

# NARS NEWS



The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

February 2011



## February Meeting

### Summary Presentation Digital Modes for Hams

The NARS general meeting this February 2011 will be the kick off of our Digital Modes presentations for 2011. This meeting will a general summary of the most common protocols used on HF and UHF/VHF. There will be information handouts for everyone in which one can look up the subject he is most interested in.

HF protocols and systems will discussed first and your interest will be recorded so that the demonstration that happens later in the year will cover your interests.

UHF/VHF protocols and systems will be discussed secondly and your interests will recorded to insure that they are covered in the later demonstration this year.

Your interest in this subject could be a Special Interest Group, SIG, for NARS and we would entertain a chairman for this SIG from the audience. 73's, Jerry - KESPUT

### Chris Brown Eagle Scout, Amateur Radio Operator, and NARS Member

On the 5th of February, one of NARS youngest members, Chris Brown KE5IOR had his Eagle Court of Honor. This was a traditional Eagle Scout Award Ceremony in which Chris was awarded the Eagle Badge. This was presented by Chris's uncle, Jim Madry, who earned his Eagle Scout badge in 1971. Jim's son and Jim's two brothers are also Eagle Scouts. Chris' grandfather also earned his Eagle badge. Quite a lineage for the family tree. (cont page 3)

## Important Dates

### Friday, February 18th, 7:30 PM

Monthly Club Meeting,  
Cypress Creek Christian Community Cntr,  
6823 Cypresswood Drive

### Saturday, February 26th, 2010 8:30 AM

VE License Exam Session  
Tomball Community Center  
S. Cherry & Market streets  
(just South of Main)

### Tuesday, February 22nd, 7:30 PM

Board of Directors meeting  
Ponderosa Fire Station  
17061 Rolling Creek drive.

### Wednesday Lunch Bunch - North

Jason's Deli - Feb 16th  
Baker St. - Feb 23th  
Sweet Tomatoes - Mar 2nd  
BJ's Restaurant & Brewery - Mar 9th  
Marco's Mexican Restaurant - Mar 16th  
Spring Creek Barbeque - Mar 23rd

### Wednesday Lunch Bunch - West

Please contact Mark Tyler K5GQ for details.

### Wednesday Lunch Bunch - Medical Center

Morningside Thai - Feb 16th  
Pronto Cucinino - Feb 23rd  
Jason's Deli - Mar 2nd  
Buffalo Grille - Mar 9th  
Southwell's Hamburger Grill - 16th  
Marco's Mexican Bar & Grille - 23rd

### Draggers Lunch Bunch

11:00 am, Aviator's Grill, Hooks Airport

Notice: NARS membership dues are \$20 per year, renewable on anniversary.

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

## BREAKFAST

at Denny's

7720 Louetta Road

Saturdays

7:30 AM

## President's Corner

February 2011

The January 2011 issue of CQ magazine shows a drawing of the Roman god Janus on page 62. The month of January is named in his honor. He has two faces, one looking behind and the other forward. This is a great lead-in to your past vice-president ascending to the office of president.

Last year was great. NARS had some good programs at each meeting, highlighted by the visit from Channel 13 weather person Casey Curry in June. We had an outstanding Field Day led by coordinator Larry Kendall K5END, with a score that placed us well up in the national 2A category rankings. We had an enthusiastic group attending the short CW class with instructors Tom Atkins KD5EIJ and Mark Tyler K5GQ. H. O. Townsend K5CX did an outstanding job with NARS News last year. He went above and beyond his duties to scrape up news worth reporting. Bill Buoy N5BIA maintained our web site all year long, getting our message out to the world.

Texas QSO Party coordinator Chuck Sanders NO5W led another outstanding event, garnering participation from all 254 counties and record breaking scores in just about all categories. TQP has gained stature as one of the top QSP parties in the US.

Public service was a focus of many NARS members in 2010. The Buffalo Bayou Regatta was a continuing success story, with yours truly subbing as coordinator for Paul Frantz W5PF, who was out of town that weekend. Jerry Whiting KB5VGD once again coordinated the Salvation Army bell ringers, who raised more than \$800 for the eight hour event. And Paul Owen N5NXS had another successful year

(cont on page 3)

## VE Session Notice

**Keith Dutson - NM5G**  
**NARS VE Session Manager**

Saturday, January 22 VE Test Session Results at Tomball Community Center:

We had 6 test candidates.

- element 2 tests given: 3; passed 3
- element 3 tests given: 1; passed 1
- element 4 tests given: 2; passed 1

Congratulations to:

- Ronald Rosson - new tech
- Mark Bennett - new tech
- Charles Nicely - new tech
- Ronald Harris - upgrade to general
- Douglas Wilson - upgrade to extra
- James McKinney KF5HBV - upgrade to general
- Patricia Halter KF5IJG - upgrade to extra

Special thanks to the VEs in attendance for their time and hard work:

- Sarah Connell W2AOV
- Jerry Seay KE5PUT
- Ken Mitchell KD2KW

The next session will be held Saturday, February 26 at 8:30 a.m. at the Tomball Community Center, located at the corner of Market St. & S. Cherry St. Official address is 221 Market St.

Parking is in the rear (south side) of the building. Use the entrance on the S. Cherry St. (west) side of the building.

Exit 68, I-45 North  
267 Cypresswood Drive  
Spring, TX 77388

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281-355-7373  
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President

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**E-Mail:** [houstonamateurradio@prodigy.net](mailto:houstonamateurradio@prodigy.net)

## Around the Circuit

### President's Corner (cont)

providing communications for the Texas Trail Runs in Huntsville.

Jerry Seay KE5PUT worked with Boy Scouts Troop 878, Klein United Methodist Church. Many of the scouts visited the GOTA station during field day at Burroughs Park, and some earned the Radio Merit Badge.

Jerry Whiting KB5VGD led an effort to instruct Redd School students to build regenerative receivers from kits. The kids had quite a learning experience, especially with soldering, and some of the radios actually worked!

NARS can undoubtedly look forward to another outstanding year in 2011. Why?

Most of the hard workers from last year are reporting back for more duties.

Larry Kendall has been named Field Day coordinator for a second year. Thanks, Larry, for agreeing to take this monumental task again.

Chuck Sanders NO5W will be returning as TQP coordinator for 2011. He has already laid out some improvements to be implemented this year.

Jerry Seay KE5PUT, our new vice president, will be taking over the program chair duties. He has already lined up some impressive meeting programs for 2011.

I am planning to start a CW practice session for those who, like me, have let their Morse code skills decline over the years. The thought is to have two 30

minute sessions (slow and fast), separated by a 30 minute rest period, held near our weekly Saturday breakfast gathering at Denny's on Louetta. Ken Mitchell KD2KW, South Texas ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator, is helping to get a meeting place close to Denny's.

NARS members will surely represent us well at public service events held this year. Paul Owen, winner of the prestigious NARS Service Ham of the Year award for 2010, has already served as 2011 Chevron Houston Marathon Course Net Control operator January 30. I sat at the table with him as secondary operator and can attest that he ran a really good net.

So, I am looking forward to a banner year for NARS in the coming 12 months. Please join me!

### Chris Brown (... cont)

Chris was licensed as a technician at the Redd School along with his parents in 2006 and upgraded to General in 2008. Chris earned Eagle on October 17, 2010 at the early age of 13 but the Court of Honor waits for approval from national and the approval and award arrived in January. So that at 14 years young Chris is the youngest in his Troop #626. The pictures show Chris taking the oath of Eagle Scout as given by his uncle Jim Madry and his parents Beth Madry KE5IOU and Peter Brown KE5IOV.

The 2nd picture, Chris standing by a display of his accomplishments of his requirements. Chris also earned the Hornaday Badge for the same project of building a Chimney Swift tower at Cypress Creek YMCA. Due to an unexpected problem, the presenter of this award could not make the ceremony and will confer the Hornaday Badge at a later date.



# 2011 Annual NARS Banquet



Paul N5NXS receives Ham of the Year award.



2011 NARS Board of Directors



Tom KD5EIJ receives Past President's award.



(L 2 R) H. O. K5CX, Marty W5MF, Chuck NO5W.



Marty W5MF receives TQP First Place SO Mixed award.



Bill K5ZTY arrives.

## 2011 Annual NARS Banquet



The crowd!



The crowd part 2!

### *January 2011 Board Highlights*

Keith NM5G, President call for a review of the NARS By-laws and re-addressed the duties and responsibilities of members of the Board. It was pointed out that the property list of the club should be brought current in order to determine its assets. Items of value are to be listed and submitted to the Vice President indicating location and individual responsible for its care.

The Treasurer's Report was presented and approved by the Board.

Joe, KD5KR reported on the Awards Banquet expenditures as follows:

- Income: Paid attendance was 79 at \$24 for total of \$1896
- Expenses: Wunsche Bros. Café \$2043.36
- Awards, misc. expenses \$178.16
- Total expenditures: \$2221.52
- Total cost to NARS: \$325.52

Guest, Ken Mitchell, outlined plans for continued development of the CCEMS using WINMORE to enhance communications between various

internal departments. Ken enlisted the support of NARS and will update the Board as this project advances.

Keith reported that a future code class is in the planning stages.

Those members interested in the financial and general operation of NARS are urged to attend board meetings, held the last Tuesday of each month. Your participation and recommendations are always welcome.

# Welcome, Congratulations, and Condolences

Welcome renewing member Bob Helton K0DQW and new member daughter Mary Helton!

## NARS Resource List

### General Help:

Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY  
281-893-3901, [k5zty@juno.com](mailto:k5zty@juno.com)  
Allen Majeski WA5REJ  
281-353-8652, [wa5rej.tx@netzero.net](mailto:wa5rej.tx@netzero.net)  
Bill Denton W5SB  
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Deral Kent K5WNO  
281-548-7476, [k5wno@juno.com](mailto:k5wno@juno.com)  
Digital Modes:  
Marty Fitzgerald W5MF  
281-251-4301, [fitz6@swbell.net](mailto:fitz6@swbell.net)

### VHF/UHF:

Brian Derx N5BA  
281-894-5942

### PC Programming and Operations:

Keith Dutson NM5G 281-351-7683,  
[keith@dutson.net](mailto:keith@dutson.net)

### Building Electronics & Kits:

Mark Tyler K5GQ  
281-587-0256, [k5gq@juno.com](mailto:k5gq@juno.com)

### Interference (Basic Advice):

Terry Myers KQ5U  
281-443-6042,  
[tmyers1031@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tmyers1031@sbcglobal.net)

### Card Checking for Awards:

Bob Walworth N5ET - DXCC  
281-292-2221, [rwalworth@charter.net](mailto:rwalworth@charter.net)

Brian Derx N5BA - WAS, VUCC  
281-894-5942

Bob Walworth N5ET - WAZ  
281-292-2221, [rwalworth@charter.net](mailto:rwalworth@charter.net)

### NARS Public Information Officer:

Joe Sokolowski, KD5KR  
281-353-2196, [kd5kr@arrl.net](mailto:kd5kr@arrl.net)

## NARS Information

### PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIRMAN

Keith Dutson, NM5G  
281-351-7683  
[keith@dutson.net](mailto:keith@dutson.net)

### VICE PRESIDENT

Jerry Seay, KE5PUT  
281-376-2810,  
[jjsea@hal-pc.org](mailto:jjsea@hal-pc.org)

### SECRETARY

Martin Rogoff, N5GPS  
281-890-4538  
[n5gps.tx@gmail.com](mailto:n5gps.tx@gmail.com)

### TREASURER

Joe Sokolowski, KD5KR  
281-353-2196, [kd5kr@arrl.net](mailto:kd5kr@arrl.net)

### DIRECTORS

Tom Atkins, KD5EIJ  
281-447-4347  
[tom\\_sts@hotmail.com](mailto:tom_sts@hotmail.com)

Marty Fitzgerald, W5MF  
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[fitz6@swbell.net](mailto:fitz6@swbell.net)

Tom Hoherd, KK5YU  
281 370-2941,  
[kk5yu@att.net](mailto:kk5yu@att.net)

Jerry Whiting, KB5VGD  
281 583-5588  
[g\\_whiting@sbcglobal.net](mailto:g_whiting@sbcglobal.net)

### ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Joe Sokolowski, KD5KR  
281-353-2196, [kd5kr@arrl.net](mailto:kd5kr@arrl.net)

Send address, phone, email and other  
changes to:

NARS  
P. O. Box 90387  
Houston, TX 77090-0387

### NETS

10-Meter Ragchew: Mon 8:00 PM,  
28.444 MHz

2-Mtr Wed. Night: 8:00 PM, 146.06/66  
Coordinator; Jerry Whiting KB5VGD  
[g\\_whiting@sbcglobal.net](mailto:g_whiting@sbcglobal.net)

### WEB SITE

URL: <http://www.w5nc.net>  
Web master: Bill Buoy N5BIA  
281-370-3510, [n5bia@arrl.net](mailto:n5bia@arrl.net)

### NARS REFLECTOR

[NARS@mailman.gth.net](mailto:NARS@mailman.gth.net)  
Coordinator: Keith Dutson NM5G  
281-351-7683, [keith@dutson.net](mailto:keith@dutson.net)

### TEXAS QSO PARTY

Coordinator: Chuck Sanders NO5W  
936-273-6930, [no5w@consolidated.net](mailto:no5w@consolidated.net)

### VE SESSION (ARRL) Manager:

Keith Dutson NM5G  
[keith@dutson.net](mailto:keith@dutson.net)

### REPEATERS (KA5AKG)

2-m: 146.06/146.66 MHz Tone: 141.3  
70 cm: 444.375/449.375 MHz Tone: 103.5

### MEETINGS

#### Monthly General Membership

Third Friday each month at 7:30 PM  
Cypress Creek Christian Community  
Center, 6823 Cypresswood Drive

#### Saturday Breakfast

Denny's, 7720 Louetta, 7:30 AM

#### Wednesday Lunch 11:30 AM

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

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Northwest Amateur Radio Society is a  
Special Service Club affiliated with the  
American Radio Relay League  
ARRL Club No. 2120