



AADXA NEWSLETTER APRIL 2002

When I was sitting down to think of the layout of the newsletter recently, Mark sent me an announcement of the hamfest in Rayne he wanted me to publish in one of the bulletins. The problem was, what he wrote was so good, I decided to give him the editor's opinion chair this month so all of you have been spared my musings this time and will have to wait for my mindless editorials in the next issue :-)

73 Mike

During the last few meetings, the topics of "HAMFESTS" have come up.... "are there any scheduled this month, where are they, are you going?" are many of the comments heard. I once asked what is the great attraction of a Hamfest..... It's only a lot of men and women trying to sell jun..... uummmm invaluable items that may be used to restore an old boatanchor or build that ideal antenna, or to repair a friend's radio. Any one who has been a ham long enough already has a room full of items that will never be used, so why purchase more ?

If you stop and think about it long enough, you realize it's more than that. It's a reunion of old friends made on the radio many years ago and the opportunity to make new friends. People that you may only get to see once a year, but qso with every day, the hamfest is only an excuse to get together and renew these friendships and if by some miracle of fate one happens to find a piece of equipment he/she can use on a project or find someone that is interested in some of your equipment only increases the enjoyment of the day.

Also ever stop and take notice during the next ham fest that you attend, of the names of the participants, there are not ordinary names like Bill, Jim, or Richard..... these names are unique only to the ham community, What you hear in an introduction usually sounds strange to a first timer..... Hi I'm

Mike KC5OKP or I'm Mark KD5NOY or Paul "king mallard 5 grey ducks". There are very few name tags with actual names on them, only letters and numbers in odd configurations to a first timer such as WA5MC or AAR6IJ (which is a common Mars callsign by the way.)

The language is also very different from what one would expect to hear at any convention or meeting, where there is talk of QSO's with so much QRNancy or QRMary and QSL's from everywhere in the world . Sometimes I wonder how so many communicate using so many aconyms in such a short time. Maybe it's just like the 11 meter cbers with their 10-36's and 10-4's, I am just in a learning period I suppose. Many new friends and acquaintances have been made with the simple sentence " KC5OKP this is KD5NOY your signal here is 59, QSL" ?

By and large "Hams are a unique bred of people, always willing help where they can and give advice to us new "Hams" sometimes when asked, other times well that's a topic for another time.....

73 Mark

Notes From The President

The President, due to his studies, did not have any comments to say this newsletter.

Dues

Our deadline for dues will pass April 1st, 2002 and those who haven't payed in 2001 or this year will lose the right to vote and say the things to decide the direction of the club. Dues are \$12/year per person under 60 years of age with Family members and those over 60 belonging for free and it is even easier for members to renew more than ever before with a club checking account to deposit dues in and which makes keeping track of club dues easier for all members. As well as a P.O.Box, so now you have the ability to mail in your renewal payable to Atchafalaya Amateur DX Association Inc. without having to show up at a meeting. We have a lot of members who haven't payed so please do not be in that number...RENEW!!!

Testing

Testing is held at 6:30pm on the First Friday of the month and we give all tests from No-code Tech to Extra. We will also be holding a special test session during Field day for those who do not have the time to test at our normal meetings . We are asking those of you wishing to test please contact

Guy by email instead of by telephone as he is no longer residing in Morgan City due to his school commitments. We do however still gladly accept walk-ins also. For more info please contact Guy at the club P.O. Box or w5zim@arrl.net .

The following are persons we would like to congratulate on passing their ham tests:

Leroy Charpentier KD5RUZ from Baldwin, LA, who passed his no-code Technician license

With our members starting to come from all over the area not just around St. Mary Parish, We have included here one of the upcoming test sessions from a sister club.

For those closer to New Orleans, VE testing sponsored by the Jefferson Amateur Radio Club will be on March 24, May 19, July 14, September 15 and November 10. Tests are on Sundays at 9am at the JARC club house in the Metairie Playground at 1521 Palm Street in Metairie.

Meetings

The AADXA meets on the first Friday of every month at 7pm at the Morgan City courtroom at the corner of Business US 90 (La182) and Myrtle St. in Morgan City. The next four scheduled meetings are April 5th, May 3rd, June 7th, and July 5th. Please note the meeting in July is subject to change.

Hamfests

The Baton Rouge hamfest normally scheduled in May has been postponed by the Baton Rouge ARC until November 1st and 2nd in hopes of bringing up attendance figures as most hams were waiting for Dayton. Scheduled location will be again in Baker and for more information contact : Herb Ramey, W5LSU PO Box 68 Greenwell Springs, LA 70739 Phone: 225-654-6087 or email him at w5lsu@att.net or on the web at <http://www.brarc.org>

The Lake Charles Swampfest hamfest has also moved dates to September 7th with the location still being the Habibi temple. Contact the SWLARC club at P.O. Box 7244 Lake Charles, La. 70606 FMI

The Slidell hamfest will be on July 20th at the Slidell City auditorium with contact information at w5sla@arrl.net or OARC P.O. Box 553 Slidell, La. 70459

A discontinued hamfest has been restarted with a scheduled date of October 19th. The Central La.ARC will hold their hamfest at the Main street Community Center in Pineville on that date. For more information contact Julius Saucier W5CJN at his Email: w5cjn@aol.com.

Frequencies,They were a changing

The frequency you call your home repeater may have recently changed. The LCARC which is the repeater coordinator for Louisiana had decided to go to a 20khz split between repeaters on 2 meters (144-148 mhz) instead of the normal 15khz. (Instead of finding a repeater at .015-.030-.045, you would have found them at .020-.040- .060). Local repeaters that were affected had until roughly Christmas to change to their new assigned frequency.This all changed however on March 9th at the LCARC meeting at the Rayne hamfest. With a majority vote, the idea of changing frequencies was shot down with those who had moved having the choice of staying or moving back to their original frequency.

Those that have already made the move and are said to stay include New Iberia to 146.680- (tone 103.5) from 146.670, 147.040+ (tone 103.5)in Lafayette from 147.030, 146.860- from 146.850- (tone 114.8)in New Orleans. and 147.140+ from 147.150+(tone 103.5) in Opelousas.

Club Events

At this time,The newsletter staff would like to print a retraction to some events that we hinted about in a bulletin sent to the email members about the Mr.Charlie . As of presstime NO one has spoke to the people in charge of the MR.Charlie about the AADXA return to the museum.Hopefully this will be taken care of soon. For those new to this club, The Mr.Charlie was an unofficial "club"house for the AADXA where we operated many ham events before being asked to leave due to another tenant taking charge of the Charlie in 1999.

Field Day is coming up soon, June 22-23 with the St.Mary OEC as the hopeful location again this year(as it has been the last two) with 3 HF stations and a 6 meter going again as well as a new operating category that has been established this year taking the place of the former novice/technician station that we are participating in. The GOTA (Get on the air) station is to be operated by Novice, Technicians or generally inactive hams under their existing operating privileges, or under the direction of a Control Operator with appropriate privileges. Non-licensed persons will also

be allowed to participate under the direct supervision of an appropriate control operator.

Weird News

For the first time in the history of the Dayton Hamvention, a couple will exchange wedding vows at the show. Mark Elliot, N8WZW, and Cyndi Krieger and will be married at Hamvention Saturday, May 18, at 3 PM in Forum Room 3. Licensed in 1993, Elliot is a member of OH-KY-IN Club and the Over 40 Club. Now a Technician, he's studying to upgrade to General. He and Krieger met through a mutual friend, and Elliot introduced her to Amateur Radio by taking her to a hamfest. Krieger now is studying for her license and may take the exam before Hamvention weekend.

Why get married at Hamvention? The couple says they couldn't think of a better place to share their love for Amateur Radio--and each other--than by getting married at the world's largest Amateur Radio gathering. Dayton Hamvention is May 17-19. For additional details, visit the Dayton Hamvention

Web site <<http://www.hamvention.org>>. (Couples have been married in walmarts, mcdonalds, and sewers, why not a hamfest where guests can sign in the guest book by callsign instead? ...ed) <taken from the ARRL Letter dated March 15, 2002>

----- "Go Ahead punk.... make my 2 way"- It has been learned that in the 20th anniversary edition of ET, The police officer's guns have been digitally removed with 2 way h/t's and other assorted items taking their place in the officer's hands. (Maybe they wanted to make it easier for ET to phone home?:-) ed)<Taken from assorted articles in the press>

Where To Write

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

AADXA

P.O.Box 337

Amelia, La. 70340-0337

Attn: newsletter department

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.

Good Night, Good Night wherever you are

Michael Robichaux KC5OKP Mark Robinson KD5NOY