The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

October 2002

On the Air Awards, QSL Card Checking, and Bureau Operations

The October Club meeting is designed to peek your interest in those "On the Air Awards" available to all Ops. Bob N5ET will explain the DXCC award program and how to submit your QSL cards for checking. Brian N5BA will cover the ins and outs of the VUCC and WAS award programs and card checking. H. O. WA5MLT will review the CQ WAZ award program details and its card checking, and Paul W5PF will explain how the ARRL Outgoing and Incoming QSL card Bureau works and what you should do to collect those priceless QSL cards.

These guys will have a few handouts for their respective part of the program. And, they will have one combined handout, which will list a lot of the URLs so that you can locate the information on the web. Some of the awards will be on display for viewing. So plan to attend this award—winning club meeting.

NARS LOGO CONTEST

By: Bruce Meier / N1LN

The Board of Directors of NARS is sponsoring a LOGO CREATION CONTEST.

We feel it is time to replace the old LOGO. This contest is open to any and all members and the significant others of club members. You don't need to be an artist – although good Microsoft PowerPoint or MACdraw skills may help. The new LOGO will be used on the NARS stationary as well as on shirts for an upcoming Spring offering. We hope to have the shirts for Field Day 2003. So, get those creative juices flowing – warm up those PCs and color printers, and give it a try.

When:

- ► Have your entries submitted by the December 20, members meeting
- Voting for the winning entry will be at the Banquet on January 17, 2003

Judging:

- The Board will select the top 5 entries
- ► We will display them at the January banquet
- The General Membership will vote for the new LOGO
- NOTE: If, in the opinion of the Board, none of the LOGOs submitted are appropriate, we will extend the contest.

Prize:

The Club Member submitting the winning LOGO will receive a free 1 year membership to NARS, and a new shirt sporting your winning logo!

How to Submit your entry:

► Please send your entry via email or snail mail to:

IF Microsoft PowerPoint email: nlln@aarl.net

IF ANY format snail mail:

Bruce Meier 15283 Runnymede St. Conroe, TX 77384

Important Dates

Friday, Oct. 18, 7:30 PM – General Membership meeting, Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church – Eyeball QSOs, 7:00 PM.

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

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

Contests

Oct 19–20 JARTS RTTY, Worked All Germany

Oct 26–27 CQ WW DX SSB

Nov 2–3 Ukranian DX

Nov 2-4 ARRL CW Sweepstakes

Nov 16–18 ARRL SSB Sweepstakes

Nov 23–24 CQ WW DX CW

Wednesday Lunch Bunch

Oct 16: Red Lobster

Oct 23: Strack Farms

Oct 30: Pepperchino

Nov 6: Lasagna House II

Nov 13: Jason's Deli

Wednesday Lunch Bunch - West

Oct 16 Fuddruckers

Oct 23 Puma Mexican

Oct 30 Jasons Deli

Nov 6 Luthers BBQ

Nov 13 Skeeters

Monday "Tail Draggers" Lunch Bunch

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

Notice

NARS membership dues: \$20 per year, renew— able 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

October 2002

Greetings to all! Well we dodged a couple of Mother Nature's bullets this past month or so in the form of Hurricanes, Isidor and Lili. I hope our neighbors in Louisiana can get things cleaned up and ship shape in quick order after taking that double hit of nature's fury.

Many thanks to B.J. Lowery WB5PKD for his presentation on "Houston Transtar" at our September meeting. B.J., we truly enjoyed it, and had the previously mentioned "cyclonic visitors" come a calling a bit farther West, we would have counted on you emergency management folks to meet them head on and show the rest of Texas and the Country how our City deals with emergency situations. Thanks for your hard work.

I know a bunch of you were running through various "plan B's" regarding the possible impact of Isidor on your Texas QSO Party plans and routes. Wow, it appears that "successful" may be a gross understatement to describe all of the fun that was had across our State, the USA, and indeed across the various ponds of the world. Although I could not participate to any great extent, I got to listen in early on Saturday and track some of the mobiles around Texas. All I can say regarding Anita's (N5AOK) score is . . . HOLY COW, HOLY MACKERAL, HOLY RF BATMAN! WELL DONE! H.O., did you actually have to use the accelerator at all during the drive or did the RF carry you folks along? Anita has evidently eclipsed, better yet decimated the previous 3 years of single op big gun scores as info comes across the reflector. Congratulations Anita and H.O.!

Congratulations to George Edwards K5VUU for his organizational skills in engineering another superb Texas QSO Party effort (maybe you should consider a career in the field George), and to H. O. Townsend WA5MLT, OJ Quarles, K1OJ and the perpetually "Grande" Walter Hock KK5LO for picking up where George left off. A job well done to all who participated in this NARS sponsored event.

On another subject, it is already pretty late in the year 2002. Time again to think about the upcoming banquet, Home Brew Night and nominations for the upcoming 2003 slate of NARS Officers and Directors. If you have the desire to serve on the NARS Board or perhaps know of someone who is interested, contact any of the current Board Members and we will submit the names to the Nominations Committee. By the way, our Nominations Committee is not only acting passively as inferred above, but actively as well. So mind the phone, you may be called upon by your Club to serve.

Just in case you're wondering . . . I have served on the NARS Board now for 3 years: 2 years as Vice President and this last as your President and prior to that 1 year as the PIO and Activities Chair (I've enjoyed every minute). The time needed to serve is minimal for most Board positions. Obviously we have a general meeting each month. We also have a Board meeting each month on the last Tuesday. This time spent with fellow Narsians is also great fun. NARS is full of people that are willing volunteers. We generally have no problem staffing up a project when needed. So if this sounds like an enjoyable activity to you please toss your name in the hat. You will be glad you did, and so will we. Until next Month,

73, George, KD5AYF

VE Session Results

At the NARS VE Test Session held September 28, 2002 there were six candidates. The results were one new Technician, and one upgrade to Extra. Elements administered totaled six with two passed.

The VE's were Walter Holmes K5WH, Keith Dutson WD5DXL, Steve Niles N5EN, Paul Frantz W5PF, Gregg Erlenbusch W5IDX, Bill Denton W5SB, and Nolan Kienitz KI5IO.

Thanks to Walter Holmes for heading up the session and to all of the VE's for their help.

The next NARS VE Test session will be held on October 26, 2002. See ya there.

Walter Hock KK5LO NARS VE Session Manager

Public Service Events Your Radio Skills Are Needed

SIRE 10th annual Ride-A-Thon, Saturday, October 19 Contact: Keith Dutson, 281–351–7683, WD5DXL@arrl.net

The team is all set for this great event. But, you can still participate because the new trail site can accommodate even more volunteers.

<u>Wings Over Houston</u>, Friday–Sunday, October 25–27.

This event can always use extra hams. If interested please contact Bill Terrell, W5DNE via e-mail bbtcar@ghg.net, or via telephone home 281–338–2918 or work 281–483–4552.

Sunmart Texas Trails Endurance Run, Saturday, December 14. Contact Walter Hock KK5LO to volunteer at kk5lo@arrl.net or 281–350–6633.



2002 Texas QSO Party NARS Participants working mobile and remote stations.

Ham and "Sheez" News

September Update:

Our September outing took place on Saturday, September 14, when we ventured to the Red River Winery in Old Town Spring for a private wine tasting party. Thirteen couples enjoyed four types of wines, hors d'oeuvres to complement each wine, and great conversation. You will see by the pictures, which are included in the newsletter, that a good time was had by all! In fact, there have been rumors about another wine tasting event in the future. More details to come.



Anita, Steve and Nancy



OJ, Bruce, Chuck, Rob and Marty

For our September meeting, we decided to break from our traditional meeting place and format. After dinner at the Texas Land & Cattle (yes, we had some fried pickles!), we honed our shopping skills at the Great Indoors. After all, we occasionally need to brush up on mentally calculating taxes on large purchases and perfecting the wrist action involved in correctly swiping credit cards through readers! These skills will come in very handy for those of us who will be going to Canton on October 5.

Upcoming Meetings and Activities:

Meetings:

October: Our October meeting will be held on Monday, October 28, at the Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church at 7:00. Many ladies bring their dinners directly from work and eat at the beginning of the meeting. Please be sure to join us for a terrific evening. Carol Fitzgerald will be teaching us how to make a macramé halo wreath. The materials that are needed for the project include:

- o 24 yards of 3–4 mm cord that will fringe or fluff
- o 6" ring (can be purchased at Wal–Mart and craft stores)
- o 2 yards of ribbon for bow
- o wreath decorations of your choice (birds, bells, berries, tiny ornaments, etc.) suggestions for the theme for the wreath include Halloween, Autumn, and Christmas [I will be happy to pick up the macramé cord for everyone at a local shop. If you're planning on attending the meeting, let me know no later than Monday, October 21, and I will pick up the cord and bring it to the meeting. Laurie]

While we're making the wreath, those who went to Canton will be updating everyone on the tremendous bargains we found!

November: Our November meeting will be held on Monday, November 25. just before Thanksgiving. The meeting will take place at the home of Nancy Kinard, one of our newest members! Pat White will be teaching us how to make cinnamon cut-outs. The cut-outs will be given to elderly and shut-in members of the Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church congregation. This will be a small token of our appreciation for the use of the church facility for our meetings. We will also have an ornament exchange (limit \$10, please) and enjoy the beginning of the holiday season.

December: Details to be determined.

Outings:

November: The very highly recommended IMAX Space Station will be featured at the Museum of Natural Science from October 4 through January 5. The film includes footage of amateur radio contacts with crew on the space station. We have tentatively picked Saturday, November 16, for a trip to the museum and lunch/dinner afterwards. The guys are cordially invited to join us!

<u>December:</u> Schalee Lodge is coordinating her second annual Cookie Baking Party at Kerry's Kitchen in Tomball for our December outing. Several of us attended the inaugural event last year, which was a tremendous success! More details will follow shortly.

Monthly Ham Recipe:

Honey–Garlic Pork Tenderloin (Serves 2)

6 T lemon juice 6 T honey 2 1/2 T soy sauce

1 1/2 T dry sherry or chicken broth

3 garlic cloves, pressed

3/4 pound pork tenderloin

Stir first five ingredients together in a shallow dish or ziplock bag to make marinade. Remove 1/2 cup of the marinade, and set aside. Prick pork several times with a fork, and place in remaining marinade. Cover or seal, and chill one hour. Remove pork, and discard marinade.

To cook – grill, with lid covered, over medium heat (300 to 350 degrees) for 11 to 13 minutes on each side or until meat thermometer reads 160 degrees. While grilling, base with reserved 1/2 cup of marinade.

Enjoy!

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

DX News

"For All the NARS DX News Fit to Print"

September blew the wind back into our DX sails. Did you notice? Yep, September has renewed the belief of the faithful. The faith that persistence and a fresh dusting of the shack goes a long way in entering new DX contacts into the log. OK, go ahead and sprinkle in a few JA contacts!

So take heed DX folk, don't be caught burning any precious daylight! Stop by your closest Krispy Kream and pick up some product. Then motor next door and grab a fresh latte. Head to the house, turn the rig on, throw up your heels, put the Heil headset on, and dream the DX into your log... winter, contest season, and great DX are just over the gray line.

Folks, the winter DX party is just starting. Go forth, go forth and DX 'til your heart's content. Work'm, log'm, repeat step one! Let's see more great reports next month!

The numbers never lie. Here we go:

- * The high SFI occurred September 11th with a reading of 221.
- * The low SFI occurred on September 30th with a reading of 138.
- * The low A index occurred on September 24th with a reading of 3.
 * The high A index occurred on September 8th with a reading of 36.
- * The low K index occurred on September 24th with a reading of 0.
 * The high K index occurred on September 7th with a reading of 6.

Local Events:

NARS DX'ers did pretty good during September as usual. Here's their report.

Jim KJ5X drops this column a note saying that the big news from the KJ5X shack was the arrival of the VP6DI Ducie Island card, and its inclusion in the annual DXCC submittal. Jim says that the arrival is both good and bad

news. It's the last one he had out, number 320. But now there's no sweet anticipation looking forward to a prize in the mailbox. Obviously, he hopes that's short lived. He could use a P5 or a 9N or an S2 to bring back that good old feeling. Other than that, he says it was normal stuff with contacts 8R, SP, 4N, 9H, ON, UAO, F5, JA and HA with lots of OH during the fun Texas QSO party!

Bruce N1LN says finally, finally the VP6DI Ducie Island card arrived in his mailbox! Bruce says that there wasn't much "new" stuff, but that he was pleased to see the low bands opening up with winter coming. Bruce logged the following new band countries: XV9DT - Vietnam 12 mtr CW, P5/4L4FN - N. Korea 10 mtr SSB, A25/V51AS -Botswana 40 mtr CW, YA5T -Afghanistan 20 mtr CW and 17 mtr CW, and OJ0LA - Market Reef 20 mtr SSB. In addition to this outstanding list, Bruce logged the following low band contacts: 160 mtrs (100w) DF2DY - Germany, EA3JE - Spain (new band country), and KL7J -Alaska; 80 mtrs (100w) VK3IO -Australia and VK3DZM - Australia!

Al W5ADF reports slim pickins..., but looking at his details, I think he is pulling our leg. New countries: 15 meters include VU2WAP India; 10 **OSOs** include C98DC meter Mozambique, 7Q7CE Mawali, and ZK2TO NIUE Is.. Al received the following cards in September: VP6DI Ducie Is., K1B Baker Is., TK/IK2HNA Corsica, 5B4/ RV3MA Cypress. He says that this brings his confirmed total to date to 169. "I'm over half way there!"

Anita N5AOK sends along a short note of activity for the month. Anita logged the following 20 meter contacts: K4P Pentagon special event, KH2/KF2XN Guam, and VK9YL the YL bunch at Lord Howe Island; 15 meter contacts: OH0B Aland Island, 4Z5AD Israel, LX/PA6Z Luxembourg, CU1CB

Azores Island, LY2FY Lithuania, 7X4AN Algeria, EA1ABT Spain, J69AZ St. Lucia, VP5/K4ISV Turks and Caicos Islands, VK3UP Australia, and ZK2TO the YL group at Niue Island. She said she was warming up for TOP!

John W5PDW reports three (count them) three new countries confirmed! Hold your bets, hold your cards, and please check your back pocket. John his TNCongo. Afghanistan, and OJO Market Reef cards arrived. Plus, John received a package of cards from the great four-legged beast "the burro." He says that some nice photo cards were Included. Then came his BQ9P Pratas Island card! [Somebody's mailbox is a little lighter.] John said he had a good time chasing the Route 66 folks working them all plus the mobile. He also reminds us he and 14 billion others (this station included) are still trying to pile on P5/4L4FN. bust the Grrrrrrrrrr John also worked the following DX: ZK7USA, 8R1USA, ZY7USA, RA3AJ, VK9YL, C98DC, KC4AAC, EZ8CW, all on 20m ssb.

Norm K5OS has one heck of a DX month. Check out this nice list of Qs. Look very close: 10 meters – HK3JJH 10M, OZ8EA, SP8ARY, C98DC, RK3AWL, IK3UNA, and 7Q7CE; 15 meters – EA4DX/HK0, LY1DR, 9Z4DI, OM5MZ, M0RAD, GU3EJL, Z22JE, LU9HS, ET4FK, OJ0LA, I4UFH, S57MVD, YA5T, and ES1WW; 17 meters – 3B9FR and JT1FDI; 20 meters – TU2IG, PY7GRM, and 8R1USA.

George K5VUU says add K1B Baker and Howland Islands to his count. George worked them on 10 CW and RTTY!

Thanks and congratulations everyone for a great month of DX activity.

Continued on page 5

DX News - Continued from page 4

DXpedition Note:

A reminder from last month. Be sure to watch for this one. Ed N1UR (K8EP) will be QRV from XX9 Macao for a number of days between October 11th and 24th. Then he will be at 9M6A East Malaysia for the CQ WW SSB contest(October 26/27), probably on 15 meter Single–Side Band. Listen for Ed and give him a call! He'd like to hear from you.

From this Station:

September was a real turn around month with a fair amount of DX from all parts of the world landing in the log. I sure hope that it a sign of this winter's DX possibilities. Yet, there is no bad DX! Lots of good DX on 10 thru 20 meters late into the evening. Yes.

Countries worked: 3B8CF, 6J1UN, 6W1RT, 7Q7CE, 8N10GA, 9A2OM, 9A3TR, 9H3YM, 9H9PA, A61AO, AP2JZB, C98DC, DK7BY, EA1ABT, EA1ALD, EA1AQO, EA7RU, ER1QQ, GD0EMG, GM3POI, GW7X, HA3HV, HP1XVH, JA6CTW, JR3NZC, KC4USV, KH2/KF2XN, LA2FKA, LU2NI, LU9HS, LX/PA6Z, M0TTT/P, N6XIV/KH9, OH3RM, OH3YI, OM5XX, PA3GSU, R1ANZ,

RK4HWW, RZ4FA, RZ9UC, S79TH, TI2OHL, TK/OM3PC, TN3S, TU2DP, TU2IG, UK9AA, UX2HO, VK7TS/4, VK9YL, VO1SO, YV5SSB, Z22JE, ZK1CG, ZK1USA, ZK2TO, and ZY7USA.

See you on the bands!

Scheduled DX Operations

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

- * Oct 01 03, South Cook Islands, ZK1
- * Oct 01 06, South Cook Islands, ZK
- * Oct 01 14, Congo (Dem Rep), 9Q5
- * Oct 03 22, Tanzania, 5H1HS
- * Oct 04 11, South Cook Islands, ZK1
- * Oct 05 11, Isle of Man, GB2IOM
- * Oct 05 12, Jersey, GJ0
- * Oct 05 23, Galapagos, HC8UF
- * Oct 06 12, Seychelles, S79W
- * Oct 07 15, South Cook Islands, ZK
- * Oct 08 11, Marquesas, FO0SAI
- * Oct 08 13, French Polynesia, FO
- * Oct 08 13, Western Sahara, S07L
- * Oct 08 16, Ogasawara, 8N1OGA
- * Oct 10 22, Macao, XX9TEP
- * Oct 11 27, Guernsey, MU
- * Oct 12 14, South Cook Islands, ZK1
- * Oct 13 15, East Malaysia, 9M6AAC

- * Oct 14 21, Dominica, J7
- * Oct 14 25, Montserrat, VP2M
- * Oct 15 30, Congo, TN
- * Oct 17 28, Austral Islands, FO
- * Oct 17 28, Chatham Island, ZL7C
- * Oct 17 31, North Cook Islands, ZK1
- * Oct 18 Nov 10, Cuba, T48W
- * Oct 19 28, Benin, TY
- * Oct 21 28, Bahamas, C6
- * Oct 21 Nov 01, Montserrat, VP2M
- * Oct 24 27, Micronesia, V63
- * Oct 25 31, Micronesia, V63DX
- * Oct 26 Nov 04, Ogasawara, 8N1OGA
- * Oct 28 Nov 08, American Samoa, K8T
- * Oct 29 Nov 07, American Samoa, K8O
- * Oct 30 Nov 04, Micronesia, V63
- * Oct 30 Nov 13, Guinea, 3XY7C

Thanks to JIm KJ5X, Bruce N1LN, Al W5ADF, Anita N5AOK, John W5PDW, Norm K5OS, and George K5VUU 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





The Ham and "Sheez" September outing took place on Saturday, September 14, when we ventured to the Red River Winery in Old Town Spring for a private wine tasting party.

Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

Welcome new members Colin Jenkins KD5TMF, Kay Lynn Jenkins KD5TUR, Stacy Jenkins KD5TME and Charles Sanders NO5W.

NARS Resource List

General Help:
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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)

NARS NEWS is published monthly by Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Send all articles and materials for the Newsletter to:

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Northwest Amateur Radio Society is a Special Service Club affiliated with the American Radio Relay League.

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