



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



RF News



Do you have questions on choosing the proper power solution for your rig? Do you know the difference between lead acid and lithium iron phosphate? What are the best batteries for portable operation? Are there advantages to size, weight, and energy density? You'll learn everything you could ever possibly know about batteries, or at least maybe a little more than you already knew. Be there for the October meeting on Tuesday, October 28 when **Brook Samuel (N5DGK)** discusses:

Batteries For Amateur Radio

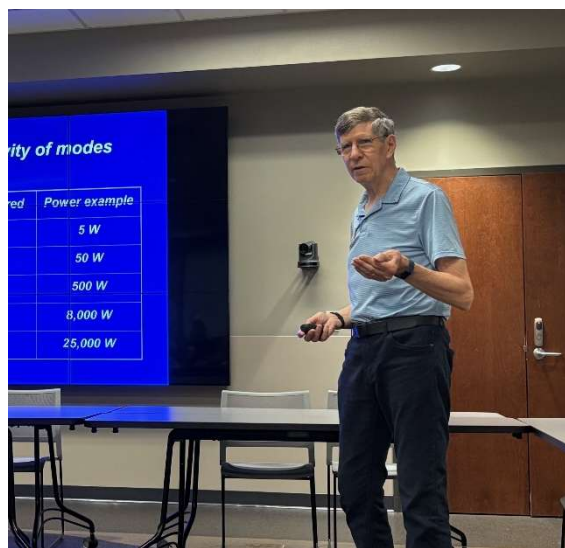
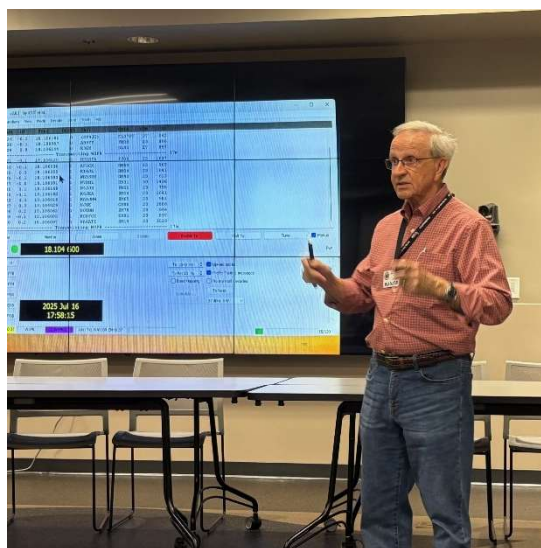
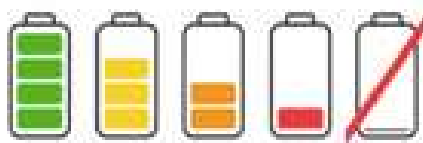
7:00 pm at the St. George Fire Prevention District, 14100 Airline Hwy, St. George, LA.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Upcoming Club Events	3
Member Profile	4
VE Testing and News	8
ARRL Special Service Club	9
Hands-on Mentoring for HF Radio	12
USS KIDD	14
DX, Special Event, Contesting	16
Swap Shop and Club Items	18
Auction	19
Other Stuff	23



WSPR presentation by Jon (WA9JBR) and John (WA5MLF)



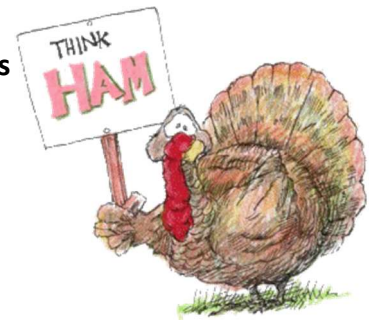
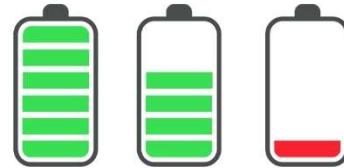
Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Upcoming Club Events

- October 28 BRARC Monthly Meeting, Batteries
- November 4 BRARC Board Meeting
- November 5 Ascension Amateur Radio Club
Prairieville Fire Department
Training Center at 14517 LA Highway 73
- November 18 Auction at Big Mikes in Denham Springs
- December 13 Christmas Luncheon, Big Mikes in Denham Springs
- January 6 BRARC Board Meeting
- January 27 BRARC Monthly Meeting, Repeater Linking

mAh Battery



Do you ever listen to Podcasts?

Here's some of my favorites:

- Solder Smoke
- Ham Radio Workbench
- QSO Today

Ham Radio
Workbench

SolderSmoke
podcast



Let us know your favorites so we can
share with everyone!





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Member Profile

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

My name is Chuck Kelley (KE5LY) and I presently work as a Facilities Maintenance Mechanic for a health care provider in the Baton Rouge area.

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

I actually became interested in amateur radio through my job. While touring the facility where I would be stationed, I noticed some radio gear. When I asked about it, I learned it was for emergency communications during events (usually a hurricane or cold weather event for us) when normal phone or internet service might not be available. The security manager I was with mentioned that they were looking for someone who might be interested in getting licensed, and since I've always liked to learn something new, I decided to check it out. Thus began my journey into the rabbit hole that is Amateur Radio.

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

It was as basic as it gets. It was an AMAZON Baofeng UV-5R. (One of the older "dirty" ones.) My first contact was with the Jackson MissLou repeater from the sidewalk in front of my house just off Staring Lane. I was immediately hooked. I added a mag-mount antenna stuck on a pizza pan to the UV-5R (actually worked pretty good) and started participating on some of the local nets.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



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

Neither really. I kind of look at it as another job skill I picked up along the way.

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

I enjoy working the nets, ARRL ARES SET exercises, Field Days, and building antennas & kits. I also enjoy our club meetings and presentations. I'm presently a member of AARC and BRARC.



About to use my AnyTone D578UVIII PRO to sign in to tonight's Louisiana Region 2 ARES net. Still working on the man cave so right now the dining room table is my pop-up "shack".

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

My first contact and first times as NCS for the ARES Net and the BRARC Public Service Net were exciting events for me. I was also really excited when my wife, Rogenell (K15UBB), got her Tech ticket. We also enjoy the HamFests and would like to go to HamVention someday.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



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

I can't even really imagine. HF transceivers the size of hearing aids? One thing I'm pretty sure of though, CW will still be around.

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

Get something you can get on the air with and get on the air! Participate on the local nets! Join a club (or two!) and find an Elmer. When you pass your Tech exam and the VE comes to you and asks if you'd like to try the General exam, say YES! Even if you don't pass (I didn't), you'll be familiar with some of the subject matter and it will be helpful as you study for your General. (You will want to move on to move on to your General.)

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

Perhaps a group construction project (simple digital interface, antenna project, etc.) Classes for basic skills such how many new hams know how to solder?

Group projects are always good, where older more seasoned members can share knowledge and experience with newer members. I've enjoyed building tape measure Yagi and copper pipe 2m j-pole antennas as group projects. This can also work as sort of a team building exercise.

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

It would be great to see more young people come into the hobby. (Is it really just a hobby? I'm thinking "No". What do y'all think?) I try to promote amateur radio whenever I can. I've dangled a carrot (in the form of an 8w HT with all the trimmings) in front of my grandson and his best friend if they want to study



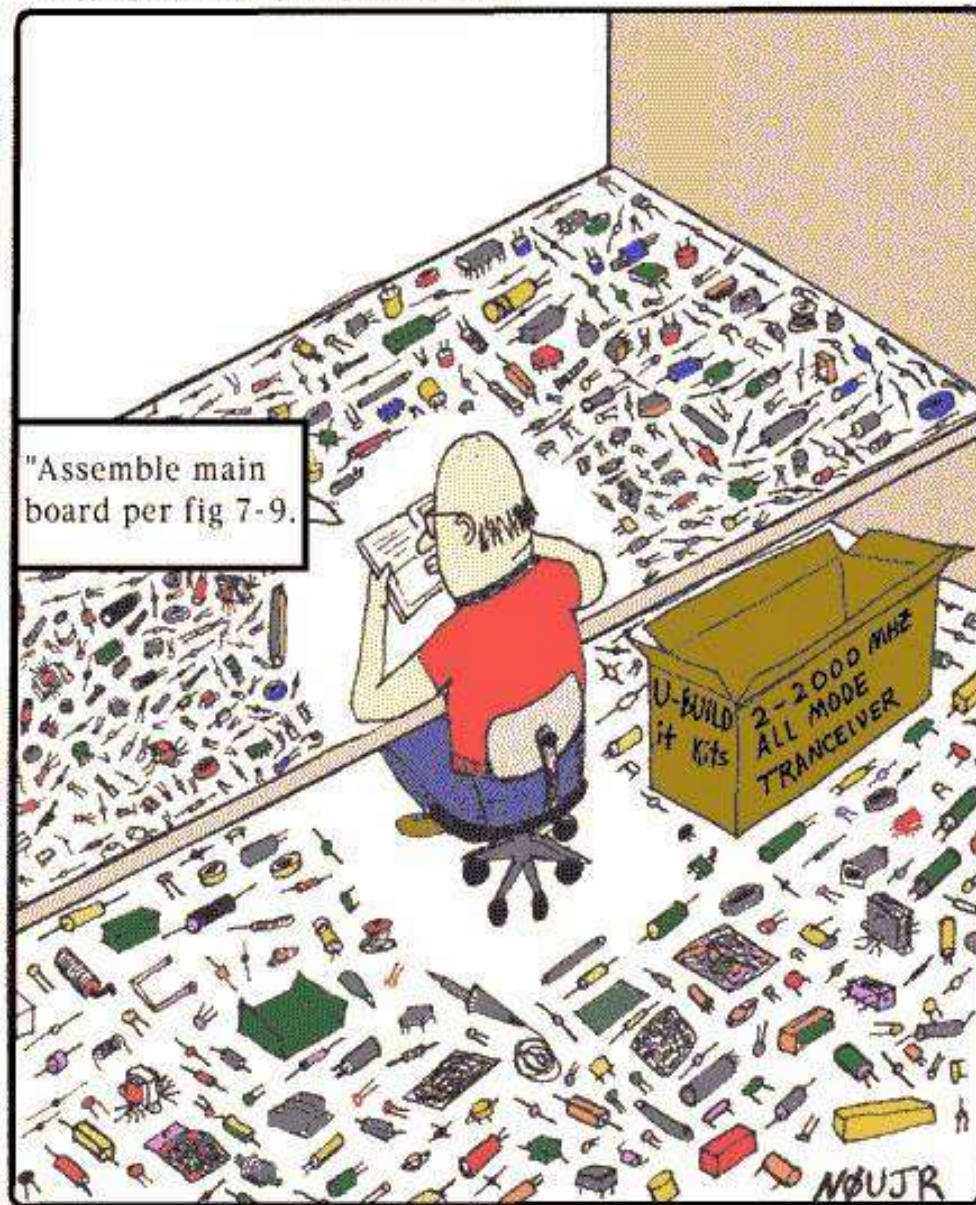
Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



and get their Tech ticket. They both seemed excited to get started.

I believe that amateur radio operators are a huge, irreplaceable asset in times of disaster and that we will continue to step into the gap “When all else fails”.

Copyright © 1995 by Greg Trook, N0UJR



Kit fun.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



VE Testing and News



A license exam session is scheduled for **Saturday, December 6, 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



BATON ROUGE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ARRL SPECIAL SERVICES CLUB

ARRL defines a club that exists to go above and beyond for their communities and for Amateur Radio is defined as a Special Service Club.

The following activities represent the dedication displayed by members of the Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club towards not only advancing the craft of amateur radio for the general public but also for providing essential community services in times of need.

Categories:

New Ham Development and Training

BRARC conducts at least 4 VE secessions a year. The number of examinees varies from 1 to a high number of 11 within the last 3 years. Staffed by 4 VEs as well as 1 more VE in an area noted as the “holding room”. This “holding room” is where the examinees are introduced to one another and given a quick overview of Amateur Radio and the BRARC club and invited to attend our club meetings.

Our current BRARC President also serves as the club’s Training Coordinator. BRARC attempts to offer a Technician Class as well as General Class training at least once a year to visitors and club members.

BRARC operates a Slow CW Net as well a Ten-Meter Net, Public Service Net, a Simplex Net and lastly a Friendship Net catering to relatively new “hams.”

Our club also has 3 official “Elmers” who volunteer their services and expertise to members who have questions and situations that sometimes demand more explanation and knowledge than the member has at that time.

Public Relations

BRARC provides news articles to the Advocate whenever possible and provides on-line notifications to the club members in advance of general meetings. Prior to ARRL Field Day BRARC utilizes the newspaper, the parish wide



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



information library system, as well as other news media including TV in anticipation of and during Field Day.

Our club publishes a monthly newsletter titled the *RF News* which highlights club presentations as well as local and national activities related to amateur radio.

Members also take part in community wide events such as Baton Rouge Maker Expo, Astronomy Day, and Boy Scout events.



Emergency Communications

Our club serves as a staging area for amateur radio operators who come forth as Skywarn spotters, shelter communicators, and other voluntary duties that need our services as licensed radio operators as well as just physically



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



capable bodies in times of need. Several of our club members are active members of ARES and check in weekly to the ARES net on Sunday evening.

Technical Advancement

Our club offers several different venues for not only maintaining our skills but also integrating our new licenses into the joys of radio. From a question-and-answer session on their examination day to helping them with their handheld radio to an introduction to the more advanced ICOM 7300 we help them bridge some of the major stumbling blocks to enjoying amateur radio.

Recently we have been partnering with BREC to offer the middle school and early high school camp students a brief introduction to amateur radio with the experience of making radio connections to amateur radio operators in various parts of the country.

Operating Activities

BRARC owns and operates a 2-meter repeater as well as a 440 repeater fully operational in 2 separate locations. These repeaters are open to all club members and are only preempted during emergencies. Our club also operates a base station located at the Highland Road Park Observatory for training purposes as well as for other special events. This station and equipment may be relocated to operate off the USS KIDD once the KIDD is returned to its berth in Baton Rouge in 2026.

Miscellaneous

The full complement Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club's related activities can be found on the club's website www.brarc.org which is continually upgraded and maintained by our webmaster.





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Hands-on Mentoring 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.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



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.



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
jreise92@gmail.com

John Krupsky, WA5MLF
wa5mlf@arrrl.net





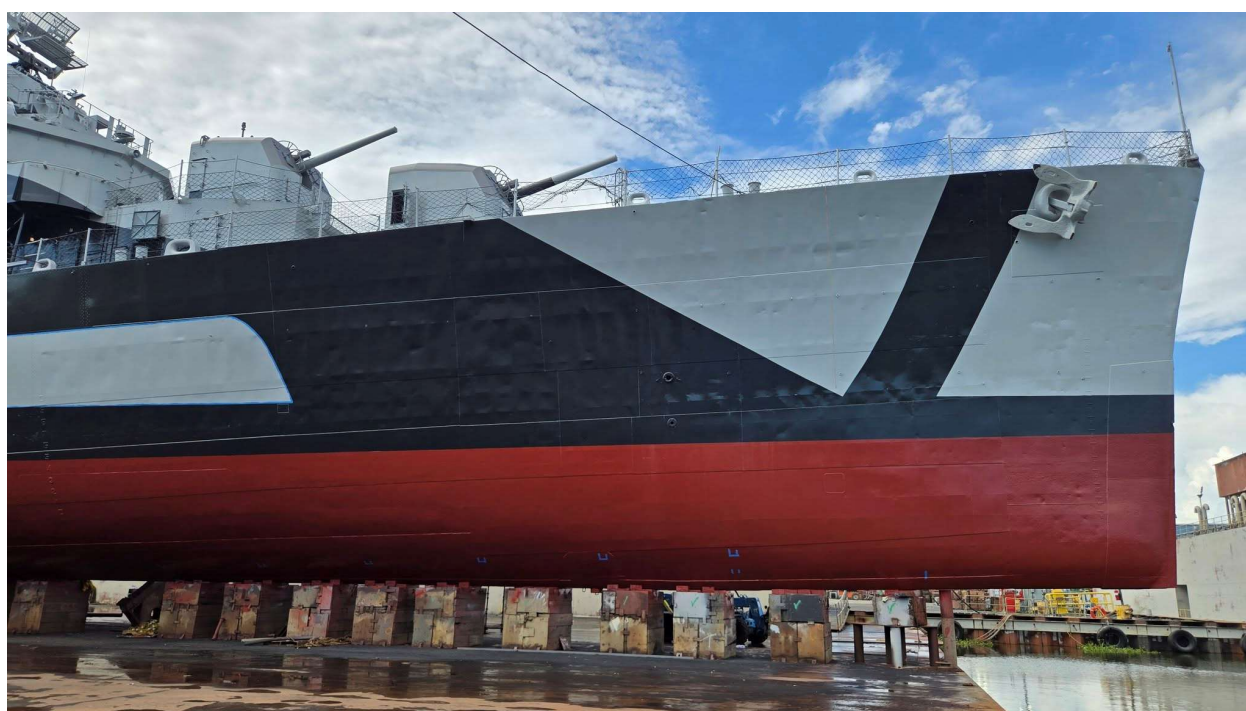
Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



USS KIDD

[USS KIDD Veterans Museum](#) ·

While the staff was in the shipyard on Monday (10/06/25) helping Thoma-Sea reinstall the anchors and anchor chain aboard ship, they got a good look at the Measure 32/10D "dazzle" camouflage being applied. The paint crew had made it about halfway down the length of the ship on both sides. Here's a few shots of port and starboard.



KIDD wore Measure 21 camouflage when first commissioned in April 1943. From there, she had Measure 32/10D applied in December 1943 and wore it all through 1944. When she went in Mare Island Shipyard for overhaul in December 1944 (lasting through January 1945), she came out wearing Measure 22 camouflage and held that through the end of the war. Since our target date for restoration is August 14, 1945, she has worn Measure 22 here in Baton Rouge for the last 42 years.

This shift in camouflage as a museum ship is temporary and part of an educational effort to demonstrate the types of camouflage KIDD wore and the logic behind



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



each camouflage scheme. Many visitors and viewers, in fact, have thought for years that the Measure 22 scheme was NOT actual camouflage, believing only the "dazzle" schemes to be considered "real camouflage." Part of this is likely due to the public seeing so much mottled and digital camo in movies, television, and in hunting/sports stores that they were unfamiliar with other types. This paint scheme will last for five years before we shift to Measure 21, which will then see a rotation of five years before we revert back to our target date 1945-correct pattern of Measure 22.

In point of fact, this Measure 32/10D camouflage didn't actually HIDE the ship. Instead, its purpose was to CONFUSE the gunnery on enemy vessels, shore batteries, and aircraft, with those targeting the ship from a distance unable to tell if she was moving left or right, toward or away. Looking from overhead, the patterns on the decks present the image of a smaller vessel moving at an angle slightly diagonal to the actual path of the ship.



Check out our KIDD Bitts video entitled "Camouflage: Tactical Artwork" to learn more: https://youtu.be/0wNOK6v_pZA.



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



DX, Special Event, Contesting

CQ WW SSB



October 25-26, 2025



Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Mark, XE1B will be active as XF4B from Socorro Island, Revillagigedo Islands, IOTA NA - 030, starting 25 October 2025. He will operate on 80 - 6m, SSB, FT8, during 36 hours.



C5Y Team will be active from Gambia, 23 - 29 October 2025. Team - PC3M, PA3EYC, PA3GRM, PA4UUS, PA2LO. They will operate on HF Bands, CW, SSB, FT8, FT4, including activity in CQ WW DX SSB Contest, 25 - 26 October 2025.



XU7RRC Team will be active from Koh Ta Kiev Island, IOTA AS - 133, Cambodia, 25 November - 3 December 2025.

Team - Members of the Russian Robinson Club and Miller DX Club. They will operate on HF Bands. QSL via RZ3EC.





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 a ham item to sell? List it here for fast results and include a couple pictures. Try to get it to me before the end of the month for next month's publication.





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



AUCTION!!



Start gathering all your junk, I mean vintage equipment to be sold at the BRARC

November

Auction at Big

Mike's. Last

year we had

some real

quality

equipment

available to bid

on and I'm sure

this year will be

no different. In

fact, I've been

hearing rumors

that some very nice

equipment will be

offered. The items

should somehow be ham

related, although that's a

grey area. **Remember,**

all proceeds will be

donated to the club,

unless arrangements are

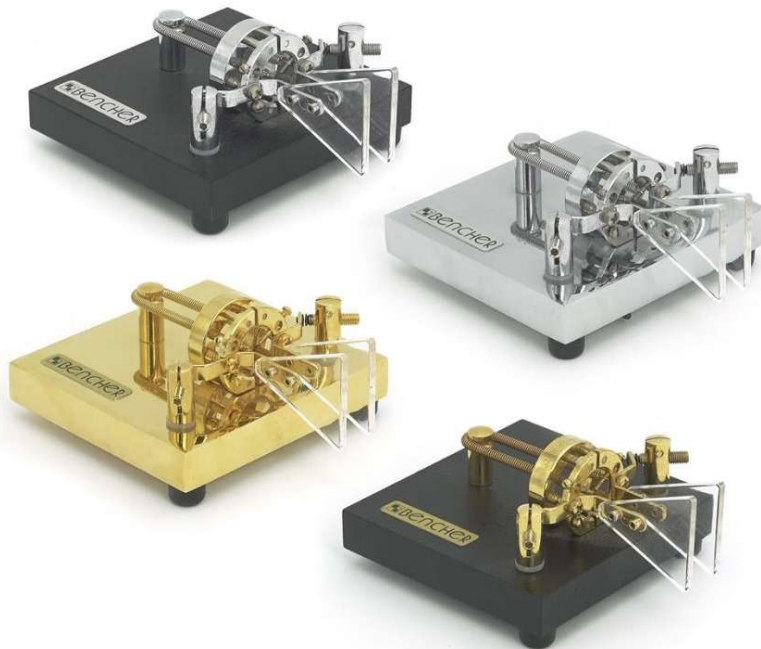
made before the auction

begins.





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



This is our biggest fundraiser, and it's a lot of fun every year. Who knows – you might find that perfect piece of gear! So be there: November 18 at Big Mike's from 6:00 to 8:30 pm. 





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



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



Here is Chris McNeil KJ5IMR performing a solo w/the Baton Rouge Concert Band at the Main Library. The Baton Rouge Concert Band's next performance will be a free *Christmas Concert* in St. Joseph's Cathedral, 401 Main St., Downtown, at 3pm, Sunday, December 7th.





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





Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club



Other Stuff

- Be sure to check out BRARC.org for the latest news
- Don't forget to check in on our Facebook page – show us pictures of your shack!
- What would you like to see in this newsletter?
- How about writing an article! Tell us about your latest DX contact, contest results, new equipment....
- This symbol, which you've seen before,  will appear occasionally in the newsletter. The first one to email me that they spotted it will receive a valuable prize at the next meeting. It could be an Icom IC-7610 or something of much less value, like a roll of electrical tape. In fact, I can guarantee it will be of much, much less value.*

* Value is a relative thing. If you really need a piece of electrical tape, it has great value!



The Baton Rouge Amateur Radio Club-BRARC

Public group · 70 members



+ Invite

Share

Joined ▼

