



JUNE 2008

**From “The ARES E-Letter”
May 21, 2008**

Rick Palm, K1CE, Editor

American Red Cross Responds to ARRL Concerns Regarding Background Checks

In November 2007, ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, wrote to the American Red Cross (ARC) regarding concerns voiced by ARRL volunteers. In 2006, the Red Cross stated it would implement background checks that included, among other things, a credit check and a "mode of living" check for its staff and volunteers, including ARES volunteers providing services to the Red Cross during disasters. ARRL saw these portions of the background check as unneeded and inappropriate for ARES service.

In a letter dated May 8 of this year, Armond T. Mascelli, ARC Vice President for Disaster Response Services replied to President Harrison: "I can now report back to you that [these] actions have been completed and changes have been instituted which I trust resolves the concerns detailed in your letter. This effort took considerably more time and attention than originally envisioned, but I believe the results will now benefit our respective organizations.

"A new background consent form now [is] to be used by all Red Cross chapters for ARRL members and other partner organizations. **The form and related process is limited to the name and social security number verification of the individual, and a criminal background check.** References and suggestions to other related investigative possibilities have been stricken."

ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, announced the resolution at the ARRL ARES forum at the Dayton Hamvention(r) and received hearty applause.

"We are very pleased that the American Red Cross has addressed some of the issues that we raised regarding their background investigations and that we can move forward in a relationship that has existed for a long, long time," Harrison said. "The American Red Cross and the ARRL have shared a productive relationship for many years which has been of benefit to both the organizations and to the public. We are glad that throughout the past months we have been able to negotiate the issues that we had and have finally come to a resolution."

What's Next?

With the background check issue apparently resolved, the ARRL will be working with the ARC in the negotiation and creation of a draft for a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or similar document to replace the one which expired last year; Dura and Keith Roberatory of the ARC will be leading the effort. When complete, the draft of the MOU will be presented to the leadership of both organizations for approval.

"The ARRL is very pleased that the American Red Cross has responded appropriately to our concerns about the background check issue," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "We believe it now will be possible to go forward to negotiate a statement of understanding between the two organizations. We look forward to renewing and expanding the relationship with the Red Cross."

New Amateur Radio Satellite Receives OSCAR Designation

The ARRL Letter Vol. 27, No. 20

May 23, 2008

New Amateur Radio Satellite Receives OSCAR Designation: Earlier this week, **Bill Tynan, W3XO**, announced that Amateur Radio satellite Delfi C-3 <<http://www.delfic3.nl/>> has been issued an OSCAR number: Delfi-C3 OSCAR-64 or Dutch OSCAR-64. The shortened version of either of these two designations is DO-64. Delfi C-3 was successfully launched April, 28, 2008 from India aboard a Polar launch vehicle and was successfully commissioned, currently transmitting telemetry on the 2 meter amateur band. In addition to its 2 meter downlink, Delfi C-3 has an uplink on the 70 cm band. This newest amateur satellite was developed by a team of some 60 students and faculty members from various polytechnic schools in The Netherlands. Delfi C-3 carries two experiments: one involving thin film solar cells developed by Dutch Space, and an autonomous wireless Sun sensor from the Dutch Government Research Institute (TNO). According to Delfi C-3 Project Manager Wolter Jan Ubbels, Delfi C-3 has been duly coordinated through Region 1 IARU representative Graham Shirville, G3VZV, that the satellite meets all of the criteria necessary to be issued an OSCAR number. "AMSAT-NA is pleased to welcome DO-64 into the family of Amateur Radio satellites," Tynan said. "We are hopeful that it will fulfill its intended mission of furthering

education and increasing interest in the Amateur Radio space program. We congratulate all of those responsible for designing, building, testing and launching this new Amateur Radio satellite and look forward to its long and productive life."

HCARC MEETING MINUTES

May 1, 2008

The Hill Country Amateur Radio Club met on May 1, 2008 at the Hill Country Chapter Red Cross in Kerrville, TX at 1900 hours. President, Marilyn Vordenbaum, KE5DDR, called the meeting to order and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. Visitors, Eric and Betsy Matz were introduced and club members introduced themselves. There were 32 members and guests in attendance.

President Marilyn Vordenbaum, KE5DDR recognized 20 members of the club for special services or activities by awarding twenty 50/50 Tickets.

Vice President Ron Drumheller, K3NXF, introduced Club Treasurer Harvey Vordenbaum, K5HV, who presented an interesting and informative program on the NASA Scientific Ballooning Program. He provided a slide show, B-Line to Space, Scientific Ballooning and slides from his own personal NASA Aurora Borealis experience beginning back in 1969, as well a slides from his recent tour of the facility in Palestine, TX. He answered numerous questions presented by the club members.

Following the program, President Marilyn Vordenbaum, KE5DDR, asked members to take an 8 minute break for refreshments provided by the Entertainment Committee, Diana Nelson, K5DBN and Ruby Jones, KB0YIM, and to take advantage of the break to pick up 50/50 tickets.

John Guida, K5XA, announced that members were welcome to take advantage of the break or after the meeting to look through station parts and components donated by Joyce Horat, wife of Silent Key, Ed Horat, W0JVE.

President Marilyn Vordenbaum, KE5DDR called the meeting back to order at 8:04 and asked that the 50/50 drawing be held so that our visitors could be excused before the Business Meeting.

The Minutes, as written, submitted and published in the Static Newsletter by Secretary, Ruth Guida N5RJM, were approved by the membership.

Treasurer, Harvey Vordenbaum, K5HV, gave the following Treasurer's:

TREASURER'S REPORT

May 1, 2008

4/2/2008 Beginning Balance	\$2,281.07
Deposits	\$75.50
4/2/2008 Withdrawals	\$27.21
ENDING BALANCE	\$2,329.36
Charles Phares Memorial Fund	\$978.14
General Fund	\$1351.22
Total Memorial & General Fund	\$2,329.36

Treasurer Harvey Vordenbaum, K5HV, reported that a friend of Bill Tynan's, had paid his membership dues and was added to the roster. He will be moving from Arizona to the Stonewall area.

OLD BUSINESS

Field Day Coordinator, Dan Estes, K5OW reported on preparations underway for this years Field Day Operation. He stated that Jim Lindley, K5EWS, would not be able to be in charge of the HF Antenna arrangements and Gene Atkinson, K5AZ had volunteered to take charge. He also announced that the idea of using beam antennas for field day had been dropped and that the club would instead be using wire antennas. Dan introduced John Guida, K5XA who discussed the set up using a Morse Machine for all those who would be working CW at Field Day to simplify equipment that would be needed.

Treasurer, Harvey Vordenbaum, K5HV, thanked the members who worked the April 19 LBJ Bicycle Tour...He discussed the specifics of communicating during the tour and suggestions were made and discussed on ways to improve the set up for participating in the future. He stated that an email had been received thanking the club for our help.

Emergency Coordinator, Curtis Eastwood, AD5UZ discussed the importance of the form published in the static for obtaining operating information from each club member. He stated that the Emergency Planning Committee were meeting on Saturday following breakfast. He stated that in order to put together a good emergency plan, the club needs to start training, participate in emergency drills and lots of planning...He discussed the many on-line sites where people can take advantage of Emergency Preparedness Education. He showed the club some of his own certificates of completion.

Club Webmaster, Ron Drumheller, K3NXF gave a report on the Club Website, KerrHams.Org and stated everything was pretty Status Quo but suggested that the club members should go to the website and click on the Ham Com banner to insure the fact that we receive the \$25 offered to the club.

Static Editor, Fred Gilmore, W0LPD, reported that there wasn't really anything to report regarding the Static. Dave Gipson, KJ4MR was thanked for the article that he did for the static.

President Marilyn Vordenbaum, KE5DDR, thanked the members who checked in for the Monday Night Net and announced that the targeted 20 members had checked in.

President Marilyn Vordenbaum, KE5DDR, stated that she was preparing the display board for Ham Com and that she had mentioned the need for business cards to be used in the display and thanked Fred Gilmore, W0LPD who immediately filled that request.

President Marilyn Vordenbaum, KE5DDR, announced that the breakfast group would be meeting at Del Norte beginning this week and that Dan Estes would be in contact with them to let them know that members would be there.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer, Harvey Vordenbaum, K5HV, announced that he had received flyers from Nan Ory, K5NTA regarding RV Parking at the Upper Turtle Creek Ranch. She suggests that it might be the perfect site for Hams because of the elevation. Flyers were left for members.

John Guida, K5XA, suggested that anyone attending the Dayton Convention might want to consider getting together with the Texas and Oklahoma hams at Cold Beer and Cheese Burgers on Thursday night. He also mentioned that attending

the Central Texas Contest Club in Austin he had heard that the Sumerfest held in Austin was in deep trouble financially and that they would appreciate any participation from club members to help keep the ham-fest afloat.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

It was announced that the Red Cross needs assistance from our membership in the form of donations for their Garage Sale.

Vice President, Ron Drumheller, K3NXF, the program for the next meeting would be presented by Steve Griffin on Photography and he suggested that anyone could bring questions or request information on Cameras, computer imaging, graphics and Adobe Workshop.

Diana Nelson, K5DBN asked for affirmation on the meat for Field Day and whether or not the club still wanted to have Ham and Brisket.

Jim Lindley, K5EWS, announced that the Technology class in Fredericksburg was in need of a radio class and suggested that anyone interested might see a news report regarding the rocket program on NBC on Wednesday night. A discussion was held on the logistics for holding the class.

Following a few more questions for Treasurer Harvey Vordenbaum, K5HV, regarding the Ballooning program, the meeting was adjourned.

The 50/50 donation drawing was won by Don Josephs, K5DEJ in the amount of \$20. The total amount donated was \$39.00 total.

Respectfully submitted,
Ruth Guida, N5RJM, Secretary

de W0LPD

With the onset of summer, and the various holidays we in America celebrate, I just wonder how many of our children really know the history of our country. As mostly older Americans we take pride in opening each of our club meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance. Here is a little history lesson on the pledge; I hope all will take the time to share it with our children, grandchildren, and in some cases great great grandchildren.

The Francis Bellamy (1855-1931), a socialist minister wrote the Pledge of Allegiance in August 1892. It was originally published in *The Youth's Companion* on September 8, 1892. Bellamy had hoped citizens of every country would use the pledge, to their individual countries.

In its original form it read: "I pledge allegiance to my Flag and the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

In 1923, the words, "the Flag of the United States of America" were added. At this time it read: "I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all." Since it was no longer in its original form, it became the "United States of America" pledge of allegiance, becoming a important part of American history, and patriotism.

In 1954, in response to the Communist threat of the times, President Eisenhower encouraged Congress to add the words "under God," creating the 31-word pledge we say today. Bellamy's daughter objected to this alteration.

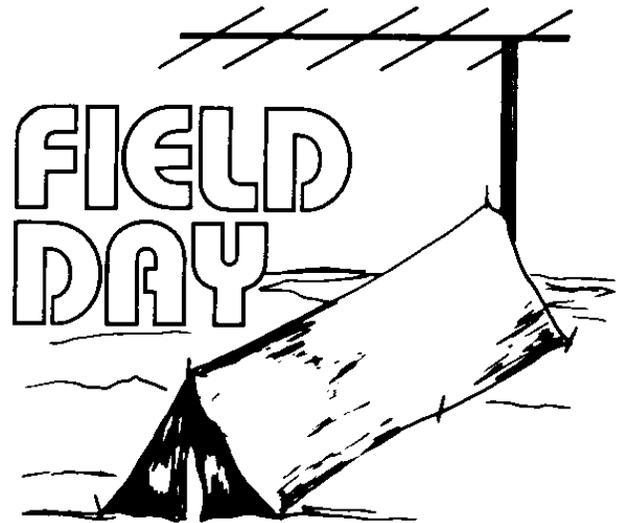
Today there are many who object to the pledge because it mentions God. To me although it is not specific the way Congress added the phrase in 1954, it means the Christian God, the father of my Savior, Jesus the Christ, the same God as mentioned in the Declaration of Independence, and other historical writings of the times. Two examples are: Samuel Adams in his writing "The Devine Source of Liberty", where he states "All temporal power is of God". The second is in the speech by Patrick Henry in his famous "Give me Liberty or give me Death" speech where he states: "It is only in this way we can hope to arrive at truth and fulfill the great responsibility which we hold to God and our country."

I have been unable to find any other country that uses the pledge as Bellamy had intended. Today our pledge reads:

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute." There have been Senate and House bills to allow veterans not in uniform to execute the military salute to the flag. (S.1877, H.R. 3380) This bill has been passed in the Senate. The bill now goes on to be voted on in the House. Keep in mind that debate may be taking place on a companion bill in the House, rather than on this particular bill. [Last Updated: May 3, 2008] I will bring an updated report as I find out more.

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FIELD DAY

With Field Day coming up this month, almost all clubs who participate in the event begin to look at antennas. One of the best columns around these days is "AERIALS" in World Radio magazine. The column is written by a ghost writer

using the name of "Kurt N. Sterba" and I have no idea at all of whom this could be. Reminds me of the articles that used to appear in QST with the pen name of TOM. **But at any rate the following is reprinted from the May 2008 issue of World Radio.** I would recommend this magazine to all as required reading, if you are really into the hobby. You can subscribe on line at www.wr6wr.com.

Antenna Tuner By Kurt N. Sterba

In a recent QST article Kurt read "An antenna tuner, or really an antenna coupler, is designed to convert whatever impedance exists at the feed point of your antenna to 50 ohms to match the coaxial cable attached to your transceiver."

Krusty Olde Kurt is disturbed but not surprised to find that there are still those who dislike the appellation antenna tuner because "as is well known, your tuner does not actually tune your antenna. It should be called an antenna coupler because what it does is transform the impedance at the end of your feedline to 50 ohms for your transmitter."

It is true that your tuner does match your transceiver coax to your feedline impedance. BUT, at the same time it also tunes your antenna to resonance. Walt Maxwell, W2DU, explained this over a quarter-century ago in a series of QST articles. He said "The antenna tuner really does tune the antenna to resonance, in spite of opinions to the contrary of those who are unaware of the principles of conjugate matching. The tuner obtains a match, by which all reactances throughout the antenna system are canceled, including that of the off-resonant antenna."

The conjugate matching principle is all well and good but Kurt likes to illustrate the application of the principle with a simple example. The example is so simple that it is amazing that there are still those out there that do not believe.

Kurt's simple example is an 80-Meter dipole operating off its resonant frequency. The antenna is a little lower to the ground than we would like so its impedance at resonance is 50 ohms instead of the usual 75 ohms. At our off-resonance frequency it appears as 50 ohms resistive with 150 ohms capacitive reactance. We are going to connect this antenna to our antenna tuner through a one-wavelength coaxial cable. As you remember, a full-wave transmission line repeats at the other end exactly what it sees at the antenna.

So now our tuner sees 50 ohms resistive and 150 ohms capacitive reactance. The SWR on the 50-ohm cable going to our transmitter will be something other than 1:1. So we tune our tuner until we see 1:1 exactly. To get that 1:1 reading the tuner has to exactly match the transmission line going to our antenna. To do this it presents 50 ohms resistive and 150 ohms inductive to the transmission line. The 150 inductive exactly cancels the transmission line's 150 ohms capacitive reactance, and the 50 ohms resistive matches the line's 50 ohms.

Now let's look at the transmission line going the other direction. At the tuner end it sees 50 ohms resistive and 150 ohms inductive. And, since it is a full-wave long, it repeats this at the antenna end. So we see that the 50 ohms resistive matches the antenna's 50 ohms and the 150 ohms inductive exactly cancels the antenna's capacitive. Our antenna tuner has tuned the antenna to resonance at this new frequency.

In this example Kurt assumed a perfect transmission line with no loss. In the real world all transmission lines have some loss. And when there is loss the tuning of the antenna is not perfect because a lossy full-wave cable does not repeat exactly at one end what it sees at the other end. So the antenna gets tuned but not exactly. The bigger the loss the worse the tuning. This is the same effect that makes the SWR lower at the transmitter end than it is at the antenna when there is loss in the cable. This is not a serious problem because all of us try to keep our cable loss as low as we can by using the best cable we can afford.

Your cable is not likely to be an exact full-wave long so the simple calculation above will not work. It used to be difficult to do this with other cable lengths. The Smith chart was the easiest but did require knowledge of how it worked. But now we have a simple way to calculate the impedance seen at one end of a transmission line with any known load at the other end. This is any one of several computer programs set up just for the purpose. They also allow the use of many different real world cables. One of these programs comes on the disk that accompanies the Antenna Book, and is called TLA. Kurt recommends it.

Cable SWR

Some careful readers of Krusty Olde Kurt's column have doubted his explanation of the antenna tuner tuning the antenna by asking, "If the tuner tunes my antenna then why doesn't the SWR on my coaxial cable change at all. If the antenna is tuned the SWR should be 1:1. But it doesn't change at all." This is a very good question and the answer is not immediately obvious. So Kurt will explain.

One way to get 1:1 SWR is to tune the antenna right at the antenna. In the case of the antenna described above this would mean adding a 150-ohm inductive reactance across the antenna. Then the transmission line would see 50 ohms resistive and zero reactance. SWR would be 1:1.

But look at what the added inductor sees. It sees the antenna with its 50-ohm resistive and 150-ohm capacitive reactance. If now we eliminate the inductor and connect the transmission line directly to the antenna what does the transmission line see? It sees the same 50-ohms resistive and 150-ohms capacitive reactance. So its SWR will not be 1:1.

Now we tune our tuner and produce an inductive reactance of 150 ohms at the antenna end of the transmission line. The antenna is now tuned. But the transmission line, which now is our inductor, sees the same antenna, as did the inductor that was across the antenna before. That's why the SWR on the transmission does not change when we tune the antenna from the transmitter end.

--Have a question for the Krusty one? Send it to World Radio, 2120 28th St., Sacramento, CA 95818 and we'll get it to Kurt.

A message from the president...

Some of us just "rock" along in our own world thinking at this point in life we need to just "rock" away. I encourage each of us to get up out of the "rocker" and do something positive. This is not complicated and could require only one phone call.

Everyone thinks about the time designated for Field Day when we think of June. There is another opportunity that could encourage others if we would only take the time.

The third Saturday of June is Kid's Day. It's a day set aside for special emphasis to be given to introducing our hobby to the younger folks we know. It doesn't need to be a fancy, detailed activity. Just take inventory of the youngsters you might know and invite them to your station.

Come to the June meeting for more details or visit the ARRL website to get an idea of what you could do to promote our hobby.

The "key" is not just CW but can also be taking time to share.....

Marilyn KE5DDR

About a month or so ago, Lucille, KC5HNL gave me a website to visit. It was edited by Johnny Mc Cown, KD5EXR a ham radio operator who was mentored by several of the members of our club. Looking at his story, I think it would be of interest to all in the club. Hope Johnny gets a chance to see it. Still in the Air Force, married, with an Idaho address, I'm sure he still enjoys what he has learned from our club members. For those wishing to see pictures of Johnny and his beautiful bride Danielle, visit <http://www.kd5exr.com>.

My Life as a ham Johnny Mc Cown, KD5EXR

When I was in Boy Scouts as a kid, we were going on a camping trip. I spoke to my scout leader, Ron, about CB radio. He said "Johnny...you should look into Ham Radio". He told me a little about Ham Radio. Then my mother helped me find the local Amateur Radio club, at the time Chuck, W5GK, was the president of the group. Well it turned out at I was becoming the youngest member (at the time) for the club. These people got me ready to take my first ham radio test; I started off as a Technician (passed in July of '98). People from the club gave me books, study material, and much more to help me get started. Soon after, I met Bob, W5BOB (my Elmer). I would go to his house, and he showed me a lot about electronics. I had tried building a SWR meter that I found in a QST, well Bob showed me where I was going wrong and how to fix it. Latter we built a transverter so I could use my Kenwood TS-120 to get onto 6M. We also built a 3 element Yagi... this was great! I got to talk different people from other states as I worked on my Tech Plus ticket.

During this time I met Cliff, K5DA, who showed me the ins and outs of computer building and how to climb towers. Cliff and I also worked on quads: both his and mine. We moved his massive HF quad higher into the air, and we built myself a 4 element 2M quad. This antenna worked grate! Heck, it worked better then the 11 element Yagi that I had replaced it with! That got me started on loving quads. Most people think I am crazy when I talk about quads because they are "big and ugly".

I was having problems getting that code down, but I soon met Ralph, W5FDF, who thought me the code. Bob got word that I was having problems w/ the code, and he gave me a program that he had written. I passed the 5 WPM test (awarded Tech Plus in September of '99) with no problem. Ralph had tested me.... he was sending me 18 WPM and I had no problem copying it down. I get nervous during tests so being able to copy 18 WPM helped me out, and I was able to

relax. The program that Bob gave me showed what I was to expect at the test section. I knew the test would talk about: weather, radios, antennas, power output and locations (things you would expect to hear on the air). Now we have people in ham radio that don't want the challenge of the code. They want the license to be given to them. Sure that would be great; get rid of the code, lower the standards and turn it into CB, so the nice people that use ham radio can experience the fowl language that comes for CB. I want to get back into the code. I like just sitting back and have the radio set on two stations that are sending some good code back and forth. In April of 2000, I was awarded my General Class License.

Now my work has me in Idaho. I have a FT-847 that puts out 100W, and a Hustler 6-BTV TRAP Vertical antenna in the back yard. Last year, my father-in-law helped me build a two element, 5 band HF quad. Hopefully, I can get that one up this year (2008). If I can... I will also put up a 2m and 6m quad. I would like to explore EME (earth moon earth) that is where you bounce your radio signals off of the moon, to someone else.

This February (2008) I earned my Extra Class license.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

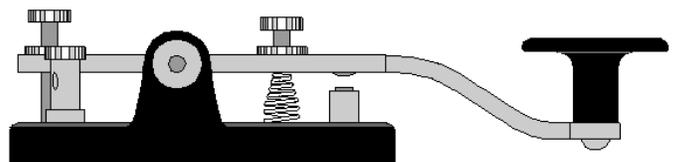
"I am much afraid that schools will prove to be the great gates of Hell unless they diligently labor in explaining the Holy Scriptures, engraving them in the hearts of youth. I advise no one to place his child where the Scriptures do not reign paramount. Every institution in which men are not increasingly occupied with the Word of God must become corrupt." Martin Luther (1483-1586) *How right he was! Ed.*

BREAKING THE SOUND BARRIER WITHOUT AN AIRPLANE

A real pioneer in the space industry.

Joe Kittinger is not a household aviation name like Neil Armstrong or Chuck Yeager. But what he did for the U. S. space program is comparable. **On Aug .16, 1960, as research for the then-fledgling U. S. space program, Air Force Captain Joseph Kittinger rode a helium balloon to the edge of space, 102,800 feet above the earth, a feat in itself. Then, wearing just a thin pressure suit and breathing supplemental oxygen, he leaned over the cramped confines of his gondola and jumped--into the 110-degree-below-zero, near vacuum of space. Within seconds his body accelerated to 714mph in the thin air, breaking the sound barrier.** After free falling for more than four and a half minutes, slowed finally by friction from the heavier air below, he felt his parachute open at 14,000 feet, and he coasted gently down to the New Mexico desert floor.

SILENT KEY



Dr Ronald A. Parise, PhD, **WA4SIR**, passed away Friday May 9, 2008 after a very long and courageous battle with cancer. He was 57.

Parise flew as a payload specialist on two space shuttle missions: STS-35 on Columbia in December 1990 and STS-67 on the Endeavor in March 1995. These two missions, ASTRO-1 and ASTRO-2 respectively, carried out ultraviolet and x-ray astronomical observations, logging more than 614 hours and 10.6 million miles in space.

Parise was one of the first astronomers to operate a telescope from space, making hundreds of observations during the mission. Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) Chairman Frank H. Bauer, KA3HDO, said Parise's personal contributions to these two missions provided scientists with "an unprecedented view of our universe, expanding our understanding of the birth, life and death of stars and galaxies."

First licensed when he was 11, Parise kept Amateur Radio at the forefront of everything he did, including his operations from space. During his two shuttle flights, he spoke with hundreds of hams on the ground. He was instrumental in guiding the development of a simple ham radio system that could be used in multiple configurations on the space shuttle; as a result, his first flight on Columbia ushered in what Bauer called the "frequent flyer era" of the Shuttle Amateur Radio Experiment (SAREX) payload.

Parise was the first ham in space to operate packet radio. "His flight pioneered the telebridge ground station concept to enable more schools to talk to shuttle crew members despite time and orbit constraints," Bauer said. "In his two shuttle flights, he inspired countless students to seek technical careers and he created memories at the schools and communities that will never be forgotten. Ron was also the ultimate ham radio operator -- in space and on the ground."

Bauer said that Parise's love for Amateur Radio and his love of inspiring students continued well beyond his two shuttle flights: "During the formation of the ARISS program, Ron was a tremendous resource to the newly forming international team. I know of many instances where Ron's wisdom and sage advice was instrumental in helping our international team resolve issues when we reached critical technical or political roadblocks. He was a key volunteer in the development of the ham radio hardware systems that are now on-board ISS. The ARISS team is deeply indebted to WA4SIR for his leadership, technical advice and tremendous vision."

Parise worked hand-in-hand with the students at the US Naval Academy and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University on the development of their student satellites. He helped develop Radio Jove, a student educational project to listen to the radio signals emanating from Jupiter. Parise spoke at numerous schools over the years, inspiring students to pursue careers in science, math and technology.

"Ron Parise was--and continues to be--an inspiration to countless students, ham radio operators, and friends the world over. His accomplishments were many, including space explorer, pioneer, astrophysicist, pilot, ham radio operator, avionics and software expert, inspirational speaker and motivator, student satellite mentor, husband, father and friend. While he certainly did some truly extraordinary things in his lifetime, Ron Parise is best known and cherished for keeping family and friends first, and for this, we will miss him most,"

HCARC VOLUNTEERS

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NEWSLETTER

Fred Gilmore, W0LPD
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Check out www.austinsummerfest.org for late breaking news!

Austin Summerfest 2008

August 1&2, 2008

Wyndham Garden Hotel at IH-35 & Woodward
3401 South IH-35

Austin, Texas

Continuing a Ham Tradition.....

Austin Amateur Radio Club makes the Capital City the place to be in the middle of the Texas summer. That's right--once again it's time for Austin Summerfest!

As always, we also host the Summer Meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society, and this year, the ARRL Texas State Convention.

- Dealers
- Exhibits
- ARRL Forum
- QRP
- UHF/microwave
- Emergency Communications
- Weather
- License Exams
- DX & Contesting
- ARES Session

Schedule

All the activity is concentrated on Friday night and Saturday, to allow you flexibility in your weekend travel plans. But do come early, as things fire up at 6 Friday evening and go 'till 9, and start up again Saturday at 8 am, with swapping 'till 3:30, and dealers and sessions 'till 4:30. The Grand Prize will be drawn at the end of the day, so consider sticking around.

Please note that the Texas VHF-FM Society meeting will run from 1 to approximately 3 pm.

Location

Once again, we're at the Wyndham Garden (formerly the Woodward Hotel) at 3401 S IH-35. That's the northeast corner of Woodward St and the interstate.

Accommodations

Enjoy the facilities of our headquarters hotel, the Wyndham Garden. If you're staying in Austin, please consider staying there for the special Convention rate of \$80 per room night. Showing support for the hotel helps to ensure that we can continue to stage our Convention in high-quality surroundings. The hotel needs your reservation by **noon on July 18th** to guarantee room availability at the convention rate. Reservations guaranteed for arrival after 6 pm with major credit card.

Phone 512-448-2444 or 1-800-996-3426, and mention you are attending Austin Summerfest, hosted by the Austin Amateur Radio Club, to get the Convention rate.

Prizes

Prizes Galore! Our premium prize list is topped by the Grand Prize, a major piece of ham equipment. Register in advance by mail and have a shot at still another premium prize!

With your registration you get one ticket good for all prizes (except the Advance Registration prize), and you can buy more at \$1 each. Plus, if you rent a room at the Wyndham Garden, you'll get five bonus tickets for each room-night, up to a total of ten tickets.

The Rules

Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day Saturday. For these, you must claim your prize within one (1) hour of the announcement. Your name/call or ticket number will be posted inside the swapfest area.

At the end of Saturday, we begin drawings for all unclaimed door prizes, and then our premium prizes, topped off by the Grand Prize.

For the premium prizes (including the Grand and Advance Registration prizes), you need not be present to win. If you can't be present to pick it up, we'll send it to you.

Swapfest

For lots of folks, our main event--wall-to-wall goodies of every description, brought to you in carpeted, air-conditioned comfort on Friday evening and Saturday. Rules:

1. Full-sized tables: 6 feet by 30 inches. \$10 each, limit of 3 to a customer. First come, first served.
2. AC power is available at an additional \$5 per customer, through advance registration only.
3. We'll attempt to honor requests from groups of sellers for adjacent tables, if we receive your registrations in the same envelope.
4. If you advance register for swap tables, we'll attempt to notify you in advance if they are unavailable due to being sold out (a rare occurrence). Be sure to give us your email address if you have one so we can notify you that way.
5. Your table(s) will be held for you until 10 am Saturday.
6. Swapfest hours are 6 to 9 pm Friday and 8 am to 3:30 pm Saturday. Opening times are for both sellers (for setup) and shoppers.
7. Buyers and sellers must be registered at the convention.

Also, plan to participate in our **tailgate swapfest**. You need not be registered at the Convention for the tailgate, but of course it would be a good idea so you can attend the indoor swapfest and the sessions we have planned.

AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 2008 Advance Registration

**Mail before
July 23, 2008!**

Name _____ Call _____
 Name _____ Call _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Day Telephone (____) _____ Evening Telephone (____) _____
 E-Mail Address _____

	Each	Qty	Total
General Admission	\$8.00	_____	_____
<small>(Per individual. Includes all hams and guests. Admission at door will be \$10.00. Children 17 and under admitted free.)</small>			
Swapfest Table Friday (6-9) and Saturday (8-3:30)	\$10.00	_____	_____
Electrical Power	\$5.00	_____	_____
<small>(Limit of 3 tables to a registrant; first come first served; tables unclaimed by 10:00 AM Saturday will be released.)</small>			
Extra Prize Tickets	\$1.00	_____	_____
		Total	_____

Representatives of the Texas VHF-FM Society will be on duty to collect your dues at the Convention.

Make check or money order payable to **AUSTIN SUMMERFEST** and mail before July 23, 2008 to:
 Austin Summerfest, Box 4739, Austin, TX 78765-4739

Directions

The Wyndham Garden Hotel is at 3401 S IH-35 in Austin. Phone 512-448-2444. Talk-in is on 146.34/94 and 449.1/444.1 MHz.

Northbound on I-35: Take Exit 230: "West 290 Johnson City Bastrop". Proceed 1.1 miles. Cross over TX71. Right onto Woodward St. Left into Hotel parking lot.

Southbound on I-35: Take Exit 231 "Woodward St." Left onto Woodward St. Cross over I-35 and frontage road. Left into Hotel parking lot.

Eastbound on US290/TX71: Take exit "35 South San Antonio." Continue on frontage road under I-35. Left on I-35 northbound frontage road. Right onto Woodward St. Left into Hotel parking lot.

Westbound on TX71: Take exit "Bulleson Rd Woodward St 35 South." Proceed 1.75 miles. Right onto Woodward St. Proceed .47 mile. Right into Hotel parking lot.

Summerfest will be held in the hotel's conference center in the northeast wing of the hotel, to the left of the hotel registration desk. Convention registration will be in the hallway of the northeast wing.

Further Info

- Write to: Joe Makeever 8609 Tallwood Dr., Austin, TX 78759
- Call (512) 345-0800
- Email: w5hs@arrl.net
- For additional facilities information and pictures go to <http://www.austinsummerfest.org>

Please:

Support Summerfest by staying at the Wyndham Garden Hotel.

The number of guests we have at the hotel has a direct bearing on the economic viability of Summerfest. A good guest count helps to ensure that we can continue to hold Summerfest in the future. And don't forget that you get 5 free Summerfest prize tickets per room night at the hotel!