AARC/OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club

Austin Amateur Television Club

Austin Repeater Organization

December 1993

ISSN 1067-0262

SENATE & HOUSE SUPPORT GROWS

Ninety seven members of the United States House of Representatives and fifteen US Senators have now become co-sponsors of the Amateur Radio Service Joint Resolution which was introduced into both houses of congress last May. At its meeting last January, the ARRL's Board of Directors paved the way for the joint resolution with a resolution sponsored by New England Division Director Bill Burden, WB1BRE. Based on the Burden motion, the Board voted to instruct its Washington representatives to seek formal recognition from the 103rd congress of the role played by the Amateur Radio Service. This, as a national resource in preparation of and relief from disasters and in helping to foster technical progress in electronics. Representative Mike Kreidler of Washington State was an original co-sponsor of the House version of the resolution and he has some strong words of support for the Amateur Radio service. According to Kreidler, it is about time for Congress to recognize the achievements of our nations hams. He says that with the service approaching 600,000 licensed radio amateurs in the United States, he is certain that every member of the house has had similarly favorable experiences with the amateur community and will also support this resolution. So far, 97 of his fellow congressmen and women have followed his lead. *-Newsline 11/05/93*

SAREX - STS 58

STS-58, the latest in the series of Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiments called SAREX, was a tremendous success. The fourth and final flight of 1993 racked up near-perfect contacts with 17 school groups. many reporting full quieting contacts with the spacecraft from horizon to horizon. An outstanding one took place on October 21st, when the Lycee Gaston Febus school, in Pau, France, had a telebridge contact

(Continued on Page 13)

Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization

meets on Tuesday, December 7, 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, December 14, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's on North Loop.

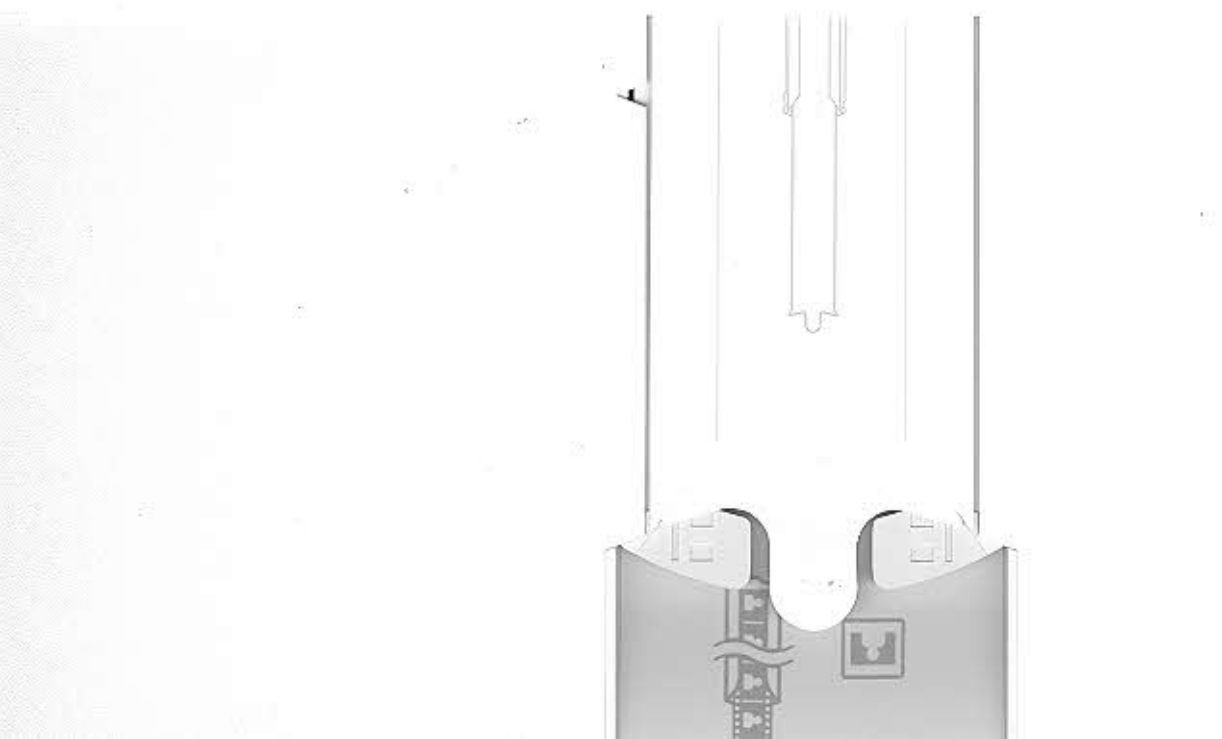
Austin Amateur Television Club

will meet on Wednesday, November 15, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's Cafeteria.

Austin QCWA

meets on Saturday, December 18, 12:00 PM, at Luby's Cafeterria.

The *AARC/OVER* is published monthly in Austin, Texas



Monitor
Austin Repeater Organization

P.O. Box 4763, Austin, TX 78765

Amateur Radio Club
Operators of Voice Repeaters on
146.28/88, 146.34/94, 223.20/224.80, and 449.1/441.1 Mhz
Packet Digital Repeater 145.01 MHz
Sponsor of Central Texas Weather Net, ARO Transmitter Hunt and Swap Net

CLUB OFFICERS

President	Phil Steinbach	WB5SUR	258-3215
Vice President	Jeff Schmidt	N5MNW	255-6753
Secretary	Paul Parker	N5ZLX	467-7070
Treasurer	Bill Montgomery	AB5HP	322-9035

Minutes of the Austin Repeater Organization Meeting November 2, 1993

The meeting was called to order by President Phil Steinbach [WB5SUR] at 7:30 PM at Luby's North Loop cateferia.

Guests and visitors were introduced.

Treasurer Tenia Kinney [KA5TXK] reported that we have $3935.65 in the bank.

Engineers Report:

John Dahm reported that all equipment was in operation.

"New" officers were announced.

The following people will continue in their current positions:

President - Phil Steinbach [WB5SUR]
Vice President - Jeff Schmidt [N5MNW]
Secretary - Paul Parker [N5ZLX]

Bill Montgomery [AB5HP] will be the new treasurer.

The minutes of the October 5 regular meeting as published in the November 1993 *ARO Monitor* were approved as printed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Submitted by
Mickey McInnis [KB5YAC]

(Substituting for the real Secretary)

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, December 7 1993 at 7:30 PM at Luby's Cafeteria at North Loop and Burnet Rd.

Transmitter Hunt

A transmitter hunt is scheduled for December 11, 1993 at 7:00 PM. The hunt frequency will be 146.52 , with coordination on 146.94.

ARES Net

The Travis County ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) net meets every Sunday night at 6:30 PM on the 146.94 repeater and at 8:30 PM on the 146.78 repeater. Any amateur interested in emergency communication is invited to join.

Swap Net and *Newsline*

There is a swap net held every Sunday night at 9 PM on the 146.94 repeater. The swap net is followed by *Newsline.*

Information on ARO's Repeaters

All of ARO's repeaters are open access. Any amateur is invited to use them, except during nets, when a designated net control operator is in charge of repeater usage.

146.88 offset -600 KHz has a phone patch. Use "*" to bring up the patch, and "#" when you have completed the call. You can dial "911" (no star needed) for access to local emergency services. "Speed dial" 3 digit access codes are available to ARO members for frequently dialed numbers.

146.94 offset -600 KHz is used for the weather net at the request of the National Weather Service. It is also used for the Swapnet and *Newsline* at 9PM Sunday.

224.80 offset -1.6 MHz is available.

444.10 offset -5 MHz is available.

ARO maintains a Packet Digital Repeater on 145.01 MHz.

Other events

Tailgate Expo Belton TX. April 23, 1994. 8 AM - 2 PM free admission, tailgate space $10.

Ham expo 94 Belton TX. October 8, 1994. Indoor table or tailgate spaces. Contact Mike LeFan at 817-773-4768.

ARO Monitor

The *ARO Monitor* is edited by Mickey McInnis [KB5YAC] (339-0344). This is only this two page section of this newsletter. Steve Means edits the *AARC/Over* , which is the bulk of this newsletter.

THE 10-METER AMATEUR RADIO BAND

The 10-meter amateur radio band (28.0 - 29.7 MHz) is perhaps the most exciting, interesting, and friendly part of the ham spectrum. With inexpensive and low-power equipment, you can work the world. I have spent many exciting moments working England, Australia, Russia, Japan, and many other countries from my car. Ten meters is a great way to start your involvement in amateur radio. This article answers some of the most frequently asked questions about this band, including information about antennas, radios, propagation, and operation.

RIGS: You have many choices of 10m rigs, and just about all of them will work well. Most radios will be of the general HF variety and will probably cover the 80m, 40m, 20m, and 15m bands too. Older rigs like the Drake TR-4 or TR-4RC twins, the Kenwood TS-120 or TS- 520, and the Yaesu FT-101 can be purchased used for $250-$400, and all will work other HF ham bands as well. Almost all of the new HF rigs will cover 10m. If you are on a very limited budget, you have two basic choices: modern 10m-only rigs like the Radio Shack HTX-100 or the Uniden HR-2510/ HR-2600, or very old low-end HF rigs like the Heathkit HW-101 or Swan/Eico/Galaxy rigs. You should be able to pick up rigs like this for $100 to $150 or even less. The modern radios will work better (the HW-101 will probably have frustrating frequency drift problems), but the older rigs will cover bands other than 10m. 25 watts is plenty of power to start; higher power levels may be useful when conditions are not good but are not essential. Your best prices on used equipment will come from personal contacts made on-the-air, on packet, on Usenet, or through clubs. Hamfests can be good places to pick up used rigs, but be careful high prices. (I have a used HF rig price guide if you are interested.)

In these days of lower sunspot activity, you are better off getting a radio that will work all of the HF bands. This is why 10m-only rigs from the late 80's are such a bargain today. Some SSB-capable CBs can be modified to work 10m, and can actually be decent 10m rigs. I used a modified Cobra 148 successfully. (In the U.S., it is legal to modify CBs to work on 10m, but illegal to modify ham rigs for operation on CB.) Modified CBs, and the 10m-only Uniden and Radio Shack rigs, are good bets for mobile operation, as are the new small HF rigs like the Kenwood TS-50.

ANTENNAS: When the band is open, just about anything works. Apartment dwellers and hams in "antennas not allowed" living situations can all work 10m. A dipole is only about 16-1/2 feet long and works well for DX. Verticals like ground planes also work well for DX and local contacts. A single-wire with an antenna tuner works well, provided that you attach a 1/4-wave (approx. 100-inch) wire to the ground terminal of your antenna tuner to act as a counterpoise. I use the AEA Isoloop, which is a very effective loop antenna only 4 feet in diameter. The higher the antenna, the better. The best antennas, the ones owned by those booming DX stations, are beams mounted high on towers. To put out a stronger signal, you are better off with a better antenna rather than more power. For mobile work, a 1/4-wave (approx. 8 foot) whip works best. (available at low cost from ham dealers) Shorter antennas are more attractive but don't work as well. Many CB antennas can be modified (shortened) to work with 10m.

LICENSE CLASS: All U.S. license classes (except no-code Technician) can work 10 meters. Novices and Technicians can work SSB only on the 28.300 to 28.500 segment of the band. This is the only HF band where Novice-class hams can work voice.

MODES: Most work is SSB. (specifically, USB, or upper-sideband) CW is popular at

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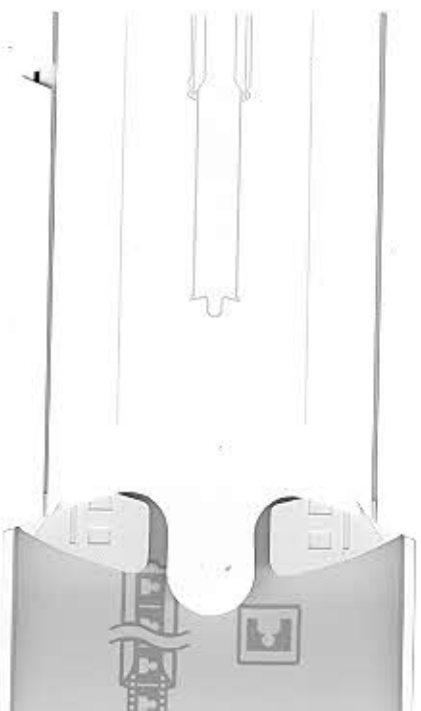


RESULTS OF THE ARRL/VEC EXAM

November 6, 1993

Murchison Middle School

The following individuals obtained or upgraded their license as listed below:

NAME	CALL	UPGRADE
James D. Kerr		Technician Plus
Cynthia D. Bailey		Technician
Linda L. Clayton		Technician
Greg D. Duepner		Technician
Russell H. Friedman		Technician
David B. Parker		Technician
Dara E. Smith		Technician
Eric B. Smith		Technician

There were a total of 11 candidates taking exams. Besides the above upgrades, there were 3 candidates that passed one or more exam elements, but did not upgrade their license.

VE EXAMINERS

Joe Makeever	W5EBJ	Gene Hinkle	K5PA
Roy Miller	W5FOZ	Ronnie Hughes	N5CSE
Jim Huckabee	AA5BU	John Bogard	KF5RX
Robert P. Basinger	AB5OC	Carolyn Hinkle	N5KRW
Larry Gunter	WB5BEK		

THE NEXT ARRL/VEC EXAMS WILL BE HELD AT MURCHISON MIDDLE SCHOOL, 3700 NORTH HILLS DRIVE, AUSTIN, TX ON:

Saturday, January 8, 1994 @ 9:00 am

(please arrive by 8:30 am)

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming exams, please contact me at 473-3200 (work) or 345-7281 (home). For questions about the next W5YI exams at Murchison Middle School, contact Mark Johnson at 335-4327.

Larry Gunter, WB5BEK

AUSTIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING

Jim Neely, WA5LHS, President, brought the meeting to order on November 9, 1993, at 7:31 pm at Luby's on North Loop.

VISITORS: Included among the visitors and infrequent attendees who introduced themselves were Jim, KB5LAT and Phil, WA6AZE.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 12, 1993, meeting were approved as printed in the AARC/OVER.

OFFICER REPORTS: Dave Marschall, KG5ND, Treasurer, was absent; however, President Neely reported that the checking account balance was $1135.86 and the postal account balance was $379.12. Ed Golla, K3AHS, Technical Committee Chairman, reported that everything is working. President Neely gave the Activities Manager's report for the absent Steve Sparks, KB5RSY. The Club's annual banquet and installation of officers will be January 15, 1994, at MANHATTAN'S in Round Rock at FM1325 and I35. It will start at 6:00 pm with a social hour and dinner will be served at 7:30 pm. The first keg of beer is on the house and any subsequent kegs are at Club expense. There will also be a cash bar The entree is chicken milanaise. The cost is $10.00 per person. Steve Sparks needs a head count by December 15, 1993.

NEW MEMBERS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Frank, KB5WOA, reported that a new packet station is needed on 2 meters. Contact Frank if you can donate equipment or know the source of inexpensive equipment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Stu Rohre, K5KVH, announced that several repairs and improvements had been made at the club's station at the Red Cross building. New feedlines were run to the beams. All antennas are properly marked. ARES and MOLNEX connectors have been installed. Dave, N5RNE, Frank, KB5WOA, Dave, WD5FGZ and Chuck, KB5YKJ assisted Stu.

Stu is also chairman of the nominations committee and Frank, KB5WOA and Rick, K5FNI are assisting him. Most of the current officers will run again at the December meeting; however, the club may need nominees for Treasurer and Activities Manager. Please contact the committe if you want to serve the club as an officer in 1994.

Jim, WB5IMB, announced that QCWA would meet on Saturday, November 20, 1993, at Luby's on North Loop at noon.

It was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn. President Neely adjourned the meeting at 7:45 pm. CST

PROGRAM: Rod Moag, W0NDS, Vice-President, introduced Jim Godwin, KB5LAT, from the photography department at the Austin American-Statesman. Jim described the Statesman's new digital image processing which uses APPLE equipment

Respectfully submitted,

John Weber, KF5OY, AARC Secretary

The Austin Amateur Radio Club
Annual Banquet
at

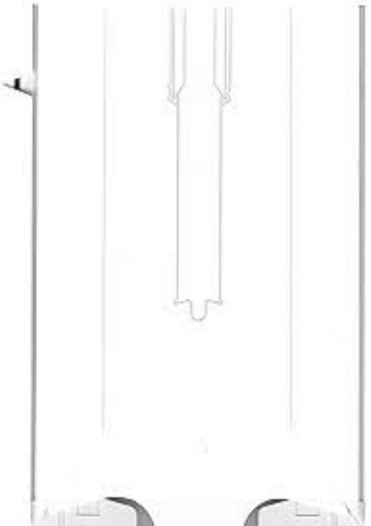
Manhattans Restaurant
on Saturday, January 15, 1994
6:00 pm for drinks and conversation
7:30 pm for dinner

The Menu:

Chicken Milanese
Roast Chicken over Fetticcini
Beef Stir Fry
Beef Strips with Broccoli and a variety of vegetables over brown rice
Tossed Salad
Chocolate Mousse

Beverages: Soft Drinks, Iced Tea, Coffee
Bar Drinks: The first keg of beer is free! (flavor to be announced)
Cash Bar: Beer $2.00/bottle Wine $2.75/glass Mixed Drinks $3.25
Margarita $3.50/12 oz. $2.75/9 oz

Cost: The cost is $10 per person. It is very very important to get an accurate head count. Mail your check/money order to Austin Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 13473, Austin, TX 78711, by Dec. 15



South Austin Session Report

The South Austin W5YI VE team congratulates the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at its November 20 session:

Steve L. Sparks -new- Extra Class

Hugh C. Sutton -new- Advanced Class

Earl W. Landry -new- General Class

Clay L. Noren KC5DUW Technician Plus

William M. Clayton -new- Technician

Murali Soundararajan -new- Technician

Seven others passed various examinations without upgrading.

The administering volunteer examiners included:

Jim Greenwood, AB5EK

Emil Kasprzyk, KC5IZ

Bro. Donard Steffes, KD9WI

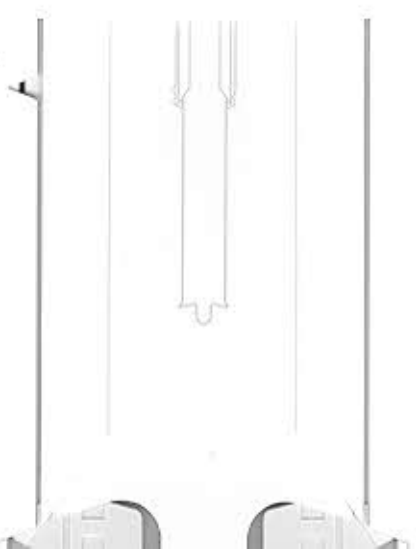
Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Lloyd Walls, WA1PRY

Dr. Michael Williams, AA5KW

Our next two sessions are scheduled for December 11th and January 22nd at 2 PM in room 109 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University. For 1994, the testing fee will increase to $5.75.

For more information, call Jim, AB5EK, at 327-6184.



Huck's Country Store

By Huck Huckabee- AA5BU

The First Battery I Can Remember

Oh the wonderful batteries we have today. They run our toys, radio, VCR, TV, HT and thousands of other things. They have long life, recharge quickly and store a vast amount of energy for their size. A battery of less than one fourth cubic foot in size will spin a big automobile engine, that could hardly be turned by hand!

The first battery that I can remember was at the railroad station a couple of blocks from Grandma's house.

I loved to watch the trains come and go. Mr. Patrick was the Station Agent, Telegraph Operator, Express Agent, Ticket Seller, etc. In fact, he was the only employee at the station. Others were Engineers, Firemen, Brakemen, Section Gang and Roundhouse Repairmen. Mr. Patrick was my buddy from my childhood.

Between trains I would watch Mr. Pat on the telegraph key transmitting Train Orders via his pretty Vibroplex Blue Racer key. He had a big Cross-Connecting Switchboard and could connect to any or all stations up and down the line.

Mr. Pat's local battery, to run the telegraph sounder, had about 5 cells and produced about six volts. His line battery had about two dozen cells and produced about 30 volts, to operate the long-line relay.

Those battery cells were beautiful to the eyes of a little boy. Each cell was in a cylindrical glass jar about a foot in diameter and 18 inches tall. Hanging on the jar edge was a big cast copper crow-foot and another cast zinc crow-foot; one hung above the other. The jar was covered with a ceramic lid.

The jars were about 3/4 full of water with a handful of Bluestone in the bottom. Copper Sulfate (Bluestone) and water made up the electrolyte. The jars sat in a rack; about 30 in number.

About every third day Mr. Pat would take down a jar, go out on the tracks and pour out the contents. Fresh water and Bluestone was added and a short circuit placed on the cell overnight. It was then ready for service. Battery care was a skill that only a Telegraph Operator knew how to do!

The battery contents would bubble while short circuited. After it was back in service, the water was "given a dose" of Edison Battery oil. This came in a 4 ounce bottle with instructions and Thomas A. Edison's signature molded into the bottle glass. The bottles were returned for credit. However, I yet have one of the battery oil bottles that reminds me of my first interest in telegraphy. Those memories contribute to my joy of operating amateur radio telegraphy today.

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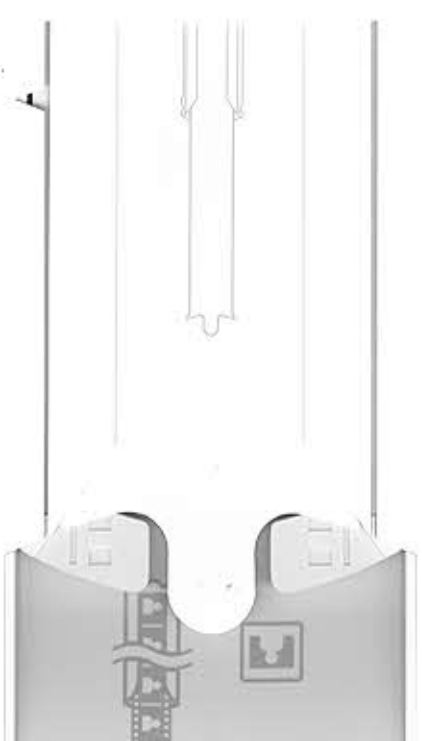

The 10-METER... (Cont'd from Pg. 4)

the lower end of the band (28.0 to 28.3), but is subject to interference from CBers with rigs illegally modified to work "more channels". When conditions are right, you can work the world with a few milliwatts on CW. The Novice section (28.3 to 28.5) is by far the most popular portion of the band. SSB activity also occurs up to around 29.0 when the band is open. AM is popular around 29.0. VHF DXers congregate at 28.885. Some FM activity (but not much) occurs above 29.5. 29.600 is the FM simplex calling frequency, and repeater outputs are assigned between 28.64 and 28.68. (inputs are 100 KHz lower, e.g. 28.56 in, 28.66 out) See the ARRL Repeater Directory for repeater listings. (not all of them are in operation) When the band is open, repeaters interfere with each other and are nearly unusable. Repeater activity is very light when compared to 2 meters. Packet and RTTY/Amtor is popular when the band is open.

OPERATION: 10 meters is generally a friendly band. Flames and profanity are uncommon. A lot of operators on the Novice section of the band are young hams, and people tend to be friendly and helpful to them. The band is a frenzy of activity during contests when the band is open. Local nets are quite popular, and a good way to meet other hams. It is fun to check in to Austrialian nets intended for local activity. Don't worry about the lingo and the Q-signals. (e.g. "We're getting a lot of QRM and QSB, old man, and I'm destinated, can you QSY?") Just speak in plain English. The band is friendly, and no one will mind. To make a contact with any station that may be listening, just say "CQ CQ CQ CQ here is", followed by your call sign, followed by "calling CQ and standing by". (e.g. "CQ CQ CQ CQ calling CQ, here is KG0HW, Kilowatt Golf Six Zero Hotel Whiskey, calling CQ and standing by.") Always listen first to see if the frequency is already in use, and ask "is the frequency in use?" if you are not sure.

PROPAGATION: You've noticed that I've used the phrase "when the band is open" a lot. Ten meters is usually either hot (open to the world with a few watts) or cold. (open only to local work) F2 propagation, the kind of worldwide "skip" we know and love, is basically a function of three factors: solar flux (sunspot activity), time of day, and time of year. Solar flares can cause problems on 10m. A solar flux below 100 is indicative of low sunspot activity and usually poor DX on 10 meters. Fluxes above 200 indicate high sunspot activity, which is good news for 10m. The flux is announced on WWV (5, 10, 15 MHz) at 18 minutes past each hour. Unfortunately, we are now is a downturn of activity in the 11-year solar cycle that will continue for a few years, and this means 10m will be dead a lot. (The last peak was in 1989.) During times of marginal conditions, stations with high antennas and power (especially ones in the tropics) can punch through, and you can work them. In most the U.S., the band is dead during the Summer and at night. Autumn is usually the best time for 10m, but contacts to the South Pacific are common in the Spring. You will know when the band is open: just turn the radio to the Novice section (28.3 to 28.5); if you hear a lot of stations, the band is open. Magazines like QST publish opening prediction graphs, and DX software is available for PCs. Some propagation common to VHF bands can pop up on 10m. Sporadic E (Es) is common around the solstices, especially in June, and is good for contacts of around 400 to 1000 miles but is subject to rapid fading (QSB). Meteors, tropo, and aurora are also possible, but beyond the scope of this article. Local work on SSB is common in some areas and has a range of about 20 miles, depending on antenna location.

TEN-TEN NUMBERS: Ten-Ten International was organized to promote activity on

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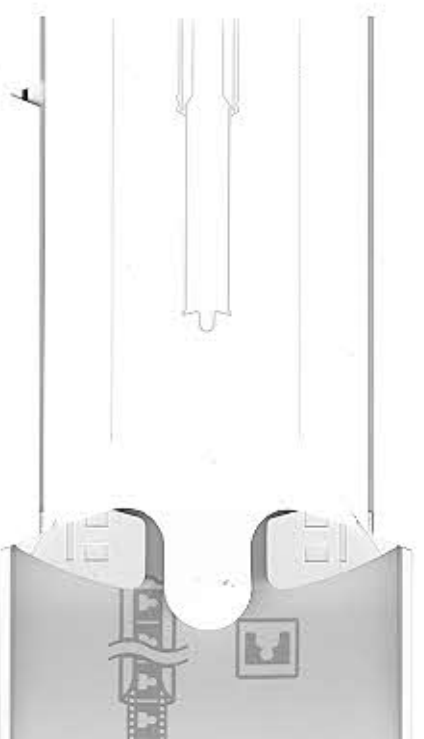


The 10-METER... (Cont'd from Pg. 10)

10 meters, especially when the band is not open. You will hear many hams give their "ten-ten numbers". My Ten-Ten number is 631.36, which is usually described as "six hundred thirty-one dollars and thirty-six cents." To join the Ten-Ten International organization, make at least 10 contacts with Ten-Ten members, and copy down their names, Ten-Ten numbers, call signs, and locations. Send them to your local Ten-Ten address along with $10. The local address for California is W6ANK, 4371 Cambria St., Fremont, CA 94538. Someone on the air should be able to help you join Ten-Ten.

As Ten-Ten members say, "USE AND ENJOY TEN METERS!"

Buying A Used Tower

May I recommend getting an expert to look at a used tower that you are considering buying? I've had to construct 5 towers (70'-200') in the past 5 years, and I learned far more than I ever thought I'd need to know about that specialty. It will cost you a few bucks, but may save you several times that much.

Look for a certified professional consulting engineer (PE) to look at the tower and parts, and ask that the following questions be answered:

1. Is the site you've picked geologically and mechanically suited and safe for what you plan to erect on it? (Short tower, usually not much problem.) Include need for guy anchors, protection from/for existing utilities, etc.

2. Is the tower you are looking to buy mechanically sound (uncorroded, unstressed, untwisted, no cracks, sound welds, etc.?). Include all accessories, mounting devices, rotators, etc.

3. Is the tower safely able to carry what you plan to put on it -- including calculations for wind-load and ice-load likely to appear in your part of the world when compared to present condition?

4. Are there local ordinances affecting the structure you plan, including how it is to be installed?

5. This is a "maybe": Are there other similar structures sitting in someone's garage/warehouse/trailer that might be a better deal for your application. Many consulting engineers, especially those who work with communications, keep track of used equipment, and may be able to do you a major favor.

The best kinds of advice that I get from our PE are the ideas starting out "Instead of what you described, have you ever thought of ....."

Consulting engineers usually charge in the range of $50 per hour, and they can usually give you a free telephone guess as to how much time (and cost) your request will take.

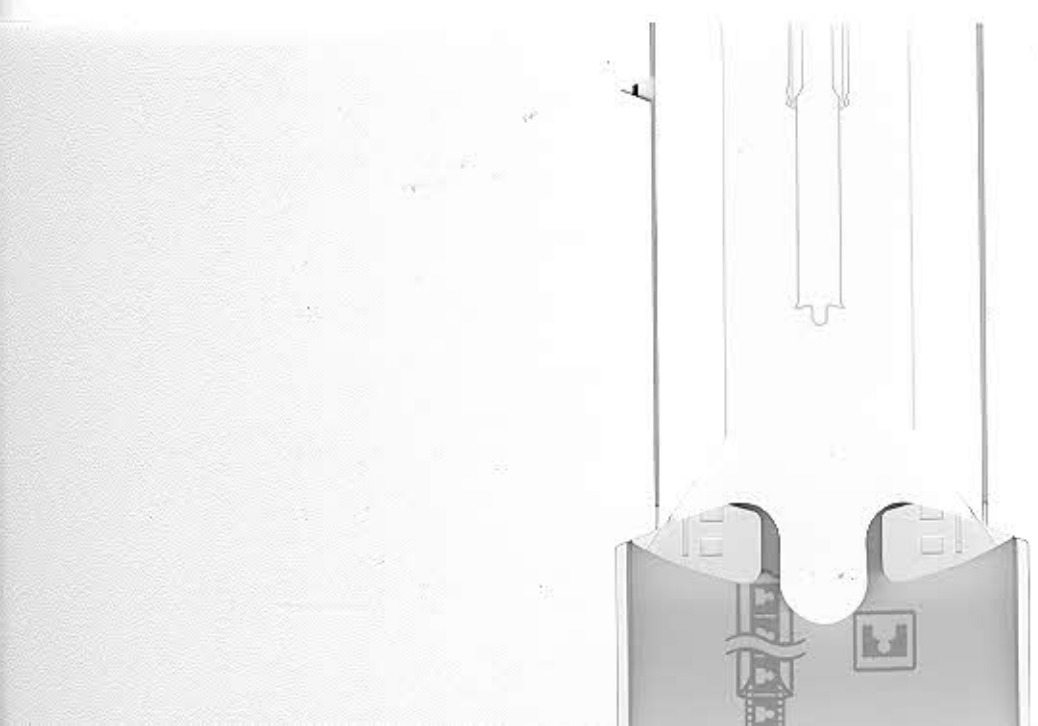
I'd recommend considering this if you are considering a major (to you) purchase. *-de Paul Marsch, N0ZAU*

Is the Band Really Dead?

On numerous occasions I've gone up to 15 meters when it seems absolutely dead, tuned around looking for anything interesting and finally called CQ just before giving up, only to have several booming signals answering my call.

When all else fails, don't be afraid to call CQ on a "dead" band. Sure the only thing you're reaching might be your neighbor's TV, but it never hurts to try.

de Scott Turner, N0VRF



I HAVE A DREAM

by

Hal Henegar - W5MDL

(November 1993)

Austin, Texas

This has been a "dream" for a long time. Perhaps it's time to verbalize it right out before the Lord and each of the Austin Amateur Radio organizations, namely, the Austin Repeater Organization, Austin Amateur Radio Club and Chapter 67 of the Quarter Century Wireless Association.

It may be a "wild haired" "spit into the wind" sort'a thing... BUT... should it not, at least be explored? My DREAM: That the three "public" Ham Radio Organizations start looking into the possibility of a jointly owned AMATEUR RADIO CLUB HOUSE! Is that wild or what?! Now, wait a minute... as many empty buildings as there are, just maybe, with the help of the Chamber of Commerce, the Mayor and City Council members, and even the building trade associations... there just may be a suitable empty building large enough to accommodate a gathering of as many as one to two hundred people at any one time for individual club functions, AND available more reasonably than you might think!

Think of the possibilities that is embodied in this idea. With the Amateur Radio community of Austin having their very own building, there would be a "focal point" for us all to rally around. This would be a place to have a Ham Library, a parts storage room, perhaps a kitchen large enough to allow a coffee making facility, and a whole myriad of possibilities that are too many to mention in an embryonic idea.

I realize that this sounds VERY ambitious, but we all might be quite surprised at what could be! It would appear that a feasible approach would be an enterprising committee be formed to look into the idea. With all the wild "subsidized" things that are in existence, it seems to this old man, that there may be some underwriting available we have not dreamed of.

The first approach might be to create a feasibility study... with all the assets that this would be to the City of Austin, and the County of Travis, and the Emergency Agencies of government at all levels, and a professional group of Amateurs present it to these entities.

When we consider the widest scope of beneficiaries from such a thing... other organizations such as the American Red Cross, The Salvation Army, and such organizations, might be willing to support it more than imagined.

An Amateur Radio building, fitted with appropriate external label (signs) would add a dimension to local Ham Radio that would seem advantageous to the Amateur Radio community as a whole.

With proper media exposure and cooperation among each of the ham clubs, we could soon be a recognized organization in the City and County, and even all of Central Texas... as a source of aid in educational and emergency situations.

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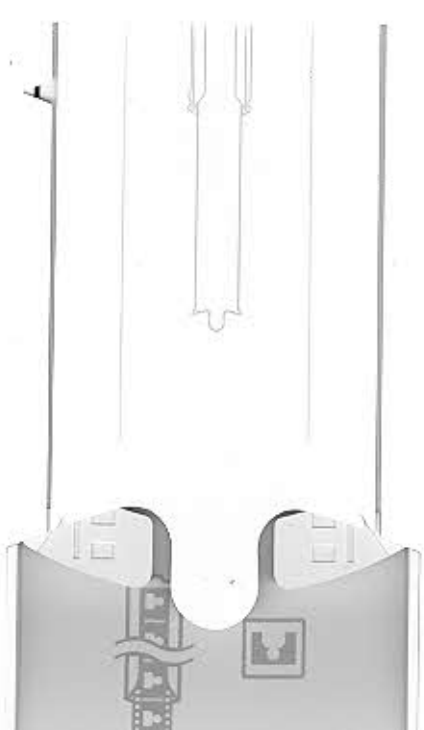


REPEATER FINED

A repeater owner has been fined five thousand dollars because the FCC says that his system was heard transmitting on a frequency in an aeronautical communications band. The case involves William A. Krause, WA2HDE of Ceder Grove, New Jersey. The FCC says that on August the 30th, its New York City Field Office received a complaint from the FAA about a signal on 243 Mhz that had appeared on receivers at two airports over the previous five days. The FCC says that the next day it used its direction finding equipment to trace the signal to a ham radio repeater installed atop a building at 2 Penn Plaza in Manhattan, New York. Subsequent investigation by the FCC determined that the repeater was being operated by WA2HDE. The commission says that the repeater transmitter was either operating off of its coordinated frequency of 224.66 MHz or that it had developed a high level spurious emission at 243 Mhz. According to the commission, 243 MHz is designated as the international emergency and distress channel to be used by radio beacons in the Marine and Aeronautical Radio Service. 243 MHz is automatically monitored by a set of low earth orbiting satellites called Sarsat Cospas. These birds are routinely used in search and rescue operations and are maintained as a joint venture between the United States, Canada and Russia. The FCC contends that during the time that Krause repeater transmitter was operating on 243 MHz it had the potential to block emergency radio communications over a very large geographic area. Because of this the FCC says it took the action to issue the five thousand dollar fine as a part of its continuing effort to preserve the integrity of this important aeronautical radio system hat they say pilots depend on for safety while in flight. WA2HDE was given thirty days to file an appeal.

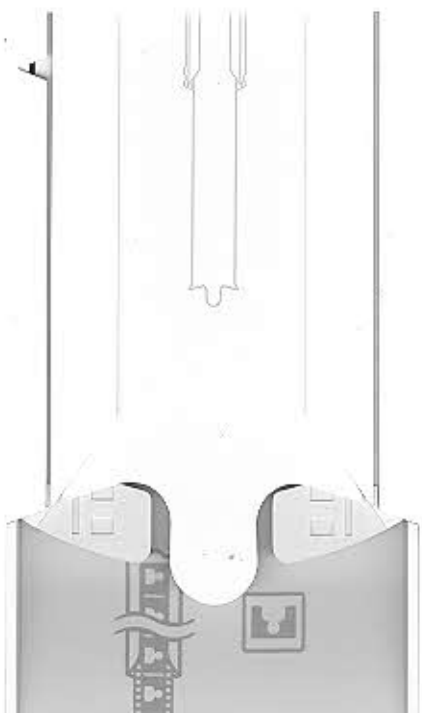
Newsline - 11/05/93

Sarex - STS 58 (Cont'd from Pg. 1)

with the astronaut. Jean Marc Dumont, the French school coordinator, reports that over 10 thousand students in France listened to the conversation through a national repeater! Hundreds of school children in the United States were thrilled by direct talks with the STS-58 astronauts and thousands more listened in. The general ham population also had a great time. This was the longest shuttle mission to date ... 14 days ... and the crew dedicated much of their second week in orbit to general QSOs ... several hundred of them ... and packet, with well over 800 packet contacts reported at this time. During the flight, Bill McArthur, KC5ACR, radioed back ... "Thanks for all the great QSO's. KC5AXA ... Marty Fettman ... KC5CKM, Rick Searfoss, and I love them. We're doing human metabolic and cardiovascular experiments in the lab today." The SAREX Working Group, in charge of the flight, said "This was a testament to the outstanding support and preparation by the astronauts on-orbit and the SAREX team on the ground and in Mission Control." QSL information for STS-58 ... send cards to ARRL, STS-58 QSL, 225 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut 06111. Allow six to 10 months for a reply.

SAREX 10TH ANNIVERSARY

This marks the 12th time SAREX, the Shuttle Amateur Radio EXperiment, has flown ... and it's the last SAREX mission for this year. Next up, in December, will be a shuttle flight dedicated entirely to the task of repairing the Hubble Telescope. Next year, two SAREX flights are scheduled at this writing. STS-60, in January, with astronaut Charles Bolden and Cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev ... and STS-59, in April,
(Continued on Page 15)



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
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
4800 Caswell... Austin, TX... 78751

Instant License Proposed

The FCC has proposed temporary operating authority to unlicensed persons who pass the examination for a new amateur operator license.

The temporary operating authority would begin when the exam is passed and an application for a license is filed, and last until a full-term license is received from the FCC (not more than 120 days).

The temporary operating authority would not be available to anyone whose license has been revoked or suspended or who has been before

(Continued on Page 15)

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.

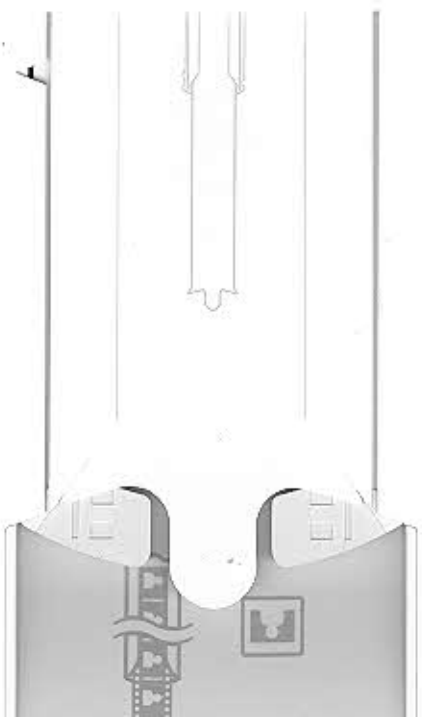
Members are encouraged to submit material for publication... send material to the Editor at 4800 Caswell, Austin 78751, by packet on the N5PSW BBS - 145.67 MHz or by contacting to the Balcones Fault Line BBS (452-2135). Submissions maybe edited for format, style and suitability. **Deadline for the next issue is the 14th of this month.** Late material will be saved for later months. Permission granted to reprint AARC/Over.

Calendar

Dec. 7... Austin Rptr. Org. meets at Luby's
Dec. 11-12... ARRL 10m Contest
Dec. 14... Austin ARC Meeting, Luby's
Dec. 15... Austin Amateur TV Club - Luby's
Dec. 18... QCWA meets at Luby's - 12:00
Dec. 31... Straight Key Night

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



Hucks Country Store (Cont'd from page 9)

I never knew how much current those batteries could deliver. I have been told the sounder needed about one amp and the line relay about ten milliamps.

How times have changed. Today we have so many nice things of life that could not exist without battery technology we now know. Just think; without batteries we would not have our VHF HT'S!

de Old Huck AA5BU

...Dream (Cont. from pg. 12)

Of course, there are "negatives." Like as not, we could not eat together as we do now. But, what the heck, we are digging our graves with a knife and fork anyway! All would have to realize the responsibility and be willing to pitch in on a regular basis to help maintain the building and site. It could easily be like some organizations where "everybody's business becomes NObody's business!"

But really... aren't we in ham radio a little more conscientious than the "run of the mill" folks? I firmly feel that a central rallying point, like our very own building and facility, would be a "glue" that would bind us together even more strongly that we already are. It would be a place to house and display artifacts and memorabilia, public Amateur Radio Proclamations, Citations by various agencies who express service rendered by Amateur Radio Operators... and all sorts of such, that we simply do not have a place for now.

Will the Clubs at least consider and THINK about this idea? Like I said, its a DREAM!

Instant License... (Cont. from Pg. 14)

the FCC. Under the proposal, the Commission also would reserve the right to cancel such temporary operating authority without a hearing if a need to do so arose.

Those operating under the proposed new rules would use call signs determined by the initials of their name and by their mailing address. The prefix for each such call sign would be WZ followed by a number indicating the appropriate Volunteer Examiner Coordinator region.

The Commission said it believes this system "would be useful to the amateur community, yet practical to implement." The FCC also said it was making the proposal "to better serve new amateurs and to increase productivity in the processing of license applications."

The proposal, assigned PR Docket 93-267, was based on a petition for rule making made in July by the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society (WCARS) VEC of Knoxville, Tennessee (RM-8288).

ARRL Bulletin 106 ARLB106 From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT October 25,

Sarex 10th Anniversary... (Continued from Pg. 13)

with Jay Apt and Linda Godwin. If you would like to know more about the history of SAREX, there's a story in the November issue of QST magazine ... commemorating the tenth anniversary. That's right, Owen Garriott led the parade in November, 1983!

-Newsline - 11/05/93