



SARA Newsletter

October 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
www.qsl.net/nw1arn/

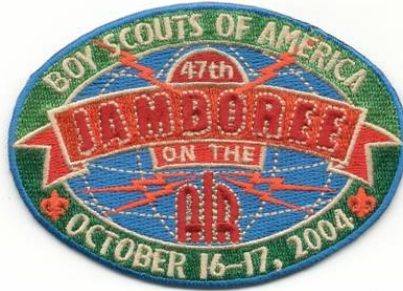
SARA Repeaters:

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](#)

Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) 2004 IS October 16-17



The 47th Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) takes place October 16-17. Details on JOTA also appear in September QST, page 104. JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other via Amateur Radio to share experiences and ideas. Since 1958, when the first Jamboree On The Air was held, millions of Scouts have become acquainted through this event.

If you hear any participating JOTA stations on the air, be sure to make a contact--and don't forget to QSL. There's more information about JOTA on

the Web <<http://www.scouting.org/international/jota.html>> and <<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/ead/jota.html>>.

In previous years, SARA has used Betty Virginia Park for JOTA. This year, we have been invited to Garland Scout Ranch where the Bi-Annual Norwela Council Camp-o-ree is being held. There are 300 Boy Scouts and Scouters expected to attend and we will have the run of the Camp Trading Post for our headquarters and radio shack. Camping is permitted and we can also attend any of the activities scheduled for Scouts.

At least two HF stations are needed along with a VHF and digital station. We would also like to schedule several transmitter hunts for the Scouts. Several antennas will be constructed the weekend prior to the camp-o-ree and JOTA. We are planning on asking the club to spring for donuts, lunch, and drinks Saturday for club members and Glenn Pettiet is going to cook a Dutch oven meal over a campfire Saturday evening for those brave enough to camp out overnight.

The Garland Scout Ranch is about 12 miles south of the Wal-Mart Super Center on Mansfield Road on the right side of the highway. If you get to Kickapoo, your went too far.

FCC Poised to Act on BPL Report and Order in mid-October

The FCC Office of Engineering and Technology (OET) will present a draft broadband over power line (BPL) Report and Order to the full Commission when it meets October 14, the ARRL has learned. More than 6100 comments have been filed on the topic since the FCC released its initial Notice of Inquiry in the proceeding, ET Docket 03-104, in April 2003 and a subsequent Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), ET Docket 04-37, in February of this year. In a meeting this week with FCC Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein, an ARRL delegation again asserted that the FCC is pushing the proceeding to a predetermined conclusion with little regard for technical issues.

"Because the FCC has been unwilling to release for public review the results of its own tests and observations of BPL systems, the ARRL has no confidence that the draft Report and Order will be based on sound engineering and believes the rush to adoption is unwarranted and premature," ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said in a follow-up letter to Adelstein. The letter reiterated the League's key points that, it said, "represent the minimum protection" that should be incorporated into the BPL Report and Order prior to Commission adoption.

"Without adequate safeguards, the deployment of BPL systems will result in the pollution and degradation of the unique natural resource of the high-frequency radio spectrum," Sumner said.

The League argued that a reduction in the radiated emission limit for BPL systems be included in the R&O. The ARRL wants the limit set 30 dB below current Part 15 requirements, which, it says, were established with narrowband point-source radiators in mind. "The record in this proceeding clearly establishes that BPL is not a point-source radiator," the ARRL's letter asserted.

The ARRL pointed out that the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) has concluded that at the current Part 15 limit, interference is "likely" to receivers in land vehicles 75 meters from BPL-connected power lines and to fixed stations 460 meters from such power lines.

"Given the number of amateur stations and the fact that they almost invariably are located near power lines, the areas of potential interference at the existing Part 15 limit are clearly too large to permit case-by-case resolution of interference issues," Sumner said. Based on past experience with BPL field trials, the ARRL told Adelstein, "widespread BPL deployment at the existing Part 15 radiated emission limit will result in an unmanageable incidence of interference."

Arguing for a reduction in the radiated emission limit, the ARRL said mandatory "notching" of the amateur bands by 30 dB would reduce the probability of interference to amateur stations sufficiently that the remaining interference cases might be resolved on a case-by-case basis. "However," the League added, "such notching would not solve the problem for other radio services."

K5SL Repeater

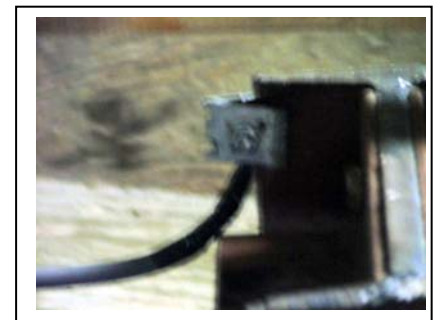


Well, I couldn't stand the high freq whine that showed up sat. Went to the repeater tonight with Cantenna dummy load and watt meter to retune the Aerotron PA. The Aerotron PA is the most picky/tricky, strange PA to tune. Two Mica caps are what you tune the PA to antenna. Bad design, of the two, one is very sharp, and the other does almost nothing to output with a turn or so! Then when you do peak the first on max out-it drops a few watts after a few seconds. Peak power usually caused the LifeAir radio to "growl". Not good. Also the watt meter in line cause the tuning to change drastically when you take it out. Either at the TX output, or cavity output.



One cap also arc'd once on the edge....Got it finally tuned to no noticeable desense, 30 watts out to ant, and no growling! Best of all, the "alternator" whine is gone

Here are some pictures I took of the 6" static dissipater device Floyd bought. Clint, and I drilled/taped and installed it on top of the 22' long antenna in the metal top cap. Also the first one is a shot of the 213 coax-ground wire and its connection to the super structure of the hospital. Clint came up with this neat claw ground clamp used on mobile homes for cable ground. He has connections there.



Now for the next rain to test it...
Randy