


THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 21, issue 10
October 1998

<p>Houston Ham Help Line 24-Hours 281-495-3495</p> <p>Get information about local clubs and testing sessions.</p>	<p>Membership renewal information:</p> <p>Members whose membership has expired or is near expiration will find their membership date highlighted on the mailing label.</p>	 <p>http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc</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

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Annual Chili Supper Friday, November 20, 1998

This is a very important meeting. Not only will we have chili and all the fix'ins but this is also the Election Meeting for BVARC. It is of utmost importance that as many club members show up as possible so that we can elect the new officers for 1999.

Please note that this is the 3rd Friday in November. This is one of the irregular meetings for the year. Since it is a Friday, I hope that many more of you can attend.

73, Bruce

A Special Thanks to the First Colony Church of Christ for the use of their facilities which make this newsletter possible.

Also, Thanks to Claude Sessions, K5HFY, for being in charge of production.

Board of Directors:

Bruce Paige, President - KK5DO, kk5do@amsat.org
John Moore, Vice President - KK5NU, jwm@hal-pc.org
Steven Deaktor, Corresponding Secretary - WA3PMT, wa3pmt@aol.com
Rex Ritz, Recording Secretary - KC5EEU
Larry Jacobson, Treasurer - K5LJ, mailto:k5lj@nftci.com
Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR, darrellk@swbell.net
Gailen Marshall - N4SKR, marshall@heart.med.uth.tmc.edu
Bud King - K5CEK, ceking@hal-pc.org
Claude Sessions - K5HFY, cesjr@wt.net

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PRESIDENT'S Article - Bruce, KK5DO

We had a great meeting in October. Robert White, KF5ZL had a great presentation about the emergency management facility. He also explained why some people trying to pass information during an emergency are told to stand by while others are given the go ahead to transmit. Remember, during an emergency, the 146.84 repeater may be used for passing emergency traffic. If they have a net control, wait until asked to transmit and follow their instructions. Just because you see a twister, it doesn't mean that it is emergency traffic right then. They may have you wait while they take care of something that is more important. It is not how important your item is but how important it is in relation to everything else they are doing. So be patient if they ask you to stand-by.

Elections and the *Annual Chili Supper* are November 20th. The slate of officers that the nominating committee has presented to the board is found further on in this issue of the newsletter. Thanks to Gailen, N4SKR, Harold, ND5F, and Louis, KD5GM for their hard working in coming up with these nominees.

Now, it is up to you, each and every member of BVARC to come to the meeting and cast your vote for each of the offices. At the election, you may nominate someone from the floor. If you choose to do this, please be sure that the person you wish to nominate has agreed to perform the duties of that office.

Claude, K5HFY is the main dude-in-charge for our *Annual Chili Supper*. He is making the final preparations. If you can help in any way with bringing Fritos, rice, crackers, drinks, or chili, please send Claude an email claudes@juno.com or catch him on the air. Remember, this year it is the 3rd Friday, November 20th.

There will be no hot dogs before this meeting as we will have plenty of chili for you so there is no need to arrive early.

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

Schedule of BVARC Activities

November 1998
10 - VE Test
20 - General Meeting
Chili Supper/Elections
claudes@juno.com

December 1998

3 - General Meeting
Homebrew Night
nexus15@flash.net

8 - VE Test
14 - BOD

January 1999

8 - BVARC Banquet
k5lj@nftci.com
12 - VE Test
14 - BOD

February 1999

4 - General Meeting
Scanner Technology
Jack Roberts-KB5TMY

Other Dates:

Contests:

June 20 - 21, All Asia DX CW
June 27 - 28, ARRL Field Day

Public Service Events Needing Ham Volunteers:

- November 15, 1998 - 25K Warm-up run - contact Allen Mattis
- December 6, 1998 - 30K Warm-up run - Position open
- January 17, 1999 - The Houston Marathon - contact Carl Hacker

You can always contact me if you are unable to contact the event coordinator.

Please let me know if you are interested!!!!

Thanks,

Mike Hardwick
N5VCX

Report from the Nominating Committee

The 1998 BVARC nominating committee, composed of Gailen Marshall N4SKR, Harold Parker ND5F and Louis House KD5GM, has submitted the slate of candidates for election to the 1999 BVARC Board of Directors. The slate will be presented at the November meeting before the chili supper. Nominations will be taken from the floor prior to the voting. **Please... if you intend to nominate someone, be certain that they are willing to serve.**

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President: John Moore, KK5NU

Vice-President: Larry Jacobson, K5LJ

Recording Secretary: Doug Woodruff, KC5VYZ

Corresponding Secretary: Irv Smith, KK5QQ

Treasurer: Gene Russell, N5XGT

3-Year Director: Robert Moore, KK5UO

**The following continue to serve as Board Members
next year:**

2-Year Director: Darrell Kirk, KC5JAR

1-Year Director: Claude Sessions, K5HFY

Past President: Bruce Paige, KK5DO

October Board of Directors Minutes :

Board of Directors Meeting
The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club
October 5, 1998

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on October 5, 1998. The meeting was called to order by the President. The following board members attended: President Bruce Paige - KK5DO, Vice President John Moore - KK5NU, Treasurer Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, one year Director Bud King - K5CEK, and two year Director Claude Sessions Jr. - K5HFY, and three year Director Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR. Absent were Corresponding Secretary Steven Deaktor - WA3PMT, Recording Secretary Rex Ritz - KC5EEU, and Past President Gailen Marshall - N4SKR.

The minutes of the September 17 Board of Directors meeting as published in the newsletter were approved. Treasurer Larry Jacobson - K5LJ reported the current club treasury balance of \$3542.49 which was approved. The balance was down significantly due to deposits for the annual awards banquet at the Old San Francisco Steak House of \$200, and the \$344 to Claude Sessions Jr.- K5HFY for set up costs for club t-shirts and caps.

Bruce Paige - KK5DO reported under old business that the contract had been signed with the Old San Francisco Steak

House and that they would be required to be notified of the number attending within 72 hours in advance, and they will have a cash bar. Tickets will be sold at the November and December meetings. Banquet awards as prescribed in the By-Laws were discussed. Nominations for awards must be submitted to the Board of Directors, or any Officer, no later than the November 20 general meeting. The President must advise each board member of any nomination received.

Claude Sessions Jr. - K5HFY also reported under old business there is a 12 caps minimum required per run and he has orders for only five, and therefore Claude asked the board for permission to order the first run of caps and the balance would be used for club contests and future sales, which was approved. The patches will be in by October 6 or 7, 1998. Also, Claude reported he presently has orders for only three shirts. Jacket orders will be made in about one week. A supply of patches and spare caps will be made available for sale at the November 20 Chill Supper which is anticipated to have a high attendance.

President Bruce Paige - KK5DO reminded everyone that there will be no Board of Directors meeting in the month of November. This meeting is canceled due to a scheduling conflict with the Sugar Land Community Center of available meeting nights around the Thanksgiving holiday.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned by President Bruce Page - KK5DO, at 7:38 PM.

HOUSTON SHOT NEWS for October 1998 by Al Mattis - N5AFV

The Operations Committee of Ten Ten International has announced that Dick Corlew, NC6V, from Oceanside, CA, has been appointed to the position of Worked All Continents award manager. Corlew will administer the award program available to those who have worked a Ten Ten member on each continent.

The Ten Ten chat room on the Internet maintained by Jeff Ritter, N5VAV, of Richland Hills, TX, is closed until further notice. Recent attacks by a hacker have resulted in the posting of profanity regarding Ritter and amateur radio operators in general. Ritter stated that over 7,500 people had used his chat room since it opened.

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.

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The Houston SHOT chapter is pleased to welcome KC8FXG and KM5QK as its newest members. The chapter currently has 382 local members, and 1326 non-local members, for a total membership of 1708.

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

Many of the chapters of Ten Ten International 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.

Paper chasers continue to be active on 28.345 MHz, 28.375 MHz, and 28.425 MHz during band openings. The Fort McHenry (MD), Electric City (FL), Cornerstone (MD), Springbok (DX), and Peach State (TX) chapters are conducting specials for paper chasers to promote activity when the band is open. The White House (MD) chapter has announced a change for their weekly net held on 28.475 MHz. After 20 years of holding their net on Monday evenings, the chapter net will now be held on Tuesday evenings. Doris Slye, N3TGB, certificate manager of the Chesapeake Bay (MD) chapter, was hospitalized this past month for six days. Slye, who recently qualified for the SHOT chapter's Discovery award, is now home and looking forward to being back on the air.

Propagation on ten meters has really improved during the past month. Many DX openings have occurred, resulting in contacts with Europe, Africa, Latin America, and the South Pacific. I have been able to work a number of DX stations with 25 watts from my mobile during the past few weeks. Domestic openings still leave much to be desired, but a few good domestic openings with strong signals have also taken place in recent days. It appears that the new solar cycle has finally begun to influence propagation on the ten meter band.

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 for September by Sam Wilson, N5CPA

3.960MHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 8:00PM

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

9/02/98---N5CPA, K5CEK, K5HFY, W5EFB, W5PIV, KE4PCM, KI5KV, N5OAC, W5GHK, N5KXU, KK5JJ, W5TEM, WD5EIN, W5RH, KD4PHW, W5RIY. (16)
9/09/98---N5CPA, W5GHK, W5EFB, N5OAC, KB5DNT, WN5A, K5LJ, K5CEK, KK5NU, KC5VYZ, KM5DG, AK5G, W5TEM, KC5HNJ. (14)
9/16/98---N5CPA, W5EFB, W5GHK, N5VXU, WB5VYR, W5RIY, K5HFY, K5LJ, NM5K, KC5AW, KC5SQD, KT4SH, WB5IIB. (13)
9/23/98---N5CPA, K5CEK, W5EFB, W5IHY, W5GHK, KB5DNT, WN5A, W5RIY, KK5NU. (9)
9/30/98---N5CPA, W5EFB, KA4DXY, W4TZZ, W5RIY, KF4UET, W5GHK, KA5ZPD, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, KE4PCM, K4LID, K5LJ, W5TEM, K5CEK. (15)

RESULTS OF THE OCTOBER 13TH AMATEUR EXAMS

by: Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, October 13, 1998 at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

V. E. TEAM:

Cass Germany, KG5IT
Ron Grimes, WA5SCE
Harold Parker, ND5F

ASSISTANTS:

John Moore, KK5NU

A total of 6 exams were administered during the evening to 4 applicants. Two (2) applicants upgraded with a total of 3 elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 50%.

Congratulations to all the following who upgraded and/or

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passed exams:

Kevin Foto, KD5EZU - General
Carlton Haynie, KB5NDR - General
Nick Sadza - Element 2

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

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

Jack Roberts, KB5TMY
14208 Laterna Ln
Houston 77083-5730

Here are the Air Show freqs:

118.0	AIR BOSS (freq. has not changed since 1984)
126.05	Ellington Tower
253.500	Ellington Tower
307.7	Blue Angels AIR BOSS
275.35	Pilot AIR BOSS
251.6	Solo Blue Angels
263.5	Formation Blue Angels
142.025	AM mode Ground Blue Angels
140.100	AM mode Fuel Blue Angels
173.5875	FM mode Fire Trucks

Thunderbirds:

141.85	AM mode AIR BOSS
322.95	AIR BOSS
138.875	AM mode Parachutists
413.45	Ground Support
413.025	Ground Support

These are the freqs they used at the last Air Show. They may change at the Air Show on Oct. 17 and 18.

Corrections from the September issue:

162.55 is the freq. for GAL NOAA, not IAH.

BEAUMONT is 162.475 not 162.495.

COAST GUARD Distress calling freq. is 2.1820 not 21.82.

Monday night PSN check-ins

Here are the check-ins for the Monday night Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Public Service Information Net.

9/7/98 - 12
9/14/98 - 24
9/28/98 - 17
10/5/98 - 24
10/12/98 - 21
10/19/98 - 21

Special Awards Banquet **by Bruce Paige, KK5DO**

As the year is winding down, it is time to think about the three awards those BVARC awards at the January 8, 1999 banquet. This year, the banquet will be at Old San Francisco Steak House on Westheimer Road. RF-Release hour will be from 7pm to 8pm with a cash bar. Dinner will be served at 8pm.

This year's menu will be
Steak House Salad with house dressing, Sourdough bread and Swiss Cheese Block
Your choice of 12oz Sirloin Strip or Mixed Grill Chicken and Shrimp
Twice Baked Potato
Green Beans Almondine
Strawberry Crunch Cake
Tea, Coffee, Sodas

The price for the dinner is \$20 per person and needs to be paid for at either the November or December meetings. Please make your selection when you pay for your meal.

Nominations for the following awards need to be made as soon as possible so that the board may consider each.

The Order of the Key

The Order of the Key is the highest honor that can be conferred by BVARC. With this award, we recognize the BVARC member who has made outstanding contributions to the progress of the club. These contributions might take the form of a long-term, consistent commitment to service, or might represent an extremely high level of service for a shorter time. In any case, the award represents exceptional service and commitment to the goals of BVARC.

Any BVARC member may make nominations for the Order of the Key. The nominations must be made in writing, and should include a description of the nominee's contributions to the club. Nominations must be submitted to any BVARC

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officer or Board member not later than the December regular membership meeting. The President will then poll the Board of Directors secretly to allow them to vote on the nominations. Although any member may enter a nomination, only the Board of Directors does voting. If in any year, no candidate receives unanimous approval of the Board, then no award shall be made that year. The vote by the Board of Directors must be unanimous for the award to be conferred.

The Dr. Bill Award

In 1988 BVARC initiated the presentation of the Dr. Bill Award, which was originated by Keith and Eva Hugel (KA5FH and KA5CYZ) in honor of Dr. Bill Ossenfort, NG5C, now a silent key, which was very active in the Volunteer Examiner Program in the Houston area.

This award may be presented each year to the BVARC member recognized as the outstanding participant in the BVARC Volunteer Examiner Program. There shall be no more than one award presented each year, unless in any given year the Board of Directors elects unanimously to award more than one award. It is not mandatory that an award be made each year, if in the board's majority opinion, no nominee is selected. Under normal circumstances, other than the condition stated in the first sentence of this paragraph, the yearly recipient of the award, should there be one, must receive majority approval of the BVARC Board of Directors.

The Loop and Zepp Award

In 1989, the Loop and Zepp Award was originated to recognize BVARC members for their efforts to promote operation on the high frequency (HF) bands. These efforts may take the form of dedicated participation in any form or forms of HF activities, the promotion of HF activities or the assistance in furthering HF activities.

There shall be no more than one award presented each year, unless in any one given year the Board of Directors elects unanimously to award more than one award. It is not mandatory that the award be made each year, if in the board's majority opinion, no nominee is selected. Under normal circumstances, other than the condition stated in the first sentence of this paragraph, the yearly recipient of the award, should there be one, must receive majority approval of the BVARC Board of Directors.

Any member of the club may make nominations for all Awards. Nominations must be made in writing, and must be submitted to any BVARC officer or Board member not later than the December regular membership meeting.



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Second annual B-VARC Homebrew Contest

December 3rd meeting

Contest Categories

Homebrew equipment

Any equipment built from scratch; ie. rigs, tuners, amplifiers, keys, keyers, software (must be demonstrated).

Antennas

Homebrew antennas, designs, descriptions and/or modeling examples of actual antennas (instead of displaying large HF antennas).

No commercially made antennas.

Kits and Modified Equipment

Any piece of gear assembled from a commercial kit; significantly modified or rebuilt older radios; or packaging of total systems.

Before/after pictures are required for rebuilds.

Prizes

Homebrew

- 1--98 Handbook
- 2--Solid State Design Bk
- 3--MFJ 24 Hr clock

Antennas

- 1--ARRL Antenna Handbook
- 2--Antenna Compendium
- 2--Vertical Antenna Classics

Kits, etc.

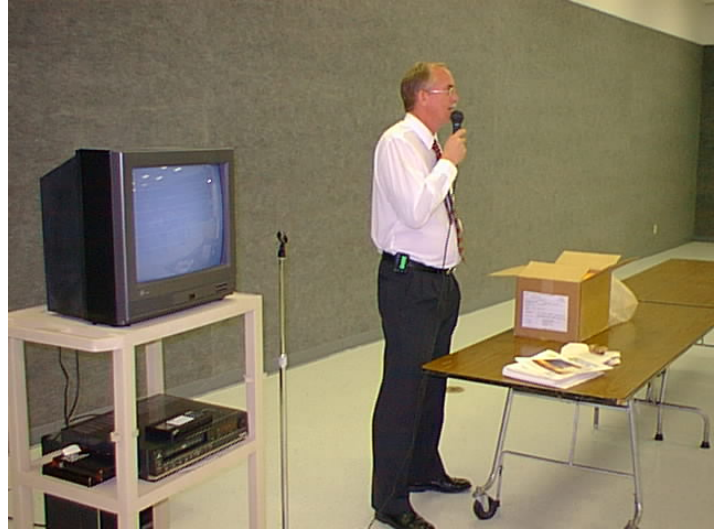
- 1--73 or CQ--1 year
- 2--ARRL RFI Hdbk
- 3--MFJ 24 Hr clock

Last years winning entries not allowed to enter this year.

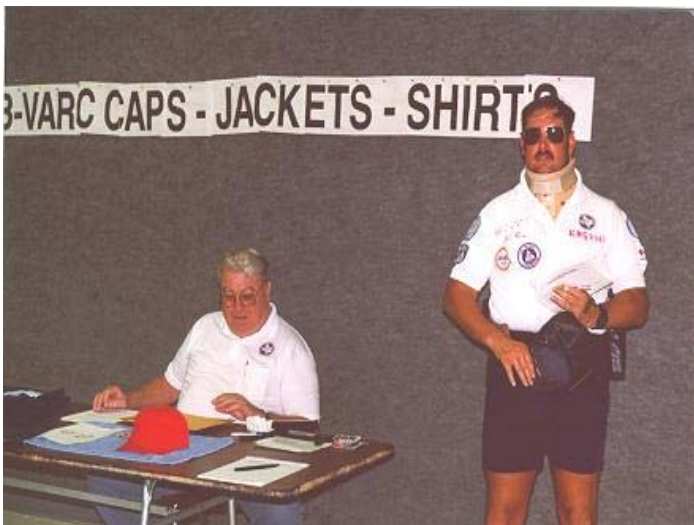
Questions to W5RH at rhiller@sysdev.com or via the B-VARC reflector.



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Robert White, KF5ZL, discusses emergency management



Claude and Scanner Jack



New member NOJAA

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