



Hello Society Members,

It's just about time again for our annual Summer Meeting, held again in conjunction with Austin Summerfest, on August 3-4, 2007. The location of the convention has changed this year, and now will be held at the Wyndham Garden Hotel and Conference Center at I-35 and Woodward Street. Be sure to come out for a great hamfest and then our Summer Meeting, which never fails to entertain. Full details can be found in this newsletter and at www.austinsummerfest.org.

We will go over the results of our 2007 Member and Trustee Survey during the Summer Meeting. If you have not received your survey and should have, contact the Society Secretary, Mark Stennett, ASAP. We must receive your response by July 14, 2007, so do it NOW!

The real reason for this special edition of the NEWS is to provide you with information about the election. Inside you will find information on candidates for our five directors' positions that will be voted on. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at the meeting so it isn't too late for you to offer your services to the membership.

Finally, I'd like to invite you to visit our refreshed website at www.txvhffm.org. We are still making changes but it looks great, thanks to Secretary Mark Stennett. Let us know if you have any suggestions.

I look forward to seeing you all at Austin Summerfest and at our Summer Meeting.

73's,

John Johnson N5NH

President, Texas VHF-FM Society, 2006-2007

2005-06 Officers and Directors

President

John Johnson, N5NH (08)
6405 Widgeon Drive
Plano, TX 75024
H (972) 370-0765
president@txvhffm.org

Vice-President

W. E. "Rusty" Herman, KB5R (07)
116 S. Ave. C
Humble, TX 77338
(281) 548-1500
vicepresident@txvhffm.org

Secretary - Treasurer

Mark Stennett, NA6M (07)
418 Sunset Drive
Georgetown, TX 78628
(512) 569-3445 H
Sec@txvhffm.org

Dave Davis - WB5WIA (08)
4805 Spring Creek Dr.
Arlington, TX 76017-1227
(817) 272-3299
wb5wia@arri.net
(2006-08)

Louis Petit, WB5BMB (07)
1213 15th Avenue N.
Texas City, TX 77590
H (409) 948-0349
louis.r.petit@swg02.usace.army.mil

Robert Lobaugh, W5JYJ (07)
PO Box 296.
Sinton, TX 78387-0296
361-215-1599
w5yj@arri.net

Gerald Richmond, N5ZXJ (07)
3210 Glenwood Drive
Temple, TX 76502
254-913-7041
richmond@vvm.com

Hugh Davis, W5FM (08)
PO Box 123
Huffman, TX 77336
832-971-3651

Jim Hester, K5HTK (08)
104 Edwards Dr
Georgetown, TX 78628
512-868-1886
512-350-6112 (c)

(date after call is year of term expiration)

**The Following Directors terms
expire in August of 2007: Rusty
Herman, Bob Lobough, Gerald
Richmond, Louis Petit, and Mark
Stennett**

**The remaining directors terms
expire in 2008: Dave Davis, Hugh
Davis, Jim Hester, and John
Johnson**

Frequency Coordinators

State Frequency Coordinator

Paul Baumgardner - W5PSB
12936 Honey Locust Circle
Euless, TX 76040
voice: 817-868-7663
fax: 817-354-7736
coord@txvhffm.org

**Zone 1, Northeast Texas
All bands except 440 Mhz**

Craig Green - KV5E
2818 Emerald Drive
Mesquite, TX 75150
972-270-8234
zone1-2m@txvhffm.org

Zone 1, Northeast Texas 440Mhz

Paul Finch - WB5IDM
1417 Jackson Trail
Azle, TX 76020
817-444-0448
zone1-440@txvhffm.org

Zone 2, Southeast Texas

Zone 3, South Texas
Eric Schmidt - KA5WMY
120 Rucks Drive
Angleton, TX 77515
979-849-7703
zone2@txvhffm.org

Zone 4, Central Texas

Zone 5, West Texas
Paul Gilbert- KE5ZW
1209 Doris Ln
Cedar Park, TX 78613
512-260-9365
zone5@txvhffm.org

Mexican Liaison:

David Woolweaver - K5RAV
2210 So. 77 Sunshine Strip
Harlingen, TX 78550
956-425-3128
mex-liaison@txvhffm.org

Link Frequencies

420Mhz,900Mhz, 1.2Ghz
Johnny Stigler - WA5ZRQ
2617 Tallow
Euless, TX 76039
214-236-0222
links@txvhffm.org

Texas VHF-FM Society Standing Committees

Frequency coordination:

Paul Baumgardner, W5PSB

Database Committee:

Eric Schmidt, KA5WMY

Technical Committee:

Kent Britain, WA5VJB

Trustee (W5OGZ):

Jay Maynard, K5ZC

Newsletter Editor:

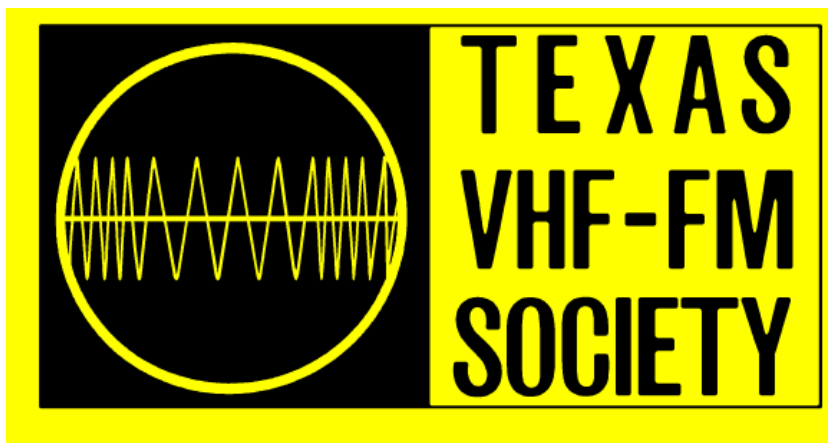
Dave Davis, WB5WIA

Election Notice

The annual election of directors for the Texas VHF-FM Society will occur at the Summer Meeting in Austin, in conjunction with the Austin Summerfest. The Summerfest flyer is included on the following pages to assist you in registering for the event.

We are now accepting nominations for the five director positions to be filled in 2007. Nominees that have submitted material have been published in this edition of the News.

Note that the rules allow for nominations up to the actual voting time in the meeting, so the list published in the NEWS will not be a final definitive list, but it will be a forum for candidates to introduce themselves to the membership.



The following pages are the material sent in by members wishing to announce their desire to run for the board. They are posted in the order recieved.



Charles Kosman, WB2NQV

I was born a Yankee but became a Texan as soon as I was able! I presently live in Wichita Falls and am active in weather spotting in a 14 county area in North Texas and Southern Oklahoma. I've been active in the "politics" of Amateur Radio ever since I earned my license in 1971. I served on numerous committees for the Hudson Division Directors during the 1970's and 80's, including starting the Division Public Information Office. Also on the technical side I sponsored the first digital conference in Flemington, N.J.. The out come of this weekend was the AX.25 protocol for packet. Established a three statewide repeater system with eight remote receivers in the NY/NJ/PA area. Helped establish a four state linked repeater system that is used for weather spotting in the Maryland, Delaware, Eastern PA and Western NJ coverage of the Phila/Mt. Holly National Weather Service Office. Helped design and construct the first ATV repeater and publicized this event with a Sunday morning special on the ABC TV network. Served as National Communications Coordinator for both the 1984 Olympic Torch Relay and the 1986 Hands Across America fundraiser. I'm trustee of five repeaters in New Jersey and six in Texas ranging from ten meters to 440 Mhz. I'm presently, as communications chairman of the Texoma Weather Spotters, in the funding and construction phase of a 440 Mhz / 1296 Mhz digital (D-Star) system. I've been active in the Society's business for a few years and am anxious to resolve the voting issue as well as help point the digital coordination in the correct direction.

Mark Stennett – NA6M



I have lived in the Austin, TX area since 1998 and reside in Georgetown. I've been licensed since 1976 at age 13 and passed my Extra Class exam in 1981. I grew up on a 35 foot sailboat, living with my brother and parents while sailing Central America and the Caribbean in the mid seventies. After the trip was over I went back to school and studied analog and digital electronics. I ended up working in the radio broadcast industry, doing engineering work. Twenty three years later, I work for the corporate offices of Univision Radio while also maintaining a couple of FM stations in the Austin area.

For the last two years I have served on the board of directors as your Secretary and for the last year, I have taken on the role of Treasurer. In the summer of 2007 I took on the task of streamlining the Society web site while getting it ready for the eventual implementation of an online coordination and membership database. I have taken none of these positions or tasks lightly and have done my very best to make sure that Society business is recorded and presented as accurately and detailed as possible.

As a repeater trustee with a VHF and UHF repeater system in the Austin area, I understand the complexity of the coordination process and am sensitive of the need to accommodate every potential trustee as efficiently and fairly as possible, while protecting underlying details. I believe in using internet technology and electronic processes wherever practical.

I realize that the wheels of the Society turn slowly yet I feel as if I have only just started to make a difference. As I look forward to serving you for another two years, I respectfully ask for your vote so I may continue this process.

73 de na6m

W. E. “Rusty” Herman



W. E. “Rusty” Herman has been a licensed amateur radio operator since 1974. During that period of time he has held Technician-Plus, Advanced, and Extra Class licenses. He was twice elected president of Texas Emergency Amateur Communicators, Inc. (TEAC), a club operating 2 meter and 70 cm repeaters in Northeast Harris County. He has been active in emergency operations for many years, beginning in southwest Houston and working in the “cave” under downtown Houston. Recently Rusty has served as the Assistant Emergency Coordinator for East Montgomery County. He continues to be an active member in TEAC, the Sam Houston Amateur Radio Club of Liberty County, and Montgomery ARES. As an officer in the USCG-Auxiliary, Rusty has become associated with the Coast Guard’s emergency use of amateur

radio facilities.

As a first-term director, and vice-president, of the Texas VHF-FM Society, Rusty attended nearly all directors’ meetings until hospitalized after an auto accident earlier this year. Responding to a request by the board, he drafted a revised Non-Disclosure Agreement for their review. He is in favor of a vote by mail system and of directors being elected from geographic areas.

Rusty is a practicing attorney with an office in Humble. He has previously served as a state and federal prosecutor, spent five years as a Texas municipal judge, and served three terms Roman Forest city councilman.

Rusty would tell each member, “I hope that I have represented your interests on the Board in such a manner that you will to vote for me again.”

Gerald Richmond - N5ZXJ

I have lived in Temple, TX nearly my whole life, Short of a few years serving in the U.S. Army's - Air Cavalry and a few years in Pennsylvania. I've been licensed since March 1992 and currently a General class. I have been employed the last 7 years as a Broadcast Engineer with our local NBC affiliate in Temple and have worked in 2-way radio a few years, installed and removed numerous towers and antennas, have built and currently maintain a number repeaters in the Central Texas area.

I have been a Life member of the VHF-FM Society since 1992, a Life member of the ARRL, a repeater trustee since 1993, and a veteran of the US Army. I Serve on several boards with the city of Temple, and Bell County regarding Public Safety and Emergency management and communications. I currently serve as the NTX ARES- EC for Bell County going on 5 years.

In my area of Central Texas, I have been instrumental in building multi-county-wide area repeaters, W5BEC-147.140, and N5ZXJ-145.310. Also in placing into service a 14 Hospital, 7 County ham radio network with voice and packet capabilities. Ham radio into the Bell County EOC, Milam County EOC, Bell County Health District and Texas State Dept. Health offices in Temple. All having HF, VHF, UHF in place. Many other Emergency Communications and Management projects still in the works for Ham Radio in Central Texas.

Also serve as a VE for both ARRL & W5YI test teams locally.

Currently, I serve on the Board of Directors VHF-FM Society in an at-large seat completing an unexpired term. I look forward to continuing to serve as a Director for the Society in the years to come.

I understand the Coordination process thoroughly and the sensitive nature of accommodating the needs for fair, proper and protecting the details of coordination in Texas. I look forward to the ability to request coordination's online, and yearly coordination renewals via online processing.

I want to see within the next year a Positive, Fair and Inexpensive method for voting state wide for the Society that everyone can agree on and have complete trust in. Whether its vote-by-mail or electronically done.

I brought to the board's attention the need to update our club trustee for our callsign W5OGZ. It has been updated and is now current.

I ask and thank you for your vote so I may continue to serve you the members of Texas VHF-FM Society in a Fair, Concise, and Positive manner in the years to come.

Have questions or concerns, please contact me, I'll do everything I can to get them resolved and answered promptly.

73 de N5ZXJ

I am Louis Petit, WB5BMB, Extra class, life member of the Society and ARRL, and other clubs. I have been a member of the Society for over 30 years and on the BoD for about 20 years. I have served as President and/or V, Pres. several times, and Secretary-Treasurer. I was President when the NFCC was first started, and the zone 2 coordinator during the 20 KHz. change and when the coordination standards were adopted.

I have been active in Red Cross and RACES/ARES emergency communications in Galveston County for over 25 years.

I enjoy V/UHF and project construction & equipment repair.

I like to promote tower climbing safety by being a tower climbing/safety instructor and High Angle Rescue Technician.

I have been employed by the U.S. Army for over 30 years where I supervise an electronics shop and am Diver/Supervisor for the Texas Gulf Coast, and am a DoD Radio Frequency Spectrum Manager for Spectrum XXI (21).

I wish to continue to serve as a Director for the Society and would appreciate your continued support and vote.

Louis
WB5BMB

This editorial reflects the views of the editor, Life Member Dave Davis, WB5WIA:

Impersonating other amateurs?

If you are not familiar with the not so famous Yahoo Group claiming to represent the Texas VHF-FM Society, you aren't missing much. If you are then you may be missing more than you think. It seems that some folks participating in this Group are trying to pull the wool over participants' eyes by setting up gmail email addresses that impersonate other amateurs for the purpose of posting messages in this Group. Messages reportedly coming from the Society president John Johnson and Society Registered Agent Joe Makeever have recently appeared.

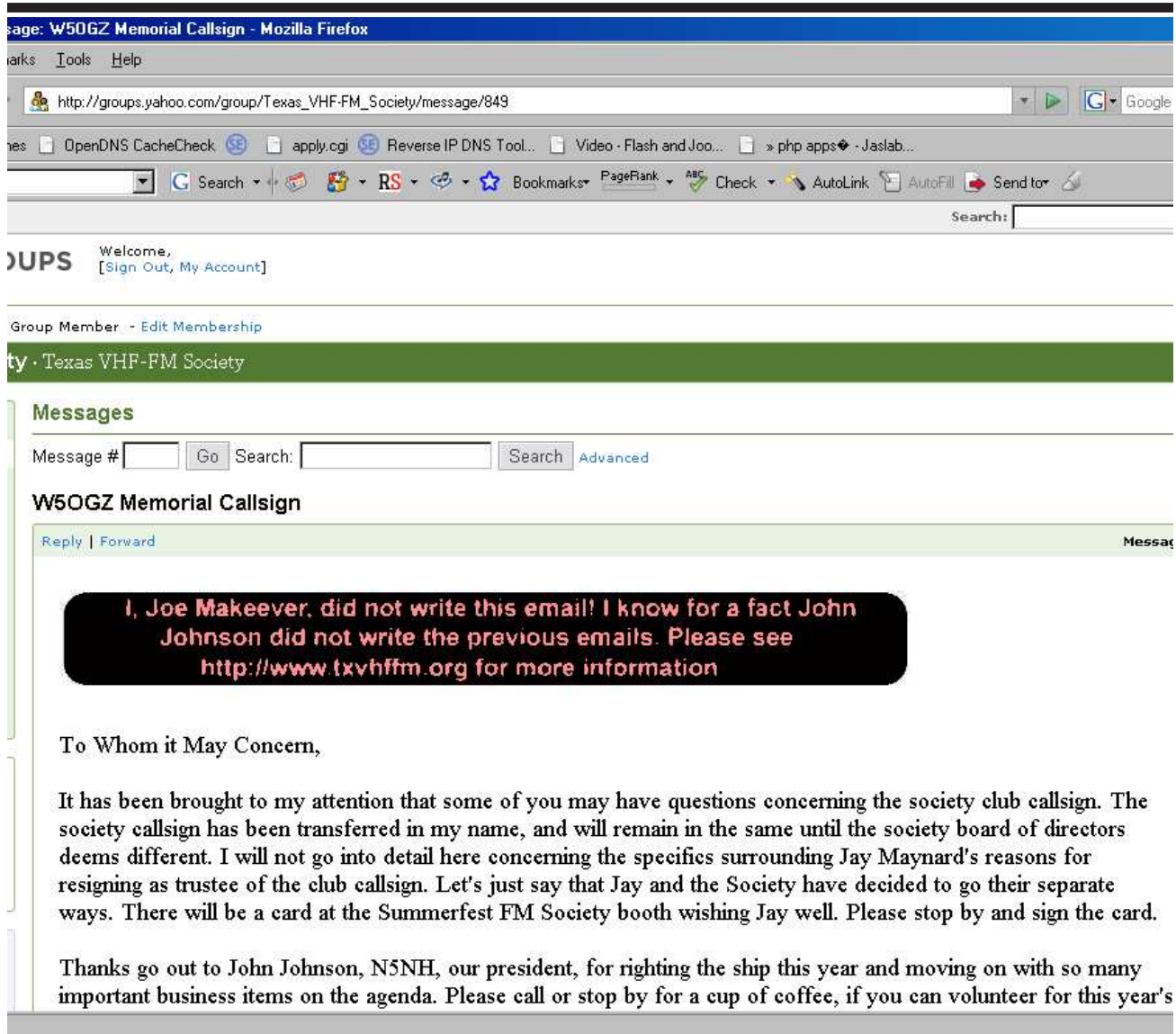
In the screen shot below, message number 849 showed up the evening of June 26th, shortly before 2200 hours, claiming to have come from Joe Makeever, W5HS. Obviously Joe was made aware of the posting and it was looked into. The imposter foolishly included a link to the Austin Summerfest logo located on the austinsummerfest.org web site in the message.



Now, Internet 101 says that one should always be careful when linking to images from a web site they don't control since the web site owner can quickly and easily switch out the linked image for one he likes better at any time. Such is the case here. Joe Makeever elected to have the image changed to reflect reality, as you can see in the second shot.

As you might expect, message number 849 was deleted from the Group on June 28th in the 1500 hour. Anyone with message 849 still in their mailbox will be able to see the linked image as

Continued on Page 7



represented by the second screen shot. If you want to see for yourself the original links, here they are:

The replaced image: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org/graphics/AustinSummerfest-Font-75.JPG>

The linked image: <http://www.austinsummerfest.org/graphics/AustinSummerfest-Font-75.JPG>

Finally, I have to ask, why the charade and the games? To pick on an honorable person such as Joe Makeever in this manner to me, is despicable. To give false impressions that president John Johnson is even participating in the Group is no better. And what happened to message 849? Why aren't the phony John Johnson messages removed? I guess these folks want to keep the participants in the dark while playing mind games with them.

Now you know...

Dave
wb5wia

AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 2007

August 3 & 4, 2007

Wyndham Garden Hotel
3401 S IH-35 (IH-35 & Woodward)

Austin, Texas

Continuing a Ham Tradition in its 24th Year!



Austin Amateur Radio Club makes the Capital City the place to be in the middle of the Texas summer. That's right--once again it's time for Austin Summerfest!

As always, we also host the Summer Meeting of the Texas VHF-FM Society, and this year, the ARRL Texas State Convention.

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 three Premium Prizes: Grand prize is an Icom IC-706MK IIG all-band radio. And our Featured Prize is an Icom IC-T7H dual-band handie. This year we're offering an Icom IC-V8 as a Bonus prize.

Register in advance by mail and have a shot at still another prize--an ICOM IC-T2H SPORT 2 meter handie!

With your registration you get one ticket good for Saturday's door prizes and the Premium Prizes, and you can buy more at \$1 each. Plus, if you rent a room at the Wyndham Garden, you'll get five bonus tickets for each room-night, up to a total of ten tickets.



Featured Prize,
an IC-T7H



Bonus Prize,
an IC-V8

The Rules:

We'll award door prizes throughout the day Saturday, until noon. For these, you must claim your prize within one (1) hour of the announcement. We'll post your name/call or ticket number at the prize drawing area.

At 1:00, we begin drawings for any remaining unclaimed door prizes. Then come our Premium prizes, culminating in the Grand Prize.

For the Premium 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.



Advance Registration Prize,
an IC-T2H SPORT



Grand Prize, an IC-706 MKIIG

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.

Note: Due to limited hotel parking space, we regret that we cannot offer a tailgate swapfest this year.

Technical Sessions

- Coy Day N5OK will conduct his perennial **ARRL Forum**.
- **Joel Hallas W1ZR** is Technical Editor of QST. Hear him offer his expertise on wide-ranging subjects, including a description of the QST equipment review process.
- The **Central Texas DX & Contest Club** once again has an outstanding program lined up for us.
- Gerald Youngblood K5SDR gives us the latest on his **Software Defined Radio** project.
- Find out how to do "the mostest with the leastest" in our QRP workshop.
- New to Ham Radio? Jeff Schmidt N5MNV and Ron Hambric N5SBN have just what you need: A Welcome and Information for New Hams.
- The **Roadrunners Microwave Group** hold their annual meeting and host a session on the latest topics on the "high end."
- Keith Pugh W5IU leads a wide-ranging discussion on communications through **Amateur Radio Satellites**.
- Joe Fisher K5EJL, District Emergency Coordinator, hosts a session on **Emergency Communications**.
- **Weather?** Learn about the latest in forecasting technology, and learn about recent weather events with leading Austin meteorologists. Hosted by Troy Kimmel KE5BCK of Austin Radio and the University of Texas and featuring a host of experts from Central Texas.

Administration Matters

Exchange views with West Gulf Division Director Coy Day N5OK, Vice Director David Woolweaver K5RAV, and other ARRL representatives. Find out what's going on and offer your opinions and insights. The ideal way to get or stay involved!

And please welcome our special guest from ARRL Headquarters, Joel Hallas W1ZR, Technical Editor of QST and Managing Editor of the National Contest Journal.

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

License Exams

An exam session Saturday afternoon will cover all elements. Bring a photo ID and one other form of identification, and \$14.00; 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

After the exams, Jeff Schmidt N5MNV and Ron Hambric N5SBN have just what you need: A Welcome and Information for New Hams.

Directions

The Wyndham Garden Hotel is at 3401 S IH-35 in Austin. Phone 512-448-2444. Talk-in is on 146.34/94 and 449.1/444.1 MHz.

Northbound on I 35: Take Exit 230: "West 290 Johnson City Bastrop". Proceed 1.1 miles. Cross over TX71. Right onto Woodward St. Left into Hotel parking lot.

Southbound on I 35: Take Exit 231 "Woodward St." Left onto Woodward St. Cross over I-35 and frontage road. Left into Hotel parking lot.

Eastbound on US290/TX71: Take exit "35 South San Antonio." Continue on frontage road under I-35. Left on I-35 northbound frontage road. Right onto Woodward St. Left into Hotel parking lot.

Westbound on US 290: Take exit "Burlison Rd Woodward St 35 South." Proceed 1.75 miles. Right onto Woodward St. Proceed .47 mile. Right into Hotel parking lot.

Austin Summerfest will be held in the hotel's conference center in the north-east wing of the hotel, to the left of the hotel registration desk. Convention registration will be in the hallway of the northeast wing.

Amenities

Come on up to our hospitality suite—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. Saturday evening we'll serve soft drinks, munchies and eyeball QSOs lasting into the night.

Craft and Skills Events

Free! Free! Free! Did I mention "Free"?

This year, we have another "Make it and take it" workshop and it is also "Come and Go" from 9am-12pm.

You will learn how to make a Copper Wire Garden Ornament with marbles and dichroic glass...and take it home!

You may also participate in an Arbonne skin Care demo by Cathy Case, Area Manager. She will have sample products and you may register for free give-a-ways!

All are welcome, including children (accompanied by an adult).

Austin Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
P.O. Box 4739
Austin, TX 78765-4739

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Austin, TX
Permit No. 2942

AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 2007



The Austin Amateur Radio Club presents:

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 amateurs with a special interest in the design and operation of VHF and UHF repeaters. Starting with a small group of hams over 40 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 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.