



Election Special Edition

From Secretary Mark Stennett, NA6M:

The Texas VHF-FM Society will hold their annual board of directors election at the Society's general meeting on August 5th at the Austin Summerfest in Austin, TX. Summerfest takes place August 4th and 5th at the Red Lion Hotel, also known as the Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza located at Interstate 35 and US 290, Exit 238-A, 6121 North Interstate 35. See <http://www.austinsummerfest.org> for more information.

The Texas VHF-FM Society is about to enter its 42nd year and is the ARRL recognized frequency coordinating body for the State of Texas. This non profit organization is responsible for 50 MHz and higher frequency coordination and for promoting efficient amateur radio spectrum use statewide.

There are 9 seats on the board and each member sits for a term of 2 years. In even years, 4 seats are up for election while in odd years, 5 seats are considered. The election will be held during the general meeting and all Society Members, excluding Vested, Associate and Affiliated Group Members, may vote. The Society will have a table set up at Summerfest both Friday and Saturday, where amateurs may join, renew or otherwise verify their membership status.

Nominations are still being accepted and you may nominate yourself. If you know of someone or would like to be considered on this ballot, please email a 150 word biography and photo to Mark Stennett, Secretary, sec@txvhffm.org If you are unable to email please call 512-569-3445 to make other arrangements.

The Society needs your help and your participation so please do what you can to be in Austin on August 5th.

Thanks and 73,
Mark Stennett, NA6M,
Secretary, Texas VHF-FM Society

James Hester, K5HTK

I was born in Taylor, Texas and raised and educated in Austin. I live in Sun City a suburb of Georgetown with my wife Kay. I am active in the community where I am a neighborhood representative and the Production Manager of the community cable access channel 79 TV station.



I was first licensed K5HTK as a Novice in 1956 when I was 15 years old. I am Extra Class and my call is the original issue. I was licensed VK8JH while I lived in the Northern Territory of Australia for two years.

I retired from Raytheon Corporation (previously E-Systems, Inc) in Garland, Texas in 1996 after 35 years of service. I was the Manager of Logistics Engineering.

I put the 147.240 repeater on the air for the E-Systems ARC and was the President of the Club for many years. I also was President of the Garland ARC twice and was instrumental in putting their 146.660 repeater on the air. I have been President and Secretary of the Williamson County ARC, served as Net Control of the Garland R.A.C.E.S for 8 years and currently serve as Liaison to the Georgetown Police for the Williamson County ARES.

I founded the Sun City Amateur Radio Club and served as President for two years and I am now the club Trustee and Chairman of the Technical Committee. I installed the 441.625 repeater in Georgetown (Sun City)

Building and experimenting are as important to me as operating.

Dave Davis, WB5WIA

I am completing my first two year term as a board member for the Society. Before that, I served 14 months as the Zone 1 two meter coordinator. Although 14 months is a short time for a frequency coordinator to serve, I learned a lot about the system and the inherent problems that we have in trying to put more repeaters into an area than the geography will allow.



I have served on the board throughout the previous lawsuit, and felt very constrained during that time about the lack of traction that we were able to generate as a board. We worked well together, but it seemed every time we wanted to get a project going, the Damoclese Sword of the lawsuit kept us from being able to execute. Thankfully that is over and gone, and the next two years can be spent working on problems that will have happy solutions. The “voting rights” act coming up at the summer meeting will be a watershed policy change for the Society. We will have more members voting on issues, and the Society will need to work very hard to provide information on all sides of the issues, so that the membership who choose (for whatever legitimate reason) not to journey to the general meetings to have a voice in the operations of the Society.

I look forward to another two years of advancing ham radio in the State of Texas.



John Johnson, N5NH



I have been on the Board of Directors of the Society for the past two years, serving first as Newsletter Editor and currently as President. Previously I was on the Board during the early to mid 90's and served as Newsletter Editor during that time.

I believe that the Society needs to improve in several areas including online services (Internet) and member services (handling membership items, voting, etc.) My goal as President during the past year was to get the ball rolling on these items, but I must admit that due to the lawsuit the ball is rolling slowly. However, I think we have now started to address these areas by activities including examining our election process and engaging on a new database for both frequency coordination and membership.

Our membership is diverse and often highly opinionated (not a bad thing by the way), and thus when decisions are made we will never make everyone happy. But hopefully we can study the issues as a group, make decisions that work for the majority of our membership, and continue to move forward.

Thank you for your support in the past and I hope to continue to earn it in the future.

Charlie Kosman, WB2NQV



I'm an Extra class and have been licensed since the late 1960s. Retired from AT&T after working in microwave relay for 30 years.

I was a temporary frequency coordinator for New England in early 1970's and was part of the committee establishing the Tri-State Repeater Council covering Eastern NY, Northern NJ and Western Conn.

Established the Cherryville Repeater Assn. (NJ) now operating six machines on three bands. Helped establish the Texoma Weather Spotters serving eleven counties in Texas and Oklahoma. Presently trustee for repeaters of both organizations and maintain my own machines on four bands.

I've been in the fore-front of technology; first ATV repeater in the Northeast, helped establish the AX.25 packet protocol and member of technical group establishing "Complex Repeater Linking Project" connecting 44 counties in NJ, PA, MD & Delaware now in use for Skywarn for the Philadelphia NWS.

I see the need for keeping up with technology, currently digital mode. Orderly introduction into the spectrum is paramount.

The Society's membership is diverse, not only in personalities but also in geography. Recognizing and understanding that is necessary to continue to have a well functioning Society.

It will be an honor to represent you as a board member.





Hugh Davis W5FM

Amateur radio has been part of my life since 1963. As a 13 year old, I volunteered at a local EOC as an operator as a hurricane affected central Florida. During my military career I assisted the military MARS operators in handling traffic out of Vietnam and Thailand. While based in Oklahoma, I assisted in the construction and activation of the first repeater in southern Oklahoma. I have worked with the SAREX working committee promoting young students communicating with our astronauts during shuttle flights.

For the last 16 years, I have been a member of a local repeater association, past vice president, president, net control operator and presently publicist of the association.

I am a life member of the ARRL and AMSAT a former ARRL Emergency Coordinator and presently an ARRL Emergency Station. In 1995, I became an Extra Class License holder. I operate from 160 Meters to 70 Centimeters using AM, FM, CW, SSB, PSK, APRS and SSTV.

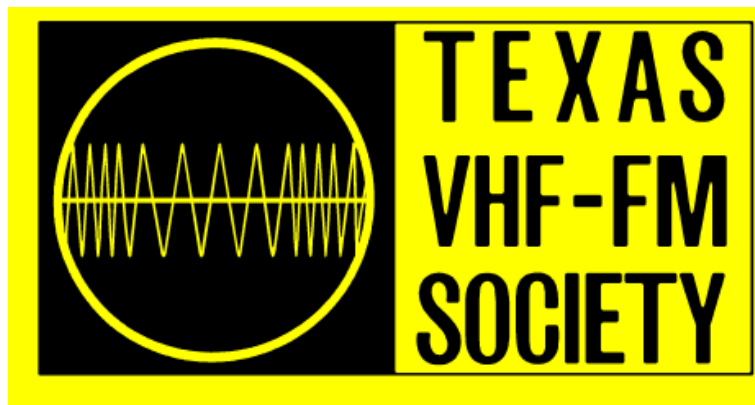
Recently I operated my station on emergency power and provided needed local communication during hurricane Rita (2006) and assisted with the communication needs during the arrival of Louisiana evacuees to the Reliant Stadium during hurricane Katrina.

Collecting classic tube type radio equipment is not only a personal hobby but one of my greatest joys. I have recently retired from a 21 year career as a Captain from Continental Airlines. However, I am continuing to work part time providing flight training to young student pilots to corporate pilots. This will enable me to devote the necessary time to the Texas VHF FM Society.

With a majority of the licensed hams restricted to the frequencies above 30 MHz, I feel the Texas VHF FM Society has a large obligation to provide fair and impartial representation to the management of those frequencies above 30 MHz. I believe in the continued use of and implementation of technology in our organization.

With your vote I look forward to representing your needs.

Hugh Davis, W5FM



AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 2006

August 4 & 5, 2006

Red Lion Hotel at IH 35 & US 290
6121 North IH 35

Austin, Texas

Continuing a Ham Tradition...

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!

- Dealers
- Exhibits
- ARRL Forum
- QRP
- Packet
- Emergency Communications
- Weather
- License Exams
- DX & Contest

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

Accommodations

Enjoy the facilities of the Red Lion Hotel. If you're staying in Austin, please consider staying at the Red Lion for the special Convention rate of \$80 per room-night. Showing support for the hotel helps to ensure that we can continue to stage our Convention in high-quality surroundings. The hotel needs your reservation by July 21st to guarantee room availability at the convention rate. Reservations guaranteed for arrival after 6 pm with major credit card.

Phone (512) 323-5466, and mention you are attending Austin Summerfest, hosted by the Austin Amateur Radio Club, to get the Convention rate. Make your reservations through the local Red Lion Hotel number given above if you intend to use the special Convention discount rate. (The national 800 telephone and internet reservation site will not recognize the Convention discount rate.)

Prizes

Prizes Galore! Grand prize is an Icom IC-706 MK II-G all-band radio. And our Featured Prize is an Icom IC-T7H dual-band handle. 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 handle!

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

The Rules

For hourly door prizes, you must be present to win and must claim your prize within one (1) hour of the announcement. Your name/call or ticket number will be posted inside the swapfest area.

The last hourly door prize drawing will be at 1:00 PM on Saturday. At 2:00, we begin drawings for all unclaimed door prizes, and then the Grand and Feature prizes.

For the Grand, Feature, Bonus and Advance Registration prizes, you need not be present to win. If you can't be present to pick it up, we'll send it to you.

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 'til 9, and start up again Saturday at 8 am, with swapping and sessions 'til 4:30. Then it's time for the Grand Prize drawing, so consider sticking around.

Please note that the Texas VHF-FM Society meeting will run from 1 to approximately 3 pm.

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:

1. Full-sized tables: 6 feet by 30 inches. \$10 each, limit of 3 to a customer. First come, first served.
2. AC power is available at an additional \$5 per customer, through advance registration only.
3. We'll attempt to honor requests from groups of sellers for adjacent tables, if we receive your registrations in the same envelope.
4. 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 if you have one so we can notify you that way.
5. Your table(s) will be held for you until 10 am Saturday.
6. Swapfest hours are 6 to 9 pm Friday and 8 am to 1 pm Saturday. Opening times are for both sellers (for setup) and shoppers.
7. Buyers and sellers must be registered at the convention.
8. And then there's our Tailgate Swap Area. If you have something huge to trade--or just want to worship the sun--try our tailgate swap area outside the hotel; first come, first served. As an outside swapper, you don't need to be registered at the Convention, but of course you'll want to, so you can visit with the indoor swappers and attend the sessions.

Please note that the Red Lion is now the Crowne Plaza... Same place, better name!