



# AARC COVER

**Keeping Austin Wireless  
for Over 96 Years!**

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Club

ISSN 1067-0262

**November 2017**

**Issue 11-2017**

## Final Nominations & Voting

*It's Election Time Again...*

This is your chance! All officer positions are available for nominations. Incumbents may, or may not, decide to run for office again for 2018 (see Meeting Minutes for current indications from incumbents).



The President is the leader who presides over and sets the tone for the club meetings. Vice President rallies the troops to get technical presentations for the meetings. The VP will also stand in for the President when necessary (i.e. preside over meetings when the President is away). The Treasurer handles the finances for the club. Being good with numbers is kind



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### Periodic Events

Sun	7:00 p.m.	Travis ARES net	147.36 MHz + (131.8)
Sun	8:00 p.m.	Travis ARES Packet (*in UNPROTO)	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 - (107.2)
<i>Sun</i>	<i>(After Swapnet)</i>	<i>Newsline</i>	<i>146.94 MHz - (107.2)</i>
Mon.	7:30 p.m.	STX ARES Net	3.873 MHz
Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Hays ARES net	147.100 MHz +
Tues.	8:00 p.m.	Bastrop ARES Net	443.750 MHz + (114.8)
Wed	11:30 a.m.	Ham Social Luncheon, Jim's	146.94 MHz - (107.2)
Thu	9:00 p.m.	2m SSB Net	144.250 MHz (USB)
Thu	11:00 a.m.	Lunch, Pokey Joe's 183&Great Hills	444.1 MHz+
Thu	11:45 a.m.	Lunch, Whataburger Oltorf & Burleson	146.94- (107.2)
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
Sat	7:00 p.m.	AARC Elmer Net	146.94 MHz- (107.2)
Daily	6:30 p.m.	Central Texas Traffic Net	147.14 MHz+

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# Ham Radio Exams Results

The following are the results of the ARRL VE test session held on October 14, 2017 at Bethany United Methodist Church:

## Technician Class Licenses Processed

Robert F. Averyt KG5VKE	Alma C. Cortez KG5VKL	Vivek P. Desai KG5VKO
Bretton B. Holmes KG5VKJ	Robert M. Hunsaker KG5VKQ	Rishi V. Jariwala KG5VKP
Dillan A. McDonald KG5VKM	Roshan P. Nair KG5VKN	John W. Pelath KG5VKH
Travis R. Piccolin KG5VKG	Sankarsh R. Rao KG5VKF	Guillaume J Uys KG5VKK

## General Class Licenses Processed

Andrew J. D Addisio KG5VKI	Randelle C. Stephenson KG5VCT
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## Extra Class Licenses Processed

Andrew R. Malota KF5WOR

## Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Gene Hinkle K5PA	Joe Makeever W5HS	Jim Matthews KG5QFD
Henry Palmetter W3JMY	Jim Peisker AF5NP	Donald Sitze AF6VA

## Next ARRL VE Test Sessions

November 4th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 203/204

December 2nd - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 203/204

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

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10-22-17

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our October 21st session:

## General Class

Robert Singleton, KG5VCX

## Technician Class (NEW)

William Paiz-Tabash	Robert Gibbs	Chris Barton
Kendall Whitbeck	Austin Gray	Nicole Vieger
Jackson Tiller	Joe Worley	Norbert Rickert
Kayvon Khosrowpour	Sahar Rashed	Allison Crow

## Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Craig Bean AC5KW	Bill Duke, AF5JD
Gary Popp AE5JR	David Glosson, N5DPG

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on November 18th and December 16th 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 **AC5KW @ ARRL.net**



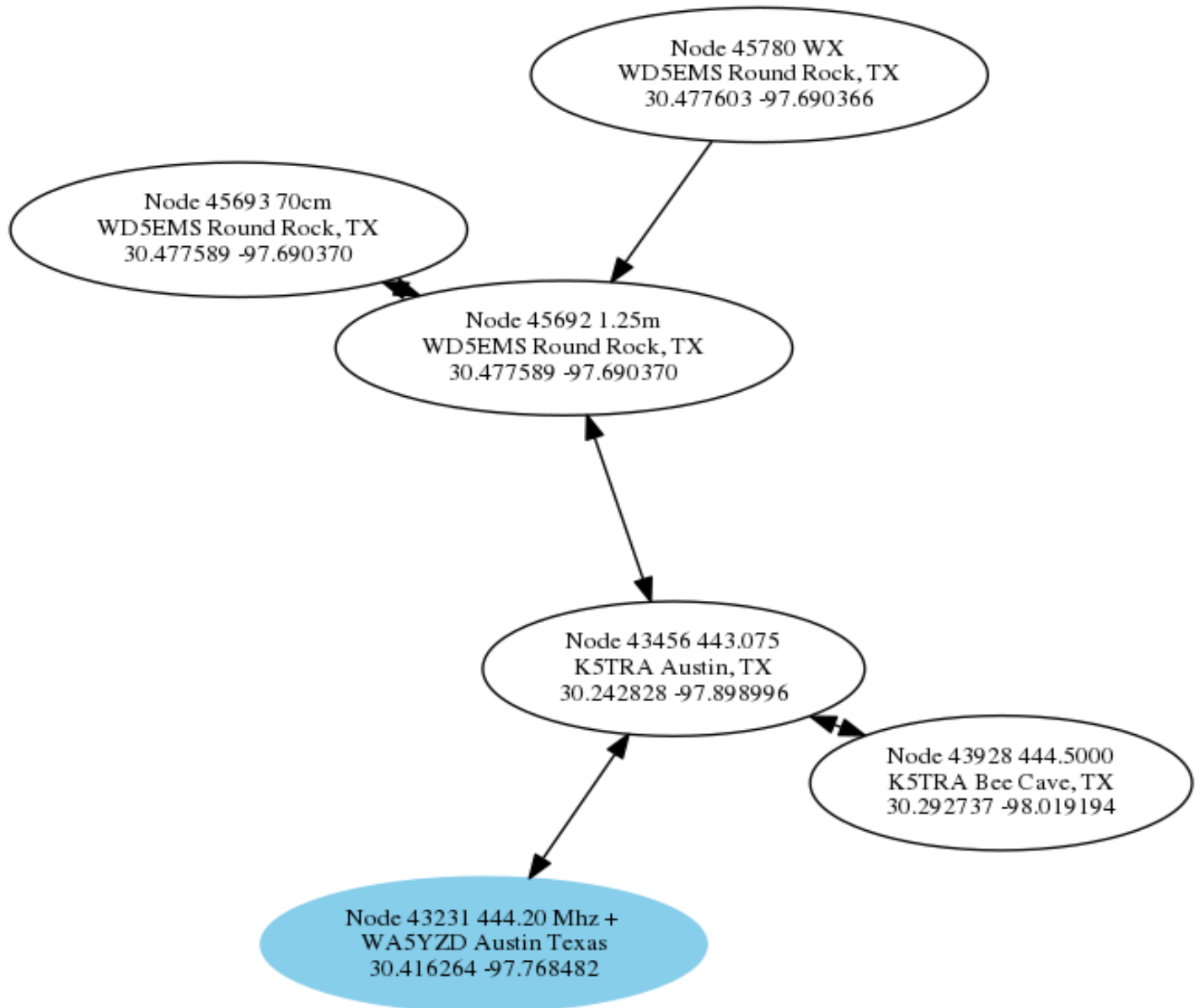
# AllStar Link Network

DE WA5YZD (Roy)

The 444.2 and 1292.4 UHF repeaters sponsored by AARC are both in the AllStar network. The network offers the ability to dynamically expand coverage to other repeaters and nodes connected to AllStar and other type of Voice over IP based networks.

For more information on AllStar use the link <https://allstarlink.org/about.html> to learn more.

The network our 444.2 repeater is connected to looks like this:



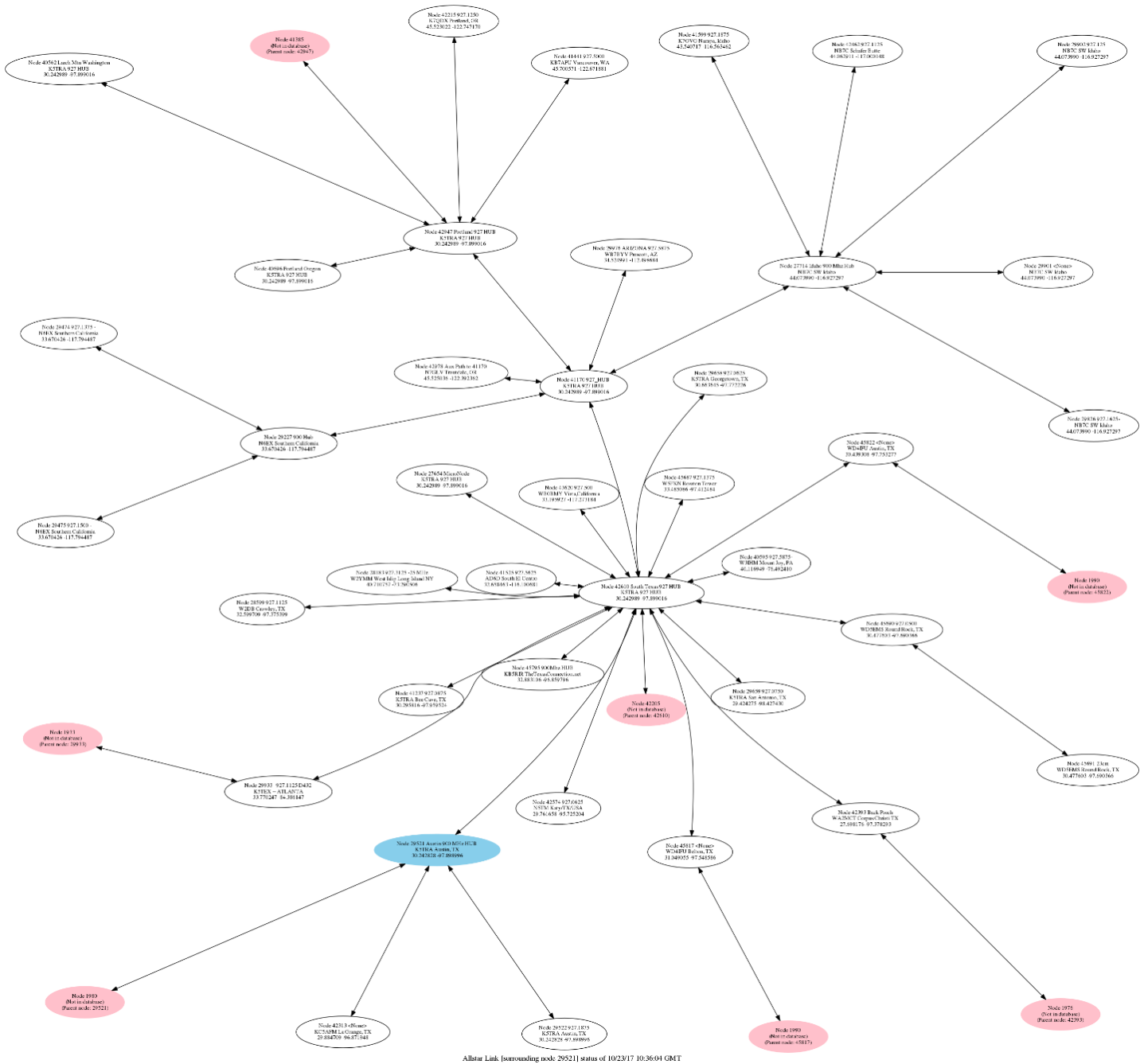
Allstar Link [surrounding node 43231] status of 10/23/17 10:34:17 GMT

This network arrangement can be changed in times of need to include or exclude any other AllStar node that will accept connections. Go to any of the repeaters shown on the chart above and you will be heard on all of other connected repeaters. Don't forget to set your tone. Get tone information at <http://www.txvhffm.org/> for repeaters coordinated in Texas.

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

The network our 1292.4 repeater is most often connected to other nodes for a network that looks like this:



The network above is the nationwide “900 Mhz.” network. It is used by Hams all over the country to discuss and improve the technical side of microwave and UHF communications systems.

If you would like to improve your technical skills and talk with other Hams that share interest in VoIP and other technical subjects this is the place to go.

Roy Walker  
WA5YZD@ARRL.NET

### **2017 Officers**

President	James Hollan	KG5SGR	president@austinhams.org
Vice President	Lew Thompson	W5IFQ	vice-president@austinhams.org
Treasurer	Jay Hoffman	KA5OST	treasurer@austinhams.org
Secretary	Angie Steelman	KF5ZXI	secretary@austinhams.org
Editor, AARCOVER, website	Michael Skurka	K5MSK	editor@austinhams.org
Technical (Repeater Contact)	Roy Walker	WA5YZD	wa5yzd@arrl.net
ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	Kerby Spruiell	KG5DLD	ec@austinhams.org
TC ARES PIO	Steven Polunsky	W5SMP	tcares-pio@gmail.net

Please contact a club officer, attend a meeting, or mail us to join the organization.

Sorry... Online membership registration is temporarily unavailable.

**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:

<b>FREQUENCY</b>	<b>USE</b>
146.780/ -600kHz	2m D-STAR Repeater [W5KA C]
146.880 107.2 PL Tone	Analog/Digital Fusion
146.940 107.2 PL Tone	Most popular, TCARES WXnet, Swapnet
224.800	
444.100	
444.200 107.2 PL Tone	
440.650 +5	70cm D-STAR Repeater [W5KA B]
1293.100/-20	23cm D-STAR Repeater[W5KA A]
1248.200	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.

Note: **No** AARC repeater has **autopatch** capability any longer.

**The Austin Amateur Radio Club offers annual scholarships to licensees living in Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Hays, Blanco, Caldwell, and Burnet counties.**

Please see <http://austinhams.org/scholarships> for more information.

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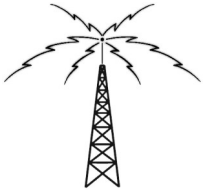
Viewpoints expressed in the AARCOVER do not necessarily reflect those of the club, or of its members, directors, or officers. Material quoted from the ARRL Letter is supplied by the American Radio Relay League, Inc.

Members and other readers are *encouraged* to submit material for publication. Contact the Editor, if mailed submissions are required. Email and/or electronic files are encouraged! Submissions may be edited for publication (for content and/or space). **Deadline is the 25th of each month**, but late articles may be considered for future publication. Material may be used in a later issue. Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to reprint AARCOVER articles, provided you credit the original author and the AARCOVER. If material is included in another publication, a courtesy copy to the Editor is appreciated.

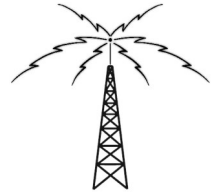


**AARC Members:**  
**For Changes in your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or CALL SIGN**  
**Contact: Jay Hoffman, KA5OST / ka5ost@arrl.net**  
**Jay handles all changes for membership information.**





# Over the WWaves...



## First Book of E

[https://openlibrary.org/works/OL2519569W/The boys' first book of radio and electronics](https://openlibrary.org/works/OL2519569W/The_boys'_first_book_of_radio_and_electronics)

DE Rick, K5FNI

## Advanced Semiconductor Analyser with Curve Tracing

I saw this mentioned today. It looks very interesting for those who use solid state components in building or design. Especially if they have ever used a curve tracer before.

<http://www.peakelec.co.uk/acatalog/dca75-dca-pro.html>

DE Rick, K5FNI

## Trove of magazine archives

Electronic experimenters will be especially interested in the section in this on “Technical: Consumer Electronics - Modern Era”. (The rest is meant for other audiences.)

<http://www.americanradiohistory.com/index.htm>

DE Rick, K5FNI

## D-Star One Small Satellite Undergoes Final Tests

D-Star One will be the first private LEO communication CubeSat as well as the first German commercial CubeSat. It will host four communication modules with D-Star capability, two of which will be fully dedicated to the **amateur radio community**. German Orbital Systems and iSky Technology companies have completed the final tests of the D-Star One small satellite’s systems successfully and arranged its shipment to the launch site. The satellite was designed and built in cooperation with iSky Technology, a commercial partner from the Czech Republic. Read more at <http://www.spaceflightinsider.com/press-releases/successful-final-tests-d-star-one-small-satellite/#ceOqzptZlBsVtciK.99>

DE Michael, K5MSK



## DECEMBER Christmas Party!

As is the custom of AARC, there will be no business meeting in December.

Instead, the AARC Christmas Party will be held at:

Buffet King - in Capital Plaza

5451 N IH 35

Austin TX 78723

Watch the [austinhams.org](http://austinhams.org) website and SwapNet Newsletter for more details soon!

## REMINDER

The Austin Amateur Radio Club offers annual scholarships to licensees living in Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Hays, Blanco, Caldwell and Burnet counties.



(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

of important for this job! And finally, the Secretary takes and prepares the minutes for the meetings, and then sends them to the Editor of this newsletter for publishing every month. All officers meet every month, prior to the start time of the general meeting.



These are all volunteer positions for which the past and current officers have donated their time for the benefit of the club and its members. Yes. They do it all for you without any remuneration (that's means *money paid for a service*). Your appreciation and thanks are their rewards.

Please join us as we need a quorum of at least 10% of the general voting membership to finalize the nominations and for the election of officers!



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### Everything you may need to know about NVIS methods

I was tipped off that a really comprehensive paper exists on NVIS, from its inception, up to the present.

You have to Goggle search for the paper (which has 128 citations); by its title: "Radio Communication via Near Vertical Incidence Skywave Propagation: An Overview"

The publication was in "Telecommunication System Journal", but Google would not produce a specific link to that magazine. Yet, using the paper's title; it presented several links and the one closest to the title proved the correct one.

Both authors work in Europe. The male author formerly worked for several international broadcasters. (Really high power rigs). The female author is a distinguished PhD. graduate of a European University with an extensive RF background.

Several notable hams had their work listed in the citations. One was Brian Austin, whose G call escapes me, but he wrote on NVIS and its implication in the Battle of Arnhem (Netherlands), during WW2. The Allies were trying to use radios not equipped for horizontal antennas, and too low power to be effective, even though the coastal area they were invading was typical coastal land.

Some citations were for recent listings on NVIS in "QST".

The printout consumes 15 pages of paper but it is worth it.

-Stuart Rohre  
K5KVH

The paper itself is released as open access at this web address: <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s11235-017-0287-2>. See the copyright statement at the bottom.

From this page you can also download a PDF by clicking the offer near the upper right corner. (Direct link to PDF for convenience: <https://link.springer.com/content/pdf/10.1007%2Fs11235-017-0287-2.pdf> -Ed.)

It is a good paper.

73 de NG5V / Rick Kirchhof



## FEATURED EVENT



# The Greater New Orleans Ham Fest



W5CCG

Sponsored by  
Crescent City  
Amateur Radio  
Group, Inc.

**Saturday, November 11, 2017**  
**8 AM to 1 PM**  
**Harahan Lions Building**  
**1001 Hickory Ave., Harahan, LA 70123**

**FREE Tables • FREE Admission • FREE Parking • FREE Tailgating**

**THE WORLD'S GREATEST FREE SHOW ON EARTH!!!**

**WE WILL RAFFLE 15 RADIOS OFF PLUS OTHER PRIZES!!!**

**Saturday, November 11, 2017**

**Harahan Lions Club Building**

**Located at 1001 Hickory Ave, Harahan LA 70123**

**••• The TABLES are FREE •••**

**••• The ADMISSION is FREE •••**

**••• The PARKING is FREE •••**

**••• Tailgating is FREE •••**

**Sponsored by the Crescent City Amateur Radio Group, Inc.**

**REMEMBER, ONE MAN'S JUNK IS ANOTHER MAN'S TREASURE...**

**Ladies/Wives are welcome to sell jewelry and crafts, etc.**

**Talk-in will be 146.82 repeater, PL Tone 114.8 Hz**

**"Bring your old radios, antennas, tubes, computers and electronic parts, etc."**

**We recommend that you reserve your tables now. To reserve tables, contact Joe at 504-288-7084 or email him at Joen5ozg@hotmail.com or Eric at af5jg@outlook.com**

**Setup will be 5:00-7:00pm on November 10, and 7:00am to 8:00am on November 11.**

**Doors open 8:00am to 1:00pm on November 11, 2017.**

**COME VISIT US AT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO FIND OUT THE LATEST NEWS ON OUR HAM FEST...**

**<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2044282109131267/>**

**Coffee, Soft Drinks and Donuts will be served for a small charge...**

**Don't forget the forums and the VE Exam Session**

**For more information contact Joe at 504-288-7084 or email him at Joen5ozg@hotmail.com**

**or contact Steve at n5wxc@hotmail.com**

**Do you have any news, events, interesting links or articles for the AARCover?**

**We'd be thrilled if you'd send them to editor@austinhams.org  
for consideration to be published in a future AARCover!**



## AARC General Meeting, October 3, 2017

Start time: 7:03pm

Attendance: ?

No visitors. No new hams. No new upgrades.

September minutes were approved as posted in the AARCover.

### Announcements

- Preliminary nominations are being taken tonight.
- President, Vice President, and Treasurer indicated they would be willing to run as incumbents.
- It was encouraged that new officers be elected every year to help reduce burn-out of individuals and to keep ideas fresh.
- The Christmas Party committee needs a chair. Current members include, but are not limited to, Jeff Schmidt, Angela Durbin. Help is needed!
- ARL requires all visitors to sign out. You don't need to be exact (use the date above your line), but please do sign out!
- There was discussion on encouraging recruitment of young licensees.
  - K5EJL talked about the high school club.
  - Mentors are needed for new hams.
  - Boy Scouts have a merit badge available and SOTA is a great opportunity to encourage the youth.
- Please send other info to editor (at) austinhams.org to combine and post on the AustinHams website. *(No further info received to date. -Editor)*

### Officer Reports

- Treasurer: Jay Hoffman, KA5OST - Will be representing at Belton Ham Expo, having a table from one estate with equipment to be sold. 50% to go to the estate and 50% to the AARC.
- Vice-President: Lew Thompson, W5IFQ - Tonight's guests are from Austin Energy. Next month: ALE - Automatic Link Establish: Auto-QSY so cluster HF stations stay in contact.
- Secretary: Angie Steelman, KF5ZXI - not present
- Newsletter: Michael Skurka, K5MSK - Thanks to K5FNI for being the best submitter for the newsletter.
- ARES: Kirby Spruiell, KG5DLD - Our Simulated Emergency Test (SET) has been moved to October 14. The SET will involve stations at several locations performing vehicle counts and relaying the info to designated relay station(s).
- Technical Committee: Roy Walker, WA5YZD - AARC has two new Fusion DR2X repeaters. Frequencies are 441.1MHz and 146.88MHz. There is a rebate of approximately \$400 "core charge" to keep the old repeaters. K5EJL moved to pay the core charge to keep the old repeaters. W5IFQ (Lew) seconded. A vote was called. The vote was unanimous with no dissenting votes. TSU has a new repeater on 442.7 MHz, tone 103.5.

Space Weather presentation by W5IFQ.

Business meeting adjourned at 8:04pm.

Presentation by Austin Energy, RF Interference Investigation. Presenters were Tri Tran and Chris Sahley. Presentation concluded by 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Skurka, K5MSK

## AARC Meeting Info

Tuesday, Nov 7, 2017 / 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Location: Applied Research Lab  
[10000 Burnet Road, Austin TX](#)

### **Presentation Topic:**

HF Automatic Link Establishment

Solar WX: W5IFQ (Lew)

### **Officers Meeting**

Officers meet from 6:00 to 7:00p.m. prior to regular club meeting and is open to all. Contact an officer for more information.

## **2017+ Calendar of Events**

### **Nov 11 - Greater New Orleans Ham Fest**

Harahan Lions Club Building, 1001 Hickory Avenue, Harahan, LA.

Table reservations - contact Eric at af5jg@outlook.com or Joe at 504-288-7084 or Joen5ozg@hotmail.com  
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/2044282109131267/>

### **Dec 10 - Decker Challenge 2017 Half-Marathon & Brown Santa 5K runs**

Need a dozen or so Hams w/HTs & mobiles to station around the course/Walter E Long Lake. APRS use is encouraged, but not required. NC, as always, will be at the Travis County Expo Center. It's an early race, so please meet at NC by 7:00am. Usually done and gone by 1:00pm (sooner depending on where you are stationed). Contact Jim @K5KTF.com to sign up to work this fun race. (Please don't wait until the last minute to let him know you are interested. Give him time to plan you in!) Did we mention they usually have breakfast tacos/donuts/coffee in the morning, and free craft beers after?!

### **Jan 6-7 - 16th Annual Bandera 25k, 50k, and 100k Ultra-Marathon**

Location: Hill Country State Natural Area - Bandera County  
The team is responsible for communications, health and welfare, tracking, and occasionally Search and Rescue. Also manage parking at o'dark thirty to get the 900 runners and crews to the start/finish line on time. Little to NO cellular coverage. Participants, families, crews and promoters rely on the skill and expertise of the Amateur Radio Community.

Interested operators should contact the Communications Safety Team Coordinator: Louis, K5STX at k5stx10@gmail.com or call 830-305-2889. (More info in [SwapNet Newsletter](#).)

### **Feb 3, 2018 Basic & Advanced SkyWarn Training**

27th Annual Lou Withrow Austin and South Central SkyWarn Training. 9:00am-4:00pm Saturday.

DE Troy Kimmel KE5BCK

Location: Austin Community College, Eastview Campus, Austin

**More events listed in the [SWAPNET Newsletter](#)!**  
Visit <http://austinhams.org/swapnet>

## **Upcoming Amateur Exams: 2017**

### **ARRL VEC - Nov. 4th & Dec. 2nd**

9 a.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church.  
Room 203/204. \$15 fee. For more info, contact:  
Joe Makeever, W5HS (512-345-0800)

### **W5YI VEC - Nov. 18th & Dec. 16th**

2 p.m. in **Room 118**, Fleck Hall,  
St. Edwards University. \$14 fee.

Contact Craig

AC5KW @ ARRL.net  
for more info. \$14 fee.

## **Upcoming Meetings...**

### **Nov. Dec. Austin Meetings/Happenings**

	<b>Nov.</b>	<b>Dec.</b>	<b>Austin Meetings/Happenings</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Address</b>
	7	5	AARC Meeting @ Applied Research Lab	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd
	28	26	Travis County A.R.E.S. @ Applied Rsrch Lab	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd
	-	-	CERT Meeting @ TBD (see <a href="#">Link</a> / <a href="#">Contact</a> )	7:00 p.m.	TBD
			<i>(CERT appears to not have meetings in November/December due to holidays. Next meeting Jan. 25.)</i>		
	27	25?	CTDXCC Meeting @ Old Quarry Library	6:30 p.m.	7051 Village Ctr Dr
			<i>(Probably a safe bet that CTDXCC won't meet on Christmas Day!)</i>		

*If your club is listed here and has incorrect time or dates, please let us know! editor @austinhams.org*

Visit our website at <http://austinhams.org/>