

AARC OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

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Issue 11-2003

What's That Siren For?

John Suchyta, KG5O

Currently, I am the only ham in the family. To get the rest of the family (wife and two teenage boys) interested, or at least tolerant, in amateur radio, I take along a mobile FM rig when we travel by car on distant vacations. As long as I don't usurp all the time with QSOs, they enjoy the local perspectives of the hams we encounter along the way. However, that changes somewhat when I'm at home.

At home, I don't really spend much time on the radio. That's not to say that the radio isn't on. The dual-band FM rig I use as a base station is frequently on, scanning numerous repeater and simplex frequencies on one side and the local emergency frequencies on the other side. The family, you see, likes to keep an ear on what's happening around town. We have become accustomed to gathering at the radio when the

multi-tone signal for the Hudson Bend Fire Dept/EMS is sounded. We say silent prayers when "two car injury accident" is heard. We listen for hours when a lost swimmer is announced on the Travis County Sheriff Lake Patrol frequency. We commiserate with neighbors when we hear that Joe Citizen is pulled over for some infraction by the Lakeway police.

Friends and neighbors call us when they hear sirens in the distance. "What's that siren for?" is the typical question. Often, we can tell them it's a routine call – "agency needs

(Continued on page 3)

Inside this issue:

BPL Opposition	2
Test Results	2
Holiday Party Info	3
Club Minutes	5
Powerline Clearance Chart	7
The "Big (School) Project"	8
Smokey's Korner	9
NØUJR & His Friends	11
Meetings/Happenings	12

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	8:00 p.m. Code Pracice	146.78 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+

Hams Take Opposition to BPL to the States

By Charles D. Land, P.E. KC5NKK
Executive Director, TEXALTEL

Additional commentary from Jeff Schmidt- N5MNV

A meeting was held to educate state Public Utility Commission regulators on the controversies that Broadband Over Power Lines (BPL) creates for the current users of radio spectrum. BPL is designed to use spectrum from 2 to 80 MHz - just above the AM broadcast band to just below the FM broadcast band - and right across the ham bands on 6 through 75 meters. Although licensing of radio spectrum, and regulation of interference issues are solely within the jurisdiction of the FCC, there are many concerns that prominent appointed or elected officials in the states may, if not adequately educated, jump onto the BPL supporter bandwagon in the name of promoting broadband infrastructure development.

BPL is being promoted by manufacturers and a few other enthusiasts who see it as an opportunity to deliver high speed internet service to homes and businesses that is comparable to cable modem and DSL services. Public policy officials see BPL as a means of introducing one more competitor into an arena largely controlled by telephone monopolies and cable TV companies. FCC Chairman Michael Powell, whose vision is so far above the clouds that he can't see Earth, has made some favorable statements about BPL.

Jim Haynie, W5JBP and President of ARRL, spearheaded a meeting at the Texas Public Utility Commission on September 29, 2003. Larry Barnes (no relation to Marcus), Judith James, P.E., and Gordon VanSickle of the PUC staff were present, and conversations with one PUC Commissioner indicated that there was an interest in all levels as to what the controversy is. The meeting was also attended by Steve Zoromsky of the Lower Colorado River Authority, Marcus Barnes (W5CN) Eugene Preston PhD (W5GP) and others from

(Continued on page 4)

Ham Radio Volunteer Exam Results

ARRL VEC – The following is a summary of the ARRL VE test session held at Murchison Middle School on October 11th, 2003:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Charles R. Kelley Karl N. Olson

General Class License Processed

John C. Davis, N5IJO

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Bill Brewer, K5KNC Jim Huckabee, AA5BU

Jerry Jackson, N5UJ Joe Makeever, W5HS

Herb Nolen, W5HMN Ron Parsons, W5RKN

Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Next two ARRL VE Test Sessions - Murchison Middle School

November 1st @ 9AM December 6th @ 9AM

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

W5YI-VEC – 10/18/2003

The South Austin W5YI VE team congratulates everyone who attended **and** earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our October 18th session:

Extra Class

Jose Barandiaran, N5XFG William D. Howard, KD5ZGG

Noah B. Kalish, KD5VDO

General Class

David G. Kyle, K5DGK

Jimmy R. Tyree, KC5EGZ

Technician Class

David L. Douglas

Our volunteer examiner were:

Rick Bartel, AD5HT

Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH

Hugh Brown, NT5O

Sam Mihalik, KM5MY

John Fisher, W5JHF

Dennis Murphy, W5KQF

Lloyd Goehring, N5TO

Roger Pfluger, AC5IP

Jim Greenwood, AB5EK

Sam Stimson, N5WU

Tony Lyon, KJ5XF

Rick Trommer, W5RHT

Our next two sessions: November 14th and December 20th, 2003 Information contact: Jim, AB5EK at 327-6184
Our web page: <http://texasparadise.com/w5yi-austin/>
2 PM in room 109 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University.

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.



2003 AARC/ARO Holiday Party

By Mitch London, KD5HCV

Ah the smell of fresh baked goodies, a chill in the air and good friends; that must mean it's time again for the annual Holiday Party!

There has been a lot of planning going on for this years party so I hope you will not miss this opportunity to come out for an evening of fun and entertainment. The Texas

Star Chorus will be providing the holiday music in an a cappella style. There will be the annual QLF contest, so get those feet ready, oh, and don't forget to wear clean socks. This year a very special trophy has been made for the winner to hold onto throughout the year until his title is challenged at the next holiday party. There will be the table top decorating contest again, so make a ham radio related center piece to adorn one of the tables and our select group of judges will take on the arduous task of choosing a winner and that person will receive a special prize!

Be sure to sign up in advance in order to get two extra door prize tickets. Early registration will be accepted until December 3rd. Cost of the party is \$7 per person in advance or \$10 per person at the door.



Make checks payable to AARC and mail no later than December 3rd to:

Mitch London
1306 Winsted Lane
Austin, Texas 78703

The party is being held at Fiesta Gardens, located at 2101 Bergman St. starting at 6pm. If you have questions or want to volunteer to help setup before the party email me at kd5hcv@arrl.net. Hope to see you all at the party!

(Continued from page 1) What's That Siren?

assistance", "priority 2 fall", "audible alarm", etc. Sometimes we have to say it sounds bad, like a recent night when a 17 year old driver wrapped his car around a tree (he survived and is doing well). The radio is a conversation starter for many of our visitors.

Even though I allow them to turn on the rig, my family knows not to transmit on the unattended radio. Each has spoken third party at various times with me as the control operator. They understand the seriousness I place on following the rules. For that, I am willing to let them "use" the radio (usually without the mic attached) to satisfy their curiosity. It also buys me some points when I really "need" to use the radio on a family trip.

(Continued from page 2) BPL Opposition

the ham community.

President Haynie did a great job of presenting the concerns of hams as to interference, and Marcus Barnes and friends did a great job of responding to more technical questions about interference and what could be done (as well as what couldn't) to avoid it. President Haynie is not a technologically overpowering presence, and he did a great job of explaining the issue in non-technical terms he had some very high level technical people present to explain the issues to the techies in the meeting.

At the heart of the discussion was the fact that power lines are unshielded antennae, and that any RF signal on power lines will be radiated and will interfere with receivers in the vicinity of power lines (which includes all of us). The experts present were asked if ham frequencies could be "notched" from the frequencies used by BPL and avoid interference with ham operators. The answer was "Yes, but . . ." The problem is that there are other users throughout that spectrum. If BPL filtered out all of the other frequencies that are in use, there'd be nothing left for BPL.

Other concerns are that power lines have a history of harmonics and unexpected RF generation, with faults on insulators and at transformers creating interference in numerous frequency bands today. If BPL is implemented, we have to wonder how much interference would be caused in frequency bands outside of that used by BPL, not to mention causing interruption to BPL services!

It was also pointed out that to make BPL work, it is required that a high pass filter (a capacitor) be placed at every transformer. Power company transformers, breakers and lightning arrestors have been designed and have evolved over time to reduce the risks of lightning surges into homes and businesses to a very low level. There has not been enough experience to gauge how much added exposure to lightning surges this poses to homes and businesses. Nor has there been enough experience with to gauge the likelihood of faults in BPL causing application of distribution

voltage (7.5K-13KVAC) on customer's computer or other equipment, etc.

Hams are also concerned about the RF interference that power lines will receive, and how often that such interference will stop data transfer over BPL. Hams are accustomed to working with neighbors to cure interference problems on TVs, radios and telephones. We'd hate to add internet users to the list of challenges to our technical and social skills. PUC staffers present expressed concern that Voice Over Internet Protocol telephones are beginning to appear, and if BPL is successful, it will no doubt be used to some degree for telephone services. We can all easily imagine the nightmare of a BPL user trying to call 911 when a neighbor is chatting on 75 meters.

The PUC staff was keenly interested in interference issues that exist today. We assume they were trying to get a perspective as to whether BPL would be a minor or major addition to those problems. We hope that they understood that the bulk of the problems are devices that have inadequate shielding from RFI, but that these problems are technically resolvable, and nearly always handled among neighbors cooperating with each other. BPL has been touted by some as the answer to the lack of broadband in rural areas. However, the economics of BPL indicate this will not happen. Being the huge attenuators of RF that power lines are, present technology limits the use of power lines to about a mile. Most platforms today call for fiber telecom cable to be placed with power lines, and then to rely on the power line itself for only the last mile of transmission. For very rural areas, where the number of customers per mile is low, BPL would not be economical. This appears to be born out by the fact that BPL advocates are targeting urban areas for their development. And this appears to be the heart of the controversy with proposals at the FCC to allow higher RF power levels in BPL applications - to extend the reach from the end of the fiber cable to the furthest customer that can be served. Obviously, if the reach could be dramatically lengthened so that

(Continued on page 8)

CLUB MINUTES

ARO Meeting, October 7, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by President Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW, at the Marimont Cafeteria on 38th at Guadalupe.

Visitors: No visitors recognized.

Monthly Drawing Winner: James Robbins, N5OUJ, won the door prize, a digital multimeter from the KC5BOE estate.

Minutes: The September 2003 ARO meeting minutes were approved as published in the AARCOVER.

Treasury Report: Treasurer Roger Wines, W5WIA, reported a balance of \$3360.73. Roger said that dues for the coming year are now payable. For those with no changes in membership information, he will accept checks without application forms. For those with changed information, he requested that the form included in the AARCOVER be filled out. Dues are \$20 for single and \$30 for family membership for both clubs.

Technical Committee: President Schmidt stated that the 146.94 repeater was noisy for a couple of days, especially the receive side. He reported the trouble to Technical Committee member Nick Broline.

Old Business: Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, reported that he picked up a meter at Belton for the noise meter. He is still looking for something like a pistol grip to mount the UHF receiver and meter.

New Business: President Schmidt brought up the need to elect new ARO board members. The terms of board members Tina Kinney, KA5TXK, and Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, end this year. Nominations for Stuart Rohre and Mitch London, KD5HCV, were submitted from the floor. Nominations were closed and a voice acclamation was given to elect Stuart and Mitch as the board members for the 2004/2005 term.

Web Site: Get information to Lee Cooper, W5LHC, or Mitch London, KD5HCV, for posting on the AustinHams.org web site.

Ham of the Month: President Schmidt announced Sanford Musgrove, W5FIT, as ham of the month for his many years of service as the trustee for the 146.94 repeater. Additionally, Fred Neuenschwander, W5FQR, was named as the new repeater trustee.

Equipment Loaner Program: Mitch London has the club's MFJ259B antenna analyzer. A Yaesu FT530 dual band HT and Kenwood 7950 2m radio are also available. Contact Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ, to reserve equipment and make suggestions for new equipment.

Announcements: Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, announced that the Austin QRP club has a web site. This special interest group holds their meetings at the Owens restaurant on I35, north of 290, starting at 11am on the second Saturday of each month. Roger Wines announced that the QCWA club meets the third Saturday of each month at Beso's on I35 by St Johns around noon. The program will feature an APD officer who will discuss what to do when terrorism strikes.

Roger also pointed out that there are lots of ways for hams to help out in the community. Roger is active in numerous community service organizations that meet during the day and is looking for others to help with these groups and replace him in some cases. Roger also said the School Committee needs mentors. The ARRL supports this endeavor. Please contact Roger to discuss opportunities to help out in the community.

Editor Mitch London announced that the AARCOVER has a new look with larger fonts and more pages. He is looking for business or individuals to place ads in the expanded pages. Mitch also gave an update on the AARC Christmas Party. The party will be held at Fiesta Gardens on December 9. Tickets are \$7 in advance and \$10 at the door. He is rounding up food, entertainment, and door prizes. Activities will include the popular QLF contest and table centerpiece competition.

Rick Kirchof, KD5ABM, announced that the ATV group meets the third Tuesday at the Marimont Cafeteria.

Rick also announced that the Packet Special Interest Group meets on the fourth Wednesday at the Marimont.

Mickey McInnis, WX5U, mentioned that there will be no more transmitter hunts for a while.

Jeff Schmidt invited the female hams to join the Holiday Harmony Chorus each Tuesday night to practice for the upcoming Christmas season.

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5) Club Minutes

Roger Wines announced that the Trail of Lights on Town Lake will be held the 2 weeks before

Christmas. Please consider volunteering for this public service event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm.

Program:** Ray Henning of Austin Energy presented the Utility Line Clearance Program (more commonly known as tree trimming). Ray had an informative handout that showed the challenge of maintaining 2345 miles of distribution lines and 500 miles of transmission corridors. The Forestry Section is trying to establish a four year schedule to ensure reliable power delivery from generation plants to the home. Ray mentioned that tree trimming is done for safety, reliability, and liability reasons. He showed graphic results of trees that came in contact with high voltage lines. Ray ended the program by describing the proper type of tree to plant near an electric line and offering handouts about replacement trees for those affected.

Submitted by John Suchyta, KG5O

ARO Secretary

*(**Ed. Note: See page 7 for useful info on tree clearance distances from power lines.)*

Austin Amateur Radio Club

The monthly meeting of the Austin Amateur Radio Club was held on October 14, 2003 at Applied Research Laboratories, 10000 Burnet Road Austin, Texas 78758. Club President John Suchyta, KG5O, called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM

Visitors

Bryan - in the process of getting a license

Approval of the Minutes

Jeff Schmidt (N5MNW) 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 is looking for a speaker for the November meeting. If you have something of interest to

present or know a good speaker, please contact Mitch London <mlondon@austin.rr.com>

Treasurer - Roger Wines, W5WIA

Roger reported that the treasury balance is \$608.96.

Activities Manager - Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

The Christmas Party is on track for this year. See Mitch for reservations. Cost \$7 Advance or \$10 at the door. The Texas Star Chorus will be performing.

Technical Committee (Ed Golla, K3AHS)

There were no issues reported with the 146.78 repeater.

ARES Liaison

Lee Cooper (W5LHC) announced the ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is scheduled for October 11th and will be exercising GPS and cross band repeater operations.

Old Business

No old business.

New Business

Nominations and elections of officers for 2004 will be held at the November meeting. Be sure to be there since it is the only way to be sure that you aren't elected to a board position without notice.

Announcements

Roger, W5WIA, Dues for both clubs for 2004 is \$20 and payable at any time.

Stuart, K5KVH, gave a summary of the Weapons of Mass Destruction drill that was held in Williamson County. The time compressed drill simulated 2 days of events and saw the involvement of over 35 amateur radio operators.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 PM

Program

Mitch London, KD5HCV, demonstrated the making of open wire feed line type JPole antennas.

A New Year...

Roger Wines, W5WIA

...is just around the corner and it is time to signify your support of the clubs by paying your annual dues (for 2004). IF NO INFORMATION HAS CHANGED, simply make payment to the club - \$20 for single member, and \$30 for families. IF ANY INFORMATION HAS CHANGED, please submit another application form and INDICATE THE ITEM(S) CHANGED, so we can update the database. Every year some of us change e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, addresses, etc. We need to have the latest information in the data base to properly administer the business at hand.....Thank you (in advance), the treasurer.

ARO Meeting Location

Don't forget the Austin Repeater Organization meets at a new location.

The new location is at the Marimont Cafeteria on 38th Street and Guadalupe. Food is served 'a la carte'. Meeting start at 7pm.



**Saturday November 15th at
St. Louis Catholic Church
7601 Burnet Rd. 8am 'til 1pm**

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Call Mitch London at 512-472-2843
Or by email at KD5HCV@arrl.net

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Tree/ Power Line Clearance Distance Chart *

Information Provided by: Austin Energy

Line Type/ Voltage	Minimum Clearance	Maximum Clearance
Transmission 69,000 - 345,000 volts	20 Feet	30 Feet
Distribution 600 - 12,500 volts	6 - 8 Feet	11 - 13 Feet
Secondary Less than 600 volts	4 - 6 Feet	8 - 10 Feet
Service Drops and Streetlight Conductors	Limbs applying pressure	2 - 3 Feet
Poles	Limbs applying pressure	4 - 6 Feet
Street Lights and Night Watchmen Lights	N/A	N/A

*Clearance guidelines will differ based on tree species, age, and condition of tree and location.

(Continued from page 4) BPL Opposition

a power company could construct fiber cable to the substation and implement power line carrier that would reach all customers served on distribution lines (the 13,000 or 7,200 volt lines that go through the neighborhoods, running a few miles in urban areas and 10-50 miles in rural areas), the economics of providing the service would be radically different. Of course, this proposal has been the focal point of amateur and other users' interference concerns.

So far, the field tests of BPL have consisted of a few houses. The largest field trial is planned to cover 10,000 homes in Manassas, Virginia and is planned to turn up this fall. No doubt ARRL, as well as the BPL supporters, will be watching closely.

Closing commentary

To most of us, BPL looks like a technology with so many problems that it has no chance of getting off the ground. We think that interference problems will be far too prevalent, that service quality due to interference will be far too common, that the costs of implementing the technology will be far too high, and that hazards to consumers and to technicians implementing the service will be far too high. Of course, manufacturers who dream of creating a new market for their equipment among a very deep pocketed group (power companies) that today don't buy hardly anything from them are highly motivated to make this technology work well enough to be marketable. We'll have to wait and see - and support our comrades and see that everyone understands what is at stake if interference occurs.

BPL should continue to fall under the same interference and external radiation limits currently imposed on the CATV, DSL and other communication industries. If signals are verified to be providing interference to a primary user of a frequency, the responsible utility should be liable for the appropriate FCC fine(s) until the problem is remedied. And like other part 15 devices, if other RF signals, operating legally, interfere with BPL, it is the power companies' problem to correct. ■

The "Big (School) Project"

Roger Wines, W5WIA

I'm encouraged. Having tried to get the "In-school" Amateur Radio Program going here in Austin has been a challenge, but now things are looking bright. The ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League) introduced this program a couple years ago, and since has made great successes across the nation developing the program in several schools. Here in Austin, I made some contacts and know that the "(AISD) after school program" would supply the primary teacher for a class, and have available classroom space. The "Hams" from the area would join forces with the teachers to be the instructors in the specific areas of Amateur Radio. In some cases, the teacher themselves might be Hams, and would do a lot of this. There have been two school radio clubs in Austin, one at Bowie H.S., and the other at LBJ H.S. The School for the Blind also has an organization of Hams.

This is all in the past, and now things have an even brighter future. In less than just 24 hours, I learned of some interesting facts that can help this to fruition. Also a number of persons have indicated an interest in the program. To take this to the next step, there will be a meeting of all of those interested to discuss the possibilities, and hopefully give the program the boost it needs to really get going.

There is a grant being made available to be used in some way to develop homeland defense preparation in the school system, and Amateur Radio has an integral part of defense and emergencies by utilization of the communication abilities. This being said, it's obvious there is a match here, and we need to explore the possibilities.

If you know of someone you believe would benefit this group, by all means have them get in touch with me about it and I will invite them to join a meeting to discuss the program.

This can be the 'shot in the arm' we all need. Young persons to join our ranks, additional homeland defense volunteers (with communications abilities), interaction between us and the younger generation, and allow us all an opportunity to 'elmer' someone and be an (radio) active ham.
Roger Wines - W5WhoopieIA (w5wia@arrl.net or 453-2193)

SMOKEY'S KORNER

By Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ

Have you ever tried to find the parts to build a crystal radio for your child or a grandchild lately? Well let me tell you it's very difficult to impossible. The wire to wind the coils came from the field of loudspeakers and is no longer available because speakers now use a permanent magnet as the field. In fact the field of the speaker doubled as a choke for the power supply of the radio it was powering. So I guess you gotta purchase the coil (24 ga) wire.

Next is the coil form. In yesteryear we used oatmeal boxes, but today a good substitute is handy. A piece of 4" drain waste and vent known as DWV can be found in a dumpster on job sites. A piece of board is easy to find there also. You will need a "cat whisker". A 1 1/2" safety pin will do the job nicely. Since crystals are not available, nor are 1n34 diodes, which are manufacture discontinued. You can use a double edge razor blade. The point of the safety pin touches the sharp edge of the blade. Here we run into a hitch. The new blades don't do as well as the old ones because the new ones are stainless steel. If you are lucky enough to find an old house, 50+ years old, you may find a medicine cabinet with the blade slot in the back where blades were put when they became dull. There is where you'll find the old blades. Straight down, and 2" above the present floor. If you can remove the medicine cabinet you can drop a magnet on a string and get a few. Fahnstock clips are probably still made, but finding them is something else. You can do one of two things, go look in a ravine or gully near an old farmhouse. Since they are brass, will be in good shape. In the early days before homes were electrified, people used batteries on their radios so they could listen to the news and maybe a program or two Saturday night. There weren't any garbage men back then in the rural areas, so the farmer would take his batteries that were dead to a ravine or gully for disposal. Out of sight, out of mind, or you can substitute a modern day binding post. Hook-up wire was known as push back wire, because you could cut the wire to the length plus a little bit, and push the insulation back as far as needed to make the connection. A pair of 2k ohm headphones will be need or a network to connect 8 ohm to 2000 ohms for 8 ohms headphones. The circuit is so simple you can connect the radio just any way you want and it will probably work.

You will need a long wire antenna 60 to 100 ft. in length and a good ground. Remember a water pipe, hot or cold is not considered a good ground, but a gas pipe is, and the screw that holds the plate on a convince outlet is. Some house gas systems nowadays are connected to the street with PVC, so bare that in mind. Another great ground is located at the electric meter. You can purchase a quality crystal set at some antique radio stores for about \$29.00 plus shipping and handling, but just think of the thrill of the hunt. Another thing you can do to make if look authentic is to use the parts you could find and the parts you bought to make it look old. Is that to much sugar for a dime?

Good building and 73 Smokey

Anderson Power Pole Connectors **Stuart Rohre, K5KVH**

A popular means of quick high current connections of radio DC power leads is to use the grooved Red and Black Anderson Power Pole Connectors. The grooves allow a red / Black pair to be locked together in an inline cable set up.

Recent tech notes from Mountain West Radio indicates Anderson warns users of Power Poles to not join the slide together red/ black connectors with roll pins in the provided hole. Instead, for temporary joining of a red/ black pair of in line Anderson Power Poles, it is possible to use spiral pins that Anderson can supply.

Spiral pins look like the cylinder roll pin, but have more turns of metal in a spiral design, thus providing more springiness to the locking function. However, for permanent joining of the grooved connectors, Anderson suggests using a spot of "Crazy Glue" to keep the red/black pair from slipping apart. For temporary joining uses, they say the sliding groove fit should hole the pair by friction.

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Transmitter Hunt Coord.	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 Newline @ 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** 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.

AARCOVER 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 AARCOVER articles, provided you credit the author and the AARCOVER.

"NOUJR and His Friends" is reprinted with permission by Greg Trook, Trook Enterprises. Cartoons may not be reprinted without written permission. For information: <http://incolor.inebraska.com/n0ujr>.

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

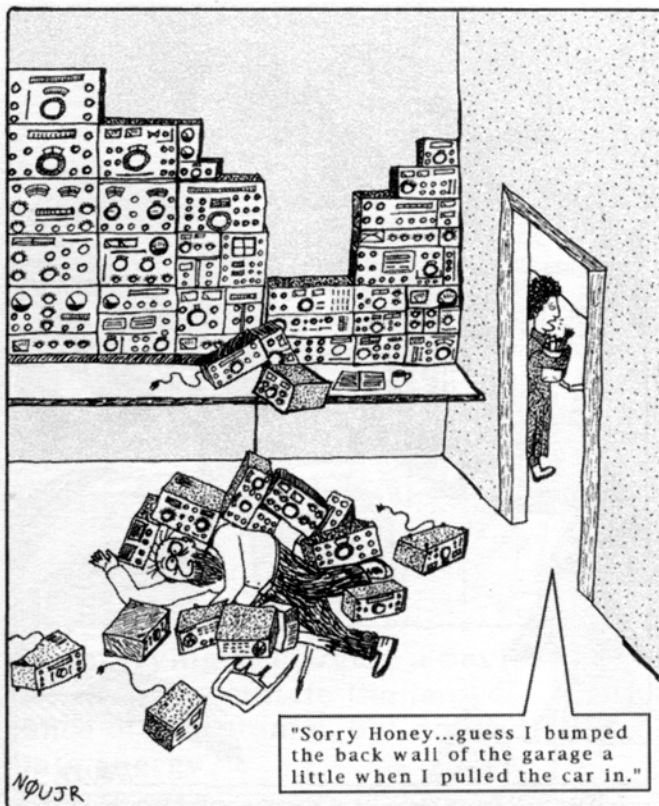
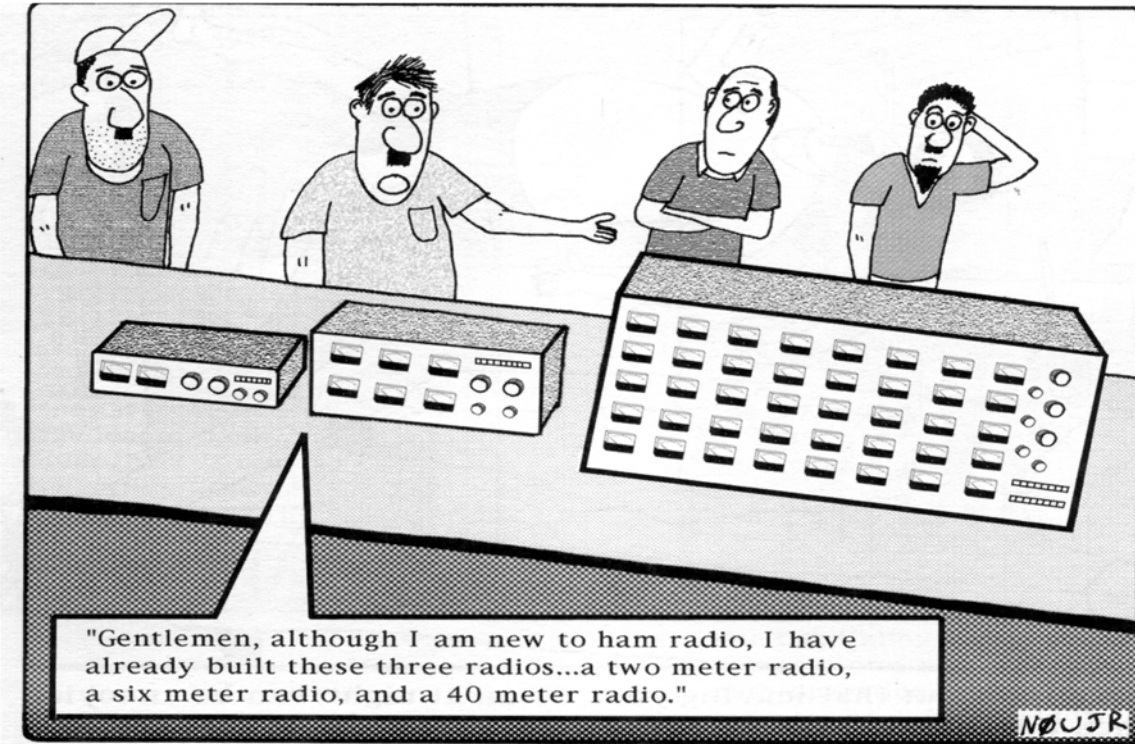
For Changes in your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or CALL SIGN:

See Roger Wines, W5WIA (512) 453-2193 w5wia@arrl.net

Roger handles all changes for AARCOVER mailing labels & membership information & roster questions.

NØUJR and His Friends

By Greg Trook, NØUJR



"Dave, that's not what I meant by burying radials around the base of your vertical antenna."

ARO/AARC Meeting Info.

Austin Repeater Organization

Marimont Cafeteria - 623 W. 38th St.

November 4th - Roy Walker, WA5YZD will discuss 3G wireless "broadband" technology and next generation cellular services.

Austin Amateur Radio Club

ARL Auditorium - 10000 Burnet Rd.

November 11th - Roger Wines, W5WIA and Mitch London, KD5HCV will be discussing the plans for the Austin Radio Round Up swap fest.

Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- November 1st & December 6th

9a.m. at Murchison Middle School on North Hills Drive
Contact Joe Makeever, W5HS (345-0800) or Joe Thiel, N5SMN (832-0450) for information. \$12 examination fee.

W5YI VEC- November 14th & December 20

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 examination fee.

Calendar of Events

Nov 8th - CLARC Hamfest Bay area community center - 9:30 AM -2:00 PM, 5002 NASA ROAD 1 Seabrook Texas. Entry \$4. 281-221-0739

Nov 8 STARC Hamfest- 5th Annual Costal Bend Hamfest 8AM 146.84(-)107.2Hz Solomon P. Ortiz International Center 402 Harbor Drive. \$5 at door
www.n5crp.org

Nov 8 NCTECH Hamfest- BJ Clark Meeting Hall Azle, TX 817-905-8157 www.qsl.net/tcarc-ntx/nctech.htm

Nov 15th - Austin Radio Roundup St Louis Catholic Church 7601 Burnet Rd, Jeff N5MNV@arrl.net or Lori KM5MQ@arrl.net 512-255-6753

Nov.	Dec.	Austin Meetings/Happenings	
4	2	ARO Meeting, Marimont Cafeteria	7:00p.m.
8	13	Austin QRP Club, Owens on I-35 N	11:30 a.m.
11	9**	AARC Meeting, ARL Auditorium *	7:00 p.m.
18	16	ATV Club Meeting, Marimont	7:00 p.m.
No	20	QCWA Meeting Beso Bar & Grill+	11:30a.m.
24	22	Travis County REACT	7:00 p.m.
No	30	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud.*	7:00 p.m.

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

* These Clubs meet at ARL Auditorium.

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.

** AARC/ARO Holiday Party at Fiesta Gardens. Page 3 for details.

Time Value Newsletter

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