


# THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 23, issue 7  
July 2000

<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>➤ B-VARC Activities – P. 2</li> <li>➤ Board of Directors Minutes, July 13 - P. 2</li> <li>➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 3</li> <li>➤ V.E.C. Exam Results - P. 4</li> <li>➤ Monday Night PSN Check-ins - P. 4</li> <li>➤ B-VARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4</li> <li>➤ B-VARC Field Day 2000 - P. 5</li> <li>➤ Awards for the January Meeting - P. 5</li> <li>➤ Ice Cream Social - P. 6</li> <li>➤ This Month's Pics - P. 7</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i><b>Ice Cream Social</b></i> <i><b>August 3</b></i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i><b>Please contact Rex Ritz, KC5EEU</b></i> <i><b>at <a href="mailto:icrex@yahoo.com">icrex@yahoo.com</a> or 713-780-2391</b></i> <i><b>for information and support in bringing goodies.</b></i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i><b>The meeting starts at 7 and features</b></i> <i><b>Lloyd Perry from the Houston FCC office.</b></i></p>
<p><b>Many thanks to John Moore for printing this month's issue and to Claude Sessions for production.</b></p>	<p><b>Board of Directors:</b>          Larry Jacobson, President - K5LJ, <a href="mailto:k5lj@nstci.com">k5lj@nstci.com</a>          Glen Jenkins, WB4KTF, vice-president - <a href="mailto:wb4kttf@pipeline.com">wb4kttf@pipeline.com</a>          Doug Woodruff, Recording Secretary - KC5VYZ, <a href="mailto:kc5vyz@arrl.net">kc5vyz@arrl.net</a>          Irv Smith, Corresponding Secretary - KK5QQ, <a href="mailto:kk5qq@aol.com">kk5qq@aol.com</a>          Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, Treasurer - <a href="mailto:K5CAM@arrl.net">K5CAM@arrl.net</a>          Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, 3-Year-Director, <a href="mailto:n5vcx@worldnet.att.net">n5vcx@worldnet.att.net</a>          Robert Moore, 2-Year-Director - KK5UO, <a href="mailto:kk5uo@hal-pc.org">kk5uo@hal-pc.org</a>          Darrell Kirk, One-Year-Director - KC5JAR, <a href="mailto:darrell@ev1.net">darrell@ev1.net</a>          John Moore, Past President - KK5NU, <a href="mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org">jwm@hal-pc.org</a></p>

### Silent Key

Mike Scism, WV5M, succumbed to cancer July 1 and became a silent key.

Mike recently rejoined BVARC after returning to Houston from retirement in the Turks and Caicos Islands. He was an avid CW operator and will be missed greatly by his family and friends.

### Notes from the President - July 2000

Pres Sez,

The next meeting of B-VARC is our annual Ice Cream Social. As an extra treat, we will have the Houston FCC Engineer-in-Charge as a guest speaker starting at **7pm (note we are starting 30 minutes early)**. We have also invited other Houston area clubs to join us in hearing what he has to say. This should be an exciting and interesting meeting. In September, we will return to our standard format with yours-truly presenting a program on PSK31.

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The B-VARC's FD score was approximately 3500 points according to Scott (KIDDER); an excellent effort considering that a couple traditional big testers were unable to attend this year. For those that participated but have not picked-up their FD pin please contact Cam (K5CAM) to get yours.

The annual awards Banquet will be held on 5 January 2001 at the Old San Francisco Steak House - same place as last year. This also brings up the topic of awardees. If you have anyone to nominate for one of the awards that B-VARC offers, please let me or one of the board members know. The awards that are offered are listed on the B-VARC website along with the qualifications. And speaking of nominations, please let John Moore (KK5NU) know of anyone (yourself included) that would like to be a candidate for any open position on next year's board-of-directors. The election will be at the November meeting of B-VARC (the chili supper), so it is not too soon to be thinking about this.

See you all at the Ice Cream Social.

Larry K5LJ

### Schedule of BVARC Activities

Month	General Meeting	Program	BOD Meeting	VEC Test
Aug	3	Ice Cream Social	10	8
Sept	7	PSK 31, Larry, K5LJ	14	12
Oct	5	Homebrew antennas, Kevin, KM5TO (KD5O)	12	10

(A long-term calendar of B-VARC events is available in the January 2000 issue.)

### Houston Area Public Service Events

Event	Date	Hams	Contact
Alamo Challenge Bike Ride Houston to San Antonio	October 14&15	65	Mike Hardwick \713-771-4625
20K Warm-up Run - Houston	October 22	25	Looking for a ham coordinator
Wings Over Houston Air Show	October 21&22	60	Bill Terrell
25K Warm-up Run - Houston	November 12	27	Allen Mattis
Novemberfest Bike Ride - Sealy	November 4	25	KARS
30K Warm-up Run - Houston	December 2	25	Looking for a ham coordinator
Houston Marathon - Houston	January 14, 2001	130	Carl Hacker

**Our annual Chili Supper/Annual Election of Officers and Directors is in the spotlight for the November meeting. Contact John Moore, KK5NU, Chair of the Nominating Committee if you wish to nominate someone; or be prepared to nominate them from the floor. Please secure the nominee's permission first.**

### BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Board of Directors Meeting - July 13, 2000

President Larry Jacobson called the meeting to order at 7:33pm with a quorum. Those in attendance were president Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, vice president Glen Jenkins - WB4KTF, treasurer Cameron Mitchell - K5CAM, past president John Moore - KK5NU, corresponding secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ, 3-year board member Mike Hardwick - N5VCX, and recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ. Those not in attendance were 1-year board member Darrel Kirk - KC5JAR and 2-year board member Robert Moore - KK5UO.

Recording secretary report by Doug. Motion made to accept the June BOD minutes with corrections made by Glen and seconded by John. Approved unanimously.

Corresponding secretary report by Irv reports 158 members with 105 in ARRL.

Treasurer report by Cameron. Complete details for club members can be obtained from Cameron. Mike made a motion to accept the treasurers report seconded by Irv. Approved unanimously.

Vice president report by Glen. Very good turnout for the July general meeting with open automobile installations of radios and antennas. Members seemed to like the idea. September will be Larry - K5LJ to discuss PSK31 operations. Kevin Foto - KD5O will talk about simple homebrew antennas for October. August is the ice cream social headed by Rex Ritz - KC5EEU.

President report by Larry. Audit committee has approved the 1999 financial report of the club financial status with no discrepancies. Reservations have been made at the Old San Francisco steakhouse for January 5, 2001 for the annual awards banquet.

Old business: John had 6 ice cream coupons from HEB for use in the ice cream social. Mike will redeem them for the ice cream social. Ice will be available for keeping the ice cream cold until the start of the event. Glen needs the filters from John. Field Day had a good showing and everyone enjoyed it that attended.

New business: John reported the information for the meeting times for the Sugar Land community center for 2001. Due to schedule conflicts it appears that all general meetings for 2001 will need to be on the second Thursday of each month to make a consistent meeting night for the year with exception of the September meeting date. BOD meeting dates will be worked out as necessary. John presented a tax exempt form for Office Depot for newsletter supplies. John reported VE sessions had 172 applicants YTD with 8 new technician, 49 generals, and 26 extra licenses granted. John will get with Strake Jesuit about continuing to use their facilities for VE sessions. ARRL is caught up with back log for license applications. Mike reported on FCC engineer Lloyd Perry for the August general meeting. He will give a 30 minute short discussion of FCC enforcement information starting at 7:00pm for the August general meeting before the ice cream social. Red Cross will be available for code classes in the fall. John reported that Robert had 5 people in the past code class with only 2 being tested and passed the code requirements. Irv reported that the MERA board will be sending out request for donations to frequent users of the MERA repeater. John reported on the limited disk space for the club webpage on HAL-PC. We have been given an additional 10 Meg to a total of 20 Meg of disk space available. Archives of previous newsletters in digital form before digital capabilities were available will be done. Nominations for 2001 board members are being worked on. Members need to look over the B-VARC awards and nominate names for the awards. Award requirements will be published in the newsletter.

Motion was made to adjourn by John and seconded by Mike. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully submitted by recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ

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

county,city wide id's is using this comercial 800mhz band  
these are the frequencies

- 856.9125
- 857.9125
- 858.9125
- 859.9125
- 858.7875
- 858.8125
- 855.0125
- 855.2625
- 851.9875

as of now these are the id's for trunk tracker scanner  
13424 county,city wide  
10832 smith security  
10841 smith security  
27918 airports  
27935 airports  
27946 airports

these are new ems and fd frequencies  
860.9125 channelview ems  
157.450 cy fair vfd

490.6875 ch 26 news

this is a type 1 t.r.s.  
use e1p1 for data  
101-4 city wide  
if your scanner only for type 2 then use the above i.d.'s



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**RESULTS OF THE July 11th B-VARC AMATEUR EXAMINATION SESSION by: John Moore, KK5NU**

B-VARC sponsored and administered the ARRL's Amateur Radio Examination session that was held on Tuesday, July 11, 2000 at Strake Jesuit HS here in Houston.

**MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:**

- Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
- Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM
- John Moore, KK5NU
- Lannie Poteet, KB5VTB

A total of 16 examination elements were administered during the evening to 13 applicants. There were six (6) applicants for upgrade under the new rules and regulations. By examination, four (4) unlicensed candidates received their new Technician license; one applicant upgraded to General and one applicant passed Element 3 for a total of 6 examination elements passed. In addition, there were four (4) upgrades to General and three (3) upgrades to Extra under the new rules now in effect. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 66.6%

Allen Baker	KD5EUV	General
Edwin J. Calka	KD5JFJ	Element 3
Gregory S. Hakala		Technician
Chris Hoff		Technician
Ryan D. Holzaepfel	KK5XQ	Extra
Connor Lubojacky		Technician
Alta O. Marshall	WA5ZGZ	General
James R. Marshall, Jr.	WA5ZHA	General
James R. Mc Creary	WB5PNL	Extra
Scott A. Pederson	KI5DR	Extra
Bill Phillips		Technician
Neita V. Rice	WB5ETB	General
Eugene W. Watkins	WA5TNT	General

Many thanks to all the Team Members who contributed their time and efforts.

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 .....

John Moore - KK5NU  
eMail - [jwm@hal-pc.org](mailto:jwm@hal-pc.org)  
Homepage - [www.hal-pc.org/~jwm](http://www.hal-pc.org/~jwm)



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**B-VARC members offer courses in General and Extra Theory**

Robert, KK5UO, Ross, K5HFF, and Lanny, KB5VTB, are offering a General Theory course beginning on September 12 and lasting for 6 weeks. The Extra Class Theory course will begin November 7 and will also last 6 weeks.

Both sessions are on Tuesdays from 7 to 9 P.M. and will be held in Fellowship Hall, room F2, at St. Paul Presbyterian Church. Contact Robert, KK5UO, for information.

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

- 5/15 - 22 Doug
- 5/22 - 20 Larry
- 5/29 - 13 Mahana
- 6/5 - 16 Doug
- 6/12 - 22 Doug
- 6/19 - 17 Doug
- 6/26 - 30 Doug
- 7/3 - 15 Doug
- 7/10 - 23 Doug
- 7/17 - 24 Mahana

**B-VARC RAG CHEW Net Check-Ins for June 2000 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.

**6/1/00**--N5CPA, K5CEK/TAG, K5VRJ, AB5BA, WB5SRN, K5HFY, NM5K, W5GHK, N5VXU, KM5TO, WA5VRB. (11)

**6/7/00**--N5CPA, K5CEK/TAG, K5VRJ, AB5BA, W5GHK, K5LJ, KC5AW, WS1C, W1MGC, N5UFR, KM5TO, WB5SRN. (12)

**6/14/00**--N5CPA, K5CEK/TAG, KK5W, KA0TEN, KA0TEO, KK5VE, KD5O, W5GHK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, N5VXU. (11)

**6/21/00**--N5CPA, K5CEK, K5HFY, W5GHK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, KK5VE, W5RIY, N5FNG, N5VXU. (10)

**6/28/00**—N5CPA, N5VXU, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, KD5FWD, KK5VE, K5CAM, KE5MY, K5TEM, (10)

### Field Day 2000 Results:

Some results from Field Day  
By Cameron Mitchell from information supplied by John, K5LKJ, and Scott, KI5DR

Technical stuff: The call used for FD was W5DPA. The location was the Katy – Harris County Park. The number of people participating was 25 and the number of transmitters in simultaneous operation was 3. The maximum power used was 150 watts. The entry class was A and the power used was generators. The call sign for Novice/Tech operations was N0JAA.

	CW	Digital	SSB
160	0	0	0
80	0	0	0
40	102	0	42
20	35	0	452
15	117	0	0
10	6	0	0
6	0	0	277
2	0	0	3
1.25	0	0	0
70	0	0	0
33	0	0	0
23	0	0	0
Subtotals	260	0	774
Novice Totals	0	0	121
Totals	260	0	895

Total  
CW QSO's 260 X 2 = 520  
Digital QSO's 0 X 2 = 0  
Phone QSO's 895 X 1 = 895  
Total QSO Points: 1415

Total QSO points 1415 X power multiplier 2  
equals claimed score less bonus points: 2830

Bonus Points: 500  
Grand Total is 3330

Non-technical: A good time was had by all. The weather was very nice for that time of year. The breeze was cool (and maybe a little humid a la Gulf Coast). The affair was well organized by John Whiteman, K5LKJ, and the food was great, coordinated by Jack VanDemark, WN5A. Many thanks to them for their efforts.

The following participated in the event:

Lanny Poteet – KB5VTB	Ken Richardson – KD5ILT
Henty Calk – KB5IIB	Janet Richardson – KD5IVE
Steve Deaktor – WA3PMT	Dave Johnson – W5FZ
Claude Sessions – K5HFY	Harry Hammond – WD5EOF
David Litchford – N5VXU	Scott Pederson – KI5DR
Joe Morgan – KC5OBF	Mark Keith - NM5K
Cameron Mitchell – K5CAM	Randy Pollard – AK5G
Paul Gray, Jr. – N0JAA	Jackie Burton – KC5OHJ
Jack VanDemark – WN5A	Mike & Shawnda Kirchmann – KC5UKA
Dwayne Jones – KB5YTA	Harold Parker – ND5F
Glenn Richardson	Mary Ann Parker
Curtis Barber, Sr. – KD5JXH	John Moore, KK5NU
Curtis Barber, Jr. – KD5KTT	John Whiteman – K5LKJ
Edward Gonzalez – KD5BIS	Robert Moore – KK5UO
Charles Pitts – N5CEP	Rex Ritz – KC5EEU
Darrell Kirk – KC5JAR	
Scott McKee – KD5XC	

### Information concerning Awards to be given at the January Awards Banquet

*Nominations for the following awards need to be made as soon as possible so that the board may consider each.*

#### The Order of the Key

The Order of the Key is the highest honor that can be conferred by BVARC. With this award, we recognize the BVARC member who has made outstanding contributions to the progress of the club. These contributions might take the form of a long-term, consistent commitment to service, or might represent an extremely high level of service for a shorter time. In any case, the award represents exceptional service and commitment to the goals of BVARC.

Any BVARC member may make nominations for the Order of the Key. The nominations must be made in writing, and should include a description of the nominee's contributions to the club. Nominations must be submitted to any BVARC officer or Board member not later than the December regular membership meeting. The President will then poll the Board of Directors secretly to allow them to vote on the nominations. Although any member may enter a nomination, only the Board of Directors does voting. If in any year, no candidate receives unanimous

approval of the Board, then no award shall be made that year. The vote by the Board of Directors must be unanimous for the award to be conferred.

#### **The Dr. Bill Award**

In 1988 BVARC initiated the presentation of the Dr. Bill Award, which was originated by Keith and Eva Huges (KA5F and KA5CYZ) in honor of Dr. Bill Ossenfort, NG5C, now a silent key, which was very active in the Volunteer Examiner Program in the Houston area.

This award may be presented each year to the BVARC member recognized as the outstanding participant in the BVARC Volunteer Examiner Program. There shall be no more than one award presented each year, unless in any given year the Board of Directors elects unanimously to award more than one award. It is not mandatory that an award be made each year, if in the board's majority opinion, no nominee is selected. Under normal circumstances, other than the condition stated in the first sentence of this paragraph, the yearly recipient of the award, should there be one, must receive majority approval of the BVARC Board of Directors.

#### **The Loop and Zepp Award**

In 1989, the Loop and Zepp Award was originated to recognize BVARC members for their efforts to promote operation on the high frequency (HF) bands. These efforts may take the form of dedicated participation in any form or forms of HF activities, the promotion of HF activities or the assistance in furthering HF activities.

There shall be no more than one award presented each year, unless in any one given year the Board of Directors elects unanimously to award more than one award. It is not mandatory that the award be made each year, if in the board's majority opinion, no nominee is selected. Under normal circumstances, other than the condition stated in the first sentence of this paragraph, the yearly recipient of the award, should there be one, must receive majority approval of the BVARC Board of Directors.

**Any member of the club may make nominations for all Awards. Nominations must be made in writing, and must be submitted to any BVARC officer or Board member not later than the December regular membership meeting.**

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#### **August Ice Cream Social Something Different**

The August BVARC ice cream social will have a little twist on it this year. The meeting will start at 7:00pm to allow time for our guest speaker Loyld Perry, from the Houston FCC office, to discuss enforcement problems and issues in the amateur community. This will take up the about first 25 minutes. At

7:30 we will start with the ice cream social which this year will be a real social event. We will be inviting the Houston amateur community to our event. This will be truly a new experience for Houston hams as well as BVARC. We will be notifying as many of the Houston area clubs and organizations to our social to really socialize. We hope to notify all the groups from the Alvin area to the Tomball bunch. We hope this meeting will foster new contacts and help the amateur community as a whole. If any one is interested in helping on this adventure, please let me know and I will be glad to get you involved. Mark your calendar for a unique ice cream social.

Mike Hardwick  
N5VCX

#### **Also, from Mike about the MERA repeaters**

The 444.55 MERA repeater will be linked to the 145.470 repeater in the morning and afternoon drive times (about 6a to 9a and 4p to 7p). This will be to help promote some interest and will allow folks to use UHF if the VHF doesn't cover their area.

Some Field Day Pics



Paul, Henry, and Harry



Scott working 6



Curtis and BSA friends



Chewing the fat



Some scenes from Dayton



See what?

Please go to the B-VARC website to see more (<http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc>)