

NARS NEWS

The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

December 2002

December Meeting – Home Brew and Silent Auction

Bring your home-brewed pride and joy to the meeting this month and tell us all about it. Also, bring some cash (small bills preferred) or your checkbook if you wish to bid on the many items that will be donated to NARS. All members are urged to bring those pieces of equipment, books and other items that are not being used, to the meeting for donation to the club. The highest bidder for each item is the winner. Also, NARS members may bring their items for sale at auction. A minimum bid may be placed on the item. NARS will collect a 5 percent commission on each sale up to a maximum of \$5.

See you at the meeting.

Annual Banquet Notice

Howdy Narsians. It's that time of year again when we need your attention focused on our Annual Awards Banquet. It will be held on January 17, the 3rd Friday of the month, our usual meeting night. As was the case last year we will have an evening filled with friends, entertainment and great food. Our menu will be the same as last year: tossed salad with assorted dressings, roast beef and mushroom gravy, marinated grilled chicken breast, a veggie medley, potato dish of some sort, and a desert medley. A cash bar will also be available for those of you old enough to enjoy the occasional adult beverage.

Plan to arrive at 6:30 PM. The evening's festivities should conclude at or around 9:30. The dinner venue will again be Wyndehaven Terrace located at 12716 Cutten Rd.

The costs associated per person are the same as last year. For NARS members and their families the cost is \$18.00 per person and for non-members \$20.00. We require that your RSVP be accompanied by your \$\$\$\$. We must give the hall a number of dinner guests to expect 7 days in advance of our date, and NARS is required to pay for those meals, show or no show. If you expect to eat we must receive your RSVP and money before hand (preferably 7 days before). Please send RSVP's and checks to the NARS PO Box. Joe Sokolowski will be managing the reservations.

Hope to see all you there, and thanks again this year for your cooperation.

George, KD5AYF

2003 Board of Directors



Names L-R are George Levandoski KD5AYF (outgoing president), Bruce Meier N1LN (vice-president), Bob Walworth N5ET (secretary), Tom Hoherd KK5YU (treasurer) and Terry Myers KQ5U (director).

Important Dates

Friday, Dec 20, 7:30 PM – General Membership meeting, Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church – Eyeball QSOs, 7:00 PM.

Tuesday, Dec 31, 7:30 PM – Board of Directors meeting, Terra Nova Clubhouse, 5200 Woodville.

Saturday, Jan 25, 8:30 AM – VE License Exam Session, Tomball Community Center, S. Cherry & Market streets (just South of Main).

NOTE: NO VE SESSION IN DECEMBER.

Contests

Dec 14–15 ARRL 10M

Dec 20–22 OK DX RTTY

Dec 21–Jan 5 Lighthouse Christmas Lights QSO Party

Dec 26 DARC Christmas

Dec 28–29 RAC Winter, Original QRP

Dec 31–Jan 1 Straight–Key Night

Jan 5 Kid's Day

Jan 5–6 ARRL RTTY Roundup

Jan 10–12 North American QSO Party CW, DARC 10–Meter

Jan 18–20 North American QSO Party

Phone, ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes

Jan 25–26 CQ WW 160–Meter

Wednesday Lunch Bunch

Dec 11: Casa Imperial Mexican

Dec 18: Red Lobster

Jan 1: Strack Farms

Jan 8: Pepperchino

Jan 15: Lasagna House II

Wednesday Lunch Bunch – West

Dec 11 Fuddruckers

Dec 18 Puma Mexican

Jan 1 Jasons Deli

Jan 8 Luthers BBQ

Jan 15 Skeeters

Monday "Tail Draggers" Lunch Bunch

12:00 Noon Aviator's Grill, Hooks Airport, Tomball

Notice

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

Deadline for articles to appear in the next issue is the last day of this month.

BREAKFAST

at Victors

4710 W FM 1960

Saturdays

7:30 AM

President's Corner

December 2002

Well folks, it has been FUN! The year 2002 has just flown past and the Northwest Amateur Radio Society has had a most enjoyable and successful year. Thanks to Bill Denton, W5SB (Program Chairman), and our many program presenters, our general meetings have been infused with entertainment and enlightenment.

We have seen the formal organization of a new group within NARS, the "Ham and Sheeze". An idea thought up (I believe at last year's Awards banquet), and implemented by some of the Ladies in the group, and "Presto". . . the "Ham and Sheeze" was born. The gatherings, field trips and events, many of which are unrelated to Ham Radio this group embarks on have become giant "not to miss" x's on the monthly calendar. Great Job Ladies!

Field Day 2002 was the most enjoyable that I can recall in the 5 Field Days in which I have participated. A true "Family Affair" in all respects. Although we came in 13th in our class, the competition aspect of Field Day is only one of the reasons this annual event is held. Fellowship with friends and the practice we all get for the eventuality that someday we may have to demonstrate our practiced skills during an actual emergency remain as the prime objectives in my mind. Oh, and we got to eat! THE FOOD WAS GREAT! With that in mind, the wheels are already grinding on a superior "competitive" performance in 2003, along with everything else.

The Texas QSO Party was once again a resounding success. It was well planned, well organized, and well, TONS OF FUN for all whom rolled up the mileage in the vehicle and those who rolled up the Q's at the house or some other fixed location.

Again we did our part in the public service arena as well. Our sponsored public service event organizers, and the participants to whom we provided the communications service for, were mighty please and appreciative. To those of you who coordinate our participation in these events and those of you who juice up the HT's and make your way afield, Terrific Job!!

All in all it was a great year. I had a terrific time sitting as your President during 2002, but am happy to transfer the reins of the office to incoming President, Gregg Erlenbusch, W5IDX. I would certainly like to express my thanks to all of the 2002 NARS Board, and to all those people listed on the back page of the NARS News. It is these folks who make NARS operate in a seamless fashion. I would also like to welcome incoming Board Members, Terry Myers, KQ5U, and Rob Nixon, KD5BXZ. Welcome aboard guys! Looks like 2003 will be another banner year!

That is not all we did in 2002 folks but just some highlights off the top of my head. All in all, we can be very proud of our Club. As an ARRL Special Services Club, I would stack us up against any other club around. Keep up the good work!

Lastly, the NARS Annual Awards Banquet is coming up. Get those RSVP's in quickly. Like last year's festivities, you won't want to miss it!!

Thanks to all!

73,

George, KD5AYF

VE Session Results

At the NARS VE Test Session held November 23, 2002 there were three candidates. The results were one new Technician, and two upgrades to General. Elements administered totaled five with five passed. WOW 100% success rate!

The VE's were Walter Holmes K5WH, Steve Niles N5EN, Norm Covey K5OS, and Laurie Meier N1YXU.

Thanks to all of the VE's for their help.

There will be NO NARS VE Test session in December. The next NARS VE Test session will be held on January 25, 2002. See ya next year.

Walter Hock KK5LO
NARS VE Session Manager

November Meeting



The presenters are L-R Ron Eisenbray AB5WG and Terry Myers KQ5U (holding antenna).

"Ham and Sheeze" Group



Everyone enjoying the cookie baking and sampling!

Ham and “Sheez” News

November Update:

How do you spell busy? If you’re referring to the Ham and “Sheez” group, just take a look at our activities this past month.

On November 11, we gathered at Carol Fitzgerald’s home to complete our macramé wreaths. We had a fun evening of conversation and creativity. Schalee amazed all of us with her uncanny ability to quickly catch on to the macramé technique. She was the first to finish the knots on her wreath!

On November 16, we had a “Chick Flick” evening at the Meier residence, where we enjoyed watching “The Devine Secrets of the Ya Ya Sisterhood”. Many very tasty munchies, desserts, and occasional glasses of wine helped our overall appreciation for the movie!

Our November meeting was held on Monday the 25th at the home of Nancy and Lee Kinard. We would like to thank Nancy for her gracious invitation to her home. We enjoyed a lovely evening of conversation, hors d’oeuvres, holiday festivities, and a very entertaining gift exchange! Many thanks also go to Pat White, who taught us how to make cinnamon cut-outs. The cinnamon cut-outs will be given to the shut-ins and elderly of the Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church.

Schalee Lodge’s 2nd annual Cookie Baking Party was held on Sunday, December 1. [Okay, I realize that this technically wasn’t in the month of November.] The party took place at Carrie’s Kitchen in Tomball. To say that all those who attended had a terrific time would be an incredible understatement. We baked and

sampled a variety of wonderful holiday treats. Hopefully, some of the men were also able to sample the baking! There are a few pictures from the party, which are included in this newsletter.



The hostess, Schalee Lodge.

As I’m sure you’ll agree, November (and the first part of December) was a very busy month for our group!

Upcoming Meetings and Activities:

Our December meeting will be held on Monday, December 30, at the Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church. It is the same location as the monthly NARS meetings. The meeting will start at 7:00. For those of you who will be attending, please remember to bring your cinnamon cut-outs. Since we will be delivering the cut-outs after the holidays, please consider making the patterns fairly generic – hearts, flowers, animals, etc. If each person could bring ten cut-outs, we should have plenty. For our program for the evening, please bring a list of the five to ten things you remember most about 2002. Also, if you would like, bring a list of five to ten goals for 2003. We will also be putting

together the programs and outings for the next three to four months. Plenty of hot chocolate (compliments of Margaret) will be provided to give us encouragement! Be sure to participate in the meeting – it will prove to be a very fun evening!

Our January outing will involve going to the Houston Museum of Science to see the IMAX production, “Space Station”. At the December meeting, we will pick the Saturday for the outing. Further plans will be communicated via email, the NARS reflector, and the January newsletter.

Monthly Ham Recipe:

Honey Vanilla Glazed Pork Tenderloin

Ingredients:

2 pork tenderloins (about 1 pound each)
1/4 cup honey
2 T vinegar
1 t pure vanilla extract
1/2 t paprika
1/4 t ground mustard
1/8 t ground black pepper
1/4 t salt

Place pork tenderloin on rack in baking pan. Mix honey, vinegar, vanilla extract, paprika, mustard, pepper, and salt. Brush meat with glaze.

Roast in 375 degree oven for 45 minutes or until pork reaches 160 degrees, brushing with glaze every 10 to 15 minutes. Slice meat and serve.

Enjoy!

*Best regards,
Laurie Meier – N1YXU
936-271-1096
n1yxu@arrl.org*

DX News

“For All the NARS DX News Fit to Print”

As November drew to an end, the heart of the DX world had been ripped out upon learning of Ed's –P5/4L4FN activities in North Korea coming to a sudden end. No money, no hard work, and no negotiations will bring this operation back to life. Not for a long time.

To that extent, it's important to say thanks to Ed 4L4FN and all of those who played a key role in getting him setup and operational. It's also important to say congratulations to those who worked Ed and now count P5 confirmed. It's also important for those of us who came up short to pick ourselves up and move on. But most of all, we need to remember Ed and the disappointment he expressed in his last e-mail. Ed made 16,194 QSOs. Of this, 12,170 were unique. Visit <http://www.amsatnet.com/p5news.html> for a complete run down of Ed's stats thanks to Bruce Paige KK5DO. Bruce has done a great job with the web site. Again, take a look.

On a more positive note, a hearty here, here and sincere congratulations goes to my friend Ron Roden G4GKO of Hassocks, West Sussex, England. In November, the IARU presented Ron with an award recognizing his outstanding service during the past 12 years as the IARU Region I Monitoring System coordinator. The award was presented to Ron at the recent IARU conference held in San Marino. Ron and his staff were charged with, and worked diligently to monitor, identify, and initiate steps leading to the removal of non-amateur stations causing harmful interference to the amateur radio service in Region I.

From 1943 to 1948, Ron was a Cable Engineer for Submarine Cable. From there, Ron transferred to the shore staff of Cable and Wireless for 10 years, and worked on the Telegraph Cable Stations along the Brazilian coast. Starting in 1969 he was involved in planning, laying and the commissioning of international repeatered submarine coaxial telephone systems. In mid 1971, he was posted to Ascension Island and was licensed as ZD8RR. In February of 1972, Ron joined the RSGB. Over the years, Ron has been a very active ham holding the following calls: ZD8RR, VP8OA, ZB2DN, VP9IR, and for 22 years now, G4GKO. Ron has also been a member of BARS (Bermuda), GARS (Gibraltar), UBA (Belgium) and the RNARS (Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society, England). He holds an Honorary Membership in IARC (Israel), and of course, he is a member of the Mid-Sussex

ARS of Burgess Hill, England.

Well, on with the numbers we must go. They say the numbers never lie. Here we go:

- * The high SFI occurred November 10th with a reading of 191.
- * The low SFI occurred on November 26th with a reading of 137.
- * The low A index occurred on November 18th with a reading of 6.
- * The high A index occurred on November 22nd with a reading of 38.
- * The low K index occurred on November 1st with a reading of 1.
- * The high K index occurred on November 23rd with a reading of 6.

Local Events:

Norm – K5OS sends his report along by saying that he still has not logged the Sable Island CY0MM operation. Norm also says the more he listens and works 17 meters the more he likes the "friendly band." Here's a little glimpse into Norm's November log: VK9NS – Norfolk Island 10m, FO5RK – Austral Islands – Rapa Is. 10m, 6W1RD – Senegal 15m, 9L1BTB – Sierra Leone 17m, C56R – The Gambia 17m, HC8N – Galapagos Island 17m, HP1VXH – Panama 10m, PZ5RA – Surinam 10m, YS1EJ – El Salvador 10m, and KH6BB – Battleship Missouri, Pearl Harbor 17m. great going Norm. What a report.

Bruce – N1LN says November did not yield any new countries, but it did produce a number of new band counters: CY0MM – Sable Island (SSB – 80, 40, 17, 20, 15, 12, 10) and (CW – 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15), 9L1AB – Sierra Leone (80, 40, 20 CW), C56R – The Gambia (80 CW, 40 SSB), TG4/W0IZ – Guatemala (80 CW), A61AJ – United Arab Emirate (30 CW), 3C2MV – Equatorial Guinea (20 CW), 3XY7C – Guinea (75 SSB, 160, 80, 40, 20 CW), XT2DX – Burkina Faso (80 CW), ZA1B – Albania (40 CW), and TI5/N0KE – Costa Rica (160 CW). Good grief Bruce, I'm glad you were able to elbow your way in on the Sable Island. Great going.

Larry – KN5Z sends his report along saying that the following three new entries are in his log: K8T on 12 meters, 9L1BTB on 17 meters, and C56R on 20 meters. Larry also says that the 9L and the C56 are new ones for him. Congratulations Larry!

John – W5PDW sends in his DXless report! On the other hand, he says he took Lu out to eat at Mel's twice. Said he was going for the chicken fried steak! John,

wake up and smell the DX. On second thought, food and DX are very close to holiness.

Terry – KQ5U says he had his beam up for a year now and it is working FB. His confirmed country count is now 213 confirmed and 47 QSLs outstanding and unconfirmed. 159 of his QSOs were QRP (5W). Since May '02 he has been using his 100W rig to chase DX and have worked 10 to 12 new ones each month. November is a little lighter with just seven new countries. They are: XW1IC, 15CW, Laos; 9V1YC, 15CW, Singapore; 3C2MV, 15CW, Equatorial Guinea; FW8FP, 12SSB, 20 & 10 CW, Wallis Is; 3XY7C, 40-10CW & 40SSB, Guinea; CY0MM, 80-10CW, 15SSB, Sable Is. and FO0PT, 30 & 40CW, Austral Is.

Terry says, "Reviewing the list of new countries it looks like 15M was the most productive band and CW was the most productive mode. There may be another message here as well. If you don't have a kilowatt, CW will get through. 100% of my new ones are CW and a few (28%) were worked on phone as well. I should remember that and put off buying a linear amp."

40M has been hopping. I worked 18 new countries on 40M this month, but my count is so low (22 confirmed) most any DX QSO is a new country on 40M. Some of the good ones worked on 40M were: C56R, Gambia; 9L1AB, Sierra Leone; ZA1B, Albania; 3V8BB, Tunisia; XT2DX, Burkina Faso and FO0PT, Austral Is. Really not "too shabby" for any band.

40M played well for me, so I decided to give 80M a try. Like most I'm a little short on antennas when it gets down to 80M. The antenna used was a roof mounted Butternut for 80-6M. I did manage four new countries on 80M. A very easy task since my country count on 80M is one (USA). The 80M score card now has 6Y5/N6BT; HC8N, CY0MM and PJ2/W4PA added to it with a long way to go for DXCC on 80M. I've been scheming up a way to get a loop up on 80M. I think it would be a great help.

I'm looking for more DX in December since most hams will have more time for on-the-air activities and some new gear to play with during the month. The month ahead promises to be an excellent one for DX.

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DX News – Continued from page 4

George – K5VUU reports a pretty good month receiving his PWOT Trindade & Martin Vaz card for 10 and 15 meter CW contacts and receiving his CY9DH St Paul Island card for a 15 meter SSB contact. George also added the following to his newly "worked" category. Here goes: CY/N1NK Sable Island (advanced party) 15 meter SSB, CY0MM Sable Island DXpedition 20 meter CW, and XT2DX Burkina Faso 12, 15, and 30 meter CW!

George also says he may miss his DX Goal for 2002. It was for 300 worked and confirmed. He currently has 301 worked and 297 confirmed with 4 cards out waiting for confirmation. Great going George.

Al – W5ADF sends along a great report. The following DX Qs found their way into Al's log: 3XY7C GUINEA on 10, 8N1OGA Ogasawara on 10, 5Z4DZ Kenya on 20, and CY0MM Sable Island on 20 meters. Al also received the following cards: 7Q7CE Malawi, CY9DH St. Paul Island, and C98DC Mozambique.

Thanks and congratulations everyone for a great month of DX activity. I don't know how you guys do it! Keep the logs burning!

From this Station:

November started out slow, but picked up steam and finished in very good shape with 78 DX QSOs, 44 countries, and 23 CQ zones worked. The band count went like

this: 12 on 10 meters, 4 on 12, 17 on 15, 6 on 17, 24 on 20, 5 on 40, and 9 on 80 meters. The QSOs on 12, 40, and 80 meters were new band counters. CQ zones worked: 1, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 24, 25, 27, 32, 3, 35, 36, 37, 38, and 39.

In the log: 10 meters K8T American Samoa, T88SP Belau, BG2EX and BA4EG China, OK1CF Czech Republic, CA0YAM Easter Island, N0WBV/J3 Grenada, JE1RXJ Japan, 9H1ET Malta, CY0MM Sable Island, S9SS Sao Tome & Principe, and VP5/W5AO Turks & Caicos Islands; 12 meters C56R Gambia, GU3UOQ Guernsey, and VP5/W5AO Turks & Caicos Islands; 15 meters a whole bunch; 17 meters 9S1X Congo, HC8N Galapagos Island, C56R Gambia, JH1OCC Japan, 9L1BTB Sierra Leone, and VP5/N5KW Turks & Caicos Islands; 20 meters a whole bunch; 40 meters FO0PT French Polynesia, C56R Gambia, CY0MM Sable Island, and J69B St Lucia; 80 meters XQ6ET Chile, HK5MQZ Colombia, CO2JD Cuba, HQ2AHC Honduras, VP2MEG Montserrat, PA1RJ Netherlands, CY0MM Sable Island, 9Y4/DL2RVS Trinidad & Tobago, and VP5/W5AO Turks & Caicos Islands.

Oh yes, the "new to me" radio arrived along with the appropriate filters, headset adapter, and other stuff. Life really is wonderful.

See you on the bands! H. O. WA5MLT

Scheduled DX Operations

Here are some of the scheduled DX operations for October. Good hunting! There is some great DX here.

- * 11/20–12/01 Gambia C56R
- * 11/10–12/02 Netherlands Antilles PJ2
- * 11/30–12/08 Luxembourg LX0LT
- * 11/01–12/27 Belau T88
- * 12/02–09 Virgin Islands K9V
- * 12/03–17 Aruba P40TA
- * 12/04–11 St Martin FS
- * 12/05–07 Western Sahara S07U
- * 12/07–14 Christmas Island VK9X
- * 12/08–16 Fernando de Noronha PY0FT
- * 12/10–17 Barbados 8P9HT
- * 12/11–17 Johnston Island KH3
- * 12/14–26 Senegal 6W
- * 12/15–01/15–03 Guadeloupe TO2FG
- * 12/27–01/04–03 Ogasawara 8N1OGA

Thanks to Norm K5OS, Bruce N1LN, Larry KN5Z, John W5PDW, Terry KQ5U, George K5VUU, and Al W5ADF 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*

HARS to host ICOM Day Jan 18th!

I dropped in for a little friendly conversation with George and Charlie at the Houston Amateur Radio Supply the other day. That place reminds me of the old general store I used to frequent up in Baldwin, ND years ago. Wearing a set of bib overalls and a pair of beat up cowboy boots got you a seat on the nearest feed sack. There, you could catch up on the latest hog prices, cattle futures, and whether Old Herman Meyer was ever going to get that dang south forty plowed before the first snow! HARS is not too unlike that general store. No feed sacks here, but you can't hardly walk in there without stumbling over the feet of one or two displaced hams sitting around, drinking coffee and trading dx stories we've all heard some forty times over!

While taking in all this homespun scuttlebutt, George invited me to the back

room. "Joe," he said, "Keep this under your hat for a few weeks." He proceeded to tell me that on Saturday, January 18th. The ICOM rep will be making his annual visit to Houston and will be hawking their latest in communication goodies. I always look forward to this event, taking in the tailgate sales, free hot dogs and drinks, and, of course, some fantastic discounts on ICOM equipment. "But wait," says George. "That's not all. HARS has come of age and will be celebrating its 10th anniversary in the Houston area. To accent this great event, the President of ICOM, Numero Uno, El Supremo himself, will be dropping by to pay his respects." I stepped back in amazement and thought, this to be really big stuff! George continued, "I don't want the riffraff from up north to get wind of this too early. Those hawg farmers from Bedias will all come down in that '36 Chevy pickup, (you know the one – four on the

floor and a 5th under the seat) graze on all the free food–n–drinks, complain about the high price of PL259's, then head on back with not so much as a thankew!" I managed to calm George down and explained that even riffraff need love too and a little kindness can reap big rewards. They might even be persuaded, in time, to upgrade that spark–gap 2–meter rig for one of ICOM's latest.

So, there you are folks. Mark January 18th on your calendar, palm pilot, or whatever, but don't miss this event. This is your chance to see it all in living color. There'll be a few door prizes, a chance to renew lost acquaintances, and maybe, just maybe, you'll spot that '34 Chevy pickup in the parking lot!

– Joe, KD5KR

Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

Welcome new member James Nabors KD5HRE

NARS Resource List

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*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: Peter Wang KF5ND
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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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