



AARC QVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

January 1994

ISSN 1067-0262

Calling for Help is Illegal

By the way, there are many hams who believe that any citizen can use any radio on any frequency to report an emergency situation and request aid. We thought so also, and that used to be the case, but not anymore.

It all changed very quietly back on October 18, 1984. That's when the FCC passed Docket 83-991. This action modified Part 90.47, subpart A of the rules to read -- and we quote:

"Persons or organizations maintaining an eligibility in isolated areas where public communications facilities are not available and where the use of radio is the only feasible means of establishing communications with a center of population, or other point from where emergency assistance might be obtained if needed, are eligible to hold authorizations to operate radio stations for the transmission of messages only during an actual or impending emergency endangering life, health or property for the transmission of essential communications arising from the emergency. The transmission of routine or non-emergency communications is strictly prohibited." -- end quote.

That's the text of Section 90-47A of the FCC rules governing who is prohibited from using radio to report emergency situations. It also appears to be the regulation that the San

(Continued on Page 15)

CUBAN HAM RADIO ESCAPE

Ramon Batista, COSBA, and sixteen other Cuban exiles are now free of dictator Fidel Castro thanks to the efforts of the Florida based Sociedad Internacional de Radio Aficionados -- SIRA. The story of Batista's escape began several weeks ago when he started to hold discrete contacts with

(Continued on page 12)

Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization

meets on Tuesday, January 3, 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, January 10, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's on North Loop.

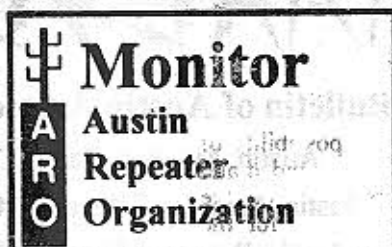
Austin Amateur Television Club

will meet on Wednesday, January 19, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's Cafeteria.

Austin QCWA

meets on Saturday, January 15, 12:00 PM, at Luby's Cafeteria.

ARO MONITOR



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 December 7, 1993

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Jeff Schmidt [N5MNW] at 7:30 PM at Luby's North Loop cafeteria. There were approximately 80 people in attendance.

Guests and visitors were introduced.

The minutes of the November 2nd regular meeting as published in the November 1993 ARO MONITOR were approved as printed.

Engineers Report:

John Dahm Reported that all equipment was in operation.

Announcements included:

New classes for preparation for amateur radio

technician license begin January 15.

Treasurer Bill Montgomery reported a current bank balance of \$ 3,745.92.

Gene [KB5UGO] received the one and only HTMOVA (HT Memorial OverVoltage Award). He earned it by feeding an HT with twice its rated voltage.

Old Business: none

New Business:

VP Jeff Schmidt presented the proposed budget for 1994.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to increase the donation to Newsline from \$150 to \$300 with the half of the increase to be taken from the budget for equipment maintenance and half from the budget for new equipment.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt the proposed budget as amended.

After some discussions about the possibility of a club house a motion was made, seconded and passed requesting the directors report on the feasibility of acquiring a club house for the Austin Repeater organization.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 PM.

Submitted by Paul Parker [N5ZLX]

Secretary

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Tuesday, January 4, 1994 at 7:30 PM at Luby's Cafeteria at North Loop and Burnet Rd.

Transmitter Hunt

A transmitter hunt is scheduled for January 8, 1994 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 Newslines

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

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 Newslines 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

January 29, 1994 - Texas VHF-FM Society Winter meeting. UT Arlington Campus Arlington, TX. Registration \$5. Swapfest Tables \$5. (Both prices approximate.) Morning Seminars. Society meeting 2PM.

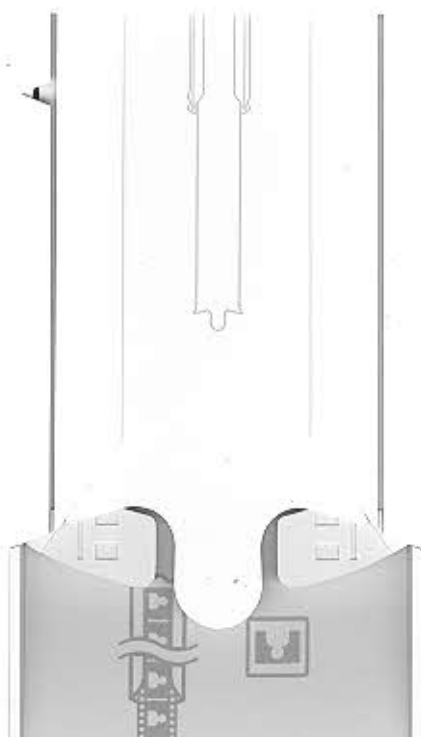
February 6, 1994 - Georgetown Swapfest Georgetown Community Center San Gabriel Park. Tables \$5/10, 1-800-830-0064 or 244 6675. NO tailgating.

April 23, 1994 - Tailgate Expo Belton TX. 1 AM - 2 PM free admission, tailgate space \$10.

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

ARO Monitor

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



How to Put Up An Antenna Tower

"I am writing in response to your request for additional information on my recent accident. In block No. 3 of the accident reporting form, I put "poor planning" as the cause of the accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully and I trust that the following details will be sufficient.

I am an Amateur Radio operator. On the day of the accident I was working alone on the top section of my new 80 ft. tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and hardware by hand, I decided to lower the items in a small barrel by using a pulley which, fortunately, was attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower. Securing the rope at the ground level, I went up to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and hardware into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding tightly to ensure a slow decent of the 300 pounds of tools and hardware. You will note in block No. 11 of the accident report form that I weigh 155 pounds. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 ft. level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly to the rope in spite of my pain. At approximately the same time, however the barrel hit the ground, and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools and hardware, the barrel now weighed 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weigh in block No. 11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid decent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 ft. level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and lacerations of my legs and lower body. The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and hardware and fortunately, only three vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools and hardware, in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80 ft. above me, I again lost my presence of mind. I let go of the rope."

World Radio, April 1989

Author Unknown

AUSTIN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEETING

Steve Sparks, KB5RSY, Activities Manager brought the meeting to order on December 14, 1993, at 7:40 pm at Luby's on North Loop.

VISITORS: The following visitors introduced themselves: Hugh Brown, Joe Head, Clay Noren, KC5DUW, James Gunther, N5PJE, Jim Kerr, Malu Guerrero, and Joe Graves.

MINUTES: The minutes of the November 9, 1993, meeting were approved as printed in the AARC/OVER.

OFFICER REPORTS: Steve Sparks, KB5RSY, Activities Manager, reported that the checking account balance was \$821.50 and the postal account balance was \$243.48. Ed Golla, K3AHS, Technical Committee Chairman, reported that everything is working. Steve Sparks also reminded all of us that the Club's annual banquet and installation of officers will be January 15, 1994, at MANHATTAN'S in Round Rock at FM1325 and I-35. 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 needs a head count as soon as possible. Steve also announced that a TNC digipeater had been added to the Club's station at the Red Cross building.

NEW MEMBERS: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Hal Henagar, W5MDL, described his dream of a club house for the ham radio clubs in Austin. The December, 1993, AARC/OVER has the details.

Stu Rohre, K5KVH, Frank Edwards, KB5WOA, and Rick Herndon, K5FNI, who comprised the nominating and elections committee announced that the current officers had agreed to run for reelection in 1994 and that they had no opposition. Mickey Inks, K5IOJ, moved that the nominations cease and that the slate be accepted by acclamation. Chuck Inks, W5KNA, seconded the motion. The motion passed and the slate was reelected. The officers are Jim Neely, WA5LHS, President; Rod Moag, W0NDS, Vice-President; Dave Marschall, KG5ND, Treasurer; John Weber, KF5OY, Secretary, and Steve Sparks, KB5RSY, Activities Manager.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ed Lindc, N5DDT, announced that he and John Warren, NT5C, are now field representatives in the Austin area for the ARRL DXCC program.

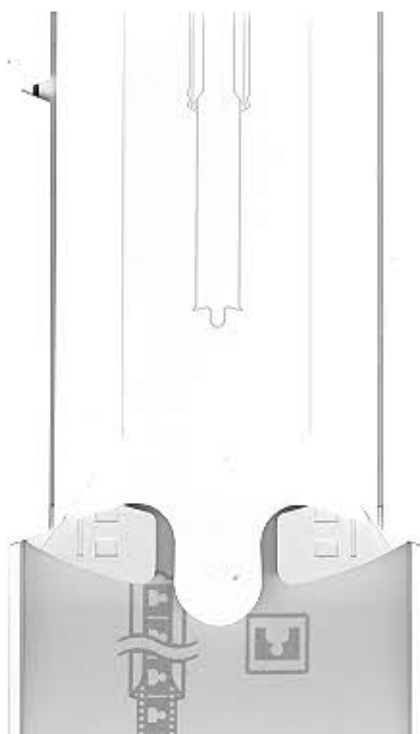
Mickey McInnis, KB5YAC, announced that the Texas VHF-FM Society would meet at UT Arlington on Saturday, January 29, 1994, at 2 pm. Registration is \$5.00 and tables at the swapmeet are \$5.00.

Stu Rohre, K5KVH, reminded the club about the ARES Heart-to-Heart exercise at the Red Cross in February during the week before Valentine's Day.

Hal Henagar, W5MDL, read his poem about Santa Claus and ham radio.

It was moved, seconded and passed to adjourn. Activities Manager Sparks adjourned the meeting at 8:08 pm.

(Continued on Page 13)



ARRL DXCC Field Representatives

The Austin area now has two ARRL DXCC Field Representatives to perform local first time DXCC checking of DXCC applicants. The two Field Representatives are:

Edward L. Linde, N5DDT

3900 Sorrel Cove

Austin, TX 78730

Tel: 345-3627

John P. Warren, NT5C

3517 Gattis School Road

Round Rock, TX 78664

Tel: 255-6653

The advantage of using the local Field Reps is turn-around-time and no mailing of QSL's to ARRL HQS so they won't get lost in the mail or other services.

Who may use the field checking program? — Any ARRL member who is applying for the first time. Every eligible award can be obtained at one time with a single \$10 fee to the ARRL. These are Mixed, Phone, CW, RTTY, 160 meter, 80 meter, 40 meter, and 10 meter DXCC. All contacts must be made from the same DXCC country.

Details can be found in the "ARRL DXCC Countries List" Oct. 1993 edition. It can be obtained from the ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT, 06111 for \$2.00. This is a real bargain.

The DXCC Field Reps cannot check off certain countries which are noted in the

in the ARRL DXCC Countries List.

You may call either Ed, N5DDT or John, NT5C at the above telephone numbers or meet with them at one of the club meetings, which one or both of them usually attend.

73 & GUD DX, de Ed and John

Local ARES Group Keeps Growing

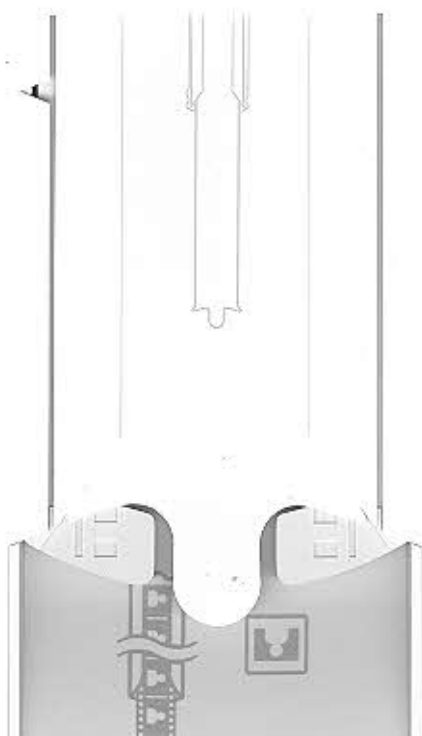
Travis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) had its regular fifth-Tuesday meeting at Luby's on November 30. About 35 members attended. Joe Fisher, K5EJL, reported that 86 different stations checked in to the net during June-August of this year., and that we now have more than 142 members.

Vests: Mickie Inks, K5IOJ, showed some ARES vests and emblems that are available. See her for details.

Pagers: Mark Cannary, KB5VYT, said that we have one extra ARES pager in working condition available...Jim Bennett, KB5IMB, got it. A dozen more ARES pagers may become available. Mark passed out a sheet for folks to list the serial numbers of their pagers (ARES and commercial), and said that Mobilecomm will create a call group of all ARES members who carry Mobilecomm pagers. Mobilecomm also has batteries for Spirit pagers for about \$6...sometimes free.

RACES: Joe Canfield, N5HPC, and Joe Fisher passed out membership applications for RACES. This ham group assists governmental organizations in emergencies, and is being re-organized in Travis County.

NCS Course: Gene Van Zelfden, KB5UGO, discussed the upcoming (end of January?) course for ARES Net Control Stations(NCS's). (Continued on Page 13)



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

PACTOR -2 Is Coming! Faster, Smarter!

Peter, DL6MAA, sent the following from Germany. Work is well underway on PACTOR-2. Here are basic facts on the new packet-like HF protocol:

- o Timing and frames similar to PACTOR-1 (effectively half-duplex ARQ)
- o Based on standalone DSP-PTC using the 68070 and DSP 56156 (40 Mhz) chips.
- o 2-tone-DQPSK at 75/150 Baud (perhaps 8-PSK at 100 Baud rather than 4-PSK at 150 Baud)
- o Bandwidth: less than 500Hz at -30 dB o Well suited to fluctuating multipath channels
- o Maximum Speed: 600 bits/sec (4X PACTOR-1, and 15X AMTOR)
- o Improved adaptivity and Memory ARQ
- o Superior weak signal performance (5-8 dB better than PACTOR-1)
- o Independent of employed sideband (same as PACTOR-1)
- o Automatic frequency correction (plus/minus 70Hz)
- o Downward compatible to PACTOR-1 systems
- o Compressive listen mode (both PACTOR-1 and PACTOR-2)
- o System is not 'over sophisticated' (can be implemented on any DSP controller with enough processing speed)
- o A standalone PACTOR-2 controller should be out by the end of 1993.
- o AFSK will be required for PACTOR-2. This will have an implication for those using 500 Hz filters. (apparently some rigs can't select a narrow filter when in SSB mode)

(Extracted from RTTY Journal, September 1993 pg. 16 article by KB8LUJ.)

de Ken Hopper, N9VV

Huck's Country Store

By Huck Huckabee - AA5BU

Can Your Emergency Rig Top This Story?

In 1928 the Lamar Life Insurance Co. of Jackson, Miss. installed the first AM radio station in the state. In 1946 they installed the first FM station and the first TV station in 1949. By 1955 they were operating seven stations; all from one large studio complex. I serviced IBM equipment there, and personally knew about 30 Operating Engineers, cameramen and the studio content.

This was the great era of AM ham radio. With all the WW-II inexpensive radio parts available, a cool KW was the typical home-built rig. Many of these were built to "broadcast quality audio." No one ever knew what one of those "cool" rigs would do running "Hot."

The ham bands were one solid mass of heterodyne and only the "Hot Runners" could lead the pace. Among these hams was my friend Keith Luke. His call is still listed in the Flying Horse Call Book.

The first Lamar AM station was, and still is, WJDX. It has had a couple of changes of antenna height and transmitter locations. In the late 1950's it was relocated across the Pearl River in the next county; where the marsh lands were good for its radials. It was an unattended, remote controlled transmitter in a small elevated building, just above the flood plane. This was the "Big Gun" station of the state.

But alas, in the spring of 1960, a tornado came through the swampland and completely carried away the transmitter house and its contents. However, the antenna tower withstood the storm.

Within 24 hours the Chief Engineer, Bob Smathers W5FFF, and Keith Luke rented a large transport trailer, now a transmitter house, and moved Keith's transmitter to the tower area. They made new coils for the transmitter and WJDX was back on the air. Fortunately they found and salvaged the WJDX crystal from some of the rubble in the area.

Keith Luke's ham transmitter was the voice of WJDX for almost a year until a new transmitter could be obtained.

I've heard of commercial rigs being operated by ham, but Keith has the only ham transmitter known to have gone commercial!

Ham radio sure has some strange and wonderful stories in its history!

de Old Huck

LOS ANGELES TEST IRREGULARITIES

The FCC has ordered the suspension of the accreditation of several Volunteer Examiners and has also invalidated the amateur licenses and license upgrades of twenty-one people. This, after a three month joint investigation of alleged irregularities at four VE administered test sessions here in Southern California.

The tests in question occurred in the Los Angeles area in June and August of 1993 and involved both the ARRL and W5YI VEC's.

As we go to air, the ARRL VEC says that it has, at the request of the government, suspended the right to test of four Volunteer Examiners. It has also unilaterally suspended the accreditation of another three VE's involved in another test session after finding other alleged irregularities in the records of the examinations administered at that test.

Neither the FCC nor the VEC's assisting in the investigation have released the names of the testing applicants or the Volunteer Examiners under scrutiny, but the FCC has publicly thanked the ARRL and W5YI VEC's for their assistance in the continuing investigation.

The FCC has stopped short of calling this a case of all-out license testing fraud, but Washington sources have indicated to Newsline that the results of the investigation may be turned over to the Department of Justice for further inquiry. Should the Justice Department find that fraud is indicated and if it seeks prosecution, a lot of want to be hams and those who tested

them could face an unexpected fines and imprisonment.

More on this breaking story next week.

LONG ISLAND ANTENNA DEFENSE FUND

Amateur radio operators out on New York's Long Island are seeking national support to fight the local zoning board within the Town of Hempstead. On October 6th the Zoning Board of Appeals denied amateur radio operator Mark Nadel, NK2T the right to maintain his 55 foot radio tower. The reason for the denial was based on two neighbors had filed complaints about radio frequency interference to their home entertainment equipment. In other words, the town of Hempstead is saying that it is taking on the jurisdiction of the FCC and the townships lawyers add that they have the right to do just that. This, even if it means openly challenging the federal government and its communications control agency, the FCC. The decision against Nadel is precedent setting and reads in part as follows. We quote:

"The board finds that the proposed and existing height of 55' has had a devastating effect on several of the residents. The transmission of applicants come over the telephone, television and electronic equipment of the neighbors and interfere substantially with those neighbors use of such facilities. The Board has weighed the benefit to the applicant as against the detriment to the neighbors, and finds that the detriment far outweighs any benefit to the applicant." -- end quote.

Word is that Hempstead is prepared to spend any amount of money to argue this case in all jurisdictions including the United States Supreme Court. As a result, it now appears as if the only way that Nadel can have this decision overturned is to take it to court himself. He and other hams in Hempstead have been given no other choice than to fight. In order to help NK2T overcome this unacceptable decision an organization has been formed known as
(Continued on page 14)

XMAS TV

The television program titled *There Really Is A Santa Claus* will air on Saturday December 11th on the Discovery Channel cable television network. *There Really Is a Santa Claus* includes exclusive footage of the North Pole Network that each year permits hospital confined children to talk directly to old St. Nick thru the magic of ham radio an amateur radio TV. The segment showing hams in action was filmed at the St. Judes Hospital Center in Fullerton, California and shows Rehab Radio Station WD6BPT in action. Look for *There Really Is a Santa Claus* at 4 PM eastern and pacific. Consult your local cable company about finding the Discovery Channel on your cable box or TV dial.

de Newsline 12/18/93

The Odd phrase

Roger Barber, N9CQQ

Through the years I have collected comments from foreign operators where something was misconstrued, or lost in translation. Thought these might bring a chuckle.

- * In the meantime I work and do nothing...
- * My antenna is 15 meters up to the ground..
- * Your frequency is off, come up a little down
- * I must QRT because now comes thunderlight...
- * Once again I can spell my name...
- * I can't listen to you-can you listen to me?
- * My english is no good but don't worry about it...
- * What state is your state in?
- * I thank you for the short nice talking...
- * The rig is made home...

(More next month...)

Worldradio, Dec. 1993

NOVICE PRIVILEGES AND NEW 222 MHZ RESTRICTIONS ON REPEATERS

The FCC has acted to expand privileges for Novice class licensees on the 222 MHz band as well as to create a subband protected for weak signal operators using the band. The changes enacted under the Report Order in PR Docket 92-289 are very wide in their scope and include allowing Novice operation in the entire 222-225 MHz band. Novices currently have access to 222.10-223.91 MHz. In making the privilege expansion proposal the American Radio Relay League said that improving the scope of Novice privileges to include the entire 1.25 meter band made sense. This because Novices already are permitted to use SSB and CW on portions of the HF bands. But the FCC has denied another proposal to allow Novices to be licensees and control operators of repeaters on both the 222 and 1240 MHz bands. The Commission had in fact proposed such privileges in an Notice of Proposed Rule Making back in 1992. At that time the ARRL argued against the idea. It said that these privileges were not justified by the level technical proficiency demonstrated by Novices on their examinations. The ARRL also argued that giving Novices the right to hold license to repeaters would blur the distinctions between the Novice and Technician class licenses. Finally, the ARRL and weak-signal advocates have been successful in gaining a special subband established on the low end of the 222 MHz band. The League had proposed that a weak signal protected band segment be established from 222.0 to 222.15 MHz, similar to what previously existed at 222.00 to 222.50 MHz. They said that a weak-signal subband, which could not be enforced through voluntary agreements or formalized band-planning by amateurs, was necessary to allow amateurs to carry on experiments in propagation and operating techniques. The FCC agreed that this proposal had merit and acted to codify it
(Continued on Page 15)

AARC Meeting Minutes...
(Cont'd from Pg. 4)

PROGRAM: Rod Moag, W0NDS, Vice-President, failed in his efforts to obtain a requisite slide projector and introduced Darrell Word, K5AJQ, an electrical engineer and geophysicist, who gave a brief preview of his presentation that has been rescheduled for the February, 1994, meeting, provided Vice-President Moag successfully acquires the requisite slide projector. Darrell will speak about very low frequency electromagnetic radiation and its propagation thru the earth and its applications in geology and earthquake prediction.

Respectfully submitted,

John Weber, KF50Y

AARC Secretary

CUBAN HAM RADIO...
(Cont'd from Pg. 1)

stateside SIRA members. During these short QSO's he indicated his plans and requested information on frequencies used by maritime services. SIRA's President, Rafael Estevez, WA4ZZG picks up the story from here.

"He left on the Monday morning, early morning hours of that particular Monday. It was a row boat, there were two row boats, 14 feet each one. Two of those carrying 17 persons including one five year old girl. They rowed and when they thought they were far away from Cuba, ten international miles, actually they were about twenty to twenty two miles more or less. Then he prepared a small amateur radio rig with ten watts and a special antenna that he designed. With that antenna he called CQ, SOS, Mayday whatever you call in Spanish. Then Edilberto Salas, WA2HNO who was living down here in south Florida picked up the signals and he called the Coast Guard. Then

the Coast Guard got into communications on that particular frequency. He finally was picked up by a Panamanian freighter who was advised by the Coast Guard to pick them up. Those two boats and they were taken to Jacksonville. In Jacksonville they were processed there then the day before Thanksgiving Day. Last Friday he arrived here in Miami. He is now today in the process to ask for political asylum."

Batista's heroic escape from Cuba is only part of the story. When he arrived, he brought with him some bad news about the fate of many radio amateurs still in Cuba. That story, next week.

de Newline 12/18/93

COUNTRY MUSIC HAM

You fans of country music know that entertainer Patty Loveless produces chart-topping hits. But now it can also now be told that Patty can also hold her own in a morse-code roundtable QSO. This is according to QST Magazine that reports the Kentucky born songstress is now the holder of the Amateur Radio call sign KD4WUJ.

QST says that Patty, a cousin of singer Loretta Lynn is married to Emory Gordy Jr., W4WRO and it was Gordy that got his wife interested in the two way hobby communications. The Gordy's make their home in Dallas Georgia where Patty is reportedly active on 40 meter CW.

Newline knows that you join in welcoming Patty Loveless KD4WUJ to our world of Amateur Radio.

de Newline - 12/18/93

Local ARES Group... (Cont'd from Pg. 6)

The probable location will be the Red Cross building, and all NCS's are invited.

Packet: Mark Cannary is Net Control for the ARES Packet Net, every Monday at 9:30 PM on the N5LJF Conference Bridge on 145.09 MHz. He said that frequencies, modes and times are still subject to change...in particular, they may try out the Unconnected mode on a clearer frequency in the future. With 9 stations on the Conference Bridge, things tend to get verry slow. Mark anticipates a packet training session at the next ARES meeting (March 29), and he believes that the best use for packet in ARES is backbone communications, rather than having every station out in the field on packet.

Operations Manual: Alan Schauer, N5ZFG, has extra copies of the ARES Operations Manual...call him if you did not get one.

Telephone Tree: Miles Abernathy, N5KOB, handed out copies of the new November 28 telephone tree. The only difference is the addition of 17 new names. If you were supposed to call 4 or 5 people on the old tree, now you still should call them, plus one or two new folks. If you need a copy of the tree, send an SASE to N5KOB at 3216 Park Hills Drive, Austin 78746. Miles also handed out some free emergency light sources (candles) that he had found at a garage sale.

Census: Rick Herndon, K5FNI, said we average 200 to 250 check-ins per month for the voice and packet nets. He is missing some log sheets. He recommends that everyone practice writing down the callsigns of folks checking in, so that decoding phonetics becomes automatic.

Open Discussion: Some NCS's prefer that you give your callsign both phonetically and non-phonetically, some want to group check-ins 10 at a time, etc...if NCS's have preferences like these, they should announce them

during the net. One suggestion was to continue calling for check-ins until nobody responds, before closing down the net.

Red Cross: Stu Rohre, K5KVH, said we need to start planning for next year's Heart to Heart exercise. Dave Effland, N5RNE, now assists Stu with Red Cross liaison.

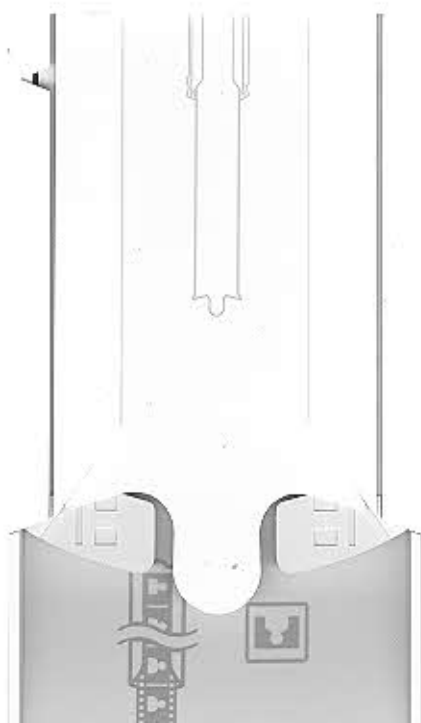
Simulated Emergency Test (SET): Some things we did well, others need improvement. The Red Cross leaders described our communications was "good" and "reliable." We handled 29 messages in 3-1/2 hours, all by voice. Some messages were up to 120 words long! Mark Cannary had a portable packet station, but never got to use it at the Red Cross building. We had to send so many folks to Bastrop that we did not have enough left at Red Cross HQ.

The Red Cross has some 42 MHz radios, with range no better than 15 miles, so for communications they need either cellular phones, ham radio, or to borrow radios from the sheriff's department. During an emergency, personnel inside the area to get lists of needs to personnel outside the area. In crisis situations there is never enough valid information available, so the SET was "very realistic." During a real emergency, the Red Cross would open shelters in high-school gyms, with maybe one pay phone, so we will need hams 24 hours a day for several days. Perhaps we should use packet to upload messages to N5LJF's PBBS, so they can be downloaded later by the intended recipient.

SET Lessons Learned:

- > Need more hams! We need several operators and several radios operating simultaneously at the Red Cross.
- > Packet and 2m FM QRM and de-sense each other.
- > We need an information net on a separate frequency from the traffic net.

(Continued on Page 15)



AARC Information

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Officers

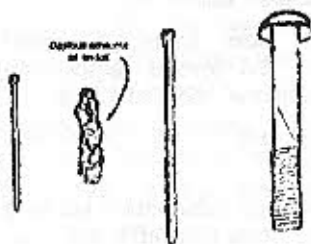
Jim Neely, WA5LHS, President442-4812
 Rod Moag, W0NDS, Vice Pres.467-6825
 Dave Marschall, KG5ND, Treasurer 834-1779
 John Weber, KF5OY, Secretary 280-1082
 Steve Sparks, KB5RSY, Activity Mgr. ... 251-7791

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

"OFFICIAL" NATIONWIDE GUIDE FOR FUSE REPLACEMENT



97 A 243 A 612 A 1482 A (Slo Blo)

AARC/Over Information

ISSN 1067-0262, CODEN AAOVE3. (c) Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and/or the Austin Repeater Organization.

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

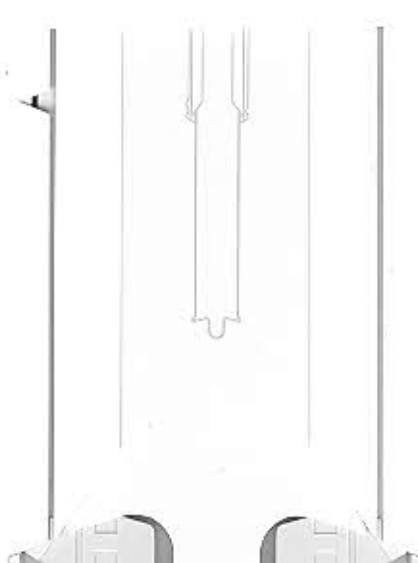
Members are encouraged to submit material for publication... send material to the Editor at 4800 Caswell, Austin 78751, by packet on the N5PSW BBS - 145.67 MHz or by contacting to the Balcones Fault Line BBS (452-2135). Submissions maybe edited for format, style and suitability. **Deadline for the next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

Calendar

- Jan. 4... Austin Rptr. Org. meets at Luby's
- Jan. 11... Austin ARC Meeting, Luby's
- Jan. 12... Austin Amateur TV Club - Luby's
- Jan. 15... QCWA meets at Luby's - 12:00
- Jan. 15... AARC Annual Banquet - see pg. 7

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



Local ARES Group... (Cont'd from Pg. 13)

> We need to modify the message forms handed out, so Red Cross folks do not try to fill in the procedure blanks.

Corrections: Telephone tree updates (both in column 1, lower third of the page): Millie Nunis, N5WQG, work number is 477-6761; Dee Bennett, KA5JRA, work number is 460-0175.

Next Meeting: The next ARES face-to-face meeting will be 7:30 PM on Tuesday, March 29, at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop. Everyone is invited.

ARES Nets: ARES voice nets meet every Sunday at 6:30 PM on 146.94 MHz and at 8:30 PM on 146.78 MHz. Packet net meets Mondays at 9:30 PM on 145.09, subject to change. New check-ins to all nets are welcome.

de Miles Abernathy, N5KOB

SOS Illegal... (Cont'd from pg. 1)

Diego Sheriffs department seems to have come on to use against Chris Boyer, KC6UQG.

de *Amateur Radio Newslines*, Nov. 26, 1993

Note: It takes \$700 a month to run Newslines, but they cannot legally ask for contributions over the air. Please mail donations to Newslines Support Fund, P. O. Box 463, Pasadena, CA 91102.

LONG ISLAND ANTENNA... (Cont'd from Pg. 10)

RADIO. This is an acronym for the Radio Amateur Defense & Information Organization. Its sole purpose is that of helping amateur radio operators in their fights with town zoning problems. Regardless of the final outcome, this will be a precedent setting case. Perhaps the most important legal battle in the history of the United States Amateur Radio Service. For this reason it is very important to support NK2T in this oncoming battle through the courts. The findings may well determine whether or not you can have a ham transmitter and an antenna, no matter where in the nation you may live. The address for contributions is RADIO, in care of N2FF, Post Office Box

Novice Privileges... (Cont'd from Pg. 11)

and acted to codify it but in reality their action may have come too late. In some cities, so called un-coordinated "pirate" repeaters are already setting up operations in this spectrum. This, as it is vacated by coordinated systems that have been relocated elsewhere in the 1.25 meter band. While the number of these uncoordinated systems is still small it will be a problem that the FCC rather than the Amateur Radio community will have to handle. This is because those hams who have no respect for "gentlemen agreements" on band utilization are bound to ignore the FCC regulations as well. At airtime, no effective date for these new regulations to take effect has been announced.

de *Newslines* 12/18/93

