



KN5GRK

Editor: Herman Campbell

Newsletter



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

April 2023

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Thursday April 6, 2023 — AARA General Club meeting at [Candyland Cottage & Ice Cream Shop](#) in Scott, LA at 7:00 PM. VE Testing @ 6:00 PM. If you have not paid your 2023-2024 membership dues, now is a good time to do so. BTW, the AARA Membership Roster has been updated.

My comments on the Acadiana DX Association Hamfest & Swapmeet held on March 11, 2023 in Rayne, Louisiana.

Ramona KG5HNO and myself Herman KN5GRK, decided that we were going to make this event “coming hell or high water”. It was to be the first for me in over four years due to medical problems and the Covid 19 thing.

For the last few months, I have been gathering, labeling and pricing many items of no use to me at the present time, but may be of use to someone else, to put on our swap table. The only problem was getting all the items to the hamfest site but **THANKS** to James K5CNU and Melissa W5MLC, they came out, loaded up all my stuff in their truck, brought it to the hamfest and put it on our table Friday evening.

Ramona and I arrived about 0715 Saturday morning and unpacked the items on our table. James had made provisions the we had the same spot as in previous hamfests with the BEARS Club (Jackie KA5LMZ) and John Allen N0JA had adjoining tables, so we were with good friends. It was really nice to be among fellow ham radio operators that we have not seen in years and many first time “eyeball to eyeball” contacts. I managed to win a door prize (a \$50.00 Gift Certificate from [DX Engineering](#)).

The Boy Scouts opened the hamfest with the Pledge of Allegiance ceremony. They also manned the refreshment center with jambalaya, hot dogs, hamburgers, coffee and drinks.

I have put together some of the photos of the ADXA Hamfest & Swapmeet on my website at: <https://www.kn5grk.com/ADXA%20Hamfest%20Photos/photos/> I use a free program to set up a photo album on-line called “Web Album Generator” which is an old program which is easy to use but lacking a few editing features. It takes a while to rename and sort the photos in the order that you want to view in the album.

James K5CNU made an announcement on one of the HF nets that next year on March 8 & 9, 2024 that there will be another hamfest with a Crawfish Boil & Lady’s Bingo, so it looks like things are started to recover from Covid 19.

de Herman [KN5GRK](#)

HELP KEEP AMATEUR RADIO ALIVE!



My website is hosted by:



Baytown Hamfest

Sponsor: East Side Amateur Radio Service
Date: Friday March 31, 2023 (setup times only 1730 - 2000)
 Saturday April 1, 2023 0700 - 1300
Location: Baytown Community Center
 2407 Market St.
 Baytown, TX 77520

Talk-in: 145.31 PL 167.9
VE Testing: 0930
Fees: General admission \$10.00
 Flea Market Tables \$15.00
Website:
<https://earstx.org/baytown-hamfest-2023>

Tell me and I forget. Teach me and I remember. Involve me and I learn.
 -Benjamin Franklin



ADXA Hamfest & Swapmeet REPORT



This Year's Hamfest was Dedicated to Silent Key "Mel Simon WD5CAE" & sponsored by the Acadiana DX Association.

The event was held on Saturday March 11, 2023 at the Rayne Civic Center in Rayne, Louisiana from 8:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Attendance was 384 which did not include those who managed to slip thru the back door. The ARRL and ARES Forum reported around 25 participants in attendance.

ARRL VE License Testing was at 9:00 a.m. as reported by Greg K5LFT. "Pretty good Hamfest for testing. We had two pass the Tech Test & unfortunately a few others did not pass for Tech or upgrade. Those that did pass were: Tucker Guidry of St. Martinville now KJ5AFN & Jason Deckard of Carencro now KJ5AJA.

The VE's helping out were: Greg ~ K5LFT, Boise ~ K5BGP, Steve ~ KF5VH, Mitchell ~ KB5TWL, Michael ~ KI5ARX & Terry ~ W5TMP. Congratulations to those that passed & TNX to the VE's". 73 de, Greg ~ K5LFT

The Boy Scouts opened the event with a prayer and a "Pledge of Allegiance" they also manned the food court with jambalaya, hot dogs, hamburgers, coffee and drinks.

Those who did not attend this event really missed a good one. Those that did attend, reported they had a good time and are looking forward to 2024. Weather was nice, no rain, a nice breeze and moderate temperature throughout the day. I heard through a reliable source that there will be a hamfest next year with a crawfish boil and Lady's Bingo on March 8 & 9, 2024 so mark your calendars.



MEL WD5CAE

Main Prize winners:

1ST - Yaesu FT-710 GRAND PRIZE	Kevin Morvant NZ5O of Broussard, LA
2ND - Yaesu FM-300DR	Mark Dupuis KI5NGT of St. Martinville, LA
3RD - MFJ 259D Antenna Analyzer	Victor Baudoin KI5IMV of Jeanerette, LA

We would like to thank everyone that volunteered in helping set up tables, loading & unloading the vendors merchandise and those with swap tables it is greatly appreciated, but most of all **THANKS** to all that came out and supported the **Acadiana DX Association Hamfest & Swapmeet**.

The [City of Rayne, Louisiana](#) deserves a big **THANKS** for the use of the Rayne Civic Center for this event.



James Romero K5CNU Ken Turner KG5YYL

Thanks to these 2 guys for making the Acadiana DX Association Hamfest & Swapmeet 2023 possible. A lot of time and work went into making this project a success.



LOUISIANA QSO PARTY 2023

Sponsored by the Louisiana Contest Club

The Louisiana QSO Party will run from 14:00 UTC, April 1, 2023 to 02:00 UTC, April 2, 2023 (9:00 AM to 9:00PM CDT Saturday, April 1, 2023)

Object: For Amateurs to exchange QSO information with as many Louisiana stations as possible on the 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 meter bands. It is also an opportunity for county hunters to work rare or otherwise inactive Louisiana Parishes.

*Louisiana stations work everyone.

*Non-Louisiana stations work Louisiana stations only.

Rules:

<https://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org/laqso-rules-htm/>



April 27, 2023

Morse Code Day celebrates the invention of Morse code and the electric telegraph machine.

This special event was established on this date to honor Samuel Morse, who was born on April 27, 1791.

ACADIANA 2 METER NET REPORTS March 2023

Net Name	Sessions	Check-ins	Total Time
AARA Monday Night Net - 146.820 @ 7:00 PM Monday	4	76	160
Acadiana SkyWarn Net - 147.040 @ 7:00 PM Tuesday	4	47	136
Silent Key Memorial Net - 146.820 @ 7:00 PM Wednesday	5	64	174
Rag Chew Net - 146.820 @ 8:00 PM Thursday	4	24	219

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



Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc. (AARA) VE Test Results March 2, 2023



No one showed up for testing at the March 2, 2023 meeting. Two people did express a desire to test. One for upgrade to General and a newbie from Parks, LA., Tucker Guidry.

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



Ham on the Computer

wfview software for Icom

Reprinted from the SARC "The Communicator" March - April 2023 page 75

[wfview](#) runs on recent versions of Linux, macOS, and Windows. [wfview controls](#) modern Icom rigs using either a USB serial connection or OEM network (ethernet or wifi) connection. Live, real-time spectrum analyzer data are displayed, and rig controls are presented. Additional programs may tie into the CIV bus using the pseudo-terminal device (linux and macOS), virtual serial port loop-back (windows), or hamlib-compatible rigctld server. [wfview](#) provides the user with controls that may be comfortably operated from a keyboard, mouse, or touch screen interface.

See the video on [YouTube](#). [wfview](#) shows the gorgeous spectrum display on whatever display is connected, including projectors, touch screens, and TVs. [wfview](#) allows for full radio control from a computer keyboard and basic control from a numeric keypad. [wfview](#) can run on hardware ranging from the \$35 Raspberry Pi to laptops to desktops. [wfview](#) supports rig control over ethernet/wifi as well as over the traditional USB serial CIV bus. [wfview](#) also allows older radios to be accessed over the internet, for full control and low-latency audio streaming.

On rigs with built-in network interfaces (such as the IC-705, IC-7610, IC-7850, IC-R8600, and IC-9700), live audio streaming is available for both receive and transmit. Special care was taken in the creation of the network code for very low latency audio — ideal for general QSO's as well as time-sensitive modes such as FT8 and JT65.

On the IC-7300 (and other non-network rigs), [wfview](#) can serve as a USB to Ethernet "bridge", connecting the IC-7300 to the network for remote control and live streaming full-duplex audio using another instance of [wfview](#) on a remote computer.

The server can be a humble Raspberry Pi or a normal desktop computer.

[wfview](#) development started in 2018, by Elliott (W6EL) as a simple way to view the waterfall from the 7300 on Linux, for the purpose of displaying these data on large screens. Since then, it has evolved to support a number of radios, and it has gained considerable functionality (including network connections) thanks to a growing group of enthusiastic developers. [wfview](#) is, quite simply, a program

that we (the developers) all wanted to use, and as such, it has grown rapidly as we continue to pour our ideas into the [roadmap](#).

The following radios have been tested and are known to work well (these are our "target" platform radios):

IC-705, IC-7300, IC-7610, IC-R8600, IC-7850, and IC-9700.

[wfview](#) has code to support the following additional radios on a best-effort level. Obviously, many of the more modern features (such as the waterfall display) are not available on these older radios:

IC-706 MKIIG, IC-718, IC-736, IC-737, IC-738, IC-756, IC-756 Pro, IC-756 Pro II, IC-756 Pro III, IC-7000, IC-7100, IC-7200, IC-7410, IC-7600, IC-7700, IC-7800, IC-910H, IC-9100

Please read the [User Manual](#) for a complete overview of all functions of [wfview](#). The [Getting Started](#) page is where to begin.

The project's goals are simple: Develop a free and open-source program for ham radio and SWL users to enjoy using modern radios on modern operating systems, free of charge, and with open source code.

[Surrey Amateur Radio Communications](#)
14689 – 72A Ave,
Surrey, BC V3S 9L8



2023 World Amateur Radio Day is April 18

What: 2023 World Amateur Radio Day

Who: All amateur radio operators worldwide

When: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 0000 UTC until Wednesday, April 19, 2023 at 0000 UTC

Where: A global event covering all regions of the [International Amateur Radio Union \(IARU\)](#)

Why: World Amateur Radio Day, held on April 18 each year, is celebrated worldwide by radio amateurs and their national associations which are organized as member-societies of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). It was on this day in 1925 that the IARU was formed in Paris. American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Co-Founder Hiram Percy Maxim was its first president.

Amateur radio experimenters were the first to discover that the short-wave spectrum could support long-distance radio signal propagation. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, amateur radio was “in grave danger of being pushed aside,” the IARU’s history has noted. Amateur Radio pioneers met in Paris in 1925 and created the IARU to promote the interests of amateur radio worldwide and to protect and enhance its spectrum privileges. Today, the IARU is a federation consisting of more than 160 national amateur radio organizations in as many countries and separate territories. The International Secretariat of the IARU is ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® in the United States.

On World Amateur Radio Day, all radio amateurs are invited to take to the airwaves to enjoy our global friendship with other amateurs, and to show our skills and capabilities to the public

How: World Amateur Radio Day is not a contest but rather an opportunity to “talk” about the value of amateur radio to the public and our fellow amateur colleagues. It is also a great opportunity to talk about your radio club and amateur radio in local media as a lead-up to ARRL Field Day (held each year during the fourth full weekend in June) and another ham radio related activity in your community – such as volunteers who serve in local emergency communication readiness including the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service®.

Here are just a few ways to participate in, and promote, World Amateur Radio Day:

1. Get a station on the air! Create your own personal “event” to talk about amateur radio to others, including family and friends.
2. Find out more about World Amateur Radio Day by checking the IARU website and other Resources listed below.
3. Create and hold a special net or on-air event on World Amateur Radio Day to raise the level of attention for the celebration, and to encourage other hams to talk about our hobby. Consider creating and offering a commemorative certificate for contacting your special activation. It can be an electronic one as these are cost effective.
4. Get the word out! If you are an ARRL Public Information Coordinator, Public Information Officer, or responsible for radio club publicity, send a press release and conduct some public relations outreach to highlight the day and/or events. Talk about all of the activities radio amateurs have continued to support during the pandemic, and how amateur radio serves our communities. Find recent examples of amateur radio in-the-news at www.arrl.org/media-hits.
5. Promote your personal World Amateur Radio Day activity(ies) on social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook by using the hashtag **#WorldAmateurRadioDay**. Make sure you send it to various clubs, reflectors, and media.

Join us in celebrating World Amateur Radio Day and all the ways amateur radio brings us together!
<http://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day>

Practical Skills For the Radio Amateur

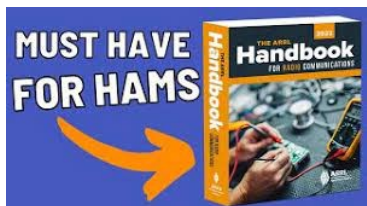
While not every ham is technically inclined or particularly handy, amateur radio operators tend to be do-it-yourself (DIY) kind of people who often build, install, and fix their gear and other things. In many ways hams are some of the original “Makers” and experimenters who have actually helped further the art and science of radio and communications technology.

To encourage and further this historic reputation, consider developing in yourself some of the practical skills that ham radio operators are stereotyped to possess. While the list rightly could be more extensive, we will suggest four basic ones here:

- *Electronic soldering
- *Using a multi-meter
- *Stripping and terminating different kinds of wire and cable
- *Drilling and cutting material (fabrication)

We can't go into details on these here, so the reader will need to learn about these skills on their own. Besides researching them on the web, how can you develop these skills and techniques? As always, consult your Elmer for some guidance on any or all of these topics. On your own you can also read up on different subjects in books, magazines and on the internet.

The ARRL Handbook has plenty of info on these subjects and is a highly recommended reference. QST magazine is also a good resource.



Building an electronic kit is a wonderful experience that will teach you a lot about components and soldering. Local clubs may also host training/practice sessions in some of these areas.

A VHF antenna build is another great way to gain experience with stripping, terminating and soldering and may also involve a multi-meter.

<https://newhams.info/2016/09/15/practical-skills-for-the-radio-amateur/>

Basic Tools For Electronic Repairing



- Multi-meter
- Soldering iron or gun, solder, and de-soldering tool
- Needle nose & side cutter pliers
- Wire strippers or knife
- Assorted screw drivers and nut drivers
- Electrical tape and shrink tubing

Although these are the basic tools you need, you may find some others come in handy.



Every ham should have a multi-meter and know how to use it. Multi-meter use is a practical skill not only for ham radio but also around the house for general power and wiring work. As with many topics on this site, details of the subject are too extensive to cover in a simple post so we will give you just basic info along with some resources for further study on your own.

A good soldering iron is another basic tool.



I prefer two irons, one for light work such as printed circuit boards and a heavy one for soldering connectors.



A nice set of assorted screw driver and nut drivers along with side cutters and needle nose pliers come in handy too.



John E. Ross, KD8IDJ, [Editor](#)

March 16, 2023

Tornado Season and Amateur Radio

Tornado season is fast approaching, and amateur radio operators will again play a key role in helping the National Weather Service (NWS) issue accurate and timely warnings. In fact, March through May is considered the most active period for tornadoes to develop.

The NWS reports there have already been 255 preliminary filtered reported tornadoes and 213 confirmed tornadoes in the United States in 2023. Worldwide, nine tornado-related deaths have been confirmed, all of them in the United States.

January saw the third-highest number of tornado watches and confirmed tornadoes of any January on record in the United States. Additionally, the first two months of the year saw the fourth-highest number of confirmed tornadoes for the first 59 days of any year on record.

The SKYWARN® (weather.gov) Storm Spotter Program is available to anyone interested in helping the NWS track and report potentially dangerous weather. Anyone can become a SKYWARN weather spotter, and the information is available at the SKYWARN website. Most states have amateur radio networks that are activated during severe weather. Trained volunteers use their radios to report rapidly changing activity and share the information with local weather offices. A list of the states that have scheduled special weather awareness activities can be found at the NWS Awareness and Preparedness Calendar (weather.gov).



SKYWARN

The NWS Forecast office in Norman, Oklahoma, uses amateur radio as one method of communicating with spotter groups and emergency management organizations. For decades, amateur radio operators have provided invaluable service in support of the SKYWARN storm spotter program by using their unique communications capabilities to share

critical information between the NWS, the local emergency management officials, and storm spotter networks.

In 1999, the NWS, along with ARRL, founded [SKYWARN Recognition Day](#) to honor the voluntary contributions of thousands of amateur radio operators who play a critical role in keeping the public safe and informed about severe weather conditions. The day is celebrated on the first Saturday in December, and amateur radio spotters can earn awards for participating.

The 2022 NWS Spotter of the Year Award was given to Bryan Loper, WX5CSS, of Atlanta, Texas. The award noted that Loper is very active with the amateur radio network and weather community within the Arkansas/Louisiana/Texas region, and is always reliably providing weather reports. Loper is an ARRL member.

To learn more about amateur radio licensing and SKYWARN visit ARRL.org.



[Acadiana DX Association Hamfest & Swapmeet Photos](#)

April 2023

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						

Schedule of Events

- April 1 — April Fool's Day
- April 1 — Baytown Hamfest
- April 1 — Louisiana QSO Party
- April 6 — AARA General Club meeting at Candyland Cottage & Ice Cream Shop in Scott, LA at 7:00 PM. VE Testing @ 6:00 PM
- April 7 — Good Friday
- April 9 — Easter
- April 27 — Morse Code Day

World Radio History
Thousands of books and magazines can be found:
[HERE](#)
Great website!



Hey Gang!
Lots going on with Ascension Amateur Radio!

We will be working the LA QSO Party Saturday April 1st from our Communications Trailer at the Prairieville Fire Department.

We will do a solder school and kit build too. We will be building an LED digital clock. If you want to learn how to solder, what all those little parts are inside my radio here is your chance. We are asking \$20 for the kit and you will need a few basic tools of your own. Money for the kit is due 3/15 so I can order them. You can pay over our website www.k5arc.org and use the PayPal link.

What to learn more about Parks on the Air? Matthew Edmunds, W5OTO, will be working with hams who want to learn more about POTA both as an activator or chaser. That will also be at the same time.

AARC will also be working on a balloon build. We are going to build and launch a pico balloon with WSPR and APRS tracker. This will not happen until summer possibly Field Day. There is a lot to learn.

These meeting will be over Zoom and are open to everyone. We hope to work with the Girl Scouts and their new STEM Center in Gonzales. We will be going over stuff like Raspberry pi, WSPR, APRS, HF propagation, atmospheric conditions. There is a ton of science involved, it's not just letting go of the string.

If you have any questions I can be reached at this e-mail or my mobile (337) 288-6711
Elmer Tatum elmer.tatum21@gmail.com

04/04/2023 Vintage Radio Special Event

1700Z-2200Z, WE7GV, Sahuarita, AZ. Green Valley Amateur Radio Club. 14.242 14.245 14.248. Certificate & QSL. Tom Lang, 1085 W. El Toro Rd, Sahuarita, AZ 85629. WE7GV will be using the 1963 Discone antenna at the Titan Missile Museum along with vintage Hallicrafter, Heathkit, and Kenwood radios.
we7gv1@gmail.com

04/08/2023 Commemorating Operation Frequent Wind Evacuation of Saigon in 1975

1600Z-2300Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 14.070 PSK31 DSTAR on Papa system repeaters. QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910 N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101.
www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw

04/15/2023 Texas State Parks on the Air to Commemorate Tom King, WK5DX, the Texas Event's Founder

Apr 15-Apr 16, 1400Z-0200Z, K5LRK, The Colony, TX. Lake Area Amateur Radio Klub. 7.040 7.215 14.040 14.265. QSL. Ken Rainey, AC5EZ, 529 Kenilworth Ave, Oak Point, TX 75068. CW-Bottom of band +40kHz ; Phone-General Segment +40kHz and 28.350; VHF 50.200 & 144.200 MHz. 4/15 14:00 to 4/16 02:00 and:4/16 14:00 to 4/16 20:00. <https://www.tspota.org/home>

17/2023 World Amateur Radio Day 202304/

Apr 17-Apr 18, 1700Z-2300Z, W2W, Rochester, NY. Roc-Ham Radio Network. EchoLink ROCH-HAM CONFERENCE/531091 EchoLink - FREESTAR CONFERENCE EchoLink - WALES CONFERENCE 20m 14.313. Certificate & QSL. John Derycke, W2JLD, 85 Amherst St. Apt. 2, Rochester, NY 14607. Join us for the 8th annual World Amateur Radio Day 2023. For more information, check out the website www.roc-ham.net

04/28/2023 National Library Week

Apr 28-Apr 30, 1700Z-1700Z, K8L, Youngstown, OH. WF8U, KC3GFU. 14.074 7.074 14.240 7.240. QSL. K8L, 239 Elvira Ct., Mc Donald, OH 44437. Join us in celebrating National Library Week. K8L will be on air Friday, Apr 28th (1700 UTC) - Sunday, Apr 30th (1700 UTC). We will be operating both SSB & FT8 modes. QSL available upon request. Please send your QSL/request to K8L, 239 Elvira Ct., McDonald, OH 44437. *Please include postage stamp & return address label. More information available on www.qrz.com/db/WF8U

04/29/2023 Anniversary of the Birth of Radio Astronomy

Apr 29-Apr 30, 1400Z-2359Z, W9GFZ, Virginia and New Mexico. National Radio Astronomy Observatory. 3.800-4.000; 7.175-7.300; 14.225-14.350; 21.275-21.450; 28.300-29.700. Certificate & QSL. Kevin Shoemaker, 1180 Boxwood Estate Rd., Charlottesville, VA 22903.
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Complimentary
Issue