



# RF NEWS

September 2017

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## Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 4004, Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Web: [www.brarc.org](http://www.brarc.org)

Email: [brarc @ brarc.org](mailto:brarc@brarc.org)

<b>President</b>	Jon Reise, WA9JBR
<b>Vice President</b>	Robin Hudson, KK5RH
<b>Secretary</b>	Todd Huovinen, AB5TH
<b>Treasurer</b>	Ken Shutt, W5KQ
<b>Directors</b>	Vernon Morris, AA5O Brook Samuel, N5DGK Daniel Smith, N5KHM Steve Irving, WA5FKF Dave Thomas, K5CGX Brett Hebert, KG5IQU Ty Mixon, KA1TY
<b>Repeaters:</b>	146.790 - and 444.400 + (PL tone 107.2) Both Yaesu System Fusion
<b>Nets:</b>	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



## From The President September 2017

It's nice to be experiencing some cooler fall days. Now we can go outdoors and do some of that antenna work that we have been putting off. For those of you that tried to attend our August club meeting at the library, I apologize that it was cancelled. We had a scheduling conflict at the library and were not able to get our room that night. It was unfortunate that we only found out when we arrived that evening. I know that we were eager to hear Daniel Webb's presentation on WinLink2000, but the good news is that Daniel has graciously agreed to present at our September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

By now, you have received our club's **proposed changes to the Bylaws**. As we all know, nothing stays the same, and with that in mind, our Board decided to setup a committee to review our current Bylaws to see if they needed updating. The last time they were updated was 2008. The committee recommended numerous updates without increasing the length or complexity of the Bylaws.

No major changes were made. Our Board voted to accept these changes. These recommendations should allow our club and Board to operate more efficiently going forward. Hopefully you have reviewed the recommendations – if not please do so and plan on **casting your vote at our September 26<sup>th</sup>** club meeting. Current Active members are asked to **bring their ballot** to our club meeting. The ballot has been sent by email as a **separate attachment** with this newsletter. Todd Huovinen AB5TH, Club Secretary will also have **printed ballots** at the Club meeting. Only members attending that meeting will have a chance to vote. I want to thank the Bylaws Committee for their hard work over many months. Now the decision is in your hands. Please do your part and cast your vote!

In Article II of our Bylaws, we state the purpose of our club. In part we say our purpose is "to educate members and the public concerning Amateur Radio." We try to participate in the appropriate community events throughout the year, to accomplish this. **On October 21<sup>st</sup>**, we will again be participating in the **Baton Rouge Mini Maker Faire** at the Main Library on Goodwood. We will have a display booth showing Amateur Radio technology. This is a great way to show the young attendees that our hobby is innovative, dynamic and encourage them to participate. Please help out in our booth, if you have the time, by **contacting Dan Lott, KF5TQN**.

**Continued on Page 3**

## FTP Continued -

I am jumping a little ahead in time, but I want you to mark your calendar for **November 28<sup>th</sup>**. This is our normal scheduled club meeting with a little more bang for the buck. This will be our election for 2018 Officers and Board members, as well as our annual club auction. And while you are voting and bidding on all kinds of good stuff, you will be enjoying our **Pot Luck Dinner**, just like we have every May. So start collecting all of your radios, antennas, and accessories and bring them to the meeting. All proceeds of this auction benefit our club.

One last note, our long time club member, **David Assaf, W5XU** tells me that he will again take part in a **DXpedition**, this time as part of a 9-man team who will activate **Mellish Reef**, off the east coast of Australia. The DXpedition will operate 4-stations as **VK9MA from 3 Nov to 16 Nov** on all bands, using CW, RTTY, and SSB. Mellish Reef is the 28<sup>th</sup> most wanted entity on Clublog. Get all the details at [vk9ma.com](http://vk9ma.com). Start making your preparations now to work David!

Enjoy the beautiful weather and all the great football this fall. All we need now are a few more sunspots!  
Until next month, take care.

73,  
Jon, WA9JBR



**Sept 21 (Thurs)** Technician Class 6:00 PM  
Goodwood Library Technology Lab  
\*\*The class will also meet on Sept 28 and Oct 5, 12, 19 & 26

**Sept 23 (Sat)** Central Louisiana ARC  
Hamfest, Alexandria, LA

**Sept 26 (Tues)** BRARC Meeting 7:00 PM  
Goodwood Library  
Program Topic: *Winlink, Global Radio*  
Email - By Daniel Webb, K5DMW

**Sept 30 (Sat)**  
ARC of Shreveport  
Tailgate/Swap Meet/Catfish Fry  
Shreveport, LA

**Oct 3 (Tue)** BRARC Board Meeting  
Red Cross Building 6:30 PM

**Oct 15 (Sun)** Deadline for submitting  
articles for RN News

**Oct 21 (Sat)** BR Mini Maker Faire  
10:00 AM – Goodwood Library  
[Mini Maker Faire Link](#)

**Oct 21 (Fri-Sun)** JOTA-JOTI  
Avondale Scout Reservation  
See Page 7

**Oct 27-29 (Fri-Sun)** DXpedition  
IOTA Grand Isle

## Breakfast



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

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

## Hamfest Calendar

### 22 – 23 September

Central Louisiana ARC Hamfest  
Alexandria, LA

[CLARC Hamfest Link](#)

### 30 September

ARC of Shreveport  
Tailgate/Swap Meet/Catfish Fry  
Shreveport, LA

[ARCOS Link](#)

### 11 November

Greater New Orleans Hamfest  
Crescent City Amateur Radio Group  
Harahan, LA

[GNO Hamfest Link](#)

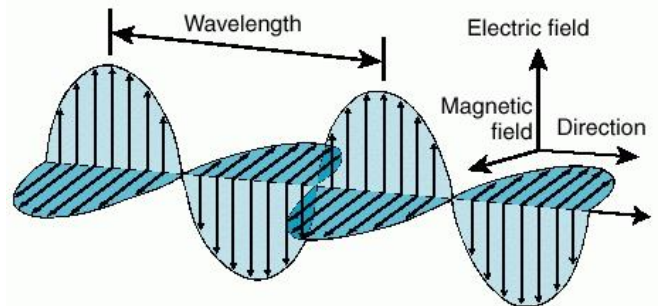
## Hamfest

### 16 December

MARA Annual Christmas Hamfest  
Minden, LA

[Christmas Hamfest Link](#)

## Technician Licensing Class



Amateur Radio Operator Technician Licensing Classes are being held at the East Baton Rouge Parish Main Library on Goodwood Boulevard. The classes begin at 6 pm on Thursdays in the 2nd floor Technology Lab and run until October 26, 2017. The recommended text for the classes is Stu Turner's HamRadioSchool.com Technician & General License Course.

Anyone interested in learning about Amateur Radio is welcome to attend. If you have any questions, send an email to [brarc @ brarc.org](mailto:brarc@brarc.org)

✓ **Next VE Testing Date is October 31 at 6 PM at the Goodwood Library.**

## Experiences at Red Cross's Hurricane Harvey's Preparations Center



Robin Hudson, KK5RH, with communication checklist in hand.

Michael Nolan, KD5MLD, called for volunteers on August 27th to assist Red Cross in Baton Rouge with the processing of approximately 1,000 volunteers coming to Baton Rouge for training to be deployed to the flooded areas in Texas. Steve Irving, WA5FKF, was the Disaster Services Technology (DST) Lead for Red Cross.

Robin Hudson, KK5RH, Dan Lott, KF5TQN, Mary Irving, KF5DSR, and Jon Reise, WA9JBR, arrived shortly after Michael's request while Thornton Cofield, K5HLC, did not join them until Wednesday, August 30. Being a new Red Cross volunteer I found the organizational structure somewhat confusing, but I did know several volunteers and the second I told them I was with the DST section they assumed I knew what I was doing. That was somewhat a relief because I didn't.

During Red Cross's 9am briefing sessions and after talking with Steve I realized that Baton Rouge was a staging area for materials and people assigned to Texas. I believe this was the first time Baton Rouge served in this function so much of work flow pattern was unfamiliar.

Our DST duties as I understood them were to resolve any communication issues that arose which included radio communications on those Emergency Resource Vehicles (ERVs) leaving for Texas. All the electronics had to function, and the drivers had to know how to use their radios and the frequency they were assigned. Since Baton Rouge was designated a staging area for Texas, the ERVs were assigned a check list for vehicle operability, communications functionality, and then outfitted with water, snacks, and other items to help sustain the displaced population affected by Hurricane Harvey in Texas.

It turned out that our duties during the 3 days I was with the group did not involve much airwave communications as completing the written communication check list required for each ERV, and resolving any ERV communication issues which included public address broadcast functions before the ERV was released for duty. We checked whether the radio worked, condition of the antenna, SWR, radio frequency settings, cable placement related to safety concerns, etc. on each ERV.

**Continued on Page 6**

## Red Cross Preparations Continued -

Most, if not all of the transceivers were commercial Vertex VX-6000 radios, and we did replace at least one radio. Several PA horns mounted in or below the ERV bumper were replaced as well as several antenna whips and antenna ball mountings due to excessive rust, corrosion, and bad insulators. SWR problems were extremely rare and were resolved by replacing the antenna. We also showed several new drivers how to operate their radio. Everyone seemed to enjoy their assignments and thought it was a great learning experience.



Dan Lott, KF5TQN, replacing a non-functioning PA horn on #1092 ERV.

- Thornton Cofield, K5HLC



The Ham Aid Fund was created in 2005 in response to the need for equipment and resources to support the Amateur Radio response to Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma. Ham Aid equipment is available on loan to Amateur Radio organizations during disaster response when communications equipment is unavailable. – ARRL

[Link to ARRL Ham Aid](#)

## Members Encouraged to Vote on Updated Bylaws at September 26, 2017 Club Meeting

The club's updated bylaws were approved by the Board of Directors at the August Board meeting.

Approval and adoption of the bylaws will be presented to the membership for a vote at the September 2017 club meeting.

The updates clarified the club's membership categories, terms of office and added Public Information and Outreach as well as Finance to the standing committees.

The update of the bylaws continues to reflect the club's core values and is recorded in the bylaws as follows:

ARTICLE II PURPOSE The Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club is a nonprofit Corporation organized to facilitate the exchange of radio knowledge and information among its members; to promote operating skills; to conduct its programs and activities to be of service to the general public and to educate members and the public concerning Amateur Radio in the areas of public service, emergency communications, and communications technology; to advance the interest and welfare of Amateur Radio.

Thanks to all those that contributed to this update that reinforces the club's vision and provides guidance for the future.

Members are encouraged to review the bylaws and cast a vote at the September 26, 2017 BRARC club meeting.

- Brett Hebert, KG5IQU

# BRARC Club Scouting Report September 2017



Do you want to attend a Scout Jamboree without travel? Want to attend every year instead of waiting four years? How about attending the annual Jamboree-on-the-Air – Jamboree on-the-Internet? JOTA-JOTI is active every year, the third weekend of October, and involves over 150 countries and typically one million Scouts. It uses modern communication technology to offer Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without even leaving home.

Jamboree-On-The-Air and Jamboree-On-The-Internet (JOTA-JOTI) is an official international event of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM). JOTA-JOTI is a youth program event intended for young people in Scouting of all ages. The purpose of JOTA-JOTI is to enable and encourage Scouts around the world to communicate with one another by means of amateur radio and the internet, providing a fun and educational Scouting experience and promoting their sense of belonging to a worldwide Scout Movement.

The World JOTA-JOTI Team has prepared a Participant's Guide. It tells all about the largest Scouting event in the world and how you can get involved. You can download it at this link [JOTA-JOTI Participant's Guide](#). For additional information check out the K2BSA Association website.

Locally, there is an opportunity to provide our Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts the opportunity on Saturday, October 21, 2017, at Avondale Scout Reservation using our Rez call sign, K5ASR. There will be large contingent of Packs and Troops camping at Lake Magee, ASR, that weekend. If you would like to operate in the field during JOTA, please contact Michael J. Nolan.

*- Michael Nolan, KD5MLD*

## Participants Encouraged to File JOTA Reports



K7QQQ, above, filed their JOTA report in 2014 and provided some great photos. Please add this important aspect of the weekend to your plans for Jamboree on the Air. We need your report to demonstrate the success of JOTA to those in Scouting and amateur radio.

**Continued on Page 8**

## JOTA Continued -

During the event capture a few key numbers: Scouts and Girl Scouts participating, visitors participating, amateur radio operators involved, radios on the air, total number of contacts, as well as states and countries contacted.

We would also like to see your best photos and hear some stories about your event. Add this to your JOTA action plan and make the assignment to someone on your team.

You can find a full list of things to do for your report at [JOTA Station Report Best Practices](#). If you're not yet ready to register your JOTA station but want to receive email updates, or if you just want to get on our mailing list, you can sign up at [JOTA Email Sign Up](#).

*-Submitted by Elmer Tatum, N5EKF*



Elmer Tatum plans to invite a Scout troop and Venture crew to his house to operate and go over some basics of amateur radio.



Visit the **BRARC Website** at [www.brarc.org](http://www.brarc.org) to keep up-to-date on all the club happenings including meetings, activities, and classes.

## BRARC DXpedition & IOTA LA NA - 168 Grand Isle, LA October 27 - 29



Make your plans now for this fun event organized by Vernon Morris, AA5O. Those who do not go can search the bands, and make an official DX QSO. Last year, we were able to assist a group of Scouts to make their first contacts with the IOTA station from the USS Kidd station. They were really excited that their first QSO was on an island. I don't believe they realized that it was in Louisiana. *-Jen*



2016 - Robin, KK5RH and Brook, N5DGG operating SSB



September, 2017



**LA ARES Region 2 Report  
Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club**

**Membership**

- # of Region 2 ARES registered locally is 61
- # of Region 2 LA ARES Section registered is 31 - 50.8%
- # of Region 2 BRARC Club members registered is 33 - 54.1%

**Region 2 Net**

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

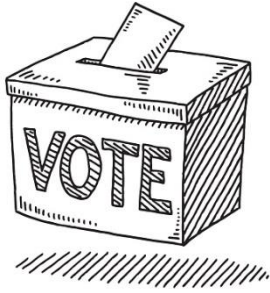
**Activation**

- BRARC ARES members supported American Red Cross, Capital West Chapter Staging Area for response to Hurricane Harvey. ARES members assisted Disaster Services Technology not only with VHF/UHF & HF voice and data communication, but also as first echelon maintenance and repair for communications systems on Red Cross ERVs. Other duties included computer networking and problem solving in assisting planning, training, & logistics staging efforts. Local BRARC ARES members logged 280 hours of service to the response from August 26, 2017, through September 1, 2017, prior to deactivation. Those ARES members who participated were Robin, KK5RH, EC; Steve Irving, WA5FKF, EC; Mary Irving, KF5DSR; Jon, WA9JBR; Thornton, K5HLC, Dan, KF5TQN; Michael, KD5MLD, ADEC.

**Training**

- The LA ARES Region 2 training was held at the West Baton Rouge EOC on Tuesday, September 12, 2017. The program was conducted by Anthony Summers, KB5YHI, WBRP EOC Training Director. Anthony, KB5YHI, conducted FEMA IC 100 & 200 courses. EAROs that completed satisfactory FEMA's final exams received their certificates. Those in attendance were Robin, KK5RH; Steve Irving, WA5FKF; Mary Irving, KF5DSR; Thornton, K5HLC; John, NS5W; Jeff, WA5RRT; Dan, KF5TQN; Michael, KD5MLD. A tour of the EOC facility including WBRP 911 Center was conducted as well. Many thanks to Anthony for hosting the training and to those ARES members who have completed the 100 & 200 training.

– Michael Nolan, KD5MLD



## Snippets from your Secretary

I am heading up the election committee for the club this year. Gerard DuCote (W5TZX), Robin Hudson (KK5RH) and I will be seeking club members to fill all positions for next year. **We will be returning to paper ballots for the election.**

I will send an electronic copy of the ballot to Jennifer to publish in the October edition of the RF News. You can print and cut the ballot out of the RF News and bring them with you so the Election Committee can tally the votes during the program of the November club meeting which will be the annual club auction. I will also have a few paper ballots with me at the November meeting for those who do not have access to a printer.

I will be contacting the current officers and board members to see if they are still planning on serving on the board of directors for next year. I will publish the open positions in the September and October editions of the RF News.

We will reveal the slate of new officers at the October club meeting.

The newly elected officers will be sworn in at the BRARC 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet on Saturday December 9<sup>th</sup>. If you are interested in serving on next year's Board of Directors please contact me. My phone #

is 225-788-2668. You can also contact either Robin or Gerard as well.

73,  
Todd-AB5TH



### November 11

Veterans Day  
W5KID Activation

### November 28

BRARC Meeting  
Pot Luck, Annual Club Auction,  
and Election of Officers

### December 9

80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet  
at Mike Anderson's  
New Officers' Induction



SAVE THE DATE

**DECEMBER 9, 2017**

**12 - 3 pm**

**CHRISTMAS BANQUET AND**

**CELEBRATION OF 80TH ANNIVERSARY**

**OF**

**BATON ROUGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**



## Contest Corral

### [ARRL Contest Calendar](#)

**October 2017**

7-8 **EME - 50 to 1296 MHz**  
16-20 **School Club Roundup**

### [Non ARRL Contests Link](#)



Like us on  
**Facebook**

## BRARC Facebook Page

Please visit and "like" our BRARC Facebook page. You will find a link at the club's website: <http://www.brarc.org>.

## BRARC Elmers

Buddy Brown, N5BUD

Keith Davis, KE5LVT

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

## Radio Loan Program



Radios are available for loan to BRARC members for a 90-day period. The procedure is to complete the application available on our website, and pay the rental fee of \$20 for the HF radio, \$15 for the VHF base radio, and \$5 for the 2m/440 HT.

**If you are newly licensed**, we will assist you in determining the best antenna for your location and assist you in the construction and installation of your antenna. The cost of the antenna will be the responsibility of the borrower.

**For Details, Pictures, and Loan Application:**

Go to [www.brarc.org](http://www.brarc.org), and click on the **Radio Loan tab**.

- SINGLE
- MARRIED
- IT'S COMPLICATED
- IN A RELATIONSHIP
- HAM RADIO OPERATOR**



**\$800**

**Yaesu-FT 950**

**Includes stock mic**

**Please Contact:**

**Chris Houghton-W5SLU**

**(225) 218-5445**



**FCC Opens 630- and 2200-Meter Bands; Stations Must Notify UTC Before Operating**

[Link to ARRL Article](#)

*??Did you Know??*

You can nominate a club member for an annual BRARC recognition award. Awards are presented at the Christmas Banquet. Take a look at our website under the "award" tab, and consider nominating one of your deserving club mates.

## Assistance Needed

Baton Rouge Astronomical Society member David Leadingham is asking for assistance with repairing a 1939 Zenith model 7-S-363. Would anyone in BRARC have such a skill set?

Contact Christopher



I appreciate your articles and suggestions. Please remember to submit articles by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. If you need extra time, please email me, and I will save a place for your article.

*73, Jen K5NMT*



*"A ham - pod?"*

# Silent Key

In memory and honor of



## Richard Teague, K5BTP

It is with much regret that I inform you of the passing of a local amateur radio operator. Richard Teague (K5BTP) became a silent key on Monday September 4th.

Richard was not a member of the Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club, but he did check into various local nets as well as our Sunday Night Public Service Net occasionally. Please keep Richard's family in your thoughts and prayers.

73,  
Todd Huovinen, AB5TH

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## A Friendly Reminder

- ✓ Hurricane season is not yet over. Please remain prepared and ready to respond if you are a willing and able ARES member.
- ✓ Please review the changes to the Bylaws, and bring your ballot to the club meeting next week.
- ✓ Upcoming Events are the Mini Maker Faire, JOTA, and DX-IOTA.
- ✓ Do you have an interesting story or special activity that you participated in during the solar eclipse? Thousands of ham operators around the country participated in the Solar Eclipse QSO Party, and are awaiting the results of the gathered data analyzation.

Again, thank you for your contributions that make the newsletter enjoyable to edit. Respectfully submitted -

73, Jennifer Bordelon K5NMT