



# AARC COVER

**Keeping Austin Wireless  
for Over 94 Years!**

**Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs**

**ISSN 1067-0262**

**November 2014**

**Issue 11-2014**

## **New Morse Code Class Starting in January**

When I was a kid, I wanted to get my ham ticket. I listened to ARRL code tapes for hours on end. I could never get it down. Over the years I made many attempts. Fast forward nearly 4 decades; enter the no-code license. Great, I'm a ham, but there is this nagging hole that can only be filled by conquering the code.

Now I had radios, software and time to practice. I still wasn't getting it. Finally, ready to throw in the towel, I heard about Bill's class. Ok, why not? I probably won't learn anything, but its worth a shot. Was I wrong.

First off, Bill was great at putting us at ease. Then we learn of "Bill the enforcer". He kept us on our toes in a friendly way, and with a great sense of humor. We learned the code, but that was just to beginning. He teaches it as a language, showing us the flow of a QSO. After the 599, then what? Making conversation is another part of the art he teaches. Over the twelve Sunday's we learned a lot.

Am I at 20 WPM? No, its still a struggle. But now its different. He gave us the confidence that we can do this. Now I feel naked if I get my car without my key strapped to my leg, tapping out license plates, street signs and random thoughts.

Confidence is what I need to fulfill his request of us: make 3 contacts a day for a year. A tall order, but worthy one. Oh those poor operators out there, they have now idea what's coming at them.

Give Bill's class a shot, you'll be happy you did.

Andy Howell - KF5JLJ

\*\*\*See Page 4 for info\*\*\*

### **Periodic Events**

|       |                 |                                    |                       |
|-------|-----------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Sun   | 7:00 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                      | 147.100 +             |
| 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 October 11th at Bethany United Methodist Church:

## Technician Class Licenses Processed

Ashleigh M. Caison KM4FAF  
Bruce W. Hughson KG5EIF

Walter P. Gregg KG5EID

Hussein I. Hill KG5EIE

## General Class Licenses Processed

Joseph R. Broussard, Jr. KG5EAT  
William F. Hielscher KG5DYI

Jeffrey D. Fincher KG5EBD  
Jacob D. Lahmann KG5CPR

Terry A. Gillham KF5MFQ  
Dane J. Ohe N5PVE

## Extra Class License Processed

Joseph M. Hunt AF5TW

## Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Larry Gunter WB5BEK  
Jim Peisker AF5NP

Sallie Howard AE5OM  
Matt Porcher K5LF

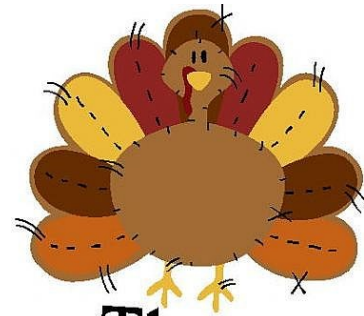
Joe Makeever W5HS  
Joe Thiel N5SMN

## Next ARRL VE Test Sessions

November 1st - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 203/204  
December 6th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 203/204

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe



# Happy Thanksgiving

10-18-14

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

## Extra Class

Ernest Gray, KG5DRU

## Technician Class (NEW)

Dirk Roelofs  
Karen Morgan  
John Barry

Tanner Abston  
Benjamin Ayton  
Stephen Hall

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Craig Bean, AC5KW  
Sam Mihalik, KM5MY

Gary Popp, AE5JR  
Matt Porcher, K5LF

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at  
2 PM on November 15<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup> in  
Fleck Hall, room 118 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 Craig, AC5KW at (512) 474-6443 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                    | Lori Schmidt    | KM5MQ  | 512-632-6789 | <a href="mailto:president@austinhams.org">president@austinhams.org</a>           |
| Vice President               | Rich Kerschner  | KC9VFT |              | <a href="mailto:vice-president@austinhams.org">vice-president@austinhams.org</a> |
| Treasurer                    | Jay Hoffman     | KA5OST |              | <a href="mailto:treasurer@austinhams.org">treasurer@austinhams.org</a>           |
| Secretary                    | Jorge Harada    | KF5IED |              | <a href="mailto:secretary@austinhams.org">secretary@austinhams.org</a>           |
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| Technical (Repeater Contact) | Stuart Rohre    | K5KVH  | 512-255-3932 | <a href="mailto:k5kvh@arri.net">k5kvh@arri.net</a>                               |
| ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord. | Mark Esslinger  |        |              | <a href="mailto:ec@austinhams.org">ec@austinhams.org</a>                         |
| TC ARES PIO                  | Steven Polunsky | W5SMP  |              | <a href="mailto:tcares-pio@gmail.net">tcares-pio@gmail.net</a>                   |

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, simp./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 22nd of the month.**

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**For Changes in your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or CALL SIGN:  
See Jay Hoffman, KA5OST [ka5ost@arri.net](mailto:ka5ost@arri.net)  
Jay handles all changes for membership information .**

# **CW Operations Code Course**

**Hey, a new CWOCC is about to start!**

If you're interested in learning all the facets of CW and want a jump start at 20 WPM, this class is for you!

**HOWEVER!**

You know anything worthwhile takes **Effort & Sacrifice!**

So, if you have the **TIME** 😊, join us at the:

**W C Jester Annex 1801 E Old Settlers  
Blvd Round Rock, TX 78664**

On Jan 4<sup>th</sup> @ 2:30 PM to Mar 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

Same Day and Time for 12 weeks of CW FUN!

Please RSVP prior to the class starting.

Thank you.

**For more information on class availability/signup,  
please contact Bill at [K5LN@austin.rr.com](mailto:K5LN@austin.rr.com)**

## Club Minutes—10-7-2014

Meeting Start 1903 hrs

**Officers present:** Lori Schmidt KM5MQ, president, Jay Hoffman KA5OST, treasurer, Jorge Harada KF5IED, secretary

39 members in attendance

**Birthday announcements:** 1

**Visitors:** none

**New hams:** none

**New members:** none

**Upgrades:** none

**Call changes:** none

No suspensions or revocations :)

**Motion to approve minutes last month AARCOVER:** Motion seconded, all approve

**Past Announcements:** None

**Upcoming Events:**

Oct 10-11 MARS Field Day at Camp Mabry – HF voice/digi & VHF Winlink - Contact Lew W5IFQ@att.net

Oct 11 Outlaw 100 Install 2m gear and Drive RR Parks & Rec trucks all day. For more info contact Dallas KD4HNX mylastname@yahoo.com

Oct 11 TCARES Fall SET- Hurricane related - www.tcares.org

Oct 11-12 MS Valero Ride to the River: Need SAG drivers, navigators, APRS ops & Rest Stop communicators. Contact Charlie KC5NKK charlesdland@gmail.com

Nov 7-8 16th Annual South Texas Hamfest at Aransas Pass Civic Center- Note: MUCH Bigger for 2014! Address is 700 West Wheeler Avenue Aransas Pass, Texas 78335 . Admission: Advance Registration \$ 8 includes 2 door prize tickets- Closes October 25th - Talk-In: 146.820 -107.2. Contact: via email info@southtexashamfest.org or check website at www.southtexashamfest.org

December 2nd - AARC Christmas Party - Baby Acapulco's at Arboretum, address is 9505 Stonelake Blvd. Website is up for reservations

2015 dues are due, see Jay Hoffman KA5OST

For AARC Polo Shirts and T-Shirts, see Lori Schmidt KM5MQ

**Officer reports:** none reported

**Newsletter:** Please send in articles. Mitch went to Austin History Center and checked the AARCOVER archives to see if any are missing. Requested membership check to see if they have anything for the archives. Mitch, KD5HCV

**Special Interest Group Reports**

**Technical:** Stuart Rohre K5KVH report any repeater issued to repeater committee, check into SET NET this weekend.

**ARES:** Mark Esslinger, W5MAE see above. Also on Nov 5th there will be an ARES hospital drill. Contact Joe Canfield n5hpc@arrl.net

**BROADBANDHAMNET/HSMM Mesh:** Digital Wednesday's

**ARC Ladies:** none





# AARC Christmas Party

The Austin Amateur Radio Club Christmas Party is on Dec 2, 2014  
All are Hams WELCOME – You need not be a club member!

Dec 2, 2014 – 6:00 PM

**Baby Acapulco's**

9505-B Stonelake Blvd., Austin, Texas 78759



Live Entertainment from ***Ruby Dee and the Snakehandlers***

- Door Prizes
- HOTY (Ham of the Year) Award Presentation
- Door Prizes
- Great Food – Fajita Buffet
- Door Prizes
- QLF (left foot) Morse Code Contest
- Cash Bar
- GRAND PRIZE – TBA

**\$20 per person includes:** Dinner and dessert, non-alcoholic beverages, tax, tip, door prize ticket, Free DIY parking...

**Space is limited – buy your tickets by 11/24/13**

**After that Prices Go up to \$25 per person!**

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***NOTE: Starting in January—Baby-A's will be our new meeting location for AARC meetings.***



## **AARC Elections Held at November Meeting**

The Austin Amateur Radio Club is looking for officers!

Nominate someone!

Contact Lori Schmidt to submit your nomination!

### **Current Nominations:**

**President:**

Lori Schmidt, KM5MQ

**Vice President:**

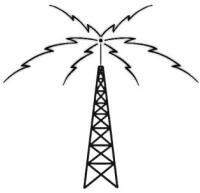
Lew Thompson, W5IFQ  
William Moyer, KC6ARO

**Treasurer:**

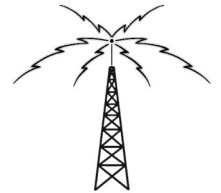
Jay Hoffman, KA5OST

**Secretary:**

Angie Steelman



# 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)

Voice of America Museum Special is a tour of that museum that is presented by AmateurLogic.TV. Although it is not specifically amateur radio related, it will be of interest for those hams who have been shortwave listeners through their lives.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3w\\_ZXRJol\\_4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3w_ZXRJol_4)

Interesting article this month in the cable industries' **CED** magazine (Communications Engineering and Design) promoting amateur radio's broadband efforts.

*"Amateur radio (ham radio) builds RF skills" ..."Modern hams are also into digital..."*

Ciciora's Corner, Walt Ciciora, WB9FPW

Don Lewis

KG5CID

<http://www.cedmagazine.com/articles/2014/09/the-role-of-tech-hobbies>

I spent time tonight on the Internet to research, find, and confirm the old earliest Licensed mid-late 1920's AM broadcast Radio Stations (including San Angelo) back in the mid-late 20's era through the early 60's. I found old documented records online from the old Federal Radio Commission archives, (Now called FCC) for early Licensed AM Radio Stations across the U.S. & Texas, also. KGFI was San Angelo's first Radio Station!! The records online prove it. Seems the FRC license for KGFI was first issued in Feb 1927, approved for Ft Stockton, Tx.

The small 10 watt Transmitter was sold and moved from Ft. Stockton to Georgetown, Tx, to a new purchaser for a year or so license switched as KGFI, from Ft. Stockton, to KGFI, Georgetown, Tx. Then, EC Gunter in San Angelo, secured the license for Henry Ragsdale to purchase the AM Radio transmitter License from the owner in Georgetown Tx, whom purchased the KGFI FRC license from Georgetown, and moved the small 10 watt AM Radio transmitter to 18 W. Concho in San Angelo before Dec. 4, 1928. (According to west texas scouting history website)...that history I listed in my above posts. KGFI AM went on the airwaves in small town San Angelo with only 10 watts in the late 1920's as KGFI AM radio.

I will provide a link below to verify my internet search. Scroll down the old FRC records to: Feb, 1927, December 4, 1928, for station KGFI, 1924, still KGFI, & June, 25, 1928, still KGFI, respectively, on this long list of records. KGFI was changed to call letters KGKL on June 25th, 1928!! There, is your early AM Broadcast Radio history for early San Angelo, Tx in the late 1920's era.

Best Regards always!!

<http://jeff560.tripod.com/chrono1.html>

Rick -- K5FNI

**AARC Meeting Info.  
Waterloo Icehouse  
8600 Burnet Rd. South of 183  
(Come early and have dinner!)**

**Business Meeting 7:00 pm**

**November 4**—Movie Night- Part 2 of "Voice Of Victory"- A look into the Hallicrafters Company's contribution to WW2.

**Officers Meeting**

**Officers meet via Skype and meetings are open to club members. Contact an officer for more information**

**2014 Upcoming Amateur Exams**

**ARRL VEC— November 1st & December 6th** 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- November 15th & December 20th** 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/>

**2014/2015 Calendar of Events**

Nov 10 Bob Heil K9EID [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bob\\_Heil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bob_Heil) presentation (via Skype) 7PM at the ARL 10,000 Burnet Rd(same place as TCARES).

Nov 25 TCARES Social mtg & Star Party  
[www.tcares.org](http://www.tcares.org)

Dec 2 AARC Christmas Party  
Arboretum Baby Acapulco 9505-B Stonelake Blvd.  
<http://babyacapulco.com/locations-4/>  
Ruby D and the Snakehandlers will be Rock-A-Billy-ing around the Christmas Tree!  
Tickets are \$20 per person \$25 after Nov 24th.  
That includes:  
Dinner and dessert, non-alcoholic beverage, tax, tip and your door prize ticket, plus the all popular do it yourself parking! Space is limited so order your tickets soon!  
You may register & pay on the AustinHams website!  
<http://austinhams.org/christmas2014.htm>

\*\*\*2015\*\*\* [www.AustinHams.org](http://www.AustinHams.org)

Beginning Jan 6 2015,

AARC Club (1st Tuesday) meetings will be held at the Arboretum Baby Acapulco 9505-B Stonelake Blvd

<http://babyacapulco.com/locations-4/>

**Upcoming Meetings...**

| Nov  | Dec  | Austin Meetings/Happenings                 | Time      | Address                 |
|------|------|--|-----------|-------------------------|
| 4    | 2    | AARC Meeting Waterloo Ice House            | 7:00 p.m. | 8600 Burnet Rd.         |
| No   | No   | QCWA Tres Amigos                           | 1:30 p.m. | 7535 U.S. 290           |
| 26\$ | 24\$ | Digital Wednesday at CATRAC                | 7:00 p.m. | 4100 Ed Bluestein Blvd. |
| 24\$ | 22\$ | Travis Co. REACT Jim's 183 & Burnet        | 7:30 p.m. | 9091 Research Blvd.     |
| 25\$ | 23\$ | Travis County A.R.E.S. Pickle Research Ctr | 7:00 p.m. | 10000 Burnet Rd.        |
| 27\$ | 25\$ | CERT Meeting, CTECC                        | 6:30 p.m. | 5010 Old Manor Rd.      |
| 25\$ | 23\$ | CTDXCC Meeting Old Quarry Library          | 6:30 p.m. | 7051 Village Ctr Dr.    |

*New Meeting Location for TCARES*

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

*\$ Dates may change due to proximity to Thanksgiving or Christmas*