

NARS NEWS



The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

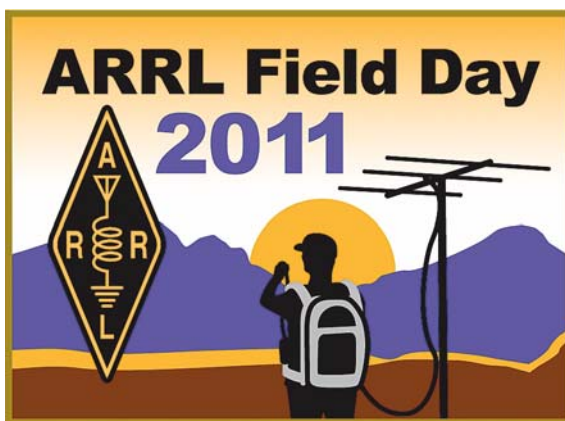
May 2011



May Meeting

ARRL Field Day

We're looking forward to ARRL Field Day for 2011! FD is an emergency communications exercise to allow Amateur Radio operators to set up communications in primitive locations without the benefit of utility power and existing communications facilities to communicate with other stations here and abroad. Remember, last year NARS W5NC took first place in STX 2A and made the top 25 across the USA/VE in 2A, and to do this required a lot of dedicated volunteers, teams, captains and portable equipment (plus Tom's first rate B-B-Q) to do this.



More importantly, Field Day activity is a lot of fun, and you can participate as much or as little as you like. There are large tasks and small tasks, and something to do for everyone who wants to join in. We have some great teams forming again this year, led again by very qualified captains. NARS FD logistics and operation will be similar to 2009 and 2010 in many ways. Harris County Burroughs Park has worked out well for us, and the raised deck—over grass and next to the lake—we used last year seemed to be cooler than in the the pavilion.

There are a few changes this year. We have more teams and captains this year to distribute the work load in a more “humanitarian” way. The antenna team has been formed into two separate teams this year for the towers/masts and for the antennas. GOTA will be staffed by three in order to accommodate the organization of participants and to field the questions from the curious masses so that the station control operator can focus on helping the “contester on duty.” The A/C power duties have been defined for two teams this year. AC generation itself is a full task, and a new team for AC facilities has been formed to take care of lighting, wiring and AC outlets for the stations, a full task as well.

Important Dates

Friday, May 20th, 7:30 PM

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

Saturday, May 28th, 2010 8:30 AM

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

Tuesday, May 31st, 7:30 PM

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

Wednesday Lunch Bunch - North

Spring Creek Barbeque - May 18th
Pei Wei Asian Diner - May 25th
Cafe Express - Jun 1st
Jason's Deli - Jun 8th
Baker St. - Jun 15th
Sweet Tomatoes - Jun 22nd

Wednesday Lunch Bunch - West

Please contact Mark Tyler K5GQ for details.

Wednesday Lunch Bunch - Medical Center

Marco's Mexican Bar & Grille - May 18th
Silver Palace Chinese Buffet - May 25th
Pappas Barbecue - Jun 1st
Morningside Thai - Jun 8th
Pronto Cucinino - Jun 15th
Jason's Deli - Jun 22nd

Taildraggers 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

May 2011

Now is the time to be planning for the outdoor event of the year, Field Day. Larry Kendall K5END is the coordinator again this year. He led a good operation in 2010, when we placed high in the 2A classification. Let's do it again!

First, let's review the purpose of Field Day. Googleing "arrl field day 2011" yields "ARRL: Field Day Package" at the top of the list. The headline is Field Day 2011, June 25-26. Then the headline changes to Official 2011 Field Day Gear.

Below the headlines is a list of essential information. At the top is Objective:

"To work as many stations as possible on any and all amateur bands (excluding the 60, 30, 17, and 12-meter bands) and to learn to operate in abnormal situations in less than optimal conditions".

So why do we want to do this?

Having experience in this type of operation gives us the ability to react to future unforeseen circumstances, such as a hurricane or other storm that disrupts normal communications. At worst, we lose essential services such as fire, police and medical. A second tier is loss of human welfare services, such as persons striving to learn the status of family members or friends.

Each of these situations can be addressed, at least in part, by trained amateur radio operators.

So how do we do this?

Every ham can help in at least one way. By far the best way is to come out to the Field Day location and watch and/or operate one of the active stations. This is the time to shed that fear or apprehension and get on the air.

Larry needs a LOT of help to pull off this event, so be sure to ask what jobs he has that you can do. Thanks in advance for your help.

VE Session Notice

Keith Dutson NM5G, NARS VE Session Manager

Saturday, April 23 VE Test Session Results at Tomball Community Center:

We had 8 test candidates.

- element 2 tests given: 6; passed 6
- element 3 tests given: 3; passed 2
- element 4 tests given: 3; passed 2

Congratulations to:

- Sean Lundy KF5KWA - new tech
- Kerry Rogers KF5KWB - new tech
- Austin Stahl KF5KWC - new tech
- Michael Schulz KF5KWD - new tech
- Marcel Lowrie KF5KWE - new tech

Courtney Schoessow KF5KRG - upgrade to general Robert Lingle KF5KJK - upgrade to extra Waco Millican AE5XV - new extra

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

- John Westerlage N5DWI
- Martin Rogoff N5GPS
- Jerry Seay KE5PUT
- Mike Bragassa K5UO
- Sarah Connell W2AOV

The next session will be held Saturday, May 28 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	800-471-7373
267 Cypresswood Drive	281-355-7373
Spring, TX 77388	Fax: 281-355-8007

Houston Amateur Radio Supply, Inc.

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President

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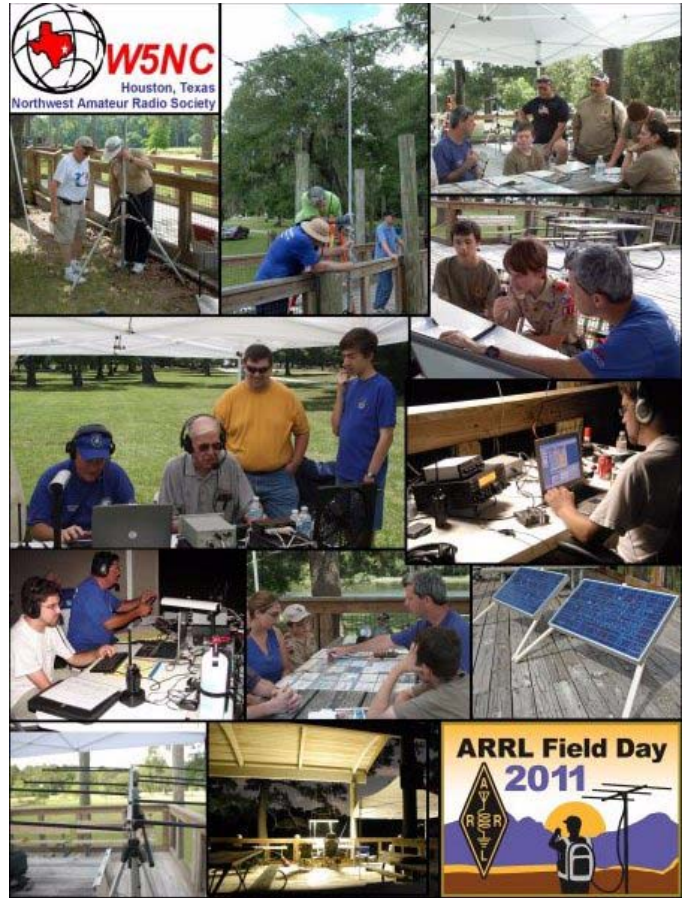
Around the Circuit

ARRL Field Day (Cont)

Here are your NARS W5NC Team Captains for ARRL FD 2011

- Phone Captain: Keith Dutson-NM5G
- VHF/UHF/Satellite Captain: Stan Polak-K5STZ
- GOTA Co-Captain: Paul Owen-N5NXXS
- GOTA Co-Captain: Peter Brown-KE5IOV
- GOTA Co-Captain: Chris Brown-KE5IOR
- Antenna Captain: Jerry Seay-KE5PUT
- Tower Captain: Bob Mennel-WB5IUU
- Public Relations Captain: Joe Sokolowski-KD5KR
- Score Entry Captain: Chuck Sanders-NO5W
- AC Generator Captain: Ken Wilson-KE5DFR
- AC Facilities Captain: Ken Harlan-KA5AKG
- Served Agency & Hydration Captain: Jerry Whiting
- Food Captain: "Captain Food" Tom-KD5EIJ
- Coordinator, CW Captain & Solar Power: Larry Kendall-K5END
- Mary Ellen & Jerry Whiting at the finish line

73, Larry K5END



Around the Circuit

North of the Arctic Circle!

What's a Houston girl doing snowmobiling on the frozen Arctic Ocean? She's part of the ArcticNitro team working off the coast of Barrow, Alaska! I've had the good fortune of working with marine researcher Tish Yager (from the University of Georgia at Athens) since our first expedition together to Antarctica in 2007. Last year we traversed the mid-Atlantic as we explored the Amazon Plume. This January and April I joined her team on the frozen Arctic Ocean. Dr. Yager is a world traveling oceanographer that studies the impacts of climate change on marine ecosystems. She specifically studies whether climate change will modify the ocean environment in such a way as to shift how microscopic plankton use carbon and nutrients in the sea. Since marine organisms facilitate the ocean's uptake of carbon dioxide, these impacts could feed back to climate change by causing it to speed up or slow down.

My job is to translate her fieldwork and research into classroom curriculum and educational outreach that will develop public interest and knowledge about how critical oceanic research is. We're working together to develop original lessons and media presentations to share with classrooms. Working on-site with Dr. Yager and her team has increased my personal knowledge about marine science topics and given me a new perspective on how Earth systems work. Current middle/high school curriculum has little or no information on critical oceanic cycles and oceanographic studies.

This year we braved -46F temperatures in the dark of winter, and a "sultry" 12F in April to collect samples from the water column under the sea ice. The Arctic Ocean site was 1.5 miles offshore, and the sea ice was 1.3 meters thick in April. The team is collecting seasonal samples to compare how the light and temperature affect microbial communities. While sampling was taking place, I had another mission: to capture video from under the ice! Using a copper pole designed by Jerry Whiting (W5PF), I was able to lower a Seaviewer cam under the ice down to the ocean floor at a depth of 8.3 meters. I'm working on getting some of those images on the ArcticNitro website soon, and hope to share the experience with NARS in a presentation later this year!



For more on the science and this exciting adventure check out my blog at <http://arcticnitro.org>

Lollie Garay

KD5WZM

Lollie mans the underwater camera on the frozen Arctic Ocean.

Welcome, Congratulations, and Condolences

Welcome new members Mike Schulz KF5KWD and Sean Lundy KF5KWA.

NARS Resource List

General Help:

Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY
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Deral Kent K5WNO
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Brian Derx N5BA
281-894-5942

PC Programming and Operations:

Keith Dutson NM5G 281-351-7683,
keith@dutson.net

Building Electronics & Kits:

Mark Tyler K5GQ
281-587-0256, k5gq@juno.com

Interference (Basic Advice):

Terry Myers KQ5U
281-443-6042,
tmyers1031@sbcglobal.net

Card Checking for Awards:

Bob Walworth N5ET - DXCC
281-292-2221, rwalworth@charter.net

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

Bob Walworth N5ET - WAZ

281-292-2221, rwalworth@charter.net

NARS Public Information Officer:

Joe Sokolowski, KD5KR
281-353-2196, kd5kr@arrl.net

NARS Information

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Jerry Whiting, KB5VGD
281 583-5588
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ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL INFORMATION

Joe Sokolowski, KD5KR
281-353-2196, 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

WEB SITE

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

NARS REFLECTOR

NARS@mailman.gth.net
Coordinator: Keith Dutson NM5G
281-351-7683, keith@dutson.net

TEXAS QSO PARTY

Coordinator: Chuck Sanders NO5W
936-273-6930, no5w@consolidated.net

VE SESSION (ARRL) Manager:

Keith Dutson NM5G
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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Send all articles and materials for the
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281-376-7416 - k5cx@arrl.net

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