



AARC COVER

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

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January 2009

Happy New Year! Feliz Nuevo Año!

Issue 1-2009

A Year Gone a New One on the Way

By Mitch London, KD5HCV

2008 is quickly coming to an end and have had our ups and downs. Though one ham has been way up, waaay waaaaaayyy up! Heh. There are new hams in our club, more than we have seen in a while. This year being the clubs 90th year as an affiliated club of ARRL we plan on making is special. That is not to say we have not had some pretty special times this year already.

In the past year we as a club have helped cub scouts contact the International Space Station and actually talk with them as the ISS went overhead. Another special occasion was when the club again got to make a contact with the Space Station and this time have students talk with Austinite and club member Richard Garriott, W5KWQ. We also made some big changes this year. We moved our field day site to a new location after many years at being at Anderson High School. It was held at the Red Cross facilities on Pershing Ave. The club also decided not to hold a swap fest this year partially due to the limited amount of income after all was said and done.

So what does 2009 have in store? Well, we plan on getting a new .94 repeater up and going. The old one has been around a while and was coughing up resistors. DSTAR could be making its presence more wide spread in the area. Of course with this year being our 90th anniversary, we hope to make this a year to remember. We of course will be helping with our regular events: Packet Stuffing for the Cap 10K, providing communications for the Cap 10K, Field Day and more!

Be sure to keep an eye out in the newsletter and online at the Austin hams website to find out the latest info on what we as a club are doing, and please join us! This club is for you! So help make it as good as it can be! Have a Happy New Year!

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.	7:30 p.m.	STX ARES Net	3.873 MHz
Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Hays ARES net	444.150 + (114.8)
Tues.	8:00 p.m.	Bastrop ARES Net	443.750 + (114.8)
Wed	11:30 a.m.	Ham Social Luncheon, Jim's	146.94 MHz -
Thu	9:00 p.m.	2m SSB Net	144.250 (USB)
Thu	11:30 a.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	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+

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Ham Radio Exams Results

The following are the results of the ARRL VE Test Session held on December 6th, 2008 in **The Quarries** Sports Complex:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Kristina M. Chyn, KE5YKZ
Gary M. Edwards, Sr. KE5YLG
Kevin M. Korte, KE5YLD
Dana B. Norman, KE5YLF

Justin R. Duck, KE5YLE
Borje M. Jacobsson, KE5YLC
Lauren M. Miller, KE5YLA
Harlan R. Smith, KE5YLB

General Class Licenses Processed

Guadalupe G. Acosta, KC5NGJ
Brian W. Lackey, KE5YLJ
Robert C. Reinehr, KB5ZMV
Samuel N. Wolfson, KE5YLI

James M. Kirkham, KE5YLL
Marshall D. Payne, KE5YLK
James W. Schopp, KE5YLN

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Tony Davee, KM5JH
Larry Gunter, WB5BEK
Larry Runyon, W5SBE

Howard Glueck, K5ZUA
Joe Makeever, W5HS
Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Next ARRL VE Test Session

January 3rd - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 213
February 7th - Bethany United Methodist Church. Disciple Bldg. Room 213

NOTE: Starting with our January 3rd session in 2009, all ARRL VE test sessions (with the exception of the August session held in conjunction with **AUSTIN SUMMERFEST** at the convention hotel) will be held at the Bethany United Methodist Church, 10010 Anderson Mill Road, Austin, TX 78750. GOOGLE the address for your directions on how to get there. I will get a set of directions on how to get to the Disciple Building on austinhams.org soon.

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS
Joe

12-20-2008

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our December 20th session:

Extra Class – Creston H. Funk –new-

General Class – Christopher P. Bertsch, KE5YIM
Mitchell C. Bertsch, KE5YIL

Emmanuel P. Souganidis –new-

Technician Class (all new) –Darrell G. Bertsch
Curtis W. Wells

Jodie L. Golla
Richard L. Verburg

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Hugh Brown, NT5O
Jim Greenwood, AB5EK

Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH
Gary Popp, AE5JR

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on January 17th
and February 21st in room 106 of Fleck Hall on the campus of St. Edward's University.

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/>

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc., PO BOX 4739, AUSTIN TX 78765-4739, Web site: <http://www.austinhams.org>

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TC ARES PIO	Steven Polunsky	KE5GDR		tcares-pio@gmail.net
90th Anniversary Chair	Alan Russell	KE5DTR	851-1806	alan.russell@lra.org

Please contact a club officer, attend a meeting, mail us to join the organization, you can also join or renew online.

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (AARC) has annual membership dues of \$20.00 per person or \$30.00 per family. AARC maintains the following repeaters:

FREQUENCY	AUTOPATCH	USE
146.780	Yes	General
146.880	Yes	General
146.940	No	Most popular, WX, Swapnet & Newsline
224.800	No	
444.100	No	
146.480/+1.0	No	2m D-Star Repeater (Cedar Park Area)

Persons using the repeaters are asked to join the club to help support these valuable resources. To use the autopatch, announce your call sign, press * and dial the phone number then release the PTT. 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 20th of the month.**

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

See Jay Hoffman, KA5OST (512) 388-4404 ka5ost@arrl.net

Jay handles all changes for membership information .

Special Meeting for February 2009

The February meeting of the Austin Amateur Radio Club will be held at our old haunt, the ARL Labs at 10000 Burnet Rd. Our special guest speaker will be Austin and space traveler Richard Garriott, W5KWQ. While aboard the International Space Station, Garriott was able to make numerous Amateur Radio contacts using various methods. The AARC was even able to help contact Garriott on one of his flyovers and that allowed some school kids to say a few words.

Come by Tuesday and find out about Richard Garriott. Is he a ham that wants the latest and greatest ham radio has to offer, or is he more a homebrew or boat anchor collector type? Either way, this special meeting of the Austin Amateur Radio club will be one to remember. Speaking of remembering, do not forget the meeting will be at ARL labs instead of Waterloo Ice House. If you go to the Ice House and do not see anyone there familiar, just jump back in the car and zip on up to ARL Labs, it is just up the road a bit at 10000 Burnet Rd. Keep an eye out on the austinhams.org website for the latest information about this meeting!

2008 AARC Christmas Party



About 80 people showed up for the festivities!



No one went home hungry! The food was amazing. I could have eaten all night...oh wait, I did!



Austin Harmony Holiday Chorus presented Christmas Tunes a capella during the event.



People signing up for the party and for some of the remaining drawing tickets!



After dinner, it was time to schmooze and relax while talking with old friends and making new ones.



Dessert Contest Winner: Gary KA8ULI



Joe Fisher, III K5EJL's entry into the table top decorating contest.



Alan Russell, KE5DTR was the winner for the Table top decorating contest with this "Remorse" Keyer. When you bang his head on the wall, it keys.



Mitch London, KD5HCV's entry into the table top contest though it did not fit, so it went on the wall. He took xmas lights and added vacuum tubes that he drilled out so he could light them up.

146.940 and 444.100 Report Forms Online

With recent changes in both the 146.94 and the 444.100 repeaters, the technical committee has requested reports on how they are working. A message about this has been placed on www.tcares.org on the home page. Look for "Web form for repeater reports or problems". Click on the link in that paragraph and complete the web form. Your data will be reported to the technical committee and also kept as a permanent record. If you regularly use either of the updated systems, information about how work now as compared to before is very useful.

If a system has autopatch problems, seems "deaf" where you have used it before, or has other problems, this form will also get your report to the technical committee member assigned to that repeater. Please submit data to help us evaluate the hardware under test for 146.94 and the results of the 444.100 repairs.

Thx and 73
de NG5V
Rick Kirchhof

HSMM Changes

The High Speed Multi Media, 2.4 GHZ centered special interest group in Wide Band, mesh networks, and associated technologies using off the shelf wireless hardware; has rescheduled its meetings for 2009 to combine them with the former packet Lab night into a Digital Modes night, on the Fourth Wednesday, Jan. 28, 2009. And, on the Fourth Wed. of each succeeding month.

The meetings are held at the Red Cross Chapter House at Pershing and E.M. Franklin, opposite the Manor Road entry to the Mueller (airport) development. The meetings will be from 7 PM to 10 PM on those nights. Park in the lot behind the Red Cross building A, and then come in the end door on Building A to the conference room.

Those seeking to learn how to implement HSMM hardware/ software, amateur packet radio, PSK 31, or other digital interests are invited to come.

-Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

Care Needed When Speaking to Public

Forwarded by Don Dudley, AC5YK

While it doesn't seem to be a problem in true ARES situations, too many times in training exercises or public displays of Amateur Radio, the "spokesman" quoted in the media reports apparently has a death wish for ham radio.

As a member of the national ARRL PR Committee, I see far too many reports of people saying that ham radio is "dying out," is a "graying" hobby, we are "losing licensees," etc. The facts simply do not bear this out. Amateur Radio is as vibrant and living as the ham who is doing the talking. As a community, we are adding more licenses each year than are not being renewed, and this during the absolute bottom of the sunspot cycle.

Jeff Reinhart, AA6JR, coined the phrase, "Every ham is a PIO," since every ham MAY be approached during an exercise. It is vital that everyone understand the licensing situation and be aware of what they say can and will be used in the paper or on TV.

The League's PR Committee is very aware of the situation and works hard to stay on top of the situations as they pop up, but if everyone would just use the knowledge that we are still growing and learning and serving, this misinformation would dwindle or stop.

I commend the ARES people who have, so far, kept this from being a topic of discussion. It is unfortunate that others have such a negative view of our wonderful hobby/service.

Any hobby is like a garden: You must tend it to keep the weeds away and let it grow. We are the stewards of Amateur Radio and must look out of the seed bed. -- Jim McDonald, KB9LEI, ARRL PR Committee, Muncie, Indiana Public Information Officer. When All Else Fails...Amateur Radio.

Please visit: <http://www.emergency-radio.org>

The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Membership Form for the year ending December 31, 20 _____

Application for: (check applicable box and enclose payment)

- AARC Individual \$20 _____
 Family (all with same mailing address) \$30 _____
 Student rate (thru 12th grade, no mail) \$ 5 _____
- ARRL Individual ARRL (new or renewal) \$39 _____
 Senior ARRL (new or renewal) \$36 _____
 Family member ARRL(at same address) - \$8ea x _____ = _____
 First time ARRL discount -\$15 _____
 ARRL renewal with AARC Membership -\$ 2 _____
- Total Enclosed _____

Mail this form with payment to:

AARC – P O Box 4739 – Austin, TX 78765-4739

- Check One:** New member Renew membership
 Information change

ARRL member **Y N** License class **E A G T+ T N** Year first licensed _____

Call sign _____ First Name _____ Last Name _____

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.

2nd Call _____ Name _____ ARRL mem **Y N**

3rd Call _____ Name _____ ARRL mem **Y N**

4th 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"/> Working Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Transmitter Hunts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Talking on 2 mtrs | <input type="checkbox"/> DXing | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Holding Office |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Presenting programs | <input type="checkbox"/> CW | <input type="checkbox"/> Net Control | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Comm's |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Holding ARRL office | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Awareness | <input type="checkbox"/> Working w/Youth |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Others _____ | | | |

----- (for office use only) -----

Rcvd ___/___/___ Amt \$ _____ Ck ___ Cash ___ Dep ___ Post ___

JMH 02/01/2008

2009 Dues !

If you have not paid your 2009 AARC Club Dues then now is a great time! Just cut out this form write a check for the appropriate amount and mail to the address at the bottom of the form.

You can also apply online at www.austinhams.org/join

Help the club grow and foster new ham radio operators by becoming part of the Austin Ham Radio Community.



JOIN



