

# Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

## 2005 CLUB OFFICERS

President: Kent Tannery -  
KD5SHM

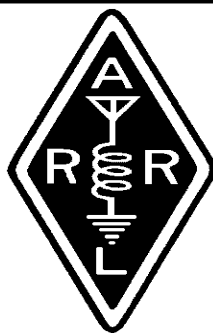
VP: James McLaughlin - N5VOO

Sec/Treas: Army Curtis - AE5P

## MAY MINUTES

The May meeting of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club (NARC) was held as scheduled on May 4th. Seventeen members and one guest were present. **President Kent, KD5SHM**, opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Each person present introduced himself. Minutes of the previous meeting were not available. Treasurer's report was read.

**VE Testing - John Jordan, N5AIU**, upgraded to Extra. **Rusty Sanders, KD5GEN**, upgraded to General. Congratulations!



**Field Day:** Pecan Park has been reserved for our Field Day operation on June 25 and 26. A cookout for family and friends is planned for that Saturday afternoon. **James, N5VOO**, is putting together a list of tasks, assignments, etc. We need everyone's help to make this a success. Please help.

**Fredonia 5 Miler** will be held on May 7. **Army - AE5P** will be net control.

**Belton Spring Meet - Marshall - K5QE** went and reported that it was cold and wet.

June Events:  
3-4: Hamcom - Dallas

4: Neches River  
Rendezvous  
11-12: VHF Contest  
25-26: Field Day

**Communications Trailer:**  
**Marshall - K5QE** reported that Hemphill has a communications trailer that they are interested in finding a new home for. **Kent, KD5SHM**, will take pictures of it.

**Portable Tower -** The club has been offered a military portable tower. **Kent** will check it out and report back.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

**Program: Marshall - K5QE**, presented a program on Basic Tube Amplifiers 101. Very well done!



### V.P.'s CORNER...

Once more it is meeting time and article time for me. I am going to continue on with the fox hunt series but came across an interesting article in the new Popular Communications. The article was in the Tech Showcase portion of the magazine and showed off the new Clore Automotive Jump-N-Carry 2000. This model has 2000 peak starting amps where they say it could start a Ford F350 and fun for hrs or even days powering a HT during a normal duty cycle of 6minutes TX 6minutes RX. But the price is outrageous. For \$368.88 you can walk out the door with one of these puppies and have a lighter pocket book. I have another alternative to such a high price piece of equipment.

I recently purchased at Wal-Mart a small unit that might not startup a Ford F350 but jumps a Hyundai

Tiburon without a problem. It powers a yaesu ft-897 running 100 watts HF for just over 4hrs. And the best thing is the price, it runs for sale in the automotive section \$49.95. How can you bet a deal like that??? Go up there now and they have them on clearance for \$35 and some change.

Now on the Fox hunting, as you remember last month we talked about how to build/buy an attenuator for fox hunting, but I remembered I jumped way ahead of what you really need for fox hunting. The most important thing you need for fox hunting is a receiver or HT that has the ability to measure the power coming into the radio. This being the most important tool need and in some cases is the only tool you need. Ask KD5FEE, he is one of the best fox hunters here in Nac and uses only a radio at times and has beaten most of the other hunters who have nice yagi antennas or sophisticated units like KD5MBZ uses when fox hunting.

When fox hunting I use a yaesu vx-5r with an arrow attenuator, and an arrow satellite antenna. I also program in the radio the 2nd and 3rd harmonics so when I get close and the attenuator isn't big enough I can knock down the signal even more. Tracking a fox is said to be more art and skill than just relying on your instruments. This is very much true, anyone who has ever been out knows how bad these radio signals bounce off objects and make you think it is in the opposite directions. Here is a quick example on what I mean on tracking a fox using degrees.

Say you are searching for a fox and have a directional antenna that gets high s-meter readings both at 360 degrees and 180 degrees. All things being equal you know it is either north or south of your location but how do you determine which direction it truly is. Most of the time you can look at the s-meter and see that there is a slight

difference in the readings and you just go towards the highest reading. But there are those times when you can't really tell so what do you do then? The answer is pretty simple and utilizes something called triangulation. In simple terms take three different points draw straight lines through these points and where the lines meet the transmitter should be. But this will only give you an approximate area to really pinpoint where the transmitter is without walking it down is a little more elaborate. If there is anyone who has done any kind of orienteering then you will know that there is a difference in true north on a map and the declination north on a map.

I could go on and on about how to find a fox but who is to say I am right. I get lucky and work with good people when searching. We use the map and determine the approximate area of the fox and head that way and run it down using directional antennas. This

gives us exercise and achievement that we found it first. Plus allows the people first to find to be the caretaker of the fox and hide it again when it is ready. I hope everyone will join in a foxhunt soon and have as much fun as the lunch bunch does on finding the fox.

73

N5VOO

### VE TESTING

Our next VE testing is scheduled for Wednesday, June 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. Applicants should bring a picture ID, their current Amateur license and any CSCE's, along with a copy of both, and \$14 to cover the cost of the exam(s). Take note of the price change; the cost of exams is now \$14. Correct change is always very much appreciated.

### 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. Remember the 141.3 PL tone now in use. Second, on THURSDAY evenings at 8:00 p.m. is the Deep East Texas Skywarn Net on the club's 147.32 repeater (PL 141.3). The PL is turned off for the net. Please join us for one or both.

### NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be on Wednesday June 1st at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall of Christ Episcopal Church. This is at the corner of Starr and Mound Streets in Nacogdoches. Hope to see y'all there.

### New Members

Please welcome our newest members:

**KE5CKL - Don Fare**

**KE5EXW - Rebecca Brown**

**KE5EXX - Andy Delgado**