

# AARC OVER

## Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club  
Austin Amateur Television Club  
Austin Repeater Organization

ISSN 1067-0262

April 1996

Issue 96-4

### Club Meetings

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

Austin Amateur Radio Club  
Tuesday, April 9, 1996 7:30 PM  
Topic: Field Day

Austin Amateur TV Club  
Tuesday, April 16, 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

**Field Day** June 22 and 23, 1 PM to 1 PM. The AARC will be participating. Please consider participating in some fashion with the ARC and/or one of the other groups participating in field day.

**ARO Transmitter Hunt**, Saturday, April 6, 7:00 PM. Coordination on 146.94, hunt on 146.52. Hunt boundaries will be the normal boundaries this month.

**QCWA Meeting**, Tuesday, April 23, 1996 Luby's Cafeteria, North Loop, 7 PM.  
**!!! New Date !!!**

### Acting ARO Secretary

Sam Mihalik [ KB5SML ] has agreed to fill in for the AARC secretary, Louis Pecenka [ N5ORG ], who is ill. Thanks, Sam, and get well wishes to Louis.

### 1971, were you licensed that year or earlier?

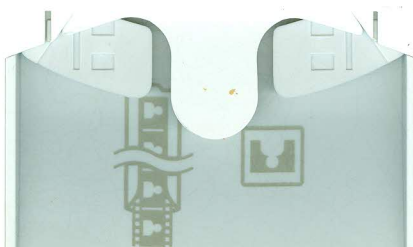
If yes, QCWA needs you.

You do not need to have continuously held a license since then.

If you were a Novice 25 years ago, but then "deferred" your ham hobby due to the press of other life interests, but are licensed NOW, you are eligible for QCWA!

Join the folks who made the HISTORY of Amateur Radio--Openings for members and officers; reward is the fellowship and knowledge to be shared with the other QCWA members.

Contact the QCWA representative at the meetings of the other clubs, or mail your query to the P. O. Box of Austin Amateur Radio Club, and further information will be sent to you. QCWA is going to start meeting in April on the **fourth Tuesday** night at 7 PM, for programs and business, at Luby's North Loop, site of other Amateur Radio Clubs. On the third Sat. of each month, a fellowship luncheon will continue be held at Luby's at 11:30 A. M. Visitors are always welcome.



**Austin Repeater Organization March Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Lansing Pugh, [ KK5VK ], President, at 7:30, March 2, 1996. We had several visitors.

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

**Officer Reports**

The Treasurer, Bill Montgomery, [ AB5HP ] reported a balance of \$5876.52.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business and Announcements**

One new member, Watt Gee [ KC5THS ], was welcomed into the club. Welcome, and congratulations on the new call sign.

Sam Mihalik [ KB5SML ] agreed to become acting secretary, filling in for Louis Pecenka [ N5ORG ], who is ill.

Mickey McInnis - KB5YAC  
ARO Editor

**Austin Amateur Radio Club March Minutes**

President Gene Van Zelfden. KB5UGO, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. on March 12, 1996. The meeting was held at Luby's cafeteria on North Loop.

**Visitors**

We welcomed three visitors, Trey, AA5WI, Jerry KB6RVD, and Jeremy, AB7CW.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the February meeting were approved as printed in the *AARC/Over*.

**Officer Reports**

Treasurer Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, reported a checking account balance of \$3620.79 and a

postal balance of \$359.12. \$157.50 has been received in new dues and not yet credited. The balance will be changing rather quickly as checks will be issued this week to the printer for printing the *AARC/Over* and to the Red Cross. Also, the treasurers of the ARO and the AARC will be meeting soon to settle the balances for the amounts collected by the two clubs for each other.

**New Members**

There were no new members.

**Technical Report**

Ed Golla, K3AHS, Technical Committee reported all equipment to be working OK.

**Activities Report**

President, Gene Van Zelfden, KB5UGO, reported that the next upcoming activity will be Field Day in June with more information to follow. Spring and Fall Manchaca Swap Meets have been cancelled for this year. The club is looking for a new and better site to hold an improved swap meet in 1997, and would appreciate any suggestions the members might have. Please contact any officer if you know of a possible location.

**Old Business**

There was no old business.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Announcements**

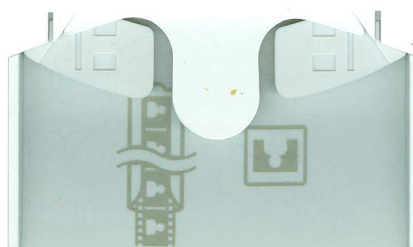
Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, announced that it had been learned that there will not be a parking charge for HamCom this year as had been previously reported.

Joe Canfield, N5HPC, announced that a RACES net will be held every month following the Early ARES Net on the second Sunday of each month.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Program**

Thanks to Hal Henegar, W5MDL for some very entertaining video and most enjoyable program on



Remote Controlled Aircraft.

Submitted with pleasure,

June Parchman, KK5AM  
AARC Secretary

**South Austin W5YI VE Team Session Report**

Congratulations to all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur Radio licenses at the South Austin W5YI VE team's session of January 20th

Sophia P. Tapley	N5JNE	Advanced Class
James M. Cox	KC5FPA	Technician Plus
Christine J. Hindman	KC5LZE	Technician Plus
David L. Hindman	new	Technician Plus
Mariano C. Reynoso	new	Technician Plus
Nancy L. Honda	new	Technician
Adam R. Jurica	new	Technician
Kenneth W. Parrish	new	Technician
Brian A. Tabone	new	Technician

Our volunteer examiners were:

Bob Basinger, AB5OC, Emil Kasprzyk, KC5IZ, Dick Ber, KB5BBU, Tony Lyon, KJ5XF, Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5HYR, Bill Montgomery, AB5HP, Jim Greenwood, AB5EK, Bud Thompson, KB5RBI, David Massell, Sr., AB5WX, Marion Williamson, AC5CM.

The South Austin W5YI VE team congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at its February 17th session:

James H. Doss	N5FCD	Advanced Class
William A. Hein	KC5LQL	Advanced Class
John C. Collett	KC5MUN	General Class
Roger M. Agnew	KC5JCR	Technician Plus
Gary L. Robinson	KC5QFM	Technician Plus
Alan P. Crowther, M.D.	new	Technician
Richard H. Manz	new	Technician
James D. Ogilvie	new	Technician
Owen R. Parry	new	Technician

Our volunteer examiners were:

Dick Ber, KB5BBU, David Hassell, Sr., AB5WX, Hugh Brown, KC5EIY, Emil Kasprzyk, KC5IZ, Lloyd Goehring, Jr. N5HYR, Steve Sparks, AB5SV, Jim Greenwood, AB5EK, Marion Williamson, AC5CM

At a special session on February 7th, Michael Johnson, KC5SSR, gained his technician license. The examiners at that session were Jim Greenwood, AB5EK, Emil Kasprzyk, KC5IZ, Scott McCreight, AB5KS, and Bill Montgomery, AB5HP.

Planning for something extra? If so, please note that the extra class license question pool will change on July 1, 1996. Check the effective date of any study guide that you may use to be certain that it is appropriate on the date that you take the extra class exam.

Congratulations to all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at the South Austin W5YI VE team's session of March 16th.

John C. Collett	KC5MUN	Advanced Class
Mike Milton	KC5QGZ	General Class
Deeanna L. Antosh	KB5JQY	Technician Plus
Alan P. Crowther	KC5SWX	Technician Plus
Carite R. Rosheuvel	KD4WLG	Technician Plus
Donald G. Tharrett	KC5AUW	Technician Plus
Darrell M Janota	new	Technician
Ronald L. Stephens	new	Technician
Hyunde C. Lynch	new	Novice
Thomas W. Lynch	new	Novice

The volunteer examiners were

Hugh Brown, KC5EIY, June Parchman, KK5AM, Emil Kasprzyk, KC5IZ, Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5HYR, Jim Greenwood, AB5EK, Marion Williamson, AC5CM, Tray Rushing, AA5WI, Carol Thiel, N5TLY, and Joe Thiel, N5SMN.

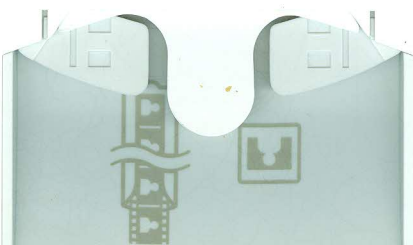
Our next session is scheduled on the Spring National Exam Day, April 27th at 2 PM in room 209 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University. Our next session after that date will be on May 18th.

You can get callsign information on the World Wide Web from the W5YM internet server at the University of Arkansas at the following URL:

<http://www.ualr.edu/htbin/callsign.exe>

You can also get callsign information from the W5YI-VEC office at (817) 548-8200.

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



**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 Cannary	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
Acting Secretary	Sam Mihalik	KB5SML	
Secretary	Louis Pecenka	N5ORG	
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 Newsline 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.

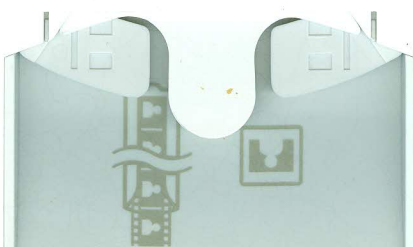
The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches. Press \* and dial the phone number to place a call. Do not unkey after the \* When finished, press "#" to hang up the phone. Dial "911" (no \* needed) for emergency services. Please transmit your callsign **before** using the phone patch.

**AARC/Over Information**

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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*.



## Huck's Country Store

### What is New on the HF Bands?

In December-February of 1995-1996, my wife and I made a 2-plus month tour of the southwestern United States. Our RV has a little 50 Watt ham rig with a whip antenna on the rear bumper. During that trip, I tuned each of the HF bands at various times of the day to see just what activity was on those bands.

I was amazed at what was going on as I tuned from 160-10 meters. In almost every band and in almost every check there were more QSO's on CW than any other mode. The second highest usage was SSB, then various forms of digital communication, and last was AM voice. In that the 10 meter band was most times dead, I did not hear any FM stations. Only a very few stations were heard on 160 meters.

Who uses the HF bands? A good cross-section of "ham radio" was found. Daytime operation during weekdays was mostly older operators of retirement age, mostly men of age 60 and over. However, in this group, I found a number of "lady hams" operating CW, and a few on voice modes.

About sundown the bands make a shift to the younger working people who now have a chance to enjoy our find hobby. As we go into early nighttime more and more younger operators fill the bands on all modes. Higher bands fade out many nights and the "good" bands become more active. The CW bands become very crowded at night.

On many weekends, the bands are filled with contest operators, with the CW bands being most active. CW takes the prize for the most activity per kHz of space during a contest! Late nights and early morning are the prime time for the DX-ers.

What do "Ham's" talk about? Those of "Old Huck's" age talk about health problems, economic stress among the elderly, children, grandchildren, radio in the "old days," and conditions of community and government. The younger hams talk about computers, new radio gear, their antennas, operating power, etc. The youth of our ham community are not frequently heard on the HF bands. An exception is found on Novice-Technician band CW.

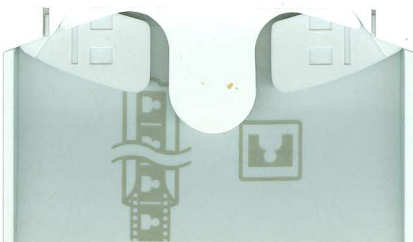
Message nets can be found on many of the HF bands on a regular basis. The CW nets pass messages rather quickly. This appears to be the results of experienced operators and many coded messages are handled rapidly. Voice messages are on many bands, and often have reception problems. Phonetics frequently slow down the message process.

DX pileups try the patience of most operators and often lead to ugly remarks by a few. This brings shame to our hobby. A similar situation was found where some use language that is a discredit to our members. This was found most on voice communication on 75 meters, and to a lesser extent on 40 and 20 meters. Clean speech and courtesy are generally found throughout the CW bands, with a few exceptions.

I did not have equipment to copy the digital signals. They are a small portion of the stations heard at any point in time. A very few digital stations were heard out of the generally accepted band plan. Likewise some CW stations were found outside of the band plan. However, in each case these things are not a serious problem.

What conclusion can we draw? A vast number of thousands of amateur radio operators are at work expanding our hobby and the technology about us. Just a few darken our colors. Let's all work to every enjoy, extend, and cleanse our wonderful hobby.

de "Old Huck" Huckabee, [ AA5BU ]



## Pres. On...

The Capitol 10,000 is always fun. I'm sure you are aware of the event which has been an Austin tradition for almost thirty years. You may not, however, be fully aware of the "behind the scenes" part that Ham Radio Operators play in the Capitol 10,000. Since the tradition of the race began, we Ham Radio Operators have been posted along the sidelines watching for signs of fatigue and overheating problems as well as looking out for lost children, injuries, and other problems that might come up. We are able to report this information to the Net Control Station, who can then relay it to the proper authorities. This is a tremendous opportunity for us to benefit the community.

The Capitol 10,000 is not the only event that needs our communications expertise. There are many other events that take place at various times of the year. There are foot races like marathons and walks, there are bicycle races, airshows, civic events, etc. If you are interested in participating with this sort of thing, contact an AARC Officer, and you will be directed to the proper person. Most of these events result in us, as volunteers, getting free hats, T-shirts, or other souvenirs, and usually at least a free lunch. But even without freebies, we get to see the event from the "best seats in the house" as well as pal around with other Hams.

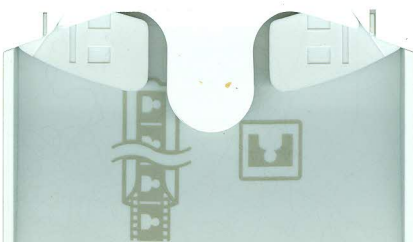
I want to alert you to an important upcoming communications event - Field Day. The AARC is not quite finished with all of its plans regarding Field Day, but I can tell you that it is really going to be a lot of fun this year. I will cover it more fully at the April AARC meeting, and in the May edition of the AARC/Over.

Just to let you know, I will be looking for people to help with the planning and preparation activities related to Field Day. We will need people to help set up equipment at the site, people to donate equipment for us to use, people to operate the radios, people to interface with the public, and the list goes on. . . Be prepared for me to call on you, or just give me your name as a volunteer.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. Call me any time.

My best regards to you all,

*Gene Van Zelfden*, KB5UGO  
AARC President



**Calendar**

**April**

- 2 ARO Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 6 ARO Transmitter Hunt 7 PM
- 9 AARC Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 13 Ham Exams, Murchison 8:30 AM
- 23 QCWA Meeting @ Luby's at 7 PM
- 20 Belton Tailgate swapfest
- 22 CTDXCC Old Quarry Library 7 PM
- 27 Ham Exams, St. Ed's 2 PM

**May**

- 17-19 Hamvention, Dayton, OH

**June**

- 7-9 HamCom, Arlington
- 22-23 **Field Day**

**August**

- 2-4 Summerfest, Austin

**October**

- 5 Belton Swapfest, \$1 admission

**Periodic Events**

Sun	6:30 PM Travis ARES net	146.94 MHz
Sun	7:30 PM ARES Packet	145.73 MHz
Sun	8:00 PM Williamson ARES	145.13 MHz
Sun	8:30 PM Travis ARES net	146.78 MHz
Sun	9:00 PM ARO Swapnet	146.94 MHz
Sun	(after Swapnet) Newslines	146.94 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 **fourth Tuesday of each month** at Luby's at 7 PM. There is a fellowship meeting the third Saturday of each month at 11:30 AM at Luby's.  
**(Date change)**

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. 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. 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. 327-6184 4/27\*, 5/18, 6/15 (\*Not normal date)

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.

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 4/30, 7/30, 10/29.

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. 4/22, 5/20\*, 6/24, 7/22, 8/19. (\* Not normal schedule)

