



the  
**B-VARC BULLETIN**

of

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

Vol. 4, No. 1

January 1981

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Dick Bigelow WD5CTQ

Henry Freedenberg N5HF

Richard Shankle N5KV

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CALENDAR

B-VARC Public Service Net -- Mondays, 9 PM local, 147.60/00

Ft. Bend County CD RACES Net -- Tuesdays, 9 PM local 146.16/76

Houston-Harris County CD Net -- Wednesdays, 7:30 PM local 146.28/88

West Houston RACES Net -- Sundays, 8 PM local 146.06/76

Next B-VARC Membership Meeting -- 7:30 PM, Jan. 8, 1981, Missouri City Fire  
Station. Speaker: J. V. Leeds W5VXD;  
Topic: SWR -- WHAT? WHY? SO WHAT?

Next B-VARC Transmitter Hunt -- Jan. 10, 1981, same time, same place.

ARRL Annual Convention 1983 -- Dates and places in Houston to be announced.

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DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The following officers and directors for 1981 were elected:

President - Richard Shankle N5KV

Vice-President - Dick Bigelow WD5CTQ

Secretary - Phil Steinbach WB5SUR

Treasurer - Steve Gottlieb WA5OEN

At Large Directors - 1 year term,

Wade Eilers WN5TEN; 2 year term,

Dale Williams WD5AJC; 3 year term,

Stu Lamkin WB5IGG

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DECEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING (Cont.)

The proposed revisions in the By-Laws relating to minimum FCC license requirements for officers and the number of members constituting a quorum, were approved as set out in the December BULLETIN.

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PROXIES

Four members who were unable to attend the December meeting signified their interest in the items on the agenda by granting proxies to other members who could attend to cast votes for them on the matters to come before the meeting.

There were, however, quite a few members who did not either attend the meeting in person or grant proxies to be voted in their behalf.

It is to be hoped that, in the future, when there are important matters on the agenda for a membership meeting and you find yourself unable to attend the meeting, you will participate in the Club's business by proxy.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Beginning with the January meeting I will be the President of B-VARC, and at that time Bob W5UBD will step down. I am keenly aware of the raw deal Bob has hung on me -- is there one among you who can follow and equal Bob's act in 1980?

How many of you have --- met as many nets, attended as many transmitter hunts, been to as many meetings, worked as hard for growth and public image, or evaded controversy as well as Bob has?

In addition, B-VARC has incorporated as a non-profit corporation, applied for and received tax-exempt status, obtained a fine repeater site, affiliated with the ARRL, succeeded in getting published regularly a Club newsletter, and grown enormously as a public service organization -- all at the hands of this man.

Now do you see why Bob Spradling has left me with a raw deal? But each

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Cont.)

of us has gained and benefited as a result of his tireless efforts. But please don't use him as a yardstick by which to measure me! Thanks, Bob, for a job well done.

If ever I can help any of you, please feel free to call me at home or at work. My home phone number is 495-2699 and at work it is 978-2288. You can be sure I'll do my best to do a good job for you and the Club in 1981.

73, Richard N5KV

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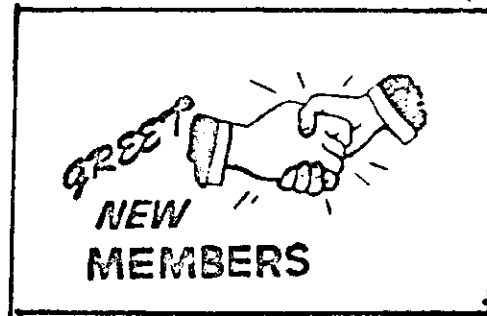
V.P.Q.S.O. -- January, 1981

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I want to thank all of you for your votes and the confidence you've shown in me for the coming year. I pledge to do my very best to live up to it. I want also to express my personal thanks to all of our outgoing officers, especially Bob Spradling, W5UBD for their hard work, dilligent service, and forthright leadership during the past year. We have experienced tremendous growth and increased acitivity due wholly to their efforts. Bob, Dale, and the rest have put forward an effort, which will be extremely difficult to follow. We'll do our best.

From my point of view, 1981 should be a super year, and I have several ideas for us that I think you'll enjoy. They involve other clubs, the public, field day and others. More on this will be discussed as the year progresses. For now, though, let me say that I look forward to getting to know all of you even better that I already do, and to the challenge of the coming year.

73, for now

Dick  
Dick Bigelow  
WD5CTQ



ROSTER

Y'all welcome the following new member who joined us at the December meeting. Please add him to your roster to keep it up to date:

Ken Mesner W5QCT, 2010 Meadowlane, Richmond 77469, fone 342-8157

Please make the following changes in your roster. In last month's BULLETIN the phone number of new member J. V. Leeds W5VXD was incorrectly listed. His correct number is 723-4485. Dale Williams WD5AJC has moved; his new address and phone number: 2822 Greenfields Drive, Sugar Land 77478, fone 980-1819.

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ARRL AFFILIATION

Ray Wangler W5EDZ, Director, West Gulf Division of ARRL and living in San Antonio, has notified us he has received B-VARC's affiliate charter which he wants to present personally to the Club. Richard N5KV is in the process of working out arrangements with him.

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SPRINGBOARD FOR DISCUSSION

Henry N5HF tells, in his own words, about his almost "drama in real life" on one of our freeways in the city. It's a true story -- Ye Olde Editor was monitoring all but one part of the proceedings, and that's the way it was. Letters to the Editor are invited with any pro or con opinions. Such letters may be edited for whatever reason which might be appropriate! -ED.

"I recently witnessed an automobile collision during the morning rush time on the Southwest Freeway. An automobile rear-ended a motorcycle at about 10 - 15 MPH and caused the bike to collide with the car in front of it, bringing the total number of vehicles involved to three. There were no personal injuries and both of the cars suffered only minor cosmetic damage; the motorcycle, however, was ripe for an ignominious burial.

"I stopped and asked if anyone needed the HPD. The bike rider did and asked me to call the police, which I did on the 69/09 autopatch. The HPD dispatcher informed me that if the vehicles could be moved the HPD would not visit the scene of the accident, and that all parties involved should

SPRINGBOARD FOR DISCUSSION (Cont.)

proceed to the nearest substation and file a report and/or complaint. I disconnected the patch and passed the dispatcher's instruction on to the bike rider. The gentleman perpetrating the whole mess suggested to the bike rider that the bike be abandoned on the freeway and offered to take the biker to the local substation. The biker insisted his bike was not movable and asked me to call the dispatcher again. He then proceeded to engage in heated debate with the perpetrator. I separated them as best I could by inviting the biker to join me while I called the HPD dispatcher. I let the biker explain his predicament to the dispatcher. The perpetrator, seeing that I allowed the biker to speak directly to the dispatcher, demanded equal air time, which I refused and brought the patch down. It was my intention, after HPD was notified, to continue on to work.

"The perpetrator, upon not being allowed to talk directly to the HPD dispatcher, began acting irrationally. He had several unkind words for me and was on the verge of threatening me with bodily injury. I extracted myself as best I could and continued on my way.

"I have given much thought as to my proper course of action if placed in a similar situation in the future.

"First, if there were no obvious casualties I would not stop. I would make my call to the HPD and let them worry about it; that's what HPD is paid for. Too, anyone involved in an accident has more than enough on his mind without having to worry about a friendly ham calling the police.

"Second, if I did stop, under no circumstances would I allow any of the people involved in the collision to speak on the air.

"Third, there are many people in town who are less stable than you and I. As a general rule, it's wise to keep in mind the old saw about discretion being the better part of valor!

Henry N5HF"

(How about another old saw: Experience is the best teacher? --ED.)

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IT'S 1981 DUES TIME!

Twenty-six of us followed the suggestion in last month's BULLETIN that we lighten the load on the Treasurer by paying our 1981 dues at the December meeting. For which Steve WA5OEN says Thanks! He hopes the other half of the membership will come out to the January meeting to witness Bob W5UBD, our 1981 President, hand over the reins to our 1981 President, Richard N5KV. And while there, of course, to pay their 1981 dues!

We call attention to the By-Laws provision under which dues are delinquent after the February membership meeting. So --- to stay on the roster and on the BULLETIN mailing list (if that's any incentive!) come and pay up!

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EXPANSION OF 16/76 REPEATER SYSTEM

According to Roger Bryant WA5RNL, Ft. Bend County RACES Radio Officer, the Ft. Bend County 2-meter repeater communication system is undergoing expansion and improvement which will considerably enhance its range and effectiveness.

A new machine is under construction which will be located temporarily at the 800' level on the Channel 13 tower. It will be the primary 16/76 machine, and when the new Channel 13 is completed, will be located on that tower at the 1,800' level. The present 16/76 machine will then be the backup and can be brought up simultaneously with any failure of the primary unit.

An autopatch is under construction to be installed on the 16/76 machine. Access will be restricted to official members of the Ft. Bend County RACES group.

Roger also advises that funds are needed to silverplate cavities on the new machine -- not a great deal, but any donations would be very much appreciated and are tax-deductible. Anyone desiring to assist should make his check payable to Ft. Bend County Civil Defense RACES Group and should send it to: Roger Bryant WA5RNL, 1314 Dudley Drive, Richmond TX 77469.

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H O T   S P E C I A L S

KENWOOD    TS180S - \$899.      TS520SE - \$549.      R-1000 - \$449.  
                 TR9000 - \$429.

ICOM        IC251A - \$599.      IC255A - \$319.

SWAN        102BXA - \$999.

All line accessories available

KENWOOD service manuals available

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B - S - S MART

B-VARC BULLETIN will be glad to run in this department a listing of any items you'd like to buy, sell, or swap. Such a listing must be sent to us in writing and it will be run in the first issue available after receipt.

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FOR SALE -- Slinky multiband small space dipole, 80 - 20 meters. Good condition. Perfect for attic or apartments where space is at a premium.

Alan Shapiro N5BSW, fone 499-3038

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WANTED -- A 4-1000 amplifier tube and/or a socket for a 4CX1000 tube.

Frank Wood W5GLD, fone 342-2414

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FOR SALE -- Dentron tuner. Handles single wire and coax, and power output to antenna up to 300 watts.

24-hour GMT (UTC) timer. Displays seconds, minutes, hours.

Stu Lamkin WB5IGG, fone 777-3345

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MISCELLANIE

Novice code and theory class starting in January. For info on place and time, etc., call Wade Eilers WN5TEN, fone 499-4230 ..... We've been wondering where Jerry W5TSA went, and just found out it wasn't him but his radio that went that-a-way. Every time we think we're spending unnecessary money on insurance for our equipment, we hear about something like this, and we renew!!!

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

We thank Thee, Lord, for all Thy care;  
For strength to earn; the chance to share;  
For laughter, song, and friendship deep,  
And all the memories we keep.

--Edgar A. Guest

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