

AARC OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

ISSN 1067-0262

January 1996

Issue 96-1

Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization
Tuesday, January 2, 1996 7:30 PM.

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Tuesday, January 9, 1996 7:30 PM

Austin Amateur TV Club
Tuesday, January 16, 1996 7:30 PM

Travis County ARES
Tuesday, January 30, 1996 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, January 20, 1996 Luby's Cafeteria, North Loop, 12:00 Noon.

Hal and Lois Henegar's fiftieth Wedding Anniversary Celebration January 7, 1996 2-5 PM Grace Covenant Church.

New ARRL Travis County EC

Mac Cannary [KB5VYT] is the new ARRL Travis County Emergency Coordinator (EC). The EC is the person who leads the Travis County ARES. (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) Congratulations and thanks, Mac.

Joe Fisher [K5EJL], who was Travis Co. EC, is now the District Emergency Coordinator.

Smithville Swapfest

The Smithville swapfest will be held February 17, 1996, at

Riverbend Park on Hwy. 71, just out of Smithville, and east of its former location on Alum Creek at Bastrop.

Admission is \$1 per person for buyers.

San Antonio Ham Store Moving

KCOMM/The Ham Store will be moving to 10815 Gulfdale (three buildings North of Altex) on January 2, 1996.

The Children of Hal & Lois Henegar
Will Honor their parents with
A fiftieth Wedding Anniversary Celebration
January 7, 1996
Two to Five O'clock

-at-

Grace Covenant Church
Educational Building
Jollyville Road & Research
Austin, Texas

No Gifts Please

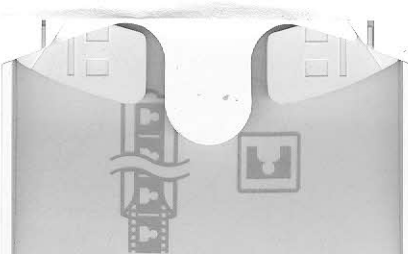
Just your presence and memories to share.
(Married Dec 24, 1945 at 10 o'clock)

Austin Ham Website

A web site for Austin ham info has been started by Steve Sparks [KB5RSY]. The web site is available for Internet web browser users at <http://www.sss.org/ham>. Thanks, Steve.

Vanity Call Sign Update

The FCC has finally released Form 610V, the vanity call sign request form. It is expected that the first gate will be announced by the FCC in early 1996. The first gate is for close relatives of deceased hams to request the deceased relative's old call sign or for a request for call sign formerly held by the requester.



Austin Repeater Organization Club December Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Jim Neely, director, at 7:30 PM, December 5, 1995, at Luby's North Loop Cafeteria. There were 59 people present. There was one visitor.

The November minutes were approved as printed in the *AARC/Over*.

Treasurer's Report

Bill Montgomery [AB5HP] reported a current balance of \$4539.18.

Technical Report

John Dahm [WB5PCV] reported that our interference problem has been solved. The 444.10 MHz repeater is still down.

Old Business

none

New Business

New officers were announced:

President:	Lansing Pugh [KK5VK]
Vice President	John Badger [KC5NXL]
Treasurer	Bill Montgomery [AB5HP]
Secretary	Louis Pecenka [N5ORG]

[Editor's note: Lansing has a new call sign, Congratulations, Lansing]

Announcements

Jeff Schmidt reported that the next Technicain class will start January 13, 1996 at Murchison Middle School.

Warren Anderson [N5XUG]
ARO Secretary

Austin Amateur Radio Club December Minutes

President Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, brought the meeting to order at exactly 7:35 PM on December 12, 1995. The meeting was held at Luby's cafeteria on North Loop.

Visitors

We welcomed three visitors.

Minutes

The minutes of the November 14, 1995 meeting were approved as printed in the *AARC/Over*.

Officer Reports

Treasurer John Weber, KF5OY, reported the checking account balance of \$1,530.83 (this figure includes \$150.00 for our Austin Public Library Book Project), and a postal

account balance of \$567.28.

Technical Committee Chairman Ed Golla, K3AHS, reported no problems with any AARC equipment.

Activities Manager Frank Edwards, KK5IA had nothing to announce.

New Members

None

Old Business

None

New Business

Elections were held. Here is the new 1996 slate of officers:

Gene Van Zelfden [KB5UGO]	President
David Sprague [KB5ZEG]	Vice President
Stuart Rohre [K5KVH]	Treasurer
June Parchman [KK5AM]	Secretary
Frank Edwards [KK5IA]	Activities Manager

Congratulations to all!

We also had our long awaited picture-hanging ceremony. The manager of Luby's let us present his location with the framed proclamations that were awarded to us by former Governor Ann Richards, and the current Austin Mayor, Bruce Todd. The awards will now be hanging in a place of honor on the wall in our favorite meeting place.

Program

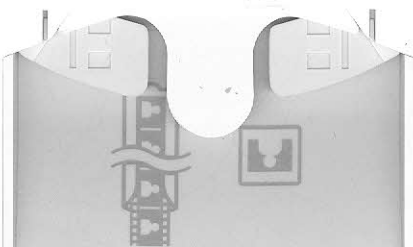
Vice President David Sprague introduced Mark Murray, KK5DC, of KVUE 24. Mark introduced two of his associates, P.L. Laird, and Reed Daughtry, who together built and now operate the KVUE Satellite Uplink Truck. After a short talk, P.L. and Reed gave everyone a tour of the truck in the parking lot. Much thanks to Mark and all the folks at KVUE 24 for a great program.

Secretary's Final Note

We have already come to the end of another year and it has been, in many respects, a good one. I hope that 1996 will be even better than 1995 was and that all of your endeavors will be successful.

Being a part of the inner workings of the AARC this past year has been enjoyable. I am looking forward to the new challenge that holding the office of President will bring. I am especially looking forward to working with my fellow officers, both the folks who have served on the Executive Committee before, and the ones who haven't. I think we have a great team this year. We're going to strive to do our best in every situation that comes up in 1996 and do as much as we can to make the AARC the best club in Central Texas. My best regards to you all.

Gene Van Zelfden, KB5UGO
AARC Secretary



Massachusetts PRB-1 Clone

SB QST ARL ARLB106
ARLB106 PRB-1 clone in MA

A new law in Massachusetts will put the language of the FCC's federal preemption of state and local laws affecting amateurs (PRB-1) on the books in that state when it takes effect next year.

H-2782, a bill in the Massachusetts legislature, was written by ARRL Volunteer Counsel Thomas Carrigan, WAINVS, in 1992. The bill was passed by both chambers of the legislature earlier this year, then sent back to the legislature by Governor William Weld, for modification. Both chambers of the legislature then enacted the bill in the last week of this year's legislative session and sent it to the governor, who signed the bill into law on November 21.

The bill becomes law 90 days after signing, and is assigned to Chapter 225 of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Eastern Massachusetts ARRL Section Manager Phil Temples, K9HI, said "Like PRB-1, the new Chapter 225 does not give amateurs a green light to do anything they want to do with their antennas. You are still bound by the zoning laws of your city or town, and you will still have to go through the same process for approval that you have to go through now.

"So what's the difference? Now, when you go to your town hall, you can point to Chapter 225 as requiring that local regulations be reasonable. If you should find it necessary to go to court for satisfaction, you can choose state court or federal court. State court trials would be less expensive, but the precedents set in PRB-1 cases do not transfer to Massachusetts courts," Temples said.

Carrigan has written a primer for Massachusetts hams on what the new law means. It is available on the World Wide Web at <http://www.ultranet.com/~shawn/wainvs.html>

Temples also suggested that Massachusetts amateurs who contacted their representatives and senators in support of H-2782 now send a note thanking them for their support.

de ARRL

RF light bulbs get approval; General Electric to market

The Federal Communications Commission has waived its rules to permit the General Electric Company to begin marketing an "RF lightbulb." The Commission waived, at GE's request, FCC Rules Part 18 limits on the amount of RF energy that may be conducted into the electric power lines by RF lighting devices in the band 2.2 to 2.8 MHz.

GE proposed marketing to consumers an unlimited number of RF light bulbs that comply with the conduction limits for non-consumer RF lighting devices in this band. (FCC rules already permit RF lighting devices used in commercial environments to place this signal level on the AC power lines). The FCC said that there has been "no record of significant interference problems from the use of these devices in commercial environments," and also said that

radio operations in the range 2.2 to 2.8 MHz "are not normally employed or intended for reception in residential environments."

GE was granted a waiver for one year, and the FCC reserved the right to revoke it if it determines that RF lighting devices operating under the conditions of the waiver create "severe interference problems."

Three years ago a California company, Intersource Technologies, promoted an RF-powered lightbulb that operated at 13.56 MHz and was designed, according to the company, to keep unintentional radiation to a minimum (a story appeared in August 1992 QST, page 49). A 25-watt RF bulb was said to generate as much visible light as a 100-watt conventional bulb. These bulbs were never marketed.

The ARRL will obtain samples of the GE bulbs for testing as soon as they are available. ARRL Laboratory Supervisor Ed Hare, KA1CV, said that the new bulbs should not, if properly designed, create any more interference to Amateur Radio operations than fluorescent bulbs, dimmer switches, or other similar devices found in the home.

de ARRL

South Austin W5YI VE Team Session Report October 21, 1995

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at its November 18th session:

John R. Scott	KK5VH	Advanced Class
Lansing Pugh	KB5USG	General Class
Westre A. Whitzel	KC5PXU	Tech Plus
Milburn W. Hill	KC5RWU	Novice

Two others earned element credit without upgrading.

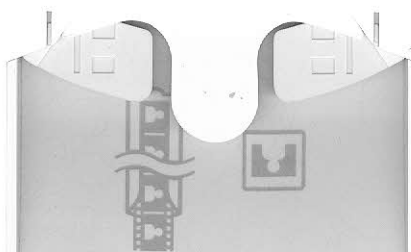
Our volunteer examiners were:

Hugh Brown, KC5E1Y	Earl Landry, AB5VM
Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5HYR	Joe Thiel, N5SMN
Jim Greenwood, AB5EK	Bud Thompson, KB5RBI
Marion Williamson, AC5CM	

Our Fourth year of service to the amateur radio community will begin on January 20th, in room 109 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University. Our sessions start at 2:00 PM.

Please note that the examination fee for 1996 will be \$6.05. Call Jim, AB5EK, at 327-6184 for more information.

de Jim Greenwood, AB5EK



Club Information

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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

Officers

President	Gene Van Zelfden	KB5UGO	338-4729
Vice President	David Sprague	KB5ZEG	259-7282
Treasurer	Stu Rohre	K5KVH	255-3932
Secretary	June Parchman	KK5AM	823-1350
Activity Manager	Frank Edwards	KK5IA	255-6753

Committees & Positions

Technical	Ed Golla	K3AHS	255-4818
Travis County Emergency Coordinator	Mac Canary	KB5VYT	339-9531
ARRL Public Information Coordinator	Hal Henegar	W5MDL	836-2012
ARRL Public Information Officer	Robert Barron	KA5WSS	837-4051
ARRL Public Information Officer	Roger Wines	KB5VHN	453-2193

Austin Repeater Organization

P.O. Box 4763, Austin, TX 78765

Officers

President	Lansing Pugh	KK5VK	441-0508
Vice President	John Badger	KC5NXL	442-3873
Secretary	Louis Pecenka	N5ORG	452-3522
Treasurer	Bill Montgomery	AB5HP	478-7928
Editor	Mickey McInnis	KB5YAC	339-0344

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 Newslines at 9 PM Sunday. 244.80 MHz -1.600 MHz 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 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.

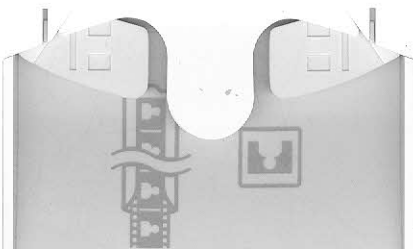
The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches. Press "" and dial the phone number to place a call. Do not unkey after the "". When finished, press "#" to hang up the phone. Dial "911" (no "" needed) for emergency services. Please transmit your callsign **before** using the phone patch.

AARC/Over Information

ISSN 1067-0262, CODEN AAOVE3. © Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and / or the Austin Repeater Organization. Published monthly by the Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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.



Huck's Country Store

Communications by Wire in the Big War

Those of us who were amateur radio operators prior to WW-II were automatically placed in some phase of military communications. Some were trained in pole line construction, others in field wire telegraph service, and many as radio and radar maintenance. The group that I'll speak to were wire line telegraph operators.

Around 1942-43, I was on radar maintenance in an anti-aircraft gun battery. Our regiment had over a hundred miles of field telephone wire, mostly on the ground, for telephone communications between the various gun positions of the regiment. This was used in order to maintain radio silence. The secret (so called) internal messages were sent via wire-line telegraph. That kept the field switchboard operators and others from learning command decisions of the unit officers.

We used a little telegraph set called the TG-5-B. It was a left over device from WW-I, but it continued to be built for WW-II use. The little telegraph set was in a steel case 4 3/4 in. high, 6 in. long, and 4 in. deep, and weighed about 4 pounds, complete with battery, key, and earphone. It would operate over a single wire and ground, or on a pair of wires. It could be used with a line loop resistance of up to about 5,000 ohms. On military field wire this would be on the order of 40 miles.

The case top opened as did the front. An earphone and head strap was the receiver. A small bell was for calling purposes. When the bell rang, the operator inserted the phone plug, which started an electromechanical side tone oscillator. The unit worked full break in and multiple units could be operated in series. Each additional unit reduced the maximum line length by about 5 to 10 miles.

Our field telephone switchboards had several simplex transformers which would permit telegraph operation over an active telephone line pair without either the phone or telegraph operation knowing the other was in use. Telegraph messages from our command headquarters were usually reduced to a series of 5 letter code groups so even the telegraph operator never knew the message content.

Those little telegraph sets were also used to train radio CW operators and to practice radio network operations procedures. They were the acme of simplicity and a very reliable communication instrument.

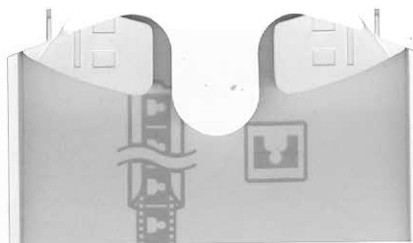
I have a pair of the little TG-5-B telegraphs sets from WW-II surplus military sales. They have serial numbers 2160 and 7250. These numbers probably indicate when built, but I suspect they are from around 1940 because of their excellent condition. Since these were built we have gone from wire line telegraphy to radio telegraphy, and now all forms of telegraphy are essentially lost arts.

With this story we see the birth and death of a once active communication system. Imagine what our amateur radio operators will be involved in during the next generation! Amateur radio is the gateway to great things to come. May we all grasp the wonderful opportunity that is before us.

de "Old Huck" Huckabee, [AA5BU]

Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) Application

We are always looking for more participants in our local ARES organizations and nets. Page 7 of this issue of the *AARC/Over* is an application form for ARES. Any amateurs interested in emergency communications are invited to join.



Calendar

January

- 2 ARO Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 6 Ham Exams, Murchison 8:30 AM
- 6 ARO Transmitter Hunt 7 PM
- 9 AARC Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 16 AATVC Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 20 QCWA meeting @ Luby's at noon
- 20 Ham Exams, St. Ed's 327-6184
- 22 CTDXCC Old Quarry Library 7 PM
- 30 ARES meeting @ Luby's at 7:30 PM

February

- 9-11 Heart to Heart ARES Traffic Handling Exercise
(approximate date)
- 17 Smithville Swapfest

April

- 20 Belton Tailgate swapfest

October

- 5 Belton Swapfest, \$1 admission

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) 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. 1/6, 2/10, 3/9, 4/6, 5/11, 6/8.

The AARC sponsors ARRL VEC ham exams at 8:30 AM on the first Saturday of each month at Murchison Middle School. 1/6, 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. 1/20, 2/17, 3/16, 4/27, 5/18, 6/15

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 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 145.73 MHz (backup 145.79 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, 4/30.

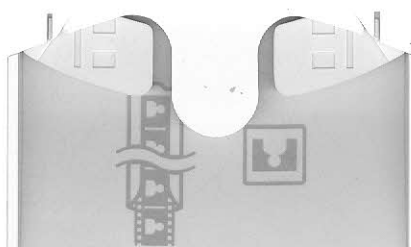
The CTDXCC Central Texas DX Contest Club meets at 7:00 PM at the Old Quarry Library off Far West on the 4th Monday of each month. 1/22, 2/26, 3/25, 4/22, 5/20*, 6/24, 7/22, 8/19. (* Not normal schedule)

Scholarships

The Austin Amateur Radio Club is pleased to announce the availability of college scholarships through its Austin Amateur Radio Club Scholarship Fund. Funding is from a bequeath from the Jesse Copeland Estate.

Mr. Jesse Copeland, an active radio amateur until his death, loved his hobby. It brought him many hours of fellowship with friends all over the world. It was his wish that young "Ham" radio operators be encouraged by making college scholarships available to them. These scholarships are available to any central Texas High School graduate who holds any class of amateur radio license. Whether the student is interested in attending Austin Community College, the University of Texas, or Harvard, these scholarships are available to aid the student in the achievement of his or her goal. There is no stipulation of the course of study, either. The student may receive a scholarship to pursue whatever field he or she chooses.

High school counselors are encouraged to identify students that show an interest in Amateur Radio and introduce them to this opportunity. For more information, please call the Austin Community Foundation at 472-4483.



Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Registration Form

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Bus Phone _____ Home Phone: _____ County: _____

License Class: _____ Primary Radio Interest: _____

Check bands/modes you can operate:

	160	80	40	20	15	10	6	2	220	440	Other
CW	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
FM	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
SSB	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Mobile	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
Packet	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

If operating packet, the callsign of your PBBS is: _____

Can your home station operate without commercial power? Yes No

If yes, what bands? _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Detach and send to your County Emergency Coordinator (EC).

Mac Cannary [KB5VYT] 1305 Neans Dr., Austin, TX 78758 339-9531 is EC for Travis County
 Dan Poggemiller [KB5TWO] 604 White Wing Way, Round Rock, TX 78664 244-3919 is EC for Williamson County.

To All Radio Amateurs:

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) is a voluntary organization of licensed radio amateurs who have registered their capabilities and equipment for providing emergency communications as a public service to the community. The purpose of ARES is to furnish communications in the event of natural disaster, when regular communications fail or are inadequate. Sponsored by ARRL, the ARES functions at the local level to meet local communications needs.

The ARES has a long history of public service going back to its formal inception in 1935. Since that time the ARES has responded countless times to communications emergencies.

Experience has proven that radio amateurs respond more capably in time of emergency when practice has been conducted in an organized group. There is no substitute for experience gained *before* the need arises.

The ARES in each locality operates under the direction of the Emergency Coordinator (EC), whose function is to direct the activities of the ARES to maintain a state of readiness.

To register in the ARES send the detachable Registration Form above directly to your EC, or to ARRL Headquarters for forwarding to you EC. *League membership is not required for registration.* Registration does not require possession of any specially designed equipment. All amateurs can be of assistance to the ARES. There is provision in the ARES for *every* amateur regardless of class of license, equipment owned, or personal circumstances.

Won't you join us in this essential Amateur Radio service?

