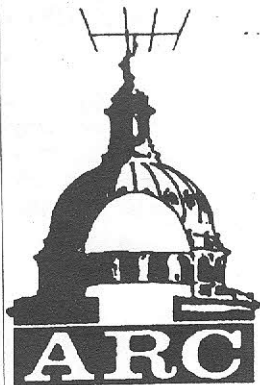


KK5DC

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MARK MURRY

KK5BT
Robby



AARC OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

ISSN 1067-0262

July 1995

Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization
Tuesday, July 4, 1995 7:30 PM.

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Tuesday, June 11, 1995 7:30 PM
Topic: 911 calls

Austin Amateur TV Club
Tuesday, June 18, 1995 7:30 PM

All these organizations meet at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop, about a block West of Burnet Rd. We meet in the back room, about as far from the cash register as we can get. Visitors are welcome, whether licensed hams or not.

"From No Code to Know Code"

I'm not going to start out by telling you that learning the code is fun. I'm not going to tell you there is an easy way to learn it. But, like just about everything, there is a right way and a wrong way to do something. I hope to give you some ideas that should help you learn the code and get all the way to the top. Like many, you may learn to love the CW mode. Don't believe it can happen? Listen to the CW bands on any day and compare the number of QSO's going on compared with the phone band. You probably will find more people chirping than yapping.

Here are some points to think about. People all learn differently so use what you think will work for you and discard or modify these ideas for your own use.

* Don't learn it at a slow rate, even from the start.

If your goal is to get to 20, or even 13 words per minute set your learning speed accordingly. For example, if your goal is 20 then try to copy with a character speed of 22 wpm with a long space between characters. As you start to recognize the letters quicker you can simply close the spacing between the letters until you're at full speed. This allows you to get used to the sound of the characters at this speed. Hearing code at a slower speed later will be easy.

* Listen to the SOUND of the characters.

Learning code at a higher speed helps you avoid one of the

biggest problems we all have when starting out in code. We tend to "count" dits and dahs or visualize the letter on paper with the code next to it (A .-). If you learn code by doing any counting, memorizing code charts, or even thinking about the pattern of the sound you will find those 'plateaus' you may have heard about. These are blocks that you'll find at about 10 and 18 wpm. Our minds can do these conversions only so fast.

By learning the sounds of the character we can learn to copy almost automatically. If I were to recite letters to you in English you would be able to write them down without thinking about how to form the letter or even what it looks like. Code should be learned the same way. No conscious conversion processes in between.

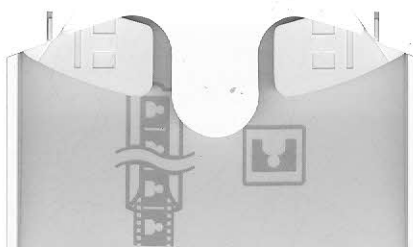
* NEVER use crutches!

In keeping with the above paragraph you should stay away from crutches. One that comes to mind that is the worst way to learn code is the Sound=Catchy Phrase=Letter technique. This is where you learn little rhymes that go with each letter. The letter C is "Catch-it Catch-it", like the sound of the C. THIS IS A VERY BAD way to learn the code. Can you imagine using this to copy at 20 wpm? You'd hear the sound, have to think of the phrase, then think of what letter it was from that phrase and then write it down. Ooops, you just missed 5 letters while you were doing all that mental converting.

* Learn to drop the pencil from time to time.

Some of us can't write at 20 wpm. So, drop that pencil and close your eyes. Listen to the letters and let them form behind your eyelids instead. You'll start seeing whole words there. Then you'll get the hang of hearing complete sentences without forgetting letters as fast as you hear them. Think about this. The only conversion we have really talked about (that's okay) is from hearing the sound to writing it down. If we take away the part about forming the letter on paper our brain has even more time to just listen and comprehend the code...leaving it time to remember the order of the letters. People who have learned this can listen to the CW band as easily as they can the phone band. As you tune around, you'll hear what people are saying clearly.

(Continued on Page 3)



June Austin Repeater Organization Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Phil Steinbach [WB5SUR] at 7:34 PM, June 6, 1995, at Luby's North Loop Cafeteria. There were 78 people present. Six visitors and amateur operators were introduced.

The minutes of the May meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bill Montgomery [AB5HP], fresh back from a trek in Dark Canyon, Utah, reported a balance of \$5,522.07.

Technical Report

John Dahm [WB5PCV] confirmed that the 444.1 repeater is down. It is being worked on.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Announcements

Joe Makeever [W5EBJ], reminded everyone that the Austin Summerfest is scheduled for August 4-6, 1995 at Austin's Wyndham Hotel. He urged early registration.

Stuart Rohre [K5KVH] told of need of radio entry manuals at the public libraries.

Editor Mickey McInnis [KB5YAC] announced that larger pages will be used for the bulletins. The reason is to save postage.

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Warren Anderson [N5XUG]

Secretary

Austin Amateur Radio Club June Minutes

President Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, brought the meeting to order at exactly 7:33 PM. the meeting was held at Luby's cafeteria on North Loop.

Visitors

We welcomed four visitors.

Minutes

The minutes of the May 9, 1995 meeting were approved as printed in the AARC/OVER.

Officer Reports

Treasurer John Weber, KF5OY, reported the checking account balance of \$1716.06, and a postal account of \$658.48.

Technical Committee Chairman Ed Golla, K3AHS, reported no problems.

Activities Manager Frank Edwards, KK5IA, deferred his report about upcoming Field Day to the program tonight. Volunteers are still needed however, for operating radios as well as providing installation expertise with antennas, radios, generators, keyers, feedline, etc. Anyone interested should contact Frank at 255-6753.

New Members

New or renewing members voted in were: Jim Musgrove K5BZU, KC5NXM, John Bradley, KK5MH, and his son John, KC5NRA.

Welcome to the Club!

Old Business

Robert Barron, Chairman of the AARC's Austin Public Library book donation Committee, brought his new proposal before the Club. Since the Club is running a tight budget this year, not enough funds will be available for this project. However, donations in any amount will be accepted and put in a special fund specifically for the purpose of buying books to donate to the Austin Public Library system. Make your checks payable to: "Austin Amateur Radio Club", and write in the memo section: "APL book project". Thank you all in advance for your generous donations.

New Business

None.

Announcements

Joe Makeever talked about the itinerary for the upcoming Austin Summerfest, and encouraged everyone to sign-up for the event as soon as you can.

And along the same lines...

Your Help is needed! The Austin Summerfest is just around the corner (coming up August 5-6). There are a myriad of jobs that need to be done to make this as successful as always. One of these areas is talk-in. Anyone who has the capability to hit the Austin -146.94 repeater is invited to sign up. An information sheet that will answer all predictable questions will be provided for you. Anyone interested should contact June, KK5AM at 832-1350.

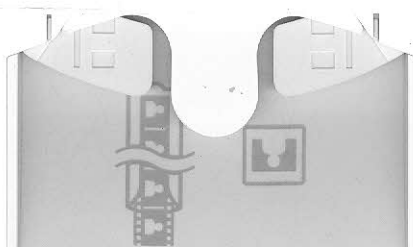
Hal Henegar, W5MDL, is working on the behalf of the ARRL to recruit people to fill the post(s) of Public Information Officer (PIO). If anyone is interested or wants more information, Please call Hal at: 836-2012.

Program

The program tonight was about the upcoming Ham Radio event we've all been talking about - Field Day!

Submitted with pleasure,

Gene Van Zelfden, KB5UGO
AARC Secretary



Huck's Country Store

Who Keeps a Log Book? Does It have Value?

Is there an Amateur Operator among us who keep a log book? In the distant past a log entry was required each time the transmitter was turned on, even for a brief test of a few "V"s. This was a sore subject for most of us.

My log book prior to WWII was a school notebook, and it was a mess. It probably only met the minimum requirement of the FCC regulation. Somehow I hated these books. Then in the late 1940's I received a couple of "Grand Island QSL's." That was the term for a required transcript of a certain day's operation to be sent to the Grand Island Monitor Station of the FCC: I was really ashamed of my messy log. It was resolved that "I clean up my act," and I did. Now I was in the "Nice log book mode" of Ham Radio.

In the late 1950's, all of my books were lost in a fire. "Good riddance!", I mused. These books covered W5KCI and D4AER calls. Oh! What would I now give to have that D4AER book!

My calls moved through W5KCI, D4AER, and to W4PPY by 1960. Then I resolved to keep an orderly log book. With the new call, I numbered each QSO, and for many contacts made, an entry on the seet backside with a locator number. As the years went on, I was reissued the W5KCI call, then KF5ZR, and now, AA5BU. The log books made another change in the early 1960's. I began to use the page back side for a scrapbook for various events related to amateur radio. Some relate the event of a new ham friend, death of old friends, field day events, etc. Really the "scrapbook" idea has turned my log books into a pretty fat file of events that has crossed my years.

Here is an example: Recent some asked if I ever knew the "Chief of the Old Goats, old Penn." Yes, I've worked old Penn for over 30 years was the reply. He died a few years ago.

Looking back, I found where we had QSO's with 4 of my 6 calls, the news of his heart attack, and the sadness of his death. Charles E. Pennington, W5SWK died September 4, 1989. "Old Penn's" QSL is with an entry dated 7-28-1964. We were on CW back in the late 1940's.

Yes, a log book seems to be trivia now, but in later years it's treasure! I log all successful contacts on the HF bands. I recommend keeping a scrapbook log!

de "Old Huck" Huckabee, AA5BU

Know Code continued

Without the pencil pushing to get in the way your code speed will jump several notches too. You might find yourself listening to a couple guys or gals talking at 30-35 wpm and copying without much effort. You sure couldn't write it that fast.

* Taking the test.

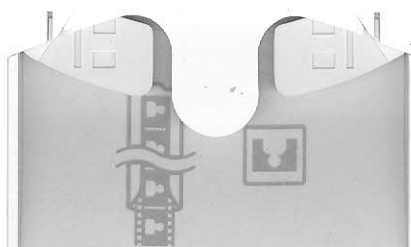
Being a VE for many years I have seen everything in our code sessions. Stress is always present (no matter how many jokes I tell first) and people usually react negatively to stress. You should have a skill level of 2-5 wpm over the actual test you are taking. Your comfort level will be better. If you have heart problems or get sick under extreme stress let the VEs know.

The code tests are nothing more than a sample of QSO's like you might hear on the air. It sends call letters and information about things like RST, QTH, name, rig, weather and other standard chat stuff. Knowing how we talk on the air can be a big advantage so if you have a way to receive HF or even better, if you can get on the air by all means do it.

When taking the test you might want to decide if you want to go for the 100% copy. This might be good for some people. If you copy on paper and know you are doing well from the computer, tapes or on the air then this would be good. If you have learned with the 'pencil down' method you might want to just take notes. When you hear key words write them down. He has to QRT for lunch, his antenna is a dipole, or he has a schedule with his mother in Botswana. You might write lunch, dipole, mother, Botswana. You can then answer the questions on the multi-choice sheet rather easily. This is not cheating in any sense of the word either. The idea of knowing code at a particular speed means you can comprehend what the information is..and we are doing that here.

Well, there you have it. I have known many people over the years who have used these key ideas to gain a mastery over the Morse code. Most of them you can meet...the next time your on the air...in the CW bands.

Dave Kelley, AA7TQ



AUSTIN SUMMERFEST

August 4-6, 1995

Wyndham Southpark Hotel

Austin, Texas

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

Austin Amateur Radio Club and Austin Repeater Organization once again bring you the premier midsummer Texas Ham Radio gathering—everything you've come to expect from Austin, the place to be on the weekend of August 4 through August 6.

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

- **Dealers**

- **Exhibits**

- **DX Sessions**

- **Technical Sessions**

- **License Exams**

Saturday Afternoon and Sunday morning Sessions.

- **Prizes**

Prizes galore!
Door prizes, a preregistration prize and of course a Grand Prize.

- **Accommodations**

The sumptuous Wyndham Southpark Hotel. Convention rate of \$69 per room per night with limited availability. The convention rate registration cutoff date is July 14, 1995.

- **Amenities**

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

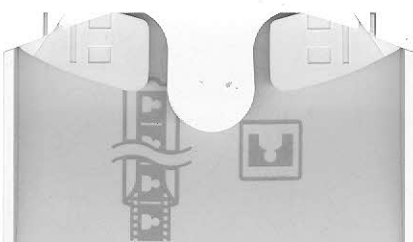
- **Ladies' Activities**

We've planned some unique entertainment and crafts for one and all. Join us for all the fun!

Swapfest

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

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



AUSTIN SUMMERFEST '95 Advanced Registration

Mail before July 24, 1995 to:
Austin Summerfest, Box 13473, Austin, TX 78711-3473

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

	Each	Qty	Total
General Admission	\$7.00	_____	_____
<small>(Per individual. Includes all hams and guests. Admission at door will be \$9.00. Children 17 and under admitted free.)</small>			
Swapfest Table All weekend (Friday through Sunday).....	\$8.00	_____	_____
Saturday Only (8:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m.)	\$6.00	_____	_____
<small>(Limit of 3 tables to a registrant; first come first served; tables unclaimed by 10:00 a.m. Saturday will be released. Grouped tables must be purchased for the same time period.)</small>			
Extra Prize Ticket	\$1.00	_____	_____
Saturday Evening Event	\$8.00	_____	_____
Texas VHF-FM Society Dues	\$10.00	_____	_____
		TOTAL	_____

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

Saturday Night Special Event....

Back by popular demand!! We have a special deal at the country and western club Dance Across Texas. Within a mile of the hotel, Dance Across Texas will give us admission and serve us a buffet dinner. We are invited to stay on for live music and dancing after dinner. We will have our own reserved seating area for Austin Summerfest registrants. All of this for the low, low price of \$8.00. This is an outstanding bargain for Austin, Texas (or maybe anywhere). State law requires attendees to be 18 years or older.

Directions

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

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

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

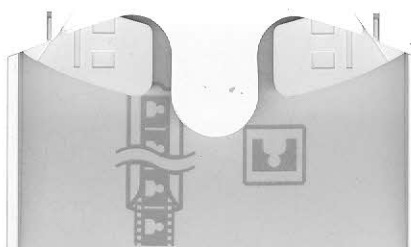
From TX 71 Westbound: Turn left (south) onto Governor's Row one block before I-35. Turn right to hotel.

Further Info

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

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

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



Club Information

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

P.O. Box 13473, Austin, TX 78711-3473

Officers

President	Stu Rohre	K5KVH	255-3932
Vice President	David Sprague	KB5ZEG	259-7282
Treasurer	John Weber	KF5OY	280-1082
Secretary	Gene Van Zelfden	KB5UGO	338-4729
Activity Manager	Frank Edwards	KK5IA	255-6753

Committees & Positions

Technical	Ed Golla	K3AHS	255-4818
ARES Coordinator	Joe Fisher	K5EJL	926-4689
Public Information Officer	Hal Henegar	W5MDL	836-2012

Austin Repeater Organization

P.O. Box 4763, Austin, TX 78765

Officers

President	Phil Steinbach	WB5SUR	258-3215
Vice President	Jeff Schmidt	N5MNW	255-6753
Secretary	Warren Anderson	N5XUG	346-0186
Treasurer	Bill Montgomery	AB5HP	478-7928

Please contact a club officer or attend a meeting to join either Organization

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 and other readers are encouraged to submit material for publication. Mail to Mickey McInnis at 1519 Charolais Drive, Austin, TX 78758, or e-mail to mcinnis@austin.ibm.com (Internet), 339-0344. Submissions may be edited for format, style and suitability. Deadline for the next issue is the Thursday following the AARC meeting. Material may be saved for later months. Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to reprint AARC/Over articles provided that you credit the author and the AARC/Over.

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Membership dues are \$8 per calendar year (\$10 for a family). Joint ARO/AARC dues are \$15 per year.

AARC 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.

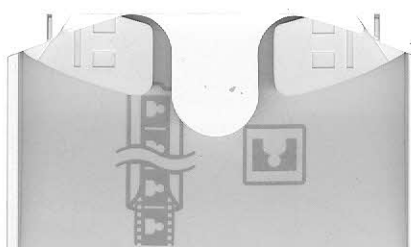
The Austin Repeater Organization dues are \$8 per calendar year. Joint ARO/AARC dues are \$15 per year. Family membership is \$10 per year.

ARO maintains the following repeaters.

146.88 MHz offset -600 KHz has a phone patch. 146.94 MHz -600 KHz is used for the weather net at the request of the National Weather Service. It is used for the Swapnet and Newsline at 9 PM Sunday. 244.80 MHz -600 KHz 444.10 MHz -5 MHz. 145.01 MHz is the packet digital repeater.

Autopatch Use

The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches. Press "*" and dial the phone number to place a call. Do not unkey after the "*". When finished, press "#" to hang up the phone. Dial "911" (no "*" needed) for emergency services. Please transmit your callsign **before** using the phone patch.



Calendar**July**

- 4 ARO Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
 11 AARC Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
 15 QCWA meeting @ Luby's at noon
 15 ARO Transmitter hunt 7 PM
 18 AATVC Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
 22 Ham Exams, St. Ed's 327-6184
 26 CTDXCC Little Walnut Library 7PM

August

- 4-6 Austin Summerfest

September

- 23 AARC Fall Swapfest at Manchaca

Periodic Events

Sun	6:30 PM, Travis CO ARES net	146.94 MHz
Sun	7:30 PM, ARES Packet	145.78 MHz
Sun	8:00 PM, Williamson ARES net	146.64 MHz
Sun	8:30 PM, Travis Co. ARES	146.78 MHz
Sun	9:00 PM, SwapNet	146.94 MHz
Sun	(after Swapnet) Newsline	146.94 MHz
Sun	(after Newsline) SSB net	144.225 MHz
Wed	8:30 PM SSB net	144.225 MHz
Thurs	7:00 PM, UTARC Net,	145.21 MHz
Thurs	11:30-1:00 Lunch At Holiday House	
Sat	7-8:30 AM Breakfast at Simon David Deli on Great Hills Trail	
Storm	WeatherNet	146.94 MHz

Most Austin Radio club meetings are held at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop.

The Austin Repeater Organization meets on the first Tuesday of each month at Luby's at 7:30 PM.

The Austin Amateur Radio Club meets on the second Tuesday of each month at Luby's at 7:30 PM.

The Austin Amateur TV Club meets on the Third Tuesday of each month at Luby's Cafeteria at 7:30 PM.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association meets on the third Saturday of each month at Luby's at noon.

The ARO transmitter hunt occurs at 7 PM on the Saturday following the ARO meeting. The hunt frequency is 146.52, with coordination on 146.94. 7/8, 8/12, 9/10, 10/7, 11/11, 12/16.

Ham exams are held at 8:30 AM on the first Saturday of most months at Murchison Middle School. Odd numbered months have been scheduled in advance. Sessions are planned, but not yet confirmed, for even numbered months. The August testing session will be held at Summerfest.. 7/1, 9/2, 11/4.

Ham exams will be held at 2 PM in Fleck hall room 109 at St. Edward's University 3001 South Congress Avenue on the third Saturday of each month. 6/17, 7/22, 8/19, 9/30*, 10/21, 11/18, 12/16. (* Not regular week)

The ARO swapnet is transmitted Sunday at 9:00 PM on the

146.94 repeater. Newsline, an amateur radio news program, follows the swapfest. The swaplist is copied to WB5GHJ's packet BBS shortly after the swapnet is over.

A vertically polarized SSB net follows Newsline on 144.225. Another session occurs at 8:30 PM on Wednesdays.

The Travis County ARES net meets every Sunday night at 6:30 PM - 146.94 MHz and 8:30 PM - 146.78 MHz. A packet session is held at 7:30 PM on 145.78 MHz unconnected mode.

Face-to-face meeting ARES meetings are held on the fifth Tuesday of months with a fifth Tuesday at 7:30 PM at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop 8/29, 10/31.

The CTDXCC Central Texas DX Contest Club meets at 7:00 PM at the Little Walnut Creek Branch Library 835 W. Rundberg on the 4th Monday of each month. 7/26, 8/30, 9/27, 10/25, 11/29.

South Austin W5YI VE Team session report.

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

Richard R. Taylor	KC5OJE	Advanced
John R. Bradly	KC5NRA	Tech Plus
Roger A. Pfluger	KC5OJJ	Tech Plus
Kenneth R. Simmons	KC5OXQ*	Tech Plus
Abdelhak Breir	KC5OXS*	Technician
Charles P. Zoch	KC5OXR*	Technician

*New call issued since session

And at the June 17th session

Frederick R. Fine	W7TCI	Extra
Stephen L. Halpin	WB5ZPZ	Extra
Joseph L. Bell	KB5YTS	Advanced
Curtis L. Shoemaker	KC5OJD	Advanced
Arthur D. Peirce	-new-	Tech Plus
Martha T. Underwood	N2VRF	Tech Plus
Camilla D. Heffernan	-new-	Technician
Julia P. Hein	-new-	Technician
Paul B. Pleasant	-new-	Technician

Our Volunteer Examiners were:

May 20 and June 17

Bob Basinger, AB5OC
 Hugh Brown, KC5E1Y
 Jim Greenwood, AB5EK
 Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Emil Kasprzyk, KC5IZ
 Scott McCreight, AB5KS
 Carol Thiel, N5TLY

June 17 Only

Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5HYR Marion Williamson, AC5CM

Our next sessions are scheduled for July 22nd and August 19th at 2:00 PM in room 109 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University.

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

