

## HISTORY OF THE BARC, INC.

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Prior to December 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor and World War II, Baltimore had a radio club known as the Mike and Key Club. Activities ceased during the war years. The war ended in August 1945 and resumption of Amateur activities on a limited scale commenced in September 1945. The SCM's report in the January 1946 issue of QST magazine notes that a group calling themselves the "Baltimore Amateur Radio Society" held a banquet at the Park-Plaza Hotel on November 9, 1945. From the call letters (W8's and W9's) given it appears that the sponsors were war plant employees from other districts. In any event there was no connection with the founders of our Club.

### Local group prepare groundwork for Club

During the spring of 1946 a number of local hams indicated interest in reactivating the pre-war club. Informal meetings were held under the leadership of Norman Brooks, W3KDV, Sam Grossman W3FT, Ernest Dobos W3JCL and others at W3KDV's QTH. It was decided to start a new Club. Funds on hand from the pre-war organization were divided among the available members. A group of 20 hams elected Norman Brooks W3KDV chairman, Vice Chairman, Grant Woodside W3JSO treasurer and secretary, with the assigned task of writing a Constitution on July 1, 1946. THIS DATE CAN BE CONSIDERED THE CLUB'S BIRTHDAY. A handwritten Constitution was presented and on August 12, 1946 the following signed the document: BII, CAQ, GWV, HJY, IGX, IQQ, JBQ, JCL, JSO, KAV, KDV, KMB, KPR, IEM, KWU, ICS, HXM, IFQ, IQP, FT, BDY, JBZ, W8WTO/3, Edward Rann, John Dzimanski. At the first meeting in September 1946 the Constitution was presented in printed form and signed by the following: BII, CAQ, GWV, HJY, IGX, IQQ, JBZ, JAC, JSO, KAV, KDV, ICS, KWU, IEM, FT, BDY, JBZ, KMB, KPR, Edward T. Rann, John W. Dzimianski. The Club's first set of officers were elected. Complete listing of officers through the present year are given below.

Activities were transferred to the Fourth Regiment Armory on Fayette Street and notices were sent to local hams of the Club's formation. Meetings were transferred to the Sears Community Hall in early 1947. As many will remember there were interesting meetings held during those early years. Walt, W3DC, was responsible for procuring the Guest speakers.

### Club Activities Commence, BARCS becomes a Corporation

The first Field day was participated in during June 1947. The Club has entered the competition each year since, with the exception of 1941. The first four FD's, 1947 thru 1950 were held at George Hannah's former QTH on Koppelman Lane. (In addition to several other reasons), Mrs. Hannah's fried chicken and other goodies provided at no cost to the FD operators probably accounts for George's election as an Honorary member of the Club. Complete FD results are given below. The 1948 score was not reported to ARRL, and the unofficial score is not available. 1953's score was likewise not reported, but we have the records from that year and list the score as unofficial. The 5th, 6th and 7th FD's were held at Leakin Park. The Club became a Corporation on September 15, 1947.

### Annual Hamfest Picnic held

The first Annual Hamfest-Picnic was held in August 1948 at Triton Beach and under Chairmanship of Ernie Dobos, W3JCL, has been continued each year. The seventh was held this past August. The average attendance has been approximately 100 persons and financially we "break even".

The Corporation's first Buffet-Dance was held in 1948 under the guidance of Ernie Dobos. The second such affair was held in 1949 under Bill Cooke, W3GRB, with over 150 persons attending. The last of this series was held in 1941 under Al Burns. In addition to these affairs the Club has sponsored several "Smokers" at Ed Nichols QTH.