



RF NEWS

May 2017

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Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 4004, Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Web: www.brarc.org

Email: brarc@brarc.org

President	Jon Reise, WA9JBR
Vice President	Robin Hudson, KK5RH
Secretary	Todd Huovinen, AB5TH
Treasurer	Ken Shutt, W5KQ
Directors	Vernon Morris, AA5O Brook Samuel, N5DGK Daniel Smith, N5KHM Steve Irving, WA5FKF Dave Thomas, K5CGX Brett Hebert, KG5IQU Ty Mixon, KA1TY
Repeaters:	146.790 - and 444.400 + (PL tone 107.2) Both Yaesu System Fusion
Nets:	Region 2 ARES Net Sundays 8:00 PM 146.790 (PL tone 107.2) BRARC Club Net Sundays 8:30 PM 146.790 (PL tone 107.2) 10 Meter Net Mondays 7:30 PM 28.450 MHz USB

Proclamation

THE CITY OF BATON ROUGE PARISH OF EAST BATON ROUGE

BE IT KNOWN THAT

THE MAYOR-PRESIDENT OF THE CITY OF
BATON ROUGE AND THE PARISH OF EAST
BATON ROUGE

HAS PROCLAIMED

APRIL 23, 2017

AS

AMATEUR RADIO DAY

*In recognition of the Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club's 80th Anniversary,
and the many years of their service in the Baton Rouge Community.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of
Baton Rouge and the Parish of East Baton Rouge to be affixed upon this twenty third day
of April in the year of our Lord, two thousand and seventeen.



Sharon Weston Broome
Mayor-President

From The President

Steve Irving, WA5FKF and I had the opportunity to attend the National Hurricane Conference in New Orleans last month. It was held at the Hyatt Regency and was open to any Amateur Radio operator. The 4-hour workshop included presentations on the Canadian Hurricane Centre, the Hurricane Watch Net, a SATERN presentation, and a short talk about the need for Spotter Surface Reports by NHC Director Dr. Rick Knabb. Julio Ripoll, WD4R talked about WX4HNC, the Amateur Radio station at NHC. Matt Anderson, KD5KNZ provided a talk on the LA ARRL Section emergency operation. It was good to see the value Amateur Radio adds to our state-wide emergency operation.

A big thanks goes out to Robin Hudson, KK5RH who organized and cooked for our Founder's Day event April 23rd. As you probably have read, BRARC was officially chartered on 23 April 1937, thus our 80th anniversary. The Mayor-President even proclaimed April 23rd as Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Day! We had a nice turn out at HPRO with several of the guys setting up rigs and making contacts. Gerard DuCote, W5TZX even setup a JT-65 radio. All in all, it was a fun get together. The jambalaya was delicious, the weather cooperated, and everybody enjoyed the eyeball QSO.

I kept busy on Saturday, April 29th, and so did several of our club members. Dan Lott, KF5TQN and Paul Catrou, WA4MXT set up a club booth at the Main Library for the Red Stick Maker Expo. They had a nice display of home brew QRP radios and demonstrated CW sending and receiving. There was quite a bit of interest and they did a nice job of promoting Amateur Radio and our club. Thanks Dan and Paul.

From the library, I traveled over to HPRO to see the booth Dana Browne, AD5VC setup for Astronomy Day. He had a working HF station and was introducing the young people to Morse code, by having them send their name using a straight key. I made a couple of HF contacts and enjoyed the interest the young people took in Morse code. It was a great promotion for Amateur Radio. I saw Jen Bordelon, K5NMT and Dan, KF5TQN helping as well. Thanks to Dana and the crew for a nice job promoting the club.

Thanks to Ken Shutt W5KQ, Todd, AB5TH and Dan Lott, KF5TQN for creating and sending out the 2017 Membership Roster. The roster is your contact list for Active Members in the club. If you don't see one of your friends name, contact your friend and ask him to rejoin the club for 2017 – they are missing out on the fun.

The Radio Loaner Program is going well and has been used by three members since its inception.

Continued on Page 4

From The President

- Continued -

We have now added a second HT, a Kenwood TH-215A. If you need to use a HT, VHF/UHF mobile radio, or a HF transceiver with an antenna, contact a Board member.

May and June are great times to take a trip over to the USS KIDD and get some operating time in on Memorial Day, and then the big event on the first weekend of June – Museum ship Weekend. Dave Thomas, K5CGX does an excellent job of organizing our operations at W5KID – thanks Dave! Give Dave a call and get on the schedule to operate.

I hope to see you at our Eat & Meet club meeting at HPRO on Tue, May 30th. We will be discussing plans for Field Day, while sharing a nice meal with our fellow members. As I close out this column, I am on my way to Dayton for Hamvention, the largest gathering of Ham radio operators, in the world. This year it is being held at a new venue in Xenia, OH, just down the road from Dayton. I will get some pics and will show them at a club meeting.

I'll be on vacation the month of June, so I'll miss Field Day and our June meeting. Enjoy the weather and get outdoors to operate Field Day with your fellow Hams. I will see you in July.

73,
Jon, WA9JBR

80th Anniversary Commemorative Name Badge

Example



Name Badges and Coffee Mugs are
Available for Purchase from
Rick Pourciau, NV5A
The SignMan of Baton Rouge

Follow the link to place your order.

[The SignMan Badges and Mugs](#)





29 May (Mon) Memorial Day
USS Kidd Special Event
9:30 AM – 3:30 PM

Attention Please!

30 May (Tues)
6:00 PM

The Annual BRARC
Eat & Meet Club Meeting
will be held at the
Highland Road Park Observatory

Program Topic: Field Day Preparation

Please bring prepared foods. If your suffix
begins with:

A – I Main Dish

J – R Side Dish

No call - Side Dish

S-Z Desert or salad

Your family and friends are welcome to
attend.

3-4 June (Saturday and Sunday)

Museum Ships Weekend

USS Kidd Special Event

10 AM – 4 PM

6 June (Tue) Board Meeting

Red Cross Building 6:30 PM

13 June (Tue) ARES Training 7:00 PM

*See Page 8

15 June (Thurs)

Deadline for RF News Articles

Email to k5nmt

15 & 22 June (Thurs) Camps on the Air

*See Page 9

18 June ARRL Kid's Day

*See Page 9

24-25 June (Saturday and Sunday)

Field Day

Highland Road Park Observatory

*See Page 13



Fridays at Frank's in
Baton Rouge at 7:30 AM

Saturdays at James Grill in
Denham Springs at 6:30 AM



Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center

WX4NHC 2017

Who We Are and What We Do Our 37th Year of Volunteer Public Service

Our Mission – To Save Lives

WX4NHC is an Amateur Radio Station also known as "Ham Radio," located at the National Hurricane Center in Miami, Florida. The station has been totally assembled from donated equipment and is operated by an organized group of volunteer amateur radio operators since 1980.

WX4NHC has been activated whenever a hurricane is within 300 miles of landfall in the areas of the western Atlantic, the Caribbean, or the eastern Pacific. We also provide Emergency Backup Communications from NHC to NWS Offices and other agencies in case of local landfall.

The WX4NHC Team is composed of 30 specially trained volunteer operators that operate the Ham Radio station in 3-hour shifts. For example: during the Historic 2005 Hurricane Season the station was on-the-air, sometimes with 2 to 3 operators

at a time, for more than 500 hours. About 400 Surface Reports were received during Hurricane/Super Storm Sandy.

We operated twice from inside the Eye of a hurricane (Katrina and Wilma) and collected hundreds of reports each hurricane season! These "Surface Reports" provide the forecasters with supplemental weather and damage data that are not normally available to them, and are frequently incorporated into their advisories as they provide a human perspective and Eye Witness accounts of what people are experiencing during a hurricane.

The WX4NHC operators work in conjunction with the Hurricane Watch Net, VoIP WX-Talk Hurricane Net and other volunteer networks to collect real-time "Surface Reports" for the NHC Hurricane Specialists via Amateur Radio using many modes such as HF "Shortwave" Radio, VHF or HF Radio, VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) systems; Echolink and IRLP, Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) and volunteer weather observer networks, ON-NHC (Observers Network) & CWOP (Citizen's Weather Observers Program), using our on-line report form, email and Fax.

WX4NHC also relays Hurricane Advisories via the Ham Radio Networks to the hurricane affected areas and governments when conventional communications have been interrupted.

Continued on Page 7

WX4NHC Continued -

The WX4NHC Team has been nationally recognized for their volunteer international humanitarian efforts by the National Hurricane Conference and the South Florida Hurricane Conference.

Dr. Richard Knabb, Director of the National Hurricane Center: "When I was a hurricane specialist here at NHC, especially during the extremely busy year of 2005, I frequently relied on information from dedicated HAM radio operators in the U.S. and in many other countries. They are key partners with us as we disseminate forecasts and warnings, and collect all available data both while an active tropical cyclone is out there, and after the event when the crucial task of documenting the impacts is conducted. Our HAM radio friends are as passionate as we are at NHC about disaster safety and preparedness, and they provide a method of communicating that has withstood the test of time, even in the midst of other technological advances. Thank you to all who participate in and support this important community."

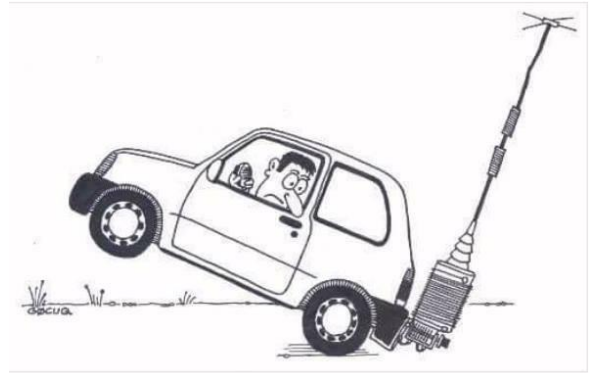
WX4NH
www.wx4nhc.org

BRARC Elmers

Buddy Brown, N5BUD
Keith Davis, KE5LVT

If you need assistance, please contact one of above. If you would like to be an Elmer, please contact the club secretary Todd, AB5TH.

Upcoming Hamfests



9-10 June

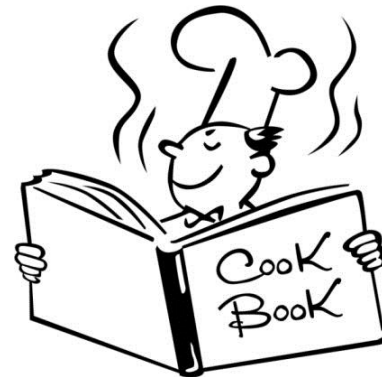
Hamcom, Irving, TX

<https://www.hamcom.org/>

12 August

Shreveport Hamfest, Shreveport, LA

<http://www.shreveporthamfest.com/>



BRARC 50th Anniversary Cook Book

Does anyone have a copy of the 50th Anniversary Cook Book? It was very popular, and includes some of the best recipes from club members. It would be great to publish during our 80th Anniversary year.

Contact Rick Pourciau, NV5A, at 757-1545



ARES Region 2 Local EC Report

Membership

- # of Region 2 ARES registered locally is 63, a decrease of 1 member since last reported.
- # of Region 2 LA ARES Section registered is 27, 42.9%, a decrease of 1.8%.
- # of Region 2 BRARC Club members registered is 43, 68.2%; an increase of 6.7%.

Region 2 Net

- 4 nets held since the last report with an average of 15 check-ins.

Training

- **The 3rd Quarter training meeting is scheduled to be held at the EBRP Mayor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness on Tuesday, June 13, 2017, at 7pm, on Harding Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA.** The program is being co-hosted by Robert Hobbs, N5ULA, LA ARES Region 2 EC. Topics include NVIS Antenna Purpose and Design for Emergency Communication as well as a tour of the RACES station at the MOHSEP.

Link: [LA ARES Emergency Op Plan](#)

By Michael Nolan, KD5MLD

Scouting



While K2BSA Amateur Radio Association, Scouts, Scouters, and interested parties, are preparing for the National Scout Jamboree in July, ***Camps On the Air*** will be active during the month of June across the Nation.

Our own local Council, Istrouma Area Council, amateur radio operators will be operating ***Camps on the Air on Thursday's, June 15th and 22nd***, as K5ASR from Avondale Scout Reservation in Clinton, LA.

The purpose of the one day event each week during summer camp is to allow Scouts and Scouters the experience of the fun and fellowship of amateur radio during the day and evening while at camp. For more information, contact, Michael J. Nolan.

Sunday, June 18, 2017 ARRL's Kids Day

Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to young people and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children. Kids Day always runs from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC. Operate as much or as little as you like. Suggested exchanges include, but are not limited to, First Name, age, location and favorite color. Be sure to work the same station again if an operator has changed. To draw attention, call "CQ Kids Day."

Suggested frequencies include the following:

- 10 Meters: 28.350 to 28.400 MHz
- 12 Meters: 24.960 to 24.980 MHz
- 15 Meters: 21.360 to 21.400 MHz
- 17 Meters: 18.140 to 18.145 MHz
- 20 Meters: 14.270 to 14.300 MHz
- 40 Meters: 7.270 to 7.290 MHz
- 80 Meters: 3.740 to 3.940 MHz
- You can also use your favorite repeater (with permission of the repeater's sponsor).
- Be sure to observe third-party restrictions when making DX QSOs

By Michael Nolan, KD5MLD



Chris Overbey, WA5DM, hosts a Radio Scouting Net on the second Thursday of every month. Time is 9 PM Central on Echolink *JOTA-365* (480809). Check in and compare notes about your JOTA station and all Radio Scouting topics. We're getting a good turnout of experts, newbies, and everybody in-between, sharing insights into what works and what doesn't work so well. Don't miss it.

This is a great net for anyone interested in ham radio and Scouting. Well organized and covers topics like scout camps on the air, Field Day, and JOTA/JOTI (Jamboree On The Air/Internet).

Also on Saturdays many Scout camps are on HF. Suggested frequencies are 14.290 MHz, 7.190 MHz, and 3.940 MHz.

– By Elmer Tatum, N5EKF



VE Testing Dates

July 25

***Red Cross Building
on Sherwood Commons**

October 31

Goodwood Library



On 29th April 2017, BRARC launched 2 simultaneous outreach programs; one at the Baton Rouge Maker Expo, and the other at the International Astronomy Day held at the Highland Road Observatory.

Paul Catrou, WA4MXT brought a KX1 transceiver, a 40 m 2 transistor rock-bound transmitter; both he built himself from kits. He used a dummy load and wires binding the transmitter to the input of transceiver as well as cabling to a laptop to encourage the public to send messages via CW to a laptop.

Dan Lott, KF5TQN showed off a hand built 40 m single tube transmitter made by a 16 year old Gerald Clouatre, AG5AY. Dan also showed videos made by Bob Heil, K9EID demonstrating the construction and testing of The Pine Board Project, a homemade tube AM transmitter; as well as inform the public about the early years of ham radio -- when nearly every operator had to build their own.

As the event wound to a close, a dozen people had expressed interest in Ham Radio & three took materials on licensing.



Two young ladies look on as their coded messages are decoded by the computer.



Dan shows off the maker roots of Ham Radio when most operators had to build their own rigs.

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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMY DAY

EXHIBITORS • GAMES
SKY VIEWING
RIDES • FOOD • RAFFLE

After packing up at the library, Dan joined Dana Brown, AD5VC, Jen Bordelon, K5NMT, and Jon Reise, WA9JBR at the observatory. Crowds quickly grew dense (dispersing briefly for the fire dancers) around the table as Dana demonstrated CW, and encouraged onlookers to send their names in Morse code with a practice oscillator.

Dana handed out over 50 certificates for those who sent their name, and a dozen packets on learning Morse code by sound. A dozen individuals also took home information about ham radio, and how to get on the air. Jon and Jen made a few contacts as special event station N5B, but the bands were uncooperative for SSB. After 9 PM, the crowds began to disperse while Dana and Dan continued working by flashlight. (Editor's note: I'm sorry I missed that!)

At 10 PM, Dana & Dan packed up the tent, picked up the inverted V dipole and cranked down the tri-bander Yagi on the dipole.

Article by Dan Lott, KF5TQN

Photos by Jon Reise, WA9JBR



Note the intense concentration.



Siblings try to send each other's names.

Field Day 2017



June 24 – 25

Highland Road Park
Observatory

Setup Time – Saturday
June 24 at 8:00 AM

Operating Times:

Saturday June 24 1:00 PM
until
Sunday June 25 12:59 PM

Details will be discussed at
the club meeting on Tuesday,
May 30.

Recap of Field Day 2016

“I counted 33 different operators in the log, at least 9 other operators not in the log, and 22 members of the public participated at the GOTA station. According to Chris Kersey, the Observatory Director, we had a total of 120 people participating on Saturday.

We set up one CW station, a CW/SSB station, and a SSB/digital station. We had a GOTA station, and a station for 6m as well.

Our log had 633 CW QSOs, 404 SSB, and 33 digital contacts on the HF stations, and the GOTA station got 112 contacts.”

*From RF News July 2016 - By D. Browne, AD5VC
Jen, K5NMT*

**Invite your friends and family to
join in the fun!**



USS KIDD Special Events

Armed Forces Day
20 May 2017



The river is high, and we were floating. Cables were swinging, and we were rocking with the ship in its cradle dock.

Jen, K5NMT opened the station at 10:45, and was soon joined by Russ, NS5W, and Don, KF5OHZ. John, WA5MLF joined us later. We were unable to make any contacts on 40 m, and quickly tuned to 20 m because my mission was to make at least 75 contacts. The bands were uncooperative, but we held the frequency for 3 hours and logged 80+ contacts. We made DX contacts in the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Mexico, and Canada.

It was a special day for me because I made my first QSO by the guidance of Thornton Cofield, K5HLC on Armed Forces Day 2016. My life changed on that day. At the time, I had just begun to study, and was unsure of the hobby. My mentor, who lives out of state, strongly urged me to operate with the club. Being the sentimental fool that I am, while reminiscing on my first year of amateur radio, I am touched by the efforts, encouragement, and time that so many club members invested in me. I cannot adequately express my gratitude.

– Jen, K5NMT

Operators Needed for
Memorial Day
29 May (Monday)

Contact Dave Thomas, K5CGX

***On this day, we honor not the living, but
those who gave their lives for freedom.***



This was one of the most sobering moments of my life. I took this photo at the USS Kidd Museum in 2013. The names of those who recently gave their lives during combat were being inscribed into the memorial wall.

– Jen, K5NMT

USS KIDD, W5KID
Museum Ships
Weekend
Saturday &
Sunday
3-4 June 2017

Sponsored by

The Battleship New
Jersey Amateur Radio
Station

MUSEUM
SHIPS
WEEKEND

June 3-4,
2017

0000Z June
3, to 2359Z
June 4, 2017

PLEASE
NOTE: This
is NOT a
contest!

It is a FUN
Event!



[Link](#)

Operators Needed:

The USS KIDD will be participating along with 92 other museum ships in this event. Hams will be trying to contact as many ships as possible and can receive an award certificate for confirming 15 ships worked. Visit www.nj2bb.org and click on the Museum Ships link for rules and list of participating ships.

Technicians and anyone interested in ham radio are encouraged to participate and gain first-hand experience operating the phone bands with a skilled operator as your mentor. General and Extra Class operators can experience the excitement of working pile ups, which often occur when W5KID is on the air.

14 operators participated last year. Reserve your 1-hour operating/logging time slot now.

Article Links Amateur Radio Growth to Emergency Communications

04/13/2017

An April 11 article, "Emergency Communications Driving Increase in Amateur Radio Operators," in *Emergency Management* magazine links the growth in Amateur Radio numbers to interest in emergency communications.

"There has been a tremendous amount of interest in emergency preparedness since 9/11 and Katrina, and this is true for the Amateur Radio community as well," ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, K11U, told the publication. "Emergency communications is a gateway into Amateur Radio, and many join our ranks through an interest in being better prepared themselves and as a way to serve their community."

The article cites numbers from ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, who notes that 2016 was the third year in a row that the total number of new licenses exceeded 30,000.

The article also cites ARRL Colorado Section Manager Jack Ciaccia, WM0G, who agreed with the premise that the uptick in new licenses is due to Amateur Radio's emergency capabilities.

"Interest really peaks after a large-scale event where ham radio has been utilized," Ciaccia said. "When regular phone service fails, Amateur Radio operators fill the communications gap with their independent transceivers and battery power backups," said the article, which also discusses the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES).

Source: www.arrl.org



Hurricane Season begins on 1 June, and is expected to be very active.

[Link: Weather.com Hurricane Season](http://Weather.com/HurricaneSeason)

Contest Corral

June 2017

10-12 June VHF
18 Kids Day

[Link: ARRL Contest Calendar](#)

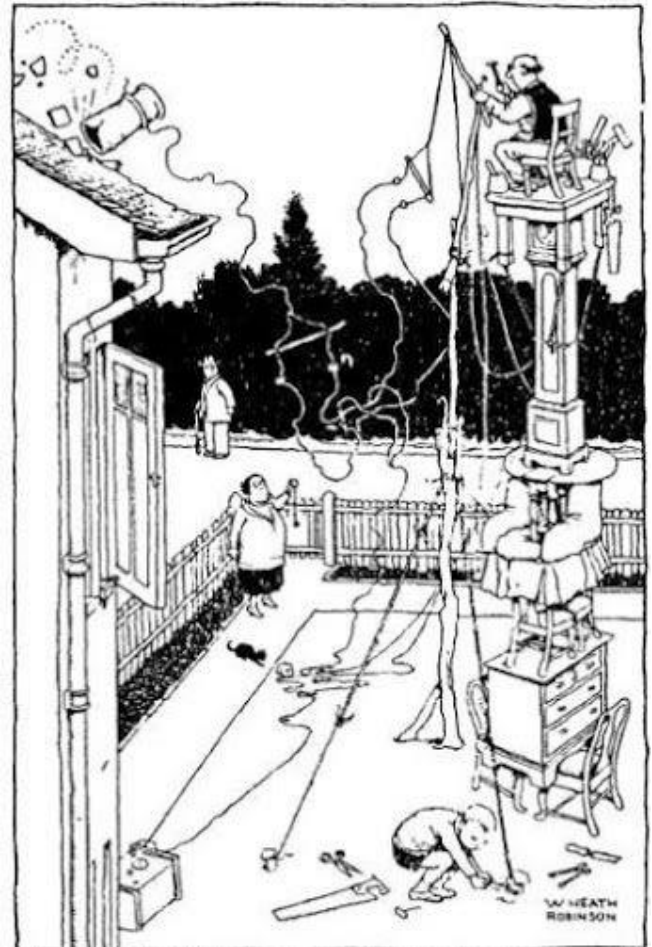
May Event Checklist

- ✓ Eat & Meet Meeting
- ✓ Scouting and Kids Day
- ✓ ARES Training
- ✓ USS Kidd Memorial Day and Museum Ships Weekend
- ✓ Field Day
- ✓ Consider submitting an article by June 15 for RF News:
 - What was your favorite food at the Eating Meeting?
 - What is your favorite Field Day activity?
 - Do you have any advice for new hams?
 - Any contest news?
 - Gear for sale?
 - Party at your house?

Radio Loan Program



Visit BRARC.org for
More information and
Application.



Always trying to get the antenna higher.

- Newsletter respectfully submitted by
Jennifer Bordelon, K5NMT.