



AARC COVER

Keeping Austin Wireless for Over 90 Years!

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

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Issue 3-2009

Mmmmm Stuffing!

We are less than two weeks away from AARC's biggest fundraiser of the year-The Capitol 10K Packet Stuffing Party.

The Austin-American Statesman likes our work and has invited us back for a 4th year! We've been given the opportunity to place \$2000 back in the account. The Club has used the funds from these past events to purchase new repeater controllers, to build up the D-Star system and most recently, to purchase the Midland Basetech 3 repeater (currently the 146.94 machine). I hope you agree with me that AARC is doing good things for Ham Radio in the Central Texas area!

Jann Girard (Race Director for the Capitol 10K) says the number of fliers has gone from 22 to 15 so it will be a tad easier to stuff a given packet. She also says her staff from Austin American Statesman will be there to help coordinate. When complete, AARC will collect \$2000 again this year!

Organizations that use AARC/ARO/TCARES Repeaters are invited to help! This includes 147.36, 146.94, 146.88, 146.88, 444.1 machines. You're encouraged to wear any uniform/jersey and show your support. Jann, Lee, Lori, Jay, Don and I promise to make it as fun an event as possible. The fliers will be elevated for easier reach and the Genie Muscle massager will be on-duty!

We are at the ~50-60 volunteer mark and I'd like to see us reach 90-100 (the more the better) to spread the load out. AM-only, PM-only and All-day shifts are scheduled but show-up-when-you-can efforts are welcome, too!

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 February 7th, 2009 at the Bethany United Methodist Church:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Travis K. Imken, KE5ZEM
Chris L. Schreppel, KE5ZEN

Christopher J. Kelley, KE5ZEL
Tuan Ta, KE5ZEO

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Milt Cram, W8NUE
Howard Glueck, K5ZUA
Joe Makeever, W5HS

Tony Davee, KM5JH
Curt Goodson, W4QBU
Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Next ARRL VE Test Session

March 7th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 213
April 4th - 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) are being 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

2-21-2009

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our February 21st session:

Extra Class – none

General Class – John Frimpter, KC5OLD
Matthew J. Hammons, KE5WRU
John J. Vaglica, -new-

Tim A. Goldenburg, KD5JFY
Christopher J. Kelley, KE5ZEL

Technician Class (all new) – Scott A. Anthony
John D. Edwards
Gregory A. Hubbard
William D. Simpson

Anthony G. Cassano
Britt W. Hackemack
Ranjit R.P. Puri

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5TO
Jim Greenwood, AB5EK

Tony Lyon, KJ5XF
Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH

Gary Popp, AE5JR

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on March 21st
and April 18th 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://texas-hams.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@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.**

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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 .

Odds and Ends

Recently, Rock and Roll fans noted the anniversary of the plane crash that took the lives of Buddy Holly, Richie Vallens, and The Big Bopper, some 50 years ago. Buddy Holly of Lubbock, TX, had one of his biggest hits in the song "Peggy Sue". In real life, Peggy Sue is now K5PSG, and she has even operated a Special Event station in memory of Buddy, W5B, in Lubbock. She was also featured on the overnight talk radio show, "Coast To Coast AM" with George Noory, (Formerly The Art Bell show, [W6OBB], on this year's anniversary of "The Day the Music Died".

-Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

The details have been finally worked out and the website and sample of the new AARC club badge is now posted on the Sign Man's site. The link to it is: <http://www.thesignman.com/clubs/austin.html>

Thanks, Lee, W5LHC

Please respond and advise your availability. My home email is- N5MNV ARRL.NET home- 255-6753
cell- 632-6673

Family members are welcome (we've had some well-behaved and hard-working youngsters in the past) so please invite spouses, etc. to come help for at least part of the day. Please be aware that children who require lots of attention may detract from our efficiency.

Coffee, drinks (with REAL sugar) and snacks will be available throughout the day. Jim AB5EK has offered to (again) spring for pizza for lunch during the 12-1PM slot! Thanks, Jim!

AM shift- 8AM-12noon (please arrive at 7:30AM)

Lunch- 12noon-1PM

PM shift- 1PM-5PM or until finished

We usually meet at Scholz's Beer Garden for pints that evening! So, restated, the Capitol 10K Packet Stuffing Party will be a one-day event to raise \$2000 for the AARC.

Saturday Mar 7, 7:30AM to ~6PM at the Austin American Statesman main building, just NE of Congress & Riverside. We will have a radio on 146.94 for talk-in.

There are (at least) two ways to get there:

Northbound on Congress, pass Riverside, pass Barton Springs Rd, then see the Austin American Statesman entrance (just before bridge, south of the river). Proceed east, then right at the "T", following the signs around to the "visitors parking" or "main lobby".

From Riverside just east of Congress, look for Thundercloud Subs at 201 E. Riverside.

The intersecting road that goes roughly northeast leads into the AAS campus, follow the signs around to the "visitors parking" or "main lobby".

Thanks to you all for helping AARC reach this goal!

Jeff N5MNV

Ham Classes

The Austin and Williamson Co. Amateur Radio Clubs are looking forward to putting on two more Ham Radio classes... IF we can get enough students for both classes we will run two classes at the same time, same site, different rooms of course...

The plan is to have a Technician and/or a General license class start on March 21 and run for 4 weeks... We will meet each Saturday from 8:00 AM until 12:00 Noon... The classes are FREE and will be held at the Round Rock Hospital...

This book will be used for the Technician class:

The **ARRL Ham Radio License Manual**, First edition, third printing, (ISBN: 0-87259-963-9) #9639 -- \$24.95

This book will be used for the General class:

The **General Class License Manual**, Sixth edition, second printing. (ISBN: 0-87259-996-5) #9965 -- \$24.95

The books can be purchased at the Austin Amateur Radio Supply store:

<http://www.aaradio.com/> or their favorite book store...

Please ask the students to email me to register for the class... If Saturday is not a good day for them have them suggest a week night that would work best... I'm working on a week night class too, I just don't have a start date picked yet... The class with the most students gets started first...

My non-work email address is mylastname@yahoo.com

Thanks in advance, Dallas, KD4HNX

Club Minutes 2-3-2009

Meeting started at ARL close to 7PM,
Lee W5LHC recognized the many new members and visitors.
87 in total signed in.
62 were members.

visitors were:

Peter & Karen Phillips	Charles	Tom Nevue W2MN
Bob Farmer W9DF	Sam Dinkin	Adrienne Russell (Alan KE5DTR's wife)
Mary Thiel	Joe Jarret K5FOG	Jim Gattis KE5VHI
Mark Dudley	Steve Sparks	Brad Davis NA5BD
Dick Foster W5TA	Bob Gibbans	Jim Gage KE5RMU
Simon Skedd	Kathy Khazen	Steven McAlister
Art Tiemann KE5SSG		

New members: Tim Goldenburg KE5JFY

Voter cards were issued to members who wished to vote on the Repeater Committee's decision, held after Richard Garriott's presentation.

Lee reported on the various events coming up, including the newly rolled-out Tuesday April 7 Hurricane Conference session, BBQ dinner and AARC club meeting. Please see www.AustinHams.org for details.

The door prize would have been won by Lori KM5MQ but, with fears of "foul!" cries, was re-drawn and Joe N5HPC won the Atomic Clock, donated by Jay KA5OST.

At ~7:10, Paul KE5ZW introduced Richard Garriott W5KWQ, son of Owen Garriott W5LFL and grandson of the original W5KWQ. Richard recently trained as an Astronaut/Cosmonaut and traveled by Russian rocket to the ISS, where he operated his Ham Radio equipment, conducted science experiments and a host of other activities.

OEM calendars were distributed to all who wanted one (or two).

The minutes of the November and January minutes were approved as posted in the AARCover on the www.AustinHams.org site.

The Jesse Copeland scholarship fund report will be postponed till the March meeting (which will be at Waterloo Ice House).

Lee presented a report on the Repeater Committee's past two months of technical work, deliberation, debate and resulting recommendation to purchase the Midland Basetech3 for \$5500.

It was made clear that we are not abandoning the Mastr2's, but embracing newer technology and furthering the Radio Art. Several Mastr2 repeaters are currently being fitted for use either as main repeater stations or hot-swappable spares.

The Midland's P25 option was discussed and it is recognized that the main tactical repeater should have restricted P25 operation (no P25 during peak use). The current plan is to fully finish the 146.94 Mastr2 voter/remote receiver project and place the Midland in place of the vastly underutilized 146.78 repeater, giving full flexibility to P25 and analog users.

Members filled out cards with "yes" or "no" boxes and when the count was done, 58 voted "yes" and 4 voted "no".

Richard Garriott did a Q & A session while the cards were being tallied.

The meeting was adjourned at roughly 9:15PM.

Hurricane Conference in Austin!

CQ CQ,

As many of you are aware, this year the National Hurricane Conference hosted by the good folks from the National Hurricane Center is being held in Austin Texas. It will be at the Austin Convention Center from April 6th - 10th. As has been noted on this and other email reflectors, the cost to attend is \$300 a person with no provisions for discounts for volunteers. The cost prevents many of us from attending the entire event. But,

The ARRL is one of the sponsors of the event and has made arrangements to have a special Tuesday afternoon sessions to be open and FREE to Hams.

These presentations will be hosted by :

Dennis Dura K2DCD, Manager, Emergency Preparedness & Response ARRL HQ,
Hurricane Watch Net,
VoIPWX Net,
WX4NHC-National Hurricane Center ,
IRESC.

This is an opportunity to attend the conference with focus on sessions geared toward amateur radio. Dennis has asked me to let you know of this opportunity and hopes you will be able to attend. The sessions run from 13:30- 17:30 on Tuesday April 7th.

ALSO,

The Austin Amateur Radio Club would also like to invite you to attend our monthly meeting that same evening. Dennis Dura has arranged for him and several of the presenters from the conference to be speakers at the meeting that evening. We will be providing a Texas Style BBQ dinner during the meeting. This is a great opportunity to come and hear a number of great speakers, enjoy some good BBQ and meet members of the club. If you would like to attend but do not want to partake in the BBQ that is okay too.

Details

Dinner at 6:00 pm

Meeting: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Cost for dinner: \$12 per person

Non-Members :Cost to attend meeting (no dinner) \$5.00 (help cover cost of facility)

AARC Members: Free for meeting only, Dinner is still \$12 per person

To be able to accurately order the proper amount dinners we will be asking for dinners to be pre-purchased. Details and registration information will be posted on www.austinhams.org

If you have any questions please email me at w5lhc@arrl.net

I hope you will be able to come and attend the afternoon session at the Conference and especially look forward to having you join us for dinner and more great sessions that evening.

73,

Lee Cooper, W5LHC
President, Austin Amateur Radio Club

For the latest information, go to www.austinhams.org



Hi everyone,

Our 2009 CERT training schedule is now available! You can find training dates and application here: www.ci.austin.tx.us/disasterready/application.htm. For more information about the City of Austin Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management CERT program please visit: www.ci.austin.tx.us/oem/cert.htm.

For questions please email me at tiffany.taylor@ci.austin.tx.us. Once you submit your application, you will hear back from our office with in a week. If you are not contacted please follow up as mail and faxes do get lost. **We are only offering one CERT training class in 2009 and expect demand to be very high. Preference will be given by application date so apply early!**

In addition, we will be working closely with a new volunteer program called NET Guard. NETGuard volunteers will be required to go through CERT training in addition to other advanced training modules. Participating in NETGuard is open to new and existing CERT members. Read more about NETGuard below.

The City of Austin has recently received a grant that will allow it to expand its Technology Response Team (TRT) volunteer program. As part of this grant the City will be receiving funding for equipment which will allow the program to expand it's support to include not only the City of Austin but any entity within Hayes, Travis, and Williamson County providing critical infrastructure to the region.

In order to participate in the NET Guard program you must have attended the CERT training classes (and NET Guard class) as well as have a up to date background check, and sign a non-disclosure agreement with the City of Austin. The NET Guard class will occur sometime in late April, or early May.

After these requirements are met you will be certified in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) as well as the NET Guard program. You will have the opportunity to work on either of the teams during a disaster affecting the region, although if there is a need for the NET Guard program you will be assigned to it first.

Please go to the following website: <http://www.netguardaustin.org/netguard> to find out more about the program.

AARC Meeting Info.

Waterloo Icehouse

8600 Burnet Rd. South of 183

Officers Meeting

March 17th 6pm Waterloo Icehouse

(unless otherwise mentioned)

Regular Business Meeting

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

March 3rd - We will be discussing power inverters and offer tips for use in mobile situations.

2008 Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC- March 7th & April 4th 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- March 21st & April 18 th 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

Mar 7 **Capitol 10K Packet Stuffing Party** 8AM-6PM at the Austin American Statesman main Office (lunch provided)
Please email me- Jeff N5MNV@arrl.net

Mar 7 **BVARC Greater Houston Hamfest** Fort Bend County Fairgrounds 4310 Highway 36 South- Rosenberg, TX www.houstonhamfest.org

Mar 13-14 **49th Acadiana (Rayne) Hamfest** Rayne Civic Center 300 Frog Festival Drive, Rayne LA 70578 www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/

Mar 14 **Irving Amateur Radio Club Inc. Hamfest** Betcha Bingo Hall 2420 W. Irving Blvd. #125 Irving, TX www.irvingarc.org

Mar 21 **Midland Amateur Radio Club's Hamfest** Midland Lion's Club 200 Plaza Avenue <http://hamfest.w5qgg.org/>

Mar.	Apr.	Austin Meetings/Happenings
3	7	AARC Meeting Waterloo Ice House* 7:00 p.m.
14	11	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop 11:00 a.m.
10	14	ARES Training -CTECC 6:30 p.m.
11	8	High Speed Multimedia SIG Red Cross 7:00 p.m.
17	21	ATV Club Mtg. Mangia Pizza 6:30 p.m.
21	18	QCWA IHOP 183 Near Duval 1:00 p.m.
23	27	Travis Co. REACT Denny's on Burnet 7:00 p.m.
24	28	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud. 7:00 p.m.
25	29	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.*

Return Service Requested
March 2009
Austin, TX 78765-4739
PO Box 4739
Austin Amateur Radio Club
AARCOVER