

Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

2015 CLUB OFFICERS

Pres: John Cechin - W5FWR

Sec/Treas: Army Curtis - AE5P

Visit our web site at

<http://w5nac.com/>

MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club is to support and promote Amateur Radio by public service, offering training to unlicensed interested parties and licensed Amateurs, mutual support of other Amateurs, engaging events that promote Amateur radio to the general public and other Amateur radio operators, and continuing fellowship by regularly scheduled organized meetings and events.



MARCH MINUTES

The March meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled on March 4th. **President John W5FWR**, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Fourteen members and one guest were present. Each person present introduced himself. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published. The Treasurer's report was read.

Old Business:

Bob K5ME and **Army AE5P** reported their activity in

the ARRL DX CW contest. Anyone else getting on for contests? Please report them even if you only made a just a few contacts.

Steve KB8QWN reported on the Neches River Rendezvous (NRR) coming up this summer. Steve passed around a sign-up sheet for those wanting to participate. Information available from Steve or Army.

New Business:

Bob K5ME brought a number of ham radio related magazines free for the taking.

Show and Tell:

John W5FWR showed off a 100 amp 480 volt rated knife switch. There was some discussion as to who would be brave (foolish?)

enough to operate this switch at 480 volts.

Mike WD5EFY showed off a small UHF repeater and multiple UHF HT's recently acquired when a local medical facility upgraded their radio systems.

Meeting closed at 7:50 p.m.

Program: Army AE5P presented a program on repeaters.

FINAL CALL 2015 DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE

Club dues for 2015 are now payable. Dues are just \$240 for the year, and cover all licensed Amateurs in a family. Have a large family? Just \$240 will cover all of them for a year. Dues can be paid at any club event or mailed to the club Secretary/Treasurer.

Checks should be made payable to W5FWR. Dues not received by April 1st will result in confiscation

of radio assets. Yaesu equipment is exempted.

MY 2 CENTS FOX WILLY ROGER

APRIL 2015:

That's right, it's April 2015, isn't this the month that comes in like an 18 wheeler and goes out like a VW bug? Or was that last month? I can't keep them in the right order.

Before we start please be kind to "TWT" a full recovery has not happened as yet. First off the rumor is that AE5P is in the market for a new truck, after all he has had this one for at least three months, and seemed to have wrecked this one, and it's dirty. It's easier to purchase another one than wash it.

The fire place isn't getting all that much fires, it seems that the weather is changing some, and that's a good thing, my wood pile was going down fast. My word tree was in fear of

its life; it thought it might be next to feed the fire place. The sign, "CLOSED FOR THE SEASON" is still posted by the tree, but now it seems to be larger, I failed to find out how long the "season" was so your guess is good as anyone's, is someone going to start a pool?

I came across this item yesterday, not being a math person and don't know one thing about anything, and yes things get me to thinking. The problem was P=MP, Tom, what's this all about, can you give a helping hand?

The SES come and gone with good results, some 939 QSO's and only a few doubles and a few no records, all in all, a fine SES it was, thanks to all. Is there going to be an extra column in the NL this month? I guess I will have to wait and see like all the others. Did everyone have a piece of green clothing on St Patrick's Day?

My good friend put up a Rohn 25 tower last week.

He lives so far out in the sticks that he is on time share with the Sun and he requires a sixty ft. tower to receive the internet, I was going to add a picture along with this report but he wanted to keep the tower location a secret.

As you can see, I have placed some extra spaces in this month's column, I am trying to give "TWT" a rest, as "TWT" reminded me just the other day, and it is easier to make an enemy than a friend, so why chance it?

PHASE II.V.V:....

This is one for the AF file. The latest cat, Little Gray "LG" seems to be quite smart; she keeps looking at my tower until one day asked what all that was for, a question I keep asking myself. When I explained it all to her she just sat there and after a bit said "show me". Well that started a pleasant weekend, LG got on the bands and everybody knows what happens when an YL is heard, well a pileup happened and it was five hours until it was

over. I have never heard a more confused group of HAMS when LG tried to explain that she was a feline, some people just don't get it, go figure.

GB is spending a lot of her time on the roof, rain or shine, she's up there and won't come down until I walk around to the back yard and wait for her to come down, I didn't think that my training would be this demanding. GB doesn't have any interest in HAMING. I always thought that people were so different.

THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO CATS WERE WORSHIPED AS GODS, THEY HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN THIS

The century plant is still standing but I don't know how, I am still waiting for it to fall onto the power lines and produce some fireworks. The birds seem to like it, I guess I will have to start a country now....

If anybody wants an offspring, I still have a few left, a cactus trade would be nice, let me know.

Be sure and hug a cactus today, they need love too.

WHY IS IT?

When things are dried a new name is given to them? Plumes become Prunes. Grapes become Raisins. People become Mummy's, I am glad you brought that up, if a male is dried, should they not be referred as Poppy's?

Why do dogs bark and cats don't?

I was in a store and came across Paring Knives, in a four pack, go figure.
HMMMM

GREAT INVENTIONS OF ALL TIME:

Spiral note books, how else are you going to keep all though papers together? Why does one Beer Company have small controlled bubbles/foam and all the other Beer companies have wild uncontrolled bubbles/foam?

That's about it for this trip; I will leave room for Army and the others to fill the empty spaces.

Remember: keep your powder dry and your head below the horizon.

Happy Trails

73 Enjoy, what do you think, let me know?

John Cechin W5FWR
Carrots4ever2u@suddenlink.net

THE "BEST" TEXAS CHILI RECIPE W5NRF

Ingredients:

5 to 8 pounds beef Chuck, cut into 3/4 or 1" cubes (easy to cut if semi-frozen, do not remove fat)

2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce

2 tablespoons olive, corn or peanut oil

8 to 10 crushed garlic cloves

2 large onions, chopped

fresh green jalapeno peppers, chopped (six or eight depending upon taste)

5 to 8 tablespoons fresh chili powder

46 ounce can tomato juice

1 tablespoon dry mustard powder

3 tablespoons apple cider vinegar

1/4 cup sugar

Preparation:

Put oil in large nonstick Dutch oven on stovetop. Dump in meat and stir with wooden spoon to coat meat. Sprinkle beef chunks with Worcestershire sauce. Turn heat on medium-high, stir meat a little to prevent sticking or burning. Water will come from meat and began boiling away. Continue high heat and turn occasionally until all water steams off. This may take 30 minutes.

Now lower heat slightly and brown meat without sticking or burning. Note: this step is very important. Add chopped onions and half of garlic, stir a minute or two, then add tomato juice to cover meat well, then add peppers and remaining garlic. Slow simmer an hour or so, covered. During this time a thin film of fat should cover most of the surface. If too much fat accumulates, carefully skim part of it and discard. Stir occasionally and add remaining juice or water any time if necessary to keep meat well-covered. Now add remaining ingredients, dissolving the mustard powder in a bit of water first. Stir well and slow simmer, covered, another two hours or more. Meat should be chewy, not falling apart, but not tough. Serve with pinto beans and extra jalapeno peppers on the side. Chili will taste even better the next day if any is left.

VE TESTING

Our next VE testing is scheduled for Wednesday, April 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Applicants should bring a picture ID, the original and a copy of their current Amateur license, the original of any CSCE's and \$15 to cover the cost of the exam(s). Correct change is always very much appreciated. 73 de AE5P
email: ae5p@arrl.net

CLUB NETS

Remember to join us each week for the nets sponsored by NARC. Each **MONDAY** is the **NARC ARES/RACES** net, at 8:00 p.m. on the club's 146.84 repeater (PL 141.3). Second, on **THURSDAY** evenings at 8:00 p.m. is the **Deep East Texas Skywarn Emergency Weather Net** on the 147.32 repeater (PL 141.3). Please join us for one or both.

The actual operating frequency for each net is at the discretion of the

net control operator. The Monday night nets have been meeting recently on the club 444.050 UHF repeater or the 147.32 VHF repeater. Stay alert to other possibilities such as a simplex frequency or even HF.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday April 1st** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. The church is at the corner of Starr and Mound Streets in Nacogdoches. Please join us and bring a friend. A special program is planned of uTube videos suggested by KD5GEN. You don't want to miss this.

UPCOMING**EVENTS OF NOTE**

Mark your calendars for the following events coming up in the next few months:

HOUSTON HAMFEST

Ft Bend County
Fairgrounds, Rosenberg,
TX

1400Z - 2130Z Mar 28

<http://houstonhamfest.org>

**CQ WW WPX Contest,
SSB**

0000Z Mar 28 to 2400Z
Mar 29

<http://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>

**ARRL Rookie Roundup,
SSB**

1800Z-2359Z Apr 19

<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

7th Call Area QSO Party

1300Z May 2 to 0700Z
May 3

<http://ws7n.net/7QP/new/Page.asp?content=rules>

HAMVENTION

Dayton, Ohio

May 15 - 17

<http://hamvention.org/>

**CQ WW WPX Contest,
CW**

0000Z May 30 to 2400Z
May 31

<http://www.cqwp.com/rules.htm>

HAMCOM HAMFEST

Irving TX Convention
Center (New Location)

June 12 - 13

<http://www.hamcom.org/>

ARRL June VHF Contest

1800Z Jun 13 to 0259Z
Jun 15

<http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

ARRL Field Day

1800Z Jun 27 to 2100Z
Jun 28

<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

**IARU HF World
Championship**

1200Z, Jul 11 to 1200Z,
Jul 12

<http://www.arrl.org/iaru-hf-championship>

**CQ Worldwide VHF
Contest**

1800Z, Jul 18 to 2100Z,
Jul 19

<http://www.cqww-vhf.com/2014VHFcontest%20rules.pdf>

**North American QSO
Party, RTTY**

1800Z, Jul 18 to 0600Z,
Jul 19

<http://www.ncjweb.com/N/AQP-Rules.pdf>

**North American QSO
Party, CW**

1800Z, Aug 1 to 0600Z,
Aug 2

<http://www.ncjweb.com/N/AQP-Rules.pdf>

**North American QSO
Party, SSB**

1800Z, Aug 15 to 0600Z,
Aug 16

<http://www.ncjweb.com/N/AQP-Rules.pdf>

**ARRL Rookie Roundup,
RTTY**

1800Z-2359Z, Aug 16

<http://www.arrl.org/rookie-roundup>

Super Monofilament Antenna

by

Thomas Atchison W5TV

As we are into spring and April is here, it is time for a new antenna. This particular antenna will probably be the one you will want for your antenna farm to work lots of DX. The form of the antenna is a Delta Loop. We have discussed Delta Loop antennas before, however, this particular antenna is not only a Delta Loop but it is almost invisible because of its construction.

You will need to have a source of monofilament fishing line, probably at least 50 pound test line. First measure out a full wave-length at the desired operating frequency. You will also need enough cans of gold metal flake spray so you can coat the monofilament completely. After the spray has dried, you can form the monofilament into the Delta Loop. Since this is an equilateral triangle, I would suggest that you have one side horizontal and a vertex down (Fig. 1)

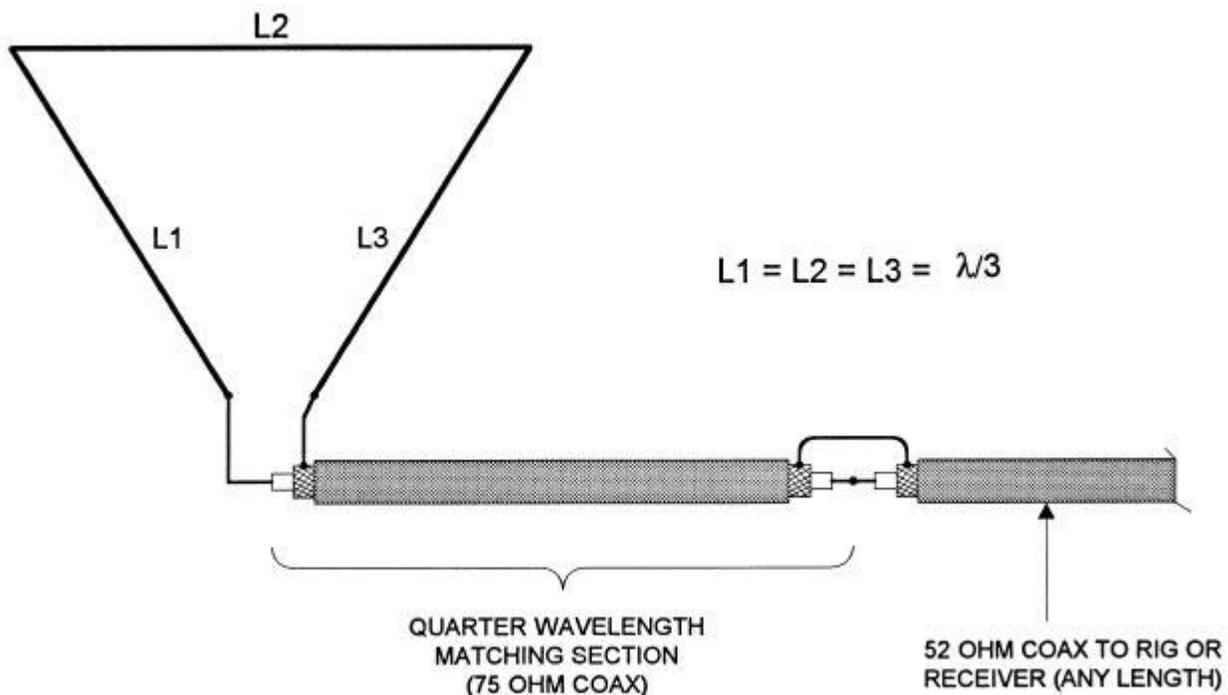


Fig. 1

As you can see, you may want to use a quarter wavelength matching section to feed a 52 ohm rig. High test monofilament line must be used so you can pull the side L2 tight and maintain the shape of the antenna. The gold coating on the monofilament will provide a great velocity factor so the signals will slip off the antenna extremely well, increasing your effective radiated power! The gold glint of the antenna is also very attractive in your yard.

The 10 meter band has been very good these afternoons so I suggest this monofilament antenna for that band. The only downside I know about this antenna is that it only works on one day of the year and that is April 1. Let me know if it brings you any new DX.

******* ANTENNA RAISING INCIDENT *******

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This was found on a bulletin board in Fort Wayne, Ind. It is a ham's reply to a query from his insurance company.)

"I'm writing in response to your request for additional information for Block Number 3 of the Accident Reporting Form. I put "poor planning" as the cause for my accident. You said in your letter I should explain more fully, and I trust the following details will be sufficient."

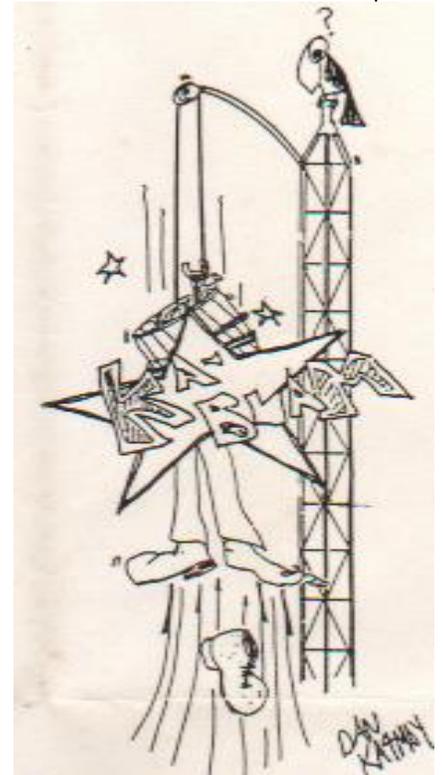
"I am an amateur radio operator and on the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80' tower. When I had completed my work I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 lbs. of tools and hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and materials down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using a pulley, which fortunately was attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower.

"Securing the rope at ground level, I went to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and materials into the barrel. I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 300 lbs of tools. You will note in Block Number 11 of the Accident Reporting Form that I weigh only 155 lbs."

"Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40' level, I met the barrel coming down; this explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley."

"Fortunately, by this time, I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold on to the rope in spite of the pain. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 lbs. I refer you again to my weight in Block Number 11. As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40' level, I met the barrel coming up; this accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations on my legs and lower body."

"The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when



I fell on to the pile of tools, and fortunately only 3 vertebrae were cracked. I'm sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80' above me, I again lost my presence of mind. I let go of the rope."