



AARCOVER

Bulletin of the Austin Amateur Radio Club

July 1991

JUNE HAM EXAMS

Here are the results of the June 1, 1991 exams. Congratulations to all the people who upgraded or got a license for the first time!

Name	Call	Upgraded To
Walter Evans		Novice
Jon L. Goins		Technician
Emmet R. Ziegel		Technician
Michael Cheselka		Technician
Melissa DePاجر		Technician
Carl Geers		Technician
William Hickey		Technician+
James Thompson		Technician+
Vernon Whittington	KB5PQN	Technician+
Mark Ringuette	KB5OOG	Technician+
Stephen Wehring	WD5HNI	General
Mathew Erickson	N5NBZ	General
Thomas Rohrer		Advanced
Wilber Williams	WA6YCI	Advanced

MEETING

Time: 8 to 9 PM on Tuesday, July 9, 1991. Better, come at 7 or 7:30 and have supper with the group.

Place: Luby's Cafeteria on North Loop, about 1/2 block west of Burnet Road.

Topic: To be announced.



Tobacco: No smoking policy is in effect at all AARC functions.

LOCAL HAM CELEB #1

Our own Bob Oliphint, W5GYB, had a big 50th birthday party, featured in Lee Kelly's society column in the June 13 American-Statesman. Lots of good mention of amateur radio. Bob even got his picture in the paper!

LOCAL HAM CELEB #2

During one of last month's heavy thunderstorms, Zeke, W5NFC, told the Central Texas WeatherNet (146.94 MHz) that he had received "one inch in 16 minutes" at his house near Zilker School.

Later that evening the National Weather Service's WXK27 radio transmitter was announcing that there had been rainfall at the rate of 1 inch in 16 minutes near Zilker School. The next day the American-Statesman reported 1 inch in 16 minutes near Zilker School.

de Miles Abernathy, N5KOB

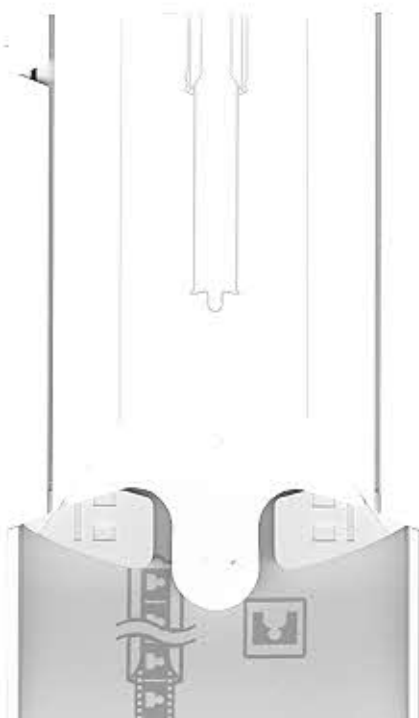
The next exams will be given during Summerfest, at the Summerfest site. There will be two sessions, one in the morning, and one in the afternoon. Check the Summerfest schedule for more information.

I would like to thank the following VE's who gave up their Saturday to help with the exams: Al VanAllen, Gary Pickens, and James Huckabee.

de Bill Wehling, KF5NB

ANTENNA DESIGN CORRECTIONS

Last month's AARCOVER article on computerized antenna design contained one known typographical error. The element listed as 5.50 inches long is a bit short. It should be 35.50 inches long.



SUMMERFEST

Sure enough... it's that time of year again... time for our perennial Ham Blast—Austin Summerfest! Austin Amateur Radio Club and Austin Repeater Organization once again bring you the premier midsummer Texas Ham Radio gathering—everything you've come to expect...the place to be on the weekend of August 2 through August 4.

As always, we're proud to host the summer meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society. Check out the sessions and rub elbows with eminent Hams at the ARRL Texas State Convention—that's us, too!

Prizes

Prizes galore! How about a nice Icom IC-735 HF transceiver for the shack or car? That's our Grand Prize. Advance register by mail and have a chance at a Icom IC-2SAT handheld as well. We'll be offering door prizes every half hour, too!

You get one ticket just by registering, and you can buy more at \$1 each. What's more, if you rent a room at the Wyndham Hotel, you'll get five bonus tickets for each night.

Swapfest

Wall-to-wall goodies! Just the place to find that gizmo you've been looking for—or to let someone find the one you no longer need. Swap in carpeted, air-conditioned comfort on Saturday and Sunday. Here are the rules:

1. Tables are \$5 each (limit-3 to a customer) both by advance registration and at the door, first come first served.
2. We'll attempt to honor requests from groups of sellers for adjacent tables, if we receive your registrations in the same envelope.
3. We'll attempt to notify you in advance if tables are unavailable due to being sold out.
4. Your table(s) will be held for you until 1030 Saturday.
5. Sellers can begin setup on Saturday at 0730, opening to swappers at 0800 and running 'till 1700. On Sunday, setup and opening are at 0800, and the Swapfest will run 'till 1200.

6. Sellers must be registered at the convention.

Dealers

Get a great deal on new or used gear with one of our dealers. If you win an hourly prize, it's probably thanks to a donation from one of them!

Dealers will be in operation from 0800 to 1700 on Saturday and 0800 to 1200 on Sunday.

Amenities

You're always welcome in our hospitality suite. There will be a cash bar plus soft drinks and munchies on Friday and Saturday night, and refreshments on Saturday and Sunday morning.

Technical Sessions

- Find out the latest out-of-this-world happenings in amateur radio satellites.
- Catch up on the latest in Packet Radio networking, Texas style.
- Tune into the wild world of DX. Relive the experience of noted DXers in living color. Learn how new technology and practices are changing the face of DX!
- Learn advanced severe weather spotting techniques from the National Weather Service. Stop by to chat with them and get free literature.

Exhibits

Come and enjoy the state of the hobby, with exhibits on packet, ham satellites, state-of-the art electronic instrumentation, the National Weather Service, and an FCC monitoring van.

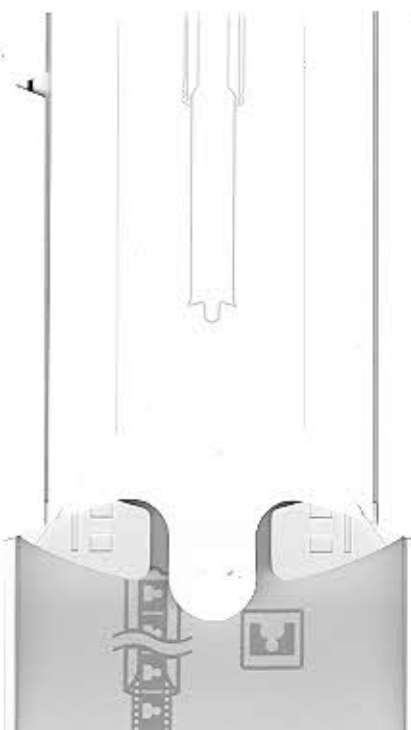
A Word to the Ladies...

This year we have travel on our minds! Hear about exciting places to visit and the best ways to get there. Learn the best ways to pack for your travels.

Find out things you never knew about plants—how to grow them, keep them beautiful, the best types for different areas, etc.

Finally, make a craft item to decorate your home, and take it along!

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AMATEUR RADIO EXAM CHANGES

The date, time and place for giving ham radio examinations in Austin have all changed. Here is the new information.

WHEN:

Generally, the first Saturday of each month, with exceptions to cover conventions, swapfests, etc. Here is the exact schedule for the next several months:

July 6 (ARRL VEC)
 August 3 - at SUMMERFEST Hotel
 September 7 (ARRL VEC)
 October 5 (W5YI VEC)
 November 2 (ARRL VEC)
 December 7 (W5YI VEC)
 January 11, 1992 (ARRL VEC)

Examinations will start at 9 AM. Be there at 8:30 AM to get your paper-work filled out prior to exam time.

WHERE:

In northwest Austin, at Murchison Middle School, 3700 North Hills Drive, Austin, Texas, 78731

DIRECTIONS:

Take the Far West Boulevard exit off of MOPAC (Loop 1). Travel west to Hart Lane (second traffic light west after MOPAC). Turn left(south) and go to first intersection, North Hills Drive. Turn right(west) and park along North Hills Drive in front of school on either side of the street. There is also some parking in front of the school and in a lot just to the west of the main school building, also on the north side of the street.

ENTER THROUGH THE MAIN ENTRANCE OFF OF NORTH HILLS DRIVE ONLY. Go across the courtyard and turn left on the far side of the courtyard. Go down to the entrance marked "Murchison Community School" and go in. There will be people there to direct you to the classroom location to fill out your application form.

THINGS TO BRING:

1. Legal Photo ID or two non-photo ID's, such as birth certificate, minor's work permit or school report card,

continued on facing page

MINUTES

Meeting of the Austin Amateur Radio Club for June 11, 1991. Vice President Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, called the meeting to order in the continuing absence of our President, Mike Kellam, AA5JP. The mountains of Colorado have too much appeal to Mike.

MINUTES: The minutes of the May 14 meeting were approved as printed.

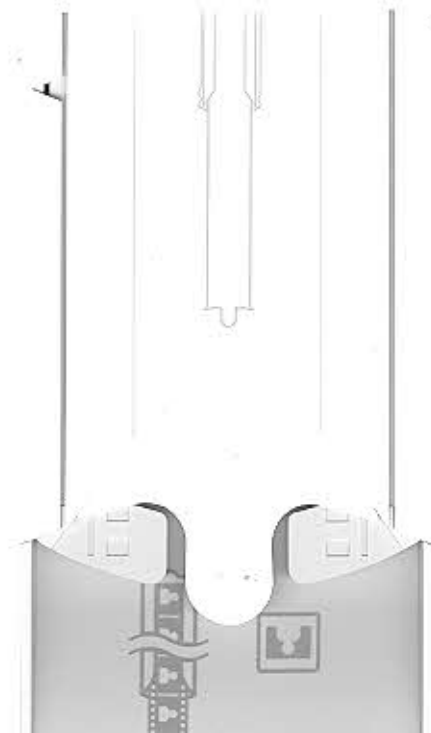
VISITORS: Melissa, David, Terry, and Gerald who are all waiting for their licenses to arrive; Nell and Ralph who plan to take their exam soon; Bill (N5TNY) and Margaret (N5TNX) Amstead, Bill is former Dean of Engineering at UT-Austin; Andy, WA6YTI; and Thong, N5PUU.

NEW MEMBERS: The Amstead family, Bill, N5TNY, and Margaret, N5TNX, were elected as new members.

OFFICER REPORTS: The Treasurer, Amado, N5PCP, was unable to attend. He reported to Stuart that we were still able to pay the bills. The AARC-OVER Editor, Rick, K5FNI, reported that we have extra May AARCOVERs but that the Secretary left all the extra June issues at home! In self-defense, the Secretary, Joe, N5HPC, announced that the 1991 AARC & ARO Roster was mailed last Friday afternoon. Joe also asked all who have not filled in the Amateur Radio Emergency Service form on the back of the roster to do so. When completed, either hand it to any officer or mail it to the club address. The Club Station Trustee, Joe Fisher, K5EJL, reported that the license of W5KA was in good standing. Ed Golla, K3AHS and Chairman of the Technical Committee, reported no known problems with the repeater.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Nell and Ralph Schnur of Austin Commercial Typesetting displayed QSL Pads for sale. Earl, W5PPQ, reported on a visit to the Antique Electronic Supply in Tempe, AZ. This store advertises widely, issues a catalog and has many parts and tubes for older electronic equipment. Earl was impressed with their stock. They also have a complete set of Rider Manuals and will make copies.

Joe Makeever, W5EBJ, reported on a new volunteer examination location at the Murchison Junior High School located at 3700 North Hills. The dates have



been changed to the first weekend of each month unless noted otherwise and the time moved up to 9:00 AM to allow more time for the larger crowds.

Joe also noted that the application form for Amateur Radio Operator vehicle license plates has changed. A one dollar renewal fee will now be charged each year for each plate. The fee must be paid to the State Department of Highways and a receipt taken to the County Tax Office in order to pay the standard fees there. The Secretary will attempt to keep a supply of these forms.

OLD & NEW BUSINESS: None

PROGRAM: The Activities Director, Gary Pickens, WX5Z, presented a program on Field Day. This year, we will again be at Dawson Elementary School and will operate as a single transmitter station trying to better last year's excellent score for WSKA. Video tapes of previous year's Field Day efforts were shown and offers to help with setup, operating, takedown, and the loan of equipment were extracted solicited.

Respectfully submitted by: Joe Canfield N5HPC,
AARC Secretary.

Exam Changes continued

or a postmarked envelope addressed to the person at his or her current mailing address as it appears on the Form 610.

2. Examination fee - currently \$5.25. This fee is established by the FCC and is annually indexed to inflation. (FCC Form 610 will be furnished by the exam team for your license application.)

3. If you currently hold an Amateur Radio License, bring along the original and a photocopy (Xerox is O.K.). Also, if you hold Certificates of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) bring the original and a photocopy of each CSCE that you are claiming credit for. 4. You may bring a calculator if you wish, however, if it has backed-up memories, they must be cleared prior to the start of the test.

If you require further information please contact either Larry Gunter (512) 345-7281 (ARRL VEC) or Bill Wehling (512) 272-8233 (W5YI VEC).

de Joe Makcever, W5EJ

ATV Club

Camera Amateura

At the June 19th meeting of the Austin Amateur Television Club, Pat-WA8PLR, Bob-W8ZSX and Frank-W5VDS described the ATV activities at HAM-COM. During the ATV Forum, the Cedar Hill ATV repeater was described - its input is in the 900 MHz band with output on +21.25. The 900 MHz antenna has remotely switchable polarity allowing omni-directional input for normal use and horizontal input for reception of Corsicana radar. The Houston balloon ATV platform was also brought in for fingering.



News on the Austin ATV repeater included the fact that one of the crystals was defective and a new one should arrive for possible installation this weekend.

There was discussion on what we might do at Field Day to demonstrate ATV, even though no extra multipliers or bonus points are awarded.

Pat announced that the City of Austin has come through with funding for an ATV receive station at the EOC. This will help save valuable setup time in case of an

...the City of Austin has come through with funding...

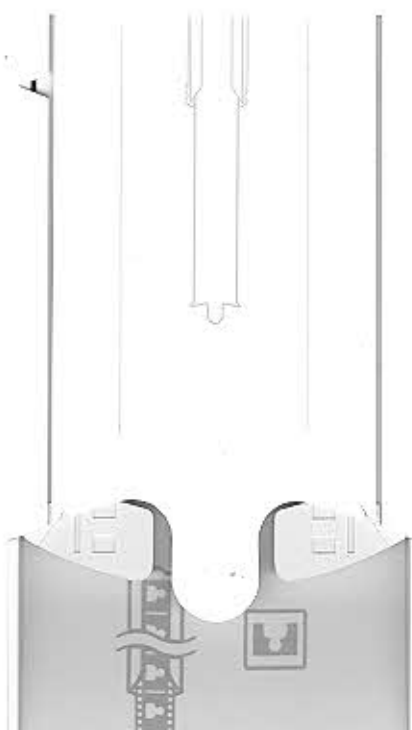
emergency, where we previously had to haul all necessary equipment up to the roof of the EOC.

Bob brought in the Rabbit 900 MHz TV transmitter-receiver pair that WalMart sells for around \$70. He measured the output frequencies of all three channels to be in the ham band: 911, 917 and 923 MHz!



For ATV info, contact W8ZSX, WA8PLR or N5MHI. Next ATV Meeting: July 16th, 7:30 PM, Sirloin Stockade, 8828 Research Blvd.

de N5MHI, Jon Penner



FIELD DAY 91!

1991 Field Day at Doss Elementary school was a success, in spite of thunderstorms which caused a shut-down for about 1-1/2 hours.

About 800 contacts were logged; by early Sunday morning we had worked all states.

Thanks to all who helped setup, teardown, and operate the station! This includes K5IOJ, N5TNV, N5TNX, W8LIQ, WD5AER, WA5MUM, N5KOB, W5KNA, K5KVH, N5MH, KG5SV, N5NH, W1IHN, K5LYT and Milly Numis (no call yet). A special thanks to KG5ND and N5RNE for bringing their equipment and helping set it up. (I hope I got the call signs correct and didn't leave out too many).

dc Gary Pickens, WX5Z

THE AACROVER

Monthly Newsletter of the Austin Amateur Radio Club

Officers

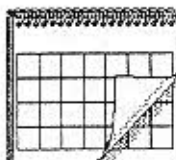
Mike Kellam, AA5JP, President 836-7688, 919
 Stuart Rohre, K5KVH, V. President 255-3932, 918
 Amado Ramirez, N5PCP, Treasurer 280-1879, 916
 Joe Canfield, N5HPC, Secretary 258-4761, 917
 Gary Pickens, WX5Z, Activity Mgr 454-3230, 915

Committees

Ed Golla, K3AHS, Technical 255-4818, 111
 Joe Fisher, K5EJL, Emerg Coord'tor . 926-4689, 119
 Joe Fisher, K5EJL, W5KA Trustee 926-4689, 119
 Rick Herndon, K5FNI, Editor 454-1670, 914
 Pete Jordahl, K5GM, Labels & Roster 454-7889, 913

CALENDAR

- July 6 Ham exams—**NEW LOCATION**
- July 9 AARC Meeting
- July 13-14 IARU HF Championship
- July 16 AATVC Meeting
- July 20 QCWA Meeting
- July 27 ARRL Hamfest, Texas City
- August 2-4 SummerFest @ Windham Southpark
- August 6 ARO Meeting
- August 23-25 ARRL Nat. Convention, Saginaw, MI
- August 27 Hams must vacate 220-222 MHz
- September ? Amateur Radio Awareness Day
- October 12 Manchaca
- October 19-20 Simulated Emergency Test



WEEKLY EVENTS

- SwapNet...Sundays, 9 pm, 146.94 MHz
- LunchNet...Thursdays, BurgerTex on Airport Blvd.
- QCWA Net...Thursdays, 8:15 pm, 147.18 MHz.
- Breakfast...Saturdays, Simon David deli.

Numbers after the call signs are phone number and autodial number on the 146.78 MHz repeater.

Address submissions to Rick Herndon, 1809 W. St. Johns, Austin, Texas 78757. Telephone numbers are 454-1670 (home) and 465-6338 (work).

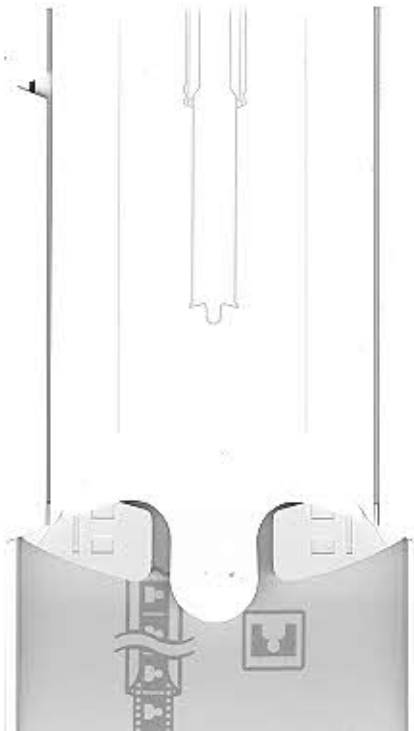
Deadline for the next issue is the middle of this month. Late material will be saved for the following month.

We grant permission to reprint AACROVER articles provided that you credit the author, reference AACROVER as your source, and mail two copies to the editor (we will forward one copy on to the article's author).

We cheerfully accept commercial ads for only \$15 for a full page or \$10 for a half page. Members may advertise ham-related *For Sale* or *Wanted* ads free if space is available.

NANOTECHNOLOGY

The Orchard BBS is a "think tank dedicated to tiny Robots, and to the men and women who will create the next Medical and Industrial Revolution." These germ-size machines are at the cutting edge of today's technology, with vast potential for the future. New callers welcome. Phone 458-1855. Sysop: John Birch.



SummerFest from page 3**Administration Matters**

Attend the ARRL Forum, and talk personally to your ARRL officials, to find out what's going on and to offer your opinions and insights. The ideal way to get involved!

License Exams

There will be sessions on Saturday in both the morning and afternoon, hosted by ARRL and W5Y1 VECs. Be sure to bring two forms of identification, and \$5.25; if you're upgrading, bring your current license plus a Xerox copy (and any certificates for which you are claiming credit). Fun, Fun, Fun!

Mosey on down to Sixth Street, or to the Austin Aqua Festival in full swing. Enjoy the hospitality and entertainment, as well as great food, at our Saturday evening barbecue, which we'll be holding in the friendly atmosphere of the Sangerrunde Halle. Please do advance register early, so that we can get an accurate count to our caterers.

Advance Registration

Simply fill out the attached form, indicating all options you desire, and mail with your payment to Austin Summerfest, Box 13473, Austin TX 78711. Note you save \$2 per registrant, and get a chance at the advance registration prize, by registering in advance. Note: No confirmation of advance registration will be sent.

Accommodations

We're in a new spot this year—the sumptuous environs of the Wyndham Southpark Hotel. If you are receiving the AARCOVER and do not live in Austin, mention Austin Summerfest and get our convention rates of \$45 per room per night. Use the form for mail registration, if you wish. In any event, please note the July 19 cutoff on guaranteed convention rate reservations, so please act now. Reservations guaranteed for arrival after 6 PM with major credit card.

Directions

The Wyndham Southpark Hotel is at 4140 Governors Row, on the Southeast corner of the intersection of Ben White Boulevard (Texas 71 / US 290) and Interstate 35 on the south side of Austin. Talk-in on 146.34 / 94.

From I-35, take the Ben White / 71 / 290 Exit and turn east under the interstate. Travel one block and turn

right (south) onto Governors Row. Turn right once more into the hotel.

From Texas 71 / US 290 Eastbound: Pass under I-35. Follow remaining directions as from I-35 (above).

From Texas 71 Westbound: Turn left (south) onto Governors Row one block before I-35. Turn right into hotel.

Further Info

Write to Austin Summerfest, P.O. Box 13473, Austin, TX 78711 or call (512) 345-0800.

The Texas VHF-FM Society...

is a group of several hundred amateurs with a special interest in the design and operation of VHF and UHF repeaters. Starting with a small group of hams 25 years ago, the society now counts as members the licensees or technical custodians of nearly all the repeaters in Texas. It is affiliated with the ARRL.

The Society initiated frequency coordination in Texas. Today, it continues in that role, minimizing inter-community friction and helping the maximum number of amateurs operate and use repeaters. The Society educates, mediates, and arbitrates all matters of frequency coordination brought to its attention.

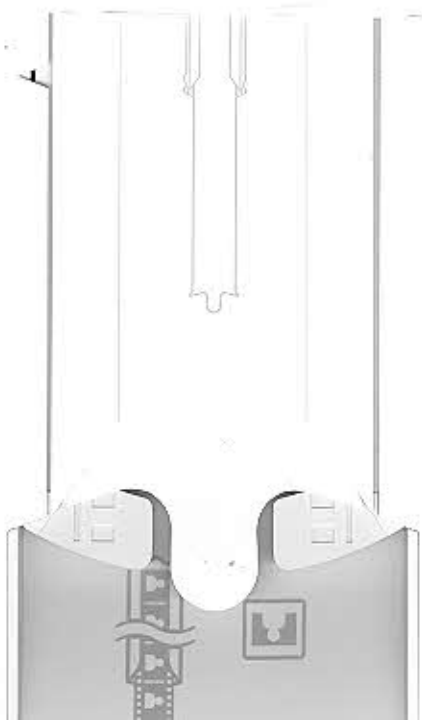
Dues are \$6 per year from August to August; Life and Family memberships are also available. Simply write the number of new or renewal memberships on the Summerfest application form, including the necessary amount in your remittance. The members of the Society invite you and your friends to join us; we know you will find it fun and rewarding to be a part of this organization.

de Joe Makeever, W5EBJ

NEW HAM PROGRAM

A new audio service devoted to those with an interest in electronics was set to begin in late June on Spacenet 3, Transponder 21, 6.2 audio. Topics will be ham radio, satellite technology, computers and other techy things. It will be a 7 day a week service, beginning at 6 PM Eastern time and running until 2 AM. On weekends, the service will begin around 9 AM and run until 2 AM the following morning. Call 315-673-3752 for info.

de Lee Roth, N8JQY



Mail before July 25, 1991 to:
Austin Summerfest, Box 13473, Austin TX 78711-3473

	each	qty	total
General Admission			\$6.00
<small>(Per individual. Includes all hams' and ladies' events not listed below. Admission at door will be \$8.00. Children 15 and under admitted free.)</small>			
How many attending ladies' events			
Swapfest Table			\$5.00
<small>(Limit of 3 to a registrant; first come first served; tables unclaimed by 1030 Saturday will be released.)</small>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Group with other tables. Names: _____			
Extra Prize Ticket			\$1.00
Saturday Evening Barbeque			\$9.00
Texas VHF-FM Society Dues			\$6.00
<small>(August 1991 through July 1992)</small>			
Make check or money order payable to AUSTIN SUMMERFEST			Total
<small>No confirmation will be sent.</small>			
Name _____		Call _____	
Name _____		Call _____	
Address _____			
City _____		State _____	Zip _____