


THE B-VARC BULLETIN

Volume 23, issue 9
September 2000

<p>Houston Ham Help Line 24-Hours 281-495-3495</p> <p>Get information about local clubs and testing sessions.</p>	<p>Membership renewal information:</p> <p>Members whose membership has expired or is near expiration will find their membership date highlighted on the mailing label.</p>	 <p>http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc</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>What's in this issue?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Notes from the Prez - P. 2 ➤ B-VARC Activities - P. 2 ➤ Board of Directors Minutes, Sept. 14 - P. 2 ➤ Scanner Jack's Corner - P. 3 ➤ V.E.C. Exam Results - P. 4 ➤ Monday Night PSN Check-ins - P. 4 ➤ B-VARC Rag Chew Net - P. 4 ➤ Election 2000 - P. 4 ➤ Public Service Events - P. 5 ➤ This Month's Pics - P. 5 	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Hot Stuff</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our annual Chili Supper/Annual Election of Officers and Directors is in the spotlight for the November meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Contact John Moore, KK5NU, Chair of the Nominating Committee if you wish to nominate someone; or be prepared to nominate them from the floor.</p>
<p>Many thanks to John Moore for printing this month's issue and to Claude Sessions for production.</p>	<p>Board of Directors: Larry Jacobson, President - K5LJ, k5lj@nstci.com Glen Jenkins, WB4KTF, vice-president - wb4ktf@pipeline.com Doug Woodruff, Recording Secretary - KC5VYZ, kc5vyz@arrl.net Irv Smith, Corresponding Secretary - KK5QQ, kk5qq@aol.com Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, Treasurer - K5CAM@arrl.net Mike Hardwick, N5VCX, 3-Year-Director, n5vcx@worldnet.att.net Robert Moore, 2-Year-Director - KK5UO, kk5uo@hal-pc.org Darrell Kirk, One-Year-Director - KC5JAR, darrell@evl.net John Moore, Past President - KK5NU, jwm@hal-pc.org</p>

Notes from the President - September 2000

Prez Sez:

At the last BOD meeting we discussed setting up standing committees to handle recurring club activities. The board identified 5 possibilities: Field Day, Public Service, Entertainment, Newsletter, and Nets. We would like to identify people to serve on these committees - presumably those who are most interested in these activities. We will bring this up at the next general meeting and circulate signup sheets to get started on setting up these committees. Think about where you could serve the club.

The November meeting will be the club elections for next year's board. Kevin Foto has graciously agreed to coordinate the chili supper. Please sign up with Kevin to bring some chili, chips, etc.

Also, the Awards banquet (at San Francisco Steak House) needs awardees. Who has served the club above and beyond the call of duty? Who has promoted HF operating tirelessly? Who has served the VE team with enthusiasm and dedication? There is a list of past winners of these awards on the B-VARC website. Nominations must be accompanied by a short paragraph highlighting the nominee's contributions. Send any nominations to any board member.

Next meeting, Kevin Foto is going to present some simple homebrew antennas for your consideration. Some of you new upgrades getting on HF for the first time will probably find this useful - maybe one of these would suit your particular needs. This should be very informative.

There are a large number of public service events coming up this fall. Mike Hardwick is looking for a lot of good men (and women). Give him a call.

See you at the general meeting.

Larry K5LJ

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Schedule of BVARC Activities

VE Sessions Change of Location:

The ARRL VEC amateur license tests which are given by

B-VARC on the second Tuesday of each month has been moved to:

**Houston Community College,
Scaresella Technology Center, Room W106
10141 Cash Road, Stafford, TX**

Parking in the rear --

	General		BOD	VEC
Month	Meeting	Program	Meeting	Test
Oct	5	Homebrew antennas, Kevin, KM5TO (KD5O)	12	10
Nov	2	Chili Supper/Elections	16	14

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

Houston Area Public Service Events

Event	Date	Hams	Contact
MADD Country Class Bike Ride	October 7		rmerriam@usa.net
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

BRAZOS VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Board of Directors Meeting - September 14, 2000

President Larry Jacobson called the meeting to order at 7:34pm with a quorum. Those in attendance were president Larry Jacobson - K5LJ, treasurer Cameron Mitchell - K5CAM, past president John Moore - KK5NU, corresponding secretary Irv Smith - KK5QQ, 3-year board member Mike Hardwick - N5VCX, 2-year board member Robert Moore - KK5UO, 1-year board member Darrel Kirk - KC5JAR and recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ. Not in attendance was vice president Glen Jenkins - WB4KTF.

Recording secretary report by Doug. Reviewed the August minutes with corrections. Motion made by John to accept the August BOD minutes with corrections and seconded by Darrell. Motion carried unanimously.


Corresponding secretary report by Irv reports 160 members with 121 active and 13 life and 26 family members.


Treasurer report by Cameron. A complete report can be obtained from Cameron by any club member. Robert made a motion to accept the treasurers report seconded by John. Approved unanimously.

Vice president was not available for his report.

President report by Larry had nothing new to report.

Old business: John reported that Field Day results have been resubmitted to ARRL. VE exam session had 6 people show with a 100% pass rate at the new VE site at the Houston Community College Scarcella Technology Campus in Stafford on Cash Rd. Robert mentioned the start of the General class last Tuesday with 3 participants but books did not arrive until Wednesday after the class. Mike mentioned that the Red Cross is still available for code classes, however, no instructor is available at this time. John reported that the B-VarC web page has had 3220 hits as of the BOD meeting since January 1, 2000. Our domain name BVARC.org has been renewed for five years. Discussion was made concerning methods to activate this domain name. John will explore the possibilities and report at a later meeting. John gave a report on how the committee has come along with getting the nominations for the 2001 BOD. All positions have a qualified candidate except for the President.

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New business: Larry discussed coming up with standing committees for various club functions that are planned for each year. The activities might include field day, public service, hospitality/entertainment/eating functions, newsletter, or the various nets. Those in the committee are not elected, but volunteers with the responsibility of making sure that their area of responsibility is being taken care of and planned ahead of time. BOD was asked whether we know if the serving of hot dogs at the regular meeting continues to serve any useful function. This was unknown at this time and it was suggested that records of the number of people that attend the regular meetings be noted.

Motion was made to adjourn by Darrell and seconded by Irv. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

Respectfully submitted by recording secretary Doug Woodruff - KC5VYZ

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SCANNER JACK'S Corner by Jack Roberts, KB5TMY

This is how to program a trunk tracker scanner for ft.bend co. program these frequencies in the trunk mode.

868.825
868.5375
868.2625
867.7625
867.2375
866.7625
866.3125

Then you program these id's

2256 ch 1
2384 ch 2
2352 ch 3 car to car or the switch channel sometimes called
2480 tac 1
2512 tac 2
2608 administration
2576 warrents
4016 eoc
3024 fire marshal
3792 ch 2
3088 constables
3984 fire disp.
2864 e.m.s. disp

RESULTS OF THE September 12th 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, September 12, 2000 at HCC Scarcella Technology Campus here in Stafford.

MEMBERS OF THE VE TEAM:

Ron Grimes, WA5SCE
Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
John Moore, KK5NU
Mark Winslet, KM5WR


A total of 8 examination elements were administered during the evening to 6 applicants. There were 2 applicants for upgrade under the new rules and regulations. By examination, one unlicensed candidate received his new Technician license and one unlicensed candidate received his new Tech w/ HF license; and two applicants upgraded to Extra for a total of five (5) examination elements passed. The overall "pass rate" for the evening was 100%.

Dennis H. Cody	- KB5KCA - Extra
Bryan E. Hooper	- {KD5LRQ} - Technician
Ronald L. Lerner	- N5GXW - General
Michael O. Mathis	- KK5UG - Extra
James E. Paul	- KA9QNR - Extra
Ivar W. Storvic	- {KD5LRR} - Tech w/ HF

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 everyone at HCC Scarcella Technology Center for making these excellent classroom facilities available to us for our exams each month.

..... 72/73 de John Moore, KK5NU
 eMail: jwm@hal-pc.org
 www - <http://hal-pc.org/~jwm>



Alex-WA5UHT

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 WEB SITE: <http://www.cityelectronics.com>

Store Hours: Mon-Fri 9:00-5:00

Monday night PSN check-ins
(KC5VYZ net control)

8/21 - 21 Bruce
 8/28 - 32 Doug
 9/4 - 23 Doug
 9/11 - 25 Doug

B-VARC RAG CHEW Net Check-Ins for July 2000
by Sam Wilson, N5CPA

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.

8/2/00-N5CPA, WB5SRN, N5VXU, N5XWB/AG, KE5MY, K5JWM. (6)

8/9/00-N5CPA, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, W5GHK, K5LJ, KK5DO, N5XWB, WB5VYR, KI5DR, WB5SRN. (11)

8/16/00-N5CPA, K5CEK, KK5W, K5VRJ, AB5BA, W5EFB, WA5VRB, WB5SRN, WB5FNG, K5JWM, N5XWB, WN5A. (12)

8/23/00-N5CPA, K5CEK, K5VRJ, AB5BA, N5VXU, N5XWB, K5JWM, N5OAC, W5GHK. (9)

8/30/00-N5CPA, N5VXU, WB5SRN, N5OAC, N5XWB, K5CEK, WN5A, KD5HIS, K5JWM, KD5O, K5VRJ, AB5BA, N5TSU, N5KDH, K5LJ, W5GHK. (16)

B-VARC Election 2000

Tis that time of the year once more; the Fall season, B-VARC's Annual Chili Supper, Thanksgiving holidays and our usual election time for Officers and Directors of the club for the next calendar year.

Pursuant to the by-laws, the nominating committee of the immediate past president, John Moore, KK5NU, as chairman, Bruce Paige, KK5DO and Ron Grimes, WA5SCE, as past presidents in chronological order has been convened by eMail; all that's needed is membership participation and candidates.

Positions open for this next year are as follows:

President:
 Vice-President:
 Recording Secretary:
 Corresponding Secretary:
 Treasurer:
 3 - Year Board of Director:

Carrying over from this year areas follows:

2 - Year Board of Director: Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
 1 - Year Board of Director: Robert Moore, KK5UO

So far we have the following candidates:

President	- *open*
Vice Pres.	- Kevin Foto, KD5O
Recording Secy	- Bill Allen, KD5IUI
Corresponding Secy	- Ralph Higginbotham, KM5MG
Treasurer	- Rex Ritz, KC5EEU
3Yr BOD	- Paul Gray, N0JAA

Holdover:	
Past Pres.	- Larry Jacobson, K5LJ
2Yr BOD	- Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
1Yr BOD	- Robert Moore, KK5UO

Needless to say, the election committee comprised of myself, Bruce Paige, KK5DO and Ron Grimes, WA5SCE is scratching all of our lists in an attempt to find a suitable, qualified and willing candidate of the office of President.

Upcoming Public Service Events

Several events coming up and a number of operators are needed for them. Come on out and put you radio and license to a very, very good use.

If you would like to check the calendar of events, the BVARC website has a good listing - <http://www.hal-pc.org/~bvarc/pubserv.htm>

If you cannot get hold of the coordinators listed, please contact myself or Doug Woodruff, kc5vyz@arrl.net for more information.

September 23 - Sealy Crossroads Classic: A one day bike ride in the Sealy, Texas area. Need operators for breakpoints, SAGS, start/finish area, NET control. Event will be on VHF and you will need to have a minimum of 25 watts with a gain type antenna. Contact Dan White: dan.white@argolink.net

October 7 - MADD Country Classic Bike Ride: This is the first year for the ride. It will be held the Magnolia/Conroe area. Same positions are open with the same technical requirements. Contact Rudd Merriam at: rmerriam@usa.net

October 14 & 15 - ALAMO Challenge Bike Ride: Two day bike, Houston to San Antonio. Over 50 operators are needed for this event. There are some one day positions still open but there are many two day positions still open. At this time SAGS and Medical are filled but back-ups are needed for those positions. Contact amateur coordinator Susan Edwards, KB5ICO, at kb5ico@icqmail.com.

October 22 - 20K Warm-up run for the Marathon: 20 operators are needed for the event and you will be able to use a handheld for it. Am looking for a amateur coordinator for it as well. If you are interested, please drop me an e-mail and I will be glad to sign you up.

October 21 & 22 - Wings Over Houston Air Show - They use about 50 or 60 hams for the event. I will be glad to send you in the right direction if you are interested.

As you can see it is a busy season. If you can spare the time, come on out and help present amateur radio in a positive manner. If we don't use the frequencies, we will loose them. The only thing that can help us keep a positive light on us is to be out in the public using our equipment for a worthy cause. With the cell phone and internet craze, amateur radio is, in some areas, slipping away from public knowledge. Most people I talk to today, do not know what amateur radio is and they compare it

to CB. We have to educate the public on what we can do and what the hobby really is for. You do not just have to work events to help amateur radio. You can work with schools in your area, Scouting groups, other non-profits in your area. It does mean that we do have to work at this. We cannot just talk on the radio back and forth to work everynow and then and send out a QSL card once every six months and expect that to help amateur radio stay. We will have to work and present our hobby as a viable and worthy cause to and for the public.

Sorry about the soapbox. If you are interested in working the events, let me know.

Thanks,

Mike Hardwick
N5VCX
Public Service Event Coordinator
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club



This Month's Pix shows K5LJ talking about PSK-31 at the September meeting

THE B-VARC BULLETIN



The Monthly Publication of the
Brazos Valley Amateur Radio Club.
Serving the Greater Houston Area.
Club Callsign - KC5OIG

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

Editor: Cameron Mitchell, K5CAM, k5cam@arrl.net

Production: Claude Sessions, K5HFY, claudes@juno.com

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 Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL) has recognized the Commitment to service 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 generally at 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month, at the Sugar Land Community Center. Talk-in assistance is available in the 145.470, and 444.550 MHz repeaters. Membership dues are \$16 annually.

B-VARC conducts A.R.R.L. VEC license exam sessions on the second Tuesday of each month. B-VARC also conducts a Public Service Net at 9:00 P. M. each Monday on the 145.470 and 444.55 (MERA) repeaters.

To obtain information about the club, its activities, or about joining B-VARC, contact Irv, KK5QQ. Phone 281-437-6755.

B-VARC Meeting Schedule

The next general membership meeting is Thursday,
October 3.

Location:
7:30 p.m. Sugar Land Community Center, 226
Matlage Way, Sugar Land Texas

B-VARC Eating Schedule

Saturdays-7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Location: New York Coffee Shop,
9720 Hillcroft.

Also at 7:30 a. m. Location: Viking Den on 90A, Stafford.

3rd Friday dinners - ☺October 20 at Tio Pepe's Spanish
Restaurant, 5213 Cedar, in Bellaire (behind Bert Wheeler's).
- 6:30 p.m. SHARP!

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