

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.



APRIL MINUTES

The April meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled on April 2nd. **President John W5FWR**, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Bailey Library of Christ Episcopal Church. Seventeen members and three guests were present. Each person present introduced them self. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published. The Treasurer's report was read.

Old Business:

Several members travelled to Longview for the I-10

Tailgate Sale on April 12. All returned with goodies they felt they could not live without.

Discussion held on the W1AW portable operations being held. They have proven very popular with several members.

Reminder given that Field Day the last full week-end in June will be held at AE5P.

New Business:

The 17th annual Neches River Rendezvous is scheduled for June 7th. Several NARC members have volunteered to assist Lufkin hams provide communications for this event, but there is room for more. To volunteer or for more information, please contact Steve Glass at kb8qwn@hotmail.com.

To help preserve the Monarch butterflies in East Texas, plant milk weed.

Meeting closed at 7:32 p.m.

Program:

Roy Platt KF5YSG and **Vernett Richardson (USN Retired)** Career Guidance Counselor at Timpson ISD gave an outstanding program on their high altitude balloon program. They have made several flights to date, and plan another launch this spring. Timpson ISD students are very much involved in the planning and construction of balloon payloads.

**MY 2 CENTS
FOX WILLY ROGER**

APRIL:

ANOTHER GREAT PROGRAM, MIB did it again, I know a teacher, KE5RMT that is doing ballooning too, and she started a ham club with the help of some Austin hams, and has done some launches at her school.

Isn't it great what the young hams are doing? Keep up the good work JOHN, what do you have for next time?

PHASE II.V:

In the last newsletter I had laid out my plans for bringing the other cats into the house, still unsure if that should be done, I pondered and waited. Every time I go outside to feed them, **GB** tries to run into the house, well today she made it, ran between my legs and into **TB** and **CU**. The battle now is the pecking order ordeal, not always fun to watch. If a CAT decides to live with you, and I hope that's the case, be careful about black cats. Don't get me wrong, I think blacks are super, I have two, or should I say they have me; black cats can be harmful to your well, state of being. Why you ask, well on more than one occasion I have found myself talking to shadows not getting any kind of response from them. Also, when I get up during the night I have to turn on the lights to see which one is helping me.

Back to the drama of the three cats, **CU** seems to be the most unsettled about **GB**, I can't understand that because they are sisters, go figure.

Surprise, surprise, our cool weather didn't go away just yet, on one of those days I had to go to Houston, I think that is a double negative, isn't it? I burned my fire place a few more times and now I have only a few logs left, just in case. My garden, such as it is, is still going as well as the weeds in the back yard; I will have to get to them one day. I have a century cactus plant in my front yard; to those of you who didn't know, it has a stack growing from its top. The plant is between fifteen and twenty years old and stands about eight feet tall without the shoot, the shoot looks to be about another ten feet over that, it's as high as the power lines, that's going to be one hell of a bloom. Come take your picture with it, it's better than the red woods and closer, I have a discount for hams and XYLS \$\$\$\$

If you want, you can cut my front and back yards and I won't charge you for the picture taking. Be sure and hug a cactus today, they need love too.

Just a reminder, **FIELD DAY** is just around the corner, as you may or may not know that field day is going to be at AE5P's QTH, bring a coat and warm cloths, so come out and enjoy, I have been making SSB contacts on 10m, 12m, 15m so tune up and have some fun.

That's all the leaves on the word tree for May.

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

VEEPS CORNER

Spring has finally sprung, still a few cool mornings, but the days have been quite pretty. This is the time of pop-up showers and as we have seen, lots of very nasty weather. Are your batteries charged, is your bug out bag ready? Are you ready to assist with an emergency?

The solar weather has been fun. Rusty recently noted a 10m contact and our president has been noting some really long haul stuff. What are you hearing and catching?

Robert Judy will be bringing a short program on the upcoming Simulated Emergency Test (SET). In August Philip Blackburn will bring a short program on tracking devices. Some of them are really tiny. July will be our ice cream social.

I will be out of town Tuesday and Wednesday and I hope to be back in time for the meeting.

73 de

John

KC5MIB

jlchapman2@juno.com

CONGRATULATIONS

To Timpson ISD student Payton Belrose KG5BRI on earning his Technician class license.

VE TESTING

Our next VE testing is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21st 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 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 May 7th** 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.

UPCOMING EVENTS OF NOTE

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

HAMCOM - June 13-14 in Plano.

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

CSVHFS - July 24-26 in Austin.

Make your reservations now for three days of learning and enjoyment at the Marriott Austin South in Austin, Texas. The 2014 Central States VHF Conference includes forums, demonstrations, technical presentations, a Saturday evening banquet and a fun filled Austin boat tour and bat watching.

The 2014 conference theme of QRO brings speakers and vendors from around the world with talks, projects and systems for high-power on VHF and up bands.

See a complete list of talks and vendors at <http://csvhfs.org/> and register today!

33rd Annual 2014 ARRL/TAPR DCC (Digital Communications Conference)

Friday, September 5th -
Sunday, September 7th

Austin Marriott South in
Austin, TX

The DCC has two days of Technical forums on Friday & Saturday and a concurrent Introductory forum on Saturday.

On Saturday night the banquet will feature an interesting speaker and the Sunday morning seminar will be a deep-dive into a technical topic.

We encourage those interested in attending the DCC to make your hotel reservations early to get the special TAPR hotel rate.

For the latest information, check-out

their website at <http://www.tapr.org/dcc>

More Antenna Simulation

By

Thomas A. Atchison W5TV

Before we get into some specifics about antenna simulation I want to tell you about another simulation program that has a DEMO version that is free. It is called EZNEC.

This is the simulation package that I am more familiar with and it does an excellent job of simulating many different kinds of antennas. It seems to be the software of choice for articles in QST.

You can find the DEMO of EZNEC at the following web site:

<http://www.eznec.com/demoinfo.htm>

This DEMO will allow you to see exactly how EZNEC v. 5.0 works and how it is used. It is a full EZNEC v. 5.0 package with all features and complete on-line manual. The only difference between the demo and standard program is that the demo program allows only 20 segments, which limits the complexity of antenna you can analyze. Even with the 20-segment limit, the DEMO program does a very respectable job analyzing a two-element quad, two- and four-element phased vertical arrays, simple Yagi, W8JK, and many other antennas. You can also create antennas from scratch with the DEMO program.

I urge you to give this DEMO a try since it has no time limit or other restrictions, and it is FREE.

Several of the articles that I have put in the NARC Newsletter contained information that was obtained from the EZNEC v. 5.0 (standard program, not the DEMO).

By the way, the EZNEC v. 5.0 is a Windows based program and it will work on the following systems: 98, ME, 2000, XP, Vista, 7, and 8. If you decide you want the standard EZNEC v. 5.0 program, it does have a cost associated with it. It will allow you to use up to 500 segments (as opposed to 20). This means you can simulate some fairly complicated antennas. There is also an EZNEC+ v. 5.0 that will allow 1500 segments at a higher cost.