



# AARC COVER

Keeping Austin Wireless for Over 90 Years!

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

ISSN 1067-0262

March 2010

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Issue 3-2010

## Texas VHF-FM Society Seeks Opinion on DStar Coordination

If you are a licensed amateur who resides in the state of Texas, The Texas VHF-FM Society would like to hear from you. The Society has been coordinating digital repeaters including D Star systems on certain simplex frequencies on 2 meters in select areas of Texas. These co-ordinations have been issued for the past three and a half years on an interim basis until such time as a formal band plan can be adopted. The time has come to formally adopt a plan.

Traditional repeater pairs in some major metropolitan areas are unavailable for coordination while there are a number of individuals and clubs who are expressing interest in putting digital technology on the air in these areas. To meet the demand, the Society proposes coordinating digital repeater systems on 2 meters as follows:

The Coordination Committee has been issuing on an interim basis, coordination for Digital repeater systems in the upper 50 kHz of the VHF simplex spectrum, using 1 MHz split with 10 kHz channel spacing. This proposal affects only 2 meters and only in areas where traditional repeater pairs are unavailable. Digital systems coordinated on these frequencies will be moved to traditional channels as they become available. The Coordination Committee will coordinate digital repeater systems on the following five pairs:

*(Continued on page 4)*

### 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	11:00 a.m.	Lunch, Pokey Joe's 183&Great Hills	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 6th, 2010 at Bethany United Methodist Church :

### Technician Class Licenses Processed

Clyde G. Bible, KF5EXD	William L. Collie, Jr., KF5EXB	Sabari Nathan Coimbatore Velusamy, KF5EXN
Robert W. Frost, KF5EXC	James T. Hester, KF5EXL	Karen A. Kuykendall, KF5EXG
Sandra L. Morris, KF5EXM	John J. Muras, KF5EXJ	Francis M. Northrup, Jr., KF5EXE
PantaLeon J. Perez, KF5EXK	Matthew J. Richards, KF5EXH	John P. Spearman, KF5EXI
Nicholas O. Young, KF5EXF		

### General Class Licenses Processed

Torsten Schwarz, KF5EXP	Lyle A. Sproul, N5YPV	Paul H. Thornton, KF5EXO
Mark L. Vandenbrink, KF5EHE	Brian S. Zwiener, KF5CCN	

### Extra Class Licenses Processed

Barrett K. Karr, AE5PQ	David G. Montgomery, AE5PR
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### Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Howard Glueck, K5ZUA	Larry Gunter, WB5BEK	Gene Hinkle, K5PA
Joe Makeever, W5HS	Tom Nevue, W2MN	Joe Thiel, N5SMN

### Next ARRL VE Test Sessions

March 6th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 213

April 10th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 213

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

2-20-2010

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

#### Extra Class –

Nicholas W. Brennan, KD7YDD	Stephen W. Babin -new-
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#### General Class –

James B. Bennett, KD5IGD	Paul R. Erb -new-
John M. Rock, III -new-	John P. Spearman, KF5EXI
Mark E. Thompson, N5UMT	

#### Technician Class (all new) –

Maxine S. Dixon	Henry C. Dugan, Jr.	Mary Hinson	Brian L. Holmes
Catherine N. Lundquist	Eric G. Lundquist	Kyle T. Miller	Harrison D. Pham
Anton Plauche-Capers	Leo R. Pohren	David M. Stanley	Bill T. Talbert

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5TO	Anthony Lanni, AE5JQ
Jim Greenwood, AB5EK	Tony Lyon, KJ5XF
Gary Popp, AE5JR	

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on March 20<sup>th</sup>  
and April 17th in room 106 of Fleck Hall on the campus of

**St. Edward's University. The exam fee is \$14.**

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	Paul Gilbert	KE5ZW		president@austinhams.org
Vice President	Mike Brumleve	KC8VSE	513-850-8585	vice-president@austinhams.org
Treasurer	Jay Hoffman	KA5OST	388-4404	treasurer@austinhams.org
Secretary	Alan Russell	KE5DTR	851-1806	secretary@austinhams.org
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ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	Don Dudley	AC5YK		ac5yk@arrl.net
TC ARES PIO	Steven Polunsky	W5SMP		tcares-pio@gmail.net

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
1293.200/-20	No	23cm D-Star Repeater[W5KA A]
1248.200	No	23cm D-Star DD (data, simplex/reversible) [W5KA A]
146.480/+1.0	No	2m D-Star Repeater [W5KA C]

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.

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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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“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.**

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## **Goodnight LORAN**

Forwarded by Pete Jordahl, K5GM

In a series of small ceremonies, the U.S. Coast Guard on Monday shut down Loran-C, a navigation and timing system that has guided mariners and aviators since World War II. The death blow came last May when President Obama called the system obsolete, saying it is no longer needed in an age in which Global Positioning System devices are nearly ubiquitous in cars, planes and boats.

Killing Loran-C will save the government \$190 million over five years, Obama said. But supporters of Loran -- including the man known as "the father of GPS" -- say the nation's increasing reliance on GPS paradoxically has increased the importance of maintaining Loran as a backup. At 3 p.m. Monday, the U.S. Coast Guard turned off Loran signals at 19 of the 24 Loran stations. Signals remain at five stations because of agreements with Russia and Canada, but the Coast Guard expects those stations to be decommissioned by June after the United States receives verification that those countries have been notified of the change.

The five stations that temporarily remain on line are at Attu, in Alaska's Aleutian Islands, and Caribou, Maine; Nantucket, Massachusetts; Shoal Cove, Alaska; and George, Washington.

AARCOVER 3-2010 - from CNN/Reuters, Clint Bradford, K6LCS

## **Club Dues Due for 2010**

I am now accepting payments for 2010 dues. Please send your payment of \$20 for individuals or \$30 for family (hams in same household) Be sure include any change of contact/license info.

You can pay online here - <http://www.austinhams.org/join.htm>

Print form to mail can be found at <http://www.austinhams.org/Docs/>

**AARC\_ARRL\_Membership\_Form\_%202008.pdf**

And mail to:

The Austin Amateur Radio Club  
PO Box 4739  
Austin, TX  
78765-4739

Thanks and happy hamming!

Jay Hoffman KA5OST,  
Club Treasurer

*(Continued from page 1)*

146.450/147.450 MHz  
146.460/147.460 MHz  
146.470/147.470 MHz  
146.480/147.480 MHz  
146.490/147.490 MHz

On an interim basis while a formal band plan is proposed and ratified. These coordinated systems will protect existing analog systems with regard to interference and spacing issues. These frequencies will not be used to coordinate analog systems. Digital systems will be coordinated on traditional repeater channels where practical and placed on the waiting list where traditional repeater channels are unavailable at the time of coordination.

This topic is discussed in the Society's Spring 2007 Newsletter. See link at the bottom to read it in its entirety.

Update: On August 2, 2008, the general membership voted to extend the provisional status of this band plan recommendation for an additional two years (ending Summer meeting 2010). The purpose of the extension is to ensure enough time to complete the vested member poll and have the general membership vote on the band plan change. Please watch for more information on this proposed band plan change in future newsletters. For more information, please contact [president@txvhffm.org](mailto:president@txvhffm.org)

To participate in the poll, please visit this link:

<http://rfprojector.com/txvhffm/index.php?poll=1>

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## **In Brief**

From STX News by Lee Cooper, W5LHC

### **ARRL Affiliated Club Membership Contest:**

Division Director Woolweaver, K5RAV, has kicked off the West Gulf Division ARRL membership contest for all ARRL affiliated clubs in the division. The contest will run from January 1st through April 31st and the top ten clubs with the greatest percentage of increase in their membership will be awarded prizes. The prizes include an MFJ Antenna Analyzer, ICOM HT's, and gift certificates good for use from the ARRL.

### **HSMM Latest**

Rick Kirchof, NG5V reports that the Austin HSMM development team was formed as a SIG of Travis County ARES group in Austin. They have been developing HSMM mesh networks for several years. Recent presentations at Summerfest and Hamcom have drawn lots of interest. They now have a web site available. Please see <http://hsmm-mesh.org> for information about how hams are using inexpensive off-the-shelf consumer wireless gear to form mesh networks.

## Cap10K Packet Stuffing Dates Set

Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV

We are a few weeks away from AARC's biggest fundraiser of the year- The Capitol 10K Packet Stuffing Party on March 13.

The Austin-American Statesman likes our work and has invited us back for a 5th year! The AARC Extended Family has the opportunity to again place \$2000 in the AARC bank account! The Club has used the funds from these past events to purchase new repeater controllers, to build up the D-Star system and the Midland Basetech 3 repeater (currently the 146.94 machine).

Jann Girard (Race Director for the Capitol 10K) reports the task has been simplified by consolidating all the small coupons, ads, etc into a few 8x10 sheets so we have few steps to perform! As always, 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/TCARES Repeaters are invited to help! This includes 146.94, 146.88, 146.78, 147.36, 444.1, 224.8, D-Star and Echolink hardware. You're encouraged to wear any uniform/jersey and show your support. Jann, Paul, Mike, Jay, Don, Lori and I promise to make it as fun an event as possible. The fliers will be elevated for easier reach and the Genie Muscle massage-o-matic will be on-duty!

We are at the ~35 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! Please respond and advise your availability. My home email is- N5MNV@ARRL.NET - 255-6753 - 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 in the 12-1PM lunch slot! , Jim!

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

Lunch- 12noon-1PM

PM shift- 1PM-5PM or until finished

We will converge at a nearby Beer Garden (one -with- parking) 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 13, 7:30AM to ~6PM on the east side of the Austin American Statesman building, just NE of Congress & Riverside and south of Ladybird Lake. Please see enclosed image or here's a "Google Map" link:

<http://maps.google.com/maps?hl=en&ie=UTF8&ll=30.257862,-7.743956&spn=0.006756,0.013937&t=h&z=17>

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

N5MNV

## Club Minutes

**AARC Meeting Minutes:** February 2, 2010

**Meeting called to order:** 7:00pm by President Paul Gilbert, KE5ZW.

Meeting started with a welcome to all and the agenda.

We had around fifty-three in attendance including seven (7) visitors.

**Minutes:** last meeting's minutes approved as written in AACRCOVER.

### OFFICER REPORTS

**Vice-President:** Mike Brumleve, KC8VSE, took a poll to determine interest in possible presentation topics such as weather watching/SkyWarn, home wx & radio stations, towers, and HOAs. Dallas Mellichamp, KD4HDX, talked about the UT community service project (Sat. 2/27) and the effort to try and put on some ham classes (time & site TBD), especially Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW's, Extra Class.

**Treasurer:** Jay Hoffman, KA5OST, was out due to medical problems. Club wished him a speedy recovery. Lee Cooper, W5LHC, talked about the ARRL Membership Drive Contest. He also talked about the upcoming Texas Homeland Security Conference and National Hurricane Conference (but not as part of Treasurer Report).

**Secretary:** Alan Russell, KE5DTR, talked about the club's plan to earmark money out of the budget every year leading up to 2019, the club's 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This will make sure a good budget is available for celebrating this milestone in a great way.

**Editor:** Mitch London, KD5HCV, reminded everyone calendars and pins are for sale.

**Tech Committee:** Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, reported Ross Snyder, N0GSZ, has the .78 repeater back up & working; the .94 repeater will require a 107.2 tone starting April 1<sup>st</sup>.

**ARES:** Joe Canfield, N5HPC, mentioned the ARES planning meeting and its location.

**President:** Paul mentioned we are looking for a bigger meeting place and possible Christmas Party sites; and talked about the volunteers already lined up for Field Day.

**Ham of the Month:** Ross Snyder, N0GSZ.

One of our visitors won the door prizes, a 7-Function Multimeter. Lew Thompson, W5IFQ, talked about MARS stations operating in Haiti helping with relief efforts.

**Crossword Solution**

1	R	A	G	3	M	P	5	P	A	R	7	K	I	8	N	9	G
10	B	I	N	11	B	U	Y	12	E	R	S	13	I	E	A		
	A	T	14	A	D	15	T	I	16	O	T	H	E	R			
17	R	A	18	I	19	N	Y	20	U	Z	A	21	D	A			
22	G	G	O	23	S	P	E	24	A	K	25	E	R	G			
26	A	N	T	27	I	28	Q	U	E	N	D	29	S	E			
	I	I	U	30	D	I	31	S	C	O	32	U	N	T			
34	N	35	I	C	K	E	L	36	R	H	O	37	H	A	T		
	38	O	K	U	39	O	H	I	O	41	U	L					
42	F	43	E	V	E	44	N	O	45	R	A	46	F	L	47	E	
48	O	U	T	O	49	M	O	S	50	O	R	M					
	R	S	51	T	R	E	E	53	A	I	P						
	U	54	G	A	A	55	H	A	56	M	57	F	E	S	T		
58	M	59	O	60	L	A	T	E	G	62	U	N	O				
	63	B	O	O	K	S	64	F	O	U	N	D	E	R			

**Old Business:** Stuart made a motion to re-elect Joe Fischer, K5EJL, and re-appoint Marie Vanderweele, KA5HFH, to the Copeland Scholarship Fund Board. Motion passed. The other board members are: (elected) James Bryce, W5HFS, and Stuart Rohre; (appointed) Joe Canfield and Jim Greenwood, AB5EK. The club president serves as a seventh member on the selection committee. Jeff talked about the Cap10K Packet Stuffing on March 13<sup>th</sup> and asked for volunteers. No New Business was brought up for discussion.

**Items for the good of the club:** (upcoming) Landing Zone the 13th; SkyWarn the 20th; Texas Homeland Security Conference the 15th-18th; ARRL School Club RoundUp the 8th-12th. These items, other upcoming events, and scheduled presentations are listed in the AACRC Swapnet newsletter, at [www.austinhams.org](http://www.austinhams.org), and on the Yahoo user group.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:50pm

**Presentation:** "Special Event Station: N5P, National Museum of the Pacific War" by Jim Lindley, K5EWS.

# Ham Radio Crossword

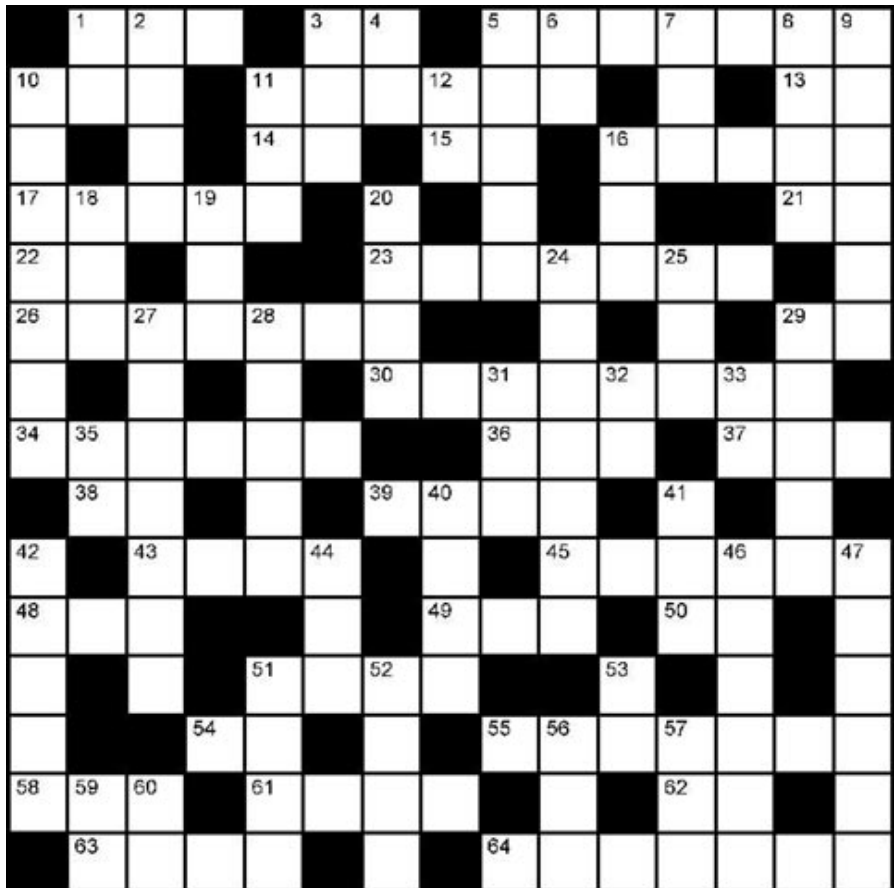
By H. Ward Silver, N0AX

## Across

1. Hams chew it
3. Type of FT1000
5. A lot of cars
10. Holds small parts
11. Sellers need these
13. Spanish prefix
14. Commercial message (abbr.)
15. Symbol for Titanium
16. The alternative
17. Worst kind of hamfest weather
21. Local prosecutor (abbr.)
22. Going (CW abbr.)
23. Presents a program
26. Its age is its attraction
29. Macintosh model
30. Buy extra to get this
34. Same as five for a quarter
36. Three Greek letters move the boat
37. The head topper
38. Works fine
39. State of the Hamvention
43. Equal
45. Sells chances to win
48. Taken from a container
49. Type of FET
50. Complement to AND
51. Nickname of the Ham of the Year
54. Wire thickness (abbr.)
55. Radio fleamarket
58. A change in the wiring
61. If it's all gone, you're too ....
62. Prefix meaning reverse or not
63. Bound volume
64. Person who starts an organization

## Down

1. New England state (abbr.)
2. Prefix meaning opposite
3. Wet dirt
4. Prefix of largest South American nation
5. What is won
6. Stand by (CW prosign)
7. Built from parts
8. Often confused with want
9. Where the extra stuff goes
10. A good deal
11. Opening for system components
12. Phoned home
16. Hardwood for cabinets
18. Again (CW abbr.)



19. Bad letter from FCC (abbr.)
20. Pre-owned
24. Old radios are boat-.....
25. Email abbreviation for colleges
27. Buy these to get in
28. A line
29. Delay
31. Sorry (CW abbr.)
32. Official Observer (abbr.)
33. Another New England state (abbr.)
35. Input Output (abbr.)
40. Take purchases back here
41. Flying saucer
42. Group discussion of a topic
44. Opposite of 50 Across
46. An acquaintance
47. Who must beware
51. The "in" frequency
52. Slang for food
53. Phone mode on a Globe King
56. Time past
57. Enjoyment
59. Old Boy (CW abbr.)
60. Act

## ***AARC Meeting Info.***

### ***Waterloo Icehouse***

***8600 Burnet Rd. South of 183***

#### ***Officers Meeting 7 pm***

***March 16th at Waterloo***

#### ***Business Meeting 7pm***

***March 2nd - Not available yet, go to  
www.austinhams.org for latest info.***

### ***2010 Upcoming Amateur Exams***

***ARRL VEC-March 6th & April 10th*** 9a.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church. Contact Joe Makeever, W5HS (345-0800) or Joe Thiel, N5SMN (832-0450) for info. \$15 fee.

***W5YI VEC- March 20 & April 17th*** 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.

## ***NEXT ISSUE!!!***

***New Tone for the 146.94 Repeater  
Starts April 1st!***

## ***2010 Calendar of Events***

***Mar 6 BVARC Greater Houston Hamfest*** Ft. Bend County Fairgrounds, Rosenberg, TX [www.houstonhamfest.org](http://www.houstonhamfest.org)

***Mar 13 Capitol 10K Packet Stuffing Party*** at the Austin American Statesman main Office See Page 5 for Details

***Mar 13 8th Annual Hamfest*** Irving Amateur Radio Club Inc. [www.irvingarc.org/hamfest.htm](http://www.irvingarc.org/hamfest.htm)

***Mar 12-13 50th Annual Acadiana Hamfest*** Rayne Civic Center 300 Frog Festival Drive, Rayne LA 70578 Talk-in: 146.82(-) no PL [www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/](http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/)

***Mar 20 Ride to the Ranch*** Jim KB7UQD 310-9934

<b><i>Mar.</i></b>	<b><i>Apr.</i></b>	<b><i>Austin Meetings/Happenings</i></b>	
2	6	AARC Meeting Waterloo Ice House*	7:00 p.m.
13	10	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop	11:00 a.m.
16	20	HSMM/Packet SIG at Red Cross	7:00 p.m.
20	17	QCWA IHOP 183 Near Duval	1:00 p.m.
22	26	ATV Club Mtg. Mangia Pizza	6:30 p.m.
23	27	ARES Training -CTECC	6:30 p.m.
22	26	Travis Co. REACT Jim's 183&Burnet	7:15 p.m.
23	27	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud.	7:00 p.m.
25	22	CERT Meeting CTECC	6:30 p.m.

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

***Return Service Requested***  
***March 2010***  
Austin, TX 78765-4739  
PO Box 4739  
Austin Amateur Radio Club  
AARCOVER