

B-VARC BULLETIN

The Monthly Publication of the BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Serving Fort Bend and Harris Counties

Editor in Chief:

Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS

774-7651 (0800-2100 hrs)

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 that 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: 14

Issue: 1

January 1991

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

From: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

P. O. Box 1630

Missouri City, Texas 77459 Telephone: (713) 777-3345





B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thurs, Jan. 10 Annual Banquet and Awards

7:00 pm Ceremony

Marriott Hotel 610 & San Felipe

Thurs, Feb. 7 Board Meeting

7:30 pm Missouri City Fire Station

Stu Lamkin *WB51GG* 7401 Heilig Houston, TX 77074

12/30/1990

January 1991	VARC CALENDÁR OF ACTIVITIES
	B-V

SATURDAY	7:30a B-VARC Breakfast 8:30p C.W. 147.32	12 7:30a B-VARC Breakfast 8:30p C.W. 147.32	19 7:30a B-VARC Breakfast 8:30p C.W. 147.32	26 7:30a B-VARC Breakfast 8:30p C.W. 147.32	
FRIDAY	42.5 Lunch Bunch Talk-In 442.5 at Moose's, 6818 Chetwood	Lunch Bunch Talk-In 442.5 at El Fenix, Gallería	Lunch Bunch Talk-In 442.5 at Great Charcoal Chicken, 1000 Campbell Road	Lunch Bunch Talk-In 442.5 at Fuddruckers, on Chimney Rock at Richmond	
THURSDAY	3 7:30p BOARD MEETING Missoun City Fire Station #1	7:00p ANNUAL PANQUET - Marriott at Loop 6:10 & San Felipe 9:00p AWARDS CEREMONY	17	24	31
WEDNESDAY	2 8:00d B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy) +3 Khz)	9 8:00p B-VARC R.4G- CHEW 3:960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	16 8:00p B.VARCR.:G- CHEW 3:960 (Busy) +3 Khz)	23 8:00p B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy) +3 Khz)	30 8:00p B-VARC RAG- CHEW 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)
TUESDAY	8:00p 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00p Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00p AMSAT 146.82	8:00p 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00p Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00p AMSAT 146.82	8:00p 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00p Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00p AMSAT 146.82	22 8:00p 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00p Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00p AMSAT 146.82	29 8:00p 10 X SHOT 28.488 9:00p Experimenters Net 442.5 & 145.47 10:00p AMSAT 146.82
MONDAY		7 8:00p ARES 147.30 9:00p B-VARC Net 145. 47	14 8:00p ARES 147.30 9:00p B-VARC Net 145. 47	21 8:00p ARES 147.30 9:00p B-VARC Net 145. 47	28 8:00p ARES 147.30 9:00p B-VARC Net 145. 47
SUNDAY		6 7:00p Harris County RACES 146.94	7:00p Harris County RACES 146.94	20 7:00p Harris County RACES 146.94	27 7:00p Harris County RACES 146.94



Notes From The President . . . by Al Mattis, N5AFV

Greetings to you again. This is my first *Bulletin* column as president, and, I must admit, I'm having a little difficulty getting used to being president. On behalf of all the club officers and directors, I again wish to thank the members of B-VARC for their confidence in us, and hope we can continue the successful trend B-VARC has followed for the past few years.

I hope all of you and your families have had a joyous and happy holiday season. As we put the holidays behind us and begin the new year, we should perhaps consider what 1991 has in store for us as radio amateurs. There have certainly been a number of significant recent changes in our hobby. We usually think of such changes as being a result of advances in technology, but that is not always the case. This past year saw the phasing out of local amateur radio stores in much of the country; most new amateur radio gear is now purchased by telephone from a store hundreds or even thousands of miles away. The new code free amateur radio license will probably be the single most significant factor to affect amateur radio in the U.S. during 1991. The continuing pressure by commercial interests to acquire additional frequencies may also impact the VHF and UHF amateur bands. No doubt some of these factors will affect B-VARC. For example, the new code free license will probably require changes in the club's VE program and novice classes. It certainly appears that 1991 will be an exciting year for amateur radio.

We hope B-VARC also has an exciting year. Last year was a very good year for our club, and thanks are due to Bill, N5KXU, the officers, directors, chairpersons, and others who made things happen.

In order to start things rolling for 1991, standing committees are being formed. The usual committees handle Membership, Programs, Finance, Publications, Club Activities, Technical Advancement, and ARRL Liaison. I would appreciate hearing from anyone wishing to serve on any of these committees, or in any other capacity not named above.

Again, on behalf of the club's officers and directors, I thank you for your confidence in us, and your continuing support. If you have any ideas about how to make our club better, we welcome your comments. Please call any of the officers or board members, or better yet, come to one of the B-VARC

Board meetings on the first thursday of the month at the Missouri City Fire Station #1 at 7:30 PM.

That's it for this month. Hope to see you at the January banquet as we recognize many of the club members who made 1990 such a successful year for B-VARC.

73 de N5AFV

B-VARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS

3.960 MHz 8:00 pm Wednesdays Compiled by Allen Mattis N5AFV

December 5, 1990

N5MPN NCS, KB5ION, WN5A, WB5HLZ, W5IHY, WB5IGG, WB5SRN, WA5SCE, N5AFV, N5KXU, KG5KV, WA7JSL, N5RAR

December 12, 1990

N5MPN NCS, N5AFV, KB5ION, KB5UL, WB5SRN, W5RIY, AA5TB, KG5KV, AK5G, W5IHY, WA5SCE, KB5DNT, N5KXU, K5DIY, KB5JIZ, N5FNA

December 19, 1990

N5MPN NCS, KB5ION, N5FNA, WN5A, N5AFV, KB5IIL, WB5SRN, N5KXU, KA5PMK, N0IDW, KI5CE, N5QCE

December 26, 1990

N5MPN NCS, KB5ION, W5IHY, WB5SRN, KB5JIZ, KG5KV, N5AFV, WB5IGG, K5ALY, WA5SCE, K5CDH, KB5UL, AK5G, N5PRC, N5KXU, N5RQO, WB4TVY, K4AQO



Observations on *The Country Store*by Bob Orsburn N5MTR

Recently an article was published in a local newspaper about the old fashioned Country Store. The reporter had gone to a place he had visited some years ago to find that the old store was no longer there. Like many of us, I remember this institution of the past with fondness. When I was a child my grandfather ran one on a dirt road in East Texas. It had a potbelly stove in the center of the room around which locals gathered in the winter to keep themselves warm and to warm the air with their conversations. Everything was open for discussion. They would solve all of the world's problems every hour or so. Times were hard then and most were farmers. They talked about their crop and the price it might bring. They talked politics because they were mostly of one mind, and it seldom produced an argument that was serious. They teased each other in a gentle way that was more an expression of friendship than an attempt to hurt. Their lives were hard, filled with back-breaking labor for little reward, but they shared something around the old stove that few people have today. They shared their lives; the good and the bad, and by doing so they had something very special and rare. The amazing thing is that there were no scheduled meetings, no one held office, no dues were paid, and there were no formal rules.

Today the Old Country Store is hard to find. The children and grandchildren of these people have moved to the city for the most part. Everything in their lives is regulated, licensed, taxed or has a set of administrative rules. There are organizations which provide friendship and support such as clubs, charitable groups, lodges and churches. These organizations are important, useful and essential to life in the modern world, but where is the freedom to warm yourself by the rusty old stove with a group of friends? To speak if you wish or just listen. To share with others a feeling of having something in common.

Well, I have found such a place. It was right under my nose, but it was very hard to recognize. The old store filled with the basic essentials of life is now a small room filled with electronic gear. The ladderback cane bottom chair is now a high-back office chair. The old potbelly stove has been replaced with the glow and warmth of amplifier tubes. The cracker barrel, the pickle barrel, and the candy case have been replaced by canned drinks and bags of chips. Everything has changed, and yet it is the same. Late at night, I can hear men discussing politics and solving all of the world's problems every hour or so. They talk if they wish or just listen. There is a large audience who listen every night and say nothing at all, just as I did as a child in my grandfather's store. They talk of their good fortune and their bad luck. They share stories about a daughter's wedding or a child born into the family. One has a new car, one sold an old car and bought a new radio. They talk of birth, death and illness. They discuss trips, recreational vehicles, antennas and which way the water turns in a drain. In short, they talk about anything and everything. There are no dues, no rules and everything possible is done to keep it informal. These people are sharing their friendship and their lives. The Old Country Store is still there, it just doesn't look the same.

February Bulletin Deadline

Articles and other material destined to be printed in the February issue of the B-VARC *Bulletin* should be submitted by no later than January 31st. Please give such to Vincent Orlando WA5ETS; 8900 Bellaire Boulevard; Houston, Texas 77036-4699 or FAX (713) 774-6427.

Don't forget!

B-VARC Banquet and
Awards Ceremony

Thursday, January 10th
7:00 pm

Marriott Hotel
Loop 610 at San Felipe

Contact Randy AK5G

at 729-6484-by January 6th

Results of the December 11th Exams

by Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, December 11, 1990, at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

The V.E. Team and Assistants:
Cass Germany, KG5IT
Stu Lamkin, WB5IGG
Harold Parker, ND5F
Joe Ross, AA5BD
Joe Tarrant, K5DIY
Jack Vandemark, WN5A

A total of forty-two (42) exams were administered during the evening to twenty-two (22) applicants. Five (5) unlicensed candidates received new licenses: one (1) Novice and four (4) Technicians. Six (6) other candidates upgraded their licenses with a total of twenty-three (23) elements passed. The overall

"pass rate" for the evening was fifty-five (55%) percent.

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

Frank Berner, N5POH - Element 3B Marty Blaise, N5OHN - Extra Charles Burns - Novice Susanna Friedman - Element 2 Steven Hovater, KB5OAZ — General Emmett Jackson — Technician Morton Jarrett, KB50BF - Element 3B Gil Lappay, KB2KMI - Technician Harry Levine — Element 2 Randall Miller, KB5OHJ — Technician Edwin Pate — Technician Eddie Runner, Sr., N5PNX - Element 3B Steven Shirk, Pending - Technician Richard Slate - Technician Curtiss Sween, KB0HUP - Technician Richard Vessell — Technician + Element 1B

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, WA5ETS, and everyone at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.....73...

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Mike Eason - N5KRU

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B-VARC Board of Directors Position Open

An open position for a one-year term on the Board of Directors of the Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club will be filled by the Board at its February, 1991 meeting. The position results from a vacancy created when Gerry Borg, N5APW, assumes his newly-elected position of Vice President. Any club member wishing to be considered for the position should contact Allen Mattis, N5AFV, at 721-3637, or any other member of the B-VARC Board of Directors prior to the February 7th Board meeting.

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1990 B-VARC PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR ROLL

Compiled by Allen Mattis N5AFV

- A. Houston Tenneco Marathon
 B. Woman's Hospital 5K
 C. Azalea Run 5K
 D. MS-150 Bike Tour

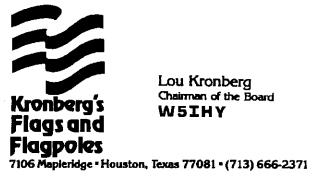
 E. Hungry Jack 50
 F. ARRL Field Day
 G. KK9W/W90ES
 H. GAAC 20K

- I. Alamo Challenge Bike TrekJ. GAAC 25KK. Ham Com-Vention ForumL. GAAC 30K

Abbott, Brenson	KF5VZ	Α	Jacobs, Travis	N5DON	Α
Albrecht, Carl	AA5JW	D,E,I,K,L	Jolly, George	ND5E	K
Albrecht, Carl, Jr.	KB5KJT	E,L	Juch, Fred	N5JXO	G
Arledge, Tom	WD5CVK		Kemp, Bill	KG5CB	D,F
Blackwell, A.J.	WB5YLB	H,J,L	Kossak, Jordan	N5QVI	L
Borg, Gerry	N5APW	A,G,K	Kruse, Dick	N5OUT	C,F,G
Brier, Allen	WB5BIR	G	Kyle, Elton	NO5C	G
Brown, Beth	N5PKW	D	Lamkin, Stu	WB5IGG	A,F
Carlson, Bob	N5RBE	H,J,L	Lance, David	KB5EYK	D,I,L
Chambers, Marion		H,J,L	Lay, Michael	N5PTN	B,D,F,I,L
Chambers, Michael	N5QCE	G,H,I,J,L	Leatherland, Larry	WB4PGF	G
Cheek, Ralph	KB5DNT	A,B,D,E,G,I,J,K,L	Lefebvre, Greg	K5LTW	K
Covert, Rick	WD5L	G	Linzer, Larry	N5PAA	G
Cox, Lawrence	N5OUZ	F	Mattis, Allen	N5AFV	A,F,H,J,L
Deaktor, Steve		F,G,H,J,L	Mills, David	N5QMK	Н
Dessens, Bill	N5KXU	C,F,G,L	Morrison, Henry	W5RIY	A,H,J,L
Dessens, Mark	KG5JT	F,J	Moynihan, Steve	AA5LF	F,G,J
Dillard, Ray	WA5F	A,B,C,D,E,G,I	Nance, Herb	N5GZW	A,F
Dunkleberger, Steve	N5JBL	H,J,L	Onda, Terry	KI5FO	G,I,J,L
Dyer, David	AA6GA	H,K	Orlando, Vincent	WA5ETS	J,L
Dyer, Karla	N5LGS	A,H,K	Parker, Harold	ND5F	A,F,K
Eatwell, Bill	N5PWH	F	Pokladnik, Roger	KB5LFU	F,G
Edwards, Glenn	WB4LZG	A,J	Pollard, Randy	AK5G	H,J,L
Edwards, Melanie	KB5KLH	A,L	Prochaska, Charles	KG5KV	F,G,K
Edwards, Susan	KB5ICO	A,D,F,G,I,J	Pugh, Randy	AA5OA	F
Fox, Floyd	N5PXY	A,F,G	Richard, Victor	N5NAS	F,G
Freedenberg, Henry	K5HF	A	Ricketts, Robert	N5JKD	A,D,F,G,I,L
Gordon, Hy	NC5A	A,G	Ross, Joe	AA5BD	D,F,G
Gordon, Irene	N5AYX	A,G	Runner, Eddie	N5PNX	G
Gottlieb, Steve	WA50EN		Shorthose, Karen	N5PMO	G,I,J,L
Grimes, Ron	WA5SCE		Shorthose, Ron	N5PHL	D,G,I,J,L
Grimes, Sharon	N5RQO	Ĺ	Sinibaldi, Dawn	KB5LDJ	B,C,F,I
Hagerman, Dick	WB5SRN		Skelton, Steve	N5PRC	F,G,K,L
Hammer, Cindy	N5LXE	D,F	Smith, Irv	KB5EXM	D
Hammer, Dave	WJ5B	D,F	Stanley, Tim	N5PHM	D,F,I
Hardy, Nick	N5PRP	B,C,F,I	Thatcher, Melvin	KB510N	G,K
Harris, Ron	N5MKO	F,G	Todd-Brown, Bill	N5MPN	F
Harrison, Terry	KB5UE	F	Van Demark, Jack	WN5A	A,F,H,L
Hawkins, Jim	N4KKC	G	Vandevere, Douglas	KB5MVM	1
Herbert, Earle	WB1CCH		Wade, Don	WB5IBT	A,E,F,G,H,J,L
Hickox, Bill	K5BDZ	F	Warden, Mike	WB3HZP	A,H,J,L
Jacobs, Bradley	KB5JON	A	Warren, Sid	KB5JWQ	G
Jacobs, Nathan	KB5KTZ	A	Winford, Clem	WB5SHU	J,L
		Please report corrections or	additions to N5AFV		• 40

	FENDANCE ROSTER RC GENERAL MEETINGS	19 0 C T	990 N O V	D E C
	Betsy			х
	Marian Chambers	Х		Х
	Ron Earl			X
	John English	X		Х
	Katrina Faul Susanna Friedman	Х		v
	Bud King	х		Х
	Harry Levine	^		х
	Steve McCarthy			X
	Terry McRae			X
	Jakub Miketta		Х	
	T. J. Onda		Х	
	James Pettitt, III	X		
	Matthew Pollard	X		
	Gene Russell	X	Х	
	Stephen Shirk Leona Warren	X X		
WN5A	Jack Van Demark	^	х	х
N5AFV	Al Mattis	х	X	X
N5APW	Gerry Borg		Х	Х
WJ5B	Dave Hammer		Χ	Х
K85BAY	Suzanne Borg		Х	
AA5BD	Joe Ross	Х		Х
KG5CB	Bill Kemp			Х
WB1CCH K5CNU	Earle Herbert Tom Sellers	X		X
N5CPA	Sam Wilson	^		Х
K5DIY	Joe Tarrant		Х	X
KA5DKS	Ken McAninch		X	•
KB5DNT	Ralph Cheek	X	Х	
ND5E	George Jolly	X		
N5ECP	Jeff Salmons	X		
WA5ETS	Vincent Orlando	X	Х	Х
KI4EU	Win Rister	X	v	X
KB5EXM ND5F	Irv Smith Harold Parker	X X	X X	X X
WB5FFV	Ron McDonald	^	^	x
KI5FO	Terry Onda		Х	X
AK5G	Randy Pollard	Х	X	X
AA5GA	Dave Dyer		X	
W5GLD	Frank Wood	X		
KB5GUY	Deborah Dyer		Х	
N5GZW KB0HUP	Herb Nance Curt		Х	х
WB5IBT	Don Wade	Х	Х	^
KB5ICO	Susan Edwards	^	x	
WB5IGG	Stu Lamkin	Х	X	
W5IHY	Lou Kronberg	Х	Х	
KB5ION	Melvin Thatcher	Х	Χ	Χ
N5JBL	Stephen Dunkelberger			X
N5JKD	Robert Ricketts	Х		
KI5JS	Dick Dumas		v	Х
KG5JT AA5JW	Mark Dessens Carl Albrecht	v	X	v
KB5JWQ	Sid Warren	X X	X X	Х
KB5KLY	Don Brown, Sr.	x	x	Х
KB5KNC	Alicia Dyer	^	x	^
KG5KV	Charles Prochaska	Х	x	Х
N5KXU	Bill Dessens	X	X	X
KB5LDJ	Dawn Sinibaldi	Χ	X	Χ

AA5LF	Steve Moynihan	Х	х	х
KB5LFU	Roger Pokladnik	x	x	^
N5LGS	Karla Dyer		x	
N5LRC	Douglas Eggleston		X	
K5LTW	Greg Lefebvre			Х
N5LXE	Cindy Hammer		Х	•
KB5MHJ	Richard Bearden		•	Х
N5MPN	Bill Todd-Brown	х	Х	X
N5NAS	Vic Richard	• •	X	X
N5NTO	Don Brown, Jr.	х	Х	,,
KA5NYI	Mark McGrath	X		
AA5OA	Randy Pugh		Х	
KB5OBB	Eddie Runner, Jr.			Х
WA50EN	Steve Gottlieb	Х	Х	-
N50FE	Gary Tucker			Х
N5OUT	Dick Kruse	х	Х	
N5OUZ	Lawrence Cox	X	X	
N5PAA	Larry Linzer		Х	
N5PHL	Ron Shorthose		X	Х
N5PHM	Tim Stanley	X	X	
N5PKW	Beth Brown	X	X	
N5PMO	Karen Shorthose		Х	
WA3PMT	Steven Deaktor	Х	Х	Х
N5PNX	Eddie Runner, Sr.	X		X
N5PRC	Steve Skelton	X	Х	
N5PRP	Nick Hardy	X	X	Х
N5PTN	Michael Fay	х		Х
N5PWH	Bill Eatwell			Х
N5QCE	Michael Chambers	Х		Х
N5QMK	David Mills	Х		Х
N5QRO *	Sharon Grimes	х		Х
N5QV!	Jordan Kossack	X	Х	Х
N5RBE	Bob Carlson	Х	Х	
N5RBT	Art Neumeyer	X		
N5RJZ *	Lawrence Whitehead			Х
WA5SCE	Ron Grimes	Х		
WB5SHU	Clem Winford	Х	Х	
KE5SR	Doug Holley	X		
WB5SRN	Dick Hagerman	Х	Х	Х
WA5YKR	Jim Pettitt, Jr.	Х		
WB5YLB	A. J. Blackwell	Х		
KA5YSL	Rick Meyer	X	Х	
KF5ZL	Bob White	••		Х
• = NEW	CALL TOTAL:	59	61	51



Lou Kronberg Chairman of the Board

December Meeting

by Bill Todd-Brown, N5MPN

When Terry, KI5FO, and I were discussing his program for the "close out" presentation for the year, I had high hopes. Well, my hopes were exceeded. Whoever it was that called Terry a "silvertongued scientist" was really on target.

Terry had sparks flying, laughter flowing, Dawn's (KB5LDS) hair standing on end and all the while, he was sliding in some education. Well done, Terry. You did a superb job.

We had a good turnout. Vick, N5NAS, had plenty of coffee; Earle, WB1CCH, very kindly brought some excellent Christmas cookies; and Bill, N5KXU, brought his screen and thankfully, his sound system.

Doug, Lucy and Dot, from the Missouri City Parks and Recreation Department had a sufficient number of chairs and tables for us. Thanks, people. You have been a pleasure to work with this year. I'm sure Missouri City is very proud and pleased to have you three as part of their team.

To everyone that set up and took down the chairs and tables, many, many thanks.

And finally, to the members of B-VARC, **Thank You!** Without your support, attendance and help, the year would not have been the GREAT ONE that it has been. 73

	HONOR ROLL — ATTENDANCE February through December 1990 B-VARC General Meetings Attended	
	· ·	
KB5KLY	Don Brown, Sr.	11
N5KXU	Bill Dessens	11
ND5F	Harold Parker	11
KB5ION	Mei Thatcher	11
N5MPN	Bill Todd-Brown	11
WA50EN	Steve Gottlieb	10
WB5SRN	Dick Hagerman	10
N5PRP	Nick Hardy	10
NSOUT	Dick Kruse	10
WASETS	Vincent Orlando	10
KB5LFU	Roger Pokladnik	10
AK5G	Randy Pollard	10
N5NAS	Vick Richard	10
KB5LDJ	Dawn Sinibaldi	10
AA5JW	Carl Albrecht	9
N5AFV	Al Mattis	9
KG5KV	Charles Prochaska	9
KB5EXM	Iry∰Smith	9

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