



# RF NEWS

June 2018

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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>	Robin Hudson, KK5RH
<b>Vice President</b>	Todd Huovinen, AB5TH
<b>Secretary</b>	Brett Hebert, KG5IQU
<b>Treasurer</b>	Tom Harrell, KE5LVQ
<b>Directors</b>	Brook Samuel, N5DGK Dave Thomas, K5CGX Ken Shutt, W5KQ Thornton Cofield, K5HLC Jerry Clouatre, AG5AY Jennifer Bordelon, K5NMT Bill Smith, KE5TA
<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



**John Bel Edwards**  
GOVERNOR

### **Proclamation**

- WHEREAS,** amateur radio operators provide service in support of first responders, officials and citizens of the state in preparing for, responding to and recovering from declared disasters; and
- WHEREAS,** amateur radio operators are alert and prepared for any emergency, local or national; and
- WHEREAS,** amateur radio operators regularly assist with communications during times of natural disasters using their skills to help in reporting the weather events, to assist in shelter operations and to be available during rescue and relief activities, thereby helping to keep people and property safe; and
- WHEREAS,** there are more than 6000 amateur radio operators who donate their time, equipment and services to assist the citizens of Louisiana during emergency operations; and
- WHEREAS,** by continuous learning and experimentation, amateur radio operators have helped to advance the science of electronics and radio related communications; and
- WHEREAS,** the amateur radio operators will practice their skills during the emergency preparedness known as, Field Day, on June 23-24, 2018.
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bel Edwards,** Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim June 2018 as

**AMATEUR RADIO MONTH**  
in the State of Louisiana.



*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand  
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the  
State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of  
Baton Rouge, on this 1st day of June*

*A.D. 2018*

*John Bel Edwards*  
Governor of Louisiana



"More than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations.

Field Day is a picnic, a campout, practice for emergencies, an informal contest and, most of all, FUN!"

(Source ARRL)

**June 23-24**

**Highland Road Park  
Observatory**

**13800 Highland Rd**

**<http://www.bro.lsu.edu/>**



**Setup Time – Saturday  
June 23 at 8:00 AM**

**Take Down Time – Sunday  
June 24 at 1:00 PM**

**Operating Times:**

**Saturday June 23 1:00 PM  
until  
Sunday June 24 12:59 PM**



## Field Day Plans

The Club will be operating on June 23 & 24 from Highland Road Park Observatory. We will run 3 HF stations, a GOTA station for new hams and unlicensed operators, and possibly a VHF and/or satellite station. We hope to operate from 10m to 80m on the HF and GOTA stations. We will be serving dinner on Saturday and breakfast on Sunday.

The observatory is open to the public on Saturday so we will give them preference at the GOTA station during that time. After 10 PM Saturday, the GOTA station will be available to new hams. Anyone can operate one of the HF stations, or provided a control operator who has privileges on that band is present at the radio.

**NEEDED:** We need 4 batteries for running the radios on battery power. We have one 40M and one 80M dipole. The tribander will not rotate, and I need help to check it out. Remember to put your call sign on anything you provide because it may get lost.

I am leaving next Friday, June 15 for Virginia, and will return on Friday evening, June 22. I should be in phone and email contact the entire time.

Contact Dana, AD5VC, at [ad5vc at yahoo dot com](mailto:ad5vc@yahoo.com).



**June 23-24 (Sat/Sun)** Field Day  
Highland Road Park Observatory

Set Up 8 AM Saturday  
Operating Times  
1 PM Saturday – 1 PM Sunday

**June 26 (Tues)** BRARC Meeting 7:00 PM  
**Main Library Goodwood Branch**  
*Topic: 6 Meter Operating*  
*by Hank Ellis, K5HDE*

**July 3 (Tues)** BRARC Board Meeting  
6:30 PM Bluebonnet Library

**July 4 (Wed)** Independence Day  
Special Event at the USS Kidd  
10:00 AM – 3:30 PM

**July 31 (Tues)** VE Licensing Exam 5:45 PM  
Main Library Goodwood Branch  
<http://brarc.org/education/license-exams/>

**July 31 (Tues)** BRARC Meeting 7:00 PM  
Main Library Goodwood Branch  
*Topic: TBA*

## **The Original 13 Colonies Special Event**

### **10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**July 1 at 7 PM EST –  
July 7 at 12 AM EST**

<http://www.13colonies.net/>

## **Hamfest Calendar**

**July 21**

Ozone Amateur Radio Club  
Slidell EOC Hamfest  
John Slidell Park Gymnasium  
Slidell, LA

<http://www.w5sla.net/hamfest-2018.htm>

**August 10 -11**

Shreveport Hamfest  
LA State Fairgrounds Ag Building  
Shreveport, LA

<http://shreveporthamfest.k5sar.com/index.html>

## **Contest Dates**

**July 14-15**

**IARU HF World Championship**

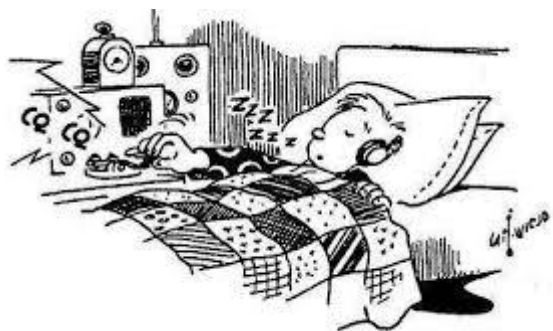
<http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>

**IARU Website**

<http://www.iaru.org/contests.html>

**Contest Corral Calendar**

[Calendar Link](#)







## Weekly

Wednesdays at 7:30 AM  
The Warehouse Restaurant  
12328 South Choctaw, Baton Rouge  
Between Flannery and Sherwood Forrest

Fridays at 7:30 AM  
Frank's on Airline Hwy, Baton Rouge

Saturdays at 6:30 AM  
**Now Two Locations**

James Grill & Cafe  
205 Florida Ave, Denham Springs  
and  
The Warehouse Restaurant, Baton Rouge

### BRARC Elmers

**Buddy Brown, N5BUD**  
buddybrown@cox.net

**Keith Davis, KE5LVT**  
ke5lvt@gmail.com

If you need assistance, please contact one of the above. If you would like to be an Elmer, please contact a Board Member or email the Club at [brarc @ brarc.org](mailto:brarc@brarc.org).

## W5KID Operating Schedule USS Kidd

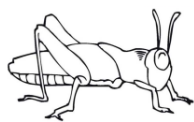


4 July	Independence Day
11 Nov	Veterans Day
7 Dec	Pearl Harbor Day

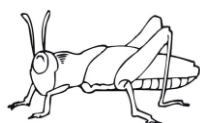
Times and dates may vary, and will be included in RF News. Operating times on the weekend are usually 10 AM – 3:30 PM. Sign-up sheets will be available before the club meetings.

**Contact Dave Thomas, K5CGX**  
**225.572.7836**

**Museum Ships Weekend** was a fun event attended by several club members. Members operated onboard as well as in the museum, and logged over 100 contacts in both SSB and digital. Stay tuned for further details. - Editor



## Crickets!!



Many thanks to Buddy Brown, N5BUD, for getting us all excited about Crickets and leading the undertaking! Buddy is a great Elmer and quite an accomplished builder. For the club build last month several BRARC members gathered in one of the LSU physics labs to assemble Crickets. These were kits offered by the Four State QRP Group, a source of several quality kits for the QRP community. The Cricket 80a is an 80 meter crystal controlled minimalist CW transceiver which can be used by any class license including Technician. This simple rig is a fully functional self-contained transceiver which includes a 9 volt on board battery, built in straight key, and a headphone jack. Just add an antenna and you're on the air!

We came in with different experience levels of kit-building. Under the watchful eyes of Buddy - N5BUD, Paul - WA4MXT, and Dana - AD5VC, along with a lot of solder smoke and a couple of minor burns on the fingers, several kits were successfully completed and tested. A couple of Crickets still need a little more soldering to complete the build. I think all would agree it was fun and a great experience!

We viewed the RF signal on an oscilloscope and actually had a short QSO inside the lab between Crickets using only a dummy load for an antenna. Any suggestions for the next project? Make sure to participate in the next club build no matter what it is, and you will be guaranteed to have a good time with some interesting folks. And you might even walk away with a new useful piece of equipment! I know I did!

Submitted by Jerry Cloutre, AG5AY  
Photos by Thornton Cofield, K5HLC



Dana AD5VC and Charlie KG5VTE

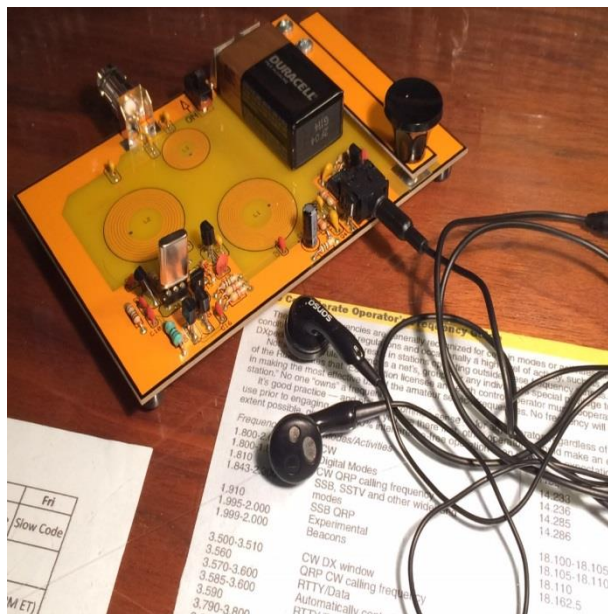


Jerry AG5AY, Paul KG5HLB, Todd AB5TH, and Jon WA9JBR



Mike KD5MLD and Paul WA4MXT

The completed Cricket 80a transceiver is ready for action.



## Weekly 10 Meter Nets

Mondays 7:30 PM  
Baton Rouge 10 Meter  
28.450 MHz USB

Saturdays 10:10 AM  
[Louisiana Pelican 10-10](#)  
28.450 MHz USB

All are welcome to join in to connect with your fellow hams, share information about your adventures in radio or life events, and have fun operating while helping to generate some action on 10 meters.

## Radio Loan Program



Getting started in ham radio can be overwhelming and expensive. The BRARC Radio Loan Program is a great way for new hams to get on the air quickly, and also provides a try-before-you-buy opportunity. Your first set-up can be an entertaining process that usually involves some crawling, climbing, throwing, and taping. Wear appropriate PPE.

A variety of radios are available for loan to BRARC members for a 90-day period. Visit the club website to view equipment and complete the application. [Link: Radio Loan](#)

The **Icom IC-730** HF Transceiver package includes power supply, microphone, external antenna tuner, and G5RV antenna.

The Icom **IC-2100H** VHF FM Transceiver package includes power supply, microphone, and external magnetic mount 144 MHz mobile antenna.

Also available is a **Yaesu FT-50R** Dual-Band Hand-Held Transceiver with NC-60B charger.

Contact the club at [brarc @ brarc.org](mailto:brarc@brarc.org) for assistance.





This write-up was submitted by Tony De Biasi, K2SG, who served on the USS Kidd. Tony is from New Jersey, and was able to visit Baton Rouge several years ago, and toured the USS Kidd. I enjoyed reading this very interesting account of his experiences. As you know, the USS Kidd is my favorite station away from home.

– Editor

“I was able to talk my way into the Radio Room, and show my wife where I spent several years of my life. It was a great experience for both of us to see the old shack including the old chairs and hooks we used to strap in during rough seas.

There was a fire extinguisher just outside the entrance to the Radio Room, and during an ORI inspection in Guantanamo, Cuba, the inspector put a note on the extinguisher that it was empty so we couldn't use it during the drill. Later he declared several radios on fire inside the shack. I immediately grabbed the extinguisher outside the Radio Room, and simulated extinguishing the fire. When the inspector brought to my attention the note that the extinguisher was empty, I then pointed out to him a note under his note that it had been refilled. Those were the fun days on the Kidd.

I served on the Kidd from April of 1960 until late 1962. I arrived as a Seaman, and left as a RM2. When I arrived there was a Chief Radioman, one First Class Radioman, one Third Class and myself. We were in Norfolk, VA for a few months and then moved to Philadelphia.

During my couple of years on the Kidd, we frequently picked up Reserves in Philadelphia, and had them for about 2 weeks of active duty training. We also spent some time chasing Russian Subs around the Caribbean, Central America, and South America. I also recall some time patrolling off the coast of Cuba not far from the Harbor entrance to Gitmo.

I never received official permission from the Navy, but the Captain allowed me to operate /mm using my old call W2RFS. It was my first experience operating /mm, and I always seemed to have plenty of takers wanting to work a Navy ship. I was lucky that I entered the hobby when I was 14, and by the time I went to Radio school in Norfolk, VA, my code speed was well past what the Navy required to graduate from school.

The Captain was an avid fisherman, and I would setup one of the VHF radios so he could listen/talk to the fishing fleets especially when we were in the New England area. During one of our training exercises off the New England coast, a sub came up across our bow and we struck its stern taking off its short flagpole. On the way back to Norfolk, we found a small pleasure boat many miles off shore drifting without power. There was a couple onboard and a very small infant somewhat dehydrated. We towed their boat after taking them on board the Kidd and brought them back to shore in Connecticut. It was our big and only rescue during my time on the Kidd. We did rush to Haiti in 1960 along with another Destroyer which may have been the USS McNair to evacuate our Ambassador and some staff due to some sort of political unrest. It was the only time all the Radiomen were armed with 45s.

I remember the antenna switching and the switches for the speakers to patch circuits to the bridge and in the shack were not state of the art.

**Continued on Page 9**



## Continued -

When at sea we would often have 3 or 4 speakers to monitor some with encrypted calls that would change daily. Always one for NYKF, and one listening to NSS fox broadcast. Right alongside the left operating position was a SRT-15 transmitter, and in the bottom drawer was the power supply for the 1500w transmitter. One day while sitting there the paper capacitors blew up in the power supply knocking me right off the chair. The explosion was very loud sounding like a cherry bomb or very loud firecracker. When we were brave enough to open the Power supply drawer there was hardly anything but pieces of paper left. Somehow the ET's got it fixed.

We once had a fire on board in the one of the shops while we were at sea. It was quickly controlled, but I recall seeing all the smoke and wondering if the ship was going to go down. Fortunately it looked much worse than it was.

I have lots of great memories from my time on the Kidd and feel fortunate I was able to revisit the ship so many years later thanks to the efforts of so many."

73, Tony K2SG



**The USS Kidd will be hosting a  
4<sup>th</sup> of July Spectacular**

Tickets can be purchased to view the fireworks display onboard the ship.

Visit <http://www.usskidd.com/july-4th-spectacular.html> for further information.



Consider supporting the USS Kidd Veterans Museum. The friendly staff always accommodates our use of the radio room, and does not charge for entry to the ship. It would be a nice gesture to show our appreciation. Annual Memberships begin at \$25, and include Tours for 1 Year for the cardholder and 5 immediate family members. For further information, visit the USS Kidd website at

<http://www.usskidd.com/membership.html>.

Not solicited by the USS Kidd Museum. - Editor



## Future VE Licensing Exam Dates

July 31  
October 30

Main Library – Goodwood Blvd

For more info on BRARC testing procedures go to <http://brarc.org/education/license-exams/>.

For other testing locations go to <http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-exam-session>.

# FOR SALE FOR SALE

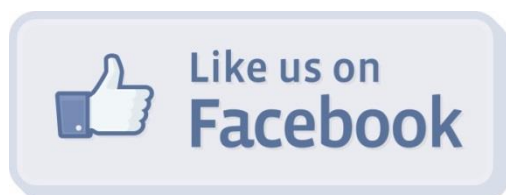
Contact Jeff Tircuit, N5SOE  
225-687-0858

\$120 Kenwood tr-751A  
2 meter all mode mobile

\$60 Pryme PR-222 220 MHz HT  
Needs battery, otherwise, as new.

\$100 for all 3  
Icom U400 UHF mobile 35W  
(2) Icom HTs - U16 UHF 5W  
Freq 450-470 MHz  
All need batteries.

**TEN-TEC Jupiter \$300**  
Built in tuner and all bands work  
Contact Wayne Matherne, N5YFC  
667-4721



<https://www.facebook.com/Baton-Rouge-Amateur-Radio-Club-237428189631038/>



## Hamshack Hotline

Hamshack Hotline is a free dedicated VoIP for ham operators. Its intended use is to enable the transmission of emergency and/or tactical traffic when normal radio traffic handling is overloaded or unavailable. It's another tool in the bag for emergency operators.

Operators can also be a part of conference bridges that connect hams worldwide in real time. As of April 24, there were 35 operators who have activated accounts. A phone book is available on the website:

<http://apps.wizworks.net:9091/>.

To open an account, you will need to purchase a SIP capable phone. Then go to the website and open a ticket: <http://apps.wizworks.net:9090/>.

For FAQs, visit the Hamshack Hotline website: <https://hamshackhotline.com/>.

Information provided by Robert Hobbs, N5ULA



Please submit articles, activities, fun facts, and photos by **June 30** to [rfnews@brarc.org](mailto:rfnews@brarc.org). Share your experiences from Field Day. The anticipated publication date is July 15.

## Something of Interest . . .

### Canadian Radio Amateurs Petition Parliament to End Deliberate Interference

06/12/2018

Radio Amateurs in Canada — primarily in the Province of Quebec — have mounted a **petition drive** demanding that members of the House of Commons prompt decisive regulatory action against a Quebec resident who has been causing deliberate interference . . . Petitioners claim that the individual's "malicious intentions" have been "threatening the security of emergency radio communication in the province," and they called upon Parliamentary lawmakers "to ensure the security" of HF radio communication.

"For 2 years, a Nicolet resident, near Trois-Rivières [Quebec], illegally set up a transmitting radio station and is generating interference on purpose," the petition recounts. "Amateur Radio operators in Quebec have identified the illegal radio station and brought it to the attention of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (**ISED**) Canada, and its inspectors seized the individual's radio equipment." One of ISED's functions is telecommunications regulation.

According to the petition, the alleged offender "acquired new equipment right away and returned to jamming the airwaves." The petition identifies the alleged offender as a male who is "known to police in Nicolet and Trois-Rivières" and "has regular encounters with the law."

"We are calling on the government to provide more support to the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada, so that it can intervene more decisively in this matter," the petition declared . . .

. . . as of June 12, the online petition had gathered more than 625 signatures, primarily from Quebec and Ontario. Canada has more than 50,000 Amateur Radio licensees."

Source ARRL  
[Link to Article](#)

# THANK YOU!

### for your contributions to RF News!

A special thank you to Tony De Biasi, K2SG, for sharing his experiences on the USS Kidd. We hope that he will make it back to Baton Rouge, and operate W5KID for a special event. Thanks to Jon, WA9JBR, for sending me the email.

June and July are busy months with events at the USS Kidd and Field Day.

Field Day operators can always use snacks and coffee, especially for the overnight and early morning operators. I will bring my coffee pot, and we can all keep it brewing. Bring your favorite roast.

If you're willing to tear down/pick up on Sunday, and endure to the end, you will be treated to ice cold watermelon. So we need a watermelon or 2, and a large, sharp knife.



Bring your noise canceling headphones. The GOTA station, and the excited people are LOUD. I recommend bringing a cushion for your chair. I will see you there!

Respectfully submitted,

Jen, K5NMT