W5SGL
NEWSLETTER

MCARA
SPLATTER

May 2026 Edition

KEEPING YOU INFORMED

We are excited to bring you the latest from the MCARA Club news & events for the month of May. You'll see the basic information on the events coming up and some of the activities taking place in the MCARA Club and among the members. You'll see updates and be able to find information to learn about up-coming events.





From the Desk of the President



Scott Owens
AD5HS

Since this is my first message to the club via the splatter I'd like to thank everyone who voted for me and had confidence that I could do the job. It was the closest election I have ever seen in the club. And to those who voted against me, hopefully I can gain your confidence and trust over time by fair and just leadership. To that end, I will ensure everyone gets a say when discussions arise and everyone gets to vote on motions that are on the floor. Further, if anyone wants to vote NO on some motion please feel free to do so as it is your right and duty to do so. But once the voting is over and whichever side wins it is my sincerest hope that we can all pull together as a team to accomplish the task in front of us.

I would like to personally thank Noel N5FTY for allowing the club the use of his shack for the 10 meter contest and the MS QSO party. Additionally, I'd like to thank Norm WB4YBY for allowing the club to use his shack for the SSB 160m contest, yet again. Also I'd like to thank everyone who contributed to the food outlay for all three events. That's not an easy task. Also I'd like to thank all the club members who came out and worked the radio(s) in those contests. If we don't have operators then the club's "on the air" presence is greatly diminished.

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From the Desk of the President



Scott Owens
AD5HS

This year will see significant change in the club. When Steve WG5W and I took over the reins in January our goal was to lock down a tower location for the repeater after a thorough investigation, get the club meeting place moved to a more central location and move our Field day location to someplace a bit more public. By now most everyone knows the repeater location will be moved from Biloxi to Long Beach. Steve and I and the repeater team will be working behind the scenes to ensure the repeater location transition is seamless with no lapse in up time. Our meeting place will hopefully be moving to the Gulfport Fire Station #1. It is one of the most central locations on the MS gulf coast and the meeting space is very nice but a bit smaller than the bank. I would also like to thank Wylde Bill N5GQ for getting the club the use of the band location during a difficult time.

Field Day. We will be going back to Stew N5LBZ's property in north Gulfport for field day this year. Thanks in advance Stew for allowing us to come there again since this was somewhat of a short notice. The June meeting will be at Fire Station #1 and predominately be about locking in preparations for field day and a couple of other short items. From the sign-up list I saw at the last meeting we should have a lot of help and operators for field day this year. I encourage everyone to come out and help where you can and please operate a station. We can all become better ham radio operators by responsibly using equipment that is NOT in our shack.

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From the Desk of the President



Scott Owens
AD5HS

Finally, With a positive attitude and a volunteer spirit we can make this club bigger and better and have a lot of fun doing it. I view our club not just as a club but as a team. Teams can do anything they put their mind to. Stay healthy and all the best.



73
Scott Owen
AD5HS
MCARA President



From the Desk
of the Vice President



Steve Harrison
W5SPH

Hello fellow Amateur Radio Enthusiast.
May was a good month for MCARA and many exciting happenings and changes abound.
The first change was in our monthly venue. The Gulfport Firehouse #1 proved to be good location for conducting meetings and judging by the afterparty at the Dairy Queen, it may turn out that we hold many future meetings there. One issue that I brought up to the administrator is that we need more chairs. Hopefully that will be taken care of for the June Meeting.

June Meeting, Fire Station #1, 1515 23rd Ave, Gulfport, MS 39501... begins at 1845!

Repeater Antenna Tower Search update and vote. - It was voted that we will move ahead to secure the Long Beach tower location and further the process along with establishing it as the new location for the W5SGL repeater. I know it seems slow but there are numerous steps to this process and rest assured, we are moving ahead. We will provide an update at the June meeting.
Also, it was voted that we secured funding for the transition. Good deal!
Lastly Field Day is upon us and folks will be preparing for this special annual event. Remember, as ARRL states, Field Day is not a contest, but with that said, we treat it as such by keeping an accurate account of contacts and other components that add to a score for the day. If nothing else, we can compare it to year's past. Additionally, in my opinion, with me unable to attend, there is room for at least one more station. It is fun!!!!!

Silent Key



Horace Cruthirds
KB5HC

Horace Crutherds, KB5HC, a former member of MCARA, Mississippi Gulf Coast Amateur Radio Assotiation has become a Silent Key. He carried the ‘Advance Class’. Wish I could tell you more, but I don’t believe I ever had the honor of meeting him. Rest in Peace KB5HC.



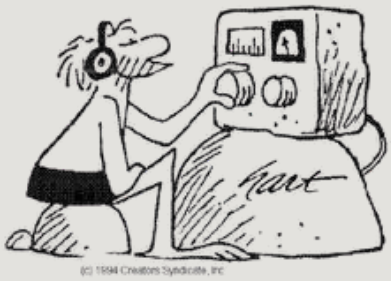
Silent Keys

Their tubes may glow no longer,
and their transmitters no longer send;
Their keys are still and silent now,
but their signals will never end.

Ham shacks now are silent and lonely,
their letters are no longer aired;
So let us not forget their calls,
nor the time together we shared.

Their souls are now of the stars,
as are the signals they did send;
Their CQ's are traveling the heavens,
on and on they go for time without end.





The Purpose of the MCARA

OUR PURPOSE IS TO PROMOTE AMATEUR RADIO INVOLVEMENT AND GROWTH. WE WORK TOWARD THIS THROUGH: ON THE AIR ACTIVITY, ENJOYABLE FELLOWSHIP, PUBLIC AWARENESS, EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE. WE OFFER MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR CLUB MEMBERS TO EXPERIENCE NEW AND MEANINGFUL FACETS OF AMATEUR RADIO THROUGH HANDS ON ACTIVITIES. IF YOU ARE NOT A CLUB MEMBER AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE ABOUT US, YOU ARE WELCOME TO SIT IN AT A MEETING, JOIN US ON OUR WEEKLY NETS, OR VISIT DURING OUR ACTIVITIES, AND COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS. PLEASE CONTINUE TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE, AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.





MCARA Club Meeting

June Meeting, Fire Station #1, 1515 23rd Ave, Gulfport, MS 39501... begins at 1845!



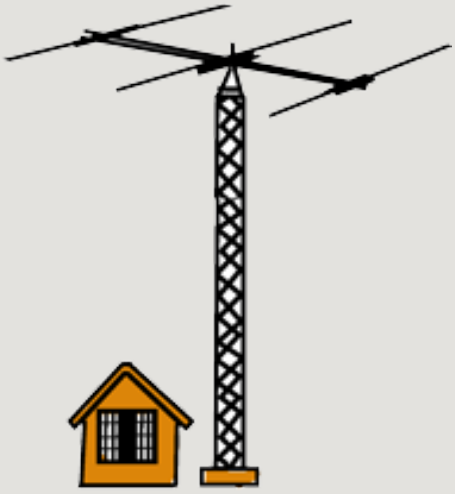





CLUB ACTIVITIES & EVENTS
W5SGL REPEATER ACTIVITY

TUESDAY NIGHTS - AMATEUR HOUR
7:00 PM
ALL AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS WELCOME.

For other Nets in Mississippi
See the following link.
arrlmiss.org



April Testing

Congratulations to Hans Atwood, KI5OWY, on his upgrade to General.



May Testing

Congrats to Alexander on passing Tech and to Hans on his upgrade of Extra!!





GETTING YOUR AMATEUR RADIO LICENSE

MCARA IS VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN HELPING YOU OBTAIN YOUR LICENSE. WE HAVE MEMBERS WHO WILLINGLY CONDUCT FACE-TO-FACE GROUP INSTRUCTION COVERING THE AMATEUR EXTRA CLASS LICENSE. ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON OBTAINING YOUR GENERAL CLASS LICENSE IS ALSO AVAILABLE ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS. ONCE YOU ARE READY TO TAKE YOUR TEST, OUR TEAM OF ARRL ACCREDITED VOLUNTEER EXAMINERS (VE'S) ARE PREPARED TO CONDUCT YOUR TESTING SESSION.

Test Sessions are held on the 1st Saturday of every month at 9:30 AM

We will no longer be testing at the Bel Air Baptist Church in Gulfport.

Testing will be at the Harrison county EOC at the Harrison county courthouse. Address is 1801 23rd AVE. Gulfport. You will need to enter the north door by the parking garage.

Your VE Team Members

Title	Name	Callsign	Sessions	E-Mail	Phone
Contact Person	John R Moore	W5EG	192	w5eg@arrl.net	228-604-4458
Team Leader	Clay C McClendon	W5ACS	163	arvahmcclendon@att.net	
Team Member	Butch J Horning	K5KMU	150	k5kmu@arrl.net	
Team Member	Bobby M Allen	KF5BA	118	kf5ba@arrl.net	
Team Member	Norman H Gholson	WB4YBY	98	ngholson@mindspring.com	
Team Member	Jeffrey G Wimmer	W5JGW	45	w5jgw@arrl.net	
Team Member	Flip L Fields	N5FLP	52	N/A	
Team Member	Henry A DeSandre	AE5WU	38	hdesandre@gmail.com	
Team Member	Ben H McMath	W5SOF	29	w5sof.ms@gmail.com	
Team Member	Gary S Bahret	N5AHM	17	n5ahm@arrl.net	
Team Member	Steve Green	NQ5D	15	nq5d@arrl.net	
Team Member	Robert Jackson	WX5RJ	13	kc5oae@att.net	

-Number of testing sessions attended according to the ARRL as of 02 June 2022-

Become a Volunteer Examiner and join us the first Saturday of each month.
http://www.arrl.org/volunteer-examiners

For more information on obtaining your Amateur Radio Operator's license, please see the MCARA website at W5SGL.com

MCARA Splatter Editor
Gets reconized



The editor , Bill Downs, N5OCT, recieved an award for a job well done as the editor of the MCARA Splatter. He was recognized for his eagerness to bring light to the events within the MCARA club. The time Bill spends in editing and arranging the ‘stories’ for Splatter can be extensive and unapprciated at times; but Bill will continue to strive to make the MCARA Splatter better each month he puts it out. Thank you Bill Downs for your eagerness to obtain your ariticles and awareness to strive for the best angles of every event MCARA has on the calendars.

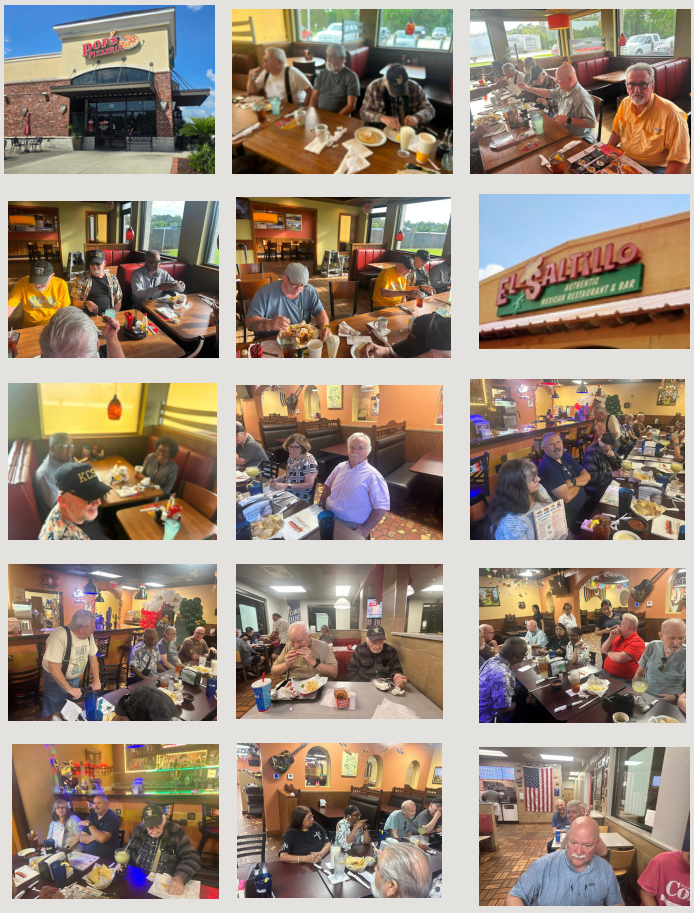


Other MCARA Club Information

MEET & EAT

Thursday Night Meet & Eat

The MCARA Meet & Eat is currently meeting at Denny's restaurant on Canal Road at the Flying J, just off I10. (9351 Canal Rd, Gulfport, MS) at 5:30 pm every Thursday night, unless otherwise posted on the MCARA Club Facebook. Come enjoy fellowship and 'wisdom' of the Elmers. Besides, the food is great.



No matter where we meet, it's always great to break bread with our friends and enjoy a good conversation!

ELECTED POSITIONS

Scott Owens AD5HS - President
Steve Harrison W5SPH - V. President
Sheila Dodd KJ5MJK- Secretary
Carl Lawrence AG5ZH - Treasurer
Jesse Brunet KI5HVD- Activity Chairman

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Stu Cole N5LBZ -Repeater Trustee
Carl Lawrence AG5ZH- Club Webmaster
Noel Dastugue N5FTY - Facebook Admin
Bill Orehowsky N5GQ - Net Manager
Norm Gholson WB4YBY - Callsign Trustee
Bill Downs N5OCT - Club Newsletter

MCARA Repeater Information

Yaesu Fusion DR-2X
Freq: 146.730 (-0.600 KHz)
Tone Squelch 136.5 Hz
Mode: FM & C4FM

Location:
30°25'56.1"N 88°57'22.6"W

Check out the added accessory on the MCARA Facebook page 'General Chat'

Don't feel like posting a question or comment, use the 'general chat' to add comments to a conversation or topic!

MCARA Membership

If you would like to join the MCARA please go to the MCARA Club website at W5SGL.com and click on club membership and download the PDF application. Email it to secretary@mcara.org or fill it out and bring it to the club meeting the 3rd Monday of each month. Meeting location and times can be found in this newsletter.

Other MCARA Club Information



MCARA Fusion Net

ATTENTION MCARA CLUB MEMBERS! The MCARA has a new 'Repeater Net'. It is being held on the W5SGL MCARA Club Repeater on Monday nights at 19:00 (7:00) pm. Hosted by Mark Lacy, W5TXR on 146.730 (-0.600 KHz) Tone Squelch 136.5 Hz. You can often find MCARA members during the week talking on the Fusion Simplex frequency 145.56250. Everyone is welcome to join the Fusion Simplex frequency when not on the net. If you would like to join the 'chat' messenger on Facebook, contact Mark lacy or Noel Dastugue, N5FTY and they will gladly put you in the chat group.



Want to Receive the Splatter?

If you want to receive a copy of the Splatter in an email; all you have to do is email the editor or text and give me your email address and call sign. It's as easy as that.
Email editor at Julie4Bill@gmail.com or text your information to 228-236-7331





Other MCARA Club Information

FUSION NET

The MCARA Fusion Net is every Monday at 19:00 with the exception of meeting night and holidays. on 146.7300 repeater.
Net Report for 23 MAR 26 was 14 checkins
We explored C4FM Fusion on simplex on 145.5625
Steve was simplex controller.
Net controllers
On occasion we will rotate net controllers

Mark W5TXR
Alternate - Ben W5SOF
Alternate - Steve W5SPH
Alternate - Noel N5FTY
Alternate - Ed KG5UN

W5TXR/B EM50kk 144.2800 CW
W5TXR/B EM50kk 432.3500 CW
W5TXR-10 EM50kk 144.3900 FM
W5TXR/N EM50kk 444.1000 C4FM

"It's not the Class of the license that the Amateur holds. But, the Class of the Amateur that holds the License." -mal

"Experience can a difficult teacher, She gives you the test first and the lesson afterwards"

"Ego is the anesthesia that deadens the pain of stupidity" t

"Being criticized by people, Who you want to be nothing like, Is actually success"

"For there shall be no reward to the evil man; the candle of the wicked shall be put out" - Proverbs 24:20

W5TXR/B 144.2800 Beacon

Mark Lacy, W5TXR has put a beacon online for anyone in the need to know.
Some of you had questions about beacons....For those that are not familiar with beacons, these are low power devices that transmit CW information regularly, usually every 30, 45, 60 seconds.
Reception of beacons is an indication of propagation conditions relative to the transmitter and station receiving the beacon.

There are beacon stations on HF (20-10 meters) VHF, UHF, even on 5, 10 and 24 Ghz.

https://www.ncdxf.org/beacon/

Beacons are almost always omnidirectional, and horizontally polarized. As a general rule, CW and SSB are horizontally polarized in all bands, And AM and FM are vertically polarized. There is a 30 dB difference between horizontal and vertical polarization. As with horizontal polarization, the E-field is parallel to the Earth, the M-field is at 90° (perpendicular to the Earth). We classify electromagnetic wave polarization as linearly polarized or circularly polarized. Left hand and right hand circular polarization are used for satellite communications.

(that is a lesson for another day)

de W5TXR

Another MCARA Event Worth Attending!



Ben McMath
W5SOF

ARRL's annual Field Day is rapidly approaching! The concept behind the event is how Amateur Radio supports emergency communications, field and off-grid communications, public services and community support in times where normal communications may not be available.This year's dates and times are:

Saturday, 27 June start time 1800Z (1300L)
Sunday, 28 June end time 2059Z (1559L)

This year's event will be held at Stu Cole's (N5LBZ) alternate property, same place as last year. Setup will start at 1300L on Friday 26 June. Stations will not be permitted to operate until start time on Saturday but, it's recommended to be in place before the event starts! Site prep (mowing, cleanup) will be on Tuesday 23 June.

Bands NOT authorized for the event: 60M, 30M, 17M and 12M.
Operators may use: SSB/Phone, CW, Digital, FT-8, Satellite and VHF/UHF modes.
Max authorized PEP is 500W, 5W QRP.

This year's Field Day Coordinator is W5SOF Ben at w5sof.ms@gmail.com or (228) 547-4849 (no message = no callback!).

Folks who've participated in past years' events are familiar with how much fun Field Day can be! It's not about the points, but about Amateur Radio camaraderie. Good eats and good times to be had by all! Public is welcome and encouraged.

73 Ben McMath

Editor’s Closing

That's all for this Month's Splatter.
Stay tuned to this frequency until next month, where the adventure continues!



Bill Downs
N5OCT
73

THE RADIO AMATEUR’S PRAYER... Dear Lord and Father, HEAR us now as we call to You. RECEIVE this, our Prayer. Teach us to LISTEN to Your Word. Keep us IN TUNE with Your Will. Grant us the CAPACITY to obey Your Commandments. Help us to RESIST evil and the SIGNALS of Satan.