

AARCOVER

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

ISSN 1067-0262

August 2006

Field Day Photos Page 5

Issue 8-2006

BPL in Austin Coming in September!

The City of Austin continues to plan a BPL trial on the Austin Energy power lines beginning in September. The BPL contractor appears to be Power-Grid Communications, the successor to IDA-Comm.

The location of the trial has not been disclosed, but the City and P-GC have committed to a meeting with the ham radio community and compliance with the FCC requirement to post system information on the UPLC database, 30 days prior to start up.

To stay informed of BPL plans in Austin, you should become a member of the BPL787 Group Austin Team at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/> If you are concerned about signing up with Yahoo, I can add your email address to the list without your signing up. Email me at: k5fx@arrrl.net

A "bad" BPL deployment could create serious RF interference throughout the AE services area.

I encourage you to join the BPL787 Team in our effort to prevent BPL pollution of our bands.

Glen Reid, K5FX

BPL787 Moderator/Austin ARRL BPL Team Contact

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	9:00 p.m.	2m SSB Net	144.250 (USB)
Thu	11:30 a.m. - 12:30p.m.	Lunch, Waterloo Ice House	444.1 MHz+
Fri	8:00 p.m.	6m SSB Net	50.230(texasvhf.org/)
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+

Red Lion Changes to Crowne Plaza before Austin Summerfest!

For those of you who have noticed, Red Lion Hotel at IH-290 E and I-35, location of Austin Summerfest, has changed its name. It is now a Holiday Inn "Crowne Plaza". While a name change was anticipated, the actual name and date was not known. Many thousand Summerfest fliers/schedules had already been printed with the old name. Please pass the "Crowne Plaza" name change along to any out-of-town convention visitors so the confusion is minimized. All other details remain the same. "Welcome to Austin Summerfest" will be displayed on the Hotel Marquee signs near the entrances to the hotel parking lot at convention time. The talk-in operators on 146.94 MHz will know of and announce the name change frequently. Please refer to

<http://www.austinsummerfest.org> for more information or contact Joe W5HS 345-0800 **w5hs@arri.net**

What's That Noise?

What if you turned on your rig one day and had a new source of noise? How would you tell others what it sounded like on your receiver before the noise came on? W1RFI and K5FX (Austin TX) are urging every ham to make recordings of their background signal and noise levels at their QTH while reception is still good. If you already have noise - sorry about that. K5GP QTH base recording are posted at

<http://www.egpreston.com/k5gpbase.htm> and give a reference before new noise appears. The passband is opened up so the background noise is a little louder than if the passband were made narrower. This wider passband will produce much interference if any new noise does come on. The signals that were selected are slightly on the weak side but are still good copy. These signals could be easily covered up by noise. I also selected signals that repeat every day, such as time signals. The beacon on 10 meters is ground wave and is nearly a constant signal which makes it an excellent reference. The last recording is a washing machine in my house that was making noise on 15 meters. A toroid choke on the washing machine power cord completely eliminated the noise. Good luck!

73 de K5GP, Gene

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 July 1st, 2006:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

David M. Rich, KE5JMD Troy W. Smith, KE5JME

General Class License Processed

Jack B. Woods, KB3EIG

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Milt Cram, W8NUE Howard Glueck, K5ZUA
Curt Goodson, W4QBU Joe Makeever, W5HS
Jimmy Mercer, N6WDH Ron Parsons, W5RKN
Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Next Two ARRL VE Test Sessions

August 5th - AUSTIN SUMMERFEST Convention, Red Lion Hotel (now Crowne Plaza Hotel) @12:30 PM
September 9th - LCRA Colorado Room

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS
Joe

W5YI-VEC - 7-15-2006

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

Extra Class –

William T. Williams, KC5QLZ

General Class –

none

Technician Class (all new) –

Briana E. Clemons Wyatt W. Givens
Don A. Hart Gregory A. Mulhollan

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Hugh Brown, NT5O Jim Greenwood, AB5EK
John Fisher, K5JHF Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH
Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5TO Sam Mihalik, KM5MY
Malcolm E. Robertson, KE5GYW

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	N5MNV	255-6753	n5mnw@arrl.net
Vice President	Thomas Visel	NX1N		thomas@neuric.com
Treasurer	Jerry Jackson	N5UJ	832-5663	jerry@gaj.com
Secretary	David Rivenburg,	AD5OO	821-3143	driven@onr.com
Editor, AARCOVER	Mitch London	KD5HCV	326-3096	kd5hcv@arrl.net
Technical (Repeater Contact)	Ed Golla	K3AHS	255-4818	edgolla@hotmail.com
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.

<http://www.ae5x.com/aa%20cells.htm>

What's the difference between no name brand Lithium Batteries and their name brand counterparts?

Sent by Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

Here're some good links to information on ham radio in space

<http://www.spacetoday.org/Satellites/Hamsats/ARISS.html#training>

Sent by : Rick Herndon, K5FNI

http://solomonsmusic.net/coil_winder.html

Build your own coil winding machiene!

Sent by: Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

MEETING MINUTES

AARC Meeting July 11th, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:07PM by President Jeff Schmidt N5MNV.

Visitors, New Members, and New Calls

We had two visitors with us tonight, Tamara Kindt and Francesco Lopez, both of whom are not yet licensed but found the AARC website and decided to see what we were all about.

Correcting last month's oversight, the Frequency DVD door prize was won by Karen McCoy, the mother of Shawn McCoy, KD5OUQ.

This month's door prize, a mag-mount 2 meter antenna, was won by Frank Jared, KD5MWN.

Officer Reports

The minutes as they appeared in the last AARCOVER were approved.

Our stand-in treasurer Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ reported that the club checking balance was \$2445.69 and the equipment fund balance was still \$4500.48.

Stuart Rohre, K5KVH of the technical committee reported that the tone ID on the 146.94 repeater has finally been fixed. It appears that the cause was a simple case of dirty contacts. During the repair the ID was changed from W5FIT to W5FQR.

Old Business

Mike Wenglar of KVUE-TV has expressed his interest in helping us move the 146.94 repeater from the KLRU tower to the KVUE tower. This is very much an ongoing project as we have until 2009 to complete it.

New Business

Roger Wines, W5WIA moved that we allocate up to \$120 to replace the backup battery for the 146.94 repeater. The motion was approved.

Joe Canfield, N5HPC moved that we buy the \$300 G.E. voter system for the future 146.94 repeater site. The motion was approved.

Also discussed was the purchase of an NHRC-7 bridging repeater controller. The vote on this has been deferred until more information is gathered.

Hams of the Month

Field day helped generate numerous nominations for the ham of the month. Please express your appreciation for all the people who helped make the 2006 ARRL Field Day a success.

Announcements

Joe Makeever, W5HS gave an overview of the upcoming Summerfest. Of particular note is that the Red Lion hotel has changed its name to the Crowne Plaza. Please spread the word to those who may not be aware of this change.

Roger Wines, W5WIA reminded us of the ARES meeting on Sunday concerning the formation of emergency response teams.

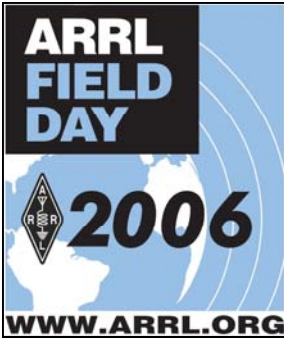
Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV announced that there were still a few field day pins available and could be purchased for \$5.

Congratulations to the K5LBJ radio club at LBJ High School for achieving 1st place in this year's ARRL School Club Roundup.

Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV reviewed the club loaner equipment status and adjourned the meeting at 7:41PM.

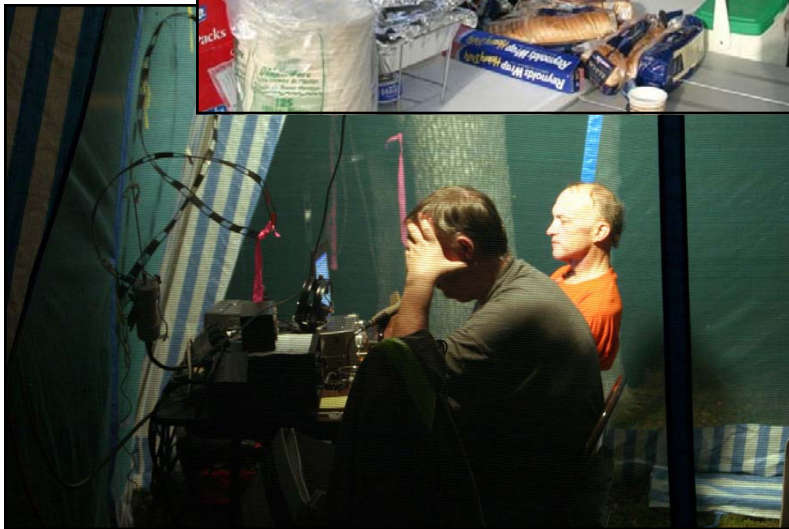
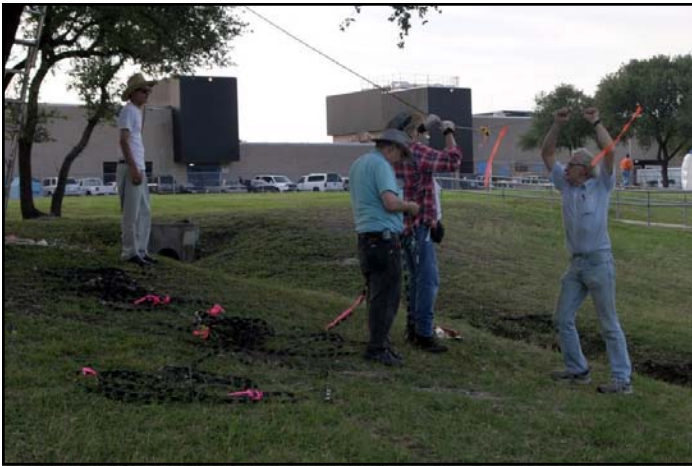
Tonight's presentation was from our President Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV who gave a rundown of last month's Field Day activities and achievements.

Respectfully submitted,
David Rivenburg, AD5OO - AARC Secretary



Photos By:
Dave Rivenburg,
AD500





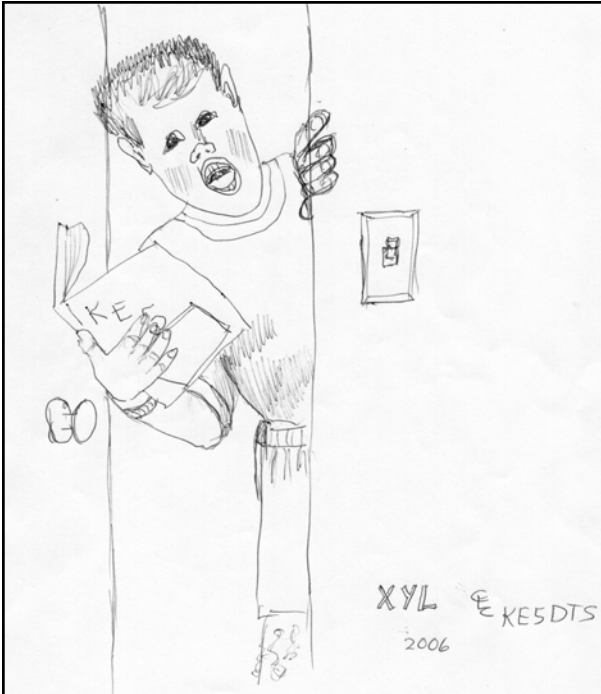
Field Day 2006
Excerpt from Austin SwapNet

FD 2006 was one for the books! Many new faces, some -very- young appeared and operated Ham Radio equipment at Anderson High this weekend! There were (again) too many over-the-top contributions to list all here, but I'd like to thank BBQ Guru/Field Day Coordinator- Joe Fisher K5EJL, Station Captains- Stu K5KVH and Lew W5IFQ for their hard work during the event. TCREACT did a good job with Hospitality, Lori KM5MQ cooked Hot Dogs noon Saturday and Mitch KD5HCV cooked some great Eggs, Sausage & Biscuits breakfast on Sunday! PIO Steve KE5GDR got the word out to the media and he also Got Rep. Donna Howard to officially present the Field Day proclamation.

*Results from Field Day 2006 will be in a future edition of the AARCOVER. -Ed.

XYL

by Carolyn Canfield, KE5DTS



Station Log is NOT a place to list chores for me!



Got rid of the old postcards and got you posters!

Buy Today!

Get Your Ham Radio Call Sign Imprinted Onto a Leather Bookmark or Key Fob!

Bookmarks and Key Fobs Starting at \$5. Custom Tooling and Coloring Available!

Have Your Friends or Loved Ones Initials Imprinted and Make it a Gift!



Get Yours Today!
Contact Mitch London, at kd5hcv@arrl.net
See us at Austin Summerfest!



Would you please stop tapping on the table?

AARC Meeting Info.
Business Meeting

7:00 pm at Mangia Pizza

120001 Burnet Rd. (North of 183)

August 1st - Topic TBA Check

www.austinhams.org for the latest information

Hands on Hamming

7:00pm at ARL Labs

10000 Burnet Rd. North of 183

August 8th – "Hands-On-Hamming"

(Pizza \$1/slice drinks 50c or bring your own snack)

Topic- TBA Check www.austinhams.org for the latest information

Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- August 5th (Summerfest) & September 9th
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- August 19th & September 16th 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

Oct 7 Belton Ham Expo - Mike LeFan, WA5EQQ
254-773-3590 hamexpo@tarc.org Register on the website! www.tarc.org

Oct 14 CLARC (Central Louisiana ARC) Hamfest 8AM-3PM Kee's Park Hwy 28 East in Pineville, La. Talkin-147.33(+1)73.8 Scott KD5DFL@hotmail.com 318-484-6744 www.clarc.us/hamfest.html

Oct 14 Ham Association of Paris Paris, TX Sherry KE5DGO 903-783-0968 sherrylenoir1@yahoo.com Talk-In 147.040+ (PL 100.0) www.paristexasradio.com

Oct 20-22 H.L.A.R.C. Ham Slam Class Burnet Library www.hlarc.org/

Oct 21 Brenham Swapmeet Washington Co. Fairgrounds 7AM-2PM w5aum@yahoo.com or ka5bkg@arrl.net

Aug	Sept.	Austin Meetings/Happenings	
1	5	AARC Meeting ARL Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
12	9	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop	11:00 a.m.
8	12	Hands on Hamming ARL Auditorium	7:00 p.m.
15	19	ATV Club Mtg. Mangia Pizza	7:00 p.m.
19	16	QCWA Denny's on Burnet Rd.	2:00 p.m.
28	25	Travis Co. REACT Denny's on Burnet	7:00 p.m.
22	26	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud.	7:00 p.m.

***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.*

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Austin, TX
Permit No. 2942
Time Value Newsletter

ARCOVER
Austin Amateur Radio Club
Box 4739
Austin, TX 78765-4739
August 2006
Return Service Requested