



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.

To obtain information about the club and its various activities, please call the Houston Amateur Radio Helpline (713) 488-4HAM (488-4426). For information about joining the club, contact Randy Pollard, AK5G, at (713) 667-5123.

Volume: 16 Issue: 5

May 1993

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

From: Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P. O. Box 1630
Missouri City, Texas 77459



B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thurs, May 13	7:30 pm	General Membership Meeting Sugar Land Community Center Program: <i>Personal Computers</i> by Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS
Thurs, June 3	7:30 pm	Board Meeting Sugar Land Community Center

Allen Mattis N5AFV
5314 Wigton
Houston, TX 77096

Notes from the President . . .

by Betty Wicox, KAØTEN

May 8th brings us to the B-VARC fishing trip on the Colorado River/Matagorda Bay right out of Bay City, Texas. All those checking in to the Monday night net at 9:00 p.m. know that we have been extended the use of a private home on the river. This is really a treat for those family members who don't like to fish, get hot and sweaty, or fight bugs. The house with a/c and TV will keep everyone in a good mood.

Large trees provide shade for those bringing tents or pop-ups. The ground-level basement provides a bunk house style sleeping area for gentlemen with complete restroom facilities.

Upstairs in the main section of the house are several bedrooms. The kitchen is available for any cooking that needs to be done; microwave, too. It is recommended that ice chests be used due to the refrigerator's size.

Outside there is a lighted pier for all-night fishing. It comes equipped with sink and counter top with running water for cleaning fish. The river is clearing nicely and catfish are biting. What more could you ask?

And this is all that I ask — at the owner's request. Please, call and give me a tentative head count. By the time you read this, time will be very short. Directions and talk-in frequency will be available upon request. My number is good in the roster.

The World of 1Ø—1Ø International

by Al Mattis, N5AFV

Ten-Ten activity has dropped off as it usually does for the summer months. The S.H.O.T. chapter continues to wait for the results of the 1993 Winter QSO Party. The wait seems to be about as bad as that of a new ham waiting for his or her first license. Will the S.H.O.T. chapter continue it's winning streak? We'll let you know as soon as we find out.

Ten-Ten paper chasers are still active on 28.345 mhz and, to a lesser extent, on 28.825 mhz. Ten-Ten chapters with specials for paper chasers this month include Battle Road (MA), Branding Iron (TX), 51st State (MI) and Steel City (IL). Plans are being

B-VARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS 3.960 MHz 8:00 pm Wednesdays

Compiled by Melvin Thatcher, KB5ION

March 31, 1993

KE5SR NCS, KB5ION, W5IHY, KB5TIB, N5OAC, KB5USL, N5VRR, N5CPA, WA5OEN, N5AFV, WASTWL, N5WMB, WD5DRB, KG5KV, W5GHK, KB5LFU, N5VDY

April 14, 1993

KB5USL NCS, KE5SR, W5EFB, N5OAC, W5IHY, N5AFV, KG5KV, N5KXU, KB5LFU, WD5DRB, N5WFP, K15SC, KB5TIB, KB5ION, N5UOG, KB5DNT, K15CE

April 21, 1993

KB5USL NCS, KB5ION, K15SC, WB5SRN, N5OAC, N5CPA, N5KXU, KB5LFU, N5AFV, WD5DRB, W5EFB, KB5TIB, N5WFP, WA5OEN, WASTWL, KG5KV

April 28, 1993

W5IHY NCS, KB5ION, WD5DRB, KB5USL, KE5SR, K15SC, N5AFV, WA5OEN, N5CPA, N5ECP, KB5TIB, N5OAC, KG5KV, N5WMB, KB5LFU, K5KV

made for a Ten-Ten banquet at the upcoming Dayton Hamvention, and many paper chasers are expected to attend this giant convention.

Summer propagation has returned to ten meters. Conditions on the band changed markedly during the last week in March. The band is seldom open now to one-hop F-layer domestic skip; however, limited DX openings still occur. Latin American stations can be heard on a fairly regular basis. In addition, Craig Culver, KB5USL, reports that he has worked Australia twice in recent weeks. Shorter distance E-layer openings characterize summer propagation, and we can expect openings to the southeastern states, central states, and southwestern states. Many of these openings occur in the evening after dark, so listen on ten meters occasionally, and you may be rewarded with one of these surprise openings.

Remember, the Houston S.H.O.T. net meets every Tuesday evening at 8:00 local time on 28.488 mhz. All amateurs are welcome to check in, even if they do not have a 10-10 number. If you are not a member of 10-10 International and wish to join the organization, please check into the net. There are a lot of exciting activities in 10-10, and many friendly people can be found on the 10-meter band.

73 de N5AFV

Newlyweds Start Life in a Bed of Roses

by Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS

While every aspect of the lives of married couples doesn't always prove to be a bed of roses, Steve Gottlieb, WA5OEN, and Sandra Owen did their best to start their married life if not as a bed of roses then at least in one. Steve and Sandra exchanged their marriage vows on Saturday, April 17th, in the Houston Rose Garden right off Hermann Park. It was a beautiful affair with equally beautiful and cool spring weather and lots of fragrant and colorful roses all around. It was truly a historical moment.

This wedding might have made history in yet other ways—one of them being amateur radio history. Almost everyone involved in the wedding are hams (some in more ways than others, um...). All the wedding music was played on the guitar by the Dessens: Bill, N5KXU, and Mark, KG5JT. (Like father, like son.) Probably the highlight of the musical selections was an original rendition of the *Lord's Prayer* set to guitar. The best man was Larry Levy, WD5DRB, and the two officiating ministers were Dick Kruse, N5OUT, and Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS. Of course, the groom himself, Steve, is also a ham. It is my understanding that his lovely bride, Sandra, is working on getting her ticket soon.

After Steve and his new XYL were presented to the gathering as Mr. and Mrs. Gottlieb and after they were invited to exchange 88's with each other, they processed down the aisle of pink roses through an arch of extended HT's held heavenward by a group of their ham friends who were in attendance. If anyone has a photograph of this grand event especially the promenade through the allee of antennas, we should send it to *QST* for publication.

We all congratulate you both, Steve and Sandra, on the occasion of your new life together. Thanks for sharing your love and your commitment and your selves with us in B-VARC. Good luck and God bless!

Results of the April Amateur Exams

by Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, April 13, 1993, at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

HARRIS
MANAGEMENT TECHNOLOGY

Increase sales & efficiency!

GoldMine sales management software helps you get results by making your sales cycle more effective! Call today for information.

RON HARRIS

(aka N5MEO)

Phone 713/961-9600

The V.E. Team

Craig Culver, KB5USL

Glenn Lewis, KI5CE

Harold Parker, ND5F

Assistants

Carl Albrecht, AA5JW

Cass Germany, KG5IT

Irene Gordon, N5AYX

Don Schexnailder, AB5IV

Tony Stevens, N5LSQ

A total of thirty-one exams were administered during the evening to seventeen applicants. Seven unlicensed candidates received their new licenses: two Novices, four "no-code" technicians and one General. Six others upgraded with a total of twenty-five elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was eighty-one percent. Stephen Neubauer, one of the new Novices, is nine years old!

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

Arthur Alvarez, N5KTN — Advanced
Christopher Blankenship — Technician
Norman Butler, KB5NXV — Element 4A
Joseph Clements — Technician
Robert Deere — Element 2
Willie Doty, Jr. — Technician
Charles Hall — Novice
Kevin Hinton, KB5VHE — Element 3B
Madison Jones, KB5ZMH — General
Glyn Miller, Sr., Pending — Technician
Stephen Neubauer — Novice
Douglas Poteet, KB5VTB — Technician
Ronald Smith, KB5VSX — General
Eric St. Cyr — General
Robert Supina — Technician
Jim Wilkerson, N5WMB — Advanced

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

Belone®**BELTONE
HEARING AIDS
AND AUDIOMETERS****Better Hearing Through Professional Care****LAWRENCE COX, BC, NBC-HIS
CERTIFIED AUDIOPROSTHOLOGIST NS04Z****BELTONE HEARING AID CENTER****3410 AVENUE H
ROSENBERG, TEXAS 77471
713/342-1205****5706 FONDREN
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77036
713/977-8781**

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's ... ND5F

B-VARC Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, April 1, 1993

by Bud King, N5UOG

A quorum of the B-VARC Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on April 1, 1993. This was the fourth meeting of the Board of Directors for the 1993 calendar year.

The minutes of the March 4th meeting were submitted by Bud King, N5UOG, and approved with corrections.

The club treasurer, Sam Wilson, N5CPA, reported a balance of \$4,291.51 in the treasury as of March 31, 1993. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

The club president confirmed that the May 13th meeting would be presented by Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS. His subject will be "PC Computers". On June 10, Al Zermeno, KK5W, will present the program "Biological Dangers of ELF Electro Magnetic Radiation". Sharing the program with Al will be Carl Hacker, KB5LDY, with the "Legal Aspects of Such Transmissions".

Vice-President Doug Holley, KE5SR, notified the Board that the B-VARC "Camp Out" would be held on May 1st. He has been able to secure 2 trailer hook-ups and 2 camp sites. Doug announced that June 26-27 are the dates set aside for Field Day. The annual B-VARC picnic will be held on September

25, 1993. Doug reported that, with regret, he was discontinuing the code practice sessions immediately because of lack of participation.

Vincent Orlando, WA5ETS, reported that our membership number was now up to 212. The Board unanimously approved a motion to have Vincent purchase an overhead projector and a suitable screen for the club. These items are to be available for use by the people presenting programs at the club's meetings.

Mel Thatcher, KB5ION, stated that he was well pleased with the number of regular check-ins on the B-VARC Rag Chew Net.

Claudia Kozinetz, N5VCZ, notified the Board that she will present a program to the Houston Striders for the purpose of acquainting their personnel with B-VARC's communication procedures and our personnel. Claudia reported that 10 B-VARC members were among the volunteers at the Texas Special Olympics, Area 22, Spring Games. This event was sanctioned by the Board and was chaired by Esther Stiver, KB5URT.

Michael Ricco, N5YKR, stated that he could use additional input from the B-VARC membership concerning the format changes in the Monday night B-VARC net.

Glenn Edwards, WB4LZG, and Carl Hacker, KB5LDY, stated they were continuing to recruit volunteers for the upcoming events they chair.

The Board gave approval to ear-mark \$300.00 for Field Day expenses.

E. J. Hadash, N5WAJ and Communications Coordinator for the local chapter of the American Red Cross, requested assistance in formulating a plan of action for the coordination of the Red Cross organization and the HAMS in their region, in case of an emergency.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

GADGETEER'S ELECTRONIC SUPPLY

**9890 WESTPARK DRIVE
HOUSTON, TX 77063
TEL: (713) 878-8878
FAX: (713) 878-8878**

**LOU MARINO
PRESIDENT**

**MFJ
ARRL
ALINCO
LARSEN
HUSTLER
LAKEVIEW
VAN GORDON**

**10% DISCOUNT TO HAMS
(On Selected Merchandise)**

