



Editor: Herman Campbell

# KN5GRK

# Newsletter



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Website: <https://www.kn5grk.com>

December 2022

## Inside this issue:

Editor's Notes	1
SkyWarn Recognition Day	2
BSA Winter Camp Report	2
Crossband Activation of Battleship Iowa	3
Acadiana 2 Meter Net Reports	3
AARA Special Event Report	4
Short Antennas Article	5
Salvation Red Kettle Kickoff	5
MARA 2022 Hamfest	6
Event Calander	7
The Santa Nets	7
December Special Events	8



I hope everyone had a very nice Thanksgiving Holiday and could be with family and friends. Christmas is just right around the corner and things usually get pretty hectic at this time. Also, a lot of bad things are going on in this world, so if you are out and about, beware of your surroundings!

-de Herman KN5GRK

## AARA NEWS

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc (AARA) has some information to pass to all amateur radio operators during the month of December:

- The December General Meeting (**Christmas Party**) will be held on December 1, 2022 at 7:00 PM at the [Candyland Cottage & Ice Cream Shoppe](#) in Scott, Louisiana. This will be their Christmas Party and will be held outside. I believe that "Chili" will be served by the club and drinks and ice cream will be purchased inside the building. A "Tip Jar" will be placed outside to help pay expenses. A head count needs to be taken to get a general idea of how much food will be needed. Some gift certificates will be available for door prizes. **No VE Testing at this time.**
- AARA Membership dues are now being accepted at this time and you can download a .PDF application at: [http://www.w5ddl.org/aara\\_membership\\_appl.pdf](http://www.w5ddl.org/aara_membership_appl.pdf)
- Applications for AARA officers are open to club members, elections will be held at the February 2023 General Meeting.
- The AARA is still looking for a newsletter editor. If you are interested, e-mail club president Barrett Oge at: [ogebarrett@gmail.com](mailto:ogebarrett@gmail.com)



## Louisiana Traffic Net

Clinton Gill KI5MKE and Tom Cole N5ZEW are the new assistant net managers for the Louisiana Traffic Net.

Gill also received the appointment as Assistant Louisiana Section Traffic Manager, Gill along with Mike Michael E Galler WD5JTZ are the Assistant Louisiana Section Traffic managers.

Thanks for these three great amateur radio operators for your assistance.

-73, Jim Lewis AB5YS Louisiana Section Traffic Manager.

## Louisiana ARES

Effective immediately Joe Holland KB5VJY has been promoted to Region 8 DEC. Joe has been the Region 8 ADEC for several years prior. Thanks Joe for stepping up; I am sure Duffy would be proud.

-John Mark Robertson K5JMR - ARRL Louisiana Section Manager



My website is hosted by:



Christmas is doing a little something extra for someone.

- Charles M. Schulz



## SKYWARN™ Recognition Day

December 3, 2022  
0000Z to 2400Z



### History of SKYWARN™ Recognition Day

The first SKYWARN™ Recognition Day was observed in 1999. It was created by the N.W.S. and the American Radio Relay League (A.R.R.L.). The two organizations decided that the day would be commemorated on the first Saturday of every December. N.W.S. is an American governmental agency whose focus is to report on usual and unusual weather conditions. They issue warnings and emergencies if the weather is expected to take a turn for the worst. N.W.S., which is headquartered in Maryland, Washington, believes it is their responsibility to protect people from harm caused by adverse weather. The agency collects its information through more than 120 offices all over the country.

The American Radio Relay League (A.R.R.L.) is another organization that helps N.W.S. receive and report accurate weather conditions. Formed in 1914, it is the largest non-profit organization for amateur radio enthusiasts. The co-founders, Hiram Maxim and Clarence Tuska, were both associated with the radio agency. Their interest in the field saw them coming together to create A.R.R.L. in order to give a chance to those who were not from the field but still wanted to contribute to it. The organization provides technical training, education, sponsorships, and assistance to its members, many of whom have gone on to volunteer as SKYWARN™ reporters for N.W.S. An A.R.R.L. membership is not limited to America as more than 7,000 members of the total 161,000 members belong to other countries. The organization holds several conventions and publishes a special journal called "QST". Every year, about 290,000 report on any weather irregularities. Such reports have worked to lessen the overall damage, allowing people and organizations to save money as well.

## BOY SCOUT WINTER CAMP



On Saturday November 19, 2022, two members of the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc. (AARA) Al Matt KI5VGU and Greg Guilbeau KI5VMP attended the Lost Bayou Scout Camp located near the Chicot State Park, located north of Ville Platt, Louisiana.



Al & Greg's agenda consisted of teaching the scouts the use of radios to communicate with others in order to obtain their communication merit badge along with using "Q" codes in their communications and how the ionosphere layers and weather affects different frequencies.

There were only four scouts, which were divided into two groups, Al taking one group and Greg the other using HT's in the wooded area outside.

There was one female scout instructor on site to observe and help with obtaining their merit badge and what we observed, she and the others were very impressed with ham radio. The scouts took a test to qualify that they earned the merit badge and all passed.

Al went back to the camp on Monday November 21 and met with five different scouts to help them get their merit badge on communication knowledge.

Thanks to Al & Greg for undertaking this important scouting event and a *SPECIAL* thanks to Greg for submitting this report.



## Crossband Activation of Battleship Iowa's NEPM Scheduled in Memory of Pearl Harbor

As the representative of the National Museum of the Surface Navy at Battleship Iowa Museum in San Pedro, Los Angeles, California, the Battleship Iowa Amateur Radio Association (BIARA) will honor the sailors and ships previously home ported in San Pedro who were attacked on December 7, 1941, with special cross band activations of NEPM, the active duty call sign for the Battleship USS Iowa, on December 6 and 7, 2022.



When Pearl Harbor was attacked on December 7, 1941, seven of the battleships formerly home ported in San Pedro Bay were not present. Eight Pacific fleet battleships (USS Arizona, USS California, USS Maryland, USS Nevada, USS Oklahoma, USS Tennessee, USS West Virginia, and USS Pennsylvania) were at Pearl Harbor and absorbed the brunt of the Japanese attack. Of these eight ships, three sank, one capsized, and four suffered varying degrees of damage.

With authority from the Navy and Marine Corps Spectrum Office Southwest, we will transmit using the Iowa's NEPM call sign on assigned military frequencies and listen for calls from the amateur radio community in their adjacent bands. NEPM will transmit on 14.375 MHz, 18.170 MHz, and/or 21.460 MHz on J3E upper sideband and/or A1A CW. The operator will advise listeners as to where they are listening. Amateur participants are reminded not to transmit on the NEPM military frequencies. Operations on both days are expected to be from 1500 to 2400 UTC. QSL procedures can be found at: <https://biara.org>. For specific questions in advance of the operation, contact [w6hb@biara.org](mailto:w6hb@biara.org).

Thanks to BIARA for this story.



### About:

Objective: For Amateurs worldwide to exchange QSO information with as many stations as possible on the 10 meter band.

### Dates:

Second full weekend of December. Starts 0000 UTC Saturday; runs through 2359 UTC Sunday (December 10-11, 2022)

Contest rules are now maintained as a single downloadable document.

Click Here for the Complete ARRL 10-Meter Contest Rules (PDF)

<https://contests.arrl.org/ContestRules/10M-Rules.pdf>

For contest information contact [contests@arrl.org](mailto:contests@arrl.org) or (860) 594-

## ACADIANA 2 METER NET REPORTS November 2022

Net Name	Sessions	Check-ins	Total Time
AARA Monday Night Net - 146.820 @ 7:00 PM Monday	4	51	120
Acadiana SkyWarn Net - 147.040 @ 7:00 PM Tuesday	5	59	180
Silent Key Memorial Net - 146.820 @ 7:00 PM Wednesday	5	54	120
Rag Chew Net - 146.820 @ 8:00 PM Thursday	2	9	109

If the 146.820 is having problems, the alternate frequency will be the 147.040 repeater located in Duson, LA



## ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC. SPECIAL EVENT STATION W5DDL REPORT

### CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF AFFILIATION WITH THE ARRL OCTOBER 29, 2022

By Karen Lagrange Cox - by Local News - Broussard - Youngsville, LA

The Acadiana Amateur Radio Association (AARA), whose call sign is W5DDL, held a celebration in honor of the seventy years of affiliation with the American Radio Relay League ® (ARRL). The celebration was held at St. Julien Park in Broussard today. AARA dedicates itself to serving the Acadiana Region of Southwest Louisiana.

Ham is short for Amateur. Amateur radio operators are also referred to as Ham Operators. it is a hobby for these operators, a hobby which requires being licensed by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

AARA provides a service to the community by providing communication support for special events, most recently for the Tour de Tech. Demonstrations are provided to schools and to Scouting of America which help the scouts to earn their merit badge.

In emergencies such as loss of communication services during bad weather and outages, AARA is a valuable emergency communications resource and public resource.

The group meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. at Candyland Cottage in Scott. Testing for licensing is held before the meeting at 6 p.m.

AARA has more than one hundred members. Some of the ham members on hand at the celebration today were:

David Redfearn N4ELM, Larry Kebodeaux K5KEB, Randy Hernandez KI5OQD, Gregory Guilbeau KI5VMP, Walter Comeaux KI5OQE, Fred W5MLE & Karen KE5RPI Marshall, Ken Turner KG5YYL, Herman KN5GRK & Ramona KG5HNO Campbell, Danny KD5JSM & Kathy KD5TJZ Daigle, Michael Cavell KI5ARX and Ron Bertucci KI5AGS. There were some others like XYL and harmonics not on this list.

Some of the pictures below were provided by:

**BY Local News**

Broussard - Youngsville, LA



The WX starting out with some heavy showers on Saturday morning and didn't look too promising before 8:00 am, however it started to break around 9:00 am and cleared up real nice.

Band conditions were congested with some contesting making it difficult to find a open frequency. A lot of Parks-on-the-Air (POTA), Special Event Stations, and International Phone contests kept the bands pretty busy throughout the day. The crew had to work hard to make contacts but they reported they did well even though the bands were unforgiving. Thanks for a job well done!



## Short antennas

John Brodie VA7XB

Short antennas are what many of us are forced to consider if we want to operate HF in locations with limited space, or with strata regulations or other constraints that suggest concealment or minimum visibility. Compromises are necessary but in many cases good results can still be achieved with proper design. “Short” usually means short with respect to the resonant half wave dipole. In such cases the bandwidth is narrower, feedpoint impedance is reduced and gain is compromised by lower efficiency of the radiator. The resonant frequency of an antenna is not the frequency at which the SWR is minimum, but the frequency at which the inductive reactance (XL) and capacitive reactance (XC) cancel out, leaving the effective radiation resistance (R) the only remaining component of impedance (Z). If the antenna is short with respect to the half-wavelength it will be characterized by XC, and if long XL. The radiation resistance (R) is effectively what dissipates the RF energy by radiating it.

Ideally, for the coax that we commonly use, R of the antenna should be 50 ohms, X should be zero which means Z will also be 50 ohms. These are seldom achieved in practice and the departure from ideal is commonly measured as an SWR (standing wave ratio) greater than 1:1. To restore the feedpoint impedance of short and long antennas, coils or capacitors, respectively, can be provided to balance the excess XC or XL. Shortened antennas always need some type of matching device, often built into the commercial products. A greater likelihood of interference to neighborhood electronic devices and personal exposure to RF may be expected with short antennas, so low power is the norm. If the antenna is located indoors, a large amount of the RF energy may be absorbed by building

materials, especially wire in stucco and rebar in concrete, although wood itself is largely transparent to RF. Location of equipment on the top floor of tall buildings obviously provides better propagation especially if there is access to the roof top, and it also presents more isolation from the majority of other tenants; however long grounds are virtually useless. Lower floors provide better opportunity for grounding and good possibilities for ground-based antennas. Many shortened antennas are non-resonant and may need an external tuner for a match to allow the maximum transfer of power from the transmitter to the antenna. A current balun is often beneficial to prevent RF from flowing on the outside of the coax and can be provided in many forms, such as snap-on ferrites, ferrite beads, and loops of coax. One way to facilitate multi-band antenna operation is to use traps tuned for different frequencies. Visit eHam for product reviews <http://www.eham.net/>

- Get the antenna outside
- Consider balanced (dipoles, yagi’s loops) antenna systems first as “grounding” systems not required
- Verticals and long wires require radials or a counterpoise
- Long wires require a counterpoise and tuner
- Keep the antenna away from metallic objects
- If moving to a new location, choose an antenna-friendly site

~ John VA7XB

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November—December 2022 Page 50



## THE SALVATION ARMY “**RED KETTLE**” KICKOFF

While shopping in your area, you may see Salvation Army volunteers with the Red Kettle for donations. If you happen to have some extra change in your pocket, drop it in the bucket. Monies are used to help those needing shelter, food and those needing a helping hand.

<https://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/red-kettle-history/>



# MARA Hamfest 2022

Annual Christmas Hamfest - December 17, 2022  
Sponsored by the Minden Amateur Club

This very popular event is held in December and draws participants, including dealers, from surrounding states and has gotten bigger each year. There is plenty to see and do for everyone, including testing sessions, great food, door prizes, and main prizes that any ham would love to win. This event provides a "hamfest fix" in a period of the year during which few hamfests are held.

**Date:** December 17, 2022

**Location:** Civic Center  
520 Broadway St.  
Minden, LA.

**Time:** 8:00 AM

Prize drawing held approximately 2:00 pm

Door prizes being drawn periodically during the day

**Admission:** \$5 each (includes 1 prize ticket), available at door at the hamfest.

**Talk-In:** 147.300 PL186.2 (NLA Link System)

**Swap Tables:** \$15.00 (To reserve swap tables, contact Fran on our "[Contact Us](#)" page.).

**VE Testing:** Registration for testing - 8:30 am-9:30 am

**ARRL Forum:** 11:30 am-12:30 pm

**Prize Tickets:** \$1 each, 6-\$5, 15-\$10, 35-\$20, 50-\$25, 100-\$50.

Prize tickets for the drawings are available at the door or from club members or contact: "[Contact Us](#)" Fran, KD5LKB, or Jerry, W5JLH (email addresses at on main menu strip, top of page).

**Door Prizes:** Great door prizes drawn throughout the day!

**1st Prize:** Icom IC-7300, 100w, 160m-6m

\*\*\* In lieu of the 1st Prize you can receive \$1250 credit or \$1000 cash.

**2nd Prize:** ID-4100A is a D-Star mobile (MUST be present to win.)

\*\*\* In lieu of the 2nd Prize you can receive \$500 credit or \$400 cash.

**3rd Prize:** FT-2980 is an 80 Watt Heavy-Duty 144 MHz FM Transceiver (MUST be present to win.)

\*\*\* In lieu of the 3rd Prize you can receive \$250 credit or \$200 cash.

Those vendors who have agreed to participate this year in the hamfest include:

*Main Trading Company* - Furnishing our prize radios

*The SignMan of Baton Rouge*

*Palmetto Antennas, LLC*, Ruston, LA

Website: <http://www.n5rd.org/activity.htm>

**Lets Deck the Halls  
MARA Christmas Hamfest**

*Minden Amateur Radio Assoc*  
Lots of fun to be had by ALL!  
Great food and lots of old & new friends to see!  
VE testing  
Great door prizes!  
Lots of swap tables for all the 'stuff you might want to sell'  
Dealers for most everything you will need for your hobby!

*Minden Civic Ctr  
520 Broadway*

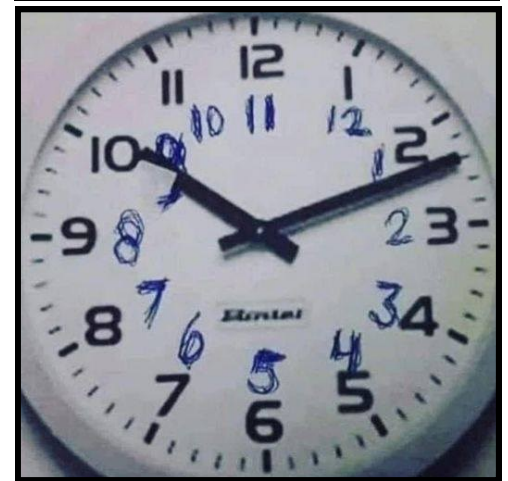
*Talk-In  
147.300*  
Tickets for the prizes can be obtained from any member before the fest!  
or at the door when you come!  
1-\$1, 6-\$5, 15-\$10, 35-\$20, 50-\$25  
Must be present to win the door prizes but not the main prize

*Grand Prize  
2 pm*

*Prizes*

*Admission \$5 Adults  
Children under 12 Free*

**Dec 17, 2022**  
more info: <http://n5rd.org>



It took me a while to get my clock set for the new time change but now it's done!



# December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## Schedule of Events

- **December 1** — AARA General Club meeting at Candyland Cottage & Ice Cream Shop in Scott, LA at 7:00 PM.
- **December 3** — SKYWARN™ Recognition Day
- **December 7** — Pearl Harbor Day
- **December 25** — Christmas Day



## THE SANTA NETS

For the 17th consecutive year, The 3916 Nets will be presenting The Santa Net on 3.916 MHz. Good girls and boys can talk to Santa Claus, via amateur radio, nightly at 7:15 PM (Central) starting Friday, November 25, 2022. The Santa Net will run nightly at 7:15 PM Central through Christmas Eve, December 24, 2022.

Pete Thomson (KE5GGY), of The 3916 Nets, commented on The 3916 Santa Net. He said, "Christmas is our favorite time on 3916. In our first year, we connected 4 or 5 kids with Santa. Now we're expecting over 1,000 children to talk to Santa through the magic of Amateur Radio."

Youngsters can talk to "Santa at The North Pole" via strategically placed operators who relay the voice of Santa. Thomson said that The Santa Net is a team effort that involves the efforts of a number of 3916 Net members. He said, "Santa Net is only possible because of the members of the 3916 Nets who volunteer their time and talents. Each year our volunteers tell us that Santa Net was a highlight of their Holiday Season."

Prior to each night's Santa Net, pre-net check-ins can be made at [www.cqsanta.com](http://www.cqsanta.com) Third party rules and regulations apply.

The Santa Nets are presented annually by The 3916 Nets. The Rag Chew Crew, The Tailgaters and The Free-wheelers are all amateur radio nets that meet on 3.916 MHz nightly. For more information on The 3916 Nets, go to: <http://www.3916nets.com>

For more information on The Santa Net, email [KE5GGY at Gmail dot com](mailto:KE5GGY@gmail.com).

**W2W Pearl Harbor Day  
Commemoration**

Dec 2-Dec 12, 1300Z-2200Z, W2W, Baltimore, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum. 7.041 7.241 14.041 14.241. Certificate & QSL. K3NY, 108 Brent, Arnold, MD 21012. The Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEM) will operate W2W in commemoration of the anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day and the role of electronics in WWII. If the Museum station is not available, operators may operate from their home stations. Primary operation will be Dec 2-Dec 7 with additional operation possible during the Dec 8-Dec 12 period as operator availability permits. Operation on 80M (3.541, 3.841) and digital modes possible during event. Frequencies +/- according to QRM. QSL and Certificate available via SASE. Details at [ww-2.us](http://ww-2.us)

**WX3MAS Special Event**

Dec 8-Dec 11, 1400Z-2200Z, WX3MAS, Nazareth, PA. Christmas City ARC and the Delaware-Lehigh ARC. 3.850 7.270 14.265. QSL. WX3MAS, Greystone Building, 14 Gracedale Avenue, Nazareth, PA 18064. CW, SSB, and Digital Thursday through Sunday - 1400 to 2200 UTC, but may be extended if conditions permit. <https://dlarc.club>

**Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
(12/7/41)**

Dec 10, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 14.070 PSK31 DSTAR on PAPA repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum COMEDTRA, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. [www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw](http://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw)

**QCWA 75th Anniversary**

Dec 3-Dec 10, 0000Z-2359Z, W2MM, Apopka, FL. Quarter Century Wireless Association (QCWA). SSB: 28.325 21.365 14.262 7.244 3.810; CW 28.050 21.050 14.040 7.035 3.540. Certificate. Larry Gabriel, K7LG, 1972 Martina St., Apopka, FL 32703. [www.qcwa.org](http://www.qcwa.org)

**Final Moon Landing of Apollo 17**

Dec 8-Dec 11, 1500Z-2359Z, K5A, Springdale, AR. Razorback Contest Club. 7.040 7.190 14.040 14.260. QSL. Razorback Contest Club, 3407 Diana St., Springdale, AR 72764. Commemorating the final moon landing of Apollo 17. [rccw5yo@cox.net](mailto:rccw5yo@cox.net)



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**COMPLIMENTARY  
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