



# SARA Newsletter

June 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 – [Ellen Dupuy, K5LND](#)

## ARRL seeks comment on draft "Bandwidth" petition

The ARRL wants members' comments on a planned petition to the FCC seeking to regulate amateur subbands by bandwidth rather than by mode. The ARRL Board of Directors adopted the petition's guiding principle in July 2002 and wrapped up its review of a draft petition late last month.

"The main objective is to make appropriate provision for digital modes in the HF amateur bands, while preserving amateurs' prerogatives to use the traditional modes," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

Sumner encouraged ARRL members to review the synopsis of the petition and the specific rule changes the League plans to propose. It is located on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/announce/bandwidth.html>

## Short Notes from LOUISIANA SECTION NEWS

We are now well into the 2004 Hurricane Season. As I am preparing this report, Florida citizens are beginning to recover from the devastation caused by Hurricane Charley. The experts have predicted that the number and severity of storms this year will be at or above normal and, so far at least, it appears that their predictions are right on track. Although everyone hopes that LA will be spared, we also know that it's just a matter of time before a major hurricane hits our state. In addition to hurricanes, our state is a likely target for other serious disasters, both natural and man-made. Therefore, it is very important for every Emergency Coordinator to have an up-to-date written plan that describes what his ARES members should do before, during, and after a disaster. Every ARES member should have a copy of (and be familiar with!) his local group's plan, along with a copy of the LA Section's ARES plan which is available on the section's website at [www.laarrrl.org/](http://www.laarrrl.org/)

In addition to the Lake Charles Hamfest, other upcoming hamfests include Pineville on October 16, Monroe on November 13, and Minden on Dec 4.

73,

Mickey Cox, K5MC LA

Section Manager

Email: [k5mc@arrl.org](mailto:k5mc@arrl.org)

LA Section Website: [www.laarrrl.org/](http://www.laarrrl.org/)

# HF CONTESTS

**Ohio QSO Party**--CW/SSB--sponsored by the Mad River Radio Club, 1600Z Aug 28-0400Z Aug 29. Frequencies (MHz): CW -- 3.545, 7.045, 14.045, 21.045, 28.045; SSB -- 3.850, 7.225, 14.250, 21.300, and 28.450. Categories: SO, MM, Mobile and Rover. Exchange: Serial Number and Ohio county, state or province, DX stations send "DX". QSO Points: CW--2 pts, SSB--1 pt. Score: QSO points x OH counties (OH station count states, provinces, and OH counties) counted once per mode. For more information: <http://www.oqp.us>. Logs due 30 days after the contest to [logs@oqp.us](mailto:logs@oqp.us) or to Ohio QSO Party c/o Jim Stahl K8MR, 30499 Jackson Road, Chagrin Falls, OH 44022-1730.

**TOEC WW Grid Contest**--CW--sponsored by the Top of Europe Contesters (TOEC), 1200Z Aug 28-1200Z Aug 29. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. Categories: SO (no packet) -AB, -SB, Low Power (<100W, AB only), MS (10 min band change rule), MM, Mobile (SOAB) -- work mobiles from each grid field (i.e. -- JP, KO, EM). Exchange: RST + grid square, i.e.--JP73 (log must show all grid fields activated). QSO Points: own continent -- 1 pt, other cont--3 pts, QSOs with mobiles--3 pts. Score: QSO points x two-letter grid fields. For more information: <http://www.qsl.net/toec/contest.htm>. Logs due 30 days after the contest to [TOEC.contest@pobox.com](mailto:TOEC.contest@pobox.com) or to TOEC, Box 178, SE-83122 Ostersund, Sweden.

**Hawaii QSO Party**--CW/Phone/RTTY/PSK31--sponsored by the Koolau ARC, 0700Z Aug 28-2200Z Aug 29. Frequencies: 160-10 meters. Categories: SOAB and MS (single or mixed-mode), MM (mixed-mode only). Spotting nets and packet allowed in all classes. Exchange: RS(T) and SPC, maritime region (1-3), or HI county. QSO Points: 20-15-10 meters, Phone--1 pt, CW/Digital--2 pts; 40 meters, Phone--2 pts, CW/Digital 4 pts; 80 meters, Phone--4 pts, CW/Digital--8 pts; 160 meters, Phone 8 pts, CW/Digital 16 pts. Score is total points plus 150 pts for QSO with KH6J. For more information: [http://www.karc.us/hi\\_qso\\_party.html](http://www.karc.us/hi_qso_party.html). Logs due 30 days after contest to [kh6j@karc.us](mailto:kh6j@karc.us) or Hawaii QSO Party, PO Box 8960788, Wahiawa, HI 96786-0788.

**YO-DX Contest**--CW/SSB--sponsored by the Romanian Amateur Radio Federation (RARF), 1200Z Aug 28 - 1200Z Aug 29. Frequencies: 80-10 meters. Categories: SOAB, SOSB, MS. Exchange: RST and serial number, YO stations send county abbreviation. QSO Points: different country own continent--2 pts, different continent--4 pts, YO stations--8 pts. Score: QSO points x YO counties and DXCC entities counted once per band. For more information: [http://www.hamradio.ro/contests/yodx\\_eng.htm](http://www.hamradio.ro/contests/yodx_eng.htm). Logs due 30 days after the contest to [yodx\\_contest@hamradio.ro](mailto:yodx_contest@hamradio.ro) or YO DX HF Contest, PO Box 22-50, 71100 Bucharest, Romania.

**SARL HF DX Contest**--CW--sponsored by the Bloemfontein Radio Amateur Club from 1330Z -- 1730Z Aug 29. Frequencies: 80 -- 20 meters. Categories: SOAB, MS. Exchange: RS(T) + serial number. QSO Points: SSB -- 1 pt, CW -- 2 pts. Total score: QSO points + ZS call areas and South African countries (see Web site). For more information: <http://www.sarl.org.za/public/contests/contestrules.asp#HFCWPHONE>. Logs due 14 days after the contest to [admin@sarl.org.za](mailto:admin@sarl.org.za) or PO Box 1721, Strubensvallei 1735, Republic of South Africa.

**IARU Region 1 Field Day**--SSB--sponsored by IARU Societies, 1300Z Sep 4 - 1300Z Sep 5 (See June QST, p 98) Frequencies: 160 - 10 meters. Categories: SOAB (LP, QRP), MS (HP, LP). Exchange: RST and serial number. QSO Points: non-EU to EU - 3 pts, with portable EU stations - 4 pts. Score: QSO points x DXCC and WAE entities counted once/band. For more information: <http://www.iaru.org> or IARU Region 1 society Web sites. Send logs to the appropriate national societies (NA hams to RAC or ARRL).

**MI QRP Labor Day CW Sprint**, 2300Z Sep 6 - 0300Z Sep 7. Frequencies: 160 - 6-meters. Categories: SOAB with classes A (<250 mW), B (<1 W), C (<5 W), D (>5W). Exchange: RST, S/P/C, and MI-QRP number or power output. QSO Points: MI-QRP members--5 pts, non-member W/VE--2 pts, DX--4 pts. Score: QSO points x S/P/C counted once per band. If homebrew RX or TX, multiply by 1.25. If both RX and TX are homebrew, multiply by 1.5. For information: <http://www.qsl.net/migrpclub>. Logs to [n8cqa@arll.net](mailto:n8cqa@arll.net) or L. T. Switzer, N8CQA, 427 Jeffrey Ave., Royal Oak, MI 48073-2521, USA.

## AMATEUR COMMUNITY INVITED TO CELEBRATE MAXIM BIRTHDAY ANNIVERSARY

Members of the amateur community are invited to help celebrate the 135th birthday anniversary of the League's co-founder and first president Hiram Percy Maxim, W1AW, who was born September 2, 1869. ARRL Life Members and the League's extended family of elected and appointed volunteers and officials are eligible to identify by appending /135 to their call signs. The complete eligibility list <<http://www.arll.org/qst/2004/09/field-positions-135.html>>(or see Sep QST, p 40) also includes ARRL Headquarters staff members as well as

past and present ARRL directors, presidents, vice presidents and honorary vice presidents.

Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be on the air for the 135th birthday anniversary event. While W1AW has been appending "/90" to its call sign to mark the ARRL's 90th anniversary, it will go with the /135 identifier during the birthday celebration period.

The object of the 10-day event is to work as many HPM/135 stations as you can. Putting at least 25 in the log will make you eligible for an attractive certificate, designed especially for this occasion and endorsable in increments of 25 contacts up to a maximum of 100 (but don't stop there).

The HPM/135 event begins at 0000 UTC on Thursday, September 2, and concludes at 2400 UTC on Sunday, September 12. Stations may be contacted for credit on any band or mode--including repeaters. HPM/135 stations transmit signal report, appointment (or position) and name. All others transmit signal report and name.

To obtain a certificate, submit a log extract including date, time, band, call sign worked and exchange for each /135 contact. HPM/135 stations are eligible for certificates too. Include your name, call sign and address and indicate how many HPM/135 stations you worked.

Entries go to HPM/135 Celebration, c/o W1AW, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111-1494. Entries may be submitted on a floppy disk or CD in text format. Include a check or money order for US\$5, payable to ARRL. Entries must be postmarked by October 16, 2004.

---

## Solar Update

Solar swami Carl "Seasons in the Sun" Luetzelschwab, K9LA, is subbing for Tad Cook, K7RA, this week: Solar activity was at very low to low levels throughout the entire August 20-26 reporting period. The largest X-ray flare observed was a C2.8 flare on August 20. Solar activity is forecast to remain at low levels over this weekend.

Geophysical activity over the period ranged from quiet to minor storm. There were a couple of Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) observed toward the end of the period, but these didn't appear to be Earth-directed. Geophysical activity is forecast to be quiet over the weekend.

Based on the forecast solar activity and geophysical activity, we shouldn't have any major surprises in propagation over the weekend.

Sunspot numbers for August 19 through 25 were 60, 85, 88, 102, 93, 55 and 60, with a mean of 77.6. The 10.7 cm flux was 120.6, 121.4, 120, 115.2, 109.5, 104.9 and 100.4, with a mean of 113.1. Estimated planetary A indices were 7, 14, 17, 13, 7, 5 and 7, with a mean of 10. Estimated mid-latitude A indices were 3, 9, 14, 8, 10, 3 and 3, with a mean of 7.1

---

## ARRL Certification and Continuing Education

Registration for the ARRL RFI (EC-006) and Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009) courses remains open through Sunday, August 29. Classes begin Friday, September 10. Antenna Design and Construction students will, among other things, learn about basic dipoles and the ground planes and how to assemble combinations of these into more complex antennas. Students also will learn about transmission lines, standing wave ratio, phased arrays and Yagis. Students participating in the RFI course will learn to identify various interference sources. Prospective C-CE students, please note: As of September, the starting day for all C-CE classes, including Amateur Radio Emergency Communication courses, will move from Tuesday to Friday. To learn more, visit the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Web page <<http://www.arrl.org/cce>> or contact the ARRL Certification and Continuing Education Program Department <[cce@arrl.org](mailto:cce@arrl.org)>.