

# AARC COVER

Keeping Austin Wireless  
for Over 93 Years!

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

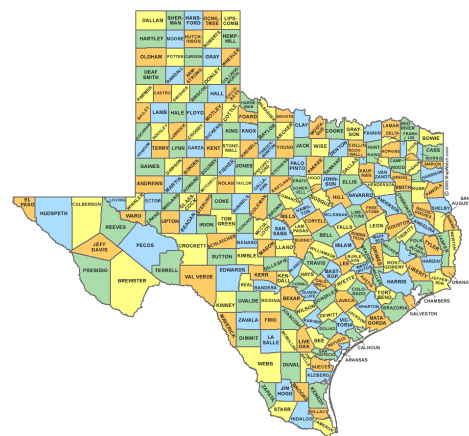
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Issue 9-2013

## Texas QSO Party This Month

It's that time of year again when the world works Texas and Texas operators try once again to put all 254 counties on the air. In the last few years we've come close with several years above 250 but we haven't, in recent memory, put all 254 in the submitted logs. So I hope everyone is making plans to participate again this year on the weekend of September 28-29. I've volunteered to again keep track on the web of who is going to be operating from where by publishing the Active Stations Map - available on [www.txqp.net](http://www.txqp.net) -- and to do that I need your input.



So once your plans are finalized please send me a note (the sooner the better and preferably no later than the Wednesday before the party) with the following information and I'll add your operations to the map.

### Fixed Stations:

1. Your call
2. Modes of Operation: CW Only, Phone Only, Mixed
3. Bands of Operation: HF only, HF+6m, HF+2m
4. Days of Operation: Both days, Saturday Only, Sunday Only
5. The county you will be operating from

(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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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 & Newslite
224.800	No	
444.100	No	
440.650 +5	No	70cm D-Star Repeater [W5KA]
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

ka5ost arrl.net

**Jay handles all changes for membership information .**

@



## Silent Keys

Tom Christian was the last male descendent of Fletcher Christian, who led the Mutiny on The Bounty and took the sailors and Tahitian girlfriends to very remote Pitcairn Island, where descendants remain to this day. Pitcairn is 1200 miles southeast of Tahiti and 3700 miles west of Chile in South America.

Tom and I met via ham radio in the early 1970s and had many radio chats over the years. It was their only means of communication.

Eventually they got a satellite dish, telephone and internet.

Tom stayed at our house in 2002 on his way to Wales to receive the

Member of British Empire award from The Queen of England.

We had a bog gathering of hams at the 3M innovation center here, and Tom gave a captivating talk and slide show and demonstrated island crafts.

We have a carved turtle and artwork on a hattie leaf on display at our house. ( The leaf is named after Miss Hattie Andre, a missionary teacher who educated the islanders in curio-making skills.) More information is at <http://library.puc.edu/pitcairn/index.shtml> Tom was a very gracious person and his stories about the history of and life on Pitcairn Island were quite memorable.

May he rest in peace.

Skip W5GAI

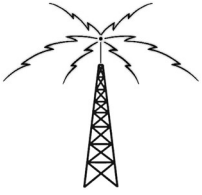


## From Daily DX 7/30/13

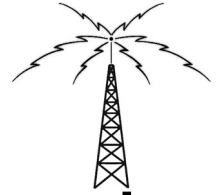
VP6TC/VR6TC, Tom Christian, longtime famous ham from Pitcairn Island, who probably gave most of us a "new one", has passed away, peacefully, on July 7th. Tom was diagnosed with possible Parkinson's and early signs of Alzheimer's/dementia in December, 2009, while on a family visit in New Zealand. His wife, VP6YL/VR6YL,

Betty Christian, says his health "deteriorated all too quickly", and the last few months were "cruel ones to watch such a strong, vibrant man reduced to where he was not really aware of his surroundings and then was unable to walk and swallow food or liquid." Tom was buried July 8th in the cemetery on Pitcairn. Lack of available transportation prevented most of Tom and Betty's children making it back for the funeral. Tom was known as the "Voice of Pitcairn," was an M.B.E., Member of the British Empire, and served on the Pitcairn Island Council as the Governor's Representative for 40 years.





# Over the WWaves...



**A Collection of useful and interesting Websites sent in by our readers**  
(All links have been checked by editor as working at time of publication)

A recording of the radio program 'Cavalcade of America: Minute Men of the Air' broadcast on Feb.3, 1937 on CBS... which highlights Amateur Radio activities at the time, is available from My Old Radio. It is part of their 'Cavalcade of America' collection. Cavalcade of America was sponsored by DuPont and was on the air from 1935 until 1953, and then on TV for another year.

<http://www.myoldradio.com/old-radio-episodes/cavalcade-of-america-minute-men-of-the-air-ep-68/30>

Forwarded by Curt, W4QBU

I suspect you'll enjoy this one:

<http://energyatthemovies.com/>

Forwarded by Rick Herndon, K5FNI

Where are all the hams?

Fill in a zip code and it list all the call signs, click on the call to see their address...

<http://hams.mapmash.com/hammap.php>

Forwarded by Dallas, KD4HNX

*(Continued from page 1) Texas QSO Party*

## **Mobile Stations:**

**1-3 same as above**

**4. Saturday counties in the order you plan to activate them**

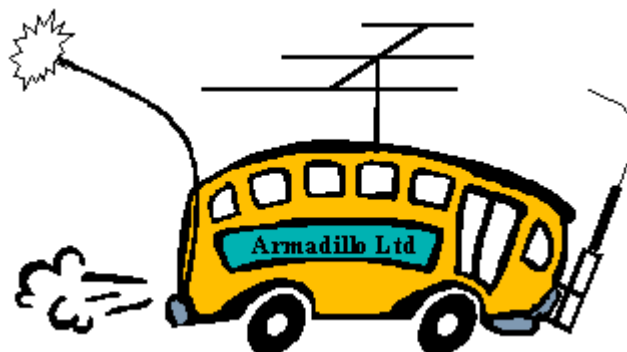
**5. Sunday counties in the order you plan to activate them**

In listing the counties please use the full name of the county, not the abbreviation.

If the information is available early enough the Active Stations Map can be a great tool for seeing where activity is currently planned and where more activity is needed. So if you are a mobile and have flexibility in your route check the Active Stations Map from time to time to see where additional activity is needed.

Please talk up the TQP in your club meetings. Questions can be directed to me or to Keith-NM5G at the above email addresses.

73/Chuck/NO5W



## Where Are You?

It is of significant importance that Net Control Stations and CTECC be able to locate ARES volunteer during drills and exercises.

ARES has concluded that we need to be prepared to locate everyone in two ways. Travis County is bisected north and south by the Colorado river and East and West by IH35 dividing the county into four quadrants:

Northeast – Located east of IH35 and north of the river;  
Southeast – Located east of IH35 and south of the river;  
Northwest – Located west of IH35 and north of the river;  
Southwest – Located west of IH35 and south of the river.

Volunteers should always be prepared to immediately state their current location, according to these quadrant boundaries, during any drill or activation, if asked by net control.

Further, each volunteer should know the six digit maidenhead grid square locator of their home station, their work place, school and other place they are likely to be during an ARES call out.

You can find the accurate grid square locator for virtually any place in the world with the free Google Map application at this website.

<http://f6fvy.free.fr/qthLocator/fullScreen.php>

Just locate a spot on the map, the coordinates and grid locator will be displayed.

Glen Reid, K5FX



## Google Helpouts

Helpouts are out, and Google is looking for teachers.

Google is currently looking for helpouts teachers in these areas:

Home & Garden, Computers & Electronics, Health & Counseling, Nutrition & Fitness, Fashion & Beauty, Art & Music, Cooking and Education.

If you are one, apply for it here - <https://helpouts.google.com/welcome>

### The Fine Print:

You really do need to be an expert, and Google will verify your qualifications.

Helpouts can either be charged (with payment handled via Google Wallet), or for free.

Google will take a platform **fee of 20 percent** for any paid Helpouts, which includes credit card transaction and Wallet fees.

Naturally, you must have a Google+ account. :)

Steven Polunsky W5SMP

## Tour de Cure Needs Volunteers

The "Tour De Cure", a bike ride benefiting the American Diabetes Association is coming up very quickly- Sept 8th (a Sunday). This is the ride that used to be SA-San Marcos-ATX. It is now two separate events.



The ride will be a one-day event in Williamson, Burnet & Bell counties, start/finish will be at Reunion Ranch, a little north and east of Liberty Hill. Frequencies and permission to use repeaters are still being secured at this time.

I will need at least one (prefer two) at each of seven water stops and at Start/Finish.

A handheld will likely not have enough ERP to be heard!

Best bet will be a high-power mobile or a portable station with a gain-type antenna up at least 10-20'. The Net Control Station will be provided, along with APRS monitoring & voice.

The AARC will be installing many, if not all of its 14 APRS trackers.

If you have on-air or internet (i.e. [www.aprs.fi](http://www.aprs.fi)) APRS monitoring capability, that will be a much-appreciated capability.

APRS maps compatible with UI-View will be made available courtesy- Paul KA5FZU.

Waterstop Ham volunteers will need to be at their posts at least an hour before the first riders are expected and will be dismissed as the "Turtle" passes. Our main duties will be aiding comms involving SAGS, supplies, bike mechanical and medical support.

Volunteering for events like this help us tune our capabilities in fairly low-stress situations so we will be able to cope when things get more stressful. If you are interested in learning more or helping with this event, please email me directly- [N5MNW@arrl.net](mailto:N5MNW@arrl.net) and I'll place you on my (no stress, help if you can) volunteer info email list.

If you are available to help, please have a look at the enclosed map, .ppt & Excel sheets and advise the following:

- 1- T-shirt sizes
- 2- Where you would like to be stationed or just leave assignment to me

Call my cell if you don't get a "gotcha" email response.

Thanks for your past and future support!

Jeff N5MNW

[n5mnw@arrl.net](mailto:n5mnw@arrl.net) 512-632-6673

Main Tour De Cure website(may have to copy, paste & reassemble into browser):

[http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR/TourdeCure/A2CTX-CentralTexasArea?pg=entry&fr\\_id=8656](http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR/TourdeCure/A2CTX-CentralTexasArea?pg=entry&fr_id=8656)

Meeting Start 19:01

**Officers Present:**

Lori Schmidt KM5MQ

Jay Hoffman, KD5OST Jorge Harada KF5IED

**Attendance:** 47 in attendance

**Visitors:**

WA5WD

KF5WJW/K5MSK

**New Hams:**

None in attendance

**New Members:**

Randy Shields KJ5VB

Jim Kerr KC5ENZ

Geng Tang NY1G

**Upgrades:** None

**Call sign change:**

KF5WJW to K5MSK

Approval of minutes have not been posted. All members approve until next month.

**Past Events:**

Summerfest '13

Thanks to Crowne Plaza, Ladies' Auxilliary: Darlene, Juanita, Darla

Club - Elmer Table: NT5O suggested we have an elmer table, and it was a good idea. Will work on a more fully realised project next year. Attendance was up 15% from last year. Weather seminar was good, talk-in net was excellent, maybe have some cameras for talk-in. Maybe also have paypal or credit card pre-registration. Email Joe Makeever with those suggestions.

Christmas Party Dec 3rd, Catfish Parlor 20pp. Info will be disseminated via swapnet, yahoo group, and austinhams for online pay and other info. Money is to be accepted next month.

**Upcoming Events:**

Minimaker faire in September

Spetember 8th Tour De cure on a Sunday. APRS and race operators are needed. Contact N5NMW for further details.

**General Announcements:**

2014 dues, T-Shirts and polos available, No other announcements

Pete needs a hygain 8-wire controller for rotator - needs help

**Officers Announcements:**

Lori - Account status

Jay none

Jorge - ARRL materials available at Austin Public Library at <http://library.austintexas.gov>. There will be 12 days of ham radio at the Christmas party.

**Technical Committees:**

Repeater 94 status by Stuart

ARES - ARES Voice net 147.360 at 7pm Sunday nights, packet net 145.730 8pm, ARES meeting 4th Tuesday at Applied Research Laboratory

HSSM-MESH: Rick NG5V - TCARES repeater trouble report on the website. Now called broadband hamnet. Good turnout on Friday meeting. Firmware update is free and updated. New firmware is 1.0.0 and all will have to update. [broadband-hamnet.org](http://broadband-hamnet.org) for further deets

AARC Ladies: None

other SIGS: None

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Other than xmas party, none

**HAM of the month:** Joe Makeever and Summerfest committee. For nominations [austinhams.org](http://austinhams.org)

**Door prizes:** Candleholder - Sam Burns WY8V Tape measure - Dave Rose W5GQF

Candleholder - James Robbins N5OUJ

Coffee mug - Mitch London

**Solar Weather -**

Solar cycle 24 is suppressed - solar magnetic field will be reversed in 3 months. Solar wind will change. Solar flux is still well above 100. 1 sunspot has probability of C Flare. Solar flux is still at B2. G1 magnetic storm has been present on aug 4th. Planetary K index was at 5 on Aug 5th. Coronal hole 577 arrived on earth aug 4th, CH578 may affect earth on aug 8th. Forecast for the next few days: Aug 8th will be unsettled, M & X flares are at low probability. [www.swpc.noaa.gov/swn/](http://www.swpc.noaa.gov/swn/) or [www.spaceweather.com](http://www.spaceweather.com) or [txarmymars.org/resources/](http://txarmymars.org/resources/)

Meeting adjourn - 7:50pm

## **AARC Meeting Info.**

### **Waterloo Icehouse**

**8600 Burnet Rd. South of 183  
(Come early and have dinner!)**

### **Business Meeting 7:00 pm**

**September 2nd - Topic—TBD**

### **Officers Meeting 6:30 pm**

**September 17 - Officers meetings are open to club members.**

## **2013 Calendar of Events**

**Sept 7 Gainesville Hamfest 2013**

[www.gainesvillehamfest.org](http://www.gainesvillehamfest.org)

**Sept 8 Tour De Cure (Sunday)**

Ham Radio Contact: Jeff n5mnw@arrl.net 512-255-6753

**Sept 13 ADA HAMFEST—Oklahoma**

Ada Radio Club, Durant Amateur Radio Club, & Shawnee Radio Club

**Oct 4-5 Belton Hamfest (Fall)**

Admission \$5 ( Includes a \$2 Raffle Ticket)

**Spring Belton Mar 28-29** (note –not- April in 2014!)

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

**Oct 12-13 MS 150 Ride to the River** bike ride. (San Antonio) Need 2m & 440 Voice & APRS portable & mobile stations around the course

Charlie KC5NKK (ATX Hams, contact Jeff N5MNMW@arrl.net for Charlie's contact info)

**Oct 19-20 JOTA- Jamboree On The Air**

[www.k2bsa.net/2013-plan/](http://www.k2bsa.net/2013-plan/)

Slide Deck on JOTA for Scouters:

[www.k2bsa.net/radio-scouting-presentation/](http://www.k2bsa.net/radio-scouting-presentation/)

**Oct 25 Texoma Hamarama Ardmore, OK**

Texoma Hamarama Association

<http://texomahamarama.org>

**Oct 25 Mamma Jamma Breast Cancer Awareness bike ride**

<http://ride.mammajammaride.org/ride-information/>

## **2013 Upcoming Amateur Exams**

**ARRL VEC— Sept. 7th & Oct. 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- September 21st & October 19th** 2p.m. in room 207, Fleck Hall, St. Edwards Univ. Contact Craig Bean, AC5KW@arrl.net, (474-6443) for more info.

<http://texashams.org/w5yi-austin/>

## **Upcoming Meetings...**

<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Austin Meetings/Happenings</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Address</b>
3	1	AARC Meeting Waterloo Ice House*	7:00 p.m.	8600 Burnet Rd.
no	19	QCWA Tres Amigos \$	1:30 p.m.	7535 U.S. 290
25	23	Digital Wednesday at Red Cross	7:00 p.m.	2218 Pershing
23	28	Travis Co. REACT Jim's 183 & Burnet	7:30 p.m.	9091 Research Blvd.
24	22	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Auditorium	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd.
26	24	CERT Meeting, CTECC	6:30 p.m.	5010 Old Manor Rd.
24	22	CTDXCC Meeting Old Quarry Library	6:30 p.m.	7051 Village Ctr Dr.

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

*% New Meeting Location for ATV*

*\$ QCWA Now meets quarterly visit <http://www.qcwa.org/chapter067.htm> for info*