



R F News

August 15, 2020

Tidbits from Todd

Hello Everyone,

August has been a pretty good month. There was a very exciting “Virtual Ham Expo” held by Eric Guth (4Z1UG) during the second weekend of August. Eric has a very interesting podcast about ham radio called “QSO Today”. The virtual Ham Expo was very nicely done considering that it was a free event. Since almost all hamfests around the country have been cancelled due to the CoVid 19 outbreak, this was a nice alternative. The quality of the presentations was excellent in my opinion. If you missed last weekend’s virtual ham expo, everything is available on demand until September 9th.

I’m also excited to announce that our August club meeting will be held via the Zoom teleconference platform on Tuesday August 25th at 7:00 PM. The program topic will be Receiver Performance by Rob Sherwood (NC0B) from Denver, Colorado. Rob owns and operates Sherwood Engineering. He tests receivers and publishes the results on his website (<http://www.sherweng.com>).

73,
Todd-AB5TH

Upcoming Events Calendar

8/25 August Club Meeting-via Zoom teleconference platform.

Program Topic: Receiver Performance- Rob Sherwood-NC0B

Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club

PO Box 4004, Baton Rouge, LA 70821
Web: www.brarc.org email: brarc@brarc.org

President	Todd Huovinen-AB5TH
Vice President	Jennifer Bordelon-K5NMT
Secretary	Thornton Cofield-K5HLC
Treasurer	Bill Smith-KE5TA
Directors	Vernon Morris, AA5O Brook Samuel, N5DGK Jeremy Gerald-AD5XY Jerry Clouatre-AG5AY Robin Hudson-KK5RH Ken Shutt-W5KQ Dan Lott KF5TQN

Repeaters: 146.790 - and 444.400 +
(PL tone 107.2) System Fusion

Nets: BRARC Club Net - Sunday 8:30 PM
146.790 (PL tone 107.2) System Fusion
Ten Meter Net - Monday 7:30 PM
28.450MHz USB

PLEASE NOTE!!

Club Dues
Payable January 1

- Dues are payable annually January 1.
- Regular membership is \$25 per year.
- Student membership is \$5 per year.
- Send dues to PO Box 4004, Baton Rouge, LA 70821 or deliver in person at a club meeting.

For your convenience club dues can now be paid on line via a link on the club website.

Major credit cards are accepted as well as PayPal. NOTE: Credit card payments for dues

CANNOT be accepted at club meetings at this time.

Breakfast



We meet for breakfast 3 days each week:

Wednesday: Frank's Restaurant Grill & Bar (17425 Airline Highway Prairieville, LA 70769) 6:30 AM. **NEW-BREAKFAST WITH THE ASCENCION ARC**

Friday: Frank's Coffee House (8353 Airline Hwy. Baton Rouge, LA 70815) 6:30 AM

Saturday-Yaeger's Down Home Cooking (240 Range 12 Ave, Suite 121 Denham Springs, LA 70726) **NEW LOCATION!!!**

BRARC Facebook Page

If you haven't done so, please visit and "like" our BRARC Facebook page. You will find a link at the club's website: <http://brarc.org/>

We're using Facebook to keep the membership better informed in a timely manner about what's going on in your radio club. This page is also a good way for BRARC members to keep in contact with each other.

73,
Robin, KK5RH

Area Nets

Sunday-Post Office Net (3.905 MHz. 75m) 7:00-7:30 AM
Delta Net (3.905 MHz. 75m) 7:30-7:45 AM
QCWA (3.905 MHz. 75m) 8:00 AM
ARES Region 2 Net (146.790 PL 107.2) 8:00 PM
BRARC Public Service Net (146.790 PL 107.2) 8:30 PM

Monday-BRARC 10 meter net (28.450 MHz) 7:30-8:00 PM
Tuesday-LOHSEP 2 meter net (147.165 MHz PL 107.2 Hz)-Livingston 7:30 PM

Wednesday-MISSLOU 2 meter net (146.835 MHz PL 114.8 Hz)-Jackson, LA 8:00 PM. Echolink Node: KD5UZA-R
SELSA Net: 146.52 MHz Simplex-Wilson, LA 9:00 PM.

Thursday- LARS Net (146.730 PL 107.2 Hz) Walker, LA 7:00 PM
K5ARC Ascension Radio Club Net (147.225 MHz PL 107.2) 8:00 PM
EchoLink Node: K5ARC-R
Amateur Radio Newsline is also played during this net.

Do You Have Topics or Suggestions for the RF News?

Do you have pictures, articles, links or other ham radio related items for inclusion in the RF News?

Contact the club president/newsletter editor, Todd (AB5TH). Deadline is the 15th of each month.

BRARC Elmers

Todd Huovinen-AB5TH
E-Mail: ab5th@arrl.net

Jerry Clouatre-AG5AY
E-Mail: jerry.clouatre@gmail.com

Dan Lott-KF5TKN
E-mail: kf5tkn@gmail.com

The July 2020 BRARC was held over club 2 meter repeater on July 28th at 7:00PM. We had 18 check ins and we closed the meeting at 7:50 PM. The August club meeting will be held via the Zoom teleconference platform which is a first for us. I will send out the meeting room link to the membership a few days before the club meeting which will be on Tuesday August 25th at 7:00 PM. The program topic will be “Receiver Performance” by Rob Sherwood (NC0B) of Sherwood Engineering in Denver, Colorado.

BRARC Board Meeting Minutes

Tue. 02 Aug 2020, 6:30 pm

Zoom Teleconference

Members Present:

President- Todd Huovinen (1), Vice-President-Jen Bordelon, Treasurer- Bill Smith (1),
Secretary- Thornton Cofield (1),
Directors- Jerry Clouatre (2), Dan Lott (2), Jeremy Gerald (2), Brook Samuel (1), Vernon Morris (1)

Members Absent:

(1), Ken Shutt (2), Robin Hudson (1),
() Number of years to serve on board in stated position.

Visitors: Ava Gerald KE5UQE

Minutes approval from 07/13: Motion to accept by Dan, seconded by Jeremy.

Treasurer Report: \$8,667.02. Motion to accept by Dan, seconded by Jerry.

Membership Report-No report

Programs – see below

Committee Reports:

Education- No report

Equipment-Jerry- No report

PIO/Outreach /Mbr- Thornton: Membership is stable at 63 members.

EMCOM-No Report

Repeater-Brook- See Old Business

USS Kidd Club- All activity in this area is on hold under Phase II due to Covid-19.

Old Business

Observatory Tower/Rotor Replacement Estimate-Robin-put on hold due to CoVid19

Museum Antenna Replacement- The antenna replacement is on hold until Phase II under Covid-19 restrictions are lifted. Dan volunteered to meet the Hebert's half way to return Brett's antenna and coax after his antenna and coax are replaced from on top of the USS KIDD museum.

\Possible Repeater relocation update-Brook- Brook explained his concern about relocating the repeater at this time and the board agreed. Jeremy moved, with Dan seconded the motion to not relocate the repeater at this time.

Brook's written comments leading to the above discussion:

New Repeater on the WBR OEP Tower – We received a draft of a Memorandum of Understanding from WBR. It's the agreement between our club and WBR parish detailing the requirements of the installation. They haven't finalized it yet, I'm sure because of the virus. We and they will have to sign it in order to put a repeater on their tower.

Before we proceed with that, I'm having second thoughts about relocating the 79 repeater. My main concern is the cost. The original estimate I put together is a year and a half old and it totaled to nearly \$4,000. It will most likely cost more now. Also, except for the Sunday night public service net, traffic on the 79 repeater is usually light. The 440 repeater is hardly used at all. So, spending \$4,000 plus dollars doesn't seem to be as wise as it did when I raised the issue of another repeater site a couple of years ago.

The club checking account balance doesn't grow year to year but we do bring in enough money yearly to cover yearly expenses. Right now, the balance is around \$8,400. At the March Board Meeting, we approved spending \$1,800 on the new rotator installation at the Observatory. If we proceed with the repeater work and new rotator, we'll be left with around \$2,500, or less, in the bank.

As far as wider coverage of the club repeater system, both the DWARN and LWARN repeater systems are available. The DWARN system does require a C4FM to take advantage of its wide-area coverage but the LWARN system is FM, available to everyone. I don't think it's up to BRARC to be responsible for maintaining a wide-coverage repeater, like we had in the past. It would be great, if we could just afford it.

Remote VE Testing?? -Jerry reported that due to the extension of Phase II and the lingering COVID-19 virus that remote VE testing may be something we should investigate implementing. As a member of ARRL we are required to offer VE testing at least 4 times a year. We've offered two VE test sessions this year to date. Ava Gerald brought up a number of issues involved in using ZOOM and Google Meet that she has experienced in her work with BRCC. Remote testing has been approved by ARRL but a number of details still needs to be worked out. Jerry volunteered to look further into implementing Remote VE Testing it for our club. He would like to develop a committee of club VEs to work on this project and Todd said that he would provide Jerry with a list of club VEs.

New Business

Grand Isle Trip in October- IOTA- No details have been worked out at this time.

Christmas Banquet concerns – Todd- Crowd size due to CoVid is still a factor. Should we cancel?? The Board is in agreement to wait a couple of months before making a decision on whether to cancel the Christmas Banquet in December. Social distancing is a major factor in arriving at a decision.

August Club meeting-should we hold the August club meeting via Zoom due to Rob Sherwood program?

Comments?Questions/Concerns

Todd volunteered to contact Rob Sherwood and ask which presentation venue he prefers since Baton Rouge is still in Phase II and the library is closed to group activity. The main question is does he want to present under these conditions.

Tentative Program Suggestions

August:	Skype Presentation Rob Sherwood	Rob Sherwood-KC0B Confirmed
September	Open Eating Meeting Reschedule??	
October	Elmer Tatum Presentation	Confirmed
November-	Eating Meeting	Bluebonnet Library 6:00 PM
Backup options:	Show and Tell	

Meeting adjourned at 7:20pm

Thornton H Cofield
Secretary
K5HLC

LWARN Linked Repeaters

Livingston- 444.350 + pl 136.5

West Feliciana- 443.625 + pl 156.7

Greensburg- 442.275 + pl 156.7

Washington Parish- 442.425 + pl 156.7

EBR (Central)- 442.400 + pl 156.7

St Tammany Parish- 443.425 + pl 156.7

These repeaters are part of the Livingston Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (LOSHEP). Amateur operators are welcome to use them.

D-WARN (System Fusion) Linked Repeaters

Baton Rouge: 145.490 (-) PL 107.2

Baton Rouge: 443.375 (+)

Bush, LA: 443.400 (+) PL 114.8

Bush, LA: 145.470 (-) PL 114.8

Jackson, LA: 443.850 (+)

Livingston: 145.230 (-) PL 107.2

Madisonville: 444.875 (+) PL 114.8

New Iberia: 442.025 (+) PL 103.5

New Orleans 444.225 (+) PL 114.8

Parks, LA 443.200 (+) PL 103.5

Shreveport 444.875 (+)

Slidell 442.125 (+) PL 114.8

St. Francisville 147.285 (+) PL 107.2

Sunshine Bridge:443.275 PL 107.2

West Monroe: 444.700 PL 127.3 Use PL Tones for Analog FM Operation



USS KIDD News

Due to the CoVid19 outbreak we will not be able to operate in the USS KIDD Museum or ship radio room until further notice.

<http://brarc.org/photos/uss-kidd/>

Please keep checking the club website at www.brarc.org for the latest updates on club functions. John Krupsky (WA5MLF) is regularly updating the club Calendar of Events

Annual “Eating Meeting” POSTPONED

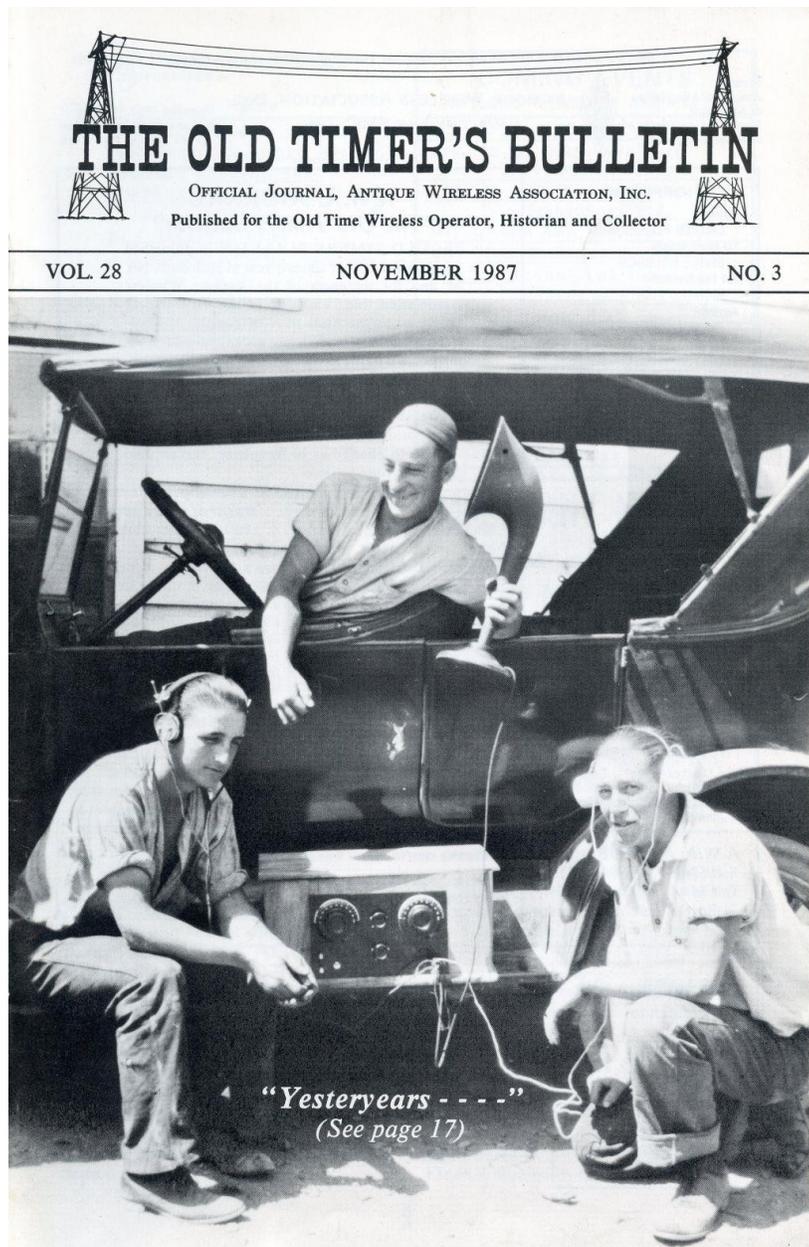
I will be working with Christopher Kersey (KE5PQO) at the Highland Road Park Observatory to reschedule our annual “Eating Meeting” for this Fall (Sept or Oct). I received word from Christopher that the Observatory is reopening on Friday June 19th. Todd-AB5TH

The “Good Ole” Days Operating Portable Weren’t Like Today

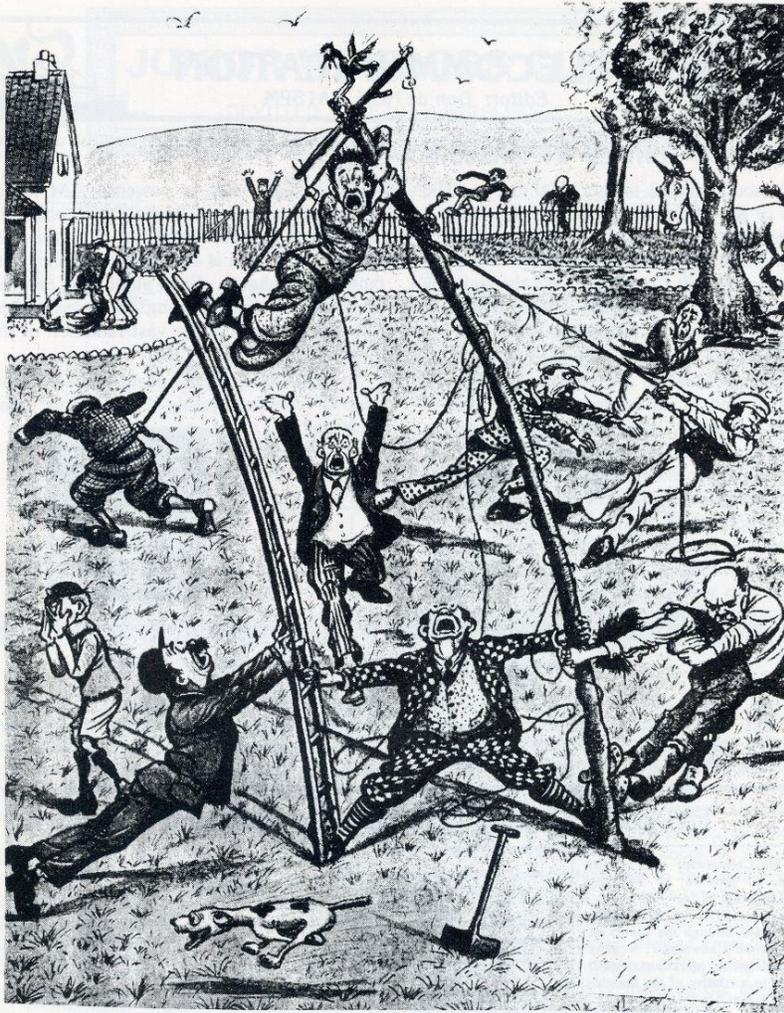
Just to remanence about the good old day when you didn’t have to contend with pileups and QRM.

The Old Timer’s Bulletin, Vol. 28, November 1987.

Submitted by Thornton Cofield K5HLC



*“Yesteryears - - -”
(See page 17)*



"SO YOU THINK YOU HAVE ANTENNA PROBLEMS???"

**Return with us to
those golden days
of yesteryear...**

COVER STORY

This picture of days gone by should bring a chuckle, especially if you can relate to it. AWA member Joe Horvath

can. He is at right with a pair of tin can headphones (which didn't work) while his friends are making believe they are listening to a homebuilt three tube Harkness reflex receiver. The car: a Model "T" Ford touring - the type with snap-on side curtains.

Joe believes the picture was taken in 1923 at Windsor, California. The receiver was the talk of the town since most listeners were still using crystal and 1-tube sets.

17

That's about it for this month. Thank you to Thorton (K5HLC) for the contributions to the RF News. If you have something that you would like to submit to the newsletter, my email address is

ab5th@arri.net.

**73,
Todd-AB5TH**

YOUR ARTICLE COULD APPEAR HERE NEXT MONTH

