

# NARS NEWS



The Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Houston, Texas

February 2006

## February Meeting - Home Brew Night

Bring your latest electronic contraption and show it off at the February meeting.

## Banquet 2006 - A smashing success!

If you missed attending the banquet on January 20th you missed a great program. Twenty-year Service awards were presented to Paul Frantz W5PF, Ken Harlan KA5AKG, and Joe Sokolowski KD5KR, for their contributions to NARS between 1985 and 2005. Laurie Meier N1YXU also received recognition for her efforts in the creation of the NARS Ladies Auxiliary group, Ham and Sheez. Jimmy Kirk KJ5X, assisted by the renowned string group, the NARS Pickers sang his recently composed creation, Rambling Radio Ragtime Ragchew Blues, to a standing ovation but was denied an encore due to time restraints. (Phew!) Throughout the event, Bill Denton's visual production documenting twenty years of NARS displayed photos of Narsians in action over the years. It was nice to see many of our earlier members in action, some now silent keys. The food was excellent, and, for the first time, the entire program was virtually on schedule from start to finish!

We had a nice crowd, with one hundred individuals attending. Does NARS know how to give a party, or what?

## Winlink Digital 2006 Workshop #2

**Where:** Cypress Creek Education Center, 7111 Five Forks Drive, Spring, TX 77379

**Time:** March 11, 2006 from 8:30am to 1:30pm

**Workshop Theme:** Airmail on 2 meter VHF

**Who can attend:** Any Licensed Amateur Radio Operator

**Sponsored by:** District 14 (Harris County) ARES

**Hosted by:** Cypress Creek Education Center

You are invited to attend a workshop on March 11th for using Winlink. This is the second in a series of workshops to help you to become active using one of the programs to send email via ham radio.

Having Winlink capability as an amateur radio operator is a very important aspect of emergency communications!!!! The email capability via ham radio, which includes the use of attachments, is suited to highly detailed or semi-confidential messages. It will never replace voice as the primary mode of emergency communications but together they are very powerful tools to have in your emergency communication toolbox!!!!

The second workshop will be for Airmail using 2-meter VHF FM and will be held on March 11, 2006 at the Cypress Creek Education Center (off Stuebner-Airline, just north of Louetta) beginning at 8:30am and running until about 1:30pm.

If you are interested in attending or want more information, please email Alan Isaachsen at kb2wf@yahoo.com. There is no fee or cost to attend

*Continued on page 6*

## Important Dates

**Friday, Feb 17, 7:30 PM** – General Membership meeting, Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church – Eyeball QSOs, 7:00 PM.

**Saturday, Feb 25, 8:30 AM** – VE License Exam Session, Tomball Community Center, S. Cherry & Market streets (just South of Main).

**Tuesday, Feb 28, 7:30 PM** – Board of Directors meeting, Ponderosa Fire Station, 17061 Rolling Creek drive.

### Contests

Feb 18–19 ARRL CW DX  
Feb 25–26 CQ WW 160 SSB, REF SSB, UBA CW DX  
Feb 25–26 MI QSO Party, NA RTTY QSO Party  
Mar 4–5 ARRL SSB DX (listen for 9H3DX)  
Mar 25–26 CQ WW WPX SSB

### Wednesday Lunch Bunch – North

Feb 15 Casa Imperial Mexican  
Feb 22 Strack Farms  
Mar 1 Peppercino  
Mar 8 Luby's Cafeteria  
Mar 15 Jason's Deli

### Wednesday Lunch Bunch – West

Feb 15 Goode Co BBQ  
Feb 22 Skeeter's  
Mar 1 Charlie's Hamburgers  
Mar 8 Cafe Express  
Mar 15 Sweet Tomatoes

### Wednesday Lunch Bunch – Medical Center

Feb 15 Marco's Mexican Bar & Grille  
Feb 22 Silver Palace Chinese Buffet  
Mar 1 Luther's Barbecue  
Mar 8 Fred's Italian Corner  
Mar 15 Jason's Deli

**Monday "Tail Draggers" Lunch Bunch**  
11:00 AM Aviator's Grill, Hooks Airport

**Notice:** NARS membership dues are \$20 per year, renewable on anniversary of last year's full payment.

*Deadline for articles to appear in the next issue is the last day of this month.*

**BREAKFAST  
at Denny's  
7720 Louetta  
Saturdays  
7:30 AM**

## NARS to conduct Tech License Course in May

NARS is offering a one-day study session on Sunday, May 7th for Technician followed by an exam for those wishing to get their Technician license. A Morse code test will not be required for this license. This will be an accelerated course, focusing entirely on the questions and answers given during the test session. The course will be conducted at the Ponderosa Volunteer Fire Hall, 17061 Rolling Creek Dr. North, Houston (one block west of Ella off FM 1960 W). Hours will be from 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. Enrollment fee is \$30.00 and will include a study guide and the fee for administration of the exam.

This course can help one attain a Technician license in a short amount of time. Once this is accomplished, membership in NARS or other amateur radio organizations can help a licensee in utilizing the newly acquired privileges.

Enrollment is limited to about thirty students and is tailored to the adult sector only. So, if you're serious about getting your ticket, here's your chance! Reservations are required. Send your name, address, phone number and a check for \$30.00 to:

NARS  
P.O. Box 90387  
Houston, TX 77090-0387.

Further information can be obtained at our web site, <http://www.w5nc.org>.

Note: The above notice will begin to appear publicly as we near the month of May. You as Narsians can help by spreading the word to your non-ham friends about this coming 'crash' course. Contact Joe, KD5KR at [kd5kr@juno.com](mailto:kd5kr@juno.com) or Jerry, KB5VGD at [g\\_whiting@sbcglobal.net](mailto:g_whiting@sbcglobal.net) for more info or enrollment. New Hams are made, not born!

*Joe KD5KR*

### HAM RADIO INTENSIVE STUDY and TESTING SESSION

To be held all day Saturday, February 18th, 2006, location to be announced. Study provided for the no code Tech license. Testing available for all levels of license including Morse code. Fee for the course is \$20.00 cash including first exam. If interested contact:

Jerry Irwin, WAØGLD

Home Phone: 936-856-5178 Cell Phone: 936-537-7524  
email: [F16Jock@earthlink.net](mailto:F16Jock@earthlink.net)

*Pre-registration required to assure a seat in the class.*

## VE Session Results

We had our first VE session of 2006, last Saturday and I feel that it was a rousing success. Several of us met at Denny's for breakfast and that was a wonderful start to the day. The service wasn't the best but the food was fine.

I was a little concerned that the session might not have many candidates; as a rule several people will contact me before a session but this time I had heard from only one person. I was, indeed, surprised to find eight candidates waiting to attempt to get a new license or an upgrade when I arrived at Tomball Community Center.

The volunteers for the session were Tom Rum-KD5QO, Eddy Reynolds-K5WQG, Madison Jones-W5MJ, Mark Tyler-K5GQ, Jim Kirk-KJ5X, Keith Dutson-NM5G and Walter Holmes-K5WH; I am very appreciative for their help with the session. I also had several folks that volunteered as "on call," if we needed them and I really appreciate those offers. I know that I say this too often but we can't do the VE sessions without the volunteers, thanks to all of you.

The candidates were all well prepared and most were somewhat nervous, I guess that's to be expected. I am pleased to say that everyone earned either a new license or an upgrade and spells a great session. The session required the volunteers to administer 2 - Technician Class, 3 - General Class and 5 - Extra Class examinations. The results of those examinations produced two new Technician class licensees, two new General class licensees and four new Extra class licensees.

The Technician class licensees are; Fred Paleologo-KE5HDW of Magnolia and Wilson Wertz-KE5HDX of Livingston; congratulations and welcome to Amateur Radio. Congratulations are also in order for the General Class upgrades; Irving Koelling-WB4LEJ of Houston and William Douglas-N5QMS of Houston, I hope you enjoy your new privileges. Ham radio is fortunate to have four new Extra Class operators as a result of Saturday's session; Douglas Wilson-W5GEO of Houston; Donnie Rinker-W5VGR of Houston; Thomas Martin-W5OEY of Huntsville and Joseph Connell-KB5DTS of Huntsville, that's fine business. It's always special when we have new Extras join the hobby.

The next session will be held on February 25.

73

*Norm Covey/K5OS  
NARS VE Session Manager*

### MOTORCYCLE HAMS NEEDED

If you are an Amateur Radio Operator, with or without a motorcycle, interested in volunteering for the BP MS-150 on April 22-23, 2006, please contact:

Jerry Irwin, WAØGLD

Home: 936-856-5178 Cell: 936-537-7524

email: [F16Jock@earthlink.net](mailto:F16Jock@earthlink.net)

or visit <http://www.ms150.org>

# DX News

## "For All the NARS DX News Fit to Print"

DX IS! Yes. . .

Bruce, N1LN and Chuck, NO5W had an excellent score going in the CQ 160m DX Contest the weekend of January 28–29. Bruce reports that Saturday night late, from 0530–073Z, Europe opened up like gangbusters. The signals were a REAL 579–589. That is saying something for 160m in Southeast Texas! By contest-close time they had worked WAS and 50 countries.

(It takes a quiet band and good conditions. All were present during the contest; especially that Saturday night. "Quiet on 160m; no way!" Yes it was exceptionally quiet.)

Contest Summary: 1083 QSO's, 50 countries, 48 DX countries for 321,922 total points. Beat his last year score eight-fold.

From that contest and other DX this last month, Bruce was able to add some good numbers to his DXCC count (122 worked):

160m:

1. SM5EDX; 2. OE2SGA; 3. 6OON (Somalia); 4. CU2A; 5. C4A (Cyprus); 6. PC5A (NL); 7. RK2FWA; 8. 7X0RY

75/80m:

1. HB0/DL2OBO; 2. 9V1YC; 3. VQ9LA

Other bands:

1. CE0Z (Juan Fernandez) 7 bands!
2. V8FBR (Brunei) 40 CW
3. PY0S/PY7JN 20 CW

And the mail man was kind to him also this month: AY1ZA (South Orkney)

N5NXS, Paul, had a good start on DXCC with his new Icom 7000. Paul worked DU6BG on 20 meters w/ a 59 report. Fortunately the DU6 has a stateside QSL manager! Also worked was VE3OSC from the Ontario Science Centre with a 59 report; also on 20 meters! Great start and great going, Paul. We, the members, expect a lengthy report next month; OK? Happy New Radio! Thanks, Paul, for the first time report and hope to see more reports in the future.

Cal, WF5W (a.k.a "9H3WC") worked the 6OON DXPedition on both 40 and 20 meters. That was a good one to get. That is a long distance away, particularly

during this low part of the sunspot cycle; and one never knows what is going to happen to some of these African countries politically. Cal was able to make several contacts with the Juan Fernandez DXPedition, CE0Z.

There is a new group for straight key hams, called SKCC. Cal was a natural to become a member of this group; and not all that small, either. His membership number is No. 541. John, W5PDW's number is in the "900's". So all of you SK-ers; come join the group! Cal did not tell me the frequency; but every night at 0000Z they meet on the air.

Cal's Maritime Marine Report: The (U.S.S.?) Sea Pumpkin has had more modernization work performed on the back stay. Cal had an ongoing RFI-emission problem with his radio on the boat (ed. note: "Skiff" "Schooner"?). Putting toroids freely everywhere seems to have cured the problem. Glad you have it remedied, Cal. RFI, whether caused by outside problems or from your own radio can be a bear to fix. Trial and error! The power company's transformer at dockside does not help matters, with +20 db noise all of the time.

Dave, W5WP, reports was able to make a first time effort in the ARRL 10 meter contest . . . at the right moment. Openings to most parts of the world occurred. This has been a recent rarity! Dave was able to work VK, ZL, EA8, 5U, 6W and into the Caribbean and South and Central America. He entered as a single op, low power, mixed and made 49,364 points!

Dave reports that CE0Z has been a challenge for him to work, recently. Was able to work them on CW: 10, 12, 20m and RTTY: 15, 17m. CE0Z, for the most part, has been a real challenge for everyone to work. I think they forgot their antenna's and were making-do with coat hangers!

Dave had put up a modified 5 element 20 meter Yagi, only to have it give him problems that may necessitate taking it down. Oh, I forgot to mention; the antenna has a 50 foot boom! That ought to be a real fire-breather when you get it going good, Dave!

W5WP was another one that logged Somalia, 6OON. He worked them on 15m

for a new CW band-counter. He never found them active when he was listening for a RTTY QSO!

Thanks, Dave, for the first time report; come back again!

K5UO, Ye' Columnist, Mike: I had a pretty good month as conditions have improved dramatically on 80 and 160m. Seemed prior to our SE Texas winter, I was a SWL, listening to the east-coast RF wall working EU/AF on 160m with their 599 report exchanges!

Putting up a 1/4 wave vertical for 80m, made from Rohn 25g. Mr George, K5VUU, is the machine tool expert and has gladly agreed to turn down some fiberglass on his lathe to serve a base-insulators for the Rohn 25g. I learned that turning or grinding on fiberglass can be dangerous to one health. Due to George's mobile screw-driver antenna work, he must have all of the right equipment, plus the experience.

I have had the same 80 meter delta-loop wire for, maybe 20 years including a bunch of house moves. It has served me well with 246 countries on 80m. Just want to try something different.

New band-counters this month:  
160 meters: I wasn't in the CQ 160 contest; just "S&P" slowly up/down the band between the loud NA "CQ contest" calls and did pick up 2 new ones: EA6IB, 3V8DLH, GU4YOX and ON4UN ("Mr 160"). I hit the sack about twenty minutes prior to Bruce logging the new opening to EU. I wanted to get up at 4:00 AM to catch some Asian openings, which were almost nil . . .

Also logged other 160 "new-ones": HB0/DL2OBO, 9H1ZA, OY9JD, earlier, during the month. This puts me at 130/134

80 meters: HB0/DL2OBO, 6OON, 4J5A (Azerbaijan): 242/246  
40 meters: 6OON: (301/302)  
30 meters: 7X0RY, CE0Z, 9J2BO  
Interesting QSL's received: CP4BT: 160m, TZ6NZ: 30m, TZ6MF: 17m, VK9CG (Cocos-Keel.), HB0/DL2OBO (14 days QSL turn-around!!)

*Continued on page 6*

# ***Ham and “Sheez” News***

## **Preparations for Spring**

I know that the calendar said January, but it sure felt more like March or April. My azaleas are already blooming and the roses are about to. So, Mother Nature is going to haul me into the yard a couple of months early, so I just as well give in and go. Before I make one of many trips into the back yard for some Spring preparations, I wanted to give you an update on what we did or are about to do.

The annual NARS Banquet – it was so nice to see everyone there. It is the one time in the year when “almost all” of the ladies can get together and visit for a couple of hours. I look forward to the banquet each year and this was no exception. I managed to pick up the sheets that I passed out to all of the tables and I am in the middle of preparing a new list of contact names, email addresses, and birthdays. I will send those out via email very soon. Welcome to all of you who are new to the email list. We look forward to having you at any or all of our activities this year.

The banquet is our opportunity to honor one of our own each year. This year, the recipient of the Ham and “Sheez” of the year was Laurie Meier, N1YXU. I don’t think I have to tell you why Laurie was selected as the member of the year. She received more than 10 nominations from you. Her dedication to this group, to the community, and to all of us individually should not go unrewarded. As Laurie announced when she accepted the award, she will be moving to North Carolina this summer. She plans to start a sister chapter of the Ham and “Sheez” in her new home community. When the time comes for her to leave, we will all find it hard to say goodbye, but I personally look forward to hearing about the Ham and “Sheez,” North Carolina chapter.

Instead of having our regular monthly meeting on January 30th, we had Dinner and a Movie night. There were eight of us who enjoyed dinner at the Salt Grass Steak House, including Carol Fitzgerald’s mother, Phyllis. It was a special treat to see her again. After dinner we adjourned to the movie theatre where we attended “Cheaper by the Dozen 2.” I heard more than one person say that this one was better than the first. It was a great evening as usual.

## **Upcoming Activities**

### **Saturday, February 26th – Bunko Party**

– If you are looking for a really fun time with lots of twists and turns and a little healthy competition, then you should join us at the home of Desi Livingston for her now famous Bunko Party. Desi will be sending directions to her digs via email in the coming weeks. Please RSVP so that she knows how many tables to set up. I have lost track – who has the fuzzy dice?

### **Monday, February 27th – Monthly Ham & Sheez Meeting**

– I hope EVERYONE who is contributing to the Ham and “Sheez” cookbook can be at the February meeting. I passed out the format for the recipes at the NARS banquet. I know it is hard to find the time to sit down and type out your recipes from those little slips of paper, a tattered old cookbook, or those that you have cut off the back of a box of butter or sugar. That is why I am going to help in this very challenging endeavor. I will bring my laptop to the meeting and we will take turns entering as many of your recipes into the computer as we have time to do. Then we can decide which categories are going to concentrate on. I know we can do this; we just need to get started. I have a calendar on my laptop so we can also make plans for Ham and “Sheez” outings and activities in the next 3–4 months. For those who attend in person, I will also have the phone and birthday list printed for you.

### **Saturday, March 18th – Fourth Annual Herb Luncheon at Arbor Gate**

– Be sure to go to the URL that Laurie Meier sent out in email and register for the Herb Luncheon at Arbor Gate if you plan to attend. We have attended this in the past and it is well worth the \$35.00. Plus, you get to go shopping in the beautiful gardens after the luncheon.

### **Recipe of the Month**

If you are like me, you have a can of cranberry sauce sitting in your cupboard, maybe because you forgot to get it out for that Turkey dinner at Thanksgiving or Christmas. Well, I have just the recipe to make sure that it doesn’t hang around there until next year.

### **Cranberry Chicken**

6–8 chicken breasts  
1 can whole cranberry sauce  
1 bottle of Catalina dressing

1 package dry onion soup mix  
dash of garlic powder

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Sprinkle the chicken breasts with garlic powder. Brown the chicken (use butter, margarine, cooking spray – whatever you like). Mix together the cranberry sauce, salad dressing, and soup mix. Pour over the chicken. Bake for 90 minutes (covered). Serve over rice. Serves 6–8.

*Happy Valentines  
Anita – N5AOK*

## **Public Service Events**

### ***Your Radio Skills Are Needed***

Events officially sponsored by NARS include Buffalo Bayou Regatta (October) and Sunmart Texas Trails Run (December). Events supported by NARS members include Houston Marathon, MS 150 and Wings over Houston.

Plan to help with one or more of these events in 2006.

## **Tomball Repeater Group**

### ***Christmas in February***

### **February 25, 2006**

### **Grand Prizes**

ICOM IC-2200H 2-Meter FM TRANSCEIVER

<http://www.icomamerica.com/products/amateur/2200h/>

KA 1102 Dual Conversion Digital Entry Shortwave Radio

<http://www.kaitousa.com/KA1102.htm>  
With

Shortwave Active Loop Antenna

<http://www.kaitousa.com/KA31.htm>  
Check the websites for all the scoop on

our GRAND PRIZES!

More information will be coming soon!  
Contact Nora Stovall,

[norastovall@sbcglobal.net](mailto:norastovall@sbcglobal.net), for raffle tickets for the prizes. \$2 each or 3 for \$5. You do NOT have to be present to win the Grand Prizes. Bring your tickets to the party or mail them (early enough to get here before the party) to:

Tomball Repeater Corp.  
631 Percival St.  
Tomball, TX 77375

# QUA\* Paul Frantz W5PF?

My latest interviewee is taking another trip . . . this time to Malta. As you will see as his story unfolds, he takes every opportunity to travel and now that he can combine it with radio he is set (too bad he can't get tax deductions for DXpeditions!!!). W5PF, also known as Paul Frantz, along with Georgina, his wife have experienced many adventures all over the world. Following are a few . . .

Paul was born in Clearfield, PN. He lived there through high school and left to attend the University of Buffalo, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering degree. I have a sneaking suspicion he wanted to get out of the cold, because he has spent much of the rest of his life in warmer places.

He did though, spend the next four years with US Steel in Pittsburg, designing plants. He was working in the Gulf Oil building when he spotted an ad looking for an engineer who would live overseas. Paul applied, interviewed in the same building in which he was working, got the job and was sent to Angola. Many of us would find that prospect frightening, but Paul and Georgina relished the opportunity. This was in 1968 and he was building oil terminal facilities.

They were in their early twenties and had less hesitancy than now when they went to visit a friend at a farmhouse near the border with Congo. There was no electricity and you couldn't see your hand in front of your face at night. When they arrived back in town they heard that a raiding party had come right by the house and murdered several of the natives!

They then returned to the States and he was in their pipeline engineering department in Houston (of all

places!). They were here for eight years (no reported raiding parties . . .).

The next stop was Odessa . . . no . . . west Texas, not the other one! They lived there for three years. Paul loved it; because he was involved in a radio club, but Georgina was bored . . . she needed a "Ham & Sheez" group!

In 1981, Paul began looking for other options and found a position with Amoco, in their International Engineering Group. They moved back to . . . you guessed it, Houston. Then Paul was sent to Sharjah, near Dubai and then Gabon in Africa, north Angola, Trinidad and Egypt.

In 1988 they moved to Norway, where Paul was engineering an oil platform for the North Sea. They actually lived for nine months of the two years in The Netherlands, where the fabrication plant was located.

His call sign, while in Norway was LA0FV and because of a reciprocal agreement with The Netherlands he could use /PA.

In 1990 he was working on an off-shore China project. And, then in 1994, they moved to Singapore, where he helped design a production facility on a tanker. In Singapore they found, Vishan, their cat, named after an area of her home country.

While there they visited Thailand and saw the Bridge Over the River Kwai (the real thing!), they stayed in a floating hotel. There was no hot water or electricity. These adventures have added to their love for travel.

Their final "business" move was to Egypt, where Paul was an engineering Manager. He retired in 1999, when

BP bought the company and they moved back to Houston.

Paul and Georgina were introduced through his college roommate. She was his girlfriend's roommate at nursing school. The other couple also married and now live in Tucson, AZ.

They have two sons, JP and Jeremy, who are both married. JP has three sons, Aaron, Jarrod and Kevin. Jeremy is in the Rice Engineering Department and manages their research grants with companies such as T.I. and Nokia. He often travels to Asia to provide training.

In addition to Vishan, they have Casey, a PetSmart refugee and Kit Kat, who they adopted from their grandson.

Paul received his Novice license in 1963 as KN3YNI. He then became busy at work and let the license lapse until he again requalified in 1970 as WN5DBT. In 1984 he received his Advanced and was KF5SB (he says he was SB before SB was SB . . . got it?). He finally upgraded to Extra in 2000, when he became W5PF.

He is also one of the Ten Tec fans and has an Orion along with a Titan Amplifier. His antenna is a SteppIR on a 70 foot tower, which he really enjoys.

His favorite contact is Chuck Brady 3Y0C, on Bouvet Island in 2001. He figured out his pattern of working splits and was waiting when he tuned to the frequency. When he was the TDXF newsletter editor, he sent Paul an autographed photo.

*Continued on page 6*

## **Winlink Digital 2006 Workshop #2 from page 1**

You will need to bring the following if you want to setup your own equipment while at this workshop:

- a 2 meter FM VHF radio,
- Power supply for the radio,
- TNC (most any Kantronics or PK232, PK900, SCS are needed for Airmail),
- Power for the TNC,
- Laptop or PC that has a serial port & USB,
- PC power cord,

- Cables to connect TNC to computer and to radio,
- a dummy load or magnetic mount antenna,
- power strip, extension cord.

HOWEVER, if you do not have this equipment but only wish to watch the demonstration and learn about Airmail, that is OK also. We will have some equipment on hand.

Future 2006 workshops will include:

- April: Airmail workshop in Sugarland
- May: PacLink workshop in Spring
- June: PacLink workshop in Houston
- TelPac and HF Airmail as needed

The workshops are open to all licensed (or soon to be licensed) hams and will be suitable for both beginners and experienced packet users.

## **DX News from page 3**

### **IMPORTANT AND NOTABLE REPORTS FROM THE DX BULLETINS:**

The big one, "Peter–One" is about to happen after a washout last year: They are expected to land on Peter Island on / about February 6, 7 and be emitting RF two days later. (They might have a quickie–setup station going before that.) This will be an all-band–all-mode–anytime–all–the–time operation. Not active at this writing, but they will have an active internet site for real–time or near–about, log lookup. See their www site: [www.peterone.com](http://www.peterone.com).

Their web page is an interesting effort by them to express all aspects of this much publicized DXpedition. Pages for planned operating frequencies, propagation–predictions, photos; the whole works! For low–banders and perhaps of benefit to the higher bands: At this time of year, there is only twilight for

total darkness, even though the southern hemispheres are coming out of their winter. Not total–total darkness as we low–banders prefer. But, their propo–predictor says that there will be opportunities for 160 to . . . some . . . parts of the world, over 1000 Km past the terminator . . . on the day–side! They also will make a serious effort when working the U.S. to listen–up into the General portion of the band. (Is there still one?)

Please take a look–see at the web page and note the times and frequencies for the bands you may need Peter Island on, and then be ready.

Now is the time to practice your Maltese for the upcoming Malta DXpedition by the Texas DX Society (TDXS) starting March 1 thru March 8. Eight local hams, including some NARS members will make the run to Malta:  
WF5W / 9H3WC, W5WAF / 9H3WF, W9DX / 9H3DX, W5PF / 9H3???

NM5G / 9H3???, K5UO / 9H3UO, W5MJ / 9H3???, N5DD / 9H3RY

This will be a 10–80m–all–mode operation. The layout of the site is not clear enough to know exactly about an antenna for 160 meters. For sure on 80 meters will be NM5G, Keith's, new monster 80 meter vertical by Force 12; for 40 meters, a SteppIR vertical, and Force12 tri–bander Yagis for the higher bands, including the WARC bands.

Not for sure, but hopefully, depending upon internet access, will be on–line log lookup on the TDXS www site <http://www.tdxs.org/9H3.html>.

Hopefully, propagation will favor North America, as they will be looking that way a lot.

*Gud DX to all es 73, de Mike, K5UO / 9H3UO et al.*

## **QUA from page 5**

Georgina and Patsy went to Chile.

Coming soon is Malta, at the end of the month. He's taking quite a crew; Cal White WF5W, Keith Dutson NM5G, Madison Jones W5MJ, Mike Bragassa K5UO, Bill Frink K5WAF, Don Daze N5DD, and Steve Smothers W9DX.

Georgina and Patsy are flying in the last couple of days and then the four will stay on for another week vacation.

Paul sums up his life so far with, "I have

been blessed. I can't even describe what Georgina has meant to me. The boys . . . and to have been able to travel and see things from a different perspective than most people. It has been wonderful." And we at NARS get to have you and Georgina around us most of the time, except when you are exploring. Keep bringing us those stories!

*Schalee Lodge, KD5WLL  
Ham & Sheez Reporter*

\* QUA: "Q" signal meaning "Have you news of . . . ?"

His hardest contact was P5/4L4FN, North Korea.

He has also been on the other end . . . His first DXpedition was to Grenada for two weeks in 2001.

Then in 2003, he and Cal White went to Yap. Georgina and Patsy went to Hawaii. I asked if they brought any money back and he chuckled and said it was large stone . . . the smallest was 18 inches across!

Next was the Falklands in 2004.

# Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

Congratulations to LIFE members Paul Frantz W5PF, Ken Harlan KA5AKG and Joe Sokolowski KD5KR.

## NARS Resource List

### General Help:

Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY  
281-893-3901, k5zty@juno.com  
Allen Majeski WA5REJ  
281-353-8652, wa5rej.tx@netzero.net  
Bill Denton W5SB – Antennas  
281-469-8331, w5sb@arrl.net  
Madison Jones W5MJ  
281-350-4330, w5mj@hal-pc.org  
Larry McCain KN5Z  
281-469-6709, kn5z@arrl.net  
Deral Kent K5WNO – Antennas  
281-548-7476, k5wno@juno.com

### Satellite:

Dick Rooney W5VHN  
281-288-8424, dickrooney@usa.net

### Digital Modes:

Don Bedell KA3BKT Packet  
281-257-6425 donka3bkt@ev1.com  
Gregg Erlenbusch, W5IDX PSK/RTTY  
281-970-6860, W5IDX@ARRL.net

### VHF/UHF:

Brian Derx N5BA 281-894-5942

### PC Programming and Operations:

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

### Interference (Basic Advice):

Mark Tyler K5GQ  
281-587-0256, k5gq@juno.com  
Terry Myers KQ5U  
281-443-6042, tmyers1031@sbcglobal.net

### Card Checking Awards Managers:

Bob Walworth N5ET – DXCC  
281-292-2221, rwalworth@charter.net  
Brian Derx N5BA – WAS, VUCC  
281-894-5942  
H O Townsend K5CX – WAZ  
281-376-7416, k5cx@arrl.net

### NARS Public Information Officer:

Laurie Meier N1YXU  
936-271-1096, n1yxu@arrl.net

## NARS Information

PRESIDENT & BOARD CHAIRMAN  
Mark Tyler K5GQ  
281-587-0256 k5gq@juno.com

VICE PRESIDENT  
Jerry Whiting KB5VGD  
281-583-5588 g\_whiting@sbcglobal.net

SECRETARY  
Charles Sanders NO5W  
936-321-0053 no5w@txucom.net

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

### DIRECTORS

Cal White WF5W  
281-351-6323 CWhite314@direcway.com  
Mike Lodge K7LEX  
281-255-2202 lodgem@swbell.net  
H O Townsend K5CX  
281-376-7416, k5cx@arrl.net  
Rick Aikman KZ5E  
281-351-5341 ki5mera@sbcglobal.net

ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN  
TBA

ADMINISTRATIVE AND  
GENERAL INFORMATION  
Joe Sokolowski, KD5KR  
281-353-2196, kd5kr@arrl.net

*Send address, phone, email and other  
changes to:*  
NARS  
PO Box 90387  
Houston, TX 77090-0387

NET  
10M Ragchew: Mon 8:00 PM, 28,444 ssb  
Coordinator: Jim Kirk KJ5X  
281-376-0718, kj5x@swbell.net

WEB SITE  
URL: <http://www.w5nc.org>  
Webmaster  
Bill Buoy N5BIA  
281-370-3510, n5bia@arrl.net

NARS REFLECTOR  
NARS@mailman.qth.net  
Coordinator: Peter Wang KF5ND  
281-550-3864, kf5nd@yahoo.com

TEXAS QSO PARTY  
Coordinator: H.O. Townsend K5CX  
281-376-7416, k5cx@arrl.net

VE SESSION (ARRL)  
Manager:  
Norm Covey K5OS  
281-252-8285 k5os@arrl.net

### REPEATERS

2M: 146.660 / 146.060 (KA5AKG)  
Tone: 141.3  
70 cm: 444.375 / 449.375 (KA5AKG)  
Tone: 103.5

### MEETINGS

**Monthly General Membership**  
Third Friday each month at 7:30 PM  
Spring Cypress Presbyterian Church, 6000  
Spring Cypress Road

**Saturday Breakfast**  
Denny's, 7720 Louetta, at 7:30 AM

**Wednesday Lunch** 11:30 AM  
Various locations (Info on 146.660 and  
listed on front page in Important Dates  
column)

**NARS NEWS** is published monthly by  
Northwest Amateur Radio Society

Send all articles and materials for the  
Newsletter to:

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

Northwest Amateur Radio Society is a  
Special Service Club affiliated with the  
American Radio Relay League.

ARRL Club No. 2120