

AARC/VER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club

Austin Amateur Television Club

Austin Repeater Organization

July 1993

ISSN 1067-0262

Two Amateurs Presumed Dead in Waco Tragedy

Two Amateur Radio operators apparently perished in the fire at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, on April 19. Douglas Wayne Martin, KJ5HK, and Jeffrey C. Little, KJ5HJ, were among those listed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on April 20 as previously identified and presumed dead.

According to Waco area amateurs, both Martin and Little passed Novice class exams in June, 1992, and progressed through Extra Class by the end of the year. In December, Martin told one Waco amateur that he had an HF transceiver and an inverted V antenna for 20 and 15 meters and "could work anywhere," although local amateurs had not heard either of the two call signs on the air.

Just five days before the siege began on February 28, Martin had attended a club meeting of the Heart of Texas Amateur Radio Club. He was a Harvard-educated lawyer. Jeffrey Little was 32 years old, according to FCC records.

Wayne Martin's wife, Sheila Judith Martin, 46, and three of the couple's children left the compound before the fire. Two other Martin children were listed by the FBI as presumed dead.

-The ARRL Letter, 4/28/93

Russia: Historic and Beautiful; Friendly People

By Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
9400 Six Mile Road, Racine WI 53402

"Why would anyone want to go to Russia?" is the question often asked of the McCalvys, Larry, WA9JMO, and Wendy, N9PAC, upon learning that these two hams had just completed their third visit in as many years to the former Soviet Union.

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Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization

meets on Tuesday, July 6, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop, one block west of Burnet Rd. Everyone is encouraged to come early and have supper together.

Austin Amateur Radio Club

will meet on Tuesday, July 13, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's on North Loop.

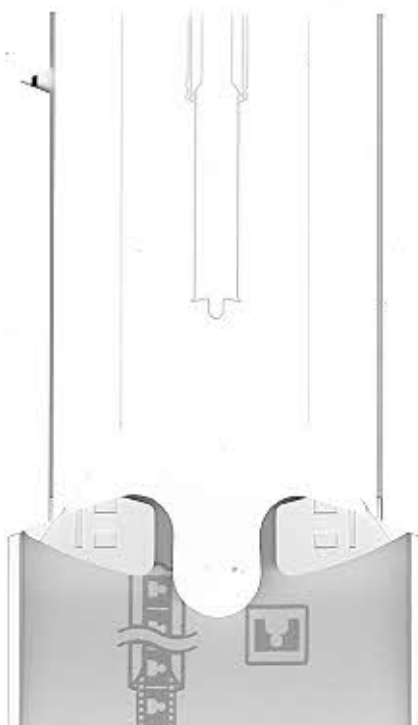
Austin Amateur Television Club

will meet on Tuesday, July 20, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's Cafeteria.

Austin OCWA

meets on Saturday, July 17, 11:30 AM, at Wyatts Cafeteria, Hancock Center.

The AARC/VER is published monthly in Austin, Texas



ARO MONITOR



PO Box 4763, Austin, Texas 78765

Amateur Radio Club

Operator of Voice Repeaters on 146.28/88Mhz., 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	Phil Steinbach(WB5SUR) 258-3215
Vice President	Jeff Schmidt(N5MNV) 255-6753
Secretary	Paul Parker(N5ZLX) 467-7070
Treasurer	Tenia Kinney (KASTXK) 442-8427
Newsletter Editor	Your name here? ???-????

Minutes from the June 1, 1993 meeting.

The meeting was called to order by President Phil Steinbach [WB5SUR] at 7:30 PM at Luby's North Loop Cafeteria. There were approximately 60 people in attendance.

Guests and visitors were introduced.

Minutes of the May 4 regular meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer Tenia Kinney [KASTXK] reported a checking account balance of \$5156.18.

The engineering committee reported all equipment operating as expected except the digipeater, which may be back in operation this month.

Activities reported included:

Jon Penner [N5MHI] announced that the packet weather node installed in northwest Austin is operating. The weather data is available at N5MHI-4 on 146.07 and incoming messages should use N5MHI-5.

The transmitter hunt scheduled for Saturday June 5 was postponed until June 12 because of HamComm.

Jeff Schmidt [N5MNW] announced that Jim Musgrove [K5BKH] will be on the program at HamComm. His subject will VHF activities.

Complimentary copies of "Y L WORLD" (A magazine for female amateur radio enthusiasts) were distributed.

Unfinished business:

There was no unfinished business.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Submitted by Paul Parker [N5ZLX]
Secretary.

Transmitter Hunt

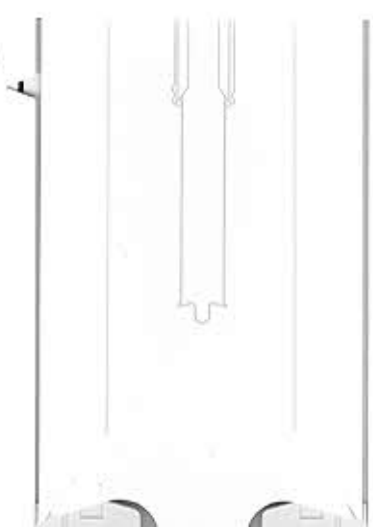
The July Transmitter Hunt is scheduled for July 10, 1993 at 7:00 PM. There will be three hunts of one hour each. The hunt frequency will be 146.52, with coordination on 146.94.

Editor Needed

If we are to continue to have a representation in the monthly mailing for the clubs, we need an editor. The job is not too difficult, but we need someone to do it. Please contact a club officer or director if you can help.

Next Meeting:

July 6, 1993, 7:30 PM, Luby's Cafeteria, North Loop.



AUSTIN SUMMERFEST

August 6-8, 1993

Wyndham Southpark Hotel

Austin, Texas

Sure enough. . . it's that time of year again. . . time to take a pleasant drive to central Texas for our perennial Ham Blast — Austin Summerfest!

Austin Amateur Radio Club and Austin Repeater Organization once again bring you the premier midsummer Texas Ham Radio gathering—everything you've come to expect from Austin, the place to be on the weekend of August 6 through August 8.

As always, we're proud to host the summer meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society. Check out the sessions and rub elbows with eminent Hams including Tom Comstock, N5TC, West Gulf Division Director at the ARRL South Texas Section Convention—that's us, too!

• **Dealers**

• **Exhibits**

• **DX Sessions**

• **Technical Sessions**

• **License Exams**

Saturday afternoon and
Sunday morning Sessions.

• **Prizes**

Prizes galore!

Door prizes, a preregistration prize, two IC-21AT's (you must be present to win), and of course a Grand Prize, the exciting new Kenwood TS-50S, the world's smallest HF transceiver.

• **Accommodations**

The sumptuous Wyndham Southpark Hotel. Convention rate of \$59 per room per night with limited availability. Call the hotel for registration cut-off date.

• **Amenities**

You're always welcome in our hospitality suite. There will be a cash bar plus soft drinks and munchies on Friday and Saturday nights, and refreshments on Saturday and Sunday mornings.

• **Ladies Events**

We've planned some unique events for the ladies.

Swapfest

Wall-to-wall goodies! Just the place to find that gizmo you've been looking for—or to let someone find the one you no longer need. Swap in carpeted, air-conditioned comfort beginning on Friday night. Here are the rules:

1. Tables are \$8 each for the whole weekend (Friday night through Sunday afternoon) or \$6.00 for Saturday only (8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.) available both by advance registration and at the door. Tables are limited 3 to a customer - first come, first served.
2. We'll attempt to honor requests from groups of sellers for adjacent tables, if we receive your registrations in the same envelope. **REQUESTS FOR TABLES GROUPED TOGETHER MUST BE PURCHASED FOR THE SAME TIME PERIOD** (All weekend grouped together or Saturday only grouped together).
3. We'll attempt to notify you if tables are sold out.
4. Table(s) will be held for you until 10:00 a.m. Saturday.
5. Sellers can begin setup on Friday at 7:00 p.m., running 'till 9:00 p.m. On Saturday, setup and opening at 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. On Sunday, setup and opening at 8:00 a.m. and the swapfest will run 'till noon.
6. Sellers **MUST** be registered at the convention.

AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 1993 Advanced Registration

Mail before July 30, 1993 to:
Austin Summerfest, Box 13473, Austin, TX 78711-3473

Name _____ Call _____
 Name _____ Call _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Day Telephone (____) _____ Evening Telephone (____) _____

	Each	Qty	Total
General Admission	\$6.00	_____	_____
<small>(Per individual. Includes all bars and guests. Admission at door will be \$8.00. Children 17 and under admitted free.)</small>			
Swapfest Table All weekend (Friday through Sunday).....	\$8.00	_____	_____
Saturday Only (8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.)	\$6.00	_____	_____
<small>(Limit of 3 tables to a registrant; first come first served; tables unclaimed by 10:00 a.m. Saturday will be released. Grouped tables must be purchased for the same time period.)</small>			
Extra Prize Ticket	\$1.00	_____	_____
Saturday Evening Event	\$7.00	_____	_____
Texas VHF-FM Society Dues	\$6.00	_____	_____
		TOTAL	_____

Make check or money order payable to **AUSTIN SUMMERFEST**

Saturday Night Special Event....

Back by popular demand!! We have a special deal at the country and western club Dance Across Texas. Within a mile of the hotel, Dance Across Texas will give us admission (normally \$5.00) and serve us a beef or chicken fajita buffet dinner with tea and praline. There will also be a free house drink before dinner. We are invited to stay on for live music and dancing after dinner. We will have our own reserved seating area for Austin Summerfest registrants. All of this for the low, low price of \$7.00. This is an outstanding bargain for Austin, Texas (or maybe anywhere). State law requires attendees to be 18 years or older.

Directions

The Wyndham Southpark Hotel is at 4140 Governor's Row, on the Southeast corner of the intersection of Ben White Boulevard (TX71 / US290) and Interstate 35 on the south side of Austin. Talk-in will be on 146.34/94.

From I-35, take the Ben White/71/290 Exit and turn east.
 Travel one block and turn right (south) onto Governor's Row.
 Turn right once more to hotel.

From TX71/US290 Eastbound:
 Pass under Interstate 35. Follow remaining directions as from I-35 (above).

From TX 71 Westbound: Turn left (south) onto Governor's Row one block before I-35. Turn right to hotel.

Further Info

Convention Information:
 Austin Summerfest
 8609 Tallwood Dr.
 Austin, TX 78759
 (512) 345-0800.

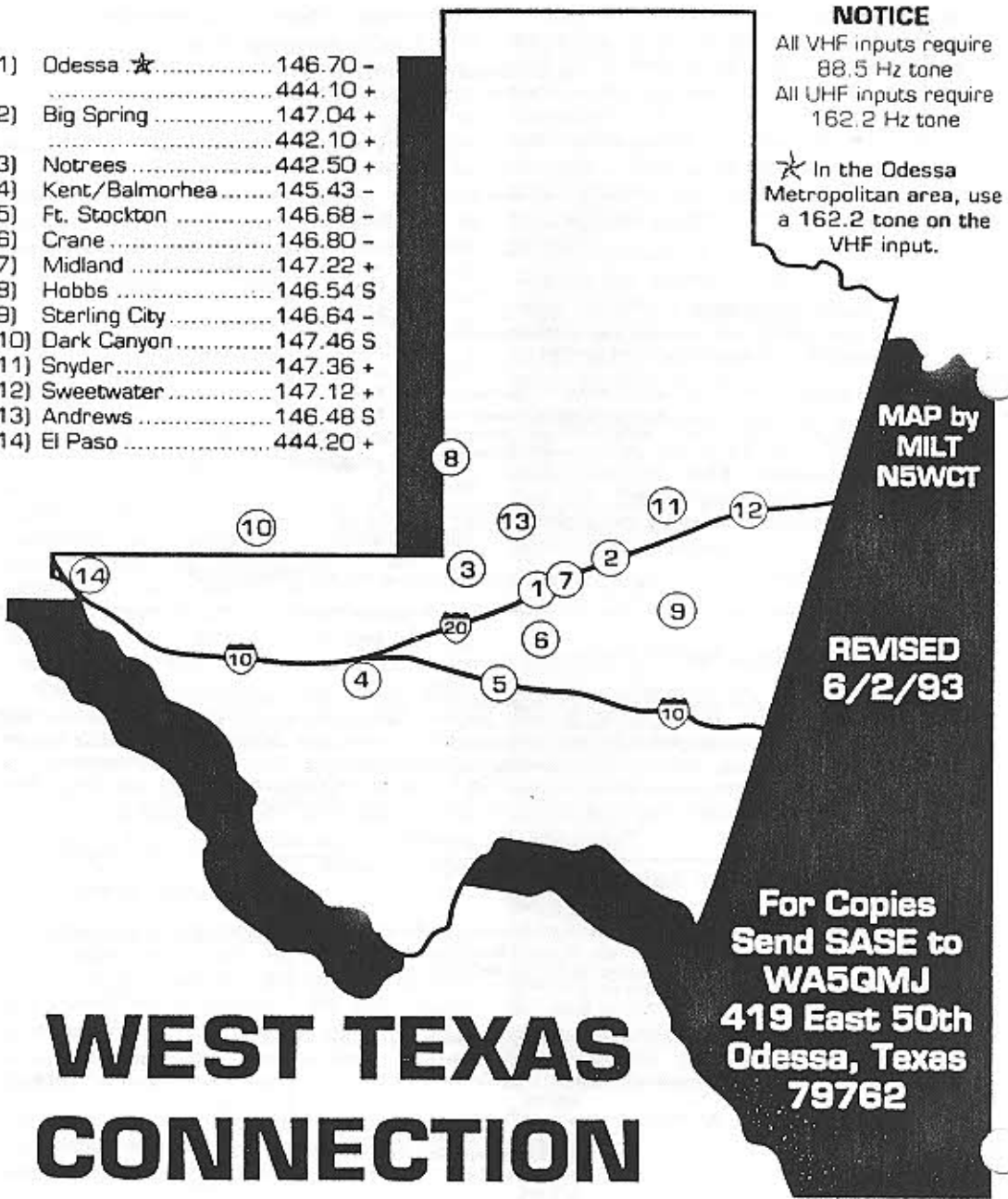
FCC Exam information:
 Larry Gunter, WB5BEK
 (512) 345-7281

Convention Hotel Numbers:
 (512) 448-2222
 (800) 433-2241

- 1) Odessa ★ 146.70 -
..... 444.10 +
- 2) Big Spring 147.04 +
..... 442.10 +
- 3) Notrees 442.50 +
- 4) Kent/Balmorhea 145.43 -
- 5) Ft. Stockton 146.68 -
- 6) Crane 146.80 -
- 7) Midland 147.22 +
- 8) Hobbs 146.54 S
- 9) Sterling City 146.64 -
- 10) Dark Canyon 147.46 S
- 11) Snyder 147.36 +
- 12) Sweetwater 147.12 +
- 13) Andrews 146.48 S
- 14) El Paso 444.20 +

NOTICE
 All VHF inputs require
 88.5 Hz tone
 All UHF inputs require
 162.2 Hz tone

★ In the Odessa
 Metropolitan area, use
 a 162.2 tone on the
 VHF input.



WEST TEXAS CONNECTION

SOUTHWEST



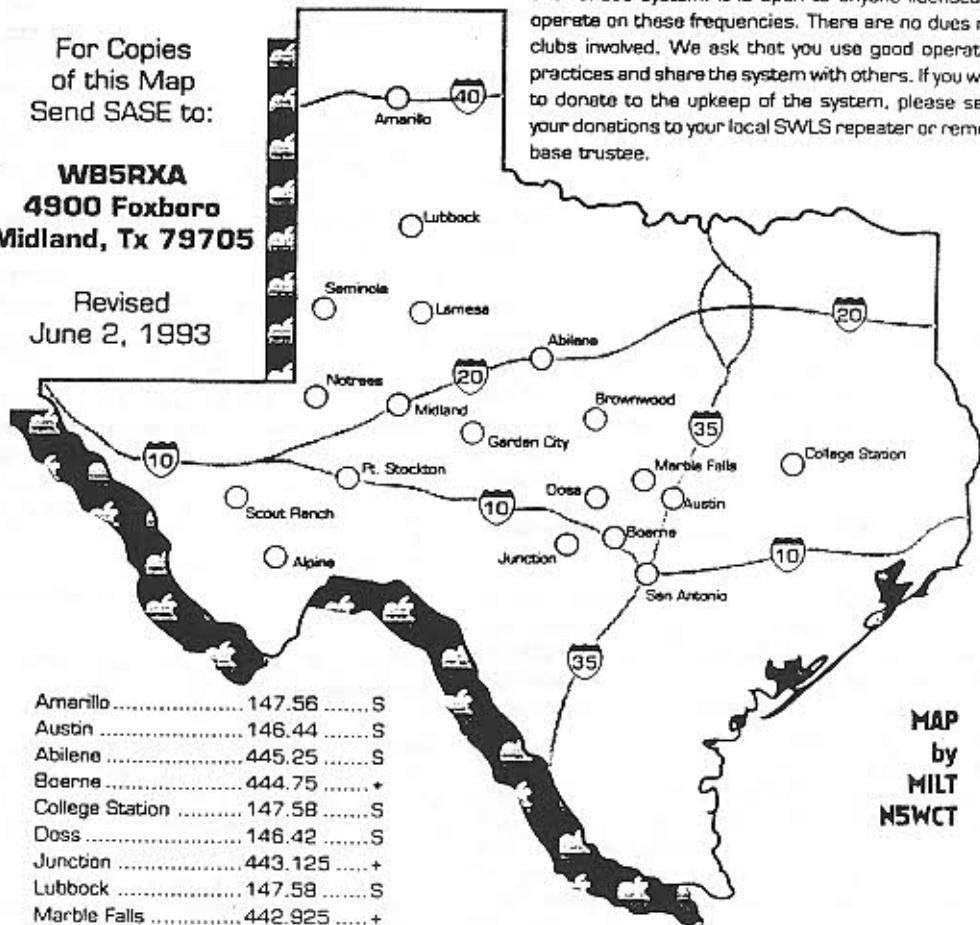
LYNX SYSTEM

The SOUTHWEST LYNX SYSTEM is a privately owned and funded system. It is open to anyone licensed to operate on these frequencies. There are no dues nor clubs involved. We ask that you use good operating practices and share the system with others. If you wish to donate to the upkeep of the system, please send your donations to your local SWLS repeater or remote base trustee.

For Copies
of this Map
Send SASE to:

WB5RXA
4900 Foxboro
Midland, Tx 79705

Revised
June 2, 1993



MAP
by
MILT
NSWCT

Amarillo.....	147.56S
Austin.....	146.44S
Abilene.....	445.25S
Boerne.....	444.75+
College Station.....	147.58S
Doss.....	146.42S
Junction.....	443.125+
Lubbock.....	147.58S
Marble Falls.....	442.925+
Midland (HUB).....	145.13-
Midland.....	442.20+
Notrees.....	147.02-
Notrees.....	444.675+
San Antonio.....	145.79S

Proposed Sites - Summer 1993

Alpine.....	146.58S
Brownwood.....		
Garden City.....	442.90+
Ft. Stockton.....	442.80+
Lamesa.....	442.70+
Scout Ranch.....	442.40+
Seminole.....	443.20+

NOTICE

All inputs require these tones:
2-Meter = 88.5 tone
440 = 162.2 tone

Russia... (Cont'd from Pg. 1)

The people, their culture, museums, cathedrals, and churches is the stock answer most often given in unison. But, the main reason we find the former Soviet Union so appealing is the people. They are wonderful; friendly, helpful, basically very honest.

Our first trip began in March of 1991 as part of the annual University of Wisconsin History/Language Department adventure. Our two-week trip was to include Leningrad and Moscow in Russia, Tallin, in the Baltic republic of Estonia, and Tblisi, the capital of Soviet Georgia, all wonderfully exciting and beautiful cities.

It was in Tallin, through the efforts of a Russian television newscaster, that I met my first Soviet Radio Amateur, Mati Lindepuu, ES1RHW. Mati met me at the entrance of our hotel, and took me by local transportation (the bus) to the youth culture center that housed an Amateur Radio Club. Mati spoke no English and I spoke no Russian. We communicated with each other using Ham jargon during the hour trip.

At the youth center, I was introduced to August Parn, the instructor, technician and custodian of the radio club station, ES1WW. August, who spoke fluent English, asked if I would care to operate the club's homebrewed station. I jumped at the chance! Two hours and 14 contacts later, I removed the headset and let the 200-watt transmitter and six-element beam rest. I had a ball! I talked and August logged. I still remember the first contact: Will, KB5IPQ, in the state of Louisiana, who answered my CQ while driving to work. He said that he almost drove off the road when I first acknowledged him.

August, Mati and I shared another two hours before I had to return to my hotel, pack, and depart that congenial city.

Over the next year and a half, I would receive periodic telephone calls from Hams around our country telling me they had talked with

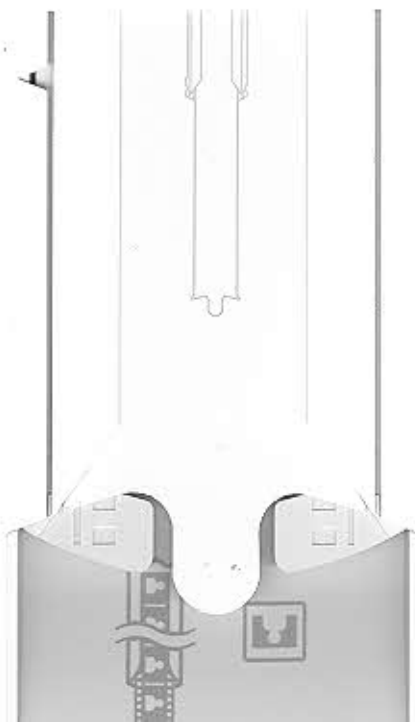
ES1WW and that August asked them to give me a call and say "hi." It was always a nice highlight to my day.

In June of 1992, Wendy and I were again bound for Russia, this time to the Far East and into Siberia on a two-and-a-half day trip aboard the Trans-Siberian Railway into Irkutsk and the area of Lake Baikal (see photo on pg.). Lake Baikal is the largest fresh-water lake in the world: one mile deep, 400 miles long, and 70 miles wide; it holds one-fifth of the world's fresh water. The lake is 24 million years old. An in-depth report on Lake Baikal can be found in the June, 1992 issue of *National Geographic*. The water is so clean that a person can drink it straight out of the lake.

In Irkutsk, Wendy met Alexander Trifonov, who shared tea with us in his home. Through his efforts and the Bureau of Communication in Irkutsk, I was able to meet and visit with Serge Sobolev, UA0SR, and Leo Arsentiev, UA0SU- the president and vice-president of the 400-member, Irkutsk Radio Club. The photo of Serge, Leo and I (on pg.) was taken at 11 p.m. on July 1 - we were in the land of the midnight sun.

During our short visit and subsequent exchanges of letters, the status of the Russian Amateur Radio community was gleaned. Almost everyone operates a homebrewed station - theirs, if lucky enough to be given or could find the parts to build one. More often, they are members of and use their club station. Commercial equipment and spare parts are hard to come by and, if found, they are very expensive. With the breakup of the Soviet Union in March of 1991, all government support for the local radio clubs ceased. For many Russian Hams now, when equipment dies, so does their operating.

I can make only a small ripple in a very large pond, but I want to do something to
(Continued on Page 12)



Huck's Country Store

by Huck Huckabee - AA5BU

Radio Frequency Hurts Some People - While Others Seem to Escape

My early experience with high power radio frequency was in the U.S. Armed Forces. In the early 1940's, I worked as a Radar Repairman in an Anti-Aircraft Artillery Unit. My job was to maintain the Radar unit that directed the long-range Searchlights.

That early Radar unit operated on 205 MHz with an average power supply load of 15-KV @ 1 amp. The main power bang was in excess of 400,000 watts! The antenna was a group of dipoles numbering about 50, each about 27 inches long, as I recall. The Radar Unit had three operators who sat just behind the antenna. Their operating position rotated and tilted as did the antenna. They had fixed telescopes to observe the position of the searchlight beam relative to the antenna. This was the most miserable job in the Armed Forces in cold and rain.

Somehow public opinion believed that Radar Operators became sterile from Radio Frequency Exposure. However, the number of men who fathered families in that time period proved the idea to be in error.

In cold weather we would point the antenna down to the ground level and stand out front to warm our body; even hold our hands near the antenna dipoles for a quick shot of warmth.

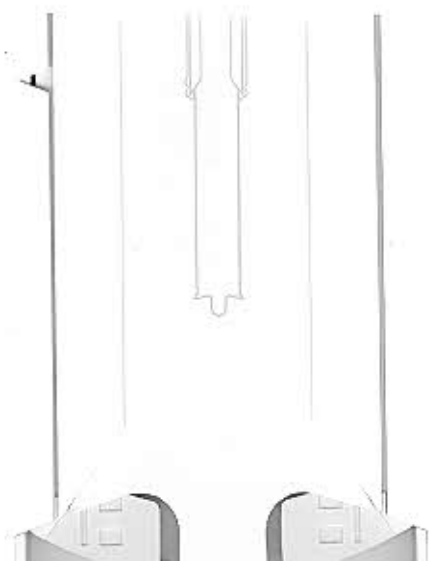
We always had fun pointing the antenna to a group of soldiers in close order drill. The chain and ID tags we wore were approximately a 1/2 wave long from the back of the neck to near the belt line. A quick zap and everyone would be scratching from slight burns from the ID chain and tags. At a later date the Post Commander got pretty rough with the Radar Operators. It was reported that we used him as a target at every opportunity!

A few weeks ago I overheard a conversation about Radar hurting people; two were talking. One said, "It (Radar) hurt me 60", and the other said he was hurt over a hundred; and had heard of a man hurt over 200! I could not refrain from asking what was the Radar, and what is that 200 hurt number. He explained that it was Police Radar on North US-183 Highway and the fine was \$200 dollars!

My experience with Radar and its High Energy Radio Frequency may get me yet; however, its a slow process because its been over a half century since I warmed my body in front of that antenna.

On the other hand, don't underestimate what this modern Police Radar can do to you! Old Huck would encourage everyone to stay away from that RF: It may not hurt you, but it sure doesn't help you; or your pocketbook!

de Old Huck - AA5BU



AUSTIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING

Jim Neely, WA5LHS, President brought the meeting to order on June 8, 1993, at 7:30 pm at Luby's cafeteria on North Loop.

VISITORS: There were no visitors or infrequent attendees.

MINUTES: The minutes of the May 11, 1993, meeting were approved as printed in the AARC/OVER.

OFFICER REPORTS: Dave Marschall, KG5ND, Treasurer, reported that the checking account balance was \$4166.52 and the postal account balance was still \$209.79. Due to the absence of the Technical Committee Chairman, there was no report on the status of the club's 146.78 MHZ repeater. Steve Sparks, KB5RSY, Activity Manager deferred his report until the program portion which was dedicated to the 1993 Field Day.

NEW MEMBERS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: Rick Herndon, K5FNI, a committee of one appointed to expand the sound system reported that he located an amplifier at a pawn shop.

NEW BUSINESS: President Neely announced that the committee to select the best article in the newsletter in the past year awarded the honor to Gene Preston, K5GP, for technical excellence. Miles Abernathy, N5KOB, headed the selection committee. For the second time in two years it attempted to arrange Vanna White's attendance at the award ceremony. It failed again, but Gene was presented an autographed photo of Vanna.

Sheryl Farley, N5VBQ, reported on the progress she and Bob Carwell, AA5ZG, have made since the last meeting in establishing AUDIBLE ADS which is a 24 hour voice mail buyer and seller service. Sheryl distributed material which describes the operation of this service. AUDIBLE ADS can be reached at 512-502-0685 and faxed at 512-502-0458.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Joe Makeever, W5EBJ, announced that Summerfest will be August 7, 8, and 9 and it needs volunteer labor from the two Austin radio clubs. Joe mentioned the areas of talk-in, registration and flea market as seeking volunteer help. This year the grand prize will be a KENWOOD TS50S and the winner need not be present; however, the winner must be present at the time of the drawing to receive either of the two ICOM 21AT's that will be given away.

Pat Mahoney, KB5WN, announced that he knows a widow who has her late husband's old telegraph keys. If any collector of old telegraph keys is interested in procuring these items, he should contact Pat.

Rick Herndon, K5FNI, needs a manual for a IC4AT.

Hal Henagar, W5MDL, announced that QCWA will meet Saturday, June 12, about 11 am at Luby's On North Loop.

Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, needs a power strip.

Joe Fisher, K5EJL, was recruiting members for ARES. ARES nets meet twice every Sunday. The first session is at 1830 local time on 146.94 MHZ and the second session is at 2030 local time on 146.78 MHZ.

Continued on Page 11

Pete Jordahl, K5GM, needs a manual for a KENWOOD TH28AT.

Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV, needs volunteers for a ham radio demo at a cub Scout day camp.

President Neely mentioned he had received a letter which complained of club members being unfriendly. Jim said we should make visitors and guests feel welcome, but that newcomers should introduce themselves at our meetings. Alvin Devane, WB5HZQ, a long-time workhorse on the Central Texas Weather Net said it was helpful to meet in person the hams who are checking into the net's sessions. Bob, K5SIV, decided to introduce himself as an infrequent attendee.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion carried and President Neely adjourned the meeting at 7:50 pm.

PROGRAM: Again Rod Moag, W0NDS, introduced someone who needed no introduction, Steve Sparks, KB5RSY, the club Activity Manager. Steve gave a program on Field Day. This year Field day is June 26 and 27. Steve announced that Bill Montgomery, AB5HP, is captain of the HF station and Frank, KB5WOA, is captain of the Novice-Tech station. Both stations need volunteers to operate and log. Steve said we still need a beam antenna. Please contact Steve at 512-252-7791 if you can assist the club at Field Day in any way. Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, showed a video tape of the club's participation in Field Day 1990.

Respectfully submitted,

John Weber, KF5OY

AARC Secretary

FCC Orders Novice Examinations to Be Given Under Volunteer Examiner Program

The FCC has placed Novice class examinations under the Volunteer Examiner Coordinator program.

As with the other class amateur license exams, responsibility for both preparation and administration of Novice exams lie with the VEC system, "in the interest of integrity, simplification and efficiency," the FCC said today.

The Commission also will allow recovery of out-of-pocket costs for coordinating and administering Novice examinations.

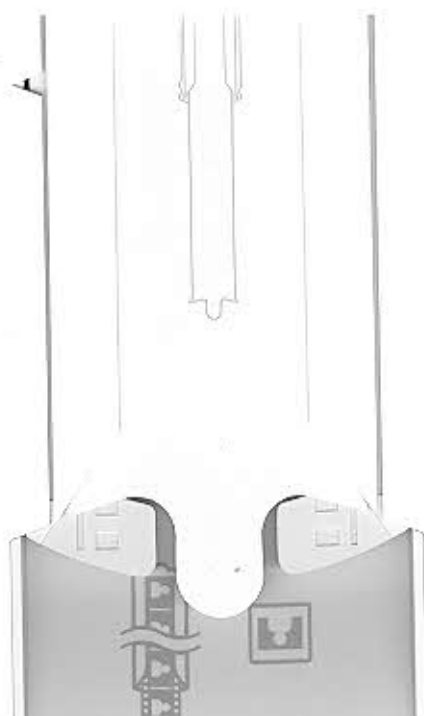
The examination elements required for the Novice license are already being administered in the VEC system because they are also requirements for other classes of amateur operator licenses.

The FCC said that placing Novice examinations under the VEC system would avoid confusion caused by having two different systems; result in fewer errors in exam administration and in paperwork (including allowing simplification of the FCC Form 610); and improve the availability of overall data on examinations.

This action, in PR Docket 92-154, was taken May 3. No effective date for implementation was announced.

ARRL Bulletin ARLB051, 5/6/93

Badger State Smoke Signals - June 1993



Russia...(Cont'd from pg. 8)

help our fellow Amateur Radio operators. I am trying to do this in two ways. The first is to setup sister clubs between radio clubs in Wisconsin and the Irkutsk Radio Club. Second, and more important, I am trying to find used HF gear in working condition, hopefully with manuals and spare parts which can be donated to our Russian neighbors. I have arranged for no cost to us transportation to move donated gear to Europe. I may be able to fine tune this transportation to deliver goods into Russia. If you have any gear you would like to donate, or know of a business of individual who might help in this project, I can be contacted at my byline above, or call me at (414) 639-7327.

In March of this year, again in search of adventure and Ham Radio operators, Wendy and I departed Chicago's O'Hare on board Aeroflot Airlines, bound for St. Petersburg (Leningrad had returned to its former name), Moscow, and into Uzbekistan to visit the cities of Tashkent and Samarkand. Our first four nights were spent in private homes in St. Petersburg. We ate breakfast and the evening meals with our host families. Our combined group totalled 62 members, affiliated with four University of Wisconsin campuses. The group divided into two separate tour groups. There was little apprehension the first night, but no horror stories. As far as I was able to ascertain, this was one of the outstanding highlights for the entire combined group. As I said earlier, the Russian people are wonderful.

Our group spent one morning at an elementary school that specialized in English, visiting four on-going classes - the first, third, fifth and seventh Forms (grades). We were treated to a performance of singing, dancing, short skits, and one-on-one visiting with the students at the end of our visit.

We next flew to Tashkent, the capital of Uzbekistan on board a domestic Aeroflot flight. The difference between it and their

international flight is like night and day.

A visit to a Tashkent kindergarten was as rewarding to us as the elementary school visit in St. Petersburg. A polaroid camera saw a lot of service in both schools. Classroom and individual performance pictures were given to the students and the teachers. They were very much appreciated, because individual color pictures are very difficult to obtain in the former Soviet countries.

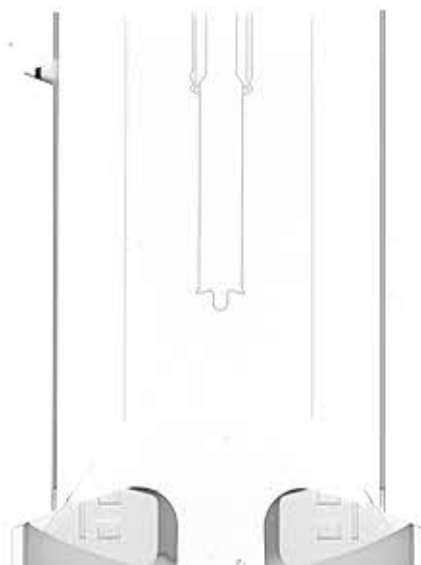
Visiting the market places in each of the cities was also a memorable outing. Fruits, vegetables, spices, ice cream (it was delicious) and meats were in abundance, but costly for local residents.

The Russian currency has had a rough two years. The exchange rate for one U.S. dollar in March of 1991 was six roubles. In June of 1992, our dollar collected 120 roubles. Early November of 1992 found the exchange rate moved to over 400 to one. And, during our visit in March of this year, exchanges of between 690 and 770 roubles to the U.S. dollar could be found.

Unfortunately, we made no new Ham contacts on the third trip. We had less time, staying in a private home and delivering packages for acquaintances to their friends in St. Petersburg and Moscow. It is necessary to hand-deliver gifts, and particularly money gifts, because things "disappear in the mail."

A fantastic place to visit, Wendy and I are planning and looking forward to our next visit to the countries of the former USSR. We would like to return to Irkutsk in the summer of 1994. Please keep that deadline in mind if you think you have or can help obtain equipment that we can extend to our struggling, but gracious friends across the seas, both the Atlantic and the Pacific.

73 from Larry, WA9JMO, and Wendy, N9PAC.



Dit & Dah Talk Radios A Repeater QSO

by Tim and Al Megahertzzi

TIM: "Yo Dude! What's new? You're 50 over 9 on my 13-element yagi. This is Tim, KM6ABC for ID. Hey, I can see the repeater antenna now. The new window in my shack is great. Hope you can hear me okay. This is KM6ABC for ID. Over Over."

AL: "Gee, Tim, I didn't realize you were using such a big antenna. I'll bet you could work it as well with one milli-Watt and a rubber duckie. You could also hear me well, since the repeater's transmitter, not mine, determines the signal strength at your end. Go ahead, Tim."

TIM: "Bummer ... eleven milli-seconds on my time-response meter, Al. I'm practicing every opportunity I get, so I can respond within ten milli-seconds of the repeater's courtesy tone. Oh, almost forgot, this is KM6ABC for ID. Can't waste time, ya know. When ya ragchew for a couple of hours, those seconds add up. Back to you, Al. This is KM6ABC, Tim, in Folsom—on the hill. Over."

AL: "Record time, Tim. No one could slip between us even if they needed to. Maybe we can eliminate other potential repeater users. Another neat thing, Tim, is to identify at least 100 times in ten minutes—make

sure no one forgets who we are, right? Just 'cause the law requires only one ID in ten minutes and at the end of a QSO doesn't mean we can't remind 'em more often."

TIM: "A strange thing happened this morning, Al. Some guy managed to break in before I could put my coffee cup down and key up. That's when I started using a straw! The guy suggested my good buddies and I should move to a special frequency called a simplex ... no repeater at all! The nerve. I was miffed. This repeater is for everyone. We have every right to tie it up as much as we want. Also, I found a good deal on a 2-meter Kilo-Watt amp. I'm certainly not going to waste money on a frequency for simple people. QSL old man?"

AL: "Maybe you should get a surgical shunt installed so you can mainstream that coffee to your brain. Some people are self-righteous, Tim. I agree suggesting a simplex just because we live only a few blocks apart is nerdy. But I hear you very well. You don't need to keep asking whether I copy okay. I'm also bright enough to know when it's my turn to talk, especially when the courtesy tone gives me a cue."

TIM: "Right on, Al. Maybe I won't buy the amplifier. I could buy an HF rig for

ragchewing with the money and take that 'Verbal Advantage' course. And, well, shucks, maybe I will try the simplex frequency. Old habits are hard to break, but heck, this sorry son of a *&#@% is ready for something different in my life."

AL: "The 'Verbal Advantage' course might help. They address gutter-mouthing in detail. Hey, isn't ham radio great? Just think how many people can hear your every word, through the miracle of repeaters!"

TIM: "Well, you sure have helped me learn repeater procedures and about the use of simplex frequencies. But now I must QRT and feed my cat. So please give your lovely wife a hug for me, pat your kids on the head and give ol' Scooby Dog an extra bone. See ya later, OM. 73 and let's talk again at three o'clock ... Hey, that's only 15 minutes from now. This is KM6ABC, off in a cloud of dust!"

AL: "Tim, I can hardly wait for our sked. Maybe we'll discuss advanced operating techniques that you could apply to HF as well as VHF. Or how about operating etiquette in general? I'm going to stop by your house and drop off a copy of the ARRL 'Repeater Operating Practices.' I hope you will read it and find it as useful as I did. 73, KG6XYZ."

from the October '92 'River City ARCS Newsletter' (Sacramento, CA)—N6YQD Editor (and author, I suspect—ed.)

ELMER

By Rich Regent, K9GDF



AARC Information

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Officers

Jim Neely, WA5HLS, President	442-4812
Rod Moag, W0NDS, Vice Pres.	467-6825
Dave Marschall, KG5ND, Treasurer	834-1779
John Weber, KF5OY, Secretary	280-1082
Steve Sparks, KB5RSY, Activity Mgr. ...	251-7791

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). Please contact an officer if you would like to join the club. Come on down to the next meeting!

Committees and Positions

Ed Golla, K3AHS, Technical	255-4818
Joe Fisher, K5EJL, ARES Coord.	926-4689
Steve Means, N5PSW, A/Over Ed.	452-7240
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AARC/Over Information

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Viewpoints expressed in The AARC/Over do not necessarily reflect those of any club or its members, directors or officers.

Members are encouraged to submit material for publication... send material to the Editor at 4800 Caswell, Austin 78751 or by packet on the N5PSW BBS - 145.09 MHz. Submissions maybe edited for format, style and suitability. **Deadline for the next issue is the 14th of this month.** Late material will be saved for later months. Permission granted to reprint AARC/Over.

Calendar

- Jun 26-27... Field Day.....
- Jul 6... Austin Rptr. Organization meets
- Jul 10... Ham exams, 8:30 AM, Murchison
- Jul 10-11 IARU HF World Championship
- Jul 13... Austin ARC Meeting, Luby's
- Jul 17... QCWA, 11:30 AM, Wyatts
- Jul 20... Austin Amateur TV Club, Luby's
- Jul 24... South Austin W5YI Exams
- Aug 3 Austin Rptr. Organization meets
- Aug 6-8... Austin Summerfest '93
- Aug 7... Ham exams at Summerfest

Weekly Events

- ARES Net... Sun., 6:30 PM, 146.94 MHz
- ARES Net... Sun., 8:30 PM, 146.78 MHz
- SwapNet, NewsLine... Sun., 9 PM, 146.94
- Lunch... Thurs. @ Holiday House #4
- U.T. Net... Thurs., 7 PM, 145.21 MHz
- QCWA Net... Thurs., 8:15 PM, 147.18
- Breakfast... Sat., Simon David Deli
- 521 Trade/Tech Net... Sat., 9 PM, 145.21
- WeatherNet... as needed, 146.94 MHz



Alexandre Trifonov (center) entertains guests in his kiosk home, sharing tea with Lerry McCalvey, WA5JMD, and Wendy McCalvey, N5PAC. As a youth, Alex learned Morse code from an "old-time" ham, but did not follow through to get his Amateur Radio license. Alex helped the McCalveys meet the top officials of the Kiosk Radio Club.



This is a north-looking view of Lake Baikal, taken from space shuttle night STS-45 between March 24 and April 2, 1992. The central basin of Lake Baikal maintains only thinned and broken ice cover, despite the deep Siberian winter freeze. This mysterious phenomenon suggests that the central basin of the lake (which is the deepest basin, reaching depths of almost 2,000 meters) is experiencing a period of overturn. This involves warmer water from below reaching the surface and preventing the formation of extensive ice cover. From dating of the lake's deep waters suggests that such circulation occurs very sporadically, in the order of every 10 years! Because the lake is so large, deep, and old, it supports a special ecosystem which includes many species of plants and animals found nowhere else. This view shows the large delta built by the Selenge River at the southern end of the lake. Across the lake from the delta is the Arkhara River, the lake's only outlet, and the city of Irkutsk.

-NASA photo

Stray Currents

In a letter to the editor, Robert Barron, KA5WSS, has made a very excellent suggestion.

Robert, sometime ago, donated a copy of "Now You're Talking" to the Austin Public Library. He writes that after reviewing the book, they have put it on their computerized card catalog system. Three branch libraries have requested copies of the book. If anyone has an used copy of this book, Robert would like to get these to the library.

Here's a source for Doppler direction finding kits. The circuit appears to be based on the project described in "TRANSMITTER HUNTING - Radio Direction Finding Simplified" by Moell and Curlee. The kit comes with 2 printed circuit boards, one for the display and one for the rest. All parts are included to build the decoder and the antenna switching circuitry, but the antenna parts are not included.

I'm told that Dopplers have their place in one's T-hunting arsenal. They are useful for locating mobile foxes and medium to strong vertical signals. They are not so useful for locating weak horizontal signals, especially when hunting in areas of strong adjacent channels.

The kits are available from Marty Mitchell-N6ZAV at (714) 760-6060. They cost \$99.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping.

-via Internet and N5KOB

To anyone with a Yaesu FT5200 with the 'wireless' mike option: DO NOT, *REPEAT*, DO NOT leave your radio on, unattended with this option installed... any 49 MHz transmission in its vicinity will be dutifully repeated through the radio and onto the air that is selected on the left frequency display.

-via Internet and N5KOB