

Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

2022 CLUB OFFICERS

Pres: Bill Rascher - KT5TE

Vice Pres: Aaron Baker - KI5FIQ

Sec/Treas: Army Curtis - AE5P

Visit our web site at

<https://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 having fun.



JANUARY MINUTES

The January meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled on January 5th. **President Bill KT5TE** opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Nacogdoches City/County Emergency Operations Center off FM 3314. Self-introductions were made by everyone present. Minutes were approved as published. Treasurer's report read.

Our new Vice President **Aaron KI5FIQ** replaces **Andy KE5EXX** for Social Media updates.

Aaron KI5FIQ gave a report on Shreveport NWS.

An extended discussion was had about possible categories for use in our new On-Air-Challenge. Some suggestions included Retired vs Working, longest DX worked, etc.

For January, **Mike AA5HH** won the most QSO's made in December with 1,520 Q's. The On-Air-Challenge for January is to work as many states as possible; any band, any mode. It is expected that quite a few will work all 50 states and the winner will then be decided by ticket draw at the February meeting. To be eligible for the ticket draw, you must have worked all 50 states during January, you must be a current dues paid

member, and you must be present at the meeting.

Speaking of dues, it is time for all members to pay their dues for 2022. Dues are just \$20 and cover all licensed hams in a household.

January marks the ARRL January VHF Contest. As usual, the club plans to field rovers to work around a major grid corner in Logansport, LA on Saturday, and then work across several grid lines near Jasper on Sunday. Indicating interest for Saturday were **KT5TE**, **N6RH**, **AE5P**, and **W5TV**. Indicating interest for Sunday were **KT5TE**, **N6RH**, **AE5P**, and **KI5FIQ**. Other stations also indicating possible interest included **KI5POH** and **N5JGE**.

Program: **KI5PYQ** gave an impromptu program on DMR and the work he is doing to add a UHF DMR repeater in Nacogdoches.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As the months have flown by I've accomplished very little in our radio world. I hope you're doing a little better in getting things done and making QSOs.

Just called about the rotator plate for the Yaesu rotator that will be replacing the Hygain rotator up in the tower. That plate was ordered in December and they haven't even started making it yet. Something about all the plates for a given rotator type will be made at one time. They were out of Yaesu plates, so... That is why they were trying to get me to auger out the holes in the Hygain plate to fit a Yaesu. The TH11 will have a little too much inertia to consider that idea.

Lately I've been traveling, working on carriages, and other stuff. Lauren has crashed and burned her pair carriage while

training Shady and Sunny. Well, to be fair, Sunny acted stupid and flipped himself over the tongue upside down between the tongue and Shady. In the process bending the tongue, Shady's single tree and the rein rail. Not to mention flipping Lauren out of the carriage and bruising her pride and body pretty good. You're supposed to get right back up on the horse, but in this case the horse messed up the equipment beyond hitching up and going after it again. Which would have been really good training for the horses as upset as Lauren was after Sunny's goofing around.

Other than my 2m Thursday nights and the VHF contest my radios haven't even been on for two months. Since February starts off with our club's special event station, maybe this month will be a little better. Maybe.

We will be looking forward to seeing you at our February 2nd meeting.

73, Bill KT5TE

bill@watershipfarm.com

FROM THE VP CHAIR

The end of January has snuck up and so much has happened since the last time I wrote last month's column. Between the new job, winter break, taking the new car back and forth to the shop trying to figure out why the Subaru StarLink system keeps erroring out on me, I've barely had time to sit down and relax!

I did, however, get the chance to finally get on the air this past weekend and happened to stumble upon a station calling "CQ Contest" This was about 9:30 on Saturday and I had no idea at the time what contest was going on. Which then a quick

Google search later, and now the subject of this article, told me it was the end of the NAQP contest going on and conditions were just right that I was finally able to cross Maryland and New York off of my Worked All States. There have been plenty of times where I have been spinning the dial on HF and hear "CQ Contest" and the WA7BNM Contest Calendar

(contestcalendar.com) has become a great resource for me in figuring out what contest is going on and what the rules/exchange is to either get the station their contact and/or to play along.

I did manage to get 6 contacts from 6 different states on Saturday before the contest was over. While it wasn't a lot it sure was fun to just hop on and make the few QSOs for a couple of hours. (Though spelling Aaron phonetically can be a hassle sometimes when you're in a rush and you

often get tongue tied like I do!)

I would like your ideas for meetings. While I already have some in mind that I want to set up, I want to hear from you as well. To do this, simply fill out the survey form at the following link: <https://forms.gle/ggEupretZSBVCKeY8>

Already have a topic that you really want to present as well? Great! There's an option in the survey to let me know so I can get with you to schedule which meeting to present at. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me!

73 de Aaron Baker
KI5FIQ

baker.barisax@gmail.com

NOTES FROM OUR EC

All right, who ordered up all this cold weather? I sure don't like it. These old knees. We got some rain, which we needed. We got 0.7 inches earlier this week. But, we don't need the cold with the rain. Something about crazy drivers not knowing how to drive on the ice.

Roger, KOYY, started a discussion based upon the "fun" we had during Snowmegeddon 2021. That was quite a crummy 10 days for me. I know most of you didn't appreciate it either and I'm not in any hurry to repeat it.

Again, how well prepared are you? Have you bought your pizza pan to mag mount your 2m antenna? In my early travels, that was quite the handy little device to access local repeaters. Let's not all run out and decimate inventories.

I'm still looking for a few hams to take over net control operators for the SKYWARN net. That team is ready for some R&R. The script is available on the club website. Some good training as a weather spotter is available on the Shreveport National Weather Service web site.

Now for something a little more somber. February hangs heavy for many of us. Many of us remember where we were when word came down about some catastrophic event. Most of us remember where we were Saturday, 1 February 2003 when it was announced the Shuttle Columbia was lost. A multitude of people stepped up and showed their best during that time. There has already been a few things said leading up to our Special Event the first weekend in February. Tuesday night, 1 Feb, take a moment to go

outside and look to the stars:

Ad Astra

ARES 146.80, 141.3 PL
Negative offset

SKYWARN 147.320 141.3
PL Positive offset

Net Control Scripts:
<https://w5nac.com/resources/ares-races/>

NWS:
<https://www.weather.gov/srh/>

73 de John Chapman
KC5MIB
kc5mib@arrl.net

VE TESTING

The January 2022 VE session had no applicants.

Many thanks to VE's Rusty KD5GEN, Ralph N6RH, Mike AA5HH, Robert KD5FEE and Army AE5P.

Remember that we give VE tests the third Wednesday of EVERY month. For the latest information always check the club website at:

<https://w5nac.com/ve-testing/>

73 de AE5P.

email: ae5p@arrl.net

TWO METER CLUB NETS

Please join us each week for the two meter nets sponsored by NARC. All stations are welcome to check into the nets.

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

Our next meeting will be Wednesday February 2nd at the City/County Emergency Operations Center off FM3314. Meeting starts at 7:00; doors open at 6:30. Come early for a little socializing before the meeting. A presentation is planned.

NET CONTROLLERS

We are pleased to announce some changes to the Net Controller line-up.

NARC ARES/RACES NET
- Mondays on 146.840

1ST MON: JONATHAN
W5WJC

2ND MON: ROBERT
KD5FEE

3RD MON: RM
K5AGE

4TH MON: AARON
KI5FIQ

5TH MON: JONATHAN
W5WJC

SKYWARN EMERGENCY WEATHER NET
- Thursdays on 147.320

1ST THURS: WOLFIE
KI5MHB

2ND THURS: ARMY
AE5P

3RD THURS: RUSTY
KD5GEN

4TH THURS: TOM
W5TV

5TH THURS: ARMY
AE5P

Thank you very much for being a net controller and supporting your NARC.

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.html>

SHUTTLE COLUMBIA SPECIAL EVENT

Feb 4-6, 2022

Sign up with AE5P

CQ WPX RTTY

February 12-13, 2022

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

ARRL Inter. DX CW

February 19-20, 2022

<http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>

North American QSO Party RTTY

February 26-27, 2022

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

Check out the many contests listed on the Contest Calendar link shown here. There are many State QSO parties and 'Parks-On-The-Air' events that may be just right for you. Check 'em out.

Slow Scan Television

by

Thomas Atchison W5TV

The idea behind Slow Scan Television (SSTV) was introduced by Copthorne Macdonald in 1957-58. He actually developed the first SSTV system. It used 120 lines and about 120 pixels per line to transmit a black and white still picture within a 3 kHz telephone channel. The first live tests were on the 11-meter band which was an amateur radio band back then. In the 1970s it was given to the CB service in the United States.

SSTV was used in the space program to transmit images from the moon on several missions. The Apollo cameras used SSTV to transmit images from inside several Apollo missions and from the Apollo 11 Lunar Module television from the moon. The SSTV system used in NASA's early Apollo missions transferred 10 frames per second with a resolution of 320 frame lines in order to use less bandwidth than a normal TV transmission. These early SSTV systems differ significantly from the SSTV systems currently in use by amateur radio today.

A modern system uses a personal computer and special software to communicate SSTV. A sound card in a PC, using special processing software, acts as a modem. The computer screen provides the output and a digital photo or a digital camera provides the input.

SSTV is an analog signal using frequency modulation. Every different value of brightness in the image gets a different audio frequency. That is, we are dealing with AFSK. Color is achieved by sending the brightness of each color component (usually red, green, and blue separately). A transmission consists of horizontal lines, scanned from left to right. The color components are sent separately one line after another. The color encoding and order of transmission can vary between modes. A further discussion concerning modes is probably a topic for another note.

Using a receiver capable of demodulating SSB you should be able to find SSTV signals on the following frequencies (USB):

20 meters 14.230 MHz
14.233 MHz
15 meters 21.340 MHz
10 meters 28.680 MHz.

One of the early articles in QST that talked about SSTV is as follows:
"Getting Started with Slow Scan Television" by Ramon L. Glidden, W5NOO, QST, September 1997, pp. 53-56.

There are several software packages available to demodulate SSTV. One of the more popular software packages is MMSSTV. You can find this at <https://hamsoft.ca/pages/mmsstv.php> . This is for Windows computers. The download you should choose is MMSSTV113A.exe (Full Version - 2.5 mb). You can find several help sites at this same URL.

You may be interested in receiving SSTV from the International Space Station (ISS). I suggest you go to the site: [ESA - Windows 10 tutorial: How to receive SSTV pictures from the International Space Station](#) .

The world of amateur radio is large. I hope you will explore new ideas in the coming year. Have FUN!

FEBRUARY ON-AIR CHALLENGE

The on-air challenge for February will actually be 2 separate challenges.

First: The club member who makes the most contacts for the Shuttle Columbia Special Event will win the first challenge, and a book. The Special Event will use the special callsign of K5C. All members are encouraged to participate in the Special Event using their home stations and the K5C callsign. Any mode and any band can be used, keeping within current rules and regulations. To avoid having more than one K5C station on the same band/mode at the same time, it is necessary to sign up with the Club Secretary (AE5P) for the band/mode and time blocks desired. Time blocks are one hour each and can be anytime during February 5-6, 2022. A log must be kept of all contacts made, and a copy of the complete log in .adi format must be sent to AE5P when the event is complete. Any logging program can be used; ALog by N3FJP is recommended. All times logged must be in UTC. All contacts made during the Special Event will be sent to Logbook of the World (LOTW) by AE5P. Requests for paper QSL's must be accompanied by SASE.

While the member making the most contacts will win the On-Air Challenge, we really need every member to contribute contacts. Even if you only make one contact, please send it to the Club Secretary and do your part to make the Special Event a success.

Second: To be eligible for the second challenge, the club member must make at least one SSTV QSO. At the March meeting, a drawing will be held among all those who are eligible. The winner of the drawing will receive a copy of the latest ARRL Operating Manual. For this challenge, the winning eligible member does not need to be present at the meeting to win.