



# LARC



Volume 42, Number 5

May 2003

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### REGULAR MEETING

**May 1st - 7:00 p.m.**  
**Red Cross Building**  
**HAMFEST SCHEDULE**

Slidell - July 19th

Baker - November 7th - 8th

### Each Wednesday Lunch Bunch

BJ's Pizza & Deli - Congress Street  
Check 146.820 - repeater for info

### Each Monday, 7:00 p.m.

AARA 2 meter net 146.820 - 600

## LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS -- MARCH 2003

LOUISIANA: SM, Mickey Cox, K5MC -- ASM: W5PY, K5DPG, AC5VN. ACC: KM5YL. OOC: WB5CXJ. PIC: K5IQ. SEC: WA5LQZ. SGL: KD5KNZ. STM/LCW NM: W4DLZ. LTN NM: NF5B.

The following amateurs were recognized during the ARRL Forum at the Rayne Hamfest for their work last fall during Hurricane Lili: KA5BSE, KD5JCT, KB5RKO, KD5TMJ, KD5TCJ, WA5TWL, WA5CHX, K5EGW, KD5JSM, KD5NVC, KI5XP, KD4VBV, K5MGA, KC5QDZ, WD5FDD, K5LFT, KD5TJZ, KD5SZN, KB5EKD, KD5KXS, KD5QYV, W5TJZ, KD5TGY, N5YCS, N5RLM, N5OA, KD5QZG, KC5Z, WA5PJT, KN5GRK, KB0TYJ, KA5SUR, K5IQZ, KM5QB, WA5LQZ, KB5YLG, KC5WLA, AA5UY, KC5YUV, KD5JZT, and AD5DP. Almost 150 hams in our section have now received ARRL Emergency Communications Commendation certificates for their service in 2002!

NF5B is our new Louisiana Traffic Net (LTN) Manager. Richard is a past STM for Iowa and is also currently the Central Area Net (CAN) Manager for cycles 1 and 2. I want to thank Dan K5IQZ for stepping in quickly to serve as the interim manager for LTN these past three months. Just as Richard was agreeing to be our permanent manager for LTN, Dan decided to be the new assistant manager for the 7290 Traffic Net! Charles K5CFJ has been appointed to serve as the Southeast LA DEC. In last month's report I failed to point out that Ray N5YEE has been appointed an Official Emergency Station. Congratulations to all and thanks very much for your service to our section.

Field Day is not far away! Be sure to read the complete FD rules at [www.arrl.org/contests/forms](http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms) or request the full packet by sending an SASE to ARRL HQ as described on page 101 in the May issue of QST. This year our section will expand its FD awards program by presenting a plaque to both the outstanding small club and the outstanding large club. The ARRL-affiliated club in the 1A/2A category having the highest average score per transmitter will be recognized as the top ";; club; in a similar fashion, the ARRL-affiliated club in the 3A or above category having the highest average score per transmitter will win the plaque as the top ";; club. A club's total score (including bonus points) will be divided by the number of transmitters as determined by its category (1A, 4A, etc.) to determine the average score made by the club.

It now appears that our section will join up with the MS and STX Sections for this year's Simulated Emergency Test (SET). Details remain to be worked out, but the three sections have tentatively agreed to conduct a joint SET exercise later this year. Stay tuned for further details!

Scott W5WZ reports that the 2003 Louisiana QSO Party will be on September 13 and 14. Read the complete rules on this year's contest at [www.tchams.org/users/contest/laqp](http://www.tchams.org/users/contest/laqp) Unlike last year, this year's LA QSO Party will not fall on the same weekend as the Texas QSO Party. It is thought that more participation will be generated by moving our QSO Party to this new date. With the LA Purchase celebrations going on this year, it would be great if

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Regular meetings 1st Thursday of  
each month at 7:00 p.m. at the  
American Red Cross Building  
101 North Pat Street Scott, LA

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The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 17 April 25, 2003

## **BROADBAND OVER POWER LINE POSES HF INTERFERENCE THREAT**

The FCC soon will invite public comment on the concept of using existing electrical power lines to deliver Internet and broadband service to homes and offices. The Commission initiated a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) in ET Docket 03-104 when it met April 23. What the FCC calls "Broadband over Power Line" (BPL) is a form of carrier-current technology typically known as power line communication (PLC). Whatever its name, the technology is raising serious interference concerns within the Amateur Radio community, since BPL would apply high-frequency RF to parts of the power grid. One aspect of the NOI is to gather information on potential interference effects on authorized spectrum users.

"Entire communities will be affected, so every amateur in that community could have part of the radiating system 'next door' on the power wiring on his or her street," cautioned ARRL Lab Supervisor Ed Hare, W1RFI. Hare chairs the PLC Work Group of the IEEE C63 Accredited Standards Committee on Electromagnetic Compatibility <<http://c63.ieee.org/>>.

The complete NOI has not yet been released, and until that happens, the FCC will not formally accept comments in the proceeding. The ARRL will be among those expected to submit detailed comments in ET 03-104.

So-called "access BPL" would use medium-voltage (1 kV to 40 kV) power lines to deliver Internet and broadband applications. Hare says access BPL is likely to be a more significant interference source than in-building PLC technology "because overhead electrical wiring is a much better antenna than the electrical wiring within a building."

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, editorialized on the subject of PLC in "It Seems to Us . . ." in the October issue of 2002 QST. "Is it possible to do power line communications without causing interference to over-the-air communications?" Sumner asked. "Count us among the skeptics. What may be a fine transmission line at 60 Hz looks more like an antenna at HF." Hare said his own computer analyses of interference potential from access BPL/PLC suggest "a significant increase in noise levels" from deployed systems.

The FCC appears enthusiastic about BPL, however, saying it has the potential to "provide consumers with the freedom to access broadband services from any room in the house without adding or paying for additional connections." The Commission also touted BPL as "a competitive alternative to digital subscriber line and cable modem services."

New digital power line designs use multiple carriers spread over a wide frequency range--from 2 MHz up to 80 MHz--and capable of high data rates--up to 20 MB/s, the FCC said.

In addition to viewpoints on interference potential, the FCC also has requested comments on the current state of high-speed BPL technology, test results from BPL experimental sites, appropriate measurement procedure for testing emission characteristics for all types of carrier-current systems, changes that may be needed in Part 15 technical rules, and the equipment approval process to foster the development of BPL.

Tests of BPL are under way in several states, including Alabama, Maryland, Missouri, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Hare says ARRL Lab personnel will visit some of the test cities this spring to take field measurements to quantify the potential for interference to Amateur Radio operations.

BPL/PLC technology already has been deployed in some European countries, and amateurs there have complained about interference. Japan--responding in part to concerns expressed by its amateur community--decided last year not to adopt the technology because of its interference potential.

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**TID BYTES**

If you are a member the ARRL and would like a membership card and certificate go to the ARRL web site at

<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=NO-MEMC>

At the VE testing session on April 3rd The information from the hamfest VE session is that Roland WA5CHX passed his Extra class exam, and that he has a new call NA5Q. Bryan T Benoit, KC5GDS, General passed EXTRA; Gustavus A Kennedy, KA5LQM, Novice, passed Tech to become TECHNICIAN w/HF; Burt N Sammis, WA5QBX, passed EXTRA; Gerard Murphy, passed TECHNICIAN and received the call KD5VPC.

For those of you looking to increase your knowledge of emergency operations, the ARRL offers three Emergency Communications Courses. If you an ARRL member, you can take the Level Courses under the Federal Grant. When enrolled in a grant funded session, one pays the fee, and when the course is completed successfully the fee is refunded. If you want to enroll in a grant funded session, check <http://www.arrl.org/cce/> for more info.

We will be conducting an ARRL VE testing sessions after the meetings in May and June. If you need to test between meetings, let us know. We can schedule a session to accommodate everyone.

73

Al K5DPG [k5dpg@w5ddl.org](mailto:k5dpg@w5ddl.org)

### Laurent "Larry" Larriviere Jr. KD5UJD SK

BROUSSARD — Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. Thursday, April 24, 2003, at a Mass of Christian burial at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church for Laurent Larriviere Jr., 65, who died Monday, April 21, 2003.

Survivors include his wife, Marie Boutte Larriviere, of Broussard; one daughter, Lauren Larriviere and her fiancee, Nicholas Benoit, of Broussard; two sons, Chuck Larriviere and his fiancée, Trish Papizzo and her children, Jason and Heather Lochrie, and Mike Larriviere and his wife, Gale, all of Broussard; one sister, Mrs. James "Judy" Billeaud, of Broussard; and five grandchildren, Bryan Larriviere, Joshua Larriviere, Jessica Larriviere, Jordan Wade and Tyler Wade.

### Temporary permission granted for YA1CQ operation:

The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>> reports that Hiro Nakanishi, JA1CQT, is back in Kabul, Afghanistan, as part of the Basic Human Needs (BHN) ntingent. He has been granted temporary permission to operate as YA1CQ until the end of May, although he expects to be in Afghanistan for 12 months. BHN is a nongovernmental organization--or NGO--that's helping with humanitarian relief efforts. Others associated with the BHN team include Ito "Dan" Sadao, JA1PBV. YA1JA is the BHN club call sign.

## May Birthdays

0502	MELVIN	N5GTI
0503	VICKI	KB5NMO
0505	TOM	K5VJZ
0506	GIGI	N5QOQX
0508	DARREN	KB5FBB
0519	BARRY	KM5OR
0524	KAREN	KA5PDP
0526	CHARLIE	KI5XP
0529	STEVE	KF5VH
0530	BOB	WA5UAP

### Double Extended Zepp Antenna

When measuring the wire it is very important to get each of the two sides as close to the same length as possible. The formula to determine the length of each side is  $599/\text{Freq in Mhz} = .64 \text{ wavelength}$ . So to design an antenna for 3.85 Mhz take 599 divided by 3.85 = 155.585 Feet per side or 155' 7" each side. This 75 Meter antenna would be about 311' 2" overall length.

With this antenna the feed line should be routed away from the antenna at a right angle for as great a distance as possible. This will prevent current imbalance in the feed line caused by RF pickup from the antenna. A right-angle departure of 1/4 wavelength or greater is suggested.

To avoid problems matching any center fed antenna with high impedance open wire lines, keep the feedline around these lengths.

[The WORST POSSIBLE line lengths are shown in brackets]

160 meter antenna 35-60, 170-195 or 210-235 feet [Avoid 130, 260 ft]

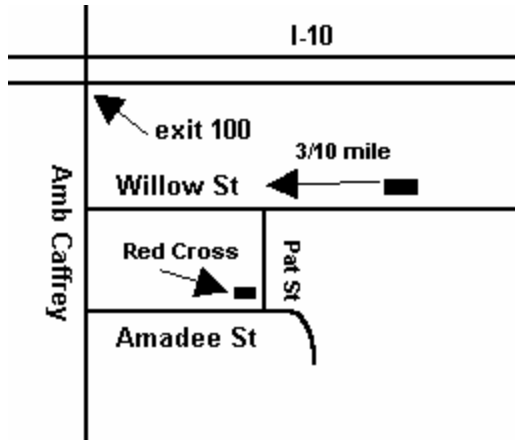
80 meter antenna 34-40, 90-102 or 160-172 feet [Avoid 66, 135, 190 ft]

40 meter antenna 42-52, 73-83, 112-123 or 145-155 feet [Avoid 32, 64, 96, 128 ft]

Some slight trimming or adding of feedline may be necessary to accommodate the higher frequency bands.

Carolyn Oubre, KA5IJU  
3011 Sugar Mill Road  
New Iberia LA 70563-8624

<http://www.w5ddl.org>



*(Continued from page 1)*

each of our parishes could be activated during the event. (The county hunters would definitely appreciate this degree of effort very much!)

Traffic totals: K5IQZ 135, K5MC 104, W4DLZ 41, NF5B 25, N5KWB 14, W5PY 14, K5DPG 13, W5NK 11.

Public Service Honor Roll: K5MC 110, K5IQZ 100, AC5VN 98, W4DLZ 97, K5DPG 93, WA5LQZ 87, W5PY 84, KD5ITA 82, NF5B 75, K5ER 74, N5KWB 74, W5NK 51, KB5UHH 26.

Section net reports: sessions/QNI/QTC. LTN: 31/404/58. LCW: 31/174/40.

## *From The Kitchen Of Carolyn Oubre KA5IJU*

### *Millionaires Frozen Pie*

1 can condensed milk  
1 large can crushed pineapple, undrained  
1 cup chopped pecan  
1 tablespoon lemon juice  
1 large carton of cool whip  
1 graham cracker pie crust  
Mix milk, pineapple, pecans and lemon juice. Blend in cool whip. Pour into crust. Freeze before serving.

## ***FCC LICENSE INFO SERVICE***

The FCC toll-free (WATS) number for Amateur Radio license inquiries -- including inquiries about vanity and new call signs. The number, 888-225-5322, will connect callers to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at 202-414-1250 or [ulscmm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscmm@fcc.gov).

Web site:

<<http://wireless.fcc.gov/usl/>>

New callsign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is:  
Federal Communications  
Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road,  
Gettysburg PA 17325-7245