



MCARA / W5SGL



ARRL.org

# The Splatter

MCARA Monthly Newsletter



**Robert M 'Bobby' Allen**  
**KF5BA - Past Club President**

Bobby is a member of the MCARA club. He began his journey in Amateur Ham Radio in January 2010. He is a resident of Long beach Ms. (In his words from his Bio in QRZ) 'I took my Technician test in 2010 January, General in April and Extra in August 2010. Shortly after I became a Volunteer Examiner and enjoy helping in test sessions. My interests in the hobby are Emergency Communications, and chasing DX on HF bands. I am a past President of MCARA, both times after first being Vice President. The last time by finishing the second term of Al Warburton, K5CRJ, SK I also enjoy portable operations and try to set up portable when camping. My YL is also licensed, Anna, KF5KDL. We have been married for 49 years and live on land that has been in the family for many years'.

## 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.

## Newsletter Highlights

Member Highlight

---

MCARA Purpose

---

New Hams for March

---

Club Activities

---

Elected Positions

---

Appointed Positions

---

Member Highlight

---

Explore the many topics



## New Hams for March



Three candidates at this month's VE Testing Session. All passed. Congrats to new Technician, John Hingle of Picayune (back row left), and also to Michael Watson, W4MWV of Grand Bay, AL (back row right), and Steven Harrison, KB5UIO of Gulfport (front row) on their upgrades to Amateur Extra class!!! It's great to see these guys reaching their goals.

## Getting Your Amateur Radio Operator License

The MCARA is dedicated to helping you obtain your license. There are members who willingly conduct face-to-face group instruction covering the Technician Class License, the General Class License and the Amateur Extra Class license. Once you are ready to take your test, our team of ARRL accredited Volunteer Examiners (VE's) are prepared to conduct your testing session. The testing is held the first Saturday of each month at the Bel Aire Baptist Church 15080 Dedeaux Rd, Gulfport, MS 39501



## Club Activities

### Hamfest

03/04/2022 - 03/05/2022 Birmingham Hamfest Location: Trussville, AL Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Birmingham Amateur Radio Club Website: <http://birminghamfest.org>

03/18/2022 - 03/19/2022 The 52nd ANNUAL PARC Hamfest Location: Fort Walton Beach, FL Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: W4ZBB.Org welcomes you back to the panhandle for the 52nd Annual Show! Website: <http://w4zbb.org/w4zbborg/index.php?page=Hamfest>

04/23/2022 - Mobile Amateur Radio Club (MARC) Hamfest Location: Mobile, AL Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Mobile Amateur Radio Club (MARC) Website: <http://www.w4iax.com>

### Special Events

03/01/2022 | 100th Anniversary of WWL 870 AM Mar 1-Mar 31, 0000Z-2359Z, W5WWL, New Orleans, LA. WWL Amateur Radio Club. 3.900 7.235 14.285 7.025. QSL. WWL ARC, 127 Highway Drive, New Orleans, LA 70121.

03/01/2022 | 80th Anniversary Avro Lancaster - 1st Operational Sortie Mar 1-Mar 28, 0001Z-2359Z, GB80LAN, Luton, UNITED KINGDOM. Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Society. 14.270 14.055 14.074 3.710. QSL. See website, for QSL information, RAF Waddington, RAF Halton, RAF Cosford, RAF East Kirkby, ENGLAND. The call will be active from four different locations at three Royal Air Force Amateur Radio Club Stations Waddington, Halton, Cosford and ex RAF East Kirkby (home of Lancaster "Just Jane"). Hopefully the call will be active on all bands and modes 160m - 70cms during the event. More info on [qrz.com](http://qrz.com) and [rafars.org](http://rafars.org). VK80LAN & VE80LAN are also hoped to be on the air. [www.qrz.com/db/gb80lan](http://www.qrz.com/db/gb80lan)



## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### Special Events

03/01/2022 | Battleship Texas Birthday # 108 Mar 1-Mar 15, 0000Z-0000Z, W5T, Cleburne, TX. Club KC5NX. 14.255 14.045 7.240 7.235. QSL. Club KC5NX, 9200 Summit Court West, Cleburne, TX 76033-8212. Club KC5NX will again be on the air the first week of March to celebrate the Birthday of the Battleship Texas.... We have 500 QSL cards on hand now and waiting to say Howdy to Y'All..... come help us celebrate.... see QRZ.COM and or set up a time to work us..... 73

03/12/2022 | USS Midway Special Event: Launching of USS Midway Mar 12, 1700Z-2359Z, NI6IW, San Diego, CA. USS Midway (CV-41) Museum Ship. 14.320 7.250 14.070 (PSK31) DSTAR (Papa Sys Rept). QSL. USS Midway Museum Ship COMEDTRA, 910N Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101. [www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw](http://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw) 03/18/2022 | HamSCI 2022 Conference Mar 18-Mar 20, 1400Z-0400Z, NN4SA, Huntsville, AL. HamSCI and NASA Marshall Space Flight Center ARC. 14.245 7.245 14.074 7.074. QSL. NASA MSFC ARC, c/o Matt McDougal, PO Box 12804, Huntsville, AL 35815. HamSCI and NASA MSFC ARC will operate from HamSCI Conference venue near Space and Rocket Center. Will be operating various bands and modes. Check spotting networks for frequencies and modes. Event info at [hamsci.org](http://hamsci.org) and [nn4sa.org](http://nn4sa.org). Send SASE for special QSL card. [www.qrz.com/db/nn4sa](http://www.qrz.com/db/nn4sa)

03/18/2022 | National Viet Nam War Veterans Day Mar 18, 1800Z-2200Z, N3TAL, Lanham, MD. American Legion Post 275 ART. 7.275mhz +/- 5 khz. QSL. American Legion Post 275 ART, 8201 Martin Luther King Jr. Hwy, Lanham, MD 20706. [wa3dvo@verizon.net](mailto:wa3dvo@verizon.net)

03/19/2022 | Cherry Blossom Special Event Station Mar 19, 1400Z-2000Z, W4BKM, Macon, GA. Macon Amateur Radio Club. 14.240 7.225. Certificate. Macon Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 4862, Macon, GA 31208-4862. [w4bkm.or](http://w4bkm.or)

## CLUB ACTIVITIES

### Special Events

03/19/2022 | Scouts BSA WHOA weekend Mar 19, 1400Z-2000Z, W1M, Russell, MA. Western Mass Council, Scouts BSA. 7.190 10.115 14.060 14.290. QSL. Tom Barker, WA1HRH, 329 Faraway Road, Whitefield, NH 03598. Monthly seasonal outdoor activities for Scouts and the general public including "ham radio in the woods." Paper logging. QSL via SASE and eQSL.

03/22/2022 | Honoring World War II Gunners at Buckingham Airfield Mar 22-Mar 24, 1400Z-2100Z, W4LX, Fort Myers, FL. Fort Myers Amateur Radio Club. 28.360 21.360 14.270 146.685. Certificate & QSL. Ft Myers Amateur Radio Club, P.O. Box 61183, Fort Myers, FL 33906. <https://fmarc.ne>

03/26/2022 | Commemoration of the Battle of Horseshoe Bend Mar 26, 1400Z-2200Z, K4YWE/N4H, Alexander City, AL. Lake Martin Amateur Radio Club. 7.240 14.240. QSL. Michael Courtney, KK4AUP, 80 Herren Hill Road, Suite F, Tallahassee, AL 36078. [mikecourtney@charter.net](mailto:mikecourtney@charter.net)

03/29/2022 | National Vietnam War Veterans Day Mar 29, 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. [qrz.com/db/w5kid](http://qrz.com/db/w5kid)





## SPECIAL EVENTS

ARES has been requested to provide communication assistance with the Hattiesburg half marathon and the Farm to Fork ride and run. JUSTIN GLEASON IS REACHING OUT TO ALL SURROUNDING DISTRICTS AS HE IS WELCOMING ALL HAM RADIO OPERATORS WHO ARE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE AND HELP OUT WITH THESE GREAT EVENTS:

The Hattiesburg half marathon will be April 2nd.

The Farm to Fork will be April 30th. He is asking all of the emergency coordinators to please get with your groups and start letting people know about the event and as soon as possible he will be having some signup sheets for people to sign up and as we get closer we'll be starting to do station assignments he knows this is early but what this type of event sometimes early isn't early enough. If you would like to volunteer please contact him at strmspotter@gmail.com or at 601 549 9940. Please help get the word out these are both great events for a great cause and requires a good amount of operators to provide safety communications along the course. If you are a new ham and want to participate that is great and we welcome you no experiences needed just a minimum of a technician class license and a handheld or mobile rig. Even if you don't have a radio please let him know he's sure we can find somebody who would be willing to lend one for you to use.

## MS QSO -PARTY

April 2 April 3 let's start making our plans and watch for updates

## Extra Class Licensing Course

FREE, Live weekly Extra Class licensing course on Zoom beginning Thursday, January 20th through Thursday March 31st (11 sessions). These classes are sponsored by the National Electronics Museum. Those wishing to sign up, please contact Roland.Anders@comcast.net

***For Further 'Up Coming Events' Please see the MCARA Website***

## ELECTED POSITIONS

Ben McMath W5SOF -President  
Jeff Wimmer W5JGW -V. President  
Edward Maikranz KG5UN - Secretary  
Carl Lawrence AG5ZH - Treasurer  
Joseph Mitchell WA5FFL - Activity Chairman

## APPOINTED POSITIONS

Stu Cole N5LBZ -Repeater Trustee  
Jimmy Simmons K5OP - Club Webmaster  
Noel Dastugue N5FTY - Facebook Admin  
Harry Hebert AB5FU - Net Manager  
Norm Gholson WB4YBY - Callsign Trustee  
Bill Downs N5OCT - Club Newsletter

## MCARA CLUB REPEATER

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

## W5SGL Repeater Activity

Tuesday nights - Amateur Hour  
7:00 pm

All Amateur Ham Radio operators welcome.

Wednesday nights 'Harry's Round Table  
7:00 pm

All Amateur Ham Radio operators welcome



## Member Highlight



Stuart 'Stu' Cole N5LBZ  
Extra Class Ticket

I joined the Navy right after graduating from High-School . I went to electronics school at Treasure Island and got my first call WA6QEM.

After school I was assigned shore duty in Hawaii for two years fixing high power transmitters at a Navy communications site in the mountains. I ran the base Ham Shack while I was there using the call KH6NAA. After my four years in the Navy I got out and went to work in my dad's TV shop [Fairfield Electric]. One day a young woman walked in looking for a job as a bookkeeper. My dad hired her and in 1967 we were married . Her name was Martha Corley and she was from Mississippi.

I started looking for a better job and soon took a job for the government in shop 67 at Mare Island in Vallejo, CA.

I bid on a job after a few years and was transferred to the Naval Electronics Systems Engineering Center at Mare Island. I liked this position but it required a lot of travel. I was traveling all over going to different Naval bases or shipyards to certify the installation of a satellite communications system installed by contractors and to train the ships force.

I soon bid on another position that did not require so much travel was soon transferred to Supships SanDiego where we lived for about a year before accepting a position at Supships Pascagoula, MS.

## Member Highlight

Stu Cole

In 1979 I transferred again to the Federal Aviation Administration, Gulfport, MS. where I maintained all of the electronics equipment the controllers used to control air traffic except for navigation equipment. I worked there until 1983 when I got a promotion and moved to Memphis, TN still with the FAA. With all the travel and moving I had let my ham license expire so in 1987 I was licensed with my present call N5LBZ. I got a 5 call because my home of residence was still in Mississippi. I was living in a trailer park and my wife was at home trying to sell the house. When my mother-in-law passed away quite unexpectedly, we no longer had a desire to live in TN so I started looking for a position in Mississippi. I finally was able to return to the position I left in Gulfport, MS in 1989. I retired in October 2006 with 46 years of Federal Service.

We have three children, James the oldest is a Lt. Col. In the Air Force. He is a pilot and flies the C21 and C17. He was a wing commander at Altus, OK. and is now retired from the Air Force. He now flies for FedEx. His wife, Jenny is a school teacher. They have one son and two daughters.

Our daughter, Terri and her husband Noland moved to Mississippi from Tacoma, Wa. He was a welder in a shop that repaired construction equipment. but now he operates 12 chicken houses. Terri is a Civil Engineer and was working for an engineering company in Tacoma she is now a stay at home mom and looks after their two children Mason and Rylee.

Robert, our youngest and his wife Carrie have a daughter, Mackinzie. and a son Christopher. Robert is a pilot for Southwest.

My Wife Martha was a general contractor she has built many homes in the Gulfport area and repaired quite a few after Katrina. she has since retired as well.

My main hobby is Amateur Radio and writing Amateur Radio computer programs. I have been a licensed "HAM" since 1979.

I am presently the MCARA Repeater Trustee

## MCARA Club Meetings

First Saturday of the Month

License exam/upgrade

@

Bel Aire Baptist Church - 15080 Dedeaux Rd.

Gulfport, MS 39501

Third Monday of the month

MCARA Board/Club Meetings

6:00pm/7:00pm @

Bel Aire Baptist Church - 15080 Dedeaux Rd.

Gulfport, Ms. 39501



## Weekly Net/Roundtable Check-ins

**Harry Herbert (AB5FU)** the MCARA Net Manager, keeps up with the check-ins on the net each Tuesday Net Amateur Hour and Wednesday Roundtable and this month makes it 11 months in a row that check-ins have been over **100**.

**WAY TO GO FELLOW HAMS!**

## Meet and Greet

Every Thursday the MCARA Club has a NON-Sanctioned Meet and Eat starting at 5:00 pm until 7:00 pm. It's a time when both club members and non-members can get together and socialize and eat. and 'rag chew' any subject that might come up about Amateur Ham Radio. Come out and join the fun. Listen to the W5SGL repeater (146.730) each week to see where it is being held each Thursday night.



## Ode to Silent Key

*The dials on your radio are unmoved, the speaker silent,  
and the ash tray clean for all time to come.*



# 73

*All those hours you sat in that old green chair, talking to unseen voices, filling the ash tray to overflowing. You talked near and far, and had friends you never met. You traveled the world over from your chair. You've become a silent key now, gone on to meet those unseen voices from the past. Yet in the stillness I can hear your chair squeak, smell your tobacco, and hear faint voices calling from afar.*

- Foundation for Amateur Radio

*Anthony Allen (W5BLX) asked for us to remember the family of a friend of his, Dan A. Vernot (N3FCX) who is now a 'Silent Key'. His funeral was March 25, 2022.*

*If anyone knows of any recent 'Silent Keys' that they would like to have mentioned in the 'Splatter'; feel free to contact the editor, Bill Downs, N5OCT.*





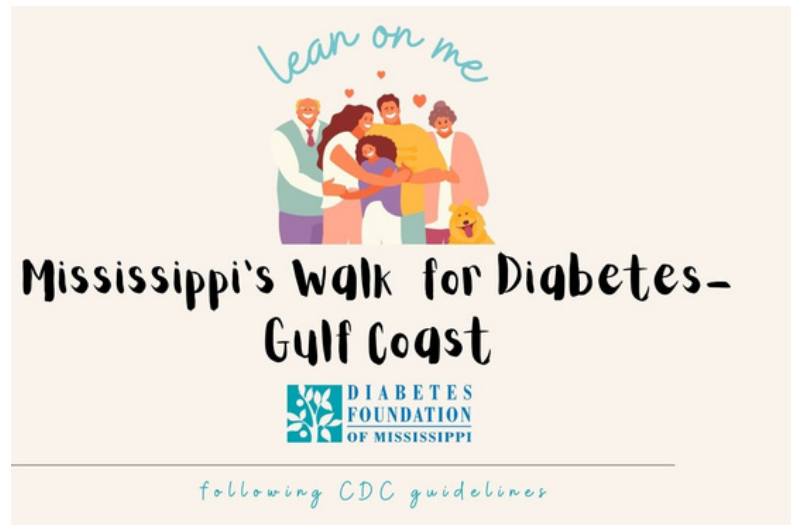
# MCARA Non-Sanctioned Antenna Erection/Wrecking Crew

This is a crew of club members, fellow 'Hams' that get together to help each other in erecting or dismantling fellow Ham operators' antennas and helping them set up their Ham shacks. All a Ham needs to do is ask. That's all it takes and that's what makes the Amateur Ham Radio hobby so special. We're just a group of guys and gals that love helping each other and the community.





**One of the Many Community Help Activities that MCARA participated in.**



MCARA members helped with check point communications and helped the Mississippi Diabetes Gulf Coast walk a non-eventful success.

Be sure to visit the MCARA website; [W5SGL.COM](http://W5SGL.COM)  
for all club activities, events, and upcoming events.

***It's been a great month. Stay tuned for next  
month's 'Splatter'!  
73 & May your contacts be many!***