



AADXA



(Our Temporary Logo)

AADXA NEWSLETTER January 2004

Another year is here, another set of New Years resolutions are here upon us. Some wish for a slimmer figure, money or other worldly things; Where as some wish and resolve for world peace. A wish it seems that gets further away from us each year.

I have a few new years resolutions of my ham radio life I would like to resolve.....

1 - I resolve to become more proficient at CW, which always kicks my rear at Field day time when I need it the most. ("Why, Oh Why did I forget to become better this year!" I always say)

2- Hopefully get back into HF work ,that has gone by the wayside since the last Hurricanes came and I tore everything down to keep from losing my antenna farm again.

and 3- Hopefully I will do better in this club as President than I did as VP. Some of our past problems I could have possibly handled different but hindsight is 20/20 as they say....

I don't know if I will keep all my resolves or not but hopefully at the dawn of 2005, I will be a better person than today.

73 Mike KC5OKP

Feeling lazy and not wanting to put a lot of effort into writing an article for the newsletter, I browsed through the ARRL newsletters, picked out

what I thought would interest the membership and e-mailed it to Mike, who promptly replied " yeah, it's ok, but I kinda wanted something from the heart, that's the kind of articles that others seem to be interested in and enjoy".

" *From the heart...*" yeah I can do that, I've done it many times before. " *From the heart...*" I rejected topic after topic, I just couldn't find the right one.

" *From the heart...*" was turning out to be harder than the previous topics I had written. Maybe something with a theme, Christmas,.. New Year,... parties...holiday spirit... none of these seem to be " *From the heart...*" Then I stumbled across a newspaper article covering a local young man, one who my wife and I baby-sat as he grew up, carpooled to football games with and watched graduate from high school

We all knew a Leon while growing up, the type in school who never paid much attention to teachers and rules. He always seemed to be in trouble for some reason or other. Leon was a free will, came, and went as he wanted and was not concerned about much except where his next exciting adventure would come from. Despite Leon's mothers and father's urging and discipline it seemed Leon was destined for trouble.

Then an amazing thing happened to Leon in his senior year of high school,.... he enlisted in the military. Shortly after basic training Leon was assigned to the 101st airborne. It was at Ft. Campell the Leon furthered his training in air assault and became a regular soldier. It was here that Leon met his wife Rosemary who is attached to the 101st Echo battalion as a health care specialist.

The unthinkable then happened, both were stationed overseas, Leon to Iraq, Rosemary to Kuwait. Little is said about conditions there, only that in the beginning there was little communications, no electricity, supplies, television, and no plumbing.

Leon is now stationed in Mosul, doing guard duty. Rosemary was stationed outside Mosul in a field hospital treating Iraqi children who sustain injuries from unexploded ordinance. Both of these young adults have faced the hardest times they will encounter in their lives.

Rosemary's deployment to Iraq is over and she has now returned to the states, Leon however is not due to return until March of 2004.

After reading this you may ask, What has this to do with Amateur radio? I'd have to answer nothing... my point for this article is this... there are many young adults serving our country overseas in some of the most hostile lands ever. Many of them have been deployed there from the beginning, some have paid the ultimate price for freedom, as the new year approaches please keep these young men and women in your thoughts and prayers and always " *From the heart...*"

Merry Christmas from Mark KD5NOY and family

Elections

The AADXA held it's 2004 election of officers at the December 5th meeting with the following being elected.

President - Mike KC5OKP
Vice President - Pauline KD5NOX
Secretary/Treasurer - Ronnie KD5GAG
Newsletter Editor - Mike KC5OKP
Newsletter Co-Editor - Mark KD5NOY

This is a first for the club in that Guy W5ZIM, Is not a elected officer since the beginning of the club in 1997 (He still is the radio officer of the club, in which he was appointed to in 2001). Guy stated he wished more time for other pursuits he is currently involved in. We Wish him the best of luck!

We also thank Pauline for stepping forward at the last moment and accepting the nomination and the election. She had been nominated in the past for VP but finally took the plunge this year.

We also like to thank those returning, including Mike who moves up to the President position after 3 years at VP and returns for his 4th year as editor, Ronnie who takes the position for the 4th time also, and Mark who marks (no pun intended) his 3rd year as Newsletter co-editor.

Meeting site problems

The AADXA has finally found a permanent meeting site at Cal-Dive in Morgan City on Youngs Rd. courtesy of Sonny KC5MSK who came thru at the October meeting with the solution to a problem we have had for half of 2003.

The meeting site however, has one requirement. You must check in at the front Guard Shack before continuing on to the meeting site. This does make a hardship for our members and visitors but is a requirement for our use of the building.

We would like to thank again Mr. Sonny for the help in finding our new site and publicly thank Phillip KC5WFV and MCVFD who helped for 2 months with a meeting site at the Morgan City Volunteer Fire Station.

Field Day 2003 and plans for 2004

We had another exciting year at Field Day with the club coming in 548th out of 2084 total, 3 out of 27 in our category and 5th out of 15th in the state with 2880 points and 572 Qsos Officially. Thanks to everyone for making 2003 a great year!

Now we head into planning 2004's Field day planned for June 26th and 27th. We will possibly be looking for a site as we do not know if we will be able to use the CD building again this year. We have been offered the Fire stations in Baldwin and Belle River again as in previous years.

So make your plans now for a great time in June!!!

Dues for 2004 in by April 2nd

AADXA dues for 2004 are now due in to Ronnie. Even though we collect through out the year, we set a deadline of the 1st meeting in April as a deadline to plan for the kind of activities we can do with the money on hand and that was collected for the year and also to update our active membership list.

We accept check, and Money order now at either the meeting or at our P.O. Box address listed below. Please makes them payable to "Atchafalaya Amateur DX Association Inc." The legal name of the club or we accept cash at the meeting site also for those who wish to pay in person.

Meeting Dates

Here are the official meeting dates for AADXA for 2004, if this causes any unforeseen problems, we will notify the membership ahead of time. Please note that the July meeting has been postponed till the 9th due to the 2nd being July 4th weekend (and people will try to head out for a long weekend then)

The dates are January 9th, February 6th, March 5th, April 2nd, May 7th, June 4th, July 9th, August 6th, September 3rd, October 1st, November 5th, and December 3rd.

Club Logo

It's another year and come January 31st, the club will have had no logo for 1 year. Debate has occasionally came up at the meetings on how the new logo should be. It has been decided that we will try a minimum logo style this time and we are looking for new input onto a future logo. At the December meeting, a logo such as a key on one end, with a mic (such as the Astatic D-104) on the other end with possibly the river or the club's call in code in the middle and the clubs name in the middle or along the edge.

If you have an idea along those lines for the club, send it to the club at wa5mc@qsl.net

Notes From The Past President

Dear Members and Friends,

As Mike stated earlier, I decided to step down this year as an active officer of the club. I have decided to enter into Graduate School for this Spring and wanted to be able to offer my full attention to school. I know that the new officers for this year will do us all a fine job. I appreciate all those who have supported me in the past and present.

I will be happy to continue in minor active roles in the club. For example, I will still be maintaining the Contact VE status for our testing sessions in which we have had such great success over the past couple of years and is truly helping us make a name for ourselves. Also, as Mike mentioned, I will still remain the Radio Officer and the webmaster for the club.

Again, I thank you all and hope that I served you in the best possible way that I could and hope to serve again soon.

73's

Guy W5ZIM

New Emergency Net on HF

I received this email from Bob Dusse KB5UOO of Houma who wanted to pass on this new CW emergency network on HF.

National Radio Emergency Network (NREN) is designed to provide a 24-hour emergency communications capability for fixed, portable, or mobile stations. In particular, NREN is designed to facilitate quick and efficient message delivery at times when scheduled nets are not in session or when traffic must quickly flow outside the service area of a scheduled net, such as during an emergency operation.

The purpose of NREN is to provide quick message delivery and origination links between High Frequency equipped radio operators and such resources as the Internet, public switched telephone network, and related systems. NREN facilities may also be utilized to establish point-to-point circuits between NTS networks operating at the Section level when delays may not be tolerated.

Agencies supported by NREN may include Federal, State, and local emergency management agencies, SATERN organizations, local Amateur

Radio Emergency Service (ARES)/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) programs, as well as individual radio amateurs.

The Frequencies will be 40 Meters 7068 KHz and 30 Meters 10122 KHz. For more information: <http://68.43.101.30:81/nren/>

Testing

No testing has happened for the past few months due to lack of testees and no real meeting site to call home. December had a testee but a lack of VEs stopped that from happening.

2004 Hopefully will be better to us and we will continue testing at 6:30pm the day of the meeting. We ask that however you now pre-register to test with us due to the requirements of Cal-Dive security. Testing as of press time will still be \$12 for 2004 but please check during preregister for any changes.

Preregister with either Ronnie KD5GAG at (985)518-3945 or email Guy at wa5mc@qsl.net

The Question Pool Committee (QPC) of the National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators has released a revised and expanded Amateur Radio General class (Element 3) question pool into the public domain. The new question pool becomes effective July 1, 2004, and must be used to generate all General written examinations administered on or after that date.

The pool has been expanded to 432 questions, The largest increase in questions this time around was in Operating Procedures and Amateur Radio Practices subelements, The General class question pool does not contain any diagrams or symbols.

The new Element 3 question pool is available on the ARRL Amateur Exam. Question Pools Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/pools.html>> in Adobe PDF and ASCII text format.

Upcoming Events in the Area

Merry Christmas, Happy New Years and Happy Holidays end our 2003 so these are the coming events in the area for 2004 to look forward to:

- January 17 - Hammond hamfest (talk in 147.000-) <http://www.selarc.org>
- February 6-7 Jackson,MS. hamfest <http://www.jxnarc.org/>
- February 28 Orange hamfest Email: wa5lft@pnx.com
- March 12-14 Rayne Hamfest <http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/index.htm>

Repeaters

The 6 meter repeater is currently up and operating at Huey N5DVI's home in Amelia. the output is 52.450 with an input of 51.450. For signal reports or more information, contact Huey at n5dvi@peoplepc.com

Where To Write

If you would like to submit an article or reply to anything in this newsletter for printing, send email to either the editor directly at kc5okp@hotmail.com, our co-editor at kd5noy@qsl.net or by snail mail to:

AADXA Newsletter

P.O.Box 337

Amelia, Louisiana 70340-0337

NOTE: We do have the right to edit for size and/or content and ask that you leave your name, callsign, and a way to get in touch with you for any possible questions or clarifications.

73 de wa5mc newsletter Happy Holidays and Merry Christmas ...ar...sk

Mike Robichaux KC5OKP Mark Robinson KD5NOY