

Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

2024 CLUB OFFICERS

Pres: Mark Phillips - KI5POH

Vice Pres: Darrell Thornton - KI5PYQ

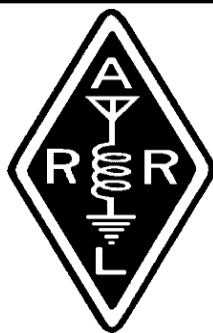
Sec/Treas: Army Curtis - AE5P

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.



FEBRUARY MINUTES

Well, the idea seemed like a good one at the time, but the separate on-air Business Meeting did not work out and has been cancelled. Business will once again be handled at the regular meeting on the first Wednesday of the month.

President Mark KI5POH opened the meeting at 7:00 in the EOC. Everyone in attendance introduced themselves. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published. Treasurer's report was not available.

32 repeater: Steve WB5IDY will check on the water tower on Park Street adjacent to the middle school. Rusty KD5GEN will check with a friend at ONCOR about the possibility of using ONCOR's tower on North St. Robert KD5FEE will look into possible GO-FUND-ME opportunities.

Meeting closed at 7:45.

Ticket drawing resulted in Bill KT5TE winning a copy of the ARRL 'Parks On The Air' book. Congratulations.

Program:

Darrell KI5PYQ gave an excellent presentation on repeaters.

Meeting wrapped up at 8:21.

2024 DUES ARE DUE
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Please, if you have not yet paid your 2024 NARC dues, sit down **right now** before you get distracted and write a check for just \$20 payable to NARC and mail it **right now** to the club at 167 CR 2093, 75965.

Thank you.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is in the air and we have had some pretty nice weather.

As most of you know, we are having to relocate our 32 Repeater (147.32). We will have to remove it from its current location within the first week of March. We are currently in discussions with the City of Nacogdoches for a new location and we hope to be able to move it from the current location and set it up at a new location, all at the same time. Hoping to keep the 32 Repeater's downtime to a minimum.

We have a great program for this month's club meeting. We had hoped to have had February's club meeting available via Zoom, unfortunately it did not work out. Darrell (KI5PYQ) has this month's meeting set up and should be operational for the March club meeting (check out his article in this month's newsletter).

I hope to see everyone at this month's meeting.

Up coming Hamfests:

March 2nd - Irving, TX, Hamfest

March 1st-2nd - Greater Houston Hamfest, Rosenberg, TX

I am thankful for each of you for being a Ham and being part of our club!

73, Mark KI5POH

KI5POH21@gmail.com

FROM THE VP CHAIR

Hope your February was a good month. Felt a little short to me. 😊

March is a new month. Spring is in the air. Many of you may have your gardens already planted.

This month's club meeting program will be on 6 Meters. Dr. Tom, W5TV, will do a program for us. I think it is about to be 6 meter season. This meeting will be an in person meeting as well as a Zoom for those that can't make it in person. Here is the link:

<http://tinyurl.com/ym4bwfhn> (I shortened the URL for those that might type the URL)

Meeting ID:
87186663202

Passcode: 578262

Relocating home shack update: I have both the Comet GP-15 and a MFJ-1982HP mounted to the house and feedline run to both. All I have left is to

finish. Isn't that with any project? Well, all I have left is to solder on the PL-259 connectors to both cables. I plan on doing that tonight and hopefully can check into the NET tonight from inside the house. With that done, I will be able to cover 70cm, 2 M, 6 M on the GP-15 and 10 M through 80 M on the MFJ-1982HP.

We have a fox hunt coming up in March. Army, AE5P, will be hiding the fox. Please stay tuned for the date and time. After the fox hunt, we usually have lunch together. It is a fun time to understand propagation, attenuation, and just how far a 15 mW transmission will reach.

73, KI5PYQ
Darrell Thornton

NOTES FROM OUR EC

The end of February has been very nice, well except for the wind. It has been up for a few days and the month isn't quite done. One forecast model indicates some severe storm activity around mid-week. Looks like March may come in like a lion.

Spring and the Vernal Equinox will be 19 March. With spring just around the corner, the "lovely" Spring weather will be here to drive us buggy. Spring brings more than a few storms with all the wind, rain, hail and the potential for tornadoes. We shall see what happens.

Now to the real world. What in the world happened Thursday 22 Feb about 6 am Central time? The cellular communication services of AT&T, Verizon, T Mobile and others stopped working as advertised. Cellular outages far and wide. I read an article from Al

Jazeera discussing the outage. Some companies had no problems (companies not listed) and some stated any connection issues were not related to their networks (again companies not listed). AT&T had the bulk of the outages. See notes at the end of this article. And before you pile on, I try to get much of my news from other sources tending to be more impartial in the tech area.

How did it affect you? Let's have a show of hands to those who had no connectivity other than the SOS Icon on your mobile. Probably a good number. How many of you came out of it unscathed? I'll lift my hand here, I didn't lose my connection and I didn't use Wifi calling.

How many grabbed their handheld or turned on a scanner (anyone still have one of those?) or your base station?

Now the age-old question, how do we connect our club members? I no longer have

a land line, I'm connected via my cell phone. I don't always have my handheld available. Do you have a land line?

Again, thanks to all who have checked into our nets and to our net control operators.

73 and see you on the nets de John Chapman KC5MIB
kc5mib@arrl.net

VE TESTING

We did not have any applicants for the February VE test session.

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

Remember that we give in-person 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.

HAMLIST

Are you on Hamlist? Check it out and join at:

<https://w5nac.com/about/email-reflectors/>

NEXT MEETING

Remember that we will no longer have a separate business meeting on the 146.84 repeater.

The next regular NARC meeting will be Wednesday March 6th at the Nacogdoches City/County EOC. Meeting begins at 7:00; doors open at 6:30. Come early for socializing before the meeting. After a short business meeting, we will have what promises to be a most interesting program by Dr. Tom W5TV on 6M operations.

Hope to see ya'll there.

FOX HUNT

There's a fox loose and running around. Your job is to find it. You won't need hounds because this fox is a radio. A very small little radio producing a very unique signal in the 2M FM band but you will know what it is the moment you hear it. Now it only produces 15 milliwatts of power so its unique little voice does not go far, but that just makes the hunt more challenging.

And rather than running around, it will be sitting still somewhere between North Street and the West Loop, and north of Main Street. Now that narrows things down a bunch.

Hunting for the fox will not begin until you hear the announcement on the 84 repeater giving the exact frequency the fox is calling on. There will be a card attached to the fox telling where to meet for lunch and the recanting your tales of what you had to go through to find the little fox.

This is an official club activity and all club members are encouraged to participate. Lunch will be provided for the first club member to find the fox. Club Officers are excluded from this offer.

Mark your calendar, come out and enjoy the day and maybe even a free lunch.

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 <https://www.contestcalendar.com//contestcal.html>

ARRL International DX Contest SSB

March 2-3, 2024

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

North American Sprint - RTTY

March 10, 2024

<http://ncjweb.com/Sprint-Rules.pdf>

BARTG HF RTTY

March 16-18, 2024

<http://www.bartg.org.uk/>

NARC FOXHUNT

March 23, 2024

84 Rptr @ 10:00

CQ WPX SSB

March 30-31, 2024

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

San Jacinto Day Special Event Station K5T

April 26-28, 2024

w5nac.com

7th Call Area QSO Party

May 4-5, 2024

<http://7qp.org>

New England QSO Party

May 4-5, 2024

<https://neqp.org/rules/>

Volta WW RTTY

May 11-12, 2024

<http://www.contestvolta.com/rules.pdf>

CQ WW WPX CW

May 25-26, 2024

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

ARRL International Digital Contest (No RTTY)

June 1-2, 2024

<https://contests.arrl.org/dig/>

ARRL June VHF Contest

June 8-10, 2024

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

ARRL Field Day

June 22-23, 2024

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

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.