

# NARS NEWS

The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

April 2002

## *April Skywarn Meeting – 7:00 PM*

This month is the Skywarn class presented by the local National Weather Service office. Note the time of the meeting is 7:00 PM rather than the usual 7:30 PM.

The Skywarn class is very popular and we expect a large turnout. Come early (6:30) to ensure you get a seat. See more details in the President's Corner column on page 2.

Last month's meeting on HDTV and digital television, presented by Channel 8, KUHT chief engineer Marty Kirkland WA5TMN, was excellent.

*THANK YOU, Marty!*

## **West Side Lunch Group Hosts Mike Goins**

On Wednesday, March 6, the west side lunch group hosted Mike Goins, WB5YJX, ARCI #3922. Mike is the new editor of the QRP Quarterly. His email address is mgoins@usa.net. Mike has great credentials as both an editor and a QRP ham operator.

Mike brought a little G4ZPY model 56 miniature paddle, special ordered from G4ZPY. He also passed around the tiny key he got last Christmas, built by Marshall Emm of the Spanish Key Company. It came with a little red ribbon so it could be hung on the Christmas tree as an ornament. The G4ZPY is a neat little solid-brass iambic paddle that is made in England (took about 10 months to get).

On Wednesday, March 13, Mike joined us again and brought more keys: the Swedish "pump" straight key, a small straight key from an Australian military set from WWII; and the TE NE KE. The Swedish Pump Key is a new model of an old design. It connects at the front instead of at the rear like most straight keys. It is virtually an exact copy of some really old design that has been used in Sweden for a long time. It is available at Milestone Technologies. This example came from a Swedish ham.

The small Australian hand key came from a military set and was obtained from an Australian ham that had a couple of them. It is sort of basic and not particularly pretty, but works great and is small enough to fit in a small CW package. It is used with Mike's Sierra and kept inside when traveling.

The TE NE KE was designed by Boyd Mason, NE8KE, and is sold by the North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (NOARC). Mason has turned over the rights to make and sell the key to NOARC, and they will guarantee the key for the buyer's lifetime. The key was originally designed for use on HF CW mobile, and the paddle contacts are formed from beryllium copper spring stock, which provides touch style keying. The club web site is [www.qsl.net/noarc](http://www.qsl.net/noarc).

*Mark Tyler K5GQ*

## **Important Dates**

**Friday, April 19, 7:00 PM** – General Membership meeting, Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church – Eyeball QSOs, 6:30 PM.

**Saturday, April 27, 8:30 AM** – VE License Exam Session, Tomball Community Center, S. Cherry & Market streets (just South of Main).

**Tuesday, April 30, 7:30 PM** – Board of Directors meeting, Terra Nova Clubhouse, 5200 Woodville.

### **Contests**

**Apr 12–14** Japan International HF DX CW

**Apr 20** Holyland DX

**Apr 20–21** YU DX. Michigan QSO Party, Ontario QSO Party

**Apr 27–28** Helvetia, Florida QSO Party, Nebraska QSO Party

**May 4–5** ARI International DX, IPA CW, MARAC County Hunters CW

**May 11–12** CQ-M DX

### **Wednesday Lunch Bunch**

**Apr 10:** Strack Farms

**Apr 17:** Pepperchino

**Apr 24:** Lasagna House II

**May 1:** Jason's Deli

**May 8:** Charlie's Hamburgers

### **Notice**

NARS membership dues are \$20 per year, renewable on anniversary of last year's full payment.

*Deadline for articles to appear in the May issue is Tuesday, April 30.*

## **BREAKFAST**

### **at Victors**

4710 W FM 1960

### **Saturdays**

### **7:30 AM**

## President's Corner

April 2002

Well here it is April already my fellow NARSians, and spring is in full bloom, and as the old saying goes, "April Showers Bring May Flowers". Well in these parts those April showers can get a little wild at times with torrential rain, high wind, hail and tornadoes. As has become somewhat customary for NARS in recent years, our April meeting will be devoted to Skywarn training.

Charles (Chuck) Roessler, Meteorologist with the National Weather Service office in League City will be our guest. Chuck will train us on, or perhaps reinforce previously learned severe weather spotting techniques. The Skywarn program is sponsored by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (N.O.A.A.) and the National Weather Service. We as amateur radio operators are the vehicles by which much of the critical weather information gets passed to the meteorologists charged with generating the severe weather warnings to the public. Meteorologists, analyzing information from their Doppler radar displays, count on us to provide on-the-ground observations to verify their data.

Southeast Texas is severe weather country and the Skywarn nets are activated frequently. In Harris County when severe weather threatens, the 146.840 (KF5ZL) repeater and a network of other repeaters are activated for the purposes of the Skywarn. The Weather Service office activates its HAM radio station, and along with the many trained spotters in the county, the stage is set for dealing with Mother Nature's worst.

This will be a program to be enjoyed by both public service minded HAMS and weather enthusiasts of every kind. So come and join us at the meeting.

Please note that to accommodate this rather lengthy program the meeting will begin at 7:00PM (rather than 7:30). Eyeball QSO's @ 6:30.

See you on the 19th.

George, KD5AYF

## Public Service Events Your Radio Skills Are Needed

### March of Dimes WalkAmerica

QST QST QST QST

Calling for volunteers for the March of Dimes WalkAmerica fundraiser walk, Sunday, April 28, 2002

New location: First Colony Mall, Sugar Land (has been moved from George Bush Park)

This is a six-mile walk, which will raise money to combat birth defects. We will need an operator at each water stop, a net control... probably a half-dozen operators in all. Communications to take place on two-meter FM simplex.

Please contact me at kf5nd@arrl.net

73, Pete

### Tomball VFW Memorial Century Bike Ride

The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2427, of Tomball, Tx is sponsoring this event to be held on Saturday, April 13, 2002 and will start and finish at the VFW Post Home, located at 14408 Alice Road.

Mike Lavender K5wqj, is requesting the assistance of any ham operator with a hand held transceiver to help in the health and welfare of this race. This race begins at 8 a.m. and should end about 1 or 2 p.m. Participants will be given a tee shirt honoring the event, and will be guests of the post at a barbecue dinner.

Volunteers can contact mike at 281-356-1635 for more detailed information and signup. Proceeds of this event are to benefit the post camp for the underprivileged kids of Tomball and surrounding area. Your help in this event would be very much appreciated.

Joe - Kd5kr

### Buffalo Bayou Regatta

This Year's Event will be Saturday, May 4, 2002. I am looking for at least 10 or more operators to help out.

The Buffalo Bayou Regatta is a canoe race down buffalo bayou. Nars has participated in this public service event for many years, and a great time is had by all. Operators will need a 2-meter hand held, paper and pen. We will keep track of the racers and for safety.

If you can help that day please contact me via phone, e-mail or see me at the meetings. Thanks in advance for your help.

73, Scott, Km5we

## VE Session Results

At the NARS VE Test Session March 23, 2002 we had 14 candidates. The results were 6 new Technician hams, one upgrade to Technician Plus, one upgrade to General, one new Extra, and one upgrade to Extra. We administered 19 elements with 14 elements passed.

The VE's were Bob Walworth N5ET, Norm Covey K5OS, HO Townsend WA5MLT, Keith Dutson WD5DXL, Steve Niles N5EN, Paul Frantz W5PF and Walter Holmes K5WH.

A SPECIAL Test Session was held March 30, 2002 for OJ's code class. We had 5 candidates. This resulted in one upgrade to Technician Plus, and one upgrade to Extra. We administered 8 elements with 2 elements passed.

The VE's were OJ Quarles K1OJ, Keith Dutson WD5DXL, Gregg Erlenbusch W5IDX, Matt Stouffer KD5LOA and Madison Jones W5MJ.

Thanks to all for their help.

The next NARS VE Test session will be held on April 27, 2002. See ya there.

Walter Hock KK5LO  
NARS VE Session Manager

## Ham and “Sheez” News

The NARS ladies group enjoyed a terrific day on our first outing. We went to the Museum of Fine Arts in Houston to see the Texas Flags exhibit, which was extremely well displayed and very informative. After touring through the museum, we ventured over to Rice Village and had lunch at El Meson, a Cuban restaurant. The food was fabulous and the conversation was tremendous. All the ladies anxiously discussed our next outing as the day came to an end.

The April outing of the Ham and “Sheez” group will be on Saturday, April 20, when we go to the International Gem and Jewelry Show in the Reliant Arena at Reliant Park. There will be hundreds of jewelry vendors participating in the show. Those who have gone to the show in prior years had a great time and came home with some treasures! We will carpool from Victor’s on FM 1960 at 9:00 am. If you’re an early morning person, plan on joining your husband/significant other for the traditional Saturday morning breakfast at Victor’s. If you’re not an early morning person, plan on meeting the ladies at Victor’s by 8:45 am to arrange carpooling. Mark your calendars for another terrific day and join us!

The monthly Ham and “Sheez” meeting is held on the last Monday evening of each month. We meet at the Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church, the same location as the monthly NARS meeting, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. Many ladies come directly from work and bring their dinners. The next monthly meeting will be held on Monday, April 29.

Are you interested in gardening and would like tips from an expert? If so, be sure to attend our monthly meeting on Monday, April 29. A gardening expert from Arbor Gate will be joining us as a guest speaker and will be discussing gardening topics specific to the Houston area. The evening will prove to be a lot of fun and incredibly informative.

Bring your questions and gardening woes, and leave with answers and ideas to brighten your landscape. Please be sure to join us!

We continue to get more information from the HandiHams organization. An update will be included in next month’s article.

Did you have ham for Easter dinner and still have leftovers? If so, here is one of Bruce and Laurie’s favorite ham recipes. Prepare the night before you are planning

to serve.

### Ham and “Sheez” (Cheese) Strata

4 slices of bread, slightly dried and cubed  
1/2 cup cubed ham  
1/2 cup (2 ounces) cubed processed cheese spread  
3 eggs  
1 cup milk  
1/4 teaspoon dry mustard  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
2 tablespoons chopped onion  
1/2 cup (2 ounces) shredded Cheddar cheese  
Paprika, optional

Lightly grease a pie pan. Put in half of the bread cubes. Top with ham and processed cheese spread. Add remaining bread. Beat eggs, milk, and seasonings together, stir in onions. Pour mixture over bread, ham, and processed cheese spread. Sprinkle Cheddar cheese on top. Sprinkle with paprika. Cover, and refrigerate overnight.

Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Uncover strata. Bake 30 to 35 minutes or until set. Cut into wedges. Approximately 3 to 4 servings.

*Best regards,  
Laurie – NIYXU*

## Performance Limitation of Meters

It’s easy to forget the performance limitation of meters. The AARL gives one of the best explanations of the limitations of meters.

The accuracy of most meters is specified as a percentage of full scale. If the specification states that the meter accuracy is within 2% of full scale, the possible error anywhere on a scale of 0–10 V is 2% of 10V, or 0.2 V. The actual value read anywhere on that scale could be as much as 0.2 V above or below the indicated meter reading. If you were using a 0–100-ma scale, the possible error would be +/- anywhere on that scale. Besides the limitations of the basic meter movement, any other components such as current or voltage multiplying resistors will affect the accuracy of the instrument.

Almost all high quality multimeters that

use an analog dial and a needle also incorporate a D’Arsonval meter movement, in which a coil is positioned between the poles of a permanent magnet. An indicator needle is attached to this moveable coil. When current flows through the coil, the magnetic field will cause the coil to move. It is important to note that it is the current flowing through the coil that causes the meter needle to move. The whole movement is carefully balanced, and a spring is used to oppose the needle movement when a current flows through the coil. This provides equal needle deflections for equal current changes, which means that the scale is linear.

The actual D meter scale calibration and the mechanical tolerance of the movement are two factors that limit the accuracy of a particular meter. In addition, the coil impedance controls

how much current will flow through the movement when a certain voltage is applied across it, and that will affect how sensitive the meter is.

D’Arsonval meters are DC-operated devices. In order to measure AC, you must use a diode to rectify the AC. A bridge rectifier is often used for this purpose. Then a scale can be calibrated to read effective (RMS) voltage. Such a scale is only useful for a sign-wave signal however.

Instruments that operate directly from AC to measure current and voltage are available. They are relatively expensive, however, and are seldom used in an amateur radio station. Most such meters are useful only at power-lines frequencies.

*Harry AC5XD*

# DX News

## “For All the NARS DX News Fit to Print”

Yet, a third month of great DX has passed! VP6DI and XR0X, two great DXpeditions in one month with excellent signals here in 5Land, again. You can debate which operation was the best or worst, but look in your logbook. Read on through the column and look at the real DX March madness. There is more DX to come in April. We are blessed in spite of the 20-meter sheriffs.

The March numbers were good and by in large the bands were also in good shape.

\* The high SFI occurred March 1st and 31st with a reading of 204.

\* The low SFI occurred on March 27th with a reading of 166 down a bit.

\* The low A index occurred on March 18th with a reading of 1.

\* The high A index occurred on March 25th with a reading of 35.

\* The low K index occurred on March 8th with a reading of 0.

\* The high K index occurred on March 24th with a reading of 6.

As usual, make of the numbers what you will. Remember persistence counts, and it's what's in the log that counts.

### Local Events:

Steve N5EN reports VP6, VP6, etc. I just wonder if Steve also meant XR0X also?

Norm K5OS reports some great DX time. Here's his list: SP4AOQ/EA6 Balearic Island; 9K2GS Kuwait "Abdullah said I was the strongest signal out of the U.S., I love it when they say that!" VP6DI Ducie Island; XR0X San Felix; D44AC Cape Verde; and ZD8KW Ascension Island. Five new countries!

Bruce N1LN says he worked everything! Here's his list: VP6DI Ducie Island (almost all bands and modes); XR0X San Felix Island (ALL BAND SWEEP); 7X0DX Algeria; D44AC Cape Verde; ZD8Z Ascension Island. Nice going Bruce on the D44AC 160 meter contact.

Cal WF5W sends his report along with nice new DX. Cal logged: VP6DI and XR0X. The VP6 makes 323 in the log. Cal picked up his VP8THU for 319 confirmed!

Mike KD5LER says this is his first opportunity to contribute! "The home-brew 4-bander is up in the attic and working well, although I've spent more time working on it than working on it, if you know what I mean." The mobile antenna has also worked out well with 10,

15 and 20 on all the time and 40 and 80 as an option when stationary. Mike says he logged VP6DI along with the Galapagos operation. Great start, Mike!

George K5VUU bagged a few nice ones. Here's his log for the month: YI9OM Iraq, S7DX Seychelles, XR0X San Felix, VP6DI Ducie Island. One new QSL card confirming a new country J28VS Djibouti bringing me to 295 worked and 287 confirmed. George says he is trying for the 3rd time to get a QSL from 9M2BG in West Malaysia.

Danny N5BE reports jumping into the DX fray. His log also reveals working VP6DI and OA4O. Come on Danny. Put that logging program to work!

Larry KN5Z had a little DX activity last month. Larry's log contains the following QSO's: GM4YXI in the ARRL DX Contest and he already has the card! Additional QSO's include: TI9M, XR0X San Felix, and VP6DI Ducie Island. Larry also caught the D44AC Cape Verde on 75 with the fence high dipole! "Never know what will work until you try it!"

Anita N5AOK logged a few new countries with: VP6DI Ducie Island, XR0X San Felix, and D44AC Cape Verde! This is how you get your money's worth out of the radio gear.

Paul W5PF worked the VP6DI Ducie folks and the San Felix group XR0X!

Gerald W5BA says that March brought an embarrassment of DX riches into the shack. Here is the impressive line up: H7DX, D44AC, D44TA, D44TD, PW0T, 4L2M, TO4T, LU6FFL, VP2V/W0AW, EA8/DF2PD, VK3DZM; 7X2LS, OZ2ZZZ, EI6S, ON5CD, 9L1BTB, EA6TC, PZ5RA, XW0X, TF8SM, RA0FN, UA3AB, EI9HW, A71MA, YI9OM, ZY0SAT, MJ/K3PLV, XR0X, VP6DI, ZD8Z, and HB9FBO. With these in the log, Gerald only needs 7 countries left to complete his 5BDXCC, all with a single wire antenna. One of the many highlights for Gerald was working Martti -OH2BH from EA8BH to complete my WAC on 160 CW.

John W5PDW reports that knocking off the #1 on the DX most wanted list was a big deal at his place. John's March log looks like this: PJ6/PA3GIO, W4D, JW1TV, ZY0SAT, HI9/PA3GIO, VP6DI, and XR0X. John received cards from the buro too. Another nice surprise was a big envelope from NASA and Chuck Brady on

the return address. Inside John found an 8x10" color print of STS-95 lifting off. This was the ride with John Glenn aboard. The signed print reads, W5PDW, Best 73's, Chuck, N4BQW, 3Y0C.

### From this Station:

March was a great month for DX from this QTH with 80 QSO's. In the mix there were 5 on 80, 7 on 40, 20 on 20, 2 on 17, 17 on 15, and 29 on 10 meters. I'm very happy to say this included VP6DI Ducie Island, and XR0X San Felix. Both VP6 and XR0 were new countries for me. My 80 and 40 meter QSO's were new band countries! Here is the IOTA breakdown: AF004, AF005, AF006, AF014, AF049, AS004, EU005, EU115, NA015, NA016, NA021, NA022, NA024, NA100, NA107, NA188, OC005, OC035, OC042, OC044, OC182, SA006, SA010, and SA013.

DX log entries panned out like this: 3B8/DL6UAA, 5B4/UA3QDX, 6D2YFM (NARS boys), 7Z1SJ, 8P5A, C6AKK, CN8NK, CT3/DJ6QT, CT8T, D44AC (2 bands), D44TA (3 bands), DL7ON, DU1/SQ9BOP, EA8BH, EI9HW, ES6QA, ET3PMW, FM/IV3JVJ, GB0BTC, HB9FBO, IV3SKB, J37K, JY4NE, KG4MO, LA1VFA, LY4AA, LY6A, LY7A, LZ9W, MMOLEO, OA4O, OA4SS, OK1AU, OZ8ABE, PJ2/DL7UFR, PJ2G, PJ4G, PW0T, PW0T, RA3ANI, RA6CT, R4M, RU1A, SN800R, T92D, T93Y, T97V, TA3J, TO4T, TT8DX, UA3TT, UN7EG, UR9IDX, UT7QF, V26S, V31DJ, VA3UZ, VP2E, VP6AJ, VP6DI (4 bands), VP6TA/VK9, VQ9MR, XF4IH, XR0X (5 bands), YJ0AOW, YL/RZ3BY, YP3A, YT7A, YV5OHW, and ZF2MM.

With my feet up and my head back, I'm savoring March and day dreaming about April. Good DX everyone!

### Scheduled DX Operations

Here are some of the scheduled DX operations for April. Good hunting!

- \* 01-30/04 3B8MM: Mauritius
- \* 01-13/04 3V8CB,SJ,SQ,SF,SM: Tunisia
- \* 01-09/04 3W2XK: Vietnam
- \* 01-28/04 7Q7HB: Malawi
- \* 01-30/04 9L1BTB: Sierra Leone
- \* 01-10/04 EA8/I5WEA: Canary Islands (AF-004)
- \* 01-30/04 ET3PMW: Ethiopia
- \* 01-09/04 H40XX: Temotu Province
- \* 01-30/03 KG4IZ & KG4MO: Guantanamo Bay
- \* 01-30/04 P5/4L4FN: North Korea

*Continued on page 5*

## DX News – Continued from page 4

\* 01–30/04 S79MX: Seychelles  
\* 01–30/04 TT8DX: Chad  
\* 01–30/04 VK0MQI: Macquarie Island (AN–005)  
\* 01–15/05 VQ9GB: Diego Garcia (AF–006)  
\* 01–30/04 ZD9IR: Gough Island (IOTA AF–030)  
\* 01–10/04 8Q7OA: Maldives (AS–013)  
\* 01–04/04 XZxSB, XZxJB, XZxDB: Myanmar  
\* 01–06/04 OZ/NH7T and OZ/DL1DVE: EU–172 and EU–171  
\* 03–05/04 3W3M: Cat Ba Island (AS–132)  
\* 04–07/04 HL1VAU/4, DS2GOO/4, DS5BSX/4: Huksan Isls (AS–093)  
\* 07–20/04 A25/G3HCT: Botswana

\* 08–19/04 HH4/K4QD: Haiti (NA–096)  
\* 09–22/04 9L1JT: Sierra Leone  
\* 10–19/04 VP5/GM3JOB and VP5/GM4ZNC: North Caicos (NA–002)  
\* 11–22/04 VK9LT: Lord Howe Island (OC–004)  
\* 12–20/04 DL: Usedom Island (EU–129)  
\* 12–14/04 IU9ACI: Lachea Island (EU–166)  
\* 12–24/04 VK9ML: Mellish Reef (OC–072)  
\* 15–29/04 C56JJ: The Gambia  
\* 22–25/04 T2: Tuvalu  
\* 01–04/04 XW3ZNR: Laos  
\* 01–30/04 R0POL or R3RRC/0: North Pole  
\* 01–30/04 XV9TH: Spratly Islands

(AS–051)  
\* 01–30/04 YC9BU: Aru Islands (OC–30/04?)

Thanks to Steve N5EN, Norm K5OS, Bruce N1LN, Cal WF5W, Mike KD5LER, George K5VUU, Danny N5BE, Larry KN5Z, Anita N5AOK, Paul W5PF, Gerald W5BA, and John W5PDW for continuing to support this month's column. Your support for this column is appreciated.

If you have DX info for the column, please e-mail wa5mlt@arrl.net.

*73 es gd DX to all  
de — H. O. WA5MLT*

## Direct QSL'ing: A Quick Review after N5L

As most of you know, Anita N5AOK and I participated in last year's Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society's "Lighthouse Christmas Lights" special event. Our BIG operation sent us to the outback at Point Bolivar Light across from the legendary Hotel Galvez on Galveston Island. We worked the special event, bought souvenirs in the hotel gift shop, and had a great time getting out. The excitement didn't end with our last transmission from the lighthouse, however.

As we crossed the ferry to Galveston Island and then the Causeway to the mainland on the North end of the island, we quickly reviewed the stats and recalled the uniqueness of a number of the QSOs.

At the same time, some of the stations we worked the night before were literally headed for their post office with QSL card in hand! Within two weeks, it seemed like we had QSL cards stacked everywhere; in a month we were finding new places to sit and our "excitement" turned to "work."

The immediate task was to match their QSL information with our log, and their SASE with our QSL card. While we were not faced with the task of a major DXpedition QSL effort, we found that the basic principles still applied. If you QSL direct with SASE, make sure you have the proper tools, and make sure you follow the basic rules.

Here are some dos and don'ts to guide you.  
1 – Go to one of the local office supply stores and buy a self-inking rubber stamp. Be sure all of the following is on your stamp:

- \* Your name
- \* Your callsign
- \* Your street address/P. O. Box

- \* Your town
- \* Your state
- \* Your postal code
- \* Your country

2 – Use the stamp for your return address on the envelope you are sending to the Radio Amateur whose QSL card you want.

3 – Use your new stamp to address your SASE back to you. Leaving off any piece of this information may cause your return QSL card to wind up in Timbuktu!

4 – DO NOT use the gummed return address labels that are a dime a dozen. Burn them, or hide them from yourself until Christmas. They do not have all of the information printed on them. There's no call sign and no country, to mention just a few of its shortcomings.

5 – DO NOT use the gummed return address labels for the "self-addressed" portion of your return envelop for all of the same reasons. If you are over the age of 18, they are too small to read and will cause problems with the postal service!

6 – Use nested envelopes.

7 – Use "peel and seal" envelops. This prevents licking and wet sponges that never have the correct amount of water on them. You are QSLing, not trading DNA.

8 – Use the correct return postage. Remember, you cannot walk the QSL card to and from the QSL manager cheaper. Don't try. It cannot be done. It will not work. It is impossible to do. Spend the money here, save it on your next electronic project by buying your parts in bulk. Go with out a meal.

9 – If you send QSL cards as a post card with post card postage, and no SASE, to save a few pennies, DO NOT expect to get a card in return.

Put yourself in the position of the incoming QSL card manager, or Radio Amateur whose card you want. They have to parse

card after card. At some point, they must match their QSL card, with your info on it, to that stinking SASE you have sent to them. Make it easy on them.

So to review,

1 – Fill out your QSL card with the pertinent contact information.

2 – Secure a set of nested envelopes.

3 – On the smaller envelop, stamp it so as to address it to yourself.

4 – On the larger envelop, use the stamp to affix your return address.

5 – Address the larger envelop to the QSL manager, or to the Radio Amateur.

6 – Affix the proper postage to the larger envelope.

7 – Affix the return postage to the small envelope (SASE). (or, substitute a couple of greenbacks, or a photo of your shack)

8 – Insert your QSL card and the SASE into the larger envelope.

9 – Seal it up and you are on your way to receiving the QSL card. Well, after a few months or so anyway.

This process works for domestic and DX QSLing. If you are using nested Air Mail envelopes, you can use them for domestic QSLing. If you don't have foreign return postage, you can substitute a couple of greenbacks, IRCs, or a photo of Aunt Minnie from 20 yeas ago. It is also OK to insert a photo of your antenna farm, shack, or lighthouse you are operating from. In other words adding something lightweight might grease the skids. Finally, use commemorative stamps for outgoing postage. You just might find that the foreign station might be a stamp collector also. And to that end, it might put your card on top of the stack!

*Good Dxing and Great QSLing to all  
De H. O. WA5MLT*

# Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

Welcome new member Gregory Gray  
Congratulations to Laurie Meier N1YXU on her upgrade to amateur extra

## NARS Resource List

### General Help:

Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY  
281-893-3901, k5zty@juno.com  
Allen Majeski WA5REJ  
281-353-8652, wa5rej.tx@netzero.net  
Bill Denton W5SB – Antennas  
281-469-8331, w5sb@arrl.net  
O J Quarles K1OJ – HF  
281-955-1555, k1oj@ditdit.com  
Larry McCain KN5Z  
281-469-6709, kn5z@arrl.net  
Madison Jones W5MJ  
281-350-4330, w5mj@houston.rr.com  
Bill Rister W5CYP – ATV  
713-694-6074, brister@hal-pc.org

### Satellite:

Deral Kent K5WNO – RS 12/13  
281-548-7476, k5wno@juno.com  
Dick Rooney W5VHN  
281-288-8424, dickrooney@usa.net

### Web Authoring:

Keith Dutson WD5DXL  
281-351-7683  
wd5dxl@arrl.net

### Packet:

Don Bedell KA3BKU  
281-370-6576  
DonKA3bku@aol.com

### VHF/UHF:

Brian Derox N5BA  
281-894-5942  
n5ba@arrl.net

### Interference (Basic Advice):

Harry Gage AC5XD  
281-370-7488, hjgage@aol.com  
Mark Tyler K5GQ  
281-587-0256, k5gq@juno.com

### Card Checking Awards Managers:

Bob Walworth N5ET – DXCC  
281-363-0209  
walworth@worldnet.att.net  
Brian Derox N5BA – WAS, VUCC  
281-894-5942, n5ba@arrl.net  
H O Townsend WA5MLT – CQ WAZ  
281-376-7416, wa5mlt@arrl.net

### PC Programming and Operations:

Keith Dutson WD5DXL  
281-351-7683  
wd5dxl@arrl.net

### NARS Public Information Officer:

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## NARS Information

### PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIRMAN

George Levandoski, KD5AYF  
713-895-0700, kd5ayf@arrl.net

### VICE PRESIDENT

Gregg Erlenbusch, W5IDX  
281-970-6860, W5IDX@qsl.net

### SECRETARY

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### TREASURER

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### DIRECTORS

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281-999-4481, n5be@arrl.net  
Bill Denton W5SB  
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O J Quarles K1OJ  
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Bruce Meier N1LN  
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### ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN

Bill Denton W5SB  
281-469-8331, w5sb@arrl.net

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Joe Sokolowski, KD5KR  
281-353-2196, kd5kr@arrl.net

*Send address, phone, email and other  
changes to:*

NARS  
PO Box 90387  
Houston, TX 77090-0387

*For general information call one of the  
Club Officers or Board Members.*

### NETS

10 M Ragchew: Mon 8:00 PM, 28.444 ssb  
Coordinator: Jim Kirk KJ5X  
281-376-0718, kj5x@swbell.net  
2M Information: Wed. 8:00 PM,  
146.66MHz  
Coordinator open

### WEB SITE

URL: <http://www.w5nc.org>  
Webmaster: H.O. Townsend WA5MLT  
281-376-7416, wa5mlt@arrl.net

### NARS REFLECTOR

NARS@mailman.qth.net  
Coordinator: O.J. Quarles, K1OJ  
281-955-1555, k1oj@ditdit.com

### REPEATERS

2M: 146.060 / 146.660 (KA5AKG)  
70 cm: 449.375 / 444.375 (KA5AKG)

### MEETINGS

#### Monthly General Membership

Third Friday each month at 7:30 PM  
Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church, 6000  
Spring Cypress Road

#### Saturday Breakfast

Victor's Restaurant 7:30 AM

#### Wednesday Lunch 11:30 AM

Various locations (Info on 146.660 and  
listed on front page in Important Dates  
column)

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