

March 9

B - VARC CALENDAR

OTHER (IONS):
CONTAL 77-3345

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>FUTURE MEETINGS: April 6 B-VARC BOARD April 13 B-VARC GENERAL June 24 FIELD DAY</p>	<p>PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS: April 8 MS-150 TOUR April 16 JDF 10x May 8 MOTHERS DAY</p>	1	2	3	4	<p>C.M. NET 2030 hrs. 147.32</p>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<p>AMERICAN LUNG 3x 0800 hrs. RICE UNIVERSITY RAY (WASFI)</p>	<p>NOVICE CLASS ARES B-VARC 2000 hrs. 2100 hrs. 147.30 145.47</p>	<p>10x SHOT AMSAT 2000 hrs. 2200 hrs. 28.400 145.45 New Moon</p>	<p>C.M. NET 2030 hrs. 147.32</p>	<p>"CHILI COOKOFF" B-VARC GENERAL 1950 hrs. M.C. FIRE STATION "C.A.P. RADIO"</p>		<p>ALAZALE RUN 5K 0800 hrs. RICE UNIVERSITY SUZANNE (ABSBRAY)</p>
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<p>M. HOUSTON RACES 2000 hrs. 146.66</p>	<p>NOVICE CLASS ARES B-VARC 2000 hrs. 2100 hrs. 147.30 145.47</p>	<p>B-VARC HAM EXAMS 1900 hrs. STRAKE JESUIT STU (713-777-3345)</p>				<p>St. Patrick's Day</p>
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<p>Palm Sunday</p>	<p>NOVICE CLASS ARES B-VARC 2000 hrs. 2100 hrs. 147.30 145.47 Beginning of Spring</p>		<p>Full Moon</p>		<p>Good Friday</p>	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
<p>Easter</p>	<p>NOVICE CLASS ARES B-VARC 2000 hrs. 2100 hrs.</p>			<p>Last Quarter</p>		<p>NOTE: ALL NETS MEET WEEKLY (EVEN IF ONLY SHOWN ONCE)</p>

B-VARC BULLETIN

The Monthly Publication of the
BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
Serving Fort Bend and Harris Counties

Editor-in-Chief: Irv Smith, KB5EXM 437-4803
Production Manager: Roland Torres, KB5EQH 933-4143

About the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club...

Organized in 1977, the club has been growing steadily. It is a gathering place for HAM radio operators in Fort Bend and Southwest Harris Counties, and surrounding communities. It is a general-purpose type of HAM club offering a variety of activities open to all interested persons. Membership is open, not only to licensed HAM operators, but also to anyone interested in the hobby. In addition to regularly-scheduled membership meetings, the club each year conducts classes leading to amateur radio licenses, and each month sponsors a volunteer-examiner team which offers examinations in all levels of HAM licenses.

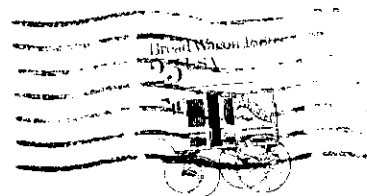
For information about the club and any of its activities, please call Stu Lamkin, W5JGG, (713) 777-3345

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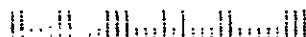
ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

From: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1630
Missouri City, TX 77459
Telephone: (713) 777-3345



B-VARC Meeting Schedule	
Thursday, March 9 7:30 pm	General Meeting Missouri City Fire Station Possibility of Chili Cookoff, keep tuned! Program: CAP Radio Operations Hub Ratliff (NSMXXC)
Thursday, April 6 7:30 pm	Board Meeting Missouri City Fire Station
Thursday, April 13	General Meeting

Allen Mattis N5AFV
5314 Wigton
Houston, Tx 77096



B-VARC NEWS

C.W. in CHINA?

The radio operators at each end have a code book with 26 pages, numbered "A" through "Z". Each page has 676 Chinese characters, arranged in a 26 X 26 array. The "X" axis is numbered from "A" through "Z", as is the "Y" axis. Therefore, the book contains 15,276 characters - those found most useful in radio work - in its 26 pages.

To send a given Chinese character, the operator would first find it in his code book. The characters are arranged in the book in the order they would be found in a Chinese dictionary (starting with those made with only a few brush strokes and progressing to more-complex ones).

The character for "weather", for example, might be found on Page "I", Column "R", Row "V". To send this in C.W., the operator would transmit the three-English-letter combination in straight code

The receiving operator copies down "I R V", and then looks it up in his code book on Page "I", Column "R", Row "V", finding the character for "weather". In practice, of course, for commonly-used phrases they quickly learn the combinations and do not have to refer to the book.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Thank you to everyone who helped out at last month's events. Over the next few months we will have several more local events, starting with the American Lung Association Run on March 5th. March 11th is the Azalea Run, and the JDF 10K Magic circle run is on April 16th. Contact Suzanne (KB5BAY) for Azalea, Ray (WASJ) for the others.

The big out-of-town event is the MS 150 Bike Tour on the weekend of April 8th. Ray (WASJ) and Ralph (KB5DNT) are coordinating this one. They need lots of volunteers for either or both days, and can line up a cabin (bring your own sleeping bag) for those needing a place to stay on Saturday night. This is a major B-VARC function so we hope all can participate.

PROGRAM NEWS

Lori Valence, whose XYL Bill Pellerin (KESXV) was a college classmate of Jack (WNSA) and a Junior High pal of Greg (KSLTW), spoke to us in February on diet planning. Afterward, we shared some nutritious snack foods (e.g. Rice Cakes) that are healthful alternatives to the junk food we all too often eat while sitting around the ham shack.

Hub Rathiff (NSMPC), a 1988 graduate of the B-VARC Novice Class, has long been interested in such things as military communications, cryptography and aviation matters (including Confederate Air Force). He participates in Civil Air Patrol search & rescue missions, and at the March General Meeting will demonstrate the direction-finding equipment used to locate the emergency beacons on downed aircraft.

Greg (KSLTW) asks that all with ideas for future programs pass them on to him.

LIKE TO EAT?

The Rice-&-Beans and Slumgullion suppers were so good that we have decided to have more meal events. March is Chili (cookoff). You can bring a pot of your own chili (cook it beforehand, no cooking allowed in the meeting room), or help with your love, labor or money.

We'll need paper plates, soft drinks, etc., so if your talents don't include making chili, there are still plenty of ways to contribute. In fact, not everyone needs to make chili anyway, we couldn't eat it all, and there would be no one to bring the other items needed for a successful supper.

Vic (NSNAS) has agreed to coordinate, but we don't expect him to do all the cooking on either this or future events. Let him know what you will do to help (461-3331) and don't wait 'til the last minute either! He might be helping the SP-RR run trains somewhere and miss a last-minute call (I wonder if he listens to the end-of-train devices for entertainment while on the road?).

Also give Vic your ideas for future eating events.

PRESIDENT TALK

We have hit the ground running in 1989. We have already worked several public service events, begun preparation for our novice class that begins February 27, given two exam sessions and for the first time laid out the ground work for a special interest group to build and operate QRP HF equipment. In spite of the loss of members to the Bear Creek ARC due to geographic conditions, we are continuing to serve the community as we have in the past.

Special thanks to Ray WA5F for chairing our public service committee. Ray will be the club contact with all event coordinators and will supervise individual event chairmen and work with Suzanne KB5BAY, our club events coordinator.

I know all of you will join me in welcoming the following new members: John Lambuth N5NTP, Mike Warden WB3HZP, Lawrence Cox, Tim Kesterson, and Richard Smith.

Look forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

Houston Ham Com, Roster preparation and Field Day will be several of the topics on the agenda of the March Board meeting.

73 and see you at the membership meeting on March 9.

Jack WNSA

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*For a variety of reasons,
the News Letter is going out late
this month.*

*This special edition is to announce
the Ch. 16 Cookoff.*

IR KB5EXM