


THE B-VARC BULLETIN

UU Volume 22, issue 5
May 1999

<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 Irv, KK5QQ at 281-437-6755 for information

<p>What's in this issue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Notes from the Prez – P. 2 ➤ BVARC Activities – P. 2 ➤ Board of Directors Minutes, May1999 - P. 3 ➤ Houston Shot News - P. 3 ➤ BVARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4 ➤ VE Exam Results - P. 5 ➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 5 ➤ Monday Night PSN Check-ins - P. 6 ➤ Solar Activity - P. 6. ➤ Field Day Participation - P. 7 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Hot Dawg</i></p> <p><i>Hot Dogs and Drinks for Members - FREE</i> <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></p>
<p>A Special Thanks to the First Colony Church of Christ for the use of their facilities which make this newsletter possible.</p> <p>Also, Thanks to Claude Sessions, K5HFY, for being in charge of production.</p>	<p>Board of Directors: John Moore, President - KK5NU, jwm@hal-pc.org Larry Jacobson, Vice-President - K5LJ, k5lj@nstci.com Doug Woodruff, Recording Secretary - KC5VYZ, dwoodruff@houston.geoquest.slb.com Irv Smith, Corresponding Secretary - KK5QQ, kk5qq@aol.com Gene Russell, Treasurer - N5XGT, hbrussell@aol.com Robert Moore, 3-Year-Director - KK5UO, kk5uo@hal-pc.org Darrell Kirk, Two-Year-Director - KC5JAR, darrellk@swbell.net Bruce Paige, Past President - KK5DO, kk5do@amsat.org Claude Sessions, 1-Year-Director - K5HFY, claudes@juno.com</p>

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Notes from the President - May 1999

CQ B-VARC, CQ Field Day -- Second verse almost the same as first. As you read this, Field Day 1999 is not quite five weeks away. Last full weekend in June, June 26th and 27th should be on your calendar; and marked in red letters. The Plan of Operations calls for an early Saturday morning trek (well not that early; the B-VARC breakfast social should come first!!) to the Katy County Park located at the intersection of



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Katy-Hockley Cut Off and Morton Road, our reserved spot for the weekend. Antennas and equipment will take center stage as we get ready for the magical hour of 1800 UTC to arrive. That's 1 PM local time for all us time challenged folks. Then, it's a simple matter of surviving till the 'gastronomical' duo of Jack, WN5A and Randy, AK5G make their culinary magic come to pass and the Social Hour or Two commences. After all, food and all that is the order of the day. While the park gates close about 11 P.M., not to worry; we will have a key at our disposal. So plan to be there -- or you may well find that you will be the center of the conversation.

The party runs till 2100 UTC (4 PM local time) or earlier if we get well fed and tired.

Contact our Field Day Chairman, Rex Ritz, KC5EEU for further details.

Continuing with the club project agenda; our entry level CW course to about 8 wpm is scheduled to begin on June 1st at 6:30 PM at the First Colony Church of Christ, 3119 Sweetwater Boulevard in Sugar Land; Room 215. After five Tuesdays, Louis, KD55GM has designed a very nice Certificate to present to those successfully completing the course. And on the second Tuesday in July, you will have an opportunity to demonstrate your skills at the B-VARC sponsored VE session. With a minimum of effort we could realize a goal to see a majority of B-VARC members advance at least one level in the license structure by the start of the millennium. And Y2K is getting closer each passing day.

For all those inquiring minds, you might want to jot the following information in your address book: FCC Compliance and Information Bureau -- Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, Legal Advisor for Amateur Enforcement. eMail - rholling@fcc.gov He's in the FCC Office at Gettysburg, PA (717) 338-2502 and he does monitor the bands.

Calendar wise be sure to place HamCom '99 in Arlington, TX at the Arlington Convention Center June 11 & 12th, 1999 at the top of the list. Also look at: <http://www.hamcom.org> on the 'net.

73 de John Moore, KK5NU

Schedule of BVARC Activities

June 1999

- 1 - Code Classes begin (5 Tuesdays)
- 3 - General Meeting
 - Dan Cox will talk on restoring old radios
- 8 - VE Test
- 10 - BOD Meeting
- 26 & 27 - Field Day

July 1999

- 1 - General Meeting
 - Ed Manuel will update Dayton hamvention highlites and QRP operations
- 7 - BOD Meeting
- 13 - VE Test

August 1999

- 5 - General Meeting
 - Ice Cream Social
- 10 - VE Test
- 12 - BOD Meeting

September 1999

- 2 - General Meeting
- 13 - BOD Meeting
- 14 - VE Test

October 1999

- 7 - General Meeting
- 12 - VE Test
- 18 - BOD Meeting

November 1999

- 4 - General Meeting
 - Chili Supper/Elections
- 9 - VE Test
- 15 - BOD Meeting

December 1999

- 2 - General Meeting
- 13 - BOD Meeting
- 14 - VE Test

(see the December 1998 issue for a long-term schedule.)

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Upcoming Public Service Events

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, home 713-771-4625
work 713-463-0022 n5vcx@worldnet.att.net
Doug Woodruff, KC5VYZ, home 281-232-8452,
work 713-350-4575, kc5vyz@arrl.net
Bill Randolph, KC5KGJ, home 713-468-3771

Treasurer's report by Louis gave report of bank balance of checking \$2636.06 and savings of \$1974.32 plus \$10.00 cash on hand plus \$4620.38.

Vice president Larry Jacobson discussed programs and all programs are filled through the end of the year including the ice cream social in August. Next month is Dan Cox on restoring old radios.

Event	Date	Hams needed
Katy Flatland Bike Ride	July 25, 1999	35
Wings Over Houston Air Show	October 16 & 17	60 (2 day event)
Alamo Challenge Bike Ride	October 9 & 10, 1999	55 (2 day event)
20K Warm-up Run	October 17, 1999	25

Presidents report by John: Rex Ritz - KC5EEU was not present to discuss Field Day preparations. The club will be faxing a copy of the club's insurance policy to the County Commissioner's secretary. BVARC is authorized to hold the name Houston Amateur Radio Club as one of the oldest radio clubs affiliated with the ARRL since 1919. The club call W5BPA has been requested from the FCC. The novice/techplus code class will start June 1st for the following 5 Tuesdays. Information was sent to Dwayne - KB5YTA to be able to contact Riley Hollingsworth concerning local repeater abuses and others in the FCC and methods of contacting the FCC to report offenses. Form 610 will be phased out and the new form 605 will take its place as a generic form for licensing from the FCC. The vanity call sign form is included along with the disability waiver.

Board Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club May 6, 1999

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at Sugar Land Community Center on May 6, 1999. The meeting was called to order by President John Moore, KK5NU at 7:24PM.

The following members were present: president John Moore - KK5NU, vice president Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, corresponding secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ, three year board member Robert B. Moore - KK5UO, two year board member Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR, one year member Claude Sessions - K5HFY, past president Bruce Paige - KK5DO, assistant treasurer Louis House - KD5GM and recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ. Absent were past president Bruce Paige - KK5DO and treasurer Gene Russell - N5XGT.

A motion to approve the April minutes was made by Claude and seconded by Irv. There was no opposition and so approved.

Corresponding secretary Irv discuss renewal membership, finding new members, and duties of B-VARC membership secretary. Several prospects have been contacted but have not attended the meeting. Membership consist of 10 life members, 109 active members and 24 family members and a total 143 members.

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Date
List!

Old Business: Claude Sessions reported he has caps, no shirts and patches for sale. Embroidered emblems and designs are better for future orders. Orders for more will be made as supplies dwindle.

New Business: Darrell reported that the Houston Food Bank lost their freezer contents and that BVARC members may like to help as needed.

Motion was made to adjourn by Darrell and seconded by Claude. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted by recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ.

HOUSTON SHOT NEWS for May 1999 by Al Mattis - N5AFV

Ten Ten International has announced that four directors will be elected in the year 2000. If you wish to run for a director position, or to nominate someone to run, you may contact Gini Segedi, N7HDB, by E-mail at n7hdb@isat.com for more information. Segedi is chairing the Nominating Committee.

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The 1999 Ten Ten International Convention will be held June 10-13, 1999 at the Garden Plaza Hotel in Oak Ridge, TN. The Springbok Chapter (ZS) is hosting the convention, and James Whittlesey, KC4RHW, is the convention chairman. Advance registration for the convention began on January 1, 1999. For information about convention registration contact Tom Henderson, K4CIH, at k4cih@earthlink.net.

The weekend before the Ten Ten convention, Jack Moore, K5CC, hosts the Hill Country Picnic at his residence in Bulverde, TX. This year, the 11th annual Hill Country Picnic will be held on June 6, 1999. On Saturday evening, June 5, 1999, guests for the Hill Country Picnic are invited to meet at the Alamo Cafe in San Antonio for dinner at 6 PM. The Alamo Cafe serves some of the best Tex-Mex food in the Southwest. Anyone wishing to attend these events can contact Jack Moore by E-mail at k5cc@gvtc.com for more information.

Ten Ten International has appointed Al Longo, NN1J, to be the new award manager for the Worked All Prefix Award. Anyone wishing information about the award may contact Longo by E-mail at nn1j@ici.net.

In the Ten Ten Winter QSO Party, the Houston SHOT Chapter placed 9th, with 10 logs submitted for a total of 1898 points. The Possum Trot Chapter (NC) won with 27 logs and a total of 5029 points.

The Houston SHOT chapter is pleased to welcome KC5QIT as its newest local member. The chapter currently has 387 local members, and 1339 non-local members, for a total membership of 1726.

On May 6, 1999, the Houston SHOT Chapter presented a program about Ten Ten International at the monthly B-VARC meeting. The B-VARC members appeared to enjoy the program, and approximately 50 people attended the meeting.

A popular addition to the chapter web page consists of a database listing all SHOT members in order by 10-10 number and their point value. The SHOT number does not appear in the database, and can only be acquired by working the member over the air. This current list of the point value of all SHOT members will help those working on the SHOT upgrade program. To check out the membership database, visit the Houston SHOT chapter home page at <http://www.clarc.org/shot/>. The site also 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 server space 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, 28.425 MHz and 28.825 MHz. The Flying Tigers (RI), GB Ten (G), Portland 500 (OR) and Electric City (FL) chapters are conducting specials for paper chasers to promote activity on the band. A number of chapters have specials each month.

Propagation on ten meters has been poor to fair during the last month. Good domestic propagation has only been present occasionally, and DX contacts with Latin America have occurred almost daily. Propagation will continue to improve as we get farther into Cycle 23.

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.



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B-VARC RAG CHEW Net Check-Ins for April 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.

4/7/99--N5CPA, KK5W, KA0TEN, K5CEK, W5GHK, W5EFB, KK5UO, K5VRJ, AB5BA, K5LJ, KB5ZSB, W5TEM, WB5IIB, WN5A. (14)
4/14/99--N5CPA, W5GHK, W5EFB, K5CEK, K5VRJ,

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AB5BA, N5VXU, N4ZTU. (8)

4/21/99--N5CPA, K5CEK, K5LJ, W5EFB, WB5SZC,
KK5W, N5VXU, WB5IIB, KK5XR. (9)

4/28/99--N5CPA, K5CEK, KK5UO, W5EFB, K5VRJ,
AB5BA, KM5DG, KK5DO, W5GHK, WB5SZC, WB5IIB,
NM5K, N5VXU, KG5KV. (14)

..... 73

RESULTS OF THE MAY 11TH AMATEUR EXAMS

by: **Harold Parker, ND5F**

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, May 11, 1999 at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

V. E. TEAM:

Carl Albrecht, AA5JW
John Moore, KK5NU
Harold Parker, ND5F

A total of 6 exams were administered during the evening to 4 applicants. Two (2) unlicensed candidates received their new Technician license 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 passed exams:

Kenneth Elliott - Technician
George Parker - Technician



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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.

SCANNER JACK'S Corner by Jack Roberts, KB5TMY

Here are the frequencies for Scholes AIRSHOW in Galveston:

Tower - Air Boss	127.95
Departure	118.175
Unicom Flight Line	123.050
A.T.I.S.	119.275
Air Boss Secondary	123.300
Pilot to Pilot	132.775
Pilot over P.A. Sytem	122.75

Hurricane season is here again. These freqs. are for hurricanes:

NOAA WX Broadcast:	
162.550	GAL
162.400	HOU
162.475	BEAUMONT
162.425	BAY CITY

Coast Guard:	
VHF FM Scanners	<u>H. F.</u>
156.8	2182
157.100	2670
	4316(new)
GAL WX Broadcast C. G. Times	4426
UTC.:	6501
0450, 0550, 1050, 1150, 1250, 2250.	8502(new)
	8764
(The new freqs. are out of New Orleans, LA.)	12788(new)
	13089
	17314

Marine Band H.F.:	
WLO Mobile, AL	
WX Broadcasts 1200, 1800, 0000 hrs. UTC.	
4.369	
6.519(new)	
8.788	
13.110	
17.257	

Ham:	
2 meter: 146.840, 145.490	
H.F.: 14.325, 14,320, 14,275, 7.248, 3.995, 3.935, 3.940	

Aircraft Hurricane Hunters:	
304.8, 308.4 Scanners AM Mode	

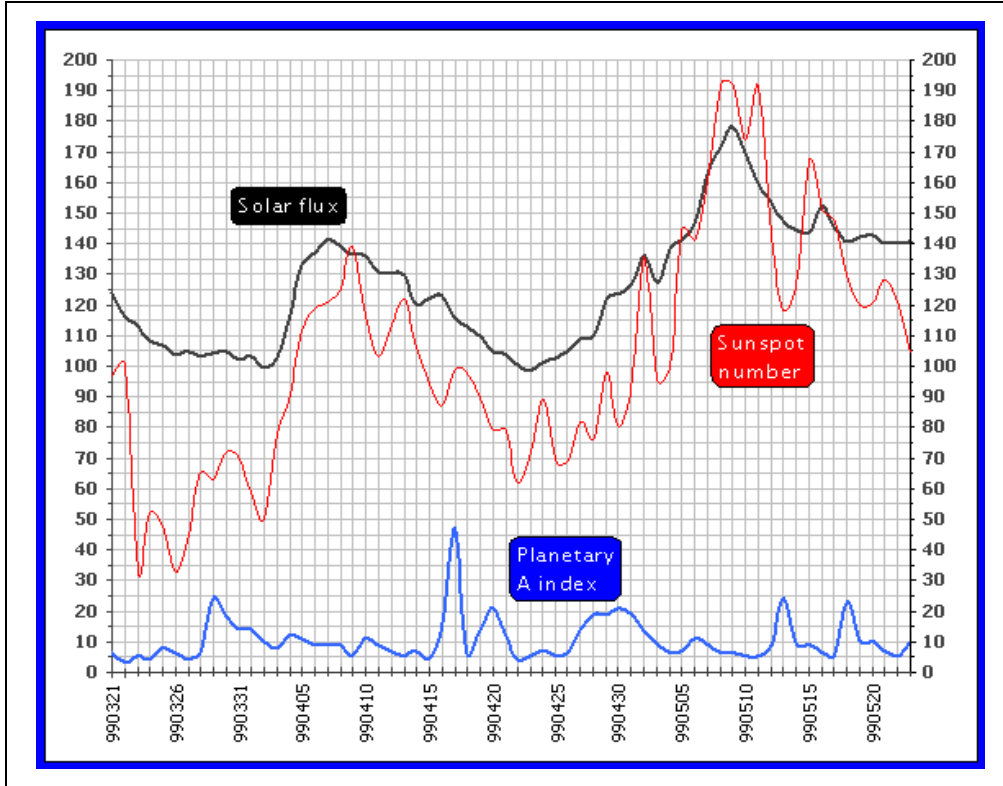
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FSS: 122.2, 255.4
 WX: 239.8, 342.5, 344.6, 375.2

**Monday night PSN check-ins
 (KK5DO net control)**

4/5/99 - 29 (KC5VYZ)
 4/12/99 - 27 (KD5FWE)

4/19/99 - 26 (KC5VYZ)
 4/26/99 - 24 (KC5VYZ)
 5/3/99 - 25 (KC5VYZ)
 5/10/99 - 34 (KC5VYZ)
 5/17/99 - 29 (KC5VYZ)



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THE B-VARC BULLETIN

The annual ARRL Field Day is just around the corner
only 20 weeks, or three more meetings away:

Saturday June 26, 1999

We need to think about it, discuss it, make some decisions, and get on with it! We need to know. What do you want? Please complete this questionnaire now, or take it home for further study:

What location/operating site? _____

last year w/CLARC in Clear Lake. Your suggestion?

Saturday night supper ideas? _____

catered meal?, pot luck + meat provided?, etc?

Sunday morning breakfast? _____

Do you know a group/person that wants to cook? _____

Volunteers and gear are needed in the following areas. Please check where appropriate:

Technical Foreman & assistants Night shift crew chief & sleep-overs

Contestors radios _____ / _____ / _____

antennas _____

Operators ATV _____ satellite _____ packet _____

other _____

Talk in station

Public information contact person photographer net shots

Kitchen crew & grounds clean up

Logistics set up Saturday

Logistics take down Sunday

Refreshments service : snacks & drinks server

Logistics needs you can help with:

truck or trailer for logistics _____

portable electrical power & accessories _____

tents & shelters _____

air conditioned trailers/vehicles _____

portable lighting & fans _____

water containers, ice chests & coolers _____

lawn furniture _____

camping and cook gear : tables & chairs, mosquito netting, etc. _____

Your printed name call land line fax e-mail

Remember that after you complete this questionnaire you have the right to grumble and complain! Please return to John Moore, Larry Jacobson, or Rex Ritz, or just call in to volunteer.

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