



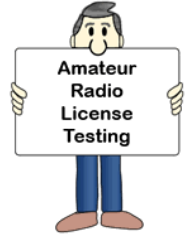
### Inside this issue:

AARA August General Meeting	1
Words from Editor	
AARA News Net Reports VE Test Results.	2
Laura Menard K15FEC visits ARRL HQ	3
W5EXI Repeater Update	
International Light house & Lightship Special Event	4
Southwest Reef Lighthouse SE	
New Canal Lighthouse Special Event	5
A Day in History	
Using Blade Type Automotive fuses	6
New Washington Parish Tower	7 & 8
Bossier—Shreveport Hamfest	9
August Calendar	10
ADXA Hamfest Update	
Special Event Listings	11



Thursday August 1, 2024 — AARA General Club meeting in Scott, LA at 7:00 PM. At the [Candyland Cottage & Ice Cream Shoppe](#).

VE testing at 6:00 PM



### Words from the Editor

Reflecting back to my younger days when I first came to Lafayette in September 1960 working at KLFY-TV at the studio and transmitter locations, I remember a interesting funny story about the transmitter site which was a 400 foot plus tower located near Bertrand & Eraste Landry Road.

Each time a thunderstorm came overhead, and lightning would strike the tower it would kick the main breaker of the visual transmitter causing a weird ball of fire to roll across the floor. You did not want to stand or sit in front of this panel during a storm.

At that time, Eddie Miller, W5EXI, (now Silent Key), was the transmitter supervisor. When the large main breaker would trip, you could not reset it as you would normally do so. He discovered that the only way you could reset the breaker was to take three steps back and do three “*bunny hops*”, give the breaker panel a good hard kick, then you could reset the breaker. The breaker panel had a worn spot from the numerous times this procedure had been initiated. This was to be known as “*The Bunny Hop Breaker*” to transmitter engineers. Kind of hard to believe but it is true. Eddie got a big kick out of telling this story to our radio club members. Some of our older members may remember this story. He was always coming up with some kind of physics puzzles to present to the club members at the meetings.

Eddie was a Physics Professor at the University of Louisiana in Lafayette back in the ‘60’s and was instrumental in getting me back into ham radio. One day, I ran across Eddie in the park and he wanted to show me something in his car. I walked over and he showed me his 2 meter transceiver and made a “phone patch” to one of his friends in Lake Charles, I thought that was the neatest thing, he then invited me to go to the ham radio club meeting, which I did and the rest is history.

After Eddie became a Silent Key, his call, *W5EXI*, was signed over to the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. and is now the call of the 147.040 repeater in Duson, LA.

*de Herman KN5GRK*



My website is hosted by:



Always remember that you are absolutely unique. Just like everyone else. - Margaret Mead

**Ham Radio - We Talk to the World!**

## AARA CLUB NEWS



The W5EXI 147.040 repeater in Duson now has a new battery backup today thanks to the efforts of Randy. It consists of a 100AH LiTime LiFePo4 battery and a Bioenno charger This should provide the repeater many hours of backup power. See more on page 3.

7/3/2024

Update on the Lydia 145.410 ADXA Club Repeater.

Ken Turner, KG5YYL, is bench testing the new repeater and getting very close to putting it live on air. We have a new Yaesu DR-2X repeater that will do analog and digital with a voice ID. The PL Tone will change to 103.5 which is where the repeater was supposed to be all along. The old repeater would not allow us to change it easily, so it has been on 123.0 tone. The change will eliminate some of the interference we would get from the repeater with same frequency and tone in Texas.



I am hoping to change to the new repeater ASAP, and will send out an email when it happens so that everyone can change their radios to match the new PL Tone. You have a little time to see how to do it before it goes live. I will be sending out updates to [Repeaterbook](#) and anywhere else I can find to let them know of the change also.

I should also have EchoLink up and running soon on the repeater and looking into setting up Wires-X. The new repeater has a LAN module in it, so it is linkable, and that may be an option at a later date.

## ACADIANA 2 METER NET REPORTS July 2024

Net Name	Sessions	Check-ins	Total Time
AARA Monday Night Net - 146.820 @ 7:00 PM Monday	5	89	235
Acadiana SkyWarn Net - 147.040 @ 7:00 PM Tuesday	5	63	182
Silent Key Memorial Net - 146.820 @ 7:00 PM Wednesday	5	71	179
Rag Chew Net - 147.040 @ 8:00 PM Thursday	3	27	271

Results posted on the 1st of the following month.

If the 146.820 is having problems, the alternate frequency will be the 147.040 repeater located in Duson, LA



## Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc. (AARA) VE Test Session Results July 4, 2024



No VE test session at the July 4, 2024 AARA General Meeting.

**Next VE Test Session will be on August 1, 2024 at 6:00 PM at:**  
[Candyland Cottage and Ice Cream Shoppe.](#)

When possible, Amateur Radio Examinations (VE Exams) will be conducted prior to the club meetings starting at 6:00 PM. Information regarding VE Exams can be found here:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/VE%20Exams.htm>

Please arrive as early as possible to help insure adequate time is available to complete your exam before the meeting starts.

Anyone needing additional information regarding VE Exams should contact Greg Dolan K5LFT at:  
[k5lft@arrl.net](mailto:k5lft@arrl.net).

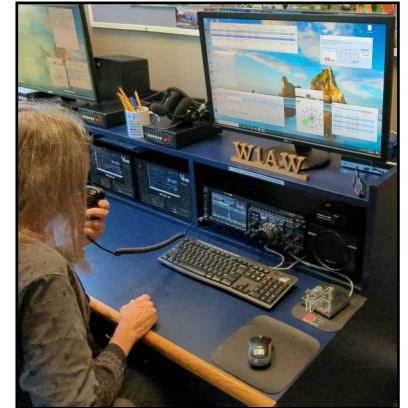


## Laura Menard, KI5FEC, Attends the Teachers Institute at ARRL Headquarters



Laura Menard, callsign KI5FEC, recently participated in the [Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology](#) organized by the [Amateur Radio Relay League \(ARRL\)](#) at their headquarters in Newington, CT. This professional development initiative, supported by donors, aims to empower educators in integrating wireless technology into STEM curricula. Led by Tommy Gober (N5DUX), the program covered various topics such as basic electronics, radio science, satellite communications, Amateur Radio direction finding (fox hunting), weather science, microcontrollers, and electronic sensors.

Returning equipped with a range of tools, Laura was thrilled by the hands-on experience, including operating from the renowned W1AW station. Her first contact from Brusly, Louisiana, was a memorable highlight. She plans to bring her newfound knowledge to St. Thomas More High School, collaborating with Nick Pugh (K5QXJ) on a satellite project in her engineering classroom. Looking ahead, Laura aims to apply for the institute's level 2 program next year, which focuses on remote sensing and data analysis. She expresses gratitude to the generous donors whose contributions made her participation in this enriching program possible.



The ARRL Teachers Institute on Wireless Technology is a donor-funded professional development program designed to help classroom teachers elevate their STEM programs through the use of wireless technology. As a part of the ARRL Education & Technology Program, several sessions are conducted each year, and the program continues to grow. Teachers Institute is filled with lectures, hands-on activities, and demonstrations to inspire teachers so they can inspire their students through the use of tools and strategies to introduce basic electronics, radio science, satellite communications, Amateur Radio, radio direction finding (fox hunting), weather science, microcontrollers, and electronic sensors to their students. Teachers are provided with the equipment needed to take wireless technology to their classrooms. If you, or someone you know, would like to support ARRL's mission to elevate STEM programs in schools, click here: [DONATE TODAY](#) or contact the ARRL Development Office at (860)594-0291

## W5EXI 147.040 Repeater Update

The W5EXI repeater in Duson, La. went out of service recently on two occasions when power was lost at the site. It was learned that the backup generator at the site was at fault. Alternate power sources for the club repeater were taken under consideration at the June General Meeting and funds were appropriated to eliminate this problem by installing a backup system.

Thanks to Randy KI5OQD, the repeater now has a new battery back up system consisting of a 100AH LiTime LiFePo4 Lithium Ion battery and a Bioenno charger. This should provide the repeater many hours of backup power.







## International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend - ILLW

00.01 UTC 17th August to 24.00 UTC 18th August 2024 (48 hours)

For some reason or other August seems to have become the international weekend for lighthouses. Countries all over the world have become involved in one for or another of lighthouse activity. Some years ago the United States Congress declared August 7th as their National Lighthouse Day and during that first week in August amateur radio operators in America set up portable stations at lighthouses and endeavour to make contact with each other. This event is known as the US National Lighthouse Week.

In Britain the Association of Lighthouse Keepers, ALK, conducts International Lighthouse Heritage Weekend on the same weekend as the ILLW in August. Their objective is to encourage Lighthouse managers, keepers and owners to open their lighthouse or lightstation and related visitors centres to the public with a view to raising the profile of lighthouses, lightvessels and other navigational aids, and preserving our maritime heritage.

### LINKS:

[Home](#) [Guidelines](#) [Entrants List 2023](#) [Entry Form](#) [Lighthouse List](#) [Statistics](#) [Admin](#) [Rejects](#) [Entrants Lists](#) [Contact us](#)

## Southwest Reef Lighthouse Special Event



Lighthouse #: USØ176

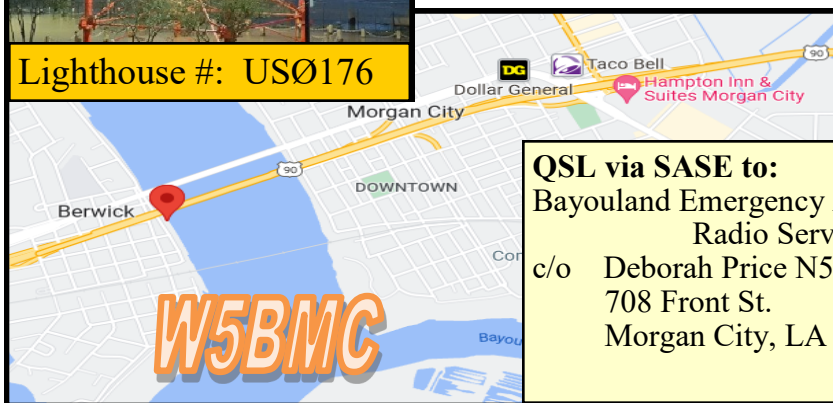
The BEARS (*Bayouland Emergency Amateur Radio Service*) (BEARS) club of Morgan City, Louisiana will be taking part again this year on August 17 and 18, 2024 operating from the *Southwest Reef Lighthouse Park* (USØ176) on the banks of the Atchafalaya River in Berwick, Louisiana.

**Date:** August 17 & 18, 2024

**Call Used:** W5BMC

**Times:** 0001Z 8-17 to 2400 Z 8-18

**Frequencies:** 40 Meter and 20 Meter bands SSB. No specific frequency.



### QSL via SASE to:

Bayouland Emergency Amateur  
Radio Service W5BMC  
c/o Deborah Price N5FMI  
708 Front St.  
Morgan City, LA 70380



Southwest Reef Lighthouse: <https://www.lighthousefriends.com/light.asp?ID=341>



## [New Canal Lighthouse](#)

8001 Lakeshore Dr., New Orleans, LA 70124

The [Jefferson Amateur Radio Club](#) - W5GAD will be activating the New Canal Lighthouse on the West End of New Orleans on Lake Pontchartrain.

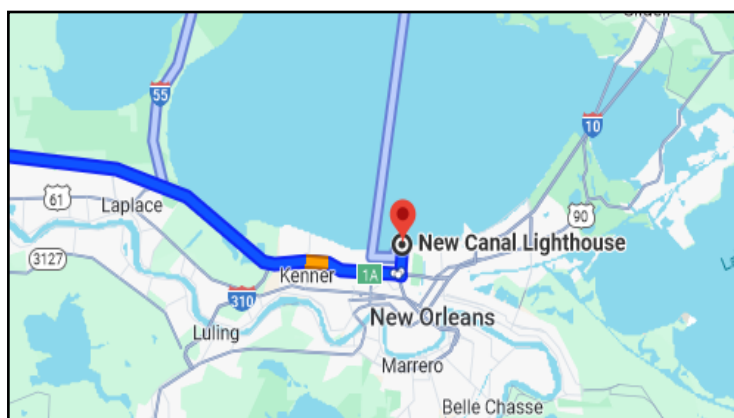
**Date:** Saturday & Sunday August 17 & 18, 2024

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM Central Time

**Call Used:** *W5GAD*

**Description:** We activate at the New Canal Lighthouse at West End in New Orleans. <https://www.neworleans.com/listing/new-canal-lighthouse/13532/>

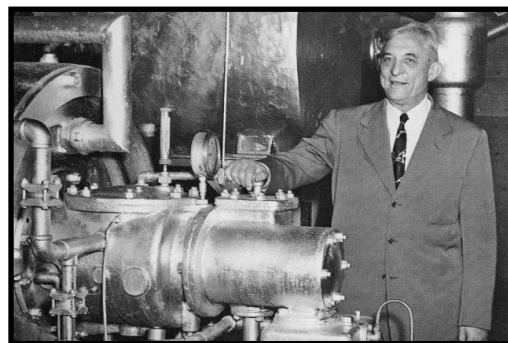
We start setting up equipment at 10am Central. And work until 2pm. We also work on Saturday from 10am to 4pm.



## **A DAY IN HISTORY**

### *Air Conditioning Came From a New York Printing Press*

Air conditioning has become a necessity for living and working comfortably in increasingly hot temperatures, but the AC unit actually originated as a way to fix a faltering printing press. In 1902, an engineer named Willis Carrier was working at Buffalo, New York's Sackett-Wilhelms Lithographing and Publishing Company. He was tasked with finding a solution to control the humidity levels in the plant, which were wreaking havoc on paper and ink quality. His solution, known as the [Apparatus for Treating Air](#), marked the birth of modern air conditioning.



Carrier's system consisted of steam coils and an industrial fan. The cold water in the coils produced excess condensation, which would be blown out of the room to lower humidity and cool the air. It not only solved the printing problem but also inadvertently introduced a revolutionary technology with wide-ranging applications. While other people had experimented with cooling technology before Carrier, his pioneering work impacted architecture, engineering, and everyday life for generations.

[Patent No. 808-897](#) Jan 2, 1906



## BLADE TYPE AUTOMOTIVE FUSES

By Herman Campbell KN5GRK

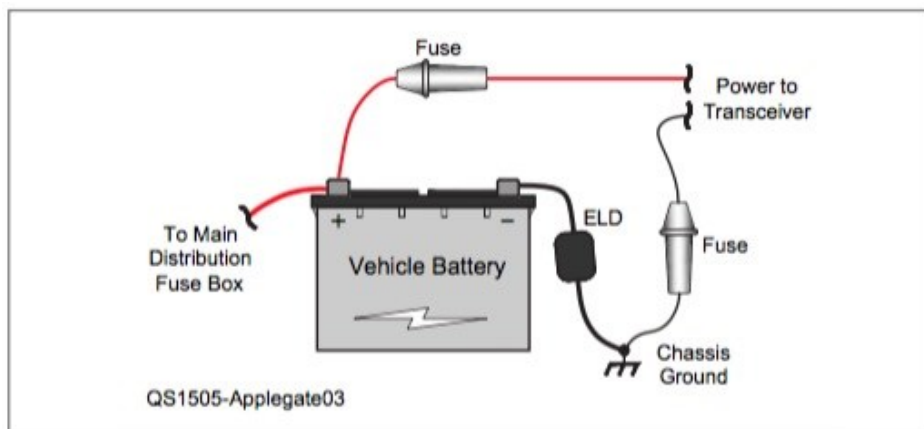
I recently received a e-mail from a fellow ham Paul Coats AE5JU asking to why radios have fuses in both the positive and negative power lines.

"Herman, my radios came with the typical glass fuses, but I have changed over to the blade type automotive fuses due to them being so easily available, and in an emergency, can always take one from a car to use if necessary. I notice there are two fuses on many radios, both the + and - leads. Why is that? Do I really need to put a fuse on the - lead, too?"

In doing some research on the internet, I found this one explanation.

According to Alan K0BG's [page about wiring](#), the negative lead is fused because of the possibility of a faulty ground elsewhere in the vehicle, which could cause excessive current to flow in the negative lead to the radio.

Here's a diagram from Alan, showing how to properly wire power to the radio:



Alan's page about wiring, and the rest of [his site](#), are chock-full of excellent advice about mobile ham radio.

Steven Weinert K9ZW replied:

It is common to fuse both sides.

The thinking is the redundancy and positioning offers more protection than a single sided fuse.

Automotive blade fuses are suboptimal as they defuse differently than the more sensitive tubular fuses. Basically by the time a blade fuse burns the current situation at the radio may have already done damages.

There is a third alternative magnetic breakers.

I wrote about this:

Switch Off Quick – Airpax Magnetic  
Breaker Transceiver Protection  
k9zw.wordpress.com



Guess I wrote a long time ago about this. Wow time flies. There is no perfect answer and in real life I've only blown a handful of fuses, in amps mainly, in 35 years.

73  
Steve  
K9ZW



### Never Use Existing Vehicle Wiring

**Never, ever** use existing vehicle wiring to power any amateur radio gear. This includes fuse taps, and so-called accessory sockets, aka cigarette lighter sockets! In part from the [National Fire Protection Association](#), subsection 15-3.2.1:

**Overloaded Wiring.** Unintended high-resistance faults in wiring can raise the conductor temperature to the ignition point of the insulation, particularly in bundled cables such as the wiring harnesses or the accessory wiring under the dash where the heat generated is not readily dissipated. **This can occur without activating the circuit protection.**

There's rarely a single cause for any given car fire, even if an investigator can trace all the way back to the incident that sparked the blaze. It's more likely that there was a combination of causes: **human causes, mechanical causes, and chemical causes, and they all**





**Washington Parish (07/01/24) – NEW RADIO TOWER AT THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER**

**Just in time for the 2024 hurricane season:** The Washington Parish Communications District erected a seventy foot tower to support antennas for its secondary radio system. This seventy foot tower is in addition to the facility's main, four hundred foot tower which stands nearby on Dollar Road. This tower will serve as a partial solution to public safety radio issues until the planned tower replacement in Franklinton occurs.

These secondary radio system antennas include 155 MHz vhf public safety units plus a ten element, 10-30 MHz, Tennadyne log periodic antenna for Winlink data and voice transmissions to the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP).

The Washington Parish EOC added 20 feet to its existing 50 ft tower to obtain the height required for proper operation of a ten element hf log periodic antenna to be utilized for Winlink data transmission. While there are log periodic antennas that operate on 75 meters, this model is only good for 10-30 MHz.

Details of equipment and antennas on the Washington Parish EOC auxiliary tower (starting at the top):

1. Commscope DB222A Mast Mount, 150-158 MHz
2. Tennadyne, 10 Elements, Log Periodic, 10-30 MHz
3. PCTel, LPA136174-6NF, Log Periodic, 136-174 MHz
4. DXEngineering, 4500HD Rotator
5. Video Security Cameras, PTZ
6. Commscope DB222A Side Mount, 150-158 MHz



Photos and text used in this article were found on the [Louisiana ARES Facebook](#) page.

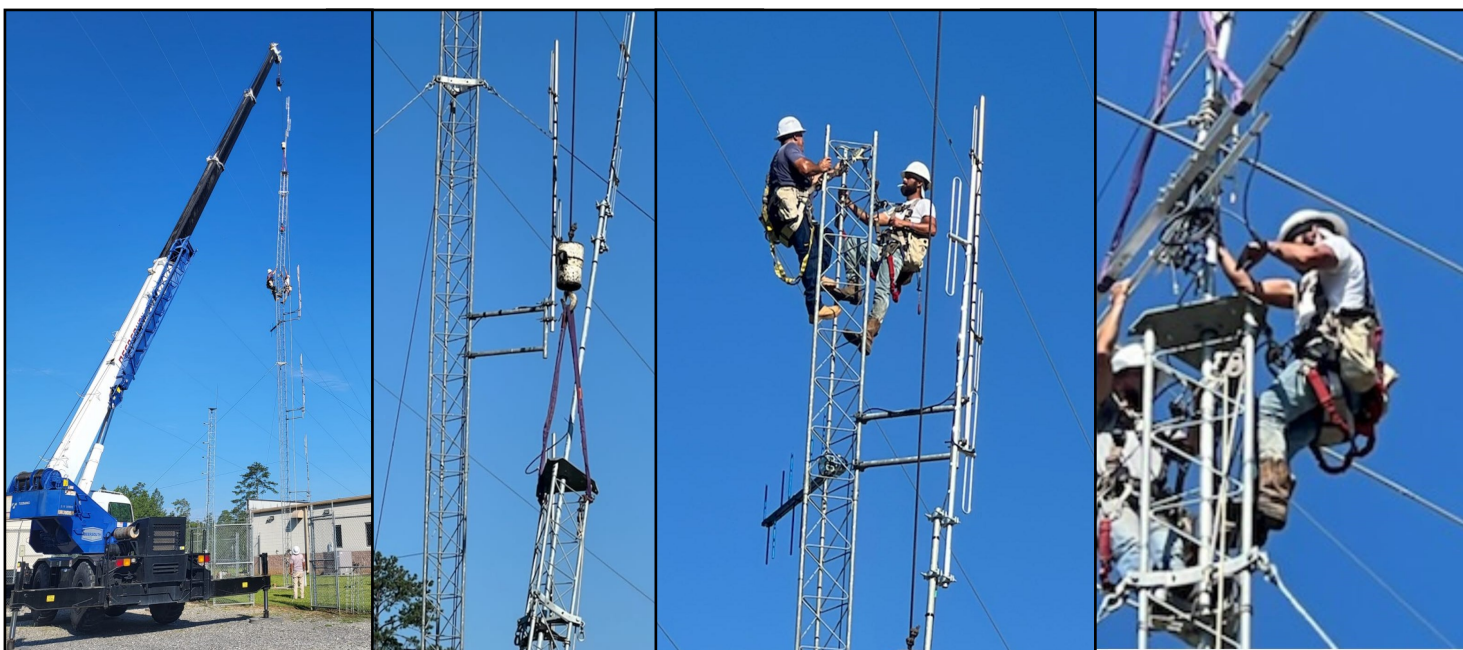




**NEW RADIO TOWER AT THE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER -** Continued from page 5



Progress photos on new tower erection for Washington Parish EOC location



[Photos of the Washington Parish Communications Center can be found by clicking on this link:](#)

**James Coleman AI5B - LA SEC Coordinator**  
**Washington Parish Communications District**  
**54100 Dollar Rd.**  
**Franklinton, LA 70438**

985 726-8704 (Office)  
985 726-8770 (EOC COML-Main)  
985 726-8774 (EOC COML-Backup 1)  
985 205-7301 (EOC COML-Backup 2)  
HamShack Hotline at EOC COML 4104  
985 247-4295 EOC Tertiary Satellite Backup  
985 247-4296 EOC Tertiary Satellite Backup  
985 247-4257 EOC Tertiary Satellite Backup  
985 247-4258 EOC Tertiary Satellite Backup

Check into the Louisiana ARES Net on  
Sunday evenings on 3878 KHz at 1845 local  
time.







104 degrees outside — 65 degrees inside  
FREE PARKING - EASY ACCESS

## Shreveport-Bossier Hamfest

**Date:** Saturday August 10, 2024

**Time:** 7:00 AM -2:00 PM

**Admission:** \$10.00

**Raffle Tickets:** 1-\$5.00 / 5-\$20.00 / 30-\$100.00

**VE Testing:** 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

**Tables:** \$25.00

**Website:** <http://www.k5sar.com/sbhamfest/>

**Location:** Louisiana State Fairgrounds Agriculture Building

3206 Pershing Blvd

Shreveport, LA. 71109

**Contact:** <http://www.k5sar.com/contact-us/>

**PRIZES - PRIZES - PRIZES**

Main Trading Co. Gift Card or CASH

1st Prize:

\$1250 MTC GC or \$1000 Cash

2nd Prize:

\$500 MTC GC or \$400 Cash

3rd Prize:

\$250 MTC GC or \$150 Cash



Potential Vendors

Louisiana State Fair Agriculture Building

**AUGUST 10, 2024**

**7:00AM - 2:00PM**

**Shreveport-Bossier Hamfest**

LOCATION: LOUISIANA STATE FAIR AGRICULTURE BUILDING  
3206 PERSHING AVENUE - SHREVEPORT, LA 71109

ADMISSION: ADULTS • \$10.00 | CHILDREN 12 AND UNDER • FREE

CONTACT: BOB DAVIS KB5RD • 318-230-1242  
BRUCE DEVILLE KESCP L • 318-751-8596  
EMAIL: KESCP L@GMAIL.COM

FCC TESTING  
8:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.













# August 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Schedule of Events

- ◆ August 1 — AARA General Club meeting at [Candyland Cottage & Ice Cream Shop](#) in Scott, LA at 7:00 PM. VE Testing will be at 6:00 PM
- ◆ August 10 — Shreveport-Bossier Hamfest
- ◆ August 17-18 — Lighthouse / Lightship Weekend
- ◆ August 20 — National Radio Day



**National Radio Day**

**August 20, 2024**

## Acadiana DX Association Hamfest & Swapmeet



**Sponsor:** Acadiana DX Association  
ARRL Louisiana State Convention  
Rayne, Louisiana



## Rayne Hamfest 2025

7/3/2024

I have already been working on the 2025 Hamfest which will be Friday March 21st - 3PM to 8PM and Saturday March 22nd - 8 AM to 2PM. I am getting interest from vendors and made some good contacts in Orlando earlier this year. I have been talking to Diamond Antennas, Mastrant, ABR, Kenwood, Chatt Radio, Main Trading and a couple of more. I would love to run out of tables.

<https://www.facebook.com/people/Acadiana-DX-Association/100085887445177/>

Let me know if you have any questions.

KEN TURNER  
ACADIANA DX ASSOCIATION  
KG5YYL  
[acadianadx@gmail.com](mailto:acadianadx@gmail.com)



**3rd Annual  
Acadiana DX Association**



**2025 Rayne Hamfest & Swapmeet**

**Friday March 21st - 3PM to 8PM**

**Saturday March 22nd - 8 AM to 2PM**

**Rayne Civic Center 210 Frog Festival Dr. Rayne La.**

Just South of Interstate 10 - Exit 87 (follow Hamfest Signs from Interstate)

**Crawfish Friday Night At 6 PM**

**On Pre-Order Basis**

**Bingo on Saturday 8:30am – 11:30am**

[www.acadianadx.org](http://www.acadianadx.org)

[hamfest@acadianadx.org](mailto:hamfest@acadianadx.org)



**Crawfish Boil Friday @ 6:00 PM**

**On pre order basis**

**Bingo on Saturday 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM**



**Jeux Olympiques de Paris 2024**

Jul 26-Aug 9, 0000Z-2359Z, TM2024JOP, Lillers, FRANCE. Union des RadioClubs. 7.000 14.000. Certificate & QSL. Union des RadioClubs, 3 rue Saint Lugle, Lillers 62190, FRANCE. All bands will be activated. <https://log-et-qsl.associations-radioamateurs.org/wp>

**KDKA Shortwave Broadcasting Centennial**

Aug 1-Aug 4, 1200Z-1800Z, KD3KA, Wexford, PA. Allegheny Valley Radio Association. 7.040 7.240 14.040 14.240. QSL. Allegheny Valley Radio Association, P.O. Box 550, Wexford, PA 15090. Commemorating the start of Westinghouse shortwave operations at the Hill Station, Forest Hills, PA in August 1924, under the call sign 8XK. 8AM to 2PM EDT each day. See qrz.com/db/KD3KA for details. <https://www.kdka100.org>

**Summer Olivia Digital Mode QSO Party**

Aug 9-Aug 12, 0000Z-2359Z, NW7US, Anytown. Olivia Digital DXers Club. 14.071 7.071 21.071 28.121. Certificate. Tomas Hood, PO Box 110, Fayetteville,

OH 45118. 2nd Annual Olivia Digital Mode Summer QSO Party - worldwide. See website for complete details. <https://OliviaDigitalMode.org>

**Navajo Code Talkers**

Aug 11-Aug 16, 0000Z-0000Z, N7HG, Chinle, AZ. N7HG. 14.265 21.265 7.265 18.133. Certificate. Herbert Goodluck N7C, PO Box 06, Chinle, AZ 86503. Celebrate an annual event to promote the legacy of Navajo Code Talkers of WWII [n7hgster@gmail.com](mailto:n7hgster@gmail.com)

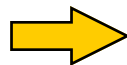
**US Coast Guard Radio Station Guam/ NRV 80th Anniversary**

Aug 15-Aug 30, 0001Z-2359Z, N4V, Memphis, TN. NRV Veterans. 7.030 7.185 14.030 14.235. Certificate & QSL. Jim Pogue, 699 Dickinson St, Memphis, TN 38107. [KH2AR@comcast.net](mailto:KH2AR@comcast.net)

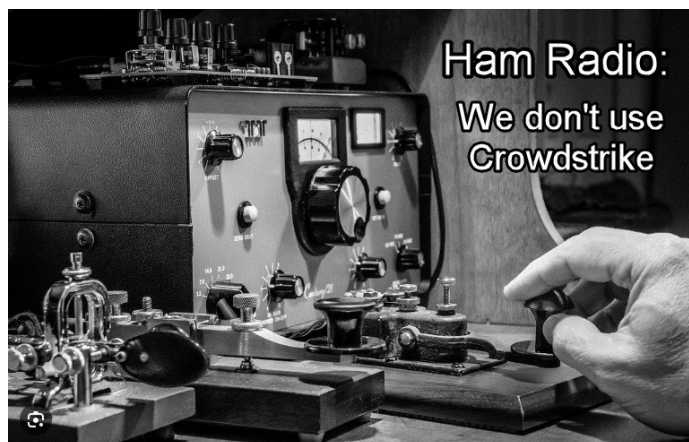
**Nuclear Ship Savannah Maiden Voyage Anniversary**

Aug 17, 1300Z-2100Z, K3S, Baltimore, MD. Nuclear Ship Savannah ARC. 7.1 14.1 21.1 28.1. QSL. K3LU, 980 PATUX-ENT ROAD, Odenton, MD 21113. Single

transmitter SSB and CW aboard N/S Savannah. Please check spotting networks for frequencies. Info on QRZ.com [www.qrz.com/db/k3s](http://www.qrz.com/db/k3s)



**HERMAN CAMPBELL KN5GRK**  
416 DALE ST.  
LAFAYETTE, LA 70501 - 2012  
[kn5grk.com](http://kn5grk.com)



Complimentary  
Issue