



THE BRASS KEY



April 2023

A Publication of the Central Louisiana Amateur Radio Club



The BRASS KEY is published monthly as its official journal by the Central Louisiana Amateur Radio Club, P. O. Box 4652, Pineville, LA. 71361. CLARC yearly membership dues (including a subscription to the BRASS KEY), is \$30. Editor/Publisher: Lisa Coleman, KW5LC; (318) 466-5623; clarcsec@yahoo.com. Members may submit texts for possible publication to the editor, Lisa Coleman, KW5LC, by hard copy at a meeting or by email at clarcsec@yahoo.com. Space and printing limitations may affect the appearance of any item submitted. Photo submissions should be sent in either TIFF, JPEG, or GIF formats, by email. All submissions must be turned in to the secretary by the third Tuesday of the month.

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The Prez Sez . . .

Words from our President, Kirk Garber, W5KKG

Hello fellow HAM's of the Central La. Amateur Radio Club!

Spring time is knocking at the door and I hope the temperate weather is finding all of you active with HAM radio projects. The Club Repeater Committee has been diligently working to get our 6 Meter repeater up and running. A special thank you Don Ward KI5AJV, Terry Bradshaw AI5KL, and Chris Wright KI5HDW for the time and effort in trouble shooting, cleaning and reprograming the repeater and DTMF system. In the long term, the club will need to think about a possible replacement if we intend to keep a 6 meter repeater operating.

We have a new Chairman for the Field Day Committee. Thank you to Terry Bradshaw AI5KL for agreeing to chair that committee. John Dempsey N5CM has done a wonderful job for us to this point and created some large shoes to fill, but I have no doubt Terry will do just fine. Terry will need club support to be successful; we are still in need of a location to have both Field Days this coming year. I urge you to put your thinking caps on and give Terry and crew some options for a field day location.

Our biggest agenda item with the CLARC this month is the motion on the floor to change the call sign of the club, which is currently N5AEX. Houston Polson KD5YS has volunteered to chair the committee that is exploring the proposed call sign change. I have decided not to announce the membership of the committee so they can focus on being objective in their pursuits. Both Houston and I have made sure we have folks that are watching out for both the Voice and CW side of a call sign change. If you have suggestions, comments, concerns please route them through me or Houston. Once the committee has its report ready we will announce the results and publish the names of the committee. Then the club can decide what we are going to do.

73,
Kirk W5KKG
CLARC President



CLARC CONGRATULATES:

Terry Bradshaw, AI5KL, who upgraded to
Amateur Extra in March

and new member Scott Merryman,
KJ5AEC, who passed his Technician and
General exams in March.

HAM HOOORAH!!

**CLARC places 1st in Louisiana Mixed Low
TB-Wires and 4th Louisiana Overall in the
2022 Louisiana QSO Party Event!**

Congratulations to all our operators!



Scenes from Louisiana QSO Party 2022





Prior Public Proceedings

Lisa Coleman, KW5LC , Club Secretary

March 7, 2023 CLARC General Meeting

Those present: Lisa Coleman KW5LC, Allen Henderson KG5IMA, Pauline Jordan K5PIQ, Don Ward KI5AJV, David Nolan K5TS, Jim Walters AE5ZE, Robert Partiagianoni WB5JZP, Joan Partiagianoni KA2RBS, Chris Wright KI5HDW, John Dempsey N5CM, Mike Canady N5GJQ, Stephen Peters N5EKC, Jack Brossette W5ETL, Scott Wren KD5DFL, Chris Olivier KI5LOX, Greg Pawliski KG5RPY, Houston Polson KD5YS, Kirk Garber W5KKG, Jeff Foley KI5HVK, Erin Huddleston KI5ZJC, Michael Callahan – No call yet, Terry Bradshaw AI5KL, Jim Bookter N5NVP, Stacey Sonneland KG5KGU Attending via ZOOM: Beth Butterfield KI5IGT, Dick Lundy WA5CAV, Grady Ebert KB5SDU.

Kirk W5KKG – Call to order and opening welcome, Pledge of Allegiance and Introductions.

Kirk extended congratulations to Terry AI5KL, who upgraded to Amateur Extra since the last meeting, and also changed his call sign to AI5KL.

Health and Welfare:

Houston KD5YS – asks prayer for his son, Adam, who is having some health issues. Kirk W5KKG - Jim Bookter N5NVP and Mrs. Irma KE5UPK, for their health and welfare.

The prayer was led by Stephen Peters N5EKC.

A presentation was made by our president, Kirk W5KKG, to Jeff KI5HVK for his work in providing an operating location for our 2023 Winter Field Day. The members were very grateful for his securing a location for us. Kirk presented Jeff with two tumblers, one for Jeff and one for his supervisor who approved the location for our use.

The meeting was halted for the presentation for this evening by Robert Partiagianoni WB5JZP on MARS.

CLARC Business Meeting

Kirk announced that there has been a change in the chair position of the Field Day Committee. After a few years of service, John N5CM has stepped down and has graciously handed the position over to Terry AI5KL. Kirk also asked Scott KD5DFL to act as the Activities Committee Chair. Scott agreed to do this.

Scott KD5DFL gave his monthly ARES/RACES update, asking the members to get with him about any concern they may have with ARES/RACES, as he sends a monthly report to the ARRL.

The motion was made to approve the minutes of the February 7, 2023 Meeting Minutes and Treasurer Report by Houston KD5YS and seconded by Will, KI5IPJ. The membership accepted without opposition.

Old Business:

Terry AI5KL reported that his Field Day Location Committee has not been able to locate an acceptable place for Summer Field Day. There are still some options on the list that will be checked out soon. Terry reminded the members that we are still looking for a location and would appreciate any ideas they might have.

At the February 7, 2023 meeting, Terry AI5KL had proposed to the membership that the club call sign, N5AEX, be changed to a new permanent call sign that would be an acceptable CW weight as well as more easily pronounced and copied by receiving stations.

For reference, From February 7, 2023 General Meeting Minutes:

(Terry K5CPL proposed a motion that the club call sign, N5AEX, be changed to something that is easier to pronounce and more easily copied. This motion was seconded by Don KI5AJV.

Discussion on the motion:

Terry proposed that we find a call that has an acceptable CW weight for the CW operators and something that is easier for the SSB operators to convey to other operators in a large pileup, such as those experienced during field day operations. Other field day SSB operators voiced their opinions saying that the problem with confusion with our call sign,(i.e. is it AEX, AXE, XAE and so forth) has been a problem for the past few field days, POTA and QSO party operations. Scott KD5DFL spoke up that the repeaters (4) would have to be changed to reflect a new call sign. Others spoke up saying this is only a one-time change and could be done without much effort. Terry proposed that a list of available potential call signs agreeable to the CW operators and the SSB operators could be easily made and presented at the next meeting. Jack W5ETL made a motion to table and John K5AGI seconded. Kirk W5KKG called for a vote and the vote passed to table

the motion. Those in support of tabling the matter were 15 in support, and those in favor of further discussion of the matter were 6.)

Following the February 7, 2023 meeting, John N5CM and Scott KD5DFL filed for a temporary call sign to be used from June 23, 2023 – June 30, 2023, the time period covering Summer Field Day. This call sign, K5M, was accepted and assigned and could be used for Summer Field Day, if the club so chooses. Kirk reminded the members that nothing has been decided regarding the use of K5M, just that it was filed for and we have use of it during those days if we decide to do so.

Houston KD5YS informed the members that each time the club files for a temporary 1 x 1 call sign and uses that call sign for an event, he has to change Logbook of the World, certificates and other call sign documentation. To use a temporary call sign for each event would create a great deal of extra work.

Terry AI5KL presented a list of available call signs, all having a CW weight of 50 or less, (N5AEX having a CW weight of 46) that might be acceptable for CW and SSB operations. He stated that he tried to compromise between the needs of all operation modes.

Houston KD5YS made the motion to “un-table” the motion that was made at the February 7 meeting, in order for the membership to vote on changing the call sign N5AEX, to a more usable, permanent call sign. The motion was seconded by Lisa KW5LC.

Dave K5TS suggested that a committee be appointed to work through the selection of a new call sign to replace N5AEX. Houston KD5YS moved that the committee be formed to explore the possible changing of the call sign and return in May with not more than three available call signs that are acceptable for their CW weight and ease of use on SSB. The motion was seconded by Jack, W5ETL. The membership voted and the motion passed with two members being opposed.

Don KI5AJV gave an update on the status of the 6m repeater. He hopes to have it operational by Thursday or Friday of this week.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Lisa E. Coleman, KW5LC
CLARC Secretary



TREASURER'S REPORT

Stacey Sonneland, KG5KGU

Treasurer's Report

Stacey Sonneland, KG5KGU, Club Treasurer

Financial Report for March 2023

Revenue

Dues	\$	60.00
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50/50

Misc

Total Revenues

\$	60.00
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Expenditures

Equipment

\$	325.08
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Insurance

Fellowship

Maintenance and Repairs

Office - P.O Box Rental

Winter Field Day

Summer Field Day

Utilities

\$	18.19
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Web Hosting and domain

Scholarship

Legal - Annual Report to Sec of State

Baofeng Radios

Misc.

Total Expenditures

\$	343.27
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Revenues - Expenditures

\$	(283.27)
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Notes:

(1)

MFJ 836, Easel w/pad and sharpie

Total membership as of 3/21/2023

52

Zoom Link to CLARC monthly meetings.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88070112230?pwd=bjE3bDI2dnZQSGtBWjFVeFNhbVcyQT09>

This is a permanent link for all CLARC Meetings!



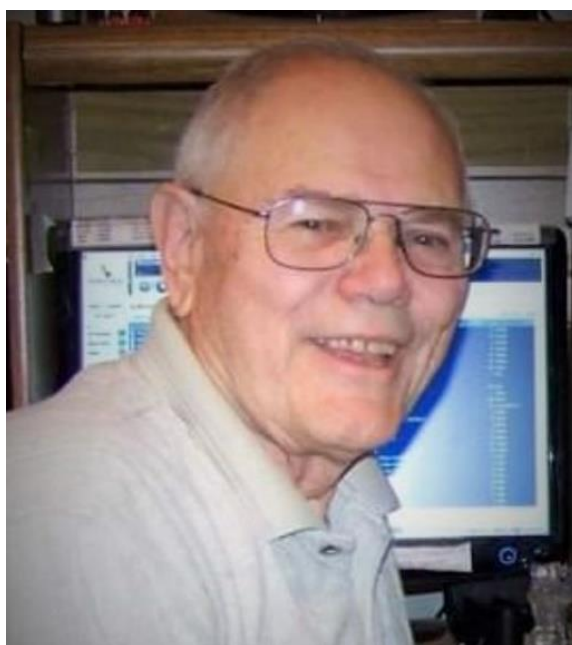
FROM THE SHACK



Members are free to submit articles for "From the Shack!" We want to hear about your shack or other things of ham interest! Tell us about your operating conditions and submit your photos to Lisa, KW5LC, at clarcsec@yahoo.com

Acadiana DX Association Hamfest March 11, 2023

CLARC was well represented at the March 11, 2023 "Rayne Hamfest!" Almost 400 hams were in attendance at this year's hamfest, which featured a wide variety of equipment for sale, good food and lots of opportunities to meet new hams and visit with old friends.



This year's Rayne Hamfest was dedicated to Mel Simon, WD5CAE (SK), of New Iberia, Louisiana, who passed away December 29, 2021. Mel was first licensed in 1969.



Dennis W5LD



Don KI5AJV



Houston KD5YS and Pauline K5PIQ



Don KI5AJV, Houston KD5YS, John N5CM



Dave K5TS



James K5CNU, hamfest orgnizer, and Lisa KW5LC

Not pictured but in attendance: Scott KD5DFL, Dave KW5DB. Stephen K5EKC, and Greg KG5RPY. (If we missed anyone else - sorry! We didn't see you in the crowd!)



**** April 1 – 2023 Louisiana QSO Party – Saturday – Louisiana QSO Party -**
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) We will have more information on CLARC participation when that becomes available.

<https://laqp.louisianacontestclub.org/>

**** CLARC April Meeting, Tuesday, April 4, 2023 -** Kees Park Community Center, 2450 HWY 28 Pineville. Doors open at 5:30 for VE License exams and fellowship. Contact Jim Walters, AE5ZE at 318-447-9384 for exam information. Meeting to begin at 7:00 PM. Topic: Whitham D. Reeve – HAARP - High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Highfrequency_Active_Auroral_Research_Program)

ZOOM Link for all CLARC meetings:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88070112230?pwd=bjE3bDI2dnZQSGtBWjFVeFNhbVcyQT09>

**** CLARC April Fellowship Luncheon** – Friday April 21, 2023 – TIME: 11:00 AM,
Location: Tequila Mexican Restaurant, 2870 LA-28, Pineville, LA Menu:
<https://www.zmenu.com/tequila-mexican-restaurant-pineville-online-menu/>

****May 9 Tuesday – CLARC May Meeting** - Kees Park Community Center, 2450 HWY 28 Pineville. Doors open at 5:30 for VE License exams and fellowship. Contact Jim Walters, AE5ZE at 318-447-9384 for exam information. Meeting to begin at 7:00 PM. Presentation: Winter Field Day Operations Wrap-up, Houston KD5YS
ZOOM Link for all CLARC meetings:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88070112230?pwd=bjE3bDI2dnZQSGtBWjFVeFNhbVcyQT09>

**** May 13, 2023 – Saturday -Carter Strong 3rd Annual Hamfest**
HAMFEST/CONVENTION – Louisiana Delta ARC- Joe Holland KB5VJY, 318-348-0153, kb5vjy@gmail.com, Location: Barak Shriners Lodge, 6620 Frontage Rd., Monroe, LA 71201 Email Joe: kb5vjy@gmail.com

**** June 6, Tuesday – CLARC June Meeting** - - Kees Park Community Center, 2450 HWY 28 Pineville. Doors open at 5:30 for VE License exams and fellowship. Contact Jim Walters, AE5ZE at 318-447-9384 for exam information. Meeting to begin at 7:00 PM. Presentation: Waterproofing Coax – Dave K5TS and Scott KD5DFL

ZOOM Link for all CLARC meetings:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88070112230?pwd=bjE3bDI2dnZQSGtBWjFVeFNhbVcyQT09>

****June 24 – 25, 2023 - ARRL 2023 Summer Field Day.** More information closer to event date.

****Shreveport – Bossier Hamfest – Saturday, August 12, 2023** - Shreveport Amateur Radio Association (SARA). Time: 7:00am - 2:00 pm. FREE Parking — Easy Access Admission: \$10.00 at door, Website: Shreveport Amateur Radio Association (SARA) <http://www.k5sar.com/sbhamfest/>

