## B-VARC BULLETIN

## The Monthly Publication of the BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Serving Fort Bend and Harris Counties

Editor-in-Chief:

Irv Smith, KBSEXM

437-4803

Production Manager:

Roland Torres, KBSEQH

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: 7

July 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, July 13

General Meeting

7:30 pm

Missouri City Fire Station

(Meet at Hitching Rail for BBQ @ 6:30)

Thursday, Aug. 3

**Board Meeting** 

7:30 pm

Missouri City Fire Station

Stu Lamkin WB5IGG 7401 Heilig Houston, Tx 77074

# D-VAKC CALEINDAK: JULI 1989

W HOUSTON RACES 2000 hrs 148.66	W HOUSTON RACES 2000 hrs 146.66	1 W HOUSTON RACES 2000 hrs 146.56	W HOUSTON RACES ZG00 hrs 146.66	W HOUSTON RACES 2000 hrs 145.56	SUNDAY HOUSTON AREA V.E.EXAM INFO: STU (MB51GG) 713-777-3345
30  ARES B-VARC NET 2000 hrs 2100 hrs 147.30 145.47	23  ARES B-VARCHET 2000 hrs 2100 hrs 147.30 145.47	16  ARES B-VARC NET 2000 hrs 2100 hrs 147.30 145.47	9 10  ARES B-VARC NET 2000 hrs 2100 hrs 147.30 145.47	2  ARES B-VARC NET 2000 hrs 2100 hrs 147.50 145.47	MONDAY  FUTURE MEETINGS:  AUG 3: BOARD  MEETING  AUG 10: GENERAL  MEETING
	10 X SHOT AMSAT 2000hrs 2200 hrs 28.488 145.45	7 18 10 x SHOT AMSAT 2000hrs 2200 hrs 28.488 145.45	11 10 X SHOT AMSAT 2000hrs 2200 hrs 28.488 145.45 V.E. EXAMS 1900 hrs, STRAKE JESUIT STU (WBSIGG), 777-8345	3 4 10 X SHOT AMSAT 2000hrs 2200 hrs 28.488 145.45	TUESDAY WEDNESDAY  FUTURE B-VARG & PUBLIG-SERVICE EVENTS:  SEPT 11: NOVICE GLASS STARTS  OCT. 14: ALA-200 BIKE RIDE TO SAN ANTONIO
	26 6-VARC C.W. CODE RAG-CHEW PRACTICE 2030 hrs 2030 hrs 3.960 147.32 (Up 3 Khz, etc if busy)	19 B-VARC C.W. CODE RAG-CHEW PRACTICE 2050 hrs 2050 hrs 3.950 147.92 (Up 3 Khz, etc if busy)	12 B-VARC C.W. CODE RAG-CHEW PRACTICE 2030 hrs 2030 hrs 3.960 147.92 (Up 3 Khz, etc if busy)	5 B-VARC C.W. CODE RAG-CHEW PRACTICE 2080 hrs 2090 hrs 3.960 147.32 (Up 3 Khz, etc if bury)	WEDNESDAY  RIDE TO SAN ANTONIO
	27	20	13 GENERAL MEETING 1950 hrs M.C. FIRE STATION #1 OPTIONAL BBQ @ 1800 hrs HTCHING RAIL: STAFFORD	6 BOARD MEETING 1950 hrs M.C. FIRE STATION \$1 (KEY MAP 570-T)	THURSDAY
NOTE: Nets meet weekly even if nat shown	28 SHARABLEWEARABLE CLOTHING DRIVE THROUGHOUT HARRIS COUNTY TOM (KSCNU) 7803585	21 LUNCH BUNCH 1130 hrs. LOCALE VARIES (CHECK IN: 442.5 OR 443.15)	14  LUNCH BUNCH  1130 hrs. LOCALE VARIES  (CHECK IN: 442.5 OR 443.15)	7 LUNCH BUNCH 1130 hrs. LOCALE VARIES (CHECK IN: 442.5 OR 443.15)	FRIDAY
Please send info and corrections to Irv (KB5EXM) 437–4803	29 SHARARLEWEARABLE CLOTHING DRIVE THROUGHOUT HARRIS COUNTY TOM (KSCNU) TOM (SCNU)	22 C.W. B-VARC BREAKFAST 2030 hr B730 hrs 147.32 DENNY'S (Sharpstown)	15 C.W. B-VARC BREAKFAST 2030 hr 0730 hrs DENNY'S 147.32 SHARPSTOWN	8 C.W. B-VARC BREAKFAST 2030 hr 0730 hrs DENNY'S 147.32 SHARPSTOWN	SATURDAY  1  C.W. B-VARC BREAKFAST 2030 hr 0730 hrs DENNY'S 147.32 SHARPSTOWN

## FILL IN THE BLANKS TEST

This is not a test of your mathematical ability. It will however, give you some gauge of your mental flexibility and creativity. Since the test was developed it has been found that few people can solve more than half of the problems on the first try.

<u>Instructions</u>: Each problem below contains the initials of the words that will make it a correct statement. Find the missing words. <u>Remember</u>, these represent statements, <u>not</u> mathematical equations.

Example: 16 = O in a P......Answer: Ounces in a Pound

1.	26 = L of the A
2.	7 = W of the A W
3.	1001 = A N
4.	12 = S of the Z
5.	54 = C in a D (with the J)
6.	9 = P in the S S
<b>7</b> .	88 = P K
8.	13 = S on the A F
9.	32 = D F at which W F
10.	18 = H on a G C
11.	90 = D in a R A
12.	200 = D for P G in M
13.	8 = S on a S S
14.	$3 = B M (S H T R) \dots$
15.	4 = Q in a G
16.	24 = H in a D
<b>17</b> .	1 = W on a U
18.	4 = D in a P C
	57 = H V
	11 = P on a C T
21.	1000 = W that a P is W
22.	29 = D in F in a L Y
	64 = S on a C B
	40 = D and N of the G F

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## RESULTS OF THE JUNE 13TH EXAM:

by: Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, June 13, 1989 at Strake Jesuit in Houston.

## The V.E. Team and Assistants:

Bill Kemp, KG5CB Mike Scism, WV5M Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG Irene Gordon, N5AYX Hy Gordon, NC5A Cass Germany, KG5IT Harold Parker, ND5F

A total of fifty-three (53) exams were administered during the evening to twenty (20) applicants. One (1) candidate received a new Novice License and one (1) a new Technician License. Thirteen (13) upgraded their licenses with a total of twenty-nine (29) elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was fifty-five (55%) percent.

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

David Bauer, KB5GER - Technician Miguel Chiusano, KB5JPY - Technician Chester Farley, N5MWD - Element 4A Gary Garrison, KBSHSP - General Ken Harlan, KASAK6 - Element 4A Joshua Jackson - Technician Waldemar Kieldowski, KB5IGL - Advanced Glenn Lewis - Technician Steven Lhamon - Technician Larry Moore - Novice Barbara Peat, KB56EI - General George Peat. WD5GFA - Technician Albert Pizana, WD5HQL - General Frances Rogers, KB5JMJ - Technician Ann Shearer, KB5GEQ - Technician Joseph Shearer, KB56FC - Technician Doug Tees, KB5GTB - Element 3B

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, WASETS, and everyone at Strake Jesuit, for making these excellent classroom facilities available-to us for our exams each month.

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TOTAL

43 39 47

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                                                                      BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
       B-VARC GENERAL MEETINGS
                                        Α
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                                                                            1989 ACTIVITY ROSTER
                                                                      compiled by Allen Mattis NSAFV
   KF 5 VZ
               BRENSON ABBOTT
                                    ĭ
                                        X
                                                              A, HOUSTON TENNECO MARATHON B. CHALLENGER CUP 5K
   AA 5 JW
                  CARL ALBRECHT
                                                              C.FINE ARTS 5K
                                                                                           D. MOTHER HUBBARD 5K
   KB 5 JMF
                  LOIS ANDREWS
                                            X
                                                              E.CONOCO RODEO RUN 10K
    M 5 RMK
                   JIM ARNOLD
                                                                                           F. WOMEN'S HOSPITAL 5K
                                        ĭ
                                                              G.AZALEA RUN 5K
                                                                                           H.HULL AIR SHOW
               SHIRLEY ARNOLD
                                        X
                                                              I.MS-150 BIKE TOUR
    N 5 OFD
                                                                                           J. MAGIC CIRCLE 10K
                 TERRY BAIRAINGTON
                                            X
                                                              K.ALA CLEAN AIR BIKE RIDE
   KA 5 MCP
               RUSSELL BLACK
                                                                                          L.DAD'S DASH 6K
   KA 5 6Y6
                   RON BOLYARD
                                                              Abbott, Brenson
                                                                                 KF5VZ
    N S APW
                 GERRY BORG
                                    ĭ
                                        X
                                                              Albrecht, Carl
                                                                                 AA5JN
                                                                                          H,I
                LAURA BORG
                                                              Borg, Gerry
                                                                                 N5APW
                                                                                          A, B, C, E, G, H, I
                 BETH BROWN
                                            X
                                                              Cheek, Ralph
                                                                                          A,C,D,E,6,H,I,J,K,L
   N 5 NTO
                  DOM RROWN
                                                                                 KB5DNT
                                                              Dessens, Bill
                                                                                 N5KXU
  NA 5 ACF
                  TOM CASEY
                                                                                          С, Б, Н
                                                              Dilliard, Ray
                                                                                 MASE
  KB 5 DNT
                RALPH CHEEK
                                                                                          A, C, E, F, B, H, I, J, K, L
                                                              Dyer, Alicia
  WD 5 L
                 RICK COVERT
                                                              Dyer, Dave
                                                                                 AASSA
  KB 5 JOS
                                                                                          A,C,E,F,I
             LAWRENCE COX
                                       I
                                                              Dyer, Debbie
   N 5 LYB
                                                                                 K85GUY
                                                                                          A,C,I
                 FRED CREEL
                                                              Dyer, Karla
                                                                                 N5LGS
   N 5 KXU
                 BILL DESSENS
                                                                                          A,C,E,F,1
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                                                             Edwards, Glenn
                                                                                 WB4LZG
  KG 5 JT
                 MARK DESSENS
                                                                                          A,C,D,E,H,I,K
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                                                              Edwards, Melanie
                                                                                          A,C,D
  WA 5 F
                  RAY DILLARD
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                                                              Edwards, Susan
                                                                                 KBSICO
  AA 5 GA
                                                                                          A, C, D, F, H, I, K
                 DAVE DYER
                                                             Eilers, Wade
                                                                                 WKSTEN
   N 5 L6S
                KARLA DYER
                                                             Foster, Greq
                                                                                 KB51QP
 WB 4 LZG
                GLENN EDWARDS
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              MELANIE EDWARDS
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 KB 5 ICO
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                SUSAN EDWARDS
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  N 5 LAC
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              DOUGLAS EGGLESTON
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                                                             Harris, Ron
                                                                                 N5MKO
 KB 5 10P
                GREG FOSTER
                                   X
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 WA 5 DEM
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                STEVE GOTTLIEB
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  N 5 LXE
                CINDY HAMMER
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 WJ 5 B
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                DAVE HAMMER
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  # 5 HVX
                  ED HARWELL
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NA 5 TWL
                                                                                N5AFV
                                                                                         B,C,E,F,K,L
                 JOHN HOLLIMAN
                                                             Morrison, Kenry
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                JACK JACKSON
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                                                             Nance, Herb
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 ND 5 E
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              GEORGE JOLLY
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                                                             Parker, Harold
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 KA J WAX
               KATHY JOLLY
                                      X
                                                             Pollard, Randy
                                                                                AK56
 KG 5 CB
                BILL KEMP
                                                                                         C,H,J,L
                                                             Prochaska, Charles KG5KV
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 KB 5 BAY
             SUZANNE KING
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                                                             Ricketts, Robert
                                                                                NSJKD
 KB 5 JNY
                DICK KRUSE
                                      X
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                                                             Smith, Irv
                                                                                KBSEXM
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 N 5 NTP
                JOHN LAMBUTH
                                  ĭ
                                                             Van Demark, Jack
                                                                                KNSA
 WB 5 166
                 STU LANKIN
                                                                                         D, F, H, I, J
                                      X
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 KB 5 FST
                                                            Warden, Mike
                                                                                WB3HZP
                                                                                         A,E
                 LEE LANCE
 KB E SIN
               LINDA LANCE
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             MICHAEL LANCE
                                                            PLEASE REPORT CORRECTIONS OR ADDITIONS TO MSAFY
             STEPHEN LEE
 K 5 LTW
                GREG LEFEBURE
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 N 5 AFV
                  AL MATTIS
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                DOUG McPHERSON
 N 5 GZW
               HERB NANCE
              JORDAN NOVELLI
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             VINCENT DREAMOR
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              LARRY OVERACKER
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              RANDY POLLARD
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KG 5 KV
             CHARLES PROCHASKA
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                                                                           B-VARC RAG CHEW NET CHECK-INS
K6 5 UJ
              RANDY PUGH
                                                                         3.960 MHZ 8:30PM WEDNESDAY
 N 5 NAS
               VICK RICHARD
                                 ¥
                                                                         compiled by Allen Mattis NSAFV
 N 5 JKD
             ROBERT RICKETTS
                                     ĭ
AA 5 BD
                JOE ROSS
                                                                    MAY 24, 1989
               JOHN ROSE
                                                                         NSAFY NCS, K65KV, WB51GG, KSDXV, AA5GA,
 N 5 ECP
                                                                         AK56, N5KWO/AA, WN5A, KE5SR
               JEFF SALMONS
KA 5 TUO
                DON SCHEXNATEDER
                                                                   MAY 31, 1989
                                     ĭ
KB 5 EIM
                IRV SMITH
                                                                         NSAFV NCS, NSMPN, NSECP, W85166, AKSG.
KA 5 SLG
              DAVID TAYLOR
                                                                         KB5DNT, AA5GA, N5LGS, N5NTP, WB4LZG, KB5ICD
                                     ĭ
KB 5 10N
             MELVIN THATCHER
                                     I
                                                                   JUNE 7, 1989
N 5 BPN
                                                                         NSAFV NCS, NSECP, NSNTP, AKSG, NSMPN,
               BILL TODD-BROWN
KB 5 EDH
             ROLAND TORRES
                                                                         WB5166, KB5DNT, N5KXU
N 5 DFE
              BARY TUCKER --
                                                                   JUNE 14, 1989
               JACK VAN DEMARK X
NN 5 A
                                                                        NSAFV NCS, KGSKV, NSMPN, NSNTP, WSRNK,
                                         X
WB & LSB
                BOB VERDON
                                                                         NSECP, WNSA, KFSVZ, KBSDNT, AKS6
KF 5 10
               D.C. WEISS
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Special thanks to Bill Walker Royalton District Manager of Warner Cable, for donating the use of their copier and supplies for printing the newsletter.

SHOT	CRLL		TEN-X	HAVE	ADORESS	QTH	ZIP	HOME PHONE	UORK PHOKE	LEVEL UP NR	HEADING
LO18	UQSY		10058	DAVE PAPERFIRM	3915 RENINGTON	HOUSTON IX	77088	448-0191			
L019	USGNK		45675	ALLEN GLUECK	1907 SPRUCE	BELLATRE TX	77401	668-2786		ENT 238	
L020	URSIXI	£¥	45695	"KEICH" KEICHAN	319 KETCHUM ST.	HANASOTA TX	77868	109-825-6228			
	KSLRO		45658	RICHARD LEGGETT	P. Q. BOX 419	HUFFMAN IX	77336	360-8461			
L022	KBSEYR		46539	DEREK ELKINS	16119 SPTROKER	EROSBY TX	77532	320-9388			
	KA5YFU	33	<b>11</b> 818	RICH RICHARDSON	1207 THIN BROOK DR	HOUSTON TX	77088	449-1624			
	V8510C		16572	SKIP LITTLE	11910 URLLEY VISIN CT	HOUSTON TX	77977	197-0393			
	XSLLE				R1 . Z BOX 300	ALUIN TX		585-8261			
	HELDS				610 TRANSOOD DR.	MISSOURI CITY IX					
	KBSEYP			RHDY GETZ	3134 LANUTLLE LN.	KRTY TX		578-3902			
	URSIHJ				P. O. ROX 217	PLANTERSUILLE IX			· ·		
	KBSEST			LEE LANCE	2023 SHOREWOOD	SUGARLAND TX		980-6668			
	KBSEYK			DAUTO LINCE	2023 SHOREUOOD	SUGARLAHO IX		980-6668			
	K6511			CASS GERMANY	4506 DENILU	HOUSTON TX		682-6897			
	KASGUR			TED SUMPRLIN	5317 GRAND LAKE	BELLAIRE IX		664-0198			
	SVSK	**		CHIRLIE HAGA	2190 ALFORD	itaghulla lx		259-9624			
	RASIN			JAY CHASE	9723 UTLLOUGUD	HOUSTON TX		440-5801			
	K57LP	*		ROH CLIFT	332 ST. CLOUD	FRIENDSUOOD 1X		331-1118			
	HSHAS			ULC RICHIRO	1725 CRESTORLE	HOUSTON TX		461-3331			
	HSKF1			AHDKER HOMA	2190 ALFORD	MACKOLLA IX		259-9624	•		
	KBSFZN	*		ROBERTA LORIO	15203 BEECHMUT	HOUSTON TX		498-6066			
	HSHUH HUGSH			JOHN TORTO	15203 BEECHKUT	HOUSTON 1X		490-6066			
	KASSHP	-			16314 THUNDERBRY OR.	HOUSTON TX		490-8530			
	KRZBCE	¥		KURI FURTABO	11300 REGENCY GREEN #201	CYPRESS 1X		894-5826			
	HSLYU	-		FRED CREEL	6722 ESCONDEDO	NOUSTON TX		195-0612	981 - 91 95 9 41		
	KA7OLO	**		JOE ANDERSON	5806 GREENCRAIG OR.	HOUSTON TX		721-3406	798-6217		
				GRRY GARRISON	9802 LARSION ST.	HOUSTON TX		<b>165-5060</b>	170 02.11		
	K85HSP : 11950			JACK VAN DEMARK	7514 WINIER GLEN	HOUSTON IX		195-112t			
	LIKSA DELUM				BUTS GLENFUREST CT	HOUSTON TX		613-5232			
	USLYO			DON STOTLER	B426 STROUD	HOUSTON TX		771-2969			
	NSAPU			JEKKA BOKE					166-6751		
	H5RP			ROBERT PERRING	12715 VESTMERE	HOUSTON IX		493-5780 568-7801	10.0.011		
	HSLGS			KARLA DYEK	11703 KENZIE CI	HERDOUS TX					
	K85GUY			OEBORAH DYER	11703 KEHZIE CI	HEADOUS IX		568-7801			
	UBILZG	* **		GLEHN EDUTROS	15802 LOS ALTOS	ROUSTON TX		198-7125			
	kasico	4.0		SUSAN EDUNROS	1580Z LOS ALTOS	HOUSTON TX		498-7425		<del></del>	
	3 HSGZU			HERB HANCE	903 FENN	ROSHINGN TX		431-0163	995-8080	<del></del>	<del></del>
	K2ñHO	· <b>-</b>		DOREL KEHT	ELL COOLUISI	HOUSTON TX		155-6108	220 226		
	S KSLBU			CHRRLES FROST	3618 MACON PLACE CT	HOUSTON 1X		558-6305	879-7761	<del></del>	
	5 0556			BILL ECKENROOE	10702 HORMONT	HOUSTON IX		169-6929	827-5148		
	7 AAS68			) DAVIO DYER	11703 KENZIE CI	NEADOUS IX		568-7801	462-3178		
	B UB6LSB			i BOB VERDON	4643 TURF VALLEY	HOUSTON TX		859-2917	596-5101		· ——
	9 KBSGIN			S LIHOA LANCE	2023 SHOKEVOOD	SUGARLAND IX		980-6668	100 4460		
	HIKKC			JIM HRUKINS	11555 BISSOMET #2208	HOUSTON (X		879-0347	797-4160	<del></del>	
	i KG5KU			CHARLLE PROCHASKA		HOUSTON 1X		781-7365	462-8828X76		
	Z KSYCP			KEN MARTEN	6110 AUTUMN FOREST	HOUSTON TX		686-2378	870~5428		
	3 XSL19			FOREG LEFEBURE	8906 PETERSHAM	HOUSTON TX		771-7728			·
	Y HISHPP			S PAUL STELLJES	2503 VOOCNIND OR	RICHMONO 1X		342-9570	968-1000		
	5 H1S80			) MARK STEVENS	2503 W000W1HD OR	RICHMONU IX		342-5741			
	e Hetki			S ALLAN FOX	8314 HRHLEY	HOUSTON TX		466-4820	932-9029		
1.00	7 KBSFU	_	29444	IGALEN GLAFF -John Ste	350 NAGHOLIA BENO	NEW CRHEY TX	77357	1-689-6362	676-8022		

LØ69 KA5TDP 51385 Dick Greenwell 2929 Hayes Rd.,#1812 Houston 77082 H558-7157 W526-3456

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR:

The Houston Area Scanner Frequency Charts found in this issue are courtesy of Ed Lentz. He is an editor of the Radio Communications Monitoring Association's Bulletin, and is undoubtedly the most knowedgeable person in Texas on scanner frequencies.

## ED LENTZ

609 Yorkshire --- Pasadena, Texas 77503-1450 (713) 473-3032

June 15, 1989

Hello Irv

Hope this will "Fill the Bill", for the B-VARC Newsletter. The other list is dated enough that you really should try a new list. The format is somewhat different than the old list but should work as well. I placed the Federal Frequencies at the end and you can do what you want with them. The list hasn't been check for some time now so I don't know how accurate it is.

I do have something for you to pass around if you don't mind. Recently I was selected to be a Topic Leader on GEnie BBS for the scanning section. Hey, it was either me or the other guy! It is part of the revived Electronics section. We do have some pretty good Topic Leaders for the other sections which does include an area for you Ham guys. Enclose is a short opening screen that we have and also how to can join up with the GEnie Network. They only charge for the time used and there isn't any minimum charge if you bill via credit card. Not sure about any other type billing method. Recently there have been some changes in the local numbers and also the baud rate can be up to 2400 now. Sure would like to have some of your guys join us. We are working to build the RoundTable up to something really good.

## WELCOME to the )))) Radio, Electronics, & Broadcasting RT (((( . :####; !####: /---\ !####!. !####!--(==GE=)--:####; !####: . \ / :####: . !####! . :####: -Ham Radio -Electronics Experimenting -Scanners -Professional Broadcasting -Shortwave -Video & Audio -Satellite TVRO \ -Consumer Electronics \ -Engineering ...And Lots More! \_-\_--

Sysops: Larry Ledlow (NA5E) and Bill Sobel (MR.BILL)

Computer users with modems interested in signing up with GEnie should follow the following directions:

- 1. Set your modem for local echo (half duplex) and 300 or 1200 band.
- 2. Dial 1-800-638-8369. When connected enter HHH (do NOT hit return).
- 3. At the U#= prompt, enter XJM11702,GENIE.

Signup is just \$29.95, and your first two hours are free. For more information, contact GEnie at 1-800-638-9639.

# Amateur Radio Club presents

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club will sponsor Field Day activiues on June 24 and 25 at Bear Creek

prove their emergency preparedness Experienced "hams" set up communications stations outfor amateur radio operators Field Day is an annual skills.

In disaster or emergency situa-tions when electrical, phone and up communications networks using postal systems are down, hams set

strated at Field Days. During the 1985 earthquake in Mexico City, the 1980 eruption of Mount St. Helens, the Caribbean island devastation by Hurricane Gilbert last year and othtechniques practiced and demonevent held

er disasters, ham radio operators sent messages to and from the affected areas.

pate in Field Day exercises between 1 p.m. June 25. The general public is welcome; an

information booth will be open with friendly knowledgeable hams eager to answer questions and demonstrate

tions as possible in a 24-hour period, using Morse code or voice transmission. Many will camp in the park Hams will also be competing with one another to contact as many sta-

For more information, call 777-3345, 431-0163 or 579-8822. Field Day will take place near Pavilion No. 7.

radio equipment.

will take place near Pavilion No.

around the clock. All licensed ham

Thanks to Larry (KB5AKS) and Kathy (KA5WHK) for the excellent publicity. The clipping is from the Fort Bend Advocate. A similar article also appeared in the Houston Chronicle.

The clipping below is from the Wall Street Journal. The bottom one is from the RCMA (Radio Communications Monitoring Association) Bulletin.

During its centennial year, The Wall Street Journal will report events of the past century that stand as milestones of American business history.

## **CENTENNIAL JOURNAL: 100 Years in Business**

## Hamming It Up on the Radio, 1920

OCHECK THE ACCURACY of his \$12 watch, Frank Conrad, a Westinghouse engineer, built a radio receiver to catch Naval Observatory time signals from Alexandria, Va. He then built a transmitter and became a dedicated ham radio broadcaster.

When he started broadcasting baseball scores to fellow hams and playing records, a local dealer began supplying the discs in exchange for free ads. A Pittsburgh department store ran a newspaper ad boasting that it had radio receivers for sale and Westinghouse vice president H.P. Davis (later president of National Broadcasting Co.), saw sales possibilities. On Nov. 2, 1920. Westinghouse station KDKA went on the air from Pittsburgh with federal license No. 1 and a marathon broadcast of Warren Harding's election.

In 1920, the U.S. had perhaps 5,000 radio receivers, most of them owned by dedicated hams like Frank Conrad. Davis got Westinghouse into set-making, first with a \$25 "cats-whisker" crystal set, later with a cabinet model that sold for a regal \$175. By 1924, there were 2.5 million radios in the U.S.; by 1934 they outnumbered telephones. Last year, manufacturers shipped 76 million sets-from stereos to walkaround models-and four million more were installed in new automobiles.

The Radio Advertising Bureau says the first paid ad, with the sponsor buying the time and supplying the copy, was broadcast by an NBC station in New York City in 1921. The pioneer was a real estate firm peddling apartments; it paid \$100 for a 10-minute commercial. In 1988, the bureau says, sponsors paid the 9,100 commercial stations in the U.S. a grand total of \$7.8 billion for advertising time.

## FROM THE CAPTAIN'S DESK continued

DALLAS DX PIONEER - DEAD AT AGE 82

Amateur radio lost one of the best ambassadors and finest operators recently. Phil Ashcraft, N500, succused to a high voltage shock he received while working on a high power amplifier.

Phil was considered to be granddaddy of the big multi band DX haw stations. His station was the very first one put up in North Texas. Even with a late start in ham radio, Phil's station was the strongest that could be legally built. farm consisted of several 100 foot plus towers on several acres. The N5DD repeater was also an example of radio art, mounted on an 800 foot tower which Phil also owned. The W5YI Report called the station "awesome" and impressive.

On the day of his death, Phil was installing resistors on the input of his two linear amplifiers. As he adjusted the driver so IT would present the proper impedance to the 4-1000, Phil had the high voltage power supply on. He was suddenly zapped with 4,500 volts at 2 amps as he reached into the amplifier. The results of the shock were the worst imaginable. The voltage ripped through his body and out of his ears, his chest and his hands. His ear was burned completely off and his hand half way off. Phil's fingers were welded together. His wristwatch was burned into his flesh, and his shirt was burned right off his back. Even with these injuries, Phil was able to reach the phone and call for help.

Doctors gave Phil a 25% chance of living if they amoutated both arms, and needless to say, there would be a long, painful recovery period. Phil refused medical assistance and died the next agraing. Phil will be missed. His story is a painful example of what can and will happen to those who are not careful when working with electricity.

# FRECLENCIES OF INTEREST Houston Texas Area June 16, 1989

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## FREGLENCIES OF INTEREST Houston Texas Area June 16, 1989

by: Allen Mattis, N5AFV

## WEATHER NETS AND SPOTTER REPORTS

Amateur radio operators involved in weather spotting usually conduct their operations through a net system. In most parts of the country, these weather nets are conducted on 2 Meters, using a repeater. The 2 Meter equipment is compact and light, and most amateur operators have equipment for that band. In addition, the FM mode used on 2 Meter repeaters is less susceptible to interference from lightning than the SSB mode traditionally used on the high frequency bands. Most of the repeaters used for weather spotter nets are equipped with an emergency power system for use if a storm disrupts the normal power to the repeater.

Weather nets in different parts of the country vary in terms of net procedures. Weather spotters should become familiar with the procedures of their individual net and spotting organization. The spotters should listen to the instructions of the net control station, and follow them. For example, the net control station may ask for weather conditions from a certain area, perhaps at the request of civil authorities who have received reports of damage in that area. In such a situation, spotters not having information about conditions in the requested area should stand by, unless they are experiencing life threatening conditions at their location. If severe weather becomes particularly intense and widespread, the net control station may restrict the level of weather to be reported. For example, no reports of heavy rain or hail smaller than dime size may be desired if the entire area is receiving weather of that severity level. intent is to quickly identify the portions of the area receiving the most intense severe weather.

In times of widespread severe weather, spotters should think before keying their microphone. They should consider whether or not their report is really needed at that time. The net may not be interested in a report of heavy rain and moderate winds if another portion of the area is experiencing golf ball size hail and funnel clouds at that time. Weather spotters should also remember to keep their reports concise and their transmissions short. Other spotters may be experiencing life threatening conditions, and need use of the frequency to make their report.

Even though spotter reports should be concise, they should also be descriptive of the weather conditions. For example, the report "We have received heavy rain and wind" does not convey nearly as much information as the report "We have received moderate to strong winds for approximately 3 minutes followed by 5 minutes of heavy rain." If possible, spotters should quantify their reports by estimating wind speed, hail size, and rain intensity and amount.

The size of and distance to larger weather features such as a wall cloud, funnel cloud or tornado are sometimes difficult to estimate. A detailed local map may be helpful. The map will show the distance and direction to prominent landmarks such as water towers, broadcast antennas or tall buildings. The distance to and size of the larger weather features may be more accurately estimated when they are compared with these known landmarks.

Each indivdual weather net and spotting organization determines the weather conditions they wish their spotters to report. In general, however, weather spotters should always report the following conditions:

- Sighting of an actual tornado or funnel cloud
- Rotation in a wall cloud
- Hail marble size (1/2 inch) or larger
- Winds 40 miles per hour or greater
- Wind damage to buildings, large trees, or utility poles
- Continuous lightning, either cloud-to-ground or cloud-to-cloud
- Flash flooding such as a stream out of its banks
- Street flooding with greater than 1 foot of water

As a result of differences in local conditions and operating procedures, this list may be modified by individual weather nets or spotting organizations. Again, each weather spotter should become familiar with their local organization's guidelines and procedures.

Finally, weather spotters should remember that many people listen to weather nets. With the recent popularity and availability of VHF/UHF scanner radios, many members of the general public are able to monitor weather nets. Members of the news media, law enforcement and public service agencies, and local government officials also commonly monitor weather nets. What these people hear during a weather net directly influences their opinion of the local weather spotting organization and of amateur radio in general. Weather spotters should always be efficient and courteous during their net operations. Even though they are called amateurs, they can be professional in the way they conduct their net operations.

## Spotter Aids

## SUGGESTED EQUIPMENT LIST FOR SPOTTERS

- HT and extra battery pack
- 2) Plastic bag to protect HT from rain
- 3) Paper, clipboard and several pencils
- 4) One half tank or more of gas in vehicle
- 5) Local Maps city and county, state map optional
- 6) Wind speed and hail size charts
- 7) Flashlight and extra batteries
- 8) Binoculars
- 9) Raincoat and related clothing
- 10) Water, coffee and snacks optional