

JEFFERSON REPORT

PUBLISHED BY THE JEFFERSON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W5GAD

April 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:
April 27

Board Meeting:
May 11

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



Foxhunting Featured at Next Meeting

Next General Meeting Thursday, April 27 at 7:30 P.M.

Be at the next General Meeting where we will have a discussion and lab on Transmitter Fox Hunting. Build your own Highly Sophisticated Foxhunting Antenna!

The next Foxhunt.....in May! Stay tuned to the website, w5gad.org, for the exact date.

The meeting will be held at the Coast Guard Station in Metairie in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. There will also be an update from Mike Howell on the progress of the Amateur Radio/USCG Auxiliary Partnership. You do not need to have an Amateur Radio License to join this Flotilla.



Other items to discuss include JARC rebuilding update, Field Day and presentations we will be doing at the Eastbank and Westbank Regional Libraries in the June/July timeframe.

New Members

The following have applied for membership and will be voted on at the General Meeting.
Amy Knowler, New Orleans, Associate Membership
Mike Howell, KE5CGO, Metairie, Technician
Larry Levy, WB5MXS, Metairie, Advanced

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. We will remove any non-renewals after the April newsletter.

Upcoming hamfests

Upcoming hamfests include the Baton Rouge ARC Hamfest on May 6 in Baton Rouge, the Amateur Radio Club of Shreveport (ARCOS) Cookout and Swapmeet near Bossier City on May 6, the Piney Hills ARA Hamfest on July 22 in Ruston, the West Central LA ARC Hamfest on August 12 in Leesville, the Southwest LA Amateur Repeater Club Hamfest in Lake Charles on September 16, and the Central LA ARC Hamfest on October 14 in Pineville.

Please send newsletter items to:
w5ctv@arrl.net

Remembering Three Recent Silent Keys

Editor's note: The local ham radio community has recently lost three long-time hams that were active in the local clubs and touched many of us who are active today. This newsletter is dedicated in their memory. Below we share some remembrances of them. Special thanks to Don, W5FKX, Nick, K5EF, Henry, W5HR, and Linda, W5LIN for sharing these thoughts with us. The article about George, WA5GEV on page 3 was first published in the May, 2001 Jefferson Report and is being reprinted in its entirety.

Wayne Knabb, KO5R

When I was active in JARC, during the early 1970's, I conducted the club's radio classes for nearly a four-year period. I taught many of the newest "old timers." My two most comical students were Bob Funck (KB5GQ..sk) and Wayne Knabb. Wayne became quite active in ham radio and quickly progressed from novice to extra-class, thanks to JARC's willingness to then have novice, general, advanced and extra programs.

Later, Wayne single-handedly edited, wrote and coordinated production of our combined local-club newsletter: Radio Amateur Traffic...or RAT as it was affectionately termed by he! Like all of us, he had his quirks and was headstrong when it came to saying things as they were....in print. So, at one raucous meeting (not unusual for the cast of "ham-character" club members active at that time in JARC's storied history) where the discussion became rather heated about editorial content, Wayne abruptly resigned from the club and that was the end of the ballgame. RA was later renamed Amateur Radio Traffic or ART...to convey a nicer, less edgy image I suppose. But without Wayne, it really wasn't the same and became quite boring.

Wayne had a profound love for ham radio. Very sorry to see him now listed as a silent key. Somehow I suspect the stresses of Katrina's aftermath had a role in this, as has happened to so many others in this community.

-- 73, Nick, K5EF

Shelby Smith, W5SNU

Shelby W. "Smitty" Smith, W5SNU, a member and supporter of the Delta DX Association since 1976, became a silent key on March 27, 2006. Shelby was a Naval aviator and veteran of WWII, retiring as a Naval Commander in Intelligence. He then went to work for Texaco, traveling worldwide as a geologist, and was responsible for many of the companies' discoveries in the Gulf of Mexico. Our sympathy is extended to his XYL, Terri, and his family. He will be sadly missed for his dry

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wit and ready grin.

Another recent DDXA loss occurred with the death of Dorothea "Dotsie" Stevenson, XYL of long-time member Bruce, K5HHA. Dotsie passed away last September, 2005, following a long illness. Lack of communications or newspapers following Katrina kept this news from most members until only recently. Our sympathy goes to Bruce and his family.

-- 73, Don, W5FKX

George Vincent, WA5GEV

George Ennis Vincent died on Sunday, April 2, 2006, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, where he had relocated after Hurricane Katrina. George was born in New Orleans, LA on August 13, 1927. He married Lilia Lopez in 1957. He lived and worked as a diesel mechanic in Empire, LA from 1957 to 1962. He moved to New Orleans and worked for the RTA (which was then NOPSI) from 1970 until he retired in 1993. He served in the Army during the Korean Conflict and after his honorable discharge he joined the Coast Guard. He was an active member of the American Legion (most recently Post 125) and the 40 and 8. He was an amateur radio operator, WA5GEV. He was an active member in the Westside Amateur Radio Club, the 10-10 International Club, and the Coast Guard Net. He is survived by his wife, Lilia; and by his nephew, David Vincent. George was a good friend and a great American and he will be deeply missed. Burial ceremonies were held in Fort Lauderdale, FL on Wednesday, April 5, 2006 with the Military Guard in attendance.

-- Henry, W5HR

We would like to thank Doug and his associates at Memphis Amateur Electronics for all the help and advice they have given the Jefferson Amateur Radio Club in working our way through our equipment insurance claim. With their help W5GAD will soon be back on the air!

**Memphis Amateur
Electronics, Inc.**
Your Ham Radio Store

www.memphisamateur.com

1 (800) 238-6168

Amateur Radio has been a part of WA5GEV-George Vincent's life for a long time. He is active with the Jefferson and Westside Amateur Radio Clubs. He is a member of ARRL and can be heard mostly on his favorite band-20 meters.

His rig is an Alinco DX70TH and a Cushcraft A3S antenna. He got his Novice license in 1976 after a bit of studying. His elmer (mentor) is a now silent key, Jerry-WB5GDN who on field day that year showed George equipment and hams operating. He currently holds the class of Advanced and someday will get his Amateur Extra license.

Outside of amateur radio George is a retired diesel mechanic at the Canal Bus Garage. He is happily married and has no children. He served in WWII and received the Victory medal. He also served in the New Orleans Coast Guard in the Korean War. He loves to farm and garden growing pecans, tomatoes and gigantic lemons. He loves kite making as well. Before Amateur Radio, fishing was his favorite hobby.

He likens amateur radio to fishing. Whenever an operator sends out a CQ, CQ, CQ it is like casting a line to catch a fish except in amateur radio you catch people all over the world. He has spoken to people in many countries but his most satisfaction is helping other people, whether phone-patching or in real everyday life. He



would talk to children at the Shriner's hospital in Philadelphia to ease their pain. During the last hurricane he helped a lady in New Orleans contact her son and family located in the hurricane area via the Salvation net, then to a shrimp boat in Honduras which spread the word to verify they were alive and well.

He had the pleasure of working for 127 days at the Louisiana World's Fair (K5WF)...even weekends. During the fair he was the first to accomplish giving the Novice exam and gave it to Frank Drewes in October, 1984. Frank received his call-KA5UWW in November.

Whenever George speaks about Amateur Radio he gets a special gleam in his eye and brings enthusiasm to the room with his stories. He feels that amateur radio is very rewarding and exciting. When he was asked what QSO stands out most, he answered when I spoke as far away as India and connected their relatives visiting here.

George feels that Amateur Radio really hasn't changed that much and doesn't think there is anything to be fixed. He likes making friends and finds it relaxing and educational as well.

When I interviewed him I came away knowing I had spoken with a very gentle, yet strong and colorful, patriotic character. George is happiest to be of some service to others and believes that this is what ham radio is all about.

-- Linda, W5LIN

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

A Simple No-Holes Cable Entry Panel

Don't drill holes through your walls. Try this approach instead.

My wife and I have moved quite often. At each new QTH it has been a given that, in the process of installing my station and getting the cables outside to the antennas, I don't make any irreversible modifications to the house. In exchange, I can use an approach that's not the most attractive or low-profile. The only requirement is that it keeps the bugs out. If you have a single- or double-hung window in your ham shack, you might want to consider the approach described here.

The materials needed include a length of 1 x 3 pine or other wood, a roll of the foil tape used by HVAC installers, and a roll of adhesive-backed foam insulation. These are all available at any home improvement center. You'll also need one or more two-inch coaxial barrel connectors.

I use an SGC auto-tuner with my 130-foot inverted-L. It requires 12 Volts DC. I bought a 2-conductor weatherproof trailer light connector set from an auto supply store for the 12-Volt feed to the outside. The Anderson Power Pole connectors that I use for all my station's DC wiring are not suitable for continuous outdoor use. In the photo below, you see how I convert from the Power Poles to the trailer light connector. The identical other half of the trailer light connector is attached to the DC cable going to the SGC.

Start by opening the window and measuring the inside width of the window frame. Cut the wood to this length and



verify that it's a good fit. Now you can drill the wood for the barrel connector(s). If you need to get other wires outside, you should drill the holes just large

enough to pass a single wire through. I suggest drilling them at a downward angle to the outside so that water (from rain or dew) doesn't readily "wick" into the holes.

Once all holes have been drilled and the barrel connectors and any other cables have been installed, the board can be put into position. Then you're ready to install the bug proofing. I place foil tape all the way around the perimeter on both inside and outside (shown) so it contacts both the frame and the wood. DON'T use duct tape! It's not very weather-resistant, and it leaves a messy residue of adhesive

when you remove it. The foil tape adheres well, yet comes off cleanly with only a trace of adhesive residue.

Since the window is partially open, you now have a gap between the glass in the lower sash and the frame of the upper sash (or the fixed frame of a single-hung window). Use the foam insulation to plug this gap, making sure you also plug any side gaps between the sash and the frame



track. The actual strip of installed insulation is partly visible along the upper edge of the sash. I left the remnant of the insulation roll in the picture,

resting on the sash, so you can see what the product is.

With this arrangement, air infiltration is minimal and bug infiltration is zilch. If you live in an area where it's really



cold in the winter, you may want to better insulate that upper gap. But for the temperate

climate of my upstate South Carolina QTH, I think the foam is sufficient.

I live in a gated community of retirees, so I'm not particularly worried about break-ins. If that's a concern for you, it would be an easy task to cut a length of wood to snugly fit between the top of the open sash and the top of the window frame to form a sort of "charley bar." If your window is equipped with a security sensor (such as a magnetic reed switch), and/or home security is a significant issue with you or your family, then further effort or an entirely different approach may be needed.

For a very small investment in time and money, you can replicate what I've described here. And when the time comes to sell the house and move on, it will take just a couple of minutes to remove the installation.

-- Bill Savage, K3AN

Reprinted courtesy of eham.net.

May 2006

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

Digital Messaging and the LA Digital ‘Net’

The LA Section ARES plan is currently in the final stages of revision by K5GLS (LA SEC) and will be posted soon on our section’s web site. The updated plan will include some new material written by AE5V on digital messaging. Although the final wording is subject to minor changes, the updated plan will essentially contain the following language on digital messaging:

8. Digital Messaging

8.1 The HF Digital National Traffic System is encouraged for NTS type messages without email addresses.

8.2 Winlink 2000 is encouraged for destinations with email addresses. This may include HF and VHF with Telpac, Paalink, and Airmail utilization.

8.3 Pactor is the preferred mode for point-to-point HF digital communications using Airmail. The simplex point-to-point frequencies will be 3630.0 and 7080.0 LSB Mark (3629.9 and 7079.9 center) for utilization inside the state.

8.4 ARES districts with metropolitan areas should develop a minimum of two VHF or UHF Telpac Internet gateway stations to provide Packet to Internet capability.

8.5 APRS Link is a limited capacity option for those areas with active APRS IGates and no Telpac Gateways.

8.6 Modes such as RTTY, PSK31 and others which do not have error correcting or error checking are not encouraged due to their ability to receive errors without realizing

the transmitted message has changed.

8.7. Each ARES member should utilize Airmail with Winlink 2000 for ARES training and Emergency Communications on a regular basis. This includes receiving messages for third party delivery as well as sending messages.

This past Sunday evening several digital stations using PACTOR met on 3630.0 kHz (LSB mark) at approximately 7 o’clock to exchange test messages. The participating stations deemed this to be a very worthwhile activity and, because of the importance of building up our digital capability throughout LA, we will now have a weekly HF “net” to provide some training in digital messaging. However this will not be a controlled net like LTN or LCW because there will be no net control station requesting other digital stations to “check in.”

A simple example will illustrate the basic procedure that we will follow, at least initially. If Alan WA5LQZ wishes to send a message to Benson AE5V on HF digital, Alan will store the message first in the appropriate software and then call Benson. When Alan connects to Benson’s digital station, the message will then be automatically sent. This approach is usually much quicker than if the sending station types the message in real time.

The most popular software for PACTOR stations to exchange formal messages in this “handshake” mode is Airmail, which any ham can download for free by following the links at www.winlink.org. If you have a TNC with PACTOR capability, I encourage you to download Airmail and join us on Sundays at 7 P.M. After you become familiar with Airmail’s basic features, you will probably want to learn about the digital arm of the National Traffic System (NTSD) for sending formal radiograms, along with the Winlink 2000 system (WL2K) for sending email messages via ham radio.

For Sale

Portable Em-Comm station. All you need to supply is the antenna of your choice.

Icom IC-706 HF/6m/2m

Icom PS-125 Power Supply

MFJ 949E Antenna Tuner

RigBlaster sound card interface with all cables to connect to the 706.

Dell Latitude C610 laptop (1 GHz Pentium III, 512 Mb RAM, 20 Gb hard drive, modem, wired and wireless network interface card, CD-ROM and floppy drives, leather carrying case). Laptop will also have software for the RigBlaster loaded on it.

These items sold individually on the ham classified websites sell for approximately \$1200. The complete package above is priced at \$900.

Contact Chris, W5CTV if you are interested in purchasing this package: 347-8293 or w5ctv@arrl.net.

JARC Board Of Directors 2006

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