

AARC OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club

Austin Amateur Television Club

Austin Repeater Organization

February 1994

ISSN 1067-0262



GROWTH IN HAM RADIO MAY NOT BE AS GREAT AS EXPECTED

Growth in Amateur Radio may not be anywhere near as great as the numbers currently show. This is because there have been few names purged from the FCC's database in over a decade, and there is really no way right now to know the total number of hams who are alive and taking an active part in the hobby. But come January of 1994 some real idea of just how many hams there are will begin to show up. This, as the first of the ten year ham licenses begin to expire and we see just how many hams renew. By way of background, all licenses issued or renewed during the period of January 1984 to December 1988 were ten year term tickets. As a result there were relatively few renewals filed from January 1989 to the end of this year. There were also no renewals made to existing five year licenses after 1989. All licenses issued from January 1984 to December of 1988 were simply given a bonus of a five year extension. So, the big question for 1994 is what is the real number of living, licensed and active hams. Some insight may come from figures compiled by Fred Maia of the W5YI VEC. Fred figures that at least 4,400 renewal applications should arrive at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania post box in January. Most trend watchers expect the

number to be around half of that and believe that a downward trend will continue as the inactive and deceased hams are weeded out of the FCC database. The Commission says that it is planning to introduce a new and simple mail-back renewal card. In fact the commission had planned to introduce the card in January, but it now does not look it will be available until later in the year. The theory is that anyone who does not renew using such an easy system is either no longer among the
(Continued on Page 15)

Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization

meets on Tuesday, February 1, 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, February 8, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's on North Loop.

Austin Amateur Television Club

will meet on Wednesday, February 16, 7:30 to 8:30 PM, at Luby's Cafeteria.

Austin QCWA

meets on Saturday, February 19, 12:00 PM, at Luby's Cafeteria.

The AARC/OVER is published monthly in Austin, Texas



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	N5MNV	255-6753
Secretary	Paul Parker	N5ZLX	467-7070
Treasurer	Bill Montgomery	AB5HP	322-9035

Minutes of the Austin Repeater Organization Meeting January 4, 1994

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

The meeting was called to order by President Phil Steinbach [WB5SUR] at 7:30 PM at Luby's North Loop cafeteria. There were approximately 65 people in attendance.

Submitted by
Paul Parker [N5ZLX]

Secretary

Guests and visitors were introduced.

Next Meeting

The minutes of the December 7th regular meeting as published in the December 1993 ARO MONITOR were approved as printed.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 1, 1994 at 7:30 PM at Luby's Cafeteria at North Loop and Burnet Rd. Ken Hollan [K5IQ] will give a presentation on operational amplifiers and their use in power supplies.

Engineers Report:

Transmitter Hunt

John Dahm Reported that all equipment was in operation.

A transmitter hunt is scheduled for February 5, 1994 at 7:00 PM. The hunt frequency will be 146.52 , with coordination on 146.94.

Old Business: none

New Business: none

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 3:30 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

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. 1-800-880-0064 or 244-6675. NO tailgating.

February 26, 1994 - Bastrop Swapfest. 8AM-noon (?). American Legion Hall Loop 150.

April 23, 1994 - Tailgate Expo Belton TX. 8 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 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 following individuals obtained or upgraded their license as listed below:

NAME	CALL	UPGRADE
James E. Bittick	KC5BHF	General
James D. Kerr	KC5ENZ	General
Joe. B. Head		Technician Plus
Daniel M. Sorgman	KC5DFQ	Technician Plus
Justin A. Chomel		Technician
Michael J. Cole		Technician
James M. Cox		Technician
Stephen J. Hall		Technician
William E. Hatfield		Technician
Herbert E. Ingarfield		Technician
Roger G. Kirkpatrick		Technician
June I. Parchman		Technician
Martin W. Powers		Technician
Frankie J. Yeager		Technician

There were a total of 23 candidates taking exams. Besides the above upgrades, there were 5 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 Jack Bryant N5RBI
Joe Thiel N5SMN Jim Huckabee AA5BU Tom Rohrer AB5FH
Andy Williams AB5FZ Ronnie Hughes N5CSE Larry Gunter WB5BEK

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

Saturday, March 5, 1994 @ 9:00 am (please arrive by 8:30 am)

If you have any questions regarding the upcoming exams, please contact me at 4733200 (work) or 3457281 (home). For questions about the next W5YI exams at Murchison Middle School, contact Mark Johnson at 3354327.

Larry Gunter, WB5BEK

PIRATE RADIO COURT BATTLE AGAINST FCC

A pair of self proclaimed low-power pirate broadcasters are challenging Federal Communications Commission rules that prevent them from using the airwaves. This, by arguing in court that their rights and those of their audience are being oppressed. The two would be micro-broadcasters are William Dougan of Phoenix, Arizona and Tom Reveille who is the former operator of "Radio Free Venice" in Los Angeles. Both are challenging the FCC rules that deny licenses to radio stations of less than 100 watts. They argue that the rule is unnecessary, violates freedom of expression, and allows only the wealthy to use the airwaves. Dougan's attorney is William Piatt. He told the panel of judges in the 9th Circuit Court that there is no evidence his client interfered with anyone by broadcasting over a half-watt transmitter to the 600 residents of his mobile home park. But David Silberman, a lawyer for the FCC, countered that micro-broadcasters have the potential to interfere with police radio, aviation frequencies and national defense broadcasts. He said that to keep the airwaves orderly, Congress gave the FCC the authority to be a radio traffic cop. That it is the FCC's job to administer the limited number of frequencies available so as to best serve all the public. Dougan's station transmitted for about a month in early 1992 before the FCC fined him \$17,500. Reveille operated for seven months, eventually expanding to 20 watts and reaching about two square miles of Venice and Santa Monica, before federal agents raided his home and seized his equipment in November 1991. The case is the latest in a running battle between the FCC and small-scale unlicensed broadcasters, many of whom describe themselves as an underground movement challenging media conformity and government authority. Although the commission has won all cases against commercial pirate stations, these are the first involving

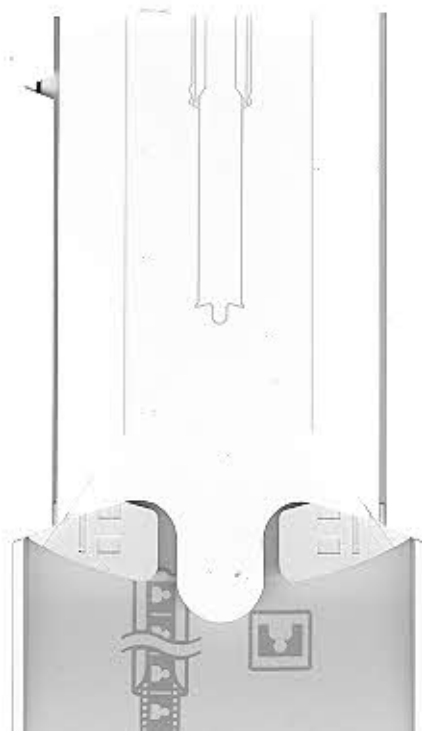
non-commercial community broadcasters to reach a federal appellate court. The panel of Judges heard about an hour of arguments in the two cases. They say that they will issue a ruling at a later date.

de Newsline

VE INVESTIGATION UPDATE

Still with regulatory issues, we have an update on the ongoing government probe of several Volunteer Examiners in the Los Angeles area. Word is that some of the VE's under investigation may still be giving ham radio tests even though they have been suspended by both the ARRL and W5YI VEC's. This is because the FCC apparently never bothered to inform the nations other VEC's of the names and call signs of the suspect examiners. The word on the street is that some of the suspended examiners are simply sliding over into another of their many accreditation and are continuing to administer examinations to prospective newcomers and upgrades. But this may soon change with word that the Westlink Report ham radio newsletter is calling on the FCC to make public the names of those hams it suspects to be in violation of the Part 97 rules regarding the administration of amateur radio examinations. The newsletter also indicates that if the Commission fails to take such a step voluntarily, that it may find a way to publish the information. This, as it's of letting the ham radio community know who the suspected bad VE's really are. Stay tuned.

de Newsline



South Austin January Exam Results

The South Austin VE team congratulates these current and soon-to-be radio amateurs who earned new or upgraded licenses at its January 22nd session:

Nick Broline W5FUA Extra Class

Earl W. Landry -new- Extra Class

Frank H. Townsend KB5ZXY Advanced Class

David F. White KC5BMY Advanced Class

David E. Hassell KB5TXE General Class

Christopher J. Chomel -new- Technician

John A. Chomel -new- Technician

Mike D. MacLaughlin -new- Technician

Daniel L. McKnight -new- Technician

Lance E. Nelson -new- Technician

David D. Pierce -new- Technician

Janice Radio -new- Technician

John B. Rowe -new- Technician

Three others earned element credit without upgrading.

The volunteer examiners included: Bob Basinger, AB5OC Dick Ber, KB5BBU Jim Greenwood, AB5EK Emil Kasprzyk, KC5LZ Tim Mathews, AB5OA Scott McCreight, AB5KS Joe Thiel, N5SMN Lloyd Walls, WA1PRY

We invite everyone to join us at our next VE sessions on February 19th and March 19th at 2:00 PM in room 109 of Fleck Hall, on the campus of St. Edward's University. Call Jim, AB5EK, at 327-6184 for more information.

"Vanity" Call Signs

The FCC has released its Notice of Proposed Rule Making, in PR Docket 93-305, to permit amateurs to choose a "vanity" call sign. Individuals as well as trustees of club stations would be eligible to request an available call sign from the block assigned to their license class or a lower license class. A fee would be required. The Communications Act specifies a fee of 7 dollars per year for amateur service vanity call signs, and allows the Commission to require payment of small fees in advance for a number of years not to exceed the relevant license term. Fee issues would be resolved under a separate FCC rule making proceeding, and a vanity call sign system would not be started until then, the FCC said. The applicant would provide a list of up to 10 total call signs desired. The FCC would assign the first available requested call sign from the applicant's list. If none of the desired call signs was available, the applicant's current call sign would be reassigned. Call signs of lapsed or deceased licensees would not be available for reassignment for two years. A call sign relinquished under the vanity call sign program would be available for reassignment immediately. The FCC said that even with its new automated licensing process it did not expect to be able to offer amateurs on-line access in order to check for call sign availability, and asked for comments on how such a service could be provided. The FCC said its eventual goal is to accept license applications electronically. The comment deadline for this NPRM is March 7, 1994. Reply comment deadline is April 7, 1994.

de ARRL Bulletin 120

Newsline Needs Female Anchor

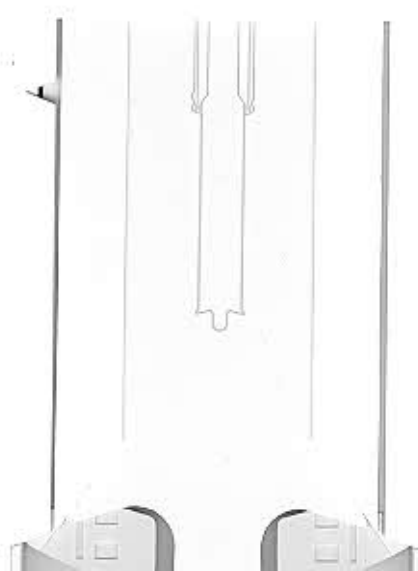
Newsline is looking for a lady ham with professional broadcasting announcing experience who would like to become a part of our

all volunteer news anchor team. Over the past two years, the number of women joining amateur radio has grown substantially. We at Newsline feel that its long overdue that a female voice should also be a regular part of our team of reporters as well. In years past there have been several female reporters and anchors heard on Newsline. The late Lenore Jensen, W6NAZ was the very first. But more recently there have been few if any female voices heard on Newsline. As producers of the newscasts feel that its time for this to change. If you have the needed skill, a fax machine, a broadcast quality tape recorder and some free time, and if you want to become a part of the Newsline family, why not drop us a note or a demonstration tape and let us know who you are. We at Newsline are waiting to hear from you. Our address is Amateur Radio Newsline, Post Office Box 463, Pasadena CA 91102. [Ed: Newsline is heard every Sunday on 146.94 MHz after the 9 PM SwapNet]

de Newsline

New AMSAT BBS

Dave, KB9BNR has added a land line port to his packet radio BBS (QCBBS), a F6FBB packet BBS with three RF ports supporting RF data rates from 1200 to 9600 baud. The BBS has a very nice satellite section containing realtime satellite tracking facilities as well as text files on each Amateur satellite. There are also back issues of SpaceNews and ANS bulletins available, and Dave hopes to add a bigger hard disk soon and include much more information. There are also lots of other Ham Radio files on the system, such as radio mods, SWL frequency lists, and much more. On your first connect to the system you will have read only status. You can send Dave a message if you would like full access to the system. Simply provide your name and
(Continued on Page 8)



New AMSAT BBS (Cont'd from Pg. 7)

callsign and select a password for your login and pass it along to Dave. The next time you connect, you will have full access to the system. The telephone number is 309-797-3827. The BBS supports baud rates from 300 to 9600 baud, with 8N1 data format and is available 24 hours a day.

de Dave, KB9BNR via SpaceNews

EMISSION LEVEL STANDARDS IN PART 15

Manufacturers of digital devices operating below 1000 MHz applying to the FCC for equipment authorization now have two options. They can show compliance with either the current Part 15 emission standards or they can choose to adopt the newer International RF emission standards that have been developed by the International Special Committee on Radio Interference. Since there are no international emission standards yet established for frequencies above 1000 MHz, the current Part 15 rules will continue to apply.

de Newsline

JOE LYNCH, N6CL NAMED AS QCWA MAGAZINE EDITOR

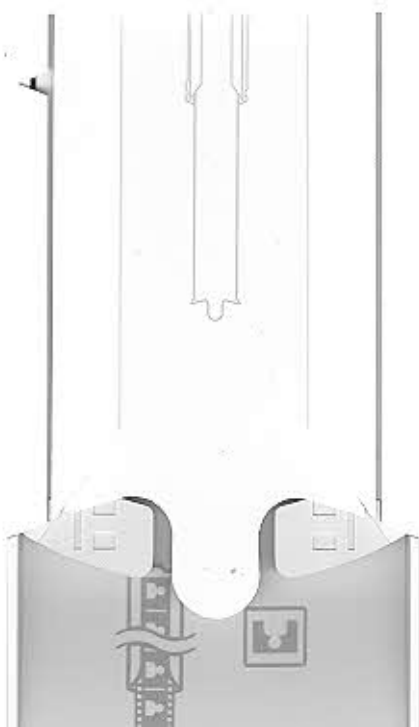
Joe Lynch, N6CL has been named as the new editor of the Quarter Century Wireless Association's news magazine. Joe's tenure as editor of the QCWA Journal begins in January. He will also be continuing on as CQ Magazine's VHF editor and as the ARRL's Oklahoma Section Manager as well.

de Newsline

Hams Can Reduce AO-16 QRM

1993 has brought many new satellites and many new satellite users. It would be good to dust off an old AMSAT bulletin from 1991 to help refresh the "old-timers" procedures and to acquaint new users to the recommended uplink frequency usage. Here is the recommended operation procedure to reduce AO-16 uplink contention. The AO-16 Command Team recommends that users of the AO-16 PBBS system use only uplink channel D (145.960 MHz) for download and directory requests, leaving channels A, B, and C (145.900, 145.920, and 145.940 MHz) for file uploads and digi users. Stations uploading files should stay off of the download/directory/fill request channel D as their longer uplink packets will collide with the shorter request packets. Stations doing downloads and directories should stay off channels A, B, and C since their frequent but short requests will collide with longer uplink attempts seriously degrading uplink performance. Another benefit of using this procedure, while most of the uplink activity to AO-16 will be on channel D (145.960) this frequency is high enough in the passband of AO-13 that QRM'ing our fellow operators will be kept to a minimum when Pacsat crosses beneath AO-13's path. Recommended AO-16 operating practice in summary: Downlinks: 437.050 (also 2400.143 on experimenter's day.) Uplinks: 145.900 A uploads 145.920 B uploads 145.940 C uploads 145.960 D downloads, fills and directory requests.

de WJ9F, AO-16 Command Team Leader, via SpaceNews



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de Newslite

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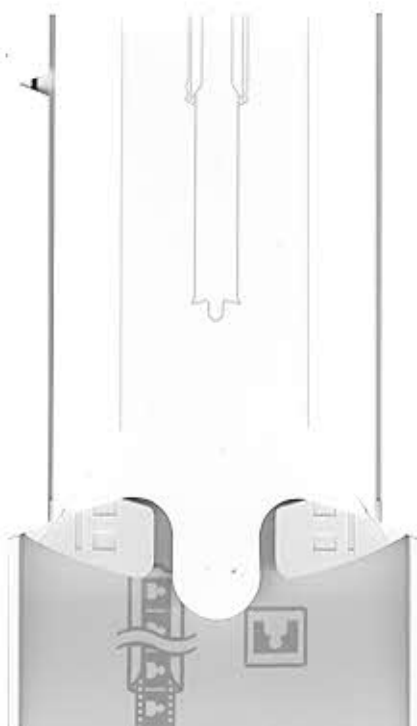
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de WJ9F, AO-16 Command Team Leader, via SpaceNews



Huck's Country Store By Huck Huckabee - AA5BU

Multiband Antenna And The Direct Conversion Receiver

Great Radio Gear! Everything at your fingertips; and only one tuning control. This is beyond the dream of a few years ago!

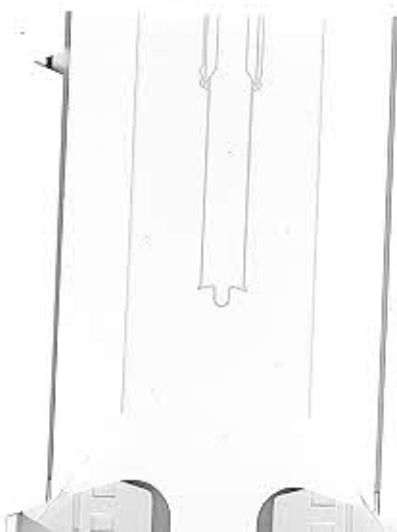
Along with this easy-go mode of radio operation we have source attendant problems; First, the multiband antenna feeds everything it can gather into the receiver: and with the modern-day technology, that's lots of stuff! In fact, the multiband antenna increases the problem of the receiver sorting out what we want: Listen to a DX pileup. It may go like this: "You are 40 over 9, and by the way, please repeat your name and QTH." What this says is that the trash is 40 over 9!

Receivers of the past had one to three stages of pre-selection in the front end. If you see one of these in good condition you will be amazed what these pre-selectors do in a DX pileup.

Do I want to return to the old gear? No indeed! However, we can help our situation with an antenna tuner: My SWR is OK; what do I need the tuner for? It aids in holding off noise and signals that your receiver would otherwise have to cope with. It's not as effective as an active pre-selector, but sure will help.

If you use a multiband antenna, try some problem reception both through and around the tuner: Most tuners have a switch for the purpose. This may turn a contact failure into a rare DX QSO!

de old Huck AA5BU



HAM RADIO HORIZONS NAMED AS FINALIST IN VIDEO COMPETITION

Emmy winning TV Producer Rich Moseson, NW2L, may be on his way to another major award. This, with word that his video titled "Ham Radio Horizons" produced for CQ Communications Inc, has been named as a finalist in the New York Festivals International Non Broadcast Media Competition for 1993. Moseson's "Ham Radio Horizons" is designed to bring the world of ham radio to life for hams and non hams alike. It was chosen from a field of almost fourteen hundred entries in the competitions non-broadcast categories. Winners of the festival's Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be announced in January 1994. If "Ham Radio Horizons" takes the gold, it will be the second time that a video presentation dealing with Amateur Radio will have attained this honor. In 1987 the ARRL produced "The New World of Amateur Radio" received this highly coveted award. The Gold Medal is been on display at ARRL Headquarters in Newington Connecticut. Ironically, Moseson served as one of the Field Producers on "The New World of Amateur Radio."

de Newslite

FCC COMMISSIONER CHOSEN AS NEW PBS CHIEF

Some names making news this week include outgoing FCC Commissioner Ervin Duggan. The Public Broadcasting Service has chosen Duggan as its new president to succeed Bruce Christensen, who stepped down last summer to become a dean at Brigham Young University. Although Duggan says he has no specific blueprint for the changes he expected to come at PBS, he said that he is

(Continued on Page 15)

NATHAN TAYLOR, WZ1W (MISSING CHILD) UPDATE

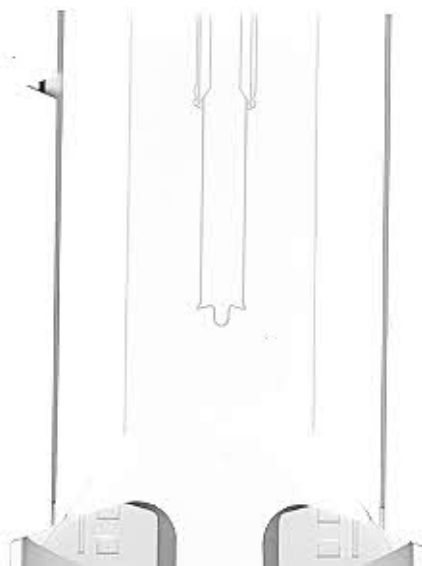
Even though two federal agencies are now involved in the hunt, there are still no leads to the whereabouts of Nathan Taylor, WZ1W. Nathan is the thirteen year old ham from Gardner Massachusetts who ran away from home last August 27th. According to the Gardner police, Nathan let on his own, but did so apparently under the influence of people that he had met on a computer bulletin board network. His mother says that the person who allegedly fostered her son's disappearance is a convicted felon with a criminal record. Both the Taylor family and the Gardner police have asked hams from Tennessee to Texas to be on the look-out for Nathan. While he holds an Extra class amateur license, his most recent interest is in computers and computer bulletin boards. If you run into Nathan, you are urged to immediately call City of Gardner Police Detective Bill Grasmuck at area code (508) 632-5600. Even the tiniest thread of information would be welcome by the family, so if you have any information of even a suspicion as to where Nathan Taylor WZ1W might be hiding out, please help to bring him back to his parents this Christmas by calling the Gardner Police at area code (508) 632-5600 and asking for Detective Bill Grasmuck.

de Newslite

LOS ANGELES PROBE

The probe into allegations of possible wrong doing by a growing number of Southern California Volunteer Examiners has taken a new twist. This, with word that some hams who upgraded at sessions run by these examiners have received letters from the FCC telling them that their tests have been disqualified. This is something that was expected from the outset since the FCC

(Continued on Page 12)



BOSNIA-HERSZEKOVINA ADDED TO THIRD-PARTY TRAFFIC LIST

The FCC has added Bosnia-Herszegovina to its list of countries with which the United States now has a third-party traffic agreement. This means that United States radio amateurs are now free to handle messages to and from that war ravaged nation.

de Newsline

RTTY DXCC HONOR ROLL TO BE CREATED

In DX, word that the ARRL Awards Committee has voted to accept a DX Advisory Committee recommendation aimed at creating an Honor Roll for RTTY DXCC. Qualification for this new Honor Roll is the same as for mixed mode operation. That being the 318 current countries. On January 1, 1994 Eritrea will be added to the DXCC Countries List, and the level will rise to 319. Contacts made using Baudot, ASCII, Amtor, and other non-CW digital protocols all count for this award. Hams that qualify for the new RTTY Honor Roll will be recognized based on their RTTY DXCC records. No other action is required.

de Newsline

NEW YORK CITY MARA- THON WRAP-UP

Belated but deserved congratulations to ARRL Hudson Division Director Steve Mendelsohn WA2DHF. Once again, Steve successfully assembled a massive communications network that was the backbone of the recent New York City Marathon. Hams were involved in just about every stage of the race's planning and they provided both logistical and emergency communications during the event. Each year there are several out-of-town hams who come to the Big Apple

to be a part of the marathon communications effort and this year was no exception. The ARRL Letter reports that one of the out-of-towners who showed up as a volunteer was none other than FCC Private Radio Bureau Chief Ralph Haller, N4RH.

de Newsline

Lifetime License Sought QST de WIAW ARRL Bulletin 3 ARLB003 From ARRL Headquarters Newington CT January 11, 1994 To all radio amateurs

The ARRL on January 6, 1994, petitioned the FCC to make Amateur Radio operator licenses valid for a lifetime.

The League said in its petition that there is nothing in the Communications Act of 1934 that would prevent such a license term for amateurs, and that a lifetime operator's license would allow inactive amateurs to return to the Service at the same class of license without the necessity for retesting.

The League believes that the number of amateurs who would benefit from such a lifetime license would be "relatively substantial."

The League said that under the current 10-year license term, with a two-year grace period, it already is possible for relatively inactive amateurs to remain licensed for long periods of inactivity. There is no practical difference, the League said, between such a person and one who allows his or her license to expire and later wants to again become involved in Amateur Radio.

This proposal would apply only to operator licenses; station licenses would still, by law, be limited to 10-year terms. A person with a lifetime operator license but no station license would not be permitted to operate a station of his own (but would be permitted to operate from the station of another amateur).

LOS ANGELES PROBE...
(Cont'd Page 10)

routinely takes this action anytime it deems a session is suspect. What makes this case different is the possible number of hams that could receive these notices. Newsline has learned that some of the test sessions involved took place almost a year ago. This means that some of those returning to lesser class licenses may themselves have become Volunteer Examiners and that the test sessions that they administered could be disqualified as well. Right now, the letters going out order the recipient to immediately cease using his or her upgraded privileges and to forward to the FCC by registered mail any Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination that have been awarded to them. The letters also reportedly say that in cases where the certificates have been used for further upgrade that the applicant must provide to the FCC the date, time and location of the testing session, the name of the Volunteer Examination Coordinator and the names, call signs and addresses of the Volunteer Examiners who provided the test. If our information is correct and we have reason to believe that it is, then as many as 200 Southern California upgrades could be affected.

de Newsline

LLOYD COLVIN, S.K.

Some sad news to report. Word has reached Newsline that famed DXpeditioner Lloyd Colvin, W6KG has died. Charles Mc Henry, W6BSY says that he received word from the Lloyd's son-in-law with word that W6KG passed away on December on 13th in Ankara, Turkey. At the time of his death, Lloyd and his wife Iris W6QL were in Ankara waiting for licenses to be issued for their next on-the-air operation. They expected their Turkey operation to last at least three months. In their long career as prominent

DXers, Lloyd and Iris had operated from over 150 countries. DXer Lloyd Colvin, W6KG, dead at age 78.

de Newsline

NEWSPAPER WRONG

Word that Thomas Lee Larsen, a convicted child molester now charged with an arson threat is not a ham. The San Jose Mercury newspaper reported that Larson was a licensed radio amateur. We checked Larson in the FCC's Amateur Radio database and in the Sam electronic call directory. Thankfully, there is no Thomas Lee Larson to be found. Someone might want to call the San Jose Mercury and tell the newspaper that it was wrong.

de Newsline

SEDAR

SEDAR is an acronym for the newly formed South Eastern Dealers of Amateur Radio. The organization was formed at the Greensboro Hamfest to further the exchange of information and cooperation between members and assist all amateur club sponsored Ham Fests through out the South Eastern United States. SEDAR is in the process of compiling an information booklet of all hamfests in approximately fourteen South-eastern states. If your club is planning to host a hamfest and your date is tentative, you may request a copy of other clubs' show dates from Sedar's secretary Kay Johnson KB4HHX, 5 Shoo Fly Circle, Ridgeville, SC 29472. Please be certain to include a self addressed stamped envelope with your information request.

de Newsline

ARRL: NO TO INSTANT LICENSING

The American Radio Relay League has said no to the FCC's idea for a so-called "Instant License." The league says that P.R. Docket 93-267 is fraught with misgivings, not the least of which would be the inability of the amateur radio community to identify a person who has passed an Amateur Radio examination from someone who simply bought a radio, made up a call sign and went on the air. By way of background, it was last November that the FCC issued the Notice of Proposed Rule Making in which it proposed that temporary operating authority for up to 120 days be granted to anyone who had earned a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination. This, by passing the examination elements required to get any class of Amateur Radio license. The FCC put very few limitations on the program. It did say that any person with a history of non-compliance with the Amateur Service Rules would not be eligible to apply. It also noted that the FCC retained the right to cancel the operating authority at any time. And that was it. There were no other clear cut safeguards against abuses included in the proposal and that's what worried many hams. Now, writing in the January 1994 edition of QST Magazine, ARRL-Executive Vice President Dave Sumner, K1ZZ states that the league has several major concerns with the proposal. These are with the planned system for on-the-air identification and the fact that the FCC has not proposed any safeguards to keep massive bootlegging from occurring. Sumner notes that the call sign system being proposed would not in all cases conform to ITU regulations. He also points out that by being self assigned call letters, there would be absolutely no way for local amateurs concerned about the possibility of a non-licensed operator being in their midst. That there would be no way to check on the validity of the call sign being used. The ARRL also questions whether or not the FCC has the

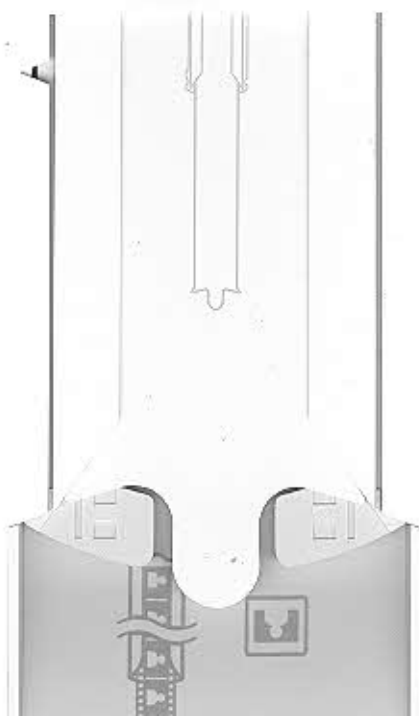
authority to even propose such a self licensing scheme. K1ZZ notes that only a few years ago the Commission determined that it lacked the authority to implement a similar temporary licensing proposal and he goes on to question the basis on which the FCC has now made this about face. According to Sumner the time it takes to issue a ham radio license can be cut down appreciably by eliminating much of the paperwork that now is involved and instead permit electronic filing of the completed applications by the nations Volunteer Examination Coordinators. He notes that the most of the nations VEC's appear to favor an electronic filing system to eliminate many of the paperwork delays now happening at the FCC's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania License Processing facility. Sumner says that this one change would result in the turn around time for processing any license to drop to only a few weeks while protecting the security of the license itself. The ARRL is actively urging its members to take a strong position against the implementation of PR Docket 93-267. It has suggested that all concerned radio amateurs write in opposition to the "Instant License" proposal from the FCC.

de Newsline

NJ QSO PARTY

A reminder from WB1GXM that February 12th and 13th is the date for the 1994 New Hampshire QSO Party. There will be 14 bonus point stations from across the state. The QSO Party is also a great place to work all ten New Hampshire counties needed for the New Hampshire Amateur Radio Associations Worked All New Hampshire Award. This award is administered by the North Country Amateur Radio Association of Lancaster, New Hampshire.

de Newsline



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

Lifetime License... (Cont'd from Pg. 11)

The League said that nothing in this proposal should have any effect on the call sign issuance program either as it currently exists or as proposed (the "vanity" call sign program).

The League also said it was not proposing at this time to make this rule change retroactive, but, rather, to extend currently held operator licenses from 10 years to lifetime.

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 - 145.09 MHz or by connecting 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

Feb. 1... Austin Rptr. Org. meets at Luby's
Feb. 8... Austin ARC Meeting, Luby's
Feb. 16... Austin Amateur TV Club - Luby's
Feb. 19... QCWA meets at Luby's - 12:00

Ed. Note: There is a very definite need for a willing volunteer to keep the calendar up to date. If you are interested please let me or a club official know.

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

FCC COMMISSIONER CHOSEN... (Cont'd from Pg. 10)

amenable to joint ventures that could include cable television and computer services. PBS is a private, nonprofit corporation that distributes programming and educational services that it buys from producers. It gets its funds through the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and private grants. Duggan will assume his new duties as PBS chief on February 1, 1994. By federal law his annual salary may not exceed \$148,400.

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TORA

A word of congratulations to a fine group of dedicated radio amateurs who spent New Years Eve out in the cold. Of course we are talking about those hams who help to coordinate the annual Tournament of Roses Parade from Pasadena, California. The group is known as TORA. That stands for Tournament of Roses Amateur Radio. Each year the TORA group is on hand to lend a hand to parade officials. Their main job comes when the floats and marchers start their way down Colorado Boulevard. Using video cameras and ham TV the TORA group is ever alert for any kind of an emergency situation that might develop. If they spot something they send their pictures back to the parade coordinator who can take the necessary action. TORA pioneered the use of ham television in the Tournament of Roses Parade almost two decades ago and the group has been refining the technology ever since.

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TOR-TV

Also, for those of you who tuned in early enough to catch the CBS network pre-parade

WESTLINK YOUNG HAM OF THE YEAR

The Westlink Report ham radio newsletter has announced that its annual Young Ham of the Year Award will be presented June the 4th at 1994 Sea Pac Convention in Seaside Oregon. The Westlink Report Young Ham of the Year award was conceived to honor the younger members of the Amateur Radio Community. Hams aged 18 and younger who have used Amateur Radio to significantly contribute to the benefit of the service, to their community or the nation are eligible for it. With corporate underwriting from Yaesu USA Corporation, the 1994 winner will receive a trip to the Sea Pac convention, a piece of ham radio equipment and a special plaque denoting his or her accomplishments. The cutoff date for submitting applications is April the 15th. The Winner will be notified in early May. All nominations must be submitted on an official application available for a self addressed stamped envelope to the Westlink Report Young Ham of the Year, 28197 Robin Avenue, Saugus, California 91350.

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GROWTH IN HAM RA- DIO...(Cont'd from Pg. 1)

living or has decided to drop out of ham radio, permanently. Sometime in March the numbers for January and February should be announced. As soon as they are, we will bring them to you so that we can all know whether the trend is up or down.

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