

JEFFERSON REPORT

PUBLISHED BY THE JEFFERSON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. W5GAD

February 2010

The next meeting will be held at the JARC Clubhouse, Wally Pontiff Playground Please see w5gad.org for the latest information.

General Meeting:
February 25

Board Meeting:
March 11

Open clubhouse:
Every Thursday 7:00pm

ARES Coast Guard Net:
Tues. 9:00 P.M. on
146.86- (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 Elected

The following will serve as officers and directors for the year 2010 as elected at the January meeting. Thanks to Steve Fogg, N5VUZ for serving as the chair of the nominating committee.

President: Keith Barnes – W5KB
Vice President: Dave Kleinatland – KE5BMS
Secretary: Don Olson- WA5W
Treasurer: Mary Vernoy-WB5IOE

Board Members: 2 Year Terms:

Richard (Dick) Dannenberg W5RMX, Rafael Shabetai W5BAI, and Mike Villarubia AE5MW

Remaining on the Board for 1 year is:

Jim Davis KB5MFP, Bob McBride- AE5RN, Josh Meyer- KD5PCR

Another highlight of the meeting will be the announcement and presentation of the JARC Member of the Year award. Come out and see who our member of the year will be.

Member of the Year

The January general meeting was capped off with the awarding of the Member of the Year Award. The recipient for 2009 is Mike Villarubia, AE5MW. Congratulations to Mike and thanks for all the hard work he did for the JARC in 2009.

Dues are due

Dues for the 2010 year are now due. The base amount is \$36.00, any one choosing to donate more than that to the club may do so. Remember, your donation is tax deductible as the JARC is an IRS 501c3 charitable organization. You can bring it to the meeting, or mail it in if you won't be able to attend. A membership form is on page 7. Please fill one out and bring it with your payment. Your dues pays for the upkeep of the clubhouse and repeaters and our continuing efforts to improve the facilities.

VE Test Results

The JARC VEC recently held two VE sessions. A special session was held on January 31 at the Belle Chasse NAS after a course taught to several service members. There was also a regularly scheduled session held on February 20. Below are the results from the two sessions. Congratulations to all who passed their exams.

Glenn Franklin III, KF5ESU, Technician, Belle Chasse
Jonathan Greer, KF5ESV, Technician, New Orleans
Emile Vaccaro Jr., KF5ESW, Technician, Metairie
David White II, KF5ESX, Technician, Belle Chasse
James Branley, KF5FAI, Technician, New Orleans
Dale Jeffrey, KF5FAJ, Technician, Metairie

New Member

The following have applied for membership to the Jefferson ARC and will be voted on at the next general meeting.

Amy Harris, KF5EIE, Technician, Metairie

Mike King, W5PY SK

Ed. note: We recently lost a good friend in ham radio. Mike King, W5PY was a Louisiana Assitant Section Manager, Section Traffic Manager and long-time member of the Ozone ARC in Slidell. Anyone who has attended a Slidell Hamfest in at least the last decade has seen his smiling face. Mike always had a friendly greeting for you and a kind word to say. Up until the last issue of this newsletter, when he was his sickest, I would always get an email from him with something to say about the newsletter and our doings here in the New Orleans area. His feedback and kind words will be missed.



Many of you may have already seen what is to follow. For those that haven't, here is his obituary and a farewell message that he wrote shortly before he passed. He asked his brother Joel, KM5CA to send it out to his email correspondents.

Kind friends,

Mike passed peacefully last night. Our Mom and I were with him. He wanted me to pass the following messages along to his email distribution list.

Thank you for being my brother's friend.

Joel King, KM5CA

Dear Shipmates and Wonderful Friends,

Until now, I personally did not care for e mail. It is best for me right now and I am thankful for it. With my doctors, both local and at MD Anderson calling me daily except weekends, I need to keep my phone lines as clear as possible. For those of you who really know me, you know I am too tight to have caller ID or call waiting. Additionally, due to this cancer spreading to my brain, I am on steroids to help reduce the swelling so sleep is a premium but very difficult.

My cancer is a High Grade Sarcoma - Rhabdo type and
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is spreading rapidly. If anyone could not complain about this sickness it is me. Thanks to the Good Lord and you all, I have had a very full and wonderful life and don't feel like I have missed out on anything. You all made it possible and I always tell people that I made Navy Captain due to the Grace of Almighty God and the people who worked for and with me.

God Bless You All for Hanging in there with me.

I am at a great peace about all of this due to Our Great Lord. The many e mails, initial calls, and cards, were very encouraging to me and meant a lot to me. I deeply appreciate your love and concern and I hope none of you felt like I didn't want to talk to someone or turned someone away. You all were so very dear - I wouldn't trade it for anything.

Please don't worry about me or my condition. I am in total joy and peace about it all. I know after Hurricane Katrina I saw and worked total devastation in our community. Praise God, I was a part of it because I saw first hand how our Mighty God can put things back together in a way better than it was before. HE will do the same with this situation of mine and I am ready to step through the door. I am not trying to make myself feel better or say this for me but HE can do the same for you - anyone - the price HE paid for all of us is available for anyone. It is the theme of HIS true and mighty word from cover to cover which has survived the ages. All you have to do is ask. Don't be fooled in today's values that something can't be free anymore. God's ways are higher and above ours (Thank Goodness).

OBITUARY FOR MIKE KING

Captain (USN) Mike King died in Slidell, LA, January 27, 2010, at the age of 63. He is survived by his loving mother, Margaret King, sister, Vikki Foster, and brother Joel King – all of San Antonio, TX. He is additionally survived by his dearest friend Deborah Stevens and his Church Family at First Baptist Church here in Slidell.

Born December 7th, 1946 in Clovis, New Mexico and moved to Ballinger, Texas as an infant. He received his college degree from The University of Texas. Upon graduation, he was admitted to the U.S. Navy's Aviation Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, FL where he was commissioned as an Ensign. After receiving his wings at NAS Chase Field in Beeville, TX in the TF-9J Cougar aircraft, he was assigned to NAS Lemoore, CA for fleet aviation training. Upon completion, he was assigned as an A-7E Attack Pilot flying from the flight deck of the USS Enterprise where he accumulated 237 day and 96 night carrier arrested landings. After the Viet Nam war ended where he participated in providing air attack cover for the evacuation, Capt King flew for Braniff Airways for 2 years. He later returned to active

W5PY continued on page 6

Wire Antenna Launcher for EmComm

Over the years I have tried many methods to put a wire antenna in trees, and this is the story of my quest for the best wire antenna launcher.



I started by tying a weight on a string and throwing it with no success. I used a bow and arrow (during a hurricane) with limited success. I had to fill the hollow arrow shaft with nails to get the required mass to pull the string. I tried a slingshot with fair success, but shooting small weights is dangerous.

I then saw on the web a “spud gun” or “potato cannon” as they are called. There are a few designs that use explosive vapors as a propellant, I did not like that method because it would not give consistent launches and it was downright dangerous.

After much research and experimenting I finalized on an air cannon design that would propel tennis balls using compressed air from an onboard air supply. Before each shot my launcher is charged using compressed air from a tank or compressor.



With a portable 8 gallon tank pressurized to 100 PSI, I can get about 8 diminishing shots. I set my maximum pressure at 100 PSI, and a 60 foot shot will take about 60-70 PSI. By varying the reservoir pressure I can adjust the arc that it will fly, to best avoid unwanted branches and top the selected branch. After a couple 100+ foot shots, I knew I had something worthwhile.



When selecting materials, make sure that all the PVC is rated at least 250 PSI, schedule 40, do not use anything marked ‘DWV’, as this material will not withstand any pressure. The reservoir tank experiences the greatest pressure gradient so it is covered with canvas in layers, in case of catastrophic failure. Yes, I know Pascal’s law but, I like to be double safe. The air valve was a lawn sprinkler valve in a previous life. It was an electric pilot operated valve, but I modified it to operate with a pneumatic trigger.

I have two methods to provide a pull line. First is a fork attached to the barrel wrapped with string. This method gives you greater strength but less range due to the drag of the string, and is time consuming to reload. The second method is using a standard fishing reel, this gives maximum height and has the ability to rapidly retrieve the line, but has a tendency to break easily.

Heavier line causes more air drag and less height.

All the PVC fittings are standard, the PVC barrel had to be mail ordered to get the correct ID to fit a tennis ball, the sprinkler valve was about \$13 at the depot. All together it cost about \$60 including the fishing reel. A 12 volt automotive tire compressor is a good addition to the antenna launching kit.



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ARRL Seeks Member Support for HR 2160

To support HR 2160 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009 -- the ARRL is asking its membership to contact their members of the US House of Representatives with a request to become co-sponsors of this significant piece of legislation.

“Getting a bill successfully through Congress is a formidable task -- one that is going to require the involvement of every ARRL member,” said ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND. “Working with our Washington consulting firm Chwat & Co, we are laying a dynamic approach that will allow us to make our case most effectively. We have developed a strategy to maximize our impact when dealing with each member of Congress.”

Since the anthrax scare that followed the 9-11 attacks, all incoming mail to Congress is delayed anywhere from four to six weeks while it is screened. This means using normal US Mail is no longer an effective method of letting Congress hear your voice. While e-mail is convenient, it is not effective, due to the large volume of e-mail that each Congressional office receives.

“To ensure that ARRL members’ letters are quickly and expediently received by Congress, our strategy is to ask ARRL members send their letters directly to Chwat & Co,” said Henderson. “Chwat’s staff will sort the letters by Congressional district and hand-deliver them to the appropriate House offices, providing a direct point of contact with the Congressman and their staff. This personal contact gives us the chance to provide not only letters from constituents, but information from the ARRL on why this legislation is important.”

The ARRL has provided a sample letter for League members to personalize and send to their Congressional representative. “Personalized letters make a better impression than a standard form letter or petition,” Henderson explained. You can find the name and address for your Congressman on the ARRL Members Only Web page.

Once personalized, ARRL members should send their letter to Chwat & Co using one of three methods:

- *As a signed attachment to an e-mail
- *As a signed fax to 703-684-7594
- *As a regular letter to:

John Chwat
Chwat & Co.
625 Slaters Ln
Suite 103
Alexandria, VA 22314

If you choose to e-mail your letter, please send it as an attachment to the e-mail instead of it being the text of the e-

mail. This allows the letter to be easily printed and delivered. Should you decide to draft your own letter supporting HR 2160 instead of editing the sample, Henderson asked that you please remember a couple of things:

*Identify the bill by number and title: HR 2160 -- The Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009

*Keep the letter brief and on topic -- one page at the most

*Ask them to consider becoming a cosponsor

*Thank them for their consideration

“Simple is better when making this kind of request to a representative,” said Henderson. “They and their staff are looking to gauge interest and support for the Bill. A lengthy letter that strays off-topic can detract from the focus of asking for support for the legislation.”

Should you decide not to send your letter to Chwat & Co but directly to your Representative, it is still important that you send a copy of your correspondence to Chwat & Co. This allows them to discuss accurately with the Congressman and their staff the amount of support for the bill in each individual district. “There is strength in numbers,” Henderson added.

Besides bill sponsor Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX-18), the ARRL is fortunate to already have six additional members of Congress who have signed on as co-sponsors of HR 2160 -- Madeleine Bordallo (Guam), Brett Guthrie (KY-02), Mary Jo Kilroy (OH-15), Zoe Lofgren (CA-16), Blaine Luetkemeyer, (MO-9) and Bennie Thompson (MS-02).

“We congratulate ARRL Division Director Jim Weaver, K8JE, and his grassroots legislative action team in Kentucky for securing the support of Representative Guthrie -- the first new co-sponsor of the bill,” Henderson said. “It shows that our grassroots effort can work!”

You may be asking yourself “What should I do if my Representative has already signed on as a co-sponsor for HR 2160?” The answer is simple: Thank them for their support. If your Congressman is one of those listed as a co-sponsor, please send them a letter thanking them for their support. Use the same contact information for Chwat & Co. “It is important to convey your appreciation to your Representative when they sign on as a co-sponsor or support the bill,” Henderson explained. “That simple ‘thank you’ may help open the door the next time their help is needed.”

Once you have prepared and sent your letter supporting HR 2160, your job is not over: Feedback is an important part of the process. “What your Congressman has to say in

regards to your contact can provide the ARRL with important information as we try to push our bill forward,” Henderson noted. “This feedback can possibly help us identify potential new support for the bill or a weakness in the legislation we may need to address.”

When you receive a response from your Congressman, please forward a copy to the Regulatory Information Office at ARRL Headquarters via e-mail or hard copy to Regulatory Information, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

“HR 2160 presents the Amateur Radio Service with a

unique opportunity -- but also carries with it the important responsibility of making your voice heard,” Henderson summarized. “HR 2160 stands as the first step in trying to address the long standing problem of extending the protections afforded Amateur Radio operators under PRB-1 to deed restrictions and covenants. To be clear, passing HR 2160 is not going to achieve that goal right away. But it will help lay the ground work by assessing the impact such restrictions have on our ability to train for and respond to disasters and other emergencies.”

-- *Courtesy ARRL*

Sample letter customized for Jefferson Parish

The Honorable _____
United States House of Representatives
_____ House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear _____:

As a friend and voter in your district and as one of the nearly 700,000 licensees across the nation, I ask for your support of H.R. 2160, the “Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Enhancement Act of 2009.”

H.R. 2160 instructs the Secretary of Homeland Security to undertake a study, and report its findings to Congress within 180 days, on the uses and capabilities of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief. This study should:

- Include recommendations for enhancements in the voluntary deployment of Amateur Radio licensees in disaster and emergency communications and disaster relief efforts;
- Include recommendations for improved integration of Amateur Radio operators in planning and in furtherance of the Department of Homeland Security initiatives;
- Identify unreasonable or unnecessary impediments to enhanced Amateur Radio communications, such as the effects of private land use regulations on residential antenna installations, and make recommendations regarding such impediments;
- Include an evaluation of section 207 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (1996)); and recommend whether section 207 should be modified to prevent unreasonable private land use restrictions that impair the ability of amateurs to conduct, or prepare to conduct, emergency communications.

Amateur Radio operators across the US repeatedly demonstrate our commitment to public service and emergency communications. Amateur Radio in New Orleans continued to operate throughout the entire Katrina event. Through our work with Homeland Security activities, state and local Emergency Management offices, and with numerous private agencies, Amateur Radio operators continue to make a difference. We have a growing active community of enthusiasts in the form of the Jefferson Amateur Radio Club with newly restored facilities in Pontiff Playground. We need your support to help address the challenges facing us as we seek to improve our capabilities to serve.

Please consider becoming a cosponsor for H.R. 2160 and please support the bill as it works its way through committee and the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Calling All Rookies -- and Non-Rookies, Too!

Get On the Air for the ARRL Rookie Roundup

The ARRL Rookie Roundup is designed to help newly licensed amateurs build their operating skills on HF. It is a contest specifically for those new to Amateur Radio, similar to the ARRL Novice Roundup that ran from 1952 until 1995. The Rookie Roundup brings the fun and Elmering of the old Novice Roundup into the 21st century. Three



R o o k i e Roundups will be held each calendar year: SSB in April, RTTY in August and CW in December.

The Rookie Roundup will be scored 100 percent in real time through the www.getscores.org scoring system. There are three ways to participate: by using your favorite logging software with the real time scoring support, by downloading a simple logging program from the www.getscores.org Web site or by logging your contacts directly into a www.getscores.org Web page. No separate logs are required -- it all happens online in real time and final scores will be available online within hours of the end of the contest! More information is available on all of these options at www.getscores.org. Of course, you can get on the air and make contacts without logging them, but you won't have as much fun!

Who Can Participate?

Any ham licensed for 3 years or less qualifies as a Rookie. If you were licensed in 2008, 2009 or 2010, you can compete in the 2010 Rookie Roundup. Non-Rookies may only work Rookies, while Rookies may work everybody. A major part of the success of this contest will be non-Rookies getting on the air and working the Rookies, just as in the Novice Roundup. Just like in the Novice Roundups of years past (when Novices could work anyone and non-Novices could only work Novices), Rookies may work anyone, be they Rookie or non-Rookie; however, non-Rookies are limited to only working Rookies.

Entry Categories

Single Operator Rookie, limited to a maximum of 100 W. Spotting assistance or using call sign and frequency alerting systems is allowed, but self-spotting or asking somebody to spot you is not. All Rookies must identify themselves as a rookie. Example: "Kilo Bravo One Quebec Alfa Whiskey, Rookie." Non-Rookies only need give their call; no designation is needed.

Awards

Certificates will be available for all participants to download. The top five high scores from each US call area, Canadian province and Mexican call area will be recognized on their certificate. No national winners will be recognized.

Go to www.getscores.org for more information on how to participate. Be sure to check out the April 2010 issue of QST for complete rules and other information. The Rookie Roundup -- a fun event for all amateurs!

-- Courtesy ARRL

W5PY continued from page 2

duty and entered the Navy's C-9B program which provides cargo and passenger support. Some of his assignments here included Operations Officer of VR-59 at NAS Dallas, TX, Officer in Charge of VR-46 at NAS Atlanta, Commanding Officer of VR-62 at NAF Detroit, MI, Airwing Commander of Fleet Logistics Support Wing at NAS Dallas, TX, and Commanding Officer of the Navy Air Logistics Office in New Orleans. He always attributed his selection to Navy Captain (0-6) due to the Grace of God and his people. Additionally, he was assigned to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations Air Warfare in the Pentagon and Commander Naval Air Forces Atlantic Fleet NAS Norfolk. After retiring from the Navy, he flew B-747 Aircraft for Atlas Air as a First Officer transporting cargo internationally. He was based in Miami and mainly flew South America.

He always considered it an honor to reside here in Slidell and was active in volunteer duties. He was a volunteer for the First Baptist Church of Slidell, Red Cross, Life Songs Christian Radio, Amateur Radio, and North Shore Regional Medical Center as Amateur Radio Operator where he was very active during Hurricane Katrina.

His personal organizational memberships included the American Radio and Relay League, Ozone Amateur Radio Club in Slidell, Scottish Rite 32 degree mason at Fresno, CA, and Master Mason at Ballinger Lodge #643. He was also an Eagle Scout. Captain King's military decorations included the Legion of Merit, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Navy Commendation Medals, Air Force Commendation Medal, and Navy Achievement Medal, as well as several Unit Citation and Campaign Medals for service in Viet Nam, Grenada, and Southwest Asia.

Private Family interment will be at Port Hudson National Cemetery. No flowers please. Contributions may be made to the benevolence fund at First Baptist Church in Slidell.

March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 7a Mardi Gras Marathon	1	2 6:30p Delta DX Association Meeting 9p Coast Guard/ARES Net	3 7p Flotilla 45 Meeting	4 7p JARC Open House	5	6
7	8	9 9p Coast Guard/ARES Net	10	11 6:30p JARC Board Meeting	12 4p Acadiana Hamfest es Fais Do Do	13 8a Acadiana Hamfest
14	15 7p VE Test Session	16 9p Coast Guard/ARES Net	17	18 7p JARC Open House	19	20
21	22	23 9p Coast Guard/ARES Net	24	25 7:30p JARC Club General Membership Meeting	26	27
28	29	30 9p Coast Guard/ARES Net	31	1 7p JARC Open House	2	3

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 (\$36) _____ Family (\$18) _____ Associate (\$36) _____ Student (\$18) _____

Family membership is full membership plus \$18 for each additional up to a maximum of \$72. Attach a separate application for each family member.

Do you wish to not disclose your contact information with other members of the club? Yes ___ No ___

Signature _____ Date _____ Sponsor _____ Date _____

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

DDXA Contesters Having Success

Members of the Delta DX Association have been having success in the contests lately thanks to Ted, KN5O. He has been hosting a number of DDXA members at his QTH for contests since October, 2008. These include several section wins and a 5th place finish in the United States in the 2008 ARRL 10 meter contest. Several entries for 2009 are still awaiting final results, but more of this level of success is expected.

Congratulations to Ted and the other DDXA members who have been operating in these contests.

He recently hosted Felix, DL7FER from Germany for the ARRL DX CW contest. Below is the contest entry for W5RU.

ARRL DX Contest, CW

Call: W5RU

Operator(s): K1DW DL7FER KN5O

Station: KN5O

Class: M/S HP

QTH: Covington, LA

Operating Time (hrs): 43

Summary:

Band QSOs Mults

160: 35 25

80: 182 54

40: 603 95

20: 625 102

15: 764 94

10: 61 28

Total: 2270 398 Total Score = 2,710,380

Club: Louisiana Contest Club

Comments:

Felix, DL7FER, visited our area for the first time. He was attending a conference in New Orleans and asked to operate in the contest while he was in town. We were more than happy to oblige and host him for most of the weekend at the QTH. He now has a better appreciation for operating a DX contest from the southern part of the USA. Many thanks for all his help and insights.

As to band conditions, 15M was in great shape to our area, unlike last year. 10M offered some hope, but still dissappointing. Our quickly-installed 160M dipole at 70'

played about as well as could be expected. Unfortunately the beverages for 160M & 80M have not been operational due to recent changes. 80M was better for us this year, but we had less mults. 40M and 20M were decent. Since we had more "seat time" and the propagation was improved, it represented a tripling of our score from last year.

Thanks to all who worked us and for being there.

73,
W5RU

Felix, DL7FER
Dallas, K1DW
Ted, KN5O



Ted, KN5O, Felix, DL7FER and Dallas, K1DW shortly after finishing the ARRL DX CW contest.

JARC Board Of Directors 2010

President:	Keith	W5KB	289-1504
Vice President:	Dave	KE5BMS	812-5482
Secretary:	Don	WA5W	455-4448
Treasurer:	Mary	WB5IOE	885-8667
At Large: 1 Year #1:	Josh	KD5PCR	261-8963
	#2:	Jim	KB5MFP (985)764-1832
	#3:	Bob	AE5RN 393-1075
2 Year #1:	Rafael	W5BAI	208-0858
	#2:	Dick	W5RMX 888-2878
	#3:	Mike	AE5MW 451-5554

All phone numbers use the 504 area code unless noted.