

# NARS NEWS



The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

February 2012



## February Meeting

### VP8THU South Sandwich DXpedition

The February club meeting will be the showing of the award winning VP8THU South Sandwich Islands DXpedition video.



Described by Captain James Cook as the most horrible place on Earth, the South Sandwich Islands are also one of the most logistically difficult places for a DXpedition. Using only 100 watts and verticals, this experienced team took on the South Atlantic's tough environmental challenge by heading to Southern Thule - the planet's most southerly piece of land outside the Antarctic Treaty Zone.

Operating within the remains of an old Argentine base, (and amongst 100,000 penguins!) this video documents how a super-lightweight expedition set out to bring back the fun of old-time DXpeditions!



## Important Dates

### Friday, February 17th, 7:30 PM

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

### Saturday, February 25th, 8:30 AM

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

### Tuesday, February 28th, 7:30 PM

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

### Lunch Bunch - North

Gianna Italian Kitchen - Feb 15th  
Spring Creek Barbeque - Feb 22nd  
Pei Wei Asian Diner - Feb 29th  
Cafe Express - Mar 7th  
Jason's Deli - Mar 14th  
Baker St. - Mar 21st

### Lunch Bunch - West

Please contact Mark Tyler K5GQ for details.

### Lunch Bunch - Medical Center

Southwell's Hamburger Grill - Feb 15th  
Marco's Mexican Bar & Grille - Feb 22nd  
Silver Palace Chinese Buffet - Feb 29th  
Pappas Barbecue - Mar 7th  
Morningside Thai - Mar 14th  
Pronto Cucinino - Mar 21st

### 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

This new year is off to a hustling, bustling start. We are planning for FD now, and all of the contact parties that we normally participate in.

A new effort on our plate this year. In January, NARS received a donation of two towers, four+ antennas, lots of aluminum parts, a TS-120 and a power supply. The misc parts are a pick up full of stuff and a stake bed load or two of towers and large antennas. The task for us is to sort through all of this and repair what needs to be fixed and mark all of the remainder for a future sale. The biggest item is a self supporting crank up tower that is in need of cable replacement and testing. This tower is top quality and very heavy. It is a 55 foot crank up and it has a rotor and thrust bearing that need to be serviced. The two best antennas are a Hy Gain TH-7DX, 19, 15, 20 meters bands, and a Cushcraft XM240 40 meter 2 element Yagi. These are excellent antennas and they are large and heavy when assembled. The other antennas are disassembled and may not be complete, but they are quality units. This is a real treasure trove and we are fortunate that a very senior Ham decided to donate them to NARS.

The second tower is in sections and we have cable for guy wire supports and ground anchors. It is larger in size than Rohm 25 and not quite as large as Rohm 45. It is very solid. This antenna is about 60 feet tall depending on which top section is used. We are thinking that we will use this tower in sections for our FD towers. We could make two towers out of this one for NARS FD of the future.

We need your help to make all of this happen. If I could get some indication from those of you that are interested in helping with this effort, I will arrange for an antennae party or several as the need may dictate.

73's

Jerry-KE5PUT

## VE Session Notice

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

Saturday, January 28 VE Test Session Results at Tomball Community Center

We had 7 test candidates taking 11 tests.

- element 2 tests given: 5; passed 5
- element 3 tests given: 5; passed 2
- element 4 tests given: 1; passed 1

Congratulations to:

- Aaron Speer KE5WEY - upgrade to Extra
- Thomas Weatherby - new Tech
- John Martin - new Tech
- George Young KD5VAD - upgrade to General James Singleton Jr - new Tech  
John Mayhew - new Tech Kenneth Alexander - new General

Thanks to the VEs in attendance:

- Ken Mitchell KD2KW (acting session manager)
- Sarah Connell W2AOV
- Mike Bragassa K5UO
- Sheree Horton KF5LMJ
- Ron Horton KF5LFL
- Jerry Seay KE5PUT
- Martin Rogoff N5GPS

The next session will be held Saturday, February 25 at 8:30AM at the Tomball Community Center, located at the corner of Market Street and South Cherry Street.

Official address is 221 Market Street. Let me know if you would like to serve at this session.

Parking is in the rear of the building. Use the entrance on the south side bordered by Fannin Street.

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.

*David McCombs, K5FNG*

[www.houstonamateurradio.com](http://www.houstonamateurradio.com)

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

## *Around the Circuit*

### *Buffalo Bayou Regatta*

It's time once again for the Buffalo Bayou Regatta. The 2012 event is the 40th anniversary and will be held Saturday, March 10. This is a fun-filled event that features a race of canoes and kayaks down the Bayou from Voss Road to Sesquicentennial Park. See other details at the official web site.

<http://www.buffalobayou.org/regattabayou.html>

This year I would like to have at least two persons at each crossing, one to observe and record boat numbers, and the other to report to the control station operator. Each reporter should have a 2 meter handi-talkie with battery power sufficient for at least 6 hours of operation. The following locations need to be manned:

Start, Voss, Chimney Rock, Woodway/610, Westcott (Bayou Bend), Shephard, Waugh, Montrose, Finish.

I also would like to have two extra persons at 300 yards before finish.

I already have several persons signed up as shown below.

- Joe Chambers KF5AT - Start, Montrose
- Jim Kirk KJ5X and Rob Nixon KD5BXZ - Voss
- Tom Hoherd KK5YU - Shephard
- Dale Martin KG5U - Montrose
- Jerry Whiting KB5VGD - Finish
- Paul Owen N5NXS - Finish (Net Control)
- Mark Janzer K5YYD - Sweep Boat 1
- Matt Woodruff KA5YYD - Sweep Boat 2
- Brad Nelson WD5GNI (official photographer)
- Sheree Horton KF5LMJ (unassigned)
- Ron Horton KF5LFL (unassigned)

If you volunteered but are not listed above, my apologies, and please let me know of my omission. Thanks.

To volunteer, please reply to this email. Let me know if you have a location preference. Complete instructions will be sent about a week before the event.

Keith Dutson NM5G  
2012 Buffalo Bayou Regatta  
NARS Communications Coordinator

### *Club Members*

I'm looking for NARS members who are prepared to make a presentation at our meetings. If you would like to be included in the list of presenters please send me an e-mail with your technical background and specific interests and presentation(s).

This might be a good chance for you to become a local expert and present at other clubs in the area.

Thanks,  
Tom King, WK5DX

### *ARRL 2012 Field Day Packet Now Available*

It's that time of year again -- time to start gearing up for ARRL Field Day, June 23-24, 2012! ARRL's flagship operating event -- always held the fourth full weekend in June -- brings together new and experienced hams for 24 hours of operating fun. Field Day packets are now available for download and include the complete rules, as well as other reference items such as forms, ARRL Section abbreviation list, entry submission instructions, a Frequently Asked Questions section, guidelines for getting bonus points, instructions for GOTA stations and a kit to publicize your event with the local press. A brief one-page flier with basic "What is Field Day" information has also been included in this year's Field Day packet. Amateur Radio clubs and individuals are encouraged to reproduce this flyer as a handout for information tables.

# 2012 Banquet Photos



# 2012 Banquet Photos



# Welcome, Congratulations, and Condolences

## 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  
281-469-8331, [w5sb@arrl.net](mailto:w5sb@arrl.net)  
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

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

### VICE PRESIDENT

Tom King, WK5DX  
281-370-3528,  
[tom.s.king@gmail.com](mailto:tom.s.king@gmail.com)

### SECRETARY

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

### TREASURER

Sheree Horton, KF5LMJ  
281-890-4038  
[shereehorton@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shereehorton@sbcglobal.net)

### DIRECTORS

Tom Atkins, KD5EIJ  
281-447-4347  
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Tom Hoherd, KK5YU  
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Ron Horton, KF5LFL  
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Mike Schulz, K5TRI  
832-303-1290  
[mschulz@creative-chaos.com](mailto:mschulz@creative-chaos.com)

### 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.qth.net](mailto:NARS@mailman.qth.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