

JEFFERSON REPORT

PUBLISHED BY THE JEFFERSON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W5GAD

February 2006

Due to the flooding of the clubhouse, the next meeting will be held at the Coast Guard Station. Please see w5gad.org for the latest information.

General Meeting:
February 23

Board Meeting:
March 9

Open clubhouse: none until further notice

Tuesday Net: 9:00 P.M.
on 145.37- (PL114.8),
Alternate: 147.24+/
444.000+ (PL114.8)

www.w5gad.org
e-mail: w5gad@arrl.net;
Phone: 504-831-1613

Send newsletter items to:
w5ctv@arrl.net
Deadline: 2nd Friday of
the month

New Board Takes Office

New Meeting Place is Set

The February meeting will be held on Thursday, February 23, 2006, at the Coast Guard station, located in Bucktown, 7:30 P.M. You can get to it by using the access road across from R & O's Restaurant on Old Hammond Highway and crossing over the Levee. There will be a special presentation regarding Amateur Radio's involvement with the Coast Guard in times of emergency such as Katrina or man made disasters. Come out and hear about some of the latest technology available to support search and rescue!

2006 JARC Officers and Board Elected

Congratulations to the newly elected Officers and Board for the Jefferson Amateur Radio Club for the 50th anniversary of the club.

President - Keith Barnes, W5KB

Vice-President - Albert Dupont, W5AFD

Secretary - Dave Kleinatland, KE5BMS

Treasurer - Dick Dannenberg, W5RMX

2-Year Board

Dallas Ward, K1DW

Chris Vincent, W5CTV

Rafael(Ralph)Shabetai, W5/LU3BAI - KD4WZJ

1-Year Board

Bob Spahn, WD5BJW

Lyle Brown, KD5EWD

Johnny Miller, N5AZA

Dues are due

Dues for 2006 are now due. Please send in your dues for the coming year. A renewal application can be found on page 3.

JARC establishes recovery fund

With the \$6500 grant from the ARRL as a starting point, a fund has been established to begin the club's recovery. We have opened a new P.O. box and bank account for these funds. Donations to the Jefferson Amateur Radio Club Katrina Recovery Assistance Fund can be mailed to P.O. Box 2194, Harvey, LA 70059. Solicitation letters will be mailed shortly to all the ARRL Special Service Clubs, as well as ham radio equipment manufacturers and large dealers.

Rebuilding committee formed

Newly elected President Keith, W5KB has formed a committee tasked with formulating a plan for the rebuilding of the JARC clubhouse and station. Its members consist of Chris, W5CTV - Chairman, Rafael, W5/LU3BAI - KD4WZJ, Albert, W5AFD and Keith, W5KB. If you have any suggestions or input on the rebuilding of the club's infrastructure, please contact any of the committee members. We hope to have some important announcements regarding significant donations soon.

Dues
Are
Due



Amateur Radio's Role Gets Favorable Mention in Post-Katrina Report

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), the Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS) and the HF digital e-mail system Winlink 2000 (www.winlink.org) all got positive mentions in a post-Katrina report from the US House of Representatives. US Rep Tom Davis (R-VA) chaired the panel. References to ARES, MARS and Winlink appear in "A Failure of Initiative" (<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/15feb20061230/www.gpoaccess.gov/katrinareport/mainreport.pdf>) --the final report of the Select Bipartisan Committee to investigate the preparation for and response to Hurricane Katrina.

"Like all levels of government," the 364-page report notes, the National Communication System (NCS, <http://www.ncs.gov/>), "was not able to address all aspects of the damage to the communications infrastructure of the Gulf States."

MARS was cited for its role as part of the Shared Resources High Frequency Radio Program (SHARES), an emergency federal communication system put into play when other resources are unavailable. The report says that "within days" of Katrina's landfall, NCS called upon more than 430 SHARES stations across the US to, among other things, assist first responders con-

ducting search-and-rescue missions by relaying information to government agencies, by relaying logistical and operational information among FEMA EOCs in Georgia, Mississippi and Louisiana, and by handling health-and-welfare messages between volunteer agencies in Georgia and the American Red Cross national headquarters.

"Additionally, the NCS coordinated the frequencies used by the nearly 1000 Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers across the nation who served in the Katrina stricken area providing communications for government agencies, the Red Cross and The Salvation Army," the report continued. "Emergency communications were conducted not only by voice, but also by high-speed data transmissions using state-of-the-art digital communications software known as Winlink."

The report further noted, "In Mississippi, FEMA dispatched Amateur Radio operators to hospitals, evacuation centers, and county EOCs to send emergency messaging 24 hours per day. It further cited comments from Bay St Louis Mayor Edward A. "Eddie" Favre that Amateur Radio operators "were especially helpful in maintaining situational awareness and relaying Red Cross messages to and from

the Hancock County (Mississippi) EOC."

According to the report, radio amateurs at airports in Texas and Louisiana "tracked evacuees and notified families of their whereabouts," while the Red Cross "deployed Amateur Radio volunteers at its 250 shelters and feeding stations, principally in Mississippi, Alabama and Florida."



The Salvation Army, the report pointed out, operates its own system of Amateur Radio volunteers known as SATERN (www.saturn.org) (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network). "During the Hurricane Katrina response and recovery effort, SATERN joined forces with the SHARES program and received over 48,000 requests for emergency communications assistance utilizing federal frequencies made available via the SHARES program," the report noted.

"The extent of destruction

and damage to the communications infrastructure and services caused by Katrina exceeded that of any other natural disaster experienced by the Gulf Coast states," the report concluded. "Simply put, Katrina's devastation overwhelmed government resources at all levels."

"A Failure of Initiative" asserted that the loss of power and the failure at vari-

ous levels of government "to adequately prepare for the ensuing and inevitable loss of communications" hindered the hurricane response "by compromising situational awareness and command and control operations."

"Despite the devastation left by Katrina, this needn't have been the case," the report stressed. "Catastrophic disasters may have some unpredictable consequences, but losing power and the dependent communications systems after a hurricane should not be one of them."

-- Courtesy ARRL

March 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26 9:00 AM WARC Net 8:00 PM ARES Net	27	28 7:00 PM PDRC Net 8:00 PM Delta DX Net	1 7:00 PM WARC Board Mtg. 8:00 PM WARC Net	2	3	4
5 9:00 AM WARC Net 8:00 PM ARES Net	6	7 7:00 PM Delta DX Meeting 7:00 PM PDRC Net	8 7:00 PM WARC General Mtg.	9 7:30 PM JARC Board Mtg.	10	11
12 9:00 AM WARC Net 8:00 PM ARES Net	13	14 7:00 PM PDRC Net 8:00 PM Delta DX Net	15 8:00 PM WARC Net	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18
19 9:00 AM WARC Net 8:00 PM ARES Net	20	21 7:00 PM PDRC Net 8:00 PM Delta DX Net	22 8:00 PM WARC Net	23 7:30 PM JARC General Mtg.	24	25
26 9:00 AM WARC Net 8:00 PM ARES Net	27	28 7:00 PM PDRC Net 8:00 PM Delta DX Net	29 8:00 PM WARC Net	30	31	1 April Fool's Day

JEFFERSON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB • APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP • PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY.

Name _____ Callsign _____ Areas of interest: _____
 Address _____
 City, State, Zip _____ Occupation _____
 License Class _____ Spouse's Name _____ E-mail address _____
 Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____ Ever been issued a Notice of Apparent Liability? Yes ___ No ___
 Membership Desired: Full (\$25) _____ Family (\$12.50) _____ Associate (\$25) _____ Student (\$12.50) _____
 Family membership is full membership plus \$12.50 for each additional up to a maximum of \$50. Attach a separate application for each family member.

Signature _____ Date _____ Sponsor _____ Date _____

Please enclose dues and mail to: JARC, P.O. Box 73665, Metairie, LA 70033

Why the emailed newsletter?

Several factors went into deciding to send the newsletter out electronically. The foremost being the postal service for a variety of reasons...bulk mail service is currently unavailable and first class postage for 200+ newsletters is very expensive; over 10% were returned due to delivery issues to the devastated areas and forwarding problems; as well as a high number of damaged newsletters. It will also allow for more timely distribution and you can see the color in the pictures.



Please let the board know how you feel about electronic distribution once we're past the Katrina mess. For those with no email address on record, we will continue to mail a newsletter.

This shortened issue is only being sent to JARC members as a meeting and dues reminder. A full size newsletter with updated club news and features will come out later this month for the regular distribution list.

-- Chris, W5CTV, Editor

PS: If you know of a member who is not getting their newsletter either via email or snail mail, please let me know immediately so I can investigate where the problem lies.

Where Are You?

There are some members whom we have not heard from since the storm. We want to hear from you. Please let us know if you are at home, or if you are displaced. Also, do you need help with repairing your station? If you need some help with antenna repairs, please let us know and we can get the word out to try and get you some help. You can contact any of the board members at their number listed below. We would also like to hear any stories you have about Katrina/Rita and ham radio.

JARC Board Of Directors 2006

President:	Keith	W5KB	737-0858	
Vice President:	Albert	W5AFD	465-0637	
Secretary:	Dave	KE5BMS	812-5482	
Treasurer:	Dick	W5RMX	888-2878	
At Large: 1 Year #1:	Johnny	N5AZA	443-2101	
	#2:	Bob	WD5BJW	885-7965
	#3:	Lyle	KD5EWD	884-1622
2 Year #1:	Rafael	KD4WZJ	471-6122	
	#2:	Dallas	K1DW	985-796-5975
	#3:	Chris	W5CTV	347-8293

Repeater Status

The JARC 145.37, 147.27 Ozone ARC machine in Slidell and, Delta DX 147.36 machine are on the air. Please use them. A table of the local repeaters is being compiled with their status, please contact Chris, W5CTV with any info.

“Hello” Campaign to Put Friendly, Inviting Face on Amateur Radio

A new ARRL public relations campaign set to launch this April will cast Amateur Radio in the light of the 21st century and focus on its universal appeal, even in today's already technology-rich society. At the same time, the “Hello” campaign will note the 100th anniversary of what many historians consider the first voice radio broadcast in 1906 by Reginald Fessenden.

“It is quite simply the largest PR campaign that ham radio has ever attempted,” says ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP. Based on the word “Hello,” which Pitts calls “possibly the most pleasant word in any language,” the coordinated campaign will set “a positive, upbeat tone that highlights the international capabilities of Amateur Radio,” he explained.

The “Hello” campaign will aim to reframe Amateur Radio within a contemporary context. “ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, was correct in stating that the Main Street of today is not the same as the Main Street of yesteryear,” Pitts went on to say. “To reach out today, the very first requirement is that Amateur Radio operators be perceived as friendly and trustworthy. That's a true public relations goal and the prime focus of the campaign.”

Pitts says it's not helpful to lament the time in decades past when Amateur Radio grew pretty much on its own, without too much effort on the part of clubs and individuals. “Only our combined, effective action will do that today,” Pitts says. “This campaign will give hams the tools they need to reach out in their communities to non-hams and influence their perception of Amateur Radio.”

The national “Hello” campaign can bring curious people into contact with ham radio groups, but it will be up to local radio amateurs to make them truly welcome, Pitts maintains.

The campaign will show that despite the Internet and other technologies, the possibility of being able to talk with everyday people around the world and sometimes in exotic locales--coupled with the surprise, art and uncertainty of DXing--remains a major attraction for Amateur Radio. The “Hello” campaign also will take advantage of likely FCC action this year to drop the Morse code requirement at least for General class applicants.

“We all say we want to make a change for the better for Amateur Radio and get others interested,” Pitts said. “This is the time, this is the chance. Stay tuned! More to come!”