

Lee Glassman, WA5LEE

Board of Directors

Introduction:

For those who do not know me, let me introduce myself. I grew up in NY, moved to Pennsylvania in the early 90's and to Texas in 2019. Here is a quick history:

- EMT/Volunteer Firefighter since age 15. EMT Instructor & NYC Paramedic
- Volunteer with Hospitals, Oceanside NY Fire Dept, Red Cross, REACT (breaker 19)
- Master Mason, Scottish Rite 32* and Shriner
- CW Post/Long Island University Biology/Psychology
- Stony Brook Univ. Hospital Pre-med & Helicopter Paramedic
- St. Vincent's Hospital Emergency Care Institute Paramedic Class 6
- IT/Communications System Developer, Web & Graphics Designer for the Entertainment Industry, toured with Billy Joel for many years providing Computer Services
- Served as Secretary, Treasurer, Trustee, Vice President and President of the Lake Ariel Fire Department in PA, as well as line positions of Lieutenant, Captain, Assistant Chief, and 6 years as Chief of Department Motorola Radio Technician/programmer for the Fire Department
- Ham since 2007, now Amateur Extra and VE
- Started the Pennsylvania Digital Radio Group. We started with a weekly net of maybe 4 people and grew to over 300 members, eventually hosting repeaters, XLX cross-band/cross-mode reflectors to bring inter-connectivity to our little corner of the USA for Hams to enjoy
- Assistant Emergency Coordinator for Wayne County, PA ARES responsible for recruitment, training, operational development, and OEM Liaison
- Moved to Texas in 2019 after selling Fire/EMS/Police/Military themed restaurant/sports bar/entertainment venue in the Poconos after 13 years of operation
- Member of OMISS, Texas DX Society, Tomball Hospital EMCOMM Group, Methodist Willowbrook Hospital EMCOMM Group, ARES, AUXCOMM

I joined NARS before moving to Texas. After attending my first in-person NARS meeting I was hooked. I remember Marty throwing me under the bus and nominating me for a Board position at my second meeting. Thanks, Marty :-). I knew less than a handful of people,

K5WH being one of them, thanks to DMR, but knew right away that THIS was the club for me. The meeting presentations were outstanding, the members were friendly, and I knew in my bones that it could only get better.

Since then, I have enjoyed the following Ham activities:

- Became a Net Control Operator for the TX Statewide DMR net, the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Net, the NARS weekly DMR net and the weekly STX ARES District 14 NW net.
- Participated in several Marathons, including the MS150, Buffalo Bayou Regatta, Klein FD Smoke Alarm Blitz, and the Wings over Houston airshow.
- Assisted Kirc, N5XJB, with NARS 2020 Field Day activities and developed a website to allow members to display their individual FD progress and scores, as well as contest scores in the future. I am always available to help members with Radio Programming, DMR, and other digital modes.
- Obtained All-Hazards Communication Technician (COM-T) certification, in addition to updating FEMA ICS 100, 120, 200, 230, 235, 240, 241, 242, 244, 700, 800, FEMA Professional Development Series and SKYWARN Spotter training.
- I have become Nationally Certified as an Emergency Medical Technician as well as obtained reciprocity as a Texas State EMT.
- Appointed as an Assistant Emergency Coordinator for STX ARES District 14 NW division, responsible for Operational Planning and Training Exercises. I deployed during Hurricane Laura to TX DPS District II Headquarters.
- Having been approached by Marty, W5MF, about the 'future of NARS' and in agreement with him about the need for the club to become more current and streamlined in its drive forward, I began to develop an interactive, permission-based collaborative system which would, with the blessings of the Membership, allow for almost all functions of the Club to be handled online, including Membership, Dues Collection, Newsletters, E-Mail reflector, all our recorded presentations available online, training, calendaring of upcoming events, etc. A fully secure, cloud-architecture based system by which all newly licensed Hams in our area, whether tested by NARS or elsewhere, would be contacted electronically and offered an introduction to NARS as well as an incentive to join our Society and enjoy all it has to offer. This platform would also allow for real-time streaming of our repeaters, AllStar node, and digital and analog nets over the web.
- Set up the system for the NARS annual election to be conducted this year and in the future for both in-person and on-line voting. This system offers 100% transparency, security and integrity, with no one person responsible for all aspects of balloting, counting, and auditing of results. This system has been demonstrated to the President

and Vice President and will be presented to the entire Board at the October Board meeting.

My Vision for the future of NARS:

If I have learned anything from my membership in many volunteer organizations, it is that an entity such as ours must adapt and change with the times. Especially now, after the COVID-19 Virus changed the way we conduct our lives. There are countless groups in our area that people can choose to join. What makes NARS different? What do we offer that no one else does?

Our repeaters are available to anyone. Our DMR Talkgroup is open to all. Our meeting presentations, albeit engaging and informative for the most part, contain subject matter available to anyone on the Internet with a search engine. I believe that we need to give people not only a reason to *join* NARS, but a reason to *stay* in NARS and actively participate. This is especially true of younger people just getting into Amateur Radio. In today's iPhone-iCloud-centric world, where everyone is instantly connected and reachable 24/7, many newer Hams complain about being 'dismissed' by veteran hams who disdain newer technologies. They are turned off and discouraged, never to return. I feel we need to actively pursue the younger generation of hams. We need to show them that our extremely talented and experienced Elmers can be a valuable resource who are accepting and tolerant of the value that newer technologies and new ideas brings to the table.

I realize that this view may make some people uncomfortable. It has even been suggested to me that many existing members will quit if any major changes occur in the club. To our website. To our newsletter. To our mail reflector. Friendships will be broken, feelings will be hurt, etc. 'We never did these things before, no need to start now' cannot be the mantra of any group such as ours if it wishes to have a legacy and an enduring future. I do NOT want to hurt anyone's feelings, nor do I wish to discredit or insult the current or past contributions of our Society. I consider myself lucky to be a part of NARS.

I have found the veteran membership of our community to be invaluable in my own growth in the hobby. If elected to the position of Director, I pledge that I will do my utmost to carry the legacy of NARS to the next generation, while preserving the sanctity and ingenuity of the previous generation. NARS is my home club and my first priority, and I would feel honored if allowed to participate in its growth and future.

Thank you for your time! Feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns you may have...

73 de

WA5LEE – Lee

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