

# THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 22, issue 10  
October 1999

<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>
--	---	--

**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><b>What's in this issue?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Notes from the Prez – P. 2</li> <li>➤ BVARC Activities – P. 2</li> <li>➤ Board of Directors Minutes, October 19 - P. 3</li> <li>➤ V.E.C. Exam Results - P. 4</li> <li>➤ Monday Night PSN Check-ins - P. 5</li> <li>➤ BVARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4</li> <li>➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 4</li> <li>➤ Old San Francisco in January - P. 5</li> <li>➤ Boy Scout Activities - P. 5</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Annual Chili Supper/Elections</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Thursday, November 4</i></p> <p><i>This is a very important meeting. Not only will be 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.</i></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>          John Moore, President - KK5NU, <a href="mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org">jwm@hal-pc.org</a>          Larry Jacobson, Vice-President - K5LJ, <a href="mailto:k5lj@nstci.com">k5lj@nstci.com</a>          Doug Woodruff, Recording Secretary - KC5VYZ, <a href="mailto:dwoodruff@houston.geoquest.slb.com">dwoodruff@houston.geoquest.slb.com</a>          Irv Smith, Corresponding Secretary - KK5QQ, <a href="mailto:kk5qq@aol.com">kk5qq@aol.com</a>          Gene Russell, Treasurer - N5XGT, <a href="mailto:hbrussell@aol.com">hbrussell@aol.com</a>          Louis House, Asst. Treasurer - KD5GM, <a href="mailto:tsingwu@juno.com">tsingwu@juno.com</a>          Robert Moore, 3-Year-Director - KK5UO, <a href="mailto:kk5uo@hal-pc.org">kk5uo@hal-pc.org</a>          Darrell Kirk, Two-Year-Director - KC5JAR, <a href="mailto:darrell@ev1.net">darrell@ev1.net</a>          Bruce Paige, Past President - KK5DO, <a href="mailto:kk5do@amsat.org">kk5do@amsat.org</a>          Claude Sessions, 1-Year-Director - K5HFY, <a href="mailto:claudes@juno.com">claudes@juno.com</a></p>

## Notes from the President - October 1999

Our annual Chili Supper/Annual Election of Officers and Directors is in the spotlight for this month. Contact Bruce Paige, [kk5do@amsat.org](mailto:kk5do@amsat.org), Chair of the Nominating Committee if you wish to nominate someone; or be prepared to nominate them from the floor. Please secure the nominee's permission first.

Nomination for our Annual Awards to be presented at the B-VARC Awards Banquet on January 7, 2000 are now in order. Kindly notify any of your current Officers or Directors of your nominee(s).

E P O	<b>ELECTRONIC PARTS OUTLET</b>
	ELECTRONICS / COMPUTERS & MORE
	<b>THE ELECTRONIC SOURCE</b>
	3753 FONDREN HOUSTON, TEXAS 77063 713 784-0140 713 784-9740 fax <b>STORE MANAGER KEN TURNER</b>
	17776 TOMBALL PKWY HOUSTON, TEXAS 77064 281 807-9600 281 774-0830 fax <b>STORE MANAGER RICK ZAMARRIPA</b>
	<b>SHIP TO WAREHOUSE:</b> 9101 LIPAN HOUSTON, TX 77063 713 787-0599 713 268-1044 fax

And, for information - tickets to the Annual Banquet contact our Assistant Treasurer, Louis House, KD5GM [tsingwu@juno.com](mailto:tsingwu@juno.com). Menu is in the same format as last year, with your choice of steak or chicken for the entree; price is \$22 with your club making a small subsidy for each.

We had an interesting visitor at the last general meeting - Steve Faulkner, KF6OCE was on his way thru Houston on his return to CA -- was on the MERA repeater and got invited to visit with us; which he did -- had a hot dog and stayed for the program. Nice break in his trip and gave us all a chance to visit with him. Just one more benefit of being "on the air".

As this year winds down to a close and the dawn of a new millenium, ask not what B-VARC has done for you; but rather what can you do or contribute to the club. As with any organization, seems like 90% of the work is done by 10% of the members -- may we count on your contribution ??

73 de John Moore, KK5NU

## Schedule of BVARC Activities

November 1999

- 4 - General Meeting
- Chili Supper/Elections

- 9 - VE Test
  - 15 - BOD Meeting
- December 1999
- 2 - General Meeting
  - SWL Radios and Listening
  - Jack Roberts - KB5TMY
  - 13 - BOD Meeting
  - 14 - VE Test
- (see the December 1998 issue for a long-term schedule.)

## November Chili Supper

Kevin Foto, KM5TO eMail <[alpine@wt.net](mailto:alpine@wt.net)>, phone 281-277-5886, has agreed to serve as the Chairman/Coordinator for the B-VARC Annual Chili Supper/Elections meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 4th, 1999.

He needs to hear from you if you're planning on bringing Fritos, crackers, drinks, chili or any of the other delicacies and condiments that go well with chili.



# Paige Computers, Inc.

Bruce Paige, KK5DO

*Authorized Sales & Service for:*

**EPSON**  
**OKIDATA**

**LEXMARK**



Warranty & Non-Warranty Repairs

7625 Boone Rd.  
Houston, TX 77072  
281-933-8385 Ext 201  
Fax 281-933-3544

## Volunteers Needed to Provide Communications for 25K Race by Al Mattis N5AFV

Volunteers are needed to work this year's 25K Marathon Warm-up Series = Race, which will be held on Sunday, November 14, 1999. Contact Al Mattis, N5AFV, at [afmattis@hal-pc.org](mailto:afmattis@hal-pc.org).

**Board Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes  
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club  
October 18, 1999**

President John Moore called the meeting to order at 7:32pm with a quorum. Those in attendance were president John Moore - KK5NU, vice president Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, assistant treasurer Louis House - KD5GM, corresponding secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ, 3rd year board member Robert Moore - KK5UO. Those not in attendance were one year board member Claude Sessions - K5HFY, two year board member Darrel Kirk - KC5JAR, past president Bruce Paige - KK5DO, recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ, and treasurer Gene Russell - N5XGT.

Recording secretary report by John Moore. The September BOD minutes were opened for amendment and correction, and none was given. Robert made a motion to approve the September BOD minutes and seconded by Louis. The motion passed unanimously. Robert is recording the minutes for the meeting.

Corresponding secretary report by Irv stated that current membership consist of 143 members including 14 life members.

Treasurer report by Louis. A detailed account can be obtained from the treasurer for any interested members. The CD will come up for renewal in March 2000. All accounts are upto date through October 18th 1999. The club is solvent. Motion to accept treasurer's report as printed made by Larry seconded by Irv and passed unanimously.



**Alex-WA5UHT**

**7015 Atwell Dr  
Houston TX 77081-6005  
PHONE: 713/663-6066  
FAX: 713/663-6413**

**EMAIL: [ajs@cityelectronics.com](mailto:ajs@cityelectronics.com)  
WEB SITE: <http://www.cityelectronics.com>**

**Store Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00**

Vice president report by Larry discussed possible program for February on APRS. Scanner Jack KB5TMY will discuss short wave receivers in December.

President report by John. A deposit of \$200.00 has been made to the Old San Francisco Steakhouse for the BVARC annual banquet in January with a quoted price of \$25.95 per person included tips but not including the cash bar. The HAL-PC internet account for the BVARC web-page has been renewed for six months to expire March 31, 2000. A request has been

made for the 14th annual Halloween fun night for a \$20.00 fee for a booth space by the City of Sugar Land Parks and Recreation. A motion by Robert was made to make a \$20.00 donation to the Parks and Recreation fund as in past years for the event without reserving a booth seconded by Larry. Motion passed unanimously. Discussion was made on the price to charge each member for the annual banquet. Decision is to charge members \$22.00 per person and the club will pay the difference.

New business: Discussion to write Steve Faulkner who visited from Ca. a thank you letter for visiting at the last meeting while he was passing through. Louis presented a letter from World Radio magazine for BVARC to have the club listed in the magazine's club list for a \$65.00 fee. Tabled until the next BOD meeting. Kevin Foto - KM5TO has accepted the position to chair the chili supper for the November general club meeting.

Old business: Robert discussed the current theory classes for the novice and technician test and should finish soon. Regular code and theory classes are in the works for next year. The BOD meeting for November is on the 15th and December is on the 13th. The committee for obtaining board members for 2000 is underway. Nominations for member awards are being done at this time to be presented at the January annual banquet. Report on the location and status of past club presidents was made by John.

Motion was made to adjourn by Larry and seconded by Louis. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm.

Respectfully submitted by recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ

Doug Woodruff  
International Support and Training  
Schlumberger/GeoQuest  
5599 San Felipe, Suite 1700  
Houston, Texas 77056 USA  
713-513-2157 Fax: 713-513-2038  
email: [dwoodruff@houston.geoquest.slb.com](mailto:dwoodruff@houston.geoquest.slb.com)



**GEORGE DiLETTA, KDØRW  
PRESIDENT**

<b>EXIT 68 I-45 NORTH 181 CYPRESSWOOD DRIVE SPRING, TX 77388</b>	<b>800 471 7373 281 355 7373 FAX 281 355 8007</b>
--	---

## RESULTS OF THE OCTOBER 12th 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 12, 1999 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 5 exams were administered during the evening to 5 applicants. One (1) unlicensed candidate received their new Technician license and one (1) other upgraded with a total of 3 elements passed.

The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 60

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

Richard Hakala, KD5HNF - Technician Plus  
James Richardson - Technician  
Janet Richardson - 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 .....

### Monday night PSN check-ins (KC5VYZ net control)

9/27 - 21 Cam  
10/4 - 15 Cam  
10/11 - 20 Doug  
10/18 - 23 Cam  
10/25 - 19 Doug

### 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.

**9/1/99**—N5CPA, K5CEK, KE5SR, KM5DG, K5VRJ, AB5BA, KK5W, KA0TEN, WN5A, K5LJ, KD5FWD, W5GHK, WA0FEV, WD9IWY, AK5G, AB8CC. (16)

**9/8/99**--N5CPA, K5CEK, KE5SR, K5VRJ, AB5BA, W5RIY, KK5W, W5GHK, KB5DNT, KM5DG, N5VXU, K5LJ. (12)--NOTE—We shut down about 8:06PM because of interference with the Kentucky Traffic Net, a nightly net of long standing. Couldn't find a clear frequency within 3 KHz. SORRY!

**9/15/99**--N5CPA, KM5DG, KG5KV, KK5W, KA0TEN, KC5SQD, N5VXU, K5LJ, W5GHK, N5AEP, W3YPH, K0SMO, KD5FWD, KG8MG, KM5TO, WA4DBY, W5RIY, WA5TWL. (18)

**9/22/99**--N5CPA, KK5W, KA0TEN, KE5SR, K5CEK, KC5SQD, KM5DG, K5VRJ, AB5BA, KI5SC, N5VXU, KG5KV, W5RIY. (13)

**9/29/99**—N5CPA, K5CEK, KE5SR, W5GHK, KD5GM, N5OAC, K5VRJ, AB5BA, KD5FWD, N5VXU, WB5VYR, KK5W, KA0TEN, W5RIY, KB5VTB, WA5TWL, W5HFF. (17)

Complete  
Computer  
Solutions

**Services and Products:**  
Custom Built Computers  
Repairs/Upgrades  
Network Design/Installation  
Components/Software/Accessories

13891 Southwest Freeway Sugar Land, TX 77478  
Phone: (281) 277-0220 Fax: (281) 277-0230  
Website: [www.completecomputers.com](http://www.completecomputers.com)

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

S. Jack Roberts KB5TMY  
14208 Laterna Ln.  
Houston, Texas 77083-5730

Here are some added ID's for the Alief-Clodine TRS:  
15792 West Harris Co. EMS  
15888 West Lake VFD  
15728 Fire 2

Here are the frequencies that they simulcast on:  
155.22 155.295 West Harris Co. EMS  
33.74 West Lake VFD  
33.92 West I 10 VFD  
855.9625 Fire West I 10

Add this I. D. to Ft. Bend Co. TRS:  
ID 3632 Pecan Grove FD  
154.445 Pecan Grove Fire Freq.  
453.375 Ponderosa VFD Freq.

---

### Looking forward to Old San Francisco

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club's Annual Awards Banquet is scheduled for Friday, January 7, 2000 to be held again at The Old San Francisco Steak House, 8611 Westheimer Road just east of Fondren in west Houston. Our "RF-Release" hour will start at 7pm with a cash bar. Dinner will be served starting at 8pm.

This year's menu will be in the same, familiar format as we enjoyed last time; the House Salad with their house dressing, Sourdough bread and a Swiss Cheese Block.

The main entree will be your choice of 12oz Sirloin Strip or Mixed Grill Chicken and Shrimp; served with a Twice Baked Potato and Green Beans Almondine. Included with the price of the meal will be a Strawberry Crunch Cake dessert; other desserts should be available at a moderate charge. Drinks of the usual Coffee, Tea or Soft Drinks variety.

The price for the dinner is \$22 per person; your entree needs to be selected in advance as we need to deliver a final head count prior to the event evening.

Kindly make your selection when you make and pay for your meal reservation.

To reserve your place for the event, contact our Asst. Treasurer, Louis House, KD5GM - eMail <tsingwu@juno.com at one of the General Membership Meetings.

73,

John Moore, KK5NU

---

### St. Francis de Sales--Sharpstown--JOTA.

2 HF stations and a VHF station were set up at the St. Francis de Sales Church and School Scout House on Saturday and Sunday. Saturday morning had 6 Scouts from Troops 80, 99 and 1111 taking the Radio merit badge class. After lunch the boys completely set up the main JOTA HF station consisting of a transceiver, antenna matching network, monitor scope, linear amplifier and various power supplies. They also set up the 2 element yagi on a portable crankup tower and a Cushcraft R7. This hands on part of the merit badges really provides a sense of accomplishment and a great incentive to

talk.

After the setup was completed, JOTA activities took place, which had the boys and girls talking to stations in Michigan, Long Island, Colorado, Florida, Washington, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Maine. We tried a pre-arranged sked on 12mx with Australia but propagation was not with us.

We had 7 Scouts complete the merit badge and 13 total girl scouts, boy scouts and scouters participate in JOTA.

Many thanks to Scott, KD5FBA; Ross, W5HFF; John, KK5NU; Carol Postle and Bill Patterson (non-ham Troop 80 Scouters) for their assistance with the activities.

Regards...Rick...W5RH

---

### Volunteers Needed to Provide Communications for 25K Race by Al Mattis N5AFV

Volunteers are needed to work this year's 25K Marathon Warm-up Series Race, which will be held on Sunday, November 14, 1999. Providing communications at a public service event is a lot of fun, and it helps provide a positive image of amateur radio in the community. Because of the 7:00 AM race start, volunteers will need to arrive between 5:30 and 6:00 AM. In past years, race communications, which are conducted on two meters, have concluded at approximately 11:00 AM. The Warm-up Series, which was designed to help runners prepare for the Houston Marathon, also helps communications volunteers prepare for the working the January marathon.

This will be the 13th year that Houston area amateur radio operators have provided communications for the 25K race. For the last 8 years, the 25K race has been run along Memorial Drive, with the start and finish lines located in downtown Houston. The 25K race usually has approximately 2400 runners and 2000 finishers, and is the second largest 25K race in the nation.

This will be third year that the ChampionChip system will be used to time runners in the 25K race. This system is a pedestrian version of the EasyTag used on Houston area toll roads. The ChampionChip, which utilizes a frequency of 134.2 KHz, uses a small transponder attached to the runners' shoes, and specially designed mats at the start and finish lines.

Amateur radio communications have played an important role in previous years. Houston area race directors still talk about the year that a hot air balloon landed on the course just as the race was about to start. The course was blocked, and amateur radio operators were able to notify the race director who delayed start of the race until the balloon was cleared.

Amateur radio has also played a key role in past years in passing medical traffic. The race covers a distance of 25 kilometers (15.5 miles) and is a serious athletic event rather than a "fun run." In nine of last twelve years, injured runners from the 25K race have been taken to the hospital.

If you wish to help provide communications at this year's 25K race, please contact Al Mattis - N5AFV, at 713-669-3482 during the daytime, or 713-721-3637 in the evening, or by e-mail at afmattis@hal-pc.org.

