

NARS NEWS



The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

July 2012



July Meeting

Field Day 2012 Wrapup and an Overview of the Harris County Office of Emergency Management

This Month Ron Horton, KF5LFL, will give his Field Day wrap up and Tom King, WK5DX will present a look at the field day log statistics.

At the August meeting Keith Dutson, NM5G, will give his Texas QSO Party presentation.

In September Joey Clements, W5BAK, an old NARS member who is now the Logistics Supervisor of the Harris County Office of Homeland Security & Emergency Management, will give a presentation on the OEM and how hams contribute in emergencies.

Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY SK

As most of you know, it is with a great deal of sadness that we acknowledge the passing of our dear friend Bill K5ZTY.

Bill's personal interest in amateur radio was centered around operating QRP and CW. Yet, he was the first to jump into the next club activity.

Many will remember Bill as the "Maytag Repairman," but he will likely most be remembered for the many things he did to help other amateur radio ops over the years. Bill received the NARS "Outstanding Service Award for 1996." On more than one occasion, Bill volunteered his time and his talent to just about everything NARS sponsored. Please see page 6 for some remembrances of Bill by club members. *(These were compiled by Marian Denton. Thank you Marian.)*



Important Dates

Friday, July 20th, 7:30 PM

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

Saturday, July 28th, 8:30 AM

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

Tuesday, July 31st, 7:30 PM

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

Lunch Bunch - North

Sweet Tomatoes - July 18th
BJ's Restaurant & Brewery - July 25th
Gianna Italian Kitchen - Aug 1st
Spring Creek Barbeque - Aug 8th
Pei Wei Asian Diner - Aug 15th
Cafe Express - Aug 22nd

Lunch Bunch - West

Please contact Mark Tyler K5GQ for details.

Lunch Bunch - Medical Center

Jason's Deli - July 18th
Buffalo Grille - July 25th
Southwell's Hamburger Grill - Aug 1st
Marco's Mexican Bar & Grille - Aug 8th
Silver Palace Chinese Buffet - Aug 15th
Pappas Barbecue - Aug 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

The month of June 2012 was a mile stone for NARS. We had two of members that became SK; Bill Stietenroth, K5ZTY, and Mary Whiting, wife of KB5VDG, Jerry Whiting. NARS sent donations to the American Cancer Society in memory of Bill and Mary. A collection of all of the emails that were sent to Bill, or in his memory has been collected and edited and will be available from this office. Please send me your email so that I can send you an attachment.

FD was smaller in numbers this year but it was just as large in spirit with more new participates than previous years. Lots of new ideas were tried and some were good and others were not. Next year will be interesting and will include more new participates and ideas.

The MESH SIG is growing and having some success in building WiFi nets connecting computers that are interfaced to radios. If you are interested in how this worked during FD, contact Tom King.

I have added an advisor to our Board of Directors to assist us for the remainder of this year. Jerry Whiting will be assuming this role at our next board meeting.

VE Session Notice

Keith Dutson NM5G - NARS VE Session Manager

There was NO SESSION IN JUNE because of a conflict with Field Day.

The next session will be held Saturday, July 28 at 8:30AM at the Tomball Community Center, located at the corner of Market and South Cherry Streets.

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

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

Mary Whiting

For those in the club that haven't heard, Jerry, KB5VGD, lost his wife Mary last week after 56 years.

Mary was the daughter of a minister. She majored in Home Economics. Along with Jerry, Mary is survived by one son and one daughter.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Jerry and his family.

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

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Houston Amateur Radio Supply, Inc.

David McCombs, K5FNG President

www.houstonamateurradiosupply.com

E-Mail: houstonamateurradio@sbcglobal.net

Redd School Labrats

W5LAB Radio Projects School Year 2011-12

The Redd School Radio Club (W5LAB or Labrats) were 8 students strong from the 7th and 8th grades. Ms. Lollie, the schools radio club sponsor, provided the opportunity for the students to experience real on the air radio contacts on the HF bands. They were successful in contacting hams in all corners of the nation as well as some DX stations. One memorable contact for the students was a contact with Jari Alanko OH1XT in Finland and was even more exciting when the QSL card for the contact arrived.



The students were not just content to talk their time away on the radio, although they enjoyed that activity. The student built two kits. The first kit was a code practice oscillator and some basic practice communicating with classmates. No A-1 operators were produced, but a lot of excitement and fun was everywhere.



The second kit built by the students was a FM transmitter of the wireless microphone type. The FM transmitter was more involved than the first kit and significantly expanded the students understanding of radio. As the kits were being put together the students had all kinds of ideas as to what they were going to do with them. The FM transmitter was packaged in an "ALTOIDS" tin making a nice little package. Of course eavesdropping on brothers and sisters seemed to have great interest but their imaginations seemed to go wild with other possible uses as well.



There were smiles all around as the students completed their kits and they were able to take them home to show-off. Proving once again success is sweet.

NARS has continued support of the Redd School Radio Club with Jerry Whiting, KB5VGD and Terry Myers, KQ5U, supplying hands on guidance for the students.

Field Day 2012



Field Day 2012



Remembrances

Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY SK

Words are not always easy to find when family or friends pass away. First, my most heartfelt condolences go to Bill's family. I had the good fortune, as did countless others, of Unc'a Zed's friendship for many years. You will be missed Bill, but never forgotten.

W5PDW

This is the news I think we all feared was coming. What a sad day for his family, NARS, and for amateur radio.

Zed was undoubtedly the most active ham I have ever known. He was right in the middle of every amateur radio activity. Some of the most notable: Field Day, Public Service: Houston Marathon, Bell Ringers, March of Dimes, MS150, Buffalo Bayou Regatta, SIRE, Wings Over Houston, Texas Trails Endurance Runs.

ALWAYS at NARS meetings, especially the December show-and-tell, and

January Awards Banquet ARES activities of all types, including organizing radio communication from local hospitals for ARES drills

ARRL and ARES Volunteer Examiner.

The list is just too long to recall everything.

I will never forget his comment from his chair after a performance of the pickers at a banquet, where Captain Kirk had trouble playing a piece on the banjo. He said, "What is the difference between a banjo and an onion? Nobody cries when you cut up a banjo."

Thanks to George K5VUU, I saw Zed a few weeks ago at breakfast at Luby's. He was frail, but with a BIG smile on his face, as usual.

Rest in peace, Uncle Zed. We all are suffering a great loss as a result of your passing.

NM5G

I remember Bill was one of the first NARS members I met when I joined NARS. His unique personality and sharp mind are the things I remember. Always there with a unique perspective that really cut to the heart of whatever we were discussing in a clear, concise way. We'll all miss you, Bill. The world is a better place for you having been a part of it.

N5BIA

Aside from the amazing and unflappable job Zed did as NET CONTROL for Wings Over Houston...One of my fondest and funniest memories of him will be the day that W5SB had his new tower and antennas going up. And Zed showed up with a lawn chair and a Brand new Supervisor's Hat that he had made at the local T-Shirt Shop! He sat down without saying a word while we all looked on, adjusted his hat and then said work could now begin... Man was that a hoot! There are countless other examples of Zed's impact on all of us...Let us not forget all that Bill did on the Public Service side of the hobby. Wings Over Houston, Houston Marathon, MS150, and remember SIRE(??)... He was involved in it all!

KD5AYF

A real classic friend and a great guy. He will be sorely missed on the 3806 Turkey net on Monday evenings. So long and farewell in your journey to the next stage of life. Thanks for your words of wisdom throughout our friendship.

KK5LO

This is a real heart breaker. Just before, and after I retired, Bill and I would find a lunch joint at least once a week to discuss the ills of the world. We never solved anything, but we had a great time talking about it. And of course, we talked about ham radio stuff, too.

Bill will be greatly missed. As with many of you, his friendship was very, very special to Anita and I.

K5CX and N5AOK

Bill's daddy and my daddy were boyhood friends growing up in Natchez, MS. In later years, unbeknownst to one other, both became hams. I think my daddy was 42 when he got his ticket in 1946. I got mine two years later in 1948 at the age of 13.

Bill and I first met on the air on the .66 machine, I think in 1990. Up until then, we were not aware of each other's existence. By chance, I broke in to a QSO he was having with someone, and for some reason he asked my last name. When I told him, he thought I was pulling his leg and wouldn't believe me. It took a few more QSOs for me to convince him. Hi Hi.

W5MN

Remembrances

Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY SK

We will miss him but will keep his memory alive a very long time. He was there teaching NARS classes, Testing new hams, attended swap meets, Ham Fests, antennae tower raising parties, wearing his Supervisor Hat, repairing and setting up stations for those who had some trouble (old and young alike). He was always encouraging new hams to succeed. He would come to our contests at the house and help arrange the console in the breezeway containing multiple stations. His suggestions were always a better setup. He went to Mexico for a worldwide contest as NX5M . traveled Texas roads for the Texas QSO party. His passion was building and operating low power QRP stations.

We went to Blue Grass jamborees, had a lot of laughs at the many field days he helped set up, especially the CW station. He was active in most of the charity set-up's listed in previous notes. I recently found that he was an avid square dance participant and also, most recently enjoyed quick draw and skeet shooting.

He gave me a lot of encouragement with the NARS secretarial duties and would be there when the old washer or dishwasher gave trouble. I remember his infectious smile the last time a group of us went to lunch. He stopped in the parking lot and pointed to my new license plate which reads, 8ZTYF.

He was one of the "greats" in NARS. A good person, friend and helped a lot of people. He was a very diversified and talented person, his contributions to people too numerous to ever list here. We who knew him, will miss him deeply.

KB5SGV

I was very saddened to hear that Bill passed away. He worked with me at the Sunmart Runs, BP MS150, Wings over Houston, Houston Marathon and I supported his work with Methodist Hospital at Willowbrook. His passing hit me as much as my Dad's passing three years ago this month.

He was a great friend and I always wanted to talk with him at any NARS event. His political wit was sharp and his stories about other NARS members just as good. Breakfast at Denny's won't be the same without Bill complaining about the coffee. I really enjoyed a trip with Bill to Austin county with Rob Nixon and myself to work the Texas QSO party. On Saturday evening we got to listen to his other great passion, blue grass music. I have many great memories like that just being around him. I will certainly miss him but will be very glad that I could call him my friend.

N5NXS

Lost a good man. Always there for people and HAM radio.

KZ5E

We spoke several times over the last week about things, I knew he felt the end was near. Never a better friend, would give you the shirt off his back. I know he is responsible for keeping many of our appliances running over the years! He would drive up and make repairs for me and never take a cent, only ask I take him fishing, going to sure miss him! Dry wit, no BS, you always knew right where you stood with him. I plan to respect his wishes and will sure miss him! Taking him to Dayton for his first time, wow what a trip!

K5NZ

Bill was a great friend and an asset to Amateur Radio in general and NARS in particular. He was always ready to help out with what ever needed to be done. Field Day, CW to the Field, Mentoring, the NARS repeater and many other things. For many years he kept the 146.66 drive time crowd on the straight and narrow.

We have all lost a good friend who will be sorely missed.

RIP OM W5PF

With sincere personal regret I read the sad news of 'Uncle Bill's' passing earlier today. Our hearts are out to his family. He was the consummate all around good guy. His dry humor, subtle wit and good-natured wisdom affected everyone. That's why we all called him 'Uncle'. He had a way of making everyone feel his friendship. He has indeed left the world a better place.

Uncle Bill was the first voice my wife Adriana could recognize on the radio. He was charmed when I told him she thought he sounded like Clark Gable. Once I called to ask why he thought our dishwasher quit draining. Without hesitation, his intuitive response was "So you just installed a new garbage disposal, eh?" With a chuckle, he patiently explained the dishwasher drained through the plug I didn't remove from it.

While I'm sure all who knew him are feeling his loss, it seems to me a round of applause might be offered up in his honor; like that for a unique star leaving the stage at the end of a memorable performance. By now he's probably through the Pearly Gates after a brief pause to do a service inspection and a little preventive maintenance with WD-40. We're gunna miss you Uncle Bill. May God Bless and keep you in His arms.

W5MMX

Welcome, Congratulations, and Condolences

NARS Resource List

General Help:

Allen Majeski WA5REJ
281-353-8652, wa5rej.tx@netzero.net

Bill Denton W5SB
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Deral Kent K5WNO
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281-894-5942

PC Programming and Operations:

Keith Dutson NM5G 281-351-7683,
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Interference (Basic Advice):

Terry Myers KQ5U
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Card Checking for Awards:

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281-292-2221, rwalworth@charter.net

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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

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Web master: Bill Buoy N5BIA
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NARS REFLECTOR

NARS@mailman.qth.net
Coordinator: Keith Dutson NM5G
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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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