



AARCOVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

ISSN 1067-0262

April 2003

Issue 04-2003

A Ham-To-Be Kid in the Candy Store

By E.M. Barnes, W5CN

Although Council Bluffs wasn't on the planned itinerary of our family trip that hot summer of 1950, it was close enough at hand that (with my crafty persuasion) we made the stop just for me to visit World Radio Laboratories. Known to all hams as "World Radio" or "WRL," I justifiably told my parents this place was "world famous" and couldn't be passed up. To miss it, would be utterly unthinkable, no way! So, with parental curiosity sufficiently aroused, all were favorably disposed to this excursion, especially since my grandmother knew a particular



E.M. Barnes in front of World Radio Laboratories, 1950

antique store in Council Bluffs.

I can't overemphasize, that to a fourteen-year-old, fantasy-inclined ham-to-be from a small provincial West Texas town, visiting such a place as WRL far surpasses what Disneyland is for today's kids.

It was in the showroom where Leo Meyerson cordially engaged my father and me and treated us to a grand tour of the place. Especially engrossing, were the basement shops where the masterful technicians—at workbenches cluttered with test equipment and wires running everywhere—were doing what seemed like "magic" things to used receivers.

When Leo asked about my ham interests, I proudly boasted, "I can copy over fifteen words per minute, but need

more study on theory before taking the FCC exam..."

Vividly as ever, exalted memories of this occasion still linger for which I suppose there are two reasons: From a young boy's perspective, meeting Leo, WØGFQ in person was tantamount—in my callow and impressionable

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Periodic Events

Sun	6:45 p.m., Bastrop ARES net	145.35-(114.8)/443.75 + MHz
Sun	7:30 p.m., Travis ARES net	147.36 MHz + (131.8)
Sun	8:00 p.m., Travis ARES Packet	145.73 MHz -
Sun	8:00 p.m., Williamson ARES net	145.13 MHz -
Sun	9:00 p.m., ARO Swapnet	146.94 MHz -
Sun	(After Swapnet) Newslines	146.94 MHz -
Mon	6:45 p.m., Hays ARES net	147.10 MHz -
Wed	11:30 a.m.-1p.m., Travis County ARES lunch @ Jim's	
	807 Camino La Costa on I-35 N. Frontage, 452-0450	
Thu	11:30 a.m. - 12:30p.m., lunch, Waterloo Ice House	444.1 MHz+
Sat	7:00 - 8:30a.m., breakfast, Waterloo Ice House, 8600 Burnet	444.1 MHz +
Sat	9:00 a.m., Chapter 67 QCWA QSO Net	3.920 MHz LSB
Daily	CTTN Central Texas Traffic Net, 6:30 p.m.	147.14MHz+

**Important Roster Information
On Page 6!!!**

Club Minutes

ARO Meeting, March 4, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:12pm by President Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV, at the Sirloin Stockade on North Lamar.

Visitors: Ronny Risinger, KC5EES, representing the LBJ High School ARC, Joe, (missed his call), Cary Logan, KD5URO, Shea Brooks, KD5VHE, and Sam Zanosso, no call yet, visited with us.

Monthly Drawing Winner: Betty Wiley, KD5DTC, was present and won the door prize, a ream of colored laser jet printer paper.

Minutes: The February 2003 ARO meeting minutes were approved as written.

Treasury Report: Treasurer Roger Wines, W5WIA, reported that the bank balance was \$4648.27.

Technical Committee: Nothing to report.

Web Site: New icons and better legibility on the site. Amber Alert is coming. Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, suggested that the directors send a letter to the owner of the old Repeater.org site to delete the old information.

Old Business: President Schmidt mentioned that the planning for a new Austin Swapfest is still under way. Looking at sites with adequate parking. Please email Jeff if interested in planning this event.

New Business: None

Ham of the Month: President Schmidt accepted nominations from the membership. Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ, was nominated by Mitch London for his efforts to get the AARCOVER newsletter delivered despite the recent icy weather. All agreed that Smokey deserved the Ham of the Month award.

Equipment Loaner Program: Keith Watson, N9TX, has the club's MFJ259B antenna analyzer. Contact Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ, for signup.

Announcements: Greg Jurrens, WD0ACD, announced that the MS150 bike race needs up to 120 operators over the April 12 & 13 weekend. Contact Mike Lay, N5PTN, to sign up. Ms150aus@texas.net.

Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, announced that the QCWA meeting would be held on the 3rd Saturday of the month at Jim's on I-35 at St John's. This month's program is about the ARCHES project.

Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ, announced that the informal ARES luncheon takes place each Wednesday at Jim's at 11:30am.

Stuart Rohre also mentioned that he had large used binders free to ARES members & others if any are left.

Jeff Schmidt reminded all that the Capitol 10K is Sunday, March 30, and that volunteers are still needed. He said that the after race party will be at Jalisco's. Contact Mike Pendley to sign up. Michael.pendley@sematech.org.

Activities: Jeff Schmidt mentioned numerous swapfests that are coming up in the next few months.

Roger Wines announced that he is coordinating orders for scanners from Bearkat. He had information on the newest scanners that can monitor the new trunked systems used by the local police agencies. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm.

Program: The March program was presented by Greg Jurrens, WD0ACD. Greg provided a brief history of the Texas VHF-FM Society and gave an update on recent changes. The Texas VHF-FM Society has about 600 members. It is responsible for frequency coordination, band planning, conflict resolution, lobbying with the FCC, and technology exchange. Greg went over the procedure for applying for a repeater frequency. He also discussed the coordination with adjacent states and Mexico.

A major change that recently came about is that tighter repeater spacing is now permitted. On VHF, the 20KHz spacing will now become 10KHz, and new distance rules apply. On UHF, the 25KHz spacing becomes 12.KHz, also with new distance rules. Contact the society by visiting their web site, www.txvhffm.org, for more information.

Submitted by John Suchyta, KG5O

ARO Secretary

Austin Amateur Radio Club, March 11, 2003

The monthly meeting of the Austin Amateur Radio Club was held March 11th, 2003 at Sirloin Stockade, Koenig & Lamar, Austin, Texas. Club President John Suchyta, KG5O, called the meeting to order at 7:08pm.

Monthly Prize Winner

The monthly prize, a set of precision screwdrivers was won by:

Visitors and New Members

Francis KA2IBK	Eric KD5VMY
Roger (No Call)	Steve KD5VGU
	Mary (No Call)

Approval of the Minutes: Jeff Schmidt moved that the minutes of the last meeting be approved. The motion was seconded and approved.

Officer Reports:

President - John Suchyta, KG5O

John announced that the club is seriously pursuing 501(c)3 status with the Internal Revenue Service. John also announced that committees are being formed for Field Day and any interested volunteers should let him know so that they can help formulate plans for AARC's effort.

Vice President - Mitch London, KD5HCV

Mitch announced the continuing need for speakers and topics for the AARC programs. If you have a suggestion or are willing to give a presentation, please contact Mitch London, KD5HCV.

Treasurer - Roger Wines, W5WIA0

Balance in the club treasury as of Feb 28, 2003 is \$1808.77

Activities Manager . Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

Stuart announced that he is working on analyzing the surveys of club member's interests. If you have any input, please talk to Stuart.

Technical Committee (Ed Golla, K3AHS)

There were no issues reported with the 146.78 repeater.

Old Business-No Old Business

New Business-No New Business

Announcements: Mitch London, KD5HCV, the club newsletter editor, announced that anyone interested in writing an article for the AARC-Over should seriously consider doing so.

Adjournment- The meeting was adjourned at 7:31

Program: Lew Thompson, W5IFQ, gave an excellent presentation about HF digital modes and some of the more interesting ways they are being used today. One of the more interesting is a system that provides Internet e-mail for vessel at sea by way of amateur links in several locations around the world.

The Lowly CPO

Rick Herndon, K5FNI

In recent years, with the reduction in required speed for passing the Morse code part of the ham exams and the abandonment of the mode in many corners of the radio community, Morse code has become...well, neglected. I've received a number of requests for good programs to work with modern computers, sources for inexpensive code keys, and reasonable oscillators to use to practice code. This article deals only with the last of the three. I've been stymied so far on trying to find the first two.

The price of commercially assembled oscillators is what drove me to look for something beginners could build themselves. I believe \$30-\$50 is FAR too much to pay for a simple oscillator.

My requirements for a code oscillator are not very many, but they are certainly more demanding than lots of designers care to encompass. I like for my oscillators to:

- Have no key clicks
- Have sufficient audio with a gain control for the transducer and audience being served...that can be two pair of headphones to a speaker serving a whole room full of people.
- Have variable audio frequency over at least 400-1000 Hz to enable folks who have hearing problems to pick the frequency they like best for their practice. (Hey, that's what you do while tuning in CW, isn't it? You pick what sounds best to you.)
- Be easy to build
- Work on flexible power supply voltages

I don't feel that collection of wants is too much to handle. I decided to see what's out on the Web, so I chose a popular Web search engine and examined the most likely results. These were all gleaned from a <http://www.google.com> search with the Locate window containing:

+"practice oscillator" +schematic

I've given each a quick judgment call and description. I have not yet built them, but I offer them for your perusal and USE in learning, improving your skills, and having fun with Morse code. (Please send me an email at my call sign at arrl.org, if you find this article useful.)

-This one uses 7 parts, an integrated circuit from Radio Shack, 9-v battery, speaker, and a key. I don't recommend purchasing it, because it is too expensive. Get your feet wet and BUILD SOMETHING. It doesn't have to be this one, but look at these examples and pick up the parts and hook them together.

<http://electronicsusa.com/o-2schematic.html>

-The next one lets you use your Dremel tool and a chunk of scrap, blank, double-sided PC board material. It can also help you get your feet wet with using modern, micro-miniature circuit components.

<http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/pdf/0102039.pdf>

-This collection may have something you want: <http://members.aol.com/n1np/oscillator.html>

-This one also includes a simple keyer circuit: <http://www.qrp.pops.net/multivibrator.htm>

-Another simple 555 circuit: <http://www.eki.com/MCISample1.pdf>

-This one is set up to allow Technician class licensees to practice code over the air! It has connection suggestions for transmitter audio input. [It also reminds you to get permission before you use an individual's or club's repeater for Morse code practice.]

<http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/2775/simplmcw.html>

-This page has a bunch of Australian fun circuits and alarms, including a CPO: <http://www.commlinx.com.au/schematics.htm>

Another collection of circuits: <http://www.discovercircuits.com/S/signgen.htm>

555 timer IC tutorial...includes CPO: <http://www.uoguelph.ca/~antoon/gadgets/555/555.html>

-Links to lots of project schematics + CPO, brought to you by Mouser Electronics: <http://www.mouser25.com/links.shtml>

Over the Radio WWWaves...

Collected by Mitch London, KD5HCV

[If you see something of interest in your browsing, please send it in for use in this (almost) monthly section]
Ten-Tec *Orion* HF Transceiver, the best thing since sliced bread??? <http://www.doug-smith.net/orion.htm>

What's all this about APRS anyway? [Find out!](#)

APRS History: <http://aprs.rutgers.edu/APRShist.htm>

APRS Links: <http://www.aprs.net/vm/links.htm>

TAPR Info: <http://www.tapr.org/tapr/html/Faprspresent.html>

Remote controlled radios in the 1930's??? Check this out! <http://www.antiqueradios.com/tunemaster.shtml>

(Continued from page 1) *Kid in a Candy Store*

mind—to meeting a radio guru like Signor Marconi himself. Besides, up to that moment, I had never beheld so much ham radio gear in one place and at one time, except in catalogs. More dazzled than a kid in a candy store, it outshined the Land of Oz.

Moreover, so momentous was this happening, we dared not depart Council Bluffs without first taking my picture (with my Brownie-620) standing in front of that store window, complete with the immense sign in the background clearly proclaiming: WORLD RADIO LABORATORIES!™ Having tangible proof that I'd really been there—with which to confront skeptics I might encounter back home—was as crucial to me as tourists' snapshots are to them on their return from the Eiffel Tower or the Taj Mahal.

Not too long afterward, when I was ready to take the Class C test, the Novice Program was introduced. Soon becoming WN5TGV, and nine months later W5TGV (General Class!). It wasn't until 1976 that I got my present call, W5CN.

Special SSC Note

John Suchyta, KG5O

Last month I reported that the Austin Amateur Radio Club was renewed as a Special Service Club by the ARRL. Many of the activities that we do as a club are counted in the ARRL's consideration of the award. One of the significant activities that I failed to mention is the AARC sponsored ARRL Volunteer Examiner Program. Austin's ARRL VE's have provided examinations on a monthly basis for many years. Over 20 Extra Class examiners are utilized in rotation throughout the year to cover the twelve test sessions. There are no less than 14 man-hours of time spent on-site for each test session with the additional travel time & expense for at least six examiners for each session. More time is spent auditing the paperwork and mailing off the session papers to ARRL. The results of each session are then posted each month in the AARCOVER. (I'm sure you look over the names of new and upgraded hams each month. Check out the names of the examiners while you're at it.) These dedicated hams are all volunteers and do this service because it is necessary to maintaining the integrity of the Amateur Radio Service licensing program that we voluntarily support the FCC with through the ARRL/VEC.

So, you can see that the AARC is not just a dinner club. Many service tasks go into making this an outstanding amateur radio club. If you're asked to volunteer, please consider helping with one or 2 of our service projects each year.

Ham Radio Volunteer Exam Results

ARRL VEC – MARCH 1, 2003

The following is a summary of the ARRL VE test session held at Murchison Middle School.

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Sergio A. Cantu Theodore M. Corly (Tech +)
Eric C. Opiela Michael D. Peppers

Extra Class -Written Element Only Processed

William J. Tracey, KD5TFD

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Larry GunterWB5BEK Gene Hinkle K5PA
Joe MakeeverHS Scott McCreightN5ZL
Tom NevueW2MN Herb Nolen W5HMN
George ShamblinCSH Joe Thiel N5SMN

W5YI VEC - March 15, 2003

The March 15th session resulted in the following license applications being processed:

Extra Class

Robert N. Crossman, III, KC5ATX

General Class

Robert W. Heard, W5SJY

Technician Class – all new licensees

Cherie D. Barnes - Paul S. Kinney - Roger E. Nash

Our volunteer examiners were:

Hugh Brown, NT5O Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH
John Fisher, K5JHF Sam Mihalik, KM5MY
Lloyd Goehring, N5TO Roger Pfluger, AC5IP
Jim Greenwood, AB5EK Carol Thiel, N5TLY
Rick Trommer, W5RHT

W5YI-VEC – 2/18/2003 (Special Session)

The February 18th special session held at the Sirloin Stockade restaurant resulted in the following license applications being processed:

Technician Class – all new licensees

Shea L. Brooks Michael A. Meador

Our volunteer examiners were:

Jim Greenwood, AB5EK Carol Thiel, N5TLY
Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Exam fee is now \$12.00.

**Please bring two forms of
Identification plus your social
security number.**

**Sessions are accessible to
handicapped applicants.**

No pre-registration is required.

Walk-ins are welcomed.

Smokey's Korner

Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ

It occurred to me the other day while watching a family dining out, that the whole family needed to work on their etiquette. The woman was ignoring her children (two), the husband was ignoring his wife by reading the newspaper (the honeymoon is over). The kids were trying to get their parents attention by misbehaving. The little boy was running around an adjacent table, and the little girl was climbing on top of a nearby table. If they don't respect each other, how can they expect people to respect them?

On any FM repeater we should observe a basic set of rules that could be compared as proper etiquette. When we hear someone trying to get into a QSO, do we know that they don't have an emergency? As soon as someone hears another station, we should stand by for them. It should also be the responsibility of the breaking station to immediately respond when recognized. The breaking station should also be prepared to contribute something to the QSO, or let the parties involved know you are just listening.

When more than two people are in QSO, revert to procedures as in a controlled net. If you want to join the QSO, push the PTT and say "this is " then let up on the PTT. If nobody is talking, continue with your call and what you want to say. I have noticed a few people are already using this method with great success. Try to standby if the person talking is not talking to the whole group, but rather to an individual. When that transmission has been satisfied, and no further response is needed, say "this is "and release PTT. If nobody is talking give your call and proceed. Nobody is quicker on the trigger than I am. I don't profess to know more than anyone else, but as good as we the users of our repeaters are, we can and should improve. If you would, critique a few minutes of a QSO with more than two people using the repeater and see how the QSO could have been improved. I sincerely hope that this article is taken in the spirit in which it was intended. Most, if not all the repeaters in the Austin Area, are considered to be very friendly, and for that I am proud. Isn't it great to live here and be a part of the Amateur Community? See you next month.

Ham Volunteers Appreciated at Motorola Marathon

John Suchyta, KG5O

The Motorola Marathon was a success despite the cold weather on Sunday morning, February 16. A record 8,623 runners finished the marathon, half marathon, and relays. More than 2,000 volunteers were on the course. About 30 hams and several non-hams helped make the transportation system the top strength of the marathon.

The Motorola Marathon has used amateur radio operators for over five years now to help manage the transportation of runners. The operators ride on the buses, which are equipped with an APRS (Automatic Position Reporting System) package. (More on APRS later.) The buses (and the lead vehicle) are tracked by APRS, and the control station can ensure that buses will be where they're needed so that tired runners do not have to wait. The

Motorola's marathon is one of the few in the country that provide full transportation services. Hams are instrumental in directing the bus drivers to the appropriate stop and advising them of special road conditions.

With the record number of registrations this year we had more buses than radio operator volunteers. We decided to use business band radios in addition to amateur VHF radios so that hams and non-hams could communicate through net control. While there were pro's and con's with this arrangement, it was interesting that the hams used proper net control protocol even on the business band machines. The non-hams picked this up and sounded just like us, using tactical calls (Bus 12) instead of ham calls. The APRS system consists of a Global Positioning System (GPS), a Terminal Node Controller (TNC), and a radio. Most of the APRS systems were supplied by Motorola and the rest were supplied by local hams. Now, don't think that Motorola designed and built these systems. Instead, these systems were all designed and built by hams. With the lucky donation of surplus GPS evaluation boards several years ago, several hams developed a compatible TNC, and the company purchased amateur VHF radios. We then crafted a custom housing out of surplus ammo boxes so that the entire system was protected.

The runners really appreciated the efforts of the transportation team. While we didn't provide the buses, we did provide a significant service to these runners. Many were impressed by our equipment, our dedication, and our professionalism. Thanks to all who helped make the 2003 marathon transportation the best ever!

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc., PO BOX 4739, AUSTIN TX 78765-4739, Web site: <http://www.austinhams.org>

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Technical (Repeater Contact)	Jon Dahm	WB5PCV	328-6662	jon.dahm@motorola.com

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

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and The Austin Repeater Organization have combined membership dues of \$20.00/calendar year (\$30.00 family to the same address)

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. AARC maintains a repeater with an 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 this autopatch.

The Austin Repeater Organization ARO maintains the following repeaters: 146.88MHz (-600) with autopatch; 146.94 MHz (-600) used for Weather Net when called, and Travis County ARES. It is also used for Swapnet and Newsline @ 9p.m. Sunday; 224.80 MHz (-1.600); 444.10 MHz (+5); & 145.01 MHz 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 this autopatch. **The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches.** Please transmit your call **before** using the phone patch. 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.

AACOVER Information

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Members and other readers are encouraged to submit material for publication. Call Mitch London, if mailed submissions are required. Electronic files are encouraged! Submissions may be edited for publication. **Deadline is the 15th of the month.** Material may be used in a later issue. Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to reprint AACOVER articles, provided you credit the author and the AACOVER.

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Thanks to Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ, and his wife, Betty Wiley, KD5DTC, who mail the AACOVER each month!

**For Changes in your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or CALL SIGN:
See Roger Wines, W5WIA (512) 453-2193 w5wia@arrl.net**

Roger handles all changes for AACOVER mailing labels and membership information and roster questions.

Roster Information

Roger Wines, W5WIA

About this time of year, we prepare an updated roster to be sent to all registered members. Throughout the year we each make changes to our address, telephone numbers, e-mail address, call sign, and other information that will be printed wrong in the upcoming roster IF YOU haven't submitted the changes to the keeper of the data base - ME. That's W5WIA (Roger) and contact information is throughout this publication. If it's wrong, it's only because you haven't let me know of the change needed.

New Members

Newcomers are the blood in our veins, they are what keep us alive and well. Now that you are members, the next step is to get involved. There's a lot of need for your help in many areas. Let's all welcome the new kids to the block.

KD5TIL	Ron Black	Pflugerville
KD5VHE	Shea Brooks	Austin
KD5URO	Cary Logan	Pflugerville
KD5VGO	Michael von Wupperfeld	Austin

Will Ham Radio Be Shut Down if War is Declared?

(from ARRL website, forwarded by Lee Cooper, W5LHC)

Some amateurs have been wondering if the FCC will shut down Amateur Radio in the event that war breaks out in the Middle East. The short answer is, "no"!

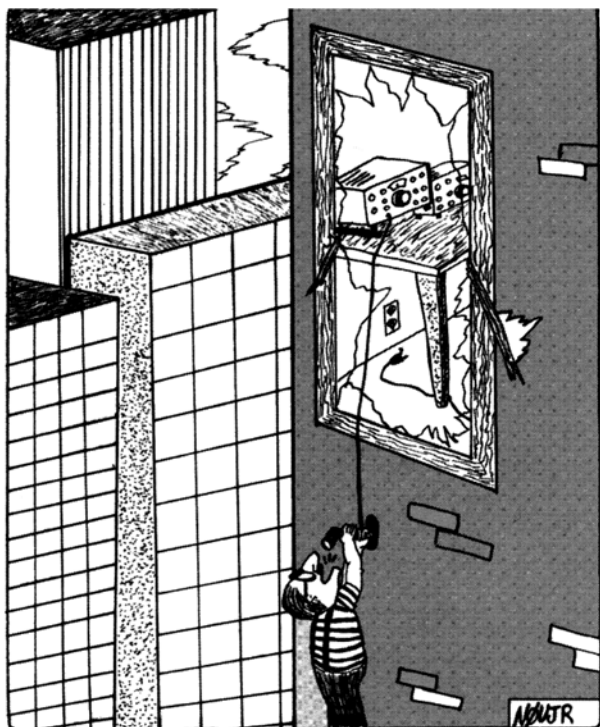
Just prior to the Gulf War, subsection 214.4(b)(4) of Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations was deleted. This section had mandated the closing of all Amateur Radio stations except Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) stations in the event that the president proclaimed a war or national emergency. The last time Amateur Radio was shut down was during World War II, although the FCC continued to give Amateur Radio examinations.

While the Amateur Radio Service will not actually be shut down if the president invokes the War Powers Act, Amateur Radio licenses must continue to observe any directives the FCC may issue in the interests of national security and making spectrum available for government use.

The FCC is directed to work in cooperation with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, (NTIA) to issue "appropriate rules, regulations, orders and instructions" for use of the spectrum "as may be necessary to ensure the effective use of those portions of the radio spectrum shared by government and non-government users." Amateurs share most UHF allocations with the U.S. government.

NØUJR and His Friends

By Greg Trook, NØUJR



"Sorry about the noise...I tripped...anyway, The name here is Roy, and I am located near Downtown Chicago. I have been a ham now For 20 years and..."

QCWA's April Meeting

Keith Zimmermann, K5WX

The April meeting of QCWA Chapter 67 will be held on Saturday, April 19th, at the Jim's Restaurant on North I35 just past the Red Lion Hotel and the Owen's Restaurant. Meeting starts at 11:30.

Our March meeting was a demonstration by W3NJ of the ARCHES packet radio emergency system and the jump-kit. The ARCHES (Amateur Radio Communications Hospital Emergency System) provides a means of communicating to the Emergency Operations Center and to other. The March meeting was also the Chapter's Election Meeting. The following persons have been elected:

President: Milt Cram, W8NUE
Vice President: Bil Henson, WB5SYS
Secretary: Keith Zimmermann, K5WX
Treasurer: Roger Wines, W5WIA
Directors: Hal Henegar, W5MDL & Keith Zimmermann, K5WX

Everyone is welcome to join us on April 19th. For full membership in QCWA, you only have to have been licensed prior to 1978. You do **NOT** have to have been continuously licensed since 1978.

Information is always available at our own Web site: www.QCWA.net. There is an Austin QCWA e-mail reflector at Yahoo Groups under AQCWA. Or, just call Keith, K5WX, at 258-7169 or e-mail to K5WX@QCWA.net if you have questions. (Every member is eligible for a special e-mail address linked to their permanent address!)



New Meeting Place!!!

Sirloin Stockade on Lamar just S. of Koenig Ln.

ARO Speaker — April 1

John Fisher, K5JHF will give us a look at microprocessors and which chips work well, what they can do, and how to get started making custom PC boards/circuits and writing the software.

AARC Speaker — April 8

Tom Nevue, W2MN, of the 3M Amateur Radio Club, will talk about the 3M club, their radios, antennas and more.

Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- April 5th & May 3rd - 9a.m. at Murchison Middle School - Take Far West Blvd. From MoPac (Loop 1) west to Hart Ln. (turn left). Then right on North Hills Dr. Enter school from South (North Hills Dr.) entrance. Contact Joe Makeever, W5HS (345-0800) or Joe Thiel, N5SMN (832-0450) for information. \$12 examination fee.

W5YI VEC- April 19th-May 17th 2p.m. in room 109, Fleck Hall, St. Edwards University. Contact Jim Greenwood, AB5EK@arrl.net, (327-6184), <http://texasparadise.com/w5yi-austin> for more information. \$12 exam fee.

If you're not an ARRL member and are considering it, AARC/ARO will apply \$15 towards your 2003 AARC/ARO club dues if you sign up for first-time ARRL membership through the club! Take advantage of 2003 ARRL signup, join ARRL and AARC/ARO simultaneously! Single: \$44, Family: \$54 Contact Don AC5YK@arrl.net or Roger W5WIA@arrl.net for more details.

Missed an Issue???

Text (only) version of this issue can be found on the Web at <http://www.austinhams.org> where you will also find a new section called **AARCOVERFLOW**. It is there to put in news and articles that just missed the AARCOVER deadline. Check it out!

Calendar of Events

Swapfests, etc. for 2003

Apr 5 Belton Ham Expo - Mike LeFan, WA5EQQ
(254)773-3590 hamexpo@tarc.org Register on the website!
www.tarc.org

Apr 12-13 MS 150 Houston-Austin Bike ride www.ms150.org
Austin Coordinator- Mike Lay, N5PTN ms150aus@texas.net
Houston Coordinator- Mike Hardwick, N5VCX
mhardwick@worldnet.att.net

May 3-4 Key City ARC West Texas Section Convention
Peggy Richard, KA4UPA 915-672-8889 ka4upa@arrl.net

Apr	May	Austin Meetings/Happenings	
1	6	ARO Meeting, Sirloin Stockade (SS)*	7:00p.m.
12	10	ARO Transmitter Hunt	7:00 p.m.
12	10	Austin QRP Club, SS *	11:30 a.m.
8	13	AARC Meeting, SS *	7:00 p.m.
15	21	ATV Club Meeting, SS *	7:00 p.m.
19	17	QCWA Meeting, Jim's Restaurant on I-35	11:30 a.m.
19	24	Informal Transmitter Hunt - Contact Milton Miller	
28	26	Travis County REACT SS? *	7:00 p.m.
29	No	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud.	7:00 p.m.

*All these organization meet at the back room of Sirloin Stockade, at the corner of Lamar Blvd. & Koenig Ln. Visitors are welcome whether they are licensed hams or not. Other meetings or activities are listed under the headings for Calendar and for Periodic Events.

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