



AARC OVER

Bulletin of the Austin Amateur Radio Club

June 1992

Meeting

Topic: Field Day 92! There's plans still to be made!



Date: Tuesday, June 9, 1992.

Time: Meeting starts at 8 PM, but most folks come at 7:00 or 7:30 and have supper together.

Place: Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop, a block or two west of Burnet Road. We meet in the back room, as far from the cash register as we can get.

Field Day 92 is coming June 27 - 28, and it's a "big deal." The club will have a station set up at Doss Elementary School in Northwest Austin, on Far West Blvd. at the top of the hill. We hope to have at least 3 transmitters in operation around the clock for 24 hours, operating on emergency power. If you've never erected a beam antenna, or set up an HF station, or worked packet or a satellite, you oughta come. If you're an old hand at all that, we need your help. Site preparation begins Friday afternoon the 26th. Contact Gary, WX5Z, at 454-3230 for further information if you can't make the meeting.

Also, the winner of the Vanna White Technical Article Contest will be announced. The club officers cannot absolutely guarantee that Vanna herself will not be at the meeting.



If you notice Ms. White with a cigarette, please be polite as you explain that all AARC events are "non-smoking."

Clean Air Petition

Senator Barry Goldwater (ret.), K7UGA, was the first signer of a new petition from the Ham Radio Business Council, aimed at forcing the FCC to help clean up our ham bands. The actions of those few who engage in profanity and intentional jamming on the amateur bands make them unusable by many of our young hams. There may be a copy of the petition available at the next club meeting.

In a related vein, the FCC has recently given its regional offices greater authority to levy fines and seizures. Those offices can now assess fines up to \$20,000 without approval from Washington. Average fines are already running \$8,000 to \$10,000 per infraction. (de Newline)

ARES Update

The pager project is well underway. We have received some Motorola Spirit voice pagers, for alerting ARES members if an emergency develops. If you have not already bought a crystal for yours, please send a check for \$15.60 to Austin Repeater Organization, POB 4763, Austin 78765. Make the check payable to Austin Repeater Organization, and mark it "ARES Pager Xtal." Put your call on the check!

There will be an Emergency Preparedness Exercise at Robert Mueller Airport on July 18, evening. How ARES will participate is not known at press time, check the net on Sunday evenings for latest news.

de Miles Abernathy, N5KOB

HUCK'S COUNTRY STORE**Magnum QRN — A Young Ham's Experience**

I was in President Roosevelt's National Youth Administration program in 1939. In our Radio School we were building a big rack-mount transmitter from plans in the 1939 ARRL Handbook. The 250 watt AM rig used 812 finals in push-pull, modulated with 811's in push-pull.

One hot mid-summer afternoon about a dozen of us were engaged in building a pair of A-frame antenna masts, like those in the Handbook, when a little thundercloud came over. Our camp was on the edge of a pine forest, and dozens of trees towered 100 ft. or more over our building.

...I was knocked flat on the ground...

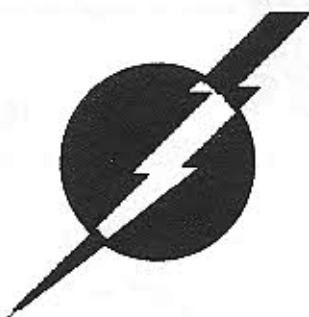
Our buildings were temporary in nature, but still they had a large roof overhang with gutter and downspouts. While two boys worked on the masts, the remainder of us stayed under the roof and "supervised."

As I leaned against a downspout, a lightning bolt hit one of those giant pine trees about 200 ft. away. The steam from the heat blew most of the bark away and split the trunk for more than 100 ft. None of us was seriously injured, although I was knocked flat on the ground by the static charge from the gutter system. A dozen teen-age boys gained a permanent respect for static electricity!

Ultimately, we completed our station and operated it under the calls of our instructor Bob Smathers, W5FFF; a student C. Q. Lee, W5KAG; and my own call, W5KCI.

Some 50+ years have passed, but that QRN is still fresh in my mind. The City Water Works of Hattiesburg, Mississippi, now

occupies the site, with not a trace of the old NYA camp remaining. However, Bob



Smathers, C. Q. Lee, and I are still hamming and are still in the callbook.

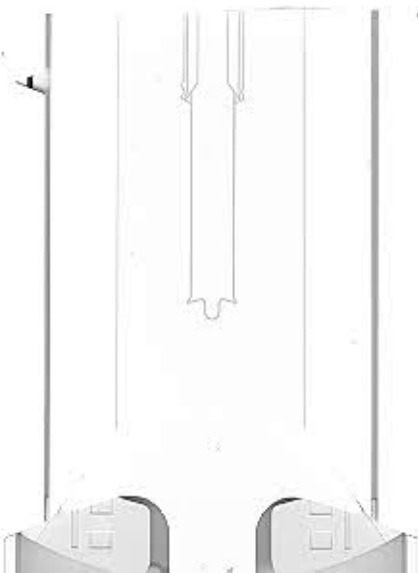
de J. M. "Huck" Huckabee

Huck is an accredited License Examiner with both the ARRL and W5YI, and he is active with both exam groups in Austin. He has been on the air since before World War 2, holding calls W5KCI, D4AER, A5KCI, W4PPY, KF5ZR and now AA5BU. Huck is 71 years old and operates mostly 40-meter CW "in the fast lane."

Stray Currents

Field Day: Be sure and come to the June meeting to learn this year's Field Day schedule. For many, FD is one of the most fun and rewarding parts of amateur radio.

Overseas Brats: If you went to school overseas, send a dollar and SASE to Overseas Brats, POB 29805, San Antonio 78229 for membership information, or call (512) 349-1394. They publish a magazine devoted to reunions and such. To have your name published in the big August issue, send name, schools attended and years, and year of graduation, along with \$18 annual dues, by June 15.



Home Station Battery...Another Reply

[Note: This is the second response received by the AARCOVER to K5FNI's question on how to use a 12 volt battery for powering a home station.]

I read Rick Herndon's (K5FNI) article on home station batteries in the April, 1992 AARCOVER and thought that I would respond with my experiences. I am not an expert nor do I claim to have any expertise in any of the experiments that I have done. As a further disclaimer, I am not suggesting that you do what I have done as I make no claims as to its safety, or that the set ups I have tried will cause no harm to the life, limb and property of you or others. Any statements that I make are just my opinion and may be completely incorrect to someone with technical know-how. At the very least, assume that things could literally blow up in your face. All I am doing is telling you what I have done.

Background:

Several years ago I acquired a old Motorola six meter mobile rig for my home station. My 12 volt power supply could not supply all the current necessary. Ron, WA5RON, suggested that I use my power supply as a filtered battery charger with a current limiting light bulb and protective diode. Let the battery supply the hefty current required for the radio, and use the power supply to charge the battery. As a bonus, I would have a ready-made back-up power supply when the electricity goes off at home. And, I would be able to provide communication in the spirit of public service if things really got tough. Here are five of my power supply system set-ups:

Set-up #1. (see wiring diagram)

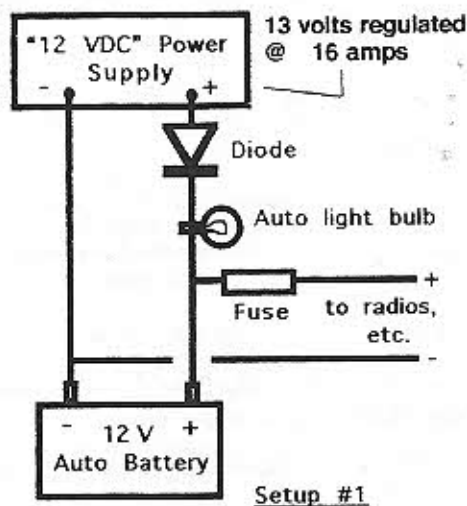
1). Power supply charges battery with current limiting light bulb and protective diode.

2). A half burned out #1157 automobile light bulb was used. The turn signal fila-

ment of this bulb was burned out, but I used the remaining filament to limit the current so the battery would not over-charge.

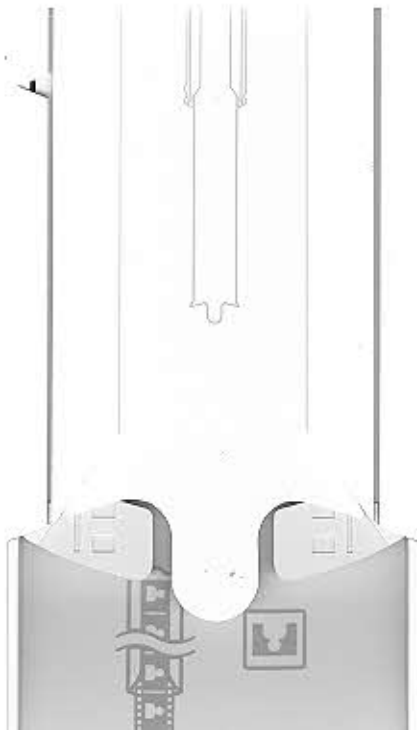
3). Bulb is a visual indicator that battery is being charged. The brighter the bulb, the more current is going into battery. The dimmer the bulb, the less current going into battery and the closer the battery is to being fully charged. Bulb limits current to about 1 ampere. Bulb should last a long, long time as it generally burns most of the time at less than full brilliance.

4). As battery ages, the bulb will glow brighter for longer periods of time. Once bulb glows near maximum brightness all the time, it is time to dispose of battery.



5). Fusing is done with a 20-amp fuse in a cartridge type fuse holder, glued directly to top of battery. Because batteries can put out a tremendous amount of current and are potential fire and explosion hazards if shorted, a fuse right at the source seemed like a good idea.

continued on next page



Home Station Battery continued

6). Use short, heavy wiring between the power supply, battery, and load. This will reduce the voltage loss and keep the wires from getting too hot under heavy current drain. I used 8 gauge copper wire on my system.

7). The power supply sits on my radio desk and battery is under the desk.

8). Battery in this set up supplies all the hefty current and power supply acts more or less like a trickle charger.

Set-up #2. (same as setup 1, except no light bulb)

1). In this arrangement, the power supply is big enough to supply the necessary current (and, of course, the battery is also). Once battery voltage drops, the power supply begins doing most of the work of supplying load current and charging battery. The power supply is usually turned off while operating radios. When battery needs charging, power supply is turned on.

2). A high amperage power supply will charge battery quickly with lots of out-gassing. [The gases released are explosive, so good ventilation is a must.]

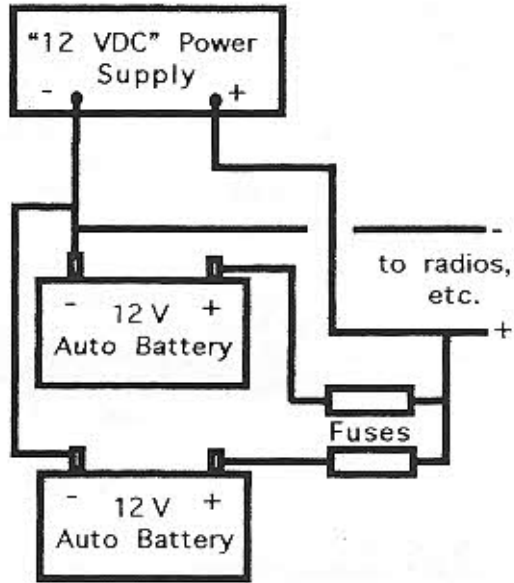
3). You cannot leave the power supply on all the time or all the battery acid will boil away and probably flow down outside of the battery.

4). Protective diode must be able to safely handle current.

5). If battery has a low charge and your radio equipment needs lots of amps, your power supply may run "hot as a pistol" and its fuse or circuit breaker may pop. In that case you may have to let the battery charge first and then turn on the equipment.

Set-up #3. (two batteries)

1). I decided to increase my power supply system's output capacity by adding another battery. I installed a new battery in my car and then took the battery that still had life in it (formerly in my car) and put it in parallel with the existing battery supply.



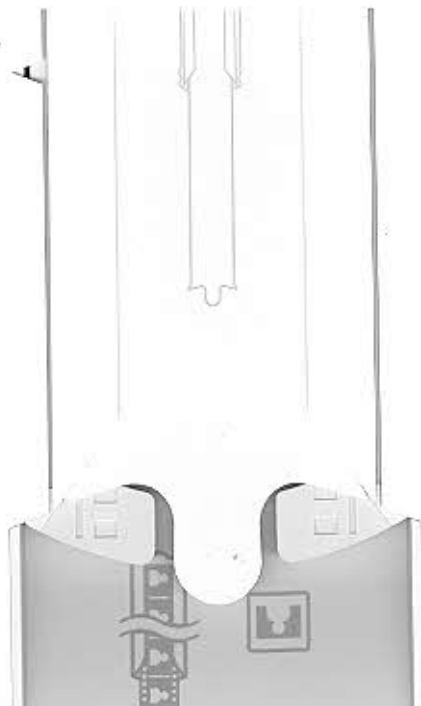
Setup #3

2). Most of the comments in set-up #2 apply here. Heavy-gauge wiring and use of fuses also apply.

3). No protective diode here which means that the output filter capacitors in the power supply are always in a state of charge from the batteries when the power supply is not turned on.

4). Older battery in system will generally take more charge than "newer" battery and fluid levels need to be monitored frequently.

5). Eventually system voltage will be pulled down by the weaker battery and will never



Home Station Battery continued

take charge up to the original voltage. At this time either replace the weaker battery with one that is better or take it out of the system and go back to a one battery system.

6). If both batteries have about the same output capability, I will fuse them with identically-rated fuses (20 amp fuse each). But if one battery seems to be lots weaker than the other, I may put a 10 amp fuse in it and a 20 amp in the better battery. My reasoning is that if the weaker battery's output lines are shorted anyway, I want that fuse to blow quickly. One must realize that if the weaker battery supplies more than 10 amps current, the fuse on that battery will blow. However, if 20 amps are all I need total, then I will put a 10 amp fuse in each battery. Generally, when one battery gets very weak, get it out of the system. The system's output will suffer greatly if the outputs are too mismatched. Again, I am reporting what I have done in my experimentation...may not be the safest way.

Set-up #4. (same as setup 5, except no battery charger and light bulb)

1). Comments of set-up #3 apply here.

2). Power supply is mostly left turned off except for heavy use of batteries or several days of cloud cover.

3). Solar panel blocking diode prevents discharge of batteries through the solar panel at night.

4). Panel has a switch so that I can turn panel current on or off to read the voltage of system's batteries while being charged by the solar panels, or read the open circuit voltage of the panel with no connection to batteries.

5). Power supply can be turned on simultaneously while solar panel is charging batteries. It works for me, but that is not to say that you will not experience equipment

damage if you try it. My panel is a small one, so I cannot say what would happen if you had a large array of panels.

6). Panel is fused at battery. If the wires between the panel and the battery become shorted, I want the current from the battery eliminated quickly. Thus, I have used a 2 amp fuse...slightly more than what my solar panel will deliver.

7). Solar panel's output has decreased a little with age.

Set-up #5. (the works!)

1). All set-up #4 comments apply here.

2). Power supply rarely turned on.

3). Battery charger left on all the time at the 12 volt / 6 amp setting.

4). Battery charger gives a medium glow to bulb at about 250-300 mA at the 6 amp setting and will charge batteries up to about 13 volts.

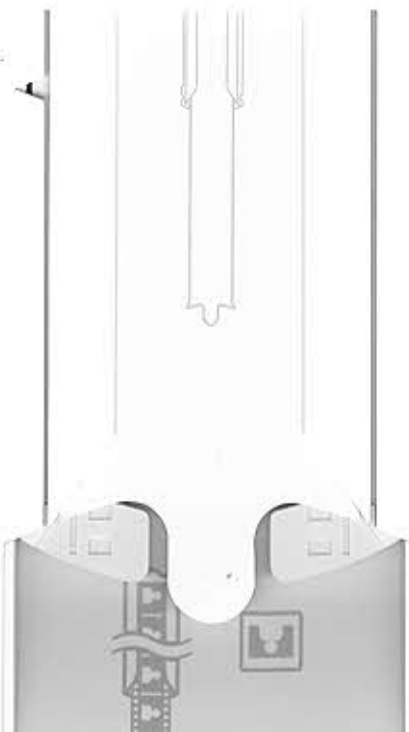
5). Battery charger on its 2 amp setting will cause bulb to barely glow at about 150 mA charging current, and charge to about 12 to 12.5 volts.

6). Battery charger has been tried without the bulb in circuit on both the 2 and 6 amp settings, but too much gassing and bubbling for my taste.

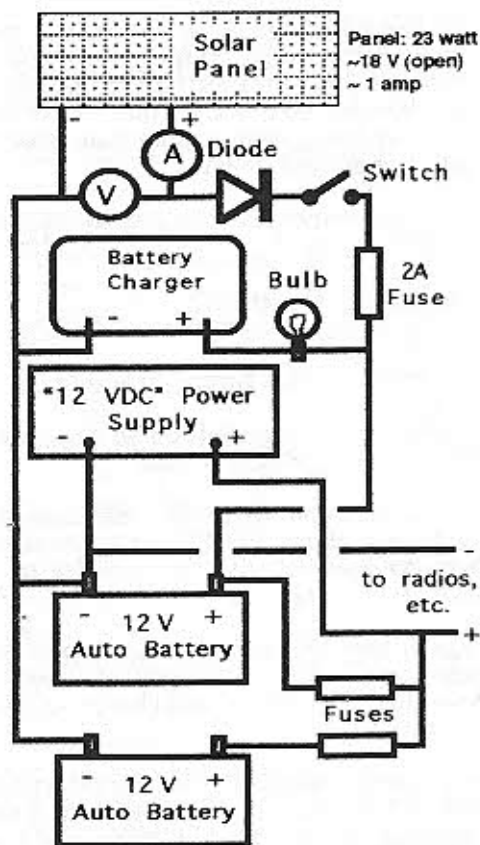
7). No audible 60 Hz noise has been detected on radio from the unregulated battery charger. I cannot say what would happen to your radio if the battery failed with your charger connected to the system. Assume the worst.

8). Be sure to turn off or disconnect all power sources, including the solar panel and charged power-supply capacitors, before servicing the batteries. Remember that the voltage from the solar panel and battery charger is unregulated, and may

continued on next page



Home Station Battery continued
 damage your radio if the battery is out of the circuit.



Setup #5

9). Variables affecting the above statements: Type of power supply and battery charger, age and number of batteries, type of bulb, charger settings solar panel capabilities, and the accuracy of my old voltmeter that I used to make measurements.

Additional thoughts on batteries:

1). Battery acid will always try to find its way to floors and carpeting. I have two

batteries sitting side by side in a large plastic container that I got at a restaurant supply. It is like the ones you see "bus boys" using to clear dishes in restaurants. In the bottom of this container, I have layers of newspaper for the batteries to sit on. When acid boils out of the battery, the newspaper provides "food" for it to feed on instead of having acid rolling around in the bottom. The paper turns a brown color and is brittle. Under this large plastic container, I have a large yard size heavy duty garbage bag sitting on the carpet.

To look at the batteries, I gently slide the large container out from under the table. Over a period of many years the plastic container will become brittle; therefore it pays to be very careful not to crack its bottom. You may want to consider placing each battery in its' own separate box and then set these inside the large container.

2). Should you use standard automotive or deep-cycle batteries? I have only experimented with the auto battery. My reasoning is that I will replace my car battery about halfway through what I estimate its life to be and use it in my power supply system. I try to always keep a reliable battery in the car to avoid surprises and also get the benefit of using the "old" battery for my power supply. Also, if the new battery were to die prematurely, I could get the original battery out of my power supply system and put it back in the car. I suspect you may get more longevity from the deep cycle batteries, but only have comments of others upon which to base this statement.

3). You should put a smoke alarm in the room where you keep your power supply system.

4). Good ventilation is very important to safely charging batteries.

Stray Currents

Our own Dave Harper, WD5N, is listed in the credits of "Ask Livia (Live)", an eclectic adult call-in program shown Mondays at 11 PM on Austin CableVision only (Access channel 10). Dave is a Registered Massage Therapist; Livia is a client.

Want to work some hometown DX? Look for our own Mike Allen, KB5RBW, operating QRP from a sailboat in the Caribbean, July 22 to August 2, on 14.060-14.067 MHz.

Wil Cowan, W5HNV, is our local expert on the Union Pacific "Challenger" steam train, slated to pass through town en route to Ft. Worth / Dallas sometime in August. Challenger will be at the Republican convention in Houston, then return home via San Antonio. We may have several Austin hams aboard. If you can't wait that long, the Austin Steam Train reportedly will begin regular Cedar Park — Burnet excursions early this summer.

Radio Shack has a new speaker mike, compatible with Icom and Yaesu handhelds. The cost is a bargain at \$17.99. (thanks to James, KB5FIO)

China, a nation 2,500 miles wide, has only one time zone. The old Soviet Union had eleven time zones.

Home Station Battery conclusion

5). Remember that the capacitors in your equipment may have quite a stored charge, even with all power sources disconnected.

Don't forget the enormous power inside an automotive battery...it can literally explode if shorted or during charging! While you are poking about on your battery in the cramped space and dim lighting under your table, you are sitting on an "electrical bomb." Exercising safety cannot be over-emphasized.

de Paul Johnston, KASFYI

May License Exams

Here are the results of the ARRL / VEC exams given May 2, 1992, at Murchison Middle School. Congratulations to the following individuals!

<u>NAME</u>	<u>CALL</u>	<u>UPGRADE</u>
Wm. Montgomery	.KB5QPR	.Advanced
Greg Worthington	KB5RUH	.Advanced
Carolyn E. Hinkle	..N5KRWGeneral
Penny LegnerTech Plus
Stuart MurphyTech Plus
Sang QuanTech Plus
Ronald H. VanbeekTech Plus
Charles W. BartonTechnician
Angela M. ClaytonTechnician
Matthew P. DanielsTechnician
Paul R. DanielsTechnician
David J. DanzTechnician
Milton D. Miller IITechnician
John H. Newberry, Sr.Technician
John C. Stott, Jr.Technician
Brian K. WarnckeTechnician
Kurt M. ZinsmeyerTechnician

A total of 21 candidates took exams. Besides the above upgrades, one candidate passed one or more exam elements, but did not upgrade their license.

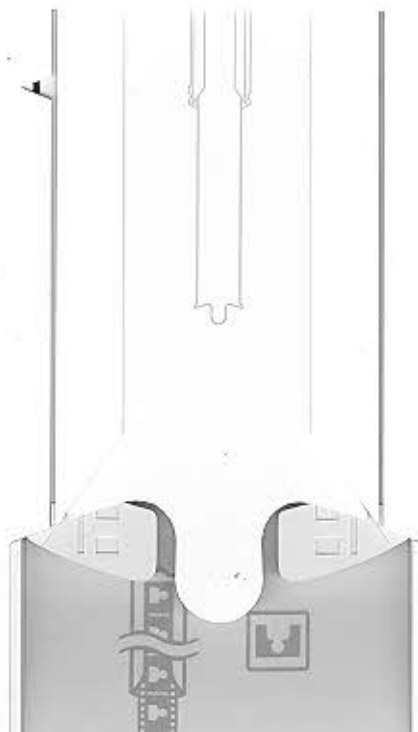
VE EXAMINERS

Joe Makeever, W5EBJ	Roy Miller, W5FOZ
Barry Davis, AA5GN	Bob Redouty, KF5KF
Huck Huckabee, AA5BU	Ray Menke, WX5D
Curt Goodson, W4QBU	Thos. Rohrer, AB5HH
Larry Gunter, WB5BEK	

Special thanks to Joe Makeever, W5EBJ and Roy Miller, W5FOZ for generating the code exam tapes for this session.

The next ARRL / VEC exams will be held at Murchison Middle School, 3700 North Hills Drive, on Saturday, July 11, 1992 @ 9:00 AM, but you should arrive by 8:30 AM. Exams are given upstairs, often in Room 200. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming exams, please contact me at 473-3526 (work) or 345-7281 (home).

de Larry Gunter, WB5BEK



Minutes of the May 12 Meeting

President Jim Neely, WA5LHS, brought the May meeting of the AARC to order.

VISITORS: Jim then requested the visitors to introduce themselves. Tonight we had Bob, VU2LK, from India who is visiting his son in Austin and Zack, N5WDR.

MINUTES: Those present approved the minutes as printed in the AARCOVER.

OFFICER REPORTS: The Treasurer, Dave, KG5ND, announced that there is \$3,875.43 in the checking account and \$272.19 in the postal account. Our Technical Committee Chairman, Ed, K3AHS, had no repeater problems to report. Gary, WX5Z, the Activities Director, noted that there was a good turnout at the Scout Expo on April 25th. Volunteers set up and demonstrated ATV, packet, and HF equipment. Gary thanked KASWSS, N5MHI, N5RNE, WD5HLS, N5TSW, AA5JP, N5KOB, WA8PLR, and KB5RSY.

Gary reminded us that Field Day was fast approaching and asked for volunteers for setup, takedown, cleanup, equipment, and operating. Jim exercised his authority as President by threatening to lock the doors until volunteers came forth. This strategy worked as a number of people did volunteer. Gary still needs more help, call and get on his list.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Hal, W5MDL, reported that his amateur radio demonstration at the North Austin Civic Association Neighborhood Day went well. Joe, W5EBJ, read an impressive list of 21 people either upgrading their license or getting a license for the first time. Thanks to all the 9 volunteers who helped: Joe, W5EBJ; Barry AA5GN; Jim, AA5BU; Curt, W4QBU; Larry, WB5BEK; Roy, W5FOZ; Bob, KF5KF; Ray, WX5Z; and Tom, AD5FH. The next AARL

exams will be held on July 11th. Dave, N5RNE, is asking for volunteers for assisting with a parade involving 170 churches in downtown Austin on Saturday, May 23rd. Commercial radios will be leased and used to avoid any conflict with FCC rules. Dave needs people, you may call him at home or work. Miles, N5KOB, reminds all would be authors that the "Vanna White Technical Article Contest" will close next week. Submit your article now! If Ms. White is not available for "an all expense paid night on the town", a LOWER VALUE PRIZE MAY BE SUBSTITUTED!

NEW MEMBERS: Two new members were accepted: Will, KB5RTB, and James, KB5RSM.

OLD AND NEW BUSINESS: None.

PROGRAM: Rod Moag, W0NDS, introduced two guests. The first was Bob, VU2LK, from India, who has been an amateur since 1936.

Bob equated our Technician license exam plus a twelve word per minute code test with the Advanced exam in India. Exams are given every two months - but, the central government mechanism for checking whether or not to issue you a license takes many months. There are perhaps 5,000 amateurs but only about 200 are active. There is no equipment available locally, it must be imported with each item subject to individual approval by the central government. Bob hopes some recent changes will help with both the license process and the ability to obtain equipment.

Our main speaker is a member of the AARC. Joe Thiel, N5SMN, is employed by the Texas Bureau of Radiation Control's Division of Compliance and Inspection. Joe discussed several aspects of the effects



Stray Currents

Catch the Waveform: Digital Signal Processing is starting to appear in advanced ham radio gear. You can learn more about DSP at the DSPx Conference in San Jose, October 14-16, 1992. Details at (203) 352-8367.

Job Opportunity: The current Yellow Pages has a category for "Telegraph Schools." None are listed.

CW Forever? 27,000 new hams were licensed in the last year before no-code. 47,000 new hams were licensed in the first year after no-code. The number of new Novices is at an all-time low. (de *The Readout*)

of radio waves on the body. This included the present standards, what exposure to high levels do to you, the frequency dependence of the body's absorption of these waves, and a demo where Joe measured the magnetic field in his arm when using a hand held transceiver. Some points to consider: As you approach one watt absorbed power per kilogram of body weight, you can seriously overheat your body (safety standards are much lower). Use of hand held transceivers of seven watts or less should cause few problems, high power may cause local heating. Exposure to certain high power microwave pulse sources can cause burns so fast that the body cannot respond (with pain) until too late.. The cones in the eyes are resonant to about 1200 MHz and can be permanently damaged by lower power levels. The near field around an antenna presents the greatest danger to personnel (especially around broadcast stations). This is a relatively new area of concern, the immediate affect is heating, the long term affects are not all too well understood.

Respectfully submitted by: Joe Canfield, N5HPC, AARC Secretary.

Field Day via Llama

After operating 20+ Field Days, this year I decided to try something completely different. My XYL and I recently started raising llamas (yes, you read correctly, llamas). Why not use a llama for transportation, and operate from a location that is inaccessible to motor vehicles?

The llama only complained once about the load...

I, my wife AA0AS, her son, and Cusi, an 8 year old female llama, hiked to Panorama Peak, just outside of Estes Park, Colorado. It wasn't a very long hike, since I didn't know what Cusi would think of carrying aluminum tubing and a car battery, amongst other junk!

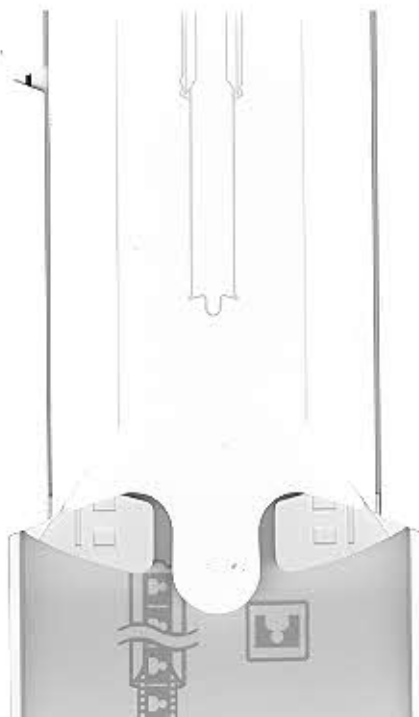
After two llama trips, we got all of our stuff to the peak - a TS-120, 14AVQ vertical, 20 meter wire beam, 200 feet of coax, 700 feet of rope, a car battery, 2 tents, 4 sleeping bags, 8 gallons of water, food, tools, keyer, etc., etc....

The llama only complained once about the load - by sitting down on the trail and refusing to move. It took about 10 minutes to coax her up. She got her revenge by trying to skewer us with the aluminum a few times.



We operated Class 1B—Battery, running 5 watts. The car battery held out better than expected, dropping from 12.8 to 12.2 volts over the 24 hours. We ended up with 538 QSO's (467 CW, 71 Phone), for about 5400 points.

de Steven M. London, N21C
Boulder, Colorado



AARC Information

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Officers

Jim Neely, WA5LHS, President 442-4812
 Rod Moag, W0NDS, Vice Pres. 467-6825
 Dave Marschall, KG5ND, Treasurer .834-1779
 Joe Canfield, N5HPC, Secretary 258-4761
 Gary Pickens, WX5Z, Activity Mgr ... 454-3230

Committees & Positions

Ed Golla, K3AHS, Technical 255-4818
 Joe Fisher, K5EJL, ARES Coord. 926-4689
 <vacant>, AARCOVER Editor
 <vacant>, Public Info Officer

If you are able to help with a vacant position, please contact any club officer.

Viewpoints expressed in The AARCOVER do not necessarily reflect those of the club or its members, directors, or officers.

Members are encouraged to submit material for publication...mail to AARCOVER, 3216 Park Hills Drive, Austin 78746, or call Miles at 327-1310 if it is in computer format. Submissions may be edited for format, style and suitability. Deadline for the next issue is the 21st of this month. Late material will be saved for next month.

We grant permission to reprint AARCOVER articles provided that you credit the author and the AARCOVER.

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc., maintains a repeater with open autopatch and emergency power on 146.78 MHz, and an emergency HF / VHF station at the American Red Cross Building. Membership dues are \$6 per calendar year (\$10 for a family). Dues for new members are pro-rated, so the cost for the rest of 1992 is only \$3.00 for an individual, or \$5.00 for a family. Please contact an officer if you would like to join the club, and come on down to the next meeting.

ATV Club

Camera Amateurs

The Austin Amateur Television Club met on May 19, 1992, at the Sirloin Stockade, 8828 Research Blvd.

On Wednesday, May 13th, Pat - WA8PLR, Ben - W5SHLS, Jon - N5MHI and Frank W5VDS provided the program for the 3M Amateur Radio Club. Pat and Ben set up an antenna and receive station at the meeting and gave a talk on ATV. Jon and Frank provided remote demonstrations of their shacks over ATV, explaining equipment and its uses.



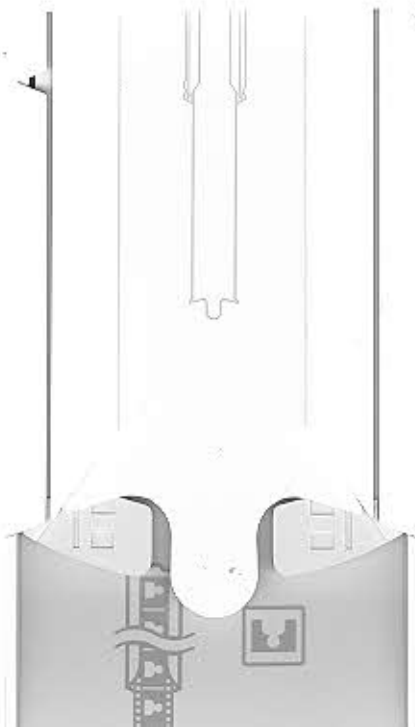
The 1296 MHz FM ATV receiver for the repeater and a couple of transmitters for members have been ordered, to be picked up at HAMCOM in June. This will greatly increase the usefulness and quality of the ATV repeater.

Jon mentioned that he had been contacted by the Round Rock City Emergency Management Coordinator requesting information about the possibility of obtaining ATV receive equipment similar to Austin's. A demonstration will probably be scheduled sometime this summer, possibly to coincide with an emergency exercise. Jon recommended that the Williamson County ARC be included.

The next club meeting will be the usual third Tuesday, June 16th at the above location.

There is usually some ATV activity Monday evenings from around 8:30-9:30 PM, with 2 meter sideband coordination on 144.26. If you don't have SSB, give a call on FM and you should be heard.

If you would like more information on ATV please contact W8ZSX, WA8PLR or N5MHI.
 de Jon Penner, N5MHI, 335-0220



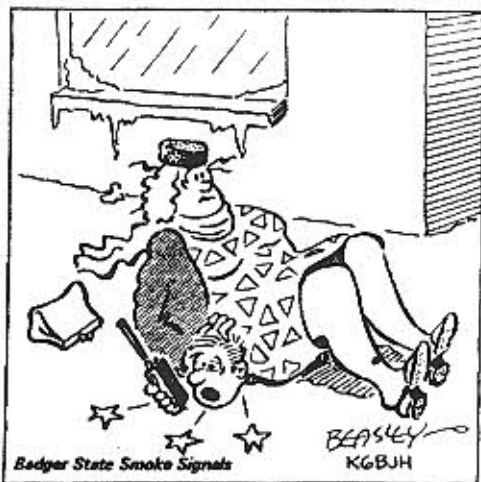
Your First VHF Rig



My wife and I use both handie talkies (HT's) and mobiles, and if I had to give up one or the other it would be the mobile. In fact, when we have a mobile down for service or some such we get along fine, but we bought an extra Icom 24AT to fill in when my wife's was in the shop.

The power of a mobile is nice for simplex and for reaching for a repeater on the fringes, but for the most part if you're in a repeater's coverage area you can work it with 5 watts. I don't actually QRO my mobile up to 25 watts very often. You can always use an HT in a car, but I've never found a way to put my 3200 on my bike or in my pocket... The biggest drawback to HT's in my opinion is that they have pretty pathetic audio output compared to mobiles. I'd get the HT first, though of course one really ought to have both.

de Lee Green, KF8MO



Badger State Smoke Signals

BEASLEY
KGBJH

- HEY ED, CAN YOU CALL THE PARAMEDICS?
MYRTLE SLIPPED ON THE ICE, AGAIN!

Summer...ARO Kid's Novice Classes?

June 5-7...HAM-COM, Arlington

June 6...Ham Exams NEXT Week!

June 9...Space Shuttle launch w/ 2 hams

June 9...Austin Amat. Radio Club meeting

June 13...Ham exams, 8:30 AM, Murchison

June 13-15...VHF QSO Party

June 16...Austin Amat. TV Club meeting

June 27-28...Field Day 92

July 11...Ham exams, 8:30 AM, Murchison

July 11...Tidelands Hamfest @ TX City

July 11-12...IARU HF World Champ'ship

July 18...Mueller Emerg Exercise (ARES)

Aug. 1-3...UHF Contest

Aug. 7-9...Summerfest @ Austin

Aug. 8...Ham exams @ Wyndham

Aug. 15-16...10 GHz Cumulative Contest

Aug. 20-23...ARRL Nat. Convention @ LA

Sep....ARO No-Code ham classes begin

Sep. 12...Ham exams, 8:30 AM, Murchison

Sep. 12-14...VHF QSO Party

Sep. 19-20...10 GHz Cumulative Contest

Sep. 26...Temple / Bell Co. Swap Meet

Oct. 10...Manchaca swapfest

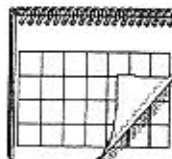
Nov. 6-8...ARRL Hamfest @ Houston

Nov. 7-9...Sweepstakes, CW

Nov. 21-23...Sweepstakes, phone

Dec. 4-6...160-meter contest

Calendar updates to Miles @ 327-1310.



Weekly Events

AMSAT Net...Sundays, 6 PM, 224.14 MHz

ARES Net...Sundays, 6:30 PM, 146.94 MHz

ARES Net...Sundays, 8:30 PM, 146.78 MHz

SwapNet, NewsLine...Sun., 9 PM, 146.94

UT ARC Net...Tuesdays, 9:30 PM, 147.18

LunchNet...Thursdays @ BurgerTex

QCWA Net...Thursdays, 8:15 PM, 147.18

Breakfast...Saturdays, Simon David deli.

U.T. SwapNet...Saturdays, 9 PM, 145.21

WeatherNet...as needed, 146.94 MHz