



November 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, November 29, 2016, 7:30
pm. Ponderosa Fire Station
17061 Rolling Creek Drive, Houston

VE License Exam:

Saturday, November 26, 2016
Tomball Regional Hospital, 1st floor,
Conference Room, 8:00 am.

Lunch Break—North

Nov 9, Baker Street Pub
Nov 16, Sweet Tomatoes
Nov 23 B.J's Brewery
Nov 30 Gianna's
Dec 7 Spring Creek BBQ
Dec 14 Pei Wei

Lunch Break—Medical Center

Nov 9, Jason's Deli
Nov 16, Buffalo Grille
Nov 23 Southwell's Hamburger Grill
Nov 30 Silver Palace Chinese Buffet
Dec 7 Pappas BBQ
Dec 14 Morningside Thai

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.

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

NARS NEWS

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

Annual election for the NARS Board of Directors

Nominations will be taken from the floor for the position of vice president and directors at large. Please consider volunteering for one of these openings. The Board meets once each month and you'll help in conducting club programs and activities.

Keith Dutson NM5G will present a short recap of the 2016 Texas QSO Party and will cover some of the highlights of the event.

Friday, November 18th



Coming attractions:
December
Annual K5ZTY Show & Tell
January 2017
Annual Banquet

Saturday, Oct 22 VE Test Session Results at Tomball Regional Hospital

We had 8 candidates taking 10 tests.

Element 2 tests given: 6; passed 6

Element 3 tests given: 4; passed 4

Element 4 tests given: 0; passed 0

Congratulations to:

Avery McIntosh - new General

James Wampler - new Tech

Tom Stuewe KG5USA - upgrade to General

August Endsley KG5IXW - upgrade to General

Rory Yeaman - new General

Larry Stuard II - new Tech

Frank Anthony Jr - new Tech

Henry Walker - new Tech

Thanks to the VE's in attendance:

Sheree Horton KF5LMJ

Stephen Protz K5AUD

Brian Derx N5BA

Ron Horton KF5LFL

Martin Rogoff N5GPS

The next monthly session will be held 0800 Saturday, Nov 26, at Tomball Regional Hospital, 1st floor conference room.

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.

73, Keith Dutson NM5G

NARS VE Session Manager



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

President's Report – Election

NARS is still seeking a candidate to run for Vice President. You need no experience. You will learn the duties of president as you serve for a year. You will also have the opportunity to plan for the Awards Banquet to be held in 2018. If you are willing, we would love to have you join the board. Or, if you could recommend someone for this position, please contact me or any Board member. Thanks.

The next meeting, on November 21, will be a presentation of preliminary results from the 2016 Texas QSO Party. But, before this presentation we will elect NARS officers to fill positions vacated in January during the Awards Banquet. Details will be discussed about the banquet to be held January 20.

Please note the VE Session results, as posted elsewhere in this copy of the newsletter. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the excellent group of Volunteer Examiners (VE's) we have for our NARS sponsored exam sessions. We have sessions scheduled for the fourth Saturday of each month, except for December (Christmas) and June (Field Day). We also have one or more special sessions each year, to support ham classes held about two times per year.

Volunteer examiners serve in one or more of these positions:

Tester – Review and check ID of each applicant, grade test answer sheets, and sign documents sent to ARRL for license processing.

Registration – Give application form 605 to candidates, gather completed form, photo ID, exam fee and proof of current license if upgrading.

Paperwork – Fill out Candidate Roster to keep track of session results, fill out CSCE for each candidate eligible for a new or upgraded license.

Session Manager – Oversee the entire operation, complete the Session Report, prepare and mail completed package to ARRL.

Each VE has the opportunity to perform all of these tasks over time. There must be at least three testers to complete the 605 and CSCE forms. It is best to have at least five VE's at each session, but the job can be done with only three.

73, Keith Dutson NM5G

Non Sequitur by Wiley Miller

November 09, 2016



OK... I KNOW I SAID YOU SHOULD KEEP YOUR CONCESSION SPEECH BRIEF, BUT...

FINAL ROLL
OOK - 73%
Nook - 27%

WHY IT TOOK SO LONG FOR DEMOCRACY TO CATCH ON

ART BY UNIVERSAL UCLICK

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Goonies.com/NonSequitur

WILEYINK@EARTHLINK.NET

Introduction and Overview of Winlink Express (formally RMS Express)

Winlink Express (formerly RMS Express) is the preferred Winlink (WL2K) radio email client because it supports all new WL2K features, including the Winlink Hybrid Network and Secure Login to prevent unauthorized access to your radio email account. Winlink Express is designed to be easily used by single users with a single call sign but it may also be used to simultaneously send and receive mail with one or two tactical addresses or alternate call signs (Winlink accounts). It supports a wide selection of TNCs and multimode controllers, the sound card mode WINMOR using the (included) WINMOR virtual TNC, HF Pactor, SCS Robust Packet, VHF/UHF AX.25 packet radio, and direct telnet to CMS servers or RMS Relay (for amateur radio High Speed Multimedia [HSMM], Broadband HamNet, D-Star DD mode, internet, or other TCP/IP networks).

Winlink Express is built and constantly improved by the Winlink Development Team and leverages its features with simplicity as the prime design objective. It uses the B2F extension radio transfer protocol that supports attachments, multiple addresses and tactical addresses. Winlink Express may be used in the peer-to-peer mode (connecting directly via RF to other Winlink Express or Airmail clients). Winlink Express also contains manual and automated GPS position reporting abilities, support for the Winlink catalog of downloadable weather, information and help bulletins, Saildocs and Globalmarinenet for obtaining GRIB files, and a propagation prediction feature to help determine which of the participating Winlink RMS gateway HF stations are best to connect to from anywhere on earth.

Winlink Express may be used as a client for emergency communications. It has some special features for EmComm, such as HTML/CSS forms creation and compact, formless content transport, plus a growing library of tested, pre-created forms to use. Before adopting Winlink Express as your program for EmComm, please check with your local EmComm group for their plans. This may be your ARES, RACES, ACS, SHARES or MARS etc. organization that will be responsible for providing training and support.

System Requirements: Microsoft-supported 32 or 64 bit Windows OS (Windows Vista, Windows 7, 8, 10 or Windows 2003 Server, or later, or under Windows on Apple Mac machines using a VM engine or dual boot arrangement. **Windows XP is not recommended or supported.** The program makes minimal CPU demands with the exception of WINMOR operation. The heavy DSP demands of WINMOR require a computer of at least 700 MHz Pentium/Celeron class and at least 512 Meg of memory. It runs well on all modern computers and Windows tablets. If multiple applications are running concurrently, we recommend a fast computer with extra RAM.

Next month we will cover the Software Download and initial installation process. See you then!

George Edwards K5VUU

Two Radio Amateurs Set to Join ISS Crew

Astronauts Peggy Whitson, KC5ZTD, and Thomas Pesquet, KG5FYG, and Cosmonaut Oleg Novitskiy will head into space on November 17 for a 6-month stay aboard the International Space Station. **NASA Television** coverage will begin at 1730 UTC on November 16. The launch from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan will be at 1820 UTC on November 17. It will take the Expedition 50/51 crew members 2 days to reach the ISS in their *Soyuz* vehicle.

Welcoming the new crew increment will be Expedition 50 Commander Shane Kimbrough, KE5HOD, and crew members Sergey Ryzhikov and Andrey Borisenko, who have been aboard the complex since October.

Whitson will become the first woman to command the space station twice. Her first tenure as commander was in 2007, when she became the first woman to hold this post. The crew is scheduled to return to Earth next spring. -- *Thanks to NASA*



Thomas Pesquet KG5FYG, Oleg Novitskiy, & Peggy Whitson KC5ZTD

NARS in rewind ***October 1995***

Global Positioning System (GPS) by Max Huff KF5FZ

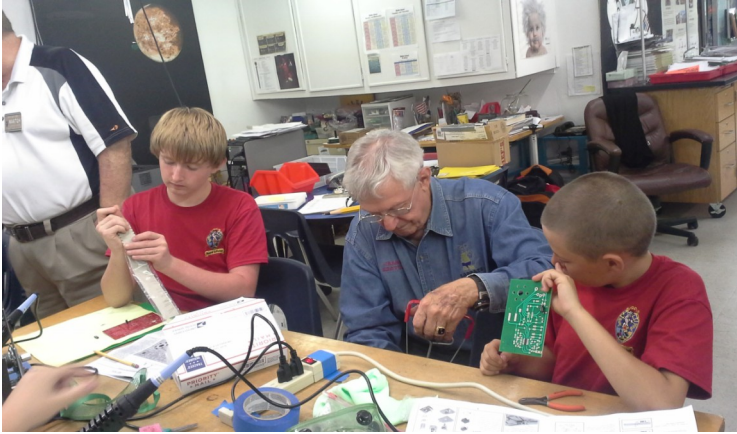
GPS is becoming a ubiquitous appliance that is showing up in applications such as vehicle tracking, mapping, asset management and a lot of recreational activities. Recent product announcements offer GPS receivers with simple graphics for as little as \$200.

With selectivity availability still turned on, stand alone GPS may be in error by as much as 100 meters. While that may be sufficient for many recreational vehicles it does not satisfy any commercial requirement for positioning or navigation. The answer for those demanding requirements is Differential GPS.

Various types of DGPS are presented with relative prices along with coverage and accuracy. Examples are presented with DGPS receivers performances with DGPS corrections applied. The resulting data quality is usually still limited by the user's GPS receiver.

Redd School happenings....

Jerry Whiting KB5VGD and crew are at it again with the latest project for the kids to challenge their minds. This one is a little more complex than previous builds but they seem to be doing well. Putting together an FM radio receiver requires skills that months back were considered unattainable but then, this is Redd School and the students are above average, wouldn't you say?



Professor Jerry Whiting filling young minds with knowledge!



Ron Matussek WA6TQH & Terry Myers KQ5U offering A little help.



"Let's see now, if I change the value of C3, I could"

A COMIC STRIP TRIBUTE TO CODE

Here's a story of a classic comic strip with a surprise element: Morse Code. Now, Samuel Morse isn't exactly the kind of character you'd find in the pages of any comic strip, much less the classic strip, "The Phantom." The Phantom, an avenger with a sense of justice, was created in the 1930s, long after Samuel Morse devised his system of dots and dashes in the 19th Century. In the strip's earliest days, The Phantom was already using amateur radio to send important messages. It seems that in the intervening years, he hasn't forgotten ham radio's reliability -- nor has he forgotten his CW.

Now he is an older, wiser Phantom - and the father of two, including a son attending college at a remote Himalayan location. He is seen in the comic's current story thread keeping tabs on his son by communicating with one of his teachers via code. His wife, of course, asks her crime-fighting husband "isn't that obsolete?" The Phantom replies: "Not at all."

Right you are, Phantom. That's what makes you OUR hero too!

(SOUTHGATE AMATEUR RADIO NEWS)

AMATEURS TRACK POTENTIAL TERROR

Here's an update about some courageous amateurs who have apparently made some progress tracking a potential terror threat in India. Here's Amateur Radio Newsline's Jeremy Boot G4NJH.

JEREMY: India's Intelligence Bureau is now responding to reports from amateur radio operators who believe they have pinpointed the region from which suspicious radio transmissions have been intercepted. The hams spent several days conducting around-the-clock monitoring of the signals, which were sent at night along the border with Bangladesh.

Ambarish Nag Biswas, VU2JFA, secretary of the West Bengal Amateur Radio Club, has been listening on VHF with club members after authorities had expressed concerns that the transmissions might be linked to extremists or terror activity.

A report in the Indian Express notes that the coded transmissions, heard at night, appear to have been pinpointed as coming from the West Bengal region of Basirhat. Basirhat has been widely viewed as a nexus for terrorism.

Hey! Elections are not quite over.

*We still have a position or two to fill on the
NARS Board of Directors.*

*Don't be a no show. Step up and be part of the action!
Friday, November 18th.*

DX Tips and Tidbits Grumpy 'ol Ham

Thanksgiving is coming! Unfortunately, the biggest turkey is ham radio propagation. It's not all grim, but with sunspots on the decline, it's not getting much better anytime soon. There are reports that the solar storms that have been impacting our planet are on the wane, so there can be some hope that our ionosphere will not have to absorb so much solar radiation that it has to dispose of it through beautiful aurora displays. Esthetically, auroras are beautiful. For we who try to enjoy reaching out past 30 miles on our radio, not so much fun.

This past month I have seen many spots for the 6 meter band. It doesn't seem to represent auroral reflections as much as Tropo and Trans-Equatorial activity. If you have 6 meter capability, open up your DX Custer program to alert you to activity on this band. It's not there often, and it frequently localized, but you need to keep a watch for your opportunities.

The HF bands have shown some renewed activity. All is not dead, but since we're in the decline of sun spots, it is very noticeably poorer. The CQ World Wide CW contest is at the last full weekend of November. If you're a CW op, you may get a chance to add, if not a new one, a new band counter. If CW is not your thing, many Contest Dxpeditions will be warming up their stations and checking performance. They will frequently use SSB or RTTY before or after a contest to get in the swing of operating in pile-ups. Don't let your lack of CW skills keep you from enjoying the DX that is out there.

Again, one of the good things about conditions at this time of the year is the lower noise level. Not as much thunderstorm activity. That means that conditions on the low band improve. 30, 40, 80 and 160 meter bands are less offensive to our ears and you can work some good DX on the low bands. Many hams have the concept that these bands are only for local ragchewing when in fact there is DX to be had!

For you satellite chasers, it has been reported that EO-79 Funcube-3 Transponder is now active. So the DX fun is on 6 and 160. What a combination.

Go forth and DX

73 & DX

Grumpy

The Sacagawea "Imposter"

There is no known portrait of Sacagawea, the native American guide depicted on the dollar coin, so the design on the coin is not really a picture of her.

The artist who created it, Glenna Goodacre, looked around for a model she could use for Sacagawea and asked a Shoshoni woman, Randy'L He-Dow Teton to pose.

The real Sacagawea died in 1812 at the age of twenty five with no trace of her likeness remaining.

"Throw that out to simulate some intellectual conversation...."

NARS Board Meeting Action

Tuesday, Oct 27, 2016, 7:30pm
Ponderosa Fire Department Headquarters – Station 61
17061 Rolling Creek Dr
Houston, TX 77090
281-444-8465

President's Report

No report

Secretary's Report

Minutes approved as submitted by Martin Rogoff N5GPS.

Treasurer's Report

Reviewed details of last month deposits and disbursements.

Membership:

Renewals sent out - 6

News deadline Nov 12

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)

Jul – ARES (George Edwards K5VUU)

Aug – AMSAT (Andy Macalister W5ACM)

Sep – BSA Jamboree on the Air (Les Mignerey KB0MEF)

Texas QSO Party 2016 Preparation (Keith Dutson NM5G)

Oct – Digital Modes and Raspberry Pi (Skip Ferguson K5LLR)

Proposed

Nov – Elections, TQP 2016 preliminary results, Awards Banquet 2017 Announcement

Dec – K5ZTY Annual Show and Tell

Jan 2017 – Awards Banquet

Old Business:

Repeater status reported by Keith NM5G (still no response yet from Yaesu).

Still looking for VP candidate. This position is crucial to continuation of NARS club.

W5NC club call renewal is complete, verified on QRZ.

New Business:

Ham Class scheduled for Nov 5 and 19 at Hooks Airport. Class is full.

Scouting and American Legion to be reported in Newsletter.

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.

Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

Welcome new member Frank (Tony) Anthony Jr. (call pending)

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

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Mike Bowen N8ILU
281 954-0940
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Treasurer

Sheree Horton KF5LMJ
281 890-4038
sher5456@gmail.com

Administrative & General Info.

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

Secretary

Martin Rogoff N5GPS
281 890-4538
N5gps.tx@gmail.com

Send changes in address, phone, or email to:

NARS
P.O. Box 90387
Houston, TX 77290-0387

Directors

Lester Mignerey KB0MEF
281 257-6580
kb0mef@arrl.net

Nets

2 meter Wed. 8 pm. 146.760, tone 103.5
Coordinator: Jerry Whiting KB5VGD
g_whiting@sbcglobal.net

Ron Horton KF5LFL

281 890-4038
ron.horton88gmail.com

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.