

NARS NEWS



The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

June 2002

June Meeting is ARRL Field Day – 2002

It is hard to believe that it has been almost a year since the last Field Day. Well, just three weeks more to wait for ARRL Field Day – 2002. This year looks like it will once again be a fun event. The stations are coming together, the food is coming together and ... well, let's just plan on the weather coming together again.

If you have not yet signed up to operate, it is not too late. The team captains are coordinating their own schedules, so send them an email or give them a phone call. They are as follows:

SSB Station: W5IDX – Gregg, w5idx@qsl.net

CW Station: W5PF – Paul, W5pf@arrl.net

VHF/UHF Station: KC5NSW – Buddy, buddy@lindner.net

Get-On-The-Air Station: K1OJ – OJ, k1oj@ditdit.com

Satellite Station: K5WNO – Deral: k5wno@juno.com

As many of you know, 6 meters has been open lately – so the VHF station should be very active. Also, this year the Satellite station will be hunting down Q's on 4 or 5 birds – and this will be the first year for the new AO-40, which will be in our view for most of the 24 hr FD event.

If you are not yet comfortable operating on your own or need some help with the logging software, we will have someone at the GOTO station there to help. This station will offer SSB, CW, RTTY, and PSK31 modes. This is an excellent opportunity to get some experience. Don't be bashful.

Here is this year's schedule:

Pre-Set UP Lunch: Friday, June 21st, 11:30 – 13:00 at the Lucky House just east on Hammerly from the FD site

Set UP: Friday, June 21st – 13:00 until completed

Operations Begin: Saturday, June 22nd – 13:00

Barbecue Dinner: Saturday, June 22nd – 18:00 (suggested \$5 per person donations accepted)

Operations End: Sunday, June 23rd – 13:00

Tear Down: Sunday, June 23rd 13:00 until completed

Plan on coming out to the site – doing some operating – having some Barbecue – or just sitting around and catching up with some of your friends – it should be a great time for all.

Important Dates

Friday, June 21, 11:30 AM – Field Day 2002 Lunch, Lucky House Buffet, 10123 Hammerly; Setup at 1:00 PM (6 hours), SBISD Career Center, 10660 Hammerly.

Saturday, June 22, 1:00 PM (24 hours) – Field Day 2002 Operations, SBISD Career Center, 10660 Hammerly.

Tuesday, June 25, 7:30 PM – Board of Directors meeting, Terra Nova Clubhouse, 5200 Woodville.

Saturday, July 27, 8:30 AM – VE License Exam Session, Tomball Community Center, S. Cherry & Market streets (just South of Main).
NOTE: NO VE EXAM SESSION IN JUNE.

CONTESTS

Jun 8–9 RSGB Jubilee

Jun 15 Kid's Day

Jun 15–16 All Asian CW DX, West Virginia QSO Party

Jun 22–23 ARRL Field Day

Jul 1, RAC Canada Day

Jul 13–14 IARU HF Championship

Jul 20–21 CQ WW VHF, North American QSO Party

Wednesday Lunch Bunch

Jun 12: Strack Farms

Jun 19: Red Lobster

Jun 26: Pepperchino

Jul 3: Lasagna House II

Jul 10: Jason's Deli

Wednesday Lunch Bunch – West

Jun 12 Cafe Express

Jun 19 Chilis

Jun 26 Fuddruckers

Jul 3 Puma Mexican

Jul 10 Jasons Deli

Ham-Com 2002

June 7–8 Arlington Convention Center, 1200 Ballpark Way, Arlington, TX.

<http://www.hamcom.org/>

Notice

NARS membership dues are \$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

Maps on Page 2

President's Corner

June 2002

Greetings to ALL! First I would like to thank one of our presenters for last month's meeting, Laurie Meier, for her enlightening program on "Handi-Hams." It looks like NARS as a club will be getting more involved with this neat program ... THANKS LAURIE. And thanks to Bruce Meier for his presentation on what should be on all of our minds, FIELD DAY. THANKS BRUCE.

Since it is June and since Field Day is coming up fast let us all try and get out to the site and participate either by manning one of the operating positions for a while or by assisting in some other fashion. Even if it is just coming out and showing this supreme effort your support.

Thank you in advance to all whom will be participating.

See you all on set-up day!!

73,
George, KD5AYF

VE Session Results

At the NARS VE Test Session held May 25, 2002 there were 25 candidates. The results were six new Technician hams, one upgrade to General, and seven upgrades to Extra. Elements administered totaled 28 with 15 passed. Nancy Hill N5EEN passed her morse code. Way to go Nancy!!!

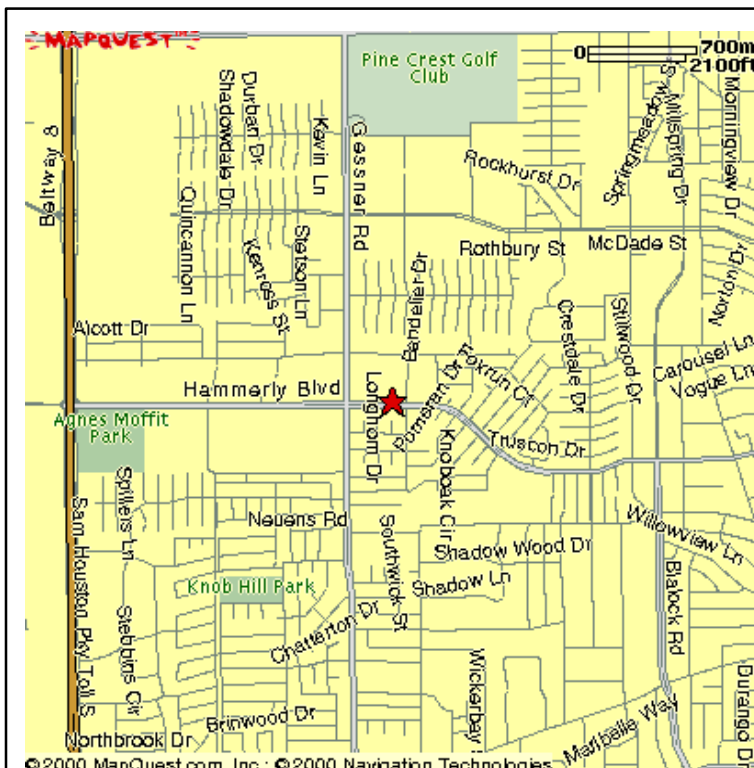
The VE's were Paul Frantz W5PF, Norm Covey K5OS, Bruce Meier N1LN, Keith Dutson WD5DXL, Steve Niles N5EN, Walter Holmes K5WH, HO Townsend WA5MLT, and the newest VE on the scene Laurie Meier N1YXU.

Thanks to all for their help.

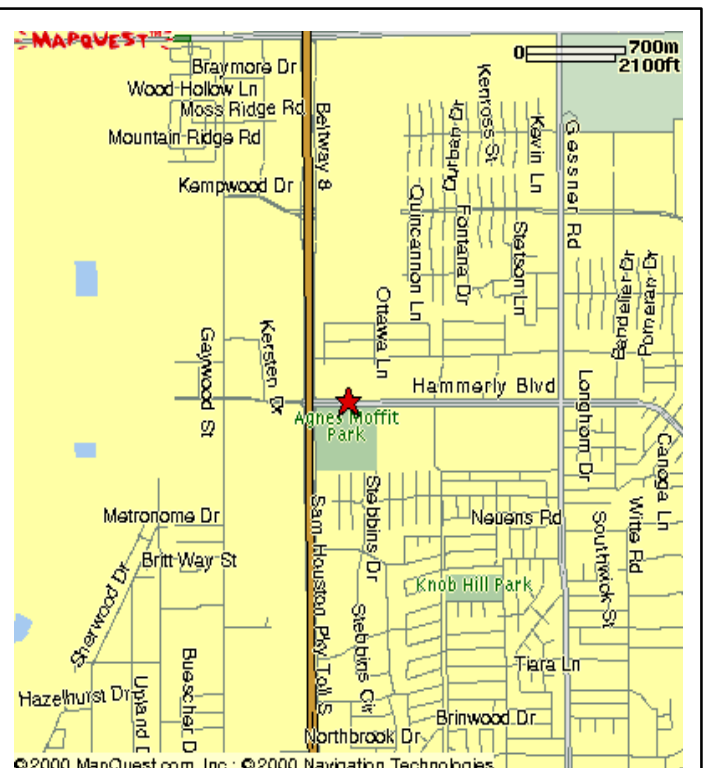
THERE WILL NOT BE A TEST SESSION IN JUNE.

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

Walter Hock KK5LO
NARS VE Session Manager



Pre-SETUP LUNCH LOCATION: Lucky House Buffet
10123 Hammerly (See above)



FD LOCATION: SPRING BRANCH I.S.D. Career
Center Campus 10660 Hammerly (See above)

Ham and “Sheez” News

May Update:

May was a very busy month for the Ham and “Sheez” group! On Mother’s Day we treated ourselves to a day out. Margaret Quarles shared some of her favorite places around the I45/610 area. Our first stop was Margaret’s favorite Fiesta market where she shared some tips on cooking and unique gifts to give for special occasions. The farmer’s market was next on our list. We enjoyed sampling some delicious fruits and wandering through the market while enjoying the wonderful aromas of fresh produce. Then, we walked to a Mexican bakery and purchased a few treats to share with the men in our lives! We had a delicious lunch at a Mexican seafood restaurant while enjoying each other’s company. Be sure to ask Nancy Edwards about the rose petal ceremony in the restaurant parking lot! Our final stop was the farmer’s market where we purchased fruits and vegetables we had seen earlier in the day. Needless to say, everyone had a terrific time! Many thanks to Margaret for a great day!

In lieu of our monthly meeting, the ladies invited their husbands/significant others to a BBQ at the Meier residence. Eight couples attended the BBQ and, as you can see from the pictures, had a very relaxing time. Occasionally, the men were found in the ham shack or in the backyard discussing antennas, coax, and tower design – surprising, huh?! Delicious food, great conversation, and fun were the themes of the day. Being the good sports that we are, the ladies

will even publicly admit that the men won pictionary! Please note that there will be a rematch. As the sun set and the temperature cooled a little, we ushered the evening in with our feet dangling in the pool and the great conversation continuing. Thanks to all who shared in the day!

June Activities Update:

The ladies will be helping at the NARS Field Day by assisting at the Welcome Tent. Please stop by and say hello. If you have a few minutes and would like to help at the Welcome Tent, please bring your chair and join us. We will also be providing desserts for Field Day. [ed. note (and subtle hint): I hope there are home made chocolate chip cookies!]

Our June outing will be to the International Gem and Jewelry Show at the Reliant Arena. We will meet on Sunday, June 23, at 10:00 am in the EPO parking lot at the Willowbrook Mall. As you will remember, those who attended the show a few months ago had a terrific time and found some great bargains. Be sure to mark your calendars and join in the fun!

The June meeting will be on Monday, June 24, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. The meeting is held in the same location as the monthly NARS meetings at the Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church. We will be learning how to color tint a copy of a photograph. The process is incredibly easy and very versatile. All

the supplies will be provided except the picture to be colored. Bring a few copies of your favorite photo to the meeting. The copies need to be black and white copies but made on a color copy machine. Some suggestions for pictures include your wedding picture, a portrait of your parents or other relative, or a picture of one of your children. The technique looks especially good on older pictures. We hope to see you then!

Monthly Ham Recipe:

Okay, we’re breaking with tradition this month! You will not find ham as an ingredient in the following recipe. Schalee Lodge brought a delicious avocado dip to the BBQ and graciously shared her secret.

Avocado Dip de Schalee:

Mashed Avocado – either from fresh avocado or from packaged avocado (found in the produce section)
Pace picante sauce

Mix the two ingredients in a three to one ratio of avocado to picante sauce. Change the ratio to your taste, if necessary.

Use as a dip with your favorite tortilla chips. Enjoy!

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



DX News

“For All the NARS DX News Fit to Print”

May 2002 DX is in the rear view mirror. How did you do? What exotic DX found it's way into your log? The bands were up and down a bit, but not like April; although, we did experience two CME's. The duration of each shorter than "the big one" of April.

The May numbers tell the story of the two CMEs occurring on the 12th and the 24th of the month.

* The high SFI occurred May 6th and 7th with a reading of 191 down from the 226 of April.

* The low SFI occurred on May 1st with a reading of 153 up from 147.

* The low A index occurred on May 5th and 26th with a reading of 3 up from April.

* The high A index occurred on May 12th and 24th with a reading of 35 and 44, respectfully

* The low K index occurred on May 5th with a reading of 0.

* The high K index occurred on May 23rd with a reading of 7.

Local Events:

NARS Dxr's did well as usual in May. Here's their report.

George K5VUU opens a portion of his log for April and May, and it reveals some very nice entries for new countries worked: VP6DI Ducie Island 15 and 10 meter SSB, and 15 meter CW; YI9OM Iraq 15 meter SSB; PW0T Trinadade and Martin on 15 meter SSB; KH1/K1B Baker & Howland Islands on 15 meter SSB, 10 meter RTTY, and 10 meter CW; SV2ASP/A Mount Athos (Monk Apollo, finally!) on 20 meter SSB; YK1BA Syria 20 meter SSB; S79MX

Seychelles 20 meter CW; and XROX/CEO San Felix Island 15 meter and 20 meter CW.

George also logged the following for new modes worked: ET3PMW Ethiopia and 5N6NDP Nigeria on 15 meter SSB. And finally, the gift that keeps on giving, George received the following QSL cards: K3J Johnston Island and YK1BA Syria!

Not at all a bad couple of months for a "Non-Competitive DX Station"...(as the "Old Timer" used to say). Congrats George on the great catches.

Bruce NILN reports a simple but thorough log for May. Basically, it reads this way, TN3B and TN3W – Congo on all bands and modes: 10, 12, 15 17 and 20 meter SSB, 12 SSB, and 17 CW. Well, it seems that way. Bruce also worked Monk Apollo SV2ASP/A – Mount Athos on 20 SSB. This activity brings Bruce's totals to: 320 worked and 304 confirmed. Now it's time for the QSL waiting! Congrats Bruce. This is some cool activity!

John W5PDW says his mailbox was empty this month along with that of Cal's WF5W. From John's note, one could surmise that both mailboxes are being dusted for fingerprints. John did log the TN3 Congo operation! Other than that, his log book was a little thin! Excellent work John. It's one more Q than you started out with!

Cal WF5W says there were no new entries this month. Instead he was visiting DX in France and Spain!

Jim KJ5X reports a slow month, but says he did work K1B on three bands, and Jim did work YB0GRF on 15M SSB like he was next door. Jim logged

the 6O0X on 17M CW, which at the time he thought would get his last one I need in Africa. Alas, Jim soon learned it doesn't count for Somalia. Jim also worked KG4IZ on CW and got a card from his manager in less than two weeks for a new one on 80M. At the bell, Jim logged the YA5T Afghanistan station! Wow, Jim this makes the whole month perfect. Congrats, dude!

Jim says he is practicing to get his best voice in shape for Field Day since he signed up for two hours on the SSB station. Somehow, Jim is of the belief that doughnuts are good for that. See you at FD Jim. Great going on the DX.

Jim K5JDB's DX log grew by 51 DX contacts in May. Most notable were VK9NS, Norfolk Island; 3D2AF, Fiji Islands; 5Y5HX, Jordan; HL4GSN, South Korea; TN3B, Congo; AH6HY/AH8, Ofu Island; and 5N6NDP, Nigeria. Received several cards of which the most exotic were A35RK, Tonga; 3D2CDY, Conway Reef; T32CY, East Kiribati, and 5U4R, Niger. Jim has worked 172 countries, with 38 confirmed. Jim is having fun. Jim congrats on the 172!

Paul W5PF (Papa Fox) says May has been a good month, Paul has logged: YK1AB on 20 SSB, the TN3's on several bands and R1MVI on a couple bands. This gives him 316 active (327 total). Paul says he is still looking for the YA and P5. He did receive VP8THU QSL and some IOTA cards. Finally, Paul says he is looking forward to a couple of rare ones being on the air over the summer, TY in July and August for one. Paul, outstanding activity and numbers! (I also need those mentioned.)

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DX News – Continued from page 4

Al W5ADF sent a note in saying that he attempted some DX in May, but no fruit. So, let's get behind Al and talk up a little DX. Don't tell him the sheriff stories. You can do it, Al.

Anita N5AOK reports a few DX entries: OR4UN (aka ON4UN John, who will be at HamCom), SV5AZP Dodecanse; and TK/IK2WZN Corsica. Congrats!

>From this Station:

May was pretty good month here. 60 Qs found their way into the log representing 54 countries. 3B9FR, 3DA0LJ, 3V8BB, 3Z0GZB, 4L6AM, 4L8A, 4S7EA, 7X0DX, 9A2YM, 9K2ZZ, 9L1BTB, 9Y4/NG5E, AH8/AH6HY, AY4DX, CO2TK, CT1CJJ, DJ1QQ, EA6/SP4AOQ, ER1QQ, EU3AR, FR5HA, HA3KNA, IS0/DL2SBY, K1B, K1NI, KH9/K7ASU, LA2PC, LZ2KV, OD5NH, OH2BH, OK1DRQ, OR4UN, OZ6XY, PA9DD, PZ5RA, R1ANC, R1MVI, SM0OWX, SP4NI, SV2ASP/A, SV5AZP, SV8UM, TA3/LZ2HM, TK/IK2WZM, TN3W, V73OD, VE2/F5IDM, VK9LO,

VK9XV, W1DIG, XE1UN, XW0X, YB0IR, YK1BA, YM0KA, and ZD7CY.

Highlights for the month include the VK9LO Lord Howe on three bands, R1MVI on 18 meters, Monk Apollo SV2ASP/A on Mount Athos, along with new countries TN3 Congo and KH9 Wake Island. It was a good month here. Underneath all of this was a bunch of QSLing which I will report on in another issue.

See ya HamCom!

Scheduled DX Operations

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

- * 06/01–08 Aland Islands OH0Z
- * 06/01–12 Liechtenstein HB0
- * 06/01–22 Morocco CN2DX
- * 06/02–08 Virgin Islands WP2Z
- * 06/02–14 Dodecanese SV5
- * 06/03–13 Bahamas C6AIE
- * 06/03–22 Malta 9H3UT
- * 06/04–12 Pratas Island BQ9P
- * 06/05–7/05 Tromelin FR5ZU/T

- * 06/06–10 Jersey MJ
- * 06/06–10 Market Reef OJ0
- * 06/06–11 Surinam PZ5PI
- * 06/07–11 Canada VE2
- * 06/07–17 Gibraltar ZB
- * 06/08–09 East Malaysia 9M6A
- * 06/08–09 SBA Cyprus ZC4DW
- * 06/08–16 Ogasawara JD1
- * 06/13–16 Market Reef OJ0
- * 06/14–17 Mariana Islands KH0
- * 06/14–23 St Pierre Miquelon FP
- * 06/15–18 Canada VY0
- * 06/15–22 Falkland Islands VP8ITN
- * 06/21–23 St Pierre Miquelon FP5KE
- * 06/22–7/12 Guadeloupe TO8CW
- * 06/29–7/08 St Paul CY9

Thanks to George K5VUU, Bruce N1LN, John W5PDW, Cal WF5W, Jim KJ5X, Jim K5JDB, Paul W5PF, Al W5ADF, and Anita N5AOK 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*

Teachers wanted for Ham Camp at the Houston Museum Of Natural Science

Every year, thousands of students flock to Herman Park to participate in week-long summer camps. Mostly in astronomy, chemistry, and environmental science, these camps give kids the chance to try something new and fun. I talked the head of student programs into giving us a chance to run a ham camp for one of the weeks, and brought it up to the NARS board last fall and they said, sure, ask for a week and we'll be sure to find someone to help teach it. Well, guess what – the camp is fully sold out and on for August 5–9! The time has come and we need Teachers and Materials! I think we can get good materials from ARRL (I've already put in a request), but good teachers are also absolutely critical.

There will be two groups of kids – one 10–12 and one 8–10. Each has 2 hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon, with an opportunity for an

extended “after camp” for another hour or two. I think the best thing will be for one group to learn the rules and play with radios while the other learns electronic projects (maybe putting together a TenTec receiver, in groups). Then they switch for the afternoon. I also expect that some of the older group will be interested in going for the license whereas the younger group probably won't. For those we can have the ARRL videos in “after camp”. OJ has agreed to hold a code class in the following two weeks for those who want to learn their code.

So, anyone want to volunteer to teach? (There is a small but sincere honorarium). I need two take-charge people, either each taking one age group or each one taking one session subject (i.e. one to do the theory and talking, the other to do the electronics lab). Anyone want to volunteer to

help? (You CAN bring along your child as a helper or learner!).

Let me know asap if you are interested. I'd like to have a short meeting maybe just after the June club meeting, and then some more heavy planning after Field Day. (I've heard you all plan – you all are great organizers!)

BTW, they have also agreed to let us install a permanent ham station at the Museum, for volunteers to staff on the weekends (like at the Goldwater Station at the Arizona Science Center). I'll contribute some bucks towards the radio at the station, but we also need to find good used equipment and willing folks to help put it together.

Thanks . . . and hope to hear from you soon . . .

Pat Reiff KD5IZK

HandiHams Update

The Ham and “Sheez” group sincerely thanks all NARS members for the response received after the recent HandiHams presentation at the May NARS meeting. The enthusiasm and genuine desire to volunteer time and talent toward the HandiHams work has been overwhelming.

Very recently I spoke with Patrick Tice, WA0TDA, HandiHams manager. He is very pleased that NARS is interested in supporting HandiHams and is anxious to work with us. Let me share highlights of our conversation:

* HandiHams is preparing for their Summer Radio Camp 2002, which will be held at Camp Courage North in the woods of Minnesota from Tuesday, August 27, through Tuesday, September 3. Patrick extended an invitation to NARS for an individual to be a volunteer at camp. Food and lodging will be provided. The NARS member will only need to pay for his/her plane fare. Camp will be a great opportunity for a volunteer to observe HandiHams at work and become a spokesperson for the camping experience. If you’re interested, please let me know or contact Patrick directly. His email address is wa0tda@arrl.net.

* HandiHams will be working with NARS as a volunteer club. Our website and other information about the club has already been

shared with their organization. HandiHams also maintains a database of individual volunteers. The information in their database includes areas in which each volunteer has talent and interest. The database also allows HandiHams to quickly contact their volunteers directly. If you’re interested in becoming an individual volunteer, please register in the volunteer section of their website at <http://www.mtn.org/handiham>.

* A terrific way to keep up-to-date on HandiHams activities is to subscribe to their weekly e-letter. Subscription information can be found on their website. Each week, a section of the newsletter includes areas in which volunteers are needed. The most recent edition of the newsletter included the following volunteer opportunities: audio editor, events editor, and website checker. More information about these positions can be found in the current e-letter which is available on the website. Patrick informed me that the website checker position has been filled; however, additional assistance is needed in that area.

* Patrick suggested that one of the most effective ways to share our hobby with physically challenged individuals is to have hands-on demonstrations in rehab centers, schools, and other facilities. After the efforts of Field Day have been

successfully completed, Ham and “Sheez” will be working with NARS to determine where and when this type of demonstration can be given. Your suggestions are welcome!

Ham and “Sheez” will provide updates regarding HandiHams to the NARS reflector and NARS newsletter. As you become involved, please share your experiences and let other NARS members know about the work you’re doing. At least one NARS member has already registered as a volunteer and is starting to record his first book! Another is in contact with HandiHams to determine if he might be able to assist in the mass production of audio tapes! As usual, NARS members have seized an opportunity to share our hobby and are already busy at work.

On the local front, Ham and “Sheez” is completing a HandiHams introduction package that will be shared at Field Day. We are also in contact with TIRR (The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research) to bring copies of the package to their facilities for patients to read.

Again – thank you for your support. The NARS organization is a prime example of the true character of Amateur Radio.

*Best regards,
Laurie Meier – NIYXU
nlyxu@arrl.net*

Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

Condolences to Mark Janzer K5MGJ and family in the loss of his father, WB9TOA, on May 13th.
Welcome new members Ralph Dittman KD5SBH and Bill Kemp K5LK.

NARS Resource List

General Help:

Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY
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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: 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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Send all articles and materials for the
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Editor: Keith Dutson WD5DXL
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Northwest Amateur Radio Society is a
Special Service Club affiliated with the
American Radio Relay League.

ARRL Club No. 2120