

# Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

## 2014 CLUB OFFICERS

Pres: John Cechin - W5FWR

VP: John Chapman - KC5MIB

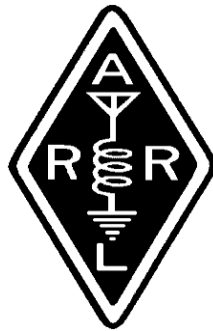
Sec/Treas: Army Curtis - AE5P

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.



## JANUARY MINUTES

The January meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled on January 1st. **President John W5FWR**, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Eight members and one guest were present. Each person present introduced themselves. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as corrected. The Treasurer's report was read.

### Old Business:

The **Shuttle Columbia Special Event Station (SES)** will be held on

Saturday February 1<sup>st</sup> at the shack of AE5P. The special call sign of K5C has been obtained for the event. Planned hours are 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

**Marshall K5QE** and **Bill N5YA** and others will be in grid EL08 using the call sign K5N for a grid expedition. Look for them on 50.128 MHz.

### New Business:

Look for the annual Ice Cream Social in July.

Solar Flux is reported to be very high at this time.

Meeting closed at 7:25 p.m.

### Program:

**Army AE5P** presented a program on QSL's.

## MY 2 CENTS

### FOX WILLY ROGER

The month of February brings with it our SES and two birthdays: my Mother's on the tenth and my Sister's on the twenty second, all great dates. If anyone can add to these dates, let me know and I will add them to next month's list.

I heard that the number of slackers has increased; maybe he/she will be bold and let us all know at the next meeting.

A few weeks ago this city was shut down by a 2" snow fall... I called my cousin in Wisconsin, about 60 miles north of Chicago and she told me that the temp was below 0 for about a week and the snow was blowing so hard that by the time the driveway was shoveled off they had to start over. Now that must have been fun. She also told me that a pot was kept hot on the stove so when someone spoke the frozen conversation could be melted and understood.

That's cold, much too cold for me.

A visit once more to the word tree to find not a lot of words, it seems that the tree doesn't like cold weather as much as I do. I did manage to pick a few more words from the tree so that I may finish this month's column; I hate to see next month's crop.

When I feed my outside cats, I keep reminding them about the neighborhood boogie cats. That's right the boogie cats, and why can't there be boogie cats, we have the boogiemans, we even have a boogie fever, so why not? That's the cats that come and bully my cats away from the food, anyway that is my daily task, to Elmer my cats on the boogie cats. You see my cats are growing up without adult cat supervision and so I have to do what I can, wouldn't you?

**K5QE** with his gang doing GRID chasing has slipped another grid into the books, things always seem

to go "not to plan" with Marshall's outings, these story's along with the contacts make for good listening, thanks Marshal, I can't wait for the next one.

The **SES**, our annual honor to the **COLUMBIA SHUTTLE CREW**, is with us once more, this year we will be using a new call, **K5C**, this should get us at least 500 more contacts than previous times, this year the station will be at **AE5P's QTH**, using his knob less radio, "and fun was had by all".

It was planned to have the SES use a radio, but now it will be held using a SDR, not all new things are good things. The SES is a club event, and your participation lets everybody know that you remember and you care.

The tree is begging for mercy, no more words, please.

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

Happy Trails  
73 Enjoy  
What do you think, let me know?

73,  
John Cechin W5FWR

[Carrots4ever2u@suddenlink.net](mailto:Carrots4ever2u@suddenlink.net)

## VEEPS CORNER

Wow! Eleven years ago, the Shuttle Columbia accident occurred. I'm sure most of you remember where you were or what you were doing when it happened. A most terrible Saturday for all of us. We put the SES up Saturday, didn't get a lot of operating done, but the camaraderie couldn't be beat. Even helped a new ham with his gear and setting up his station.

Wednesday, the 5<sup>th</sup>, we will have a guest speaker. Dwayne Prestwood retired as a software engineer from IBM working for NASA. He still has contacts inside NASA and was able to get a lot of information concerning

that fateful day. I think you will find his talk very interesting. It will run a bit longer than usual but remember there were a lot of things happening that morning.

Next month I will try to get our own Tommy Gober to come down and discuss technology in the class room. If you do a little digging around you've seen his name in a few QST articles about helping teachers get ham radio and other technologies in the class room.

Look forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting, 'til then enjoy the bands and don't forget your Valentines cards.

73 de  
John  
KC5MIB  
[jlchapman2@juno.com](mailto:jlchapman2@juno.com)

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Jim Boiles KF5ZPW on his upgrade from Tech to General class.

## VE TESTING

Our next VE testing is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19th 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](mailto:ae5p@arrl.net)

## CLUB NETS

Remember to join us each week for the 2-meter 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. We are always looking for folks who would like to become net control operators. If you are interested, please contact any of the existing net controls. We

will be pleased to help you in any way we can.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on **Wednesday February 4th** 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 come join us and bring a friend.

## BASIC SIGNAL PROPAGATION PART 8

by

Thomas Atchison W5TV

The February 2014 issue of QST has an excellent article on propagation that I suggest you read. The title of the article is *Solar Banners—A Propagation Resource* by Steve Andrea, AG1YK. It is on pages 78-79 of QST. It talks about solar parameters like the Solar Flux Index, Sunspot Numbers, X-ray Intensity, Interplanetary Magnetic Field, Solar Wind, Proton Flux, Electron Flux, Signal Noise Level, and Coronal Mass Ejection. It also deals with Geomagnetic Information. Don't let these terms discourage you. The URLs given below will help you interpret the terms that you find interesting.

Paul Herrman, NONBH, has 20 different types of banners on his website, [www.hamqsl.com/solar.html](http://www.hamqsl.com/solar.html) . If you will click on this URL it will take you to Paul's very informative website. There is also an interesting banner displayed on the URL [www.QRZ.com](http://www.QRZ.com) . This QRZ banner provides a lot of interesting information about band conditions for the amateur operator.

We all need to take advantage of the resources that are available on the web.