



NARS NEWS

December 2017

Important Dates

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

Monthly club meeting:

Third Friday of each month, 7:30 pm.
(except January) New meeting place
planned due to extensive flooding and
repair of CCCC. See December loca-
tion at bottom of page 1.

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, Next meeting, Dec 26, 2017,
7:30 pm at: Ponderosa Fire Station
17061 Rolling Creek Drive, Houston

VE License Exam:

Next exam, Saturday, January 27,
2018 at 8:00 AM at Tomball Re-
gional Hospital, 1st floor Green con-
ference room.

Lunch Break—North

Dec 13 Sweet Tomatoes
Dec 20 B.J's Brewery
Dec 27 Gianna's
Jan 3 Spring Creek BBQ
Jan 10 Pei Wei

.Lunch Break—Medical Center

Dec 13 Silver Palace Chinese Buffet
Dec 20 Pappas BBQ
Dec 27 Morningside Thai
Jan 3 Pronto Cucinino
Jan 10 Antonio's Mexican Grill

Tail Dragger's Lunch Bunch -

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

Notice: NARS membership dues are
\$20 per year, renewable on the 1st of
January (see announcement page 4)

**NARS December Meeting – Annual
Show-And-Tell
& Silent auction
Friday, December 15, 2017, 7PM
Spring Creek BBQ
6068 FM 2920 Rd, Spring, TX
77379**

See page 3 for details!



*** Meeting location for December ***

Due to historic flooding around the Cypress Creek Community Center,
location & time change was required.
Spring Creek Barbecue, 6068 FM 2920,
between Kuykendahl & TC Jester on North side of FM 2920,
near Kroger shopping center.
Dinner at 6 p.m, meeting starts at 7 p.m.
(Dinner is not mandatory to attend)

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

Saturday, November 25, 2017 VE Test Session Results at Tomball Regional Hospital:

We had 4 candidates taking 5 tests.

Element 2 tests given: 3; passed 3
Element 3 tests given: 2; passed 2
Element 4 tests given: 0; passed 0

Congratulations to:

Richard Epting - new General
Kelly Markog - new Technician
Brandon Behar - new Technician
Robert West KG5VUF - upgrade to General

Thanks to the VE's in attendance:

Martin Rogoff N5GPS - acting session manager
Bill Bierman N5RDO
Sam Labarbera K5AOO
Steve Protz KA5AUD
Larry Hill WA5LSV
Ron Matusek WA6TQH

The next monthly session will be held 0800 Saturday, January 27, at Tomball Regional Hospital.

****THERE IN NO SESSION HELD IN DECEMBER****

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 ARRL VE Liaison



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
N5DWI@oafrc.org for further info.*

NARS 2017 Awards Banquet Announcement:

Friday, January 19, 2018, 6PM
Backyard Grill
9453 Jones Road, Houston, TX 77065

The January meeting will be the annual Awards Banquet, featuring recognition of persons who have:
Held important roles in club operations;
Participated in a public service event;
Been elected for NARS Board members.

During the meeting, a photo slide show will be presented, featuring images captured during various NARS events throughout the 2017 year.

Activities begin at 6PM, with eyeball QSO's. Dinner orders will be placed at 6:30pm, and dining is planned for 7 to 8PM. Price will vary according to order, payable by each person. An extensive list of regular and alcoholic beverages is offered by the restaurant. See more information at:
<https://www.thebackyardgrill.com/>

Reservations not required but encouraged. Let me know if you will attend. We need to have an approximate count of those showing up.

Reminder: All NARS memberships are set to expire December 31, 2017. Renewal notices will be sent out in December.

Keith NM5G
VP - Awards Banquet Coordinator
kdutson@sbcglobal.net



NARS now has a new address!

Please update your address list!

**Northwest Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 11483
Spring, TX 77391**

NARS December Meeting – Annual Show-And-Tell
Friday, December 15, 2017, 7PM
Spring Creek BBQ
6068 FM 2920 Rd, Spring, TX 77379

The December meeting will be the annual show-and-tell, honoring Bill Stietenroth K5ZTY (SK), who often commented this was his favorite meeting. There will also be a silent auction, and request for NARS event photos.

Show-And-Tell

Those with a project involving electronics, or some ham radio device, are asked to bring the project to the meeting, and talk about their experience. Plan to demonstrate the project. Table space and time is somewhat limited, so please bring only one or two projects. A laptop will be connected to the projector for display of slides on a USB thumb drive.

Silent Auction

In addition to the show, there will be a silent auction. Bring a ham radio related item you want to sell, with an auction fact and bid sheet. This is an example:

Seller: Keith Dutson NM5G

Item: Baofeng UV-5RTP Transceiver; Original Value \$59 (Amazon); Current Value \$48 (Amazon)

Condition: like new

Minimum bid: no reserve

Bid Amount	Name	Call
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Settle with seller at conclusion of meeting. Seller has the option to refuse an unreasonable offer.

Photo Request

Finally, if you have photos taken during a NARS event during 2017, please bring them to the meeting, and they may be selected to show during the Annual Awards Banquet in January. Photos may be files stored on a USB thumb drive, to copy to the laptop. Hardcopy photos will be scanned later and returned to the owner.

Keith NM5G

Vice President – Program Chair

Help Needed for the 2018 Houston Marathon

- ***Saturday, January 13, 2018 – ABB 5K Run***
- ***Sunday, January 14, 2018 – Full and Half Marathon***

Register ASAP

STEP 1: www.hmhams.org Houston Marathon Hams' web site to provide pertinent information for Amateur Radio Operator roles.

STEP 2: <https://hou.emos1.com/volunteer/RegisterVolunteer.aspx?code=HAM&eid=11> for Amateur Radio **signup for "Official" Chevron Houston Marathon's Volunteer.** Note "Amateur Radio Operator" positions do not show on the Houston Marathon Volunteer public site and **require a special access code of HAM** on the regular volunteer page.

Poole, Nebraska: the Midway Amateur Radio Club NE150 Hams Project

by Mike Osterberg KØVZ – Midway ARC Vice President

Starting around 2014 or so, the Midway Amateur Radio Club in Kearney NE (WØKY) began brainstorming on some possible things to do to help celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the statehood of Nebraska in 2017. They wanted to keep it local, so to speak, and what better place, they decided, than to highlight their own Buffalo County. Buffalo County has a rich history, dating back to the state's founding, and this opened up many options for them.

Mike Osterberg KØVZ (MARC Vice President/Activities Coordinator) scoped out the site (40° 58.800' N., 98° 58.062' W.) in late 2016 and he determined that the old ball field would be a good location to set up because of the open space and standing light poles for antenna support. On the way home from the annual Central Nebraska ARC gathering at Victoria Springs State Park in late July, Mike, Lynn Miller WBØPRH (MARC Treasurer), and Jan Parker WAØLST (MARC President) took a side journey to Poole and met with the neighbor of the ball field and he gave his blessing to use the space for a day just "to put Poole back on the map" again, which they did on August 12.



"Brad WD5GNI preparing antenna rope" – KØVZ photo

Since landline telegraph was the original means of communication here, the Club decided that the station should include both CW and phone with two rigs and antennas. Brad Nelson WD5GNI brought his spud-launcher and the G5RV was hung from the right-center field light pole. Mike, the resident CW op, began running CW contacts using a J-38 straight key for a little more "authentic" feel (but without the visor or sleeve garters hi hi), then Brad and Lynn set up a 20meter dipole nearby, using Brad's crappie pole for support, and the phone station was in full swing. All five Club members present: WAØLST, WD5GNI, KAØDBK, WBØPRH, and KØVZ, made contacts, and it was a successful effort. With potential storms brewing that evening, the stations were struck and loaded by 5:00 p.m. and everyone headed back to Kearney with the satisfaction of knowing that they played a part in celebrating Nebraska history with amateur radio.

NARS - Membership Dues Expiration Change

NARS seeks members to help provide benefits to the Ham community. Dues collected allows NARS officers to perform the tasks necessary to keep the club active.

Beginning in December 2017, and ending January 31, 2018, a campaign will be held to change all membership records to expire December 31, 2018. This will reduce the time and expense to maintain the current membership renewal process.

Converting to the new plan will be pro-rated 1/12 per month for members who have paid during 2017. Membership dues paid between December 1, 2017 and January 31, 2018 will expire December 31, 2018.

New members next year will pay a pro-rated amount, to expire December 31, 2018.

Members who have paid during 2017 receive credit for 2018 months already paid. For example, a member who paid \$20 in October 2017 receives credit for 10 months in 2018. The conversion dues amount is calculated as follows:

$$\$20 \text{ minus } \$16.66 (10 * 1/12 * 20) = \$3 \text{ (rounded)}$$

Renewal notices will be sent in December, and again in January, with the calculated dues amount. These will be sent to all current members, plus former members who have not renewed since 2010.

Keith Dutson NM5G
NARS Administrative Secretary



2017 Field Day results:

CALL	GOTA	CLUB	Sect	Trans	Cat	Power	Final	Tot Qs	Tot CW	Tot Dig	Tot PH	Mult	Bonus	Participants
N5TT	N5TW	Williamson Co A	STX	2	A	G	7022	1742	994	0	748	2	1550	109
W5NC	KF5LFK	NARS	STX	2	A	G	2592	540	335	36	169	2	770	30
N5A		NAQCC Central T	STX	2	A	G	2076	445	368	0	77	2	450	6
W5KTC		Port Lavaca ARC	STX	2	A	B	1912	263	185	33	45	2	950	5
W5WTM		Matagorda Co AF	STX	2	A	G	1716	264	150	9	105	2	870	38
W5BCS		Bryan ARC	STX	2	A	G	1428	215	23	1	191	2	950	62
K5BS		Tidelands ARS	STX	2	A	G	1240	361	9	0	352	2	500	15
KD5DX		Medina Co AR Cc	STX	2	A	G	900	43	0	32	11	2	750	11
K5PLD		Pearland ARC	STX	2	A	G	874	102	0	60	42	2	550	30
KG5DUO	N5XWN	Milam ARC	STX	2	A	G	796	33	0	15	18	2	700	10

In summary, we came in second in STX. With more operators next year, we could be number one. Think about it.

2018 Board of Directors:

As of the election results at the November meeting, the new Board of Directors will be officially installed at the Awards Banquet on January 19, 2018:

President - Richard Nelson KF5WRD
 Vice Pres- Keith Dutson NM5G
 Treasurer - Sheree Horton KF5LMJ
 Secretary - Martin Rogoff N5GPS
 Director - Ron Matusek WA6TQH
 Director - Marty Fitzgerald W5MF

As an added note:

Anyone needing a membership badge to wear should send their request to Sheree Horton KF5LMJ via email. It's a great welcome enhancement to know who the folks are at the meetings. Please include name and call sign.

sher5456@gmail.com

NARS rings the bell for Salvation Army

NARS came out in force to assist the Salvation Army in their annual fund raising campaign. Sixteen of our members volunteered their time on Saturday, December 2 and manned the collection buckets at Wal-Mart on US 249 and Spring Cypress Road. The results aren't in yet.. Ken Scott, Northwest Corp. Red Kettle coordinator, will be giving us a report in the near future as to whether we achieved our goal for this year, but so far, it appears we did quite well.



During operations, the site was visited by Salvation Army Captain Ward. Thanks to coordinator Jerry Whiting KB5VGD and all that participated in this worthy cause.

Editor's note: Reported money collected was just over \$500!

Why do we say it?

"The Die is cast!"

Is the "die" of the expression "the die is cast" the kind used in casting metal?

No, the *die* referred to is the singular of *dice*. Once you have thrown or cast the dice you can't pick them up and throw them again.

See, you know some Latin and didn't even know it!

Status report: Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2017 - S. 1534 is alive, but with legislative action slowed to a glacial pace on Capitol Hill in recent months, there's been no real progress to report since this past summer. At present, the bill is under consideration by the US Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, and it remains an active concern for ARRL. The League is working diligently to shake the bill loose and move it forward.

While it may appear that time is short, S. 1534 does not need to pass the Senate by year's end. The bill remains in play until the current session of Congress adjourns, which doesn't happen until December 31, 2018. Once the bill has been passed by both chambers, the FCC would still have to implement its essence in the Part 97 Amateur Service rules.



Introduced on July 12, S. 1534 marked another step forward for the landmark legislation. Senators Roger Wicker (R-MS) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) sponsored the bill in the Senate. The US House version of the legislation, HR 555, passed the House of Representatives by unanimous consent last January.

Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

New Members:

Waldemar Kielkowski K5NC & Robert West KG5VUF

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

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

TBA

NARS Information

President & Board Chairman

Richard Nelson KF5WRD
281 257-1279
Richard-nelson@hotmail.com

Ron Matusek WA6TQH
281 205-3068
ronml@att.com

Vice President

Keith Dutson - Pending
281 516-1466
kdutson@sbcglobal.net

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

Treasurer

Sheree Horton KF5LMJ
713 299-6994
sher5456@gmail.com

Administrative & General Info.

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

Secretary

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

Send changes in address, phone, or email to:

NARS
P.O. Box 11483
Spring, TX 77391

Directors

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

Nets

2 meter Wed. 8 pm. 146.660, tone 141.3
Coordinator: Jerry Whiting KB5VGD
g_whiting@sbcglobal.net

Ron Horton KF5LFL

713 299-7013
Ron.Horton88@gmail.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 kdutson@sbcglobal.net

Meetings

Monthly General Membership 3rd. Friday
each month (except January) at 7:30 pm.
New location search in progress.

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, jsokolow@sbcglobal.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.