

AARC OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

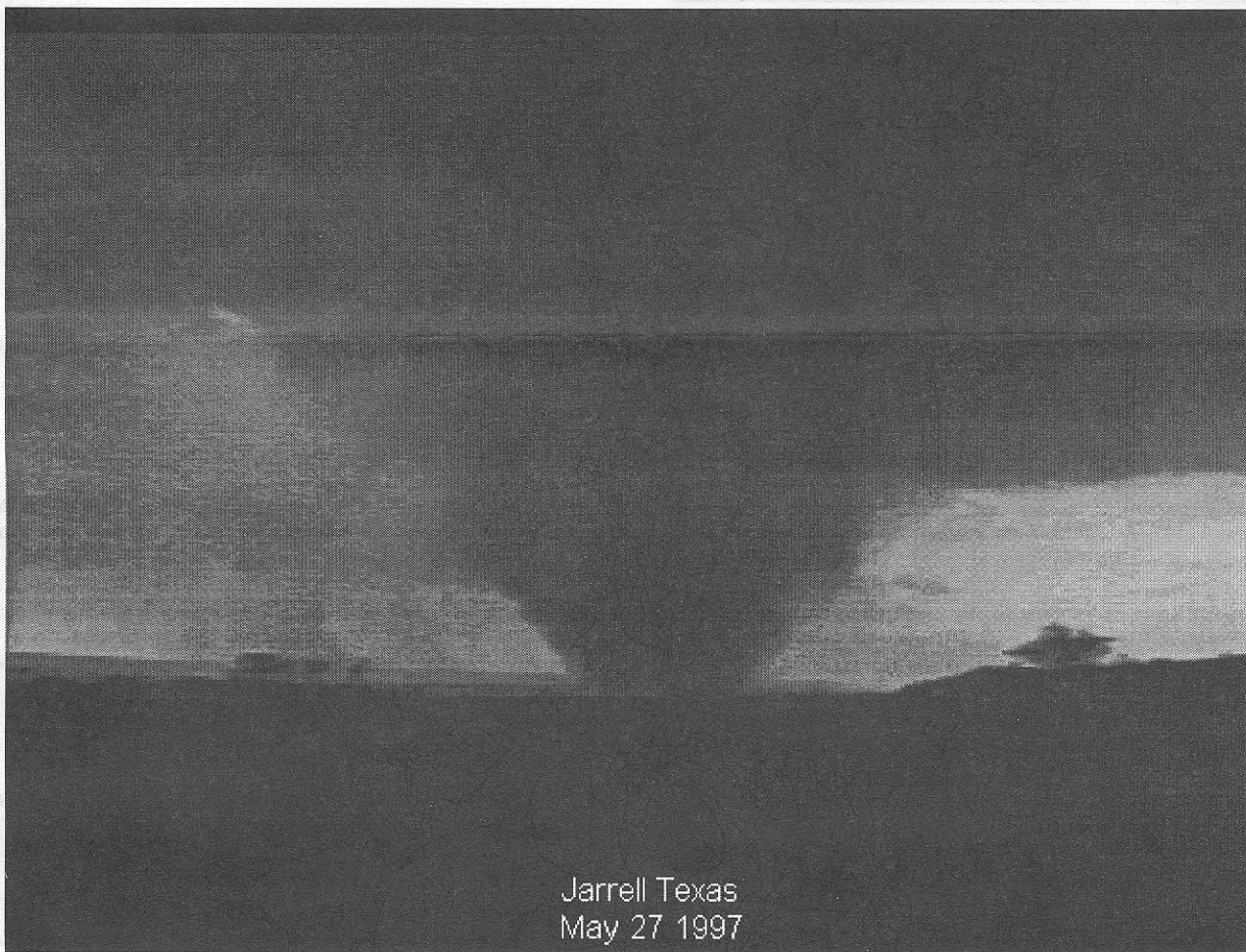
Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

ISSN 1067-0262

July-August 1997

Issue 7/8-97

Emergency communications provided by Amateur Radio Operators saved the day for various emergency services. See story "ARES Activities During Recent Tornado." Photo by William Pitman [KC5NKE].



Jarrell Texas
May 27 1997

ARES Activities During Recent Tornadoes:

William Pitman [KC5NKE] exhibited some pictures of the Jarrell, TX, tornado of which this picture is one.

The ARES operators swung into action providing emergency communications to Red Cross and County personnel. In a number of locations, the "Ham Radio" was the only available communications service because the tornado either destroyed existing communications facilities, or existing commercial communications facilities were over-

Club Information**Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc., P. O. Box 13473, Austin, TX 78711-3473**

President	Gene Van Zelfden	KB5UGO	342-0620	gene@abbapayroll.com
Vice President	(Your Name Here?)			
Treasurer	Mickey McInnis	KB5YAC	339-0344	mcinnis@austin.ibm.com
Secretary	Morgan Palmer	KC5GPG	349-0652	mpalmer@mail.utexas.edu
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Austin Repeater Organization, P. O. Box 4763, Austin, TX 78765

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Director	Keith Watson	WB9KHL	288-9709	watson@apple.com
Director	Fred Neuenschwander	W5FQR	345-2145	
Transmitter Hunt Coordinator	Joseph Peppers	KC5RZU		
Technical (Repeater Contact)	John Dahm	WB5PCV		

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

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Membership dues are \$8.00 per calendar year (\$10.00 for a family). Joint ARO/AARC dues are \$15.00 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 \$8.00 per calendar year. Joint ARO/AARC dues are \$15.00 per year. Family membership is \$10.00 per year.

ARO maintains the following repeaters: 146.88 MHz offset -600 kHz and 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; and 145.01 MHz is the packed 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.

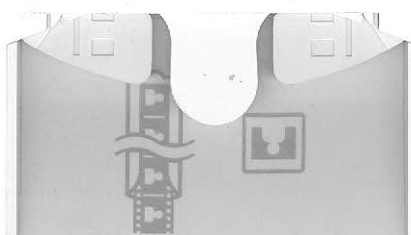
The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches. Press * and dial the phone number to place a call. Do not unkey after the *. When finished, press # to hang up the phone. Dial "911" (no * needed) for emergency services. Please transmit your callsign **before** using the phone patch.

AARC/Over Information

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Viewpoints expressed in the AARC/Over do not necessarily reflect those of any club, or of its members, directors, or officers.

Members and other readers are encouraged to submit material for publication. Mail to Lloyd Crawford at P. O. Box 91058, Austin, TX 78709-1058, or e-mail to n5gdb@texas.net (Internet), 892-3912 voice/voice recorder, or FAX 892-5101. Submissions may be edited for format, style, and suitability. **Deadline for the next issue is the Thursday following the AARC Board 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.



whelmed by the heavy traffic. Cellular phone and normal phone service was quickly jammed by the great number of calls; the hams saved the day. Everyone participating deserves a big "WELL DONE"! Also see ARO minutes PROGRAM section and the "Staying Alert" column for more details.

Summerfest in Austin!

Austin Summerfest is a month away. The details of Summerfest Activities and Swapfest are presented together with the application for tickets which is in this newsletter. Many hams and spouse enjoy the Saturday Night Special Event at "Dance Across Texas" where the food is good, the company is great, and you can dance too! Now is the time to mail the ticket application.

Club Meetings

Austin Repeater Organization
Tuesday, 6 May 1997, 7:30 pm.

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Tuesday, 13 May 1997, 7:30 pm.

Austin Amateur TV Club
Tuesday, 20 May 1997, 7:30 pm.

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

Austin Amateur Radio Club June 1997 Minutes

The Austin Amateur Radio Club held it's monthly meeting June 10, 1997 at Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop. President Gene Van Zelfden [KB5UGO] called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

New Members and Visitors:

The club welcomed 4 visitors. There were no new members.

Minutes:

Minutes of the May 1997 meeting, as published in the AARC/OVER were approved.

Officers' Reports:

Treasurer: Treasurer Mickey McInnis [KB5YAC] was unable to attend the meeting. In his absence, President Van Zelfden reported that there was approximately \$7000 in the club's accounts.

Technical: Neither Director Ed Golla [K3AHS] nor the membership reported any problems with the 146.78 repeater.

Activities: Manager Joan Cox [KD4SRD] urged everyone to come to Field Day.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business:

A member inquired as to when new club rosters would be compiled. The President responded that rosters are usually issued late in the year.

Announcements:

AARC/Over Editor Lloyd Crawford [N5GDB] said there will be a combined July/August issue of the newsletter. Registration forms for Austin Summerfest will be included. Contributions to the combined issue need to be turned in during the month of June.

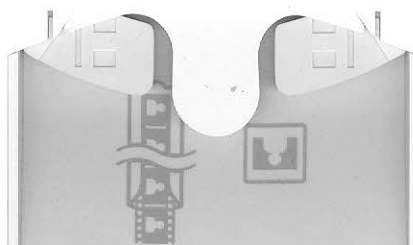
Jerry Henry [KC5MUL] asked for volunteer "hosts" for Field Day. These people are to escort visitors around, explaining the event operations. Hosting shifts will be approximately two to three hours in duration and will be during daylight hours. Jerry can be reached at (512)441-0517.

Joe Canfield [N5HPC] passed around sign-up sheets for voice station operators and loggers.

Bill Montgomery [K5ZSI] also needs operators and loggers for the CW station.

Both Bill and Joe's phone numbers are listed in the June AARC/Over

President Van Zelfden said that there is work for everyone, and urged everyone to participate in this year's effort.



Lansing Pugh [KK5VK] has an address for a Field Day website.

Roger Wines [W5WIA] distributed Field Day posters to the membership as a part of the public information campaign.

Jeff Schmidt [N5MNV] offered for free 20 chargers for Spirit pagers. Also, he distributed a large quantity of Whataburger coupons. He also had some books on TTL and other electronics-related publications. There were a large number of QEX magazines left over from Ham-Com. They were available at the meeting.

Joe Fisher [K5EJL] announced the distribution of Electric source lead-acid batteries. He announced some important information regarding the usage of these units. There were about 20 of these units left after he initial distribution before the club meeting.

Austin Summerfest was promoted at the meeting. It is sponsored by the Texas VHF-FM Society, the AARC, and the ARO. The convention is not meant to make money, but to showcase our hospitality to outside hams. There will be many events for people to help out with. This year's convention will be August 1-3 at the Omni Southpark Hotel. A flea market will run from 6 pm to 9 pm on Friday, then from 8 am from 5 pm on Saturday. It will be held inside the air-conditioned ballroom, with an additional swap area outside. Talk-in will be on 146.94. Due to the downward trend in hamfest attendance, everyone is encouraged to attend and make the event a success.

Hal Henegar [W5MDL], STX section Public Information Coordinator said that we gained a good deal of notoriety after our efforts during the May tornado event. He also made a pitch for more Public Information Officers in the South Texas Section. Even though the number of PIOs has doubled, it is a mere 10 percent of what is needed. He also put forward the idea of placing flyers in magazines in hospital waiting rooms, doctor's offices, etc., in order to make ham radio more visible. He also shared his joke of the month.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Austin Repeater Organization June 1997 Minutes

The meeting was held on June 3, 1997, at Luby's Cafeteria, North Loop, Austin, Texas. ARO President Lansing Pugh [KK5VK], called the meeting to order at 7:36 pm.

Visitors and New Members:

The organization welcomed visitors Chris Engleman [KC5COF] and Thomas Sanchez [no call], son of ARO Vice President Hugo Sanchez [N5JGX].

Minutes:

The minutes for the April and May 1997 meetings were approved as published in the June 1997 ARC/Over ARO Monitor.

Officer Reports:

Treasury - Treasurer Roger Wines [W5WIA] reported an existing balance of \$6,134.44 with additional deposits that will bring the actual balance to \$6,426.44. Stuart Rohre [K5KVH] moved that the ARO pay \$9.59 for the guest speaker's meal. The motion was seconded and approved.

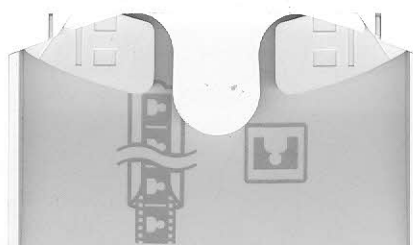
Technical Committee - Jon Dahm [WB5PCV], Chair of the technical committee was absent. Several members commented about various repeaters. Hugo [N5JGX] reported that noise had been a problem on the 220 repeater, but was not aware whether or not corrective action had been taken. Mickey McInnis [KB5YAC] reported that the ID on the 146.94 repeater is wobbly. Stuart Rohre [K5KVH] noted that a second tower had been erected next to the tower currently supporting the 146.88 repeater and that the unit would probably be moved to the new tower in the near future. President Pugh asked for volunteers to assist Jon with the technical committee. Jeff Schmidt [N5MNV] and Tina Kinney [KA5TXK] volunteered. A suggestion was made to provide emergency power to the 146.94 repeater since it was the primary machine for ARES communication in the event of an emergency. Stuart Rohre [K5KVH] suggested that someone go to Joe Fisher's [K5EJL] to get batteries. Leland Kesler [KB0PHC] noted that KVUE had plans to move a backup generator to the site where the 146.94 is located. President Pugh suggested that emergency power should be a priority for the club.

Old Business:

There was no old business.

New Business and Announcements:

Mickey McInnis polled those present on behalf of ARES to determine how many ARES members present had digital pagers, how many had Spirit pagers, and how many pagers worked. He also asked if anyone had a copy of the instructions for pagers. Stuart Rohre [K5KVH] said he would provide Mickey with a copy. Mickey also asked that the transmitter hunt be delayed one week. Transmitter hunt coordinating frequency will remain 146.94 and the "fox"



will be operated at 146.52 unless the group is notified otherwise.

Milton Miller [KB5TKF] reminded everyone of the Amateur Television Club meeting to be held on June 17. He also mentioned that the club will operate a satellite station on field day.

Stuart Rohre [K5KVH] asked anyone interested in side-band operation at field day contact Joe Canfield [N5HPC] or himself at 258-4761.

President Pugh told everyone that Lloyd Crawford [N5GDB] had warned that the cutoff for the July/August 1997 ARC/OVER would be 22 June.

Hugo [N5JGX] announced that News Line needs money to operate and asked the organization to donate \$200.00. A motion to do so was made, seconded and approved by acclamation.

Roger Wines [W5WIA] reported that the Quarter Century Wireless Association had taken over public relations for Field Day. He mentioned that they had circulated releases and that they were working on a 30 second clip to be aired on television as a public service announcement. Roger handed out flyers to be posted around town. Hal Henegar [W5MDL] called for a round of applause in recognition for all Roger and the QCWA is doing to promote Field Day.

The meeting adjourned at 7:03pm.

Program:

Several members reported their participation in emergency operations following the May 1997 tornado disasters in Jarrell, Buttercup Creek and the Pedernales Valley. Presenters included Stuart Rohre [K5KVH], John Meaker [KR4AH], Dave Effland [N5RNE], Milton Miller [KB5TKF], Roger Wines [W5WIA], Bob Morgan [WB5AOH], Frank Edwards [KK5IA], Hugo Sanchez [N5JGX], Merrilyn Vaughan [KC5HMA] and June Parchman [KK5AM]. Hugo played a taped recording of a News Line broadcast praising amateur radio's role in the relief effort. Stuart introduced Chris Engleman [KC5COF] of the American Red Cross who also praised amateur radio operators for their role in providing communications.

STAYING ALERT FOR GOOD PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Under the heading of "Publicity" or some may call it "Public Relations" ... there is an on-going need for ALL Amateur Radio Operators to keep alert to incidents, events,

unusual radio contacts, and other such, that may be published in the media for consumption by the Public.

It is suggested that newspaper-readers are generally more interested in local happenings than in most any sort of big things happening in the far corners of the world. What a local ham radio operator does that ties people together through his station is far more interesting than some far flung dictator doing his thing!

So, as your ARRL STX Section Public Information Coordinator, I hereby request ... even URGE ... you to stay alert to interesting radio contacts or involvement in helping people during emergencies .. and get that story to one of our Public Information Officers (locally they are listed under the heading of "Club Information" in the AARCOVER).

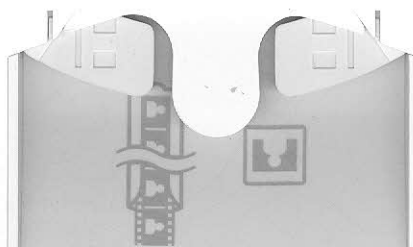
The horrible tornadoes that struck our part of Texas a few days back gave opportunity for local Amateurs to do what they always do ... volunteer their equipment and their time to help PEOPLE. It was fortunate that we were "high profile" this time ... those in "official" positions could not help but take note of what the hams were doing. We made "brownie points" and even media recognized our involvement. However, sometimes it has to be brought to media's attention .. and YOU are the one to do that. Do NOT assume that the right people know about what a ham did ... get the facts and get them to one of the PIOs whose job is to get it to the correct media to publish it. You've heard the expression, "It pays to advertise"? In the case of Amateur Radio involvement in public service .. this is REALLY true! Our cause is advanced when the Newspaper, Radio or TV tells John Q. Public how Amateur Radio came into play when other communications failed .. and how people's lives were saved because of our assistance in getting help when all other "commercial" or "standard" methods failed.

When disaster strikes anywhere in the world, LOCAL people either have relatives or friends in that location. We make "brownie points" when the public reads or hears about how we used our ham radio stations to learn the welfare of loved ones in those places. How does media learn about Amateur Radio involvement? From YOU! Get the word to your local PIO and allow him or her to get it published in the media. It is NOT a requirement that you have an ARRL Appointment to fill this role! YOU are the eyes and ears of ham radio ... TELL us about it when you learn of incidents or events involving hams. Thanks.

Hal Henegar [W5MDL], ARRL STX Section PIC

Announcements/News:

AARS & ARO Dues ID is on Label:



AARC/Over mailing labels now have printed in the upper right corner the year for which dues have been paid. The ARC/Over will no longer be mailed to persons whose dues are not current for 1997. A form for renewal of membership is printed in this newsletter.

Novice/Technician Class Report: by Jeff Schmidt [N5MNV]

Jeff reports that of the 15 students beginning the class, 10 persons completed the class and three have already earned an amateur license.

South Austin W5YI VE Team Session Report

Congratulations to everyone who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at the 19 April 1997 session of the South Austin W5YI VE team:

Daniel W. Alman	Technician
Christopher W. Conn	Technician
Ayman M. Elkhatab	Technician
Edward Gonzalez	Technician
Randall K Kirchoff	Technician
James A. Kuehn	Technician
Betty L. Lutz	Technician
Kenneth W. Parrish KC5SOK	Advanced Class
Stephen B. Sanders	Technician
Brent D. Smith	Technician
Thai V. Thong	Technician
Bruce G. Vostwick	Technician
Gloria M. Weigle	Technician
William L. Weigle	Technician

Five others earned element credit.

Our volunteer examiners were:

Hugh Brown, NT5O; Jeff Deiner, Sr. KK5TO; Bill Montgomery, K5ZSI; Alan Wormser, N5LF; Joe Thiel, N5SMN; Carol Thiel, N5TLY; Jim Greenwood, AB5EK; Emil Kasprzyk, K5JTP; Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5TO; and Sam Stimson, N5WU.

Please note that the question pool for the Novice (element 2) and Technician (Element 3A) exams will change on 1 July. Also, these two exams and the General Class exam (Element 3B) will include five questions covering the RF safety topic. Please check the date of any study guide and use only guides appropriate for the date that you will take these tests.

The next session will be held on 19 July at 2:00 pm in Room 109 of Fleck Hall on the Campus of St. Edward's University. Note that the examination fee for all license examinations during 1997 will be \$6.25. Projected dates are 8/16, 9/20, 10/18, 11/15, and 12/20.

In addition to several web sites, you may also obtain call sign information from the FCC's automated telephone service at 1-888-CALL-FCC. This is a toll-free number.

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

ARRL VEC Team Session Report

The ARRL VEC does not publish the results of ARRL VEC examination sessions which includes the names or identification of individuals.

Contact Joe Thiel, N5SMN, 832-0450 (home), for information concerning the ARRL VEC examination sessions.

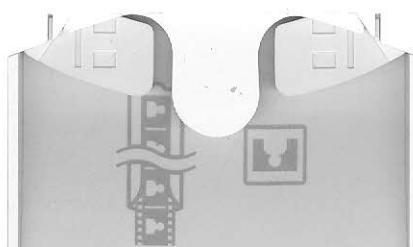
Swapfests for 1997

1-3 August	Austin Summerfest
20 Sept.	Wichita Falls
4 October	Ham Expo '97, Bell Co. Expo Center
1-2 November	Odessa

Calendar

July

- 1 ARO Meeting @ Luby's, 7:30 pm
- 4 ARO Transmitter Hunt, 7:00 pm
- 8 AARC Meeting @ Luby's, 7:30 pm
- 14 ATV Club Meeting @ Luby's, 7:30 pm



Austin Amateur Radio Club
 P. O. Box 13473
 Austin, TX 78711

Austin Repeater Organization
 P. O. Box 4763
 Austin, TX 78765

Circle one: New Renewal

Note: THIS INFORMATION WILL BE PRINTED IN THE CLUB ROSTER

Date: _____

Call(s): _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

(optional)

Home Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

(optional)

Work Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

(optional)

E-mail Address: _____

Circle One: License Class

N = Novice C = Technician T = Technician Plus
 G = General A = Advanced E = Extra

Circle One: ARRL Member?

M = Yes L = Life X = No

Circle One: Dues

AARC/ARO	\$15.00	AARC Individual	\$8.00	ARO Individual	\$8.00
AARC/ARO Family	\$20.00	AARC Family	\$10.00	ARO Family	\$10.00

(NOTE: There is no charge for holding an autopatch autodial number.)

14	AARC Board @ Ryan's	6:30 pm	147.10 MHz
		7:30 pm	147.14 MHz

Periodic Events

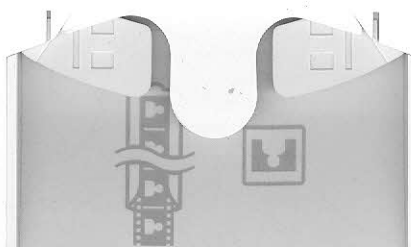
Sun	6:30 pm	Travis ARES net	146.94 MHz
Sun	7:30 pm	ARES Packet	145.73 MHz
Sun	8:00 pm	Williamson ARES	145.13 MHz
Sun	8:30 PM	Travis ARES net	146.78 MHz
Sun	9:00 pm	ARO Swapnet	146.94 MHz
Sun	(After Swapnet)	Newsline	146.94 MHz
Wed	8:30	"Fertilizer Net"	146.94 MHz
Thu	11:30-1:00	Lunch at Holiday House	
Sat	7:00-8:30 AM	Breakfast at Waterloo Ice House, 8600 Burnet Road.	
		Monitor 444.1 MHz	
Sat		CTTN Central Texas Traffic Net,	

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

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

The Austin Amateur Radio Club (AARC) meets on the second Tuesday of each month at Luby's at 7:30 pm. The AARC Board meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm at Texas Rib King, Burnet & Lamar.

The Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA), Chapter 67, holds its business meetings on the third Wednesday of each month at Luby's at 7:30 pm. There is a



448-6431
453-2193

AARC/Over

ARO Monitor

fellowship meeting the third Saturday of each month at 11:30 am at Luby's.

The ARO transmitter hunt occurs at 7:00 pm on the Saturday following the ARO meeting. The hunt frequency is 146.52 with coordination on 146.94. The next projected date is: 7/5.

The AARC sponsors ARRL VEC ham exams at 8:30 am on the first Saturday of each month at Murchison Middle School. Contact Joe Thiel, N5SMN.

Ham exams will be held at 2:00 pm in Fleck Hall, Room 109, St. Edward's University, 3001 South Congress Avenue, on the third Saturday of each month. 327-6184. Contact Jim Greenwood, AB5EK, 327-6184.

The ARO Swapnet is transmitted on Sunday at 9:00 pm on the 146.94 MHz repeater. Newslines, an amateur radio news program, follows the swapnet. 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 on 146.94 MHz and 8:30 pm on 146.78 MHz. A

packet session is held at 7:30 pm on 145.73 MHz (backup: 145.79 mHz) unconnect 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. ARES e-mail address is <http://www.sss.org/~kr4a4/ares>.

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. Projected dates are 7/29, 9/30, 12/30.

Travis Co. REACT meets at the E.O.C. at 8th and Guadalupe, fourth Monday @ 7:30 pm.

The Williamson Co. ARC meets at Georgetown ISD office on Lakeway Drive on the first Thursday @ 7:30 pm.

The Central Texas DX Contest Club (CTDXCC) meets at 7:00 pm at the Old Quarry Library off Far West Blvd. on the 4th Monday of each month. Projected dates are: 7/28, 8/25.

1997
N5OUJ
JAMES W ROBBINS
4805 BENSON WAY RR 2
DEL VALLE TX 78617

Permit No. 2942

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Austin, TX

July-August 1997

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