



# 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.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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



## B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

**Thurs, July 8** General Membership Meeting  
7:30 pm Sugar Land Community Center  
Program: *Legal Aspects of ELF Radiation* by Carl Hacker,  
KBELDY

**Thurs, August 5** Board Meeting  
7:30 pm Sugar Land Community Center

Allen Mattis N5AFV  
5314 Wigton  
Houston, TX 77096

# July 1993

## B-VARC Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
4 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	5 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47 & linked repeaters	6 8:00pm 10 X Shot 28.488 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10	7 8:00pm B-VARC Rag-Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	8 7:30pm General Meeting: Sugar Land Community Center	2	3 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
11 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	12 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47 & linked repeaters	13 7:00pm Amateur Exams (Strake Jesuit College Prep) 8:00pm 10 X Shot 28.488 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10	14 8:00pm B-VARC Rag-Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	15	16	17 B-VARC Campout 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 8:00am Sidewalk Sale 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
18 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	19 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47 & linked repeaters	20 8:00pm 10 X Shot 28.488 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10	21 8:00pm B-VARC Rag-Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	22	23	24 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32
25 1:30pm Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30pm South Texas ARES Net 3.873	26 7:30pm 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00pm ARES 147.30 8:00pm Ft. Bend County RACES Net 145.49 9:00pm B-VARC Net 145.47 & linked repeaters	27 8:00pm 10 X Shot 28.488 10:00pm AMSAT 147.10	28 8:00pm B-VARC Rag-Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 Khz)	29	30	31 7:30am B-VARC Breakfast 9:00am Hou Emergency Mgmt Net 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905) 8:30pm C.W. 147.32

## Notes from the President . . .

by Betty Wicox, KAØTEN

How time flies when you are having fun or when you are responsible for writing an article which has a deadline. Every month this deadline sneaks up on me. This month is no exception.

By the time you read this you will already know what happened about Field Day. Rain has really been a problem for us this year. The campout and fishing trip had to be cancelled and now we are dealing with tropical storm rains. As I type this I can tell you that I know Pavillion #3 at Bear Creek is under water. I went by and checked it today. The park is trying to find us another location which is dry, but the outlook is not good.

B-VARC participates in two regularly scheduled nets, 2-meters (145.47 Mhz) Monday night at 9:00 and HF (3.960 Mhz) Rag Chew Net on Wednesday night at 8:00. Both of these nets are run by volunteer net control operators on a rotating/random basis.

If you ever thought you would like to participate in a real emergency and would be good at it, now is the time to find out. Volunteer to help out as net control on these nets. This is a skill you don't want to have to learn when in a real emergency. The time to learn the skill is when you can practice under normal conditions, and this practice will see you capable and competent to assist in a real emergency. It's OK to be nervous. Hams are good sports. They will see you through while you get a handle on it.

Al Zermeno, KK5W, gave the June program which had hams literally sitting on the edge of their chairs. This is a two-part program with Carl Hacker, KB5LDY, presenting the second half. Even if you missed the first part, you will find the second part interesting and worth hearing.

Dues to the rains in May, the B-VARC campout was rescheduled for July 17th. Doug Holley, KE5SR, will be expecting to hear from you about your plans to attend.

August is the regular ice cream social/meeting. Bring the XYL and harmonics. But most of all, bring ice cream! Dick Kruse, N5OUT, will be coordinating this extravaganza as he did last year. Please sign up with him if you plan to bring goodies. Ice cream toppings, aerosol whipped cream, chopped nuts, fruit cocktail, cookies, cake, pie, etc. are the types of things you can bring if you don't have an ice cream freezer for

### B-VARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS

3.960 MHz 8:00 pm Wednesdays

Compiled by Melvin Thatcher, KB5ION

June 2, 1993

W5IHY NCS, KB5ION, KB5USL, W5EFB, KI5SC, WD5DRB, N5UOG, N5CPA, N5OAC, KG5KV, N5AFV, W5GLD, KB5LFU

June 9, 1993

KB5ION NCS, KB5LFU, N5CPA, N5AFV, KG5KV, KI5SC, N5OAC, WA5TWL, W5GHK, N5UOG, NL7PQ, N5JBL

June 16, 1993

KE5SR NCS, KB5ION, KB5USL, N5UOG, KB5LFU, N5AFV, W5GHK, N5OAC, KG5KV, KI5SC, W5GLD

June 23, 1993

KB5USL NCS, KE5SR, WN5A, N5AFV, N5CPA, W5GLD, N5KXU, N5OAC, KB5TIB, KB5LFU, KI5SC, W5EFB

June 30, 1993

KB5USL NCS, KE5SR, N5AFV, KI5SC, W5IHY, WA5EON, N5CPA, N5OAC, KB5TIB, W5EFB, KG5KV

the homemade kind and can't keep the store-bought kind from melting on the way to the meeting.

Our plan this year is to find a way to keep the ice cream from melting. I am open for suggestions. Maybe a child's swimming pool filled with ice. A good time will be had by all. Ugh! I hate that expression!

73 de Betty

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### The World of 1Ø-1Ø International

by Al Mattis, N5AFV

The S.H.O.T. chapter continues to wait for the official results of the 1993 Winter QSO Party. The chapter has received unofficial word that the City of Lights chapter in Illinois won the QSL party, but the reports have conflicting details. We will just have to wait for the next issue of the 10-10 International News to see the details. The S.H.O.T. chapter will be looking for all the help it can get in the 1993

Summer QSO Party. If you have been thinking of joining the chapter, do it now! If you've been planning to help the chapter in a QSO party, mark your calendar for August 7-8, 1993! The S.H.O.T. chapter's record setting winning streak may have been broken, but that's no reason to give up on the fun and excitement of participating in the QSO parties.

The S.H.O.T. chapter is pleased to welcome two new members. KB5VTB, Lanny Poteet, and KB5YVT, Mike Hance, joined the chapter this past month. The chapter extends a warm welcome, and we look forward to having others join us in future nets.

This past month many paper chaser's were targets of a phony equipment sales scam. A former chapter head and certificate manager in Nevada announced that he was giving up his position and found another person to take his place. A few weeks later, approximately 800 Ten-Ten members throughout the nation received a letter from him offering his amateur radio equipment for sale. At least eighteen persons reportedly sent him \$1,200 checks for his TS-940. Several other transceivers, amplifiers, VHF/UHF gear, antenna tuners, scanners and similar equipment were also offered for sale. The FBI knows of at least \$115,000 that he collected, and the actual total may exceed a quarter of a million dollars. The man has disappeared, and the FBI has reportedly learned that he obtained his amateur license, N7KRS, under an assumed name. The investigation continues.

Sporadic E propagation has been present on the ten-meter band almost every day. In the past month, I have worked stations in twenty-one states and three foreign countries. I worked most of these stations while operating mobile with twenty-five watts. Many new operators have been taking advantage of this propagation to get a good start on their ARRL Worked All States award. As stated last month, the ten-meter band is far from dead, so check out the band occasionally, and you may be rewarded with one of these summer 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

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713/977-8781

### Delta Loop Antennas

by Doug Holley, KE5SR

Over the past fifteen years I have built and used a dozen or so delta loop antennas. I personally have had very good luck with the loop, more so than with most other antennas. I have experimented with feeding them at various points, have used baluns, and presently I am using sixty feet of 600 ohm open-wire feed line.

The shape of the loop makes little difference. I like triangle shapes, but sometimes we do not have the room to make a perfect triangle. I know many people that have made squares or other odd shapes to fit their real estate. They all work but polarization and radiation resistances do change with shape configurations.

My best results have been in the configuration of an inverted "V" with the coax fed from one of the lower corners. With this configuration the radiation resistance at the loop is about 80 ohms. I like to match the loop connection with a half wavelength of

