

AARC COVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

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February 2004

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!

Issue 2-2004

Jesse Copeland, W5TQ Memorial Scholarships

The Austin Amateur Radio Club Scholarship Board reminds club members and Greater Austin area ham radio operators; of the Scholarship program available through the Austin Community Foundation.

AARC funded an investment plan some years ago that uses the dividends to give very substantial scholarships to ham radio operator students. The main requirement to qualify is to submit your license copy with the application available by calling the ACF office. (In the white business pages of Austin Phone Book: 472-4483)

The application available from ACF must be completed by the end of January to allow enough time for ACF and the Board to screen applicants and rank them before determining the winners. Due to changes in the fiscal years of Austin radio clubs, it is desired to complete granting applications in March this year.

Although there is no guarantee in any year of how much will be available to grant; some years market yields have funded \$3000 per year per student, for four year colleges, and less for Community Colleges. All funds are sent directly to the schools upon them providing proof of the student's enrollment, to ACF. Funds can be used for tuition, books and in some cases have been

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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) 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+

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(Continued from page 1) Scholarship

used for special needs of disabled students, such as transportation.

IF the number of applicants exceeds the funding available, various criteria rank the applicants. The board has voted in some years to favor technical majors such as engineering over others. Once the scholarship is earned, it must be re-earned each year. Grades do have a bearing on eligibility when student has reapplied to ACF for another year. Continuing education and graduate course applications will also be considered, but all must apply at this time of year, even if the course is later in the year.

Questions can be directed to ACF 472-4483, re: the Amateur Radio Club Scholarship applications. Board members can be consulted on other questions as to suitability of a potential course. Requests for application forms should also be directed to ACF by the applicant. AARC officers and Board members do not handle blank application forms. We expect a potential grantee to have the initiative to apply for the forms and complete the ACF process.

This scholarship program is one of the largest in the nation for current amateur radio operators of any license class. It is estimated that about \$200,000 or more has been granted in the short life of this program.

For 2004, Scholarship applicants should have requested the paperwork from Austin Community Foundation during December and have the application and copy of license returned to ACF during January. That will expedite the new requirement of the Club that the Scholarships be granted earlier in the new year. We hope to be able to announce the winners in March, and publish the ham radio scholars widely in the regular Central Texas press outlets during April and May to bring the best possible notice to this Amateur Radio service the club is performing for students of Central Texas ■

Ham Radio Volunteer Exam Results

ARRL VEC – The following is a summary of the ARRL VE test session held at Murchison Middle School on January 10th, 2004:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Donald G. Jones Stephen J. Pulvirent

General Class Licenses Processed

Joseph R. Anderson, WB5FMR

David E. Brockman, KD5ZNC

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Larry Gunter, WB5BEK Gene Hinkle, K5PA

Jerry Jackson, N5UJ Jim Lindley, K5EWS

Joe Makeever, W5HS Bill Montgomery, K5ZSI

Herb Nolen, W5HMN

Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Roy Walker, WA5YZD

Next Two ARRLVE Test Sessions - Murchison Middle School

February 7th, 2004 - March 6th, 2004

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

W5YI-VEC – The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our first session of 2004:

Extra Class – (none)

General Class

Duane M. Brantley, KD5NFQ Willie N. Cargill, N5RXG

Technician Class (all new licensees)

Christopher L. Crane Christopher R. delRio

Cory A. Kirk Jack D. Leach

Michael H. Singerman Mark W. Southwell

Adam J. Williamson

Our volunteer examiner were:

Hugh Brown, NT5O Tony Lyon, KJ5XF

John Fisher, W5JHF Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH

Lloyd Goehring, N5TO Sam Mihalik, KM5MY

Jim Greenwood, AB5EK Dennis Murphy, W5KQF

Rick Trommer, W5RHT

Our next two sessions: February 21st and March 20th, 2004.

The exam fee for 2004 is \$12.

Information contact: Jim, AB5EK at 327-6184 or by e-mail at hamradioexams@hotmail.com

Our web page: <http://texasparadise.com/w5yi-austin/>

Good news! No exam fee increase for 2004. The exam fee for 2004 will stay at \$12.

Exam fee is \$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.

Placing the Blame

Rick Herndon, K5FNI

I bought a neat little credit-card-sized radio (an Alinco DJ-C4) last summer at the Summerfest swap meet. The seller assured me it worked. I bought it for what I thought was a reasonable sum. When I got home with it, I found that, although I had all the things that it took to make it work, it didn't hit the local Bastrop repeater, which is line-of-sight from my house. I could set it up on the simplex calling channel and hear it on my own radios. Despite lots of looking on Web sites and reading the manual, it just didn't work.

At the Ham Radio Roundup in November, I bought another one of these radios. I just "had" to have one, to enable me to walk around the house and my shop, still keeping in touch with my buddies during the day. This one worked perfectly, and it even had a speaker-mic, which gave me even more flexibility, and freed me from having to wear an earplug all the time to hear it as the first one would have required.

While charging the "new" one a few days ago, I decided to take out the "old" one and see if I couldn't make it work ONE MORE TIME. I went back through all the setup procedures. When I got to the repeater offset, imagine my horror, when I found that the person previously setting it up had set the offset to 4 megahertz! Everyone knows that the standard repeater offset on the 70 cm. band is 5 megahertz. Slapping my forehead, I fixed the problem and tried it out. It hit the repeater the first and every succeeding time.

So, all the bad feelings I'd had about the radio and my purchase evaporated as quickly as dew from the grass. Now, I'm all happy with my second radio. By way of making amends to the seller and hoping to keep anyone else from having a problem that isn't a problem, I'm writing this short piece with the admonition: Read The Fine Manual (RTFM) when you purchase a piece of electronic equipment!

A Little Bit of Dit

Leached from the AC6V Web Page

By Richard Kriss, AA5VU

Dit- a diddle dot dit

(A friend forwarded this interesting story. Source unknown. de Tom N4KG)

Back when the telegraph was the fastest method of long-distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse Code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the office address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office.

The young man filled out his form and sat down with the seven other applicants in the waiting area. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet.

They assumed that the young man who went into the office made a mistake and would be disqualified. Within a few minutes, however, the employer escorted the young man out of the office and said to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has just been filled." The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and one spoke up saying, "Wait a minute, I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair!"

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but the last several minutes while you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse Code: 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.' None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. The job is his.

CW IS!

CLUB MINUTES

ARO Meeting, January 6, 2004

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by President Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW, at the Marimont Cafeteria on 38th at Guadalupe.

Visitors: Nate, no call, visited after being invited by Tami Friedman, KD5RJJ.

Monthly Drawing Winner: Jerry Henry, KC5MUL, won the door prize, a box of assorted cable ties.

Minutes: The December 2003 ARO meeting minutes were approved as published in the AACROVER.

Treasury Report: Treasurer Roger Wines, W5WIA, reported a bank balance of \$3311.40. Roger also mentioned that we have 291 paid members at this time.

Technical Committee: Some discussion of a 146.94 repeater problem that Nick Broline is aware of. Nothing else to report.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

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 named Jerry Jackson, N5UJ, as Ham of the Month for his leadership in the Big Project effort with local schools. Jerry announced that the LBJ Magnet School just won a grant for \$5000 based on the success of the ARRL's Big Project.

Equipment Loaner Program: The club's MFJ259B antenna analyzer is out on loan. The Yaesu FT530 dual band HT is also out. The Kenwood TS120 HF rig is available. Contact Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ, to reserve equipment and make suggestions for new equipment.

Announcements: President Schmidt showed the times and locations for all of the regular ham radio meetings and nearby swapmeets.

Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ, announced that John Scott, KK5VH, donated a large box of QST, CQ, Nuts & Volts, and Circuit Cellar magazines to the club. Very few copies were left after members made their picks.

Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, reminded all to consider high school seniors and college students who could benefit from the W5QT scholarships given by the AARC.

Students can apply for the scholarships by contacting the Austin Community Foundation.

Mitch London, KD5HCV, read a letter of appreciation that he drafted to Stubb's BBQ for furnishing the food for the AARC Christmas Party after the original caterer fell through. Many members signed the letter. Mitch also announced that we did a great job cleaning up the Fiesta Gardens hall, so we got our full \$200 deposit back.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm.

Program: Rick Kirchof, KD5ABM, ARO Vice President,

and Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW, ARO President held an open discussion on the club's interests for future meetings. Rick mentioned that the officers and board members of the AARC and ARO are working towards recombining the 2 clubs.

For the combined club, he wanted to know the desires of the membership regarding future presentations and meeting formats. Feedback included: 2 types of meetings – a business meeting and a hands-on meeting; and field trips to the state EOC and the NWS. The availability of food at meetings was addressed by Lew Thompson who said that we can bring pizza or snack food into the ARL auditorium for our hands-on meetings. The concern for wheelchair access was brought up.

Topics for presentations included: Homebrew presentations; Saltgrass and how to access it; EchoLink; mechanisms and methods for DX; contest presentation; Meet the Clubs; Field Day; VHF/UHF contest as a club; Towers; Ham Radio software; NTS and how to handle traffic; Kid's events & programs; power plant tour; phone office tour; Grande Communication tour; Old Luby's building tour; MSET.

Submitted by John Suchyta, KG5O
ARO Secretary

AARC Meeting January 14th 2004

Meeting was brought to order by the club president, KG5O at 7:00 pm.

New Members: Don Jones – No Call but has passed test.

Visitors: Eric Wachsmann (No Call)

Door Prize: The door prize, a Disaster Ready Austin travel mug, was won by Alan Russell, no call.

Minutes: As last month was the Christmas party there were no minutes to approve.

John, KG5O started the meeting off by introducing the 2004 slate of officers and committee chairs. He stressed the importance of the members to work closely with the various chairs and to get involved in one of the committees this year.

The 2004 officers are:

AARC Officers:

President	John Suchyta	KG5O
Vice President	Jerry Jackson	N5UJ
Treasurer	Roger Wines	W5WIA
Secretary	Lee Cooper	W5LHC

Appointments:

AARCOVER Editor	Mitch London	KD5HCV
Events Committee	Stuart Rohre	K5KVH
Programs Committee	Rick Kirchof	KD5ABM
Finance Committee	Jerry Jackson	N5UJ
Technical Committee	Jeff Schmidt	N5MNW
Big Project	Jerry Jackson	N5UJ
Membership Committee	Lori Schmidt	KM5MQ

Copeland Fund Committee:

Stuart Rohre	K5KVH	3 year
Jim Neely	WA5LHS	2 year

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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
Vice President	Jerry Jackson	N5UJ	832-5663	jerry@gaj.com
Treasurer	Roger Wines	W5WIA	453-2193	w5wia@arrl.net
Secretary	Lee Cooper	W5LHC	260-7757	w5lhc@arrl.net
Editor, AARCOVER	Mitch London	KD5HCV	472-2843	kd5hcv@arrl.net
Technical (Repeater Contact)	Ed Golla	K3AHS	255-4818	edgolla@hotpop.com
ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	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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Secretary	John Suchyta	KG5O	261-4931	kg5o@arrl.net
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Director	Nick Broline	W5FUA	929-4314	nick.broline@baesystems.com
Director	Lee Cooper	W5LHC	260-7757	w5lhc@arrl.net
Director	Stuart Rohre	K5KVH	255-2932	k5kvh@arrl.net
Director	Fred Neuenschwander	W5FQR	345-2145	Fred_Neuenschwander@amat.com
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 <Hz 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** sing 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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Viewpoints expressed in the AARCOVER do not necessarily reflect those of any club, or of its members, directors, or officers.

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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.

(Continued from page 4) Club Minutes

Joe Fisher	K5EJL	1 year
Joe Canfield	N5HPC	3 year
Roger Wines	W5WIA	2 year
Marie Van Wheeler	KA5HFH	1 year

The Copeland Fund, which administers a scholarship trust and each year meets to select a ham radio operator(s) to receive a grant from the fund consists of six members, three of which are appointed and three are elected. Stuart, K5KVH, Jim WA5LHS and Joe, K5EJL are the three appointed members. Joe, N5HPC, Roger, W5WIA and Marie, KA5HFH were elected to their positions at the meeting.

John also reviewed some of the various committees and their functions.

Events Committee – Operating events like Field Day, SummerFest, Roundup, contests. Fun events like Christmas party, picnic.

Programs Committee – Monthly programs and hands-on activities.

Finance Committee – Keep track of operating funds. Pursue grants and special funding. Prepare annual fiscal audit.

Technical Committee – Planning, acquisition, installation and maintenance of club equipment and property. Annual inventory of equipment. Includes interference committee.

Big Project – ARRL Amateur Radio Education project to get Amateur Radio into schools.

Membership Committee – Retain and boost membership. Coordinate member perks.

Officers Reports:

Treasurer: Roger stated that the club at close to \$2600 in the bank. He also indicated that this was a very good sign as last year we began the year with less than \$1000 in the treasury. There has also been a 9% increase in membership this year over last year so far.

Old Business: There was no old business

New business: 2004 budget

The proposed 2004 budget (copy attached) was submitted for approval by John. KG50. He indicated that there were sections to the budget. The one side had the figures to be approved this year based on expected revenues from dues. The other side had a “What If” budget that showed some of the things we could do if we were to work harder on increasing membership, have a good swapfest and get the 501c3 status approved. The motion was made to approve the budget by Roger, W5WIA and seconded by Jerry N5UJ. Motion was voted on and passed by a majority vote.

Announcements:

Stuart, K5KVH, reminded all that the QWCA meetings have moved to the Owen’s restaurant on IH-35. They will meet there now instead of the Beso’s. Stuart also asked that the AARCover and the website be corrected as to meeting places and times.

Rick, KD5ABM, clarified an apparent point of confusion and announced that the Packet SIG meetings are being held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Marimont Cafeteria on 38th street now.

Mitch, KD5HCV, passed around a letter of appreciation to be signed. It will be sent to Stubb’s BBQ for their last minute assistance with the Christmas party dinner.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm

The presentation was on Software Defined Radios and was given by Gerald Youngblood, AC5OG. He reviewed the concepts and the SDR-1000 by FlexRadio Systems. Details on the radio, concepts and access to a number of articles can be found at <http://www.flex-radio.com>

Respectfully Submitted;

Lee Cooper, W5LHC



Rcvd _____ / _____ / _____ Amt\$ _____ Ck _____ Cash _____ Dep _____ Comp _____
 -----(for office use only)-----

Monthly Meetings _____ Field Day _____ Working Events _____ Transmitter Hunts _____
 Talking on 2 mtrs _____ Dxing _____ Newsletter _____ Holding Office _____
 Presenting Pgms _____ CWI _____ Net Control _____ Emergency Comm's _____
 ARRL Office _____ Education _____ Public Awareness _____ Working w/ Youth _____
 Others _____

I/WE have interest in the following:
 2nd Call _____ Name _____ ARRL Mem Y N
 3rd Call _____ Name _____ ARRL Mem Y N
 4th Call _____ Name _____ ARRL Mem Y N

APPLICATION FOR (check applicable box and enclose payment to either) **AARCARO**
 _____ \$20 Single _____ \$30 Family (all with same mailing address)
 For first time registrants to ARRL join both ARRL and the local clubs for a \$15 dollar savings!!! (Make check payable to AARC)
 Local QCWA dues for the year add \$6 to your check and indicate here _____
 Mail this form with payment to:
 AARC PO Box 4739 Austin, Texas 78765

RE-REGISTERING
NEW MEMBER NEVER BEFORE REGISTERED
CHECK HERE IF ANY INFORMATION PROVIDED HAS RECENTLY CHANGED

Call Sign _____ First Name _____ Last Name _____
 ARRL Member? Y N License Class E A G T+ T N
 Year First Licensed _____
 Mailing Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Home Ph _____ Cell Ph _____ Work Ph _____
 Pager# _____ e-mail _____

Please list additional family members joining and check the family member box above.
 2nd Call _____ Name _____ ARRL Mem Y N
 3rd Call _____ Name _____ ARRL Mem Y N
 4th Call _____ Name _____ ARRL Mem Y N

International Morse Code Gets a New ITU and New Character

From ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 49

The 2003 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-03) may have eliminated the treaty requirement for prospective amateurs to demonstrate Morse code proficiency to gain HF access, but the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) hasn't forgotten Morse code altogether. In Geneva on December 5, the ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) Study Group 8 agreed on the wording of a Draft New Recommendation ITU-R M.[MORSE] that specifies the international Morse code character set and transmission procedures. It also includes a new Morse code character to cover the "@" symbol used in e-mail.

Once it's made available in English, French and Spanish, the draft new recommendation will go out to ITU member-states using a new procedure for simultaneous adoption and approval. On December 3, the draft new recommendation won the approval of Working Party 8A, which is responsible for the Land Mobile and Amateur services.

Within the ITU, the international Morse code has been defined by the Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T), which is responsible for the public telephone and telegraph network--mostly landline. A couple of years ago, the ARRL pointed out to the US delegation to the ITU Radiocommunication Advisory Group that Morse code's role more properly resides in the radiocommunication realm, not wire, and should be the responsibility of ITU Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R).

The transfer was agreed to, and International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) President Larry Price, W4RA, proposed the draft new recommendation at the November-December Working Group 8A meeting. The draft new

(Continued on page 8)

Club Meeting Times and Locations

Stuart Rhore, K5KVH

With the new year of 2004, some meeting times and places have changed for the Amateur Radio Clubs. Please make note of the changes:

ARO is now meeting at Marimont Cafeteria between Lamar and Guadalupe on 38th St. 7 PM on 1st Tuesday (Their "slim platter" entree and two sides plus bread is priced like Luby's Lu Ann Platter.) The group meets in the back area.

On 2nd Tuesday the AARC meets at Applied Research Labs (ARL) located at 10,000 Burnet Rd., with parking entry at 10,100 Burnet past the U.T. control station; walk around the fence to front lobby; 7 PM --dinner on your own.

On 3rd Tuesday ATV at Marimont Cafeteria in back, with club officers of AARC/ARO at 6 PM, ATV 7 PM.

On 4th Tuesday, ARES now meets every other month. No meeting for February, meet for March etc. at Marimont at 7 PM. for the rest of 2004. AECs and EC meet at 6PM before the ARES general meeting, and will meet at Seton NW conference room next to Doctor dining room on the even months when no ARES general meeting.

The Austin QRP Club meets the 2nd Saturday at 11 AM at Owens Country Restaurant on IH 35 Northbound access road north of 290 intersection and Red Lion Hotel.

The QCWA has moved their meeting at regular time on third Saturday, to Owens Country restaurant above Papisitos on IH 35 North bound access road. This is north of the Red Lion Hotel. The meetings are at 11:30 AM.

Club membership is \$20 and makes you member of both ARO and AARC. You can also pay the \$6 for local QCWA chapter to the AARC/ARO treasurer. You can get a special rate for ARRL membership/club membership, if you have not been a member for some time or are a new member to the club.

(Continued from page 7) New ITU

recommendation is almost unchanged from its ITU-T text.

"No one wanted to disturb something with more than 150 years of history," said ARRL Technical Relations Manager Paul Rinaldo, W4RI.

To keep up with the times, however, the IARU proposed adding a new character--the commercial "at" or @ symbol--to permit sending e-mail addresses in Morse code. The draft new recommendation proposes using the letters A and C run together (.-.-.) to represent the @ symbol.

While the draft new recommendation is still a working document, its expected to become a Recommendation within six months or so, pending approval by member-states. ■



Getting IN-VOLVED.....

Roger Wines, W5WIA

.....or just getting in? As a club member, it is anticipated you will be active in some way through-out the year. Some want to know they have an organization they can socialize with and be recognized as a member. Some feel obligated to pay dues to the club and be a passive member and have the use of the local repeaters. Some want to attend the meetings. Some like to see the presentations at the meetings. Some like the additional 'outside' activities. And some like to be more active in the area of serving the community with their abilities.

There is a place for everyone.

Because the club is going through a structural re-vamping, there is need for more personnel to be actively involved. This activity will require that we have some committee heads appointed, along with members to help. Several positions are still open and there is plenty of room to be a part of the committees. Some of these were listed at the last meeting, and more will be forthcoming throughout the year.

As a member, we want to hear from you with ideas of activities, presentations or anything you feel we should be doing. Write or call one (or more) of the club officers, and those things will be brought to the table for discussion.

"Go for more in 2004"

Over the WWaves...

Antique Radio Parts - <http://www.tubesandmore.com>

Battery Rebuilding Service - <http://www.sarrio.com>

Finding a DX station address - <http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2001/09/01/1/>

Web program to create Cabrillo logs - <http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2004/01/07/100/?nc=1>

Safety harness safety! - <http://www.cdc.gov/elcosh/docs/d0500/d000568/d000568.html>

Find a repeater-<http://amateur-radio.net/arn/rptr/index.html>

Flex Radio Information - <http://www.flex-radio.com>

Ham Calculator - <http://www.mhsoft.nl/Mysystem/Reactance.asp>

The QCWA QSO

Keith Zimmermann, K5WX



Chapter 67 (the Austin Chapter) of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA) will be celebrating its 30th anniversary this year! We will be planning some nice celebrations. If you received your first license before 1979, then why not consider joining QCWA this year?

It was in 1974 when a group of local amateur radio operators who had been licensed at least 25 years earlier formed Chapter 67. Let's turn back the clock and look in on that beginning...

J.E. Teykl, W5SD, (also know as "Nemo"), wrote to the National headquarters of QCWA on December 15, 1973 petitioning for a "Decree of official sanction and a charter, granting chapter status in accordance with provisions set up in the Constitution and By-laws of the Quarter Century Wireless Association."

The "original signers" listed on the bottom of that letter were:

Gene Mallard, Sr., W5OMP
Julius Donnell, Jr., K5YQG
Eugene Bartholomew, W5GQ
J.D. Yance, W5DCS
Amos Peters, Jr., W5LHX
J. Earl Debord, W5PPQ
J.E. Teykl, W5SD
W.A. Swearingen, W5UJ
James E. Hodge, W5AEQ
William E. Peterson, W5OY

A "pre-charter" meeting was held on January 31, 1974 at 7:30 PM at the Austin Savings & Loan (at Hancock Center). I vaguely remember that location being close to the old Wyatt's Cafeteria that used to be in Hancock Center. Add that to the number of restaurants and meeting spots that our local clubs have out-lived!

Two months later, on March 28, 1974, the adoption of a constitution and by-laws was completed at a meeting at the Austin Savings &

Loan conference center.

The President of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Mr. Frank A. Gunther, W2ALS, signed the charter for the "Austin Texas Chapter of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc." on May 15, 1974. As he said in his official letter:

"On behalf of all the Officers and Members of QCWA, it gives me great pleasure to extend a welcome to this group of Quarter Century Wireless operators who have thought enough to form a Chapter in the great City of Austin.

May the gang at Austin have many, many, enjoyable and worthwhile get togethers in the spirit of amateur radio."

We will be looking for ideas and suggestions on how to celebrate our 30th anniversary. Please join us at our next meeting on February 21. We are currently meeting at Owen's Restaurant on North IH35 at 11:30 AM.

Meanwhile, the QCWA chapter has been presenting code practice sessions every Wednesday night at 8 pm on the 146.78 MHz repeater. The code practice starts at a speed of 3 words per minute for five minutes. Then, approximately 20 minutes of 5 words per minute practice and 10 minutes of 7 words per minute practice is offered. We sometimes go as high as 25 words per minute. (We take requests for even higher speeds! Just drop us an e-mail.) The text of the code sessions is posted every week at www.qcwa.net.

Current information is always available at our own Web site: 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 Secretary@qcwa.net if you have questions. (Every member is eligible for a special e-mail address linked to their permanent address!)

Information sharing in high gear:

From Rick Herndon, K5FNI

If you are interested in finding out what the lingo is that you hear on the air or read in QST, here's a good glossary provided on the ARRL Web site:

<http://www.arrl.org/qst/glossary.html>

If you want to write for QST, the easy-to-follow instructions are here:

<http://www.arrl.org/qst/aguide/#qst>

If you want to know the abbreviations used in ARRL publications:

http://www.arrl.org/qst/aguide/Abbrev_AWE.pdf

How about HF propagation charts?

<http://www.arrl.org/qst/propcharts/>

Propagation charts are no longer printed in QST. Instead, they are provided here in Adobe PDF files. You'll need Adobe's free Acrobat Reader (version 3.0 or later) to view and print these files. Charts are now calculated to cover calendar months. The file for each month will appear here on the 25th of the preceding month. Starting with March 1999, there are separate charts for each US region. Stations located in a region of the US can download just the file needed for their location.

How about ARRL South Texas Section news? This information is by our section manager (Ray Taylor, N5NAV, with contact information for him, should you have a question or want to send him some news) and covers recent and coming events and happenings in our south Texas area of interest to amateur radio operators.

<http://www.arrl.org/sections/STX.html>

Links to QST articles...here are many, many articles, set up so you can have your very own copy of the article to help you in station operation, building projects, etc. Description of the article follows the link to the Adobe Acrobat .pdf file link.

<http://www.arrl.org/files/qst-binaries/>

QST features and columns are explained here. There are many links to access information from most of them, so it is of interest to new and seasoned readers of QST.

<http://www.arrl.org/qst/features-columns.html>

Issue archive page shows the last 12 months' cover art, main articles, and provides links to some articles for all readers.

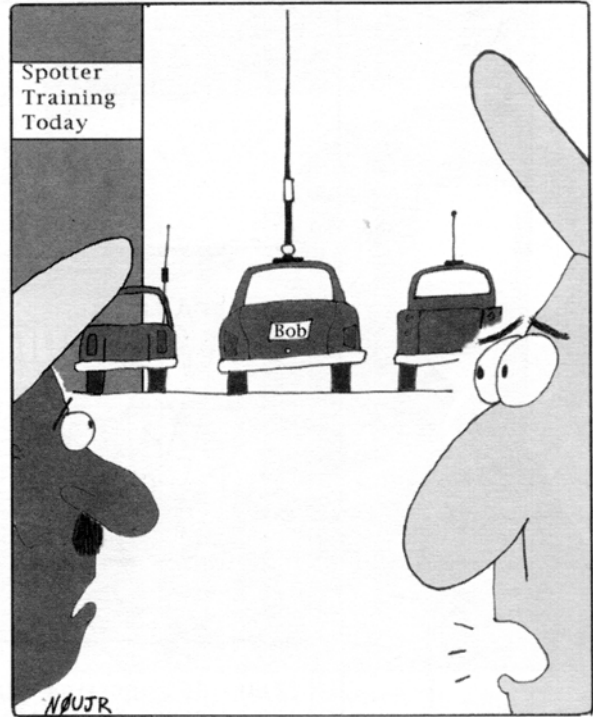
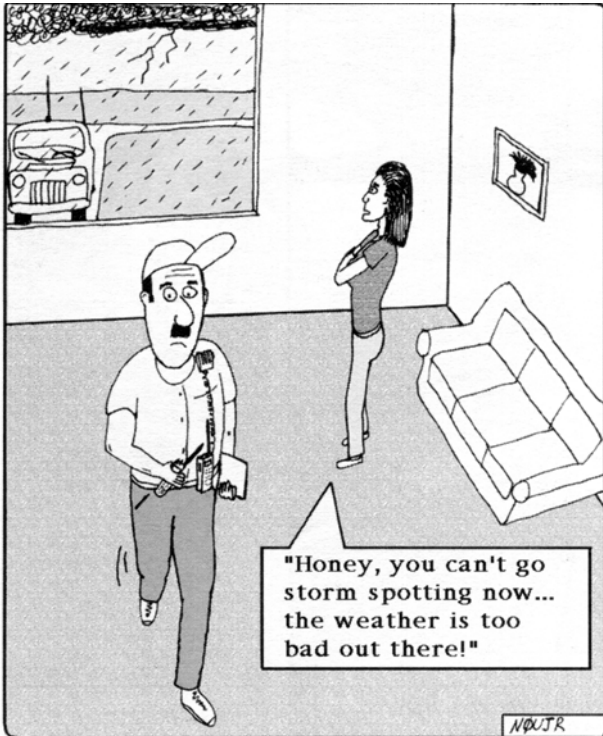
<http://www.arrl.org/qst/archive-november.html>



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 section called **AARCOVERFLOW**. It is there to put in news and articles that just missed the AARCOVER deadline. Check it out!

NØUJR and His Friends By Greg Trook, NØUJR



“For some unknown reason, Bob always seems to have the best transmit signal, and the worst luck with lightning.”

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We have a very large number of new hams in our ranks of ARO, AARC, QRP, TV, DX & ARES. Please when the opportunity arises or, if asked, answer their questions or at least point them in the right direction. Don't drop the ball and let them fall thru the cracks, but follow up on them to see if their needs were satisfied. I know this sounds like a lot of effort, but if your prepared with a pen and a card of some kind you can get their name, call, and telephone number for the follow up call. This will immediately become important to them and you will feel better about yourself too. That's why the Austin area is known as the friendly city. Eat your oatmeal and do the right thing.
73 Smokey K5RDJ

Korner

LAST AARCover.....

.....for those not having paid their dues for 2004. Read your address label, and unless it has 2004 or later in the upper right hand corner, this is the last copy you will receive in the mail. The 'Y' or 'N' to the right of the year signifies if you are an ARRL member or not. This has nothing to do with your dues to the club.

2004 is the year of exciting times and increase in membership. We hope you will remain a part of it. There will be plenty to do and opportunities for each of us to be a part of it. The club had an increase in membership over the past year, and we expect that trend to continue through 2004. Watch this publication for updates on activities, meetings, and community involvement.

.....Roger W5WhoopieIA (Treas.)

ARO/AARC Meeting Info.

Austin Repeater Organization

February 3 - The presentation will be done by Joe Fisher, K5EJL on 160m mobile antenna solutions. Learn how you can get on this band as a mobile operator.

Austin Amateur Radio Club

February 10 - It's a ham radio show-and-tell! Everyone, bring something that is ham radio related that you think is unique and interesting. It may be an old tube type radio, a copy of the first QST, an old CW keyer or whatever! Bring something and then see what everyone else brings!

Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- February 7 & March 6

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- February 21 & March 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.

DUES ARE DUE!!!

\$20 single / \$30 family. See Roger Wines

Calendar of Events

Feb 1 *Georgetown Superbowl Sunday Swapmeet* San Gabriel Park Community Center Open 12noon-3PM w5rht@arrl.net 863-2428 or km5mq@arrl.net 255-6753 www.wcarc.com

Feb 14 *Helicopter Landing Zone Class* 9AM Shoreline Christian Ctr. 15201 Burnet Road www.mset-tx.org Dan KC5SWU Motorcycle Special Event Team contact@mset-tx.org Home: (512) 892-0875

Feb 15 *Motorola Marathon*- Martin KM5CT@arrl.net APRS/packet and voice operators needed to track race and buses.

Feb 21 *Smithville Swapmeet* Riverside Park 8AM-noon. Free admission; cheap tables & tailgate spots available
www.austinhams.org/bcarc/Smithville_Swapfest_2004.html

Feb 28 *Skywarn Weatherspotter Class* at 3M

Feb 28 *Orange Hamfest*- Orange, Texas- Sat 8AM to 2:30PM VFW Hall on Hwy 87, 1 mile N of I-10 Free admission
Contact Joan Lexa 409-886-1892 WA5LFS@pnx.com

Feb.	Mar.	Austin Meetings/Happenings	
3	2	ARO Meeting, Marimont Cafeteria	7:00p.m.
14	13	Austin QRP Club, Owens on I-35 N	11:30 a.m.
10	9	AARC Meeting, ARL Auditorium *	7:00 p.m.
17	16	ATV Club Meeting, Marimont	7:00 p.m.
21	20	QCWA Meeting Owens Restaurant	11:30a.m.
23	22	Travis Co. REACT Denny's on Burnet	7:00 p.m.
No	23	Travis County A.R.E.S., Marimont	7:00 p.m.

* 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.

Time Value Newsletter

Permit No. 2942

Austin, TX

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