



# AARC OVER

Keeping Wireless Austin for Over 90 Years!

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

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Happy New Year

Issue 1-2011

## Happy New Year!

This is going to be an interesting year, especially for me as I have been elected AARC President and still have my duties as Newsletter Editor. I look forward to a year where the club can grow its membership even to the point of having to find a bigger meeting location (hopefully without Waterloo having to close down). I also would like to see more member participation in various club events. There are numerous events the club does that requires volunteers in order for the event to be successful but we want some fresh blood in there to learn the ropes and find out that not everything is hard work; we are allowed to have fun too! Great example, the packet stuffing coming up; it sounds boring and a waste of a day, but I will tell you, everyone that shows up has a great time, and over the years our club has helped streamline the process so well, that it used to be an all day event...we have gotten it down to almost half that time! It is truly a thing to behold! Another event that is popular is Field Day, and of course more on that at a later time, but it too is a fun event, especially when it is not 117° outside! There are many smaller events that take place throughout the year that I hope each of you will take time to really look and see if you can participate. Some say amateur radio operators



*(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 December 4th at Bethany United Methodist Church :

### Technician Class Licenses Processed

Charlie O. Berndt, KF5JEZ  
Andrew N. Leba, KF5JFE  
Travis M. Sanders, KF5JFG  
Michael E. Wharton III, KF5JFF

Tyler R. Cox, KF5JFD  
Jonas P. Owens, KF5JFB  
Daniel Son, KF5JFA

Andrew T. Higdon, KF5JFH  
Arit Paul, KF5JFC  
David L. Vernon, KF5JEX

### General Class Licenses Processed

Samuel M. Faries, KF5JEY

John J. Sacco Jr., KF5ILH

### Extra Class Licenses Processed

Mark A. Esslinger, AE5VJ  
George D. Martin, KF5IWP

George R. Hanson, W5GPW

Theodore G. Iglehart III, KF5END

### Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Howard Glueck, K5ZUA  
Joe Makeever, W5HS

Larry Gunter, WB5BEK  
Tom Nevue, W2MN

Lloyd Jeffries, K1LGJ  
Jeff Whisnant, AE5VA

### Next ARRL VE Test Sessions

January 8th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 213

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

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

## 12-18-2010

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our December 18<sup>th</sup> session:

### Extra Class –

Brian L. Margason, KF5ELC

### General Class –

Maxine Dixson, K5FDC  
Kenneth W. Scoggins, KF5ITI

Angela H. Cooper, KF5GFL  
James L. Whitworth, KF5IWH

John L. Jones, KF5AKN

### Technician Class (all new) –

Lauren A. Thomas

David K. Troxell

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Craig Bean, AC5KW  
Hugh Brown, NT5O  
Jim Greenwood, AB5EK

Anthony Lanni, AE5JQ  
Tony Lyon, KJ5XF  
Gary Popp, AE5JR

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on January 15<sup>th</sup>  
and February 19<sup>th</sup> in room 118 of Fleck Hall on the campus of  
St. Edward's University. All sessions are walk-in and 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

hamradioexams@hotmail.com or visit our web page at <http://texashams.org/w5yi-austin/>

President	Mitch London	KD5HCV	326-3096	president@austinhams.org
Vice President	Lori Schmidt	KM5MQ	632-6789	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	No	
146.880	Yes	General
146.940 107.2 PL Tone	No	Most popular, WX, Swapnet & Newline
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.** 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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**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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## Capital 10K Packet Stuffing Slated for February 26th

Here's a heads-up for the annual fundraiser for the AARC Capitol 10K Packet Stuffing Party 2011.

The Stuffing Party is scheduled for Saturday February 26 at the AAS Main Office. 8AM-6PM 8AM-1PM, noon -1PM Pizza Lunch, 12noon-6PM shifts, snacks, Genie Muscle Massager and usual antics are anticipated. ;-)

The Capitol 10K Run will be Sunday March 27.

I will be sending out a more detailed and wider distribution note in early January.

Please RSVP, mark your calendars for these events and get ready for a great time!

Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV

*(Continued from page 1)*

are a dying breed. Did you know there are nearly 3/4 of a million hams in just the United States alone! (<http://www.hamdata.com/fccinfo.html>) Right here in Austin, we added over 140 new hams this last year alone, not including upgrades! Ham radio is alive and well thanks to all those who help by going out and promoting amateur radio, those who help run special events, those who give classes to prospects and to those who administer testing! All of them and countless others have helped make us a club that has lasted over 90 years!



I look forward to seeing you all at monthly meetings, club events or on the air. The club has been made into what it is by those in the past, let's see if we can make it better for those in the future!

## **Recently We Lost Two Active Members of the HSMM Community.**

K8OCL

John Champa, K8OCL was head of the original ARRL HSMM committee. He spent years working to get the ARRL to pursue various aspects of newer high speed communications systems. He and the original ARRL group had a rough time with the ARRLboard, but he carried on. A Google search of High Speed Multi Media and HSMM will provide the history for any who care to learn about it.

We gave back to back HSMM presentations to a standing room only crowd at the 2009 Hamcom show in Plano. Interest continues grow in HSMM and in the specific variant the Austin HSMM SIG is working on - HSMM-MESH. I had hoped to see him again at the 2010 Hamcom, but unfortunately he was already too ill to participate. Ham radio needs new blood and to to keep pace with new developments in radio communications technology. K8OCL understood this.

There is a write up on some of his ham radio work in the January 2011 QST. He always managed to stay in good spirits, even when he got frustrated at times, trying to promote new radio systems in the highly conservative amateur radio community.

N5GDB

I met Lloyd Crawford, N5GDB through our common interest in microwave communications. As members of the Roadrunner Microwave Group, we shared information with a growing group of hams that explored some of the realms of ham radio in the other than the "DC" bands. Lloyd was a super organized guy and served as the long time treasurer of the RMG. He helped other hams with a variety of projects, making expert use of his machine shop. He was an enthusiastic supporter of HSMM projects as he saw it a an excellent way to interest a younger crowd of tech savvy techies, in ham radio, giving them a place to combine their interests in computers and radio. He refined the method of changing crystals in the radio section of the WRT54G routers so as to make them "ham only" radios that could be easily set back to the standard factory configuration. This has been an enormous help during development. If we had a problem, we could quickly change the hardware back to the factory configuration, and see if we had a hardware problem or software problem. Beyond that, he further researched and developed, VFO based versions of the WRT54G to allow more than a simple crystal change offset for these broadband microwave radios (fixed slide band modification). These VFO based units could have the oscillator frequency, literally dialed in with a knob or via software commands. The capabilities and implications of what these radios can do are profound and represent some first rate hardware research and design. These Dynamic Slide Band radios moved from the realm of theory, to reality at the hands of N5GDB.

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Both of these gentlemen were personal friends of mine and I will miss them greatly. Both of them made very significant contributions to ham radio and the world around them, in general. It is unfortunate that more will not be able to meet them. We have all suffered a loss in our HSMM efforts. They helped us all in many ways. It is up to us to carry on the work they felt was so interesting and important to the future of amateur radio.

-Glenn Currie, KD5MFW

N5GDB was also a past editor of the AARCOVER in between the two editorships of Rick Herndon.

# The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Membership Form for the year ending December 31, 20\_\_

**Application for:** (check applicable box and enclose payment)

AARC	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$20	_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family (all with same mailing address)	\$30	_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Student rate (thru 12 <sup>th</sup> grade, no mail)	\$ 5	_____
ARRL	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual ARRL (new or renewal)	\$39	_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior ARRL (new or renewal)	\$36	_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Family member ARRL(at same address) - \$Sea x _____ =		_____
	<input type="checkbox"/> First time ARRL discount	-\$15	_____
	<b>Total Enclosed</b>		_____

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.

2<sup>nd</sup> Call \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL mem **Y N**

3<sup>rd</sup> Call \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL mem **Y N**

4<sup>th</sup> 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 20100803



## It's the New Year!

Don't forget to sign up Today!

Fill it in, cut it out send it in....or go online!

[www.austinhams.com/join.htm](http://www.austinhams.com/join.htm)

## Over the WWWaves...

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

A last minute holiday ham radio related musical number.

Sent by Juanita Miyazaki

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ailFghtEKsc>

Fabricating a chassis from PCB material

Sent by Rick Herndon, K5FNI

The how-to PDF is here

[http://qrpbuilder.com/downloads/pcb\\_chassis\\_a.pdf](http://qrpbuilder.com/downloads/pcb_chassis_a.pdf)

with the MAKE: link and some more text here

[http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2010/12/how-to\\_fabricate\\_enclosures\\_from\\_co.html](http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2010/12/how-to_fabricate_enclosures_from_co.html)

From ARRL Headquarters  
Newington CT December 16, 2010  
To all radio amateurs

## **New Rules Governing Vanity, Club Station Call Signs to Take Effect February 14**

On Wednesday, December 15, new rules affecting vanity and club station call signs within the Amateur Radio Service were published in the Federal Register. They can be found in PDF format at, <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-31349.pdf>. These new rules will go into effect on February 14, 2011.

Thirteen months ago, the FCC announced its intention of modifying Part 97 as it applies to the vanity call sign system and club station call signs, aligning the rules to prior Commission decisions. Last month, the Commission released a Report and Order (R&O), outlining its decision. Along with the changes to the call sign rules, the FCC made "certain minor, non-substantive amendments" to portions of Part 97.

75th ARES Anniversary Patches  
Texas Amateur Radio EmComm Fund  
Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah and Happy New Year  
Upcoming Hamfests

News from David Woolweaver, K5RAV, ARRL West Gulf Director

## **75th ARES Anniversary Patches Available Through December Only!**

During the ARRL's celebration of the 75th Anniversary of ARES, several West Gulf Division Members noticed there was no 75th Anniversary commemorative patch offered by HQ. This decision was reached by HQ because of the limited celebratory lifespan and a desire not to over saturate the market with ARRL patches. Because of the interest expressed by West Gulf members and by special arrangement with the ARRL, the West Gulf Division has secured the exclusive right to produce a LIMITED EDITION 75th Anniversary ARES Patch.

ARES 75th Anniversary Patches are available for \$4.99 each, plus sales tax.

You may order as many Anniversary Patches as you wish by going to

**[www.tarefund.org/anniversarypatch.htm](http://www.tarefund.org/anniversarypatch.htm)**

Order online and pay through PayPal or download an order form and mail your order and payment to the address listed on the order form.

The deadline for ordering your LIMITED EDITION Anniversary Patch is December 31, 2010. Once this deadline passes and the current supply is exhausted, there will be no more Patches produced, by direction of the ARRL. Once these Anniversary Patches are gone – they are gone forever. Order now and expect delivery in February 2011.

Profits from the sale of this 3.5 inch full color Anniversary patch will raise money for Oklahoma and Texas emergency communication funds.

Division members in Texas who order the patch will be raising money for the Texas Amateur Radio EmComm Fund (more on the TAREF initiative can be found below) and the profits from orders placed by Oklahoma Division Members will be dedicated to ARES organizations in Oklahoma identified by OK Section Manager Kevin O'Dell, N0IRW.



## 2011 Calendar of Events

### AARC Meeting Info.

#### **Waterloo Icehouse**

8600 Burnet Rd. South of 183

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

**January 4th** - Barry Boothe, W9UCW will be discussing county hunting and antenna fundamentals. This is a meeting not to miss!

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

**January 20th** - Meeting date has changed for this month.

### 2011 Upcoming Amateur Exams

**ARRL VEC- January 8th & February 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- January 15th & February 19th** 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>**

#### **Jan 16 Big Bend Ultra**

Big Bend National Park  
<http://sanantoniohams.org/alamosag/2011BB50-About.html>

#### **Jan 22 San Antonio Hamfest**

[www.w5sc.org/swapfest.htm](http://www.w5sc.org/swapfest.htm)

#### **Jan 30 3M Half Marathon & Relay (Sunday)**

email [racevolunteer@mmm.com](mailto:racevolunteer@mmm.com) with subject "Ham Radio Volunteer" or

Visit **[www.3MHalfMarathon.com](http://www.3MHalfMarathon.com)** and click "Ask Us" Volunteer Sign-up Form button

## Upcoming Meetings...

Jan.	Feb.	Austin Meetings/Happenings	Time	Address
4	1	AARC Meeting Waterloo Ice House*	7:00 p.m.	8600 Burnet Rd.
8	12	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop	11:00 a.m.	12200 Research Blvd.
11	8	ATV Club Meeting Mangia's Pizza	7:00 p.m.	12001 Burnet Rd.
15	19	QCWA IHOP 183 Near Duval	1:00 p.m.	11654 Research Blvd.
19	16	HSMM/Packet SIG at Red Cross	7:00 p.m.	2218 Pershing
24	28	Travis Co. REACT Jim's 183 & Burnet	7:15 p.m.	9091 Research Blvd.
25	22	ARES Training -CTECC	6:30 p.m.	5010 Old Manor Rd.
25	22	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Auditorium	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd.
27	24	CERT Meeting CTECC	6:30 p.m.	5010 Old Manor Rd.

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