

AARC OVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs
Austin Amateur Radio Club
Austin Amateur Television Club
Austin Repeater Organization

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January 2005

Happy New Year!

Issue 1-2005

Emergency Communications Courses

by Bill Eastman, KE5ASU

If you are a member of the ARRL, there are three Emergency Communications courses that you can take online. They are each \$45, but are reimbursed by grants. One grant will end next summer and the other will end in Dec. of 05.

The descriptions for the three courses is from <http://www.remote.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>. They have a syllabus and Required Student Activities for each course.

EC-001 - Introduction to Amateur Radio Emergency Communications. A basic course to raise awareness and provide additional knowledge and tools for any emergency communications volunteer. This course has 23 lesson units, is expected to take approximately 25 hours to complete over an 8-week period, and earns 1.5 CEUs

EC-002 - Intermediate Amateur Radio Emergency Communications. A more in-depth study into amateur radio emergency communications to enhance the skills and knowledge received from previous experience. Level I ARECC is required prior to taking Level II. This course has 20 lesson units, is expected to take approximately 25 hours to complete over an 8-week period, and earns 1.5 CEUs.

EC-003 - Advanced Amateur Radio Emergency Communications. This is the third and final stage of the planned 3-level ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Courses. This course is designed to bridge the gap between basic participation and leadership. Both Level I and Level II certifications are required prior to taking this course. This course has 23 lesson units, is expected to take approximately 25 hours to complete over an 8-week period, and earns 1.5 CEUs.

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 Practice	146.78 MHz
Wed	11:30 a.m.-1p.m.	TCARES 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	6:30 p.m.	Central Texas Traffic Net	147.14MHz+

ARRL News

ARRL Letter Vol 23, No. 49

ARRL VEC exam session application fee to change: Starting January 1, the fee charged all applicants at ARRL VEC-coordinated Amateur Radio examination sessions will rise from \$12 to \$14. ARRL Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams may retain up to \$6 of this fee to reimburse the VE team's out-of-pocket test session-related expenses. The fee is charged to anyone applying for a new amateur license or an upgrade. It also applies to ARRL VEC-session applicants retesting on the same element after being unsuccessful (where examiners permit), or applicants seeking grandfather-credit upgrades and not taking an exam. ARRL VEC Manager Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, says that while the number of examinees has dropped in the past year--possibly due in part to the uncertainty regarding pending licensing proposals--the cost of business and expenses incurred by ARRL VEs and the ARRL VEC continues to rise.

"Cost-saving measures already have included staff reduction, reduced printing and distribution charges for VE training material and exam software--both now only available via the Web--and elimination of lesser-used services," he said. The ARRL provides free FCC license renewals, address changes and other license modification services to current members. Nonmembers pay \$14 for those services.

This weekend on the radio: The Russian 160-Meter Contest is December 17. The OK DX RTTY Contest and the RAC Winter Contest are December 18. The MDXA PSK DeathMatch, the Croatian CW Contest, the Stew Perry Topband Challenge and the International Naval Contest are the weekend of December 18-19. The RAEM Contest and the DARC Christmas Contest are December 26. ARRL Straight Key Night is January 1, 2005 (UTC). See the ARRL Contest Branch page <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/>> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/>> for more info.

ARRL Certification and Continuing Education course registration: Registration for the ARRL Antenna Modeling (EC-004) and Radio Propagation (EC-011) on-line courses remains open through Sunday, December 19. Classes begin Friday December 31. This course is an excellent way to learn the ins and outs of computerized antenna modeling. Antenna modeling expert and noted author L.B. Cebik, W4RNL, has combined the expertise of his long career as a college professor with his love and antennas and antenna modeling to offer a comprehensive, yet practical, course of study. Radio Propagation students will study the science of RF propagation and various propagation modes. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>> Web page or contact the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program Department, <cce@arrl.org>.

Ham Radio Volunteer Exam Results

ARRL VEC – The following is a summary of the ARRL VE test session held at Murchison Middle School on December 4th, 2004:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Kathleen N. Burns KD5QPH (Tech + HF privileges)
Robbin E. Chapman K5RBN (Tech + HF privileges)
Michael F. Sweeney

General Class License Processed

Jack Williams, W5QZJ

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Skip Glueck, K5ZUA Larry Gunter, WB5BEK
Gene Hinkle, K5PA Joe Makeever, W5HS
Tom Nevue, W2MN Herb Nolen, W5HMN
John Stott, AC5ZT

Next Two ARRL VE Test Sessions

January 8th - Murchison Middle School
February 5th - Murchison Middle School

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

W5YI-VEC –

Not available at press time

Our volunteer examiner were:

Our next two sessions: January 15th & February 19th at 2 PM in room 109 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University.

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.



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 Public Information Officer	Roger Wines	W5WIA	453-2193	w5wia@arrl.net

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

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. has a membership dues of \$20.00/calendar year (\$30.00 family to the same address)
The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. AARC maintains the following repeaters. 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. 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** 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 Jerry Jackson, N5UJ (512) 832-5663 jerry@gaj.net

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

Over the WWWaves... A Collection of Various Websites sent in by members.

<http://www.qsl.net/wn5y/links.htm> Stuff for beginners like how to solder etc.

<http://www.cqham.ru/0699snl.html> Modifying the GE Delta Radio.

<http://www.uoguelph.ca/~antoon/gadgets/sctest.html> Testing SCR's in the shack.

<http://www.jg1vgx.net/etc/pilemania0.09.zip> Pileup simulator.

<http://tinfoil.com/cm-0406.htm#morse-code> 1915 More code signal?

<http://www.geocities.com/Vienna/9349/> The sound of Mathematics.

AARC Christmas Party

John Suchyta, KG5O

The annual Austin Amateur Radio Club Christmas Party was held on Tuesday, December 14 at the Episcopal Church of the Resurrection on Justin Lane. Mueller's BBQ provided the brisket, sausage, smoked turkey, beans, coleslaw, and 2 sauces. Club members brought enough desserts to fill 1 table and overflow onto a second. Popular entertainer George Toone, WB5FBJ, provided the songs, a poem, and a sing-along. Over 85 people attended.

Guest of honor was Coy Day, N5OK, ARRL West Gulf Division Director, who presented an 85 Year Affiliation plaque to AARC President John Suchyta, KG5O. AARC is one of the oldest, if not the oldest, amateur radio club that has remained affiliated with ARRL. Incidentally, Coy also presented us with our 80 Year plaque 5 years ago, just after he became Division Director. ARRL South Texas Section Manager Ray Taylor, N5NAV, also phoned in his congratulations and best wishes.



Coy Day, N5OK presents Pres. John Suchyta, KG5O with 85 year affiliation certificate.

The table top decoration contest was won by Mitch London, KD5HCV, whose entry was a log cabin with working lights and a tower with rotating Yagi. Second place was Jerry Jackson, N5UJ, who brought a cozy ham shack. Third place was Milly Nunis, N5WQG, who displayed a Storm Chaser motif.



Hugh Brown, NT5O taps his way to the QLF trophy.

Bill Eastman, KE5ASU, won the 50/50 pot. He took home \$20 while the club got the other \$20.

The QLF contest had 5 entries. First place was taken by Hugh Brown, NT5O. Hugh took home, for the second time in a row, the bronze left shoe trophy which is passed to each year's winner. Hugh also won a microphone for his effort. Second place was won by Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV. He took home a Repeater Directory. Third place was won by Mitch London, KD5HCV. Mitch received an MFJ 24 hour clock. Other entrants were Bob Dixon, KD5TFI, and Alan Russell, no call, who signed with N0CALL.

A Silent Auction was held with several interesting items.

Major prizes and winners included:

- 2005 ARRL Antenna Book donated by Coy Day of ARRL – Smokey Wiley, K5RDJ, 2004 ARRL Handbook donated by Austin Amateur Radio Supply – Rick Kirchhof, KD5ABM, DVD player – Mickie Inks, K5IOJ, Leather suit bag – JP Sugarbrood, KD5ZVR,

Texas flag, flown over the Capitol on 12/5/04 (AARC anniversary), donated by Senator Ken Armbrister's Office – Kevin Kane, AD5RA, Icom T2H HT – Kevin Kane, AD5RA, Yaesu VX150 HT – Thomas Visel, NX1N.

Mitch London, KD5HCV, and Alan Russell, no call, did another fine job this year with the organization and setup for the party.

AARC Dues are Due!

John Suchyta, KG5O

The AARC dues for 2005 are now due. The dues are still \$20 for a single and \$30 for family membership. Special student (high school and below) membership is available for \$5 per year. In addition to the usual cash and checks, you can now pay by PayPal. Simply use the form on the AustinHams.org web site (even though it still says 2003) or, if none of your pertinent information has changed, just submit your check or PayPal payment. Note that the PayPal link is in the middle of the AustinHams.org home page under "Membership Dues for 2005 are now due". New AARC Treasurer Jerry Jackson, N5UJ, will gladly accept your form and/or payment.

AARC and ARO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION For year ending December 31, 2005		
APPLICATION FOR: (check applicable box and enclose payment to either) AARC/ARO <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 single <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 family (all with same mailing address)		
For 'first time registrants to ARRL' - join both ARRL and the local clubs (a \$15 savings) (<u>make check payable to AARC</u>)		
Local QCWA dues for the year - add \$6 to your check and indicate here <input type="checkbox"/>		
----- Bring this form with payment to the club meeting -----		
<input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBER - NEVER BEFORE REGISTERED (or lapsed 2+ years)		
Call sign _____	First Name _____ Last Name _____	
ARRL member Y N	License class E A G T+ T N Year first licensed _____	
Mail Address _____		
City/St/Zip _____		
Hm Ph _____	Cel Ph _____ Wk Ph _____	
Pager # _____ e-mail _____		
Please list additional family members here and check the family member box above.		
2 nd Call _____ Name _____	ARRL mem Y N	
3 rd Call _____ Name _____	ARRL mem Y N	
4 th Call _____ Name _____	ARRL mem Y N	
I/WE have interest in the following:		
<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly meetings	<input type="checkbox"/> Field Day	<input type="checkbox"/> Transmitter Hunts
<input type="checkbox"/> Talking on 2 mtrs	<input type="checkbox"/> DXing	<input type="checkbox"/> Holding Office
<input type="checkbox"/> Presenting programs	<input type="checkbox"/> CW	<input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Comm's
<input type="checkbox"/> Holding ARRL office	<input type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Working w/Youth
<input type="checkbox"/> Others _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Working Events	<input type="checkbox"/> Net Control
	<input type="checkbox"/> ?Newsletter	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Awareness

Click-On Libraries

Today, 15 million library books online - tomorrow, all the information in the world.

That's the bold vision of the founders of Google, the world's most popular Internet search service. This week they took a giant step toward their goal by announcing agreements with five big libraries to make their collections available online - more than 15 million books and papers, ready for viewing in a few years. Google will underwrite the digitizing of all the noncopyrighted holdings at Stanford University and the University of Michigan libraries, and some of the collections at the New York Public Library and Harvard and Oxford universities. Copyrighted books will be excerpted.

This is right up there with the invention of the Gutenberg printing press. The common denominator is the wide dissemination of information. Gutenberg made human knowledge more broadly accessible through paper. Google does the same through the computer. Not limited to location or profession, the shelves of well-stocked libraries will be available in the far corners of the earth, enhancing distance learning. And now hard-to-find books will be only a click away.

Additionally, the Google deal is based on a supposedly viable business model. Digitizing books costs enormous time and money, and that's prevented many libraries from taking this step. Expect other search engines to strike deals with other libraries. The race to digitize all the information in the world is on.

CLUB MINUTES

ARO Meeting, December 7, 2004

The last official meeting of the Austin Repeater Organization was called to order at 7:28pm by President Jeff Schmidt, N5MNNW, at the Marimont Cafeteria on 38th at Guadalupe. Jeff mentioned that the ARO will be re-integrated into the Austin Amateur Radio Club as of January 1, 2005. The AARC will have its business meeting on the first Tuesday of each month at the Marimont. The second Tuesday of each month will be devoted to "Hands-on Hamming" sessions.

Minutes: The November 2004 ARO meeting minutes were approved as published in the AARCOVER.

Treasury Report: Treasurer Roger Wines, W5WIA, was absent, so the bank balance was not reported. Dues for 2005 are now due. Make checks payable to AARC.

Technical Committee: Ed Golla was asked to look at the problem with the 146.78 repeater.

Old Business: None. **New Business:** None. **Web Site:** Get any updates to Lee Cooper, W5LHC.

Ham of the Month: President Schmidt named Jeff Draper, N5SSI, and Mickey McInnis, W5XU, as Hams of the Month for their video of a car floating down Bull Creek during recent flooding. Jeff and Mickey were blocking a water crossing when the car, with a woman still in it came down the creek. The woman was rescued. Congrats to Jeff & Mickey.

Equipment Loaner Program: President Schmidt announced that the club has a new 2 meter packet station for loan, which includes the radio, KPC3+ TNC, and power supply. Curt Goodson, W4QBU has the club's MFJ259B antenna analyzer. The Yaesu FT530 dual band HT and Kenwood TS140 HF rig are available. Contact Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ, to reserve equipment and make suggestions for new equipment.

Visitors: Ginger Kirchhof, KD5JPW, visited with us tonight. Likewise, Stew Morrill, KE5BWA, and his wife Marlene, Ron Clayton, N5SYZ, and his wife, Josie, KD5CLU, and George Toone, WB5FBJ, joined us as new members.

Announcements: Jerry Jackson, N5UJ, told of the test results of 11 LBJ High School students who took the Technician exam. Seven passed the written test and the code test. One additional student passed the code test but not the written. All the girls passed the code test.

Jerry also mentioned the accelerated class being held on Wednesday nights for CTECC folks.

Joe Fisher, K5EJL, mentioned that the LBJ students still need to get their antenna up. They also need more tools of all kinds.

Mitch London, KD5HCV, gave an update of what to expect at the AARC Christmas Party on Dec 14. He has over \$2000 worth of prizes. The menu will be barbecue and smoked turkey. Mitch asked all to bring a potluck dessert and to not forget about the table decorating contest. Due to the AARC's 85th anniversary on Dec 5, ARRL West Gulf Division Director Coy Day, N5OK will be on hand to present the club with a certificate of affiliation. Cost is \$7 per person in advance, and \$10 at the door.

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:05pm.

Program: Jeff Schmidt, N5MNNW, gave a history of ARO (founded in 1975) and local ham radio. Jeff has been putting together stories and anecdotes about Austin amateur radio for the last 10 years. He presented an unfinished article about the local hams who were key players in developing the first repeaters, as well as VHF operations, in Austin and surrounding areas. Many of the names were familiar to the senior members of the club. Some of the club's senior members were also involved in these efforts.

Jeff is continuing to collect stories about local amateur radio and would appreciate your help with this.

Submitted by John Suchyta, KG5O

ARO Secretary

The QCWA QSO

By Keith Zimmermann, K5WX

The program to kick-off 2005 will be "How to be a better you - A glimpse into how we think and learn." WA5ZLI, Hank Belopavlovich, has been teaching effective learning methods for 20 years. He recently has been teaching Morse code classes in Marble Falls. Not only do his students learn code, but they also learn relaxation techniques, test-taking techniques, and a basic understanding of how our brains work most effectively.

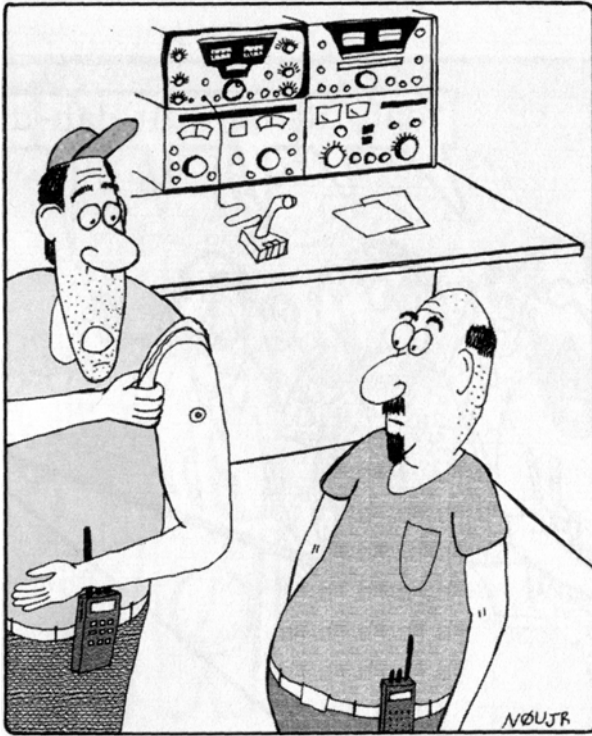


Please note: The January meeting will be at 2 PM on Saturday, January 15th at Denny's at 7820 Burnet Road. This Denny's location is on Burnet Road between Anderson Lane and Northcross Drive. This is a new location and a new time for us! Please make a note of it. All are welcome to join us for the meeting. Come and have a dessert or a late lunch or just come to hear the program!

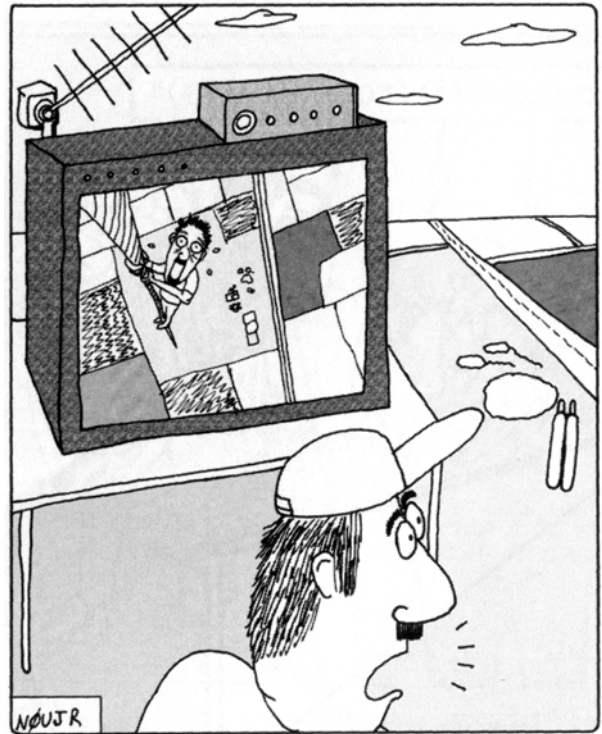
Always check the QCWA Chapter 67 web site at www.qcwa.net for meeting location and times. Remember, you don't have to be a member to attend. This is a great opportunity for folks to come together. There is also an Austin QCWA e-mail reflector at Yahoo Groups under AQCWA. Or, just call Keith, K5WX, at 258-7169 or e-mail to K5WX@QCWA.net if you have questions.

NØUJR and His Friends

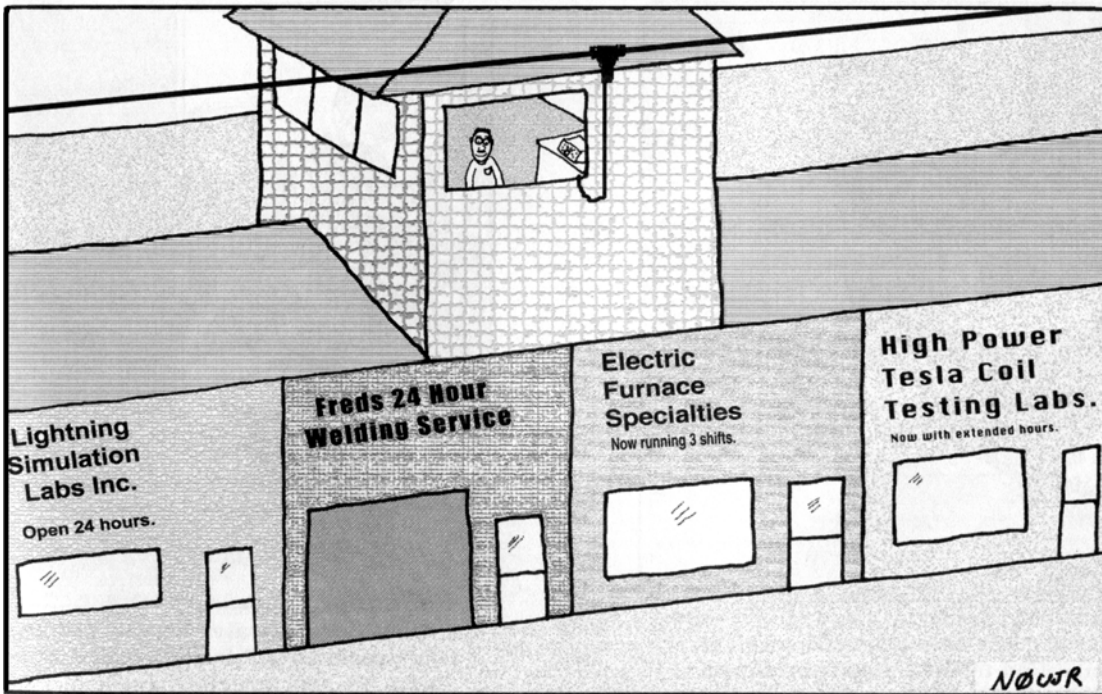
By Greg Trook, NØUJR



“This is the new RF exposure device I came up with. When you reach the maximum cumulative exposure, the red center pops out. My wife says it’s perfect for a turkey like me.”



“Howard, where are you? !!! I’ve got the first images coming through on the big ATV balloon you just launched!”



Dale anxiously moves into his new apartment, having received permission to install a 160 meter dipole. Unfortunately, he fails to perceive the potential for local interference.

AARC Meeting Info.

Business Meeting

January 4th - John Suchyta, KG5O and Jeff Schmidt, N5MNNW will discuss a summary of 2004 and the goals of 2005.

Hands on Hamming

January 11th - De-intimidating technology by Jeff Schmidt, N5MNNW

Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- January 8 & February 5
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 exam fee.

W5YI VEC- January 15 & February 19
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.

Dues are DUE Dude!

2005 is almost here and it's time to pay your dues!
\$20 for individual or \$30 for families at same residence.
Make checks payable to AARC. Contact Jerry Jackson to
find out if you are paid up for next year! See Page 6!

Calendar of Events

Jan 8 San Antonio Swapmeet Little Joe's Country Gold 7405 Old Pearsall Road- 1 mile outside Loop 410, SW side of San Antonio Talk-in on both 146.940- (179.9 PL) and 444.100+ (179.9 PL) www.w5sc.org/swapfest.htm

Jan 30 3M Half Marathon for Capital Area Food Bank www.3m.com/races/ Dan Cronch N5RVS 3M Electronic Solutions Division 984-3882

Volunteers will need a handheld or mobile 2-meter radio we will be operating on the 3M ARC repeater on 146.90MHz
Volunteers will receive a t-shirt for identification Pre-race briefing will be held at the 3M ARC meeting: 6PM Thursday, Jan 13- Mr. Gatti's Pizza, 620 at Lake Creek Parkway

Jan.	Feb.	Austin Meetings/Happenings
4	1	AARC Meeting Marimont Cafeteria 7:00p.m.
8	12	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop* 11:00 a.m.
11	8	Hands on Hamming ARL Auditorium 7:00 p.m.
18	15	ATV Club Meeting, Marimont 7:00 p.m.
15	19	QCWA Denny's on Burnet Rd. 2:00p.m.
24	28	Travis Co. REACT Denny's on Burnet 7:00 p.m.
25	No	Travis County A.R.E.S., Marimont 7:00 p.m.

*New meeting location and time, Alvin's Sandwich Shop
12200 Research.

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.

Non-Profit Organization
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