

the B-VARC BULLETIN

of

Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Fort Bend County, Texas

Vol. 3, No. 2 (we think!)

August, 1980

Editor - Stu Lamkin WB5IGG, 7401 Heilig, Houston TX 77074

Associated Editors - All Club members (especially Committee Chairmen!)

SURPRISE! SURPRISE! SURPRISE!

Ever since the Club started we've agreed it would be beneficial to have a monthly news publication to keep us informed about Club activities, and especially absentee members about Club happenings and plans.

Efforts to produce such a publication have been consistently thwarted by the non-receipt of such information from Club members

From now on, there'll be a mailing every month to all members - if only a dime (formerly penny!) postcard meeting notice; but we'll promise that with cooperative help on reproduction at no charge to the Club, there'll be a Bulletin every month mailed before the meeting.

Incidentally, the name of this publication is of our own fabrication without any collaboration or approbation by anyone. If you don't like or have a better one to offer, let us have your suggestion and we'll consider changing the name. Until then, it'll be the B-VARC BULLETIN.

NEW ROSTER

Another surprise! Included with this Bulletin is the long-awaited roster of B-VARC, as of July 26, 1980. As noted on top of the first page, please call Dave WB5MSX to give him any changes which should be made, either in this original issue or in the future as they might occur. We were able to identify some of the zip code changes in Missouri City but probably didn't get them all. Only in this way can we keep the roster up to date. All changes, and any additions, will be reported in future Bulletins. New members will be given a copy when

they join the Club.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT, BOB W5UBD, AND VICE PRESIDENT DALE WD5AJC

(Even tho some time has lapsed since these were written, the material is still timely and they are reproduced as written.-ED.)

From the President, June 1980 -

The affairs of the Club appear to be in pretty good shape, and altho not overflowing the treasury appears to be adequate. Monthly meeting attendance is increasing and new members are continually being added. Up to 25+ checkins on the Monday night nets indicate a growing interest in the Club. The monthly transmitter hunts are attracting a larger number of people than actual hunters, we regret to note, and hope that will change.

Thru the courtesy of Madison Electronics we have been able to give some very nice and expensive prizes on the hunts. E. G., a Swan combination RF power and SWR meter, a noise bridge, a special antenna book, and two 1980 Callbooks. This is over \$125 worth of prizes, and we've been told there is more of similar type items to be donated for each future hunt. Our sincere thanks to Madison for their help, and when you visit them you mention the prizes and that you are a member of B-VARC. I understand you will receive special attention!

Since our last newsletter, the following legal steps have been taken:

1. The Club has been qualified as a non-profit tax exempt corporation by the State of Texas. This means we don't pay sales taxes on any items purchased by and for the Club.
2. The Club has been exempted from payment of the \$150 annual Texas corporation franchise tax.
3. All necessary papers are in hand and ready to be filed for exemption from federal income tax.

We regret the lack of a newsletter for the past few months. What was thought to be a problem in the production of the newsletter did not exist. We hope to produce it quarterly, then bi-monthly, then eventually monthly PROVIDED, HOWEVER, the membership furnishes information for publication. We would like to see each committee chairman write a column setting out his committee's activities since the previous newsletter. This would provide a written summary for each member of what has gone on.

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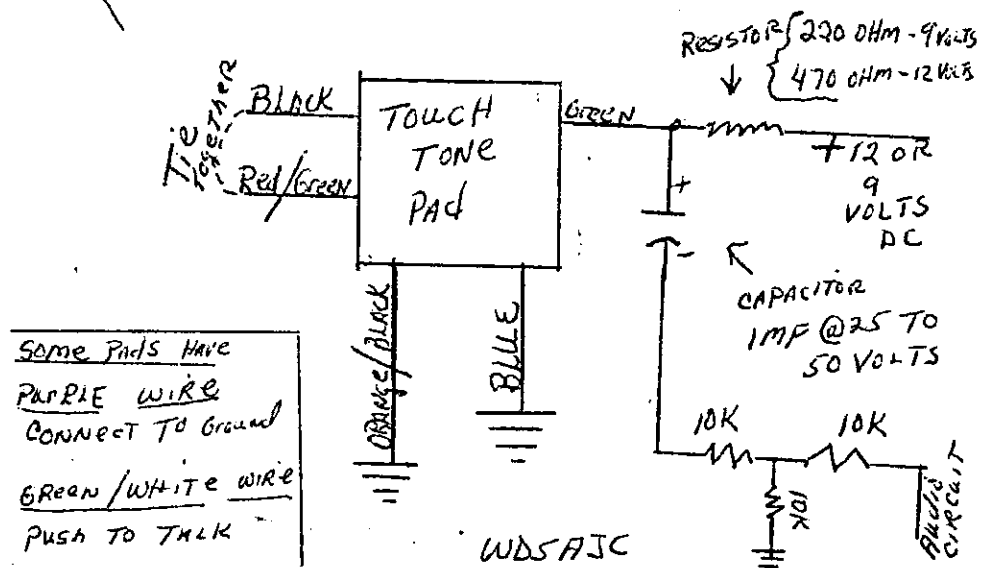
From the Vice President, April 1980 -

The hurricane season is fast approaching and it is time for all radio amateurs to check their equipment and emergency supplies. The Gulf Coast area is long over due for a major storm and this could be the year!

When I go grocery shopping with the XYL I always tend to buy more canned goods than necessary, but I want the pantry to be full of such in the event of a power line failure for several days. An auxiliary power plant is good to have, whether it be gas powered or is a storage battery of some sort. It can be used to monitor the AM/FM radio or your favorite repeater, provided the repeater is operating. A portable 2-meter rig and antenna are always good to have in times of emergencies.

A hot air balloon race was held in April starting at Westwood Mall, and 20 or so beautiful colored balloons in the air at one time made quite a spectacle. I've heard that the officials have expressed a desire for communications and I'll look into this as possible future Club activity.

I've been asked to submit the schematic I've used to build a few outboard touch tone pads to be used on an auto patch or to bring up a tone-access repeater. A fellow ham, WA5RCZ, gave me this schematic when I first got into amateur radio. I'm sure some of the new -- and old -- hams can use the schematic, and it is reproduced nelow.



I hope to see all of you at the next Club meeting. If you/anyone who is interested in ham radio, or maybe a new ham in the area, bring him to the next meeting.

See you there.

know

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN FILED WITH BULLETIN EDITOR -

By-Laws Committee, filed July 2, 1980

When the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club incorporated under the laws of the State of Texas, the Club's Constitution and By-Laws became obsolete. The Club's President appointed a Constitution and By-Laws Committee to look into the matter and to submit appropriate recommendations to the Board of Directors.

The Committee concluded that, since the Club was a corporation, its Articles of Incorporation replaced the Constitution of the unincorporated organization, and produced a set of proposed By-Laws for the Corporation. It was submitted to the Board of Directors with the recommendation that either it be approved and submitted to the membership of the Club for adoption or be referred back to the Committee for further action.

Stu Lamkin WB5IGG

FROM OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN FOR PUBLICATION IN THIS ISSUE -

Monday Nite Net Moved to New Repeater

On July 21 the Monday 9 P.M. 2-meter Club net was moved to a new repeater and given a new name. The Cypress Repeater Group (CRG), operators of the 147.60/00 MHz repeater, invited us to avail ourselves of this machine for normal and emergency operations. The new name of the net is Brazos Valley Public Service Net (BVPSN).

The 60/00 repeater is located atop the Dewalt tower which is also the home of TV Channels 2, 11, and 39 and is 1,549 feet above sea level. Presently using an exceptionally low power output of about two and one-half watts, coverage is in excess of a 50-mile radius. The repeater also has a 2-meter/220 MHz link, permitting dual band operations. CRG is in the planning/execution stages of a very sophisticated installation and has granted BVPSN exclusive use of the repeater during times of emergency or disaster conditions for operations pertaining thereto. The machine is on the Channel 11 emergency power system.

During the first session of the new net on July 21 there were 57 checkins. This is about 50% more than had ever checked in before.

Bob Spradling W5UBD

New By-Laws Scheduled for Adoption

The Board of Directors returned the draft of the proposed By-Laws to the By-Laws Committee for addition of a provision relating to the Registered Agent of the Corporation. Such addition was made and the draft returned to the Board for further consideration.

The Board now has approved the proposed By-Laws and has directed

that a copy be mailed to each member of the Club, along with the Bulletin which will be mailed prior to the September, 1980 regular membership meeting.

Stu Lamkin WB5IGG

CLUB COMMITTEES

The 12 ad hoc and/or standing committees and their chairmen which have been appointed by the President are as follows:

ARRL AFFILIATION - Stu WB5IGG	PICNIC - Dale WD5AJC
AWARDS - Sydney KA5GLJ	PROGRAM - Dick WB5SRN
BY-LAWS - Stu WB5IGG	PUBLICITY - Dick WD5CTQ
DXPEDITION - Henry N5HF	REPEATER - Phil WB5SUR
FIELD DAY - Henry N5HF	TRAINING - Wade WN5TEN
LOGO & PATCHES - Dick WD5CTQ	TXMTR HUNT - Gary N5ANF

Some of these committees have been demonstrably active -- some of them may or may not have been; we now don't know. With the exception of what has appeared in this Bulletin, no reports have been received for publication, and in some cases, little, if any, discussion has occurred at Club meetings.

EDITORIAL

Keeping the Membership Informed

Many of us have been critical -- justifiably so -- of the lack of a periodic informative newsletter. Some of you have been unable to attend meetings regularly due to the press of business or personal matters, and therefore have lost contact with Club matters. As Club members you have a right and, we hope, a desire to keep up with what's happening.

Some of you have been critical -- unjustifiably so -- of the length of monthly meetings which have been conducted with the primary objective of keeping you informed about the Club's activities.

With these two points in mind, it seemed a ready and simple solution to publish a monthly newsletter and to include therein a report from each committee chairman relating to his committee's

activities since the last newsletter.

The lack of a regular monthly newsletter has been solved by our offering to take over as editor. Now the only problem we have left to solve is to persuade committee chairmen to furnish a committee activity report each month for inclusion in the Bulletin.

The chairmen of three of our committees promised us, upon a special personal solicitation, to give us a written report containing certain information which will be of timely and continuing interest to Club members.

We're confident good reason kept them from delivering the requested material. But whatever such reasons, Club membership still is not informed.

If Club members are to be kept informed regularly and fully on Club activities, these monthly reports are a must.

Therefore, we charge each committee chairman with the responsibility to put into the mail not later than the 3rd Thursday prior to the regular membership meeting for the following month, a report of his committee's activity since the last reporting. The date for the first of these mailings is August 21.

Because of certain disabilities which most of you know about, and the time lag to print the Bulletin, we need this much time to put it together and into the mail.

We hope you will cooperate with us.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

When -- August 14, 1980 at 7:30 P.M.

Where -- Missouri City Fire House on FM2234 (Blue Ridge Road)

Speaker -- Keith Huges KA5F on their recent trip to Europe

Added Attraction -- Roger Bryant WA5RNL, new Ft. Bend County Radio Officer to give us a look at some of his plans for handling emergency and disaster communications. From what we've heard so far, it'll be a little different ball game!

YOUALL COME!!