



KN5GRK

Newsletter



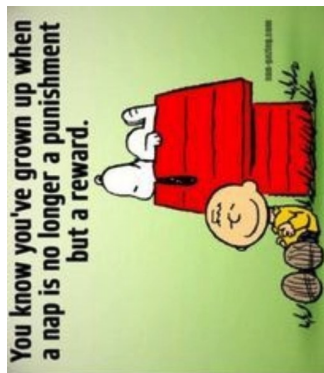
Volume 1, Issue 4

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

July 2022

Inside this issue:

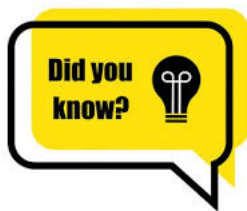
<i>Virgie Aubin N5JXV Phone Conversation</i>	1
<i>Herman Fuselier N5BMD TV Interview</i>	1
<i>Local NHC Test Results</i>	2
<i>K5LBV Repeater Fund</i>	3
<i>USS KIDD Special Event</i>	3
<i>Main Trading Company History</i>	4
<i>13 Colonies Special Event</i>	5
<i>July Event calendar</i>	5
<i>W5EXI Repeater Update</i>	6
<i>Acadiana SkyWarn Net Report</i>	6
<i>146.820 & 443.00 Repeater Update</i>	7
<i>Electronic Quizoo</i>	8



My website is hosted by:



FYI - by Herman KN5GRK



On Friday June 3, I received a phone call from Virgie Aubin N5JXV in Baton Rouge, LA. She had called to let me know that she is doing well and wanted to thank me for sending her my newsletter.



MARIE-WARREN-VIRGIE
Photo from past Rayne Hamfest

Some of you older hams may remember Mrs. Virgie from her being net control on the Gulf Coast Sideband net many years ago along with her husband Warren K5VDQ now a Silent Key.

Virgie and her Daughter Marie attended many of the hamfests in the area when possible and it was always a pleasure to see them. She still enjoys cooking and staying busy talking to friends on the telephone.

I always enjoy our conversations and I thought I would let everyone know that she is still the same cheerful person that many of us have known in the past.



LOCAL HAM MAKES TV INTERVIEW

Amateur radio operator Herman Fuselier N5BMD of Opelousas, was interviewed on KLFY-TV at 5:15 AM on June 25, 2022 announcing that "June 25th is officially named Clifton Chenier Day".

Clifton Chenier, Grammy winning "King of Zydeco" will celebrate 100 years since his birth.

On May, the Louisiana House of Representatives adopted a resolution that proclaims June 2021 to 2025 as "*Clifton Chenier Day*".

House Bracket -- A device which secures the house and the tower together. It lets the tower do double-duty by holding up the house during severe windstorms.



NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER TEST REPORT

NOAA predicts above-normal 2022 Atlantic Hurricane Season



On May 28, 2022, the National Hurricane Center in Miami, FL held their annual test from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM CST on 14.325 MHz.

The purpose of this event was to test WX4NHC Amateur Radio Equipment and Antennas at NHC as well as operator's home equipment, antennas and computers prior to this year's hurricane season, which starts June 1st and runs through November 30th. This event is good practice for ham radio operators worldwide to practice Amateur Radio communications available during times of severe weather. A couple of local hams made contact and gave these reports:

K5XDF - Dave Fullerton

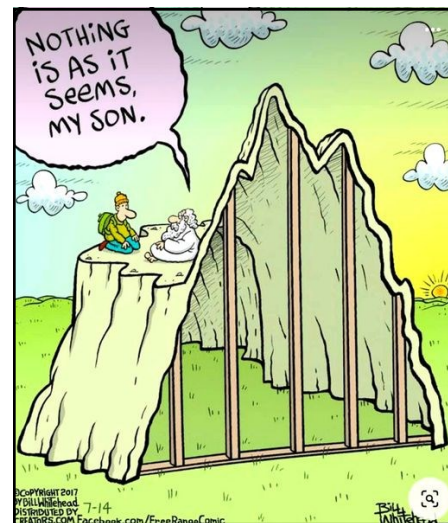
At 13:25 UTC I made contact with the Miami Hurricane Center from my station K5XDF on the 20 meter band (14.325) to complete details of the project. Signal reports were exchanged from both destinations, and acceptable contact was verified. Contacts by other Ham Radio operators was also conducted on the 40 meter band (7.268).

KN5GRK - Herman Campbell

I did manage to make contact with WX4NHC on Saturday morning at 0830 CST and gave a 71 degrees and sunny skies report. His signal was a 5x5 into my station using my 75 meter inverted "V" at 30 feet and using 250 watts. I received a 5x5 report back from NHC. I tried later on in the afternoon but could not hear them.

2022 Hurricane Names List

Alex	Hermine	Owen
Bonnie	Ian	Paula
Colin	Julia	Richard
Danielle	Karl	Shary
Earl	Lisa	Tobias
Fiona	Martin	Virginie
Gaston	Nicole	Walter



Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc. (AARA) VE Test June News

A good evening for the June 2, 2022 test session with 2 in and 2 out. We have a new Tech, Johnny M. Murray (KI5VUO) of Breaux Bridge along with a new General, Randal L. Hernandez (KI5OQD) of Lafayette.

The VE's assisting with this session were ; Greg ~K5LFT, Michael ~ KI5ARX & Archie ~ W5AG. Congratulations to those testing & TNX to the VEs for the help.

73, de Greg ~K5LFT

When possible, Amateur Radio Examinations (VE Exams) will be conducted prior to the club meetings starting at 6:00 PM. Information regarding VE Exams can be found here.

<http://www.w5ddl.org/VE%20Exams.htm>

Please arrive as early as possible to help insure adequate time is available to complete your exam before the meeting starts.

Anyone needing additional information regarding VE Exams should contact Greg Dolan K5LFT at: k5lft@arrrl.net.



Repeater Fund - K5BLV 145.410 PL 123.0



As most of you already know, Mel Simon WD5CAE, becoming a “Silent Key”, left an empty hole in all of us. I was asked by several people to take over as the trustee for the repeater. I completed filing the paperwork and have everything updated and in order with the FCC, and QRZ. I have been in contact with the guy for the tower and who maintains the repeater for us, and everything is good with him. So I became the new trustee in March.

Mel used to ask us to donate to the Repeater Fund for maintenance and repairs and he was a good steward of the money and the repeater and left us in good shape. We do have money for emergency repairs.

There were some items that were mentioned to have done to the repeater, like extending the talk time, shortening the tail, adding an ID'er, and maybe a few more that I am not remembering now. After talking with many here, we decided to postpone those items, because that would drain all the funds we have saved and leave nothing in case of an emergency.

So I am putting out the call for donations to the repeater fund. I plan on doing it only one time a year as was done in the past. It is strictly voluntary, and no one will be singled out if they don't contribute. No explanation is needed, the whole world has changed since 2020 and times are very different, we all have bills to pay and food to put on the table. If June is not a good time, and later in the year, you have some spare change, think about donating then. We will do those requested updates/upgrades as the funds allow.

I have a couple of things in the works, one is obtaining a spare repeater. I have been in contact with someone who is giving us a repeater, not sure what kind it is or what shape its in, or if it has an ID'er already in it. It may work in case of emergency to keep us on the air if something happens. I am also looking into Echolink to see what it would take to add it.

And I am open to suggestions. This repeater is not mine; I just enjoy its use and want to see it continue to be in operation for those who want to use it.

If you use the repeater and are willing to donate to its continued operation, you can mail a check or money order to me, or give me cash when you see me, and I will deposit it into our account.

Ken Turner
117 Aaron Drive
Lafayette, LA 70508

337-298-2775
KG5YYL
kg5yyl@gmail.com



USS KIDD Special Event Station

July 4, 2022 1600Z-2130Z, W5KID, Baton Rouge, LA. Baton Rouge
Amateur Radio Club. 7.040 7.250 14.040 14.250.

QSL. USS KIDD Amateur Radio Club
305 S. River Road
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Operation aboard the USS KIDD (DD-661). WW II Fletcher class destroyer. www.qrz.com/db/w5kid
<https://www.usskidd.com/explore-the-kidd/ship-history/>



Main Trading Company History

Thirteen years ago, on June 4, I walked into our brand new retail location on Bonham St. in downtown Paris. We had just borrowed a little money from our local bank and I was a nervous wreck. I had been laid off from my job in the trailer business in February 2009. It had already been a wild ride. Gas was high. The economy was bad. There was no real sales jobs in Paris. I had two big kids and a one year old at home. My wife wasn't making much money at the time. We had bills to pay.

In what I thought then was the worst possible economy we started a business. We opened up that first morning. I was expecting a crowd. They didn't come. We did have a few friends come by but that was about it. We were selling mainly surplus electronics from Radio Shack. Being a ham I had a few used pieces of gear around. I will admit, it was a rocky start. We kept praying, trusting and hoping we could just hang on until the store could make it or I could find a job. We couldn't afford a sign. We couldn't even afford a name for our business since it would cost money to go file the necessary paperwork to get a DBA. I did have a DBA from a business I had that I never really got off the ground from years earlier. It was to be located on Main street in Paris. It was going to be Main Trading Company. I checked and the DBA was still good so just went with that.

For the few months prior I was going to Ft. Worth buying pick up loads of surplus. I would sell it all over town and on ebay. I set up a website and sent my first email "blast" out to the twenty people in my address book (our emails go out to almost 30,000 people)

Alinco Came on, Jetstream Kenwood, MFJ, Icom and Finally Yaesu all came on board with us. It took years for that to happen.

We have since taken thousands of trade ins. Our store has taken us all over the country to hamfests and shows. We even got to take our family to Japan when Icom had a contest on selling 7300's. This little store has more than paid our bills and has raised three kids. We moved several times but were finally able to purchase a building here on Lamar Ave. which is almost paid off now.

It has been a wild ride yall. It has been hard work and it is still hard work. I tell you all of this because i would have never ever dreamed this was even possible. I asked God to help us and he did. He had his hand on us and then business from day one. I believe he continues to do so.

Thank you for your support for the last thirteen years. You played a big part in this too!

Thanks,
Richard Lenoir KI5DX
Main Trading Company
2707 Lamar Ave.
Paris, TX 75460
903-737-0773

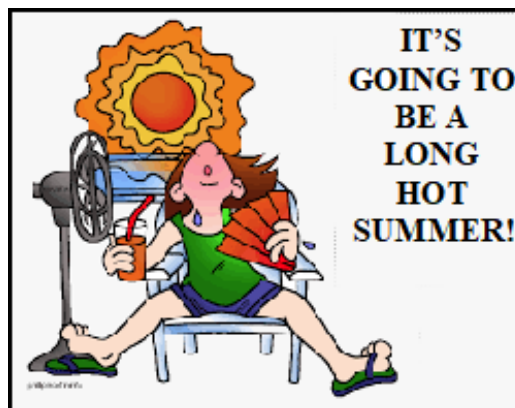
Hours:
Mon-Friday 9-6
Saturday 9-1
<https://www.mtcradio.com>



**MTC HAS ALWAYS BEEN A
GREAT SUPPORTER OF THE
AARA HAMFEST IN RAYNE,
LOUISIANA**

Electronic Quizoo Answers from page 8.

- 1 - H An alligator clip has teeth that mesh without overlapping.
- 2 - C A butterfly capacitor has wing-shaped rotor plates.
- 3 - J The rabbit-ear antenna is used with VHF television receivers.
- 4 - G The bat-wing antenna is used with UHF television receivers.
- 5 - I Horsepower ratings are given to electric motors.
- 6 - A Crocodile clips have overlapping jaws.
- 7 - E Bug refers to a telegraph key used by hams that makes "dots" automatically.
- 8 - B A cat whisker is a crystal detector probe.
- 9 - F Pigtails are the wire leads on resistors and capacitors.
- 10 - D Spider is the name for the support (large black dot) that centers and holds the loudspeaker cone in place.



July 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 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Schedule of Events

- **July 1 - July 7**—13 Colonies Special Event
- **July 4** — Independence Day
- **July 4**—USS Kidd Special Event - see page 3
- **July 7** — AARA General Club meeting at Candyland Cottage & Ice Cream Shop in Scott, LA at 7:00 PM.
- **July 9**—Tidelands Hamfest - see page 6

Check out the
LOUISIANA TRAFFIC NET
Each evening at 6:00 PM
central time on 3910 KHz.



13 Colonies Special Event 2022

**July 1 (9AM Eastern) to July 7 (Midnight Eastern)
(July 1, 2022-1300 UTC to July 8, 2022-0400 UTC)**

YOU DO NOT NEED ALL 13 COLONIES TO GET THE CERTIFICATE - YOU DO NOT NEED TO GET THE 2 BONUS STATIONS FOR A CLEAN SWEEP

Bands and Modes:

All HF bands will be in play, including the WARC bands, with the exception of 60 meters. Simplex on 2 meters and 6 meters is encouraged.

The SE stations are on the east coast and, are very close to each other. It will be harder for these states to contact

each other so, use of 40m-160m is encouraged.

All modes of operation may be represented - SSB, CW, RTTY, Digital, Etc. - The mode of operation is up to the individual colony state station. Please refer to the State information pages for details.

Check out the 13 Original Colonies website for QSL information, log sheets, exchange, certificates, and other information at: <http://www.13colonies.us/>

The 13 Colonies Special Event is a not for profit event. All donations are used to fund the next years event, and to defray any expenses occurred. All donations are used for operating costs, supplies, equipment, and 13 Colony Group initiatives. Donation is voluntary. If you have difficulty with a donation, tell us on your log sheet, and we will send you the certificate earned - No Questions Asked!.

This is one of the biggest events of the year for ham radio operators. It is a patriotic challenge and a lot of fun. I have participated for three years in the past and have a nice collection of QSL cards and certificates.

73 de Herman KN5GRK

Tidelands Hamfest



HAMFEST/CONVENTION

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tidelands Amateur Radio Society

Date: Saturday July 9, 2022

Time: 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Location: Doyle Convention Center

2010 5th Ave. N.

Texas City, TX 77590

Website: <http://www.tidelands.org>

Talk-In: 147.140

Pre-registration form: https://www.tidelands.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/2022hamfest_reg_form.pdf

Public Contact: Joe Gallagher - WA5OMB

PO Box 73

Texas City, TX 77590

147.040 Repeater in Duson, Louisiana

The 147.040 W5EXI repeater is being used for all Lafayette nets due to problems with the 146.820 W5DDL and 145.370 WA5TNK Acadiana SkyWarn repeaters until further notice.

On the nets held on Monday May 30 & Tuesday May 31 and on Wednesday June 1, the 147.040 developed intermittent problems (cutting out and static) during these nets. The alternate frequency of the 146.820 repeater was used.

On June 2, David KG5JHR took a drive to the repeater site in Duson, Louisiana and found that the building was extremely hot and none of the two air conditioning units were working and temperature was 108 degrees inside of the building.

Karl Fontenot KG5KZP, Chief Engineer of radio station KRVS-FM (owned by the University of Louisiana at Lafayette ULL) was notified and he (Karl) reported that the UL HVAC repairman would be out on Monday June 6 to make repairs. So far, the nets since then have not seen any problems.

On May 28, 2022, David KG5JHR and David K5XDF went to the W5EXI repeater site in Duson and did some outside maintenance (grass cutting & trimming) around the site.

ACADIANA SKYWARN NET

Tuesday evening at 7:00 PM - W5EXI 147.040 Repeater



The Acadiana SkyWarn Net is currently being held on the W5EXI repeater on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 PM local time until further notice. Net controls have been Glen KF5FNP, David KG5JHR, David K5XDF and Randy KI5OQD.

Normal check-in procedure is to check in by Lafayette Parish Quads by giving your name, call, location and any significant weather observations along with signal reports.

Sometimes there will be some training sessions incorporated in the net such as message handling using different forms, and general amateur radio protocol.

During severe weather conditions, the Acadiana SkyWarn Net may be activated and reports from local observers are reported and sent to the National Weather Station in Lake Charles.

Check out our website at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/skywarn.htm>

SkyWarn Net Reports		
MONTH 2022:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TIME:
JUNE	43	146
MAY	39	171
APRIL	35	205
MARCH	49	163

Repeaters 146.820 W5DDL & 443.00 W5DDL Issues

By Dave N4ELM

Today (Friday 6/17) at 9 am, I met Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP and Randy Hernandez KI5OQD at the Chase Bank building downtown Lafayette to look into the issues on the 146.820 and 443.00 repeaters. The visit had to be coordinated during regular business hours for building access, thanks Glen for helping with that.

443.00 Repeater

The 440 antenna for the repeater was found to be an open circuit. The antenna was loose in the mounting stub, the attaching bolt and set screws were missing. The coax from the repeater to the antenna was swept with a dummy load on the far end and the coax & arrestor tested good. Due to the mechanical complexity of the spare Cushcraft antenna, I decided to not try and install it. The only other spare antenna was a dual band 2M/440 antenna and I felt that the dual band nature of the antenna would allow too much 2M energy to be conducted into the repeater front end so decided not to install it either. The bad 440 antenna was removed from site. The club did not have a 440 wattmeter so we were unable to test if the repeater transmitter was working. The antenna end of the coax was waterproofed and the 443.00 was left turned off until an additional visit is scheduled to replace the 440 antenna and test the transmitter.

146.82 Repeater

The antenna was loose in the mounting stub, the attaching bolt was loose. During initial testing VSWR sweep testing, the SWR was seen to fluctuate when the antenna was moved. The coax from the repeater to the antenna was swept and the coax, arrestor, and antenna tested good. The stub mount was cleaned, a new set screw/jam nut was used, and the antenna was securely mounted. The VSWR sweep was performed again and no fluctuations were noted when the antenna was moved/flexed. The 146.82 repeater was turned back and returned to service after a couple of test contacts.

Next Steps:

Note: On top of the penthouse, the antennas are subjected to constant vibration, wind, water, and static.

While repaired, the existing 2M antenna needs to be replaced. It showed some dissimilar metal corrosion and water ingress between the base hub and the mounting stub. The stub mount bolt needs to be tightened and held with a jam nut or Loctite® to reduce loss from vibration.

The 440 antenna needs to be replaced. The antenna showed open, disassembly showed that the internal connections had water ingress and broke off at the connection to the base hub. It showed some dissimilar metal corrosion and water ingress between the base hub and the mounting stub. The stub mount bolts and set screws were missing entirely. They need to be tightened and held with a jam nut or Loctite® to reduce loss from vibration.

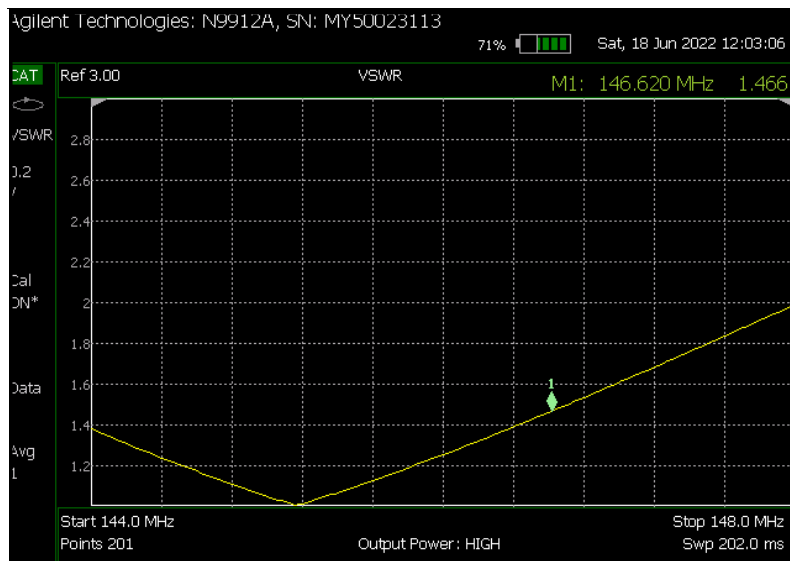
Before the 440 antenna replacement, a wattmeter and dummy load need to be placed at the antenna connector to test if the 440 transmitter is working.

It seems that due to the mounting type and location, we will need to continue to use the whip type single band 2M and 440 antennas for the repeaters in which case I recommend that the club purchase 2 - 440 base antennas and 2 - 2M base antennas, replace the repaired 2M antenna and broken 440 antenna and keep the remaining antennas for spares.

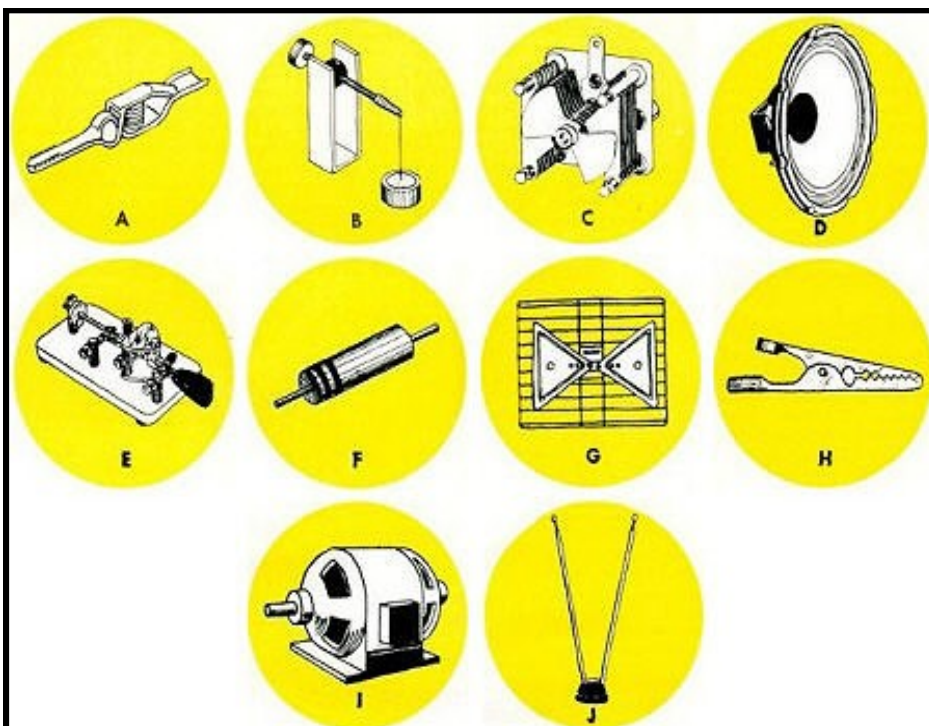
I have attached a VSWR sweep of the repaired 2M antenna measured from the output of the 2M duplexer.

I forgot to reset the marker but the VSWR at 146.82 is less than 1.6:1.

At the present time, the 443.00 repeater will be shut down until repairs are made and checked out.



Electronic Quizoo - When an electronic part can be likened to some member of the animal kingdom, we often name it after the animal or insect it resembles. See if you can match the drawings (A - J) in our electronic zoo with the ten names listed on the right side of this page. By Robert P. Balin



- 1 Alligator ____
- 2 Butterfly ____
- 3 Rabbit ____
- 4 Bat ____
- 5 Horse ____
- 6 Crocodile ____
- 7 Bug ____
- 8 Cat ____
- 9 Pig ____
- 10 Spider ____

Electronic Quizoo
October 1962 Popular Electronics

See answers on page 4



HERMAN CAMPBELL KN5GRK
416 DALE ST.
LAFAYETTE, LA 70501 - 2012

