



AARC OVER

Keeping Austin Wireless for Over 96 Years!

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Clubs

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August 2016

Issue 8-2016

Amateur Radio Parity Act: Boon or Ban?

Unless you've been living under a rock, there's been quite the stir with the Amateur Radio Parity Act (H.R. 1301). There are probably as many *opinions* about the Act as there are licensed amateurs! Some hams want it. Some don't. But we won't debate the merits or downfalls of the Act. Instead, here are a few the key points as presented by the ARRL at:

<http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-parity-act>



Maybe we should start with what the Act *won't* do. It would not give amateur radio operators the absolute freedom to do *whatever they want*. Its intent appears to be to ensure that every ham in the US will have the opportunity to practice their avocation from their own homes without breaking any rules or fear of reprisal, regardless of the community they live in (i.e. HOA neighborhoods or deed-restricted properties).

(Continued on page 3)

Periodic Events

Sun	7:00 p.m.	Travis ARES net	147.36 MHz + (131.8)
Sun	8:00 p.m.	Travis ARES Packet*	145.73 MHz
		(*in UNPROTO, change N5HPC-5 to W5OEM-5)	
Sun	8:00 p.m.	Williamson ARES net	146.64 MHz - (162.2)
Sun	9:00 p.m.	ARO Swapnet	146.94 MHz - (107.2)
Sun	(After Swapnet)	Newsline	146.94 MHz - (107.2)
Mon.	7:30 p.m.	STX ARES Net	3.873 MHz
Tues.	7:30 p.m.	Hays ARES net	147.100 MHz +
Tues.	8:00 p.m.	Bastrop ARES Net	443.750 MHz + (114.8)
Wed	11:30 a.m.	Ham Social Luncheon, Jim's	146.94 MHz - (107.2)
Thu	9:00 p.m.	2m SSB Net	144.250 MHz (USB)
Thu	11:00 a.m.	Lunch, Pokey Joe's 183&Great Hills	444.1 MHz+
Thu	11:45 a.m.	Lunch, Whataburger Oltorf & Burleson	146.94- (107.2)
Fri	8:00 p.m.	6m SSB Net	50.230 (texasvhf.org/)
Sat	7:00 - 8:30a.m.	Breakfast @ Waterloo Ice House	444.1 MHz +
Sat	9:00 a.m.	Chapter 67 QCWA QSO Net.	3.920 MHz LSB
Sat	7:00 p.m.	AARC Elmer Net	146.94 MHz- (107.2)
Daily	6:30 p.m.	Central Texas Traffic Net	147.14 MHz+

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Ham Radio Exams Results

The following are the results of the ARRL VE Test Session held on **July 9th** at Bethany United Methodist Church:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Melissa D. Barrington, KG5OLT
Christopher J. Speyer, KG5OLU

Kevin C. Green, KG5OLV

Nathan E. Howard, KG5OLW

General Class Licenses Processed

Tom L. Parish, KG5LBP

Raymond J. Theis, KG5OLX

Extra Class Licenses Processed

Alan R. Ramsey, AG5GD

Roger L. Rollie, KG5NZZ

Thomas J. Saeger, AG5GE

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Milt Cram, W8NUE

Larry Gunter, WB5BEK

Gene Hinkle, K5PA

Joe Makeever, W5HS

Jim Peisker, AF5NP

Rob Porter, K5FAR

Next ARRL VE Test Sessions

August 6th - Austin Summerfest @ Crowne Plaza Hotel @ 12:30p.m. See <http://austinsummerfest.org/> for more info on this special test session.

September 10th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 203/204 @ 9:00a.m.

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS

Joe

7-17-2016

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our **July 17th** session:

General Class

Jason Shirtliff (NEW)

Paul Larson III (NEW)

Technician Class (NEW)

Walker Payne

Andrew Goett

Myra D'alva

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Craig Bean, AC5KW

Gary Popp, AE5JR

Ted Iglehart, KF5END

David Glosson, N5DPG

Shankar Thirunakkarasu, KG5KWS

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at **2 PM** on **August 20th** and **September (pending)** in Fleck Hall, Room 118 on the campus of St. Edward's University.
All sessions are walk-in and the exam fee is \$14 (cash or check).

For additional information regarding our amateur radio examination sessions, please contact Craig, AC5KW at **(512) 474-6443** or by e-mail to **ac5kw @ arrl.net** or visit our web page at: <http://texashams.org/w5yi-austin/>

It's summer and temperatures have been climbing. That must mean it's time for... **Austin Summerfest!** Online Registration is closed, but you can still register **on-site** when you arrive! It is being held at the same location as last year - Crowne Plaza Hotel, 6121 North IH35, Austin, TX 78752.

The website is up and technical sessions are listed. Come on over... You know you'll have a great time! You really don't want to miss it. This is the 33rd year of Austin Summerfest and we'd love to see you there. I've attended previous years and really enjoyed the sessions and the indoor, *air-conditioned* swapfest. There will surely be plenty of "horse trading" opportunities to get some new or new-for-you gear. For those wanting to take the license exam on Saturday for either a new license or an upgrade, be sure to check the website for details.

Website: <http://austinsummerfest.org/>

Online and mail-in registration has ended; however, **on-site registration is available!**

The registration form (fillable) has been attached to the end of this newsletter. You can fill it out and bring it with you.



(Continued from page 1)

If enacted, Amateurs living in deed-restricted communities would presumably be guaranteed that there would be no preclusion of Amateur Radio communications by an HOA, that the Amateur would have the ability to construct an *effective* outdoor antenna on property under the exclusive use of the licensee, and that the HOA must allow such facility using the least practicable restriction by the HOA to achieve their lawful purposes.

The latest version was amended to achieve an agreement between the ARRL and the Community Associations Institute (CAI - an organization that provides resources to residential associations—HOAs). In its original form, it was believed by many that the Act had little chance of passing. The ARRL believes that private land use regulations, which date back to the English common law, are far too entrenched to have any reasonable chance of being exempted from them completely. There was also strong opposition in the Senate, by Senator Nelson, the ranking minority member of the Senate Commerce Committee. I'm not a law-maker, and can't speak intelligently on the matter of how these things actually become enacted into law, but it was suggested that his opposition weighs heavily in the Senate and would have prevented the Act from succeeding as initially written.

In this latest version, wording was changed that removes "reasonable accommodation" and replaces it with an "effective, outdoor antenna." Unfortunately, HOAs will likely still require notification and prior approval before an antenna is erected in a deed-restricted community. They can also enact (supposedly) reasonable written rules governing height, location, size, and *aesthetic impact* of, and installation requirements for, outdoor antennas and support structures for amateur communications.

Aesthetic impact? Hmm. Alright... I'm not going to get on my soapbox. That's not the purpose of this article. The purpose of this article is to help make you aware that this Act *does* have the possibility of passing. And if you feel strongly either way, you should write to your representatives in the House and Senate and let them know what you think. And if you do, please do so intelligently and calmly. Remember, every individual Amateur Radio Operator is an ambassador and representative of our passion. It's more than just a hobby as the CAI claims. ▾

President	Don Dudley	AC5YK	president@austinhams.org
Vice President	Lew Thompson	W5IFQ	vice-president@austinhams.org
Treasurer	Jay Hoffman	KA5OST	treasurer@austinhams.org
Secretary	Angie Steelman	KF5ZXI	secretary@austinhams.org
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ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	Mark Esslinger	W5MAE	ec@austinhams.org
TC ARES PIO	Steven Polunsky	W5SMP	tcares-pio@gmail.net

Please contact a club officer, attend a meeting, mail us to join the organization, you can also join or renew online.
The Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc. (AARC) has annual membership dues of \$20.00 per person or \$30.00 per family. AARC maintains the following repeaters:

FREQUENCY	AUTOPATCH	USE
146.880 107.2 PL Tone	No	Analog/Digital Fusion
146.940 107.2 PL Tone	No	Most popular, WX, Swapnet & Newslite
224.800	No	
444.100	No	
444.200 107.2 PL Tone	No	
440.650 +5	No	70cm D-Star Repeater [W5KA B]
146.780/ -600kHz	No	2m D-Star Repeater [W5KA C]
1293.100/-20	No	23cm D-Star Repeater[W5KA A]
1248.200	No	23cm D-Star DD (data, simp./reversible)[W5KA A]

Persons using the repeaters are asked to join the club to help support these valuable resources.

The Austin Amateur Radio Club offers annual scholarships to licensees living in Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Hays, Blanco, Caldwell, and Burnet counties. Please see <http://austinhams.org/copeland.htm> for more information.

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Members and other readers are *encouraged* to submit material for publication. Contact Michael Skurka, if mailed submissions are required. Electronic files are encouraged! Submissions may be edited for publication (for content and/or space). **Deadline is the 25th of each 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.

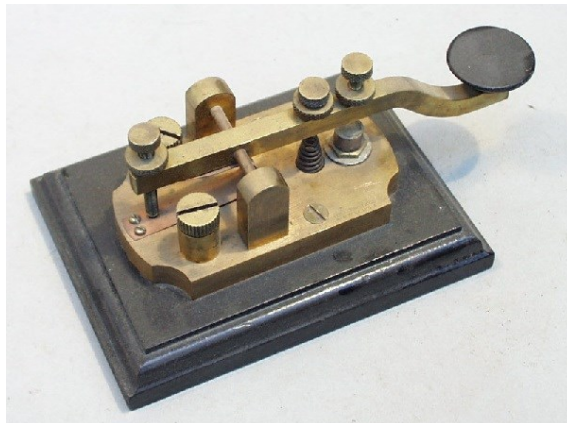


**For Changes in your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or CALL SIGN:
 See: Jay Hoffman, KA5OST ka5ost@arrl.net
 Jay handles all changes for membership information .**

SILENT KEY

Dan Poggemiller, KB5TWO (SK)

From AARC Swapnet



From numerous sources and Matt KC5RKJ:

Here is copied text from his profile from Facebook dated Tuesday July 26:

Dear friends, this is Matt Poggemiller KC5RJK, Dan Poggemiller(KB5TWO)'s son posting on his behalf. My dad passed away this morning at 6:33 am due to complications from a rare and aggressive form of cancer, a liposarcoma that was in his chest cavity. Tomorrow would have been his 66th birthday. A memorial service is planned for 1 pm at the First United Methodist Church Round Rock at 1004 North Mays in the Family Life Center.

As you may guess, we are grieving right now and would appreciate privacy as a family. If you are in the Round Rock area and want to pass on your condolences, please come to the memorial services.

My dad had great love for his community, all of the ones he was an active member in, and though he is gone his love and legacy will be carried on with you, his friends and family. Carry on his legacy of service to your communities and make the world better in whatever sphere of people you are and the love he shared with all of us will be carried on.

Dad's Facebook account will remain active until the memorialization request is processed. We love you all. And the date for the memorial service is this Saturday, July 30.



Call For Help - Austin Summerfest

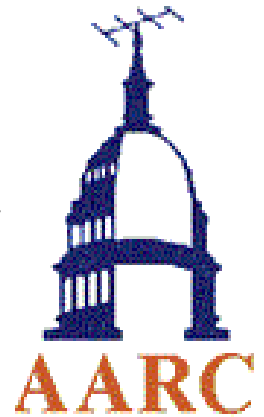
Jeri Wines is coordinating Summerfest Registration and is looking for volunteers to help. Please contact Roger W5WIA at 512-453-2193 or email W5WIA @ arrl.net

Dallas KD4HNX is looking for help w/Summerfest talk-in. Sign up for ~2-hour shifts, using the 146.940(-) 107.2PL. Contact Dallas at: mylastname @ yahoo.com

FROM OUR CLUB PRESIDENT

Dear AARC Member,

Please find below a new policy for AARC. It is a policy that will guide us through the process of authorizing club funds to be spent on projects. It has been a long time coming and is meant to be a living policy that will indeed change over time. Like many projects in Central Texas, this one too was born at Waterloo Ice House on Burnet Road at the regular Ham Saturday Breakfast. Contributors include Lee Cooper, Paul Gilbert, Roy Walker and myself.



If you care to comment, please direct those comments to me and I will get them vetted with the club officers.

Thanks,

Don Dudley – AC5YK

AARC President

Austin Amateur Radio Club Ham Radio Project Plan

The purpose of this document is to establish a formal process for developing, funding and maintaining ham radio projects for the Austin Amateur Radio Club (AARC). The document is intended to be a living document with frequent editing and updating.

History

The AARC is the central amateur radio club in Austin, existing for almost 100 years. During that time many different projects have been developed and funded, some of which still exist today. The club is a 501(c)(3) organization providing funding for projects such as repeaters, a broadband backbone and the Travis County ARES organization.

AARC has a technical committee that does get involved with many projects; however, it lacks a formal mission, direction, responsibility and authority to act.

Project Development

A club member (project sponsor) wishing to develop a ham radio project shall first present the idea to the club Technical Committee. Sponsors are encouraged to provide the committee members with as much detail as possible about the project. This would include purpose, need, history, function, design, location and cost. Presentations may be made using MS Power Point or similar presentation software. Hard copies may be provided to each committee member instead of a computer based presentation. Sponsors may also provide the Committee with temporary members that will serve on this project.

(continued)

Austin Amateur Radio Club - Ham Radio Project Plan (continued)

Committee members will likely make comments and suggestions and may require the sponsor to make multiple presentations to the committee.

When the sponsor and committee members are ready to move forward, a recommendation for club action shall be provided to the AARC Officers and a presentation of the project shall be made at the next regularly scheduled Officer meeting. The Committee recommendation may be to accept or reject the project but the sponsor shall have the right to make a presentation to the Officers either way.

Project Funding

Once a project presentation has been made, the Officers shall decide how the project may be funded. The Officers may elect to take the proposal to the general club membership for acceptance and approval. The sponsor may be asked to make yet another presentation for the general membership.

Once approved and funded, the sponsor shall work closely with the Technical Committee when constructing the project.

Project Construction

Sponsors are required to provide the Technical Committee members a status update report concerning the project at each Committee meeting. This report must be written and may be provided via e-mail instead of in person.

Project Maintenance

Substantial resources go into establishing ham radio infrastructure and must have regular maintenance. A report must be filed annually with the Technical Committee concerning the status of each project.



AARC Club Meeting - Reminder: Firearms Not Allowed!

DE Stuart Rohre, K5KVH

Some of you may have heard of Campus Carry, the state initiative to allow Concealed Carry permit holders to carry on UT property beginning Aug 1, 2016.

HOWEVER, because Federal Security Regulations apply to defense contractors such as ARLUT; the ARLUTX secured compound is considered Federal Property for contractor security purposes.

It has always been, and will continue to be, PROHIBITED to carry ANY weapon(s) into the premises of ARL, including open areas such as the Lobby and Auditorium, and the grounds in front of the building.

Concealed Carry Permit holders must remove any weapon from their person, before attending meetings at ARL. "Campus Carry" is a TX state law, that is overruled by the Federal Law applying Contractor Security Regulations.

As a violation could cause of loss of group access to this meeting place, please share this email with all Amateur Radio Club members, and Travis County ARES members who meet at ARL.

Violations would be handled by the UT Police and the FBI, as well as Federal contractor Security agencies.

(Thanks for the reminder, Stuart! -Editor) ▽

Just for Fun

SUCH A HAM

SH-012



We thought **YOU** were bringing the food.

Word Search – AARCOVER

Can you find all the words and terms listed below? Words may be forward, reverse, up, down, or diagonal. Words were taken from this month's articles.

```

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

HOMEOWNER
PARITY
PROJECT
REASONABLE

SCHOLARSHIP
SENATE
SUMMERFEST
TECHNICAL

Meeting Minutes — AARC General Meeting, 5 July 2016

Start: 7:00 pm

Attendance: 42

Visitors: Two visitors tonight. Welcome!

New hams:

Mark Jenkins, AG5FL

New members: none

Upgrades: none

Call sign changes: none

Approval of minutes: Minutes of the May meeting were approved as distributed in the AARCover.

Announcements:

General:

- ♦ Ham of the Month: Stuart Rohre, K5KVH and Jeff Schmidt, N5MNV

Events:

- ♦ July 16, Texas City Hamfest
- ♦ July 22, Oklahoma Section Convention
- ♦ August 5-6, Austin Summerfest

Officer and committee reports:

- ♦ Jay Hoffman, KA5OST, treasurer: not present
- ♦ Angie Steelman, KF5ZXI, secretary: 58 last month. Please sign the sign in sheet. Thanks if you did, shame on you if you didn't.
- ♦ Lew Thompson, W5IFQ, vice-president: not present
- ♦ Don Dudley, AC5YK, president: Clubh should have a budget; we haven't in years. I'm working on it—watch the AARCover. Bylaws need to be "dusted off". Anyone interested in working on it, let Don Dudley or Stuart Rohre know.
- ♦ Michael Skurka, K5MSK, newsletter editor: not present.
- ♦ Mark, ARES: Kerby will wait until presentation
- ♦ BBHN: Brian Wood: Meeting is second Wednesday; we are still redefining what the meeting is. We will be at Summerfest—have a presentation/workgroup on Friday night. See me (Brian Wood) if you have questions.

Spare weather presented by Jeff Schmidt.

Don Dudley - bring show and tell stuff.

Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Presentation: Kerby Spruiell, new ARES trailer



REMINDER

The Austin Amateur Radio Club offers annual scholarships to licensees living in Travis, Williamson, Bastrop, Hays, Blanco, Caldwell and Burnet counties.

Please see <http://austinhams.org/copeland.htm> for more information.

AARC Meeting Info.

Applied Research Lab
10000 Burnet Road

Business Meeting 7:00 pm

Topics: Yaesu Fusion (video);
Solar WX Summary

Officers Meeting

Officers meet from 6:00 to 7:00 pm prior to regular club meeting and is open to all. Contact an officer for more information.

2016 Calendar of Events

All Through 2016 - National Parks On The Air

<http://www.arrrl.org/NPOTA>

Amateur Radio will be helping the National Park Service celebrate their 100th anniversary. Hams from across the country activate NPS units, promote the National Park Service and showcase Amateur Radio to the public!

August 5-6 - Austin Summerfest

<http://www.austinsummerfest.org/>

Crowne Plaza Hotel, 6121 North IH35, Austin, TX
(NE corner of IH-35N and US-290E)

Registration now available online!

September 10 - Lubbock ARC's 3rd Annual Hamfest

<http://K5LIB.org/>

September 17-18 - CTX Tour de Cure

Ham coordinators: Lee N5NTG, lee@besing.com and
Jeff N5MNMW, n5mnmw@arrl.net

Details pending, please reference:

http://main.diabetes.org/site/TR/TourdeCure/TourAdmin?pg=entry&fr_id=11041

September 30-Oct 1 - Belton Hamfest

www.tarc.org/hamexpo/ www.beltonhamexpo.org/

October 14-16 - Scout Jamboree On The Air/Internet

JOTA-JOTI jota.joti@scout.org

<http://www.scoutlink.org/>

November 2 - Hospital Drill

Will start at remote location, simulating transported patients. <http://www.tcares.org/>

2016 Upcoming Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC - August 6

12:30 p.m. at Austin Summerfest

ARRL VEC - September 10

9 a.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church.

\$15 fee. For more info, contact:

Joe Makeever, W5HS (512-345-0800)

W5YI VEC - August 20th & September ___

2 p.m. in Room 207, Fleck Hall, St. Edwards Univ. Contact Craig Bean, AC5KW@arrl.net (512-474-6443) for more info. \$14 fee.

Upcoming Meetings...

Aug	Sep	Austin Meetings/Happenings	Time	Address
2	6	AARC Meeting @ Applied Research Lab	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd
23	27	Travis County A.R.E.S. @ Applied Rsrch Lab	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd
25	22	CERT Meeting @ CTECC	6:30 p.m.	5010 Old Manor Rd
22	26	CTDXCC Meeting @ Old Quarry Library	6:30 p.m.	7051 Village Ctr Dr

If your club is listed here and has incorrect time or dates, please let us know! editor @ austinhams.org

AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 2016

August 5 & 6, 2016

Crowne Plaza - Austin
6121 North IH-35
NE Corner of IH-35N & US 290E

Austin, Texas
78752

Our 33rd Anniversary!

Once again it's time for fun in the sun in central Texas as we make the Capital City the place to be in the middle of the Texas summer. Come and enjoy old friends, the swapfest, and all the events at Austin Summerfest 2016, the ARRL Texas State Convention. And as always, we also host the Summer Meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society.

Same hotel as
last year !!!

Check out
www.austinsummerfest.org
for late breaking news!

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 & sessions 'till 4:30.

The Texas VHF-FM Society meeting will run from 1 to approximately 3 pm, so mark your schedule.

Prizes

Prizes Galore! You have a chance at a slew of them, including these Major Prizes:

- Grand prize is a **Yaesu FT-857D** HF/6M/2M/70CM compact all-mode transceiver.
- Our *Featured Prize* is a **Yaesu FT-7900R** 50W/45W 2M/70CM mobile transceiver.
- A special *Bonus Prize* is a **Yaesu FT-60R** 2M/70CM 5W heavy-duty handheld.



Bonus Prize,
Yaesu FT-60R

Furthermore, if you register in advance by mail you have a shot at still one more prize—another **Yaesu FT-60R!**

With your registration you get one ticket good for Saturday's door prizes and the Major Prizes, and you can buy more tickets at \$1 each. Plus, if you rent a room at the Crowne Plaza, you'll get five bonus tickets for each room-night, up to a total of ten tickets. (See next page for prize rules.)



Grand Prize,
Yaesu FT-857D



Featured Prize,
Yaesu FT-7900R

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:

- Full-sized tables: 6 feet by 30 inches. \$10 each, limit of 3 to a customer. First come, first served.
- AC power is available at an additional \$5 per customer, through advance registration only.
- We'll attempt to honor requests from groups of sellers for adjacent tables, if we receive your registrations in the same envelope.
- 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 so we can notify you that way.
- Your table(s) will be held for you until 10 am Saturday.
- 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.
- Buyers and sellers must be registered at the convention.

We'll be holding a Tailgate swapfest on the east side of the Crowne Plaza Hotel. You need not be registered at the Convention to sell at the tailgate, but of course you'll want to attend the indoor swapfest and sessions, so it would be a good idea to register.

Technical Sessions

- ARRL West Gulf Division Director **Dr. David Woolweaver K5RAV** conducts this year's **ARRL Forum**, with Vice Director **John Robert Stratton N5AUS**. This year's special guest speaker is **Norm Fusaro W3IZ**, ARRL Field Services and Radiosport Assistant Manager.
- **Steve Hicks N5AC**, Vice President of Engineering for **FlexRadio Systems** will give us the latest information on Software Defined Radios.
- **Greg Jurrens K5GJ**, President of the **Roadrunners Microwave Group** hosts a session on the latest topics on the "high end."
- **Frank Aguilar N5SSH**, South Texas Section Emergency Coordinator, hosts a session on **Emergency Communications**.
- The **Central Texas DX & Contest Club** will present **Marvin Bloomquist N5AW**, world renowned amateur radio contester and **Steve Hicks N5AC**, Vice President of Engineering, FlexRadio Systems. Marvin brings a wealth of contesting experience and Steve will talk on using the Flex 6000 for DX and contesting.
- Join our **QRP Workshop** to find out how to do "the mostest with the leastest".
- **Troy Kimmel KE5BCK** along with other leading Austin meteorologists will conduct a program on the latest in forecasting technology and recent weather events in the central Texas area.

Driving Directions

The Crowne Plaza is at 6121 IH-35 North at US 290, Austin, TX, 78752. Phone (512)323-5466. Talk-in is on 146.34/94. Tone: 107.2Hz

Northbound on IH-35: Take Exit 238-A (RM 2222). Continue on the frontage road over US 290. Turn right into the west entrance of the Crowne Plaza parking lot.

Southbound on IH-35: Take Exit 238 B-A, marked East 290 Houston West 2222. As you go up the ramp, it splits. Bear right at the fork, taking the West 2222 ramp. As you get back down to ground level, stay in the left lane and take the U-turn under IH-35 to the northbound frontage road of IH-35. Get to the right side of the northbound frontage road as soon as possible and take the first right turn into the west entrance of the Crowne Plaza parking lot. If you miss the first turn into the lot, take the second one into the northmost end of the hotel parking lot and work your way back to the front of the hotel.

Westbound on US 290: Take the IH-35 North (Waco) exit. Shortly after the exit ramp, bear to the right; turn right into the south entrance of the Crowne Plaza parking lot. This turn comes up quick; if you overshoot, just follow the turn lane to the right onto the northbound frontage road and turn right into the west entrance of the Crowne Plaza parking lot.

Summerfest will be held in the hotel's convention center in the southeast side. The tailgate swapfest area will be made available Saturday morning in the parking lot section in the southeast corner of the hotel property.

Prize Rules

We'll award door prizes throughout the day Saturday, until noon. For these, you must claim your prize by 12:45 pm Saturday. We'll post your name/call or ticket number at the prize drawing table. Prize tickets are only valid for persons registered at the convention.

At 1:00, we begin drawings for our three Major Prizes.

For the Major and Advance Registration Prizes, you need not be present to win. If you're a winner, we'll post your name and hold your prize. If you haven't claimed it by the end of the day, we'll send it to you.

License Exams

An exam session Saturday afternoon will cover all elements. Bring a photo ID and one other form of identification, and \$15.00; if you're upgrading, bring your current license, any applicable CSCE's, and a photocopy of each. For more info email **Larry Gunter WB5BEK** at wb5bek@arrl.net

On Saturday morning **Jeff Schmidt N5MNW** has just what you need: **A Welcome and Information for New Hams**.

Amenities

Come on up to our hospitality suite. Room 505—that's where you'll find your old friends and new ones, too. There are soft drinks and munchies on Friday night, and refreshments on Saturday morning.

The Crowne Plaza's restaurant will serve a buffet lunch on Saturday.

Administration Matters

Exchange views with West Gulf Division Director **David Woolweaver K5RAV**, Vice Director **John Robert Stratton N5AUS**. Find out what's going on and offer your opinions and insights. The ideal way to get or stay involved!

As always, we host the Summer Meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society, scheduled for 1:00 Saturday afternoon.

Craft and Skills Events

Sandy Talen hosts our crafts session. No prior experience required. Come for a short while or the whole session and take home a completed crafts project. Did we mention, no charge? Children are welcome, but an adult must be with the children to supervise and help.

AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 2016



The ARRL Texas State Convention The Texas VHF-FM Society Summer Meeting

A word about our special guests...

The Texas VHF-FM Society is a group of several hundred radio amateurs with a special interest in the design and operation of VHF and UHF repeaters. The first meeting of The Society was held on August 8, 1965 on the picnic grounds of Zilker Park in Austin, Texas. Forty-five licensed hams were in attendance, including five XYLs. The Society now counts as members the licensees or technical custodians of nearly all the repeaters in Texas. Today, it continues in that role, minimizing intercommunity 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. 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.