

## B-VARC BOARD MEETING

*by Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ*

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on January 4, 1996. This was the first board meeting of the calendar year. The meeting was called to order by President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, at 7:30 p.m.

The following Board Members and guests were present: Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, Louis House—KD5GM, Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ, Donn Washburn—N5XWB, Pete Norris—KJ5SS, Jim Cabanin—KB5TBZ, Victor Richard—N5NAS, Terry McCoy—KK5RL, Bud King—N5UOG, Claude Session—K5HFY, Harold Parker—ND5F, Allen Mattis—N5AFV, Sam Wilson—N5CPA, and Mel Thatcher—KB5ION.

1995 Recording Secretary, Louis House—KD5GM, presented the December minutes. The minutes were approved with a motion that passed unanimously.

1995 Treasurer, Donn Washburn—N5XWB, presented the Treasurer's report dated January 4, 1996, showing a balance of \$5,070.71. Donn stated that B-VARC had a total of 71 paid members, including 4 life members. He also stated that as of 1/4/96, there were 45 people signed up for the B-VARC annual banquet, including 2 guests of B-VARC from Channel 39. He stated that the cutoff date to sign up for the banquet was 1/8/95. President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, stated that he would appoint an audit committee to conduct an audit since it was the end of the 1995 Treasurer's term. 1996 Treasurer, Pete Norris—KJ5SS, presented a new signature card to be filled out and signed by the new officers of B-VARC. The Treasurer's report was accepted with a motion that passed unanimously.

1996 Corresponding Secretary, Jim Cabanin—KB5TBZ, had questions about several names on the mailing list for the newsletter. After some discussion, 4 out of the 6 names were removed from the mailing list at the direction of President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE.

Bud King—N5UOG, stated that the Sugar Land Community Center had no large room for us in 1997, and that we would have to use the Wedgewood North room for our meetings. We will, however, be able to keep all of our regular meeting dates for both board meetings and general membership meetings for 1997. The dates for the board meetings in the last six months of 1996 will be the first Thursday of the month as usual; however, the dates for the regular meetings will be changed as follows: July 18, 1996; August 22, 1996; October 17, 1996; and November

21, 1996. Bud suggested that the club think about finding a new meeting place for 1997. Allen Mattis—N5AFV, suggested that the club consider the new civic center in Missouri City. Bud also stated that the banquet was arranged with HESS for 1997. The Board discussed calling members from the roster to see if we could get the banquet attendance up. President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, presented a draft of the program for the awards banquet to be reviewed by members of the Board for any corrections/comments.

Claude Sessions—K5HFY, indicated that he had received several inquiries from people interested in joining amateur radio clubs. He also stated that he had used the club's call sign—KC5OIG, to get a Ten Ten number for B-VARC. The Ten Ten number for B-VARC is 67832.

B-VARC Rag Chew Net Manager, Sam Wilson—N5CPA, reported that the net is doing well, and that the check-ins ranged from 11 to 18 for the month of December. He further stated that there were several distant stations that checked in, including Carl Cunert—WB8SVR and KI5SC.

B-VARC Public Service Information Net Manager, Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ, reported that the Monday night Public Service Information Net was going well, but she welcomed suggestions on how to handle the check-ins on the net. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that the running of the net should be left to the discretion of the Net Manager, and that any new net procedures should be stated in the preamble.

Louis House—KD5GM, reported that the B-VARC Code Practice Net was going well. The net currently runs 3 nights per week.

President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, stated that the club had need of several committees: Program Director, Parliamentarian, and Field Day. He stated that he possibly had someone lined up for Program Director. Louis House—KD5GM, stated that Allen Brier—WB5BIR, stated that he would be handling Field Day again for 1996.

President Grimes also brought to the Board's attention the Public Service Guidelines which were presented at the December 1995 meeting by Mike Hardwick—N5VCX. Item 7 of these Guidelines, concerning members of B-VARC operating sag and other vehicles, was discussed. Ron said that this issue

needed further review and that the issue needed to be made clearer. He further indicated that he would possibly appoint an ad hoc committee to review and comment on these guidelines. He also mentioned the fact of possibly preparing a form to be signed by public service event volunteers in accordance with the guidelines.

President Grimes also brought up the recent by-law changes that were made at the December 1995 Board of Directors meeting. Discussion was had concerning the life membership issue. The issues discussed were the possible bankrupting of the club (e.g. cost of sending the newsletter), and counting life members would make it difficult to attain a quorum to vote in the annual election. Several solutions were discussed, including the possibility of increasing the multiplier for the life membership dues, possibly putting the money in an interest-bearing account, and the possibility of changing the word "member" to "resident" to help with the quorum issue.

Louis House—KD5GM, indicated that he and Steve Gottlieb—WA5OEN, met with Pat O'Malley with the Tatanka District Boy Scouts. The manned radio station will be set up in front of the JC Penney store at West Oaks Mall. He stated that he will soon be attending a meeting with Mr. Welch to check out the roof and to lay the groundwork for the event. The issue of liability was discussed, and Mr. O'Malley stated that he believed B-

VARC participants would be covered under the Boy Scouts' insurance, since B-VARC was invited to participate. Louis indicated that he would confirm this. Also, the Boy Scouts' radio merit badge was discussed, and Louis is trying to obtain literature to be distribute in that regard.

Louis House—KD5GM, also brought to the Board's attention the use of registering the various B-VARC nets under the club's call sign. He indicated that the trustee of the call stated that it was not appropriate to use the call for the nets. After some discussion, Louis indicated that he would register the B-VARC nets under the respective net manager's call sign.

Harold Parker—ND5F, stated that he had received an FCC Form 610V, which he would pass along to the trustee of the club call sign. He suggested that possibly the club could hold a contest to select a vanity call for the club, and issue some type of prize to the member who gave the winning call.

President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, stated that he had received the newly printed, corrected membership forms from George Jolly. He also stated that he would like an inventory of the club's equipment to be prepared. Pete Norris—KJ5SS, will bring an inventory and distribute copies of it at the February Board of Directors Meeting.

Jim Cahanin—KB5TBZ, brought up the issue of the plastic name tags that are in his possession. After some discussion, he stated that he will come up with a plan as to what to do with them in the future.

President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, raised a question concerning the next Novice/Technician and Code class. Louis House—KD5GM, stated that he will check into starting the classes and try to see if he can get any volunteers to help teach these classes. It was also brought to the Board's attention that we need to advertise these classes at least 2 to 3 months in advance in order to get more participation. Louis stated that the new code class would be starting March 10, 1996, but that the location was pending. He stated that he would send a letter to the First Colony church of Christ concerning the use of their facilities for the classes. The code class will last 8 to 10 weeks, ending on May 6, 1996, and runs from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Louis also stated that he would like to upgrade the version of the ARRL code practice tapes used for the classes. He stated that he would write to the ARRL to see if we could get a special rate on these tapes. It was also brought to the Board's attention that the writer of the shareware, Super Morse, was a charter member of B-VARC, and that we could possibly contact him concerning distribution of this program to the next code class.

Allen Martis—N5AFV, brought to the Board's attention the issue of past presidents of B-VARC. He stated that he believed that the club was straying away from following the by-laws. He further stated that the club's Parliamentarian, Carl Hacker—KB5LDY, had not been attending the board meetings to act in such capacity. He further stated that the President could appoint a parliamentarian without the board's approval. Allen also brought up the fact that a past president should be a member of the Board, and that the President should appoint someone to fill Carl Cunert—WB8SVR's, position as past president. President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, stated that he would contact past presidents to see if any were interested in filling this Board position. Newsletter Editor, Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ, asked if Carl

Cunert—WB8SVR's name could be put on the first page of the newsletter as Past President. After some discussion, the Board felt that this would be okay.

Vic Richard—N5NAS, stated that he felt the Board should spend one night in going over the club's by-laws to become more familiar with them. President, Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, stated that he thought this was a good idea and would try to arrange something in that regard.

The meeting was adjourned by Ron Grimes—WA5SCE, at 9:35 p.m. with a motion, second and unanimous vote.

