

# Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

## 2018 CLUB OFFICERS

Pres: RM Blake - K5AGE

Vice Pres: Jack York - KG5POU

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 and having fun.



## MAY MINUTES

The May meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled May 2nd. President RM K5AGE opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Eleven members and no guests were present. Each person present introduced them self. Minutes of the previous meeting were approved as published. The Treasurer's report was read.

Army AE5P gave a report on the K5T Special Event.

This is the second year of the San Jacinto Day Special Event by NARC which we hope will become an annual affair. We again used the special call of K5T for the event.

Operators this year included Tom W5TV, Bob K5ME, Rusty KD5GEN, Roger KOYY, Robert KD5FEE and Army AE5P.

The operation this year produced 471 contacts, with 429 via SSB and 42 via CW. All contacts have been confirmed via LOTW and paper QSLs are being mailed to those who request them.

Rusty KD5GEN gave a report on the SFA tower at the Ag Farm north of town. The tower was damaged when a tractor snagged a guy wire and has now been taken down. It is

unknown if or when the tower might be replaced.

Discussion held on a recent weather event in Nacogdoches. It was pointed out that there needs to be a designated Skywarn coordinator for this area. All members were reminded that when there is a weather event here, turn your radios on and monitor the 147.32 repeater.

Discussion held on the 2018 Field Day scheduled for June 23 - 24. Motion made to cancel club participation in Field Day this year. Motion carried.

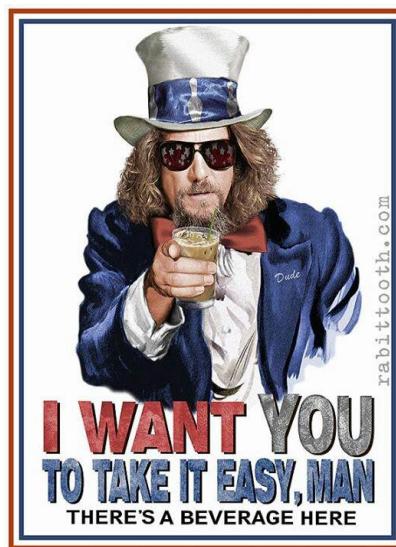
Army AE5P reminded everyone of the Neches River Rendezvous scheduled for June 2, with a backup date of June 16. Additional operators are needed to help provide communications for this event. If you can help, please contact Steve KB8QWN in Lufkin ([kb8qwn@gmail.com](mailto:kb8qwn@gmail.com)) or Army AE5P ([ae5p@arrl.net](mailto:ae5p@arrl.net)).

Meeting closed at 8:20 p.m.

#### Program:

Army AE5P presented a challenge to the club to learn about the Arduino family of microcomputers. A contest is being held within the club, offering cash prizes for the best projects to demonstrate the Arduino. Details can be found later in this newsletter.

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT



Browsing through my June 2018 QST I read some

particularly interesting articles. I would like to bring one to your attention for a potential discussion during our June meeting.

In "Happenings", the article discusses that for the fourth year in a row, more than 30,000 new licensees joined the Amateur Radio ranks. In contrast to that great sounding number, the net growth is only 5,349 - about .72%. The thought is a significant decline in the number of hams will occur as the Baby Boomers continue to age off the licensee rolls. The "Millennials" are expected to be the largest generation by 2019.

With that in mind, how old were you when you got your ticket? Millennials are still young, maybe they will soon be of the mature age to become interested in amateur radio?

Researching the characteristics of a Millennial, I found the following statement. "The generation is generally marked by an increased

use and familiarity with communications, media, and digital technologies." These characteristics - communications, media, digital technologies....this sounds like a good fit for ham radio operators.

73 de RM Blake K5AGE  
[k5age@fastmail.com](mailto:k5age@fastmail.com)

## From the VP Chair

Antenna saga to continue next month.

See write-up on FLDIGI and NBEMS later in this newsletter.

73 de Jack York

KG5POU

[gtjakco@yahoo.com](mailto:gtjakco@yahoo.com)

## NOTES FROM OUR EC

28 June 2018/1100 CST  
 (Memorial Day)

It seems for the last 2 years the June EC columns have centered on the impending hurricane season. (Impending sure sounds ominous) Why change now? I'm not.

Sub-tropical storm Alberto. No, he's not a tropical depression but he seems to fit the category of a true tropical storm with sustained winds at 65 MPH. But, who am I to correct NOAA. Land fall is predicted along the Gulf coast from Gulfport MS to the Florida panhandle as far east and south as Suwanee River FL.

So the season begins about a week early. The prognosticators are figuring 15 named storms (winds 39 to 73 mph), 7 hurricanes (winds 74 to 110 mph) and 3 tropical storms (winds greater than 110 mph).

As I recounted in my December 2017 column, we

weren't terribly affected by Hurricane Harvey. We did get some good rainfall, however, much of the Texas Gulf Coast was severely impacted by Harvey. Mother Nature is a fickle Lady. We dodged Harvey, but that's not saying we'll dodge the next one.

Practice, practice, practice. Practice what? How about ITU phonetics, and NBEMS.

ITU Phonetics: When I arrived in Nacogdoches in December of 2004, a couple of hams fussed at me for using ITU phonetics when I signed in or out on the repeaters. There were quite a number of hams that received their license in Jan 1995 in and around the San Antonio area. Now, if you will, how many letters have the EE sound when you pronounce them: B(ee) C(ee), D(ee) and so forth. Rather than having the callsign confusion, as a wet behind the ears Technician, I decided using phonetics was the way to go. Why should we

practice using them? Quite simply to avoid the confusion. Of course, Army and a couple of others will say, you ought to be using CW; no confusion there. Of course your mileage may vary.

NBEMS: We've done a couple of exercises using NBEMS during the ARES/RACES nets. You don't have to wait until the net to practice. I have FLDIGI on my laptop and ANDFLMSG and TIVAR on my inexpensive Android tablet. I also have a smart phone with a voice recorder on it. Some of you have a separate audio recorder you use while contesting. You can build a message, record it and then play it back into NBEMS. If you have 2 devices, run them back and forth. AND get very proficient with the device you might deploy with.

Last look at hurricane season, a couple of websites:

[www.nhc.noaa.gov](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov), the National Hurricane Center, <http://spaghettimodels.co>

[m/](#), (no there isn't a www in front of it) Mike's weather page, you'll see why he calls it spaghetti models after you dig around the site a bit.

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

## VE TESTING

Our next VE testing is scheduled for **Wednesday June 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.

Please keep in mind that the Technician license question pool will change effective July 1. If you or someone you know is thinking about taking the Tech exam, the June exam date will be the last

opportunity to do so with the current question pool.

73 de AE5P

email: [ae5p@arrl.net](mailto:ae5p@arrl.net)

## NEW HAMS

Several VE exams were held during May, and several new hams and upgrades were the result.

On our regular testing date of May 16, **Barry Adkins** passed his Tech and General exams and received the call **KG5ZYJ**. **Robert Stoll, KG5ZMQ** from Shreveport upgraded from Tech to General, and **Kermit Good, KG5ZCM**, upgraded from General to Extra.

On May 15 the VE team of **Army AE5P, Rusty KD5GEN, Ralph N6RH and Don W5COX** travelled to Huntington High School for a special VE session. Teacher **Peggy Albritton KG5ZYH** and student **Pierce Skrchot KG5ZYI** passed their Tech exams.

The same VE team returned to Huntington May 23 to see **Brice Page** pass his Tech.

Huntington HS is trying to form a Ham Radio Club and host a contact with the International Space Station late next year.

Congratulations to the new hams and the new upgrades, and many thanks to Kirk K5KRK for mentoring the Huntington HS group.

## NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be **Wednesday June 6th at 7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. We are hoping for a program. If you have suggestions for program topics, please let AE5P know.

## TWO METER CLUB NETS

Remember to join us each week for the two 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.

## 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.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

Items in RED are NARC Club Events

### HAMCOM - PLANO

June 8-9

### ARRL JUNE VHF

June 9-10

### ARRL Field Day

June 23-24

### IARU HF

July 14-15

### North American QSO Party, RTTY

July 21

### CQ VHF CONTEST

July 21-22

### North American QSO

#### Party, CW

Aug 4

### SHREVEPORT

#### HAMFEST

Aug 10-11

### North American QSO

#### Party, SSB

Aug 18

### ARRL September VHF

Sept 8-9

### Texas QSO Party

Sept 29-30

### CQ WW DX - SSB

Oct 27-28

### ARRL Sweepstakes -

#### CW

Nov 3-4

### ARRL Sweepstakes -

#### SSB

Nov 17-19

### CQ WW DX - CW

Nov 24-25

### ARRL 10 Meter

Dec 8-9

## A BRIEF NOTE ON POWER FILTERING

by

Thomas Atchison, W5TV

As we stated in the previous article, there is considerable ripple in the output of our bridge rectifier. Most loads will not tolerate the pulsating dc from the rectifier; therefore, filters are required between the rectifier and the load.

Power supply filters are low-pass devices using series inductors (chokes) and/or shunt capacitors. The ripple at the output of the rectifier is an alternating current superimposed on a steady direct current, therefore, the filter may consist of shunt capacitors that short circuit the ac component and/or series chokes that readily pass dc but impede the ac component. A **bleeder resistor** is connected across the output terminals of the power supply to discharge the filter capacitors as a safety measure when the power is turned off and to improve voltage regulation by providing a minimum load resistance.

A basic bridge rectifier power supply with a capacitor-input filter is shown in Fig. 1

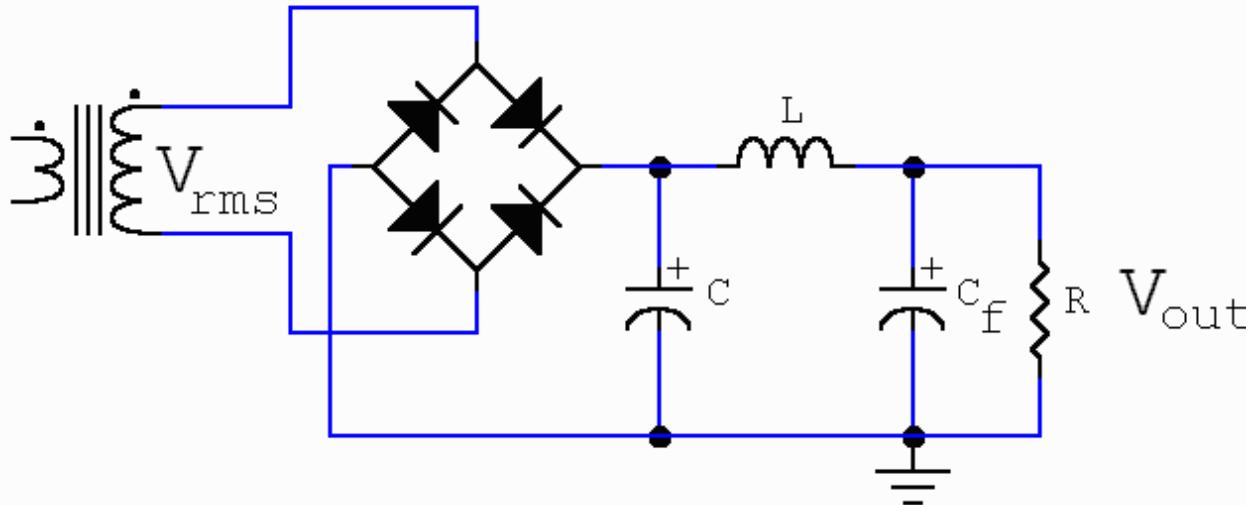


Fig. 1

The resistor labelled R is the bleeder resistor and the inductor labelled L is a series choke inductor. The capacitors are electrolytic capacitors as indicated by the '+' sign in the schematic.

A basic choke-input filter is shown in Fig. 2.

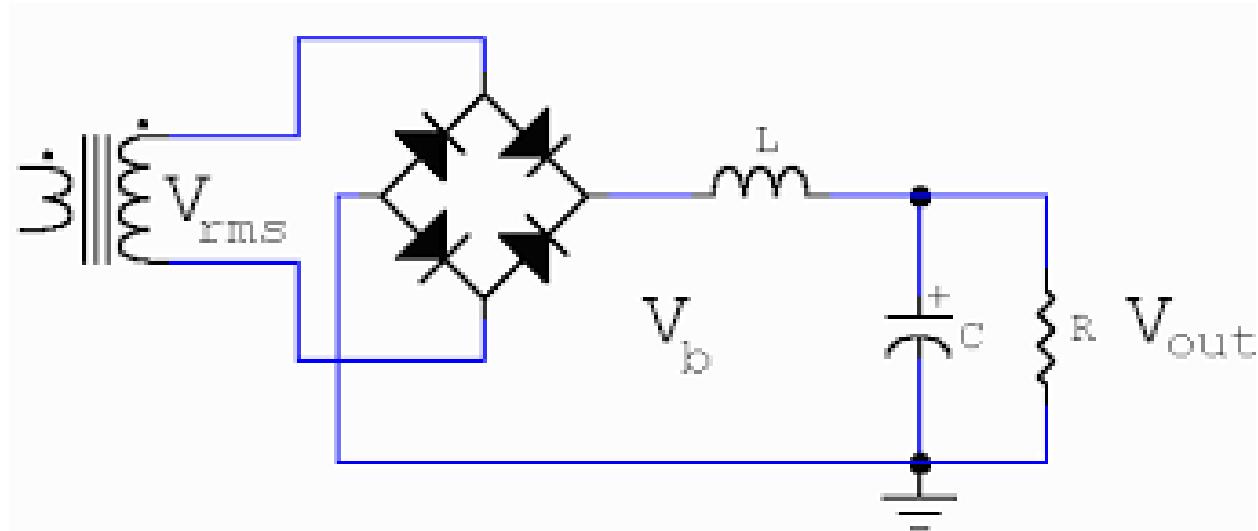


Fig. 2.

These filters may be cascaded to accomplish additional smoothing of the ripple.

The average output voltage of a capacitor-input filter is generally poorly regulated when you have load-current variations. Choke-input filters provide improved output voltage stability over varying loads and low peak-current surges in the rectifiers. On the negative side, the output voltage of a choke-input filter will be lower than that for a capacitor-input filter.

If you wish to go deeper into the design of power supplies and their associated filter systems I urge you to go to the ARRL Handbook. The 'Handbook' will provide you with a wealth of information about ALL aspects of amateur radio.

## MY TWO CENTS

### FOX WILLY ROGER

JUNE 2018

I understand from AE5P that the N.A.R.C. has a new YL member, I didn't get her call but the name is **Collins**, everybody give a big **HELLO** to our newest member.

You remember, last NL I did not comment on America's pastime, the **IRS**, I also did not mention **St Patrick's day**, two of this nations favorite holidays, how many of you partied on those days?

Here I sit all broken hearted, I found out that **Field Day** has departed? What the hell is going on with this fine club, what's next **Xmas Party**, or the **Ice Cream social**? As I have said in the past, if the club doesn't do, the club dies. The **N.A.R.C.** isn't the oldest **A.R.C.** around but it was one of the best for 25 years that I know of. In the past all of us have relied on leaders in Amateur Radio to guide the newer members, AE5P, AC5Z, KK5BE, KI5KR, WK5F, W5TV, and so many more that to name them all would take forever. With these leaders came a stronger better club, and now, it seems, that the many wants to kick back and let the few carry the load.

This club is not known for its quantity but rather the quality of its members, so get off your bottoms and do.

The TWT had opened one eye yesterday. I saw another eye open today, how many eyes does TWT have? I believe that when the eyes open it started feeling better. I noticed that TWT washed its keep warm covers and hung them out to dry. Now if that's not proof of summer, I don't know what is. Winter has been put away for another season, time to stay cool.

The freezer is full once more and the cool pops are having a bad time freezing.

Well its yard work time again and many have volunteered to do the yards for me, now my yard will look as good as all the others. The back yard is yet another story, I think it's going to take a bit more than a mower and a hedge clipper.

**QUESTION:**

Why is it when you drive down a secondary road and need to pull on a major road the on-coming traffic is traveling at top speed to get to the next red light?

Why is it when Wonder Women changes from Diana to WW the clothes that Diana had on are nowhere to be found?

Why is it that WW has an invisible airplane, how does she find it?

#### **REMEMBER:**

Remember green stamps?

Remember war bonds?

Remember turn signals meant sticking your arm out the car window?

#### **COMMENTARY:**

When **FOX WILLY ROGER** told me about the N.A.R.C. not doing Field Day this year, I felt like that volcano in HI losing its cool. People it's one major part of being a member of an A.R.C., yes part, learning, experimenting, doing, and taking part in Field Day. FD is not a contest but to sharpen your skills, and if you happen to have fun along the way, all the better, FD is what you make of it.

Having said that, it not the end of it, you can bet in some up and coming NL's, this and other subjects will surface again.

#### **GUEST COLUMNIST**

**JACK TALDI**

#### **THE CRAZY CAT GUY:**

"The pride has now one member, Tuff Guy, all the pride has disappeared without a trace, and I will miss them all.

**TB** has another new game, my storm door has a stop built into it when it's closing, and the door stays open about a foot, pauses and then closes. **TB** waits for the door to stop and runs outside, she stands no more than five feet from sanctuary, and as long as there's not anybody around it's OK. One day she went out with me ran a few feet and

stood and surveyed her realm, I started back into the house and was telling TB that I was going to leave her outside, by the time turned around stepped into the house and said goodbye I was talking to myself, TB was sitting in the living room looking at talking to dead air. One day I asked TB why she didn't venture out into the back yard, her reply was I'm a DSH not one that lives in the jungle, go figure.

When TB sleeps on the bed with me she waits for me to wake, if she's not sure if I'm awake she will walk on me and put her nose on mine and stare at me, if I don't move and pretend I'm still sleeping she will go back to her spot and wait. When I do wake up TB will proceed to tell me all kinds of things.

RP is the soundest sleeper I have ever seen. She still thinks and runs, stops and thinks some more, she's very difficult to figure out, but I will still try. Heckle and Jackal hasn't been seen for a bit, maybe they are following the cats?

**DOGS HAVE MASTERS**

**CATS HAVE SERVANTS**

**"THOUSANDS OF YEARS AGO CATS WERE WORSHIPED AS GODS  
THEY HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN"**

**BE THE KIND OF WOMAN/MAN THAT WHEN YOUR FEET HIT THE GROUND  
EACH MORNING THE DEVIL SAYS, "OH CRAP, THEY'RE UP"!**

**LIVE WELL, LAUGH OFTEN, LOVE MUCH!!!**

**KEEP YOUR POWER DRY AND YOUR HEAD BELOW THE HORIZON**

**HAPPY TRAILS**

**John Cechin W5FWR**  
[Carrots4ever2@gmail.com](mailto:Carrots4ever2@gmail.com)

## USING FLDIGI, FLMSG, AND NBEMS

By Jack York KE5POU

### I. CONFIGURE FLDIGI:

(-> SAVE at the end of each screen)

CONFIGURE -> OPERATING -> ACTIVE MODEM ->

-> MT63 - check all.

-> LOOK UP AT UPPER MENU (LUAUM) -> IO -> unlock then check ENABLE ARQ then check LOCK.

-> LUAUM -> AUTOSTART then locate the file for flmsg then install then check ENABLE.

-> LUAUM -> MISC -> NBEMS then check INTERFACE, OPEN MESSAGE, TRANSFER DIRECT, OPEN WITH FLMSG, OPEN IN BROWSER. Then locate flmsg then check SAVE.

-> LUAUM -> AUDIO then check PORT AUDIO. It is not necessary to check multiple unless you have multiple.

-> LUAUM -> OPERATOR -> INFO then input info.

-> LUAUM -> RIG -> FLRIG then check ENABLE. FLRIG -> XMLRPC input "127.0.0.1" then check DEFAULT.

> go to main header then check RXID, TXID.

### II. CONFIGURE FLMSG:

CONFIG ->

-> PERSONAL then enter info.

-> DATE / TIME then input info.

-> FILES > NAMING FILES then input info.

-> RADIOGRAM then input info.

-> ARQ -> FLDIGI XMLRPC address "127.0.0.1" port "7362" then check ENABLE, DISABLE, ENABLE, SYNC.

-> USER INTERFACE then check EXPERT.

> go to main menu -> FLDIGI MODEM TYPE input MT63.

III. RECEIVING:

After message is received:

- > View on RECEIVED MESSAGE window which is the simple form of the info.
- > To view complex message which is the printable form, go to flmsg FILE -> VIEW -> HTML DELIVERY.
- > Messages will show under the NBEMS folder and maybe under the type in a second folder for example, ICS, MARS... depending on what the message is.

IV. TRANSMITTING:

- > go to flmsg main menu for FORM to use what type of form is required, check required checks then complete sub forms for the form.
- > when done with compiled message in desired form, go to flmsg ->AUTOSEND.
- > message is saved then sent.
- > watch fldigi message window to see outgoing message.
- > sent messages will show under folder: NBEMS > ICS > MESSAGES

legend:

- ">" = next, subsequent.  
"->" = key press, menu level.

note:

Other info can be had at [www.arrl.org/nbems](http://www.arrl.org/nbems). Read intro and advanced.

## STOP THE BLEED

Rusty Sanders - KD5GEN

"Uncontrolled bleeding is the number one cause of preventable death from trauma." This sentence is taken from the booklet "Stop the Bleed".

I happened to find a most interesting article in the June 2018 *QST* regarding emergency medicine. The article is part of another article regarding field day and operators protecting themselves and others at field day from heat related emergencies.

The article has some good information regarding the control of bleeding. Even though much of the information is related to gunshot victims from some of the mass casualty incidents that are occurring, the information is great for those of us who utilize power equipment and other items that are sharp. Power equipment I am relating to could include table saws, routers, chain saws, skill saws and other items. Other sharp equipment could be the pocket knife, razor knife, and gardening tools plus many others.

A former classmate of mine was on a roof trimming some limbs when the chain saw somehow or other got in contact with his thigh. He died on the roof before anyone could do anything due to uncontrolled bleeding. I personally have sustained a very nasty cut from a simple pair of wire strippers when I was shortening a bolt with the screw cutter/rethreader part. (I have learned to keep my fingers out of the way of the wire stripping area due to the sharp blade that can remove large chunks of flesh!) I imagine that each of us has sustained related situations over time.

The article points us to a website called "Bleeding Control" at [www.bleedingcontrol.org](http://www.bleedingcontrol.org). The information is developed from THE HARTFORD CONSENSUS. This was a joint committee whose goal was to determine ways to increase survival rates from active shooter and mass casualty events. The committee was convened by the American College of Surgeons in response to the increasing number of such events. There were many facets to the committee including the military, Homeland Security, FBI, law enforcement, fire rescue, and EMS. The goal is to prevent unnecessary deaths due to uncontrolled bleeding by informing citizens what they can do to stop bleeding.

Uncontrolled bleeding can cause death in 5 to 10 minutes. Each of us should try to practice safe use of tools but I know I get lax when I use various tools. When we sustain a major cut to our body, we can go into shock and get weak in short order. If

we can do something quickly to stop or control the flow of bleeding, we can summon assistance. Sometimes, summoning assistance can be a difficult situation when the cell phone is in the pants pocket on the side affected by the injured hand or arm. Bloody hands can make it difficult to hold the cell phone much less access the unlock code. It could be quite handy to have a rag or old towel(s) around the shop that could be used as a bandage. Yes, they could be grungy but many times infections can be overcome, death not so!

Should you go to the website, you can download a very informative booklet that can possibly save a life. I recommend you download this and study the information and share it with your better half if you have one. The booklet is located under the "Resources" tab and at the bottom of the article.

I sincerely hope that none of us have the opportunity to need or utilize the information but should the situation present itself, may you have the ability to save a life.

The only thing more tragic than a death from  
bleeding...

**IS A DEATH THAT COULD HAVE BEEN  
PREVENTED.**

Note: Information in this article is from the ARRL QST, June 2018, page 77 - 78.

Editor's note: I have been taking blood thinning medication for several years now and when I cut myself, it can be very difficult to stop the bleeding. 'Wound Stop' is a powder available at Walgreen and others that you rub into the wound, and it stops the bleeding almost instantly. I now keep this in my shop, in the truck and in the bathroom in the house. Don't ask me how many times I've had to use it, but I can tell you it really works!

## ARDUINO PROJECT CONTEST

At the May 2018 meeting of NARC, the Arduino Project Contest was announced. The object of the contest is to promote interest, provide an educational opportunity, and give the members the chance to win some money.

Here are the rules:

Entry into the contest is limited to dues paying members of NARC, current in dues as of the May 2, 2018 meeting.

There are two entry categories. One is for members 50 years old and younger. The other is for members over 50 years old.

The object of the contest is to acquire the necessary hardware to build a project of the member's choice based on an Arduino micro-computer, and demonstrate his/her creation at the July 2018 NARC meeting.

The member will also be required to program the Arduino as necessary using the appropriate language, and load the program into the Arduino as required.

The projects will be judged by the members present at the July NARC meeting. First prize in each category (<50, >50) will win \$250 cash. If there are at least 4 entries in a category, a second prize of \$100 will also be awarded.

There are many sources of hardware currently available. One such source is this ad from Banggood for just \$21.99 with free shipping:

[https://www.banggood.com/Geekcreit-UNO-R3-Basic-Starter-Learning-Kit-No-Battery-Version-For-Arduino-p-1133595.html?utm\\_design=114&utm\\_source=emarsys&utm\\_medium=Mail\\_promotion180427\\_email&utm\\_campaign=newsletter%E2%80%94emarsys&utm\\_content=talis&sc\\_src=email\\_2977938&sc\\_eh=4c88e32686c583ea1&sc\\_llid=188964&sc\\_lid=115481913&sc\\_udi=d6dZ2sLx4uH&cur\\_warehouse=CN](https://www.banggood.com/Geekcreit-UNO-R3-Basic-Starter-Learning-Kit-No-Battery-Version-For-Arduino-p-1133595.html?utm_design=114&utm_source=emarsys&utm_medium=Mail_promotion180427_email&utm_campaign=newsletter%E2%80%94emarsys&utm_content=talis&sc_src=email_2977938&sc_eh=4c88e32686c583ea1&sc_llid=188964&sc_lid=115481913&sc_udi=d6dZ2sLx4uH&cur_warehouse=CN)

Members are not limited to using this particular kit, although it does appear to be an excellent starting point at a very reasonable price. Many books are available to show how to assemble and program an Arduino to perform useful tasks. You have

approximately 60 days to make this happen. Put on your thinking cap, order the material needed, and let's see what you can produce.

**Remember, first prize is \$250 cash in each of the two categories.**

Questions? Direct them to AE5P.

Since these rules were originally sent out to all current members right after the May meeting, several things have popped up requiring some changes.

The first Wednesday in July is July 4<sup>th</sup>, which may well require the meeting date to be changed. Also, the July NARC meeting is normally our annual Ice Cream Social, and it probably would not be appropriate as a time to judge Arduino projects. When the rules were first prepared, it was expected that the shipping time to receive the Starter Learning Kit from Banggood would be about a week. It has turned out to take at least 3 weeks.

Given these things, I am changing the project completion date to the first Wednesday in August, when the projects will be judged by the members at our August meeting. Don't wait until mid-July to start this.