

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.



DECEMBER MINUTES

The December meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled on December 2nd. **President John W5FWR**, was delayed returning from a trip to Houston, so **Secretary/Treasurer Army AE5P** opened the meeting / Christmas Party at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Twenty-two members and three guests were present. Each person present introduced themselves. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published. The Treasurer's report was read.

Old Business:

Because of the Christmas Party and pot luck supper planned for this evening, old business was not discussed.

New Business:

In accordance with our Bylaws, the new club officials for 2016 officially took office at this meeting.

Army AE5P announced that he had purchased another 1,000 K5C QSL cards for the Shuttle Special Event Station operations.

Meeting closed at 6:10 p.m.

After the blessing was asked by **Dr. Tom W5TV**, all proceeded to partake in the pot luck supper. As

usual, the food was excellent and plentiful.

After dinner, **Don W5COX** acted as our auctioneer and conducted the White Elephant Auction. Thanks to the donation of several especially nice pieces of equipment, the auction added \$1,404 to the club treasury, our best year ever. Many thanks to all who brought items for the auction and special thanks to **Larry KC5JCK** and **Tom KE5AKU** for their much appreciated donations.

2016 DUES ARE DUE

As we begin the New Year, please remember that 2016 club dues are now due and payable. Dues are just \$24 a year, and cover all licensed Amateur Radio operators in a family. Payment can be made to the Club Treasurer (AE5P) at meetings, at the weekly lunches, or by mailing a check to 167 CR 2093, Nacogdoches 75965. Checks should be made payable to NARC.

MY 2 CENTS FOX WILLY ROGER

JANUARY 2016:

Twas the day "or so" after Christmas, the stockings that were hung with so much care are now just a memory, torn and in disrepair. The tree, trimmed with tinsel and garland, now stands alone and empty, waiting to be placed back in its box and stored for another year. The gifts were wrapped so beautifully. Wrapping paper so fine that one might want to frame it, is now stuffed in the trash awaiting its fate. Friends and family have come and gone leaving you to clean and adjust the house back to where it was. Food left over, enough to fill many freezers with many storage containers that you will never finish them all. I wonder if I could serve them next year? It's time to put the gifts away. A tie from Grandma just like the one from the year before. Grandma doesn't remember all that well and forgets I don't wear ties any more. From

sister June, socks one size too small. A book from my kids on how to raise children. I will save the book and give it to them next year. It must be my age, but I have found that it's not the gifts but the company that counts. Too bad it takes a year to come around.

2015, wow this year went by so fast!

2016 promises to be a busy one for hams in general, and for our club members especially. Roving in VHF contests in Jan., June., July and Sept. The Shuttle SES in Feb., Field Day in June. Jim has taken that over and it should be just like the old days. I understand that Jim is thinking about a SES in the Big Thicket, another good one to look forward to. Many more events that a Ham can participate in so "don't be a stranger", come and join us.

The Christmas meeting / party was great, a lot of good food and great white elephants, and all the slackers were accounted

for, a night to remember, I made it back from Houston, a little late, and joined in on the fun, thanks to all that made the event possible.

It's fireplace time, time to go chop and split some wood and enjoy the benefits.

THE CRAZY CAT GUY:

My trips to Houston have been many this past month, so when I do get back my cats jump for joy, literally, chasing each other from one end of the house to the other, Rolly using the floor and Tar Baby the tops of everything else, and for the rest of the evening Tar Baby requires me to hold her.

I have decided to name the latest group of outside kittens. I had intended to publish pictures of them in this month's column, but best made plans, and also I don't know how to retrieve them from my phone, yet. In any case I will give you the names. Strips, Tigger-Boy, Tigger-Girl, and

Lucifer. Come by and say hello. Bring food.

GREAT INVENTIONS:

The Penny, how else can you give anyone your 2 cents worth?

The double walled insulated drinking container, put ice and a drink in it at bedtime and still have it cold when you wake up, a time saver indeed.

DID YOU EVER THINK?:

Ever wonder what happened to the weight system in this country? I'm not talking about metric stuff, or maybe I am. I am talking about 1 lb items that seem to be in the same packages and now are 10 to 15 ozs, and the costs don't change.

HMMM

I will now leave more spaces for the others to use.

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

Happy Trails

73 Enjoy, what do you think, let me know?

John Cechin W5FWR

Carrots4ever2@gmail.com

NOTES FROM OUR EC

Happy New Year!

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and that the New Years is shaping up well for you. Did you get a new skyhook or maybe a new cloud warmer amplifier from Santa Claus?

We all know the weather can be a fickle thing. We joke in Texas about having all four seasons in one week. We certainly saw that Christmas week over the course of a few days, significant temperature swings, snow as far west and south as El Paso, road

closures across that same area and west as far as Albuquerque on IH 40 and as far east as Childress. We saw significant rain across much of the rest of the state and tragically a big tornado that took life just outside of Dallas. We have also been lucky in that we haven't had a hurricane hit Texas during the 2015 hurricane season. You can never be "too" prepared for an emergency event. Take a few minutes as we start the New Year and check your emergency gear. When was the last time you used your handheld? Have you set up your portable antenna, do you have a portable antenna? Do you have a portable generator or a home genset? When was the last time you ran it, have you done the annual maintenance on it? When did you last change the oil in your car/truck?

It doesn't matter the time of year, the weather can be a wonderful thing or a very cruel mistress. As our scouting friends say, "Be Prepared".

We did have some activity in December. A very short notice Simulated Emergency Test came through. The question to be answered was: How many could be active within 1-2 hours, 3-8 hours and 8 and beyond and how long could they be available. We had a few folks that I was able to contact after we held one of our Monday night nets. I opened a special net and asked the question. I had 6 members respond to the net and how long they could work. So, let's ask the question, how many could answer a call up? How soon could you be active and how long could you stay in the saddle if something were to happen?

A reminder: Our ARES / RACES and weather nets meet Monday and Thursday, respectively. We usually hold the ARES/RACES net on the 84 repeater and the weather net on the 32. The 70 cm repeater is thrown in for good measure. The nets meet at 8:00 PM, 2000 hours

for you that can use a 24 hour clock.

I hope everyone has a great and blessed New Year!

73 de John Chapman
KC5MIB
jlchapman2@juno.com

VE TESTING

Our next VE testing is scheduled for Wednesday, January 20 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.

The actual operating frequency for each net is at the discretion of the net control operator. Some nets have used the club's UHF repeater on 444.050 but stay alert to other possibilities such as a simplex frequency or even HF.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be **Wednesday January 6** at **7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. A program is planned. Come join us.

OUR NEWEST HAM

Congratulations to **Kip Foley, KG5KWU**, who passed his Technician test at our December VE session. Kip lives in the Woden area. If you hear him on the air, please make him welcome.

SPECIAL EVENTS

A special operating event is planned for the weekend of January 30 to coincide with the ARRL VHF Contest. The plan will be much the same as our special operating event last September. All licensed Amateurs can participate. A handheld is all the radio that is required and you may be able to share a ride with another participant. The idea is to have fun so come play with us.

The Shuttle Columbia Special Event Station (SES) is planned for the weekend of February 6. Club members are encouraged to operate using their home stations

on the band(s) and mode(s) of their choice. To avoid conflicts with other members, it is necessary to sign up in advance.

More details will be available at our January meeting, or contact AE5P.

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>

ARRL RTTY Roundup

January 2-3

<http://www.arrl.org/rtty-roundup>

ARRL Kids Day Contest

Jan 3

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

North American QSO Party - CW

Jan 9

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

North American QSO Party - SSB

Jan 16

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

ARRL January VHF Contest

Jan 30-31

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

NARC Shuttle Columbia Special

Event Station

Feb 6-7

<http://www.w5nac.com>

CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest

Feb 12-14

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

ARRL International DX Contest - CW

Feb 19-21

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

North American QSO Party - RTTY

Feb 27-28

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

ARRL International DX Contest - SSB

Mar 5-6

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

CQ WW WPX Contest - SSB

Mar 26-27

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

CQ WW WPX Contest - CW

May 28-29

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

HAMCOM 2016

June 10-11

<http://www.hamcom.org>

ARRL June VHF Contest

June 11-12

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

ARRL Field Day

June 25-26

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

PICTURES FROM THE CHRISTMAS PARTY



KD5GEN, W5COX, WD5RAH xyl



WD5RAH, W5COX, AE5P, W5TV, W5COX xyl



KD5FEE, KC4LUY, KE5PQJ



W5TV, W5COX, KE5PQJ, W5TV xyl, KD5GEN



WD5HFD, WA5GVQ, WK5F



KE5PQJ, WD5RAH, W5TV

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make this one of the best Christmas Parties ever.