

**AARC Meeting Info.**

**\*\*\*NOTE Meeting Changes\*\*\***

**ARL Labs**

10000 Burnet Rd. North of 183

**Officers Meeting**

6:00PM

**Regular Business Meeting**

7:00 pm

January 2nd - Topic - TBA

**2007 Upcoming Amateur Exams**

ARRL VEC- January 6th & February 3rd 9a.m. at LCRA Complex 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. Contact Joe Makeever, W5HS (345-0800) or Joe Thiel, N5SMN (832-0450) for info. \$14 fee.

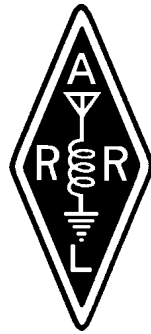
W5YI VEC- January 20 & February 17th NOTE TEMPORARY LOCATION CHANGE \*\*\*2p.m. in room 204, Moody Hall, St. Edwards University. Contact Jim Greenwood, AB5EK@arrl.net, (327-6184) <http://texasparadise.com/w5yi-austin> for more info.

\*\*\*\*\*DUES ARE DUE!!!\*\*\*\*\*

Dues must be paid by April 15, to be included in the annual Roster. Membership form on page 7. Contact Jerry Jackson (512) 832-5663 [jerry@gaj.com](mailto:jerry@gaj.com) or you can pay dues online at [www.austinhams.org/join](http://www.austinhams.org/join)

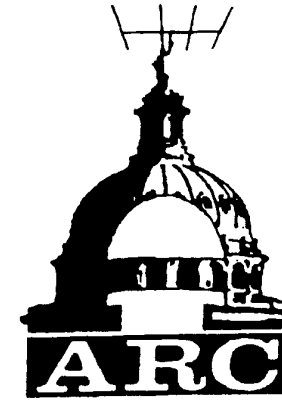
**Calendar of Events**

Not Available at Presstime



Jan .	Feb.	Austin Meetings/Happenings
2	6	AARC Meeting ARL Auditorium** 7:00 p.m.
13	10	Austin QRP, Alvin's Sandwich Shop 11:00 a.m.
16	20	ATV Club Mtg. Mangia Pizza 7:00 p.m.
20	17	QCWA Denny's on Burnet Rd. 2:00 p.m.
22	26	Travis Co. REACT Denny's on Burnet 7:00 p.m.
23	27	Travis County A.R.E.S., ARL Aud. 7:00 p.m.

\*\*AARC Business Meeting is at ARL Labs 10000 Burnet Rd. Visitors are welcome whether they are licensed hams or not. Other meetings or activities are listed under the headings for Calendar.



**AARC OVER**

**Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs**

Austin Amateur Radio Club

Austin Amateur Television Club

Austin Repeater Organization

ISSN 1067-0262

January 2007

Happy New Year

Issue 1-2007

**Austin BPL Trial Approaching, Correct Locations Announced**

The City of Austin, Austin Energy and Power Grid Communications have announced the location of the Broadband Over Powerline trial in Austin. The area of the trial will be in the south part of ZIP CODE 78751. The trial will be in an area generally bounded by Avenue C on the west, East 47th Street on the north, Avenue H on the west and East 42nd Street on the South. A map of the test area is available in the files section of the BPL787 list at Yahoo.com.

This is not the area that was erroneously announced earlier in the UPLC data base. The UPLC data base now reflects the correct information. The target start up date is mid January 2007.

The greatest potential for interference from the trial is in the area of zip codes:

78703      78705      78722      78723      78756      78757

Jerry Hernandez, AE BPL Project Manager, has asked that we understand that this trial system will emphasize and be limited to utility applications (meter reading, etc) and telecom services (Internet, VoIP, video) for AE and City facilities and employees. BPL services including meter reading, WIFI hotspot, video surveillance and VoIP telephone will be attempted at locations within the test area including:

Shirpe Park, 4400 Ave. G

(Continued on page 2)

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Austin, TX  
Permit No. 2942  
Time Value Newsletter

AARCOVER  
Austin Amateur Radio Club  
Box 4739  
Austin, TX 78765-4739  
January 2007  
Return Service Requested

**Periodic Events**

Sun	7:30 p.m.	Travis ARES net	147.36 MHz + (131.8)
Sun	8:00 p.m.	Travis ARES Packet	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 -
Sun	(After Swapnet)	Newsline	146.94 MHz -
Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Hays ARES net	147.10 MHz -
Tues.	8:00 p.m.	Bastrop ARES Net	443.750+ (114.80)
Wed	8:00 p.m.	Code Practice	146.94 MHz -
Wed	11:30 a.m.	Ham Social Luncheon, Jim's	146.94 MHz -
Thu	9:00 p.m.	2m SSB Net	144.250 (USB)
Thu	11:30 a.m.	Lunch, Waterloo Ice House	444.1 MHz+
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
Daily	6:30 p.m.	Central Texas Traffic Net	147.14MHz+

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the Elisabeth Ney Museum, 304 E. 44th Street and Fire Station #9, 4301 Speedway.

A residential showcase will be established by PowerGrid Communications at 4307 Avenue D for demonstration purposes.

The BPL system will utilize Corinex model CXP-MVA-GWY devices which, according to their spec sheet, have Configurable frequency notching of frequency bands, including Amateur Radio and Restricted Frequency Bands. The Corinex boxes output OFDM signals in the 2 to 34 MHz. frequency range.

The City and AE have asked that issues and interference reports be handled through a single point of contact, if you believe you are suffering interference from the system contact:

Glen Reid, K5FX  
ARRL Austin BPL Team  
512 263 5700  
K5fx@arrl.net

Reports of interference to mobile stations are important, interference to fixed stations carry the most weight, but all interference issues should be reported.

The BPL787 team is not against BPL, we are dedicated to preventing the RF interference it can cause. We look forward to working with the City, AE, PowerGrid and the Austin ham community to insure an efficient, interference free BPL test.

I encourage you to sign on to the BPL787 Group at Yahoo.com to stay informed of future developments.

Glen Reid  
K5FX  
BPL787  
The ARRL Austin BPL Team



### Ham Radio Volunteer Exam Results

The following are the results of the ARRL VE test session held in the American Red Cross National Response Maintenance Center on December 7th, 2006:

#### Technician Class Licenses Processed

James A. Boyd, KE5LTI      John A. Durbin, KC2QNP  
Martha C. Durbin, KC2QNO      Cecilia A. Hollis, KE5LTH  
Henry E. Jackson, KI4SOE      Carol L. Katz, KC(0)ZDA  
Richard C. Scheit, KC(0)ZDB  
Edward O. Thomas, KC9KNR  
John M. Wright, KD8EUV

#### Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Howard Glueck, K5ZUA      Larry Gunter, WB5BEK  
Gene Hinkle, K5PA      Jerry Jackson, N5UJ  
Joe Makeever, W5HS

#### Next Two ARRL VE Test Sessions

January 6th - LCRA Colorado Room  
February 3rd - LCRA Colorado Room

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS  
Joe

#### W5YI-VEC -

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates all of the following people who earned new or upgraded Amateur radio licenses at our December 9<sup>th</sup> session:

#### Extra Class -

Alan L. McKee, WA5MJI

#### General Class -none

#### Technician Class (all new) -

Rudolph J. Wratten, KA5PIV

Two others earned element credit without upgrading.

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

John Fisher, K5JHF      Jimmy Mercer, N5WDH  
Lloyd Goehring, Jr., N5TO      Sam Mihalik, KM5MY  
Jim Greenwood, AB5EK      Joe Thiel, N5SMN

Our next two exam dates are January 20, and February 17th 2007. For additional information regarding our amateur radio examination sessions, please contact Jim, AB5EKat (512) 327-6184 or by e-mail to hamradioexams@hotmail.com or visit our web page at <http://texashams.org/w5yi-austin/>

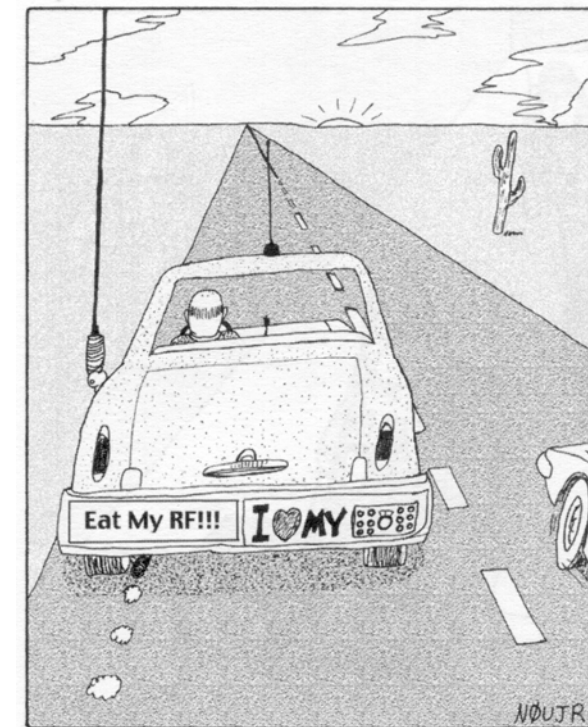
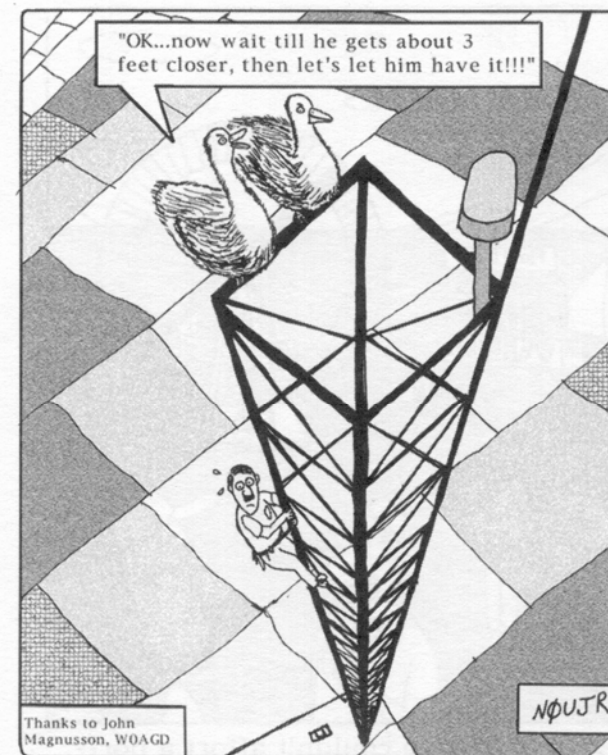
#### Exam fee is \$14.00

Please bring two forms of identification plus your social security number.

Sessions are accessible to handicapped applicants. No pre-registration is required. Walk-ins are welcomed.

## NØUJR and His Friends

By Greg Trook, NØUJR



QCWA members with an attitude...

**Austin Amateur Radio Club**

**Membership Form for year ending December 31, \_\_\_\_\_**

**Application for:** (check applicable box or boxes and include payment)  
 AARC  \$20 single  \$30 family (all at same mailing address)  
 ARRL  \$5 student (thru 12th grade, no AARCOVER by mail)  
 ARRL  \$24 (first time membership)  \$22 (senior first time)  
 QCWA  \$34 (renewal thru AARC)  \$32 (senior renewal)  
 QCWA  \$6 (Local chapter 67 annual dues)

**Check One:**  Information changes  Renew membership  
 New member (never before registered)

Call sign: \_\_\_\_\_ License class? E A G T+ T N (circle one)  
 First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Pager: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**If the family box is checked please list family members below.**

2nd Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL?   
 3rd Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL?   
 4th Call: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_ ARRL?

**I/We have interest in the following:**

Monthly meetings  Field Day  Working events  Transmitter hunts  
 2 meters FM  DXing  Newsletter  Holding Office  
 Presenting programs  CW  Net control  Emer communications  
 Holding ARRL office  Education  Public Awareness  Working with Youth  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this form with payment to:**  
 AARC - P.O. Box 4739 - Austin, TX 78765

**or:** Bring it to the next meeting (See <http://www.austinhams.org>)

## Letter from the New President

Greetings and Happy New Year,

I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season and somehow have gotten rested up from all the activity. We now have a new year ahead of us and I'd like to take a minute of your time to share with you some ideas I have for the AARC in 2007.

First and foremost our club is here for us. It supports our ham radio infrastructure and provides knowledge about all things ham radio. However, please don't assume the club officers know just what you need or want the club to do. Therefore, we are formally asking for your input on what you need your club to do for you. (I'll get to what you can do for your club in a minute.)

Over the last few weeks I've had to ask myself what this club is for and why we exist. The first answer I got was somewhat obvious; maintain the operation of our area repeaters. We are blessed with many machines and a large coverage area. Each of these must be maintained and from time to time be upgraded as well; this costs real money.

As you may already know in the not too distance future we will no longer have use of the tower that hosts the 146.94 repeater. This means we will not only need to be prepared to relocate to another tower but may wish to replace the antennas and perhaps upgrade the controller and other vital equipment at the same time. The cost estimate for new antennas, cable, tower climbing and controller is around \$10,000.

There are some options that would give us a quality installation but cost less. These include mounting the transmitter at height or running a linked system. I ask you to join me in supporting our club maintenance budget account so that we are ready and able to upgrade what we want to upgrade when the time comes.

No only do I want to see us provide our members with quality infrastructure but also with quality meetings. To this end, Lee will be working on a calendar of meeting topics so you will know what's on tap for each meeting well in advance. Currently we have several meetings planned and Lee is certainly looking for additional topics and volunteers to present those topics.

The third thing I'd like to see us do in a big way is grow our club both in number of members but more importantly, in number of participating members. So here is what I'm asking you to do for your club; each month think of someone that you can invite to our meetings. They might be a ham or someone that's just interested. They may be a co-worker or a neighbor. Direct invitations work much better than direct mailing and they are much less expensive.

I am working with Roger, Lee and others to make more people aware of the club and aware of how we work with TCARES and served agencies. The idea here is to bring some of those circles of people into the club and its special interest groups. I am also working with local school and scout groups to further our connection there.

If you have other ideas of how we can grow and maintain AARC, please send any one of the officers an e-mail and let us know your ideas.

Thanks for all your involvement over the years and here's to a prosperous 2007 for us all.

73's

de AC5YK  
Don Dudley

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc., PO BOX 4739, AUSTIN TX 78765-4739, Web site: <http://www.austinhams.org>

President	Don Dudley	AC5YK	340-0778	ac5yk@yahoo.com
Vice President	Lee Cooper	W5LHC	424 5491	w5lhc@arrl.net
Treasurer	Jerry Jackson	N5UJ	832-5663	jerry@gaj.com
Secretary	Alan Russell	KE5DTR	851-1806	arusell@lcra.org
Editor, AARCOVER	Mitch London	KD5HCV	326-3096	kd5hcv@arrl.net
Technical (Repeater Contact)	Ed Golla	K3AHS	255-4818	edgolla@hotpop.com
ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	Roger Wines	W5WIA	453-2193	w5wia@arrl.net
ARRL Public Information Officer	Lee Cooper	W5LHC	424 5491	w5lhc@arrl.net

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

**The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.** has a membership dues of \$20.00/calendar year (\$30.00 family to the same address) **The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.** AARC maintains the following repeaters. An open autopatch and emergency power on 146.78 MHz and an emergency HF/VHF station at the American Red Cross building. Persons residing or working within the coverage area are expected to join the club, if they use the autopatch. Non-residents on short visits are welcome to use this autopatch. 146.88MHz (-600) with autopatch; 146.94 MHz (-600) used for Weather Net when called, and Travis County ARES. It is also used for Swapnet and Newline @ 9p.m. Sunday; 224.80 MHz (-1.600); 444.10 MHz (+5); & 145.01 <MHz packet NetROM node (KB5PM-1 or alias AUS). Persons residing or working within the coverage area are expected to join the club, if they use the autopatch. Non-residents on short visits are welcome to use this autopatch. **The 146.78 and 146.88 repeaters have open autopatches.** Please transmit your call **before** sing the phone patch. Press \* and dial the phone number to place a call. Do not unkey after the \*. When finished, press # to hang up the phone. Dial 911 (no \* needed) for emergency services.

### AARCOVER Information

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Viewpoints expressed in the AARCOVER do not necessarily reflect those of any club, or of its members, directors, or officers.

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Members and other readers are encouraged to submit material for publication. Call Mitch London, if mailed submissions are required. Electronic files are encouraged! Submissions may be edited for publication. **Deadline is the 15th of the month.**

Material may be used in a later issue. Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to reprint AARCOVER articles, provided you credit the author and the AARCOVER.

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"XYL" is printed with permission by Carolyn Canfield, KE5DTS. Cartoons may not be reprinted without written permission.

**For Changes in your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or CALL SIGN:**

See Jerry Jackson, N5UJ (512) 832-5663 [jerry@gaj.com](mailto:jerry@gaj.com)

**Jerry handles all changes for AARCOVER mailing labels & membership information & roster questions.**

## Over the WWaves...

A variety of interesting websites submitted by our readers.

[http://www.centex.redcross.org/index.php?pr=Volunteer\\_Steps](http://www.centex.redcross.org/index.php?pr=Volunteer_Steps)

Information on revised registration and training guidelines; Orientation, and Introduction to Disaster Courses. Link sent by Stuart Rohre.

<http://www.csvhfs.org/conference/index.html>

I'm helping the Road Runner's Microwave group "get the word out" in the Austin area regarding the up coming Central States VHF Conference to be held July 26-29 this Summer in San Antonio. As I think you probably know, this is one of the more prestigious Amateur Radio conferences.

Sent by Joe Jarrett, K5FOG

[http://www.commandinformation.com/download/public/Anatomy\\_of\\_IPv6.pdf](http://www.commandinformation.com/download/public/Anatomy_of_IPv6.pdf)

Here is a preview of the capacity of the new internet. Sent by Mike London.

## FCC to Drop Morse Testing for All Amateur License Classes

In an historic move, the FCC has acted to drop the Morse code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes. The Commission today adopted a Report and Order (R&O) in WT Docket 05-235. In a break from typical practice, the FCC only issued a public notice at or about the close of business and not the actual Report and Order, so some details -- including the effective date of the R&O -- remain uncertain. The public notice is located at, [http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\\_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf](http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-269012A1.pdf).

Also today, the FCC also adopted an Order on Reconsideration, in WT Docket 04-140 -- the "omnibus" proceeding -- agreeing to modify the Amateur Radio rules in response to an ARRL request to accommodate automatically controlled narrowband digital stations on 80 meters in the wake of rule changes that became effective today at 12:01 AM Eastern Time. The Commission said it will carve out the 3585 to 3600 kHz frequency segment for such operations. Prior to the long-awaited action on the Morse code issue, Amateur Radio applicants for General and higher class licenses had to pass a 5 WPM Morse code test to operate on HF. The Commission said today's R&O eliminates that requirement for General and Amateur Extra applicants.

"This change eliminates an unnecessary regulatory burden that may discourage current Amateur Radio operators from advancing their skills and participating more fully in the benefits of Amateur Radio," the FCC said. The ARRL had asked the FCC to retain the 5 WPM for Amateur Extra class applicants only. The FCC proposed earlier to drop the requirement across the board, however, and it held to that decision in today's R&O.

Perhaps more important, the FCC's action in WT Docket 05-235 appears to put all Technician licensees on an equal footing: Once the R&O goes into effect, holders of Technician class licenses will have equivalent HF privileges, whether or not they've passed the 5 WPM Element 1 Morse examination. The FCC said the R&O in the Morse code docket would eliminate a disparity in the operating privileges for the Technician and Technician Plus class licensees. Technician licensees without Element 1 credit (ie, Tech Plus licensees) currently have operating privileges on all amateur frequencies above 30 MHz.

"With today's elimination of the Morse code exam requirements, the FCC concluded that the disparity between the operating privileges of Technician Class licensees and Technician Plus Class licensees should not be retained," the FCC said in its public notice. "Therefore, the FCC, in today's action, afforded Technician and Technician Plus licensees identical operating privileges."

The wholesale elimination of a Morse code requirement for all license classes ends a longstanding national and international regulatory tradition in the requirements to gain access to Amateur Radio frequencies below 30 MHz. The first no-code license in the US was the Technician ticket, instituted in 1991. The question of whether or not to drop the Morse requirement altogether has been the subject of often-heated debate over the past several years, but the handwriting has been on the wall. A number of countries, including Canada, no longer require applicants for an Amateur Radio license to pass a Morse code test to gain HF operating privileges. The list has been increasing regularly.

The FCC said today's R&O in WT Docket 05-235 comports with revisions to the international Radio Regulations resulting from the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03). At that gathering, delegates agreed to authorize each country to determine whether or not to require that applicants demonstrate Morse code proficiency in order to qualify for an Amateur Radio license with privileges on frequencies below 30 MHz.

Typically, the effective date of an FCC Order is 30 days after it appears in the Federal Register. That would mean the Morse requirement and the revised 80-meter segment for automatically controlled digital stations would likely not go into effect until late January 2007.

The ARRL will provide any additional information on these important Part 97 rule revisions as it becomes available.

## Jesse Copeland Memorial Scholarship – Taking Applications

It is time again to remind graduating High School Seniors who plan to go to college in Fall 2007, that they can apply for the Jesse Copeland Memorial Scholarship fund scholarships through Austin Community Foundation (ACF) [www.austincommunityfoundation.org](http://www.austincommunityfoundation.org). Along with a copy of a current amateur license of any class, students submit an application form requested from the Foundation, and supporting evidence of their worthiness for a scholarship. All applications are initially through the ACF address. Final selection of those meeting the criteria will be done by the Scholarship Board after January 31, 2007. Money is sent directly to the institution after proof of enrollment and acceptance. No money is granted directly to any student. However, certain school expenses in case of handicap, such as Special Transit Service, can be covered through the school.

The scholarships are open to both college freshman, and returning college students, as well as persons taking a professional trades course. The scholarships are awarded by the Austin Amateur Radio Club Copeland Scholarship Board, made up of six members of the club along with the Club President.

The deadline for applications will be enforced as January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007 with no exceptions. Applicants must submit a current certified transcript, if already in attendance in college, or from their senior year of high school if a high school senior. If applicants have already received a Copeland Scholarship in a previous year and want to try and get another, they must reapply each year with a new application. Amounts granted depend on the yearly earnings of the Austin Community Foundation investment on behalf of the radio club, less investment expenses.

### QCWA, Who Are They, What Do They Do?

You ask yourself, why should I join the local QCWA chapter, what can they do for me? Perhaps you are a new ham, and you are frustrated when trying to solder that new connector you just bought down at Johnny's Radio Emporium. Maybe you like to experiment with antennas. Do you jaw-jack or DX? Do you need some help figuring out the "how-to" on your latest project? Then my friend, QCWA is for you! Relax and enjoy a fine meal or a cup of coffee at a chapter meeting and meet some new friends, and get some help. You do not have to be a member of QCWA to attend, and, you do not have to be an old fa\*\*t either! Monthly meetings are held at Denny's at Anderson Lane and Burnet Rd every 3rd Saturday of the month at 2 pm. Come on by and see why QCWA is having all the fun!



### Ham Radio Volunteers Needed for the 3M Half Marathon and Relay

On Sunday, January 28, 2007. Operators must be licensed to operate on the 2-meter amateur radio band. The event will operate on the 3M Amateur Radio Club repeater on 146.90.

Operators are needed for net control and break points along the route. Volunteer duties will begin at about 5:45 a.m. and normally end before noon. Ham volunteers will be the "eyes and ears" for the health and welfare of participants. Volunteers at break points will request water, supplies and first aid assistance for runners. Net control operators will relay the requests to dispatch supply vehicles and medical support.

All volunteers will receive an event t-shirt. A pre-race briefing will be presented at the 3M Amateur Radio Club meeting at 6:00 p.m. January 11 at Denny's Restaurant on US 183 and Lakeline Blvd in South Cedar Park near Lakeline Mall.

More information and an online volunteer form can be found at [www.3mhalfmarathon.com](http://www.3mhalfmarathon.com) <http://www.3mhalfmarathon.com/>. Choose "Amateur Ham Radio" on the online form. Volunteers can also contact Dan Cronch N5RVS at 512-984-3882 or [dcronch\(at\)mmm.com](mailto:dcronch(at)mmm.com) to sign up.