



SARA Newsletter

November 2005

Shreveport Amateur Radio Association

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 - K5KDO

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

Election 2006

Join SARA as we elect new officers and board members to lead us during 2006. Along with this newsletter is a second copy of the 2006 Ballot. Please vote.

JOTA was a Success

JOTA was held the weekend of October 14-16 at Garland Scout Ranch. There were some 800 Scouts and 400 parents attending and SARA was given the best seat in the house. We were located next to the Trading Post (lots of traffic as Scouts are always thirsty) and right in front of the land site for the LifeFlight Helicopter. Every Scout and parent came by. Randy, K5SL, ran two Fox Hunts using Steve's, W5ZA, "Peanut Butter Jar Transmitter" while Steve kept the W5J station on the air.

Yet, not everything went smooth. During setup, we found that the club loop was left at home. Not to worry. Randy gathered up some odds and ends, stepped off an 80-meter loop and next thing you know, we were on the air. However, Saturday afternoon, we found the IC-735 was getting hot (like it did at W5E) so we moved to Randy's IC-706 and kept going.

Those who were not able to make dinner missed a great pot roast, vegetables, and cherry pie, all cooked over an open fire. Sorry, none was left.

Hams from the Past

SARA Members,

Below is a photo from my files of the late John MacFarlane, K5WWR, sitting at the controls of his Collins S-line station about 1975. KSLA TV News was producing a story on ham radio and emergency communications during a hurricane. John had an old landline telegraph sounder and straight key attached to his receiver which is visible on the desk and with the flip of a switch the clackety-clack of the sounder would replace the sound of the CW tone. John was a patient of Dr. Tom Riley, W3GAT.

Terry, WA5ARJ



K5WWR

Photo: Terry Atwood

ARLD 043 DX News

This week's bulletin was made possible with information provided by IZ8EDJ, JE8KKX, KA2AEV, ON5UR, SV1IW, QRZ DX, the OPDX Bulletin, The Daily DX, 425DXnews, DXNL, WA7BNM and Contest Corral from QST. Thanks to all.

AZERBAIJAN, 4K. Members of a Baku radio club will be QRV as 4K7Z in CQ WW SSB contest as a Multi-Op/All-Band/Single-Transmitter entry. QSL via UA3FDX.

CYPRUS, 5B. Babs, DL7AFS and Lot, DJ7ZG are QRV as 5B/homecalls until November 16. Activity is on 160 to 6 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL via DL7AFS. Meanwhile, look for Spyros, 5B4MF to be QRV as H22H as a Single-Op/All-Band entry in the contest. QSL to home call.

MALDIVES, 8Q. Look for a group of operators to be QRV as 8Q7C in the CQ WW SSB contest. QSL via EC1CW.

TONGA, A3. Alex, HB9FBO is QRV as A35BO until November 18. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and PSK31. QSL via operator's instructions.

CHINA, BY. Look for B7P to be QRV during the CQ WW SSB contest as a Multi-Two entry. QSL via BG7KUB.

AZORES, CU. Eduardo, CU2AF will be QRV as CU2T in the CQ WW SSB contest as a Single-Op/Single-Band entry on 160 meters. QSL to home call.

CANARY ISLANDS, EA8. Edu, EC8AUA will be QRV as EA8URL as a Single-Band entry on 15 meters during the CQ WW SSB contest. QSL via operator's instructions.

THAILAND, HS. Members of the Siam DX Group are QRV as HS0AR until December 31. This includes entries in every major contest, including the CQ WW SSB contest as a Multi/2 entry. QSL via E21YDP.

ITALY, I. Members of the Strange Radio Team will be QRV as IR8C in the CQ WW SSB contest as a Multi/Single entry. QSL via IZ8EDJ.

GUAM, KH2. Members of the Guam contest club will be QRV as AH2R as a Multi-Op/Single-Transmitter entry in the CQ WW SSB contest. QSL via JH7QXJ.

LITHUANIA, LY. Look for LY2CY and LY2TA to be QRV as LY7Z during the CQ WW SSB contest as a Multi/2 entry. QSL via LY2TA.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC, OM. A group of operators will be QRV as OM7M as a Multi/Single entry in the CQ WW SSB contest. QSL via OM3PA.

GREECE, SV. Special event station SX1W is QRV until October 30 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the end of World War Two. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and digital modes. QSL via bureau.

EUROPEAN RUSSIA, UA. Members of the Michurinsk Contest Groupe will be QRV as UA3R as a Multi-Op/Single-Transmitter entry in the CQ WW SSB contest. QSL via RN3RQ.

ANTIGUA, V2. Members of Team Antigua will be QRV as V26B during the CQ WW SSB contest. Before and after the contest they will be active using their own V26 callsigns. QSL contest call via KA2AEV and all others via operators' instructions.

BELIZE, V3. A team of operators will be QRV as V31MD during the CQ WW SSB contest using software-defined radios. They will use their own V31 calls before and after the contest. QSL via operators' instructions.

CHAGOS ISLANDS, VQ9. Several operators will be QRV as VQ9X from Diego Garcia during the CQ WW SSB contest as a Multi/Multi entry. QSL via operators' instructions.

CAMBODIA, XU. Jacques, ON4AJV and Willem, ON6TZ will be QRV as XU7TAS from Koh Tas, IOTA AS-133, from October 30 to November 10. Activity is on all HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via ON4AJV.

INDONESIA, YB. Gyuszi, HA2VR is QRV as YB0/HA2VR from Jakarta until November 4. Activity is on the higher bands, including 30 meters. He will also be active in the CQ WW SSB contest. QSL to home call.

GIBRALTAR, ZB. United Radio DX Team members ON5UR, ON5MRT and ON6NP are QRV as ZB2/homecalls until November 3. Activity is on various HF bands using SSB and digital modes. They will also participate in the CQ WW SSB contest. QSL to home calls.

THIS WEEKEND ON THE RADIO. The CQ Worldwide DX SSB Contest, eXtreme CW World-Wide Challenge, 10-10 International Fall CW Contest and the 4th Annual FISTS Coast to Coast CW Contest will certainly keep contesters busy this weekend. Please see October QST, page 101, and the ARRL and WA7BNM contest websites for details.

Got DX ?

FEMA Training Opportunities

For information about the FEMA course on Amateur Radio Resources, please see:

<http://www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/STCourses/crsdesc/G250_6.html>

This course is designed to train government employees about the mission of Amateur Radio operations. - Carl Zellich, AA4MI, ARRL Assistant Director, Southeastern Division,

<aa4mi@arrl.net>

Hamfest Calendar

Upcoming hamfests include the Twin City Ham Club Hamfest in Monroe on November 12 and the MARA Hamfest in Minden on December 17.

Vanity Processing

Thanks to Hurricane Wilma, the FCC likely will not be processing any vanity call sign applications until late December. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) halted vanity processing on or about September 23 after realizing that filing and regulatory deadline extensions for licensees in certain states affected by hurricanes Katrina and Rita could affect the vanity program. This week, the FCC announced an additional extension--until December 22--for licensees adversely affected by Hurricane Wilma. Because all three extensions apply to Amateur Radio's two-year "grace period," they could have an impact on vanity call sign processing. A WTB spokesperson said that the Wilma deadline extension probably would have the same effect on vanity processing as the previous two.

Solar Update

Solar Seer Tad "Sunshine Superman" Cook, K7RA, Seattle, Washington, reports: NO SUNSPOTS! The average daily sunspot number from the previous reporting week to the current dropped six points to 7.7. There were no visible sunspots over the four days October 24-27. Do not expect an improvement for the CQ World Wide DX Contest (Phone) this weekend. Thankfully geomagnetic conditions are stable, and the longer nights as we head toward winter solstice are good for 160, 80 and 60-meter operation.

Contesting Ahead

The ARRL November Sweepstakes (CW), the North American Collegiate ARC Championship (CW), the IPARC Contest (CW and Phone), the Ukrainian DX Contest, High Speed Club CW Contest and the DARC 10-Meter Digital Contest are the weekend of November 5-6. See the ARRL Contest Branch page <<http://www.arrl.org/contests/>> and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar <<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>> for more info.

Code or No-Code Comments

With three days to go, nearly 3200 comments had been filed--more than 500 of them in the past week--in response to the FCC "Morse code" Notice of Proposed Rule Making and Order (NPRM&O) in WT Docket 05-235. The NPRM&O proposes to do away with the 5 WPM Morse code requirement for all license classes. The July NPRM&O also denied several proposals to create a new entry-level license class. The closing date for comments is Monday, October 31. Reply comments--ie, comments on comments filed by October 31--are due Monday, November 14. To file on-line comments on the FCC NPRM&O in WT Docket 05-235 or to view others' comments in the proceeding, visit the FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) <<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>>. After clicking on "Submit a Filing" or "Search for Filed Comments," enter "05-235" (without the quotation marks but including the hyphen) in the "Proceeding" field. The FCC will accept brief comments in a comment window or more lengthy filings as attachments. Alternative filing formats are available for people with disabilities. Contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc) by e-mail <FCC504@fcc.gov> or telephone 202-418-0530 or TTY 202-418-0432. For additional information, contact William T. Cross, Public Safety and Critical Infrastructure Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, <William.Cross@fcc.gov>; 202-418-0680; TTY 202-418-7233. An FCC Report and Order ending this proceeding and announcing the effective date of any rule changes is not likely until sometime in 2006.

Louisiana Section News

ARES leaders (ECs and DECs) are strongly urged to submit their list of amateurs who participated in one or both of the hurricane relief efforts to K5GLS (LA SEC) and me as soon as possible. The LA Section would like to present an Emergency Communications Commendation certificate to each deserving LA ham as a token of appreciation for a job well done! I'm hoping to present most of these certificates in person at the various section hamfests scheduled this fall and winter.

One definite area of improvement for our ARES groups is the development of rapid response teams (RRTs) for deployment in nearby districts within LA or to other sections. I am challenging each of our ARES districts to organize an RRT before next year's hurricane season. The resources of these RRTs, at least initially, will likely vary from team to team; one team might have strong digital capabilities, whereas another team might focus its resources on HF and VHF phone communications. If each LA ARES district can organize and maintain at least one RRT, we will be in much better shape for the next large-scale disaster.

The 2005 Field Day results have now been posted on the ARRL web site. Based upon the posted scores, the LA Section has decided to award plaques to the top scoring affiliated clubs in the 1A, 2A, and 3A categories. Therefore, the Fist and Mouth Contest Company (K5FMC), the Minden ARA (N5RD), and the Ascension ARC (K5ARC) will be presented the 1A, 2A, and 3A plaques, respectively, during the ARRL Forum at the upcoming Monroe Hamfest in November.

73,

Mickey Cox K5MC

LA Section Manager

Email: k5mc@arrl.org

LA Section Website: www.laarrrl.org/

ARRL Continuing Education

Registration remains open through Sunday, November 6, for these ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (CCE) Program on-line courses: Emergency Communications Level 2 (EC-002), Emergency Communications Level 3 (EC-003), Antenna Modeling (EC-004), VHF/UHF Beyond the Repeater (EC-008), and Propagation (EC-011), Digital Electronics (EC-013). Classes begin Friday, November 18. To learn more, visit the CCE Course Listing page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce/courses.html>> or Contact the CCE Department <cce@arrl.org>.

Hurricane Support Log

The ARRL is asking Amateur Radio volunteers who helped to provide or support communication during one of the recent hurricanes or other incident. An Amateur Radio Service Volunteer Form now is available on the ARRL Web site <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/agencies/vol-report.html>>. The League is asking radio amateurs to complete the form each time they complete volunteer service. "Your commitment and dedication to using ham radio in community service sends a strong message that volunteer radio operators are essential to a successful response to any disaster," said ARRL COO Harold Kramer, WJ1B. "The details of your service strengthens Amateur Radio and its voice in official Washington, to the public and to the press. When we can document the thousands of hours you serve, we can use the information to build a strong case for radio spectrum protection at home and abroad." The on-line form includes a "Your Comments" box to ask questions or to supply additional information. The ARRL will use the information provided for internal purposes only and will not share any individual's information with any other organization.