

# AARCOVER

## Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club  
Austin Amateur Television Club  
Austin Repeater Organization

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Issue 07-2003

### Ramblings from the ARO Vice President

Rick Kirchhof, KD5ABM

Tell me what you want to see for programs. As VP, I schedule the presentations and would like to give you things you want to see. Please let me know of any ideas you have for ARO presentations.

When is the last time you picked up a soldering iron? Have you made enough coax jumpers, power cords and spare fuse kits so you could lay your hands on them right NOW? If not, you are not ready if an emergency occurs.

Are you interested in building kits, ham shack projects or even your own radio? Depending on your interests, the Road Runners Microwave group, the Austin QRP group or the Austin ATV group all know how to "melt solder". Your lowly sound card has replaced scads of special and expensive equipment. Hook up with these groups or others to see how any computer can add to the ham shack.

Are you interested in learning about digital modes using FM? Is APRS for you? What equipment and soft-

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### Special Guests Slated for Summerfest

By Mitch London, KD5HCV

August is just around the corner and with it comes the Austin Summerfest. This event is more than just a Swapmeet; it also offers information about Packet Radio, Emergency Communications, Weather and more.

The Red Lion Hotel at IH-35 & US 290 is the site for Austin Summerfest 2003 on August 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>. Among the excitement of the Swapmeet itself, there will be a number of special guests present. ARRL President, Jim Haynie, W5JBP, West Gulf Division Director Coy Day, N5OK, Vice Director David Woolweaver, K5RAV along with North, South and West Texas Section Managers, will be there for you to meet.

Don't miss your chance to get bargains on new and used equipment. Who knows, you may find that one item that has eluded your collection for the longest time. There will be door prizes every half hour and at the conclusion of the event there will be a drawing for the grand prize: an all band transceiver!

Austin Summerfest happens Friday August 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday August 2<sup>nd</sup>. For registration use the flyer in the AARCOVER or point your Internet browser to <http://www.austinsummerfest.org> and download the form.

For more info. Contact Joe Makeever at [w5hs@arrl.net](mailto:w5hs@arrl.net).

### 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) Newsline	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	
	183 & Burnet Rd. 837-1119	
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+

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## Proposed Bylaw Changes

For some time, it has been difficult to recruit enough club officers for positions as outlined in the 1979 AARC bylaws as amended to present. De facto, activities have been handled by a committee of the Administrative Officers, Pres., Vice Pres., Sec. and Treas. and the club station trustee, and past Pres. and volunteers acting as committees most years. (As we move toward 501c3 incorporation, it seems appropriate to bring the club's list of officers into line with typical corporation officers, i.e. elected President, Vice President, Sec., and Treas. The Club station trustee has also been the registered agent, since we have to maintain a mailing address with FCC and State. However, he is not named Trustee in present by laws. Here we add him to Executive Committee to fix the oversight.) Also, committees for each event more easily handle activities. These amendments are presented to address those concerns. The function of electing and appointing the Scholarship Board has not been timely accomplished for some years, and the annual Scholarship selection has slipped well into April. It is desirable to have the scholarships recipients selected in March, to allow secondary school commencements to timely have the list of recipients for recognition in May assemblies and commencement. These concerns will be addressed by establishing datelines for Scholarship Application, board member election/appointment, and meetings to vote on applicants in line with earlier club officer elections we have planned as outlined below. There is also a desire to align AARC election of officers with that of ARO, so that the business year of the organizations may coincide.

Based upon the 1979 Bylaws of The Austin Amateur Radio Club Inc. A Non Profit Corp.

Adopted Nov. 14, 1979 and amended since: (proposed changes in quotes and/or capitals):

Art. 1.02.AGENT. "The registered Agent shall be a general member of the Club and the FCC club stations Trustee (licensed with full amateur privileges)." (Remainder the same, trustee serves at pleasure of the officers who make up the Board.) (The club station trustee has always been the Registered Agent, so that government notices always go to a "good" address.) (Individual addressee required by FCC, and meets state corporate registered agent requirements).

### ARTICLE III MEETINGS AND MEMBERS

3.01.ANNUAL MEETING. "The Club shall hold an annual Business Meeting to elect officers in NOVEMBER, .... "Notice of this meeting shall be posted to all members by the regular club bulletin the previous month" (removes U.S. mail only, thus allowing electronic notifications as well, and rather than set days, sets the month before). Moves officer election to Nov. aligning with ARO yearly elections of Directors, and appointment of ARO officers. Thus, officer elections do not intrude upon annual Banquet of AARC.

3.02."IF the meeting time or place is changed, notice of the change shall be placed in the club regular bulletin the previous

month and other appropriate venues." (Allows use of repeaters and web pages as well as news bulletin)

3.03.SPECIAL MEETINGS "...upon notice in the previous monthly bulletin and by electronic means."

3.05.NOTICE "...,posted in the U.S. mail and or by electronic publication, may suffice..." (Enables web and repeater notices of special meetings.)


### ARTICLE IV

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

4.01.GENERAL POWERS. "...managed by its Board of Directors who shall constitute the Executive Committee along with the Trustee, and Past Presidents." (Defines executive committee as used else where) (The station trustee always has sat on officer meetings along with past President.) (Also encourages past presidents to remain actively involved in club direction).

4.02."...number of Directors shall be FOUR, who shall be the President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer." (Deletes Activities Manager, to be replaced by various activity committees and chairs, thus involving more members in activity planning). (Brings club corporate officers in line with Texas Corp. law, and 501c3 needs for four officers acting as corporation

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**Coming in November!!!**  
**For details visit:**  
<http://www.austinhams.org/swapfest.html>

*(Continued from page 1)*

ware is needed? The ARCHES project would be happy for you to be a guest operator for either voice or packet at one of the Austin hospitals. Classes are scheduled for both entry-level packet and ARCHES operations. See <http://www.tcares.org/> for details.

Do you sit on your hands when volunteers are requested? This is both uncomfortable and it makes your brain flabby. DO SOMETHING. Our hobby is so wide that you can never claim to have "done it all". It is also rapidly changing. The dusty equipment you have on the shelf may not be ready to use or your might not remember how. Where is that cord?.... Become a participant. Meals with friends are great but talking with them about your common projects is better still.

See you on the air. kd5abm@arri.net  
73 de KD5ABM

## Club Minutes

### ARO Meeting, June 3, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:25pm by President Jeff Schmidt, N5MNN, at the Sirloin Stockade on North Lamar.

**Visitors:** New member Jerry Jackson, N5UJ, and David West, no call, visited with us. N5UJ just moved back into town. He was a past president of AARC.

**Monthly Drawing Winner:** Glen Reid, K5FX, if present, would have won the door prize. Joe Fisher, K5EJL, was present and won the door prize, a picture frame from the Dayton Hamvention and a Yaesu gimme cap.

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

**Treasury Report:** Treasurer Roger Wines, W5WIA, reported that the bank balance was \$4935.59. Roger mentioned that Kelly Mitchell, KD5RQX, has volunteered to help out with the treasurers duties.

**Technical Committee:** Nothing to report.

**Old Business:** The noise committee, headed by Stu Rohre, K5KVH, presented 2 options for the club's intent of buying a noise tracking device. The committee is still studying the proposals. Brad Rehm, KV5V, commented that he can locate noise sources easily with his FT814 and a 430MHz Yagi antenna.

**New Business:** Nothing to report.

**Web Site:** Nothing to report.

**Austin Radio Roundup:** Jeff Schmidt gave a brief update.

**Ham of the Month:** President Schmidt nominated John Suchyta, KG5O, as Ham of the Month for filling in as SwapNet net control for the three weeks he was gone. All agreed.

**Equipment Loaner Program:** The club's MFJ259B antenna analyzer is available. Contact Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ, to reserve equipment and make suggestions for new equipment.

**Announcements:** Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, announced that the QRP SIG meeting on the second Saturday, June 14.

Stuart also gave an update on radio equipment and antennas that will be available at the club's Field Day site. We are still looking for operators to setup and work the stations. We still need a 2m all-mode radio and a VHF beam.

Lori Schmidt mentioned that today is the cutoff to order Field Day 2003 t-shirts and pins.

Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ, announced that the QCWA meeting will be held on the third Saturday at 11:30am at Bevo's (formerly Jim's on I-35).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

**Program:** The June program was "Meet the Clubs", organized by Rick Kirchhof, KD5ABM. Representatives from local clubs

presented pertinent information about their purpose and activities. See the accompanying article in the AARCOVER on page 4 for details.

Submitted by John Suchyta, KG5O

ARO Secretary

### Austin Amateur Radio Club

The monthly meeting of the Austin Amateur Radio Club was held on June 10th, 2003 at Sirloin Stockade, Koenig & Lamar, Austin, Texas. Club President John Suchyta, KG5O, called the meeting to order at 7:13 PM

**Monthly Prize Winner:** This month there were three prizes for the monthly winners. Rick Kirchhof, KD5ABM, won "A Pictorial Journey Through 75 Years of Amateur Radio," an ARRL book. Joe Canfield, N5HPC, won a bag of cable ties.

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

#### Officer Reports:

**President** - John Suchyta, KG5O

**Vice President** - Mitch London, KD5HCV - Mitch reminded the assemblage of the ongoing need for interesting and informative topics and speakers for the AARC monthly programs. If you have a suggestion for a topic or have something of interest to present, please contact Mitch London, KD5HCV

**Treasurer** - Roger Wines, W5WIA - Balance in the club treasury as of May 31, 2003 is \$645.37 as announced by John Suchyta, the president.

**Activities Manager** . Stuart Rohre, K5KVH - Stuart is heading up the Field Day effort and postponed his announcements until the presentation.

**Technical Committee** (Ed Golla, K3AHS) - There were no issues reported with the 146.78 repeater.

**Old Business:** Stuart Rohre moved that the discussion of the by-laws be postponed until after Field Day. The motion was seconded and approved.

**New Business:** No New Business

#### Announcements:

Rick Herndon, K5FNI, announced plans by the Bastrop Amateur Radio Club to do Field Day this year. Rick also announced that the BARC 2-M repeater has been upgraded and should have a greater range for the Sunday Night ARES net. Bastrop County ARES Nets are held on Sunday Evenings at 6:45 on 145.35 (-, 114.8 tone) and 443.75 (+, 114.8 tone).

Mitch London, KD5HCV, is the newsletter editor and needs articles of local interest for the AARCOVER, the club publication. If you have an item of interest, please write an article and you, too, can see your name in print.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM

**Program:** Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, gave an overview of the Club's Field Day Plans.

## Meet the Clubs 2003

### John Suchyta, KG5O

The following information is a summary of the presentations given by local amateur radio clubs and organizations at the June ARO meeting.

1. Austin Repeater Organization, Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW, president. Web site AustinHams.org. ARO operates the 146.94 repeater, as well as, 146.88 (auto patch), 224.8, and 444.1 repeaters. The club also has a couple of digipeaters. ARO is a supporter of the ARCHES project and hosts SwapNet at 9:00pm on Sunday nights. The club meets at 7:00pm on the first Tuesday of each month at the Sirloin Stockade on North Lamar. ARO has more information on the [www.austinhams.org](http://www.austinhams.org) web site.

2. CTDXCC (Central Texas DX & Contest Club), Brad Rehm, KV5V. CTDXCC is primarily a contest club. Meetings are held the last Monday of each month at the Old Quarry Library on Far West Blvd.

3. HOTERA, Brad Rehm, KV5V. The HOTERA club runs the 145.13 repeater in Walburg. The group now owns the tower that previously hosted the repeater and is making improvements to the site. The HOTERA group formed in 1989 after the Walburg tornado in Northern Williamson County.

4. QRP Special Interest Group, Stuart Rohre, K5KVH. Stu mentioned that the QRP group meets on the second Saturday of each month at 11:00am at the Sirloin Stockade. The QRP group specializes in home brewing and kit building. They love to swap ham stories and tell tall tales.

5. 3M ARC, Rick Kirchhof, KD5ABM. Rick mentioned that the 3M group has been very helpful to ARES. The 3M club has a great location for their stations, including repeaters and a digipeater, at the 3M company site on Tumbleweed Hill. The club's call is W3MRC.

6. Roadrunner Microwave Group, Bob Templin, W5OE. The Roadrunner group has about 50 members and dwells in the bands above 900MHz. They have 900MHz, 1.3GHz, and 2.4GHz beacons around the state. The group's web site is [www.k5rmg.org](http://www.k5rmg.org). They usually meet the second Saturday of each month at various places. Coming up is a tune-up party to help members get their gear tuned and running.

7. Austin Television (ATV) group, Bob Templin, W5OE. The ATV group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Sirloin Stockade. The group is looking for another antenna location since having access problems with their city-hosted tower location. The group has performed civic work when helping with surveillance on Sixth St.

8. Armadillo, Joe Jarrett, K5FOG. The Armadillo group has a linked network of repeaters across much of Texas. The group has over 175 members and includes families in its memberships. Its roots are with the Texas VHF-FM Society, whose members traveled frequently and moved around the state. The group's web site is [www.armadillo.org](http://www.armadillo.org) and contains system maps and other info. They host several events throughout the year and have their meetings at hamfests.

9. Texas VHF-FM Society, Greg Jurrens, WD0ACD. The society is the repeater coordinating body for the state of Texas. In addition to over 1900 coordinations, they are also a lobbying organization for Texas hams. The society holds 2 business meetings a year and holds forums at swap meets. Their web site is [www.txvhffm.org](http://www.txvhffm.org). More details on the Society appear in the March ARO meeting program minutes published in the April 2003 AACOVER.

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## Ham Radio Volunteer Exam Results

**ARRL VEC** – The following is a summary of the ARRL VE test session held at Murchison Middle School on June 7th, 2003:

### Technician Class Licenses Processed

John E. Ashley                      Tracy R. Davis  
Nathaniel G. Smith                Richard D. Sexton

### General Class Licenses Processed

Robert B. Hayes, KD5PTQ    Alan B. Holloway, KD5TFC

### Extra Class License Processed

John R. Strohm, WB5YOO

### Element 1 (5WPM Code) CSCE Processed

David J. Mitchell

### Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Jon BolesK5AEM    Milt CramW8NUE  
Curt GoodsonW4QBU    Larry GunterWB5BEK  
Joe MakeeverW5HS    Herb Nolen W5HMN  
John StottAC5ZT    Joe ThielSMN

### Next Two ARRL VE Test Sessions

July 12th - Murchison Middle School @ 0900  
August 2nd - Red Lion Hotel @ 1230 (SUMMERFEST)

## W5YI-VEC – 6/21/2003

The June 21<sup>st</sup> session resulted in the following license applications being processed:

### Extra Class - none

### General Class –

Noah B. Kalish, KD5VDO

### Technician Class – all new licensees

Brett E. Ferguson    Alan P. Kalish  
Dave E. Mackie    Paul T. Martin  
Elisa D. Pinigis

### Our volunteer examiners were:

Bill Brewer, K5KNC                      Tony Lyon, KJ5XF  
John Fisher, K5JHF                      Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH  
Lloyd Goehring, N5TO                  Sam Mihalik, KM5MY  
Jim Greenwood, AB5EK                  Roger Pfluger, AC5IP

Our next sessions: July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2003 2 PM in room 109 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University.

**Special Note:** The new Element 2 (Technician) question pool takes effect on July 1, 2003. Those using guides to study for the Technician written exam should check the dates shown on their guides. There are many differences between the current and the soon to be activated Technician question pool! Be sure that your study guide is the appropriate one for the day that you plan to take the Technician written exam.

**Information contact:** Jim, AB5EK at 327-6184 or [ab5ek@arrl.net](mailto:ab5ek@arrl.net)

Visit our web site at: <http://texasparadise.com/w5yi-austin/>

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Directors).

## ARTICLE V

### OFFICERS

5.01. "...officers shall be---and Treasurer." (Deletes Activities Manager) "...annual meeting..., and shall take office at the FIRST Meeting of the new Year." (Since election is moved to Nov., old and new officers can interact and form new budget in Dec., and the new officers can start with the New Year).

5.06. ACTIVITIES "MANAGEMENT". "The club elected officers will manage club activities through events committee chairperson and committees" (replacing activities manager reference and duties)

## ARTICLE VI

### COMMITTEES

6.01. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE. "...shall be..., Treasurer, and Club Station Trustee and Past Presidents" (codifies long standing practice of bylaws).

6.02. ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE(S). "The Activities Committees for each event will be led by an appointed chairperson and member volunteers under direction of club Executive Committee." "The Committees shall provide reports as appropriate at each general membership meeting." (Deletes Activities Manager, and single committee, adds appointed chair of each event committee and volunteer members under direction of club officers who can set size of committee and duties.)

6.05. REVIEW "OF" DECISIONS. (Corrects typo)

7.04. CLUB BUDGET. "..., at the FIRST meeting of the fiscal year, a proposed annual Budget, ..." (since the new officers will have Dec. to work up Budget, it can be brought to Jan. meeting, a more timely presentation).

7.06. "OFFICERS discretionary funds." "The President shall ... only." "The Budget may annually set other modest discretionary funds less than the President's fund, for the offices of Secretary and Treasurer and other offices as voted in the annual budget." (Codifies long standing discretionary administrative funds for sec. supplies, Treasurer envelopes and stamps, etc. less than \$200.) (This allows small emergency club expenses to be covered by officers without coming back to amend the annual budget for minor items.)

7.07. DISSOLUTION. "In the event... donated to any recognized amateur radio organization, approved by... and within 501c3 guidelines." (Brings AARC in line with ARO Dissolution clause, enables club assets to pass to another amateur radio group, invokes 501c3 compatibility).

7.08. ADMINISTRATION OF BEQUESTS. A Bequest in Memory of Jesse Copland, W5TQ, was given to the club for any public purpose serving Amateur Radio, and it and any subsequent bequests for worthy amateur radio projects, will be administered by a six member Board. There will be 3 members appointed by the Club President in consultation with the Executive Committee, and 3 members elected by General membership. Members will serve staggered terms of 3 years, 2 years, and 1 year, and will draw for term in first year of service. Annually thereafter, one elected and one appointed member would fill expired terms. The Club President will serve on the Board ex officio. The Copeland Fund having been invested by agree-

ment with Austin Community Foundation, (ACF); will be administered for Scholarships at the direction of the club as follows. Scholarship availability will be determined annually by the board upon the proceeds of investments, with the principle retained for future growth. Scholarship application process will be announced no later than the December bulletin of the club, and circulated to Greater Austin Metro area schools by Austin Community Foundation (ACF) and the club. Applicants will request an application form from ACF, and return it to ACF, with required school information and copy of any class of Amateur Radio License. Only licensed Amateur Radio Operators are eligible for scholarships. By end of February, ACF will send completed applications to Copeland Fund Board representative. The Board will agree to meet and consider applications by the end of March and determine number of grants and of funds available, and allocation. The Board will set other criteria for fund grants as needed to determine the most worthy recipients. Funds will be disbursed directly by ACF in the case of scholarships, directly to the institution attended. Funds may be used for tuition and fees and disabled expenses at post secondary institutions, or for approved further education courses at the discretion of the Board. Grantees must reapply yearly and meet Board guidelines. (Restates the administration of bequests by an independent board of elected and appointed club members, sets deadline for grant applications availability, returning applications, and selection of grantees well before the usual May commencements. Serves to give time in April, for club to publicize the grants and recipients bringing good PR to the club. Establishes an outline for other bequests administration.)

(I think that covers what needed to be amended, and codified. The Copeland fund had a procedure established, but we cannot find a copy among club records. I asked our present Copeland Board representative to ACF, Jim Neely, to review this version for compatibility with our agreement with ACF. Jim said it was OK, I am broadening the procedures to include other bequests that might result in non scholarship grants for amateur radio projects such as club station/ meeting place or major club capital expense such as a new tower when Red Cross rebuilds their present location and absorbs our present tower site into a new building.) ■

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### The QCWA Corral

Keith Zimmermann, K5WX

The other day, I was digging around the archives of the QCWA and discovered the minutes to a meeting in 1981. This was the meeting where Joe, K5EJL, "joined-up" with the local QCWA Chapter. (He must have been 9-years old when he first was licensed!)

This brought back memories of the time Joe spent with some young scouts back in '69. He helped them get their first amateur radio license. (I think that bunch covered WN5ZBJ through WN5ZBN.) There was a memorable time in Joe's driveway when he and 4 or 5 young guys sliced-up some thin wooden spacers, drilled holes in each end, and melted down a vat of paraffin. I don't remember how long we boiled those spacers in

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

President	John Suchyta	KG5O	261-4931	kg5o@arrl.net
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ARRL Travis Co. Emergency Coordinator	Lee Cooper	W5LHC	260-7757	w5lhc@arrl.net
ARRL Public Information Officer	Roger Wines	W5WIA	453-2193	w5wia@arrl.net

Austin Repeater Organization, PO BOX 4739, AUSTIN TX 78765-4739 Web site: <http://www.austinhams.org>

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Director	Stuart Rohre	K5KVH	255-2932	k5kvh@arrl.net
Director	Fred Neuenschwander	W5FQR	345-2145	Fred_Neuenschwander@amat.com
Transmitter Hunt Coordinator	Mickey McInnis	WX5U	339-0344	mcinnis@austin.ibm.com
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!**

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**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.**

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*(Continued from page 5) QCWA Corral*

paraffin. But after they were laid out on the driveway to harden and cool, he showed us how to make home-brew open-wire feed line. That was one fine transmission line! I don't recall if Joe served bar-b-que, too. Isn't it funny how times with a guy like Joe can stick in your mind? Sharing your knowledge with the young hams (or prospective hams) can help our hobby grow. Let's watch for opportunities! Roger, W5WIA, can hook you up with a local high school program.

The Austin QCWA Chapter presented a photographic history of the Chapter at the June meeting. The next meeting will be Saturday, July 19th. The location will most likely be at "Bevo's Restaurant on North IH35 at 11:30 AM. (This was the Jim's Restaurant. It is just past the Red Lion Hotel and Owen's Restaurant.) All are welcome to come. Watch [www.qcwa.net](http://www.qcwa.net) for details. Current information is always available at our own Web site: [www.qcwa.net](http://www.qcwa.net). There is also 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](mailto:K5WX@qcwa.net) if you have questions. (Every member is eligible for a special e-mail address linked to their permanent address!)

# SMOKEY'S KORNER

## Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ

There are several ways to build a project of your own. First decide what you want to build. Answer a few questions before flying into the building of something. Is this something you want, lust for, or need? Is it within my means, is it in my sphere of expertise? After answering all these questions, determine whether you want to build from scratch or from a kit? If you can't find a kit to satisfy your needs, then you have no choice.

Every one knows a kit has almost no design effort on your part. In building from scratch a great deal of effort is expended in the design and locating the parts, whether they be new or used. Some parts are quite large by today's standards, but since miniaturization has evolved, you may have to select a part that will more closely fulfill your needs, even if the parts are the same electrically. As you can tell I am very pro-kit. What a dream, all the parts you need in a box.

If you do have to build from scratch, you will quickly see a need for networking with friends to collect the parts required. Scrounging is an art to help in getting your parts free of charge. If you have a parts box of bolts, nuts and washers it will save a little money. I call this my (hell box) parts bin. You may have to put out feelers for certain scarce parts, or wait for a swap meet. Good luck on your next project.

(Continued from page 4)

10. Austin/Travis County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), Joe Fisher, K5EJL. Joe, District Emergency Coordinator, said this group has no dues and is sponsored by the ARRL and supported by ARO and AARC. The South Texas region has 99 counties in 13 districts. The local district is composed of Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, and Hayes counties. Travis County ARES supports many served agencies. The organization meets on the 5<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of any month with 5 Tuesdays at the Applied Research Labs on Burnet Rd.

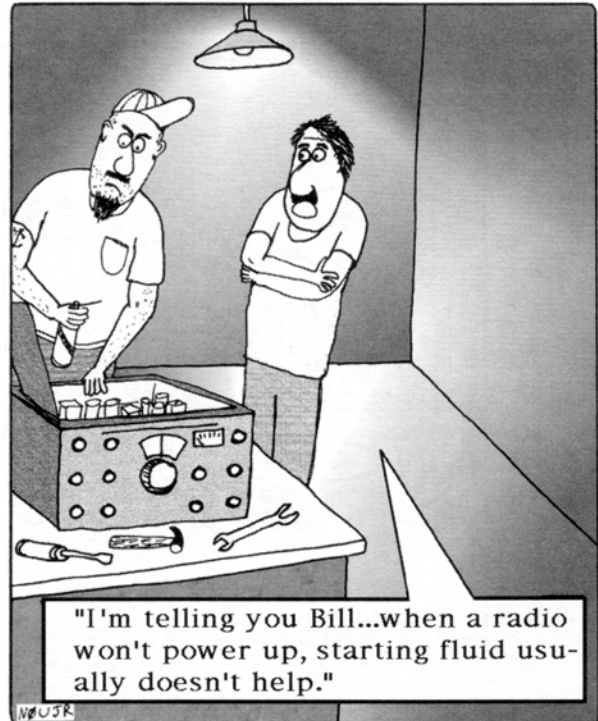
11. Circle M Radio Club, John Suchyta, KG5O. The Motorola radio club, with call sign W5MOT, is inactive as a club due to retirements and reorganizations. However, they do have 2 repeaters, 147.32 (pl 114.8) and 444.35 (pl 186.2). The 444.35 repeater is down at this time due to a damaged antenna. The group supports the Motorola Marathon and has a small Field Day activity. The group has recently built up about 20 APRS systems that are used in the Motorola Marathon and events like the MS150.

12. Austin Amateur Radio Club, John Suchyta, KG5O. The AARC is recognized as a Special Service Club by the ARRL due to its many service activities. The AARC meets the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at the Sirloin Stockade on North Lamar. The AARC sponsors the local ARRL VEC. AARC has more information on the [www.austinhams.org](http://www.austinhams.org) web site.

13. The Robot Group, GlenN Currie, KD5MFW. Glenn recently spoke about the Robot Group at the February ARO meeting. Details are published in the March AARCOVER. Their web site is [www.robotgroup.org](http://www.robotgroup.org). ■

## NØUJR and His Friends

By Greg Trook, NØUJR



Well Al...I guess it's safe to say  
That your high voltage power  
Supply must be working..."

## ARO/AARC Meeting Place

Sirloin Stockade on Lamar just S. of Koenig Ln.

### ARO Speaker — July 1

Alan Russell, no call, will show **part 1 of 2** of a video on the invention of radio.

### AARC Speaker — July 8

Alan Russell, no call, will show **part 2 of 2** of a video on the invention of radio.

### Upcoming Amateur Exams

**ARRL VEC- July 12th & Aug. 2nd\***- 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. \*[See page 4 for location details.](#)

**W5YI VEC- July 19th- Aug 23rd** 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.

## Summerfest 2003!!!

See the special insert for details on this years Summerfest happening August 1st & 2nd at the Red Lion Hotel at I-35 & 290.

## Calendar of Events

Swapfests, etc. for 2003

**Jul 19** Sherman North Texas Hamfest, Gene Hodge, K5DPS 903-893-6082 kc5aft@gte.net <http://home1.gte.net/wb5dcu/nortex00.html>

**Aug 1-2** Austin Summerfest West Gulf Division Convention Austin ARC, Austin Repeater Org., & Texas VHF-FM Society, Joe Makeever, W5HS 512-345-0800 w5hs@arrl.net

**Oct 4** Belton Fall Expo, Bell County

July	Aug.	Austin Meetings/Happenings	
1	5	ARO Meeting, Sirloin Stockade (SS)*	7:00p.m.
12	9	ARO Transmitter Hunt	7:00 p.m.
12	9	Austin QRP Club, SS *	11:30 a.m.
8	12	AARC Meeting, SS *	7:00 p.m.
15	19	ATV Club Meeting, SS *	7:00 p.m.
19	16	QCWA Meeting Bevo's Bar & Grill+	11:30a.m.
19	23	Informal Transmitter Hunt - Contact Milton Miller	
28	25	Travis County REACT SS? *	7:00 p.m.
29	No	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud.	7:00 p.m.

+ Bevo's Bar and Grill is where Jim's Restaurant used to be on I-35 N.

\*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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