



AARC COVER

Keeping Austin Wireless for Over 90 Years!

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

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Issue 5-2010

The CW Connector

By Jim Rudd, W5SIO

When we tell about events or things that happen to us, we are biased by details of importance and cause, forgetting the connector. Often we don't recognize the thread that connects bigger things; this thread is very important.

Within this story today, the connecting thread is...knowing the code; amateur radio operators call it CW. Knowing the code has made major events throughout my adult life; the recent major event involving this connector is my recent flying an airplane that was in the World War II D-Day with me.



In 1942 I was drafted into military service; being raised in very small towns, I had been out of the country only a couple of times. I had very little idea of what the military was all about: I knew that whatever I got would be unusual to me. At the reception center I was put into the Air Force – Why? They were just filling quotas. They told me that if I could learn the code and minimum electronics, I could fly! For a country boy, this was an unbelievable incentive.

(Continued on page 5)

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 April 10th at Bethany United Methodist Church :

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Rudolph J Albachten, KF5GEA

Donald A. Demars, KF5GDZ

Brian M. Haight, KF5GEG

Kevin K. Cress, KF5GEC

Jakub Felkl, KF5GEE

Sean A. Moles, KF5GEF

Kristin E. Cress, KF5GEB

Mahsuni Gokdemir, KF5GED

Kevin D. Stuart, KF5GEH

General Class License Processed

Pantaleon J. Perez, KF5EXK

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Howard Glueck, K5ZUA

Jack Stankus, W2JS

Larry Gunter, WB5BEK

Kees Talen, K5BCQ

Joe Makeever, W5HS

Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Next ARRL VE Test Sessions

May 1st - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 213

June 5th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 213

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

4-17-2010

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our April 17th session:

Extra Class – (none)

General Class –

William King, KF5GVB

Kevin C. McCoy, KF5FUZ

John W. Lee, IV, KF5FVA

Technician Class (all new) –

John F. Figer

Clifton B. Hennington

Craig W. Laurents

Norman J. Peterson

William C. Rox

Andrew R. Weir

Sterling P. Gadison

Richard W. Hornbuckle

Harmony Mones-Murphy

Lindsey m. Roberts

Guadalupe Villareal, Jr.

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Craig Bean, AC5KW

Gary Popp, AE5JR

Jim Greenwood, AB5EK

Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on May 15th
and June 19th in room 106 of Fleck Hall on the campus of
St. Edward's University. All sessions are walk-in. 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/>

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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
146.940 107.2 PL Tone	No	Most popular, WX, Swapnet & Newsline
224.800	No	
444.100	No	
146.480/+1.0	No	2m D-Star Repeater [W5KA C]
1293.200/-20	No	23cm D-Star Repeater[W5KA A]
1248.200	No	23cm D-Star DD (data, simplex/reversible) [W5KA A]

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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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.

Ham Class

I just want to make sure to leave no stone unturned finding students for the next class...

The next Technician Ham Class will be in Austin at CTECC, that's the Combined Transportation and Emergency Communications Center... The classes will be from 8:00 AM until 12:00 noon... Dates will be Saturday May 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd... We also plan on holding exams after the final class so the test session will start at 12:00 and end at 1:30 PM...

Please send your prospective students to <http://www.austinhams.com> (note the .com) for more details...

If you would like to be an Instructor please email me...
73 Dallas, KD4HNX
<http://www.austinhams.com> <http://www.arrlstx.org>



Austin Hams Put on Demo for Menchaca Elementary!

By Mitch London

Saturday April 10th a few of the members from the Austin Amateur Radio Club went South! South Austin that is! Menchaca Elementary was holding its annual Round Up and AARC was invited to have a booth there. Set up started the Friday before where antenna location points were determined and last minute items were decided upon.

Saturday morning the entire cafeteria and most of the outdoors was packed with parents and students enjoying all



KD5HCV Mitch London, WB5EKG Abe Clark, KC8VSE Mike Brumleve, KA5OST Jay Hoffman, KE5DTR Alan Russell.



KC8VSE Mike Brumleve watches 8 year old Jason's QSO, as Jason's dad listens intently and KA5FZU Paul Fenrich keeps an eye out for more students.

lowed students to talk to Australia and Alaska! There was also a video showing various other ham radio aspects, and there was a Morse code keyer set up so people could listen and try their hand at Morse code. By the end of the event, the AARC booth helped students talk to stations both far away and across the parking lot letting them see how ham radio works in many different situations.

You are encouraged to come out next year as well as to any AARC event and help show what it is that Amateur Radio is all about. You'll be glad you did and you will be performing a service to the community!

Alan Russell, KE5DTR, sets up the donated lift that supported the 2 meter antenna.



kinds of activities, from silent auctions to being able to climb on the very impressive fire trucks of the Volunteer Fire Department. As for the AARC booth, there were a couple of radios; both on 2 meters. One was on the local repeater and the other was on an IRLP frequency which hooked up to the internet and al-



10 year old Sara talks via IRLP to NL7SP Kenneth Eggleston in Bethel, Alaska, aided by KE5DTR Alan Russell.



Photos By Steven Polunsky, W5SMP

At Scott Field, Illinois, in May 1943 I graduated from radio school as a radio operator and mechanic and was immediately assigned to the 83rd Squadron of the 437th Troop carrier Group, flying on a C-47. This was a new unit and I was the first of 26 radio operators; within six months, I had been promoted to Staff Sergeant; this could not have happened if I had not learned THE code.

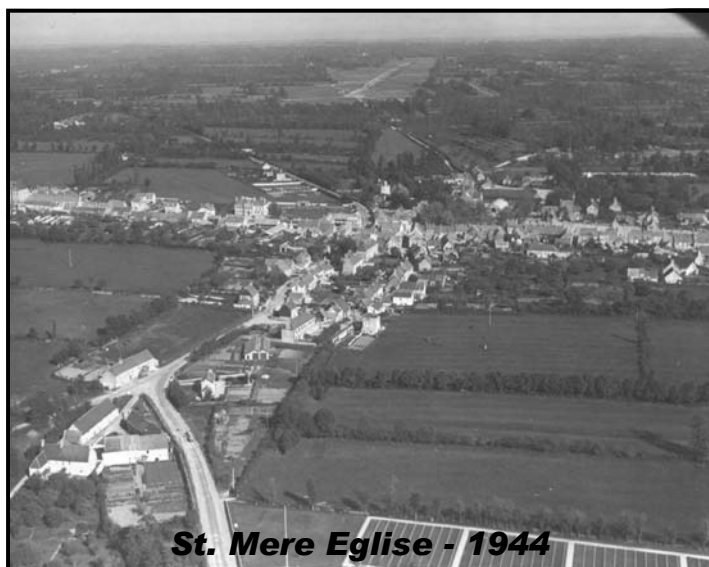
The C-47 plane is the military version of the famous Douglas DC-3. This military version had a double door and could haul anything you could get through the door; from a jeep and trailer, or 18 fully battle ready paratroopers, or about 6000 pounds of supplies of any kind. Without a doubt, the C-47 was the most versatile plane in the Air Force. For the Rhine crossing at Wessel, Germany, we towed 2 fully loaded CG-4A gliders on one trip.

In December of 1943 our Group of over a hundred brand new C-47 airplanes flew to England; for me this was a great experience in long-range navigation by CW and radar. In the spring of 1944 in England we had many day and night practice maneuvers involving several hundred planes in each flight. The pilots sharpened their formation flying skills, and the radio operators worked with the English using radio direction finding by CW.

Most of the ground station operators were women of the English Womens Air Force – WAF; they were very good operators and knew all the Q-signals. Their usual CW speed was about 25 words per minute, but they would slow down to our 13 words per minute; soon, because of their help, we were able to keep up with them. When we were flying any place in Europe we could get a QDM – magnetic bearing to fly – in about 20 seconds.

The D-Day invasion into Normandy was on June 6, 1944, and our 437th Group made two flights that night and day, towing gliders with parts of the 82nd Airborne to St. Mere Eglise. The next day we made our third flight, carrying supplies, and bringing back wounded. For those three flights, our Group won the Presidential Unit Citation award, and I won my first Air Medal. During our tour of duty in Europe, our 437th Troop Carrier won 7 major battle stars. Although our plane got hit several times, no one in our crew was injured.

At Christmas 1944, all 437th planes made several trips to Bastogne carrying all sorts of supplies; from ammunition to food and clothing; we dropped this cargo from about 500 feet. These Christmas missions gave us our greatest satisfaction because we felt we had helped the 101st Screaming Eagles on the ground.



At this point we must note several details that made the basis for our recent major event; the March 15, 2010 air show of the Valiant Air Command, in Titusville, Florida.

The mission order for the first D-Day flight shows that the plane I was on had the serial number 42-100578, with identification letters T2-G; the T2 on the nose of the plane meant the 83rd Squadron of the 437th Troop Carrier Group; the G identified the specific plane. The mission order shows that we were in formation position 9; this same order shows that the plane with the serial number of 42-100591, Z8-V was with us in formation position 50.

In the spring of 2008 I searched records of many air museums for airplanes that may have flown in our formations; I found Z8-V, 42-1005591. For a detailed description of this 'find' please visit <http://www.yitkv.co.uk> This is written by the historian of our 437th Troop Carrier Group. When visiting this website, first click on 437th Troop Carrier Group; at the next page click on the article about '...the survivor...'

In working with the Valiant Air Command I was able to tell them names and individual serial numbers of the original crewmembers. Also, I was able to show that the plane serial number was correct but the nose ID was not correct. Recently the plane has been correctly identified and made to look exactly like it was on D-Day.

For more about this story from the VAC museum view, please go to <http://www.vacwarbirds.org/belle/TicoBelleStory.html>

In February 2010, I was invited to visit the Valiant Air Command museum and take part in their air show on March 14th-15, 2010 in Titusville, Florida. During the air show I was in Z8-V, telling visitors about the war-time history of this 65-year-old plane. During one of the 30-minute flights around the air show I piloted the plane for about 20 minutes.

I must tell you that finding this airplane, influencing its care, and then flying it was a dream of a lifetime.

And none of this could have happened if I had not learned “the code.”

Even now I still use the same ‘bug’ I started with in 1943.

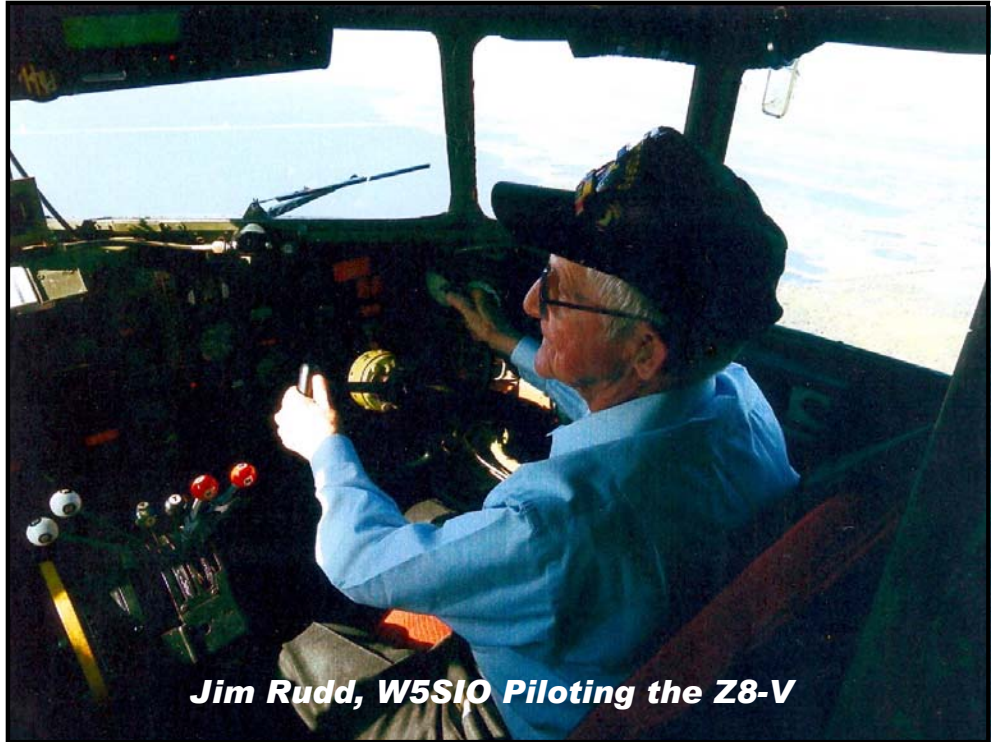
W5SIO Jim Rudd ex SSGT 83rd Squadron, 437th Troop carrier Group

New Tone for the 146.940 Repeater

The 146.940 repeater in Austin has for many years been holding out from getting a PL tone placed on it. The time has come for the 94 repeater to jump in with the rest of the crowd! Starting April 1st there will be a tone of **107.2** placed on that repeater. Yes, April 1st and that’s no joke!

When band conditions are right, or if you happen to be in the right place (like a tall hill) at the right time, you can hear the San Antonio repeater. San Antonio has tried to resolve this on their end by having the owners of the San Antonio repeater put a tone of 179.9 done on all of their local area repeaters. This choice, made back in the mid-nineties, wasn't done lightly, quickly, or without much controversy and discussion within the San Antonio Repeater Organization club. Now on our end, we plan on trying to put an end to mixed up conversations by putting a tone on our repeater. So be sure to program your radios, HT's and portables for the new tone of...

107.2



Jim Rudd, W5SIO Piloting the Z8-V

Club Minutes

AARC Meeting Minutes:

April 6, 2010

Meeting called to order: 7:01pm by President Paul Gilbert, KE5ZW.

Meeting started with a welcome to all and the agenda.

We had over thirty in attendance with four visitors and one new member. Two upgrades were reported.

Minutes:

last meeting's minutes approved as written in AARCOVER.

OFFICER REPORTS

Vice-President: Mike Brumleve, KC8VSE, expressed the great appreciation received from UT to those who helped with the UT Project. He mentioned the Cap10K needs more volunteers, and please monitor the .94 if not able to help with the club's booth at the Menchaca Elementary School's Mustang Roundup on Saturday the 10th.

Treasurer: Jay Hoffman, KA5OST, reported membership has increased by 46, we have already received the Cap10K donation, and the totals of the club's bank accounts.

Editor: Mitch London, KD5HCV, previewed upcoming articles and asked those with old AARCOVER issues to bring them in so they can be scanned and added to the website.

Tech Committee: Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, reported the .94 repeater, with its 107.2khz tone, was working good. He also share a tip for soldering a big splice easier and better.

ARES: Don Dudley, AC5YK, reported the 4th Tuesday meeting will be a GPS exercise.

President: no report, but Paul expressed appreciation for everything everyone is doing.

Ham of the Month: none, unfortunately no nominations were made.

The door-prize was a package of colored cable marker tapes.

Old Business: membership dues still due; ARRL Gulf Coast Division Membership contest still going through end of April.

New Business: Lew Thompson, W5IFQ, discussed the Solar Cycle and Space Weather. John Causey, KE5OLR, is looking for a travel buddy going to the Dayton Hamvention.

Items for the good of the club: May's presentation is AE's Solar in the Home for Ham Radio. Cap10K volunteer packets available Saturday morning from Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ. These items, other upcoming events, and scheduled presentations are listed in the AARC Swapnet newsletter, at www.austinhams.org, and on the Yahoo user group.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:37pm

Presentation: "Cadet to Fire Fighter" by Eli Santiago of Austin Fire Department.

AARC Meeting Info.

Waterloo Icehouse

8600 Burnet Rd. South of 183

Officers Meeting 7 pm

May 18th Location to be announced

Business Meeting 7pm

May 4th - Tim Harvey from Austin Energy talks about solar power for the home!

2010 Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC-May 1st & June 5th 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- May 15th & June 19th 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.

*******2010 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

2010 Calendar of Events

May 8 Smithville Johnny Pittman Memorial Swapfest

Riverbend Park Talkin 145.35 & 443.75, Tone 114.8

K5LYN@ARRL.NET

May 22-23 South Central Tour de Cure (Bikeride Benefiting American Diabetes Association)San Antonio to Austin, TX with overnight stay in San MarcosATX Hams contact –

Jeff N5MNW N5MNW@arrl.net Hays/Caldwell Hams contact – David KD5MML kd5mml@gmail.com

SA Hams Contact – Lee N5NTG info@sanantoniohams.org or lee@besing.com

Jun 11-12 Ham-Com (2011 Jun 10-11 ARRL NATIONAL Convention!!!, 2012 Jun 8-9)Plano Centre 2000 East Spring Creek Parkway www.hamcom.org/

Aug 6-7 Austin Summerfest- Continuing a Ham Tradition in its 27th Year!Austin Marriott South

www.austinsummerfest.com

May	June	Austin Meetings/Happenings	
4	1	AARC Meeting Waterloo Ice House*	7:00 p.m.
8	12	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop	11:00 a.m.
18	15	HSMM/Packet SIG at Red Cross	7:00 p.m.
15	19	QCWA IHOP 183 Near Duval	1:00 p.m.
18	15	ATV Club Mtg. Mangia Pizza	7:00 p.m.
25	22	ARES Training -CTECC	6:30 p.m.
24	28	Travis Co. REACT Jim's 183&Burnet	7:15 p.m.
25	22	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud.	7:00 p.m.
27	24	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
May 2010
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Austin Amateur Radio Club
AARCOVER