



the

B-VARC BULLETIN

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

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August 1981

Editor -- Stu Lamkin WB5IGG, 7401 Heilig, Houston TX 77074
Production -- Ron Bolyard KA5GYG Dick Hagerman WB5SRN
 Richard Shankle N5KV

CALENDAR

Next B-VARC - Regular Membership Meeting -- August 13, 1981
 Transmitter Hunt -- August 15, 1981
 Board of Directors Meeting -- August 20, 1981

B-VARC Public Service Net -- Mondays, 9 PM, 147.60/00 MHz
Ft. Bend County RACES Net -- Tuesdays, 9 PM, 146.16/76 MHz
West Houston RACES Net -- Sundays, 8 PM, 146.07/67 MHz
VHF '81 Convention -- August 14-16, 1981, in Austin TX
Houston Com-Ventio 81 -- October 2-4, 1981

ARRL West Gulf Division Convention -- October 1-3, 1982, in Houston TX
ARRL National Convention -- October 6-8, 1981, in Houston TX

JULY PICNIC

The July membership meeting was combined with what we hope will be the Club's annual picnic. We met in the picnic area behind 10707 Corporate Drive on July 11, 1981.

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JULY PICNIC (Cont.)

The picnic area in a grove of trees was super, the food and drink were super, the weather was super, and the fellowship was super to the 50+ Club members, their families and guests.

Everyone appeared to have a super good time!

AUGUST MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Larry Charson N5BYJ, our Program Chairman, has scheduled a show-and-tell session for the August meeting, to give us the benefit of each other's experiences in construction and operating hints, gadgets, devices, projects, and the like.

What with the size of our Club and the wealth of talent we have on the Roster, this should be a very interesting and informative occasion.

It's not too late to get in on the act. Call Larry at 666-4567 and tell what you can contribute.

ABOUT OUR TRANSMITTER HUNTS

Bob Spradling W5UBD

A lot of you sharpies are letting a good thing go south. I'm talking about the monthly transmitter hunts. It's embarrassing to say that a lot of the wonderful prizes donated by Madison Electronics are winding up in the same ham shacks every month or so. It's great that we do have some excellent hunters, but when even "Ole Sparkgap" can get to the rabbit, it's a sure sign that it ain't so tough to find! We have numerous designs for DF antennas, none of which are more than a short evening's work to make. So get your feet wet and let's deprive such as WB5SUR and N5KV of some of Madison Electronics goodies!

See ya at the next hunt?

73, Sparky W5UBD

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Kenwood service manuals and all line accessories available.

SOME LAWS OTHER THAN MURPHY'S

Bob Spradling W5UBD

COLE'S LAW -- Thinly sliced cabbage.

PERSIG'S POSTULATE -- The number of rational hypotheses that can explain any given phenomenon is infinite.

PARKER'S AXIOM -- The sum of the intelligence on the planet is a constant; the population is growing.

FIRST LAW OF SOCIO-GENETICS -- Celibacy is not hereditary.

BECKHAP'S LAW -- Beauty times brains is a constant.

BARTH'S DISTINCTION -- There are two types of people: Those who divide people into two types and those who don't.

PAUL'S LAW -- You can't fall off on the floor.

OSBORN'S LAW -- Variables won't; Constants aren't.

COROLLARY -- In simple cases presenting one obvious right way and one obvious wrong way, it is often wiser to choose the wrong way so as to expedite subsequent revision.

ROSTER -- In the May, 1981 BULLETIN, one of the Roster changes listed was a new address for Jay Maynard K5ZC. Jay tells us the apartment number shown therein is incorrect -- it should be # 1707. Lo Siento, Jay.

NET CONTROL OPERATOR SCHEDULE, AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

8/3	N5HF	8/17	WD5HEH	8/31	WB5SUR	9/14	N/HF	9/28	WD5HEH
8/10	WD5CTQ	8/24	WA5OEN	9/1	W5UBD	9/21	WD5CTQ		

B-VARC and FIELD DAY 1981

Henry Freedenberg N5HF

Brazos Valley hams participated in a joint venture with hams from the Stafford TI hams during Field Day exercises at the Ft. Bend County Fairgrounds in Rosemberg on June 27 and 28. Approximately thirty hams from the two groups participated. At our busiest, we had seven HF and VHF positions operating simultaneously.

This exercise was significant in that it marked the first time that B-VARC members had participated with those from another club in an activity of this sort.

We are planning an extensive review of Field Day activities and a discussion of our options for next year at our next Club meeting.

ARRL MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

With the increase in ARRL dues effective July 1, 1981, the Club got an increase in its take for renewals and new memberships handled through the Club. Call Club Treasurer Steve Gottlieb WA5OEN for details.

WE SOLICIT ARTICLES FOR QST MAGAZINE

Doug DeMaw W1FB
Senior ARRL Technical Director

QST is not just a radio magazine. It is the official journal of the ARRL, and you, the League member, are The ARRL. Therefore, QST is yours to use in sharing your technical knowledge and skills with radio amateurs the world over.

Since the League was founded, radio amateurs have contributed technical articles that described projects they built for use in their ham stations. Other amateurs were aided greatly by the published information, and frequently duplicated the designs that were carried in QST. Wouldn't you like to experience the pride that goes with having an article appear under your byline in QST? If so, perhaps now is the time to write up that latest project of yours and submit it to our editorial staff! This could be the subject for discussion at the next club meeting, or you may want to talk it over with your colleagues while on the air.

What? You're not a writer?

ARTICLES FOR QST (Cont.)

You don't have to be a skilled writer to have an article accepted for publication in QST. That's why we have a trained editorial staff! We have prepared many excellent articles from handwritten letters, notes, and diagrams. Some have actually won the QST Cover Plaque Award! So, please don't be bashful if you have an idea you'd like to share with others through the pages of QST. We'll even do the photography for you if you're willing to send your project to us for a few days.

What are timely topics?

We're looking for articles that describe projects of general reader appeal. This covers a range from 160-meter transmitters to microwave systems. Transmitters, receivers, converters, unique antennas, station accessories (other than keyers), amateur test equipment, and homemade operating desks are fair game.

A QST author's guide is available on request. Please consider becoming a QST author. Contact me by phone or letter if you desire additional information about submitting an article for publication.

VY 73,

/s/ Doug

Ed. Note -- For all you DXers, here's an item from the current ARRL Radio Club News that seems to open up a new way to save DX QSL postage.

ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau Offers New Service To ARRL-Affiliated Clubs

Since the inception of the ARRL Outgoing QSL Bureau, affiliated clubs have been able to utilize the service when submitting Club QSLs simply by indicating the club name. Now affiliated clubs and their members may earn even greater savings by "pooling" the QSL cards of individual members for mailing to ARRL Hq. Each club member utilizing this service must also be a League member. The current fee for using the Bureau is \$1.00 per pound of cards or portion thereof (there are approximately 155 cards in a pound). If ten ARRL members used the Bureau, each submitting under a pound of cards, the total fee is \$10.00. But it is likely that the cards of the ten persons, taken together, do not weigh the full ten pounds. "Pooling" would effect a savings.

Here is how it works. If 25 of your members wish to send cards to the Outgoing QSL Bureau during a particular month, and each has less than a pound of cards, the fee would be \$1.00 each, or \$25.00, if each member sent his or her cards in individually. Each member would have to pay postage, also. Alternatively, these club members who are League members also, can send their cards through the club, and the club would pay a fee based on the total weight of the cards (which no doubt would be considerably less than \$25.00). The club would then charge each member on a pro rata basis, or reimburse itself from club dues, or whatever it chooses. Cards should be sorted "en masse" by prefix, and QST labels enclosed for each ARRL member sending cards.

Outgoing QSL Bureau Offers New Service (Cont.)

ARRL Hq. is able to offer this discount as a benefit to affiliated clubs because it reduces the amount of time spent opening mail and sorting QSL cards by the QSL Bureau.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

DAFFYNITION -- "Technology".....that which has developed a 3¢ soda can, which, when discarded, will last forever, and a \$15,000 car which, when cared for, will rust out in 2 years.

-- The W5YI REPORT

B-VARC BULLETIN
7401 Heilig
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