

Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

2016 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 and have fun.



AUGUST MINUTES

The August meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled on August 4th. **President John W5FWR** opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Twelve 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.

Contests: NAQP-CW is coming up next weekend. **Bob K5ME** and **Army AE5P**

reported they planned to enter.

Shreveport Hamfest will be held August 13. **Army AE5P** reported he planned to attend and asked if other members would like to ride with him. **RM K5AGE** and **Ralph WD5RAH** immediately put dibs on seats. **Tom W5TV** later joined them for a truck load. **Jim WA5GVQ** drove up from Fairmount to join the gang at the hamfest. There were lots of vendors, numerous bargains and excellent forums. Thanks to a great tip on an out of the way eating spot, lunch was great also. Ask **RM** about the super bargain he got on HT's and scanners.

Tommy N5DUX has agreed to present the program at our club meeting in September.

Tommy is a former NARC member who now lives in Longview. **Tommy** is very experienced in working satellites with hand-held equipment, something a couple of our current members have been learning about.

Meeting closed at 7:32 p.m.

MY 2 CENTS FOX WILLY ROGER

SEPTEMBER 2016:

September is a great month. As I have told you all in other columns, September is this president's birth month, so if you wish to gift me, don't let me stop you.

September is also time for the TxQSO fun time, I hope to work 40m and get out and run up some Counties for the club's count, what about you?

We had a miss fire with our program last month, it is hoped that this time the program will be presented.

The program is about satellite contact with an HT and a hand held antenna. This should be a great program.

It has been reported to me that WK5F was attacked by a pride of Italian wasps. He sprayed WD 40 lubricant with no ill after effects. What he didn't say was that he was so full of meds from the doctors that the wasps all dropped dead. I seem to have the same results.

I am worried about the word tree, at first the dry spell then a recovery and now the rains, all is not looking too good for TWT. Perhaps I should stop killing ants, and then we can have a break in the weather.

As reported last time, my good friend and I went to a gun show, now he is looking for another show to attend, so I am gathering up some of my inventory and will try to sell them, more on this later.

Attention, the cactus plant has fallen, the winds last week took it too, now all I have to do is remove it, I wonder if I can use it for fire wood? We shall see come fire season.

Next month is club officer time, this is the time to belly up to the bar boys, be the next president of our club, it's easy, even a dummy can do it, case in point, W5FWR.

Keep PAT and ARMY in our thoughts the next few months, PAT is going to have a procedure to make her all better.

Have a safe and happy rest of the summer, still lots of hot days and nights ahead, enough to go around for everyone, stay cool and drink plenty of fluids, of your choice of course.

THE CRAZY CAT GUY:

Mother is still missing, I thought I saw her sitting under the red bud tree last week, but couldn't get a close look-see, so I'm not sure. The sno twins have baby blue eyes and strips on their legs; I am thinking

of names for them, what do you think of these? If one is a female, Sno-Ball, the other Sno-Flake, kitten #3 is gone on walk-a-bout now for about a week. The one that started all the others has been gone for a few weeks now. Kitten #4, the runt of the litter, is the one that has me stumped, it must have a name that reflects its size and not belittle it. If you want to get in on the name #4 event, send in your suggestion with \$20 cash per name to W5FWR, the winner will be announced at the December meeting, enter as many times as you wish.

Feeding time has become a production number. I open the door to go out and feed them and all the group fight to get inside, all want to see what's in the cave, some will go all the way into the living room, and others stand by the door. Number 3 also comes in but it's not sure why. One of the Sno-Twin runs in and sits down at the insides cats food dish and starts eating, then

trots back outside to eat some more. Jerome joins the rush but Fluffy still stays outside and watches and waits for the food to be served.

The kittens are still in youth mode, eat, play, sleep, without a care in the world, it must be nice.

"THOUSANDS OF YEAYS AGO CATS WERE WORSHIPED AS GODS THEY HAVE NEVER FORGOTEN"

DID YOU HEAR THE ONE?

About this house builder that was talking to the house owner, every few minutes he would go to the window and yell out "green side up", this went on for about an hour when the owner asked what was going on, the builder answerer with "I hired a bunch of HAMS to plant the lawn".

GREAT INVENTIONS:
Newspaper used to read as well as to wrap fish in.

DID YOU EVER THINK?

Why it costs more for food without all the additives? Also when a food says it's all natural, what is an un-natural food? Makes a body wonder, and what about Mayo VS salad dressing, I can't tell them apart.

HMMM

I will now leave a lot more spaces for the others to use, don't be shy, and fill up the pages, you can try it sometimes, but you can't use my Word Tree.

LIVE WELL, LAUGH OFTEN, LOVE MUCH!!!

Let me know, what do you think?

KEEP YOUR POWER DRY AND YOUR HEAD BELOW THE HORIZON.

HAPPY TRAILS

John Cechin W5FWR
Carrots4ever2@gmail.com

NOTES FROM OUR EC

Summer is almost finished. But the weather has been typically Texas. Weather reporters say that July was the hottest month on record and August is proving to be pretty damp, okay let's change that to wet. We have received a lot of rain over the past ten days or so. We certainly needed it.

Our friends in the Baton Rouge area got hammered. The state authorities were saying the rain was closer to a hurricane event without all the wind. ARES and the Red Cross activated. Hams from Mississippi were dispatched. The South Texas ARES were preparing to dispatch and NTX has asked for information as well. The Aug 25 ARRL Letter notes that the ARES activities stood down 20 Aug.

The earthquake in Italy has taken its toll both in casualties and in property damage. Please keep 7060 LSB (+/- 10 kHz), 3760,

7045, 3643, and 3580 kHz (PSK) open during this time and keep them in your thoughts.

Along those lines, NARC needs to get our paperwork in order and get some ID cards out to everyone. I will work on getting the ARES application out to everyone. They are very similar to the RACES applications but they are NOT interchangeable.

We are half way through the 2016 hurricane season. Bill, KT5TE, was scuba diving in Belize when Earl became a hurricane. Bill indicated the diving deteriorated. Gaston is tracking north into the Atlantic. Invest 99-L is over the Bahamas and looking like it will strengthen to either a tropical storm or hurricane status over the weekend. The track takes it into Florida and of course once it hits the Gulf it could continue on to our end of the Gulf. The National Hurricane Center still believes the 2016 season will be quite active, touch

wood that our end of the Gulf doesn't get out of hand. Are you ready in case we have a visit from a tropical storm or a hurricane?

Remember to check into our nets: every Monday (.84) and Thursday (.32)

73 de John Chapman
KC5MIB
jlchapman2@juno.com

VE TESTING

Our next VE testing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 21 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.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be **Wednesday September 7th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church.

NEW MEMBER

Lester Kindall N5PEX has just joined the club. Please help make him feel welcome.

VE TEST RESULTS

We did not have anyone test at our August VE test session. We did have a good turnout of VE's and as usual, some excellent socializing.

Remember, we hold a VE testing session the third Wednesday of each month, rain or shine, stormy or calm.

UPCOMING EVENTS OF NOTE

Mark your calendars for the following events coming up in the next few months. Full information on these events and much more can be found at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.htm>

ARRL September VHF Contest

September 10 - 11
<http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf>

Texas QSO Party

September 24 - 25
<http://www.txqp.net/>

CQ WW DX Contest SSB

October 29 - 30
<http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

ARRL Sweepstakes CW

November 5 - 7
<http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

ARRL Sweepstakes SSB

November 19 - 21
<http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

CQ WW DX Contest CW

November 26 - 27
<http://www.cqww.com/rules.htm>

ARRL 160 Meter Contest CW

December 2 - 3
<http://www.arrl.org/160-meter>

ARRL 10 Meter Contest CW/SSB

December 10 - 11
<http://www.arrl.org/10-meter>

A Simple 2 Meter Ground Plane Antenna

by

Thomas Atchison, W5TV

Over the years there have been several articles written concerning the construction of 2 meter antennas for use with local repeaters. One of the simplest designs I have seen consists of some #12 or #14 copper wire and a panel mounting SO 239 connector (Fig. 1).

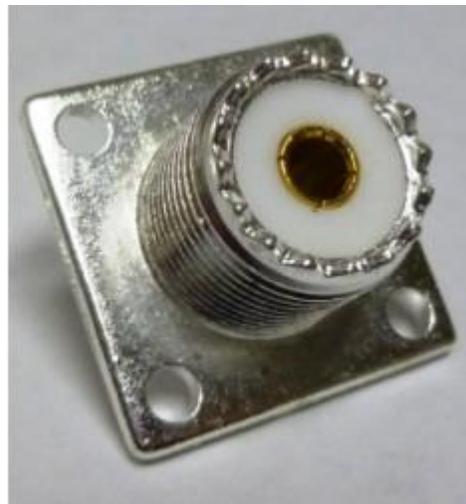


Fig. 1

Cut a length of copper wire (#12 or #14) about 20 inches long and solder it to the center pin (See Fig. 2, label A). This will be the vertical radiator. Cut four lengths of copper wire for radials at a length of about 20.5 inches. These will be attached to the four mounting holes in the SO 239 connector and angled at about 45 degrees (Fig. 2, labels B,C,D, and E).

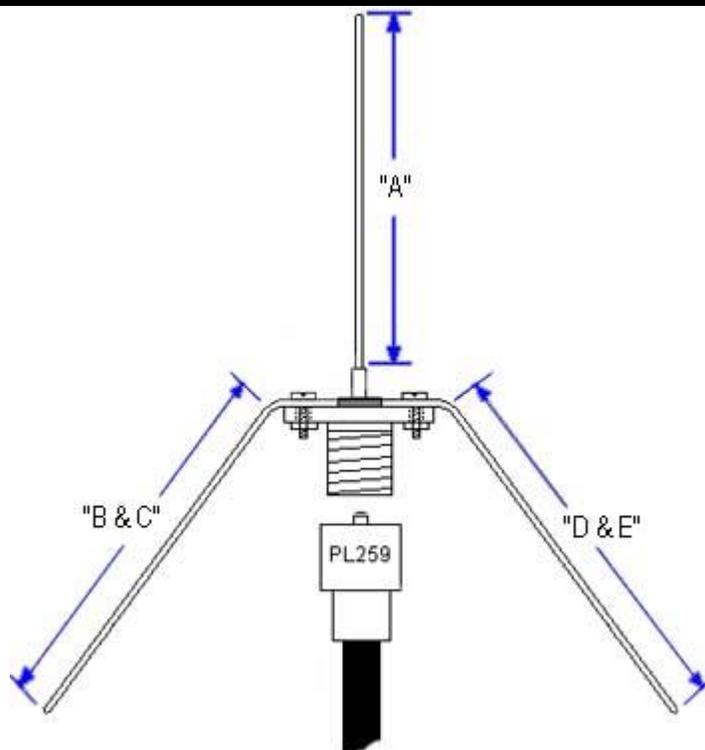


Fig. 2

The radials can be attached using small bolts and nuts or they can be soldered. If you choose to use bolts then a small loop can be formed at one end of each radial and the bolt can be inserted through this loop and the mounting hole in the SO 239. A feed line consisting of 52 ohm coax and a PL 259 connector can be used to bring your 2 meter signal to the antenna.

The vertical element may be a little long so you can trim the vertical element carefully to bring the SWR down to where you would like it to be. The length of the radials isn't critical.

You can mount this little ground plane on a pole or you can make a small hook at the top of the vertical element and hoist the antenna using a string over a limb.

If there is enough interest we can have a building program at one of our NARC meetings and have those interested build this little antenna. We can have an SWR meter and a 2 meter rig at the meeting and trim the antenna to frequency. Please let us know at a future meeting or with an email so we can plan accordingly.