

Texas Adventist Emergency Communications Newsletter

Volume 2 Issue 6

Dear Members,

First off, I would like to, again, apologize for the tardiness of this issue of the newsletter. The last few weeks has been very busy for me, but I finally found a job so things should pretty well get back to normal, hopefully.

I want to remind everyone that if any of you know anyone who wants to become a ham, we will need to get their names ASAP, if you haven't given it to dad already. We will be starting the classes on the 23rd of this month, and it will end on the 27th.

I hope to see all of yall at this months club meeting.
73.

Curtis Mohr, KC5PWP
Newsletter Editor

*** * * Reminders * * ***

- Don't forget!! All Amateur radio operators must sign up with the ULS before any changes can be made to your license, upgrades, and renewals. You can sign up online at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/>
- I'm looking for articles that can be put into the newsletters. The monthly newsletter will be mailed out on the Monday preceding the monthly meeting, so please email any articles to me no later than the five days prior to when the newsletter is sent out.
- The next club meeting is on September 17
- The August Newsletter Deadline is October 4th
- If you would like information about the license restructureing, goto <http://taec.cjb.net> and click on "What's New"

Secretary's Report August 20, 2000

Meeting was called to order to 10:10 by Gerald Mohr, KC5PWQ, who then had devotions.

Minutes were read by Rita Elsner. There were accepted as read.

Sherri Cash gave treasurer's report which was approved as read.

A suggestion was made that Sherri get have stamps on hand for mailouts. Ray Alway made a motion she have \$20 worth of stamps on hand. Any more than that she is to come before club for additional. Motion approved.

Discussion on Christmas parade float. Jean Alway made motion for mobile net control van with lights to be in parade. This was approved.

There were 18 people present with three of these being visitors—Teresa Freeman, Julie Freeman and David Tucker.

ARRL dues are \$34 for membership, \$28 for those over 65 if gotten through club.

Gerald demonstrated his jump pack for emergency calls. This has extra equipment such as flashlight, antennae, screwdriver, crimper, telescopic antenna, multimeter to check for shorts, extra batteries, etc.

Jean brought up committee needed to work on handbook and bylaws for new members. Jean is to be chairman of committee. Curtis made motion to let Jean select members of committee. This was seconded and passed.

Curtis suggested changing meeting time. Ray made motion to change to Sunday evening, 7-9 p.m. Carl seconded and it was approved. Next meeting time September 23, 7-9 p.m.

Ray suggested time before meeting would be good time to operate the club radios.

Discussion for social gathering at Lake Whitney after cooler weather. Committee of Ray, Rob and Terry to report back to club.

Remember net on Thursday nites.

Motion to adjourn at 11:32.

Respectfully submitted,

Rita Elsner, Secretary

Ground controllers are asking that amateurs refrain for the time being from transmitting on the AO-27 satellite's uplink. The request comes as ground controllers are attempting to reload the satellite's software following a computer crash on July 31.

"The analog repeater is turned off, so you will not be heard, and you will interfere with the software upload process," AO-27 Ground Controller Michael Wyrick, N4USI, said this week in asking for the cooperation of the amateur community. He says ground controllers are working as fast as they can to get AO-27 back in operation.

Wyrick says the AO-27 "easy sat" suffered a software reset on July 31. The satellite contains an FM voice repeater that uplinks on 2 meters and downlinks on 70 cm. A project of AMRAD, it was launched in September 1993.

Wyrick said that uploading the necessary high-level code turned out to not be an easy task, Wyrick explained. "The primary control station used for uploading code was not used for over five years and required days of work to get back on-line," he said. But when the code was uploaded AO-27, the satellite ran the high-level code only for a few seconds, before rebooting again. Ground controllers were at a loss to explain the second reboot, but Wyrick says they're looking into several leads, and he asked the amateur community to be patient.

"The best help the community can give is to not flood controllers with e-mail about when is AO-27 going to be back on-line," Wyrick said. "We are working as fast as satellite passes allow."

Wyrick says the AO-27 exciter on 435.797 is turned on full-time and operates at low power during uploads.

PHASE 3D LAUNCH CAMPAIGN POISED TO BEGIN

The launch campaign for Phase 3D will begin September 11, according to AMSAT-DL Vice President Peter Guelzow, DB2OS. If current schedules hold, the next-generation Amateur Radio satellite is expected to go into space in late October or early November. With the recent hospitalization of Phase 3D Project Manager Karl Meinzer, DJ4ZC, Guelzow has been tapped to serve as mission director and project manager during the launch campaign. He'll be assisted by Chuck Green, N0ADI.

The Phase 3D satellite remains at the European Spaceport in Korou, French Guiana, South America. During the launch campaign, some two dozen members of the Phase 3D team will be on site at various times to make final preparations to put the satellite aboard an Ariane 5 rocket for its journey into orbit.

Satellite launch contractor Arianespace says the launch campaign for the next Ariane 5 mission--Flight 130, the sixth Ariane flight--now is back on track following a postponement earlier this summer. As a result of the thruster problem, the mission's original July 25 launch date now has been reset to September 14. Arianespace changed out all six Ariane 5 attitude control system thrusters for Flight 130 after a similar thruster failed during bench testing in Europe.

ATLANTIS FERRYING INITIAL ARISS HAM GEAR INTO SPACE

The space shuttle *Atlantis* blasted off on schedule September 8, bringing Amateur Radio operation from the International Space Station a giant leap closer to reality. On board *Atlantis* is the initial Amateur Radio on the International Space Station equipment as well as other supplies needed by the Expedition 1 ISS crew members.

As part of the multinational ARISS project, the gear will be stowed aboard the ISS until the Expedition 1 crew comes aboard in late October. The Expedition 1

crew will consist of US astronaut Bill Shepherd, KD5GSL, and Russian Cosmonauts Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR, and Yuri Gaidzenko, whose call sign was not available.

Although astronaut Dan Burbank, KC5ZSX, is aboard *Atlantis*, there will be no Amateur Radio operation from the shuttle or the ISS during this mission, STS-106. *Atlantis* will deliver the ARISS VHF and UHF hand-held transceivers as well as a TNC for packet, a specially developed headset and signal adapter module plus power adapters and interconnecting cables.

The ARISS initial station gear will be installed temporarily aboard the Functional Cargo Block module and use an existing antenna that's being adapted to support FM voice and packet on 2 meters but not on 70 cm. The ARISS gear will get a more-permanent home aboard the Service Module next year, once VHF and UHF antennas can be installed.

During the nearly two-week STS-106 shuttle mission, the seven-member crew will unload space station supplies from both the shuttle and from a Russian *Progress* cargo ship that's now docked at the ISS.

NASA and the Russian space organization *Energia* have signed agreements that spell out the place of Amateur Radio aboard the ISS. A technical team, called ISS Ham, has been officially set up to serve as the interface to support hardware development, crew training and operations from space.

A Russian call sign, RZ3DZR, has been issued for the ISS ham radio station. A German call sign, DL0ISS, also has been issued, and a US call sign will be applied for.

The \$60-billion International Space Station is being built jointly by the US, Russia, the European Space Agency, Canada and Japan. NASA this week extended the deadline to complete the ISS to 2006. The ISS partners have agreed to spread out the assembly missions.

For more information about Amateur Radio on the ISS and SAREX, visit the [ARRISS Web site](#).

-- Excerpt from the June 23, 2000 ARRL Letter (Volume 19, number 24).

*** * * Mark your calendars for swapfest/Events * * ***
2000

Sep 17	TAEC Meeting; 10:00 a.m. @ resource depot North of Keene on FM 2280
Oct 7	Belton Ham Expo. For info go to http://www.tarc.org
Nov 4-5	West Texas ARC Swapmeet, Midland, TX

Important Web Sites

TAEC Web site
<http://taec.cjb.net>

The KC5PWQ Web Site
<http://vip.hpnc.com/~geraldm/>

The KC5PWP Web Site
<Http://kc5pwp2.cjb.net/>

Official Austin Ham Home on the web (ARO & AARC)
<http://www.repeater.org>

ARES information can be found at:
<http://www.sss.org/~ares> (soon to be www.TCARES.org)

Newsline, PO Box 660937, Arcadia, California 91066
The webpage address is:
<http://www.arnewsline.org>
The e-mail address is:
newsline@ix.netcom.com

The Texas VHF-FM Society
<http://www.txvhffm.org>

Take practice ham tests on the web. A few locations are:

<http://www.hamtest.com>

FCC's Universal License System

<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>