



LARC



Volume 43, Number 7

July 2004

DATES TO REMEMBER

REGULAR MEETING
June 3, 2004 - 7 p.m.

HAMFEST SCHEDULE

Slidell - July 17
Leesville - August 14
Pineville - October 16

Each Wednesday
Lunch Bunch 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Check 146.820 - repeater for info
Each Monday, 7:00 p.m.
AARA Net 146.820 - 600
Each Monday, 8:00 p.m.
ARES Net 145.370 - 600 PL 103.5

Monthly Vice President's Message

At the time I am writing this article, Field Day is only a day away. Therefore I cannot make any comments at this time, however I know that it will take place although bad weather is scheduled for FD weekend. Hey, that's what it is all about, making do in any situation. That is the main purpose of having Field Day. Of course there are other aspects to Field Day such as the competition with other clubs, the fellowship of being together as a group, training and of course, giving everyone a chance to operate on the many modes that may not be available due to their license restrictions or equipment. A Field Day report will be given at the General Meeting this Thursday July 1st.

I guess most of you are confused on our "Lunch Bunch" gatherings lately. For reasons I am not going to mention, some of our participants have shown an interest in trying some new places with different menus. So far, we have tried B. J.'s Pizza & Deli, Deano's Pizza, Luther's BBQ, Burger King, and Picadilly's Cafeteria. Maybe eventually we can work up a planned schedule of "Lunch Bunch" gatherings. It is hard to please everyone all the time and hopefully we can get some arrangement going. Just check your e-mail and the Monday Night AARA Net at 7:00 p.m. on the 146.82 repeater for details.

Some of you older guys and gals may remember a few years back that a group of us congregated on 2 meter simplex for the "Geriatric / Altimeters Net" on Monday nights after the AARA Net. We would talk about every subject from gardening to auto mechanics. I have been asked the question "what happened to this net"? Some of the people I have talked to would like to see it revived. Monday night is a pretty busy night with the AARA
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ARPS IN ACADIANA

Automatic Position Reporting System (APRS) (144.39Mhz) - We have a pretty extensive APRS system in place here in the area and it's capabilities are expanding FAST! APRS works just like the old packet system but APRS is a UI system. This can be compared to a packet chat session where everyone can see the traffic coming across the network. APRS is mostly about reporting a station's position but we are adding other "value added" services.

Area of coverage - The main digi (KD5QZD-6) has solid coverage of about 20 miles around Lafayette and 30 miles as spotty coverage. This translates into North to Hwy 190, East to Butte La Rose, South to Intracostal City (via the Abbeville Digi (KD5QYV-11)) and West to Crowley. This is
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LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS - MAY 2004

Southwest LA amateurs assisted the SW District Homeland Security and Office of Emergency Preparedness in what the press referred to as "The Largest Emergency Drill" ever held in that area. Participating hams included KC5FGO, KD5KSR, KI5EE, KC5JBJ, K5IX, KM5QB, WA5LQZ, KC5RGW, and K5BPA. Congratulations to all and a special thanks to Ron KC5FGO (Calcasieu Parish Emergency Coordinator) for organizing and maintaining control during the drill.

Hams from the Hammond and New Orleans areas supported the LA Special Olympic Games held in Hammond by providing communications relating to the safety and well being of the participants. Harris KB5BFK coordinated the ham radio effort and was ably assisted by KD5LWJ, WB5FBS, K5CAV, KB5DNF, NF5B, KC0HZU, KD5PCM, KD5PCK, KD5QNT, K5NDT, and KB5YZF. Thanks to all for your fine public service work!

The LA Section is fortunate to have some outstanding ARES groups. One of the more obvious groups now taking giant steps forward is Lafayette Parish. Among other things, EC KN5LSU has recently appointed both KN5GRK and KM5OR Assistant EC's for Lafayette Parish. As a reminder, each EC needs to submit a report to WA5LQZ (LA SEC) every month so that all of our ARES groups can be properly recognized for their activities and achievements.

If you are interested in public service communications, be sure to contact your EC. (Our EC's are listed by parish on the LA Section Website.) If your parish doesn't have an EC, email Alan WA5LQZ via wa5lqz@arrl.net for his help. Our unique ability to provide backup communications during emergencies is our strongest argument in protecting our frequencies. We can never have too many hams with strong emergency communication skills.

Upcoming hamfests include Slidell on July 17, Leesville on August 14, Lake Charles on September 11, and Pineville on October 16. I am very sorry to report that W5TOT, K5UMQ, KE5HY, and KZ5PE are now Silent Keys. Traffic totals: K5DPG 166, W4DLZ 100, K5MC 99, AE5V 60, N5KWB 57, AC5VN 41, W5NK 30, W5PY 9. Public Service Honor Roll: N5KWB 160, K5DPG 135, AC5VN 129, K5ER 129, K5MC 110, W5PY 89, AE5V 82, W4DLZ 80, W5NK 72, KB5UHH 30. Section net reports: sessions/check-ins/messages handled. Louisiana Traffic Net: 31/403/88. Louisiana CW Net: 31/158/46. Louisiana ARES Net: 5/90/0. Local/district net reports: sessions/check-ins/messages handled. Ouachita Parish ARES Net: 5/90/1. Richland Parish ARES Net: 5/57/0. Northeast LA ARES Net: 5/34/0. AARA Net: 5/144/1.

73,

Mickey Cox K5MC

LA Section Website: www.laarrrl.org/

July Birthdays

0701 CHARLES	K5UA
0702 GENE	WA5KNC
0704 FRANCIS	WB5LWP
0707 MIKE	KC5PCR
0707 JACK	KA5KCF
0708 JACKIE	N5KP
0710 JAMES	KC5JPF
0710 TOM	N5OFF
0715 DAVID	KC5YGJ
0718 JOY	N5YCS
0719 STEVE	N5HVQ
0719 TERRY	N5SXS
0719 KEVIN	KC5PCP
0721 JOHN	NQ2V
0721 ANGELA	KC5LWL
0722 PAT	W5WMU
0722 RICK	N5RLM
0723 RALPH	WB5GAF
0723 KRIS	KD5QYV
0725 CHARLES	KD5PUP
0727 CALVIN	KD5JCT
0731 MICHAEL	KC5TDP

TID BYTES

We are in hurricane season, and we need to review our readiness plans for our homes and families. Now is a good time to check your emergency power equipment. This means generators, gel cell and deep cycle batteries. Check out your HTs and charge all battery packs. Take out those backup antennae to be sure that everything is ok.

Another item we need to check is important papers, i.e., titles, insurance policies, birth and marriage certificates, they need to be in a safe place.

It would be wise to keep a supply of drinking water and food to be ready

At the May testing session no one passed. We will be conducting an ARRL VE testing sessions at the June meeting and Field Day. If you need to test at another time, let us know. We can schedule a session to accommodate everyone.73

Al Oubre K5DPG

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Monday Night Net at 7:00 p.m. and the Acadiana ARES Net at 8:00 p.m., so this will be a bad night. What about Tuesday night at 8:00 p.m. on 147.570 simplex? Hope to see you there!

Please bring something for door prizes at the General Meeting at 7:00 p.m. Thursday July 1st.

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE JULY 4TH!

73's de

(Continued from page 1)

for mobile coverage. The second digit is in Abbeville with approximately a 15 mile coverage range. Lastly, there is an I-GATE (KD5QYV-10) located at the Vermilion Parish Library. The I-Gate is what ties the RF data to the internet and vice versa. All stations heard on RF will be passed on to the main APRS server in Florida. This and data from around the country is available on webpages such as www.findu.com and www.aprsworld.net. When you go to one of these web pages, you can enter a call sign such as KD5QYV-2 (my truck) and it will display my last known position on real world maps. There are hundreds of combinations of data overlay which is way beyond the scope of this e-mail. www.aprsworld.net is a great resource as well as "googling" APRS. If a local station travels outside the local RF area then the I-Gate will relay that position to our local RF so that it can be used locally.

One does not need a tnc/radio to use APRS. There are several software packages out there that connect to the national APRS servers and provide APRS functionality over the internet.

Besides reporting positions, we are passing other traffic as well. A user can send text messages to other APRS users. We are passing National Weather Service - Lake Charles bulletins for severe weather statements. We are 95% complete with twice daily weather forecast information. 50% complete with Lafayette traffic alerts so that drivers can avoid problem areas. 95% complete with reminders for nets / club meetings. If you have an idea for a data service (don't think we could pass your favorite stock quotes but anything is possible) let us know.

If you would like to get involved with APRS, please contact me. I have several links to information, software and hardware.

Kris Wotipka KD5QYV
kd5qyv@w5ddl.org

HURRICANE NAMES 2004

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| Alex | Lisa |
| Bonnie | Matthew |
| Charley | Nicole |
| Danielle | Otto |
| Earl | Paula |
| Frances | Richard |
| Gaston | Shary |
| Hermine | Tomas |
| Ivan | Virginie |
| Jeanne | Walter |
| Karl | |

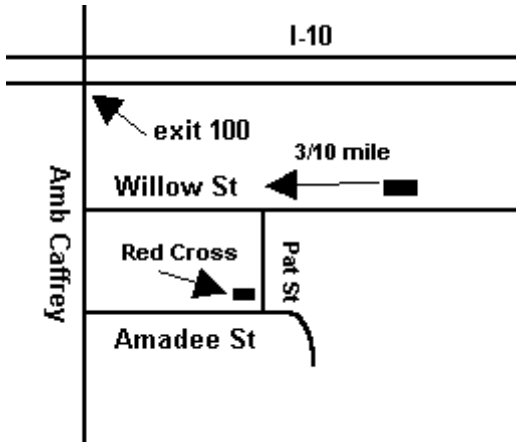


JOIN THE ARRL. Membership is the best bargain in amateur radio. To sign up go to the ARRL Web site and sign up online. If you do not have access to the internet, send your name, call, full address, and dues for 1 Year \$39, 2 Years \$74, and 3 Years \$105 to:

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<http://www.w5ddl.org>



*From The Kitchen Of
Carolyn Oubre KA5IJU*

***FCC LICENSE INFO
SERVICE***

TATER TOT CASSEROLE

2 lb. bag Tater Tots 1 small onion, chopped
1 can cream of chicken soup 1 can evaporated milk
salt and pepper to taste 2 lb. ground meat
3 tbsp. oil

In heavy skillet, saute onions in oil; add ground meat, brown; add seasonings and set aside. In saucepan, combine chicken soup and milk. Heat over low heat until warm. In 2 quart casserole dish, alternate layers of ground meat, soup and tater tots. Bake in moderate oven 45 minutes to 1 hour until tater tots are brown

HEAVENLY HASH

30 large marshmallows, 1 can condensed milk, 2 small pkgs. chocolate chips and 1 cup nuts

Cut marshmallows in pieces and place in a buttered pan. Melt chocolate chips over hot water. Remove from heat, add condensed milk and nuts. Pour over marshmallows. Let set several hours or overnight before cutting into candy bars.

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.

Web site:

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

New call sign 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
