


# THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 22, issue 7  
July 1999

<p><b>Houston Ham Help Line</b> <b>24-Hours</b> <b>281-495-3495</b></p> <p>Get information about local clubs and testing sessions.</p>	<p><b>Membership renewal information:</b></p> <p>Members whose membership has expired or is near expiration will find their membership date highlighted on the mailing label.</p>	 <p><a href="http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc">http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc</a></p>
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**ARRL Membership - Members are urged to renew their ARRL membership through BVARC, allowing the club to take advantage of reduced insurance rates. Contact Irv, KK5QQ at 281-437-6755 for information**

<p><b>What's in this issue?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Notes from the Prez – P. 2</li> <li>➤ BVARC Activities – P. 2</li> <li>➤ Board of Directors Minutes, July 1999 - P. 3</li> <li>➤ BVARC Code Classes - P. 4</li> <li>➤ BVARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4</li> <li>➤ VE Exam Results - P. 5</li> <li>➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 5</li> <li>➤ Monday Night PSN Check-ins - P. 5</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Glacé Night</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Bring your favorite ice cream, either homegrown or commercial to this month's general meeting on August 5.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Contact Steve, WA3PMT, for questions.</i></p>
<p><b>A Special Thanks to the First Colony Church of Christ for the use of their facilities which make this newsletter possible.</b></p> <p><b>Also, Thanks to Claude Sessions, K5HFY, for being in charge of production.</b></p>	<p><b>Board of Directors:</b></p> <p>John Moore, President - KK5NU, <a href="mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org">jwm@hal-pc.org</a>          Larry Jacobson, Vice-President - K5LJ, <a href="mailto:k5lj@nstci.com">k5lj@nstci.com</a>          Doug Woodruff, Recording Secretary - KC5VYZ, <a href="mailto:dwoodruff@houston.geoquest.slb.com">dwoodruff@houston.geoquest.slb.com</a>          Irv Smith, Corresponding Secretary - KK5QQ, <a href="mailto:kk5qq@aol.com">kk5qq@aol.com</a>          Gene Russell, Treasurer - N5XGT, <a href="mailto:hbrussell@aol.com">hbrussell@aol.com</a>          Robert Moore, 3-Year-Director - KK5UO, <a href="mailto:kk5uo@hal-pc.org">kk5uo@hal-pc.org</a>          Darrell Kirk, Two-Year-Director - KC5JAR, <a href="mailto:darrellk@swbell.net">darrellk@swbell.net</a>          Bruce Paige, Past President - KK5DO, <a href="mailto:kk5do@amsat.org">kk5do@amsat.org</a>          Claude Sessions, 1-Year-Director - K5HFY, <a href="mailto:claudes@juno.com">claudes@juno.com</a></p>

# THE B-VARC BULLETIN

## Notes from the President - July 1999

Field Day 1999 has now come and gone -- we experienced a weekend filled with lots of fun, food and ham radio contacts. The weather cooperated in that the only brief rainshower came early on Saturday; causing the move to the center of the covered pavillion of the operating postions. The wind blew most of the weekend keeping them pesky critters out of the way. All in attendance seemed to have a fine time. Tis really amazing what a 500 foot loop antenna draped over a few trees will do for ya. Rex, KC5EEU, Charlie, KG5KV, Jack, WN5A and Randy, AK5G are just a few of the group that contributed to the successful operation.

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Riley Hollingsworth, K4ZDH, (rholling@fcc.gov) FCC Legal Advisor for Amateur Enforcement, has given me a "not anticipated" reply to my eMail message of thanks -- so, he's not just a name on the list; he does listen.

Our entry level Novice Class CW course is almost ready to turn it's class of graduates loose on the radio world. If you encounter them "on the air" remember we haven't all started at the top either.

Still no word from the FCC with regard to the proposed amateur radio license restructuring proposal -- and as a result the examination question pools have been frozen. Now's the time to exert that minimum of effort to advance a level in the license structure. The start of the millenium is almost upon us.

However the FCC does have the 'Universal License Service' now just a little closer to being up and running. To access the ULS simply point your browser to <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls> and select the TIN/Call Sign Registration option. You'll have to enter personal information, including selection of a 'Password' and keying in your callsign -- that gets you into the system for future use.

I hope to see all at the Ice Cream Social on August 5th -- and remember to come hungry, as Steve, WA3PMT, promises that you'll leave stuffed and satisfied. Prizes of course to the 'Best of Show'.

Chili Supper and Annual Elections are not far behind; don't forget the B-VARC Banquet in January either.

73 de John Moore, KK5NU

**Alex-WA5UHT**



**7015 Atwell Dr**  
**Houston TX 77081-6005**  
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## Schedule of BVARC Activities

### August 1999

- 5 - General Meeting  
Ice Cream Social  
Steve, WA3PMT

- 10 - VE Test
- 12 - BOD Meeting

### September 1999

- 2 - General Meeting
- 13 - BOD Meeting  
AMSAT Report & Phase 3D Update  
Andy MacAllister, W5ACM
- 14 - V E Test

### October 1999

- 7 - General Meeting  
Baluns & Transmission Lines  
Rick Hiller, W5RH
- 12 - VE Test
- 18 - BOD Meeting

### November 1999

- 4 - General Meeting  
Chili Supper/Elections
- 9 - VE Test
- 15 - BOD Meeting

### December 1999

- 2 - General Meeting  
SWL Radios and Listening  
Jack Roberts - KB5TMY
- 13 - BOD Meeting
- 14 - VE Test

(see the December 1998 issue for a long-term schedule.)

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## Upcoming Public Service Events:

Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, home 713-771-4625  
 work 713-463-0022 n5vcx@worldnet.att.net  
 Doug Woodruff, KC5VYZ, home 281-232-8452,  
 work 713-350-4575, kc5vyz@arrl.net  
 Bill Randolph, KC5KGJ, home 713-468-3771

Event	Date	Hams needed
Katy Flatland Bike Ride	July 25, 1999	35
Wings Over Houston Air Show	October 16 & 17	60 (2 day event)
Alamo Challenge Bike Ride	October 9 & 10, 1999	55 (2 day event)
20K Warm-up Run	October 17, 1999	25

## Board Directors (BOD) Meeting Minutes Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club July 7, 1999

A quorum of the Board of Directors met at Sugar Land Community Center 7 July 1999. The meeting was called to order by President John Moore - KK5NU at 7:30 p.m.

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 713 268-1044 fax

The following members also were present: corresponding secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ, assistant treasurer Louis House - KD5GM, one year board member Claude Sessions - K5HFY and two year board member Darrell Kirk - KC5JAR. Absent were past president Bruce Paige - KK5DO, vice president Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, treasurer Gene Russell - N5XGT, recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ and three year board member Robert B. Moore - KK5UO. Mike Hardwick - N5VCX and Anita Kirk attended as visitors.

John asked Irv to record the minutes. A motion to approve the May minutes as distributed by email was made by Claude and seconded by Louis. There were no corrections and so approved.

Irv gave the corresponding secretary report. Membership consists of 13 life members (LM), 117 active members and 22 active family members with a total of 149 members. These are distributed by license class as follows: Extra 37, Advanced 27, General 17, Tech Plus 19, Technician 26, Novice 2. Fourteen unlicensed people round out the membership.

John distributed copies of a letter from Harold Parker - ND5F being sent to each LM telling how they may obtain (at their own expense) a plaque suitable for displaying in their ham shacks. It was noted that several LMs have been signed up this year following reduction of one-time dues to \$160. Treasurer's report by Louis. Motion to accept by Darrel with second by Claude -- approved. Details of the financial information can be requested by club members from the board. There was discussion that Life Member dues were to be put in B-VARC's savings account (where interest would just about cover postage and other pro-rata budget items).

John covered the vice president's report in Larry's absence. Programs have been scheduled for the remainder of 1999. Larry is seeking a program for February 2000 as an aid to next year's program chairperson. Suggestions from the membership would be welcomed. August will feature the Ice Cream Social chaired by Steve Decktor - WA3PMT.

John covered the successful Field Day and thanked Rex Ritz - KC5EEU for organizing it. The only particular disappointment was that not more members availed themselves of the excellent Saturday night dinner prepared by Jack Van De Mark - WN5A and Randy Pollard - AK5G. Contest totals are not yet in from the three stations plus a novice station being operated. The first official contact on a 500' loop put up by Charlie Prochaska - KG5KV was to Hawaii.

Louis discussed the ongoing code class with six students. There was discussion of need for another in late fall (ending by Thanksgiving).

John passed out copies of a succinct e-mail response by the FCC's Riley Hollingsworth to a letter thanking them for squirrel-catching actions. As of meeting date, no official FCC report has been issued. (Editor's note: later in the week an FCC report named three violators).

John mentioned that LM Don Brown K5DXS became a Silent Key. John is looking into the possibility of a memorial planting at Westheimer Air Park.

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Old Business: In view of the absence of several board members, discussion of any additional membership classes was tabled.

The web page has received 8572 hits since early 1986. New Business: There was discussion about Newsletter ads. Motion to authorize Claude to pursue such made by Darrel and seconded by Irv -- approved.

Discussion of several venues to leave complementary Newsletter copies. Radio Shack has been found not to be suitable because they typically have no place to display them publicly.

John will investigate the offer of free storage locker space to not-for-profit organizations. B-VARC has several antennas, banners, etc., that need a central storage place.

Mike participated in some off-the-record discussions.

Motion was made to adjourn by Darrel and seconded by Irv. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by corresponding secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ.



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## B-VARC RAG CHEW Net Check-Ins for June by Sam Wilson, N5CPA

3.960MHz +/-3KHz Wednesdays at 8:00PM

Just WHAT IS the Rag Chew Net? Well it's a chance for you to get on the low bands and hang out with other B-VARC members, as well as hams from around the south central US! WHAT?? Don't have voice privileges? Got a short-wave receiver? Dial in and listen, then check in using the telephone

number announced at the beginning of each net.

**6/2/99**--N5CPA, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, W5GHK, K5LJ, N5VXU, W5TEM, KC5EOW. (9)

**6/9/99**--N5CPA, KK5DO, KK5W, KA0TEN, K5VRJ, AB5BA, K5CEK, W5EFB, KM5ID, W5GHK, K5LJ. (11)

**6/16/99**--N5CPA, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, W5EFB, KG5KV, KD5FWD, N0JAA, W5TEM, KK5NU, KK5W. (11)

**6/23/99**--N5CPA, K5CEK, W5EFB, KI5SC, KB5PAJ, KK5W, K5VRJ, AB5BA, N5LZN, KK5UO, N5VXU--(11)

**6/30/99**—N5CPA, KM5DG, W5EFB, KB5PGY, K5VRJ, AB5BA, KK5W, KA0TEN, WN5A, KC5HJ, W5GHK (11)

## Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club Code Class by Louis House, KD5GM

B-VARC's Summer Code Class has been in attendance each Tuesday evening for the last 7 weeks. The classes are being held at the First Colony Church of Christ, and for two weeks at the office of Coherent Technologies at 13100 Southwest Freeway.

The Class has an attendance of eleven people, including two supporting the class and two instructors. The Students are: John Endsley Jr., Gail Reaben, Rex Ritz KC5EEU, Erica Temple, Kurt Mayer KD5FZV, Ian Mayer, and Ben Mayer.

John Moore KK5NU and Dale Temple KC5HJ are supporting the students each session and offer encouraging input to them. Bud King, K5CEK and I are instructors for the class. Mr King is doing an great job as the key operator during the practice runs as each character is learned.

The Students are learning Morse Code up to 5 wpm plus good operator skills to use when they are soon on the air.

The Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club is very thankful to the First Colony Church of Christ for the use of Their class room facilities and to Coherent Technologies for their meeting room for the two week period when we were without a place to meet. Thanks go to Kurt Mayer KD5FZV, for arranging the second meeting place.

The Students of this class are like Morse Code... they too are A-1 .

73 de KD5GM

# THE B-VARC BULLETIN

## RESULTS OF THE JULY 13 AMATEUR EXAMS by: Harold Parker, ND5F

B-VARC again sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examinations that were held on Tuesday evening, July 13, 1999 at Strake Jesuit College Preparatory in Houston.

V. E. TEAM:  
Ron Grimes, WA5SCE  
John Moore, KK5NU  
Harold Parker, ND5F

ASSISTANTS:  
Carl Albrecht, AA5JW  
Cass Germany, KG5IT

A total of 7 exams were administered during the evening to 4 applicants. Two (2) unlicensed candidates received their new Technician license with a total of 4 elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 57%

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

Andrew Dewhurst - Technician  
John Endsley - Element 2  
John Trow - Technician

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 .....

## SCANNER JACK'S Corner by Jack Roberts, KB5TMY

West Harris Co. EMS	15792
West Lakes VFD	15888
H. C. Hosp. District	8432
West University P. L.	16016
Mutual AID 1	8560
Mutual AID 2	8592

This is for all scanner buffs that have trunk trackers  
This is Harris County:

Alief Community VFD DISP 11856	Fire 2	11888
Alief Community VFD DISP TAC 1		11920
Alief Community VFD DISP TAC 2		11952
Katy P. D.		9456
SO Disp 4		9008
SO Disp 11		5520
SO Disp 22		8496
SO Disp 32		8976
West TAC		14864
TAC - 4		12848
SO TAC - 13		2656
SO TAC - 23		2688
SO TAC - 33		2816
HPD - 1		6544
Fire Marshall		6512
SO Warrants		10096
SO Traffic		11728
DA Intake - 2		18464
Animal Control		1936
Pct 5 Constables DISP		11504
Pct 4 Constable DISP		11376

## Monday night PSN check-ins (KC5VYZ net control)

5/3/99 - 25 (KC5VYZ)
5/10/99 - 34 (KC5VYZ)
5/17 - 29 (KC5VYZ)
5/24 - 25 (KC5VYZ)
5/31 - 26 (KC5VYZ)
6/7 - 39 (KC5VYZ)
6/14 - 33 (KC5VYZ)
6/21 - 24 (KC5VYZ)
6/28 - 19 (KC5VYZ)



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Al, N5AFT and Mike, N5MT discuss Houston SHOT



Field day: WB5IIB, N5VXU, KC5EEU, and KK5UO



Field Day: AK5G and KK5UO



Field Day: N0JAA and KK5W

