to the family.

Motion was made to adjourn by John and seconded by Glen. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ

<b>E P O</b>	<b>ELECTRONIC PARTS OUTLET</b>
	ELECTRONICS / COMPUTERS & MORE <b>THE ELECTRONIC SOURCE</b>
3753 FONDREN HOUSTON, TEXAS 77063 713 784-0140 713 784-9740 fax <b>STORE MANAGER KEN TURNER</b>	17776 TOMBALL PKWY HOUSTON, TEXAS 77064 281 807-9600 281 774-0830 fax <b>STORE MANAGER RICK ZAMARRIPA</b>
<b>SHIP TO WAREHOUSE:</b> 9101 LIPAN HOUSTON, TX 77063 713 787-0599 713 288-1044 fax	

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to Provide Communications for 25K Race by Al Mattis N5AFV**

Volunteers are needed to work this year's 25K Marathon Warm-up Series Race, which will be held on Sunday, November 12, 2000. Providing communications at a public service event is a lot of fun, and it helps provide a positive image of amateur radio in the community. Because of the 7:00 AM race start, volunteers will need to arrive between 5:30 and 6:00 AM. In past years, race communications, which are conducted on two meters, have concluded at approximately 11:00 AM. The Warm-up Series, which was designed to help runners prepare for the Houston Marathon, also helps communications volunteers prepare for the working the January marathon.

This will be the 14th year that Houston area amateur radio operators have provided communications for the 25K race. For the last 9 years, the 25K race has been run along Memorial Drive, with the start and finish lines located in downtown Houston. The 25K race usually has approximately 2400 runners and 2000 finishers, and is the second largest 25K race in the nation.

This will be the fourth year that the ChampionChip system will be used to time runners in the 25K race. This system is a pedestrian version of the EasyTag used on Houston area toll roads. The ChampionChip, which utilizes a frequency of 134.2 KHz, uses a small transponder attached to the runners' shoes, and specially designed mats at the start and finish lines.

Amateur radio communications have played an important role in previous years. Houston area race directors still talk about the year that a hot air balloon landed on the course just as the race was about to start. The course was blocked, and amateur radio operators were able to notify the race director who delayed start of the race until the balloon was cleared.

Amateur radio has also played a key role in past years in passing medical traffic. The race covers a distance of 25 kilometers

(15.5 miles) and is a serious athletic event rather than a "fun run." In nine of the last thirteen years, injured runners from the 25K race have been taken to the hospital.

If you wish to help provide communications at this year's 25K race, please contact Al Mattis – N5AFV, at 713-669-3482 during the daytime, or 713-721-3637 in the evening, or by email at afmattis@hal-pc.org.

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

Here are the frequencies for the Clodine trunk radio system.

868.9250 data	866.5625
867.9625 data	866.4875
868.9750	866.4625
868.9500	866.0500
868.7625	868.3250
868.4875	868.2125
868.2375	867.5500
868.0875	867.4875
868.0375	867.4500
867.9875	867.0750
867.9375	867.0500
867.9125	866.9250
867.6625	866.8500
867.5875	866.4250
867.5375	867.9500
867.4625	867.0750
867.0625	867.0500
866.9375	867.0000

**RESULTS OF THE October 10th B-VARC AMATEUR EXAMINATION SESSION by: John Moore, KK5NU**

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examination session that was held on Tuesday, October 10, 2000 at HCC Scarcella Technology Campus here in Stafford.

**MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:**

Louis House, KD5GM  
Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM  
John Moore, KK5NU  
Mark Winslet, KM5WR

A total of 10 examination elements were administered during the evening to 7 applicants. There was 1 applicant for upgrade under the new rules and regulations. By examination, two unlicensed candidates received their new Technician license and one unlicensed candidate received his new Tech w/ HF license;

two applicants upgraded to General and one upgraded to Extra for a total of nine (9) examination elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 90%.

Summner H. Cunningham - - Tech w/ HF  
Kathleen Fey - - Technician  
Asim S. Kahn - KC5VAI - General  
Ira O. Laird - KB5OKZ - General  
Jeffery A. Paul - - Technician  
Orin S. Snook - WA5EUL - Extra

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 everyone at HCC Scarcella Technology Center for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

..... 73 .....

72/73 de John Moore, KK5NU  
eMail: jwm@hal-pc.org  
www - http://hal-pc.org/~jwm



**Alex-WA5UHT**

**7015 Atwell Dr**  
**Houston TX 77081-6005**  
**PHONE: 713/663-6066**  
**FAX: 713/663-6413**

**EMAIL: ajs@cityelectronics.com**  
**WEB SITE: http://www.cityelectronics.com**

**Store Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00**

**MONDAY NIGHT PSN check-ins (KC5VYZ net control)**

9/4 - 23 Doug  
9/11 - 25 Doug  
9/18 - 23 Doug  
9/25 -19 Doug  
10/2 - 20 Doug  
10/9 - 21 Cam  
10/16 - 31 Doug  
10/23 - 33 Doug

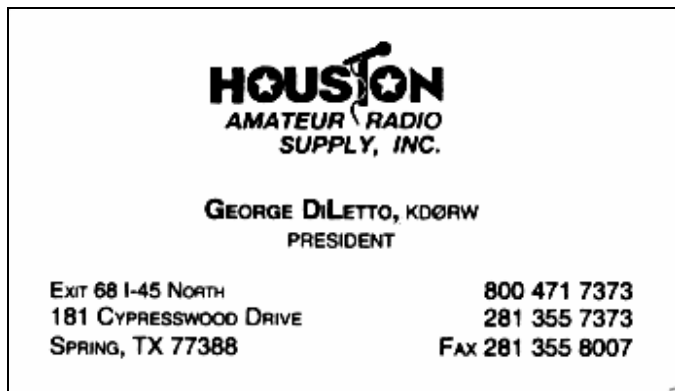
**B-VARC RAG CHEW Net Check-Ins for September 2000 by Sam Wilson, N5CPA**

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.

9/6/00--N5CPA, N5XWB, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA  
W5GHK, KC5HDF. (7)  
9/13/00—K5LJ (NCS), KK5W, KA0TEN, N5XWB, K5JWM,  
N5VXU. (6)  
9/20/00--N5CPA, K5CEK, K5LJ, N5VXU, K5VRJ, AB5BA,  
WB5SRN, KD5O, K5CAM, N5OAC.(10)  
9/27/00--N5CPA, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, N5XWB,  
K5JWM, N5OAC, KE5MY, WB5SRN, K5LJ, K5ROK,  
KC4TLG, KB5SDU. (13)



### **UPCOMING EVENTS Using Amateur Radio For Communications**

The first three events are coming up and volunteers are needed for them. If you have time available on either October 29th or November 11th or the 12th, please give the coordinator a call.

Working these events helps puts amateur radio in good light. We need to be in the community providing them with a service that can be reconized in times of need. We need to maintain the our worth for the frequencies that we use. Come on out and put your radio and license to a good use.

### **Bike Rides**

#### **NOVEMBERFEST BIKE Ride**

[http://www.bicycletexas.com/tx\\_bike\\_rides.htm#calnov](http://www.bicycletexas.com/tx_bike_rides.htm#calnov)

This event will be held on **November 11th** in the Sealy/San Felipe area. This bike ride has about 1000 riders on it and covers the area between Sealy and Bellville. It is a nice slow and easy event to work and if you are lucky you may even see me on a bike on the course! Katy Amateur Radio Club

### **Running Events**

#### **20K WARM-UP for the MARATHON**

<http://www.houston20k.com/>

### ***CORRECTED DATE !!***

I still need several more people to fill the 20K Warm-up run on Sunday, **October 29, 2000**. This is morning only event held in downtown Houston and we should be finished by 11am. Positions that are open are: break-points, SAG wagons, supply trucks, and medical. Let me know as soon as you can and I will get you signed up. You can work the event with only a Vhf/2 meter hand-held but may need a mag mount antenna if you are in any of the vehicles. You can contact me at [n5vcx@worldnet.att.net](mailto:n5vcx@worldnet.att.net) if you would like to work the event.

#### **25K WARM-UP for the MARATHON**

<http://www.houstonmasters.org/upcoming%20races.htm>

The event will be on Sunday, **November 12, 2000** in downtown Houston. If you are interested in working the event, contact Allen Mattis at [afmattis@hal-pc.org](mailto:afmattis@hal-pc.org). He is the coordinator of the event and will be able to fill you in with more information.

#### **30K WARM-UP for the MARATHON**

[https://www.signmeupsports.com/Events/Index\\_Events.asp?EventID=2506](https://www.signmeupsports.com/Events/Index_Events.asp?EventID=2506)

I am looking for a coordinator for the **30K run in December**. This event is held in the First Colony area in Sugar Land. If you are interested in putting an event together, let me know and I will be glad to help you and get you started. You can contact me at [n5vcx@worldnet.att.net](mailto:n5vcx@worldnet.att.net) if you would like to work the event or if you would like to get you feet wet coordinating one!

#### **COMPAQ HOUSTON MARATHON**

<http://www.compaqhoustonmarathon.com/>

It will be held **January 14th, 2001** and will be the 29th year that it has been held. Contact Carl Hacker at [chacker@utsph.sph.uth.tmc.edu](mailto:chacker@utsph.sph.uth.tmc.edu) for information on working the event.

If you wish to be removed from my e-mail list on Public Service events, send an e-mail to [mhardwick@worldnet.att.net](mailto:mhardwick@worldnet.att.net) with "Remove from public service infomail" in the subject line.

The events do help amateur radio and the public knowledge of it.

What have you done with your radio and license today?

Mike Hardwick  
N5VCX  
Public Service Event Coordinator  
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

