



# RF NEWS



## Field Day—June 22nd and 23rd!

—Joe Roppolo K5ROP

It's that time of year again! Field Day! This is known as the “open house” of Ham Radio and our chance to shine and show our community who we are and what we can do!

Once again we will be at:

Highland Road Park Observatory

13800 Highland Road, Baton Rouge

Operating Saturday 1 PM thru Sunday 1 PM Local time!

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**Read more about Field Day on Page 5!**



## **2024 Officers:**

**President – Dan Lott KF5TQN**  
**Vice-President – Joe Roppolo K5ROP**  
**Secretary – Mike Blazek N5UKZ**  
**Treasurer – Tom Harrell KE5LVQ**

## **Board Members:**

**Hank Ellis K5HDE**  
**Russ London NS5W**  
**Todd Huovinen AB5TH**  
**Jon Reise WA9JBR**  
**Pat Crawford K5AHE**  
**Jeff Sibley N4XEG**  
**Paul Smith KG5HLB**



**Pictured (L-R) Paul, Todd, Hank, Tom, Russ, Dan, Mike, Joe, Pat, Don, Jeff  
(Jon Reise not pictured)  
Thanks to all who are serving the BRARC.**

## The VP View...

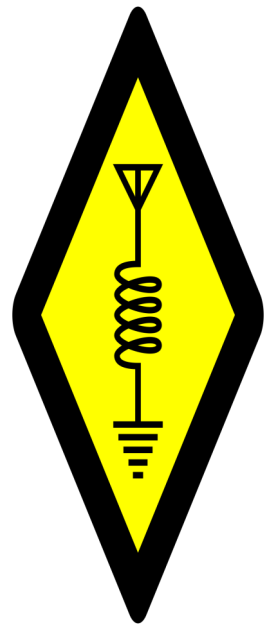
It's almost here... Field Day 2024! Field Day is very special to me. Unlike some members who got into amateur radio because of family members or friends, I got into this craft because of my Daughter. She's not licensed yet, but she has been going to Science Academy at the Highland Road Park Observatory for years and has achieved the Galactic Cadet rank. At the start of her STEM participation, Chris KE5PQO, from the Observatory invited us to Field Day in 2021. I came, I saw, I got hooked. I was given some guidance and told when the next exam was and I went home to study from the ARRL Technician manual. I got my Ticket 3 months later in September, achieved General 3 months after that, and 3 months later, the Amateur Extra License! All thanks to some great conversations and activity at Field Day. I really do love to work Field Day and I am happy to mingle and chat about rigs, meet parents at the GOTA station asking how we got their children to talk on the air or taking some pictures or video. I have been trying to bring the old ways back with

—Joe Roppolo K5ROP, BRARC V.P.

an all-nighter, but I haven't gotten past 12:30 am Saturday before I knew I had to drive home to get back for Sunday.

I encourage anyone to try new things this year at Field Day. Maybe you'll want to start slow if you are new, like I did, logging, then as the operator, then doing both, later at night when it is slower. Come to set-up and see how the antennas are set up, learn about band-pass filters in-person, not just in the manual. Most of all, as Dana AD5VC says, "have fun!"

I met with our Section Manager, Houston Poulson N5YS, last week at Ascension ARC and he brought Governor Landry's proclamation that declares June 17-23, 2024 as Amateur Radio week.



## Club Meetings

BRARC Member Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. That is **June 25th** for this month!

We hope to see you there. There are snacks and comradery. We are always looking for subject matter experts to present at our meetings. Let us know if you wish to share your experience.

### Meeting Location Address:

Saint George Fire Prevention District (Training Center)  
14100 Airline Hwy  
Baton Rouge, LA



It's coming soon... Field Day 2024

## Weekly BRARC Nets...

Region 2 ARES Net - Sunday, 8:00 (20:00) local time – meets on 146.790- pl 107.2

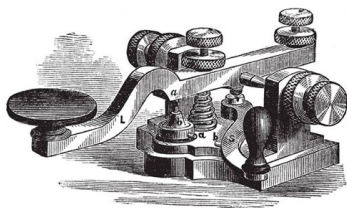
BRARC Traffic Net - Sunday, 8:30 (20:30) local time – meets on 146.790- pl 107.2

Ten Meter Net – Monday, 7:30 (19:30) local time – meets on 28.450 MHz USB

*Friendship Net has now moved to Thursday...*

Friendship Net - Thursday, 7:00 (19:00) local time – meets on 146.790- pl 107.2

The Friendship Net is an open net for new radio operators and experienced members who want to help get them to be more comfortable on the



### **Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club Slow Speed CW Net**

Meets on **10.115** MHz at 6:30 (18:30) local time on the **SECOND** and **THIRD** Tuesday of the month.

# Dana Browne presents our strategy for Field Day!

—Joe Roppolo K5ROP

Dana started his presentation by making sure we all understand that Field Day is a great opportunity for us to have fun. We are a volunteer and social organization and if the event isn't going to be fun, why do it? He commended years past when he would make a list of what we needed for a successful day and our members always stepped up. This is the plan for BRARC:

## 2024 Field Day Plans

### Baton Rouge ARC

LOCATION: Highland Road Park Observatory

DATES: June 22 & 23

Setup: 7AM – noon, Sat June 22.

Operating: 1PM Saturday to 1PM Sunday (24 hours)

SETUP: 7AM – 12 NOON, June 22

Raise antennas, run coax, set up radios, set up logging software and network.

Can preposition equipment Friday night, but contact AD5VC first.

TEARDOWN: Sun June 23 1-3 PM

Pack up equipment, clean up ob-

servatory Eat watermelon

#### OPERATING

3A category (3 HF stations, A=club) using W5GIX call

2 people per HF station, one logs and one operates. One must have General or higher license Over the ear headphones for both operators strongly suggested.

Get On The Air (GOTA) station using K5LSU call. Intended for public use.

6M station can be operated by Tech license. Still suggest 2 operators.

Public will attend from 2PM to 10PM. We may also have visits from public officials, media and served agencies like Red Cross

## EQUIPMENT

3 HF 100W Radios (supplied by club, but spares are useful). Expect one for CW, one for SSB, one for CW/SSB/Digi. These radios will have bandpass filters (supplied by club) so they can use the triband Yagi simultaneously.

1 HF Radio for the GOTA station (supplied by LSU Club)

Radio for 6m (A 6m antenna will be provided by K5HDE)

All radio power cords should have fuse, min 14 ga wire, and PowerPole connectors

Club supplies coax

Need 2 antennas for each of 10/15/20/40/80 m. Have 10/15/20 Yagi from AD5XY.

6 Marine Trolling Batteries (> 60 Ah) or equivalent to power the radios. Batteries must have cords with 14 ga wire, fused and powerpole connectors. Contact AD5VC if you don't have cords like that.

Gas generator and fuel

At least 3 high-current battery chargers (>10 A). If you are bringing a Li battery, bring the appropriate charger.

Logging for each station using club's copy of N3FJP Field Day log.

One laptop at each station. Windows 7 or later, guest account brarc with password w5gix. These can run off of commercial power.

## SUPPLIES

Club will provide Saturday dinner. Will need drinks, snacks, ice, ice chest, and Sunday breakfast.

Will need devices to launch antenna cords in to trees.

## HF STATION OPERATING

Best with both an operator and a logger. One must have a General license or higher to act as control operator. Unlicensed operator can operate radio if control op present.

## GOTA STATION

Public will attend from 2PM to 10PM Saturday, so they will use the GOTA station with a coach. After that, hams licensed less than 1 year, Techs (with control op present) and other inactive hams may use the station. Everyone may also participate at the 3 HF stations.

## LOGGING

We will use club's copy of N3FJP Field Day Log over a local network. Prefer laptops with wired Ethernet port. AD5VC will handle software and network setup



#### EXTRA CREDIT ACTIVITIES

- If you are interested in any of these, contact AD5VC for details
- Public Information Table (see Mike N5UKZ)
- Satellite contacts
- Recording Radio Bulletin from W1AW
- Doing Solar or Wind-powered QSOs
- Sending Message to our Section Manager
- Sending properly formatted messages over NTS
- Social media posting during operations (use #ARRLFD hashtag)

#### OTHER JOBS

- Photographing club activity
- Safety Officer ensuring no trip hazards from coax or guy wires, proper storage of fuel
- Run errands during Setup

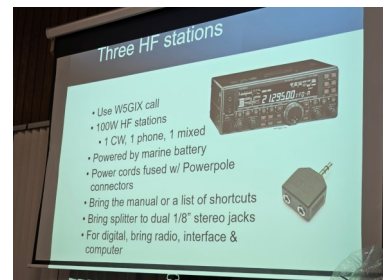
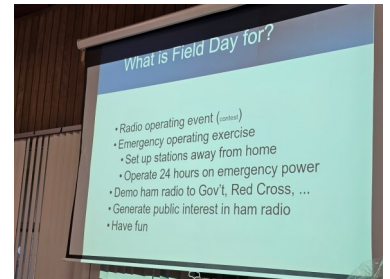
A complete description of the Field Day rules are at <http://www.arrl.org/field-day#rules>  
For more information, you can contact Dana AD5VC at [ad5vc@yahoo.com](mailto:ad5vc@yahoo.com) or at 225-907-5549.  
To let us know what you are willing to bring or participate in, fill out the form at [BRARC Field Day Supplies](#) or



# PHOTO GALLERY

## Field Day/ Eating Meeting

Photos by  
Joe K5ROP





## HUNGRY?

### *For good food and friendship?*

You are invited for Breakfast and guests are always welcome.

Waffle House @ I-12 and Walker Rd. in Walker -  
Wednesdays @ 06:30

Franks @ Old Cortana Mall on Airline -  
Fridays @ 08:00

Yeager's Down-Home Restaurant on Bass Pro Blvd. -  
Saturdays @ 06:15



Hey Breakfast guys! Feel free to get me some new pics for the RFNEWS! Thanks!

## Elmers Wanted

We currently have 3 Elmers listed, but we know there are various areas of Amateur Radio and if you want to volunteer to be an Elmer in a specific area, please let us know. Can you be the “go-to person” with Satellites? Antennas? Tools? ARES? POTA? IOTA? SOTA? (not sure where we have Summits unless you count the mounds at LSU).

Our current list of Elmers:

- Todd Huovinen AB5TH
- Jerry Clouatre AG5AY
- Dan Lott KF5TQN



# Two Candidates Test for Licenses



—Jon Reise WA9JBR

The BRARC VE team conducted the mid-year exam session of 2024 on Saturday, June 1st at the EBR Main Library on Goodwood. The two Candidates preregistered for the exam. One Candidate earned his Technician class license and the second Candidate upgraded from General to Extra class. Because of the small group, only one room was for testing on the second floor of the library.

The successful Candidates and their new issued license were:

Morgan Allison	Technician
Cory Rogers, KG5QCU	Extra

This session's VE Team was comprised of:

- Jon Reise, WA9JBR
- Hank Ellis, K5HDE
- Paul Smith, KG5HLB

Morgan Allison was given a complimentary BRARC membership for the remainder of the year. Cory Rogers, KG5QCU is a BRARC member.

BRARC will be conducting the next test session at the library on Saturday, September 7 at 10 am.

If you hold a Technician or General class license, think about upgrading at one of our test sessions. Registration can be done on the BRARC website, [www.brarc.org](http://www.brarc.org).

If you are a VE and interested in joining the BRARC VE Team, contact Jon Reise, WA9JBR at [jreise92@gmail.com](mailto:jreise92@gmail.com)

# BATON ROUGE AMATEUR RADIO MEMBER PROFILE

## *Meet Ava KE5UQE...*

### WHAT IS YOUR NAME? AND WHAT KIND OF WORK DO YOU DO NOW? IF RETIRED WHAT WAS YOUR WORK?

Ava Gerald.

I am retired, but I worked for 23 years as a logistics specialist and 10 years as a mental health counselor.

### WHEN DID YOU FIRST BECOME INTERESTED IN AMATEUR RADIO AND WHAT LED TO YOUR INTEREST IN AMATEUR RADIO?

I always say I have an amateur license because of love.

When I met Jeremy the club was putting on a class and he encouraged me to go and get my license.

### WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT YOUR FIRST RADIO SETUP?

I never really had my own radio set up. My first set up was aboard the USS Kidd. And I've used Jeremy's rig.

### DID YOUR FORMAL EDUCATION PREPARE YOU OR LEAD YOU TO AMATEUR RADIO OR WAS IT JUST THE REVERSE?

Nope.

### WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT AMATEUR RADIO NOW AND WHY?

I really enjoyed working on the Kidd and working Field Day.

### WHAT ARE SOME OF THE MORE EXCITING EVENTS THAT YOU CAN REMEMBER REGARDING YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH AMATEUR RADIO?

Working the Kidd was when I really understood how to work on the radio, manage pile ups and got comfortable. I have 2 memorable contacts – while working on the Kidd we had a contact from an air plane pilot who was actually flying a plane. The second was making contact with the Nudist colony in TX during field day. (There's a certain yuk factor that makes that one memorable).

### WHAT DO YOU THINK AMATEUR RADIO WILL BE LIKE IN 20-30 YEARS?

I think it voice and code will continue to be a large part of working on the radio, but I think it will be dominated by digital modes.

### WHAT ADVICE CAN YOU GIVE TO A NEWLY LICENSED AMATEUR TODAY?

Don't be afraid to get on the air and work. With all of the rules of what you can and can't do, the fact is that most people are kind and patient with new hams.

**Interested in what went on at the BRARC Board Meeting?  
You can see the meeting by following the link below...**

<https://Brarc.org/boardmeeting>

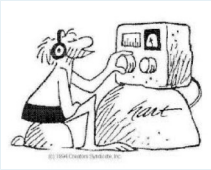


## RF News

I will try to send out each publication by the second week of the month. If you have something to contribute, please send it to me by the 21st day of the month for inclusion in the next issue.

Feedback is always welcome and please be patient as I am always working to improve the format and readability.

Email your articles to Joe Roppolo  
K5ROP at [K5ROP@BRARC.org](mailto:K5ROP@BRARC.org)



## For Sale to get you started...

Perfect for the new radio amateur. Just add coax.

Yaesu FT-2900  
- 2m FM transceiver.  
75w output.

Kenwood KPS-15 power supply  
- 13.8 volts at 23 amps  
output

Arrow dual band J-Pole  
- 2m and 70cm vertical

**Still Available!**

## Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club (BRARC)

PO Box 4004  
Baton Rouge, LA 70821-4004

Website: [www.brarc.org](http://www.brarc.org)  
Email: [brarc@brarc.org](mailto:brarc@brarc.org)  
Facebook: The Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club-BRARC or direct to [www.facebook.com/groups/951998299448838](https://www.facebook.com/groups/951998299448838)



## Last Laughs



Do you think these guys are working Field Day?