



# B-VARC BULLETIN

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

Editor in Chief: Kelley Hughes N5ULZ (713) 499-9806 FAX: (713) 499-0279 Compuserve ID: 72603,623

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club (B-VARC) was originally organized in 1978, primarily as an emergency communications group available to assist the communities of Missouri City and Stafford when required. Since that time, B-VARC has grown and expanded its activities to become the most active Ham radio club in the southwest Houston area.

Today, B-VARC is truly a general-interest club, with an impressive record of Public Service. This commitment to service has been recognized by the Amateur Radio Relay League with the coveted status of Special Service Club. We are proud of our members, who represent the finest in Amateur Radio. Membership is not limited to licensed operators, but is open to anyone with an interest in Amateur Radio. Meetings are held at 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of each month at the Sugar Land Community Center. Talk-in assistance is available on the 145.47 and 444.55 MHz repeaters.

To obtain information about the club and its various activities, as well as information about joining the club, contact Betty Wilcox, KA0TEN, at (713) 859-6512.

Volume: 17 Issue: 12

December, 1994

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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



No General Membership meeting in January. Attend the B-VARC Annual Awards Banquet on January 19. Get your reservations in to Sam Wilson, N5CPA, by January 12!

## B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE

Thursday, Jan. 5 7:30 pm	Board of Directors Meeting Sugar Land Community Center
Thursday, Jan 19 6:30 pm	Annual B-VARC Awards Banquet H.E.S.S. Building

Allen Mattis N5AFV  
5314 Wigton Drive  
Houston, TX 77096



# January 1995 B-VARC Calendar of Events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30	<b>2</b> 7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters	<b>3</b> 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10	<b>4</b> 8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 KHz)	<b>5</b> 7:30 PM B-VARC Board Meeting: Sugar Land Community Center	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)
<b>8</b> 1:30 PM Texas State RACES Net 7.248 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30	<b>9</b> 7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters	<b>10</b> 6:00 PM Amateur Exam Session Sirake Jesuit College Prep. 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10	<b>11</b> 8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 KHz)	<b>12</b> <b>NO MEETING</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)
<b>15</b> 5:30 AM Houston / Tomball Marathon 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30	<b>16</b> 7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters	<b>17</b> 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10	<b>18</b> 8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 KHz)	<b>19</b> 6:30 PM Annual B- VARC Awards Banquet Houston Engineering & Scientific Society Building 3121 Buffalo Speedway	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)
<b>22</b> 1:30 PM Texas Sinto RACES Net 7.248 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30	<b>23</b> 7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters	<b>24</b> 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10	<b>25</b> 8:00 PM B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960 (Busy? +3 KHz)	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 7:30 AM B-VARC Breakfast 9:00 AM Hou. Emer- gency Management NET 146.84 (9:30 on 3.905)
<b>29</b> 7:30 PM A.R.E.S. Net 147.30	<b>30</b> 7:30 PM 34-94 Swap Net 146.94 8:00 PM Fort Bend County Emergency Net 145.49 9:00 PM BVARC Net 145.47 & Linked Repeaters	<b>31</b> 8:00 PM 10-10 SHOT Net 28.488 10:00 PM AMSAT 147.10				

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	23	24	25	26	27	28

Please report any changes or corrections. Kelsey Hughes, NSULZ, 499-9806



# Notes From the President

by Doug Holley, KE5SR

The year 1994 has moved by so quickly and now it is time for a new 1995 slate. I would like to think 1994 flew by so rapidly because we were so incredibly busy with all our many activities. There was not a spare weekend for BVARC in 1994. Board meetings, general meetings, picnic, campouts, field days, etc. kept us busy, and add to all that the breakfasts and monthly Friday dinners and public service events, there was not much time left for other things.

I, as your 1994 President, have had the best year of my life. Meeting so many new people and being involved with the many activities are some of my best memories. Major events I recall were helping put up the 120' tower for the Stephen F. Austin Radio Club, helping Bill Clark take down and reinstall his antennas, and working with the field day group.

The only one negative point I can think of was getting the threatening letter from Grundy Wiley, our Texas Tax Comptroller, indicating we were attempting to evade sales tax through our monthly sidewalk sale and even through HamCom 1993. Losing BVARC sponsorship of the sidewalk sale, which was one of our main events, cost us membership as we have always signed people up to join our club at these gatherings.

We taught two no-code theory classes and taught two code classes. The achievements from these groups surprised me as we turned out both new hams and a host of upgrades. When events like this happen, it makes you happy to be a ham and to have had a part in it.

Work is continuing for the 1995-1996 Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Convention. We met November 13, 1994 for our second meeting. Eleven core members were elected. Our prime sites, the Astrohall and George R. Brown Convention Center were already booked the first two weeks of October, so either another site or another weekend is in our future. Plans are at present for the core group to locate another site or date. A representative from many clubs will be called on to help with a particular aspect of the organization.

**BVARC RAG CHEW CHECK-INS**  
3.960 MHz 8:00pm Wednesdays  
Compiled by Mel Thatcher, KB5ION

## November 2, 1994

KB5ION (Net Control), KG5KV, W5GLD, KE5SR, WN5A, N5UOG, K5LTV, N5ECP, KB5LFU, N5CPA, N5OAC, WWO, WD5CJL, K15SC, KB5PAJ, AB5OK, N5AFV, N5YKR, W5GHK, KB5TBZ, N5KXU, KF5NU

## November 9, 1994

KE5SR (Net Control), KB5ION, WD5CJL, WN5A, N5CPA, W5GHK, K0NM, N5UOG, KB5TBZ, KJ5SF, W5GLD, W5IHY, WA5SCE, KD5GM, KF5NU, KG5KV

## November 16, 1994

KE5SR (Net Control), WD5CJL, WN5A, N5CPA, KB5ION, W5GHK, K0NM, N5UOG, KB5TBZ, W5GLD, KJ5SS, W5IHY, WA5SCE, KD5GM, KF5NU, KG5KV

## November 23, 1994

N5CPA, N5UOG, W5IHY, WB8SVR, AB5OK, KJ5SS, KD5GM

## November 30, 1994

KB5ION (Net Control), KE5SR, N5UOG, K15SC, KB5PAJ, W5GLD, N5CPA, W5DIG, W5IHY, N5RTN/Mobile, N5OAC, N5AFV, KF5NU, WA5TWL, WD5CJL, W5GHK, KD5GM, N5KXU

Our club banquet will be held January 19, 1995 at the same site as it was in 1994, the Houston Engineering and Scientific Society building at 3121 Buffalo Speedway. Arrival time is 6:30 p.m., and dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m.. The price is \$17 per person plus bar. We have three meals to choose from: Chicken Oscar, 10 oz. Ribeye steak, or West Coast Snapper. The club is picking up a portion of the cost. You must let Sam Wilson (N5CPA) know if you are coming and what your dinner choice is by January 12. This is our only coat and tie function, and I look forward to seeing you there.

In closing, I cannot attempt to name all members responsible for the success of BVARC in 1994 in this newsletter. My sincere thanks to all members and non-members in this team effort who contributed to a great year filled with many accomplishments. Greatness is not achieved through numbers, but through effort.

73 de KE5SR, Doug Holley

# Board of Directors Meeting

by Bud King, N5UOG

A quorum of the B-VARC Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on December 1, 1994. This was the twelfth meeting of the Board for the 1994 calendar year.

The following Board members, members-elect, and guests were in attendance: Doug Holley, KE5SR; Melvin Thatcher, KB5ION; Sam Wilson, N5CPA; Claude Sessions, K5HFY; Victor Richard, N5NAS; Bill Dessens, N5KXU; Bud King, N5UOG; Ron Grimes, WA5SCE; Louis House III, KD5GM; Donn Washburn, N5XWB; Billy R. Jones, KC5EVD; Allen Mattis, N5AFV; Frank Wood, W5GLD; Mike Hardwick, N5VCX; and Angel Abbott-Jones, KC5KRV.

Bud King, N5UOG, submitted the minutes of the November Board meeting, and they were approved unanimously.

Sam Wilson, N5CPA, the Club Treasurer, reported a balance of \$2,778.52 in the treasury as of November 30, 1994. The Treasurer's report was approved unanimously. Sam stated the membership had reached 251.

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, in his report to the Board concerning Public Service Events stated there was one event remaining in December. The 30K Marathon Warm-Up will be chaired by Don Wade, WB5IBT, and held on December 10th. Mike mentioned the Houston Tenneco Marathon would be held on January 15, 1995, along with the 5K Marathon Warm-Up Race. Doug Holley congratulated Mike on the excellent manner in which he had chaired the Public Service Event Committee in 1994.

Vice President Mel Thatcher, KB5ION, stated it was pleasing to see the rapport that had been established between B-VARC and the other amateur radio clubs, especially the Bellville A.R.C. Mel's comments included the well being of the Rag Chew Net, and the possibility that the new Net Control may want to investigate a change of time for the net. Discussion of the subject resulted in no action being taken. Doug thanked Mel for his many years of service as Net Control of the Rag Chew Net.

Vic Richard, N5NAS, congratulated Doug on his outstanding performance as President of B-VARC. The Board echoed Vic's statement.

Angel Abbott-Jones, KC5KRV, was requested to research a source and availability of B-VARC Logo Patches, Caps,

Shirts and any other articles that would identify a B-VARC member.

Louis House, KD5GM, has volunteered to chair and conduct the 1955 B-VARC Code Classes for 1995. Doug Holley will assist Louis.

A brief discussion clarified the method of nominating and selecting the recipients for the awards which are presented at the B-VARC Annual Banquet.

In attendance were seven (7) members of the 1995 B-VARC board of Directors. At the direction of those members, Bud King, N5UOG, was instructed to apply for reservations for meeting rooms for the 1996 B-VARC functions and to report the results at the first Board meeting in 1995.

President Holley adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

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## B-VARC Bulletin Update

by Kelley Hughes, N5ULZ

You may notice that this issue of the Bulletin is only eight pages long, compared to the usual ten. This is primarily due to the lack of articles submitted for publication this month. I guess the Holidays have everybody a little busier than usual. I know I am! This is "crunch" time at work for my business, and I end up making lots of short out-of-town trips on short notice. One such trip is the reason the Bulletin is a little later than usual.

I had high hopes for the questionnaire in last month's bulletin. I have over the course of the past year had lots of comments regarding how people thought we could improve the bulletin. I figured by putting in a questionnaire, everybody could submit their ideas and a tally of preferences could be made. Well...I had a grand total of three completed questionnaires sent back in. I guess I can presume from this that everybody likes the bulletin the way it is. (or else nobody cares!). My thanks to the three of you who took the time to give your input.

Anyway, please send in an article or two. You are the ones that provide the information for this newsletter. I am looking forward to a great 1995, and hope you are too!

73 es CUL de Kelley, N5ULZ

