



AARC OVER

**Keeping Austin Wireless
for Over 96 Years!**

Bulletin of Austin Amateur Radio Club

ISSN 1067-0262

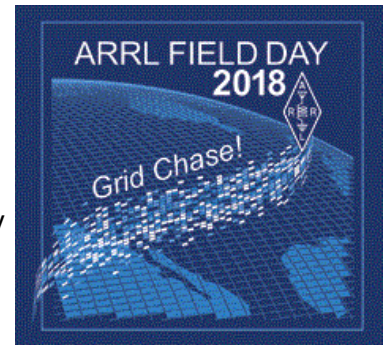
June 2018

Issue 06-2018

ARRL FIELD DAY 2018

by Michael Skurka, K5MSK, Editor

If it's June, it must be time for ARRL's annual Field Day. Held the last full weekend in June (23-24 this year), it is called amateur radio's *Open House* by the ARRL. More than 35,000 hams throughout North America are expected to deploy temporary transmitting stations in public places to demonstrate ham radio's science, skill and service. Local events will display the assortment of technologies and equipment that are used for public service and community outreach.



The event is open to the public. Come out and support the Austin Amateur Radio Club who will once again be participating in Field Day. As guests of the American Red Cross (thank you!), AARC will set up several transceivers, antennas, and other equipment at 2218 Pershing Drive in Austin, TX. Of particular interest is the **GOTA** station which encourages non-hams to **Get On The Air!** As per FCC Part 97 Rules & Regulations ([Part 97](#), PDF or a more easily readable version [here](#)), a third party can try their hand at operating at the highest license level held by the station's control operator (see Sec. 97.115 for limitations). Even if you don't have an Amateur Extra license, you can operate under the control operator's license and enjoy full privileges!

(continued on page 4)

Periodic Events

Sun	7:00 p.m.	Travis ARES net	147.36 MHz + (131.8)
Sun	8:00 p.m.	Travis ARES Packet (*in UNPROTO)	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 - (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 May 5th, 2018 at Bethany United Methodist Church:

Technician Class Licenses Processed

Brett L. Bachman KG5ZSK
William C. Davis KG5ZSM
Matt S. Waltrip KG5ZSO

Michael A. Casey KG5ZSN
Tiernan X. Lindauer KG5ZSR

Daniel W. Chadwick KG5ZSL
Chris B. May KG5ZSJ

Extra Class Licenses Processed

Scott A. Meyer KG5RUE

Robert S. Robinson KG5WTV

Examiners Participating in this Test Session

Craig Bean AC5KW
Sallie Howard AB5YL

Larry Gunter WB5BEK
Jim Kinter K5KTF

Rick Herndon K5FNI
Joe Makeever W5HS

Next ARRL VE Test Sessions

June 2nd - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 203/204

July 7th - Bethany United Methodist Church, Disciple Bldg. Room 203/204

TNX ES 73 DE W5HS
Joe

5-19-18

The South Austin W5YI VE team heartily congratulates the following people who earned new or upgraded amateur radio licenses at our May 19th session:

Amateur Extra Class

Young Ju Kim (NEW)

Brian Inberg, KB5TWJ

General Class

Tiernan Lindauer, KG5ZSP
Byron Olson KEORPK

Gaylen Phillips (NEW)

Whitson Waldo (NEW)

Technician Class (NEW)

Evan Spencer
Jeffery Hampton

Juan Pablo Pacheco
John-Matthew Hattaway

Michael Grote

Our administering volunteer examiners were:

Craig Bean, AC5KW
Bill Duke, AF5JD

Jim Matthews, KG5QFD
David Dyer, AG5OS

Sam Mihalik, KM5MY

Our next two amateur radio exam sessions will start at 2 PM on **June 16th** and **July 21st** in Fleck Hall, room 118 on the campus of St. Edward's University. All sessions are walk-in and the exam fee is \$14.

For additional information regarding our amateur radio examination sessions, please contact Craig, AC5KW at **(512) 474-6443** or by e-mail to **craigmb5@gmail.com**



2018 Officers

President	Ruben Fuentes	WB5WTF	president@austinhams.org
Vice President	Lew Thompson	W51FQ	vice-president@austinhams.org
Treasurer (<i>Interim</i>)	Mark Jenkins	W5MPJ	treasurer@austinhams.org
Secretary	Carston Buehler	KG5PAL	secretary@austinhams.org
Editor, AARCOVER, website	Michael Skurka	K5MSK	editor@austinhams.org
Technical (Repeater Contact)	Roy Walker	WA5YZD	wa5yzd@arrl.net
ARRL Travis Co. Emer. Coord.	Kerby Spruiell	KG5DLD	ec@austinhams.org
TC ARES PIO	Ruben Fuentes	WB5WTF	pio@austinhams.org

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

Sorry... Online membership registration is temporarily unavailable.

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	USE
146.780/ -600kHz	2m D-STAR Repeater [W5KA C]
146.880 107.2 PL Tone	Analog/Digital Fusion
146.940 107.2 PL Tone	Most popular, TCARES WXnet, Swapnet
224.800	
444.100	
444.200 107.2 PL Tone	
440.650 +5	70cm D-STAR Repeater [W5KA B]
1293.100/-20	23cm D-STAR Repeater[W5KA A]
1248.200	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.

Note: **No** AARC repeater has **autopatch** capability any longer.

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/scholarships> for more information.

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Members and other readers are *encouraged* to submit material for publication. Contact the Editor, if mailed submissions are required. Email and/or electronic files are encouraged! Submissions may be edited for publication (for content and/or space). **Deadline is usually the 25th of each month**, but late articles may be considered for future publication. Material may be used in a later issue. Unless otherwise noted, permission is granted to reprint AARCOVER articles, provided you credit the original author and the AARCOVER. If material is included in another publication, a courtesy copy to the Editor is appreciated.



AARC Members:

For Changes in your ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER or CALL SIGN

Contact: Mark Jenkins, W5MPJ / treasurer@austinhams.org

Mark handles all changes for membership information.



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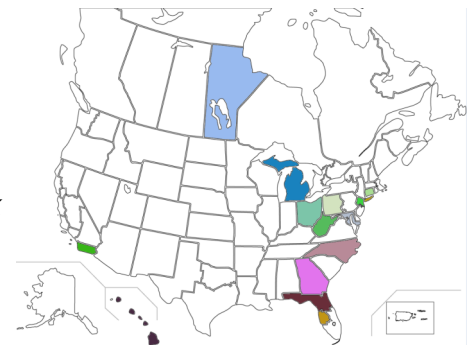
The event runs 24 continuous hours, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday evening and ending at 1800 UTC Sunday (or 27 hours for Class A and B stations if certain conditions are met - see <http://www.arrl.org/field-day> for rules).



To add some excitement, scores are awarded for contacts during the event. Stations are encouraged to contact as many other stations as possible, on any and all amateur bands (excluding 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands). Points are awarded for contacts and multipliers and bonuses awarded for certain operating conditions. For example, if all contacts are made using 5-watts or less AND using a power source other than commercial mains or motor-driven generator, the power multiplier is 5 (five)! If commercial mains or motor-driven generator are used (for powering transmitters/receivers or charging batteries), the multiplier drops to 2 (two). Emergency power nets a maximum of 2,000 bonus points if all transmitting equipment is powered completely independent of commercial mains. There are several other bonuses, including satellite QSOs, message handling, operating in a public location (such as the American Red Cross facility), media publicity, and operating a GOTA station (YES, we are!). This year, many groups and participants may choose to combine 2018 Field Day with the year-long operating event - [2018 ARRL International Grid Chase \(IGC\)](#) - working stations in as many grid squares as possible and uploading log data to ARRL's Logbook of the World (LoTW).

In past years, Austin Energy supplied a solar power demo trailer to power AARC's equipment. Unfortunately, the trailer is no longer available. However, AARC will be operating from emergency generator power supplied by the Travis County ARES Emergency Communications trailer. Thanks to TC-ARES, Kerby (KG5DLD), and a number of other gracious volunteers for working so hard to prepare the trailer! The trailer helps AARC achieve some extra points for off-grid power and gives the generator a workout to demonstrate that it's ready for deployment when needed.

Field Day is not limited to only clubs or groups. Individuals are also invited and encourage to participate! I earned my amateur radio *ticket* (slang for license) in early July, 2013. Darn... I just missed Field Day by about 12 days! In 2014, I *did* participate as a home station running on commercial power (Class D). My station was, and still is, meager and limited due to HOA restrictions. Even though I was only armed with a 20-meter *ham stick* on a pole up about twenty (20) feet and barefoot power of 100-watts, I scraped up sixteen (16) contacts, including one to Hawaii (3800 miles away). The map at right shows the sections I contacted. Yay! My station worked!



If you can make it, I encourage you to go visit AARC's station. You'll learn a lot from some very competent operators. And if that isn't enough to entice you, the *near-world-famous* K5EJL barbecue will satisfy any appetite! If you just can't make it out to the event and you have a home or mobile station, join in the fun and operate your own independent station. Even if you're not doing it for the contest aspect of it, it can be quite a challenge and a thrill to break through a pile-up and make that contact with a "big" station pumping out full legal power.

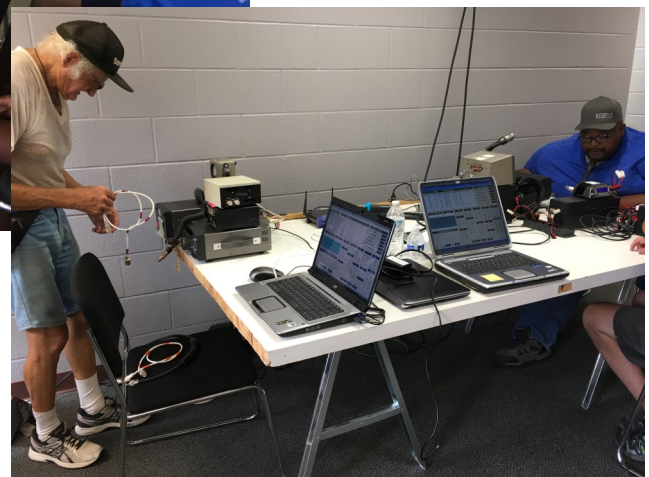
Join Us! Saturday, June 23, 1:00pm CDT through Sunday, June 24, 1:00pm CDT.
AARC Field Day at the American Red Cross facilities at 2218 Pershing Drive, Austin, Texas.
For other Field Day locations, visit <http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

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/scholarships> for more information.

Here are just a few photos from 2017 Field Day.



President's Corner

June 2018

DE WB5WTF, Ruben Fuentes

We sure are missing Jay's (KA5OST) experience and expertise as the club's treasurer but the transition over to our interim treasurer, Mark (W5MPJ), is going smoothly. He's been very available for matters at hand and asking all the right questions. Thank you, Mark.



By now, if you have not been living under a rock you've heard about the cyber threat targeting U.S. household and small business wireless routers. On Tuesday, (Memorial Day), the FBI issued a warning and recommended that all of these routers be turned off and re-booted as an effort to protect it. Most if not all of the major news outlets have published the stories on this matter. NBCNews.com stated, "More than half a million devices have already been comprised - with more likely to be targeted over the next few weeks. So, if you have not re-booted your router it might not be too late to do so.

We're just days away from ARRL Field Day 2018 (Saturday, June 23rd and Sunday, June 24th). There has been a lot of behind-the-scenes planning going on for this major event involving our Club. It will be a major topic of discussion at our next (Tuesday, June 5th) meeting. Please make every effort to be at the meeting and involved in this once a year event. It will be fun.

Thanks and 73, Ruben (WB5WTF)



Ham Of The Month

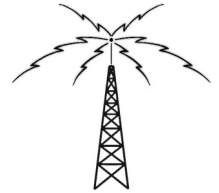
As nominated and affirmed at the May Meeting. Congratulations go to:

Bob Morgan, WB5AOH, Ham of the Month, April 2018





Over the WWaves...



Propagation Tool

This looks like it would be useful for ham microwave propagation studies.

<http://radiomobileonline.pe1mew.nl/>

I have not done more than glance at it.

--

Rick K5FNI

(Our office is installing a new corporate wireless Wi-Fi system and I was curious about what software is available to do RF modeling. I just happened to be looking at this site myself, earlier in May. Great minds think alike, eh, Rick?! - Editor)

A Plethora of Projects

This fellow has built an assortment of workbench tools as projects. They are of use to hams. His entire website is worth reading! Enjoy!

<http://www.scullcom.uk/category/projects/>

--

Rick K5FNI

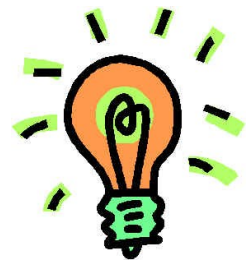
(Lots of cool projects to peruse. I'm adding this to my list of rabbit holes to explore! -Editor)

Hints -n- Tips

Location, Location, Location...

Looking for a quick and easy way to get Lat/Long for a map location? This site will give the Lat/Long in DMS as well as decimal degrees so you don't have to do any calculations between the two.

<https://www.itouchmap.com/?r=latlong>



Radials Made Easy

Tired of hand-digging trenches for radials? I have a lawn edger that has a stiff metal blade and I never thought of using it this way. It sure would make it easy to lay radials down in the yard. I may have to give this a try.

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/easyradials.html>

Increasing HT Performance

I've tried this, and it did make quite a difference in range. I sent my brother out on the road with a GMRS HT, and adding a counterpoise increased range by nearly 50%! Hopefully you can find an external point on the HT body to attach the counterpoise. If not, you ***might*** be able to use a thin ring terminal that fits over the antenna terminal. After adding the terminal and counterpoise, you do want to make sure that the antenna screws on all the way and makes proper contact.

<http://www.hamuniverse.com/k5luocounterpoise.html>

Just For Fun...

Word Search

Can you find all the words listed below in this puzzle? The words are taken from articles, news, events, or *anywhere* in this newsletter.

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

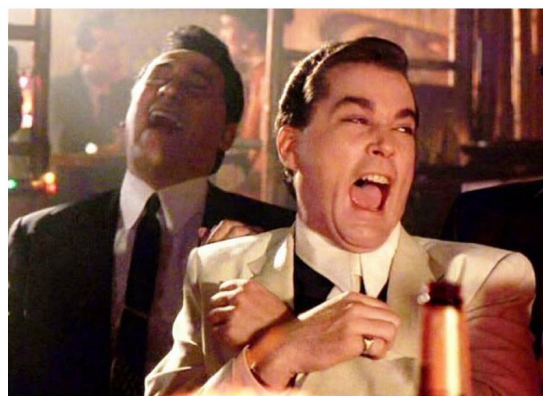
ARRL	FIELD DAY	MULTIPLIER
BARBECUE	GENERATOR	REDCROSS
CONTEST	GOTA	ROUTERS
EXAMS	GRIDCHASE	WIRELESS



Solution to Last Month's Puzzle

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

So I bought a new transceiver
and she asked...



“Are you going to sell
any of your old ones?”

This Month In History

Fact of the day: It was on 3rd June 1889 that the first long-distance electric power transmission line in the United States was constructed from Willamette Falls to Portland, Oregon. On 3 June 1898, the first wireless telegraphic message was sent by Lord Kelvin over Marconi's wireless system.

Field Day Hygiene

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ipg4tyN7AE>

Boring CW Repeater ID? Try this!

<https://www.kb6nu.com/w8src-repeater-ids-distinctive-say-least/>

Recycled Radio Tubes

<https://www.amazon.com/Gift-Idea-for-Ham-Radio-Operator/dp/B00NB0QYDI>



Minutes of the Regular Membership Meeting of May 1, 2018

The Austin Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

Meeting held at the American Red Cross Facility, 2218 Pershing Drive, Austin, TX.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., by club President, Ruben Fuentes (WB5WTF).

The other club officers present were: VP Lew Thompson (W5IFQ); and Secretary Carston Buehler (KG5PAL).

There were 32 members in attendance.

Ham of the Month: Stuart R. (K5KVH) nominated Bob Morgan (WB5AOH) as Ham of the Month. Roy W. (WA5YZD) seconded it. The motion carried.

Old Business

- Jeff S. (N5MNW) gave a report on this year's MS150 Bike Ride (from Houston to Austin) and the role of ham radio operators involved in this event. He also reported on the upcoming Maker Faire to be held next weekend at the Palmer Auditorium. He solicited volunteers to help with the booth at this event.
- Mike S. (K5MSK) requested materials for publishing in the club's newsletter. Materials can be submitted to editor@austinhams.org.
- Joe F. (K5EJL) reported on an event that he and Mike P. (WA5VTV) were involved on April 17th in Salado, TX., in which the students at Salado Intermediate School made ham radio contact with the International Space Station (ISS). The student audience was large as a selected few were allowed to ask two questions each to the astronauts. The contact was just a few minutes but was very successful and significant. A link of the audio for this event can be found on YouTube.
- Stuart R (K5KVH) reported on the status of the finalist student recipients for scholarships granted by the AARC. Disbursement of the funds for these kids is imminent.
- This year's annual ARRL Field Day will be June 23rd and 24th. Stuart R (K5KVH), Ruben F. (WB5WTF), and Lew T (W5IFQ) will work on some of the planning before the June meeting. At that meeting, they will solicit volunteers for this event which will be held at the American Red Cross, 2218 Pershing Dr., Austin. Michael S. (K5MSK) is creating a forum and Joe F. (K5EJL) reported on the Getting On the Air (GOTA) aspect of this event which is designed to encourage "newbies" to get started on HF.

New Business

- AARC Treasurer Position: Following the resignation of Jay Hoffman (KA5OST) as club treasurer, there was discussion regarding someone assuming responsibility in this position. Following this discussion, Joe F. (K5EJL) made a motion for the President to "appoint" a member as interim treasurer and then have that person elected by the membership if he/she chose to maintain the responsibilities of the office. Roy W (WA5YZD) seconded the motion. The motion carried and President Ruben F (WB5WTF) appointed Mark Jenkins (W5MPJ) as interim treasurer for the club and Mark accepted. Mark will collaborate with Jay Hoffman for the transfer of all items and issues necessary for Mark to take over as treasurer.
- Solar Weather Update: was presented by Lew T (W5IFQ).
- Kevin McCoy (KF5FUZ), of the American Red Cross reported on the need for volunteer drivers for Red Cross owned vehicles. Volunteers can contact him for the application process.

Stuart R (K5KVH) made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lew T (W5IFQ) seconded the motion and it carried. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

The educational part of the evening was moved to the TCARES Emergency Communications Trailer and was presented by Kerby S (KG5DLD) and Roy W (WA5YZD) and Reed.

AARC Meeting Info

Tuesday, June 5, 2018 / 7:00pm to 9:00pm

Location: Applied Research Lab
10000 Burnet Rd

Meeting Topic:
AARC Field Day details
and Solar WX Summary by Lew, W5IFQ

Officers normally meet from 6:00 to 7:00p.m. prior to regular club meetings and is open to all. Contact an officer for more information.

2018 - Calendar of Events

Jun 8-10 - HAM-COM is returning to Plano!

Plano Event Center / Return of the Outdoor Swap Meet
Talk-in: Primary - 146.720 pl 110.9 / 2ndary: 147.180 pl 107.2
<http://www.hamcom.org/>

Jun 22-24 - ARRL Field Day

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-locator>

Jul 7 - Texas City Tidelands Hamfest 2018

Saturday 8:00am to 2:00pm.
Doyle Convention Center, 2010 5th Avenue North, Texas City, TX 77581. Talk-in: 147.14 Mhz, Tone 167.9; secondary: 442.025 MHz, Tone 103.5.
<http://www.tidelands.org/>

Jul 23-29 Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)

AirVenture Oshkosh Airshow (Wisconsin)
ARRL will put Amateur Radio on display

Jul 26-29 Central States VHF Society, Inc. Conference

Conference to be held in Wichita, KS
Conference website: <http://www.2018.CSVHFS.org/>

Aug 3-4 - Austin Summerfest

Online registration via Paypal now available. Website is being updated as info comes in.
<http://www.AustinSummerfest.org/>

Aug 18-19 - Huntsville Hamfest

Von Braun Civic Center, 700 Monroe Street, Huntsville AL
Talk-in: will be on the 146.94 repeater (100Hz tone)
Backup: 145.33(-), 100 Hz tone.
<http://www.hamfest.org/index.php>

Oct 5-6 - HamEXPO! Fall

Bell County Expo Center, Belton TX
Admission fee \$5.00 per person, includes one free raffle ticket (\$2.00 value). Children under 12 free.
<http://www.tarc.org/hamexpo>

**More info & events listed in the [SWAPNET Newsletter!](#)
Visit <http://austinhams.org/swapnet>**

Upcoming Amateur Exams: 2017

ARRL VEC - June 2nd & July 7th

9 a.m. at Bethany United Methodist Church.
Room 203/204. \$15 fee. For more info, contact:
Joe Makeever, W5HS (512-345-0800)

W5YI VEC - June 16th & July 21st

2 p.m. in **Room 118**, Fleck Hall,
St. Edwards University. \$14 fee.
Contact Craig
AC5KW @ ARRL.net
for more info. \$14 fee.

Upcoming Meetings...

June	July	Austin Meetings/Happenings	Time	Address
5	10	AARC Meeting @ Applied Research Lab	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd
26	24	Travis County A.R.E.S. @ Applied Rsrch Lab	7:00 p.m.	10000 Burnet Rd
28	26	CERT Meeting @ TBD (see Link / Contact)	7:00 p.m.	TBD
25	23	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

Visit our website at <http://austinhams.org/>