



## **AADXA NEWSLETTER JULY 2002**

Recently I was approached by a few concerned hams who tried to renew their licenses as their 10 year period has come up. In the old days, one form to the FCC and it was over and done. NOT NOW however.

Our Federal Government in their infinite wisdom has decided to issue a FRN number that refers all licenses and callsigns to a number instead of the former callsign only routine. Only problem is, is that most of the ham population has not heard of this change and only now, when they renew, do they find out about it and find out they need to be issued a number.

Those who have tested, changed addresses, or went vanity since 2000 have been issued this number. When you check the <http://www.qrz.com> website for your call they will refer the number under details.

There are ways around it however, One way is if you are willing to pay someone else the privilege of filing the paperwork for you. But, unless you are willing to dig through the government red tape, Our Licenses are not free in the renewal since anymore.

And as a side note, we do have the FCC Form 605 at all of our VE testing locations if you are willing to file by paper and not the new way via the FCC website. If you do have questions on this, please feel free to write.  
Mike KC5OKP

## **Notes From The President**

Dear Members and Friends,

Here we are now at the midpoint of year 2002 with a lot of things happening here lately in the club. Now comes the time where we all slow down a bit and try and catch our breaths a bit.

Field Day has already come and gone this year and I'd like to personally thank each and every person who helped set up, operate, take down, or even just stopped by to visit. It was a real honor to be amongst those who continue to support what we, the club, have done and are trying to do. As for the results this year, it was a rough year this year. Conditions were against us but we fared well with the second best showing in club history. We made a total of 1005 contacts scoring 3846 points. Once again, my thanks to all that were there.

This year's Field Day was also the first appearance, in what I hope will become a tradition, of our Field Day Club T-Shirts. I wish I could report that it went off without a hitch, but frankly, I can't. Anyway, although some heat was caused over the T-Shirts, it went much better than I actually had hoped. Our first order this year topped at 28 shirts and for those that missed out, the t-shirt pics are at the website and hope those that missed out this year won't miss out next year.

And finally, I'm sorry to announce that there has been some tensions between the club and the original designer of the club logo as to uses of the logo. Hopefully we can work things out....

As always, hope to see you all at the meetings...

Guy W5ZIM

### **New Members**

We would like to welcome 2 new members to our club. Darwin Grabert KC5PBN and Slyvia Grabert KD5KWQ both of Des Allemands joined the club at Field Day after seeing the club in action as guests taking their Amateur exams at our meetings and at Field Day. We would like to welcome both aboard who also plan on volunteering with the club in the future.

### **Meeting Moments**

There has been a lot of action lately at the meetings of the AADXA. In April, we proposed raising dues to \$15/year and doing away with free membership to help in paying the costs of running the club. After tabling the motion until the June meeting, It was finally decided that the dues will stay at the current \$12/year level and only free membership based upon age after June 7, 2002 will be done away with. Another rule we have instated is those who do have free membership will be placed under a rule where they are required to attend 1 club sponsored function within a 24 month period with this deadline starting June 7th also. This was done as we have a few free

members who do not actively participate in this club and this requirement is a way to bring them back in again.

## **T-Shirts**

In a move to help bring spirit back to the club, Guy W5ZIM, brought up at a meeting in January an idea of having t-shirts done for Field Day and to have those who wanted one pay for the shirts themselves. The club membership voted at this meeting to have the club funds help pay for the set-up costs but have members pay for the shirts themselves. We have 28 shirts that were ordered and used at Field Day using the club logo on front and I survived Field Day 2002 with the ARRL logo on the back as pictured here. Thanks everyone who ordered for getting a shirt to help spread our cheer all around.

## **The Club Logo In Hot Water**

While in the process of picking the logos for the shirts to be used on the front, Joel Ohmer KC5RFO raised concerns over 2 of the logo choices as they did not match his original logo he did in 1998.

His concerns were that the t-shirt printer in Baton Rouge had changed the original artwork he had done and it wasn't true to his original idea for the logo, and that according to him, when he gave the club the logo in 1998, he asked to be the person who would do any redrawing of the logo.

The club as a good faith gesture, allowed him to redesign the logo to our needs but he was unable to meet our requirements at the time. After working a agreement out with the Screen printer, he was willing to do the club logo as per one of Joel's drawings if the club was willing to let our shirts be a test run of some new processes he had recently purchased. He did not charge for the extra colors and fades that Joel originally wanted included on the shirts however keeping the prices down to about \$9/shirt. The club is currently deciding if we will get t-shirts again next year.

## **Testing**

We are now testing at 6:30 pm at the Courtroom meeting site using the ARRL testing material. We have two books left for those who wish to become VE's as we are very short handed in this category and that leaves us with the mad rush to fill the 3rd VE spot. We currently have two who are applying but more are needed to help as our VE's do sometimes miss meetings.

With that said, These are the people we would like to congratulate on their passings:

May 2002

- Tim Chapman KK5VL of Schriever who finally got his Extra
- Huey Ohmer N5DVI of Amelia who also got his Extra on the same night
- Sylvia Grabert KD5KWQ of Des Allemands who got her code and General and with Tim's Extra book, passed Extra 2 weeks later in Slidell
- Darwin Grabert KC5PBN also of Des Allemands who passed General written.

June 7, 2002

- Darwin Grabert KC5PBN tested and passed 5wpm for his General

June 22, 2002

- Darwin Grabert KC5PBN tested and is now Extra class!

Thanks to everyone who tested and hope to see you test or volunteer soon!

## Field Day

story by Mark Robinson KD5NOY

Another field day has come to pass, and while Murphy did make an appearance, things were not as bad as they seemed. Everything from high noise levels, lack of available power supplies, de-tuned antennas, faulty keyers, and the lack of contacts were encountered. In retrospect all these problems were minor, when you consider what could have happened.

Members and a few non-members turned out in mass to assist in the assembly of antennas, erecting of towers, placement of stations, stringing feed lines, and preparing for field day.... We would like to say thanks to all. A big thank you to Huey **N5DVI** for the use of your climbing ability... without which someone else would have had to climb.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU to Newton **N5BOD** for providing the resources to make field day possible again this year.

As in any major event, not all things turned out bad however, as a few **FIRSTS** were accomplished this year.... We had the now popular **AADXA** Field day 2002 T-shirt, which are sure to be a collectors item in years to come. Ed **NA5G** and Charles **KT5W** having something less than the *perfect* station (not to worry, I have inside information an antenna upgrade is being planned... 7 elements!) and still kicking butt doing it

We had Pauline **KD5NOX** making her first HF contacts, and she has many plans and stories for Field Days to come...

To sum it all up...

Did we score as many points as we would have liked? ... Probably not

Did we make as many contacts as we would have liked? ... Definitely not  
Was field day a success? Need you ask?  
Again thanks to all who helped and participated



Field day 2002 Photo featuring the I survived Field Day shirt

Back (L-R)- Hali (Daughter of Ron & Pauline KD5NOX), Ed NA5G, Mark KD5NOY, Newton N5BOD

Second Row -Danielle (Noel KB5GON's daughter), Pauline KD5NOX

Third Row- Paul KM5GD

Last Row- Mike KC5OKP, Dillian (Noel's son), Guy W5ZIM

Other operators not present include- Ronnie KD5GAG, Charlie KT5W, Woody NA5H, Larry N5KHS, Huey N5DVI, Heath (Huey's son), Noel KB5GON, and Thomas AB5DK.

We also had surprise visits from Craig NT5K, Calvin KB5GZU, Darwin KC5PBN, and Sylvia KD5KWQ

### Story by Mike Robichaux KC5OKP

For those who like the nuts and bolts of Field Day, we made 1005 contacts on the bands from 80-6 meters for a total of 3846 estimated points so far and had guest visits from Woody NA5H (formerly of the Morgan City area) and Larry N5KHS both of Livingston parish who came and guest operated with us (We would like to apologize to both of them for the unorganization we had Saturday afternoon). We also have some success with the GOTA station giving 4 people either their first HF experience or their first contact in ages on the bands. In appreciation to Mr. Newton Aucoin N5BOD for letting us use the CD building for Field Day, and at a moment's notice some months when our normal meeting place was unavailable, We gave Mr. Newton a club Field Day shirt at the end of activities on Sunday as a thank you for a job well done. We would like to say thanks to everyone once again.

## **Repeaters**

We are in possible talks with a ham based REACT group (the cb ch.9 people) about helping us in getting a repeater system to use as well as possibly going with Tim and Huey to put up a repeater using their own parts.

The 6 meter status is unknown other than it is back off the air and our other member owned repeaters 146.745- ,146.910- ,147.120+ ,and 444.625+ repeaters are operating properly.

For general information, the 147.330+ repeater of the Thibodaux ham club is now officially gone now as they have returned the channel back to the coordinating committee LCARC.

## **Quotes From Field Day**

Back by popular demand....ok, so one person said it made great bathroom reading,right next to the sears catalog.... So here are quotes from Field Day in no particular order and with only 0% accuracy:-).....

- "I take it..This button must be the woah nelly button?" - Huey N5DVI
- "Nah, I think it's actually the holy sheep s..t and god almighty one..." - Thomas AB5DK
- "Ok now, what side of the mic am I supposed to talk into again??"- Pauline KD5NOX
- "I love windows... surf the net,play solitaire, and log contacts all at the same time" -Mike KC5OKP
- "Damn,finally got to use my callsign on HF... Man,we need field day more often.." Guy-W5ZIM
- "Mr.Paul..please cut the coax!" Group calling for Paul to redo the famous Field day incident for a picture in QST
- "Look at that bad set of ra....ur uh radios..." Ronnie KD5GAG caught surfing the web at field day AGAIN!
- " Hey..where's the beer..and the babes?" Noel KB5GON
- "Life begins at 30wpm" Note on Ed NA5G and Charlie KT5W's table

## **Great Websites To Check**

If you are looking on the internet for great places to check out after you have visited the clubs site at <http://www.qsl.net/wa5mc> too many times try these few....

- [www.qsl.net/w5ggw/jpoleant.html](http://www.qsl.net/w5ggw/jpoleant.html) - great .exe program to download for Jpole making giving the correct lengths to cut your pipes to for the chosen frequency

- [www.mods.dk](http://www.mods.dk) - Our german friends have a site for those who can't leave the radio factory too long.
- [http://www.globalserve.net/~hepburnw/tropo\\_car.html](http://www.globalserve.net/~hepburnw/tropo_car.html) - Forecast your next VHF tropo duct with this neat website.
- <http://www.cebik.com/radio.html> - W4RNL's website listing facts on things ham radio and antenna related
- <http://www.ac6v.com/> - Anything radio related links especially DX

### **Where To Write**

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

AADXA Newsletter

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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...ar...sk**

Mike Robichaux KC5OKP Mark Robinson KD5NOY