

# AUSTIN SUMMERFEST 2015

August 7 & 8, 2015

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

Austin, Texas  
78752

## Our 32nd 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 2015, the ARRL South Texas Section 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](http://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 **Bob Inderbitzen NQ1R**, manager for marketing at ARRL. Bob has been with ARRL since 1991 and he and his staff are responsible for ARRL membership and publication marketing. Bob collaborates with other staff, contributing to benefits, services and products enjoyed by all ARRL members.
- **FlexRadio Systems** will give us the latest information on Software Defined Radios.
- The **Roadrunners Microwave Group** hold their annual meeting and host 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 **Jim George N3BB** covering The World Radiosport Team Championship and **Wayne Mills N7NG** speaking on recollections of DX'ing. There will be a CW Pileup competition on Friday evening and Saturday, with prizes to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners.
- Find out how to do "the mostest with the leastest" in our QRP workshop.
- **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.

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## 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.

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## 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](mailto:wb5bek@arrl.net)

On Saturday morning **Jeff Schmidt N5MNW** and **Ron Hambric N5SBN** have 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 will serve a special buffet lunch on Saturday priced at \$9.99.

## 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 2015



## The ARRL South Texas Section Convention The Texas VHF-FM Society Summer Meeting

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AUSTIN, TX  
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Austin Summerfest, Inc.  
8609 Tallwood Drive  
Austin, TX 78759-8126

**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.