



# AARC COVER

## Keeping Austin Wireless for Over 90 Years!

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

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### Tell Your Story...

I am always looking for articles to publish for the newsletter, and sometimes when things get sparse, I have to come up with some clever way of enticing people to send in a story. So, here is an attempt.

I would like you to type up and send me your story as to why you became a ham operator. Was it that your father was a ham, as was his father before him? Did you have a shortwave radio as a kid and wonder where all those signals were coming from? Perhaps you had a friend whose father was a ham radio operator and he became an Elmer to you and showed you the wonders of the radio world! Whatever your story might be, write it down and send it to me at [AARCover@austinhams.org](mailto:AARCover@austinhams.org) and I will choose a few and print them in the next few months. Perhaps we can rekindle what first initiated that spark of curiosity in us!

As for me? I was working as a Sales Manager/News Anchor/Commercial Production/Live Remote Reporter at a small (very small) radio station in west Texas. I was doing little feature stories on various topics ranging from what people thought spam was made of to, a long lost Texas Rangers Badge finding its way home. A wide variety of topics. Well, one day in 1999 I decided to do a story on ham radio, as the local club had dropped off a note about their Field Day. I called the contact person who happened to be an administrator at the University. I went in to get an interview and we hit it off. I found out about Field Day, ham radio and how easy the 5 words a minute code test is (I think he may have stretched the truth a little there). At the end of the interview, he said "You should become a ham!" And with those simple words, I thought, yeah, why not. So I got a study book, got some code tapes, and within a couple months, I had earned my Technician+ ticket!

### 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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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
Editor, AARCOVER	Mitch London	KD5HCV	326-3096	AARCover@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	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 & Newslite
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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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.

“NOUJR and His Friends” is reprinted with permission by Greg Trook, Trook Enterprises. Cartoons may not be reprinted without written permission. For information: <http://incolor.inebraska.com/nOujr>.

“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 .**

## ***On the Air: ARRL EME Contest Coming Sept. 4-5***

The 2.3 GHz+ version of the ARRL EME Contest will be 0000 UTC September 4 through 2359 UTC September 5. The objective is to work as many stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree grid squares as possible via the Earth-Moon-Earth path on any authorized amateur frequency above 2.3 GHz. Two other EME contests are scheduled for October: the 50-1296 MHz version will be October 2-3 and October 30-31. See the ARRL Contests page for more information.



## ***New Braunfels Repeater Change***

Due to continuing interference issues, the tone on the WD5IEH 443.500 repeater in New Braunfels, Texas was changed.

Please make note of the new pl of 146.2

The 443.500 repeater is part of the WD5IEH linked repeater systems, which covers a good portion of South Central Texas, additional repeaters on this system include;

North San Antonio: 443.575 + pl 141.3  
South San Antonio: 444.625 + pl 141.3  
New Braunfels: 443.500 + pl 146.2 (new tone)  
Victoria: 443.225 + pl 141.3  
Victoria: 147.160 + pl 141.3  
Shiner: 443.775 + 141.3 (currently not linked)  
New Davy: 443.125 + 141.3 (currently at a temporary location, pending tower completion)  
Beeville: 443.525 + 107.9 (currently not linked)  
Anhalt W5DK (Bulverde) : 145.13 - 131.8

The entire system is connected to the Dallas IRLP Reflector 9454

Thank you, and please spread the word to others that may be coming through New Braunfels or surrounding areas.

Louis Upton, K1STX

## ***Over the WWWaves.***

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

You may have seen some crazy antenna ideas such as coke cans, and maybe an umbrella...but scroll down this site and see a guy using a TREE as an antenna! -Forwarded by Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

***<http://www.kf4bwg.com>***

Seeing is believing, look at this video to see how a radio wave induces a current into a light bulb. Forwarded by Rick Herndon, K5FNI

***[http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2010/02/seeing\\_radio\\_waves\\_with\\_a\\_light\\_bul.html](http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2010/02/seeing_radio_waves_with_a_light_bul.html)***

Wi-Fi Radio Project - Forwarded by Rick Herndon, K5FNI

***<http://mightyohm.com/blog/2009/05/sneak-peak-at-my-finished-wifi-radio-project/>***

No tubes involved, unless you happen to be looking at one to read this ;-)) But a new useful web tool was recently launched:

***<http://www93.wolframalpha.com/>***

From the developers of Mathematica, its "goal is to make all systematic knowledge immediately computable and accessible to everyone." It's a work-in-process, for sure. For example, type something like "capacitive reactance 100 pf at 500 khz" and you'll get a useful result. But it doesn't know the formula for calculating the length of a dipole antenna, and it thinks entries like "12AX7" mean you want to multiply, whereas the same queries on Google get you the answer in a click or two.

73, Bob W9RAN and forwarded by Stuart, K5KVH

## **Section News in Brief**

Excerpts Taken from Lee Cooper, W5LHC Section News

**CQ CQ,**

The dog days of summer are coming to an end soon, school has started for most folks and time to start looking ahead to Fall activities. Summerfest was a great event and appears to have been well attended. We had a great ARRL forum session with Dr. Woolweaver and special speaker ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager Dave Patton, NN1N. Most of the other forums appeared to be well attended also.

I would also like to thank everyone for their efforts. It takes a lot of volunteers and presenters to make the event as successful as it is and you are all very appreciated for contributing. Thank You!

Fall begin a series of ham fests, contests and other events. It would be hard not to find something happening that involves your particular interests in the hobby, so stay involved and I look forward to seeing you at many of them.

### **September marks the 75th Anniversary of ARES:**

ARES is celebrating its 75th Anniversary starting in September. The ARRL is formally celebrating the anniversary through December of this year. The anniversary celebrates the history and, more importantly, the relevance of ARES® in today's world. From its early beginning ARES has grown to the Premier Amateur Radio emergency communication support organization in the world.

October is also when ARES organizations traditionally hold their Annual Simulated Emergency Tests, or SET. Due to the significance of the 75th Anniversary of ARES, Tom Whiteside, N5TW, the Section Emergency Coordinator is working with the South Texas Section Public Information Coordinator (PIC) to maximize the opportunities for media coverage. The ARRL has produced postcards and news releases that will be sent to major media outlets in the section. A coordinated message of the history, service and relevance of the ARES® program will be theme.

This is an opportunity to showcase and pay tribute to the members of ARES® for their commitment and service. The South Texas Section is a leader in emergency communications and service during times of disasters. All District Emergency Coordinators, Emergency Coordinators, members and public information officers are encouraged to support and promote this 75th anniversary. For those wishing to download the anniversary logo, please visit: <http://www.arrl.org/ares-anniversary>. For more information on participation in your area, please contact your local ARES® Emergency Coordinator or Public Information Officer.

### **The Public Service Honor Roll**

-Rodney Baker, W5DY, Section Traffic Manager  
(Great job folks!)

W5DY 210	N5OUJ	100	KT5SR	78	W5ESE	94
KK5NU 139	KB5PGY	73	W5GKH	91		

### **HF Traffic Nets**

Please check the new page on ARRLSTX for current HF Net information:

[http://www.arrlstx.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=179&Itemid=180](http://www.arrlstx.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=category&layout=blog&id=179&Itemid=180)

### **Upcoming Contests:**

The Texas QSO party is coming up! Operating times for the 2010 contest are from 1400Z on SATURDAY, September 25 to 0200Z on SUNDAY, September 26 and from 1400Z to 2000Z on SUNDAY, September 26. Dust off those microphones and I will look for you on the air then!

-Lee

## **AARC Meeting Minutes:** August 3, 2010

**Meeting called to order:** 7:02pm by Vice-President Mike Brumleve, KC8VSE.

Meeting started with a welcome to all.

We had 38 in attendance, 3 visitors, and 1 new member. No upgrades reported.

**Treasurer** Jay Hoffman, KA5OST, reported bank account totals. He also discussed expenses the club is facing due to the .94 repeater relocation sometime in the near future. The tower the .94 is on is slated for removal. A motion was made and approved for the Executive Committee to decide how much money to transfer from the Operating Account to a special account set up for the .94 relocation.

**Secretary** Alan Russell, KE5DTR, reported the minutes were ready; so the club approved the last meeting's minutes as written in the AARCOVER.

Jeff Schmidt, N5MNW, talked about the hospitality suite for Austin Summerfest and Dallas Mellichamp, KD4HNX, requested volunteers for the talk-in station.

Lew Thompson, W5IFQ, reported the Earth was hit just prior to the meeting by a huge Coronal Mass Ejection. The SOHO satellite saw filament/flare eruptions and the CME. The SDO satellite is sending back great pictures. Lew showed slides and discussed the readings, indexes, effects, and predictions of these events.

The VP talked about efforts to inventory the club equipment, so get the info from the items you have to Paul Fenrich, KA5FZU (email: KA5FZU at austin.rr.com).

**Door-prizes:** Juanita Miyasaki, KD5OIE, won a Pocket Repeater Guide, and Bob Ascott, WB2FHR, won a UPS.

Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, mention that within Central Texas there were some repeater and linking issues currently being handled.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 7:47pm

**Presentation:** "Field Day 2010 Recap" by Stuart, and "HSMM-MESH" by Dave Rivenburg, AD5OO.

## **AARC Meeting Info.**

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

### **Officers Meeting 7 pm**

**September 21st - Waterloo Ice House**

### **Business Meeting 7pm**

### **September 7th -**

New D-Star system by Jim WB5EMI and Solar  
WX summary by Lew W5IFQ

## **2010 Upcoming Amateur Exams**

**ARRL VEC- September 11th & October 9th** 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-September 18th & October 16th** 2p.m.  
in room 106, Fleck Hall, St. Edwards University.  
Contact Jim Greenwood, AB5EK@ arrl.net,  
(327-6184) for more info.

**<http://texasparadise.com/w5yi-austin>**

## **2010 Calendar of Events**

### **Sept 25-26 Texas QSO Party**

1400Z on SATURDAY, September 25 to 0200Z on  
SUNDAY September 26 and from 1400Z to 2000Z on  
SUNDAY, September 26 Mobile operators can send their  
planned route to routes@txqp.net

**<http://txqp.net/>**

### **Sept 25 Take Flight for Kids**

NASA Ames Moffett Field, Mountain View / Sunny-  
vale California **[www.takeflightforkids.com](http://www.takeflightforkids.com)**

### **Oct 2 Belton Ham Expo Hamfest**

**[www.tarc.org/hamexpo/](http://www.tarc.org/hamexpo/)**

### **Oct 8 Paris Texas Hamfest** Paris, TX

Paris Texas Radio Group & Red River Valley ARC  
RICHARD KI5DX or CHRISTY LENOIR N5RDJ  
903-783-0968, 903-737-0773, 903-517-4483

**[www.paristexasradio.com](http://www.paristexasradio.com)**

### **Oct 9 '10 for Texas'**

10 mile Run in The Woodlands, TX  
Peter KE5STL ke5stl@gmail.com

**[www.woodlands-event-comms.info/10forTexas/](http://www.woodlands-event-comms.info/10forTexas/)**

### **Oct 16 K5BAY Baytown Tailgate Sale**

7-11AM Eastside Honda Motorcycle Dealership  
Pavilion 12527 I-10 East- Baytown, Tx 77520 Exit 800

**<http://k5bay.org/>**

## **Upcoming Meetings...**

### **Sept. Oct. Austin Meetings/Happenings**

	<b>Time</b>	<b>Address</b>
7 5	7:00 p.m.	8600 Burnet Rd.
11 9	11:00 a.m.	12200 Research Blvd.
21 19	7:00 p.m.	2218 Pershing
18 16	1:00 p.m.	11654 Research Blvd.
14 12	7:00 p.m.	12001 Burnet Rd.
28 26	6:30 p.m.	5010 Old Manor Rd.
27 25	7:15 p.m.	9091 Research Blvd.
28 26	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd.
23 28	6:30 p.m.	5010 Old Manor Rd.

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