



RF News

BATON ROUGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

P.O. BOX 4004, BATON ROUGE, LA 70821

brarc.org



2019/07

PRESIDENT

Bill Smith, KE5TA

VICE PRESIDENT

Todd Huovinen, AB5TH

SECRETARY

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Ken Shutt, W5KQ

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Brook Samuel, N5DGK

REPEATERS

146.790 -

444.400 + PL TONE 107.2

CLUB NETS

BRARC PUBLIC SERVICE NET

SUNDAY 8:30 PM

146.790 (PL TONE 107.2)

ARES NET

SUNDAY 8 PM

146.790 (PL TONE 107.2)

10 M NET

MONDAY 7:30 PM

28.450 MHZ USB



ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. Starting at 1 PM Saturday, June 22, work began to make contacts. W5GIX and K5LSU worked together for the next 24 hours. There were over 40 BRARC club members and several LSU Club members present throughout the weekend.

The objective of Field Day is to work as many stations as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meter HF bands, as well as bands 50 MHz and above. Look for some photos of the event in this issue of the RF News.

Many thanks to Dana Browne, AD5VC for chairing Field Day again. Be sure to click the link below to see our club highlighted on WGMB Fox 44 News.

[The Spirit of Radio: Baton Rouge Amateurs Scan the Airwaves](#)



Are you a member?

The American Radio Relay League, ARRL, is the only national organization representing Amateur Radio in the United States. As a member you support thousands of other ham radio enthusiasts shaping the hobby today.

Find out more information about joining, as well as the benefits you can enjoy with membership, at <https://www.arrl.org/join-arrl-renew-membership>

DID YOU KNOW??? The ARRL will donate \$15 to our club if you sign up through us. For more information, contact brarc@brarc.org

Contest Happy 150!

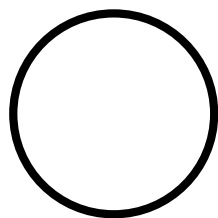
This year marks the 150th anniversary of the birth of the ARRL's first president and cofounder, Hiram Percy Maxim (HPM), W1AW. He was born on September 2, 1869. The ARRL is holding an operation event to celebrate HPM's legacy.

The event is open to all amateurs. The goal is to find stations operating in the event, many adding "/150" to their call signs, and contact as many as possible during the 9 day celebration.

All Amateur Bands LF/HF/VHS/UHF/SHF/Microwave/Light (excluding 60, 30, 17 and 12 meters) are open. CW, Phone and Digital modes will be recognized in the event.

There are opportunities to earn Bonus Points by successfully completing one or more additional activities, such as being an ARRL member or using social media to publicize your participation. More details can be found at www.arrl.org/hpm150-birthday-celebration

Upcoming Events



HAMFESTS

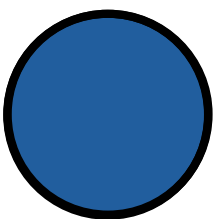
JULY 20, 2019 - [SLIDELL EOC HAMFEST, SLIDELL, LA](#)

AUGUST 10, 2019 - [SHREVEPORT & BOSSIER HAMFEST, SHREVEPORT, LA](#)

AUGUST 17-18, 2019 - [ALABAMA STATE CONVENTION, HUNTSVILLE, AL](#)

NOVEMBER 2, 2019 - [GREATER NEW ORLEANS HAMFEST, HARAHAN, LA](#)

NOVEMBER 15-16, 2019 - [JACKSON COUNTY ARA HAMFEST, OCEAN SPRINGS, MS](#)

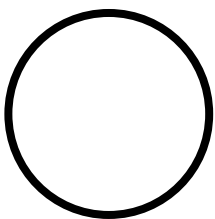
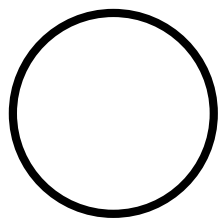


CLUB MEETINGS

JULY 30, 2019 - CLUB MEETING, BLUEBONNET LIBRARY 7 PM
PROGRAM: FOX HUNTING TECHNIQUES, N5MT
VE SESSION 6 PM

AUGUST 6, 2019 - BRARC BOARD MEETING, FAIRWOOD LIBRARY
6:30 PM

AUGUST 27, 2019 - CLUB MEETING, BLUEBONNET LIBRARY 7 PM
PROGRAM: AMATEUR RADIO & ECHO LINK, N5LEB



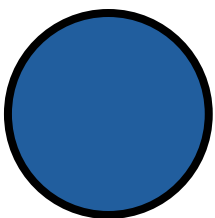
CONTESTS/OPERATING EVENTS

AUGUST 3-4, 2019 - [222 MHz CONTEST](#)

AUGUST 17-18, 2019 - [10 GHz AND UP CONTEST](#)

AUGUST 18, 2019 - [ROOKIE ROUNDUP RTTY](#)

AUGUST 30 - SEPT 8, 2019 - [HIRAM PERCY MAXIM 150TH BIRTHDAY](#)



NETS

BRARC PUBLIC SERVICE NET - SUNDAY 8:30 PM 146.790 (PL TONE 107.2)

ARES NET - SUNDAY 8 PM 146.790 (PL TONE 107.2)

10 M NET - MONDAY 7:30 PM 28.450 MHZ USB

Field Day 2019

Thanks to all those who submitted pictures



June 22-23, 2019



Slow CW Practice

● Jerry Clouatre, AG5AY

Wow! I can't believe how much fun we've been having with our Slow CW Group! If you are not on our list, send me an email and I'll get you listed. Several of the guys have been making bunches of contacts. And some have left the land of straight keys and are trying bugs! You'll have to decide if they have that bug 'swing'. Some are even trying their hands at cooties! If you don't know what bugs and cooties are, you're in for an interesting way of sending code. It's never boring!!



If you're on the list and aren't getting on the air, give me a call and we can set up a schedule to get some QSO's started. It's not bad after the first one. If you haven't learned Morse code yet and would like to get started, there are many, many resources on the internet. There is a free course with over 10 hours of videos taking you from beginner to getting on the air. Just search YouTube for "W4EEY Morse code" and check out his videos.

To help you get warmed up before your next CW QSO, try this little ditty. It'll definitely loosen up the wrist! Don't try to make sense of it. In fact, just run all the letters together. You're trying to simply enjoy the rhythm of the letters.

BENS BEST BENT WIRE

Hope to catch you on the air sometime soon. I'm usually on in the afternoon around 14.050 MHz. Give me a call at 225-276-0721 or email, Jerry.clouatre@gmail.com

Jerry AG5AY

Amateur Radio Clubs

Area Club Meetings

Ascension Amateur Radio Club

Club meetings are the 1st Wednesday of the month
at the Gonzales Main Fire Station Meeting room
on Orice Roth Rd in Gonzales
7 PM
www.k5arc.org

Acadiana Amateur Radio Club

Club meetings are the 1st Thursday of the month
at the Lafayette Science Museum
433 Jefferson St. in downtown Lafayette
7 PM
www.w5ddl.org

LOHSEP Amateur Radio Club

(Livingston Office of Homeland Emergency Preparedness)
Club meetings are the 3rd Thursday of the month
at the Office of Motor Vehicles
6:30 PM

MissLou Amateur Radio Club

Club meetings are the last Thursday of the month
at Kelly Farms
2148 Highway 958 in Slaughter
6:30 PM

SELARC - Southeast La Amateur Radio Club

Club meetings are the 12nd Tuesday of the month
at the Tangipahoa Parish EOC
114 N. Laurel St, Amite City
7 PM
www.selarc.org

Louisiana State Fair Agriculture Building

**BIGGER • BETTER
MORE OF EVERYTHING!**

Shreveport-Bossier Hamfest

August 10, 2019

8:00AM - 3:00PM
SEAFOOD BUFFET FRIDAY NIGHT



SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS BY:

Mike Johnson, NASU

**NAVASSA ISLAND
DXpedition TEAM**

LOCATION: LOUISIANA STATE FAIR AGRICULTURE BUILDING
3206 PERSHING AVENUE • SHREVEPORT, LA 71109
ADMISSION: ADULTS • \$5.00 | CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER • FREE
CONTACT: BOB DAVIS N5ZVW • 318-230-1242
EMAIL: HMFEST@K5SAR.COM Web Site: K5SAR.COM



Social Media



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club

Click on our club name above to go to our Facebook page.
Many thanks to Robin, KK5RH, for maintaining our page!

USS KIDD

Upcoming W5KID Activations

BRARC operates Special Event Stations aboard the USS KIDD on military holidays. The USS KIDD is a Fletcher-Class Destroyer (DD-661) on the banks of the Mississippi River in Baton Rouge. The USS KIDD station uses a Yaesu FT-450D, running 100 W and a MFJ-969 antenna tuner, feeding a long wire strung from the mast. Club members have also operated inside the Louisiana Veterans Museum. The USS KIDD, W5KID is an excellent way for Technicians or new Generals to gain some HF experience, with an experienced Ham showing you the ropes! Come and join in the fun.

The following dates are scheduled for operating aboard the USS KIDD:

Nov 11

Veterans Day

Dec 7

Pearl Harbor Day

Times and dates may vary. Sign up sheets for operating times are available online at our website.

Radio Loan Program

The BRARC Radio Loan Program provides new hams the ability to get on the air quickly without the expense of purchasing their own radio. It's a way to get familiar with settings and functions before deciding which ones are important to you when ready to buy your own rig.



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](#).

ICOM IC-730

HF Transceiver Package

This package includes a power supply, microphone, external antenna tuner and G5RV antenna.

IC-2100H

VHF FM Transceiver Package

This package includes a power supply, microphone, external magnetic mount 144MHz mobile antenna.

YAESU FT-50R

Dual-Band Hand-Held Transceiver

This package includes an NC-60B charger.

Elmers

The term “Elmer” was inspired by a ham radio operator named Elmer P. “Bud” Frohardt Jr, W9DY. In a 1971 column in QST, Rod Newkirk, W9BRD, wrote about how Bud took the time to help and mentor new Amateur Radio licensees. He wrote, “We need those Elmers. All the Elmers, including the ham who took the most time and trouble to give you a push toward your license, are the birds who keep this great game young and fresh.” Because of the time he invested into new operators, Bud was able to interest many people in “science, radio, DX, CW and electronics.”

The BRARC has some members that are available for mentoring and answering questions from new hams, or anyone who may need some additional information.

Buddy Brown, N5BUD

Paul Catrou, WA4MXT

No need to be shy when you need help. Along with these Elmers, the BRARC has a wealth of experienced operators who will help - all you have to do is ask. To help with this, simply email your questions to elmer@brarc.org

For those of you with all of that experience, share it with others. Encourage our new members with your expertise!

Source: arrl.org/news/elmer-inspiration-elmer-bud-frohardt-jr-w9dy-sk

Member Spotlight

Meet George, W5GG



Meet George, W5GG. George Gelpi was introduced to amateur radio by a friend and classmate at LSU. It was 1958 and a time where there were no VEs or computers to speed up the process of grading tests and assigning call signs. George knew the wait from when he sat for the exam to when he would receive his test results was 8 weeks. Anxiously awaiting the arrival of a small envelope – for the sight of a large one in the mailbox was an instant notice of failure – he got nervous going into week 9 with no envelope whatsoever. He soon discovered that his mother, at 4’11”, wasn’t tall enough to see down into the bottom of the mailbox where his passing score sat for an extra week. He had earned his Technician license and the call sign K5RGI. Soon after earning his ticket, he joined the Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club. At that time as a Tech, George was only able to work 6M, not 2M yet, and only AM. This was before repeaters.

By 1960, he had served in the Army and graduated from LSU. He served one more year in the military by opening up Ft. Polk in Leesville, La. While there, he married his wife Jane in 1962. Life brought them back to Baton Rouge where they had 5 children while he worked as a draftsman. The family home was built in the Sherwood Forest area in 1971. He and his

wife lived there until the flood in 2016. His radio survived the flood; however, his new house doesn’t allow for the outside antennas he once had. He is hoping to maybe get something up in his garage so he can get back to transmitting on 10M.

Having lived in the same house for 45 years, George had old rosters from local nets that he called. He was one of the net control operators for the Sunday night 2M net for 38 years. As he has often said, “my favorite band has always been 10M.” He ran the Monday night 10M net for many years, trying to generate some action on that band.

Having been a licensed Amateur for over 60 years now, there are lots of stories and memories to share. With a chuckle, George remembers going down to New Orleans in 1983 to upgrade his license. Testing happened once a month and he encountered a wreck on the bridge in route to the test. Worried he wouldn’t make it, once on Canal Street he had to start running to the Federal Building. He made it just in time and would leave there with his General and Advanced license. He holds an Extra class license today.

He has fond memories of being an active member of the club. Among those are Baton Rouge Hamfests and monthly club meetings at Catholic High School. George has served as the trustee of the Catholic High School call sign, W5CHS. He was also on the Repeater Committee and was in charge of the messages that the W5GIX repeater communicated. There were announcements about upcoming club meetings and wake up messages in the morning. At that time, the repeater was on the Channel 9 tower on River Road.

George Gelpi, W5GG, has also been very involved with VE testing over the years, having given tests and graded future amateur radio operators at over 70 test sessions. He has been able to congratulate hundreds of hams by shaking hands with them after they have passed a licensing exam, eliminating the need to wait for their own small envelope. He is a member of the Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA). He has also served as a BRARC Board Member. George has consistently contributed to the advancement of amateur radio, specifically in Baton Rouge, and for these accomplishments has been recognized with both the Stan Preston Award in 1994 and the BR Award in 1999. In 2017, George Gelpi became an honorary Life Member of the Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club. George is known in the club for his humor and willingness to help whenever he can.

Editor’s Note:

Please see the Editor’s section on page 11 for a personal account of how W5GG has touched our family.

A Word from the Editor



'The Lonely Letter'
drawn by Logan, KG5LLM

The Baton Rouge Monday night 10M net was how I got comfortable talking on the air. George Gelpi, W5GG, ran this net for 30 years and was patient and friendly with me as I learned the ropes. When I became licensed in 2015, I started checking into this net weekly and through it, he and I became friends. We were friends on the air long before we ever met in person. On an occasion when he was unable to call the net, he asked me to fill in for him. I nervously agreed, yet enjoyed the experience and called it 2 or 3 more times as a favor to him. I'd heard many times that 10 meters is his favorite band, so when the 2016 flood affected George, I felt obligated to make sure the 10M net continued and that we keep generating action on that band.

Since he is unable to check in weekly to the net, George and I met for lunch recently to catch up. As we enjoyed cups of gumbo and poboys at Coffee Call, he reminisced about his experiences with amateur radio. One of his accomplishments is his involvement as a VE tester. In fact, his signature is one of those on our son's CSCE when he passed his Technician test. As one of the first 'on air' friends to the Hebert family, it's special to us. I am so glad that amateur radio brought us together and am lucky to call W5GG a friend. Fine business!

It was so great to see those who made it out to Field Day. I enjoyed making several contacts on 15M phone Saturday afternoon, as well as some digital contacts Saturday evening. I also enjoyed interacting with the public that night. It's quite fortunate to have the Highland Road Park Observatory host us for Field Day. It allows us the opportunity for some exposure and conversations that we wouldn't have otherwise.

We've met the halfway mark of the year. I hope that you continue to read the RF News, as well as send in content. As the editor, I edit the content that I receive. I look forward to getting more articles and pictures from more members. If you aren't able to submit an article, feel free to submit topics that you would like to know more about or see covered. Pictures are always welcome as well. We'd love to share photos that you take at club meetings, USS KIDD activations, or any radio related photos. Don't forget to send any photos to the RF News email address so they can be shared with our club members.

There will be a VE session before this month's club meeting. If you know of anyone who is interested in getting a license or upgrading their existing license, encourage them to study and show up July 30. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Slidell Hamfest or the upcoming meeting.



Synomen Hebert, KG5IRS

Synomen is the newest Editor of the RF News. Please send all articles or information you'd like to see in the next issue to her at: rfnews@brarc.org

Meet, Eat, Drink Breakfast

There are several opportunities to get together with BRARC members. The coffee consumption is grand, as are the topics of conversation. Hope to see you there...we'll gladly push another table together for you!



WEDNESDAYS at 7:30 AM

The Warehouse
12328 S. Choctaw Dr.
Baton Rouge



FRIDAYS at 7:00 AM

Frank's
8353 Airline Hwy.
Baton Rouge



SATURDAYS at 6:30 AM

James Grill **A** **The Warehouse**
205 Florida Ave **N** **12328 S. Choctaw Dr.**
Denham Springs **D** **Baton Rouge**

Equipment

For Sale



YAESU FTdx 1200 with FFT-1 upgrade

Like New - Only 3 years old
\$900

Contact Buddy Brown, N5BUD, at 225-573-2111

If you have any equipment you would like posted for sale in the RF News, please send email that includes a description, cost and contact information to rfnews@brarc.org

Getting Licensed

Future VE Sessions



Baton Rouge - Tuesday, July 23, 2019, 6 PM at Southern University
Tuesday, July 30, 2019, 6 PM at EBRP Bluebonnet Library

Lafayette - First Thursday of each month, 6 PM at Lafayette Science Museum

Hammond - Last Sunday of each month, 2 PM at North Oaks Diagnostics & E.
Brent Dufreche Conference Center

Getting Involved

Are you looking to test out your new equipment or new antenna? Or are you interested in a regular gathering of hams for some conversation? If so, there are local amateur radio nets for just those purposes.

The BRARC Public Service Net on Sunday nights at 8:30 PM allows hams to check in with traffic, sell ham equipment, and test their equipment. Tune to 146.790 MHz on Sundays to check in. As with a directed net, wait for your call sign to be called before checking in. If you are not on the list, wait until the Net Control Station calls for new check-ins.

The Baton Rouge Monday Night 10 M Net is at 7:30 PM on 28.450 MHz. This net has 2 rounds and is more conversational. The purpose of this net is to generate action on 10 M. While most check-ins are local, we do get some DX contacts. The bands were open again on July 8 and we heard from Cuba.

SLIDELL EOC

HAMFEST

2019

JOHN SLIDELL PARK 105 Robert Blvd, Slidell, LA 70458

Saturday July 20, 2019 8am - 2:30pm

ADMISSION: Adults: \$5 (Includes 1 Raffle Ticket) - 12 & Under: Free

* Talk-in: 147.27 MHz (+600 Hz) PL 114.8 Hz * ARRL Sanctioned Hamfest * Unique Local Attractions



The Ozone Amateur Radio Club is pleased to sponsor the 2019 Slidell EOC HAMFEST.

Browse the latest from our featured vendors. Sell used gear for extra cash!

Find that perfect addition for your rig. Raffle tickets: \$1 each or 6 for \$5.



W9DYV AMATEUR RADIO SYMPOSIUM

July 19-20, 2019

LaQuinta Inn, Slidell, LA

Dr. Bob Heil, K9EID
Rob Sherwood, NCØB

For additional info:
www.ce-multiphase.com

FORUMS

ARRL
Digital Modes
ARES
SkyWarn

FLEA MARKET

Tables (3' x 8') - \$10
(Does not include cost of admission)

MAIN PRIZES

1st - Yaesu FT991A



2nd - Yaesu FTM100DR



3rd - Yaesu FT70DR



**4th - \$100 Gift
Certificate from
DX Engineering**

VENDORS (confirmed)

The Sign Man
Be Ready Solar
MCM Computers
N5IAW Connectors
TN07 Engineering
Cajun RF
Palmetto Antennas
Bamcom Comm.

ARRL VE TESTING

Technician, General & Amateur Extra

Testing Fee: \$15

**Test session will be held at the
Latter Day Saints Building
480 Robert Blvd, Slidell, LA
at 8:30 a.m.**

*great location
with
easy access*



MORE INFO:

www.w5sla.net/hamfest.htm

REV-03 06/19/2019

CONTACT US:

OARC - PO Box 553, Slidell, LA 70459

E-mail: hamfest@w5sla.net Web: www.w5sla.net

W9DYV's Amateur Radio Symposium

July 19-20, 2019

Friday, July 19th LaQuinta Inn & Suites, 126 Holiday Blvd, Slidell, La

8:30 - 9:00 AM	Welcome - Introduction	Nick Tusa, K5EF
9:00 - 9:30 AM	The Ellusive Collins S-2 Line	David Beckler, N0SAP
9:45 - 10:30 AM	The Drake TR-8 Prototype Saga Continues	David Assaf, W5XU
10:45 - 11:30 AM	Working 630 Meters	Rob Sherwood, NC0B
NOON - 1:00 PM	Lunch Break	
1:00 - 2:00 PM	High Performance HF Amp Construction	Ron Scalise, WA5ZFP
2:00 - 2:30 PM	The How's & Whys of Buck-Boost Xfrs	David Assaf, W5XU
2:45 - 3:45 PM	Transmitter Audio Optimization	Bob Heil, K9EID
3:45 - 4:45 PM	Low Noise Antennas for 80/160M Dxing	Ted Saba, KN5O
4:45 - 5:30 PM	Vintage Radio Restoration Hints	Nick Tusa, K5EF

Saturday, July 20th Hamfest Flea Market, John Slidell Playground, Slidell, La

TBD	Thoughts on Audio and Improving Transmitter Speech Effectiveness	Bob Heil, K9EID
TBD	SDR and the Radio Amateur	Emile Diodene, KE5QKR

Saturday, July 20th LaQuinta Inn & Suites, 126 Holiday Blvd, Slidell, La

NOON - 1:00 PM	SDR Design Ideas	Carl Fedrowisch, KG5NXY
1:15 - 2:30 PM	Receiver Performance Verification & Enhancement	Rob Sherwood, NC0B
2:45 - 3:45 PM	Receiver Audio Enhancement	Bob Heil, K9EID
3:45 - 4:15 PM	Restoring the Cosmophone 35 Bilateral Radio	Nick Tusa, K5EF
4:15 - 5:00 PM	DXpedition Planning	David Assaf, W5XU

The four words in the Club's logo are Service, Progress, Friendly, and Balanced. Here is a statement of the Club's Code that describes these principles:



BATON ROUGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CODE

BRARC members strive to exhibit:

SERVICE with stations and skills always ready for service to country and community. Members offer loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESS with knowledge of science, well-built and efficient stations and operating practices that are above reproach.

FRIENDLINESS with slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to beginners, kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCE Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

Adapted from The Radio Amateur's Code <http://www.arrl.org/amateur-code> which was adapted from The Amateur's Code written by Paul M. Segal W9EEA in 1928

Adopted March 2018 by BRARC Board of Directors.

BATON ROUGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



PO BOX 4004
BATON ROUGE, LA 70821
brarc@brarc.org brarc.org

- ☐ New Member Application
☐ Update Information for Current Member
☐ New Ham, Complimentary 12 Month Membership

Date: _____

Name: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____ License Class: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Year First Licensed: _____ Birthday: _____ ARES Member: Yes \ No ARRL Member: Yes \ No

Name and call sign of other Hams in your household: _____ List Phone\Email in Club Directory: Yes \ No

Please indicate your areas of interest: Circle\Highlight all that apply

Licensing Instructor	Newsletter Contributor	Net Control Operator	Elmering	DX
Technical Assistance	Publicity/Public Relations	Emergency Operations	Satellite	CW
Antenna Design	Repeater Operations	Public Service	Scouting	Phone
Project Building	Volunteer Examiner	Special Event Stations	Social Events	Digital
Contesting	Internet Linking	Portable Operations	Solar Activity	HF
ARES/RACES	Finance Committee	Software Development	Field Day	VHF/UHF
Traffic Handling (NTS)	Direction Finding/Tracking	Youth Outreach	RFI/TVI	QRP
Other: _____				

- ☐ Regular Member: \$25 per year
☐ Family of Regular Member: Not Applicable
☐ Student K-12 Member: \$10 per year
☐ Unlicensed Member: \$10 per year
☐ New Licensee, Complimentary 12 month membership

Dues may be submitted in person at a BRARC monthly club meeting or mailed to the above address. Please make checks payable to Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club. To pay online email form to brarc@brarc.org

