



AARCOVER

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

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Issue 10-2005

The Case of the Poor Cell Signal

By Steve Bosbach, KW5V

This is an example of applying what we have learned as ham radio operators in an area of public telecommunications. This all started when we built a new house on a ridge in SW Travis County, just outside city limits. This is where the hill country starts, and cell phone coverage is often hit and miss. My wife does part time work out of our home and often needs to use the cell phone for business. She found it necessary to leave the house and go out on the porch to keep the call from dropping. This wasn't bad in good weather, but began to get old in the winter. After a year of this, and the summer almost gone, I began to look at alternatives and find out why we had such a poor signal in such a good RF location.

Her service is through T-Mobile, and much to their credit, T-Mobile provide approximate coverage maps for each area. These are fairly detailed, and show contour lines of how the signal fades down from each cell tower. I then overlaid our local coverage map on an elevation quad. What I found most interesting was how the signal faded rapidly as one approached a ridge. The signal was actually better down in the hollow below the ridge! This is exactly what I discovered in practice, driving around and checking cell coverage with her phone. Then it dawned on me! The antenna patterns we are accustomed to with amateur transmission in the low bands cover down to the horizon, and we make significant efforts to get our signal down there close to horizontal, especially at VHF and UHF. The cell phone pattern seemed just the opposite! Saturation seemed intentionally designed to go from the bottom of the tower to horizontal, tapering off near the horizon. We were high enough to be close to this horizon cut off in the antenna pattern! Efforts to get T-Mobile to change their antenna pattern fell of deaf ears.

It seemed like a simple case of not enough gain. O K, as ham ops, we know how to deal with that. Simply put up an external antenna and plug in your phone. Here's where it started to get interesting. The newer digital phones are on 1900 MHz and don't have external antenna ports. There are inductive adapters out there, but there are losses in those,

(Continued on page 4)

Periodic Events

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	146.64 MHz - (162.2)
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 -
Tues.	8:00 p.m.	Bastrop ARES Net	443.750+ (114.80)
Wed	8:00 p.m.	Code Practice	146.94 MHz -
Wed	11:30 a.m.-1p.m.	Ham Social Luncheon, Jim's at 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+

Getting on Frequency

Being in fairly new territory, I asked around about obtaining scanner frequencies painlessly. This being a rural county (Jackson County TX), I eventually wandered to the nearest Radio Shack store. This one turned out to be the associate store in El Campo. When I brought up the concept, the clerk scratched her head and went to a small, plastic box of old-style scanner crystals and dug around in the top of the box. She handed me a tiny list of 10 frequencies that had obviously undergone many, many generations of copying. I thanked her for the list and took it home, sadly. When I got there, I inspected it and discovered it was ONLY an old list for El Campo which had none of the surrounding cities. I live in Ganado, about 19 miles away, so these frequencies could be useful, but did not come close to satisfying my needs.

Talking with a ham over in Edna, our county seat, he pointed me to a treasure of a resource, which I'll gladly share with AACROVER readers:

<http://www.cityfreq.com/tx/>

The site has some questionable ads, so I don't recommend clicking on them too much. And it lacks any sign of credit for the really large effort that must go into keeping this thing up, unless they use robotic software to snag frequencies from the FCC.gov database. So, it is a K5FNI call-sign gimme cap off to the unsigned creators and tireless workers who keep up the site.

Hope it gives you some new frequencies of benefit. If you have a computer programmable scanner of the portable ilk, maybe you can set up to scan while you are on vacations or other trips where you'll have time on your hands. It has certainly never been easier to get frequencies than now.

73 es gud DX de K5FNI, Rick

New South Austin IRLP Node by Jim, WA5VPW

I live in south Austin. If you are interested in IRLP, I want to inform you that I have established a new IRLP node in south Austin. Here is the information:

Frequency: 146.42MHz, simplex

Tone: 110.9

Access code: None

To use the node, simply key your transmitter and using your touchtone pad, dial the remote node you want to connect to. Wait for the remote link to establish and have at it. To disconnect, key your transmitter and dial 73 on your touchtone pad.

Node callsign: WA5VPW

Node location: Southwest Austin, Oak Hill area, close to the intersection of William Cannon and Highway 290

Node RF info: 50 watts to a 2 meter colinear antenna up about 25 feet at the base.

Please feel free to use it as much as you wish and tell your ham friends about the node. It is on 24 hours a day.

For a complete list of other IRLP nodes in the USA and worldwide, go to <http://status.irlp.net/>

For more detailed IRLP information, go to

<http://www.irlp.net>

Ham Radio Volunteer Exam Results

ARRL VEC – The following are the results of the ARRL VE test session held at the LCRA Harry Shapiro Building on September 10th, 2005:

Technician Class License Processed

Keith Stolle

Extra Class Licenses Processed

Kevin G. Crouthamel, N5TQG

William R. Crouthamel, WB3DQT

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Howard Glueck, K5ZUA Larry Gunter, WB5BEK

Jim Lindley, K5EWS Joe Makeever, W5HS

Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Roy Walker, WA5YZD

Next Two ARRL VE Test Sessions

October 8th - LCRA Colorado Room (North of Shapiro Bldg.) **November 5th** - LCRA Colorado Room (North of Shapiro Bldg.)

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 September 17th session:

Extra Class –

none

General Class –

Anthony D. Niesz, N1LWI

Marjorie R. Nadler-Olenick, KE5CPC

Technician Class -none-

Timothy L. Clement

Gary R. Dewbre

Mark M. Mims

Shawn R. Snow

Another applicant earned element credit without upgrading.

Our volunteer examiner were:

Hugh Brown, NT5O

Tony Lyon, KJ5XF

John Fisher, K5JHF

Dennis Murphy, W5KQF

Lloyd Goehring, N5TO

Roger Pfluger, AC5IP

Jim Greenwood, AB5EK

Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Our next two sessions: **October 15th** and **November 19th** 2005 at 2 PM in room 109 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University.

Exam fee is \$14.00

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
Vice President	Jeff Schmidt	N5MNV	255-6753	n5mnw@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 Newslines @ 9p.m. Sunday; 224.80 MHz (-1.600); 444.10 MHz (+5); & 145.01 MHz packet NetROM node (KB5PM-1 or alias AUS). Persons residing or working within the coverage area are expected to join the club, if they use the autopatch. Non-residents on short visits are welcome to use this autopatch. **The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches.** Please transmit your call **before** using the phone patch. Press * and dial the phone number to place a call. Do not unkey after the *. When finished, press # to hang up the phone. Dial 911 (no * needed) for emergency services.

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.

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Thanks to Jerry Jackson, N5UJ, who mails the AARCOVER each month!

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

See Jerry Jackson, N5UJ (512) 832-5663 jerry@gaj.com

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

NOV 4 AUSTIN RADIO ROUNDUP DINNER RESERVATIONS NEEDED BY OCT 1

We need to have a good Radio RoundUp dinner count to VFW, so please register online www.austinhams.org/registration.htm, call me 255-6753 or email N5MNV@ARRL.net and advise if you plan on coming to dinner, whether you register early or not. \$15 ea/\$28 couple for made-to-order steak or chicken dinner, Casino games, raffle tickets and Swapfest admission. Prices go up in October so please sign up now!

NOV 5 AUSTIN RADIO ROUNDUP SWAPMEET VFW Post 8787

www.austinhams.org/registration.htm

\$1 admission, \$10/\$15 tables, 512-255-6753 N5MNV@ARRL.NET

\$5 RV Hookups, \$5 to dump

AARC CLUB OFFICERS NEEDED—ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER!

(Continued from page 1) Poor Cell Signal

and at 1900 MHz, almost any coax you use will have a considerable hit in RF loss. An amplifier / preamp combination runs around \$300.00, plus the external antenna. A full repeater system is \$500.00 - \$800.00. All of the yagi and panel antennas I saw out there for 1900 Hz had real gain in the range of 9-13 dbi, and ran in the neighborhood of \$60.00 to \$70.00. Fifty feet of coax and the cell phone adapter would have losses around 5 db minimum and more likely 6-8 db. That's a lot of expense for an antenna with 3 to 5 db of real gain!

My thoughts began to turn towards really high gain antennas, and I turned to the dish antennas now being used by WiFi users to extend their network range. There was an article in July 2005 QST explaining how this is done. I reasoned that the 2300 MHz band they use is close enough to the digital cell phone band to be adaptable and the gain of a dish could be around 20+ dbi!

After some research on frequency vs. dish size, I knew I wanted something at least 30 inches across and more if I could get it. Most of the antennas for networking are mesh semi-dishes, with lower gain and smaller sizes. I finally found a solid aluminum 27" dish on E Bay that had been dinged on the edge and was steeply discounted. Being solid, the accuracy would be better (theoretically), and I should be able to get away with a smaller dish. This had a center hole feed mount and a circular patch feed. After receiving the painted white dish, I took it out in the sun and worked the perimeter back into shape until I had a good focus of sunlight on the feed. I then painted it black and mounted it on the tower at about 15 feet, below tree top level, pointed toward the nearest cell tower. The low height was a compromise between obstruction of signal path and loss in coax length, as even with 9913, losses are significant in longer runs at this frequency.

I connected with N connectors and 9913 into the house, where I adapted down to RG223 (double shield RG58) for six feet to keep it flexible at the phone, and then finally to the inductive phone adapter. With the cell phone on the desk, unattached, it showed 1 bar of signal strength. When I finally got the last connector hooked up, with the dish connected, it went full scale! Woo Hoo!, I didn't even have to modify the patch feed! When I measured the patch is was a little big for 2300Mhz, and I began to wonder if this antenna wasn't really designed for a lower frequency to begin with and the E Bay store just adapted them for WiFi networks. Total cost including coax was still around \$70.00, but based on antenna gain vs. loss in the system, I knew it would work. Thanks go to ARRL for publishing a great antenna handbook, and giving me the theory I needed to make some correct choices to solve this problem. If others out there have similar coverage problems with their cell phone from home, I'll try to answer questions and fill in the details of this project.



Steve Bosbach KW5V

REWARD OFFERED!!!

A Reward of 500 Microfarads is offered for the information leading to the arrest of Hop-a-Long Capacity. This unrectified criminal escaped from a western primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the Gauss chamber. He is charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Milli Henry who was found choked and robbed of valuable Joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. Capacity is also charged with driving a DC motor over a Wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass.

If encountered, he may offer series of resistance. The electromotive force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to Earth. They had no success and believed he had returned Ohm via a short circuit. He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic.

(A bit of humor forwarded by Mr. Mark Bushnell, Director of Engineering at CCA Electronics. Original Author unknown.)



Club Minutes

AARC Meeting, September 6th, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by President John Suchyta, KG5O, at the ARL labs 10100 N. Burnet Road, Austin Texas

Visitors: Russell Pothast, WA0YEI and Francis Ripley JR, W5EMC were guests at the meeting.

Monthly Drawing Winner: There was no drawing at the meeting

Minutes: The August 2005 meeting minutes were approved as published.

Officer Reports:

President: John, KG5O thanked everyone that had been helping with the Katrina ARES activation. We have had folks helping out in various areas, on HF, at the Red Cross, Manning the EOC and assisting at the Convention Center and shelters. He also thanks all that helped with Summerfest, only few short weeks ago!

Vice President: Jeff, N5MNV presented an update on the Austin Radio Roundup swap meet that will be held on the 1st weekend in November. Plans with the VFW Post 8787 have been firming up and we should have details available for publishing soon.

Information can be found on www.austinhams.org

Jeff also updated everyone on the upcoming Technician class and the code class being held at the Freescale Bluestein facility. This is a change of location due to the EOC activation.

Treasury Report: Jerry, N5UJ reported that the deposit had been made to the VFW for the Austin Radio Roundup swap meet.

Secretary Report: Lee, W5LHC asked everyone to check www.tcares.org for the latest information regarding the ARES involvement with Katrina activities.

Ham of the Month: Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ was nominated for Ham of the Month. On Wednesday, August 31st, just 2 days after Hurricane Katrina caused unexpected damage to much of the South, Lori Schmidt volunteered to take traffic and pass it over to LA, MS and AL as appropriate. Lori took email messages, relayed traffic on HF, and acknowledged back via email. Lori was our single point to run messages through and perhaps get them passed faster. Thanks to Lori for accepting this challenge. Submitted by Don Dudley, AC5YK

Committee Reports:

Events Committee: No report

Programs Committee: There will be a presentation on the upcoming Amateur Radio Direction finding contest that will be held in Bastrop in October. Details on www.austinhams.org.

Finance Committee: Need Chair

Technical Committee: Stuart reported that the power supply problem at Red Cross has been fixed.

Big Project Committee: Jerry, N5UJ reports that due to construction at LBJ High School the radio club location has been dissembled and is currently in storage awaiting construction completion.

Membership Committee: No report

Editor: Mitch, KD5HCV needs articles. Send some to him!

Old Business: None

New Business: John, KG5O stated that he will begin to seek nominations for the 2006 slate of Officers for AARC. Be prepared to nominate yourself for one of the positions or be thinking of someone you would like to see as an officer next year.

Announcements:

The Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) will be hosting a two day event at AMD. ARES will have a table there. Volunteers to assist with manning the table and discussing ARES are needed.

There is an AMSAT Symposium being held in Lafayette, LA on October 7th. Details at www.amsat.org

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Emergency Preparedness Exercise, September 17th
- JOTA, October 15 -16
- Radio Roundup, November 4,5
- Christmas Party, December 13?
- Various volunteer opportunities & ARES

List of Hams that helped with Katrina:

Mike Albritton, N5LUQ

Joe Canfield, N5HPC

Lee Cooper, W5LHC

Ed Cox, KE3D

Joan Cox, KD4SRD

Glenn Currie, KD5MFW

John Dahm, KC5CPU

Jeff Draper, N5SSI

Don Dudley, AC5YK

Dave Effland, N5RNE

Mark Florian, KD5PSR

Tami Friedman, KD5RJU

David Haun, KB5UGN

Greg Jurrens, WD0ACD

Rick Kirchhof, KD5ABM

Mickey McInnis, WX5U

Bob Morgan, WB5AOH

James Robbins, N5OUJ

Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV

Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ

Mike Sunderman, KC5NQL

Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Lew Thompson, W5IFQ

(Continued on page 7)

Various notes and comments on Ham involvement with Katrina

Compiled by Lee Cooper, W5LHC

Hams First to Report Levee Break

The New Orleans office of the National Weather Service issued a flash flood warning at 8:14 a.m. Monday, saying "a levee breach occurred along the industrial canal at Tennessee Street. 3 to 8 feet of water is expected due to the breach." The media largely ignored it. The NWS's source of information was ham-radio transmissions by the Orleans Levee Board, a city-state agency. The 8:14 warning was the last one the local office issued before its communications were cut off. The statement was repeated only once more, at 10:52 a.m., by the National Weather Service office in Mobile, Ala.

FCC Grants Temp Upgrade to Tech to Assist with Katrina

Look I'm throwing this in because of the gloomily tone's I'm seeing (not to brag) BUT the FCC is aware and acting for us in a way. 2 weeks ago I e-mailed the FCC explaining I am a Tech. class ham and the traffic is on HF (an area I can not go and help on). I live in LA. in the thick of things here and the frustration I was feeling had no bounds. Media oh yea I'm getting "Hey, your the radio girl on TV" (TV and newspapers here have been great to us through this). BUT in e-mailing the FCC they did something I did not expect. They gave me a temporary bump from Tech. to Extra Class solely to help with the Katrina traffic. Dagmar "Dags" Whittemore, KE5CGN

On the Scene Report From Ham (call and name unknown)

I'm here. This isn't my first hurricane but it is certainly the worst I've seen. Others agree. Stuart, FL, ground zero after Frances, doesn't compare to what I've seen so far. The devastation goes for miles. I spent last night in Petal, MS - 60 miles inland - and 1 tree in 4 is gone. Road signs are missing. Roofs are in the remaining trees and every couple miles you drive over a chunk of Telco cable ripped from poles 100+ yards away. Major intersections have portable stop signs or the centerline has a police barricade to prevent cross traffic. Cell coverage is spotty, electrical power sparse and the POTS phone was supposed to use a pair in that last cable you drove over. Gas, if the station has power, is a 4+ hour wait in the ¾ mile line for a \$20 limit. People are siphoning gas from their cars to run portable generators keeping their refrigerator and a box fan running. If they are lucky, they still have running water.

But it gets worse as you go south. Heading down I-59 to Slidell, LA are mile+ long stretches where 1 in 4 trees are left standing. Several overpasses were flooded over 8' deep for the local road below. My site in Slidell was lucky. The shack is 4' above ground so it only got a foot deep with water inside.

Oh, that's after wading through 6" black gumbo mud to get to the steps. But, the site remains down. TelCo says it will take at least a week before they can connect upwards through their network. That is the first priority. Dial tone at your home or Frame Relay to your radio site comes later. The good thing is there are no gas lines creating traffic jams. There's just none available. There's no power to run the pumps. Large crews are trying to rebuild the railroad. The local marina looks like a 5 year old boy's toy box with the boats piled wherever the wind and waves left them.

Going west to Hammond, LA. Life gets a bit better. The gas lines return. Your cell phone might work. I am able to find out I'm needed in Diamondhead, MS. I-10 is littered with everything - cars, chairs, trees, what looked like refrigerators and the constant tree limbs and brush. I passed the hood of a Kenworth. There's' very little traffic here. Power crews, TV vans and other 'official' vehicles only. I'm passing a National Guard convoy now. Homes along the road are heavily damaged. Many have walls or a roof missing - if its still standing. The stench of dead and rotting plants and animals is everywhere.

Devastation? Massive. Do they need help? Yes. However you must be TOTALLY self-sufficient. Expect nothing - not even roads. You must bring your own water, food, toilet paper and porta-a-potty. There are no hotel rooms, few camp grounds, no Burger King. You won't get it "your way"!

The infrastructure is being restored - slowly. The damage is major. The shootings are real. Even in 'good' neighborhoods there is petty looting. The governmental agencies are deploying resources. Order is slowly being restored. Curfews are being enforced. Normalcy will return. At the moment however, there is little structure. If you didn't bring it along, it doesn't exist. Your personal safety is sometimes a luxury. Think of being a lone soldier in a war zone. You have no supply chain. You are one bottle of water away from being a victim.

(See <http://www.austinhams.org/aarcover.html> for complete compilation of reports—Ed.)

Proud to be a Ham

Compiled by Jerry Reimer, KK5CA - Forwarded by Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV

Hurricane Katrina ARES operations continue in Louisiana, Mississippi and South Texas sections, using operators recruited from Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Texas, Tennessee, Florida and other nearby states and sections.

LOUISIANA

ARES continues to support ongoing Red Cross shelter and Southern Baptist Convention debris clearing operations in St Tammany parish, where disaster relief workers are housed and fed at the First Baptist Church in Covington. In Washington parish, ARES operators are slowly arriving to provide critical communications among hospitals and the parish EOC. Over a dozen operators from Texas alone have traveled to Louisiana, and many more are needed. Victoria County (TX) ARES EC John Wagner WA5VBP flew into the New Orleans airport, where it was determined that his original assignment was unsafe, and he was re-routed to Baton Rouge. Communications between the field teams and the state EOC in Baton Rouge continues using HF voice on 75 and 40 meter bands.

Surprisingly, many VHF and UHF repeaters remained operational after the storm's passing. Louisiana section SEC Gary Stratton K5GLS has temporarily delegated his authority to former LA SM Al Oubre K5DPG. Gary will be working the next several months on restoring the communications infrastructure.

MISSISSIPPI

The hardest hit area is perhaps the counties closest to the Gulf Coast, especially Hancock and Harrison. ARES DEC Tom Hammack W4WLF requested 25 ARES operators for critical communications among EOCs, hospitals, and shelters. North, Central and South Florida sections are sending self-sufficient teams to meet this urgent need, and a few operators are coming from Arkansas. Tom said his operators are sleeping on the floor where they are assigned, often "hot bunking." State RACES officer and ARES DEC Ron Brown AB5WF is working on a staging area for Amateur Radio responders near the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) in Jackson. Mississippi SM/SEC Malcolm Keown W5XX received a replacement generator and now has telephone and internet service.

SOUTH TEXAS

The American Red Cross reports housing more than 142,000 people in 485 shelters in 18 states. Texas is said to now have over 230,000 people who fled before or after Hurricane Katrina.

Orange County ARES EC Rocky Wilson N5MTX has ARES operators supporting seven Red Cross facilities that includes distribution centers and shelters. Since being activated on August 27, over 1,200 man-hours have been provided by 35 ARES operators, and the operations continue. ARES groups from adjacent Jefferson and Polk county are providing much needed mutual aid.

ARES District 14 (Harris county) DEC Ken Mitchell KD2KW was requested by Harris County emergency management (HCOEM) to provide four operators 24-hours per day on-site at the Houston Astrodome and two at the county EOC beginning September 1. Since then, more than 90 operators have provided over 720 man-hours of direct communications support. All four county ARES ECs are providing operators at both sites. Under the section mutual aid plan, operators from adjacent counties have also been recruited and used.

Managing the incoming health and welfare inquiry messages is overwhelming nearly all NTS resources, especially at the local level. To mitigate this, Amateur Radio clubs have been asked to contact nearby shelters as often as possible to pick up outgoing messages and process them into the NTS by any available means.

At the request of the state Adjutant General's office, Travis county ARES EC Don Dudley AC5YK (and Lew W5IFQ) facilitated the National Guard in Austin to establish communications with Guard elements at the Louisiana Superdome.

(Continued from page 5) Club Minutes

Jim Truelove, WB5EMI

Roger Wines, W5WIA

Adjourned at: Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm

Program: The presentation was on was presented by Ed Travis of Freescale (No Call) on his Multi-axis panoramic camera, Photoshop stitching techniques and digital panoramas of Yosemite National Park. Details of the technology and helpful hints can be found at www.panoramic.net

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee H. Cooper, W5LHC

AARC Meeting Info.

Business MeetingNew Location!****

7:00 pm at ARL Labs

10000 Burnet Rd. (North of 183)

October 4th - (bring a drink and a few \$ for Pizza)

People who responded to Katrina are encouraged to come and share their experiences.

7:00pm at ARL Labs

10000 Burnet Rd. (North of 183)

Sept 13 "Hands-On-Hamming" (bring a drink and a few \$ for Pizza) Ken WM5R DF'ing Fox Hunting Hardware and Techniques and ARDF transmitter hunting contest in Bastrop State Park

Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- October 8th & November 5th

***New Location*9a.m. at LCRA Complex (See Page 2) 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. Contact Joe Makeever, W5HS (345-0800) or Joe Thiel, N5SMN (832-0450) for information. \$14 exam fee.**

W5YI VEC- October 15th & November 19th

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 info.

Calendar of Events

Oct 1 Belton Ham Expo - Mike LeFan, WA5EQQ
254-773-3590 hamexpo@tarc.org

Oct 14-15 JOTA

Oct 22 Brenham Swapmeet 7AM-2PM- Washington Co. Fairgrounds

Oct 22-23 Southwest Regional Orienteering Championships, Bastrop State Park

kenharker@kenharker.com

Nov 4-5 Austin Radio Roundup VFW Post 8787- N. Of Braker on IH35 N access rd.

Nov 12 NCTECH Tri-County ARC & City of Azle DPS Swapfest- \$4 admission

Nov 12 South Texas ARC Swapfest- Corpus Christi, TX 8AM, www.n5crp.org

Oct.	Nov.	Austin Meetings/Happenings	
4	1	AARC Meeting ARL Auditorium	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 ClubMtg. Chez Zee on Balcones*	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.
No	22	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud.	7:00 p.m.

*ATV Club now meets at Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones Dr. Visitors are welcome whether they are licensed hams or not. Other meetings or activities are listed under the headings for Calendar and for Periodic Events.

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