

NARS NEWS

The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

August 2013



August

Harris County Library System

By Joe Sokolowski - KD5KR

The Harris County libraries, Barbara Bush Branch, in particular, has had over the years a program where their primary bulletin board on the second floor was made available to community service agencies and non-profit organizations for the use of promoting their contribution to the local community. Due to our contribution involving a variety of public service programs, NARS had been assigned the use of the bulletin board for the entire month of August.

Our recent class developed by Jerry Whiting KB5VGD on soldering techniques held at the Barbara Bush library back in May was a smashing success, according to Ryan Fennell, Assistant Branch Librarian. Ryan suggested the use of their bulletin board and Jerry, seeing the opportunity to promote Amateur Radio, jumped at the offer. With the assistance of Cindy Cowell, Reference Assistant at Barbara Bush, we were able to put together a nice presentation covering a display area of 6 by 6 feet! Contributions by various NARS members helped make this display a "work of art."



The display consisted of photos showing our involvement in a variety of public community events, along with a few plugs for the ARRL. And, of course, an assortment of QSL cards along with our membership brochure helped fill in the voids.

Important Dates

Friday, August 16th, 7:30 PM
Monthly club meeting.

Saturday, August 24th, 8:30 AM
VE License Exam Session
Tomball Community Center
S. Cherry & Market streets
(just South of Main)

Tuesday, August 27th, 2013, 7:30 PM
Board of Directors meeting
Ponderosa Fire Station
17061 Rolling Creek drive.

Lunch Bunch - North

Sweet Tomatoes - Aug 14th
BJ's Restaurant & Brewery - Aug 21st
Gianna Italian Kitchen - Aug 28th
Spring Creek Barbeque - Sept 4th
Pei Wei Asian Diner - Sept 11th
Panera Bread - Sept 18th
Jason's Deli - Sept 25th

Lunch Bunch - Medical Center

Pappas Barbecue - Aug 14th
Pronto Cucinino - Aug 21st
Morningside Thai (new location) - 28th
Jason's Deli - Sept 4th
Buffalo Grille - Sept 11th
Southwell's Hamburger Grill - Sept 18th

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 00newsletter is the last day of this month.

BREAKFAST

at Denny's
7720 Louetta Road
Saturdays
7:30 AM

President's Corner

As I look back on the last 6 months I can say that NARS has had a good year so far. Our membership drive is going well, we are active in the community, and we got a good start with a newly created and sponsored contest, Texas State Parks On The Air (TSPOTA).

Thanks to Keith Dutson, K5NG and Skip Ferguson, K5AWC for teaching the Technician's classes and running the VE sessions, we have added several new members to our ranks. Club members are also actively recruiting new members. For example, Sheree Horton, KF5LMJ recruited an Extra class ham and VE at the last NARS VE session, Louis Cabezas K3BQ..

Texas State Parks On The Air (TSPOTA) is a new contest that NARS sponsors held the first full weekend in April. The inaugural edition of this contest was well received and it looks like it will continue to grow. The contest rules were changed to make it even more fun and attract more participation from hams across the State. You can find the rules and results on the website <http://tspota.com>

NARS put on a hands-on soldering demonstration for the Barbara Bush Library. We learned some lessons there and will do better next time. The library has given NARS a large notice board to use for a month to promote amateur radio and NARS in particular. Hopefully this will lead to even more "civilians" to ask about licensing and how to become a ham, and new NARS member.

I would like to invite any members who are into contesting to join the NARS Contest Committee to help support both Keith Dutson and myself with the contests we coordinate and help with planning the NARS Field Day Event. If you would like more information or would like to be on the committee please contact me at wk5dx@arrl.net.

VE Session Notice

Keith Dutson NM5G - NARS VE Session Manager

Saturday, July 27 VE Test Session Results at Tomball Community Center

- We had 5 candidates taking 5 tests.
- Element 2 tests given: 4; passed 4
- Element 3 tests given: 1; passed 1
- Element 4 tests given: 0; passed 0

Congratulations to:

- Robert Marino - new technician
- Paul Smith - new technician
- Mark Smiley - new technician
- Carl Johnson KA5NEQ - paper upgrade to general
- Richard Nelson - new technician

Thanks to the VE's in attendance:

- Sheree Horton KF5LMJ
- Ron Horton KF5LFL
- Sarah Jane Connell W2AOV
- Mike Bragassa K5UO
- Martin Rogoff N5GPS
- Louis Cabezas K3BQ
- Eddy Reynolds K5WQG
- Tom Rum W5RUM
- Donald Norwood KC5HCX

The next session will be held Saturday, August 24 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.

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

Anyone who wants to observe and/or participate in a session is always welcome. Just let me know if you want to learn more about becoming a volunteer examiner.

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, NA5CW Owner

www.houstonamateurradiosupply.com
 E-Mail: houstonamateurradio@sbcglobal.net

Around the Circuit

DX Destinations

By Tom King - WK5DX

The ARRL DXCC Desk has approved these operations for DXCC credit: 4S7NZG — Sri Lanka (renewal), 2013 operation; XW4XR — Laos, current operation; Z8ØID — South Sudan, special Jul 9, 2013, operation for Independence Day celebration; 9M4SLL — Spratly Islands, 2012-2013 operations; 9Q6CC — Democratic People's Republic of the Congo, 2010-2011 operation; XWØYJY — Laos, 2013 operation; 9XØEME — Rwanda, 2013 operation; 6OØLA — Somalia, 2013 operation, and T6JM — Afghanistan, 2012 operation. — ARRL Awards Branch Manager Bill Moore, NC1L

The Amsterdam Island DXpedition team has made “significant progress” in the past couple of months in preparation for its January 2014 DXpedition, the team reported in a news release July 27.

Located in the middle of the Indian Ocean, Amsterdam and St Paul Islands is the seventh most-wanted DXCC entity, according to Clublog. The news release says the team has begun receiving supplies and equipment at its Atlanta staging area, with antennas expected to arrive in the next few weeks. Computer and networking plans are underway, and a terrain analysis has been completed. The team reports it has prepared more than 10,000 feet of radials for low-band antennas, and plans for several low-band receiving systems are also complete.

“Our team will become a real part of the small community on Amsterdam Island,” the DXpedition’s news release says. The team remains shy of its fundraising goal. “At this time we are about two-thirds of the way to our goal,” the team announced. “This is of some concern.” More information on the Amsterdam Island DXpedition budget and other information is available on the Amsterdam Island FT5DX website.

The Swaziland 3DA0ET DXpedition is scheduled to run from Monday 18 November to Wednesday 27 November 2013. It is

a multi-national team comprising Canadian, American, German and South African operators, several of whom have prior DXpedition experience covering all operating modes.

They’ll be running 4 stations, covering all the HF bands (160 to 10 meters) and 6 meters if they spot any openings, on CW, SSB and RTTY. On the topic of RTTY, they hope to be a little different to many DXpeditions and have a solid focus on maximizing their RTTY QSO count by having a dedicated full-time RTTY station on the air from start to finish.

They'll also be QRV in the CQ World Wide DX CW contest with a multi-two entry.

See the 3DA0ET web site at <http://www.swazidx.org/>

Both the Wake Island and T33A DXpeditions are progressing nicely. We should hear them on the air in the September thru November time frame.

The Wake Atoll commemorative team's operation at the beginning of October, 2013 is progressing nicely.

The initial phase of the operation, planning, is essentially complete and the Team has moved into equipment procurement and staging operations. The equipment will be pre-staged in California and Hawaii prior to transport to Wake. Staging, pre-testing, packing, and shipping under the direction of Tom, ND2T and Kimo, KH7U are major undertakings for DXpeditions and are essential to assure equipment arriving on-time and safely on Wake.

T33A reports that May through July 2013 we will be acquiring equipment, testing and integrating stations and antennas.

August and September 2013 we will be closely monitoring the location of the equipment being shipped via sea container from California to Tarawa via New Zealand and Fiji.

In November 2013 our team members arrive on Fiji by the 1st, and fly to Tarawa early on November 3rd to begin our sea voyage later that evening. We arrive at Banaba early on the 5th, meet with locals, inspect planned sites, unload the boat and get 1-2 stations on the air by late evening.

We will operational late November 5th to early 18th

Around the Circuit

Contesting

By Tom King - WK5DX

It's time for the "BIG ONE" – the Texas QSO Party (1400Z, Sep 28 to 2000Z, Sep 29). This annual NARS sponsored contest is one of the most active QSO parties in North America. Hams from around the State and from surrounding States converge on Texas to rack up points in mobile competition. Do you have the latest CQ/X? Is your mobile gear ready? Do you have a plan? If not then it's time to get it together and do some mobile contesting.

The sponsor of the CQ World Wide DX Contest has completely rewritten the contest rules, effective with this fall's SSB and CW weekends (RTTY is not affected). "The CQ WW DX Contest rules have evolved for over 50 years," said Contest Manager Randy Thompson, K5ZD, in announcing the updates July 1. "Changes in technology, operating practices and enforcement efforts caused the rules to become increasingly complex." The primary goal of the rewrite, he said, was "to make the rules simpler and easier to understand." The rewrite already has generated considerable online discussion. One change offers a "Classic Overlay" category for single-operator, all-band entries. "The Classic Overlay category is intended for the radio purists who want to participate in the most traditional way," Thompson explained. Entrants will use a single radio and operate without outside assistance, and only the first 24 hours of actual operating time will count toward the operator's score. Also new is a "Rookie Overlay" category for operators licensed 3 years or less. The CQ WW is doing away with the "Xtreme Contesting" and "Team Competition" categories, and "Checklog" is now listed as a noncompetitive entry category. The rewrite creates two categories of Club Competition — US and DX. Entrants must log contacts as they occur and may not edit their logs after the contest ends. The updated rules also address "unsportsmanlike conduct," such as having an excessive bandwidth, and disqualifications. "Red and Yellow cards have been removed in favor of one action — disqualification," Thompson noted. The SSB event takes place October 26-27, the CW event November 23-24.

Just One State QSO Party besides the TQP this month...

Washington State Salmon Run 1600Z, Sep 21 to 2400Z, Sep 22

NARS Contest Calendar

By Tom King - WK5DX

August 2013

North American QSO Party, CW
1800Z, Aug 3 to 0600Z, Aug 4

WAE DX Contest, CW
0000Z, Aug 10 to 2359Z, Aug 11

North American QSO Party, SSB
1800Z, Aug 17 to 0600Z, Aug 18

September 2013

WAE DX Contest, SSB
0000Z, Sep 14 to 2359Z, Sep 15

ARRL September VHF Contest
1800Z, Sep 14 to 0300Z, Sep 16

Texas QSO Party
1400Z, Sep 28 to 2000Z, Sep 29

October 2013

Oceania DX Contest, Phone
0000, Oct 5 to 0800Z, Oct 6

Oceania DX Contest, CW
0800Z, Oct 12 to 0800Z, Oct 13

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB
0000Z, Oct 26 to 2400Z, Oct 27

November 2013

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW
2100Z, Nov 2 to 0300Z, Nov 4

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB
2100Z, Nov 16 to 0300Z, Nov 18

CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW
0000Z, Nov 23 to 2400Z, Nov 24

December 2013

ARRL 160-Meter Contest
2200Z, Dec 6 to 1600Z, Dec 8

ARRL 10-Meter Contest
0000Z, Dec 14 to 2359Z, Dec 15

Around the Circuit

Certificate Chasers

By Tom King - WK5DX

Several hams are celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Collins Radio Company this month, a couple of island activations, and there are a couple of patriotic Special Events. To round it all out are some fun ones Like the Tabasco Sauce and the Doc Savage Mystery Special Events.

- 9/21/2013 | 2013 Carousel Festival

Sep 21-Sep 22, 1400Z-2200Z, K4EG, Burlington, NC. Alamance Amateur Radio Club. 14.265 14.059 7.235 7.055. QSL. Alamance Amateur Radio Club, K4EG, Carousel Festival, PO Box 390, Elon, NC 27244. Celebrating the historic Dentzel Carousel. www.k4eg.com or cwfun.org/funspots/carousel

- 9/21/2013 | 69th anniversary of the dedication of the Voice of America Bethany Relay Station near Cincinnati, Ohio

Sep 21, 1600Z-2359Z, WC8VOA, West Chester, OH. West Chester Amateur Radio Association. 21.350 14.250 7.250. Certificate & QSL. Mike Braun, PO Box 913, West Chester, OH 45071. wc8voa.org

- 9/21/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 21-Sep 23, 1300Z-0500Z, W0CXX, Cedar Rapids, IA. Rockwell Collins amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/21/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 21-Sep 23, 1300Z-0500Z, N0CXX, Cedar Rapids, IA. Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/21/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 21-Sep 23, 1300Z-0500Z, W5ROK, Richardson, TX. Rockwell Collins amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM

SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/21/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 21-Sep 23, 1300Z-0500Z, W4CRC, Melbourne, FL. Rockwell Collins amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/21/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 21-Sep 23, 1300Z-0500Z, W6CXX, Tustin, CA. Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate www.w0cxx.us

Sep 21-Sep 22, 1700Z-1700Z, VE7RC, Salmon Arm, BC. Shuswap Amateur Radio Club. 14.210 14.110 7.210 3.810. QSL. Ron Essex, PO Box 2613, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4R5, CANADA. The first activation of the only island in Shuswap Lake, British Columbia, Canada - Grid Square DO00HV. Shuswap Lake covers an area of 120 square miles and has a maximum depth of 530 feet. This activation will qualify for the Canadian Islands Awards Program (CISA). www.sarc.ca/blog

- 9/22/2013 | Qualifying Long Island (WI051) in the Wisconsin River Near Lone Rock, WI

Sep 22, 1500Z-2200Z, W9PVR, Richland Center, WI. Pine Valley Repeater Amateur Radio Club. SSB 14.250 7.250; CW 14.030; PSK31 14.070. QSL. Josh Roskos, KC9WWH, 306 Fremont St, Boscobel, WI 53805. www.w9pvr.com

- 9/26/2013 | Comanche Code Talkers of WWI & WWII

Sep 26-Sep 28, 1322Z-1322Z, K5C, Lawton, OK. Lawton-Ft Sill Amateur Radio Club. 50.125 21.295 14.295 7.295. Certificate & QSL. Lawton-Ft Sill Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 892, Lawton, OK 73502. Lawton-Ft Sill Amateur Radio Club and the Comanche Nation of Oklahoma is proud to tell the story of the Comanche Code Talkers of both World Wars. www.w5ks.org

Around the Circuit

Certificate Chasers ...

Sep 28-Sep 30, 1300Z-0500Z, W0CXX, Cedar Rapids, IA. Rockwell Collins amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/28/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 28-Sep 30, 1300Z-0500Z, N0CXX, Cedar Rapids, IA. Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/28/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 28-Sep 30, 1300Z-0500Z, W5R0K, Richardson, TX. Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/28/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 28-Sep 30, 1300Z-0500Z, W0CXX, Melbourne, FL. Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/28/2013 | 80th Anniversary of the Collins Radio Company

Sep 28-Sep 30, 1300Z-0500Z, W6CXX, Tustin, CA. Rockwell Collins Amateur Radio Club. HF and 6 m; CW AM SSB. Certificate & QSL. Steve Larson, N3SL, 22 N Hidden Acres Dr, Sioux City, IA 51108. Several stations participating. Primary operating hours 0900 to 2400 local time for each station as operators are available. Work 3 different stations for certificate. www.w0cxx.us

- 9/28/2013 | Celebrating 145 years of Tabasco Brand Pepper Sauce Spicing up the World

Sep 28-Sep 29, 1421Z-1420Z, K5DR, Lafayette, LA. Lafayette Amateur Radio Repeater Club. 21.280 14.280 14.070 7.280. QSL. Glen Thibodeaux, KF5FNP, PO Box 92110, Lafayette, LA 70509. Complete list of frequencies and modes at www.qrz.com/db/k5dr

- 9/28/2013 | National Public Lands Day

Sep 28-Sep 29, 0001Z-2359Z, W6T, Essex, CA. Volunteers in Parks Amateur radio Society. 21.395 18.165 14.300 7.204. Certificate. W3VIP, 514 Americas Way #3889, Box Elder, SD 57719. w3vip@amsat.org

- 9/28/2013 | Old Settler's Reunion

Sep 28, 1600Z-2000Z, K9UXZ, Effingham, IL. National Trail Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.250. Certificate. National Trail ARC, PO Box 903, Effingham, IL 62401. Celebrating the west end of America's first interstate road finished in 1837.

- 9/28/2013 | USS Wisconsin Final Decommissioning

Sep 28-Sep 29, 1000Z-1630Z, N4WIS, Virginia Beach, VA. USS Wisconsin Radio Club. 14.264 7.264. QSL. N4WIS, USS Wisconsin Radio Club, PO Box 6682, Virginia Beach, VA 23456. www.n4wis.org/n4wis/index.php

- 10/04/2013 | Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

Oct 4-Oct 14, 0600Z-1200Z, W5B, Albuquerque, NM. High Desert Amateur Radio Club of New Mexico. 28.320 21.300 14.245 7.205. Certificate & QSL. eQSL or John Scott, 8012 Fieldstone Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120. www.nm5hd.com

- 9/28/2013 | Old Settler's Reunion

Sep 28, 1600Z-2000Z, K9UXZ, Effingham, IL. National Trail Amateur Radio Club. 14.250 7.250. Certificate. National Trail ARC, PO Box 903, Effingham, IL 62401. Celebrating the west end of America's first interstate road finished in 1837.

- 9/28/2013 | USS Wisconsin Final Decommissioning

Sep 28-Sep 29, 1000Z-1630Z, N4WIS, Virginia Beach, VA. USS Wisconsin Radio Club. 14.264 7.264. QSL. N4WIS, USS Wisconsin Radio Club, PO Box 6682, Virginia Beach, VA 23456. www.n4wis.org/n4wis/index.php

- 10/04/2013 | Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

Oct 4-Oct 14, 0600Z-1200Z, W5B, Albuquerque, NM. High Desert Amateur Radio Club of New Mexico. 28.320 21.300 14.245 7.205. Certificate & QSL. eQSL or John Scott, 8012 Fieldstone Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120. www.nm5hd.com

Around the Circuit

Certificate Chasers ...

- 10/06/2013 | National Fire Prevention Week Special Event
- 10/04/2013 | October Sky: Rocket Boys Festival

Oct 4-Oct 6, 1000Z-1600Z, W8R, Beckley, WV. Black Diamond Amateur Radio Club. 14.280 7.280 . Certificate. John Hymes - W8HY, Post Office Box 472, Beaver, WV 25813. This the second time that October Sky: Rocket Boys Festival has been in Beckley. From the link shown, you can read about the SE station and also go direct to the the official October Sky : Rocket Boys Festival site. Check in with us, especially on Saturday the 5th!www.qsl.net/wv8bd/Events.html

Oct 6-Oct 12, 0000Z-2359Z, N2F, Kingston, NJ. Siemens Fire Safety. 28.351 21.351 14.251 7.251. QSL. N2F Special Event Station, PO Box 357, Kingston, NJ 08528. The National Fire Prevention Week special event station N2F will be QRV October 6-12, 2013. Preferred frequencies will be in the General HF band segments and will end with "51" in honor of Station 51 of the old "Emergency!" TV show. Example: 3.551, 7.251, etc. For a QSL, please send a SASE with appropriate US postage, or SAE and 1 greenstamp, to the listed address. Like us? Spot us! We are looking for other hams who are also firefighters or who work in the fire prevention industry to run additional stations next year. Ideally, we'd like to cover all ten regions. Please contact us at n2f.event@gmail.com if you would like to run an NFPW station in 2014. www.qrz.com/db/n2f

- 10/12/2013 | Dempsey Challenge

Oct 12-Oct 13, 1200Z-2300Z, N1D, Auburn, ME. Androscoggin Amateur Radio Club. 28.460 14.260 14.100 7.200. Certificate & QSL. Androscoggin A.R.C. , W1NPP, PO Box 1, Auburn, ME 04212. This is our 5th year with this event www.w1npp.org

- 10/12/2013 | Discovery of America: Kensington Runestone

Oct 12-Oct 13, 1500Z-1700Z, W0W, Alexandria, MN. Runestone Radio Club. 21.070 14.240 3.930. Certificate. Bill Klundt, 509 Pine St S, Sauk Centre, MN 56378. www.w0alx.org

- 10/12/2013 | Hillsboro Lighthouse

Oct 12, 0900Z-1500Z, W4BUG, Pompano Beach, FL. Gold Coast Amateur Radio Association. 14.325 14.200. QSL. W4BUG, PO Box 773, Pompano Beach, FL 33061. w4bug.org

- 10/12/2013 | Lester Dent-Doc Savage Mystery Special Event

Oct 12-Oct 13, 1500Z-2100Z, W0D, La Plata, MO. Macon County Amateur Radio Club. 28.370 14.270 7.270 3.970. Certificate. Macon County Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 13, Macon, MO 63552. In honor of the Birthday of one of the most prolific writers of Pulp Fiction, and an Amateur Radio Operator. It is also the 80th "Birthday" of the first "Superhero" Doc Savage. A colorful certificate will be provided to those that contact the Special Event Station and a QSL including a # 10 SASE. www.maconcountyarc.net

- 10/13/2013 | National Wildlife Refuge Week 2013

Oct 13-Oct 19, 1300Z-2000Z, N8W, Seney, MI. Lake Effect Amateur Radio Club/Luce Amateur Radio Society. 14.070 7.240. QSL. Lake Effect ARC, 36 Southfork St, Marquette, MI 49855. Clean water. Clean air. Unusual and abundant wildlife. World-class recreation. The Refuge System provides and protects it all on 150 million acres of land and water from the Caribbean to the Pacific, Maine to Alaska. www.qsl.net/kd8dku/Event-NWRWeek/BandOpsPlan2013.htm

- 10/13/2013 | National Wildlife Refuge Week 2013 at Whitefish Point

Oct 13-Oct 19, 0001Z-1959Z, W8W, Paradise, MI. Lake Effect Amateur Radio Club. 14.240 7.070. QSL. Lake Effect ARC/NWR, 36 Southfork St, Marquette, MI 49855. Please check the website for band/skeds changes. NOTE -- this is an extremely rare grid locator -- EN76ms. This is the first time this refuge unit has been activated for this event. www.qsl.net/kd8dku/Event-NWRWeek/BandOpsPlanWP2013.htm

- 10/18/2013 | Commemorating the USCG Auxiliary 74th Anniversary

Oct 18-Oct 20, 1800Z-1800Z, N3G, Augustine Beach, DE. US Coast Guard Auxiliary District 5-NR. 50.150 28.308 14.070 7.028. QSL. Robin Begley, 3 Pancoast Ave, Aston, PA 19014. Also activating USA-548 Old Reedy Island light ARLHS activation rules. Air Mobile on 146.52 and HF SSB QRM permitting. nd3e@comcast.net

- 10/18/2013 | Rip Van Winkle Council JOTA

Oct 18-Oct 21, 0000Z-2359Z, K2B, Saugerties, NY. Kaaterskill Basin ARC / Kristofer Landell. 146.400 14.230 7.190 3.905. QSL. Kristofer Landell, 72 Highwoods Rd, Saugerties, NY 12477. kaaterskillbasinarc.org

Around the Circuit

“Oh, how time flies....”

By Joe Sokolowski - KD5KR

Very few of us can recall the arrival of communications via wire. It began, of course, with the arrival of Morse code and soon communications and the railroad put the pony express out of business. It wasn't long before wireless communications took hold. Public radio stations came into being along with ship to ship communications and proved to be the norm at the turn of the century. Radio equipment came to be the thing to have then. Receivers were then developed for home use and although cumbersome in weight and complexity, they provided entertainment for the masses never experienced before.

Then came the Great War, otherwise now known as WW1. As crude as aircraft were then, they began to find their place in history. It took a lot of glue and fabric to build a biplane in those days and it took a pilot with guts and plenty of long under-ware to fly that craft. Weight was a problem and with all that cold weather gear, you had to keep your weight down to a flyable level. About 1918, aircraft were used primarily for recon or for directing artillery fire. Wireless had great possibilities but it was new and the gunners/observers on a plane viewed it with disbelief and regarded it as a nuisance. All you needed was a pencil and pad of paper and you could draw out the data and fly back to the airdrome.

A great improvement came in 1915, with the introduction of the Sterling transmitter which weighed only twenty pounds and

allowed the aircraft to carry an observer. The Sterling set was operated by a small key on the right-hand side of the observer's seat on which he tapped in Morse. For the set to work, a trailing aerial, 150 feet in length had to be unfurled from the aircraft.

S. S. Sanders: “On our aircraft we had an aerial – a piece of copper wire with a weight on it wound round a drum. When we wanted to call the battery (artillery), we dropped this down and hung it from the aircraft. Then with the aid of a Morse signal we were able to contact the battery. If they heard us distinctly they put out a white ground sheet.” Uh, did I forget something? Communications was strictly one-way. Packing a receiver into a Vickers FB5 was just not possible due to the weight restrictions.

In May 1915, Major C. Prince sent the first spoken message from an aircraft to the ground. Despite the excitement it provided, wireless telephony was never applied to artillery observation. Spoken transmissions from loud, open cockpits might lead to misunderstandings and the changeover from the existing system in terms of equipment and training would have proved too complicated. In fact, a changeover from telegraphy to telephony was unnecessary, the existing system worked well, in spite of the difficulties faced by the airmen who were under near continual anti-aircraft fire, (known as Archie.)

Want to know more about “Fighter Heroes of WW1” and communication? Pick up a copy by Joshua Levine. This read will make you appreciate what Snoopy had to go through flying his Sopwith Camel over the Hun trenches....

Ah, those were the days....

Welcome, Congratulations, and Condolences

NARS Resource List

General Help:

Allen Majeski WA5REJ
281-353-8652, wa5rej.tx@netzero.net
Bill Denton W5SB
281-469-8331, w5sb@arrl.net
Deral Kent K5WNO
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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
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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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