

Meeting of the Board of Directors of The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club January 2, 1997

A quorum of the board of directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on January 2, 1997. This was the first board meeting of the calendar year. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President, Louis House-KD5GM, in the absence of President, Ron Grimes-WA5SCE, at 7:31 P.M.

The following Board Members and guests were present: Jackie Burton-KC5OHJ, Allen Mattis-N5AFV, Sam Wilson-N5CPA, Mike Hardwick-N5VCX, Bud King-N5UOG, Terri Van Slyke-W5BKK, Terry McCoy-W5TEM, John Moore-KK5NU, Rick Hiller-W5RH, Gailen Marshall-N4SKR, Nizar Mullani-K0NM, Pete Norris-KJ5SS, Claude Sessions-K5HFY, Jim Cahalan-KB5V, John Dryton-KC5QZD, and Louise House-KD5GM.

Recording Secretary, Jackie Burton-KC5OHJ, presented the December minutes. The minutes were approved with a motion that passed unanimously.

Treasurer, Pete Norris-KJ5SS, presented a treasurer's report for December showing a balance of \$ 3255.75. The Treasurer's report was approved with a motion that passed unanimously.

Board Member, Terry McCoy-W5TEM, had nothing to report.

Corresponding Secretary, Jim Cahalan-KB5V, had nothing to report.

Board Member, Claude Sessions-K5HFY, stated that he had been approached by M.D. Anderson Blood Center regarding a possible blood drive given by B-VARC members. 1997 President, Gailen Marshall-N4SKR, listed several problems involved with having a blood drive and a regular club meeting simultaneously. He suggested organizing a group to go to the blood center instead; that another blood center location might be more convenient. Claude stated that he would get information regarding B-VARC donating as a group. Claude also mentioned an error in January's newsletter, regarding talk-in repeaters. The 444.45 MHz repeater should be listed as 444.55 MHz. He also suggested that the times listed for Saturday morning breakfast be changed. The times currently listed are 7:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. These times should be changed to 6:30 a.m.- 8:00 a.m., because most people are gone before 9:00 a.m. In addition, he suggested listing the Houston Area Information Line, run by Bruce Paige-KK5DO, on the back page of the newsletter as a contact number for B-VARC information. He will speak to Betty Wilcox-KA0TEN, who is currently the contact person, and Bruce Paige regarding this matter.

Board Member, Bud King-N5UOG, stated that Ernest K. "Moses" Silverthorn-KB5TNW, passed away the previous week. Treasurer, Pete Norris-KJ5SS, confirmed that he had received a check for membership in B-VARC from Moses. Bud asked that his check be returned, or money refunded to his wife. Vice-President, Louise House-KD5GM, said that a card would be sent to his family from B-VARC.

Past President, Allen Mattis-N5AFV, expressed concern regarding the drop in size of our club membership. He has agreed to take charge of a mailing to past members of the club, and currently has a list of 100 members. This mailing would include a letter and a membership application. He requested \$ 32.00 for postage. This was approved with a motion that passed unanimously.

Vice-President, Louise House-KD5GM, introduced the new Board Members for 1997. President, Gailen Marshall-N4SKR, Vice-President, Rick Hiller-W5RH, Recording Secretary, Terri Van Slyke-W5BKK, Corresponding Secretary, John Dryton-KC5QZD, Treasurer, Nizar Mullari-K0NM, and 3-Year Board Member, Jackie Burton-KC5OHJ. Remaining on the Board are 2-Year Board member, Terry McCoy-W5TEM, 1-Year Board Member, Bud King-NSUOG, and Past President, Ron Grimes-WA5SCE.

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, expressed the need for volunteers for public service events. He is lead of the committee for the M.S. 150, and this event needs approximately 100 volunteers. He is also a coordinator for the American Lung Association committee, which sponsors the Clean Air Bike Ride and the Alamo Challenge. These events need volunteers, also.

B-VARC Rag Chew Net Manager, Sam Wilson-N5CPA reported that the net met 3 times in December, with 10-18 check-ins.

Public Service Net Manager, Jackie Burton-KC5OHJ, reported that the Monday night Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Public Service Information Net was going well, with fairly high check-ins for the month of December. She mentioned that there had been squirrel activity the previous Monday night.

Board Member, Claude Sessions-K5HFY, mentioned that the street address of the HESS building, as printed on the back of the January newsletter, is incorrect in regard to the banquet. The banquet will be held at the old address, 3121 Buffalo Speedway, as printed on the map on the inside back page.

Vice President, Louise House-KD5GM, reported that Larry Levy-WD5DRB, has given a draft for the Stu Landin memorial to Harold Parker-ND5F. He also presented several options, regarding the payment of the \$ 75.00 setup fee for life member plaques. After some discussion, this issue was tabled until the next Board meeting.

1997 President, Gailen Marshall-N4SKR, presented plans and ideas for the 1997 year. These include conducting board meetings on the 145.47 MHz repeater, with Gailen as net control. This will be done on a month by month trial basis, with an optional Board meeting the following week, if necessary. He presented a new structure for meetings, consisting of a swap fest, product corner, business, technical corner, 5 minute break, and program, followed by discussion and social time. He stated that Darell Kirk-KC5JAR, had been mostly responsible for setup and cleanup, and would probably remain involved with a cleanup committee with a Board member as backup. He added that 1997 Corresponding Secretary, John Dryton-KC5QZD, would be the coordinator of the technical corner; 1997 Vice-President, Rick Hiller-W5RH would be program chairman, and has a need for a product corner chairman with backup. He asked that each Board member take responsibility for a program. He also stated that each Board member would receive a calendar of events by e-mail. In response to a Gailen's question regarding the swap fest part of the meeting, Board Member Bud King, NSUOG said that equipment could not be sold at a meeting.

Past President, Allen Mattis-N5AFV, suggested that a membership application be attached to the newsletter as had been done in the past. He also mentioned that there is a membership application on the B-VARC home page; that it didn't include enough spaces for family members. There was some discussion regarding the pros and cons of subscribing to World Radio and ARRL through B-VARC. Treasurer, Pete Norris-KJ5SS stated that quite a bit of paper work is involved when a member subscribes this way, and that only \$ 20.00 was made from this last year. A motion was made to eliminate these from the application, which passed unanimously.

Sam Wilson-N5CPA, asked if we needed a certain percentage of ARRL members, in order to maintain our status as a special service club. A decision was made not to remove ARRL dues from the membership application, until the impact of such a change could be determined.

Treasurer, Pete Norris-KJ5SS, said he would not distribute tickets at the banquet as before. Instead, he will hand out pieces of paper with the entree of choice written on them. Board Member, Bud King-N5UOG, stated that he needed the number of people attending the banquet.

With no further business, this meeting was adjourned by Vice-President, Louise House-KD5GM, at 8:50 p.m., by a motion, second, and unanimous vote.