



SARA Newsletter

June 2005

Shreveport Amateur Radio Association

June 25th & 26th - Field Day

A Look Back to 2004

Meeting:

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Bossier Main Library History Center

Local Amateur Information Available at:

www.qsl.net/nw1arn/
or
www.K5SAR.com

SARA Repeaters:

145.050 - K5SAR
DX Packet Cluster
145.110 - N5FJ
146.700 - K5KDJ
146.820 - K5SL
440.900 - N5FJ

SARA

PO Box 37632
Shreveport, LA
71133-7632

2005 Club Officers

President – Richard Lee, N5PFZ
Vice President – Glenn Pettiet, K5TGP
Treasurer – Randy Fulco, K5SL
Secretary – Ellen Dupuy, K5LND



**Bad Weather Loop
Field Day 2004
Shreveport Amateur Radio Assn.
Shreveport, Louisiana**



It was hot, wet, stormy, and generally, a difficult 24 hours.

Looking Ahead to 2005



Can you see the proposed loop?
How about just relaxing next to the Red River?



Hamburgers in the pavilion.



A Message from the Commander in Chief

From the White House

Washington

June 16, 2005

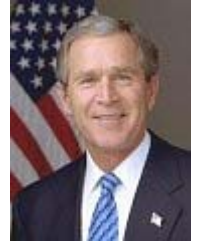
"I send greetings to those celebrating the annual Field Day for Amateur Radio, hosted by the American Radio Relay League.

"Across our country, radio plays a vital role in relaying important information to the public and emergency service personnel in times of need. By providing emergency communications at the Federal, State, and local level, licensed amateur radio operators help first responders and law enforcement officials save lives and make our country safer. Your efforts help ensure the right assistance gets to the right people at the right time.

"I appreciate all ham operators who give their time and energy to help make our citizens more secure. Your good work reflects the spirit of America and contributes to a culture of responsibility and citizenship that strengthens our Nation.

"Laura and I send our best wishes."

George Bush




BPL in the News

The Honorable Jim McCrery not only responded to our visit, but also is genuinely concerned about the pollution of radio spectrum and disruption of licensed radio services. Our thanks go out to Richard Lea, Randy Fulco, and Gary Stratton who went out of their way to contact Rep. McCrery and present our position to him personally. Their efforts paid great dividends and resulted in not only support, but the name and phone number of his telecommunications staffer in Washington, D.C.

ARRL President Jim Haynie, W5JBP, says House Resolution 230 (HRes 230) represents "a fair request" to the FCC and deserves the support of the US House of Representatives. Sponsored by Rep Mike Ross, WD5DVR, of Arkansas, HRes 230 calls on the FCC to comprehensively evaluate BPL's interference potential incorporating "extensive public review and comment," then to "reconsider and review" its new BPL rules in the light of that public input.

"Based on my own knowledge of the unique nature of the high-frequency radio spectrum, I was concerned about the evidence submitted to the Federal Communications Commission that I believe demonstrates the need to postpone any rules regarding BPL deployment," Ross said. He explained that passage of HRes 230 would put the House on record as "supporting a more careful study by the FCC of the radio interference issue, especially as it relates to public safety communication, and reconsideration of the adequacy of the rules in light of this study."

<small>JIM MCCRERY 4th DISTRICT, LOUISIANA COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES</small>	<p style="text-align: center;">Congress of the United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515-1804</p> <p style="text-align: center;">June 7, 2005</p> <p>Mr. Richard Lea 822 E. River Road Shreveport, LA 71105</p> <p>Dear Mr. Lea:</p> <p>Thank you for contacting me regarding H. Res. 230. I appreciate your taking the time to share your views, and it was a pleasure to meet with you in Shreveport over this very issue.</p> <p>H. Res. 230 was introduced by Representative Mike Ross on April 21, 2005. This bill would ask the Federal Communications Commission to reconsider and revise rules governing broadband over power line systems, based on the notion of public safety and other licensed radio services. Furthermore, this bill would require the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a full and complete radio wave interference analysis involving field studies and broadband over power line test demonstration systems, to determine the actual, measured effect of broadband over power line regarding public safety systems.</p> <p>H. Res. 230 has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet, where it has yet to be considered. Please know I will keep your views in mind should this or any related legislation reach the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.</p> <p>Again, thank you for contacting me. Please contact Jenny Nowlin, my telecommunications staffer, at (202) 225-2777 to discuss this bill.</p> <p>With kindest regards, I am</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Sincerely yours,  JIM MCCRERY Member of Congress</p> <p>JOM:mm</p>	<small>7104 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-1804 (202) 225-2777 8425 Youree Drive, Suite 350 Shreveport, LA 71105 (504) 798-2254 SOUTHGATE PLAZA SHOPPING CENTER 1009 South Park Street Lafayette, LA 71408 (337) 238-6778 jim.mccrery@mail.house.gov http://www.house.gov/mccrery/</small>
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Mickey Cox, K5MC, Field Day 2005 Notes



Field Day is rapidly approaching as I prepare this report. In addition to clubs and FD groups operating in category A, several ARES groups in LA are planning to participate this year in category F by operating from their EOCs.

Each local ARES group that operates in category F will receive 10 points in the LA ARES Award program. ARRL-affiliated clubs operating in category A are eligible for recognition as the Top Small Club (1A/2A) or Top Large Club (3A or above) in the LA Section. We will follow the same rules as last year to determine which two clubs will earn the FD plaques for 2005. If participation warrants, we will also present a plaque to the most outstanding LA ARES group operating in category F. Be sure to read the complete rules for this year's event and good luck to all FD groups!

FD Operating Tips

Keep an ever-constant eye on 10 meters. If 10 opens up, you should have lots of stations to work. If the band is quiet, don't assume that it's dead. Throw out a CQ or try to stir up interest. Everyone else could be listening, too!

Try to listen around on the bands the week before the contest. This could give you a good idea of what to expect in the way of propagation during Field Day. Check your logs from previous years and see if you can spot any trends, i.e. hours when certain bands were open, or had a high level of activity. Certain bands in certain areas can be extremely important in working up a good score. For example, 40 meters on the East Coast is a bread and butter band for Field Day. Decide which bands are going to be the most important to your score and try to maximize your effort on them by using the best antennas possible combined with your best gear and best operators.

Don't ignore one mode for another. Many groups have concentrated on CW only to miss out on some easy Phone contacts, and vice versa. Always keep in mind that every contact counts, no matter what the mode.

Read the rules very carefully. Look over the bonus points available. A number of these could be relatively easy to earn. If your club has any traffic handlers, they could easily help you earn the NTS message bonus. Copy the W1AW bulletin! This is an easy 100 points. W1AW comes on the air several times each day to give you an extra chance to copy the message. Remember! Every 100 bonus points you earn are that many QSOs you wouldn't need to make to have the same score.

Field Day Traffic Handling

Each year, hundreds of Field Day operations try and find every advantage to earn as many points as possible. But many overlook bonus point categories that can add a reliable 300 points to your group score: the group participation NTS message to the ARRL Section Manager, the W1AW Field Day bulletin, and the NTS formal traffic handling bonus.

The NTS formal traffic-handling bonus is an excellent method of demonstrating Amateur Radio's formal communication ability. **All you have to do is have your Field Day team handle 10 formal National Traffic System (NTS) messages during the Field Day period.**

NTS messages are among the most important means of communication that Amateur Radio handles during emergencies. Every ham operator, especially ARES members should know how to properly format and pass formal traffic. Whether they are formal requests for supplies from a served agency to emergency management officials, or situation updates between branches of the same agency, in an emergency these formal messages are at the heart of performing our role of support communications to local, state and national officials and agencies. They are emphasized during Field Day, so that we will all know the standard format and style in which they are exchanged.

GOTA – Get on the Air

GOTA is designed to give hams not usually able to use the HF spectrum an opportunity to operate HF in a contest/emergency type situation. Additionally, non-amateur licensees may also operate with other United States licensees or licensees in countries with a third-party agreement with the United States. Both must be supervised by a control operator with privileges on the band in use.

There is really no better method of giving young hams the incentive to upgrade or potential hams a reason to obtain a license than getting them talking on a radio. The general public also gets to see what hams are able to provide without interfering with the contest portion of the day's activities.

The following rules apply for Field Day 2005:

Get-On-The-Air (GOTA) Station. Any Class A or F entry whose transmitter classification is two or more transmitters may also operate one additional HF station without changing its base entry category, known as the GET ON THE AIR (GOTA) station.

This station must operate using a **different call sign** from the primary Field Day station. The GOTA station must use only one call sign for the duration of the event. The GOTA station uses the same exchange as its parent.

The GOTA station may be operated by **Novice, Technicians or generally inactive hams** under their existing operating privileges, or under the direction of a Control Operator with appropriate privileges, as necessary. Non-licensed persons may participate under the direct supervision of an appropriate control operator. A list of operators and participants must be included on the required summary sheet to ARRL HQ.

As per FCC rules, this station **must have a valid control operator present** if operating beyond the license privileges of the participant using the station.

The maximum transmitter output power for the GOTA station shall be **150 watts**. If the primary Field Day group is claiming the QRP multiplier level of 5, the maximum transmitter output power of the GOTA station may not exceed 5 watts.

A maximum of **400 QSOs** made by this station may be claimed for credit by its primary Field Day operation. A 100-point bonus may be claimed by the primary Field Day operation if the GOTA station reaches the 100 QSO level.

The GOTA station may only operate on the **Field Day HF Bands**. Only one transmitted signal is allowed from the GOTA station at any time.

Participants are reminded that non-licensed participants working under the direction of a valid control operator may only communicate with other W/VE stations or with stations in countries with which the US has entered a **third-party agreement**.

This year, Glenn Pettiet, K5TGP, will be the primary control operator for GOTA. If you are a Novice, Technician, or Technician Plus, please come out and operate. You will get to use any or all of the FD bands as well as digital modes including Slow Scan TV, PSK-31, and RTTY, CW, and phone. If you are General, Advanced, or Extra and have not been active on the HF bands for the last two years, you can operate solo. We have two special antennas just for the GOTA station, an off-center fed Windom that tunes 80 through 10 meters and an inverted U rotateable dipole for 20 through 10 meters. The GOTA station will be setup and operating pre-Field Day from 9:00 A.M. Saturday through the end of Field Day at noon on Sunday.
