



ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.
P.O. BOX 51174
LAFAYETTE, LA 70503-1174
a 501(c)(3) Corporation



The Honorable Charles E. Robichaux
Mayor of Rayne, Louisiana
801 The Boulevard
Rayne, LA 70578

Dear Mayor Robicheaux;

On behalf of the Acadiana Amateur Radio Association (AARA), we would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to the City of Rayne for cosponsoring the 59th Annual Acadiana Hamfest which will take place March 8-9th at the Rayne Civic Center in beautiful Rayne, Louisiana. This convention of amateur radio enthusiasts (known colloquially as "hams") also serves as the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Louisiana State Convention. It is known throughout the southern United States as one of the largest amateur radio conventions on the Gulf Coast. The Acadiana Hamfest attracts attendees from all states and abroad, and of all ages and walks of life, who share a common interest in all things amateur radio. Not only does this event serve as a promotion of the hobby, it also spotlights our Cajun culture, hospitality, and camaraderie.

Acadiana Hamfest 2019 hosts educational forums for all ages including AMSAT (which focuses on Amateur Radio's participation in space research and communication), DX-ing (long distance communication across the globe), and ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Services - trained operator volunteers who are organized to assist in public service and emergency communication). We also provide FCC license testing for new hams and those wishing to upgrade their radio privileges, as well as a swap shop for hams to buy, sell, and trade items of vintage quality. One of the highlights of the day is the annual "foxhunt" where a small transmitter is hidden on the convention center grounds for young hams to track down using radio direction finding. It's always exciting to see the next generation of amateur radio enthusiasts hone their craft and having fun while doing so!

Once again, we appreciate your support as we promote not only our wonderful hobby, but the City of Rayne, Acadia Parish, the Acadiana region, and the State of Louisiana. We invite you to stop in and see all we have to offer but be careful... you may get bitten by the ham radio "bug" and become interested in becoming an amateur radio enthusiast yourself!

For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.w5ddl.org>. Further information about amateur radio can be found on the ARRL website (<http://www.arrl.org>) and the Federal Communications Commission's website (<https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/bureau-divisions/mobility-division/amateur-radio-service>).

Sincerely,

Brandon J. Stelly KG5LQM, AARA Hamfest Chairman
Acadiana Amateur Radio Association