

Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

2022 CLUB OFFICERS

Pres: Bill Rascher - KT5TE

Vice Pres: Aaron Baker - KI5FIQ

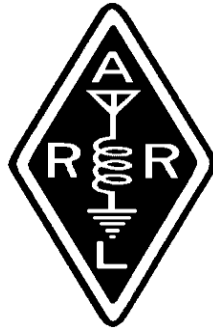
Sec/Treas: Army Curtis - AE5P

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.



MARCH MINUTES

The March meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled on March 2nd. **President Bill KT5TE** opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Nacogdoches City/County Emergency Operations Center off FM 3314. Self-introductions were made by everyone present. Minutes were approved as published. Treasurer's report read.

The new DMR repeater is on the air. 443.050 +. Congratulations to Darrell KI5PYQ, for a great job of putting this together.

Discussion on the San Jacinto Day Special Event Station operation, Friday - Sunday April 22-24. Please sign up for your band/mode/time blocks with Army AE5P.

Long Discussion on Field Day with the following results:

Overall FD Chairman:
KD5FEE

Bonus Points: open

Antennas: KT5TE

Radios and Computers:
KI5FIQ

Public Relations: KC5MIB

Digital: AA5HH

Food Chairman: W5NXX

Meeting closed at 8:30 p.m.

Program: Army AE5P presented a program on the K5C Shuttle Columbia Special Event operation.

Dues, it is time for all members to pay their dues for 2022. Dues are just \$20 and cover all licensed hams in a household. Make checks payable to NARC. Sent payment to the club Secretary/Treasurer AE5P.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

This year has been excellent for getting things accomplished. The only problem is very little has to do with radio. The first of April we'll be sprigging Coastal Bermuda in the 25 acres I've been preparing. With a 9' wide, 20" discs it takes quite a while to cover the acreage. Since we had watermelons there last year I've had to make quite a few passes at different angles with 12' chain harrow ($\frac{3}{4}$ " diameter links) in tow behind the disc. What saves the day is my phone, Bose' noise canceling head phones, and good music. :-)
Normally the MF4610 will use less than a tank to cut, rake & bale 25 acres. For this operation with a disc and chain harrow I can get less than half the field complete per tank. The tractor has to be in 4 wheel drive to pull that load, but in the end the hay meadow will be smooth riding when baling.

I'm getting too old to be bouncing around in the cab. It will be a busy year getting this hay meadow established. I pray and hope the rains will be timely.

On the radio side of the world I moved all my soldering and kit building stuff to the radio shack. Since this is also my darkroom for film processing it has excellent ventilation system too. Not to mention the refrigerator, bunk beds and bathroom (full bathroom) are a step away. The only thing I need now is a great big comfy office chair. The one I'm sitting is kind of worn out. Oh, I forgot there is a sound system with a TV on the wall. Up on the tower is a yagi for the cell phone repeater, so we get 4-5 bar signal. Because of the shacks construction it is the safest place on the farm for severe weather. Like the house Lauren and I built this building. It's a building within a building with 1-1/8" tongue & groove plywood for the top

and $\frac{3}{4}$ " plywood sides. Yes, life is rough in the shack...

Are you planning your shack? Or do you have luxury shack like others in the club? I know my favorite shack is a picnic table at Mission Tejas State Park with a little rig and a wire on a beautiful spring or fall day.

Our monthly meeting is April 6th and I'm looking forward to seeing everyone again.

73, Bill KT5TE

bill@watershipfarm.com

FROM THE VP CHAIR

What an "exciting" day here in the big town of Appleby today. Lot's of storm damage here and it's enough that NWS will be coming out within the next couple of days to see if it was just straight line winds or if it was indeed a small tornado. (Can you tell I'm waiting until the last minute again to write my column? Whoops 😊) As always I didn't get much radio time, but I did manage to participate some in the Idaho QSO party and after getting the results in already (Surprised I didn't get any bonus points for last place!) it got me thinking about the TX QSO Party results. A quick Google search later and I find this link here: https://txqp.net/tqp_resource/results/TQP-2021-Results-Rev-0.pdf and it just so happened to be recently released too. It's a pretty interesting read about what bands were used as well as what modes and types of stations were used too.

Out of the 254 counties in TX, only 185 counties are officially confirmed (They submitted logs and had their county in the SENT exchange). There are additional 21 counties that are believed to be on the air as well, but cannot be confirmed, bringing that total to 206. When broken down to the 3 ARRL sections all but 2 of the counties in the NTX section were activated mostly due to the efforts of 3 rovers. (Shameless plug to come join our VHF roving group for the VHF contests 4 times a year, the next one is in June!) Looking forward to the one next year. Who knows, I might finally get my portable setup ready to go in the new car that I can start roving the counties here in East Texas and the few Southeast Texas back home in the Beaumont area.

73 de Aaron Baker
KI5FIQ

baker.barisax@gmail.com

NOTES FROM OUR EC

Spring has arrived and I think with a vengeance. The 22nd was very busy across the state. Some young fellow was caught in one of the tornadoes, his truck rolled all the way back to wheels down and he drove it away. Some of you may have seen the footage in social media. Nacogdoches County was not unscathed. A tornadic line started in Cherokee county crossed into the northwest of Nacogdoches County through Cushing and died off in Rusk County traveling 38.6 miles. Thankfully there was only 1 injury in that storm system. Six tornado systems crossed east Texas with only 9 injuries. If we have any hams that live in that area along the line from TX 21 and the county line through Cushing northeast to the Rusk county line please contact me I would like to know how you fared and if there are any needs. There is a link on the Shreveport NWS website

with more information about the storms. We can expect more of the same as Spring warms into Summer. This week (28 Mar-3 April) looks a little grumpy, too. Thanks to Aaron, KI5FIQ for opening up a SKYWARN net on the .32 repeater. And since we are here, talking about weather, let's look at one of the notification systems, the weather radio system. The NWS has a web page (web site at the end of this) that lists all of the weather radio stations in the US and territories. When you get to the page you may have to do a little digging as the page is sequenced by call sign. But you'll find in callsign, city of service, frequency, current status and supporting NWS office. Quickly, Lufkin WXXK23 162.550, Center WNG650 162.525 and Palestine KWN34 162.45. The Lufkin and Center channels overlap Nacogdoches. This is a good resource when you are traveling, especially if your radio doesn't already have the weather radios

preprogrammed.

Net operations and netiquette... Thanks to everyone who participates in our 2 weekly nets and especially those who hung around the 22nd during the storm activity. A polite reminder, when you finish your comments and return the repeater back to Net Control it is your responsibility to give your call sign, not Net Control. The basic rule is fairly simple, give your call sign every 10 minutes (especially if you are long winded) or at the end of your comments.

Pop quiz: What does ICS mean?

See ya on the nets.

73 de John Chapman
KC5MIB
kc5mib@arrl.net

VE TESTING

The March 2022 VE session had two applicants. Congratulations to 11 year old **Eli Holloway** from Vidor, TX and **LaRied**

Oates from Center. Eli is now KI5UFN and LaRied is now KI5UFP.

Many thanks to VE's Rusty KG5GEN, Ralph N6RH, Mike AA5HH, Mike W5NXK, Robert KD5FEE and Army AE5P.

Remember that we give 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.

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting will be Wednesday April 6th at the City/County Emergency Operations Center off FM3314. Meeting starts at 7:00; doors open at 6:30. Come early for a little socializing before the meeting. A presentation on DMR operation through our new UHF repeater is planned.

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>

SAN JACINTO DAY SPECIAL EVENT

**April 22-24, 2022
Sign up with AE5P**

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.

Ham Radio YouTube Community

by
Thomas Atchison W5TV

As I was reading the April 2022 issue of QST I turned to the editorial article by David Minster, NA2AA, and found some interesting information. The heading was **Second Century: The Excitement is Back!** If you have access to this issue of QST I urge you to read David's article.

There was a particular reference that caught my attention and that was the 'Ham Radio YouTube Community'. David states that a year ago the predictions were that engaging with the ham radio YouTube community would prove to be a huge mistake. I'm not sure who made these predictions; however, David says that they were wrong. He states that the ARRL digital Contest Creators from the YouTube community coordinated and ran the "Hands-on Handbook" training track. He said these are the instructors, authors, and mentors of our time, who motivate us to try new things and to hone our skills.

Because I was not aware of what is happening in the Ham Radio YouTube community I decided to search the WEB using those key words. I received lots of hits and I explored some of the videos. I have provided examples below.

The first video is called 'Ham Radio, A Crash Course'. A hyperlink to this video is as follows:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/hamradiocrashcourse/videos>

This second video is called Ham Radio 2.0. A hyperlink to this video is as follows:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCKpVMjRE0m60IKCBWhIlo0A>

As you probably know there is a lot of information on the internet regarding a lot of subjects. Just remember that not every web site is completely reliable☺. Have fun.