



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



RF News

This time of year, a lot of you go outdoors and operate portable in our parks. Although it's considered a very safe activity, just remember to always be aware of your surroundings, especially in areas that don't see a lot of people. Send us pictures of you operating portable and we'll put them in the RF News. Just send them to jerry.clouatre@gmail.com or any board member, and be sure to include a description of your portable setup.





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



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Frequency	Net
146.79- MHz PL tone 107.2	Region 2 ARES Net Sunday 8:00 PM
146.79- MHz PL tone 107.2	BRARC Public Service Net Sunday 8:30 PM
146.46 MHz 147.47 MHz	Baton Rouge Simplex Net Monday 7:00 pm
28.450 MHz USB	Ten Meter Net Monday 7:30 PM
7.043 MHz CW	Slow CW Net 2nd & 3rd Tuesdays 6:30 pm
442.2+ MHz PL tone 107.2	MissLou Net Wednesday 7:00 pm
146.835- MHz PL tone 114.8	MissLou Net Wednesday 8:00 pm
146.79- MHz PL tone 107.2	Friendship Net Thursday 7:00 PM
444.400+ MHz PL tone 107.2	W5GIX Fusion Repeater

Repeaters & Nets





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Club Meeting May 27

BRARC Member Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you there where there will be snacks and comradery. We are always looking for someone to present at our meetings. Let us know if you wish to share your experience.

This month we will have a ***Pot Luck*** dinner at the
Highland Road Park Observatory!





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Upcoming Club Events

- May 3 International Astronomy Day
- May 6 BRARC Board Meeting
- May 27 Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club monthly meeting, Saint George Fire Prevention District (Training Center), 14100 Airline Hwy, Baton Rouge, LA
- June 3 BRARC Board Meeting
- June 4 Ascension Amateur Radio Club
Prairieville Fire Department Training Center at 14517 LA Highway 73
- June 24 BRARC Monthly Meeting
- June 28-29 Field Day





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



ARRL FIELD DAY 2025



Be a part of the **most popular on-the-air operating event** in amateur radio. Join your local community and get in on the action!

PARTICIPATE IN YOUR LOCAL ARRL FIELD DAY JUNE 28-29, 2025

Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club (<https://brarc.org>) will be at:

Highland Road Park Observatory

2:00 PM - 10:00 PM

13800 Highland Rd, Baton Rouge, LA 70810

(<https://www.hrc.org/facility/HighlandRoadParkObservatory>)

Amateur radio is invaluable during emergencies, allows people to socialize across great distances without a monthly bill, and is very useful when letting others know about oncoming inclement weather. Owen Garriot took the first amateur radio into space in 1983. Shannon Lucid used amateur radio while on the MIR space station. That's right...if you are a "ham", it's possible to be listening and receive a "general call" from an astronaut in space! Come learn to send your name in Morse code, and find out everything you wanted to know about the Amateur Radio Service—including how to get your own license! Temporary stations will be set up on HRPO grounds as the Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club takes part in this suspenseful national transmitting exercise!

www.arrl.org/FieldDay



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



What is ARRL Field Day? You're Invited!

ARRL Field Day is a radio communications event that brings together amateur radio operators (also called "hams") within your community. The theme for 2025 Field Day is "Radio Connects" — highlighting the many ways that wireless technology connects people across distances near and far. The event is part picnic, campout, practice for emergencies, informal contest, and most of all, fun! ARRL Field Day is the most popular ham radio activity held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend in June each year, more than 31,000 hams get together with their radio clubs, schools, or friends to operate from remote locations.



For many radio clubs, ARRL Field Day is one of the highlights on their annual calendar. A typical Field Day site will showoff many aspects of amateur radio and its many roles.

Some groups use Field Day as an opportunity to practice their emergency communications readiness. ARRL Field Day is an annual demonstration and invites the general public and organizations to see how amateur radio can serve in an emergency, **When All Else Fails®**. Hams are well-known for their communications support in real disaster and post-disaster situations. Despite the development of very complex, modern communications systems — or maybe because they are so complex — ham radio has been called into action, again and again, to provide communications in crises when it really matters.

Amateur radio also inspires the next generation of technical leaders by providing a hands-on sandbox where students gain experience in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

For those with a competitive spirit, Field Day stations compete to make radio contacts with as many other stations as possible while learning to operate radio equipment in challenging situations and less-than-optimal conditions. These same skills are used by hams who volunteer to help with large, preplanned, non-emergency events such as marathons and bike-a-thons; fundraisers such as walk-a-thons; celebrations such as parades, and exhibits at fairs, malls, and museums.

Who is ARRL?

With more than 137,000 members, ARRL is The National Association for Amateur Radio in the US. Our mission is to promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and to develop the next generation of radio amateurs. ARRL and our affiliated radio clubs provide benefits to members to discover radio, to develop new skills, and to serve your local community.

What is Amateur Radio?

Often called "ham radio," the Amateur Radio Service is a worldwide community of licensed operators using the airwaves with every conceivable means of communications technology. It is made up of people who enjoy learning and being able to transmit voice, data, and pictures through the airwaves to places near and far without depending on commercial systems. The amateur radio frequencies are the last remaining place in the usable radio spectrum where an individual can develop and experiment with wireless communications. Not only can hams build and modify their equipment, but they can also create new ways to communicate via the airwaves — and do it as a globally connected community. Many people in the hobby form lifelong friendships with people they wouldn't have otherwise met. Many rock stars, Hollywood actors, and heads of state (and even your neighbor down the street) are ham radio operators. You can be, too! Get started at ARRL Field Day!



The National Association for
ARRL Amateur Radio®

www.arrl.org/FieldDay

Order Official ARRL Field Day Gear
www.arrl.org/shop/FieldDay



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



In addition to our normal fun of working as many contacts as possible, we'll be presenting a **'First Contact Award'** to Field Day visitors after making their first on-air contact.

Should be a great time for everyone!

First Contact Award

*This Certificate is Being Presented
to*

*As Recognition of Your
First Two-way Communications by Amateur Radio*

QSO with:	Date	Time	Frequency	Mode
-----------	------	------	-----------	------

*May this first contact serve as a reminder of when and where your radio journey began
and may you have many contacts with Amateur Radio operators from around the globe
who share a similar desire to connect with people through the magic of radio.*



ARRL The national association for
AMATEUR RADIO®



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



VE Testing and News



A license exam session is scheduled for **Saturday, May 31, 2025, 10:00 am – 12 noon** at the East Baton Rouge Main Library, 7711 Goodwood Blvd, Baton Rouge, LA 70806, in the **Technology Lab on the 2nd floor** (Rooms 2A, 2B, Tech Lab). If you

want to take an exam for a new license or to upgrade an existing license, please register at [this page](#).

If **upgrading**, bring a copy of your current license. It will be submitted with your application by the Volunteer Examiner Team. If you are taking your first test, you must register with the FCC and get your FRN number (FCC Registration Number). This will be used on the forms instead of using your Social Security number. You can register for the FRN at [this page](#).

To take the test in person, candidates need to bring the following:

- Photo ID
- Copy of your current FCC license or CSCE (for those upgrading)
- \$15 cash or check made out to ARRL VEC
- Two #2 pencils with erasers and a black ink pen.
- Calculator – Optional. If used, you must demonstrate the memories are blank.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Hands-on Tutoring for HF Radio

If you want to learn the basics of making HF radio contacts, this session is for you. We are offering personal sessions of hands-on learning covering the following:

- Introduction to our station equipment
- Basics of making contacts
- Logging software basics
- Using the PSK Reporter website for mapping CW or FT8 digital contacts



You will be instructed by an Extra class amateur radio operator at the Highland Road Park Observatory, operating W5GIX. After you learn the basics, you will make radio contacts with other hams around the country using our ICOM IC-7300 transceiver.

Sign up for a **personal** session [on this web page](#). We'll focus on one or more modes of operation (voice, CW, FT8 digital) according to your interests.

Station Equipment:

The Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club maintains a club station at the Highland Road Park Observatory. We run an ICOM IC-7300, 100 W transceiver, with an antenna tuner, to a tribander Yagi or wire antenna.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



We suggest that radio operators / members wear their callsign or club badges or apparel to help identify themselves to the BREC staff and visitors as representatives of our club and the amateur radio community.

Jon Reise, WA9JBR
John Krupsky, WA5MLF





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Member Profile

August Levert - KF5NA

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

August Levert, and I am retired from the BR police as a dispatcher, so I got to work radio and get paid for it.



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

As a kid listening to the radio, it was amazing to hear voices coming out of that box. I got into the CB craze in the late 60s and, from there moved into HAM radio.

3. WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT YOUR FIRST RADIO SETUP?

I got my novice ticket in 1984 and saw an ad in the paper for radio equipment for sale. It was a two-piece rig for CW only.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



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

I think in high school one of the math schoolbooks had info on engineers and such and one was about Marconi and that got my attention.

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

I have always been interested in EmComm and that is where most of my time is spent.

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

I am not sure of any one event.

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

I plan to be around to see it, but I can't imagine what it will be like.

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

GET ON THE AIR AND HAVE FUN

9. WHAT CAN THE BATON ROUGE CLUB DO TO ENHANCE YOUR RADIO ENJOYMENT?

I am not sure

10. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE TO ADD?

No, just everyone keep the airways buzzing.

-August Levert, KF5NA



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Amateur Radio Emergency Service® [ARES®]



The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

Amateur Radio Operators use their training, skills, and equipment to provide communications during emergencies When All Else Fails®. The ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) consists of radio amateurs who have voluntarily registered their qualifications and equipment, with their local ARES leadership, for communications duty in the public service when disaster strikes.

ARES volunteers provide communications for:

- Government agencies
- Disaster relief organizations
- Public service events
- Emergencies or disasters
- Training exercises

ARES radio operators receive training in:

- Message handling
- Communication technology
- Administrative procedures
- Disaster preparedness



ARRL's volunteer amateur radio operators help their communities in good times and bad through community events, disaster response, and various programs.

Get Involved in ARES

- Ask local hams about involvement
- Contact your Section Manager or Section Emergency Coordinator, www.arrl.org/sections
- Join local radio clubs, www.arrl.org/clubs
- Be "radio active" — Get on the air as often as possible
- Attend SKYWARN® training, weather.gov/SKYWARN
- Learn more about ARES, www.arrl.org/ares
- Reach out to ARRL for assistance, email ares@arrl.org

Contact Your Local ARES Group or ARRL Affiliated Club

Join ARES® Today!



ARRL The National Association For
Amateur Radio®

Learn more at: www.arrl.org/public-service



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club

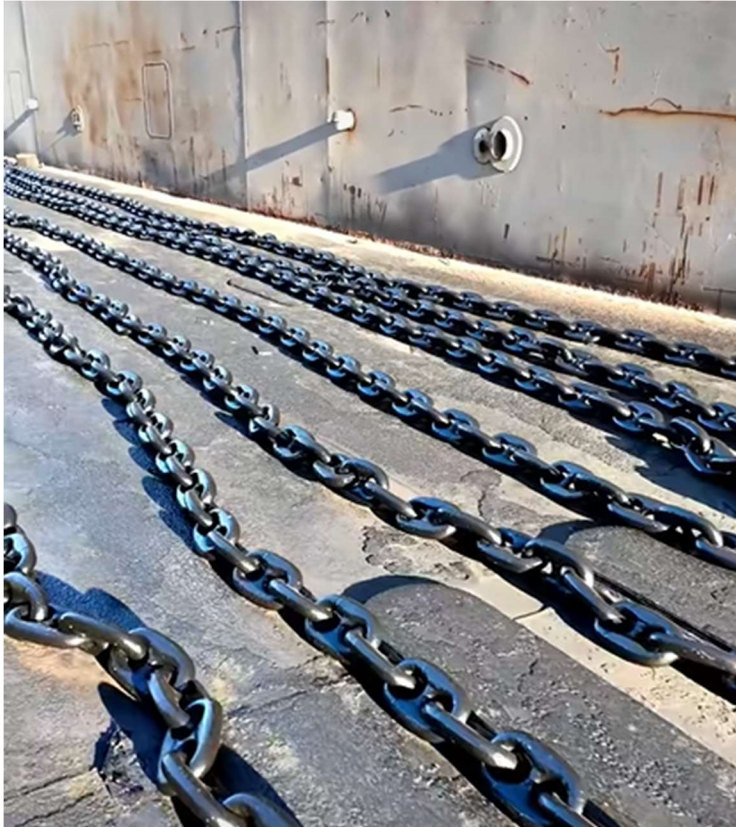


USS KIDD

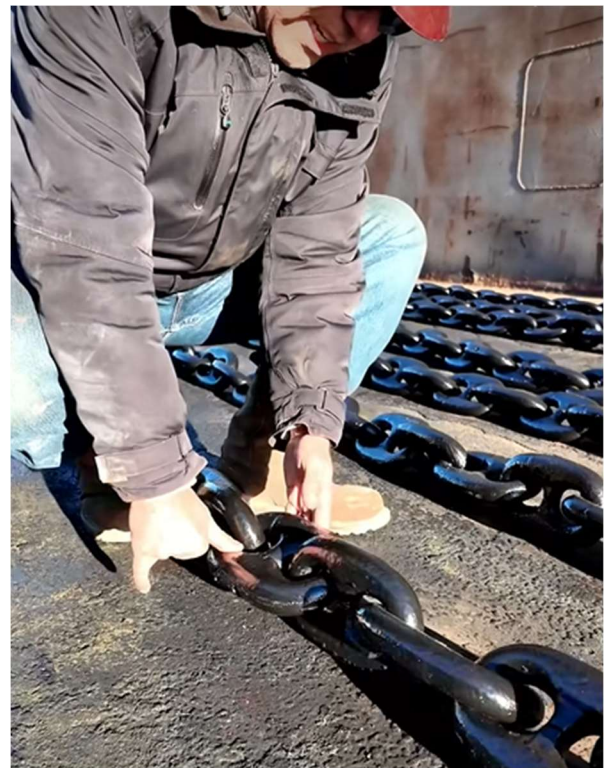




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How heavy are the anchors on a WWII destroyer? How long are the anchor chains? USS KIDD's anchors and chains have been blasted and painted, ready to return to the ship. She still has a ways to go, so they'll stay on the drydock floor for now.



Keep up to date with the restoration progress by following the Facebook site, USS KIDD Veterans Museum at <https://www.facebook.com/USSKIDD661> and the YouTube Channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@usskidd661/videos>.

The project will continue through May of this year, but so far no word on when the radio room will be operational.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Hamfests

- Mobile Amateur Radio Club Hamfest – May 17
- Dayton Hamvention May 16-18
- Four Days in May – May 15-18
- Shreveport-Bossier Hamfest – August 9
- Huntsville Hamfest August 16-17
- Ozone Hamfest Slidell – November (pending)





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



DX, Special Event, Contesting

May

- 3-4 Indiana QSO Party
- 3-4 Delaware QSO Party
- 3-4 New England QSO Party
- 17-18 Arkansas QSO Party

June

- 7-8 Kentucky QSO Party
- 21-22 SKCC QSO Party
- 21-22 West Virginia QSO Party
- 21 ARRL Kids Day
- 28-29 ARRL Field Day





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



DF2WO and
KN6ZZI will
be active as
D44TWO
and **D44ZZI**
from
Santiago
Island, IOTA
AF-005,
Cabo Verde,
4 - 26 May
2025.



The West African state of Cabo Verde, nestled in the Cape Verde Islands in the Atlantic Ocean, has its main attraction, the largest island of Santiago. The large island unit has a very popular name in Europe - "Santiago", assigned to it in honor of the famous Catholic apostle St. Jago (James). As the island's name suggests, it was discovered by the ubiquitous European colonizers, who left a legacy of distinctive settlement names and landscape landmarks for their descendants.



Take, JG8NQJ will be active again as **JG8NQJ/JD1** from Marcus Island, IOTA OC - 073, Minami Torishima, 17 April - 17 June 2025. He will operate on HF Bands CW, FT8.

The Minami-Tori-Shima Island is a triangular shaped island in the northwest Pacific Ocean. Its name is Japanese and means 'Southern Bird Island'. It is also known by its other name of Marcus Island. This small island not only holds some legendary stories but also has some very unique factors that make it great for oceanic research amongst other things. It currently has a meteorological research station for studying typhoons and holds an extensive coral reef running



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



from 100-1000ft. The central part of the island is 3ft below sea level and some of the strangest sea products are harvested here such as seaweed, giant squid and swordfish. The ocean depths surrounding this island are great for divers as it plunges to below 3000ft.

The significance of this piece of land is its location on the Pacific Plate, past the Japan Trench. It is the easternmost territory of Japan and is only a mere 1km stretch of land with no civilian population. The thing here is that this allows Japan to have 165 000 miles of what is known as Exclusive Economic Zone over these waters. The story of this claim to ownership is one in itself.

Alex, **DL2ALY** will be active from Neumayer III Station, IOTA AN - 016, Antarctica, until end of the 2025. He will operate on HF Bands with focus on 80 and 160m Bands.

DPØGVN/AM

Antarctic flight operations - Aeronautical mobile

Lars DL1LLL

Atka Bay - Ekstrom Ice Shelf - Dronning Maud Land

Antarctica has always attracted scientists with its mystery, and today there are scientific stations on its territory of almost all progressive countries of the world. Neumayer III is a German research center dedicated to the study of geophysics, seismological activity, meteorology, and the chemical composition of the air.





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Swap Shop and Club Items

Name Badges, Mugs and Clothing with Club Logo available on the BRARC.org website.

Do you have something to sell? This is where you can advertise it. Just send a note to jerry.clouatre@gmail.com and I'll put it in the next issue of *RF News!*



IC-7300 Perfect operating condition. Radio and mic only
\$750



(tr)uSDX QRP transceiver -
Includes case, auto tuner, QRP
Radio, CW Straight key
\$200



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Operating Tech and Tips

Get On the Air from the Great Outdoors!

A Quick Guide to Portable Operation & Parks on the Air (POTA)

For Amateur Radio Operators of All Levels

Operating *portable* is one of the most exciting and rewarding ways to enjoy ham radio. Whether you're activating a local state park or a remote national forest, programs like **Parks on the Air (POTA)** offer a fun challenge and a great reason to get outside with your gear.

What is Parks on the Air (POTA)?

POTA is an international program that encourages amateur radio operators to operate from designated parks and protected areas. You earn awards for “activating” (transmitting from) or “hunting” (contacting) these locations. Learn more or find a park near you: parksontheair.com

What You Need to Operate Portable

Here's a basic checklist to get you on the air:

- **Radio:** A portable HF rig (like the Icom IC-705, Yaesu FT-891, or Xiegu G90) or even an HT for VHF/UHF ops.
- **Power:** A reliable power source – LiFePO4 batteries are lightweight and ideal.
- **Antenna:** A simple wire antenna (like an end-fed half wave), vertical, or even a magnetic loop.
- **Logging:** A paper logbook, smartphone, or tablet with logging software (HAMRS is great for POTA).
- **Extras:** Coax, throw line for trees, solar charger (optional), and snacks!





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Tips for a Successful Activation

- ✓ **Scout the location** in advance — some parks have rules about antennas or restricted access.
- ✓ **Bring backups!** A spare battery or a second antenna can save your activation.
- ✓ **Get spotted** on the POTA website or use the POTA app — more hunters will find you!
- ✓ **Call CQ POTA** and give your park reference (e.g., “CQ POTA from K-1234”).
- ✓ **Log carefully** — accurate logs help you and hunters get credit.

Why Do It?

- It’s fun and builds skills in field operations
- You’ll make contacts across the country — and the world!
- Great practice for emergency comms
- POTA awards and recognition keep things exciting

See you on the air from the woods, the lake, or the trail!

de AG5AY dit dit 





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



2025 Board Officers

President

K5ROP

Joe Roppolo

Vice-President

AB5TH

Todd Houvinen

Secretary

N5UKZ

Mike Blazek

Treasurer

N4XEG

Jeff Sibley

Board Members:

WA9JBR

Jon Reise

K5HLC

Thornton Cofield

KF5TQN

Dan Lott

AG5AY

Jerry Cloutre

NS5W

Russ London

KI5ZAZ

Jason Mullins

KD5MLD

Mike Nolan



Webmaster	WA5MLF	John Krupsky
Volunteer Examiner	WA9JBR	Jon Reise
Field Day	AD5VC	Dana Browne
Public Info & Outreach	K5HLC	Thornton Cofield
Repeaters	N5DGK	Brook Samuel
Education & Training	K5ROP	Joe Roppolo
RF News	AG5AY	Jerry Cloutre
Loaner Program	KF5TQN	Dan Lott
Emergency Operations	KD5MLD	Mike Nolan
QSL / Awards	WA9JBR	Jon Reise
USS KIDD	WA5MLF	John Krupsky



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Elmers:

Todd Huovinen AB5TH
Jerry Cloutre AG5AY
Dan Lott KF5TQN



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Tidbits and Other Stuff



- Be sure to check out **BRARC.org** for the latest news