



AARC OVER

Keeping Austin Wireless for Over 90 Years!

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

ISSN 1067-0262

February 2009

Happy Valentine's Day

Issue 2-2009

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. website for the latest information about this



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+

In This Issue

Story	Page
Over the WWaves	3
Ham Com Presenters	4
Coy Day Steps Down	5
Membership Application Form	7

Ham Radio Exams Results

The following are the results of the ARRL VE Test Session held on January 3rd, 2009 at the Bethany United Methodist Church:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Brandon C. Boykin, KE5YSP
Gregory G. Malone, KE5YSO
George D. Montgomery, KE5YSQ

General Class Licenses Processed

Nick F. Steinhauser, KE5YSS
Richard M. Strang, KE5YSR
Richard L. Verburg, KE5YPL

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Milt Cram, W8NUE
Curt Goodson, W4QBU
Larry Gunter, WB5BEK
Gene Hinkle, K5PA
Joe Makeever, W5HS
Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Next ARRL VE Test Session

February 7th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 213
March 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. There is a set of directions on how to get to the exam room and a map inset in PDF at <http://www.austinhams.org> for your convenience.

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 January session:

Not available as of print time. Will update when available.

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on February 21st and march 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>

President	Lee Cooper	W5LHC	424-5491	president@austinhams.org
Vice President	Lori Schmidt	KM5MQ		vice-president@austinhams.org
Treasurer	Jay Hoffman	KA5OST	388-4404	treasurer@austinhams.org
Secretary	Jeff Schmidt	N5MNV		secretary@austinhams.org
Editor, AARCOVER	Mitch London	KD5HCV	326-3096	editor@austinhams.org
Technical (Repeater Contact)	Stuart Rohre	K5KVH	255-3932	k5kvh@arrl.net
ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	Don Dudley	AC5YK		ac5yk@arrl.net
TC ARES PIO	Steven Polunsky	KE5GDR		tcares-pio@gmail.net
90th Anniversary Chair	Alan Russell	KE5DTR	851-1806	alan.russell@lcra.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 & Newslite
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.**

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

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 .

Over the WWWaves...

A Collection of Various Websites sent in your friendly neighborhood hams...

From Lee Cooper, W5LHC

From eWeek Magazine, Best Gadgets for Geeks.

<http://www.eweek.com/c/a/Mobile-and-Wireless/Best-Gadgets-for-IT-Pros/>

HSMM guys, check out slides 15, 16 and 19

From Rick Herndon, K5FNI

http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2008/09/interactive_electronics_1.html

<http://electronics.wisc-online.com/>

Looks like it will teach you things.

Ham-Com Presenters Wanted

Hi, my name is Bob Gormley and I'm the chair person for the 2009 Ham-Com Six Meters and Above technical programs. I am a long time member and past officer of the North Texas Microwave Society. The program material I'm seeking from the Ham-Com community is separate from the Gordon West Six Meters and Up workshop series.

My goal is to recruit amateur radio operators with knowledge of VHF, UHF and Microwave activities to share with the up and growing community of new hams and maybe spark a new interest with the more seasoned hams.

What I'm looking for is; persons to give a 20 minute talk on any subject of interest regarding operations above the HF bands.

Let me stress, this does not have to be a highly technical presentation. As a former presenter at numerous Ham-Com's, the most positive comments after a presentation were in regards to show-n-tell material.

The presentation material should address SSB, CW and weak signal operations. There is unlimited subject material a person could present. For example, transmission lines for vhf and up, simple antenna designs, easy fabrication techniques, use of easy to obtain test equipment, using 24/28 volt parts in a 12 volt system, transverters, sequencers and the list goes on and on.

Ham-Com's time slots are typically 30 minute allotments. Typically, five minutes to setup, twenty minutes to present and five minutes to field questions. If someone needs additional time, we can easily do a workshop consisting of Part A and Part B over a one hour time period.

If anyone in your club has an interest to share knowledge in the 2009 Ham-Com, go to the Ham-Com website at **www.hamcom.org** and click on Presenters on the left of the homepage. Fill out the presenter form and submit to the program director.

If you have any questions regarding presenting or subject material, feel free to contact me directly at bob.gormley@verizon.net . I look forward to working with you to make this a great 2009 Ham-Com.

73, Bob Gormley WA5YWC

YOU MAY BE ADDICTED TO HAM RADIO IF (Forwarded By Norm Sprott, KE5DTP)

1. When you look at a full moon and wonder how much antenna gain you would need.
2. When a friend gets a ride from you and remarks that you have a lot of CBs in your vehicle, it turns in to an hour long rant on how ham radio is not CB radio.
3. When someone asks for directions, you pause, wondering if long or short path would be best.
4. When you can look at a globe and be able to point to your antipode (and you know what an antipode is).
5. Your cell phone ring tone is a Morse code message of some kind.
6. You have accidentally said your Amateur Radio call sign at the end of a telephone conversation.
7. Your favorite vacation spots are always on mountain tops.
8. You notice more antennas than road signs while driving your car.
9. You have driven onto the shoulder of the road while looking at and antenna.
10. Porcupines appear to be fascinated with your car.
11. If you ever tried to figure out the operating frequency of your microwave oven.
12. When you look around your bedroom of wall to wall ham gear and ask: Why am I still single?
13. The local city council doesn't like you.
14. You think towers look pretty.
15. Your family doesn't have a clue what to get you for Christmas, even after you tell them.
16. Your HF amplifier puts out more power than the local AM radio station.
17. The wife and kids are away and the first thing that goes through your head is that no one will bother you while you call "CQ DX" a few hundred times.
18. When you pull into a donut shop and the cops there on their coffee break ask if they can see your radio setup.
19. You refer to your children as your "Harmonics".
20. Your girlfriend or wife asks: "You're going to spend \$XXXX on what???"
21. You actually believe you got a good deal on eBay.
22. When you see a house with a metal roof, and your only thought is what a great ground plane that would be.
23. You have pictures of your radio equipment as wallpaper on your computer's desktop.

(Continued on page 5)

Coy Day, N5OK, Resigns from ARRL Board of Directors

QST de W1AW
ARRL Bulletin 5 ARLB005
From ARRL Headquarters
Newington CT January 20, 2009

After more than 12 years as a member of the ARRL Board of Directors -- 10 of them as West Gulf Division Director -- Coy Day, N5OK, announced that he is resigning from ARRL elected office, effective January 20. Per the ARRL Articles of Association, Vice Director David Woolweaver, K5RAV, will take over as Director, and ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, will appoint a new Vice Director. The next election for West Gulf Division Director and Vice Director will be in 2010.

Day, who was Chairman of the League's Ethics and Elections Committee when he resigned, said, "I have really enjoyed interfacing with and serving the membership in my term as West Gulf Division Director. Traveling around, going to club meetings, going to hamfests -- I've just enjoyed being with other amateurs the most. I've also enjoyed representing the membership at the Board of Directors meetings, talking, finding out what they need and what they are feeling and bringing that back to the Board." Before being elected to the Board of Directors, Day served as West Gulf Vice Director and Oklahoma Section Manager.

"It has been a pleasure to work with Coy Day on the ARRL Board," said ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN. "Coy's integrity is admirable and something that everyone should model. We will miss his wisdom and smooth manner on the Board, and wish the best for Coy and his wife Judy."

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, concurred: "In addition to the gentlemanly demeanor that most people who know him associate with Coy, what I will always remember about his service on the Board are the high standards that he set -- for himself, as well as for the ARRL staff. This was especially evident while he was Chairman of the Administration and Finance Committee. Coy challenged and supported the staff in equal and abundant measure."

"I could not step down if I was not confident that David would do a great job as Director," Day said. "He's been such a great Vice Director. He's already served on committees and done so many things within the West Gulf Division. David's doing a great job and I know he will continue to do great things as Director of the West Gulf Division."

Woolweaver called Day a "tireless contributor to Amateur Radio for two decades," and said Day's long service "has been marked by honor and integrity. It has been my privilege to serve with Coy for the past seven years as his Vice Director. I know that everyone in the West Gulf Division will join me in wishing Coy well in his retirement."

While serving on the Board of Directors, Day served on numerous committees. "I think I served on all of them," he joked. "I was Chairman of the Membership Services Committee -- that was before the name was changed to the Programs and Services Committee. I was also Chairman of the Administration and Finance Committee. My first committee was the ad hoc Committee for Long Range Planning, back in 2001."

"I would like thank the members and the staff -- the support here at HQ," Day said. "I also want to thank my fellow Board members -- it takes all 15 of us working together to make things happen. It's been fun."

-
24. Every family vacation includes a stop at a Ham radio store.
 25. The first question you ask the new car dealer is: "What is the alternator's current output"?
 26. You buy a brand new car based on the radio mounting locations and antenna mounting possibilities.
 27. You have tapped out Morse code on your car's horn.
 28. A lightning storm takes out a new Laptop, Plasma TV, and DVD Recorder, but all you care about is if your radios are okay.
 29. Your wife has had to ride in the back seat because you had radio equipment in the front seat.
 30. Your wife was excited when you were talking about achieving that critical angle, but very disappointed when you finally did.
 31. During a love making session with your wife, you stop to answer a call on the radio.
 32. Your wife threatens you with divorce when you tell her that you are going on a "fox" hunt.
 33. (Deleted due to divorce)
 34. (Deleted due to domestic homicide)
 35. You always park on the top floor of the deck, just in case you might have to wait in the car later.
 36. When house hunting, you look for the best room for a radio shack and scan the property for possible tower placement.

Club Minutes

AARC Meeting Minutes: January 6, 2009

Meeting called to order: 7:03pm by President Lee Cooper, W5LHC.

The attendance was larger than normal, with ~10 visitors, new members, and old members (who normally don't attend the meetings) introducing themselves.

No minutes to approve due to no meeting in December 2008. The agenda was covered, followed by reports from Officers and announcements from the general membership.

Treasurer Jay Hoffman, KA5OST, reported the balances for the club's financial accounts/funds and our membership standings. Jay also reported that the IBM Radio Club no longer exists. The IBMRC evenly split the cash value of their club and donated it to our TCARES group and the WCARES group. Thank-you IBMRC, sorry to see you go.

John Stratton, KE5ISX, reported that attempts are being made to introduce bills into this session of the Texas Legislature. These bills will prevent Home Owner Associations from restricting the erection of antennas and towers, amateur radio operations, or anything associated with the hobby. John explained how a "ham" based Political Action Committee would greatly increase the odds of bills being introduced and passed. This means the ham community needs to be ready to support it through involvement and donations. He talked about the lack of understanding on the part of the State, the legislators, and those who actually write the bills regarding amateur radio and wireless communications. The HamPAC will also work to ensure that "hands-free" bills aimed at drivers using cell phones do not inadvertently adversely affect hams along with all State and Federal government listed First Responders.

Two topics of business were brought up: club repeaters and the AARC 90th Anniversary. The .94 repeater currently in use is a 90-day loaner the manufacturer asked us to test for them. Updates were also given for the 444.1 and D-Star repeaters. For the club's 90th Anniversary of being affiliated with ARRL, we are looking at special badges, coordinated activities with other clubs celebrating 90 years of existence or affiliation, operating and contesting as a club (other than Field Day), big party, and more. One club we have talked to is the Waverly Amateur Radio Society in Sydney, Australia. The AARC 90th Anniversary Chairman is the handsome, noble, and honorable Alan Russell, KE5DTR.

Ham of the Month: Roger Wines, W5WIA.

Do not miss February's presentation: Richard Garriott talks about his space flight and stay on the International Space Station. The monthly meeting will be held at ARL so we can accommodate more people. Landing Zone and SkyWarn classes are coming up in February. The Cap10K, and packet stuffing for it, is coming up this spring. The above items and other upcoming events and presentations are listed in the AARC Swapnet newsletter, at www.austinhams.org, or at the Yahoo user group.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:45pm

Presentation: "Roving" by Greg Jurens, WD0ACD/R, and Steve Hicks, N5AC/R.

37. When house hunting, you give your realtor topographical maps showing local elevations.
38. The real estate agent scratches his head when you ask if the soil conductivity is high, medium, or low.
39. You have Ham radio magazines in the bathroom.
40. When your doorbell rings, you immediately shut down the amplifier.
41. Fermentation never enters your mind when "homebrew" is mentioned.
42. Instead of just saying no, you have said "negative".
43. You have used a person's name to indicate acknowledgement.
44. You become impatient waiting for the latest AES catalog to arrive.
45. You have found yourself whistling "CQ" using Morse code.
46. You always schedule the third weekend in May for vacation.
47. You walk carefully in your back yard to avoid being cloths-lined.
48. You have deep anxiety or panic attacks during high winds or heavy ice.
49. You and the FedEx/UPS men are on a first name basis.
50. You really start to miss people that you've never seen.
51. Your exercise machine is a Morse code keyer.
52. You walk through the plumbing section at the hardware store and see antenna parts.
53. Your neighbors thought you were nuts when you ripped up your lawn to bury chicken wire.
54. Your next door neighbor thinks that your wife is a widow.
55. Your wife has delivered meals to your Ham shack.
56. If you sold all your Ham radio equipment, you could pay off your mortgage.

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.



AARC Meeting Info.

Waterloo Icehouse

8600 Burnet Rd. South of 183

Officers Meeting

January 20th 6pm Waterloo Icehouse

(unless otherwise mentioned)

Regular Business Meeting

Come Eat at 6:00 pm Meeting at 7:00pm

February 3rd - Special Guest Richard Garriott, W5KWQ will be the speaker. See Page 1 for details and special location!

2008 Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- **February 7th & March 7th** 9a.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church. Contact Joe Makeever, W5HS (345-0800) or Joe Thiel, N5SMN (832-0450) for info. \$14 fee. **See Page 2 for new location for 2009**

W5YI VEC- **February 21st & March 21st** 2p.m. in room 106, Fleck Hall, St. Edwards University. Contact Jim Greenwood, AB5EK arrl.net, (327-6184) <http://texasparadise.com/w5yi-austin> for more info.

*******2009 DUES ARE DUE!!! *******

Dues must be paid by April 15, to be included in the annual Roster. Contact Jay Hoffman, KA5OST (512) 388-4404 or ka5ost@arrl.net or you can pay dues online at... www.austinhams.org/join

2009 Calendar of Events

Feb 7 WCARC Georgetown Swapfest (Saturday)VFW Post 8587 1000 North College Street just behind San Gabriel Park in Georgetown Talk-In: 146.640(-)162.2Hz www.wcarc.com

Feb 14 Annual MSET/PHI STAT Air Landing Zone Training Class Shoreline Christian Church grounds on N. Burnet Road www.mset-tx.org

Feb 15 AT&T Austin Marathon APRS and voice ops, at least one-two LZ-trained ops needed for News Helo.

Feb 15 2-5PM Plano Amateur Radio Klub 2m FM simplex "challenge" www.n5gar.com/2m_challenge.pdf www.arrl.net/sections/NTX.html

Feb 21 SkyWarn 2009 19th Annual Lou Withrow SkyWarn Training Session UT/Pickle Research Campus Big Tex Auditorium (Commons) 10100 Burnet Rd. www.utexas.edu/depts/grg/kimmel/skywarn2009.html

Feb 28 Orange ARC & Jefferson County ARC Hamfest www.qsl.net/w5nd/

Feb	Mar.	Austin Meetings/Happenings
3**	3	AARC Meeting Waterloo Ice House* 7:00 p.m.
14	14	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop 11:00 a.m.
10	10	ARES Training -CTECC 6:30 p.m.
11	11	High Speed Multimedia SIG Red Cross 7:00 p.m.
17	17	ATV Club Mtg. Mangia Pizza 6:30 p.m.
21	21	QCWA IHOP 183 Near Duval 1:00 p.m.
23	23	Travis Co. REACT Denny's on Burnet 7:00 p.m.
24	24	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud. 7:00 p.m.
25	25	Packet Set-up Lab @ Red Cross* 7:00 p.m.

**AARC Business Meeting is at Waterloo Ice House 8600 Burnet Come early and grab dinner before the meeting.*

*** Special Meeting Location, See Page 1 for Details*

ARRLCOVER
Austin Amateur Radio Club
PO Box 4739
Austin, TX 78765-4739
February 2009
Return Service Requested