



NARS NEWS

The Northwest Amateur Radio Society
an ARRL Special Services Club #2120

July 2016

Important Dates

Monthly club meeting:

Third Friday of each month, 7:30 pm.
Cypress Creek Christian Community
Ctr., Youth Center 2nd. Floor, # 203,
6823 Cypresswood Drive

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, July 26, 2016, 7:30 pm.
Ponderosa Fire Station
17061 Rolling Creek Drive, Houston

VE License Exam:

Saturday, July 23, 2016
Tomball Regional Hospital, 1st floor,
Conference Room, 8:00 am.

Lunch Break—North

July 6, Panera Bread
July 13, Jason's Deli
July 20, Baker Street Pub
July 27, Sweet Tomatoes
Aug 3, BJ's Brewery
Aug 10, Gianna's

Lunch Break—Medical Center

July 6, Silver Palace Chinese Buffet
July 13, Pappas BBQ
July 20, Morningside Thai
July 27, Pronto Cucinino
Aug 3, Jason;s Deli
Aug 10, Buffalo Grille

Tail Dragger's Lunch Bunch -

Mondays, 11 am.
Aviator's Grill, Hooks Aerodrome

Notice: NARS membership dues are
\$20 per year, renewable on anniver-
sary date.

NARS Program –Friday, July 15th

ARES

Amateur Radio Emergency Service



*This month's program will feature
George Edwards K5VUU,
Member of the Harris County ARES/
District 14/ NW unit.*



*A photo recap of Field Day 2016
See page 5*

**Breakfast at
Denny's
Saturdays, 7 a.m.
6504 FM 2920, Spring, TX
Just a few blocks west of
Kuykendahl at the intersection of**

President's Report - Field Day Success

Field Day went well. There were the usual delays, mainly caused by a heavy downpour just before start time. The CW station got going about an hour late, but went well after that pesky rain. GOTA lacked a generator, so Pete and I made a trip to my yard to get my emergency generator. It was full of gas, so it was a heavy lift for us into the truck. Back at the site, it started in one pull and ran until GOTA closed during the second rain shower at about 5:00 PM.

I took some time to work some sideband stations. The station was about 650 feet from the CW station, with GOTA between SSB and CW stations. This worked great, as there was no apparent interference between the three stations, regardless of band selections. The three OCF (off-center-fed) dipoles worked very well. All three were installed a bit higher than last year. The 40-meter band gave very low SWR; the 20-meter band required some tuning; the 15-meter band had very high SWR and required a separate tuner. We also had an 80-meter dipole, but decided not to put it up. There were plenty of stations to work on the other bands.

Thanks to all who participated. And special thanks to Tom Atkins KD5EIJ for his famous BBQ. Finally, it all came together under the leadership of George Paxson AG5CZ. We need him again next year!

One other item of interest – NARS is getting a new Yaesu Fusion DR-1X repeater, for a special price offered by Yaesu to qualifying clubs. A unit has been ordered and is expected to be delivered in about 8 weeks. This unit will be placed in service at my shack using an antenna at 150 feet. This repeater will operate on 146.660 MHz, minus offset, with a tone to be determined. It will work with all FM analog rigs, and adds digital capability for C4FM modulation radios. We will learn more when the repeater is operational.

73, Keith Dutson NM5G



4721 Watonga Blvd.
Houston, TX 77092
www.ofarc.org

V.E. Exams every 4th Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m.
Contact: John Westerlage

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Dave McCombs, NA5CW
Owner

281-355-7373
contact@harsradio.com

2558 E. FM 1960 Rd.
Houston, TX 77073

NARS Board Meeting Action

Tuesday, June 28, 2016, 7:30pm
Ponderosa Fire Department Headquarters – Station 61
17061 Rolling Creek Dr
Houston, TX 77090
281-444-8465

President's Report

Keith NM5G gave his thoughts on the success of Field Day.

Membership:

No report.

Membership Meeting Programs Planned:

Completed

Feb – TQP Final Results
Mar – DVD showing of K1N Navassa Island DXpedition 2015
Apr – Solar Weather & Propagation (Richard Nelson KF5WRD)
May – Field Day Preliminary Planning (George Paxson AG5CZ)
Jun – Field Day Final Planning (George Paxson AG5CZ)

Proposed

Jul – ARES (George Edwards K5VUU)
Aug – AMSAT (Andy Macalister W5ACM)
Sep – Texas QSO Party 2016 Preparation (Keith Dutson NM5G)
Oct – BSA Jamboree on the Air (Les Mignerey KB0MEF)
Digital Modes and Raspberry Pi (Skip Ferguson K5LLR)
Nov – Elections, TQP 2016 preliminary results, Awards Banquet 2017 Announcement
Dec – K5ZTY Annual Show and Tell
Jan 2017 – Awards Banquet

Old Business:

Field Day – successful
Equipment Inventory – FD antennas and coax added; club seal located

New Business:

Yaesu Repeater offer.
Yaesu has an offer to clubs to purchase the DR-1X production repeater for \$600. Board approved purchase. NM5G to place order, with expected delivery in 8 weeks.
A Technician Class is being planned for the middle of August.

Board meetings are held the last Tuesday of each month. Members may attend to observe and/or present requests for action. See any board member for more information. Visit <http://www.w5nc.net/> for current club information.

DX Tips and Tidbits Grumpy 'ol Ham

In case you haven't noticed...it's HOT out there. Funny thing about Summer in Texas. Cold Fronts bring our temps down to a mere 85 degrees. This is a perfect excuse for the DXers among us to gather in our shacks and work DX! At least in this day and age, we no longer have 12AU7s and 6146s heating up our operating position.

There is one major downside, currently. The Sun. That great yellow ball in the sky that we rely on to provide propagation is not cooperating. Reading the propagation web sites and the solar weather sites there has been a major problem. It seems someone has sent a spacecraft to the sun, loaded with Clearasil!!! There are no spots on the sun! Some project that this will be the case for a good period of time. No sunspots equals no propagation. What's a DXer to do?

You have to do what DXers have always done. Turn on your rig. Tune around. If you don't hear anyone, CALL CQ !!! If everyone is listening and no one is talking, you will never find out if the bands are open. When the FCC first allowed Tech Plus licensees to operate on a small portion of the Ten Meter band, the higher class operators laughed, because there was no activity on 10. It was dead. Lo and behold. The Techs got on, called CQ and got answers. 10 meters wasn't dead. It was just underutilized.

We've gotten complacent again. The band is dead. More than likely it's dead like it was in the past. Everyone listening and no one talking. The other bands can also be used, depending on you class of license. Again...Call CQ. Look around and answer a CQ. Canada, the Carribean, Central and South America should be available and workable. Work them. Talk to them. Something more than 59 South Texas. Actually try and meet them. Make a friend. That's part of what ham radio is about.

The summer months on 10 meters often exhibit characteristics of 6 meters, with E skip and tropoducting. If you're not on, and not trying, you won't work 'em. Yes, with a quiet sun, there will be times when there is nothing out there, but do give it a try.

73 & DX

Grumpy

WORLD OF DX

DXers should keep their receivers tuned to hear Aurelio, IZ8EGM, in Monaco, where he is active as 3A/IZ8EGM until July 15th. He's working on a variety of HF bands. Send QSLs via his home call sign.

Martinez, HK3Y, will be active between July 18 and July 23 as 5J0Y from San Andres Island. He'll be working a few of the HF bands so listen up. He's on the air to commemorate Colombian independence. Send QSLs to HK3Y.

Ady, DK5ON, is working as EA6/DK5ON holiday style from Mallorca Island until July 22nd. Send QSLs via DK5ON, direct, by the Bureau or LoTW.

Amateur Radio News ©

Amateur Electronic Supply Closing after 59 Years in Business

Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) will close its doors at the end of July after 59 years in business. No reason has been given for the decision to close the business. AES has been a premier player among Amateur Radio equipment retailers for decades, as well as a major presence at Dayton Hamvention® and other events. Various media outlets were informed of the closing in a brief e-mail message on July 6, but word of the closing has not yet appeared on the retailer's website or Facebook page.

"It's with great sadness that I have to tell you that Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) will cease operations at the end of this month," AES National Sales Manager Tom Pachner, W9TJP, said in an e-mail. An employee at the Milwaukee headquarters store, who did not wish to be identified, confirmed that the message was legitimate. It's believed that the AES staff was notified before the July 4th holiday weekend. In addition to the Milwaukee store, AES operates outlets in Cleveland (Wickliffe), Las Vegas, and Orlando.

Fond-du-Lac, Wisconsin, native Terry Serman, W9DIA (SK), founded AES in 1957 when he was just 18, after getting into the radio-TV business by working in his father's TV and electronics parts store. On January 1, 1998, ownership of AES shifted to Amateur Electronic Supply LLC, headed by Phil Majerus, a prominent Wisconsin businessman. Serman died the following year at the age of 60, after a period of ill health.

For many years, the public face of AES was its Executive Vice President Ray Grenier, K9KHW, who oversaw marketing and advertising for the retailer from 1964 until his retirement in 2013. Grenier nearly singlehandedly produced the famous AES catalog, as well as magazine ads. For about 20 years, he also organized the well-received AES Superfest, a promotional effort begun in 1995 that grew into a hamfest. In April, the AES Superfest hosted the 2016 ARRL Wisconsin Section Convention. Many radio amateurs reacted to the news on various online forums, expressing surprise, sadness, and dismay, and saying they would miss AES. A few reminisced about having bought their first radios from AES

ARRL News



ARES - A World of Training at your fingertips!

Is this a wrap-up on the subject of ARES? Well, it's up to you. If your interest is peaked after reading our previous articles, then here's where you can find more information on the internet to further your advancement training. As you can see, there's so much more to this program than meets the eye. George Edwards K5VUU will be our featured speaker for the July meeting, and will be talking about some of these topics in detail.

What is ARES?

Part 4 – Continuing Education in Emergency Management – A world of available training is available to you on your computer.

Go to the following link get to the Harris County ARES Training Section:

<http://harriscountyares.org/nw/dist14nw.htm> and select the "Training" box which will take you to the following "Training Information Page".



Welcome to the Harris County ARES training section.

ARES ® training is a personal commitment on your part. Your leadership team; SEC, DEC, ADEC, EC & AEC's will gladly assist you, but they can't do it for you. This section is broken out by general topic material. Any of this material may be used by the units as a part of their weekly training nets in whole or part and may be changed to meet the unit requirements.

The following are the major categories, each of which is filled with many specific topics:

CERT - Community Emergency Response Teams

Digital

Emergency

FEMA

Forms we use

Knowledge based training

Messages

Nets

Professionalism

Public service

Safety

Weather

ARRL / WGD / South Texas / District 14

Other external opportunities

Welcome to a world of training at your fingertips!

W5BKK still lives in the hearts of those who knew him.

My name is Terri Van Slyke. My father, Julius "Ken" Edinborgh was a member of your club - maybe one of the founding members. His call was W5BKK. I am a ham myself, inactive at this time, but I adopted his call after his death in 1996. Two things - I have about 30 old issues of QST from the 1930's and 1940's that he collected (one from 1925 - but no cover). I also have three old Amateur Radio handbooks. I have held on to these all these years, and would like to donate them to your club if you want them

Secondly, could you add him to your "silent key" list? I was surprised that his name was not there. Your club awarded him "operator of the year" in 1986 and 1987 - I still have those plaques - so I know he must have contributed a lot to your group. Even though W5BKK is now my call - I would be happy to have his name listed with that call. Amateur radio was one of the greatest joys of his life. If you are not interested in the magazines, that is fine. I have looked at the prices on EBay, there are not worth that much. But I am contacting you first as you were his home club. I live in Richmond, Texas. There is a club here that I belonged to at one time, so I could donate them there.

But - if nothing else - please add his name to the silent key list. Don Bedel and Bob Welch - both listed there - were his good friends and I remember them. My father was born in 1918 and died in 1996. He was licensed at 13 so that call has been around for some time, and I just renewed it. There may be one or two of your members who remember him.

*A glimpse of
Field Day 2016
Burroughs Park*



Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

Congratulations on the following upgrades:

NARS Resource list

General help:

Allen Majeski WA5REJ
281 528-0673 wa5rej@yahoo.com

Deral Kent K5WNO
281 548-7476 k5wno@juno.com

Al Manard N6VQO
281 292-3113 almanard@gmail.com

Digital modes:

Marty Fitzgerald W5MF
281 251-4301 fitz6@swball.net

VHF/UHF:

Brian Derx N5BA
281 251-4301

PC Programming & Ops:

Keith Dutson NM5G
281 516-1466 keith1@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 Info. Officer

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

NARS Information

President & Board Chairman

Keith Dutson NM5G
281 516-1466
keith1@dutson1.net

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Deral Kent K5WNO
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k5wno@juno.com

Mike Bowen N8ILU
281 954-0940
mike5664g@yahoo.com

Administrative & General Info.

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

Send changes in address, phone, or email to:
NARS
P.O. Box 90387
Houston, TX 77290-0387

Nets

2 meter Wed. 8 pm. 146.760, tone 103.5
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.qth.net
Coordinator: Keith Dutson NM5G
281 516-1466 keith1@dutson.net

Texas QSO Party

Co-coordinator: Chuck Sanders NO5W
832 657-4832
no5w.chuck@gmail.com

Co-coordinator: Keith Dutson NM5G
281 516-1466 keith1@dutson.net

VE Session (ARRL) Manager

Keith Dutson NM5G
281 516-1466 keith1@dutson.net

Meetings

Monthly General Membership 3rd. Friday
each month (except January) at 7:30 pm.
Cypress Creek Christian Community Ctr.
6823 Cypresswood Drive

Saturday Breakfast

Denny's 6504 FM 2920, Spring
(Just a few blocks west of Kuykendahl)

Wednesday Lunch-11 am.

Various places. Info on front page.

NARS News is published monthly by the Northwest Amateur Radio Society. Send all articles and materials for the newsletter to:
Editor, Joe Sokolowski KD5KR, 281 353-2196 kd5kr@arrl.net Deadline for articles to appear in the next newsletter is the last day of
each month.

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