

NARS NEWS

The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

January 2002

January is Annual Banquet

The 2002 Annual Awards Banquet will be held on January 18, 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 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.

Entertainment will include a photographic/video review of 2001 NARS events and a musical presentation by our own ensemble, the NARS Pickers.

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. If there is some reason you were not able to make a reservation last month and you plan to attend, please call George Levandoski at 713-895-0700 or Joe Sokolowski at 281-353-2196 as soon as possible.

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

George, KD5AYF

2001 Banquet Photo



Important Dates

Friday, January 18, 7:30 PM – Annual Awards Banquet, Wyndehaven Terrace, 12716 Cutten Rd.

Saturday, January 26, 8:30 AM – VE License Exam Session, Tomball Community Center, S. Cherry & Market streets (just South of Main).

Tuesday, January 29, 7:30 PM – Board of Directors meeting, Terra Nova Clubhouse, 5200 Woodville.

Contests

Jan 19–20 NA SSB QSO Party
Jan 19–21 ARRL Jan VHF Sweepstakes
Jan 25–27 CQ WW 160 M CW
Feb 16–17 ARRL CW DX
Feb 22–24 CQ WW 160 M SSB

Wednesday Lunch Bunch

Jan 16: Woodlands House
Jan 23: Brown Sugar's BBQ
Jan 30: Red Lobster
Feb 6: Strack Farms
Feb 13: Pepperchino

Notice

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

Deadline for articles to appear in February issue is Thursday, January 31.

BREAKFAST

at Victors

4710 W FM 1960

Saturdays

7:30 AM

President's Corner

January 2002

What a year it was! For me 2001 seemed to literally fly by. It seemed there was always a NARS activity to plan or participate in. NARS is truly a General Service club that is involved in many facets of Amateur Radio. We have many members that are willing to make the commitment of time, energy and talent required to organize our numerous activities. It is this participation that makes NARS the success that it is.

During the year we had several key positions to be filled and there was always someone who stepped up to do the job. The number of people that were needed to take over the many functions he provided is certainly a tribute to the Old Timer, K8CSG. We are fortunate to have so many capable and willing members.

Now it is time to say "Thank You" to as many of those people as we can. That is the main purpose of the annual NARS Awards Banquet, although some will argue that this is just another excuse to get together and eat. This year we will again show our appreciation by recognizing many of those contributors. We will also have an audio-visual presentation put together by Bill Denton, W5SB that will show the number and variety of activities that NARS and its members participate in. We also have a musical treat in store courtesy of a group of NARS pickers. It promises to be a very entertaining evening, don't miss it.

Our incoming president George Levandoski, KD5AYF, will take over this column next month. I know you will give him the kind of support that I received.

*Thanks for a great 2001,
Paul Frantz, W5PF*

DXpedition to Macau

Some thoughts from the other side of the Pile-Up!!!

I scheduled a business trip to Hong Kong for the annual Electronics Asia trip last August. Like everyone else, after Sept. 11th I questioned whether I should still go ahead with the plans, which had me flying in October. I always enjoy that show and was planning on adding some DXing to the agenda so I would be doubly disappointed if I cancelled. I write this as the plane is descending into Minneapolis on the way home and I can honestly say that I am glad I decided to continue with my plans. Certainly a review of the stability of the region being visited was in order, but I felt confident that Hong Kong (and Macau, my DX destination) would not be especially volatile. In fact, I felt safer there during October than I did listening to the stories filtering back about the US from CNN.

Often, when I go to Hong Kong on business, I try and include a side trip over the weekend to Macau. Macau isn't on the top 100 list but the pile-ups generated from there are quite large, especially on CW. There are no resident hams in Macau who operate CW on a regular basis. As a CW fan, this makes Macau especially appealing for a DXer like myself. I operate at a station in the Hotel Royal on Mainland Macau. The station consists of a C3 on a 25-foot tower on top of this 17-floor hotel. There are also inverted vees on 30-160. For this trip, I concentrated on 10-30 due to the excellent propagation predictions. Pertti Simovaara, OH2PM, and Martti Laine, OH2BH a number of years ago, established the station. There used to be an FT-1000MP on site as well but now you need to bring your own radio. Through a gracious invitation from Pertti a few years ago, I was offered the chance to operate from the station and have been back numerous times since.

You get to Macau, typically, by taking a high-speed jetfoil ferry over from Hong Kong. These ferries run continuously and are very reliable and safe. I personally run vouch for them as I was on the last ferry before a Typhoon hit in 2000 and felt very safe. The approach to Macau harbor is quite impressive as you pull in. If you know where to look, you can see the tribander on top of the hotel from the harbor. The hotel sits on top of a hill next to Macau's famous lighthouse on the hill and is one of the higher points in the area. It is located on the mainland so it is not an IOTA location. Customs and immigration are low hassle in both Hong Kong and Macau so within minutes you are in your taxi for a 5-minute ride to the hotel.

The hotel is first rate and the staff is very accommodating. They know all about Ham Radio and are quite used to seeing wires strung on the roof and delivering room service to "strange people screaming into headsets." After checking in, its up to the roof to drop feed lines to the top floor hotel room, raise the inverted vees, and untie the ropes securing the C3 into a fixed position. Next it's off to obtain a license. This is done at the GDTT. It used to be in the post office but is now around the corner in a nice modern office. You need pictures, a copy of your passport/license, information on your radio (including s/n) and roughly \$90 US for the license good for up to 90 days. Each time I come, even though my license is expired, the very nice people at the GDTT give me my same call-sign back, XX9TEP.

Continued on page 6

DX News

“For All the NARS DX News Fit to Print”

Happy New Year to everyone. May 2002 bring some prosperity, lots of DX, and most of all good health.

December is one of those pivotal months declaring the shortest day of the year. That of course plays into the propagation somehow and what a crazy month it seemed to be, especially when you throw in a few solar events.

The December numbers were a little better than those of November. Here we go:

* The high SFI occurred December 25th with a reading of 275 up slightly over November.

* The low SFI occurred on December 18th with a reading of 206 up from 170 in November.

* The low A index occurred on December 12th with a reading of 3.

* The high A index occurred on December 25th with a reading of 20.

* The low K index occurred on December 11th with a reading of 0.

* The high K index occurred on December 24th with a reading of 5.

Local Events:

Jim KJ5X reports that December was not a big month for him. No new ones. But Jim did work EI9HW on 75M SSB, E29AL on 40M CW and N5L at Bolivar Lighthouse on 20M SSB. Got a card back from VP5/W5AO which he needed for 80M. When Jim looked up W5AO's address, he saw his address was in the town in OK where he grew up. So Jim wrote a note on the card he sent saying that he had lived on South Morton Street. W5AO's return card had a note which said yes, he knew where South

Morton was. W5AO delivered the Daily Times there in 1955. That was Route 4 which he threw from 1948 to 1951. Jim says that it is a small world.

Jim plans to call him the next time he gets back to visit his 91 year old step dad. Here's wishing all a prosperous 2002, and lots of good DX!

Steve N5EN says his needed Nepal card 9N7Qj arrived in December.

John W5PDW reports that Ole Slim Pickens visited during December. John worked several of the Marconi special event stations, the Battleship Arizona Memorial K7A on 2 bands, and W3DTN Gary, a Pearl Harbor survivor operating W2W. In addition, John logged 19 countries including zone 18 (the last one he worked for WAZ), a good ole fashioned "Rag Chew" on 10 meters with WA5MLT, whose call he had to verify and definitely not a "Slim"! John's C31BO card arrived confirming a new one; John says he is so close to that magic number he can almost taste it! Happy New Year to all es Good Hunting.

Norm K5OS reports no DX activity at his Magnolia ranch this month. However, Norm's long time friend Blair Prestin K9SPL visited over the holidays from N.C. As it turns out, Blair first licensed in 1953 has been inactive since 1975. A couple of days after Christmas, they took a trip to George's, Houston Amateur Radio Supply, where Blair bought an Icom IC-207 dual band rig, antenna and mount. After a flying trip back to Norm's, K9SPL was on the air after 26 years. Norm seems to think there is yet another Icom, IC-706MKIIG, just around the corner for Blair. So, if

you hear K9SPL on the air, give' um a call and welcome him back to the wonderful world of amateur radio.

Bruce N1LN sends along a nice report for December. Bruce says that he spent most of the month on 80 and 160 playing around with his new beverage antennas. So far, so good – and, in the next week expect to have another one up. This will be about 270' long and pointed SW (140 degrees). For the log, Bruce entered the following: E29AL Thailand – 40 meter CW, 15 meter CW, and 10 meter SSB; JY9NX Jordan – 80 meter CW; EM1HO Antarctica – 75 meter SSB (running 100W); JA0MVW Japan – 160 meter CW; JA1HQT Japan – 80 meter CW; S58A Slovenia – 80 meter CW; FR5FD Reunion Is. – 80 meter CW; OZ1EUO Denmark – 80 meter CW; KH6CC Hawaii – 80 meter CW; and ZP6VLA Paraguay – 75 meter SSB. (Editor's note: I've heard of the beverage antenna for years, but never really seen one much less witnessed the performance. I saw these antennas and the takeoff is remarkable. The performance was even better. You wouldn't believe the S/N ratio. The very best I've ever heard.)

Anita N5AOK reports a modest month on the air. Anita logged 10 DX contacts. They include: 4 Marconi special event stations – VO1S St. John's, New Foundland, K1M, W1AA/Cape Cod, and II3GM. She also reports logging VO2AA for zone 2 (future CQ WAZ). Other entries include 9Q0AR Zaire, 3DA1GH Swaziland, VE8AP Northwest Territory, JA1 Japan, and finally Ken G3WYN, Cuckfield, England!

Continued on page 4

DX News – Continued from page 3

Terry KQ5U sends along his (QRP) DX notes for December. Terry logged a number of QRP CW contacts starting with Mauritius 3B8FG (one each LP & SP on 20M); Western Samoa 5WØVF (15M); Yugoslavia YU7GMN, YU1AAV, Hungary HA9RP (1ØM); Nicaragua YN4SU, Slovenia S52KA (4ØM). No SSB Qs for the month. Terry says he finally received QSL's confirming Cyprus, Malta, Western Samoa, Kyrgyzstan, North Cook, Kazakhstan and Reunion Is. He also worked the National Hurricane Center's ARS W4EHW/NWS and received their interesting card. ARCI graced my station with some wallpaper in the form of DXCC-QRP (108 countries, mixed mode). The K1 rig became a K1-4 with the addition of the four band module to give field operations more flexibility with coverage now on 4Ø, 3 Ø, 2 Ø and 15 Meters with it's power house 5W output.

From this Station:

Man taking the last two weeks off in December provided some great operating time. Couple that with a set of special event stations and the log really filled up. Once again persistence paid off. The bands were really not in the best of condition from this QTH, especially 20 meters. However, they did seem to improve the last week of the month.

173 QSOs found their way into my log. The breakdown looks like this: 6 Qs on 75 meters, 2 Qs on 40, 52 Qs on 20, 31 Qs on 15, and 82 Qs on 10 meters. Within this group there are 62 DXCC countries: 3D2/R, 3DA, 4U/UN, 4X, 5B, 5N, 6Y, 9K, 9Q, BV, BY, C5, CE, CN, CT, CT3, D2, D4,

DL, DU, EA8, EI, EK, EM, EX, EY, F, FK, G, GM, GW, HB, I, JW, KC4, KG4, KH0, KL7, LA, OD, OK, ON, OZ, PA, PJ2, PY, S5, SM, TF, TI, TK, TZ, UN, VE, VK, VP5, VP8/H, YU, ZD8, ZS.

Within all of this, I managed to work a number of the Marconi special event stations from St. John's, New Foundland to England and Italy. I hope to drag in a couple of the cards. My guess is that they will be suitable for display! I enjoyed logging a number of the Canadian stations during the Winter RAC contest. I think I worked all of the Provinces including Nova Scotia, Northwest Territory, and the Yukon. And of course, there were a number of lighthouse stations. The most memorable of these was working my old friend Ivan VE7IVN at Cape Beale on Vancouver Island. If you have not seen this lighthouse or the vista from there, look it up on the web. This is probably the most beautiful lighthouse in the Canadian group.

A pack of cards did arrive from the burro. In the group were cards from IY4W Sasso Marconi-Helston, VK7FLI Tasmania, OE2S of the Austrian DX Group, GX6YB Isle of Wight, and GW3RKD West Wales.

For the year I made 1,620 QSOs: 635 from the house, 785 during TQP, and 200 operating the N5L special event station from Bolivar light. Look again, 635 from home and 985 from the mobile. This would have never been possible without George K5VUU and "my pride and joy" mobile antenna! Thank you again, George.

During year 2000, with all of its

festivities, only 1,091 QSOs found their way into my logbook. So, 2001 was a good year for amateur radio here.

Scheduled DX Operations

Here are some of the scheduled DX operations for October.

- * till – 2/01 Galindez Island EM1HO
- * till – 2/10 Gough Island ZD9IR
- * till – 2/02 Burundi 9U5D
- * 1/01 – 10 Bahamas C6AIE
- * 1/02 – 04 Ogasawara JD1
- * 1/02 – 08 Netherlands Antilles PJ2
- * 1/02 – 12 Nepal 9N7WU
- * 1/03 – 05 Guam KH2
- * 1/03 – 05 Mariana Islands KH0
- * 1/05 – 08 South Orkney Islands VP8SIG
- * 1/05 – 15 Tonga A3
- * 1/06 – 13 Maldives 8Q7CG
- * 1/10 – 11 South Georgia VP8SGK
- * 1/11 – 19 Guantanamo Bay KG4
- * 1/12 – 13 French Guiana FY5KE
- * 1/12 – 14 Bahamas C6A
- * 1/18 – 26 Fiji 3D2
- * 1/28 – 30 South Orkney Islands VP8SIG
- * 1/16 – 2/07 Guadeloupe FG
- * 1/20 – 2/02 Turks & Caicos VP5
- * 1/26 – 2/12 Cambodia XU7ACE
- * 1/28 – 2/18 Seychelles S79EU
- * till – 3/02 T30ES – W. Kiribati

Thanks to Jim KJ5X, Steve N5EN, John W5PDW, Norm K5OS, Bruce N1LN, Anita N5AOK, and Terry KQ5U for continuing to support this month's column. Your support for the column is appreciated by all.

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

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

N5L Special Event – Lighthouse Christmas Lights – 2001

November Five Lighthouse, Frenchie Mouton, and Things That Go Bump in the Night?

There are many things that crossed our minds as we tried to prepare for our first Amateur Radio special event. H. O. – WA5MLT and I – N5AOK were doing all the things that we felt would make this first time affair memorable. The preparations began back in the summer when the thought of a cool breeze blowing off of the Gulf of Mexico sounded very inviting. We spent several days researching special event call signs. As our good luck would have it, N5L (November Five Lighthouse) had never been used.

There was a great deal of time spent on the web trying to glean as much information as possible about the special event we had decided to participate in. For the last two years, we had done our best to work as many lighthouses as we could during the summer special events. Hearing the activity generated from the lighthouse stations left us just a little curious about what we could do to “get our feet wet.”

I guess you could say that we really began preparations for this ten to twelve years ago. During our brief but memorable stay in the Pacific Northwest (PNW), we began what was to become a not so uncommon love of lighthouses. Even though we weren't really looking to create memories or capture pictures of these majestic and provocative beacons of the night, we found ourselves drawn to them much like June bugs in the summertime as they buzz street lights.

We began circling and snapping

pictures, reading and studying the history of as many lighthouses as we could walk up to in Washington State. When we left the Northwest to come home to Texas, we still did not realize that we had an unquenchable thirst for all things “lighthouse.” That is when we started collecting small replicas of the lights we had visited in Washington.

Then business took us both to Boston one fall where we expanded our knowledge and love of them by traveling up the coastline into Maine, stopping at every light we found printed on the maps.

We know that we missed several, but we were able to see several that trip. We even stopped in Wells, Maine for a tour of the largest retail store devoted to lighthouses.

Remember now, I said we had an unquenchable thirst for all things “lighthouse.” When you have that kind of curiosity and interest in something, there is no way to OD on it. So, in preparation for our special event, we decided it was only reasonable to research and learn as much as we could about the lighthouse we were about to “put on the air.”

There were a couple of very good reasons we chose Bolivar Light to put on the air. The fact that it was fairly close to where we lived was one; that it was included in our collection of ceramic replicas; the fact that it is the only standing lighthouse that is painted totally black (to cover the rust); or because it is one of the tallest on the Texas Gulf Coast. We really thought it would be nice to let some other amateur radio operators learn

something about a little known or talked about place called Point Bolivar, directly across the Houston ship channel from the port of Galveston.

Armed with several copies of the fact sheet that WA5MLT had prepared about the history, height, lineage, and construction of the lighthouse, we boarded the ferry in Galveston and set sail on our first special event. The operators of N5L were accompanied to Point Bolivar by no less than a thousand seagulls and 50 or 60 pelicans on the first trip over. While sitting at the ferry landing, preparing our log book, laptop, fact sheets, food and water supply, we noticed that a different flock of seagulls and pelicans were waiting on us there.

When the ferry we arrived on left the dock to return to Galveston, the birds that were perched when we arrived took off to follow that ferry back. During the three days we were there, we noticed that about every 20 minutes, during the daylight hours, the birds would swap perches, from one side of the ship channel to the other. Now the time had come to start calling CQ.

On the first day of operation, we spent very little time on 40 meters; tried to work 10 and 15 a couple of times, but each time we were met with no one returning to our “CQ CQ CQ, this is N5L, special event station for Lighthouse Christmas Lights, at Bolivar Light, USA069 calling CQ and standing by for a call.” Of the two hundred QSOs, 197 of them were on 20 meters, at or near 14265.

Continued on page 6

N5L Special Event – Lighthouse Christmas Lights – 2001 continued

We talked to hams in 34 states, 6 different countries, and not one of them wanted to know anything about the history, height, lineage, or construction of the lighthouse we had chosen to put on the air. Instead, we concluded that we were the ones that had a lot to learn. We learned a great deal more about lighthouses, Point Bolivar in particular, one of the Texas State Parks, the migratory habits of birds, that lightning looks a lot bigger and more violent when there is nothing like a building or a tree to obstruct your view of it – all the way from the cloud to the ground (or water) whichever the case may be.

Jerry, N6MRU, told us that Shirley's Bait Camp at Port Bolivar, less than a mile from the light, was world famous for their hamburgers. He used to live around there, but had been living in California for some time, and he sure missed those hamburgers. He started to tell us something about a ghost, but we lost propagation to the West coast and did not get to hear what he had to say about a ghost.

We learned that outdoor vending

machines on the Gulf Coast are notorious for taking your money and giving you nothing in return; seems the coins get hung up on the rust before they reach the triggering mechanism. We learned to always have some liquid refreshment handy when you are operating remote like we were. No water or soda pop to wet your whistle could mean a trip somewhere you hadn't planned to go. A cold north wind will blow your paper logs out to sea if they are not secured when one of the operators opens the truck door to begin a nature walk.

We spent some time talking to Mike. Mike is the man who is the "keeper" at the state park across the road from the lighthouse. He was a colorful person. Colorful in that he was covered with tattoos from his chin to his fingertips. Those were the only parts we saw with our own eyes, but we are sure there were some that are only exposed in the summertime. Mike offered us a lot of valuable information about the area. The park had once been a Fort, Fort Travis. We asked him if someone

could bring a motor home into the park. He told us we could bring anything we wanted to into the park, as long as we didn't park it on the grass. (Messin' up the grass in state parks will get you in deep pookie.) We could even put up a tent if we wanted to. He asked us if we knew that they had filmed a movie at the lighthouse across the road. "A really big star was in that movie. Don't remember her name, but she was a really big star." We nodded in unison and acted eager to hear more. He told us there was a ghost that haunted the lighthouse. Mike thinks it is an old sailor that used to sail with his "old man" when he was in the Navy. We asked if Mike knew any of the people who had lived at the lighthouse. He said, "Yeah, they say he still haunts the people who live there at the lighthouse. His name was Frenchie Mouton. Old Frenchie was quite a sailor. He could never leave the sea." We think that maybe he never did. All in all, it was quite a learning experience.

Anita N5AOK
ARLHS # 435

DXpedition to Macau continued from page 2

The operator license and call sign can be obtained on the spot (XX9T??). However, Macau has a station license requirement. This requires an inspection of the equipment. This can take anywhere from 1–3 days to schedule. Your best bet is to phone ahead and try to set up an advanced schedule booking. It's not a guarantee (nothing ever is) but it can improve the turnaround time. In the end, you are at the mercy of the scheduler, however. Ah, the perils of Dxing....

After all that is taken care of, it's time to get on the air! It usually only takes

a CQ or two to get things going almost 24 hours a day in Macau. I arrived on a Friday and took care of licensing. Some work needed to be done on the antennas and I was beat from just arriving from the US so I did not start operating until Saturday mid-morning local (Friday night in the US). It was immediately apparent that predictions were right and the bands were hopping.

I had missed the US openings for the morning which usually close down by 03–04Z so initial CQs on 10M produced an immediate JA pileup

followed shortly after by Europeans as the sun was coming up across Europe. I operated 50/50 CW and SSB and found the pile-ups to be large on both modes. During strong openings to EU and the US, I was listening up 5–10 with wall-to-wall signals on SSB and up 2–4 on CW with the same volume. Europe was open on 10 M/12M from 05Z–10Z 15M from 06–10Z and 12Z–15Z, 20M more often than not (mid-day and wee hours of the morning being the dead times).

Continued on page 7

DXpedition to Macau continued from page 6

3OM produced excellent opens from 16Z–23Z. The pile-ups on 3OM were intense giving many of “the deserving” a new one on that band. Signal levels were lower given the inverted vee and band but steady 120–150/hour rates were still very achievable. To the US, the windows are smaller 10/12M 22–02Z, 15M 12–16Z and 01–03Z, 20M 12–14Z, 30M 10–12Z. Signal levels were often just as strong as EU when open. A note to US hams trying to work in Asia: If the long path is open, it is the best shot.

Signal levels can be extremely high when the path is there. Look for it in the mornings US time on 10–20 M. Possible in the late afternoons as well but most likely in the morning.

I purposely skipped stating opening times on 17M because it didn't stay predictable. I had a great opening into EU from 14–18Z on 10/14 but other times it was dead, or it seemed to be. Maybe no one was listening but it was open. It's hard to tell.

I operated all day Saturday and Sunday and then was able to work Monday/Tuesday mornings and Monday night around my business schedule in Hong Kong. All in all about 50 hours operating time and 3,800 Qs evenly split between CW and SSB.

I think a few thoughts are worth sharing on what I observed from out there on the other end of the pile-up. For one thing, I observed extremely professional operating behavior from all corners of the globe. In one intense European SSB pile-up on 15M at 13Z, a stateside station broke through on long path (reference note above).

I immediately asked the European crowd to QRX to see if any other North America stations were coming through.

There were well over a hundred EU operators calling me at that instant spread out over 5 KCs. You could have heard a pin drop from the silence of that crowd while I worked maybe 6 stations (W/VE) and then a roar when I went back to EU. I was extremely impressed and said so numerous times to the next few stations I worked.

The JAs have always shown that same courtesy to EU and North America stations and I commend them as well. I usually stop every 30–40 Qs if I am holding them at bay and work 5, thanking them for their patience. It is an excellent balance of courtesy and fairness in my opinion. Most of the time, I just let propagation decide who is going to get worked and keep the rate going at a good clip.

In the pile-ups, if you are not a strong signal, your best strategy on SSB is to work the edges of the split and away from the pack. I would suggest listening to the 5Kc spread, finding a hole, and calling numerous times (breaking when you hear the DX station return, obviously). Keep looking for the hole each time, as it will move around as the DX moves around where he is listening.

You would be surprised how many lower strength stations got worked who were well placed vs. louder stations either chasing my listening frequency all the time (a good strategy only if you are plenty loud or prop is outstanding into your location at that time) or just broadcasting away

without listening to the pile-up side of the split.

On CW, I think a different strategy works better. Follow the listening location but keep a shift of your beat tone by + or – 500hz so that the tone is distinctly different than the large group that will zero beat the last station. Think about it. 10 loud stations all zero beat is uncopiable while one softer station down 500hz is Q5 to my ear. Try these techniques and see if it improves your QSO percentage.

It is amazing how quiet everyone gets when you are giving out your QSL information but it doesn't get that quiet when you come back to a station. You will get worked faster if you wait for the station called to get worked before you call again. Once I lock onto a call sign, it is the only one I am going to work. Most DX stations seem to work the same way.

October 2001 had the best propagation worldwide I have witnessed on 10/12 M in the 4 years (7 trips) I have been DXing from Asia. You know it won't last forever but it sure is wonderful while it does. There's always plenty of 80–160M need during the lower phase of the cycle so might as well work what's open while it is on the high bands.

I would like to thank all the courteous operators I worked out there as well as the fine staff at the Hotel Royal and Pertti, OH2PM, for his continuous support and friendship.

QSL direct, or via the bureau to K8EP. All cards get answered.

73 es gd DX Ed – K8EP

Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

Welcome new members Wayne Barker KD5QLK and Bill Beard K5WJB.
Congratulations to Ed Sawyer K8EP on his new position and move to Vermont.

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

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Keith Dutson WD5DXL
281-351-7683, wd5dxl@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
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NARS Information

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*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

75 M Ragchew: Mon 8:00 PM, 3861KHz
Coordinator: Jim Kirk KJ5X
281-376-0718, kj5x@swbell.net
2M Information: Wed. 8:00 PM,
146.66MHz
Coordinator: Bill Denton W5SB
281-469-8331, w5sb@arrl.net

WEB SITE

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

NARS REFLECTOR

NARS@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 col-
umn)

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Editor: Keith Dutson WD5DXL
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