



AARC OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

October 1992

Meetings Moved to 7:30



Meetings of the Austin Repeater Organization, the Austin Amateur Radio Club, Travis County ARES, and the Austin Amateur TV Club have been moved up to 7:30 PM, to permit Luby's Cafeteria to close earlier. (Actually, the TV club has always been at 7:30, which leads them to believe everybody else is playing copy-cat....)

ARO Meeting

Tuesday, October 6, at 7:30 PM (NOT 8 PM). See page 3.



AARC Meeting

Tuesday, October 13, at 7:30 PM (NOT 8 PM). Our guest speaker, Lisa Bell, will talk on the topic, "An Assessment of Lunar Surface Operation and Its Application to Communication Modeling." Whew! For example, when we establish stations on the moon, how many communications satellites with what capacities will we need to support them? Ms. Bell holds an M.S. in Aerospace Engineering from U.T. Austin.

The official meeting time is 7:30 PM, although most folks get there early and have dinner together. We meet in the back room of Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop, as far from the cashier as possible.

AATV Meeting

Tuesday, October 20, 7:30 PM, at Luby's (?). Contact Jon Penner, N5MHI, at 335-0220, for information.

Activity Manager Report

Calling all HAMS: The fall Manchaca Swap Meet is nearly here! It will be held at the Manchaca Volunteer Fire Hall from sunrise to noon on October 10th, 1992. (Times are approximate.) Tables are available on a first come, first served basis, so arrive early to get the best spots. Tables are \$3.00 each, and tailgate slots are \$2.00 apiece. There is no fee for shopping, of course. Arrive early for the best deals! Talk-in will be on 146.78 MHz. We hope to see you there, but remember: NO PARKING AT McCOY'S LUMBERYARD ACROSS THE STREET! NON-CUSTOMER CARS WILL BE TOWED AWAY!

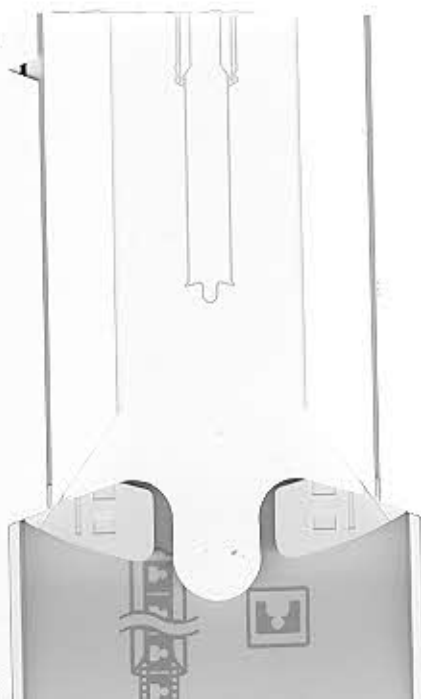


Also on October 10, the Jollyville Volunteer Fire Department wants a few active HAMS to come to an open house celebrating the opening of a new fire station. We have been asked to set up a booth demonstrating the use of amateur radio for emergency communications from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Although I have told them that getting volunteers to do this will be difficult because of our swap meet, there may be someone out there who wants to represent HAM radio in this special way. Anyone who is interested in this project may contact me for more details.

The Austin Amateur Radio Club has had many other important activities since our last newsletter. I am happy to report that Tom Rohrer, AB5FH, and Andy Williams.

continued on page 8

When was the first Manchaca Swapfest? If you know, please call Miles at 327-1310.



HUCK'S COUNTRY STORE**Coaxial Cable — That Wonderful Feed Line**

Coax — How great it is!

In the early days of my ham radio experience, the 1930's, big German airships were making trips to the USA. They all used a new antenna dubbed the Zeppelin, or Zepp. We hams used Zepp's also. We used wooden spacers boiled in wax for the open-wire feed lines.

My tenure in the war years exposed me to the use of coaxial cable, or "coax." In the late war years we began to see RG-8U used with some of the VHF radio gear. How I longed to look inside that cable! It was all in pre-cut lengths, terminated, and with protector caps. We were never permitted to cut into "that new technology."

The Germans had some coax cable with their decimeter gear. They also had plastic insulated wire, which we were amazed to find much superior to our insulated wire.

At war's end I searched for a spool of German coax. Finding a gray spool of something and an orange spool of something else, I was in the feed line business. However, the gray spool turned out to be dynamite fuse, and the orange material was instantaneous blasting fuse!

Later a spool of large blue material was located, about 20 feet in length. It was stiff, had lumps along its surface and made a scratching noise when flexed. This was my first piece of personal coaxial cable! Some areas of the cable had soft spots: I found that this coax was constructed with a string of ceramic beads on the center conductor with the usual braid and over-jacket we know today. I used a short length to match my open feed line to a 10-meter dipole.

Using this first piece of coax, I went on the air. I made thousands of contacts using 25

watts as D4AER at Ansbach, Germany. What a great experience!

Imagine what it would be like today to have no coax! So many of the things that we take for granted today were unknown 50 years ago.

from the memory file of M-Sgt J. M. "Huck" Huckabee, AA5BU, ex D4AER

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 WSKCI, D4AER, A5KCI, W4PPY, KF5ZR and now AA5BU. Huck is 71 years old and operates mostly 40-meter CW "in the fast lane."

The Pirate

Disrupting others,
sometimes with skill:

Ego sated,
pirate's thrill.

He wastes his line
on pointless strife,

Just to become
a well-known nil.

de David Barton, AF6S, via ARNS

**Ham Ad**

Cleaning shack: Kenwood R-600 general coverage receiver, CP/M computer system, AR-2 Ringo 2M antenna, 300-baud modem, Hickock 539B tube tester, MFJ-1278 multi-mode controller, RTTY TU, and more. SASE or call for details. George Luce, K15GL, 452-5390.



PO Box 4763, Austin, Texas 78765
 Operator of Voice Repeaters on 146.28/38Mhz.,
 146.34/94Mhz., 223.20/224.80 Mhz. and
 449.1/444.1Mhz.
 Packet Digital Repeater 145.01Mhz.
 Sponsor of Central Texas Weather Net,
 ARO Transmitter Hunt and Swapnet

Club Officers

President - Charlie Eichenbaum (WB5H0J) 263-3435
 Vice President - Mike Pendley(WA5VTV) 331-5350
 Secretary - Phil Steinbach (WB5SUR) 258-3215
 Treasurer - Tenia Kinney (KA5TXK) 442-8427
 Editor - Clovis Womack (WA5DKG) 327-6571

7:30 P.M. MEETING TIME - Luby's cafeteria has changed to earlier winter closing time. The meeting will now start at 7:30 P.M. so that the employees can close at a more reasonable time. Also please pay the cashier before the meeting starts so they can close their register.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION

The election of new members for the expiring terms on the Board of Directors will be at the October 6th meeting. The terms of Johnny Allen (N5IQR) and Jim Neely (WA5LHS) are expiring. The terms of Dave Marschall (KG5ND) and Jon Dahm (WB5PCV) are to continue for the next year and Fred Neuenschwander (W5FQR) is the

permanent member. The club officers are appointed by the board of directors. If anyone is willing to be one of the officers please let it be known as there is always a place for new blood to help out.

The License Class is off and running with 58 students enrolled. There is a wide range of ages and suprisingly there is a good interest in learning the code.

Steve Sparks (KB5RSY) has available on floppy disk a listing of the hams in the Austin area. Please bring a preformatted MS\DOS 5 1/4 inch diskif you would like a copy.

TRANSMITTER HUNT - Oct. 10, 7 P.M.

AUSTIN REPEATER ORGANIZATION SEPTEMBER MEETING

Luby's on North Loop - **TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1992 -- 7:30 PM**

PROGRAM: TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER

September AARC Meeting: The Minutes

Minutes of the Austin Amateur Radio Club meeting for September 8, 1992: The September meeting of the AARC was brought to order by President Jim Neely, WA5LHS, at 7:59 PM at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop.

VISITORS: Infrequent attender Joe, K5FOG blessed the meeting with his presence and brought along his son James (waiting for call). Along with Joe, we had a number of visitors including Lansing, KB5USG; Richard, KB5UOG; Bill, AB5HP; Greg, no call yet; Mark, KB5RSD; Lynn, call not heard; Luke, KB5RUD; and Ron, N5USM.

MINUTES: The minutes for the August 11th meeting were approved as printed in the AARCOVER.

OFFICER REPORTS: Treasurer Dave, KF5NB, stated that the current checking account balance is \$2,030.09, with the postal mailing account balance as \$204.31. Activities Manager, Gary, WX5Z, reminded us of the upcoming Manchaca Swapfest. Swapfests do not run themselves: Gary needs volunteers to aid in parking, talk-in, and clean-up. Call Gary now! (Home 454-3230)

NEW MEMBERS: We elected six new members: Keith, WB9KHL; Gene, KB5UGO; Frank, W5QOT; Paul, call pending; Brian, KB5UGI; Lansing, KB5USG. Welcome to the Austin Amateur Radio Club!

OLD and NEW BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

• Dan, KB5TWO, announced that the 35th Annual Scout Jamboree-On-the-Air is on Oct. 17th and 18th. Cub Scouts can earn patches and Scouts can earn the communicator award during this event.

• Joe, W5EJB, reminded us of the upcoming ARRL Directors election. Tom Comstock, N5TC, the present West Gulf Division Director is running for a second term. Joe also announced that there will be ARRL VEC exams this Saturday, Sep. 11, at the Murchison Middle School. The no-code license class starts this coming Saturday, Sep. 12th.

• Hal, W5MDL, reports on a meeting for those interested in the Navy MARS program. The event starts with a Bar-B-Que at 6:30 on Friday, October 9th at Camp Mabry on West 35th St.

• Ron, WD5ERG, is in Brackenridge Hospital, Room 735A.

• There will be a swapfest/tailgate on Saturday, September 26th in the Bell County Fairgrounds (south of Belton on IH-35).

• A callbook program using the club roster is available from Steve, KB5RSY. He will give club members a copy if they supply a disk formatted in any IBM PC format.

PROGRAM: Tonight's program was on the French high speed train, the TGV. When given the opportunity to talk, John, NT5C, states that he has two favorite subjects - chasing DX and trains. Tonight, John talked about the technical and operational aspects of the French high speed train network. The electric motor powered TGV has hit a speed of 320 MPH, somewhat over 5 miles a minute. The TGV network now covers much of France with trains normally running at speeds up to 200 MPH.

John shared his experiences from several trips on the TGV network and illustrated his talk with numerous illustrations and drawings. Thanks, John, for an interesting program.

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



S.W. Austin Exams

Ken Hollan, K5IQ, and his VE team heartily congratulate the following persons who gained or upgraded their licenses during the South Austin W5YI-VEC session held on August 22, 1992:

Person	Call	Upgrade to
Stuart T. Murphy	....KB5TJD....	General
Tom Yturri	.....N5YNA	. Tech Plus
Brenda Ellis	.....	Technician
Barbara Harvey	.....	Technician
Nancy Heustis	.....	Technician

A total of eight candidates took exams. In addition to the above upgrades, another candidate passed an exam element.

Assisting Ken were VE's:

Holly Hollan	.....KJ5XD
Emil Kasprzyk	.....KC5IZ
Wayne Hardin	.....W5OSP
Jim Greenwood	.....AB5EK

The next South Austin W5YI-VEC exam session is scheduled at 2:00 PM on September 26, 1992, at the Southwest School of Electronics at 5424 Highway 290 West.

(thanks to Jim Greenwood, AB5EK)

Navy MARS Orientation

If you are interested in MARS, you need go no further than the Audie Murphy Auditorium at Camp Mabry. That is where you can get acquainted with Navy MARS at a BBQ and talk the evening of Friday, October 9.

BBQ is at 6:30 PM (less than \$10 a plate), program at 7:30. Radioman Chief Petty Officer Allen Fintzel, the Director of Region 3 Navy MARS, will speak. For more information or reservations, call Nite Wathen at 444-4112.

de Hal Henegar, W5MDL

Stray Currents

Make Way! So many folks (58) signed up for the ARO new-ham class, they had to break it into two separate sessions (held in different rooms).

An article on page 9 of the September AACROVER indicated that an alkaline D-cell has 15 amp-hours of capacity. The correct value is closer to 1-1/2 amp-hours, and all the other battery types listed are probably also off by a factor of 10. (thanks to Rick Herndon, K5FNI)

Columbus Day: Check out the HF bands for Special Event Station C6A500, operating during October (round-the-clock on October 12) from the island of San Salvador, to commemorate the 500th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' arrival in the New World. Sponsored by the Bahamas Amateur Radio Club and/or the Snow Bay Radio Club. Many area hams will be signing with "500" calls.

Hot Checks: Beware of a white male at swapfests buying ham gear with checks drawn on Southeast Bank, N.A., of St. Petersburg, Florida. The bank no longer exists and the checks are worthless.

The newest amateur radio satellite, KITSAT OSCAR 23, is in orbit. It features 9600 baud store-and-forward, and has two TV cameras aboard. Uplink on 145.850 and 145.900 MHz, downlink on 435.175 MHz. (de ARRL via Jim Greenwood, AB5EK)

Ham radio has gotten a real workout lately in the disaster communications field...FL, LA and HI hurricanes, forest fires, etc. Reportedly, amateurs were the only means of communications with towns wiped out by a tidal wave on the Pacific Coast of Nicaragua. [If this aspect of public service interests you, look for the ARES article on page 7 of this issue.] (de NewsLine, retransmitted every Sunday about 9:20 PM on 146.94 MHz by Ron Johnson, WA5RON)

A Look Ahead at Our New Ham Satellites

Here is a status report on amateur radio satellites which are awaiting launch:

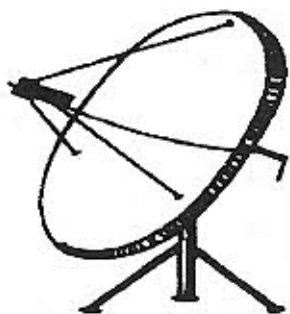
Arsene: Its all finished, in its box, waiting to fly. Digipeater uplinks 435.050/100/150 MHz, downlink 145.975 MHz 2W and 15W. Transponder uplink (16 KHz wide) 435.110 MHz, downlink 2446.540 MHz (0.8W, estimate 2.5m dish required). Orbit period 17H30 with perigee 20,000 and apogee 36,000 km. This should produce a slow drift from west to east with 12 hours/day average access. Launch on Ariane V58 with the Astra 1C satellite before September, 1993.

Phase-3D: Launch is confirmed on the second Ariane-5 test flight but may move to the first; still with the "cluster" spacecraft. Eventual orbit is unchanged (apogee 47714, perigee 4000 km, inclination 63.4). Final stable orbit (period = 16 hours) is not expected to be achieved for about one year but the satellite will be available to users much earlier than this. The satellite's shape is triangular with the points cut off. Non-radio payloads are SCOPE, a Japanese camera system, and an atomic clock. Regrettably, due to lack of resources, the hoped-for Mars probe will NOT be included.

SedSat: This equipment, made in Alabama, will replace the weight on the end of a space tether experiment flying on NASA's SEDS-2 mission (on a Delta rocket) to be launched September 20, 1993. Planned life is five years. Equipment carried will be mode A and mode J; digital images (initially of the tether), as well as telemetry will be transmitted on 70 cm. Initial plans speak of a mode A transponder with a 300 bps BBS at the LF end and a digiwalker at the HF end of the downlink passband; also

FM uplinks will be downlinked as SSB (!). At the end of the tether experiment (i.e. about six months) SedSat will be released from the tether to fly autonomously for the rest of its lifetime.

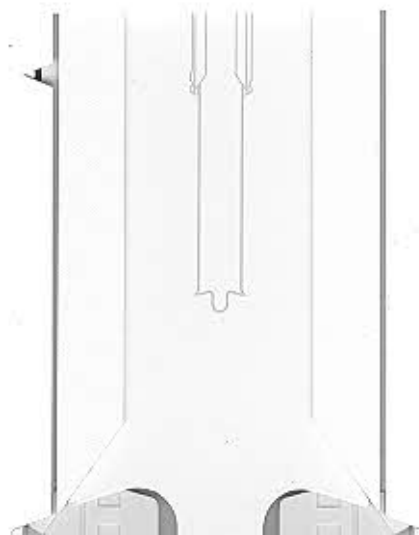
TechSat: This is a MicroSat-class package being constructed in Israel. It carries the following experiments: packet store and forwarding; GPS receiver; radiation measurements; DSP; and is intended to be compatible with existing digital communications software. It will have three uplinks (on 2m and 23 cm) and a 70 cm downlink. The power budget is designed to work with omnidirectional ground-station antennas. Launch is planned on Ariane into a sun-synchronous orbit.



ITAMSAT: As reported last year, this unit is mechanically identical to a MicroSat and will be compatible with existing digital communications software. AMSAT-1 have already produced a functional prototype; all of the flight hardware will be made in Italy (except for the solar panels). Launch will be on the Ariane SPOT-3 mission (see below). It will support 1200 (Fuji) and 9600 bps (UO-22) digital modulation. Uplinks are on 145.875/900/925/950 MHz and the two downlinks will be on 435.760/810 MHz.

KitSat-B: Similar to OSCAR-23, but hopefully will include a GPS receiver. Launch on SPOT-3 mission (see below).

HutSat: This is a three-year Finnish project to test the technology and produce an engineering model leading to a later Ariane launch (in 1997/98). The aims are to use new GaAs technology and to give occupancy of presently unused frequencies. It will carry a digital transponder, BBS and DSP experiments and use 435/1260/2400



Disaster Drills

Drills can be valuable, particularly for newer hams like myself (licensed 2-1/2 years). We had a disaster drill in town about 1-1/2 years ago, and I was riding around town making up emergency situations (the road is blocked because of flooding; we can't get through here), listening to other "pretend" situations, and — most important — learning proper net procedures. When the hurricane hit New England last August and I was out with a Red Cross disaster assessment team helping people whose homes were severely damaged, I was amazed at how much the real disaster sounded like the drill. The drill definitely helped prepare me.

Do you need a drill every month or every week? No. Do you need a bunch of self-important people with special emblems, logos, etc.? No. Should local police and others have their own good emergency communications systems? Yes (in fact, our radio club donated some very good, new radio equipment to our town's fire department). Should the ham community try to maintain good working relations with the local police department? Yes.

de Sharon M. Gartenberg, KC1YR

New Ham Satellites continued

MHz links (no 2m). (The 10 GHz transmitter for P3D has already been delivered.)

Spot-3 Mission: This flight is expected in mid- to late-1993. It carries the replacement for the commercial Spot-2 satellite, so if Spot-2 continues to function well the flight is likely to be delayed. Conversely, if Spot-2 meets problems the launch will be earlier. Expect a similar orbit to the current MicroSats. As well as Spot-3, it will have an ASAP carrying KitSat-B, ITAmsat, and two Portuguese amateur radio satellites (from a University, no other info).

de John A. Magliacane, KD2BD, AMSAT

ARES Membership to Drop; Pagers Are Ready

Jim Coker, KB5EHP, has been appointed by the South Texas Section Manager to be an Official Emergency Station. He qualified for this position due to regular participation in ARES activities, experience in traffic handling, backup power, mobile-operation equipped, and being an ARRL member.

The membership of Travis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service has climbed to 92. That number is expected to drop soon, due to an expected "retirement" of inactive members. If you have not checked in to the net recently, please do so or contact Joe Fisher, K5EJL, at 926-4689. Nets meet Sundays at 6:30 PM on 146.94 MHz and at 8:30 PM on 146.78 MHz.



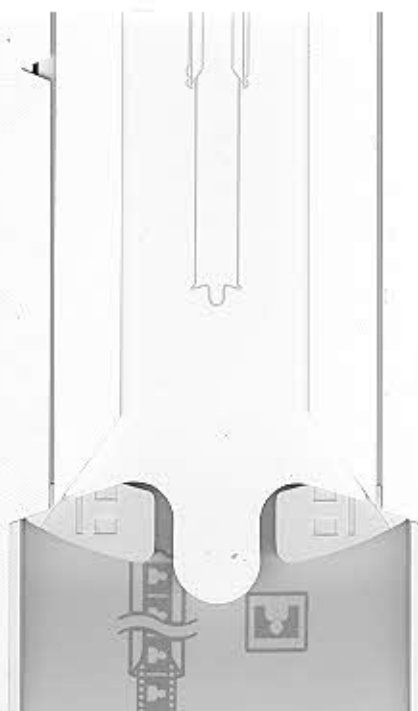
ARES is looking for more Net Control Stations. Also, the group is trying out a "backup Net Control" system. If you are NCS, your backup is the person scheduled to be NCS on your same week and time next month.

Travis County ARES is one year old...the first session occurred on the first Sunday of September, 1991.

The pagers have all been re-crystalled, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Jon Dahm, WB5PCV. We do not have enough battery chargers...if you have access to Motorola Spirit chargers, dead or alive, please contact Joe Fisher at 926-4689.

The regular 5th Tuesday ARES face-to-face meeting at Luby's will / did happen September 29 at 7:30 AM. Expected topics include discussion and distribution of pagers, and the Simulated Emergency Test (SET) of October 17-18.

de Miles Abernathy, N5KOB



Activity Manager Report from page 1

AB5FZ, have done some much-needed maintenance work on the club station at Red Cross Headquarters. They checked out the coax cables, tightened the guy wires supporting the tower, and built a protective structure to prevent trespassers from climbing the tower. They also trimmed overgrown branches away from the emergency power generator. **NEEDED:** Someone to check out and restore the emergency power generator. Volunteers?

Another special project may bring several young HAMS into our club. Joe Farley, N5FQM, who teaches at Fulmore Middle School in south Austin, and I have been trying to enhance a radio station set up in his classroom. We are using amateur equipment donated to the club over the past several years. After picking up a digital volt meter and equipment for a HF station from club secretary Joe Canfield, N5HPC, we took the radio we had chosen to the club station at Red Cross Headquarters for testing, where Andy Williams, AB5FZ, helped us get the rig on the air to check it out. By the time this goes to press, Joe should have his new radio working in the classroom. The new rig supplements an older vacuum tube radio. Having this equipment should make it easier for Joe's students to enjoy listening to international contacts. (Joe would also like a synthesized two-meter rig, if anyone has an extra to share. His current, semi-reliable, two-meter radio is crystal-controlled, with just one channel available. Two meters can be a real life-saver in a teaching situation; it is always useable, even when the HF bands are closed. Therefore, need for this equipment is strong. Joe's primary requirement is that classroom equipment must be ultra-reliable and easy to use!) **NEEDED:** Any volunteers who would like to work with Joe's class may contact him or me; all licensed HAMS would be welcome!

de Gary Pickens, WX5Z, AARC Activity Manager

Kenwood Service Report

In January, our radio club here at work got a nice, shiny new Kenwood TS-850.

Well, about 2-1/2 months ago, the 850 started acting up. It would arbitrarily quit receiving. You could get it back by toggling the Send / Rcv button or tapping PTT momentarily. OK, it's still under warranty so we carted it back to the dealer. All radios have problems, right?

The dealer couldn't fix it, and complained that whenever he called Kenwood's dealer support line, he got a voice mail machine and no one ever called him back. He finally called the guy's supervisor and got his voice mail - and no callback!

He finally arranged to send it back to Kenwood for service and we finally got it back today - only 2-1/2 months later. It's not like it was before...IT'S WORSE !!!

It has the same problem as before except that the speaker NEVER works now - you can only hear through headphones - when it is receiving! I can't believe this! They took 2-1/2 months to break it worse than it was before!

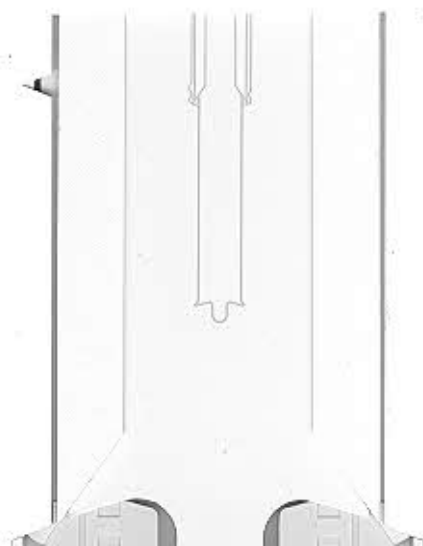
I will never, never, never, never, NEVER buy, or support the club buying, another Kenwood radio for as long as I live!

I understand that all radios have problems from time to time. They are complex pieces of equipment and it happens. What I can't believe is that you can buy a radio that costs that much and get such horrible service work.

de Wally Blackburn, AA8DX

ICOM Recall

All "P" series handy-talkies have been recalled to fix a problem with leaky batteries. Call 206-454-7619. (de Westlink Report & 73)



Jamboree on the Air

October 17 and 18 is the date for the 35th annual Scout Jamboree-on-the-Air. Over 300,000 scouts "get together" each year. Thousands of stations around the globe participate, and with good propagation and luck, you can get DXCC just talking to Scouts. The event is open to

Cub, Boy and Girl Scouts, Explorers, former Scouts, and ham radio operators.

Calling frequencies are 3.590, 7.030, 14.070, 21.140, and 28.190 MHz (CW), and 3.940, 7.290, 14.290, 21.360, 28.350, and 28.990 MHz (voice). Please move off these calling frequencies after contact is made. There will also be activities on RTTY, SSTV, packet, ATV, satellite, and (probably) moonbounce. The Jamboree runs from 0001 local time on Saturday until 2359 local time on Sunday.

The Jamboree is not a contest, so exchanges can be relaxed and fun. Some of the larger stations on the air will be K2BSA (several QTH's), HB9S (Switzerland), TI2CIE (Costa Rica) and GB2GP (Great Britain). Or, just call "CQ Jamboree."

If you are interested in helping some Scouts learn about amateur radio, call Gary Pickens, WXSZ, at 454-3230. Or, get on the air and work some of 'em.

de Miles Abernathy, N5KOB

Club Roster Available

The combined roster of the Austin ARC and the Austin Repeater Organization is available in computer format for non-commercial uses. Steve Sparks, KB5RSY, has put the data (name, call, address, phone numbers) on the Packet Cluster, and can also transfer it to your pre-formatted IBM diskette (preferably 720K or larger). See Steve at club meetings or Thursday ham lunch.

October 1992

Austin Exam Results

The following individuals obtained or upgraded their license at the ARRL / VEC exam session of September 12, 1992:

NAME	CALL	UPGRADE
John R. Allen	N5IQR	Advanced
Robert B. Rowen	N5XUS	Advanced
Frank H. Gregg Jr.	-	Tech Plus
Joe B. Ranson	KB5HMP	Tech Plus
David A. Bartold	-	Technician
Michael E. Bishop	-	Technician
Christopher W. Burford	-	Technician
Philip B. Burkes	-	Technician
Mark A. Canary	-	Technician
Robert L. Gunter	-	Technician
Jonathan L. Walter	-	Technician
Mary E. Watson	-	Technician

Eighteen candidates took exams. Besides the above upgrades, 3 candidates passed one or more exam elements, but did not upgrade their license.

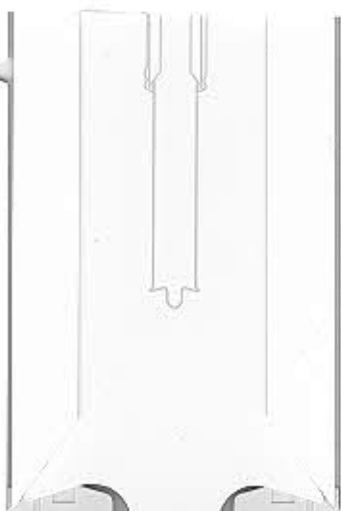
VE EXAMINERS

Joe Makeever	W5EBJ
Thomas Rohrer	AB5FH
Joe Thiel	N5SMN
Andy Williams	AB5FZ
Roy Miller	W5FOZ
John Bogard	KF5RX
Larry Gunter	WB5BEK

The next ARRL / VEC exam session will be Saturday, November 7, 1992, 9:00 AM, at Murchison Middle School, 3700 North Hills Drive, Austin. Please arrive by 8:30 AM. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming exams, please contact me at 473-3526 (work) or 345-7281 (home).
de Larry Gunter, WB5BEK

Whence Wind Profiler Radar? NASA and Lockheed have created Coherent Launch Site Atmospheric Wind Sounder (CLAWS), for use in gauging the speed and direction of winds at different altitudes. The system bounces laser light off of very fine aerosol particles as they pass overhead. (de Design News, September 7, 1992)

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AARC & AARCOVER Information

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Officers

Jim Neely, W4SLHS, 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
 Hal Henegar, W5MDL, P.I.O. 836-2012
 <vacant>, Official Greeter

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

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 \$1.50 for an individual, or \$2.50 for a family. Please contact an officer if you would like to join the club, and come on down to the next meeting.

Viewpoints expressed in The AARCOVER do not necessarily reflect those of any 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 14th 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.

First ACSB Repeater

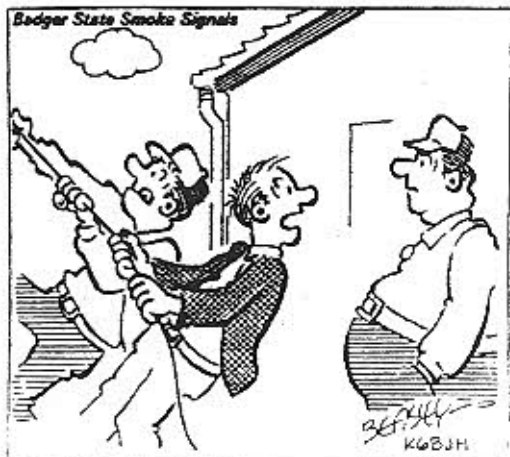
The first known ham Amplitude Compandered SSB repeater is on the air, in Los Angeles. Frequencies are 145.493 / 144.893 USB. Recall that ACSB is the new modulation system that United Parcel Service proposed to the FCC, that led to our loss of 2 MHz of the 220 band. Its advantage is that channels can be spaced only 5 kHz apart.

Any ham with a 2 meter SSB rig and audio oscillator can try out the repeater by injecting a 3100 Hz pilot tone, ~10 dB down, into the mic input of their rig. A "real" ACSB transceiver has compression and expansion built in, which improves the signal-to-noise ratio. For more info, including how to get a real ACSB rig, call Don, WB6LFC, at 310-333-7389.

Stolen Talkies

#1 — Alinco DJ 580 dual bander, stolen late August or early September from Brian, KBSUGM, 255-2550.

#2 — Icom IC-W2a, serial number 006935, stolen mid-August 1992 from Jonathan Vail, N1DXG, tel. (508) 772-5823.



WILL YOU TIE THIS GUY WIRE TO YOUR BELT
 COLLO, WHILE ED, HERE, TAKES ME DOWNTOWN
 TO GET AN EYEBOLT?

Guest Editorial

Calendar

Meaning of Ham Radio

In September we had a member join one of the repeaters that our club co-sponsors. Only a week after receiving his membership package, which included the autopatch codes, he was driving up the Northeast extension of the Pennsylvania turnpike in a 2m-equipped tractor trailer. About 30 miles from the repeater, he witnessed a rather wicked accident which resulted in one of the cars involved flipping over numerous times. He stopped,



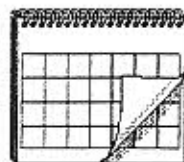
and was able to pull one of the victims out of the car, but the other was still pinned inside, unconscious. He called the PA state police via the repeater's autopatch, and they responded within minutes, along with paramedic and fire department units. They were able to get the second victim from the car shortly before it caught fire.

The next day, the ham who had called in the accident contacted the state police. They told him that the victim that he had first pulled from the car was recovering and doing well, but would have been in much worse shape if the paramedics hadn't come so soon. The second (trapped) victim was also recovering in intensive care and the outlook was good.

In my humble opinion, this is what amateur radio is all about. It's not supposed to be a competitive sport to see who can work the most countries, get their Extra the quickest, or send CW the fastest. Public service, technical advancement, and international good will are what this hobby was founded on. Let's keep it that way. Now if we can just get that #\$(%*@ from calling his friends on the autopatch from inside his own house....

de Jeff DePolo, N3HBZ

Oct 3...Ham exams, 8:30 AM, Murchison
 Oct 6...Austin Rptr. Organization, 7:30
 Oct 9...Navy MARS Orientation @ Mabry
 Oct 9-11...AMSAT Annual Meeting @ DC
 Oct 10...Manchaca swapfest
 Oct 10...New Jollyville VFD station opens
 Oct 10...Transmitter Hunt, 146.52 MHz
 Oct 10-11...W5 DX Bash, Lake Buchanan
 Oct 12...C6A500 Special Event Station
 Oct 13...Austin Amat. Radio Club, 7:30
 Oct 15...UT ARC meeting (?) 452-6172
 Oct 17...Am. Radio Day @ TX State Fair
 Oct 17-18...Scout Jamboree on the Air
 Oct 17-18...Simulated Emergency Test
 Oct 17-18...ARRL Moonbounce Contest
 Oct 20...Austin Amat. TV Club meets
 Oct 24-25...CQ WW SSB DX Contest
 Nov 3...Austin Rptr. Organization meets
 Nov 6-8...ARRL Hamfest @ Houston
 Nov 7...Ham exams (?) @ Murchison
 Nov 7-9...Sweepstakes, CW
 Nov 10...Austin Amat. Radio Club meets
 Nov 17...Austin Amat. TV Club meets
 Nov 21-23...Sweepstakes, phone
 Dec 4-6...160-meter contest
 Dec 5...Ham exams, 8:30 AM, Murchison
 Jan 9...AARC Banquet @ Zilker Clubhouse
Calendar updates to Miles @ 327-1310.



Weekly Events

AMSAT Net...Sundays, 5 or 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
 Lunch...Thursdays @ Holiday House #4
 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

