

B-VARC BULLETIN

The Monthly Publication of the
BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Serving Fort Bend and Harris Counties

Editor-in-Chief: Irv Smith, KB5EXM 437-4803
Production Manager: Roland Torres, KB5EQH 933-4143

About the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club . . .

Organized in 1977, the club has been growing steadily. It is a gathering place for HAM radio operators in Fort Bend and Southwest Harris Counties, and surrounding communities. It is a general-purpose type of HAM club offering a variety of activities open to all interested persons. Membership is open, not only to licensed HAM operators, but also to anyone interested in the hobby. In addition to regularly-scheduled membership meetings, the club each year conducts classes leading to amateur radio licenses, and each month sponsors a volunteer-examiner team which offers examinations in all levels of HAM licenses.

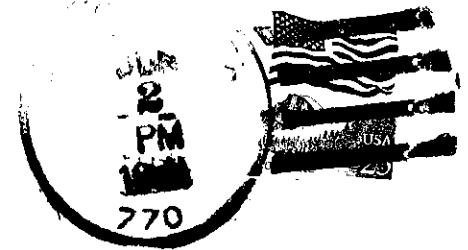
For information about the club and any of its activities, please call Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG, (713) 777-3345.

Volume: 12 Issue: 6

June 1989

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

From: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 1630
Missouri City, TX 77459
Telephone: (713) 777-3345



B-VARC Meeting Schedule

Thursday, June 8	General Meeting
7:30 pm	Missouri City Fire Station
	(Meet at Hitching Rail for BBQ @ 6:30)
	Program: Field Day Planning
Saturday, June 24	Field Day
Sunday, June 25	Bear Creek Park
Thursday, July 6	Board Meeting
7:30 pm	Missouri City Fire Station

Stu Lamkin WB5IGG
7401 Heilig
Houston, Tx 77074

B-VARC CALENDAR: JUNE 1989

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>NOTE: Nets meet weekly (even if not shown)</p> <p>V.E. EXAM INFORMATION STU (MSBQW), 777-3395</p>	<p>FUTURE MEETINGS: JULY 6: BOARD MEETING JULY 13: GENERAL MEETINGS</p>	<p>FUTURE B-VARC & PUBLIC-SERVICE EVENTS: JUNE 24-25: FIELD DAY BEAR CREEK PARK HERB (MSBQW)</p>				
<p>W/ HOUSTON RACES 2000 hrs 146.66</p> <p>APRIL 75-YR NAT'L JUBILEE ARLINGTON HARBEST</p>	<p>APRES B-VARC NET 2000 hrs 147.30 149.47</p>	<p>10 X SHOT 2000hrs 28.488</p> <p>AMSAT 2200 hrs 149.45</p>	<p>B-VARC RAG-CREW 2030 hrs 3.960 (Up 3 hrs, see # busy)</p> <p>C.W. CODE PRACTICE 2030 hrs 147.32</p>	<p>B-VARC GENERAL MEETING 1950 hrs M.C. FIRE STATION #1 (REV MAP 570-T)</p>	<p>LUNCH BUNCH 1130 hrs: LOCAL VARS (CHECK IN: 442.5 OR 443.15)</p>	<p>C.W. B-VARC BREAKFAST 2030 hr 0730 hrs DENNY'S 147.32 SHARPSHOWN</p>
<p>W/ HOUSTON RACES 2000 hrs 146.66</p>	<p>APRES B-VARC NET 2000 hrs 147.30 149.47</p>	<p>10 X SHOT 2000hrs 28.488</p> <p>AMSAT 2200 hrs 149.45</p>	<p>B-VARC RAG-CREW 2030 hrs 3.960 (Up 3 hrs, see # busy)</p> <p>C.W. CODE PRACTICE 2030 hrs 147.32</p>	<p>OPTIONAL BBQ @ 1800 hrs HATCHING RAIL: STAFFORD</p>	<p>LUNCH BUNCH 1130 hrs: LOCAL VARS (CHECK IN: 442.5 OR 443.15)</p>	<p>C.W. B-VARC BREAKFAST 2030 hr 0730 hrs DENNY'S 147.32 SHARPSHOWN</p>
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B-VARC WINTER '89 NOVICE LICENSE COURSE

by: Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG

B-VARC's Winter '89 Novice License course has had its last weekly meeting. The instructor staff, consisting of Gerry Borg (N5APW), Glenn Edwards (WB4LZG), Ray Dillard (WA5F), Steve Gottlieb (WA5OEN) and Lee Shull (KA5WJB), ably assisted by Susan Edwards (KB5ICO), had 13 students waiting for call signs, 4 of whom are waiting for their Tech tickets as of May 13th.

Quite a few other students are almost there, and the instructors have set up an Elmer Pool composed of members who will be available to any of the students to help them get ready for the Novice exams. If you'd like to be a member of this pool of Elmers or would like any information about it, call Susan (KB5ICO) at 498-1725.

As of May 13, those waiting for their new ham tickets are:

For Technician - Lawrence Cox	For Novice - Lois Andrews
Mark Jud	Benny Bludworth
Charles Kirkling	William Chow
Dick Kruse	Bradley Jacobs
Randy Reimers	Kirby Lyde
	Matt Parker
	Claire Rogers
	Syd Ulvick

And, B-VARC has the following new members from the students enrolled in this Novice Course:

Lois Andrews	Lawrence Cox
Mark Jud	Tim Kesterson
Rick Smith	Carol Copeland
Greg Foster	Gary Steuernagel

And ... There'll be another B-VARC Novice License course which will have its first meeting in September. More about that later!

VOLUNTEER EXAM SESSIONS - JUNE & JULY 1989

Following are Radio Amateur license examination sessions scheduled for this area during the next two months, according to ARRL/VEC. In addition to the Houston Metro area, those scheduled within a radius of 200 miles are included because we have started receiving inquiries about such when none are scheduled in the Houston vicinity. The listing information include A. Sponsoring group, B. Date and location of sessions, and C. Name and phone number of person to contact for detailed information.

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1.A. Brazosport ARC | 4.A. Omik AR |
| B. July 1 in Clute TX | B. July 15 in New Orleans LA |
| C. Paul Webb, 409-265-6439 | C. Vanue Lacour, 504-355-7554 |
| 2.A. Brazos Valley ARC | 5.A. San Antonio RC |
| B. June 13 & July 11 in Houston TX | B. July 1 in San Antonio |
| C. Stu Lamkin, 713-777-3345 | C. William Davis, 512-735-1622 |
| 3.A. Golden Triangle Exam. Comm. | 6.A Sam Houston ARK |
| B. June 10 in Beaumont TX | B. July 10 in Houston TX |
| C. Harold Bartlett, 409-898-1350 | C. Sam Neal, 713-592-2257 |
-

RESULTS OF THE MAY 9TH EXAM:

by: Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, May 9, 1989 at Strake Jesuit in Houston.

The V.E. Team and Assistants:

Randy Follard, AK5G
Greg Smith, KB5PE
Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG
Irene Gordon, N5AYX
Hy Gordon, NCSA
Arvin Gardner, AA5GV
Harold Parker, ND5F

A total of thirty-seven (37) exams were administered during the evening to twenty-two (22) applicants. Two (2) candidates received their new Novice License and thirteen (13) upgraded their licenses with a total of twenty (20) elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was fifty-four (54%) percent.

Congratulations to all the following who upgraded and passed exams:

James Arnold, KB5HJZ - Technician
Lawrence Cox - Technician
Julius Danziger, N5NVV - General
George Hickox, KB5JIZ - Technician
Lawrence Homer - Novice
Mont Hoyt, KB5HWW - Advanced
Mark Jud - Technician
Charles Kirkling - Technician
Dick Kruse - Technician
Gary Lashewich, KB5IRT - Technician
Glen Lewis - Element 2
Jack Long, WB5GGY - Extra
Maria O'Neal - Element 2
Malcolm Philips, KA5SKC - Technician
Sydney Ulvick - Technician
Norvel White, KB5IQD - General
George Willenbrock - Novice

Many thanks to all the Team Members and Assistants who volunteer their time and efforts each month.

All of us at B-VARC again thank Vincent, WA5ETS, and everyone at Strake Jesuit, for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

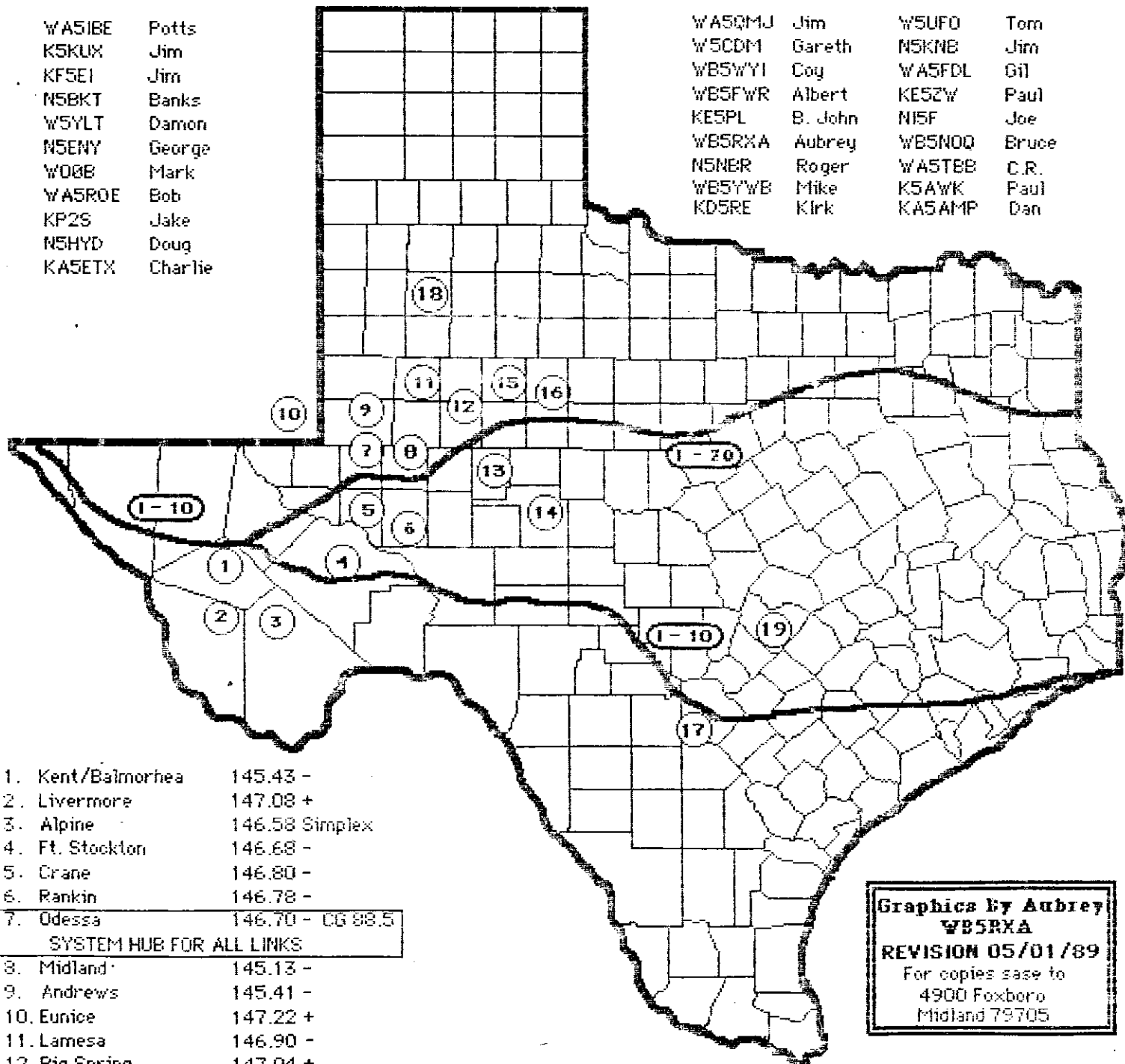
The Best Texas Connection

--- Control Operators ---

WA5IBE Potts
 K5KUX Jim
 KF5EI Jim
 N5BKT Banks
 W5YLT Damon
 N5ENY George
 W08B Mark
 WA5ROE Bob
 KP2S Jake
 N5HYD Doug
 KA5ETX Charlie

----- Owners -----

WA5QMJ Jim W5UFO Tom
 W5CDM Gareth N5KNB Jim
 W5WYI Coy WA5FDL Gil
 W5FWR Albert KE5ZY Paul
 KE5PL B. John N1SF Joe
 W5RXA Aubrey W5NOQ Bruce
 N5NBR Roger WA5TB C.R.
 W5YWB Mike K5AWK Paul
 KD5RE Kirk KA5AMP Dan



- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Kent/Balmorhea | 145.43 - |
| 2. Livermore | 147.08 + |
| 3. Alpine | 146.58 Simplex |
| 4. Ft. Stockton | 146.68 - |
| 5. Crane | 146.80 - |
| 6. Rankin | 146.78 - |
| 7. Odessa | 146.70 - CG 88.5 |
| SYSTEM HUB FOR ALL LINKS | |
| 8. Midland | 145.13 - |
| 9. Andrews | 145.41 - |
| 10. Eunice | 147.22 + |
| 11. Lamesa | 146.90 - |
| 12. Big Spring | 147.04 + |
| 13. Sterling City | 146.64 - |
| 14. San Angelo | 146.88 - (DTMF callup) |
| 15. Snyder | 146.86 - |
| 16. Sweetwater | 147.12 + |
| 17. San Antonio | 147.38 Simplex CG 88.5 |
| 18. Lubbock | 147.20 + (444.975 +) |
| 19. Austin | 147.54 Simplex |

Graphics by Aubrey
 W5RXA
 REVISION 05/01/89
 For copies case to
 4900 Foxboro
 Midland 79705

This system is utilized by the
 National Weather Service and
 Amateur Radio Sky Warn Spotters
 during severe weather.

ATTENDANCE ROSTER

BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
1989 ACTIVITY ROSTER
compiled by Allen Mattis NSAFV

B-VARC GENERAL MEETINGS		M	A	M
		A	P	A
		R	R	Y
KF 5 VZ	BRENSON ABBOTT	X	X	X
AA 5 JW	CARL ALBRECHT		X	X
W 5 RNK	JIM ARNOLD			X
	SHIRLEY ARNOLD			X
KA 5 GYG	RON BOLDYARD		X	
N 5 APW	GERRY BORG	X	X	X
	LAURA BORG		X	
	OWEN CANTRELL	X		
WA 5 ACF	TOM CASEY			X
KB 5 DNT	RALPH CHEEK	X	X	
WB 5 YDN	BILL CLARKE	X		
WD 5 L	RICK COVERT	X		X
	LAWRENCE COX	X	X	X
N 5 LYB	FRED CREEL			X
N 5 KXU	BILL DESSENS	X	X	X
KG 5 JT	MARK DESSENS			X
WA 5 F	RAY DILLARD	X	X	X
	ALICIA DYER	X		
AA 5 GA	DAVE DYER	X	X	
KB 5 GUY	DEBORAH DYER	X		
N 5 LGS	KARLA DYER	X	X	
WB 4 LZG	GLENN EDWARDS	X	X	
	MELANIE EDWARDS	X	X	
KB 5 ICO	SUSAN EDWARDS	X	X	
N 5 LRC	DOUGLAS EGGLESTON		X	
KB 5 IQP	GREG FOSTER	X	X	X
WA 5 OEN	STEVE GOTTLIEB	X	X	
N 5 LXE	CINDY HAMMER			X
WJ 5 B	DAVE HAMMER		X	X
W 5 VWX	ED HARWELL			X
ND 5 E	GEORGE JOLLY		X	X
KA 5 WHK	KATHY JOLLY	X	X	X
KG 5 CB	BILL KEMP		X	
KB 5 BAY	SUZANNE KING	X	X	
	DICK KRUSE	X	X	X
N 5 NTP	JOHN LAMBUTH	X	X	
WB 5 IGG	STU LAMKIN		X	X
KB 5 EYK	DAVE LANCE	X		
KB 5 EST	LEE LANCE	X		
	STEPHEN LEE		X	
X 5 LTW	GREG LEFEBVRE	X	X	X
N 5 AFV	AL MATTIS	X		X
KA 5 YSL	RICK MEYER	X		
N 5 GZW	HERB NANCE	X	X	X
KA 5 BZM	ALFREDO NAVARRO	X		
	JORDAN NOVELLI			X
WA 5 ETS	VINCENT ORLANDO	X	X	X
KB 5 AKS	LARRY OVERACKER	X	X	X
	MARIA O'NEAL	X		
	SHANE O'NEAL	X		
ND 5 F	HAROLD PARKER	X	X	X
AK 5 G	RANDY POLLARD	X	X	X
KG 5 KV	CHARLES PROCHASKA	X	X	X
N 5 KWO /A	RANDY PUGH		X	
N 5 MXC	HUB RATLIFF	X		
N 5 NAS	VICK RICHARD	X	X	
N 5 JKD	ROBERT RICKETTS		X	X
AA 5 BD	JOE ROSS		X	
N 5 ECP	JEFF SALMONS	X		X
KA 5 TUQ	DON SCHEXNAIEDER			X
KB 5 EXM	IRV SMITH	X	X	X
	RICK SMITH	X		
KA 5 ZYP	GLENN SPARKS	X		
KA 5 SLG	DAVID TAYLOR	X	X	X
KB 5 ION	MELVIN THATCHER	X	X	X
N 5 MPN	BILL TODD-BROWN	X	X	X
KB 5 EQH	ROLAND TORRES			X
	GARY TUCKER	X	X	X
WN 5 A	JACK VAN DEMARK		X	X
N 5 NVW	WAYLAN WAITS	X		
TOTAL		47	43	39

A. HOUSTON TENNECO MARATHON	B. CHALLENGER CUP 5K
C. FINE ARTS 5K	D. MOTHER HUBBARD 5K
E. CONOCO RODEG RUN 10K	F. WOMEN'S HOSPITAL 5K
G. AZALEA RUN 5K	H. HULL AIR SHOW
I. MS-150 BIKE TOUR	J. MAGIC CIRCLE 10K
K. ALA CLEAN AIR BIKE RIDE	

Abbott, Brenson	KFSVZ	E, I
Albrecht, Carl	AASJW	H, I
Borg, Gerry	NSAPW	A, B, C, E, G, H, I
Cheek, Ralph	KBSDNT	A, C, D, E, G, H, I, J, K
Dessens, Bill	NSKYU	C, G, H
Dilliard, Ray	WASF	A, C, E, F, G, H, I, J, K
Dyer, Alicia		I
Dyer, Dave	AA5GA	A, C, E, F, I
Dyer, Debbie	KBS6UY	A, C, I
Dyer, Karla	NSLGS	A, C, E, F, I
Edwards, Glenn	WB4LZG	A, C, D, E, H, I, K
Edwards, Melanie		A, C, D
Edwards, Susan	KBSICD	A, C, D, F, H, I, K
Eilers, Wade	WNSTEN	I
Foster, Greg	KBSIQP	H
Gottlieb, Steve	WASOEN	H
Haamer, Cindy	NSLXE	I
Haamer, Dave	WJSB	I
Harris, Ron	NSMKQ	E, H
King, Suzanne	KBSBAY	A, C, D, E, F, G, H, I
Lamkin, Stu	WB5IGG	A
Lance, Dave	KBSEST	C, E, H, I
Lance, Lee	KBSEST	H
Mattis, Allen	NSAFV	B, C, E, F, H
Morrison, Henry	WSRIY	A, C, D, E, I
Nance, Herb	NS6ZM	H, I
Parker, Harold	NDSF	A, E, F, G, H, I, J
Pollard, Randy	AK5G	C, H, J
Prochaska, Charles	K6SKV	F
Ricketts, Robert	NSJKD	I
Smith, Irv	KB5EXM	E, I
Van Demark, Jack	WNSA	D, F, H, I, J
Warden, Mike	WB3HZP	A, E

PLEASE REPORT CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO NSAFV

B-VARC RAG CHEW NET CHECK-INS
3.960 MHZ 8:30PM WEDNESDAY
compiled by Allen Mattis NSAFV

APRIL 26, 1989

WNSA NCS, KBSDNT, NSHPN, NSKWO/AA, KBSICD,
WB4LZG, KASDUU, NSNTP, WA5ETS, KESRU

MAY 3, 1989

NSAFV NCS, KBSDNT, WNSA, N5ECP, K6SKV,
NSMPN, NSAPW, WB5IGG, WSRNK, NSKWO/AA

MAY 10, 1989

NSAFV NCS, KBSDNT/H, NSKWO/AA, WNSA, NSNTP,
NSMPN, WSRNK, N5ECP, AK5G

MAY 17, 1989

NSAFV NCS, N5ECP, KBSDNT, WNSA, NSKYU
(SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS)

Field Day Rules

1) **Eligibility:** Field Day is open competitively to all amateurs in the ARRL/CRRL Field Organization (plus Yukon and NWT). Foreign stations may be contacted for credit but are not eligible to compete.

2) **Object:** To work as many stations as possible on any or all amateur bands (except 10 MHz) and, in doing so, learn to operate in abnormal situations under less-than-optimum conditions. A premium is placed on skills and equipment developed to meet the challenge of emergency preparedness and to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio.

3) **Dates:** June 24-25, 1989.

4) **Field Day Period:** From 1800 UTC Saturday until 2100 UTC Sunday. Class A and Class B (see below) stations who do not begin setting up until 1800 UTC Saturday may operate the entire Field Day period of 27 hours. Others must begin their setup no earlier than 1800 UTC Friday and may operate no more than 24 consecutive hours; ie, once on-the-air Field Day operation has started, it must end 24 hours from that point.

5) **Entry Categories:** Field Day entries are classified according to the maximum number of simultaneous transmitted signals, followed by the designation of the nature of the individual or group participation. Below 30 MHz, once a transmitter is used for a contact on a band, it must remain on that band for at least 15 minutes. During this 15-minute period, the transmitter is considered to be transmitting a signal, whether it is or not, for purpose of determining transmitter class. Switching devices prohibited.

(Class A) Club/nonclub portable: Club groups (or nonclub groups with three or more licensed amateurs) set up specifically for Field Day. Such stations must be located in places that are not regular station locations, and must use no facilities installed for permanent station use, nor any structures installed permanently for Field Day use. Stations must be operated under one call sign (except when the Novice/Technician position is used) and under the control of a single licensee or trustee for each entry. All equipment (including antennas) must lie within a circle whose diameter does not exceed 300 meters (1000 feet). All contacts must be made with transmitter(s) and receiver(s) operating independent of commercial mains. Entrants who, for one reason or another, operate a transmitter or receiver from commercial mains for one or more contacts will be listed separately at the end of their class.

Any Class A group whose entry classification is two or more transmitters (non-Novice) may also use one Novice/Technician operating position (Novice bands only) without changing its basic entry classification. For Field Day purposes only, any Canadian "Amateur" licensee, who has been licensed for less than six months prior to Field Day, shall be considered a "Novice" to provide a means for Canadian Field Day Class A stations with two or more transmitters to participate with a "Novice/Technician" operating position. This "Canadian Novice station" is restricted to the US Novice sub-bands and power/mode restrictions. The Novice/Tech-

Send for Your Field Day Package

Send to HQ a 9- x 12-inch self-addressed envelope with 4 units of First Class US postage or 4 IRCs for the official Field Day Entry Package. This package includes 1 publicity kit, 1 Field Day summary sheet, 1 large dupe sheet with instructions and a check list to ensure that your entry is complete. If you require more dupe sheets, indicate so in your request and affix 1 unit of additional First Class postage to your SASE for each two additional dupe sheets requested.

nician station (including antennas) should be set up and operated by Novice and Technician licensees and should use the call sign of one of the Novice/Technician operators.

(Class A—Battery) Club/nonclub portable: Club groups (or nonclub groups with three or more licensed amateurs) set up specifically for Field Day and all contacts are made using an output power of 5 W or less and the power source is other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator (eg, batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators). Other provisions are the same as for class A.

(Class B) One- or two-person portable: Nonclub stations set up and operated by not more than two licensed amateurs will be placed in Class B. Other provisions are the same as for Class A. One- and two-person Class B entries will be listed separately in the results.

(Class B—Battery) One- or two-person portable: Nonclub stations set up and operated by not more than two licensed amateurs and all contacts are made using an output power of 5 W or less and the power source is other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator (eg, batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators). Other provisions are the same as for Class A. One- and two-person Class B—Battery entries will be listed separately in the results.

(Class C) Mobile: Stations in vehicles capable of operating while in motion and normally operated in this manner, including antenna. This includes maritime and aeronautical mobiles.

(Class D) Home stations: Stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D

W1AW Field Day Bulletin Schedule

In addition to the regular schedule detailed on page 90 of April QST, extra CW bulletins will be run at 1400 UTC (10 AM EDT), and extra phone bulletins at 1500 UTC (11 AM EDT) both Saturday and Sunday mornings.

stations may count contacts only with Class A, B, C and E Field Day groups for points.

(Class E) Home stations—emergency power: Same as Class D, but using emergency power for transmitters and receivers. Work stations in Class A, B, C, D and E.

6) **Exchange:** Stations in any ARRL/CRRL Section will exchange their Field Day operating class and ARRL/CRRL Section. For example, if your club group was planning to operate in the three-transmitter, Class A category from Missouri, you would send 3 A MISSOURI. Foreign stations send RS(T) and QTH.

7) **Miscellaneous Rules:**

A) Operators participating in Field Day may not, from any other station, contact for point credit the Field Day portable station of a group with which they participated.

B) A station used to contact one or more Field Day stations may not subsequently be used under any other call during the Field Day period. Family stations are exempted.

C) Each phone and each CW segment is considered as a separate band. All voice communication contacts are equivalent, and packet/RTTY/ASCII/AMTOR is counted as CW. A station may be worked once on each band. Crossband contacts are not allowed. The use of more than one transmitter at the same time in a single band is prohibited, except that a Novice/Technician position may operate on any Novice band segment at any time. No repeater contacts.

8) **Scoring:** Scores are based on the number of valid contact points times the multiplier corresponding to the highest power used at any time during the Field Day period, plus bonus points. Phone contacts count one point each, and CW contacts count two points each. Power multipliers: If all contacts are made using an output power of 5 W or less and if a power source other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator is used (eg, batteries, solar cells, water-driven generators), multiply by 5. If any or all contacts are made using an output power of 150 W or less, multiply by 2. Multiply by 1 if any or all contacts are made using an output power over 150 watts. Batteries may be charged while in use for Class C entries only. For other classes, batteries charged during the Field Day period must be charged from a power source independent of the commercial mains.

A) **Bonus points:** The following bonus points will be added to the score (after the multiplier is applied) to determine the final score. Only Class A and B stations are eligible for bonuses. Just check the box on the Field Day summary sheet to indicate that you qualify for the bonus, and attach the necessary proof.

1) **100% emergency power:** 100 points per transmitter for 100% emergency power. All equipment and facilities at the Field Day site must be operated from a source independent of the commercial mains. Example: A club operating 3A, using 100% emergency power, may claim 300 bonus points.

2) **Public relations**

A) 100 points for media publicity. Publicity must be obtained or a bona fide attempt to obtain publicity must be made.

Evidence must be submitted in the form of a newspaper clipping, a memo from a BC/TV station stating that publicity was given or a copy of the material that was sent to the news media for publicity purposes.

B) 100 points for physically locating in a public place (eg shopping center, parks, etc) with significant access by the public. The intent here is for Amateur Radio to be on display to the public.

C) An additional 100 points can be earned by such display stations in public places actively conducting an information booth for the visiting public and dispensing information handouts, maintaining visitor's log, etc, as an information/recruiting tool for Amateur Radio. Evidence submitted for both (B) and (C) may consist of copies of handouts, visitor's log, brief report on activities conducted, photos, etc.

3) *Message origination*: 100 points for origination of a message by the club president or other Field Day leader, addressed to the SM or SEC, stating the club name (or nonclub group), number of operators, field location and number of ARES members participating. The message must be transmitted during the Field Day period, and a fully serviced copy of it must be in standard ARRL message form or no credit will be given.

4) *Message relay*: 10 points for each message received and relayed during the Field

Day period, up to a maximum of 100 points. Copies of each message, properly serviced, must be included with the Field Day report.

5) *Satellite QSO*: 100 points can be earned by completing at least one QSO via satellite during the Field Day period. The repeater provision of Rule 7C is waived for satellite QSOs. A satellite station does not count as an additional transmitter. On the summary sheet, show satellite QSOs as a separate "band."

6) *Natural Power*: Field Day groups making a minimum of five QSOs without using power from commercial mains or petroleum derivatives can earn 100 points. Intuitively, this means an "alternate" energy source of power such as solar, wind, methane or grain alcohol. This includes batteries charged by natural means (not dry cells). The natural-power station counts as an additional transmitter. If you do not wish to change your entry class, take one of your other transmitters off the air while making the natural-power QSOs. A separate list of natural-power QSOs should be enclosed with your entry.

7) *WIAW message*: A bonus of 100 points will be earned by copying a special ARRL Field Day bulletin sent over WIAW on its regularly announced frequencies just before and during Field Day. This message can be received directly from WIAW or by any relay method. An accurate copy of the received message should be included in your

Field Day report.

8) *Packet radio*: 100 points can be earned by completing at least one QSO on packet radio during the Field Day period. The repeater provision of Rule 7C is waived for packet-radio QSOs. A packet station does not count as an additional transmitter. On the summary sheet, show packet radio QSOs as a separate "band."

9) *Reporting*: Entries must be postmarked by July 25, 1989. No late entries can be accepted. A complete entry consists of an official ARRL summary sheet (or reasonable facsimile) and a list of stations worked on each band/mode during Field Day, plus bonus proof. The list of stations worked on each band or mode may take the form of official ARRL dupe sheets or an alphanumeric listing of call signs worked per band and mode. This list may be computer-generated. Incomplete or illegible entries will be classified as checklogs. A copy of Field Day logs should be kept by your Field Day group but should not be sent in unless specifically requested later by ARRL.

10) *Condition of Entry*: Each entrant agrees to be bound by the provisions, as well as the intent, of this announcement, the regulations of his or her licensing authority and the decisions of the ARRL Awards Committee.

11) *Disqualifications*: See January 1989 QST, page 104. G5+

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

As of this writing, the Field Day site has been narrowed down to either Bear Creek Park or a new park in Missouri City. Tentative permission has been granted for Bear Creek, but there may be some restrictions (e.g., no alcoholic beverages). Listen on the nets for final word after the June Board Meeting, or better yet, come to the June 8th General Meeting where the main topic of discussion will be Field Day.

Everybody knows that Bear Creek Park is located southeast of Highway 6 and Clay Road, but you'll need to listen anyway to see which pavilion we will be using. Try talking in on 145.47 or 442.5.

If it turns out to be in Missouri City, the park is at the end of Glenn Lakes street... Glenn Lakes (also spelled as one word, and/or with one "n" and/or with no "s") goes east from Highway 6, starting one block in the Galveston direction from where Highway 1092 (Wilcrest) dead ends into Highway 6. Key Map is 610-K. An advantage of this site is that WJ5B can keep an eye on his tower all night long!

Speaking of Key Maps, one now is available covering all of Fort Bend County and much of the surrounding counties' territory.

Special thanks to Bill Walker Royalton District Manager of Warner Cable, for donating the use of their copier and supplies for printing the newsletter.



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340-

17 JAN 1989

U-1421/VP-PW

Editor, Auto-Call
Box 7612
Falls Church, VA 22046

Dear Sir:

I am the Chief of the Defense Intelligence Agency Special Office for Prisoners of War and Missing in Action; I am also K4FPT. My office is responsible for collecting and analyzing information that possibly relates to Americans who remain unaccounted for in Southeast Asia. While some of the information we collect is generally accurate and some is helpful to U.S. Government efforts to account for our missing men, from time to time we encounter bogus information. Sadly, bogus information often receives greater attention than valid information.

I am writing this letter to alert the U.S. amateur radio community to an incident that occurred in October 1988 and to describe the outcome of that incident.

On 4 October, two U.S. amateurs -- in North Carolina and in Ohio -- monitored a 10-meter CW transmission. The sender claimed to be one of "700 U.S. Marines" being held prisoner near Hanoi and used the name "John Gefton." This transmission included several SOS calls and pleaded for anyone receiving the transmission to notify U.S. officials. The amateur in North Carolina tape-recorded a portion of the transmission. Both U.S. amateurs noted that the transmission had a very rough, chirpy note.

On 6 October, the North Carolina amateur monitored what he believed to be the same transmitter on almost the same frequency. At that time, the station was signing a Swiss call sign, was in contact with Canadian and U.S. stations and indicated that he was located near Geneva. In checking the call book, the U.S. amateur noted that no such call sign appeared in the Swiss listings. He notified the FCC, who monitored the transmissions and conducted direction finding. Also, the North Carolina amateur tape-recorded most of the 6 October transmission.

Analysts in my office interviewed both of the U.S. amateurs and spoke with the FCC Monitoring and Enforcement Division. In the first place, there are not "700 Marines" still missing in Southeast Asia. Fewer than 300 Marines are unaccounted for. Secondly, there is no one missing with the name "John Gefton" or any reasonable variation thereof.

Most important, however, is the technical evidence analyzed by the FCC. In comparing the 4 and 6 October tape recordings, the FCC concluded that both signals originated from the same transmitter. The FCC DF'ing located the transmitter in Europe; lines of bearing encompass Geneva. Furthermore, the lines of bearing, if extended around the globe, do not come close to Vietnam.

March 1989

ARNS Bulletin April 1989

AUTO-CALL


Thus, based on both internal and external evidence, we have concluded that the 4 October "distress" signal was a hoax, probably originating from a bootlegger in Switzerland.

I feel it is important that this information be disseminated among the U.S. amateur community for two reasons. First, I understand that some details of this caper were printed in one or more amateur newsletters, and I want to ensure that the outcome receives the same coverage as the initial report. Secondly, I want to advise U.S. amateurs of what to do if any such incident comes to their attention in the future.

If anyone should monitor any transmissions alleging knowledge of, or in any way connected with, Americans missing in Southeast Asia, please do the following:

- a. Tape record the transmission.
- b. Note frequency, time, date, type signal.
- c. Obtain a beam heading.
- d. Copy if it is a CW signal, gist if it is voice.
- e. If possible, notify nearest FCC field station and ask them to DF the signal.
- f. Notify me: Colonel Joe Schlatter, DIA Special Office for PW/MIA or one of the analysts in my office. You should telephone collect, (202) 694-4708 or (202) 695-0501. Follow up by writing: DIA, Special Office for PW/MIA, Room 2E230, The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20340-5390.
- g. Monitor on or near the same frequency for several days.

The U.S. Government is exerting every effort to obtain the fullest possible accounting for our men missing in Indochina. My office has 39 full-time intelligence professionals dedicated solely to this issue. We are assisted by teams in Southeast Asia collecting information and by the entire spectrum of U.S. intelligence and diplomatic activities. General John W. Vessey, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, serves as the President's personal POW/MIA Emissary to Vietnam and continues to have close contact with Vietnamese officials, urging them to cooperate in reaching the accounting we seek. The support for this issue from Congress, veterans, the general public and -- most importantly, the families of the missing men -- is superb. Sadly, answers to the fates of these men are not yet available to the U.S. Government. The answers lie with the Indochinese communist governments. Their cooperation recently has improved and the uncertainty of over 100 families has been ended in the past few years.



JOSEPH A. SCHLATTER
Colonel, USA
Chief, Special Office for Prisoners
of War and Missing in Action

WHAT SHOULD WEATHER SPOTTERS EXPECT TO SEE AS THEY OBSERVE A TYPICAL SEVERE THUNDERSTORM?

Weather spotters often take up positions ahead of an advancing thunderstorm or line of thunderstorms. Other spotters may report severe weather from their home or place of work. No matter where the weather spotter is located, a predictable sequence of events can be expected as a severe thunderstorm approaches and then passes overhead.

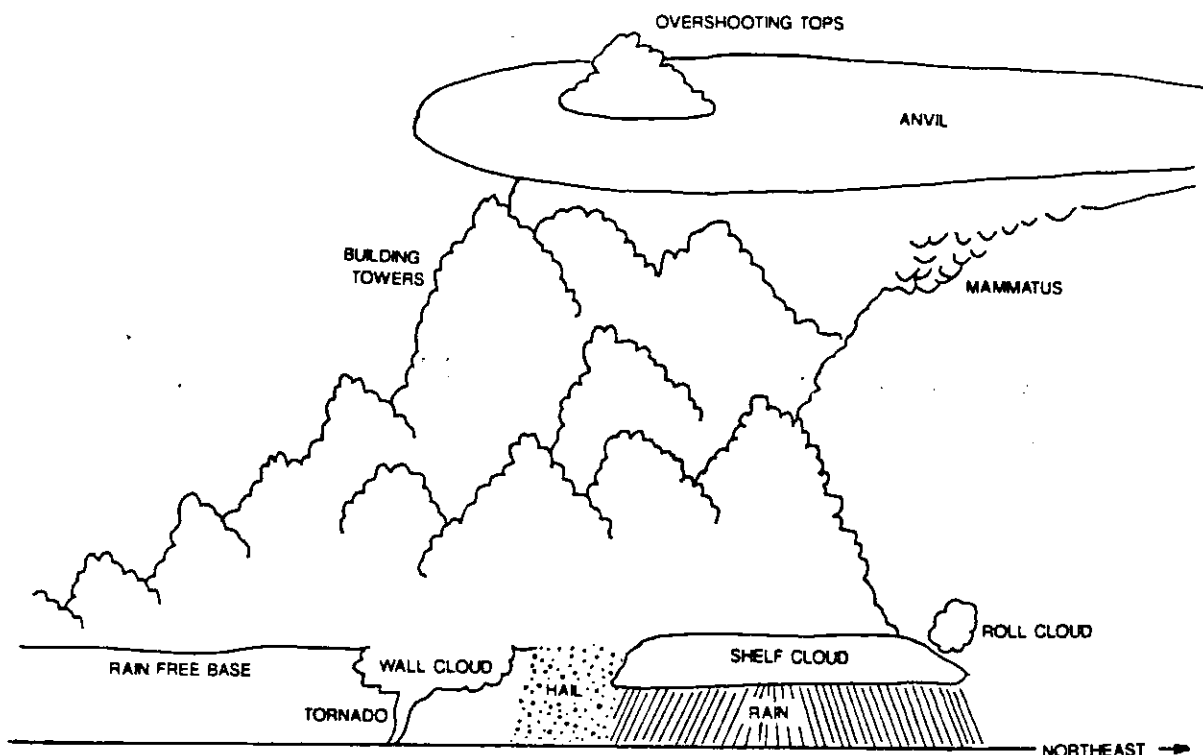
As a severe thunderstorm approaches, a shelf cloud may become visible along the gust front or leading edge of the storm. Occasionally, ragged and wispy appearing scud clouds may hang down from the shelf cloud. These scud clouds do not produce severe weather, however, they can be mistaken for funnel clouds. Very few tornadoes occur at the leading edge of a storm. Instead, straight line winds are the major threat. The winds associated with the shelf cloud can be very strong and cause damage. Weather spotters should be prepared to estimate the wind speed as the gust front passes their location. With the passage of the gust front, there is usually a drop in temperature, and commonly a wind shift also occurs. Weather spotters need to be alert at this time for the possible presence of a downburst.

After passage of the shelf cloud, it usually becomes darker. Rain begins and perhaps hail - pea size at first. Near the rear of the storm, hail may increase in both amount and size, perhaps reaching golf ball size or larger. Heavy rain may still be falling. Weather spotters should report hail size and amount, and also excessively heavy rain. Spotters should watch for the possible development of a downburst. As the heavy rain and hail begin to taper off, weather spotters need to be particularly alert. They are now in the most dangerous part of the storm, and the rain and hail may make it difficult to see an approaching tornado.

As the rain and hail end, and the rear portion of the storm passes overhead, weather spotters may have an opportunity to see any wall cloud or funnel cloud that could be present. As the storm moves away from them, the spotters may be in a particularly advantageous position to observe the dangerous right rear quadrant of the storm without having rain obscure their view. Any wall cloud with rotation, and any funnel cloud or tornado should be reported.

After the storm has passed beyond the weather spotter's position, the net control station may request that the spotter move to another location. If additional weather spotting is not needed at that time, permission may be given for the spotter to secure.

TORNADIC THUNDERSTORM



TIPS FOR WEATHER SPOTTERS

- 1) Overshooting tops are an indicator of a very strong storm.
- 2) The first gust of wind to reach you from a thunderstorm is often the strongest.
- 3) A rain free base denotes the storm's updraft area...a place to watch very closely.
- 4) Wall clouds form from the rain free base often 15 to 20 minutes before a tornado occurs.
- 5) If you are experiencing large hail, remember you are in or near the area where tornado formation is most likely in a tornadic thunderstorm. Large hail often falls just in advance of a tornado, especially large tornadoes.
- 6) The first sign of a tornado may not be a funnel at the cloud base. Your first clue may be debris or dust at the surface, so be alert to events at ground level, as well as in the clouds.
- 7) Tornadoes usually come from the south, southwest or west, and rotate counter-clockwise.
- 8) Remember, weather radar can not detect an actual tornado. However, it does detect rain and hail swirled into a characteristic hook signature in approximately 15% of all tornadoes. Only a spotter can see a tornado and its precursors - the wall cloud and funnel cloud.