



AARCOVER

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

ISSN 1067-0262

May 2006

Roster in Next Issue

Issue 5 -2006

FCC WARNS RADIO AMATEURS TO SETTLE PERSONAL DIFFERENCES OFF THE AIR

From The ARRL Letter Vol. 25, No. 14 April 7, 2006

The FCC has advised four Texas licensees to take an "ongoing dispute" off the Amateur Radio bands or face enforcement action. Special Counsel in the FCC Enforcement Bureau Riley Hollingsworth sent essentially identical warning letters February 28 to Luis A Caraballo, N7PLC, and Sharon E. Millhouse, KC5PRX--both of Floresville, and to Thomas O. Caldwell, WD5GXH, and Gary Sheets, WD5FWP--both of San Antonio. Hollingsworth said the dispute has "led to allegations of slander and deliberate interference" on the ham bands.

"The Commission is not concerned with the merits, or lack thereof, of any dispute between you or of how you settle such disputes," Hollingsworth wrote, "but any use of amateur frequencies to carry on the dispute is contrary to Section 97.1 of the rules and will lead to enforcement action against the licenses of each of you."

Hollingsworth told ARRL that the personal squabble among the four radio amateurs has been going on for several years, eventually spilling over onto 2 meters. FCC efforts to resolve the dispute have been unsuccessful, he said, adding, "it's degrading the Amateur Service."

Sanctions could include license revocation or suspension as well as fines of up to \$10,000, Hollingsworth warned. "We may also consider proceedings to restrict or remove the voice privileges of your licenses," he added, noting "this is the last warning you will receive before enforcement action is initiated."

Hollingsworth this week said he'd heard back from all but one of the individuals who received his letters, but only one reply was in writing. In a handwritten note, Sheets pledged to amend his attitude and practices. Hollingsworth said he's awaiting written responses from the other three recipients.

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+

Ham Radio Volunteer Exam Results

ARRL VEC – The following are the results of the ARRL VE test session held in the LCRA Colorado Room on April 1st, 2006:

Technician Class License Processed

Christopher J. Whewell, KE5HYG

General Class Licenses Processed

Joel B. Glickman, WB5DGG James J. Marshall, N5RJS

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

John Fisher, K5JHF Howard Glueck, K5ZUA Larry Gunter, WB5BEK

Joe Makeever, W5HS Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH Tom Nevue, W2MN

Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Next Two ARRL VE Test Sessions

May 6th - LCRA Colorado Room

June 3rd - LCRA Colorado Room

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

The following are the results of the ARRL VE test session held at the American Red Cross Response Maintenance Center on April 6th, 2006:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Don J. Boehler KC[0]WJW Paul H. Brenner KC9JGR David A. Cocuzzi KB1NKW

Patrick D. Gregory KB3NJX Gary D. Hurst KC[0]WJW James P. Lavia K14ORA

Robert P. Martin KC[0]WJX Richard M. Parker KC9JGS David J. Peacocke KC[0]WJU

Patrick J. Reagan KI6DIM Sean L. Welsh KE7HJC

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Larry Gunter WB5BEK Jerry Jackson N5UJ Joe Makeever W5HS

Kees Talen K5BCQ Joe Thiel N5SMN

Next Two ARRL VE Test Sessions

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TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

W5YI-VEC - 4-15-2006

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our April 15th session:

Extra Class –

Malcolm E. Robertson, KE5GYW Robert R. Thompson, W5VGJ Wayne D. Smith, KD5BIM

General Class –

Mark D. Hopkins

Technician Class (all new) –

Guy D. Buddenhagen Harold R. Thillemann Brittney D. Thomas

One other applicant earned element credit without upgrading.

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Rick Bartel, AC5HT Jim Greenwood, AB5EK John Fisher, K5JHF

Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH Lloyd Goehring, N5TO Dennis Murphy, W5KQW

IMPORTANT! During the renovation of Fleck Hall, the remainder of this year's scheduled exams will start at 2 PM in room 204 of **Moody Hall** on the campus of St. Edward's University. Our next two exam dates are May 20 and June 17, 2006. For additional information regarding our amateur radio examination sessions, please contact Jim, AB5EK at (512) 327-6184 or by e-mail to hamradioexams@hotmail.com or visit our web page at <http://texashams.org/w5yi-austin/>

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	Jeff Schmidt	N5MNW	255-6753	n5mnw@arrl.net
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ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	Don Dudley	AC5YK	301-8745	ac5yk@yahoo.com
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 Newline @ 9p.m. Sunday; 224.80 MHz (-1.600); 444.10 MHz (+5); & 145.01 <MHz packet NetROM node (KB5PM-1 or alias AUS). Persons residing or working within the coverage area are expected to join the club, if they use the autopatch. Non-residents on short visits are welcome to use this autopatch. **The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches.** Please transmit your call **before** 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

ISSN 1067-0262, CODEN AAOVE3. ©Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Published monthly by the Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Viewpoints expressed in the AARCOVER do not necessarily reflect those of any club, or of its members, directors, or officers.

Material quoted from the ARRL Letter is supplied by the American Radio Relay League, Inc.

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>.

“XYL” is printed with permission by Carolyn Canfield, KE5DTS. Cartoons may not be reprinted without written permission.

Thanks to Alan Russell, KE5DTR, who helps me with getting out 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.

Over the WWWaves... A variety of interesting websites submitted by our readers.

I developed Palm contest logging software named Golog and have used it for several Field Days as well as other contests. It's freeware and you can see it at:

<http://home.earthlink.net/~david.ek/golog/>

I think it should run just fine on a Palm IIIx. I use it on a Handspring visor as well as a Palm m100.

73, Dave NK0E

BPL not interfering???

http://uaelp.pennnet.com/articles/article_display.cfm?article_id=252355&Section=ONART&C=PRODJ

Trying to reset your ICOM CPU?

<http://www.icom.net.au/Service/faq/cpu.htm>

Capitol 10K a Success!

By Mitch London



On April 2nd, somewhere, in the west, a rooster crows to signify the dawn of a new day! In Austin, Texas, local ham radio operators have already been up for a couple hours preparing for the 2006 Capitol 10,000 race!

Gathering at Taco Cabana, hams picked up their race packets containing maps of their location, a t-shirt and the super official parking pass, which always works provided you do not get stopped by a policeman. People disperse and make their way to their designated locations along the race course.

My station located around mile marker 3.2 was gratefully uneventful, so instead I shall focus on other parts of the course. The first traffic over the radio was the check-ins of stations. Followed shortly after by the announcement of the moped brigade which, if you looked at them from above would have seemed like a small colony of ants that had lost its pheromone trail and were looking all over the place to find it again.

Shortly after 8 am, the race began. The clock was now ticking...for Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW. Being astute and by no means short on practical knowledge, noticed that someone had surely misplaced one of the water misting stations too far into the race path creating a trip hazard by having the water hose feeding the misting station, pulled too tightly and rising off the ground so that anyone going around it might trip over it. He enlisted the help of John Suchyta, KG5O to move the offending item a little closer to the side of the road. As they picked up the steel pipe frame and moved it, not quite to their desired location, SNAP! Some unfortunate, non engineer type, or just a brainless wonder, had decided to connect two heavy steel tubes with a not so heavy PVC connector. The misting station now looked like two side by side inverted "V" dipoles, that were leaking water. Never fear, Duct Tape is here! Quick thinking, along with a few choice words at the ineptitude of some water misting station designer, Jeff and John were able to fix the misting station before any runners made it to their station.



Probably the busiest ham of the bunch was Don Dudley, AC5YK. Being almost at the finish line you might think all he did was watch people cross the finish line, either in exhaustion or exhilaration. Probably for the first time ever, the lead runner, who throughout the course was in first place, came down the final stretch, and collapsed just a few hundred feet from the finish line. He wasn't the only one, at least two others got up to that area and could not go on.

Don Dudley, AC5YK

All in all, no major injuries were reported, and the ham radio community proved once again their value and willingness to help whenever needed. They came through with flying colors, no complaints were heard, well except for when they told me I could no go through the food line a 5th time, but other than that....

Check out some pictures of our hard at work hams on the next page!

Capitol 10,000



Rebecca Friedman, KD5RJU positioned near then end of the race.



Rebecca talks to runner and fellow ham Lew Thompson, W5IFQ.



George May, N5PTN attends the radio in his car.



George Walden, KG4LQX, positioned along 15th Street. Now that dune buggy would make a sweet mobile set up!

**Pictures courtesy of
Travis County ARES.**



Alan Russell, KE5DTR wonders if he has to clean up all these cups!

AARC Meeting March 7th, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:06PM by Jeff Schmidt N5MNMW.

Tonight's meeting was kicked off with a slide show from Cap10K packet stuffing event. There was a great turnout of 62 participants, and the club gives many thanks to Jim Greenwood AB5EK for putting it all together.

Visitors, New Members, and New Calls:

Visiting tonight were: Kelly Mc Daniel K5KTD Chris Crane K5CLC

A new technician, Colin, to be listed in the exam section.

There were no new assigned calls or upgrades.

The door prize, a very spiffy laser leveler, was won by Joe Canfield N5HPC.

Officer Reports:

The minutes as they appeared in last months' AARCOVER were approved.

Jerry Jackson N5UJ gave the treasury report, and we are rolling in the dough with \$3770.53 in the bank.

Stuart Rohre K5KVH gave the technical non-report. The ID tone on the 146.94 repeater is still warbly and the interference on the 444.1 repeater is still gone.

Old Business: The Viacom letter regarding the new 146.94 repeater site is finally ready to send.

Announcements:

Through the Capitol 10K packet stuffing party the club earned \$2000. Here is N5MNMW's wish list for how that money might be spent:

- a repeater controller
- a signal to noise voter system
- uhf rx strips to provide a remote site link
- vhf/uhf DB products antennas
- Vertex synthesized vhf repeater

Mitch London KD5HCV reported an error in the last AARCOVER. The presentation was mistakenly listed as covering the pandemic flu when instead it is an overview of nanotechnology.

The club roster is coming out soon, pay your dues to Jerry Jackson N5UJ to be listed. The date on your AARCOVER mailing label indicates what year you are paid through.

Joe Fisher K5EJL requests that you sign up for Field Day '06 tasks and operator slots on the Austin_TX_FD Yahoo group.

Perhaps the most amazing announcement of all, Lee Cooper W5LHC is studying for his code test! We are all cheering for you, Lee.

The Austin Community College staff donated to the club the repeater equipment that was installed in and on Pinnacle campus building. The Oak Hill volunteer fire dept. is putting radio equipment in the closet where the repeater hardware was located.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52PM presentation 7:57

Tonight's presentation is an overview of the benefits of nanotechnology by Dr. Richard Fink of Applied Nanotech.

AARC Meeting April 4th, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:06PM by President Jeff Schmidt N5MNMW.

Visitors, New Members, and New Calls:

Visiting with us tonight was Emma, the daughter of Steve Polunsky KE5GDR. Also visiting was Paul McGuffey NH7WB. If I had to choose another state to live in part-time, I would choose Hawaii as Paul has done. There were no new members or new calls.

The door prize, a mag-mount 2m/440 antenna, was won by Milt Cram W8NUE.

Officer Reports:

Curiously, the minutes as they did not appear in last month's Aarcover, were approved.

Jerry Jackson N5UJ gave the treasury report, and we have \$4500 in the equipment fund and \$3401.16 in the checking account.

For the technical committee report, Stuart Rohre K5KVH reported that we are trying to contact the trustee of the 146.94 repeater to get the wobbly ID-er fixed but have not made progress there yet.

Old Business: The Viacom letter, after a few more tweaks, is ready and by the time you read this it will be in the hands of the intended recipients.

Ham of the Month: Mike Lay N5PTN nominated Joe Canfield N5HPC for his dedication and support during the Capitol 10K race and his ongoing ARES efforts.

Announcements:

Mitch London KD5HCV announced that he has lost much of his stored email. Please re-send stories, pictures, links, and anything else that you would like Mitch to know about.

Thomas Visel NX1N announced that the RoadRunner Microwave Group is participating in a microwave communication contest over the weekend following the meeting.

Joe Fisher K5EJL reminded us that Field Day 2006 is coming up on June 24-25 and encouraged the members to sign up for operating slots and all the associated activities on the Austin_TX_FD Yahoo group.

Stuart Rohre K5KVH sadly reported that a pillar of the ham community, Fred Bonavita K5QLF has become a silent key. Fred was a QRP pioneer, a past AARC officer, and has held several other posts during his ham career.

Also, on May 29th Memorial Day the Bluebonnet School in Cedar Park requests that a ham be available to present the joys and capabilities of ham radio to the children there.

The fourth AARC business meeting of 2006 was adjourned at 7:42PM.

In lieu of Donald Schropp not being present to tell us about his atomic clock project, the presentation for the evening was a DVD viewing of the FT5XO dx-pedition to Kerguelen island on the yonder side of the planet in the South Indian Ocean.

Respectfully submitted,
David Rivenburg AD5OO
AARC Secretary

News in Brief

Here's an alert to an upcoming Skywarn class given by Larry Eblen in the Highland Lakes area! Details may be seen- www.hlarc.org

For more info contact: Sanford Musgrove (325) 388-4402

Courtesy: ANDREW WOOD KC5DJT
EXTRACTED FROM HLARC.ORG EMAIL GROUP

Larry Eblen from the National Weather Service will be in the area to instruct a SKYWARN class on Monday May 8th. The location of the class will be at the LCRA Western District Center Hwy 1431 and Hwy 29, Marble Falls , and the time of the class will be from 7PM to 9PM.
This is open to any individual that would like more information on weather information. This is very timely due to the time of year and possibility of storm activity.

ANDREW WOOD
KC5DJT
TRAVIS AND WILLIAMSON COUNTY A.R.E.S. LIAISON
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS



From John Fisher, Forwarded by Stuart Rohre K5KVH

Case in point - I wasted hours and hours trying to get the OrCad PCB program to work, then I came across "www.FreePCB.com" on the web. I was stunned! The author is not only giving it away free, but the program works excellently, is totally intuitive, and its documentation is complete and flawless! A true "gem" and I recommend it highly!

FreePCB is like ExpressPCB but better, it produces Gerber files and lets you import netlists, if you so desire. With netlists, it will plop down all the footprints connected by "ratwires". As you place the part footprints on the PCB outline, the ratwires stay connected. This is a great option.



It's a photo contest! Have you ever wanted to see a photo of yours in QST, the annual ARRL Amateur Radio calendar or another ARRL publication? Well, here's your chance! Not only will your photographic skill be propagated far and wide, but we're offering a \$100 prize to the winning entry. The winning photo and three runners-up will be published in QST. All submitted photos will also be considered for the 2007 ARRL calendar. Photos must be received at ARRL Headquarters by May 31, 2006. Subject matter must relate to Amateur Radio and be in good taste. Photos will be judged on overall quality and composition. Digital images or color prints are acceptable, but digital, images must have at least 300 dpi resolution. E-mail <upfront@arrl.org> digital images of up to 2 MB or copy to a CD and mail to ARRL Photo Contest, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111. All entries must include caption information describing where the photo was taken, along with the names and call signs of anyone appearing in the photograph. Photos submitted become the exclusive property of the ARRL, and decisions of the judges (QST editorial and production staff) are final. Only one entry per person is allowed. Good luck in the contest!



Ronny KC5EES and his wife- Tina KC5BZA are trying to get equipment installed for the "Big Project" (Ham Radio in schools) at Deep Wood Elementary school in RR. The building supervisor requires the installation to be done with "Plenum-Rated" Cable, which we have had no luck in locating. I'm sure someone in the audience knows where to procure some of this stuff and the club(s) will be happy to purchase and donate the cable. They are needing two lengths of 50 ohm Plenum-Rated Coax, greater than 20 feet. Dallas KD4HNX has offered to help, please contact him- 255-1047h 560-9074c



Bil Henson, QCWA Chapter 67 President is looking for someone to take over Wednesday Night Code Practice transmission. He's have to work later these days. All software, instruction, help, and Buxcom Box is free to anyone who has Wednesday nights free. AND you get to pick or write the text! Bil Henson WB5SYS WB5SYS@ARRL.NET 244-9288

AARC Meeting Info.

Business Meeting

7:00 pm at Mangia Pizza

120001 Burnet Rd. (North of 183)

May 2nd - AARC Biz meeting Come join us for dinner at ~6PM and be ready for the biz meeting at 7PM
Topic- Tom Whiteside N5TW on Digital Communications developments

7:00pm at ARL Labs

10000 Burnet Rd. North of 183

May 9th - May 9 "Hands-On-Hamming"
(Pizza \$1/slice drinks 50c or bring your own snack)
Topic- Donald Schropp, on computer-clock synchronization applications of the \$5 'atomic clock' from Radio Shack.

Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- May 6th & June 3rd 9a.m. at **LCRA Complex** 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. Contact Joe Makeever, W5HS
(345-0800) or Joe Thiel, N5SMN (832-0450) for info. \$14 fee.

W5YI VEC- May 20th & June 17th **NOTE**
TEMPORARY LOCATION CHANGE ***2p.m. in room 204, Moody Hall, St. Edwards University. Contact Jim Greenwood, AB5EK@arrl.net, (327-6184)
<http://texasparadise.com/w5yi-austin> for more info.

Calendar of Events

May 19-21 Dayton Hamvention 55th show

May 20 Tour d'Organics multiple-distance bike tour 25mi, 100K, & 100mi bike tour- organic farms SW Travis, Hays & Blanco Co. Ham Volunteers contact- TBD (Need Ham coordinator) Ride info- Bradley Saul
bradley@organicathlete.org Toll-free 866-258-6179 or 707-360-8511 www.organicathlete.org

May 27 Amateur Radio Military Appreciation Day
Prep nets on HF and Echolink Nodes 146670, 52301, 106819 or 241401 Yahoo group: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/armad-net/> www.armad.net

May 27 7290 Picnic Riverbend Park- Dinner will be catered www.7290trafficnet.org/

May	June	Austin Meetings/Happenings	
2	6	AARC Meeting ARL Auditorium	7:00p.m.
13	10	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop	11:00 a.m.
9	13	Hands on Hamming ARL Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
16	20	*ATV Club Mtg. Mangia Pizza	7:00 p.m.
20	17	QCWA Denny's on Burnet Rd.	2:00p.m.
22	26	Travis Co. REACT Denny's on Burnet	7:00 p.m.
23	27	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud.	7:00 p.m.

**ATV Club now meets at Mangia Pizza on Burnet Rd, North of the ARL Labs. Go North until you almost hit 1325, Mangia's on right.*

***AARC Business Meeting is at Mangia Pizza 120001 Burnet Rd..*
Visitors are welcome whether they are licensed hams or not. Other meetings or activities are listed under the headings for Calendar.

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Austin, TX
Permit No. 2942
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May 2006