



# SARA Newsletter

May 2004

Shreveport Amateur Radio Association

## Meeting:

First Thursday of each month at 6:30 P.M. in the Bossier Main Library History Center

## SARA Net:

Each Wednesday evening at 8:30 P.M.

## Local Amateur Information

Available at:

[www.k5sar.com](http://www.k5sar.com)  
[www.qsl.net/nw1arn/](http://www.qsl.net/nw1arn/)

## SARA Repeaters:

145.050 - K5SAR  
DX Packet Cluster  
145.110 - N5FJ  
146.700 - K5KDO  
146.820 - K5SL  
440.900 - N5FJ

## 2004 Club Officers

President – [David Crosby, K5SRZ](#)  
Vice President – [Glenn Pettiet, K5TGP](#)  
Treasurer – [Randy Fulco, K5SL](#)  
Secretary –

## FCC EXTENDS REPLY COMMENT DEADLINE IN BPL PROCEEDING

The FCC has extended to June 22 the deadline to file reply comments (comments on filed comments) in its broadband over power line (BPL) Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket 04-37. The FCC acted this week on a request from the National Antenna Consortium and the Amherst Alliance (NAC/Amherst) for a much longer filing deadline extension. The organizations said the June 1 reply comment deadline would not allow stakeholders adequate time to prepare comments that address the full two-part National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) BPL study. The FCC said the NTIA has indicated it soon will submit comments and a technical appendix that will include key findings of the Phase 2 report, which is due for release later this year.

The FCC does not routinely grant such time extensions, and it denied earlier petitions, including filings from the ARRL and NAC/Amherst, to extend the initial May 3 comment filing deadline. The League and others had said commenters needed more time to digest the NTIA's Part 1 BPL study, released April 27.

Mikey Cox, K5MC and ARRL Louisiana Section, makes the following BPL plea prior to the extension noted above. However, it still applies:

We need to answer the "Call To Arms" on the Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) issue by calling or writing our Federal officials in Washington as soon as possible. Sample letters are available at [www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/cta/](http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/cta/) I hope that our clubs will take a leading role in this effort. Since many Federal lawmakers come home on weekends, it may also be possible for small groups of amateurs (club officers or section leaders, for example) to arrange personal meetings to discuss this issue. I am trying to schedule such a meeting with my representative in the Fifth Congressional District. In addition to contacting President Bush and your other elected officials, please consider submitting reply comments on the FCC's BPL Notice of Proposed Rule Making by the deadline date of June 1.

## JUST AHEAD:

The Major Six Club Contest, the VK/Trans-Tasman 80-Meter Contest (CW), the UKSMG Summer Contest, IARU Region 1 Field Day (CW), RSGB National Field Day, the QRP TAC Sprint, the RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship (data) and the ARS Spartan Sprint are the weekend of June 5-6.

## News from the LA Section

The Jefferson Amateur Radio Club (JARC) will host a special event station on Sunday, June 6, for the sixtieth anniversary of the D-Day invasion of Normandy during World War II. W5D will be on the air from 1400 to 2200 UTC on 14.250 MHz. A certificate will be available for those stations making contact.

W5AFD has just been appointed Public Information Officer. In addition to his new PIO duties, Albert is serving as the Secretary for the JARC. If your club doesn't currently have an ARRL PIO, please consider nominating someone to either KC5LFB (LA PIC) or me. All of our clubs, particularly the ARRL-affiliated ones, should have an ARRL PIO among their membership ranks. The list of all League members in LA who hold a station appointment (PIO, OES, ORS, etc.) is available on the section's website at [www.iaarrl.org/](http://www.iaarrl.org/)

Field Day this year is on June 26-27. As mentioned a few months ago, our FD Awards Program for the LA Section will follow the same rules as last year. Good luck to all FD participants and groups!

Upcoming hamfests include Slidell on July 17, Leesville on August 14, and Pineville on October 16.

## Field Day 2004-Fun for All de K5SL

After 32 years of ham radio Field Day is still a fun time for me. This year the SARA club will take the reigns again after a few years hiatus and continue on with the good work started by Rick K5VXT last year. A new site beside the Bossier Police Station on Beckett Street in Bossier City was used last year and worked well. The site is easily accessed via I-20 and I-220. It is next door to many fine restaurants, and quite a few 24 hour places to eat. Your wife can go to the mall, and you can get in some hamming. Also, it can't get much safer with our setup a few feet from the Police station. So, what's in store this year?

Well, the CW station will be headed up by Floyd N5FH, and a few other ops may take the rig and give Na a try. You really only need to go 22 to 24wpm to have a good rate. Hopefully, Jason, Joseph, Floyd, Randy, Steve (W5ZA), and Lawrence (N5CFL-with new call) will all be there giving it a go.

Steve, K5STE, and Richard, N5PFZ are lining up ops to sign up and give it a go on SSB. If you sign up, you will operate. Come out and sit for a while, get your ears tuned to SSB, and the QRM, then sit in the driver's seat. It gets easier after the first 8 hour rush. Why not come out late at night, it is cooler, and the pace is slower. We need you.

Equipment wise, the SSB station will be using a 35' tower with a nice tribander, and either a loop or dipole for 80/40. Something good may go up for 40. Plans are for a sloping delta pointing north of the tower. That should give around 3db in that direction.

CW will be using the tried and true 80m loop of years past. This antenna went up in 20 minutes last year, thanks to the nice 30' masts and ropes bought by Rick, K5VXT and the Bossier Marshall's Office. If the same crew gets involved it will be up fast. It will be the backbone of the CW tent. I may throw up a beverage or two in the NE and NW directions. Mickey, K5MC our SM, came over to my house for a 2 hour ham radio and FD chat after the May meeting. He said he did this in Monroe last year at the park and it proved to be a good receiving antenna at night to kill static.

As site chairman, I have an idea in mind of the generator being the center of the stations, then a motor home on each side to kill the sound, and then the AC lines running east and west as far as practical to separate both stations. Two tents will be used this year. Hopefully, both stations will have quieter operating conditions.

We have acquired some of the SARA FD equipment and should help out. Remember the long ROMEX lines with the double 4 gang outlets on the end? Got 2 and hopefully another coming. Also, ICE band-pass filters are back, and will be used on each station to keep our SSB and CW stations from "sensing" each other.

Carl, KB5WMY, promises to set up a 2M SSB station for us, and hopefully Roger or Paul(hint-hint) will throw us a satellite station up for a multiplier during the contest. Battery power may be used also. All of this should add some points to our score.

Mickey, K5MC, said our score last year would have won us the state plaque had we submitted under SARA. No big deal, we will this year.

Ok, what is the club going to do for all this? Well, most all of us are in agreement to spend some money - - have soft drinks, food, snacks, and ice. **Saturday night the club will be buying members a meal, a decent one like a barbecue plate, or catfish plate.** (Non members can also pay a minimal fee for dinner if they want). Catered by the way! Rick, K5VXT is really coming forward again with what looks like a Sunday breakfast from McDonalds or the likes. He also has acquired a 2M rig, and other great prizes for club members who setup and operate. He never ceases to amaze me how he can get great things for us. Be sure to thank him and the Bossier Marshall's Office for all their great help in many areas to the club.

Now, what's left I haven't mentioned? **WE ARE GOING TO HAVE A GREAT TIME WITH SOME GREAT FELLOWSHIP.** Last year, Friday night was a nice evening to enjoy some hamming and fellowship with some great people. I have never seen the FD rigs up and running for hours with people just leisurely hamming, and others sitting around talking. We had a nice cool breeze and enjoyed talking radio and had some great laughs. (Wonder where Clint will drop his wallet at FD?) We did have some fun times last year, just ask about the Kenwood Repair drop off center. (Pix are on K5SAR.com)

We need YOU, and I promise it won't be the chore of setup and take down many remember from Northwood years ago. We were dismantled last year in 30 minutes! Make plans to come out and stay awhile, and do an hour of operating. The public needs to see a good showing of ham radio. We need it with BPL being rammed down our throat. See you there!!!

Randy K5SL

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# Don't Forget the Club Swap Meet at the Next Meeting

**Meeting Date is June 3rd, 6:30 PM  
at the Bossier Library**