

***** MEETING *****

February 13, 1989

8:00 P.M.

Luby's North Loop

PROGRAM - PROGRAM - PROGRAM - PROGRAM - PROGRAM - PROGRAM

A presentation on the FCC Monitoring Station at Kingsville, Texas will be given by a representative of the FCC.

PROGRAM - PROGRAM - PROGRAM - PROGRAM - PROGRAM - PROGRAM

NO SMOKING PLEASE during the Club Meeting/Program. The Austin Amateur Radio Club has a no smoking policy during meetings and programs.

***** 1990 AARC OFFICERS *****

PRES	MIKE KELLAM	AASJP 836-8223 919		
V PRES	STUART ROMRE	KSKVH 255-3932 918	TREASURER	AMADO RAMIREZ NSPCP 280-1879 916
SECRETARY	JOE CAMFIELD	MSHFC 258-4761 917	ACTIVITY MGR	DARRELL DAWSON WDSCDY 258-1433 915

***** COMMITTEES *****

TECHNICAL	ED GOLLA	K3AHS 255-4818 111	EMERGENCY COORD	[position vacant]
WSKA TRUSTEE	JOE FISHER	K5EJL 926-4689		
EDITOR	RICK HERMDON	K5FNI 454-1670 914	LABELS & ROSTER	PETE JORDANL K5GM 454-7889 913

(Numbers after the call signs are: phone # and autodial #.)

Contributions of articles, cartoons, etc. should be addressed to 1809 W. Saint Johns Ave., Austin, TX 78757-2238. Phone numbers for editor: home 454-1670/work 465-6338. The deadline for articles is twelve days before the FIRST TUESDAY of each month. Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles appearing in the AARCOVER, provided credit is given to AARCOVER and author. Commercial ads are accepted \$15/full page, 1/2 page \$10. Members may advertise ham-related For Sale or Wanted ads free if space is available.

***** HAM AD *****

WANTED: Any old Hallicrafter or Echophone gear, parts, manuals, etc. DEAD OR ALIVE!
Chuck Dachis - WD5EOG - The Hallicrafter Collector - 512-443-5027

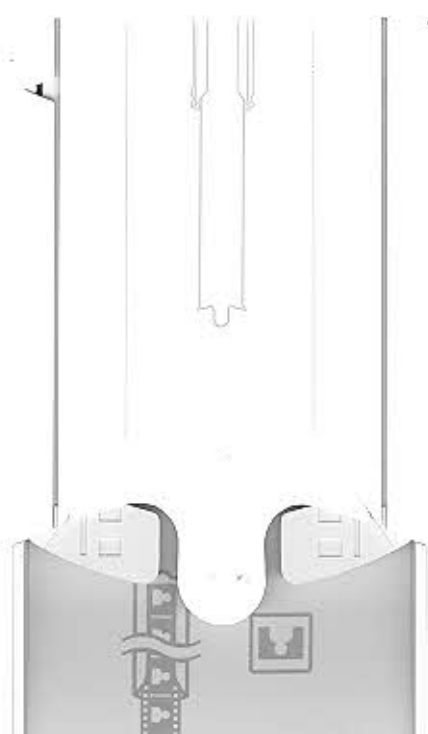
HELP NEEDED: Karry, W5E08, 335-0146, needs help fixing an R4C to get back on the air. Technically inclined, but needs sighted help.

FOR SALE: ICOM IC-765 with a Heil HM-10-S microphone. 3 months old in perfect condition. \$2495 - Call Dave, W5DN, 454-9205 evenings.

TRY THE MICROSATS: Dave, W5DN, copied a microsat on packet. It was DOVE-1 ON 145.825 MHz. Give them a try. Major ham magazines have details on the operation.

***** BANQUET HAPPENINGS *****

AARC BANQUET On Saturday, Jan. 20, 90: members and guests enjoyed food, drink, and good fellowship at the annual AARC Banquet at the Zilker Park Clubhouse. Dave Harper, W5DN, presided at his last meeting as President and introduced the new officers. He then turned the meeting over to the Activities Manager, Darrell Dawson, WDSCDY, for distribution of the door prizes and the First Annual White Elephant Drawing. Darrell thanked Johnny Paul, W5E0G, and the Austin Amateur Radio Supply for their generous assistance in obtaining the door prizes. The White Elephant prizes were donated by a number of the members attending. The writer apologizes for not recording the names of all those who were so generous with their castoffs, oops, surplus items.



The door prizes and their new owners are: Mike, WB5WPS, has a new 1990 ARRL Handbook; Larry, WB5BEK, a rain gauge; Glenn, WA5ZNT, 1990 Call Book; Rick, K5FNI, MFJ four position coaxial switch; Jim, WA5LHS, Hustler 2-mtr mobile antenna; Darrell, WD5CDY, the book, "Passport to World Band Radio"; Margaret, WD5EYL, a Walkman radio; Phil, WB5SUR, Hustler 2-mtr antenna; Roger, KB5BFN, a Hustler VHF-UHF mobile antenna; John, NT5C, the FCC Rule Book; Debbie, KA5OJK, the ARRL Repeater Directory; Roy, W5FOZ, a mobile speaker; David, harmonic of WB5SUR and KA5OJK, "Hints and Kinks" by the ARRL; Pat, NJ7R, log book; Mickie, W5IOJ, ARRL Repeater Directory; Irma, guest of Gus, W5CLP, an interference filter; Chuck, W5KNA, book "Packet Primer"; Carolyn, XYL of NSHPC, a novice course; Bud, KG5DK, a SWR meter missing a working meter; Frank, W5VDS, an Avanti window antenna with no sticky stuff; Johnny, NSIQR, a Net Directory; Trevor, K5/G3WQO, log book; Rod, W0NDS, a roller inductor; Earl, W5PPQ, SWR bridge; John, NT5C, a large flashlight; Libby, XYL of KA5VRO, an unclaimed Bar-B-Q dinner; Kathy, KB5ESI, a EICO three band transceiver, guaranteed to not work; Steve, KG5IG, a roller inductor; Kathy, KB5ESI, a cordless phone and a homemade whip antenna (how many tickets did she have?); and numerous others including this reporter walked off with bundles of QSTs from 1947 to 1959. Others including Joe, W5EBJ; Hardy, KB5CZ; Duke, K5GDH; Bud, KG5DK; Jimmy, WB5KXK; Gerald, WA5PAC; Hal, W5MDL; Jon, NSMHI; and Carlos, KA5RIW either ran off screaming or were observed sneaking out a convenient back door.

Thanks to everyone for their participation, and let the officers know if you would like this to be a continuing part of the activities.

NSHPC, Joe Canfield, club secretary

***** WORKED ALL STATES AWARD *****

On 4-Jan-90 I was pleased to verify the QSL cards for James C. Coker, KB5EHP, of Kyle, Texas. Jim will be receiving the ARRL Worked All States (WAS) award with endorsements for SSB on 10 Meters. Jim started his WAS in Sept., '87 and finished with Wyoming in Dec., 1989.

Dick Kriss, KD5VU, ARRL Awards Manager, via KB5PM BBS & K5GM

***** PK-232 NOISE CURE *****

Several AMTOR bulletins by TG9VT, ZS6AGC and others have explained a simple modification which allows the PK-232 to copy much weaker signals in all modes than was previously possible. All who have completed this modification report results which can only be summed up as amazing. Basically the modification consists of adding bypass capacitors directly across the power supply pins of all op-amp filter ic's.

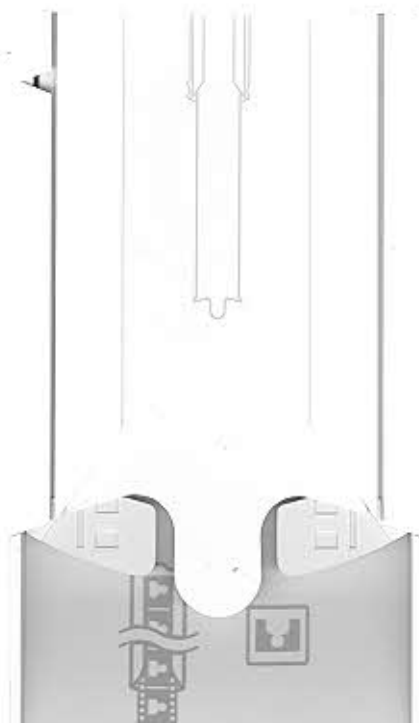
This removes troublesome power bus noise, produced by other circuits within the unit, which tend to interfere or cover-up weaker signals.

I have added some details to allow a somewhat clearer explanation of the basic mod, but full credit should go to the originators.

Naturally, any modification to a unit under warranty will void that warranty, so beware.

1.) Kill power, remove all cables (label them if necessary): electrostatic handling precautions must be utilized.

2.) Remove the top cover by removing all six cover screws, side and rear.



3.) Remove the knob on the threshold control along with the nut which fastens the threshold pot to the front cover.

4.) Remove the entire pc board by removing all 6 fastening screws.

5.) With the front of the board facing you, locate U-23, an MC34074-P, on my unit (s/n 21186) all of these type chips are colored shiny black and marked ?JRC? As opposed to a flat black type packaging on all other ic's. In addition, all of the chips addressed by this mod are on the right half of the board. Flip the board over and mark the socket with a felt tip pen. Also mark pins 11 and 4, which are adjacent to each other. Continue this same procedure with U-26, 28, 30, 32 and 34.

6.) With the P.C. Board positioned foil side up, very carefully install a bypass capacitor across pins 11 and 4. In all cases pin 11, toward the rear of the board, is the minus side. Pin 4, toward the front of the board, is the plus side.

Ideally a ceramic .1 uF/25V or higher, and an electrolytic 1.0 uF/25 V or higher should be paralleled across the pins. The two different types of capacitors tend to provide alternate paths and avoid strange resonances that can occur when only one unit is used, providing more effective bypassing action. A fair amount of dexterity and attention to detail must be utilized by the technician.

If you aren't fully confident of your abilities in this area, it is suggested that just one capacitor in the .1 uF to 1.0 uF range be installed.

Also ceramic types are the most effective types, tantalums are not so effective.

7.) After carefully inspecting your work especially for shorts to neighboring pins, re-assemble the unit and properly re-connect all cables.

I think, that like all others that have implemented this modification, you will be amazed at the enhanced weak signal receive capabilities. K7BUC via K5GM

***** SCHOOL RECRUITMENT FOR AMATEUR RADIO *****

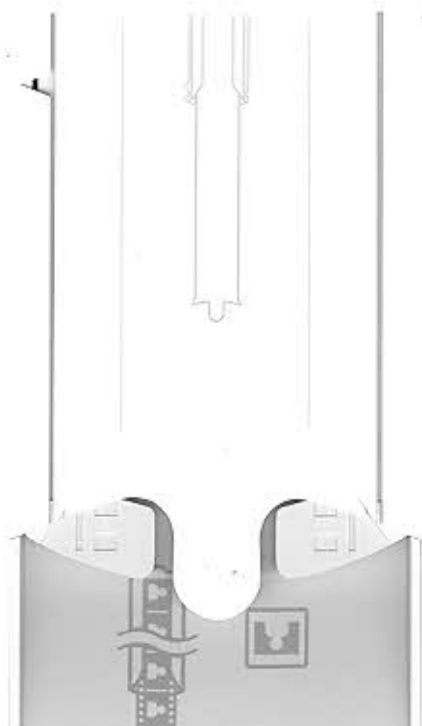
I implemented amateur radio into my electronics classes years ago and so far have watched over 600 people get their licenses. We have a group called the BEARS, the Bethel Educational Amateur Radio Society, sponsored by the Technology Education Department of the Bethel Middle School, although students of all ages participate in our program. Instructors, please contact me if you wish to arrange an on-the-air demonstration or for details of our program. [Please send SASE-ed.]

Contact: Peter W. Kemp, Coordinator
Technology Education Department
Bethel Middle School
1 School Street
Bethel, Connecticut 06801

de KZ1Z, Pete Kemp, from SOURCE OF MAGIC BBS via Boardwalk BBS

Amateur Service Departments
Compiled by Pete Kemp, KZ1Z

AEA	Customer Service	(206) 775-7373
Alinco	Customer Service	(213) 618-8616
	FAX	(213) 618-8758



Ameritron	Service	(419) 531-3024
Arden	Customer Service	(404) 769-8706
	Repair (from 2-4 pm only)	(404) 769-8706
	FAX (from 7 pm - 10 am)	(404) 769-7970
B & W	Customer Service	(215) 788-5581
Butternut	Svc/parts/tech info	(512) 398-7117
Cushcraft	Service/parts/tech info	(603) 627-7879
ETO	Customer Service	(719) 260-1191
	FAX	(719) 260-0395
Hy-Gain	Rotor Parts	(402) 465-7021
	Antenna/Tower/parts	(402) 465-7022
	Technical Assistance	(800) 328-3771
ICOM	Service	(206) 454-7619
	Parts	(206) 454-8155
	FAX	(206) 454-1509
JRC	Customer Service	(212) 355-1180
Kenwood	Service	(213) 639-7140
	Parts	(213) 639-9000
	FAX	(213) 609-2127
MFJ	Service/parts	(601) 323-5859
Telrex	Customer Service	(201) 775-7252
Ten-Tec	Service/parts	(615) 453-7172
Yaesu	Service	(213) 404-4884
	Parts	(213) 404-4847
	FAX	(213) 404-1210

de Orions Nebula BBS via Boardwalk BBS Dec. '89

***** ATV & Texas Marathon *****

A few weeks ago four of us amateur television operators here in Austin provided TV coverage for the State of Texas Marathon - mobile coverage!!!

Steve Means (KB5JMM), Rip Kirby (NSMRY), David Gile (KG5TX), and I (NSOWD) installed our ATV equipment in our vehicles in order to supplement coverage of the race with the Austin Repeater Organization folks. We altered a design of a 5-element quad beam for mobile use as well as the antenna we used at the "command post".

Briefly, our TV coverage of the event was well received - especially by the medical folks who viewed our remote telecasts with much interest. We provided close-ups of runners and would/could have been able to respond to an emergency location if needed. Fortunately (for the runners), the weather was cool and rainy and no serious situations were encountered.

We all had a lot fun doing the remote telecasts as well as learning a great deal about doing this as we will be doing more of this type thing in the near future.

If you live in Austin, tune in to our net on 2-m on the Pflugerville repeater - 145.290 - on Saturday nights at 8PM with ATV transmissions on 439.25.... de NSOWD, Ron Hawkins, River City Amateur Television Users' Group ARMADILLO BBS

***** STOLEN EQUIPMENT DATABASE *****

I'm keeping a database of all stolen or "misplaced" amateur radio gear at this QTH. All information will be compiled and published at minimum on a monthly basis but will be published more frequently as new items



are added to the list. This way you can carry the list with you to ham and regular flea markets to check and see if it is on the "Hot List" If you would like to participate please send the following information:

- * Manufacturer * Model Number
- * Serial Number * Where purchased
- * Where stolen * Details of rip-off (forced entry, car, home, damage, etc)
- * Date reported
- * Date of report filed to local Police Department
- * Any special marking or modifications on or to equipment
- * Your call, first and last name
- * Your daytime and nighttime telephone numbers
- * Your home qth (city, state, zip)
- * Plus other information useful in the recovery of the goods
- * Date recovered (if filed here)

Please send all information to:

Tim Smith
N1BTQ @ KQ1K.MA
IP 44.56.0.116
or P.O. Box 1084
c/o The Hot List
Mattapoisett, MA 02739

de N1BTQ, Tim, Packet BBS N3A1A via Boardwalk BBS

***** PACKET MODEMS REVIEW *****

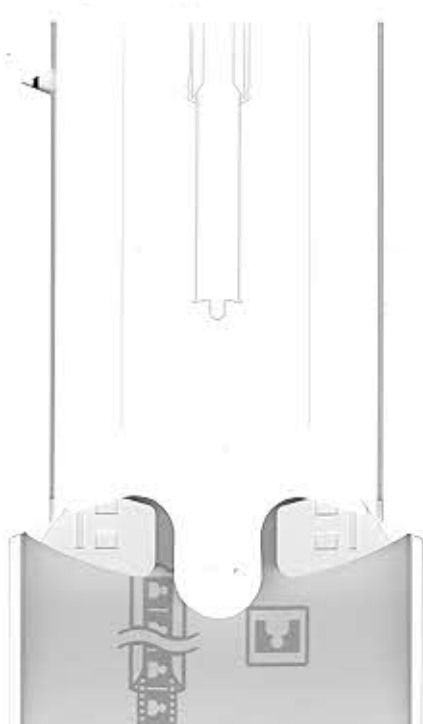
Message to Marc Kazigian on National Packet BBS Echo:

Depends on what you need, and what you know. If you're a serious AMTOR operator, the PK-232 AMTOR software is superior to that in the KAM, which does have some problems. Also, the PK-232 contains the latest AMTOR/SITOR Recommendation 625 specifications that were just approved for ham radio by the FCC in the new rules effective September first this year. The KAM doesn't support the newest AMTOR routines.

If dual-port VHF/HF operation is important to you, then you want the KAM. The PK-232 doesn't handle two radios simultaneously. But if you wanna operate the HF gateway feature, then you must always be present as the Control Operator because unattended HF operation is illegal. If you let a Novice class operator use your gateway onto some HF band, then you are legally responsible for his/her operations.

If you're the typical newcomer to digital modes, who can't tell the difference between Baudot and ASCII RTTY, and AMTOR ARQ and FEC, and can't recognize the data speeds, then the PK-232's unique SIAM (Signal Identification and Analysis Mode) is a great help, in that the PK-232 will automatically attempt to identify the type of code (Baudot, ASCII, AMTOR, etc), analyze the speed of the signal being received, determine whether the signal is normal or inverted, and on your "OK" command will automatically reconfigure itself to whatever mode it thinks it has recognized. This is a feature unique to the AEA products. The KAM and the MFJ-1278 multimode controllers don't have anything like it.

So the choice is really yours and must be based on your wants and your needs. Personally, I use all three of them at different times. The best thing you can do is personally visit the shacks of hams who have each of these units and sit down and try them yourself. The guy who owns them will ALWAYS tell you that what he bought is The Best! No one wants to admit they screwed up or made a bad choice. Just human nature.
de Norm Stuernberg, The Idea X-Change, Bayport, NY via Boardwalk BBS



1990 Meteor Shower Peak Times
Thanks to Joe Reisert, W1JR

Peak Times for 1990 Meteor Showers

Shower Name	Date	Peak (UTC)	Duration	Accuracy (+/-)
Quadrantids	03 Jan	1145	14 hours	15 minutes
Lyrids	22 Apr	0441	2.3 days	12 hours
Eta Aquarids	05 May	0612	3 days	12 hours
Piscids	05 May	1913	?	?
Arietids	07 Jun	1253	8 days	12 hours
Zeta Perseids	09 Jun	2136	?	?
Delta Aquarids	29 Jul	0818	7 days	12 hours
Perseids	12 Aug	0625	4.6 days	75 minutes
Orionids	21 Oct	0145	2 days	12 hours
Taurids	03 Nov	1457	20 days	12 hours
Cassiopeids	03 Nov	1430	?	?
Leonids	17 Nov	0804	4 days	12 hours
Geminids	13 Dec	1204	2.5 days	12 hours
Ursids	22 Dec	1530	2.2 days	12 hours

de Pete Kemp SOURCE OF MAGIC BBS via Boardwalk BBS

***** VIDEOTAPE CLUB MEETINGS? *****

In a recent telephone bulletin board exchange with Ron Hawkins, I wrote:

I realize ham meetings in their entirety would not be of much interest to the populace in their entirety, but the programs for all 5 local clubs could be taped for ACTV and ham tv showings. Anybody have the urge? I think ACTV will provide the equipment for a reasonable sum or free. The clubs could probably soak up the tape costs for the free ads and help to ham radio.

To which he replied:

Richard, if you contact ACTV, I'm sure there would be a camera crew that would enjoy doing this. I know a couple of guys - non-Hams - that produce programs - as individual producers - for presentation on the public access. Another idea would be for someone to use a home camcorder and tape the meetings. I would then be willing to edit and present them for showing on one of the amateur TV frequencies. Who knows, perhaps we can get some folks to get downconverters and create an audience on our own.

[ed. - Anyone out there willing to take up the gauntlet and perform this public service and boost to amateur radio?]

... K5FNI, Richard Herndon

