

AARC OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

ISSN 1067-0262

December 1996

Issue 96-12

Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization
Tuesday, December 3, 1996 7:30 PM.

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Tuesday, December 10 1996 7:30 PM
Topic: The Navy Sonobuoy System and its
Use for General Data Telemetry from Lew
Thompson, W5IFQ.

Austin Amateur TV Club
Tuesday, December 17, 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

AARC Special Events Station December 1.
Zilker Park. Christmas Tree lighting. Special
Events Station. 3(?) - 6. Contact David Sprague
[N5RX] at 259-7282 (No calls after 9 PM)

ARO Transmitter Hunt, Saturday, December 7,
7:00 PM. Coordination on 146.94, hunt on 146.52.

QCWA Meeting, Wednesday, December 18
Luby's Cafeteria, North Loop, 7 PM.

**Travis County ARES NO DECEMBER
MEETING** The regular December meeting has

been rescheduled to January 28, 1997.

Who Was that Masked Ham?

David Sprague, KB5ZEG is now N5RX
Joe Makeever, W5EBJ is now W5HS
Roger Pfluger has been very active on the upgrade
front. He was KC5OJJ, then KK5ZM, and is now
AC5IP.

South Austin W5YI VE Team Session Report

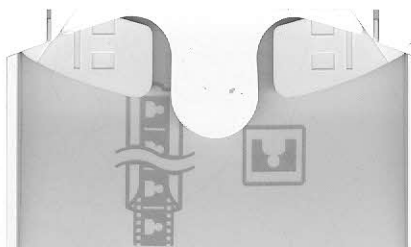
The South Austin W5YI VE team congratulates
all of the following people who earned new or
upgraded amateur radio licenses at the October
19th session.

Harold J Karn	WN3BAX	Extra Class
Alan J. Wormser	WB5GLF	Extra Class
Michael G. Collins	AC5CK	Extra Class
James L. Lane	KC5AAN	General
Jimmy L. Emmons	KC5WPY	Technician
Alan K. Farnsworth	KC5WPW	Technician
Donna M. LaKowski	KC5WPX	Technician

Our Volunteer examiners were Hugh Brown, KC5EIIY,
Jeff Deins, KK5TO, Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5HYR, Jim
Greenwood, AB5EK, Emil Kasprzyk, K5JTP, Scott
McCraith, AB5KS, Bill Montgomery, KC5ZSI,
Roger Pfluger, AC5IP, Joe Thiel, N5SMN and Marion
Williamson, AC5CM.

Our next session is set for December 21st. As always,
we will start at 2:00 PM in room 109 of Fleck Hall on
the campus of St. Edward's University.

Contact Jim, AB5EK, at 327-6184 for more
information.



Club Information

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

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

Officers

President	Gene Van Zelfden	KB5UGO	338-4729	adrian@zilker.net
Vice President	David Sprague	N5RX	259-7282	dsprague@bga.com
Treasurer	Stu Rohre	K5KVH	255-3932	rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu
Secretary	June Parchman	KK5AM	832-1350	june.parchman@45.ima.infomail.com
Activity Manager	Frank Edwards	KK5IA	255-6753	frank@austin.cc.tx.us

Committees & Positions

Technical	Ed Golla	K3AHS	255-4818	
ARRL Travis Co. Emergency Coord.	Mac Cannary	KB5VYT	339-9531	
ARRL Public Information Coordinator	Hal Henegar	W5MDL	836-2012	jcvp11a@prodigy.com
ARRL Public Information Officer	Robert Barron	KA5WSS	837-4051	barron@liant.com
ARRL Public Information Officer	Roger Wines	W5WIA	453-2193	

Austin Repeater Organization

P.O. Box 4763, Austin, TX 78765

President	Lansing Pugh	KK5VK	441-0508	lansing@acadlp.com
Vice President	John Badger	KC5NXL	442-3873	JBadger@aol.com
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Director	Jeff Schmidt	N5MNW	255-6753	jeff_schmidt@email.sps.mot.com
Director	Keith Watson	WB9KHL	288-9709	watson@apple.com
Director	Fred Neuenschwander	W5FQR		

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. 224.80 MHz -1.600 MHz 444.10 MHz +5 MHz. 145.01 MHz is the packet NetROM node, KB5PM-1 or alias AUS. 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. ARO maintains a TCP/IP gateway, ausgw.wb9khl.ampr.org on 145.670 MHz. For AX25 connections, use WB9KHL-1.

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.

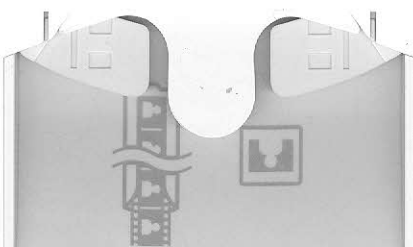
AARC/Over Information

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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*.

Address Correction: Jim Neely WA5LHS jneely@eden.com or 604-3012



**Austin Repeater Organization
November 1996 Minutes**

The meeting was held on November 5, 1996, at Luby's Cafeteria, North Loop, Austin, Texas. President Lansing Pugh KK5VK called the meeting to order at 7:32 P.M.

Visitors

We were pleased to meet George and Dottie Sheldon, the parents of Jeff Schmidt N5MNV. We were also treated to a rare visit from a long time member, Scott AB5KS.

September Minutes

The September minutes as printed in the October AARC/Over were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Our Treasurer, Bill Montgomery K5ZSI, reported a balance of \$5,778.01

Technical Report

John Dahm WB5PCV briefed the membership on the status of the club repeaters. The 220 repeater is down with noise. John said that the 444.1 repeater was currently in a private residence and he needs to arrange to access that equipment. The 146.94 repeater has been experiencing severe interference from a paging transmitter. The operator of the paging transmitter has been cooperative in resolving this problem and has repaired it 5 times so far to resolve interference problems. Progress on the high speed packet repeater has been limited due to a misunderstanding about documentation. Hopefully this has been cleared up now. Please report any equipment malfunctions to John Dahm WB5PCV at 328-6662 (h) or 356-3026 (voice mail.)

Board of Directors

The club accepted the retirement of two valuable members of the ARO Board of Directors, Stu Rohre K5KVH and Jim Neely WA5LHS. Their contributions to the club have been many and their experienced leadership will be certainly be sought for other roles in ARO activities.

An election was held to select two new members of the Board of Directors. Despite dire warnings

that the ARO was short of interested leaders, we actually had more qualified volunteers than slots open on the Board. The membership elected Jeff Schmidt N5MNV and Nick Broline W5FUA to the 1997 Board of Directors of the Austin Repeater Organization.

New Members

The Austin Repeater Organization welcomes two new members: Kent Farnsworth KC5WPW and Glen Reid K5HGB.

Upcoming Events and Announcements

Announcements were made regarding the Simulated Emergency Training (SET) exercise and the monthly transmitter hunt to be held on the upcoming Saturday. Larry Jentry KB4PR showed an inexpensive system available to receive (via radio) weather data to be displayed on a computer. Other meetings coming up that were announced include: 11/12 Austin Amateur Radio Club, 11/19 Austin Amateur Television Club, and 11/20 Quarter Century Wireless Association. All meetings start at 7:30 P.M. and are held at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop.

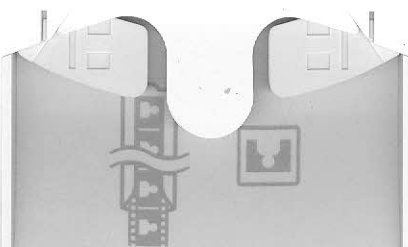
Stuart Rohre K5KVH suggested that a committee be formed to study and report on "Attic and Stealth Antennas. If interested in participating, please call Stuart at 255-3932.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:00 P.M.

Program

In preparation for the Simulated Emergency Training (SET) on Saturday, we practiced handling formal message traffic. Each table was given official ARES message forms and prepared a message in National Traffic System (NTS) format. The topic of the message was to address a proposal to combine the Austin Repeater Organization with the Austin Amateur Radio Club. A formal net was held on 146.52 and messages were handled via 2 meter simplex between tables. Many of us learned some important lessons about message handling, including the need to send messages much more slowly.

Submitted by:
Lansing Pugh KK5VK, ARO President



Austin Amateur Radio Club November 1996 Minutes

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

Minutes:

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

Officer Reports:

Treasurer Stuart Rohre, K5KVH reported a checking account balance of \$1688.89 and a balance of \$88.12 in the postal account.

Technical Report:

There was no trouble reported with the repeater.

Activities Report:

The President also announced plans for a special event station to be operated at Zilker Park in December in connection with the lighting of the Zilker Park Christmas Tree.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

None

Announcements:

The AARC has received a second club station license for the club's City of Austin EOC (Emergency Operations Center). The callsign is W5TQ. W5TQ, Jesse Copeland, was a ham for over 50 years. Mr. Copeland left a large contribution for the AARC from his estate. The AARC established a scholarship fund approximately 3 years ago that has given many scholarships to amateur radio operators in the Austin area.

Our other club station, W5KA has the callsign of the late Paul Hargis. Paul was the owner of a long time amateur radio and wholesale electronic distributorship on Baylor St. in downtown Austin. This was a gathering place for Austin area hams

every Saturday morning. This tradition continues to this day with the Saturday morning ham breakfasts at Simon David Deli on Great Hills Trail. After Paul's death, Mrs. Hargis, who is an honorary member of our club, graciously consented to the club applying for Paul's amateur call to perpetuate his memory, and the club station at Red Cross was established with the construction of the Building on Pershing by the Muller Airport in 1976, with a dedicated radio room and a 65 foot tower.

Program:

David Sprague introduced Larry Jentry [KB4PR], who works at the state EOC at the Texas DPS building at Lamar and 2222. We went to the Texas state EOC area and were given a tour of this impressive facility.

Mickey McInnis, KB5YAC
Editor

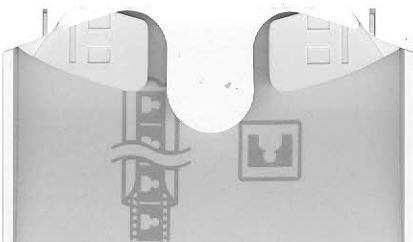
ARO Lifetime Members

This is a list of the lifetime members of the ARO.

Nick Broline	W5FUA
Zeke Harvey	W5NFC
Jim Neely	W5LHS
Tom Griffy	W5YAN
Charles Rich	W5ESR

For any of you IBM'ers or ex-IBM'ers.

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Travis County ARES Net Control Information

Net Control Stations

Odd Numbered Months Even Numbered Months

First session 18:30 local time 146.94 MHz

Week

1st	WA5MUM	KB5YWL
2nd	N5MHI	N5PVD
3rd	N5HPC	W5WIA
4th	KK5IA	KB5EHP
5th	AB5EK	AB5EK

Second session 20:30 local time 146.78 MHz

Week

1st	KB5YAC	N5OUJ
2nd	KC5HMA	N5RNE
3rd	KK5AM	KB5ELV
4th	WB5IMB	W0RAO
5th	KC5IAI	KC5IAI

Net Script

Before starting the net, establish a backup net control and frequency.

CQ the Travis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service net. This is _____, net control for this session. This is a directed net. That means that no station is to transmit unless directed to do so by net control. This net promotes public service through amateur radio. We provide emergency communications through agreements with several agencies in Travis County. This net operates with the permission of the owner of this repeater.

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service or ARES is a part of the Field Organization of the American Radio Relay League or ARRL. Questions regarding ARES membership should be directed to Mac Cannary, KB5VYT. He is the Travis County ARRL Emergency Coordinator. He can be reached by phone at 339-9531 or digital pager 613-3306 or after the net on this frequency if he checks in today.

This is a local level net of the ARRL National Traffic System. At this time we will check in ONLY stations wishing to take outgoing messages on to other nets. Will these liaison stations please check in now, stating which National Traffic System net you will carry messages to.

Check in and acknowledge all liaison stations.

Any stations with outgoing message traffic ONLY, please come now.

Check in and dispatch traffic

First time check-ins, please notify net control when you check in. All stations please check in by saying "This is," release your push-to-talk switch to cut down on doubles, then give your call phonetically and slowly.

Check in all others, individually acknowledging them.

Stations with announcements or bulletins, come now.

Allow users to give their announcements

Last call for stations wishing to check in to the Travis County ARES net, please come now.

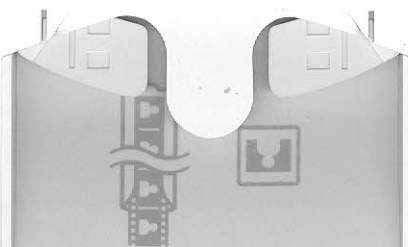
Repeat enough times to be sure everyone has a chance to check in

This is _____, closing the Travis County ARES net. We had ___ stations check in and ___ messages handled. Thanks to all stations for participating.

This net meets each Sunday evening at 1830 local time on the 146.94 repeater and at 2030 on the 146.78 repeater. A packet session is held at 1930 on 145.73 unconnected mode with backup frequency of 145.78. Any amateur interested in emergency communications is invited to join. The net is now free and the frequency is open to general use.

Call your alternate net control and reconcile your traffic and checkin counts. Send netlog to Mickey McInnis, [KB5YAC], at 1519 Charolais Dr., Austin, TX 78758. Give traffic and checkin counts and Net Control station callsign to Rick Herndon [K5FNI] at 454-1670.

de Mickey McInnis [KB5YAC]



APRS Helps Recover Ham's Stolen Car

Scotty Liekette, W8KXX, of San Diego, California, made one of those mistakes that paid off big time! While calling the police to report his car had just been stolen, he remembered he had accidentally left his new project--an APRS car tracker--turned on inside the car. Using his home computer and the WB4APR Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) software, he located his car on the local San Diego map, still sending current GPS position beacons from a location on the other side of the city. Liekette told the police dispatcher he'd spotted his missing car, but the police had a hard time understanding how he could "see" the vehicle across town. When an officer showed up at his door, Liekette showed him the stolen car's symbol with its unique amateur call sign on an APRS city map and the officer relayed the location to police department units.

As Liekette later learned, the stolen car and a police unit stopped at the same red light at that time. The thieves were still in the car! Surprised at the officer's attention, the thieves made an illegal left turn at the light, and the chase was on. Unfortunately, the thieves abandoned the vehicle in the middle of a nearby street and got away. The recovered car had suffered only minor damage.

Tuck Miller, KC6ZEC
Reported by the ARRL Letter

APRS

APRS is the Automatic Position Reporting System. (Or it was once called the Automatic Packet Reporting System.) This is a system that uses GPS (Global Positioning System) receivers, a computer and amateur radio packet data to track and report positions of APRS users.

The computer is equipped with the APRS program and computer map data. The map data typically has street locations and latitude/longitude data. You can use APRS without a packet station or GPS and use it to view maps.

If you add a GPS receiver, it will automatically locate your position on the map.

If you add an amateur radio receiver and TNC, you can listen to other APRS users with transmitters and TNC's who report their position and other information. This data can be transmitted locally or even over great distances with "relay" stations.

If you add an amateur radio transmitter, you can transmit your position to other APRS users.

The Travis County ARES organization is investigating APRS to add to our emergency response capabilities.

There are also provisions to hook up Doppler direction finding equipment to an APRS system to aid in triangulating a signal source.

While not actually an APRS system, I've recently used a similar system using a laptop computer with Delorme's Street Atlas USA V4.0 and a Garmin 45XL GPS. This version of this program allows you to download areas of the map to a file that you can then use on a laptop computer even if it doesn't have a CD-ROM drive. It's really fascinating to watch the track marker scrolling through the streets as you drive around.

de Mickey McInnis KB5YAC

Thanks

Well, this will probably be my last *AARC/Over* to edit. We should have a new editor by the next issue. I would like to thank some people for all the help they gave me.

Jim Neely [WA5LHS] for maintaining the mailing list. Jim also provided lots of valuable advice and information.

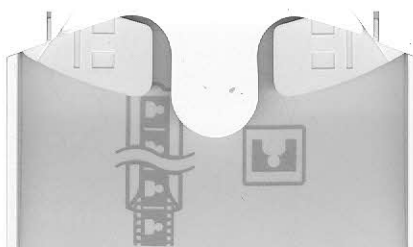
Joe Canfield [N5HPC] for picking up the newsletters, putting the labels on them, and sorting out the maze of regulations regarding mailing the newsletter at the lowest rate and mailing them.

Jim "Huck" Huckabee [AA5BU] for the "Huck's Country Store" column.

June Parchman [KK5AM], Sam Mihalik [KB5SML], Gene Van Zelfden [KB5UGO], and Warren Anderson [N5XUG], who served as club secretaries over the past two years.

I'd like to thank everyone who submitted information for the newsletters. I'd like to thank the readers and authors for putting up with my mistakes. Most of you actually did put up with my mistakes.

73 and good luck to the next editor.
Mickey McInnis KB5YAC ...-.-



Calendar

December

- 3 ARO Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 7 Ham Exams Murchison 8:30 AM
- 7 ARO Transmitter Hunt 7 PM
- 10 AARC Meeting @ Luby's 7:30 PM
- 18 QCWA Meeting @ Luby's at 7 PM
- 21 Ham Exams, St. Ed's 2 PM
- 23 CTDXCC Old Quarry Library 7 PM

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) Newsline | 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 holds its business meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at Luby's at 7:30 PM. There is a fellowship meeting the third Saturday of each month at 11:30 AM at Luby's.

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. 12/7, 1/11/97, 2/8, 3/8, 4/5, 5/10, 6/7.

The AARC sponsors ARRL VEC ham exams at 8:30 AM on the first Saturday of each month at Murchison Middle School. 12/7, 1/11/97, 2/1, 3/1, 4/5, 5/3, 6/14*, 7/12. (* not normal week) Contact Joe Thiel [N5SMN]

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 12/21, 1/18/97, 2/22, 3/29, 4/19, 5/17, 6/21. Contact: Jim Greenwood [AB5EK], 327-6184.

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.

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.

The Travis County RACES net meets on the third Sunday of each month following the 6:30 PM ARES net on the 146.94 MHz repeater.

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 1/28/97*, 4/29, 7/29, 9/30, 12/30. (12/31/96 meeting rescheduled to 1/28/97.)

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. 12/23, 1/27/97, 2/24, 3/24, 4/28, 5/19*, 6/23, 7/28, 8/25. (*Not normal Week) Contact: Ed Linde [K0GEX] 345-3627.

