


# THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 21, issue 6  
June 1998

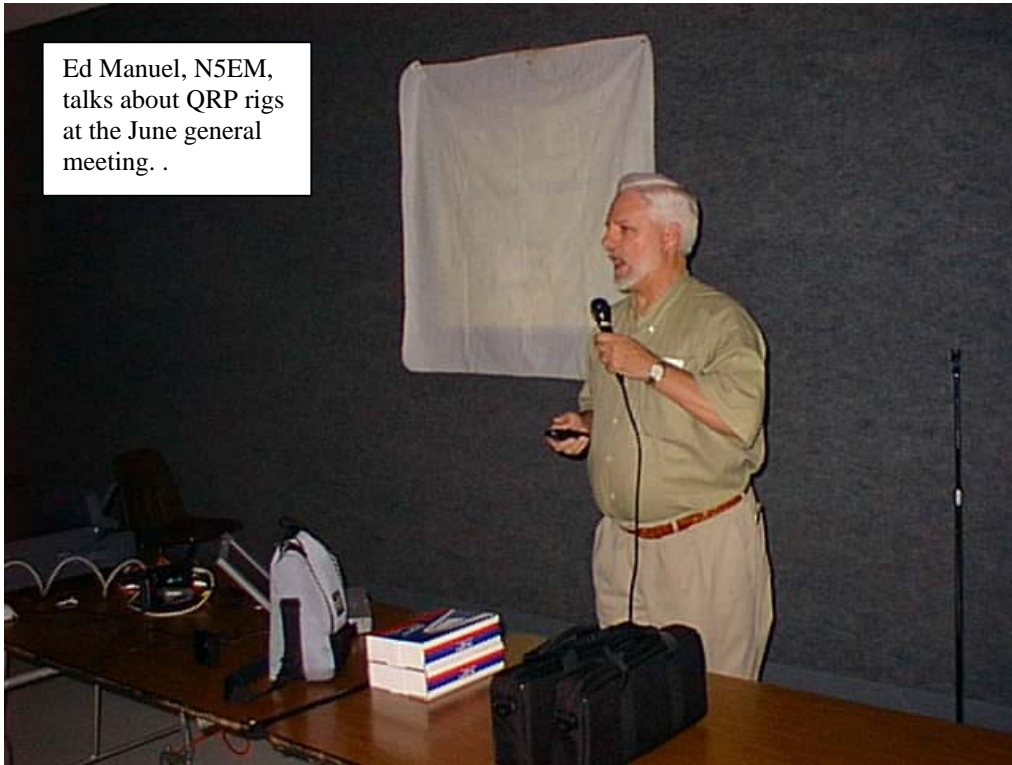
<p><b>Houston Ham Help Line</b> <b>24-Hours</b> <b>281-495-3495</b></p> <p>Get information about local clubs and testing sessions.</p>	<p><b>Membership renewal information:</b></p> <p>Members whose membership has expired or is near expiration will find their membership date highlighted on the mailing label.</p>	 <p><a href="http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc">http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc</a></p>
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**ARRL Membership - Members are urged to renew their ARRL membership through BVARC, allowing the club to take advantage of reduced insurance rates. Contact Larry, K5LJ, at 281-341-0436 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>➤ 1998 Meeting Schedule – P. 2</li><li>➤ June Board of Directors Minutes - P. 3</li><li>➤ Houston Shot News - P. 3</li><li>➤ BVARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4</li><li>➤ VE Exam Results - P. 5</li><li>➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 5</li></ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Hot Dawg</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Hot Dogs and Drinks for Members - FREE</i></b> <b><i>Come one, come all to the BVARC monthly meeting and join us for Hot Dogs and Soft Drinks. Starting with the June meeting you can visit with your friends and enjoy a hot dog and drink on the club. Serving starts at 6:30pm and goes until 7:30pm. There is no charge for club members. We will have mustard, catsup, onions and pickle relish as dressings for your dogs. Drinks will include Coke, Diet Coke, Sprite and Diet Sprite.</i></b></p>
<p><b>A Special Thanks to the First Colony Church of Christ for the use of their facilities which make this newsletter possible.</b></p> <p><b>Also, Thanks to Claude Sessions, K5HFY, for being in charge of production.</b></p>	<p><b>Board of Directors:</b></p> <p>Bruce Paige - KK5DO, <a href="mailto:kk5do@amsat.org">kk5do@amsat.org</a> John Moore - KK5NU, <a href="mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org">jwm@hal-pc.org</a> Steven Deaktor - WA3PMT, <a href="mailto:wa3pmt@aol.com">wa3pmt@aol.com</a> Rex Ritz - KC5EEU Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, <a href="mailto:ljacobson@halnet.com">ljacobson@halnet.com</a> Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR, <a href="mailto:darrellk@swbell.net">darrellk@swbell.net</a> Gailen Marshall - N4SKR, <a href="mailto:marshall@heart.med.uth.tmc.edu">marshall@heart.med.uth.tmc.edu</a> Bud King - K5CEK, <a href="mailto:ceking@hal-pc.org">ceking@hal-pc.org</a> Claude Sessions - K5HFY, <a href="mailto:cesjr@wt.net">cesjr@wt.net</a></p>

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Ed Manuel, N5EM, talks about QRP rigs at the June general meeting. .



## **PRESIDENT'S Article - Bruce, KK5DO**

An excellent June it was our first Hot Dog dinner at the monthly meeting, Field Day with CLARC and Channel 11. Now we are on to July.

This month we are going to have a practical demonstration and then you can practice what you learn. It is Direction Finding and Dave, WD8RZA will be showing us some tricks on how to find a hidden transmitter. After he does that, have your HT's and antennas ready because we are going to have a hidden transmitter hunt on the grounds of the Sugar Land Civic Center. There will be a \$10 cash prize for the person that finds the hidden transmitter. This will all take place on July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We will once again have Hot Dogs and Cold Drinks for the members at our meeting in July. Come by between 6:30 and 7:30 and enjoy a dog on the club and a good chin wag with those you talk to on the repeater.

The Ice Cream Social is getting closer and closer. August 6 is the date. This time, it was suggested that we have a contest and award a prize to the person that brings the "Best Homemade Ice Cream". So crank up those ice cream makers, buy a little extra salt and tweak those recipes. We want to taste Houston's Best Ice Cream with all the toppings. Don't forget

this is a family affair and your kids and spouses are all welcome. Please let Rex, KC5EEU, know what you will be bringing so we don't get 35 pounds of grated coconut. His number is 713-780-2391

We are starting to make plans for the January 1999 Awards Banquet. We are looking for a place to have it and one suggestion is Old San Francisco Steak House. If you have a suggestion for a place, let one of the Board members know.

See you at the meeting.  
73...Bruce, KK5DO

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## **Schedule of BVARC General Meetings for 1998**

B-VARC Program Calendar - 1998

July 1998

2 - General Meeting  
Transmitter Hunting / DF  
WD8RZ@aol.com

9 - BOD  
14 - V E Test

August 1998

6 - General Meeting  
Ice Cream Social

10 - BOD  
11 -VE Test

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September 1998

3 - General Meeting  
ATV

8 - VE Test

17 - BOD

October 1998

1 - General Meeting

10 - 10 International

N5MT Mike Davidson

5 - BOD

13 - VE Test

November 1998

10 - VE Test

20 - General Meeting

Chili Supper/Elections

27 - BOD

December 1998

3 - General Meeting

Homebrew Night

nexus15@flash.net

8 - VE Test

14 - BOD

## Other Dates:

Contests:

June 20 - 21, All Asia DX CW

June 27 - 28, ARRL Field Day

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## June Board of Directors Minutes :

Board of Directors Meeting

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

June 11, 1998

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on June 11, 1998. The meeting was called to order by the President. The following board members attended: President Bruce Paige - KK5DO, Vice President John Moore - KK5NU, Corresponding Secretary Steven Deaktor - WA3PMT, Treasurer Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, one year Director Bud King - K5CEK, and three year Director Darell Kirk - KC5JAR. Also present were Cameron Mitchell - K5GJZ, and Dan White - W5AOV. Absent were Recording Secretary Rex Ritz - KC5EEU, and two year Director Claude Sessions Jr. - K5HFY.

Recording Secretary Rex Ritz - KC5EEU was absent so the May minutes were not presented for approval, although they were published and distributed to the membership in the May edition of "THE B-VARC BULLETIN". John Moore - KK5NU requested one correction to the minutes, however, in the fact that HALPC has not charged B-VARC for an Internet

account and web space as yet because we are recognized as a non-profit organization. Treasurer Larry Jacobson - K5LJ gave the Treasurer's report which was accepted. Cash, checking account and CD total balance is currently \$4407.98. The individual complimentary meal price for the May meeting was calculated by President Bruce Paige to be 70 cents per serving.

Al Zermeno - KK5W has donated his tower and beam for field day. A HAM operator who is not presently a B-VARC member has volunteered services to deliver and return this equipment to Al. President Bruce Paige - KK5DO proposed that B-VARC pay his annual membership dues for this and many other services donated to the club. The Board of Directors declined to do this with the position that many Hams, members included, provide voluntary service to B-VARC without compensation.

Corresponding Secretary Steven Deaktor - WA3PMT reported a delay in membership roster labels production due to a computer display problem he had experienced, and advised a fix was presently forthcoming.

Bud King - K5CEK moved that the motion previously tabled regarding the club's old "gin pole" now be amended to sell the gin pole, and that club members be given the first chance at buying it. This motion was seconded and was passed by majority vote. It was reported that we already have one member willing to pay \$125 ( The President pointed out that B-VARC purchased it for \$400). Discussion ensued regarding the method by which we would sell the gin pole. However, it was subsequently not determined if any restrictions would be placed on the sale of this item.

Bud King - K5CEK presented information regarding scheduling dates for the remainder of the calendar year at the Sugar Land Community Center. A continuation of Thursday meeting nights were determined by the Board to be requested from the community officials.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Bruce Paige - KK5DO at 7:58 PM.

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## HOUSTON SHOT NEWS for June 1998 by Al Mattis - N5AFV

Tom Henderson, K4CIH, president of 10-10 International, has announced that Jeff Ritter, N5VAV, from Richland Hills, TX, is the new Information Manager for 10-10 International. Ritter will be responsible for all matters regarding requests for information concerning 10-10 International. Ritter replaces Mike Elliott, KF7ZQ, of Boise, ID, who has held the position for many years.

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The Tenth Annual Hill Country Picnic was held May 31, 1998 at the home of Jack Moore, K5CC in Bulverde, Texas, near San Antonio. Over 50 people, including amateur radio operators from 9 states and Canada, were present. The president, vice president, and secretary of 10-10 International attended the event and spoke to the members. Bruce Paige, KK5DO, has posted a number of pictures taken at the picnic on the SHOT chapter home page.

The Houston SHOT chapter is hosting this year's Board of Directors meeting of Ten Ten International June 12-13, 1998, at the Hobby Airport Ramada Inn. A social gathering is being planned so that Houston area 10-10 members will have the opportunity to meet the officers and directors on Saturday evening, June 13th.

The annual Paper Chasers Gathering in Reno, Nevada will be held August 13-16, 1998 at the Circus-Circus Casino and Hotel. Ten Ten members usually ask for rooms on the second floor of the Main Tower. A special room rate is available for those attending. Further information may be obtained from Phil Harlos, WB6NYM, by E-mail at [wb6nym@softcom.net](mailto:wb6nym@softcom.net) or be telephone at (916) 725-6800.

Ten Ten International has announced that the 1999 Ten Ten International Convention will be held June 10-13, 1999 at the Garden Plaza Hotel in Oak Ridge, TN. The convention will be hosted by the Springbok Chapter (ZS), and James Whittlesey, KC4RHW, is the convention chairman.

The Houston SHOT chapter is pleased to welcome DK3KD and VE7EMO as its newest members. The chapter currently has 382 local members, and 1319 non-local members, for a total membership of 1701.

Visit the Houston SHOT chapter home page at <http://www.clarc.org/shot/> when you get on the Internet. The site contains information about the chapter, past editions of the Houston SHOT News, and the Ten Ten DX column written Mike Davidson - N5MT, the SHOT chapter head. The chapter thanks Bruce Paige - KK5DO, for constructing and



W5AOV. dishes out a dog.

maintaining the page, and the Clear Lake Amateur Radio Club (CLARC) for providing space on their server for the page.

Paper chasers continue to be active on 28.345 MHz, 28.375 MHz, and 28.425 MHz during band openings. The Flying Tiger (RI) chapter is conducting a special for paper chasers to promote activity when the band is open. Many of the chapters have home pages on the Internet. Links to

these pages may be found on the Ten Ten International page. The Houston SHOT page contains a link to the Ten Ten International page.

Summer E-layer propagation has been present almost every day on ten meters during the past month. These domestic openings usually produce weak to moderate signals; however, a few openings this past month had very strong signals. The E-layer openings usually occur in the afternoon and evening, but may occur any time of the day. DX propagation to Latin America and the South Pacific was also reported in recent weeks.

Remember, the Houston SHOT (Space Houston On Ten) net meets every Tuesday evening at 8 PM local time on 28.488 MHz. All amateurs are welcome to check in, even if they do not have a Ten Ten number. If you are not a member of Ten Ten International and wish to join the organization, please check in to the net. There are many exciting activities in Ten Ten, and many friendly people can be found on the ten meter band.

## **B-VARC RAG CHEW Net Check-Ins by Sam Wilson, N5CPA**

3.960MHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 8:00PM  
by Sam Wilson, N5CPA

Just WHAT IS the Rag-Chew Net? Well it's a



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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.

5/06/98---N5CPA, K5CEK, K5LJ, KG5KV, KB5DNT, W5IHY, W5RIY, KC5VYZ, NM5K, N5KXU, KK5FY. (11)

5/13/98---N5CPA, W5EFB, K5CEK, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, W5IHY, K5LJ, KG5KV, AK5G, W5GHK, N5OAC, W5BIV, KK5FY, WB5VYR, KM5ID. (15)

5/20/98---N5CPA, W5EFB, KD5CZB/AA, KK5FY, N5OAC, KB5DNT, W5GHK, W5TEM, K5CEK, KC5JAR, KG5KV, W5RH, WA4HSN, (13)

5/27/98---KG5KV (NCS), K5CEK, KM5DG, W5EFB, W5IHY, W5GHK, WB5VYR. (7)

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## RESULTS OF THE JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup> AMATEUR EXAMS by: **Harold Parker, ND5F**

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, June 9, 1998 at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

V. E. TEAM:  
Cass Germany, KG5IT  
Harold Parker, ND5F  
Lanny Poteet, KB5VTB

ASSISTANTS:  
John Moore, KK5NU

A total of 8 exams were administered during the evening to 4 applicants. One (1) un-licensed candidate received a new license and 1 upgraded with a total of 4 elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 50%

Congratulations to all the following who upgraded and/or passed exams:

Jeffery Little, KD5BFS - Advanced  
Rud Merriam, KD5DTV - Element 3B  
Karen North - Technician

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 Vincent, WA5ETS, and everyone at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

73,  
ND5F

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

How to search Military Aircraft Freqs.

Step 1: Go to the airshow, Airforce, any military base, etc.  
Step 2: Need 4 triple conversion Hyperscan scanners in AM mode, not FM.

Scanner 1 - Search 225.0 to 250.0 MHz.  
Scanner 2 - Search 250.0 to 300.0 MHz.  
Scanner 3 - Search 300.0 to 350.0 MHz.  
Scanner 4 - Search 350.0 to 400.0 MHz.

All major airports use military freqs. in AM mode.

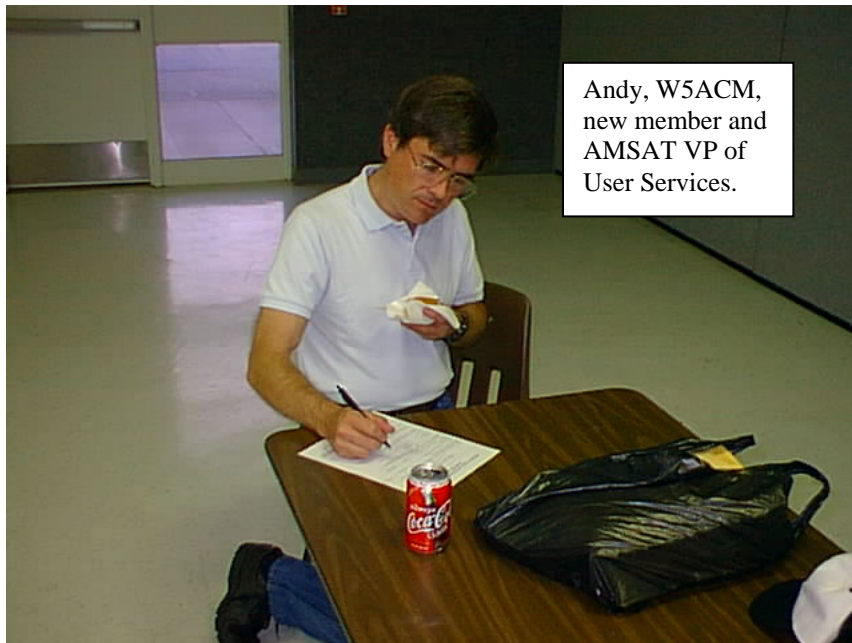
Next month, I will give you all the 800 and 900 MHz band plans.

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Equipment which was part of demonstration of QRP equipment at the June meeting.



Andy, W5ACM, new member and AMSAT VP of User Services.

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Bruce Paige, KK5DO

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