



AARC OVER

Bulletin of the Austin Amateur Radio Club

August 1992

Next Meeting

Jim Shaefer, KE5AL, will be guest speaker at our next club meeting. He will tell us how he writes ham-radio computer software. Even if digital isn't your FORTRAN, this will be your BASIC good program. Come on out and C.



As usual, the meeting will be the second Tuesday (August 11) at the Luby's cafeteria on North Loop. The meeting officially begins at 8 PM, but most folks show up at 7 or 7:30 and have supper together.



We meet in the back room, as far from the cashier as possible. All AARC events are non-smoking.

Stray Currents

•Clean the Air: About 50 local hams signed the Clean Air petition, designed to encourage the FCC to clean up the ham bands of foul-mouths and jammers. The petitions have been mailed back in to the originators. Lets hope they have a good effect!

•The Texas Challenger II steam train will be passing through Austin Sunday morning, August 23. Challenger is a giant, the largest operating steam locomotive in the world. It is so big the frame is articulated (hinged) in the middle, so it can go around curves. Some local hams may be aboard, so keep your talkie on and monitoring. To reserve a seat (\$129+), call 800-949-3732.

•Ham Expo '92, Saturday, Sept. 26, at the Bell County Expo Center, Belton (south of town, west and adjacent to I-35)

QSL Via the Congress

Senator Lloyd Bentsen is a member of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. That is precisely where S 1372, the Amateur Radio Spectrum Protection Act, is stuck. The Senator says he has "heard from a number of Texas amateur radio operators" who support the legislation, but evidently not enough of us to cause him to join as a co-sponsor. If you mail him one of your QSL cards and mention the bill, it may help persuade him to vote it out of committee. Mail to The Honorable Lloyd Bentsen, U. S. Senate, Washington DC 20510.

While you're at it, send a QSL to The Honorable Phil Gramm (same address) (good luck on getting any response from him!) and another one to The Honorable J. J. Pickle, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington DC 20515.

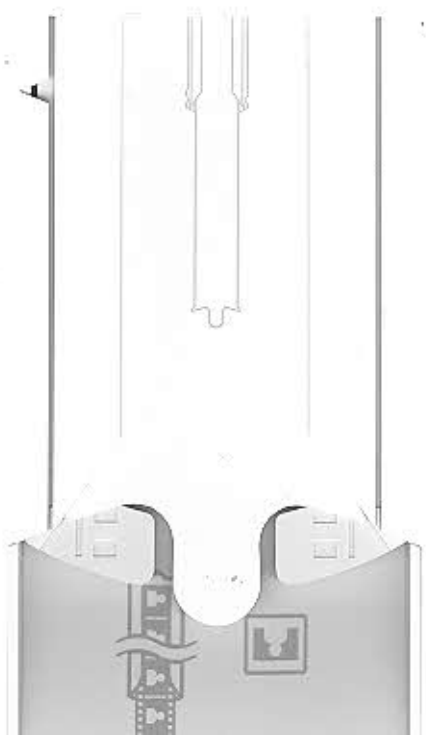
We want Jake Pickle to co-sponsor H. R. 73, the House version of the same bill. He recently responded that hams "can count on [his] full support" if H.R. 73 comes up for a vote by the full House, but he declined to co-sponsor it.

This is the bill that would force the FCC to give us equivalent spectrum every time they take some of ours away. It will cost nothing and has no commercial opposition. If it doesn't get out of committee soon, time will run out and the bill will die.

Perry Williams, W1UED, would very much like to receive copies of correspondence you send or receive. He is at ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington CT 06111.

de Miles Abernathy, N5KOB

Don't miss Summerfest 92. See page 6.



HUCK'S COUNTRY STORE**Upgrading Your New License**

Now that you have your new "ticket," you may be asking yourself, "What will I do now?" So many things in life vie for our thought, time and money that the new ham may miss out on the joys of many facets of amateur radio.

There is one decision that can never go wrong: Continue to upgrade your license until you reach the top! Each step will add breadth to the scope of your ham radio enjoyment.

The code test discourages many of us. Even so, and no matter what we may think, the code requirement is not likely to change in the near future. However, there is a way to begin that is very easy.

Funds for a new mobile rig or a handheld unit may not be available within your economic circumstances. That's true with everyone...we would all like a new rig! But why must our first rig be new, or even modern? That should not slow down our upgrading plans.

Try this: Make friends with the older hams. Most have some type of older gear that is workable or can be repaired. Find a transmitter and receiver, and someone to help you get the equipment going.

Keep it simple and operate CW. Yes, CW! The equipment, including the antenna, can be simple, and available at low (or no) cost to a sincere new licensee. If your economics are really in stress, seek a loan (equipment, not dollars!). It will surprise you to learn how many older hams will be thrilled to get you going.

Why that horrible CW stuff? If you will make just one CW contact per day for one year, you will be able to copy 20 wpm, hands down! You will also develop insights

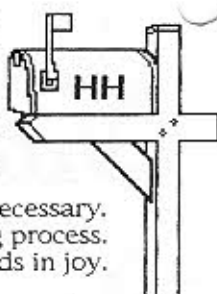
into radio operation, and it is certain you will have fun along the way.

Stay out of the DX pileup. Tell the other station that you are a new ham and ask him to slow down and repeat when necessary. These are parts of the learning process. What begins with difficulty ends in joy.

Select the band you operate according to the noise and congestion at your available operating time. By all means, continue to upgrade.

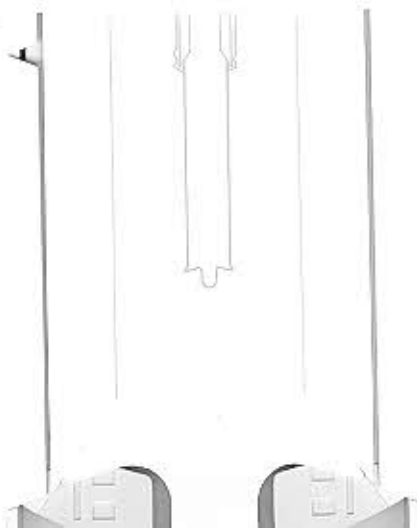
Yes, there is a way to get on the air, regardless of your circumstances, and an easy path to upgrading your license.

J. M. "Huck" Huckabee is a member of the Austin Amateur Radio Club, 71 years of age, retired. He has been on the air for about 52 years, is an accredited License Examiner with the ARRL and W5YI, and operates high-speed CW. Due to a hearing loss and his need to lip-read, Huck does not operate voice modes very much. He has held the calls W5KCI, D4AER, A5KCI, W4PPY, KF5ZR and now AA5BU.

**Stray Currents**

CW Need Improvement? Then check in to the informal local cw-improvement net, every evening at 8 on 28.160 MHz. All are welcome. (thanks to WB5HOI)

Those "new" high-efficiency RF light bulbs you've been hearing about will operate on 13.56 MHz, if they ever go into production. (How long until a ham shifts one up to 20 meters?) (thanks to WASRON)



Travis County ARES Nears 100 Members

Travis County ARES had its regular 5th Tuesday meeting on June 30 at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop. Joe Fisher, K5EJL, announced that we now have 96 members. A new telephone call-up list is being prepared. Also, ARES certificates will be prepared for members who check in at least 75% of the Sundays. If you act as Net Control at least 6 times, you get an endorsement for the certificate.

Pat McGuire, WA8PLR, described the upcoming [as this is written] Robert Mueller Airport emergency exercise, set for July 18. "Flash Point 92" will involve an aircraft at Gate 1, a smoke machine, and 500-600 participants acting as victims, survivors and relatives. Four hams will use ATV (amateur TV) gear to serve as "eyes and ears" for City department heads gathered at the Emergency Management Office at Festival Beach. Joe Fisher is determining what role ARES can play in this drama...helping the Salvation Army with victim services was mentioned,



as was coordinating ambulances to the two participating local hospitals. Stay tuned to 146.94 MHz.

The "Ascension of Net Controls" came up. If you are Net Control (NC), please set your watch by WWV. If you don't bring up the net within 60 seconds of the scheduled time, then next month's NC for the same week should get on the air and call you. If no response, s/he should take over as NC. If this person does not appear, then after 60 more seconds the NC scheduled for the following month (same week) should get on the air and make certain the net happens.

Crystals will be ordered soon for the pager project [It was decided at the ARO meeting that the pagers will use 146.94 MHz]. Training manuals for ARES beginners and NC's are in the works.

de Miles Abernathy, N5KOB

The "Little Guy" and the Contester Subculture

It takes a lot of hardware to field a competitive contest station (just ask AI6V), and serious contesting is becoming a rich man's game more than ever. But, there is still lots of room for little folks like me to have some fun with it. I believe that DX'ing and contesting are not the same thing at all, even though it might seem that way during a major DX contest like the CQ WorldWide. There are many DX'ers on the DXCC Honor Roll who do not have big stations, but they have the time and skill needed to pursue rare DX. Many of them are not interested in contesting at all.

There are many of us contester types who like the competition on some chosen level, and are not interested in DX'ing or the Honor Roll. For us the objective is to win the contest if we can, and if we can not, at

least earn some recognition for our efforts in some manner, even if it is a "Steak Dinner bet" with a friend across town. It will be a long time before I will even think about being able to compete with the likes of N5AU or W3LPL or W7XR or KORF or ...the list could go on and on.

So why do I do it? Good question. There are times during contests when I get up and walk away from the rig; when it becomes such a struggle to work anything that it is not fun anymore. So I go do something else, then come back and contest some more. Contesting and contesters form a subculture in amateur radio, and there is quite a large group of us who are addicted.

continued on page 9

Minutes of the July AARC Meeting

Minutes of the Austin Amateur Radio Club meeting for July 14, 1992: President Jim Neely called the July meeting to order at 8:00 PM.

VISITORS: We had a large number of visitors this meeting, including old members, visitors from out of town, would be hams, and those waiting for their ticket. Sorry, only a couple of names and calls were understood by the secretary's recorder.

MINUTES: The minutes in the AACROVER were approved as printed.

OFFICER REPORTS: The Treasurer, Dave, KG5ND, reports a balance of \$2,577.20 in the checking account and \$205.76 in the postal account. Ed, K3AHS, the Technical Committee Chairman, does not know of any repeater problems. The AARC Activities Manager, Gary, WX5Z, estimated our field day score as about 2300 points. Gary thanked the many people who loaned equipment, brought food, helped set up and take down the station, and those who operated the two stations [see article on facing page].

NEW MEMBERS: Bert, KB5RSW, and his son Shawn, KB5RSX; and Michael, KB5RBW were accepted as new members.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

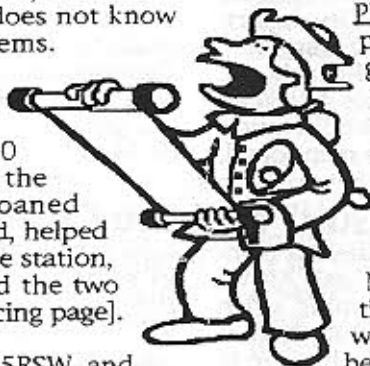
NEW BUSINESS: A petition to the FCC to clean up the airwaves was available to read and sign.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Joe, W5EJ, gave a summary of the upcoming Summerfest activities. Joe, K5EJL, asked those who have not signed up for ARES to sign up using the entry form on the new roster (which you should have received by now).

Larry, WB5BEK, reports that 24 persons took exams at last Saturday's ARRL VEC exams. The next exams will be given in

The ham community has secondary status to this radar and will have to cease operation in any area where we interfere.

both the morning and afternoon at Summerfest. The next ham classes for the no code license will start on Saturday, September 12. They will be held at Murchison Middle School.



PROGRAM: The main program was preceded by a skillfully put together video of the recent severe thunderstorm's electrical display narrated by the weather-net audio. This four minute tape is worth seeing and hearing! Thanks to Austin Anderson.

Rod, W0NDS, introduced Bob Miller from the Radian Corporation. Bob gave a program on the wind profiling radar system now being installed across the country by NOAA. Bob briefly explained how radar operates, gave a history of this new radar system, and explained why they are being moved from 402 to 449.0 MHz instead of another frequency. He talked about the possible effects on our operations. The ham community has secondary status to this radar and will have to cease operation in any area where we interfere. By the way, Radian builds wind profiling radar sets, but not those operating on these frequencies.

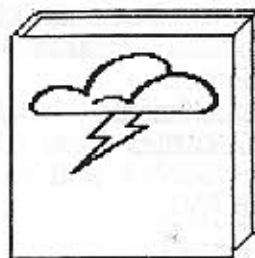
Respectfully submitted by: Joe Canfield, N5HPC. AARC Secretary.

Lightning and EMP

Let me suggest a very readable text on the subject of lightning, EMP (electromagnetic pulse), and ESD (electrostatic discharge), written by someone who ought to know. The book is *Lightning Protection*, by J. Lawrence Marshall, [Managing Engineer (Transmission), Engineering Division, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation], A Wiley-Interscience Publication, (c) 1973, ISBN 0-471-57305-1.

Here are the Contents:

- Preface
- 1 The Toll of Lightning
- 2 The Nature of Lightning
- 3 Magnitude of the Lightning Discharge
- 4 The Earth as a Discharge Terminal
- 5 Protective Grounding Systems: General (A wonderful 20 pages)
- 6 Safety of Life
- 7 Grounding of Communications Towers and Systems
- 8 Protection Systems for Buildings
- 9 Protection of Power-Transmission Systems
- Index



It has been a very reasonable guide (though a tiny bit dated), and by far is the most readable I've found to date.

de David Moffett

Stray Currents

When participating in the Weather Net, please tell Net Control only what she / he asks for, which is "significant weather." Hail should preferably be described in inches, rather than "as big as a [marble, golf ball, orange, grapefruit, etc.]."

Field Day Report

On June 27 and 28, the Austin Amateur Radio Club participated in Field Day, operating from Doss Elementary School. We had a great time and earned a good score: The preliminary score was 1505 points, with 800 bonus points, giving us a total of 2305 points.

I'd like to thank Shirley and Jack Ward for providing a great Saturday dinner, and Jim and Paula Coker for serving the Sunday breakfast, so necessary after a long night of operating!

Special thanks go to the Wards and to the Lockheed Austin Amateur Radio Club for loaning much of the Field Day equipment. Station captains Jeff Schmidt, Jim Coker, Clancey Specht and Steve Sparks deserve special thanks for their hard work in keeping things working smoothly.

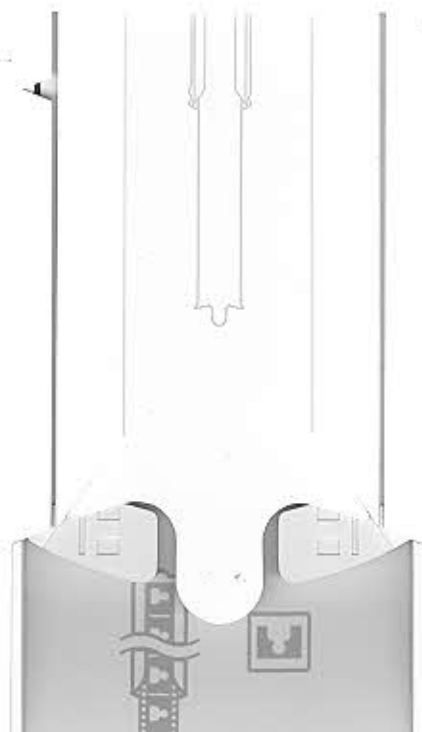
Other special helpers were Stuart Rohre, who provided the generator, Steve Sparks who camped in the rain on Friday night to guard the equipment, and Miles Abernathy who notified the media and provided the information booth. Finally, I would like to thank all the volunteers who helped set up, operate, and tear down the Field Day installation. By my count, we had 30 HAMS participating in Field Day, and I'm sure I missed some of you — thanks to all of you!

We had numerous visitors who expressed an interest in HAM radio; some plan to start working on their licenses.

Channel 36 visited us and gave us a spot on the evening news. Bobette McMillan from ACTV filmed our operations, which aired on July 26.

Again, thanks to all who made Field Day 1992 a success. Hope to see you all at Field Day again next year!

de Gary Pickens, WX5Z, AARC Activity Manager



AUSTIN SUMMERFEST '92

Schedule of Events

Wyndam Southpark, Ben White Blvd. at I-35

Saturday, August 8:

7:00 AM

Suite 1404 Hospitality Suite coffee, donuts, etc. until 10 AM.

7:30 AM

Ballroom Lobby Registration begins.Wyndham A-F Swapfest Seller setup begins.

8:00 AM

Wyndham A-F Swapfest and Dealer Exhibits (until 5 PM).Poolside 102-104 FCC License Exams (all except Codeless Technician).Amphitheater FCC License Exams (Codeless Technician).Ballroom Lobby Exhibits, Tables from AMSAT, ARRL, National Weather Service, and Texas Packet Radio Society (until 5 PM).

9:00 AM

Southpark A-B ARRL Forum ARRL President George Wilson W4OYI and West Gulf Division Director Tom Comstock N5TC.

10:00 AM

Lobby Bar Saturday Morning Live Night Club Comic.

10:30 AM

Southpark A-B DX and Contesting hosted by John Warren NT5C:

- Winning the Big Ones From 5-land, Jeff Steinman KROY, Director, Lone Star DX Association;
- The Ultimate DXpedition, video of Team-Finland in the 1990 CQ WW SSB Contest.

12:15 PM

Poolside 102-104 FCC License Exams (all except Codeless Tech).

1:00 PM

Southpark A-B Virtual Reality Jim Huffman WA7SCB.Amphitheater Ham Radio in the Russian Countryside Tom Comstock N5TC and Bill Binger AA5DH.

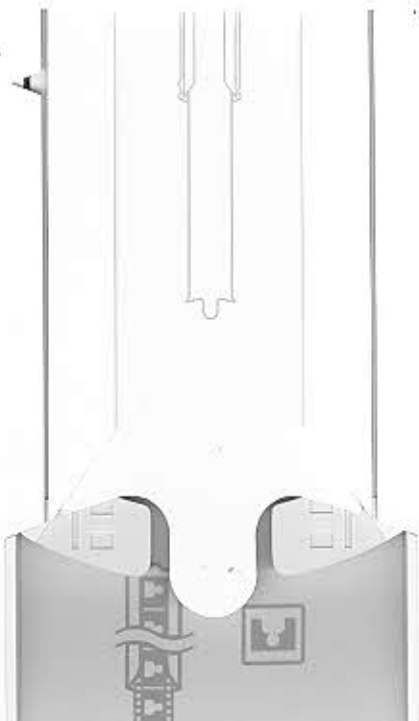
1:30 PM

Workout Room Crafts Session I Make 'n Take with Carol Allen N5KIX.Suite 1404 Link Associates Board Meeting Dr. Larry Higgins W5QMU (by invitation only).

- 2:00 PM
 Wyndham A-B AMSAT Presentations with Keith Pugh W5IU:
 •Oscar Phase IIID - Our Next Big Satellite, 10 Meters - 10 GHz;
 •Informal report on recent conference at University of Surrey.
- 2:30 PM
 Southpark A-B..... ARES & Emergency Communications moderated
 by Joe Fisher K5EJL.
- 3:00 PM
 Amphitheater..... Microwaves Are Easy hosted by Kent Britain
 WA5VJB:
 •900 MHz Band Activity;
 •900 MHz Band Equipment;
 •VHF Operators: Species and Subspecies.
- Workout Room..... Crafts Session II with Carol Allen N5KIX.
 Suite 1404 Texas VHF-FM Society Board Meeting (invitation
 only).
- 3:15 PM
 Southpark A-B..... Packet Radio: TexNet with Jim Neely WA5LHS and
 Dave Cheek, W5MWD.
- Amphitheater Repeater Coordination Open Forum Hosted by
 Merle Taylor, WB5EPI. Discussion with current
 and prospective trustees on the management of
 the Amateur VHF/UHF spectrum.
- 5:00 PM
 Swapfest, Exhibits close.
- 7:00 PM
 Dance Across Texas Dinner and Get-together (\$8.00; Advance registra-
 tion required).
- 9:00 PM
 Suite 1404 Hospitality Suite munchies, soft drinks, cash bar.

Sunday, August 9:

- 7:00 AM
 Suite 1404 Hospitality Suite coffee, donuts, etc. (until 10)
- 8:00 AM
 Wyndham A-F Swapfest and Dealer Exhibits (until 12).
- 9:00 AM
 Southpark A-B..... Texas VHF-FM Society general meeting (until 12).
- 12:00 noon
 Wyndham A-F Grand Prize Drawings. Swapfest, Exhibits close.
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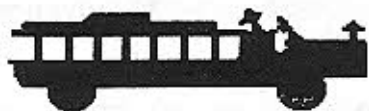


Camera Amateurs

The Austin Amateur Television Club met on July 21, 1992 at the Luby's on North Loop (Sirloin Stockade had a fire).

Emergency Exercise: Pat, WA8PLR, summarized the Flashpoint '92 exercise that was held at Mueller Airport on 7/19. Pat was coordinator for this event. The actual drill, which was a simulated fuel spill and fire, started shortly after 10 PM and continued until 1 AM. Members and friends of the ATV Club participated by providing TV coverage that was sent to the EMO headquarters at the Fire Department on Festival Beach and the Airport command post. The live video and audio feeds helped emergency officials make quick and accurate decisions that in the case of an actual emergency could have saved lives and minimized damage.

Two cameras were operated backpack portable on the ground close to the activity, giving good close-up coverage of areas requested by emergency officials; these were operated on 1248 MHz. Kirby, KA5NFR, assisted by George, N5ZLV, and Pat, WA8PLR, operated portable camera #1. Bob, W8ZSX, assisted by Jon, N5MHI,



operated portable camera #2. One camera was set up on the balcony of the control tower by Ben, WDSHLS, on 902 MHz. Ben had to fight 40-50 MPH winds and rain. A fourth camera, connected by cable, was located on the roof of the baggage claim area, operated by Paul Kitching (working on license) and Milton, KB5TKF. Bob, KB5RST, and Bobette, KB5SOJ, taped the operation to use in a video to be shown on Austin Access that will show the event as well as what was happening behind the scenes. Joe, K5EJL, and Henry, N5SHL,

held down the EMO office at Festival Beach relaying video requests to the Airport. All video was collected in the motor home of Bob, W8ZSX, parked outside of the security fence. Video control operators Dave, N5RNE, and Bob, AA5PB, selected the best video and from there it was sent on 439 MHz to the EMO Office, and on cable to the airport command post. Karl, N5PVD assisted with setup, logistics and antenna orientation.

After the summary, the event was critiqued with some good suggestions including the need for a permanently equipped / available vehicle for a video command post.

Repeater News: We now have all of the equipment needed for the 1.2 GHz input and will schedule an antenna party shortly.

Following the meeting, some of the video tape shot at the drill was shown.

The next club meeting will be the usual third Tuesday, August 18th, at Luby's. Information about the Sirloin Stockade location will be published when it becomes available.

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

For more info on ATV please contact W8ZSX, WA8PLR or N5MHI.

de Jon Penner, N5MHI, 335-0220

Stolen Talkie

Realistic HTX-202 2-meter talkie, serial number 10013176. Contact John, N5YRV, at 892-5580, if found.

ARRL / VEC July Ham Exam Results

At the July 11, 1992, ARRL / VEC exam session at Murchison Middle School in Austin, the following individuals obtained or upgraded their license. Congratulations to all of you!

NAME	CALL	UPGRADE
Wm. E. Montgomery	KB5QPRExtra
Bill W. FarrelN5WFC	..General
Joel Q. Adams	-Technician
Jos. K. Bauerkemper	-Technician
Dean E. Burris	-Technician
Paul A. Dunn	-Technician
Arthur M. Granda, Jr.	...	-Technician
Glen D. Harris	-Technician
Paul D. Kuper	-Technician
Lansing Pugh	-Technician
William W. Ross	-Technician
Van H. Savage	-Technician
Jeffery L. Somerville	-Technician

A total of 24 candidates took exams. Besides the above upgrades, two candidates passed one or more exam elements, but did not upgrade their license.

VE EXAMINERS

Joe Makeever, W5EBJ
 Bob Redouty, KF5KF
 Curt Goodson, W4QBU
 Thos. Rohrer, AB5FH
 Jim Greenwood, AB5EK
 Joe Thiel, N5SMN
 Ron Willingham, KF5QW
 Dick Ber, KB5BBU
 Wilber Williams, AB5FZ
 Curt Goodson, W4QBU
 Jim Bennett, WB5IMB
 Carol Thiel, N5TLY
 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 AUSTIN SUMMERFEST, WYNDHAM SOUTHPARK HOTEL, I-35 @

BEN WHITE BLVD, AUSTIN, TX ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, 1992.

- Morning exam session (code & written) — 8:00 am
- Morning exam session (no-code only) — 8:00 am
- Afternoon exam session (code & written) — 12:30 pm

EXAM ROOM LOCATION INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE SUMMERFEST REGISTRATION DESK

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming exams, please contact me at 473-3526 (work) or 345-7281 (home).



Mark Johnson, KJ5AN, has replaced Bill Wehling, KF5NB, and is now in charge of the W5YI exams locally.

de Larry Gunter, WB5BEK

Contester Subculture from page 3

There is excitement in running across a particularly rare station halfway around the world who is all by himself, calling "CQ contest" with no takers. Right after you jump on him and work him and THANK him for the new multipliers, 5 or 6 other stations call him, then it is 20; then it is 50... Or, you are sitting there working JA stations one after the other and a station in Mongolia or China calls YOU...Or, you run across one of those African stations Sunday afternoon that has a huge pileup and just for the heck of it you jump into the pile up and call him... and he asks the East Coast guys to standby for a second and says, "Who's the 6?". Just like Tom, K5RC says; "It's only a hobby".

de Alan Brubaker, K6XO

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
 <vacant>, Official Greeter

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.

Stray Currents

One (of many) orbital possibilities AMSAT is considering for the next generation (Phase 3D) ham satellite would have this characteristic: For observers located in central North America, Europe, and Japan, the spacecraft would rise rapidly from the horizon to a point high in the sky in about an hour, appear to stay in about the same spot for over 12 hours(!), then quickly drop below the horizon. You would not see the satellite again for 2 days, at which time this behavior would repeat. You could permanently point your satellite antenna at that one spot in the sky. (one of the possible orbits described in the AMSAT Journal, May / June 1992, learn more about it at Summerfest)

Need a manual for an old ham or short-wave rig? Try Hi Manuals, P.O. Box 802, Council Bluffs, IA 51502. Catalogs are \$2 and list many high-quality reproductions of original manuals. (de Tad Cook, KT7H)

Radio on TV: The W5YI Group (2000 E. Randol Mill Rd., Suite 608-A, Arlington TX 76011) is gearing up to produce a "high-quality, fast-paced, entertaining, educational, informal" weekly TV program about amateur radio. The target audience is ages 10 to 90. (de *Monitoring Times* via BSSS)



I'M CALLING THE FCC --- THERE'S NO WAY YOU COULD HAVE MOVED FAST ENOUGH TO COPY 20 WORDS PER MINUTE!

Guest Editorial

The New Ham Club



We have started a new club here in the Phoenix area. About 9 of us got together on 10 meters for 2 months and started to plan it. We had a few informal breakfasts to talk about what we wanted it to be like.

One question we were asked many times by other hams: Why another club? We do have 4 or 5 rather large clubs in the valley now. Well, there are really two reasons. First, most clubs in the area have forgotten the FUN part of radio. They are getting set in their ways and have developed some pretty boring habits.

The other reason is how some of us had been treated by a couple of clubs in the area. Imagine, showing up at a meeting and not having a SINGLE PERSON even so much as look your way!! No hellos or ANYTHING! Not a very inviting situation...you can imagine how welcome a new "No-Code" Tech will feel around this old grizzly bunch. I'm not saying all clubs are like this, but many areas have reported the same reactions.

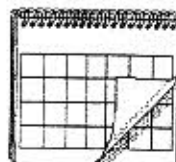
First we get the main club business out of the way: QST's, dues, etc. Gotta make these short with little discussion. Then any speaker or "all club" event that takes 30 to 45 minutes. Then we break up into small groups...one corner for DX hounds, one for new people interested in getting their tickets, one for packet, etc., etc. This gives someone an area to go to as their interests change, and gets people actively participating in the meetings. And it helps newcomers make contact with others with the same interests.

de Dave Kelley, WA7GPF

Calendar

Aug 7-9...Summerfest @ Wyndham
 Aug 8...Ham exams @ Summerfest
 Aug 11...Austin Amat. Radio Club meeting
 Aug 11-12...Perseid meteor shower
 Aug 15...Panhandle Swapfest @ Amarillo
 Aug 15-16...10 GHz Cumulative Contest
 Aug 18...Austin Amat. TV Club @ Luby's
 Aug 20-23...ARRL Nat. Convention @ LA
 Aug 23...Challenger steam train passes thru Austin
 Sep 1...Austin Rptr. Organization meets
 Sep 8...Austin Amat. Radio Club meeting
 Sep 12...ARO No-Code ham classes begin
 Sep 12...Ham exams, 8:30 AM, Murchison
 Sep 12-14...VHF QSO Party
 Sep 15...Austin Amat. TV Club @ Luby's??
 Sep 19-20...10 GHz Cumulative Contest
 Sep 26...Temple / Bell Co. Ham Expo 92
 Sep 29...ARES meeting @ Luby's?
 Oct 3...Ham exams, 8:30 AM, Murchison
 Oct 6...Austin Rptr. Organization meets
 Oct 10...Manchaca swapfest
 Nov 6-8...ARRL Hamfest @ Houston
 Nov 7-9...Sweepstakes, CW
 Nov 21-23...Sweepstakes, phone
 Jan 9...AARC Banquet @ Zilker Clubhouse
 Mar 6...Skywarn '93 @ 3M

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