



AARC COVER

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

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Club

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November 2018

Issue 11-2018

AARC OFFICER ELECTION TIME!

by Michael Skurka, K5MSK (Editor)

Wow! Has it already been a whole year since the last elections? Time sure does fly (as do our radio signals)! Rumor has it that the incumbents are willing to run for office for another term. Personally, I think the past year has run very smoothly and the presentations and activities (e.g. Field Day) have been as excellent as we've come to expect from our beloved club.



Our current president, Ruben (WB5WTF), has done a great job (as our past presidents have) and even answered my call to add a *President's Corner* to help voice his thoughts (and help me fill the newsletter—double-duty and I thank him for that!). Mark (W5MPJ) stepped in as interim treasurer and ended up sticking with it. He worked with Jay (KA5OST) and handled the transition into the position well. Of course, thanks go to Jay for serving the club as well! We

(continued on page 5)

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)
Sun	(After Swapnet)	Newslite	146.94 MHz - (107.2)
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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Minutes of the Regular Membership Meeting of October 2, 2018

The Austin Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

Meeting held at the Applied Research Lab
10000 Burnet Road, Austin, TX.

New members:

Steve (KN4WVP) and Joel Gil (KI5VPK)

The Texas State SOC is now K5SOC.

Minutes from the last month were accepted.

Ham of the Month

- ◆ Bob Morgan voted as Ham of the Month for his work maintaining the Red Cross station.

Old Business

- ◆ Christmas Party: Lori Schmidt (KM5MQ) is handling arrangements. The party will be held from 7:00pm to 9:00pm on the 1st Tuesday in December (Dec 4, 2018) at the Buffet King in Capital Plaza.
- ◆ Army Test this coming weekend. Kerby taking volunteers.
- ◆ Per Joe, there's a Hospital Test coming up in November; Hospitals have two radios each, paid for by the hospitals. This is the last Fall drill; next one will be in February and will be much larger.
- ◆ Stu talked about scholarships; AARC has given more than \$250,000 in scholarship funds over the years.

Announcements

- ◆ Capitol Area Boy Scouts of American want a demo radio stations setup on October 20 during JOTA-JOTI event, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. @ the Fickett Scout Center.
- ◆ School Club Roundup, October 15-19, mostly on 20 meters: get on the air & talk!

Presentation

- ◆ Lew's Presentation about Space Weather: In-depth Theory & Explanation

Meeting adjourned.



Ham Radio Exams Results

The following are the results of the ARRL VE test session held on October 13th, 2018 at Bethany United Methodist Church:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Arthur W. Adams KI5BXN
James H. Nelson KI5BXM

Anthony E. Alvarez KI5BXX
Festus C. Redelinghuys KI5BXL

Andrew J. Hughes KI5BXP
Tyler S. Simpson KI5BXO

General Class Licenses Processed

Jose O. Lopez N(0)AWX

Extra Class Licenses Processed

Mark Whittington II AG5RT

Jorge E. Muyschondt AG5RU

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Gary Becker AF5QB
Joe Makeever W5HS

Gene Hinkle K5PA
Jim Matthews KG5QFD

Arlen Levin WA6AUF
Jim Peisker AF5NP

Next ARRL VE Test Sessions

November 3rd - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Building, Room 203/204
December 1st - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Building, Room 203/204

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS
Joe

10-22-18

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our October 20th session:

Extra Class

Jeffrey Pender, KG5WJS

General Class

Larry Rowe, KI5BPH

Will Broyles, (NEW)

Karl Keip, KD7NAM

Technician Class (NEW)

Rachael Keip
Thomas Cravey, Jr.
Pamela Knab

Walter Gameiro
Greg Gillenwaters
Cameron Hunter

Jeffrey Coulam
Mike Whiteley
Kieran Smith

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Craig Bean, AC5KW
Stuart Wolfe, KF5NIX

Gary Popp, AE5JR
Albert Karch, N5OVH

Wally Marusa, K5WLY

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on **November 17th** and **December 15th** 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 **craigmb5@gmail.com**



President's Corner

November 2018

DE WB5WTF, Ruben Fuentes



Hopefully, all of you are registered to vote.

I'd like to encourage all of us to exercise our civic duty and get to the polls and

vote. Moreover, Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 6th which happens to be the same

day as our November general membership meeting, so I am urging you to vote absentee between now and Nov 2nd so that you're not stressed out trying to get that and the AARC meeting taken care of. If you're not sure where to vote absentee, simply Google "absentee voting polls Travis County" (or whichever county you're in).

If you've been keeping up with club activities either through our newsletter, Jeff (N5MNV) & Lori's (KM5MQ), or by tuning in on one of the club nets, then you know that in lieu of our club meeting in Dec., we'll be having our annual Christmas party on Dec 4th. I hope you plan to make and compete in the "Ugly Sweater," the "Left Foot (actually off-foot) CW and/or the "submitted technical articles to the club newsletter" contests. *[FYI: No articles have been submitted yet. -Editor]*

Jeff, Lori and I are planning a fun night at the Buffet King Restaurant located at the Capitol Plaza Shopping Center, [5451 N Interstate 35](#) in Austin. This is an Asian buffet-style restaurant and by each of us ordering a meal, we get use of their very large room to have our party at no charge to the club. You don't want to miss out on some great prizes that will be raffled off.

Your second voting responsibility on Nov 6th will be as a club member. There's talk about voting-in the incumbent officers but if you have any interest/desire in being a club officer and helping with the leadership responsibilities, please don't stay silent about it. Please let me know at president@austinhams.org.

73,

Ruben (WB5WTF)

(continued from page 1)

also had a mid-term change with the secretary position. Kudos to Carston (KG5PAL) for filling the void. And, of course, the technical presentations as organized by Lew (W5IFQ) have been great and varied. Heck, he even talked me into doing a presentation. Great job, Lew!

Our thanks go to each of these individuals and to all of them as the group of officers. Besides doing what you see at the meetings, they also have an officers' meeting to discuss club matters and keep things running smoothly. They worked behind the scenes and organized and executed the auction which helped sell the second EmComm trailer.

Just because they are willing to continue on next year as incumbents doesn't mean you can't run for office! On the contrary! YOU are welcome and encouraged to run for any position in which you are interested. AARC is always ready for new ideas and new faces. Don't get me wrong, though! The current officers are fantastic and they are always ready to help. If YOU are elected into a position, they're not going to run away and throw you the keys as they head for the door! I'm sure you can expect the same great enthusiasm and willingness to help as you have seen this past year.

Even if you're not interested in holding an officer position, or don't have the free time, please, please, please come out and show your support and vote our incumbents in for another year! And I hope you'll consider helping out whenever you can. Lew is always interested in finding the next technical presentation. Even if you're not the world's greatest presenter, Lew is open to suggestions for topics you'd like to see. He'll surely talk someone into doing a presentation! ;-)

I'll close this editorial article, of which the thoughts are entirely my own, by saying this is YOUR club. And like a lot of things in life, you only get out of it what you put into it. So I challenge you to help YOUR club. Be an officer. Present on a technical topic. Bring a show-and-tell project. And, of course I have to throw this in... Write an article for this newsletter!



REMINDER

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.



Christmas Party!

Yes! It's true!

There is *no* business meeting in December.
Instead, the Austin Amateur Radio Club will hold its annual
Christmas Party!

The location will be the same as last year:

Buffet King

[5451 N Interstate Hwy 35](#)

Austin, TX 78723

(512) 452-1888



Jeff (N5MNW) and Lori (KM5MQ) Schmidt have
worked hard to make this party happen.

The festivities will include:

QLF (non-dominant foot) CW contest

Ham Of The Year award

Raffle Tickets for Door Prizes

Ugly Sweater Contest (in lieu of Tabletop decoration)

Family, Friends, Non-members are all welcome to attend!

For more information, contact:

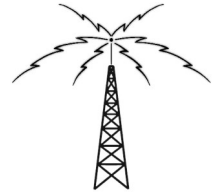
Lori (KM5MQ @ARRL.net) or

Ruben, WB5WTF (president @ austinhams.org)





Over the WWaves...



New Book from ARRL / DE K5MSK (Editor)

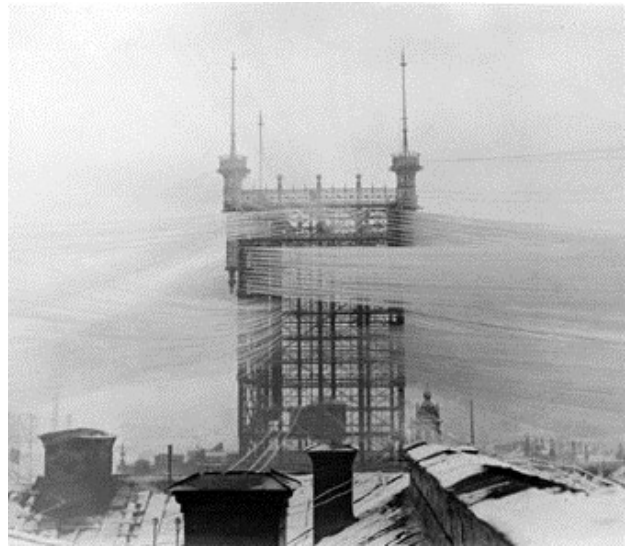
Just when you thought you had all the antennas you needed... *Magic Band Antennas for Ham Radio* is now available from the ARRL and is designed for radio amateurs who want to “discover the mysteries of the *magic band*” of 6 meters.

<http://www.arrl.org/shop/Magic-Band-Antennas-for-Ham-Radio/>

You Think You Have Too Many Cables? / DE K5MSK (Editor)

See the photo to the right. Telephone cables weren't always connected underground, but this tower may have been one of the reasons that started. This tower was constructed in Stockholm, Sweden in 1887 and sported about 5,500 overhead telephone lines. The local population wasn't thrilled with the initial build and four turrets were later added, as pictured. It was quickly made obsolete as telephone companies started burying cables in urban areas. By 1913, underground cabling for telephony was fully completed and the tower no longer served its original purpose. After a fire weakened the structure, it was finally demolished in 1953 on safety grounds. Photo: Public domain.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Old_Stockholm_telephone_tower

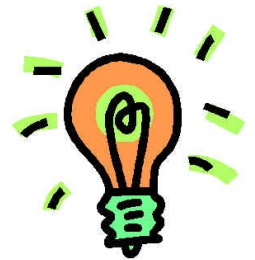


Hints -n- Tips

HT Counterpoise for Increasing Performance

Don't laugh until you've tried it. It really works! I've increased range on a HT by at least 25% with only 19" of wire. It may not be pretty, but it is effective.

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/k5luocounterpoise.html>



Radials — The Easy Way

But what about your base antenna, you ask? Okay. Here's a nifty way to lay down radials with less effort and no digging. I need to give this a try. Most homeowners already have the tool to do this.

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/easyradials.html>

Cable Lug Antenna

Using cable lugs for extending and tuning of vertical whip sections. It may not be the best videography, but the idea is cool. (Source: hamuniverse.com)

YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/7yLXMTknn4I>



Just For Fun...

Word Search

Can you find all the words listed below in this puzzle? The words are taken from articles, news, events, or *anywhere* in this newsletter.

Z V F E E E C J A O J E S U O
 U M E P S D S M I J C N Z R Z
 F A S T K U V I K H O I I U Q
 O R T V E N O A U I B E P M I
 N C I I I R E H T R N E D C R
 S O V Q L A A C T T C F A A E
 A N I Q V D E N A H A S J P K
 M I T W X L A T S E G H O J C
 T B I W E T I E T M F I S T E
 S K E S S O K A T S P K L A D
 I B S E N G R U B S Y T T E G
 R D I S T R E S S W S O S X Q
 H F G M J R E T A E W S J Y B
 C D Q J I A H R V Y H M Q R X
 I G Q Y R X N Q F G J A C W X

CHRISTMAS	FESTIVITIES	ORIENTATION
CRUISE	FIESTA	SKYWARN
DECKER	GETTYSBURG	SOS
DISTRESS	LIGHTHOUSE	SWEATER
ELECTIONS	MARCONI	VETERANS

Solution to Last Month's Puzzle

M Z Z L Y C E R E R H B G Y L
 W P F C O P E I E A L O N M P
 D I Y I B T Q B L K H Y E D L
 F I L J R R M L O G V S F R S
 J S O A Q E O I N A M C O V N
 E Y H D M W L A J L V O A X O
 C C P E E T I A D N M U B M I
 V X F E P Z F M V C X T K A T
 H I N V A C U U M I A S G G A
 L E L B A T R O P W T S B I N
 W B X O Q F K R X C Z S T C I
 H K R C T U N Y I U Q N E Z M
 E I S E N H O W E R A L U F O
 K B L R R A Q O H K X Y T F N
 H V G R H W L I U G Q Y S N C

Action on the Airways

Looking for something to do now that the kids are back in school and between club meetings?

Check out some [activities on the air](#).

[2nd Annual 25 Lighthouses in the SouthWestern Desert](#)

Nov 1-Nov 11, 0000Z-2359Z, N7A-N7Z, Lake Havasu City, AZ. London Bridge Amateur Radio Association. 18.145 14.255 10.115 7.195. Each lighthouse is a working replica of the original lighthouses along the west and east coast and the Great Lakes. A special Full color certificate for working 1 or all 25 Lighthouses. Special Endorsement for working all 25. More information on QRZ.com N7A-N7Z or lbara.org

[155th Anniversary of "The Lincoln's Gettysburg Address"](#)

Nov 9-Nov 20, 0300Z-0300Z, W1G, East Berlin, PA. WO4L. 18.158 14.288 7.185 3.830. Certificate & QSL. Robert J Hess WO4L, 74 Curtis Drive, East Berlin, PA 17316. <http://www.qrz.com/db/w1g>

[The American Legion National Salute to Veterans](#)

Nov 11, 1800Z-2359Z, N9V, Indianapolis, IN. The American Legion Amateur Radio Club. 14.275 7.225; 147.315 K9DC Rptr; IRLP 9735; EchoLink *CrossRds* Conf Node. Certificate & QSL. The American Legion Amateur Radio Club, The American Legion, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46204. k9tal@legion.org or <http://www.legion.org/hamradio>

This Month In History

1905-11-25—Telimco makes the 1st ever advertisement for a radio set, by advertising a \$7.50 set in the "Scientific American" which claimed to receive signals for up to one mile

1906-11-03—International Radiotelegraph Conference in Berlin selects "SOS" (···— — —···) distress signal as the worldwide standard for help

1922-11-14—BBC begins daily radio broadcasts from the 2LO transmitter at [Marconi](#) House



Source: <https://www.onthisday.com/literature/radio>

2018 Officers

President	Ruben Fuentes	WB5WTF	president@austinhams.org
Vice President	Lew Thompson	W51FQ	vice-president@austinhams.org
Treasurer (<i>Interim</i>)	Mark Jenkins	W5MPJ	treasurer@austinhams.org
Secretary	Carston Buehler	KG5PAL	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	Ruben Fuentes	WB5WTF	pio@austinhams.org

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:

FREQUENCY	USE
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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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 usually 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: Mark Jenkins, W5MPJ / treasurer@austinhams.org

Mark handles all changes for membership information.



2018 - Calendar of Events

AARC Meeting Info

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 / 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Location: Applied Research Lab
[10000 Burnet Rd, Austin TX 78758](http://www.appliedresearchlab.com)

Meeting Topics:

New Ham Orientation by Jeff (N5MNV),
 Final Nominations & Voting for 2019 Officers,
 and Solar WX Summary by Lew, W5IFQ

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

Upcoming Amateur Exams: 2018

ARRL VEC - November 3rd & December 1st
 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 - November 17th & December 15th
 2 p.m. in **Room 118**, Fleck Hall,
 St. Edwards University. \$14 fee.
 Contact Craig
 AC5KW @ ARRL.net
 for more info. \$14 fee.

Dec 4 - AARC Christmas Party

See the full page of information on page 6.

Dec 9 - Decker Challenge 2018

Sunday, December 9, 7am-1pm (race is 8am to noon)
 40th Decker! They expect a strong showing for the anniversary run. Inaugural Housing Authority of Travis County Deck The Halls 5K Fun Run & Walk. (Not Brown Santa 5K)
 Need Hams to help line the course to watch for faceplants / dirtnaps / anything suspicious / crazy outfits.
 Anyone with an HT or Mobile is welcome to join in the fun.
 FREE BEER AND BREAKFAST!! (Not kidding! They have free beer afterwards!)
<http://www.k5ktf.com/decker2018/> for info and to sign up to work this fun event.

2019 - Events

Jan 12 - San Antonio Radio Fiesta 2019

Schertz Civic Center 1400 Schertz Parkway Schertz, TX 78154
 San Antonio Radio Club <http://w5sc.org/> 146.940+ (PL 179.9)
 Contact: JC N5RXS 210-522-6167 Email: n5rxs2@gmail.com

Jan 12-19 - MPMT's Ham Cruise #6

Ham cruise reservations are closed, but... Please watch DX cluster posts and listen on the bands for us using "Carnival Freedom" suffix! Seven-day cruise from Galveston to Key West, FL; Freeport; Nassau, Bahamas then back to Galveston. Special permission to operate Maritime Mobile HF radio! Ship's Engineers install two antennas for two separate HF stations. Contact Debbie N5DSR 832-656-0731 or mypinmoneytravel@yahoo.com

Feb 2 - 28th Annual Lou Withrow SKYWARN

8:15am-4:15pm — Basic & Advanced Training
 ACC Eastview Campus, Building 8500
 3400 Webberville Road, Austin TX 78702
<http://www.la.utexas.edu/users/kimmel/skywarn.html>

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

Upcoming Meetings...

Nov	Dec	Austin Meetings/Happenings	Time	Address
10	4*	AARC Meeting @ Applied Research Lab	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd
26	N/A	Travis County A.R.E.S. @ Applied Rsrch Lab	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd
22	27	CERT Meeting @ TBD (see Link / Contact)	7:00 p.m.	TBD
6	4	CTDXCC Meeting @ Mimi's Café	6:30 p.m. (dinner @ 5:15pm)	10515 N Mopac Expwy NB Bldg O, Austin

- ♦ No AARC meeting in December. See page 6 for Christmas Party info!
- ♦ TCARES will not have a meeting in December due to proximity to Christmas Day.

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/>