

# AARC/OVER

## Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club  
Austin Amateur Television Club  
Austin Repeater Organization

ISSN 1067-0262

November 1995

Issue 95-11

### Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization  
Tuesday, November 7, 1995 7:30 PM.

Austin Amateur Radio Club  
Tuesday, November 14, 1995 7:30 PM  
Topic: Repeater Operations, Bylaw changes

Austin Amateur TV Club  
Tuesday, November 21, 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.

### Upcoming Events

QCWA Meeting, November 18, 1995 Luby's Cafeteria, North Loop, 12:00 Noon.

### Appliance Operators

I honestly don't know what the world is coming to - all these new-fangled hams getting on the air without knowing a dang thing about Real Ham Radio. These guys are just appliance operators for the most part and just destroying the tradition of ham radio - I mean, what challenge is there to going down to the local store and buying an ART-13 or ARC-5 and just hooking the wires together to get on the air - Real Hams don't cheat like that.

But at least they have to hook up a power supply (big deal) for all those popular surplus rigs. What do they do for a receiver? For Pete's sake, they just go out and buy a Hallicrafters or Hammarlund or National receiver. Hardest part they got to figure out is which terminal is for the antenna and which is for the speaker. I ask you, what kinda ham radio is that?

And what the heck is Art Collins up to - flushing ham radio

right down the tubes by catering to appliance operators!! I tell you this Iowa-nese darn corn-boxes, I call them!

And the ones that are claim they really are "building their own gear" - do you know what those whipper-snappers are really doing? Sending good money to Heath and Johnson and Knight and getting back a box of all the RIGHT parts - no scrounging and no substituting. Heck these things even include all the sheet metal - no need for the ole Greenlee punches. And they get directions! Not just a schematic - no sir, that'd strain their little brains. They got books with little check marks for "cut a red wire to exactly 2 inches and solder to pin 3 of V-7." Sheesh, they probably don't even know whether pin 3 of V-7 is the grid or the cathode!

I guess these new hams are just too hung up on instant gratification to pay attention to tradition and build their own rigs from scratch! Harrumph! Somebody ought to spend a little time with these newcomers and straighten 'em out!

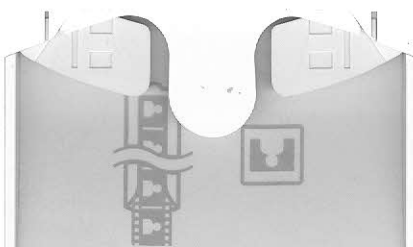
- Supposedly from a 1958 ragchew on the "boatanchors" AM net, but the editor has his doubts.

### Roster Errors

The Computer did it! We managed to mangle many of the phone numbers in the roster. We haven't decided yet how many numbers were corrupted or when and how we will correct the errors. If the last 4 digits of your phone number are shifted right and have a "0" added to the front, you number was mangled this way. i.e. "123-4567" would be changed to "123-0456". If your phone number was changed like this, please don't tell us, since we are already aware of the problem, and do have correct numbers. We only produced errors when we extracted data from the database to make the printed list.

If your phone number was incorrect in some other way, or if your address or name is wrong, please contact the appropriate club treasurer listed on Page 4 of the AARC/Over.

de Mickey McInnis KB5YAC, Editor



**Austin Repeater Organization October Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by President Phil Steinbach [ WB5SUR ] at 7:30 PM October 3, 1995, at Luby's North Loop Cafeteria.

Seventy-two people were present. There were two guests..

The minutes of the September meeting were approved.

**Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Bill Montgomery [ AB5HP ] reported the balance of \$5,115.51.

**Technical Report**

Johnathan Dahm [ WB5PCV ] Submitted a lengthy and technical report on the status of the 444.10 MHz repeater. He said it was "broken".

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

None

**Announcements**

Wil Cowan [ W5HNV ] reminded everyone that the Central Texas DX Club meets every fourth Monday at 6:30 PM, at Old Quarry Library off Far West.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
Warren Anderson [ N5XUG ]

Secretary

**Austin Amateur Radio Club October Minutes**

President Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, brought the meeting to order at exactly 7:36 PM on October 10, 1995. The meeting was held at Luby's cafeteria on North Loop.

Visitors

We welcomed four visitors.

Minutes

The minutes of the September 12, 1995 meeting were approved as printed in the AARC/OVER.

Officer Reports

Treasurer John Weber, KF5OY, reported the checking account balance of \$1,083.06 (this figure includes \$ 120.00 for our Austin Public Library Book Project), and a postal account balance of \$ 671.36.

Technical Committee Chairman Ed Golla, K3AHS,

reported no problems with any AARC equipment.

Activities Manager Frank Edwards, KK5IA, gave us a debriefing of the recent Manchaca Swapfest.

New Members

New or renewing members voted in were: Earl Landry, AB5VM.

Welcome to the Club!

Old Business

The following bylaw changes were proposed to be voted on in the November AARC meeting. (November 14, 1995)

2.06. Dues. The President may present for approval changes in the amount and terms of dues at any regular meeting. Such changes shall be effective upon approval.

3.01. Annual Meeting. The Club shall hold an annual business meeting to elect officers in December, at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall select. Notice of this meeting shall be posted to all members by regular U.S. mail at least twenty days prior to such meeting. No notice is required if this meeting is held on the same schedule as the general membership meetings.

3.02. General Membership Meetings. The Club shall hold a general membership meeting during each month except December, at such time and place as the Executive Committee shall select. The meeting may be held at a regularly scheduled time and place. If the meeting time or place is changed, notice of the new time and place shall be posted to all members by regular U.S. mail at least twenty days prior to such meeting.

3.08. Voting. Except as otherwise stated in these bylaws, all decisions at any meeting of the membership, the Executive Committee or other committees, shall be by a majority vote of a proper quorum. Voting members shall have only one vote each. No voting by proxy shall be permitted. All voting shall be by show of hands or voice vote in open meeting, except for election of officers. Election of officers shall be by written ballot, except that offices with only one candidate may be filled by unanimous voice vote.

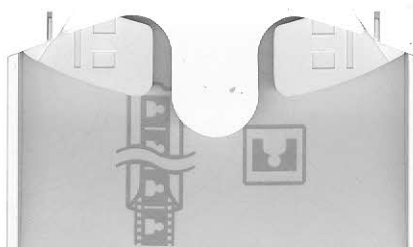
6.03. Technical Committee. The Technical Committee shall be chaired by a chairman appointed by the President. The Committee shall oversee all planning, acquisition, installation and maintenance of Club equipment and property. It shall prepare an annual inventory of all Club equipment and other Club property. The Committee shall provide a report of Committee activities at each general membership meeting.

New Business

None.

Announcements

ARES S.E.T. to be held 21 OCT 95.



QCWA Meeting also held 21 OCT 95. Luby's Cafeteria 11:30 am.

Program

President Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, introduced Dave Effland, N5RNE. He spoke to us about NTS traffic handling, covering almost everything from A to Z (with not quite enough time, unfortunately). Thanks Dave, for an extra swell program!

Submitted with pleasure,

Gene Van Zelfden, KB5UGO  
AARC Secretary

**AARC/Over Contributions Needed**

We need more contributions from members for articles for the AARC/Over. I'm running out of ideas and you're probably tired of my random babbling by now.

We are particularly interested in items of local interest, since there are other places to read items of national interest. Articles, ideas for articles, suggestions for new information, or constructive criticism will be appreciated.

**Please** make a special effort to tell me about errors that are likely to be repeated. I've had some errors that have been in the AARC/Over for months without anyone pointing them out to me. This includes things like the wrong date for an event, the wrong phone number for an officer, page numbers on the wrong side of the page, etc.

E-mail is preferred (and I'm less likely to lose your submission). Please send to mcinnis@austin.ibm.com. U. S. mail is welcome, too. Mail can be sent to Mickey McInnis, 1519 Charolais Dr., Austin, TX 78758.

de Mickey McInnis KB5YAC AARC/Over Editor

**FCC License Renewal Notification**

QST de W1AW  
ARRL Bulletin 87 ARLB087  
>From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT September 22, 1995  
To all radio amateurs

SB QST ARL ARLB087  
ARLB087 FCC notifications begin

The FCC has begun mailing notices of upcoming amateur license expirations. Those amateurs whose licenses would expire in December 1995 are being sent, by first class mail, a computer-generated Form 610-R "short form."

The Commission's Gettysburg facility expects to mail more than 5000 such notices this week, covering expirations from December 1 to December 20, 1995.

The new Form 610-R may be signed, dated, and returned to the FCC to renew the license, provided that no changes (such

as address) are needed. It will be permissible to correct misspelled words. For other changes along with renewal, it will be necessary to file a regular FCC Form 610.

For some time the ARRL has been sending license expiration notices as a free membership service. That service will be discontinued once the new FCC program is established.

There is no monetary fee for an amateur license renewal.

**Kudos to Jim Greenwood [AB5EK]**

Thanks go out to Jim Greenwood. Apparently, the applications for the AARC Fall swapfest VE session were lost in the US mail. Jim drove around all over the area and got new forms signed.

Thanks Jim.

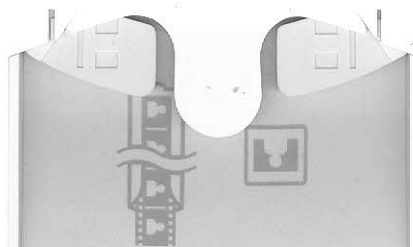
**ARLX057 Hams help after storm**

Once again Amateur Radio provided early communication out of a disaster area, in this case the US Virgin Islands, following Hurricane Marilyn. By September 15th, 1995, telephone circuits on the island had become overloaded, even before the hurricane had arrived, according to Dave Rosen, K2GM. As Marilyn passed over the capital of St Thomas early on the morning of the 16th, a vital telephone microwave link already had failed.

On the morning of the 16th, Lee Reisenweber, VP2VE/NP2CG, operating from KP2A, the station of John Ackley, sent a vital damage assessment message from the St Thomas Emergency Operations Center to UN Amateur Radio Readiness Group net control Ray Crites, K1WW, in Greenville, North Carolina, on 20 meters.

The traffic was relayed to 4U1UN, the UN Headquarters Amateur Radio Station in New York City, from which it was given directly to the Federal Emergency Management Administration. This was some of the first word received by FEMA from the US Virgin Islands describing what had occurred on St Thomas, Rosen said.

At the time, Reisenweber was using generator power and a "rapidly installed" 40-foot piece of wire for an antenna. In addition to traffic later passed by voice, digital modes were used extensively, with message files sent by PACTOR.



**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    | N5MNV  | 255-6753 |
| Secretary      | Warren Anderson | N5XUG  | 346-0186 |
| Treasurer      | Bill Montgomery | AB5HP  | 478-7928 |

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

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. Persons residing or working within the coverage area are expected to join the club if they use the autopatch. Non residents on short visits are welcome to use the autopatch.

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 NetROM node, KB5PM-1 or alias AUS.

ARO maintains a TCP/IP gateway, [ausgw.wb9khl.amp.org](http://ausgw.wb9khl.amp.org) on 145.670 MHz. For AX25 connections, use WB9KHL-1.

Persons residing or working within the coverage area are expected to join the club if they use the autopatch. Non residents on short visits are welcome to use the autopatch.

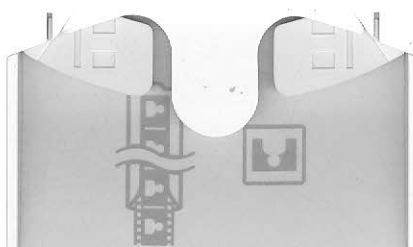
The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches. Press "\*" and dial the phone number to place a call. Do not unkey after the "\*". When finished, press "#" to hang up the phone. Dial "911" (no "\*" needed) for emergency services. Please transmit your callsign **before** using the phone patch.

**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](mailto: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.



# Huck's Country Store

## Oh Joy! CW is Dead!

I was reading the story of the end of CW as a method of communication in a recent magazine article. It went to great length to tell the history of radio telegraphy and its final demise in the merchant fleets of the world. It was a little sad for this "Old Bird," but at the same time a thrill!

About the same time one of the ham exam sessions I worked in didn't have a single person present for the code test. I thought back to a year before WWII when I passed my first license exam and the 13 WPM test. That was a "tough one" that most amateur radio operators will never have to accomplish today. Again, sad, but now a day of joy for those in quest of "That first call sign."

We have such advanced equipment and skills today that we need to stretch our knowledge and skills in more productive methods of communications.

About 35 years ago, I was out in Colorado Springs, CO when the Midland Terminal Railroad ran their last train to the gold camp town of Cripple Creek. It was a special of passenger coaches pulled with several coal-fired engines. It appeared that everyone in Colorado wanted to rid that "Last Historic Run."

I began to wonder if amateur radio is on its last day of "historic CW Operations." If so, I want to get in on that piece of amateur radio history?

On a recent Friday, around 7:00 PM Austin time, I tuned in on 40 Meter CW to see if that was the "Final Day." Never in my live have I heard so many CW signals. Most were calling "CQ Test." I must be dreaming, on 20 Meters it was also the same, also on 80 meters. In just 5 minutes, I heard callers from nine of the ten US call areas of our nation!

Could every amateur operator in our land be on CW? Not a single voice station could be heard on 80 or 40, and just a few on 20 Meters. After listening a few minutes I decided this is enough! I'm going "up-town." So I pulled out my HT, and called up a non-ham friend via the autopatch. None of that "old technology" stuff for this "old bird!" I'll see you at the next license exam for your no-code license.

de "Old Huck" Huckabee, [ AA5BU ] - and ex 5 other calls

## South Austin W5YI VE Team Session Report Sept 23, 1995

The South Austin W5YI VE team congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at its Manchaca Swapfest session on September 23rd:

|                        |        |                 |
|------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| Robert C. Adair        | KK5SY  | Extra           |
| Jeffrey M. Deines, Sr. | KC5LOU | Advanced        |
| Lansing Pugh           | KB5USG | Technician Plus |
| Kathryn A. Thompson    | -new-  | Technician Plus |
| Mark Dollins           | -new-  | Technician      |
| Vernon L. Ward         | -new-  | Technician      |
| Larry K. Williams      | -new-  | Technician      |

Our volunteer examiners were:

|                            |                     |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| Hugh Brown, KC5EY          | Tony Lyon, KJ5XF    |
| Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5HYR | Steve Sparks, AB5SV |
| Jim Greenwood, AB5EK       | Lloyd Walls, WA1PRY |
| Marion Williamson, AC5CM   |                     |

## South Austin W5YI VE Team Session Report National Exam Day Sept 30, 1995

National Exam Day congratulations to all who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at this special session of the South Austin W5YI VE team:

|                     |        |            |
|---------------------|--------|------------|
| Michael H. McCann   | WA5SQD | Extra      |
| Dennis Lynn Davis   | -new-  | Technician |
| David E. Fehrenkamp | -new-  | Technician |
| Jeffrey P. Wagner   | -new-  | Technician |

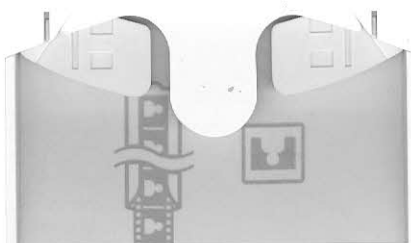
Our volunteer examiners were:

|                            |                        |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Bob Basinger, AB5OC        | Emil Kasprzyk, KC5IZ   |
| Hugh Brown, KC5EY          | Bill Montgomery, AB5HP |
| Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5HYR | Carol Thiel, N5TLY     |
| Jim Greenwood, AB5EK       | Joe Thiel, N5SMN       |

Celebrate Thanksgiving with a new or upgraded license! Our next session starts at 2:00 PM on November 18th in room 109 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University. Or, you can make your Christmas merry by upgrading at our session on December 16th.

For more information on any of these sessions, call Jim, AB5EK, at 327-6184.

de Jim Greenwood, AB5EK



## V's, Half Wave Lines, and Harmonics

There have been some posts in answer to the query on whether a half wave line or even multiple was needed for an inverted V. But they have not told all the story.

Now, let us debunk this myth right off: The half wave line, at its resonant frequency, which is the electrical resonant frequency, not the physical length for a frequency like in a dipole; will repeat whatever impedance the antenna is, to the transceiver end, but ONLY at that one frequency. The transmission line would have to be cut with the formula correcting for the velocity factor of the line. One special length coax piece is not going to help over the whole band.

Now, don't most of us use the antenna over a whole band of frequencies? And it is true that the dipole or V dipole will only be physically resonant at one of those frequencies in the band it is cut for; but we find it works reasonably to very well over the whole band. Sure, the SWR is lowest at resonance, and rises toward the ends of the bands; but it should be well within working with low loss without any special heroics, or even a tuner. The same for the coax. No special length is needed, the only caveat is avoid having a length that is excessively long to cut down on losses in the line, and avoid having a quarter wave or odd multiple of it or you may have trouble with loading up such a line, as the low center of dipole impedance would reflect a high impedance at the end of the quarter wave at its resonant frequency.

How long should your coax be? Long enough to reach from the center of the V in this case, and come off at a right angle, and go out or down, (or up if the shack is above the antenna) directly to the shack, with whatever necessary detours to take care of coming in openings in the wall, or in the roof, like a gable end, etc. In other words, whatever you must do. It is good to roughly measure and avoid the resonance effects of the line. But other than that, just put up the coax you need.

Now what if your SWR is 1.5 to one, should I start cutting pieces off coax? NO a thousand times no! If it really bothers you get a connector extension, and say a five foot jumper piece of coax and extend the length by some amount and see if that won't change the SWR. If it does not, then the mismatch may be between the antenna and the coax, and you can raise or lower the antenna to correct it---but why bother for 1.5 to 1? Modern rigs will take 2 to 1. Old rigs could tune most anything with a pi net output. The losses are so small as to be not worth the effort of taking coax plugs on and off the cable you wanted to trim. The point is cutting coax does not bring the SWR down to a match on the cable, just moves the voltage induced by the mismatch to a different point on the feedline; the loss is STILL there.

Now what about the tuner use and harmonics? Yes, in the days of parallel tuned tanks in tuners with link coupling, they were bandpass filters, which attenuated harmonics. Not anymore with the Universal Transmatch (T) type of tuner which most commercial ones and homebrew ones are today. They form at best a high pass filter, which means they pass the frequency you are operating on, and those above it, which includes harmonics. To block harmonics, you would need to low pass filter up to somewhat above your frequency, then the bands above would be attenuated. The homebrew Z match tuners should be able to attenuate har-

monics, because of the parallel tank included, and the link coupling. Hopefully, someone will again bring out a commercial Z match circuit. Commercial rigs should be reasonably free of harmonics because of the final tuning circuits used. Homebrew rigs should follow the cautions in the WIFB handbook on solid state design, and include more than just a single pi network section to address harmonics. If you build a rig, and don't have a scope to view that high a frequency for good sine wave character, then use an attenuator in front of your receiver to avoid overload, (if you have a well shielded commercial receiver), and make relative measurements of the harmonics and see if they are well down like the lab tests show for commercial reviews in QST. Best of all, is if you know someone with a spectrum analyzer who can check your rig. Note this needs to be done into a dummy load, to avoid any strange results from your antenna, which if multi band, may pass harmonics easily.

OK, put up those V dipoles, put the coax on it that you need to get to the rig, and if you want to adjust it, just raise or lower the ends or the center of the dipole, but don't waste time with a lot of worry over changing lengths of coax. Probably for 30M and lower, the use or non use of a one to one balun at the feedpoint will not make much effect for coax brought off at right angles. If that bothers you, just include enough coax to wrap 6 turns in a circle and tape and support it at the center insulator, or buy a commercial center insulator/balun combination or make your own. Amidon has toroid kits for bead baluns.

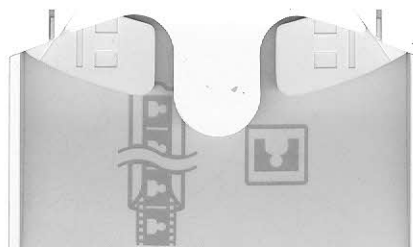
de Stuart Rohre K5KVH

## ARLS014 Crash kills flyer/ham

Reinhard Furrer, DD6CF, a German astronaut who took part in the last successful mission of the space shuttle Challenger, died in early September in a plane crash, according to an Associated Press report. He was 54.

Furrer and the pilot of a 1944 Messerschmitt 108 were killed when their refurbished World War II plane crashed into a field after takeoff at an air show at Berlin's Johannisthal Airport.

Furrer was one of the first German astronauts to work with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the third German in space. He helped operate Spacelab D1, a West German-financed payload aboard the October 1985 Challenger mission that was the first purely German research mission in space.



**Calendar**

**October**

- 4      Ham Exams, Murchison 8:30 AM
- 7      ARO Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 11     ARO Transmitter Hunt 7 PM
- 14     AARC Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 18     QCWA meeting @ Luby's at noon
- 18     Ham Exams, St. Ed's 327-6184
- 21     AATVC Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 27     CTDXCC Old Quarry Library 7 PM

**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) Newslines                                    | 146.94 MHz  |
| Sun   | (after Newslines) Vertical SSB net                           | 144.225 MHz |
| Wed   | 8:30 PM Vertical SSB net                                     | 144.225 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. 11/11, 12/16.

The AARC sponsors ARRL VEC ham exams at 8:30 AM on the first Saturday of each month at Murchison Middle School. 11/4, 12/2, 1/6/96, 2/3, 3/2, 4/13\*, 5/4, 6/1, 7/6, 8/7. (\*Not normal date)

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. 11/18, 12/16.

The ARO swapnet is transmitted Sunday at 9:00 PM on the 146.94 repeater. Newslines, 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 Newslines on 144.225 MHz. 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 1/30/96, 4/30. (\* Nor normal schedule )

The CTDXCC Central Texas DX Contest Club meets at 7:00 PM at the Old Quarry Library off Far West on the 4th Monday of each month. 11/29, 12/18\*, 1/22/96, 2/26, 3/25, 4/22, 5/20\*, 6/24, 7/22, 8/19. (\* Not normal schedule)

**Vanity Callsign Details Announced**

The FCC announced final (?) details of the vanity callsign program. Here are the changes:

- 1) Callsign choice will **not** be limited to the callsign area of the operator. The operator may chose any callsign area in the 48 states.
- 2) Operators requesting the callsign of a deceased relative must have operator priviligues equal to or higher than the group of the callsign sought. i.e. You cannot get a higher class callsign this way.
- 3) Established clubs will get priority for requesting the callsign of a deceased member after close relatives.
- 4) Callsigns will be offered in "gates". During gate1, close relatives may request callsigns of deceased relatives. During gate 1A, clubs may request callsigns of deceased members. Gate 2 will be for Extra Class operators only, etc.
- 5) Dates for gates will be announced, but will start after November 17th, 1995.

