



B-VARC BULLETIN

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

Editor in Chief: Kelley Hughes N5ULZ (713) 499-9806 FAX: (713) 499-0279 Compuserve ID: 72603,623

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 that offers examinations in all levels of HAM licenses.

To obtain information about the club and its various activities, as well as information about joining the club, contact Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN, at (713) 859-6512.

Volume: 17 Issue: 6

June 1994

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

From: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P. O. Box 1630
Missouri City, Texas 77459



**DON'T FORGET ABOUT FIELD DAY - JUNE 25th & 26th
AT BEAR CREEK PARK, PAVILION 3!!**

B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, June 9 7:30 pm	General BVARC Membership Meeting - Sugar Land Community Center
Thursday, July 7 7:30 pm	Board of Directors Meeting Sugar Land Community Center

Allen Mattis N5AFV
5314 Wigton Drive
Houston, TX 77096



June 1994

B-VARC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30	6 7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters	7 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10	8 8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	9 7:30 PM Membership Meeting Sugar Land Commu- nity Center	10 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)	11 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)
12 1:30 PM Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30	13 7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters	14 6:00 PM Amateur Exam Session Strake Jesuit College Prep. 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10	15 8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	16 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)	17 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)	18 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)
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May						
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Please report any changes or correction.

Kelley Hughes, N5ULZ, 499-9806

Notes From the President

by Doug Holley, KE5SR

Our weather in recent weeks has provided us with a lot to worry about in the Houston area. Skywarn Nets have been activated numerous times recently to assist and provide information through communications. We, as Hams, provide a valuable service to the community and the National Weather Service with our weather nets. There can never be too many people to help with this worthwhile endeavor. In fact, just the opposite is true. We need more Hams to participate in all areas of this critical service. We are all capable of helping in one manner or another. To be proficient, we need to know what information is required and what information is not needed.

There are many areas and different tasks that make up our Skywarn program. Net control operators, weather spotters and liaison to other weather services are some of the positions that are required to put together a successful Skywarn program. We in the Ham community need to participate and educate ourselves to be proficient. One such source of education and information is the Skywarn classes provided and taught by N.O.A.A. (National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration). I have a course session scheduled in June for BVARC members and any other interested persons. I will provide you with detailed information about the class in this issue of the Bulletin. I strongly urge all BVARC members to attend this seminar.

Another concern we all should be aware of is the tremendous increase of hazardous materials being transported through our community. The probability of an accident involving hazardous materials is ever-increasing due to the sheer volume of transport in our area. We, as a public service organization, need to be as educated as we can be about these materials. Many lives can be affected in the event of a spill or explosion involving these types of materials. I have scheduled a seminar for BVARC for September 6th. I will provide more details as we get nearer that date. Some of the information that will be provided will probably alarm you, but it will certainly help to educate us, thus making us better prepared if and when the situation occurs.

June's program at the general meeting is scheduled to be about RF direction finding equipment and will be presented by Al Zermeno, KK5W. I would bet that after this program we will be doing some fox hunting. This should be a great program, so don't miss it.

BVARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS

3.960 MHz 8:00pm Wednesdays

Compiled by Mel Thatcher, KB5ION

May 4, 1994

KE5SR (Net Control), N5OAC, N5CPA, W5IHY, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, W5EFB, KB5ZRV, N5AFV, W5GLD, KG5KV, AB5RL, KI5XA, N5UOG

May 11, 1994

KE5SR (Net Control), KB5LFU, KG5KV, W5EFB, KB5ZRV, N5ECP, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, W5GLD, N5AFV, N5UOG, AB5OK, W5IHY, WA5ETS, W5GHK, N5CPA

May 18, 1994

KB5LFU (Net Control), KB5ION, W5EFB, N5OAC, W5IHY, KE5SR, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, N5ECP, WA5OEN, WD5CJL, W5GLD, KB5ZRV, KG5KV, N5CPA

May 25, 1994

AB5OK (Net Control), KB5LFU, N5YKR, N5OAC, N5CPA, W5IHY, W5EFB, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, W5GLD, WA5OEN

Field Day this year will be on June 25th and 26th. Again, Al, KK5W, is our Field Day chairman. I guarantee that this field day will be the biggest and by far the best that BVARC has ever had. If you have any ideas or equipment to use, please get in touch with Al. Look for a column in the Bulletin for more details.

Code classes are continuing. We are working on 5 to 13 WPM now. They are each Tuesday evening from 7:00 to 8:30 PM. If you do not have 13 WPM down, please try to attend. You can call me at 342-8028 for further details. We have a good group and believe it or not, we are having fun.

73 and good DX

I Speak - .- -.-

Randy Pollard, AK5G

Certified Public Accountant

(713) 667-5123

Monthly Accounting,
New Business Accounting Start up,
Individual & Corporate Taxes,
Audits, Consulting

B-VARC Board of Directors Meeting

May 5, 1994

by Bud King, N5UOG

Harold Parker, ND5F, stated that all was well with the BVARC V.E. group, and they have had about 15 to 20 people taking exams every session.

A quorum of the BVARC Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land community center on May 5th, 1994. This was the fifth meeting of the Board for the 1994 calendar year. The following Board members were in attendance: Doug Holley, KE5SR; Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN; Sam Wilson, N5CPA; Claude Sessions, K5HFY; Bill Dessens, N5KXU; and Bud King, N5UOG. President Holley opened the meeting at 7:30 PM. The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved.

Bruce Paige, KB5ZRV, was unanimously elected to be the Certified QSL card checker for BVARC. Bruce notified the Board that a second Technician contest would be held on May 22nd beginning at 6:00 AM and ending at 9:00 PM. He also showed the certificates that he would present to those who won them during the first Technician contest.

The Club Treasurer, Sam Wilson, reported a balance of \$4009.87 in the treasury as of April 30, 1994. The Treasurer's report was unanimously approved.

Doug Holley mentioned that he had picked up several devices for use at the BVARC code classes while he was in Dayton. After Doug displayed the devices the Board was unanimous in voting to reimburse Doug for the amount he had expended for them, and they will become a part of the BVARC equipment inventory.

President Holley in his opening remarks to the Board described his meeting and conversation with Richard Shankle, N5KV, while attending the Dayton Ham Convention. Doug was left with the impression the Houston Ham Comm organization would not have a 1994 convention. A lengthy discussion followed Doug's remarks, resulting in contacts being made with other local clubs for the purpose of determining whether or not there is interest in continuing the promotion of a convention for Amateur Radio enthusiasts.

Under new business the following subjects were discussed: a Skywarn class to be held at the George Library; a Hazardous Material Awareness class to be held in September; a Weather Program for a general BVARC meeting, to be presented by Bill Reed; the need for "Weather Spotters" for Fort Bend County; recognition for BVARC members that participate in the sponsored special events; a "QCWA" program to be presented at a general meeting by Randy Pollard, AK5G; and a "Direction Finding Equipment and Methods" program to be presented by Al Zermeno, Donn Washburn, N5XWB, and Nizar Mullani, K0NM. Kelley Hughes, N5ULZ, Editor in Chief of the BVARC Bulletin, reported on the mailing of the Bulletin to BVARC members. Consideration is being given to Bulk mailing the Bulletin; however no decision has been reached at this time.

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, reported that approximately 100 Hams were used during the 1994 MS150 Bike Tour with no major incidents occurring during the ride. A total of 4,770 riders participated in the two-day event. President Holley congratulated Mike and Bret Pritchard, N5VOY, on the super way they handled their portion of the Tour. Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN, mentioned that 170 Tour riders had used the HF phone patch set up by Al Zermeno, KK5W, at LaGrange, with George Taylor, AB5LT providing the Houston-end operations.

President Holley adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Field Day Chairman Al Zermeno reported that he will have a 3-section tower and a 6-element beam antenna ready for use on Field Day. There will be 3 General class stations, a satellite station, and a Novice station set up for the event. Following Al's report a discussion developed about various types of antennas including a balloon-borne type used at a previous Field Day.

Adolph

Alex - WASUHT

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