

the B-VARC BULLETIN

The Monthly Publication of The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club

Volume 19 Issue 10

October 1996



NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

by Ron Grimes—WA5SCE

Wee, sleeket, cowran, tim'rous beastie,
O, what panic's in thy breastie!

...
But Mousie, thou are no thy-lane,
In proving foresight may be vain:
The best laid schemes o' Mice an' Men,
Gang aft agley

To a Mouse,
by Robert Burns

I was feeling a little like the panicked mouse when we began gathering for the September 12 meeting. Friday the 13th had come a day early. To say the least, our well laid plans for the evening were definitely going astray in a handbasket. But as Gailen the optimist (a/k/a N4SKR the Program Chairman) pointed out, all things work out for the best.

Crisis No. 1: While scarfing down my baked potato a la barbecue at Vasos, Harold Parker—ND5F said "You did hear that Bill Kemp—KG5CB (our September program) was unexpectedly called out of town tonight, didn't you?"

"No, Harold, I hadn't." (Uh-oh!)

Good news! Gailen the Optimist scrambled and, with the help of a number of other B-VARCers, put together an alternate program on short notice.

Crisis No. 2: Oops! Someone at the Sugar Land Community Center changed our meeting night from September 12 to September 19, and gave our meeting room to someone else. Rather than telling us ahead of time, I guess the person making the change thought maybe we wouldn't notice. We noticed.

Good News! Bill Kemp was unexpectedly called out of town for the night. With no electrical power for his computer, I'm afraid Bill would have had a hard time keeping our interest with his program on Ham Radio and the Internet. Bill waving his hands and telling us "Gee—you should see what this looks like when we have electricity!" wouldn't be nearly as interesting as seeing the real thing on the screen.

So, with two strikes against us, were we to be defeated? Not a chance. We're hams. We're used to facing adverse operating conditions on field day, providing emergency communications at the drop of a hat, operating with no commercial power, and we would not be denied! The solution—Meeting al Fresco!

Fortunately, Darrell—KC5JAR, our intrepid coffee chef, meeting room honcho, and all round good guy, assumed a solution would be at hand and had already fired up the coffee pots. We grabbed the coffee pots and cups, and adjourned to the south parking lot of the community center for our meeting. This fulfilled our public service duty for the week. All those poor little mosquitoes that had endured the drought were suddenly provided with several bare arms, legs, and (for some of us) bare heads to feast on. The meeting started at 19:32. We had a brief business meeting, then Gailen emceed a program where several folks brought out their favorite show and tell items. The meeting concluded to 20:02. Definitely one of the shortest regular meetings, and probably the first one held outside.

I sincerely apologize for the inconvenience and confusion of the evening. But, I also want to say a big THANK YOU to all those that stayed with us for the evening—thank you for coming, thank you for your patience, and thank you for making the meeting a success in spite of the obstacles. Thanks to Darrell, Gailen, and all the others for stepping up to the plate when it was needed.

Finally, thanks to Bud King—N5UOG, for quickly investigating the meeting space problem on Friday morning. The Sugar Land folks were suitably embarrassed and promised it would not happen again. Bud reviewed this year's remaining dates with them, just to be sure. I didn't count attendees, but I estimated about 40+ people were in the parking lot for our meeting al fresco. Next month, we plan to have a much more routine, air conditioned, and less buggy meeting. See you on October 17!

73, Ron—WA5SCE

President:
Ron Grimes—WA5SCE
(713) 341-7137

Vice-President:
Louis House—KD5GM
(713) 498-5639

Recording Secretary:
Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ
(713) 460-1968

Corresponding Secretary:
Jim Cahanin—KB5TBZ
(713) 438-0927

Treasurer:
Pete Norris—KJ5SS
(713) 342-9089

3-Year Board Member:
Terry McCoy—KK5RL
(713) 641-4595

2-Year Board Member:
Bud King—N5UOG
(713) 494-3741

1-Year Board Member:
Claude Sessions—K5HFY
(713) 242-6069

Past President:
Carl Cunert—WB8SVR
Allen Mattis—N5AFV (appointed)

FROM THE EDITOR*by Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ*

Due to an extremely busy and exhausting month, I have nothing to report this month. Stay tuned...

The Editor

SPECIAL THANKS

All of us at B-VARC would like to extend our gratitude to the management at KHTV, Channel 39, for the use of their equipment and facilities in order for this bulletin to be published.

We would also like to thank Claude Sessions—K5HFY, and all the other B-VARC members who volunteer their services in helping to put the bulletin together. It couldn't be done without you.

B-VARC BOARD MEETING*by Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ*

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at the Sugar Land Community Center on September 5, 1996. This was the ninth board meeting of the calendar year. The meeting was called to order by Vice President, Louis House—KD5GM, in the absence of President, Ron Grimes—WASSCE, at 7:34 p.m.

The following Board Members and guests were present: Louis House—KD5GM, Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ, Jim Cahanin—KB5TBZ, Pete Norris—KJ5SS, Terry McCoy—KK5RL, Bud King—N5UOG, Claude Sessions—K5HFY, Allen Mattis—N5AFV, Sam Wilson—N5CPA, John Moore—KK5NU, Mike Hardwick—N5VCX, Allen Brier—WB5BIR, Connie Brier—KC5VHH, and Jacob Mattis.

Recording Secretary, Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ, presented the August minutes. The minutes were approved with a motion that passed unanimously.

Treasurer, Pete Norris—KJ5SS, presented the Treasurer's report dated August 31, 1996, showing a balance of \$4,637.40. Pete stated that B-VARC currently has a total of 155 members. The treasurer's report was approved with a motion that passed unanimously.

Corresponding Secretary, Jim Cahanin—KB5TBZ, had nothing to report.

John Moore—KK5NU, stated that B-VARC has had over 1,000 hits on its home page in the past 6 months.

Vice-President, Louis House—KD5GM, stated that he still needed someone to volunteer to take over the code classes which will be held from Sept./Oct. through Feb./Mar.

Board Member, Terry McCoy—KK5RL, had nothing to report.

Board Member, Bud King—N5UOG, thanked everyone for their expressed concern regarding his wife, Edith.

Vice President, Louis House—KD5GM, passed around a note received via packet from Donn Washburn—N5XWB, for everyone to read.

Board Member, Claude Sessions—K5HFY, had nothing to report.

Past President, Allen Mattis—N5AFV, stated that the November elections were approaching quickly and that we needed to start thinking about it now. He has several people assisting him with the nominations/elections. There will be a chili supper at the November meeting, which will be held November 21, 1996, and a volunteer would be needed to coordinate this. Board Member, Claude Sessions—K5HFY, volunteered to take on the responsibility of coordinating the chili supper. Allen stated that he will provide an article for the newsletter which will include the slate of nominations for board positions.

B-VARC Rag Chew Net Manager, Sam Wilson—N5CPA, reported that the net is doing well, and that the check-ins for the month of August ranged from 11 to 17.

Past President, Allen Mattis—N5AFV, stated that Past President, Carl Cunert—WB8SVR, checked into the 10-10 SHOT Net recently.

Public Service Net Manager, Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ, reported that the Monday night Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Public Service Information Net was going well, with fairly high check-ins ranging from 30 to 50. She also reported that the squirrel activity seemed to be low.

Allen Mattis—N5AFV, stated that he had spoken with Scott Pederson—K15DR, the new public service events coordinator for B-VARC, and that he wanted everyone to know that he was working on the events and that he would be joining B-VARC very soon. Mike Hardwick—N5VCX, stated that there were 2 public service

events that were scheduled for the weekend of October 12 and 13, 1996, those being the Alamo Challenge bike ride and the Houston Symphony Classic, and that volunteers were still needed for these 2 events.

Pete Norris—KJ5SS, stated that he would be starting a Novice/Technician theory class on November 4, 1996. He asked Claude Sessions—K5HFY to check on the availability of the classroom facilities at the First Colony church of Christ. The class will end in time for the testing session on January 14, 1997. The text for the class would again be "Now You're Talking."

Vice President, Louis House—KD5GM, asked Pete Norris—KJ5SS, if he had anything to report concerning the investment of the life membership funds. Pete had nothing to report, but will check into it and provide a report at a later date.

Vice President, Louis House—KD5GM, stated that he thought club membership was down from past years. Jim Cahanin—KB5TBZ, stated that he would again send out the complimentary bulletins, club information, etc. to prospective members from the ARRL list of new hams in the area.

Past President, Allen Mattis—N5AFV, introduced his son, Jacob Mattis, as a guest to the meeting.

There was some discussion concerning a field trip/picnic for B-VARC for sometime in October, possibly October 5, 1996. Nothing was decided.

Louis House—KD5GM, asked about the status of B-VARC patches, t-shirts, etc. Allen Mattis—N5AFV, stated that the club used to have these items, but nobody would buy them. Vic Richard—N5NAS, was going to bring a sample patch for us to look at, but this has not yet been done. After some discussion, it was decided that we would take a poll at the general membership meeting in September to see if there was an interest.

Vice President, Louis House—KD5GM, indicated that Harold Parker—ND5F, wanted board to decide whether B-VARC, if asked to do so, would hold VE test sessions at the Gulf Coast Ham Convention. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed that B-VARC would participate if asked.

Board Member, Terry McCoy—KK5RL, stated that Newline was financially in trouble and he thought we should pass the hat for donations. Also, that we should possibly take up a donation for the MERA

repeater. Allen Mattis—N5AFV, stated that MERA would ask for money when they needed it, so there was no need to take up a collection for MERA. Allen Brier—WB5BIR asked if B-VARC could contribute the \$50/yr. required for Newline. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to pass the hat at the September general meeting for a donation to be made to Newline. Depending on the outcome of that, then the board will decide whether or not to add to the contribution.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Vice President, Louis House—KD5GM, at 8:30 p.m., with a motion, second and unanimous vote.



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

by Pete Norris—KJ5SS

As of September 5, 1996, the current membership for the club is:

155

HOUSTON HAM INFO. LINE

495-3495

The Ham Information Line is available 24 hours a day by calling the above number with a touch tone phone. Information on local clubs and test sessions is provided.

NOMINATIONS OF B-VARC OFFICERS FOR 1997

by Allen Mattis—N5AFV

The election of B-VARC officers for 1997 will take place at the November 21, 1996 general membership meeting. At this time, the club will elect the following:

- President
- Vice-President
- Recording Secretary
- Corresponding Secretary
- Treasurer
- Three-year Board Member

The club's by-laws provide for a standing nominating committee composed of three past presidents of the club whose responsibility it is to see that at least one qualified person is nominated for each position. This year, the committee is made up of:

- Allen Mattis—N5AFV, Chairperson (721-3637)
- Randy Pollard—AK5G (667-5123)
- Harold Parker—ND5F (464-9044)

Please contact one of the persons listed above if you wish to have your name on the November ballot, or if you know someone who you believe would make a good club officer. Nominations from the floor will also be accepted at the election meeting.

The qualifications to run for office are: 1) You must be a member of B-VARC, and 2) for President, you must hold a General Class or higher license, and for all other positions, you must hold a Technician Class or higher license.

HAND GUN

Carry Concealed Permit

CLASSES

Bill Reid Don Brown

(713) **341-1500**

Texas D.R.S. Concealed Handgun Instructors

Westheimer Airpark
a Division of Real Management Co.

Don Brown, Sr.
Operations Manager

(713) 341-9641
Alt #s: (713) 392-3587
(713) 240-1009

24215 FM 1093 • Richmond, TX 77469
One and One-half Mile West of Grand Parkway
Flight School • Hangerage • Tie Downs

THE INTERNET

by Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ

The following article is the thirteenth in a series of articles John Moore—KK5NU, has written for publication in the B-VARC Bulletin.

The Editor

★★★★★

All You Want to Know About the Internet and More

by John W. Moore—KK5NU

Sorting Out the Program—Back to Internet 101—Continued

After getting comfortable with the use and procedures of e-mail, and mastering the art of timely replying to all of your inbound mail, with your own local hard drive filled to 98% of capacity with all of the multitude of programs that you've encountered out there on the net, and have so carefully pulled over the wire to your system, and with all of the "spare time" that you now have at your disposal, once more you seek greener and more distant pastures on the Internet.

Probably the next most frequently used area of the Internet is the fine art of telnet. Telnet is the method by which you, from the commanding position on your local console, remotely login, take control of, and make use of all or some of the machinery on a distant or host computer. As a general rule, unlike FTP (File Transfer Protocol) you are required to have a login name and valid password to access the host system. Customarily this is arranged by either a limited login at first, which after validation, gives you an account with more useful capabilities and scope, or by use of an e-mail request of the operator of the remote system, setting up your account and password for access. Once successfully logged into the remote host, your only limitations are those which that system imposes upon you. Through the net, you are able to issue commands and have the remote system do all of the tasks that you have been given access to use. With the proper command of the UNIX language, it is even possible to have the remote system function and finish jobs that you have started, after you have logged out of the system. Given the proper system setup, your computational boundaries know no limitations.

Next on your list of "things to do" should be to acquaint yourself with the search and retrieval facilities of "gopher" and its allies, Archie and Veronica. Gopher is an information retrieval program developed at the University of Minnesota, hence the

name. The gopher engine is pre-programmed to allow you, the remote user, access to certain areas of information that it contains or has pointers to. To access the area of knowledge, one must only know which gopher to query. Archie and Veronica work in conjunction with gopher to get you in the right direction for the information that you seek.

Veronica (Very Easy Rodent-Oriented Network Index to Computerized Archives) is a search program designed to make specialized searches of gopherspace by title and/or filename. With the proper definition and scope of your search query, you should be able to find just the right gopher to make inquiry of. Jughead (Janzy's Universal Gopher Hierarchy Extraction and Display) is just one more tool to search a specific area of gopherspace. Again, the formulation of your search query is most critical in finding the desired results. Archie is designed to do for anonymously accessed ftp sites what gopher does for information. In short, to find the file or files that you are looking for.

More to come... John Moore—KK5NU

VE EXAM RESULTS SEPTEMBER 1996

by Harold Parker—ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, September 10, 1996 at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

The VE Team consisted of:

Carl Albrecht -	AA5JW
Chuck Andrews -	NI5I
Harold Parker -	ND5F

The Assistants were:

Cass Germany -	KG5IT
John Moore -	KK5NU

A total of 6 exams were administered during the evening to 4 applicants. Two (2) unlicensed candidates received their new Technician licenses and one (1) upgraded with a total of 5 elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 83%.

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

Peter Boesel - Technician
Frank Briggs - Technician.
Joe Sam—KC5SJU - Advanced

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, Harold Parker—ND5F

THE WORLD OF TEN TEN INTERNATIONAL

by Al Mattis—N5AFV

Ten Ten International has announced that October 10, 1996, will be the first annual 10-10 Day Sprint. This one-day QSO party, held on the tenth day of the tenth month, will be much like the regular QSO parties, except that only individual scores and not chapter scores will apply. This first 10-10 Day Sprint will be held on a Thursday, and several Houston area Ten Ten members have been considering taking the day off work in order to participate.

Those of you who surf the Internet might want to check out the Ten Ten International web page at <http://www.lehigh.edu/lists/tenten-1/>. This web page has information about Ten Ten International, as well as many of the Ten Ten chapters throughout the world.

Ten Ten International has announced that Russ Gauthier—N5EJS, of Pollack, LA, has been appointed to the position of DX Countries award manager. Gauthier assumes immediate responsibility for the DX awards program.

SHOT members, as well as Ten Ten paper chasers throughout the nation, were saddened to learn that Stub Lambskin—WB5IGG, became a silent key on August 18, 1996. Lambskin was the certificate manager of the Houston SHOT chapter from 1980 to 1991. He was also active in B-VARC, ARC, and other amateur radio organizations in the Houston area.

Paper chasers continue to be active on 28.345MHz and 28.375MHz when the band is open. Chapters with specials this month include Broken Hearts (AL), Coe Belles (GA), Electric City (FL), GB Ten (G), Kansas Trails (MN), Mule Town (TN), and Pirates of the Mississippi (IL). The Okay Relay Chapter (OK) has announced that Jeremy Dowry—K5IS, is their new certificate manager.

The summer E-layer propagation has not been very good during the last month; however, winter conditions, which will soon be upon us, should show improved propagation. A few Latin Americans continue to be worked when conditions permit. Propagation on 10m will improve in the coming months as we head into the next solar cycle.

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

B-VARC RAG CHEW NET CHECK-INS

by Sam Wilson—N5CPA

The B-VARC Rag Chew Net is held on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. on 3.960MHz, +/- 3kHz. The following check-ins were reported for the month of August:

August 7, 1996

N5CPA (NCS), W5EFB, K15SC, KB5PAJ, N5OAC, W5GLD, W5SNH, N5ECP, W5IHY, KC5HNJ, KF5NU, KG5KV, WASTWL, KK5RL.

August 14, 1996

N5CPA (NCS), K15SC, KB5PAJ, KK5DO, W5EFB, KK5RL, WD5CJL, KF5NU, W5SNH, W5GHK, KE5SR.

August 21, 1996

N5CPA (NCS), WD5CJL, K15SC, KB5PAJ, KE5SR, N5ECP, W5IHY, W5SNH, W5EFB, N5OAC, WB5NES, KB5ION, N5RSJ, W5GHK, KK5DO, KK5JJ, KK5RL.

August 28, 1996

N5CPA (NCS), N5ECP, WD5CJL, N5OAC, KK5RL, K15SC, KB5PAJ, KG5KV, W5IHY, KK5DO, W5SNH, AK5G, KO4QX, WB8SVR, W5EFB.

PSN CHECK-INS

by Jackie Burton—KC5OHH

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Public Service Information Net had the following check-ins for the month of August 1996. Only the count is listed, as there is not enough room to list individual call signs:

August 5, 1996	36
August 12, 1996	30
August 19, 1996	41
August 26, 1996	50

UPCOMING SWAPFESTS . . .

Belton, Texas

Date: October 5, 1996

Location: Bell County Expo Center, Belton, TX

For Info: Mike—WA5EQQ, (817) 773-3590 or e-mail: mlfan@vvm.com

Houston, Texas

Date: October 11-13, 1996

For Info: Bruce Paige—KK5DO, 933-8385

SCANNER JACK'S CORNER

by Jack Roberts—KB5TMY

Houston Lighting & Power Company frequencies:

860.3625	855.6875
859.3625	855.6625
857.3625	855.6125
856.3625	855.4125
860.3375	855.3875
859.3375	855.1875
858.3375	855.1625
857.3375	855.1375
856.3375	855.1125
855.9125	854.9375
855.8875	854.9125
855.8625	852.4625

B-VARC CODE PRACTICE NET

by Bruce Paige—KK5DO

B-VARC sponsors a Morse Code Practice Net, called BCN, on Monday and Wednesday nights at 8:30 p.m. CDST, with the exception of the last Monday of the month. The purpose of this net is to offer a consistent code practice schedule for all amateurs who are working on their upgrades. The practice text is sent at approximately 5, 8, 10 and 13 wpm. The signal type is MCW on the 2m frequency and CW on the 10m frequency. The source of the text is announced in CW before the text is sent. The length of the net is usually 25 to 30 minutes. Check-ins are welcome at the start of the net (on 10m, check-ins are taken from 8:15 to 8:30 p.m.). Tune in on 146.47MHz simplex or 28.146.47MHz CW, with a desire to increase your code proficiency and have a good time.

All copy will come from QST and code is generated from a computer text file.

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

by Mike Hardwick—N5VCX

October 6, 1996

American Diabetes Walktoberfest
Contact: Houston ECHO Society

October 12-13, 1996

Alamo Challenge Bike Ride
Contact: Mike Hardwick—N5VCX, 771-4625

October 12-13, 1996

Symphony Classic Bike Ride
Contact: Bret Prichard—N5VOY, 645-5400

October 20, 1996

20K Warm-Up
Contact: Steve Dunkelberger—N5JBL, 781-6703

November 17, 1996

25K Warm-Up
Contact: Allen Mattis—N5AFV, 721-3637

December 7, 1996

30K Warm-Up
Contact: Don Wade—WB51BT, 242-6706

January 12, 1997

Houston Tenneco Marathon
Contact: Carl Hacker—KB5LDY, 977-9754

MARATHON 20K WARMUP RUN

by Steve Dunkelberger—N5JBL

Fall is here again and that means it is time for the Marathon Warmup Series again. We are looking for communications volunteers—you! The Marathon Warmup series (a 20K, 25K and 30K run) is a chance for runners to prepare for the Houston Marathon. It's also a great chance for us radio volunteers to practice our public service skills and to get ready for the Marathon.

The first warmup run, the 20K, will be held on Sunday, October 20th. The course again will be downtown and on Memorial Drive. This year's race will also be considered a qualifying event for women's long distance runners. For more information, or to sign up, please call Stephen Dunkelberger—N5JBL, at 781-6703, or send me e-mail at dunk@ix.netcom.com.

PROFILES

[None provided.]

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY NETS

	Monday
7:30 p.m.	34.94 Swap Net 146.94MHz
8:00 p.m.	Ft. Bend Cty EM Net 145.49MHz
8:30 p.m.	B-VARC Code Practice Net 146.47MHz (receive only)
9:00 p.m.	B-VARC 145.47MHz
	Tuesday
6:30 p.m.	RACES Net 146.84MHz (103.5PL)
8:00 p.m.	Ten Ten SHOT Net 28.488MHz
8:00 p.m.	AMSAT Net 147.10MHz
	Wednesday
8:00 p.m.	B-VARC Rag Chew 3.960MHz (+/- 3kHz)
8:30 p.m.	B-VARC Code Practice Net 146.47MHz (receive only)
	Friday
8:30 p.m.	B-VARC Code Practice Net 146.47MHz (receive only)
	Saturday
9:00 a.m.	Houston Emerg. Mgmt. Net 146.84MHz (SkyWarm/ RACES)
	Sunday
7:30 p.m.	ARES Net 147.30MHz
	2nd & 4th Sundays
1:30 p.m.	TX State RACES Net 7.248MHz
	7 Days a Week
8:00 p.m.	Gulf Coast Hurricane Net 3935kHz

RFI, EMI AND OTHER STUFF*by Pete Norris—KJ5SS*

Last time, the Volt was introduced and shown to be related to energy by

$$w = QV$$

Power was earlier established to be the time rate of work (energy)

$$p = w/T$$

So that, by substitution

$$p = QV/T$$

or, regrouping

$$p = V(Q/T)$$

Now, the term Q/T is the time rate of change of Charge and known as current, and bears the unit of the Ampere¹(A). The symbol for current is I . Then power becomes

$$p = IV$$

and, since the units of power are Watts, then

$$1I \cdot 1V = 1W$$

or

$$1V \cdot 1A = 1 J/I \text{ s} = 1N \cdot 1m/1s$$

Is this glorious, or what? We will add this to the table, and finish with one last subject.

Recalling that one Joule of work must be done to move one Coulomb through the potential difference of one volt, and if the charge is moved, as in a cell or battery, to a higher potential, this is called a voltage rise, whereas if the charges move to a lower potential, then we say a voltage drop has occurred.

Going back to the example of a test charge being brought towards a similarly charged stationary charge, the work done increases as the test charge is brought closer to the stationary charge and the voltage increases. If the test charge is then held in position, no work is being done even though a force must be continuously applied (work requires the force be applied through a distance). Now imagine moving the test charge "sideways" so the force is constant. The voltage is also constant at this distance from the stationary charge. In fact, the voltage (force required to maintain the test charge a constant distance from the stationary charge) is constant over the surface of a sphere about the stationary charge. This sphere, by the way, is called an "equipotential surface." There can be a "1 Volt" sphere and, if we move closer, we will encounter a "w Volt" sphere, a "3 Volt" sphere, and so on. This change in potential difference is called a "potential gradient" and is described by voltage difference divided by the distance between the equipotential surfaces, this is, V/L . The force, to move from one voltage to another, is then

$$f = QV/L$$

The units of the gradient is Volts/meter, a term often used to describe the "field

strength" at a location distant from a transmitter.

And there you have it! All that has been covered is summarized in our updated table.

¹Named for Andre Marie Ampere (1775-1836), a French scientist, who died in the year Texas became a Republic.

*****IMPORTANT NOTICE*****

The meeting date for October will be held on October 17, 1996, the third Thursday of the month. Please make note of this date change on your calendar so you won't miss the meeting!

ANTENNA COLUMN*by Rick Hiller—KF5NU*

Nothing provided this month. Stay tuned for next month's column!

NOVICE/TECH THEORY CLASSES TO BEGIN*by Pete Norris—KJ5SS*

The Novice/Technician theory classes will begin Monday, November 4, 1996. The classes will be held at the First Colony church of Christ, Rm. 121, and will be completed for testing on January 14, 1997. The text for the class will be "Now You're Talking," which is available from most Radio Shacks or the ARRL.

For more information concerning these classes, please contact Pete Norris—KJ5SS.

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>		
	<u>English</u>	<u>MKS</u>	<u>CGS</u>
Length (L)	foot (ft)	meter (m)	centimeter (cm)
Mass (M)	slug	kilogram (kg)	gram (g)
Time (T)	second (s)	second (s)	second (s)
Charge (Q)	Coulomb (C)	Coulomb (C)	Coulomb (C)
velocity (v)	ft/s	m/s	cm/s
acceleration (a)	ft/s ²	m/s ²	cm/s ²
force (f)	pound (lb)	Newton (N)	dyne (dyn)
work (w)	ft-lb	Joule (J)	erg
power (p)	ft-lb/s	Watt (W)	erg/s
Volt (V)	ft-lb/C	J/C	erg/C
Current (I)	Ampere (A)	Ampere (A)	Ampere (A)



REMINDER . . .

The deadline for articles to be placed in the B-VARC Bulletin is the **15th** of each month. Please make every effort to have your article(s) to me by that date. If you know that you will not be able to meet the deadline but are planning to contribute to the newsletter for that month, you may call me to make special arrangements. Otherwise, if I do not have your article(s) by the deadline, it/they will not be published in that issue. Thank you for your cooperation.

—The Editor

B-VARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR OCTOBER 1996

3rd	7:30 p.m. - B-VARC Board meeting	12th-13th	Public Service Event - 1996 Symphony Classic
6th	Public Service Event-American Diabetes Walktoberfest	12th-13th	Public Service Event - Alamo Challenge Bike Ride
8th	6:00 p.m. - B-VARC VE Testing Session	17th	7:30 p.m. - B-VARC regular monthly meeting
11th-13th	Gulf Coast HAMCOM - Houston HamVention	20th	Public Service Event - Marathon 20K Warm-Up

B-VARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER 1996

7th	7:30 p.m. - B-VARC Board meeting	17th	Public Service Event - Marathon 25K warm-up run
12th	6:00 p.m. - B-VARC VE Testing Session	21st	7:30 p.m. - B-VARC regular meeting
15th	6:30 p.m. - Friday night dinner - location TBA		

B-VARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR DECEMBER 1996

5th	7:30 p.m. - B-VARC Board meeting	12th	7:30 p.m. - B-VARC regular meeting
8th	Public Service Event - 30K Marathon warm-up run	20th	6:30 p.m. - Friday night dinner - location TBA
10th	6:00 p.m. - B-VARC VE Testing Session		

B-VARC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JANUARY 1997

9th	B-VARC Annual Awards Banquet - location TBA	12th	Public Service Event - Houston Methodist Hospital System Marathon
-----	---	------	---

**CITY
ELECTRONIC
SUPPLY**

Alex-WASUHT

Store Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00-5:00
7015 Atwell Houston, Texas 77081 Ph: 663-6066 Fax: 663-6413



ODO ANTENNAS - 2 METERS
BMB ANTENNAS - 440 MHz

Specializing in Communication Antennas

JIM CORBIN • KASODO
CHARLIE CAVIN • N5BMB

713-864-6368
1839 Watercrest
Houston, Tx. 77008

**HOUSTON
AMATEUR RADIO
SUPPLY, INC.**

GEORGE DILETTO, K0ORW
PRESIDENT

181 CYPRESSWOOD DRIVE
SPRING, TX 77388

800.471.7373
713.355.7373
FAX 713.355.8007

PAIGE COMPUTERS, INC.

Largest EPSON® Service Center in Texas



7825 Boone Road
Houston, Texas 77072

BRUCE A. PAIGE

713-833-8385
Ext 201
FAX • 713-833-3544



**Kronberg's
Flags and
Flagpoles**

7106 Mapleridge • Houston, Texas 77081 • (713) 666-2371

Lou Kronberg
Chairman of the Board



3753-B Fondren
Houston, TX 77063
(713) 784-0140
Fax (713) 784-9740

Membership Application

New Renewal Roster Update Only

Bring to a Club meeting, or mail with check to:
B-VARC, P.O. Box 1630, Missouri City, TX 77459

Regular membership dues are \$16.00/year. Life Memberships are \$160/person. Additional family members may join B-VARC for only \$2.00/year each with no additional copy of the newsletter.

Name _____ Callsign _____ License Class _____
Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ ARRL MEMBER? _____
Mailing Address _____
E-Mail Address _____

Remittance:

Regular Membership _____	+ Family Membership _____	=	Amount _____
B-VARC Life Memberships at \$160/person	Qty _____		Amount _____
ARRL Memberships (\$31.00/year)	Qty _____		Amount _____
Worldradio Subscription (\$15.00/year)	Qty _____		Amount _____
			TOTAL _____

I agree to observe the By-Laws of the Club and the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission.

Signature _____ Date _____



The Monthly Publication of the
BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Serving the Greater Houston Area

Club Call Sign—KC5OIG

B-VARC's Home Page: <http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc>

Editor-in-Chief: Jackie Burton—KC5OHJ (713) 460-1968
 e-mail address: jburton@nol.net -or- CompuServe - 71573,471

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. The commitment to service has been recognized by the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) 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 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month, at the Sugar Land Community Center. Talk-in assistance is available on the 145.47, 444.55 and 442.5 MHz repeaters.

To obtain information about the club, its activities, or about joining B-VARC, contact Betty Wilcox—KA0TEN, at (713) 859-6512

B-VARC MEETING SCHEDULE		B-VARC EATING SCHEDULE
Thursday, October 3rd 7:30 p.m. Open to <u>All</u> B-VARC Members	Board of Directors Meeting Sugar Land Community Center	Saturdays—7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Location: New York Coffee Shop, 9720 Hillcroft @ S. Braeswood
Thursday, October 17th 7:30 p.m. Program: Ham Radio & the Internet by Bill Kemp—KG5CB	B-VARC Regular Meeting Sugar Land Community Center	3rd Friday Dinners—6:30 p.m. SHARP! Location announced each month
		Last Sunday Lunches—2:30 p.m. Location announced each month

BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
 PO BOX 1630
 MISSOURI CITY TX 77459-1630
 ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS POSTAGE

┌

Bud King N5UOG
 814 Bel Mar
 Sugar Land, TX
 77478 Jan 97

└

L J