

Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

2026 CLUB OFFICERS

Pres: Mark Phillips -
KI5POH

Vice Pres: Aaron Baker -
KI5FIQ

Sec/Treas: Darrell
Thornton - KI5PYQ

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.

JULY MINUTES

Mark, KI5POH, started the meeting off at 19:00. Introductions were made and minutes were approved. The treasury report was read.

Old Business - Members of the NET Committee were not at the meeting to report. Finalized 2026 ARRL Field Data plans.

New Business - Darrell, KI5PYQ, got permission from the club to unify the orange boxes (deployable VHF/UHF radio kits) and the HF kit to make the ready for deployment.

Meeting was adjourned.

QUESTION FOR THE MEETING

A Ham radio operator hangs a long wire antenna from a 9:1 to balun fed with coax from the radio. He makes some good DX contacts but during a contact to a 2 by 1 callsign he is told he has noise in his shack and he should add a "choke" to his system. The operator knows the noise was not ambient QRM. What is a "choke", what does a "choke" do and where should the "choke"

be installed? Bonus: What is "ambient QRM"?

Robert - FD5FEE

SUPPORT YOUR CLUB

Are you a member of NARC? How can you help the club and amateur radio by leading a project. Ask yourself, how can I participate and advance amateur radio in our community.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

We had a great time at our Ice Cream Social for our July meeting. We missed some regular Hams and welcomed some new Hams to the club. The ice cream and treats were good, but the conversations were even better. It is always good to see and visit with our family members at this event.

Remember our weekly nets and our next club meeting will be on Tuesday, August

4th. I look forward to seeing you there!

I am thankful for each of you for being a Ham and being part of our club!

73, Mark KI5POH
KI5POH21@gmail.com

FROM OUR VP

I'm back after a couple of months on hiatus here. Life and work got a little too busy and unfortunately, I never made it to get these columns done.

That said, looks like we dodged a bullet there with the storm in the gulf. Though I am much appreciative today as I'm writing this that we got the wind and cloud cover today after we had our first 100 degree day yesterday.

Good reminder to make sure all your hurricane supplies are still together and that you have access to some portable power if needed.

Hope to hear y'all on the air and have a great month!

Aaron Baker KI5FIQ
baker.barisax@gmail.com

VE TESTING

Our July VE testing session had one candidate. John Dean, KI5DOE, upgraded to General. Congratulations John!

Thanks to Dave NR5AT, Mike W5NXX, Ralph N6RH, Rusty KD5GEN, and Robert KD5FEE for showing up and making VE an option for folks.

Remember that we provide VE testing sessions on the third Wednesday of EVERY MONTH with exams for all classes of Amateur Radio licenses. Sessions are held at the EOC with doors open at 6:30 and testing beginning no later than 7:00 p.m.

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 20:00 on the club's 146.84 repeater (PL 141.3).

Second, on **THURSDAY** evenings at 20:00 is the **Deep East Texas Skywarn Emergency Weather Net** on the 147.32 repeater (PL 141.3).

Please join us for one or both.

ARES/ RACES Mondays	146.84 (PL 141.3)
1 st	Jonathan W5WJC
2 nd	Robert KD5FEE
3 rd	Robert KD5FEE
4 th	Tom W5TV
5 th	Jonathan W5WJC

Skywarn Thursdays	147.32 (PL 141.3)
1 st	Wolfie KI5MHB

2 nd	Army AE5P
3 rd	Rusty KD5GEN
4 th	Aaron KI5FIQ
5 th	Army AE5P

HAMLIST

Are you on Hamlist? Check it out and join at:

<https://w5nac.com/about/email-reflectors/>

NEXT MEETING

The next regular NARC meeting will be on **TUESDAY** Aug 4th at the Nacogdoches EOC. Doors will open at 18:30 and meeting will start promptly at 19:00. Following the business meeting we will a program over APRS. We hope to see you there.

FOX HUNT

The Fox Hunts will be on hold for now. We currently

do not have enough attendance to continue currently. If you would like to have another fox hunt, please let Darrell KI5PYQ or Mark KI5POH know that you would like to participate. We would be happy to create one.

ARRL Field Day Results

I'm a little late to the party, but I've loved doing this the last few years. So once again it's that time of the year where I get to break down our numbers for field day.

As always, let's start at the beginning. Our first contact was logged at 1807 UTC with our neighbors up north at the Tyler Amateur Radio Club, K5TYR on 40m side band (They were running 8 stations this year!) The first CW contact was with N0TT at 1814 UTC and our first Digi contact was at 1832 UTC with WX4E, The Charlotte Amateur Radio Society.

Our total operating time when you take out all the breaks longer than 30 minutes was 8 hours, 5 minutes, and 47 seconds. Our average QSOs/hour was about 24.5. Before calling it quits, our last QSO came in at 02:13 UTC. This year we were able to operate on 4 bands, 10, 15, 20, and 40. Out of our 198 QSOs, 49% of our QSOs were on 20. The next popular band was 40 with 35% of the share.

For the ARRL/RAC sections we contacted, We got most of the US except for parts of California, Washington state, North Dakota, Alaska, Hawaii, and parts of New England. We also got a few Canada sections in there as well. Our section of NTX was the most section that we made contacts with with just 15, but looks like we

had a good pipe to WNY as we got 11 contacts from there for 2nd highest. There was some DX with Costa Rica, Panama, and Puerto Rico in the mix of our log.

Based on the data on the log, it appears that not everyone filled out the operator portion of N3FJP when they got on the station because our top operator is <blank> with 78 contacts. But AA5HH was next on the list with 60, so we'll give Mike the award this year.

I hated that I had to miss it this year, but it did look like y'all had some fun. The prep work leading up to the event really showed how quickly we can adapt to plans quickly changing to make sure we are successful getting on the air. As always, thanks to all who helped put it together to make sure we were successful and

I hope everyone did indeed enjoy the weekend. I'll leave you with our filled in section map, See above Jim's AE5JE article.

73.

Aaron KI5FIQ

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 [here](#). You will need to scroll to find the correct month.

Link to ARRL Contest Calendar

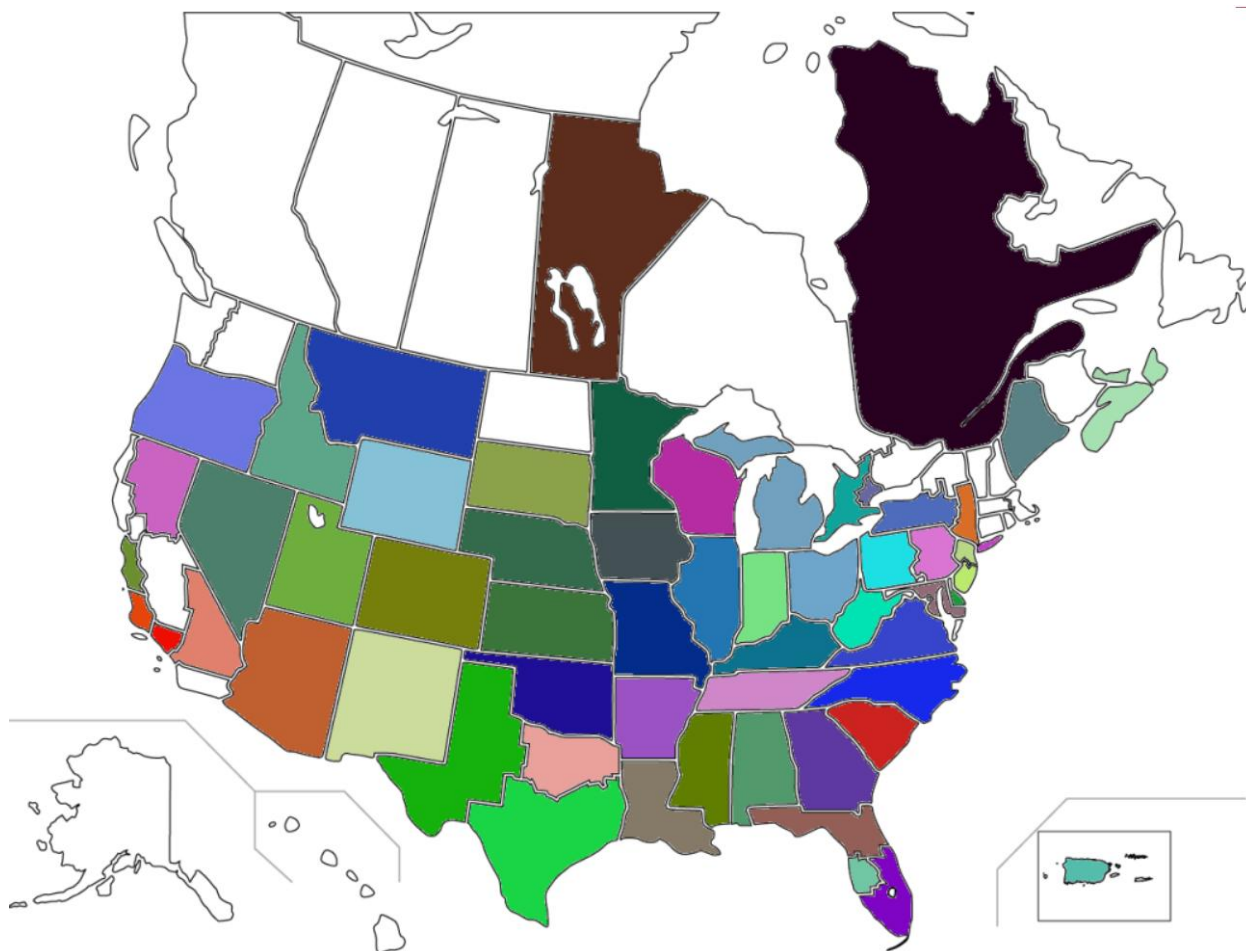
<https://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

Club Meeting Dates

Aug 4th 19:00

Sept 1st 19:00

Oct 6th 19:00



W5NAC 2026 Field Day Submission Summary

Entry received at: 2026-07-16 23:22:15

Submitted by: Aaron Baker, KI5FIQ E-Mail: ki5fiq.adb@gmail.com

Call Used: W5NAC GOTA Station Call: (NONE) ARRL/RAC Section:
NTX Class: 3F

Participants: 16 Club/Group Name: Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club

Power Source(s): Commercial
Power Multiplier: 2X
Preliminary Total Score: 1,244

Bonus Points:

Media Publicity	100
Public Location	100
Site visit by invited elected official	100
Site visit by invited served agency	100
Social Media	100
Entry Submitted via Web	50
Total Bonus Points	550

Score Summary: (Cabrillo log/dupe sheet file: W5NAC 2026.dup)

CW Digital Phone Total

Total QSOs	53	97	47	197
Total Points	106	194	47	347

Claimed Score = (QSO points x power mult) = 694

Band/Mode QSO Breakdown:

	CW		Phone		Digital	
Band	QSOs	Power	QSOs	Power	QSOs	Power
40m	26	100	44	100	-	100
20m	-		3		97	
15m	18		3		-	
10m	9		-		-	
Total	53		47		97	

Preparing for the Inevitable

Jim Edmondson, AE5JE

Postscript to July 2026 Article

The Inovato link in the article now points to the website of [NOLSR](#), who offers HamClock hardware and technical information for hardware users. I also discovered that KC3JS offers HamClock hardware for sale on his [ebay store](#). I am not endorsing either of these sellers, just making you aware of these sources for HamClock hardware. Please do your own due diligence or just use the free web version like I do!

Now Onto August

I am sure that you all have heard the old saying that "nothing in life is certain except death and taxes". This is most famously attributed to Benjamin Franklin in writing to Jean-Baptiste Le Roy in November 1789:

"Our new Constitution is now established, and has an appearance that promises permanency; but in this world nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes."

Similar expressions occurred earlier in early-1700's literature, but Benjamin Franklin popularized it more widely. I cannot help you with your taxes, but I can try to help with how to decide what happens to your ham gear when the other inevitable event happens and we become SK.

As hams, we can accumulate many thousands of dollars of equipment even after only a short time in the hobby. I, for one, would like to see that investment put to good use after I become SK. How much planning and thought you should put into preparing for the inevitable depends on several factors:

1. Is your spouse, family member or a close friend an active, knowledgeable ham?
2. How extensive is your radio and accessories collection?
3. Do you have any collectible or vintage high-value items?
4. Will your beneficiaries need the money that could be generated by selling your station?
5. Does your station include one or more towers?

If you have a spouse or family member who is an active ham, it may make the most sense to simply leave your station to them via a will or letter to your executor. Of course, that only transfers the ultimate decision on what happens to the equipment to when they pass away. If your spouse or close family members do not want the equipment and won't need the money that selling your equipment would generate, you could leave your station to a close friend or friends. Likewise, you could leave your station to a club to use or sell for the club's benefit. Similarly, you could sell off or gift items that you do not need or use often or get rid of that low-value "clutter" while you are still alive. This will reduce the amount of equipment for your heirs to deal with. Many silent keys with modest stations use one of these approaches.

If you have a very extensive collection of gear especially if it includes valuable vintage equipment restored to its original glory, then you might use a combination approach. The valuable vintage equipment could be sold to benefit heirs, while the more modern equipment is to be left to family, friend or club. This then begs the question, who will appraise the value of any equipment to be sold and handle the details of advertising, negotiating with potential buyers, packing and shipping that equipment? Perhaps a close friend who is a ham can help with this part of the process or find a local buyer through ham clubs or local advertising.

There are companies that specialize in helping to liquidate a ham's estate. One is appropriately named, Ham Estate. [Ham Estate](#) will evaluate the station and provide a firm price in writing to purchase all ham gear at no charge. Ham Estate will travel to your shack location, dismantle all gear and pack it for transport. This includes dismantling towers and taking down other antennas. While you will not receive anywhere near retail value for the equipment, this is an efficient way for non-ham heirs to liquidate the ham shack and complete the difficult tasks of removing towers and antenna systems with minimal hassle.

For a more DIY approach, you can consult the [ARRL Estate Planning Workbook](#). This resource provides a template to sort your gear into four categories: to be sold, to be donated, to be discarded and to be given away. There are worksheets for each piece of equipment to include descriptive, identification and estimated value information. The workbook also has basic information on estate planning and a page to list contact persons for various aspects of helping with station liquidation.

You might wonder why I chose this topic. August is National Make-a-Will month and QST included an article on this topic (p. 61, August 2026). I thought it was a good time for a reminder for those that may not read QST. Late last year the XYL and I updated our estate plan. As part of that process, I wrote a "Letter to My Executor" which included a section on my ham shack equipment and how to dispose of it. My collection of gear is small enough that I did not feel that I needed an inventory or anything that formal. Especially since model and serial numbers are documented in my ARRL insurance policy to help with that. I provided references to Ham Estate and local climbing resources to take down my tower and other antennas. All in all, a simple task to complete, so don't neglect it until it is too late.