



Visit the club website at [www.qsl.net/wa5mc](http://www.qsl.net/wa5mc)

### **AADXA NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2002**

Controversy brings change as well as change bringing on controversy. The club in the past few months has had to deal with problems unforeseen when we formed a few years ago. Some of the changes that we have made we thought the club as a whole would enjoy or goals the original club members had set out as long term goals when we formed, have been attacked recently. In the past few months I have learned more than I ever thought I would about public relations, the t-shirt business, and legal rights. I hope for the sake of the club, our 5 year jitters are behind us. As Mark will mention, we have a lot of activities coming up in 2003 or at least, we are looking to try to bring to the club, to return the fun spirit a few have announced we have lost in the past few years or so. If you have an idea please bring it to a meeting or as a letter to the editor, cause sometimes we wonder if anyone reads this at all anymore or willing to care about our future.....

73 Mike KC5OKP

By the time you receive this newsletter, it will be October ( with any luck! ), the last of a quarterly issued newsletter for 2002.

While this year seems to have faded into memory, there are a few items for the membership to look forward to before the end of the year. The very popular election of club officers is looming over the horizon in December with nominations starting in November... So will the present officers remain or will they be exiled like on Survivor and replaced with fresh new blood? Only the membership decides their fate!! It's always an exciting way of ending the year.

Ladies and Gentlemen, LET THE GAMES BEGIN !!

In October, There is a competition for the straight key champion. All interested contestants should practice, practice, practice for there is fierce competition for this coveted title. ( I hear 12 - 15 correct wpm is not impossible )

Also in October, the DX category is again open this year, all dx contacts for the 2002 year will be considered, although there are some members who think that Paul KM5GD will walk away again this year untouched. All it takes is proof of a contact of the current year. (and with what Paul had last year..you will need lots of them! )

And If that ain't enough.... Ham of the Year....even though we only had it one year so far... voting is in October..so pick a helpful ham and sponsor them today!

And last but not least ... The Atchafalaya DX Association's X-mas/New Year/whenever?!? party will hopefully be in December. May we have a larger turn out than previous years.

I bring all these things to mind only because of available time, seems this year is speeding by without much concern for plans that we may make. I am sure that Mike KC5OKP will issue special newsletters as some of these events approach. Also, Will you please check the rest of the newsletter for other events as we will hopefully have an exciting 2003.

Mark KD5NOY

### **Notes From The President**

As in Life, there are obstacles to be overcome and in some cases, avoided. At the beginning of Summer 2002, as an organization, we crashed right in to one. The contrevoisey's plaguing the membership, both former and present, I hope is finally behind us all. It's my true hope that we can all get back to doing what we do best, doing some "fun stuff." Well, at least plan it anyway.

I'm really excited about the Island Activation idea of Mark KD5NOY. A great way for us all to get together for an afternoon, besides Field Day, and enjoy what we all have fought for in the past six years. Also, this comes with two great little bonuses:

- (i) The club gets its name and callsign recorded for the activation
- (ii) We don't have to stay up all night to do it which is a definite plus!

I highly encourage all members to come out to the October meeting for the votes for Ham of the Year, Straight Key Contest, and the DX'er of the Year (Although folks, I can pretty much guarantee that Paul KM5GD will walk away with DX'er again however). But still, get in your QSL cards and give him a run for his money.

Just a friendly reminder once again to come voice your opinions at the upcoming nominations and elections for November and December. If you, for some reason are not happy with the direction of the club, by all means come nominate a new or some new officers and help make this an

organization that you can be happy with and proud of. Remember, the officers work for you!

With this, I'll now close the President's Notes for year 2002 and I would just like to say to all, it's been a pleasure and I was proud to serve each and every one of you!

Guy W5ZIM

### **Meeting Moments**

It was decided at the August meeting and officially adopted in September that any NEW works, rather it be art work, this newsletter, etc. will become sole property of the club after September 5th as to not have the problems we had previously this summer again.

Also at the September meeting, It was decided that a amendment would go into the constitution, that the president would vote only during tie-breakers and not with everyone as he was doing. This was done because we previously had no way of breaking tie-votes. We decided to go with this route as members who are in other civic clubs had informed us this was the way it tie votes were broken.

Mark KD5NOY, brought up a event for the club to investigate. The membership has always looked for events other than Field Day to participate in, mostly without sucess. There has come to our attention of an event that may be held at the clubs convenience, has little cost, and requires just some effort and a little time. The event involves the making of contacts from the US ISLANDS located in Louisiana. While many of the recognized island have been activated and listed, few have not. In our area alone there are as many as 3 un-activated island, that with a little time and effort can display the clubs call as the activating agency. I have included the web address, as it can explain the proceess better than we just did.

<http://www.eng.mu.edu/~usi/>.

### **Meeting and VE testing Dates**

Upcoming meeting and testing dates are October 4th, November 1st, December 6th, and January 3rd, 2003 with testing at 6:30pm and the meeting afterwards at roughly 7pm.

### **The Club Logo controversy-The conclusion**

As many of you have heard, there was a slight controversy over the alterations to the logo for the Field Day 2002 t-shirts between the club and Joel KC5RFO, the logo designer. After a long phone discussion between Joel KC5RFO and Guy W5ZIM several things had become clear.

- Joel did not know about the t-shirts until late May whereas the club had thought he had known for several months.
- The logo was a donation to the club. The club has a right to use it as it sees fit, he just asks to be the one to alter the logo design.
- The messages that were being received by the club about Joel's feelings and or thoughts were not his own. Someone was speaking for Joel without his knowledge or permission.

A vote was initially supposed to take place for the August 2002 meeting. However, being that the usual meeting attendance was present; a motion was made by Guy W5ZIM to open up this vote to all members, past and present, to get as accurate a sampling of opinions on this issue as possible. A form was placed on the club website for all members to voice their opinions and the final vote was postponed until September in order to give all members a chance to respond.

Overall, there was a sizable turnout of voting for this issue. Eight emails were received and ten members were present at the September meeting. Ultimately, it was decided to keep the present logo as is with 17 for and 1 opposed. However, it was discussed and decided by a majority that the club has a right to choose whom it sees fit for the altering of the logo.

Lastly, a motion was made by Noel KB5GON to adopt a "secondary" logo to use for things like shirts, etc. if ever there comes about another controversy centered around the altering or reproduction stage of the current logo. The current logo would remain as the "official" logo and on the website but the "secondary" logo would be used for special events like Field Day t-shirts etc. The motion was passed unanimously. Suggestions and ideas are now being taken for the "secondary" logo design.

## **Testing**

We are now testing at 6:30 pm at the Courtroom meeting site using the ARRL testing material. Here are the people we would like to congratulate on their passing the No code amateur test:

### **July 2002**

- Laurent Partimbene KD5TGY of Youngsville

### **August 2002**

- Charles Buettner KD5TMT of Metairie
- Harry Reineke KD5TMU of New Orleans
- Bud Reynolds KD5TMV of Morgan City

For those of you closer to Lafayette, Acadiana ARA is holding VE testing on the first thursday of the month using the ARRL test materials. For More information contact Al Oubre K5DPG at (337)367-3901

## **Repeaters**

The 146.745,146.910,147.120,and 444.625 have been repoted as operating normally. We are still in the hunt for tower space and a possible repeater as we havent been able to meet with Southeast Louisiana REACT as of press time.

## **KD5NOY's Reflections**

To try to get something going..I have included a letter Mark KD5NOY originally wanted as his editorial this month but I have included it here instead. It is my goal to show some of the things that are farmiliar to most of us through the eyes of a new ham. Hope you enjoy!

Recently I was scanning 17 meters ,Near 18.148 I encountered what I have come to learn as splatter, many stations on a nearby frequency all trying for the same contact. As I dialed up the band, I ran into a pileup beyond belief, operators from all parts on one freq. and faintly in the background I can hear " Sierra Pacific 7..the rest lost in the pileup. According to my list " Sierra Papa " is the prefix of Poland. What a break, if I can make this contact it will be the first one from Poland for me. As I listened ,I realized that there was no way that I would get through the pileup with only 100 watts, but it was worth a try. After many minutes of trying to work this mess the DX op finally gave up and started calling for specfic areas of North America. " I'm looking for only 0's and 5's".

This seemed to make no difference to stations wanting this contact, I heard everything from W6's,N1's, K4's and all in between. Seemed as if all the operators on that frequency had forgotten the first and maybe the most important rule... courtesy, guess few know what that word means in a pileup . One even went so far as to claim that the signal was fading in California andthen gave a rst of 59 and 20 over.

I can understand why some people have become dis-illusioned with "HAM" radio if we all act this way. I know everyone reading this has probably read and heard it all before, but until you experience it you can't fully understand why people would feel that way. Suppose everyone on that freq. had taken some time and in an orderly fashion to make their contact, maybe a few more could have been made.

After about an hour and half of this, the Dx gave up, took a break,

promising to come back . I decided it might be worth hanging around and waiting,maybe I would get in before the pileup begin again. Shortly the call came and I wasn't the only one that had this thought. As Qrz was called I got an immediate reply " Ocean yankee.. repeat your call please"

As I repeated my call and rst of 57, I asked that he repeat his call for the logbook. His call came back as "9 London 1 Baker Tango Baker on the island of Sierra Leone, rst 57, Qsl manager Sugar Papa 7 Baker Tango Baker ..QSL?" . Not long afterwards the band changed and all contact was lost.

You know....Sometimes it does pay to wait on better conditions after all....  
73 Mark KD5NOY

## **Hurricane Nets**

When a hurricane looms in the gulf, hams are usually more "tuned-in" than normal people. With weather spotters and emergency preparedness in our numbers, the Hf frequencies come alive with activity. For those in Louisiana wanting to hear a piece of the action,try these frequencies (in Khz)...

- 3873 LSB Central Gulf Hurricane Net and Louisiana ARES Emergency
- 3910 LSB Louisiana Traffic Net (ARRL)
- 3925 LSB Alt. Emergency Frequency and Gulf Coast SSB Network
- 3950 LSB National Hurricane Center Alternate frequency
- 7225 LSB Central Gulf Coast Net
- 7235 LSB Louisiana Emergency and Central Gulf hurricane Net
- 14325 USB National Hurrican Center Net

For Information on more Hurricane Nets for both commercial and amateur as well as where we obtained our list try this website by Bill Snyder AA6KC: <http://www.hurricanefrequencies.com/>

## **Hamfest season again!**

Thats right,it's hamfest season again and for those of you who just need to go...Here is our list of hamfests as of presstime....

- 19Oct 2002 Central Louisiana ARC will hold a hamfest at the Mainstreet Community center in Pineville. Talk in is 147.330+ Contact Julius Saucier W5CJN at 318-445-3945 Email: [w5cjn@aol.com](mailto:w5cjn@aol.com) or the club website at [www.clarc.us](http://www.clarc.us)
- 1-2 Nov 2002 Baton Rouge ARC will hold its hamfest at the Baker civic center in Baker,La. Featured guest speaker is FCC inforcement chief

Riley Hollingsworth talk in is 146.790- [Http://www.lsu.edu/brarc](http://www.lsu.edu/brarc)  
Contact: Herb Ramey W5LSU at 225-654-6087 or Email: [w5lsu@att.net](mailto:w5lsu@att.net)

- 15-16 Nov 2002 Twin City Ham Club Monroe,La. Contact:  
Jim Ragsdale, W5LA at 318-396-9529 Email: [w5la@arrl.net](mailto:w5la@arrl.net) or at the  
club website <http://www.tchams.org/users/hamfest/>
- 7 Dec 2002 Minden ARA Minden,La.  
<http://www.bayou.com/~k5dlh/fest.html> Contact: Bill Sullivan,  
KB5PKW at 318-687-6405 or Email: [kb5pkw@aol.com](mailto:kb5pkw@aol.com)

### **Buy,Sell,Trade,or Help me hide it from the spouse!**

- Brett KB5YZB is looking to sell a Collins Transceiver KMW 2-A With MARS freq.capability, a matching Collins 30L-1 AMP, and Collins HF phone patch . For more information contact him at 985-447-1099 or at [<Brett\\_Williams@tvratings.com>](mailto:Brett_Williams@tvratings.com)
- Ever thought about owning your own commercial tower? Check out this site: <http://www.american tower.com/mainweb/SitesForSale.asp> The site features towers for sale with or without users on it and other towers for those who want the adventure of taking down a 500 footer!

### **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:

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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 AADXA newsletter...ar...sk**

Mike Robichaux KC5OKP Mark Robinson KD5NOY