



NARS NEWS

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

October 2017

Important Dates

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 October location
at bottom of page 1.

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, Next meeting, Oct 31, 2017,
7:30 pm at: Ponderosa Fire Station
17061 Rolling Creek Drive, Houston

VE License Exam:

Next exam, Saturday, Oct 28, 2017
Saturday, at 8:00 AM at Tomball Re-
gional Hospital, 1st floor Green con-
ference room.

Lunch Break—North

Oct 11 Baker Street Pub
Oct 18 Sweet Tomatoes
Oct 25 B.J's Brewery
Nov 1 Gianna's
Nov 8 Spring Creek BBQ
Nov 15 Pei Wei

.Lunch Break—Medical Center

Oct 11 Southwell's Hamburger Grill
Oct 18 Silver Palace Chinese Buffet
Oct 25 Pappa's BBQ
Nov 1 Morningside Thai
Nov 8 Pronto Cucinino
Nov 15 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 anniver-
sary date.

October 20th Program:

*Still more on on
Digital Communications,
the wave of the future!*
*presented by Marty Fitzgerald W5MF and Ron
Matusek WA6TQH.*

*“Come on in, there's still room for you to grow!”
See page 4 for details.*



*** Meeting location for October ***

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, September 23, 2017 VE Test Session Results at Tomball Regional Hospital:

We had 11 candidates taking 17 tests.

Element 2 tests given: 10; passed 9

Element 3 tests given: 6; passed 2

Element 4 tests given: 1; passed 1

Congratulations to:

Henry Cisneros - new Technician

Marie Rogoff - new Technician

Christopher Blake - new Technician

Robert Born - new Technician

Dev Tavares - new Technician

Ryan Haugstad - new Technician

Lauren Howard - new Technician

John Taylor - new General

Kyle Addis - new General

William Meredith KB5PNI - upgrade to Extra

Thanks to the VE's in attendance:

Sheree Horton KF5LMJ - session manager

Richard Nelson KF5WRD

Steve Protz KA5AUD

Bill Bierman N5RDO

Ron Horton KF5LFL

Martin Rogoff N5GPS

Special thanks to Sheree for taking over as session manager during my absence to participate in the 2017 Texas QSO Party. The next monthly session will be held 0800 Saturday, October 28, at Tomball Regional Hospital.

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

Do you have a bucket list of ham radio things you would like to accomplish?

Let's look at some items that might be on that list.

Upgrade from Technician to General License

Upgrade from General to Amateur Extra License

Learn Morse Code

Volunteer for a Public Service Event

Become a Volunteer Examiner

Serve on the NARS Board of Directors

Participate in the Texas QSO Party

Operate in a Digital HF Mode

Become a Member of a DXpedition

Upgrade your Ham Shack for Contesting

Upgrade your Antennas for Contesting

Operate Mobile Using 2-Meter Repeaters

Attend Every NARS General Membership Meeting

Pay NARS Dues Regularly

Be a Leader in the next NARS ARRL Field Day

Arrange a Program for a NARS General Membership Meeting

Attend the NARS Regular Monday "Tail Draggers" Luncheon at Hooks Airport

Attend the NARS Regular Wednesday Luncheon at Various Locations

Attend the NARS Regular Saturday Breakfast at Denny's, FM2929 at T.C. Jester

Attend the Yearly NARS Awards Banquet

Participate in the NARS Weekly Wednesday Evening 2-meter Net

Participate in the NARS Weekly Monday Evening 80-meter Net

Join the NARS Reflector

Read the Monthly NARS Newsletter

Contribute an Article for the Monthly Newsletter

Learn How to Use D-Star

Learn How to Use DMR

Learn How to Use C4FM

This list could go on and on. The idea is to pick something to put in your bucket. Go ahead, pick a few and put on your list.

So, how do you go about reaching these goals. Look no farther than NARS. Our membership has collectively done all the above.

Put your question out at a general membership meeting, or at one of the other functions sponsored by NARS. Good luck.

73, Keith Dutson NM5G
NARS Administrative Secretary



**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 now has a new address!

Please update your address list!

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

ARRL Reminds Amateurs to Keep Clear of Frequencies Designated for Puerto Rico-Caribbean Emergency Response

ARRL reminds Amateur Radio operators that emergency communications are taking place on and around 14.265, as well as other frequencies. Please avoid these frequencies whenever possible, to allow for emergency communications to transpire clearly and efficiently.



If you must be on the air in the vicinity of these frequencies, please allow emergency operators at least 2 or 3 KHz on each side. Thank you for your consideration of your fellow Amateur Radio operators who are doing important work in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.

Ham-Astronauts Taking Part in Spacewalks this Month

Two ham-astronauts on the International Space Station (ISS) crew will participate in a trio of spacewalks this month. NASA Television and the agency's [website](#) will provide live coverage of the spacewalks.

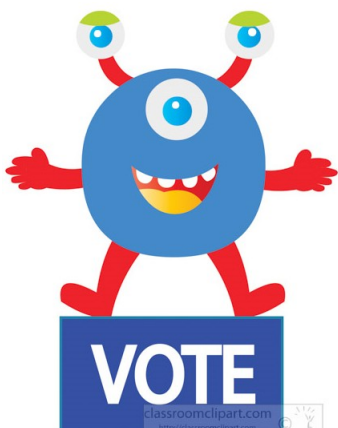
Expedition 53 Commander Randy Bresnik will lead all three spacewalks. He'll be joined on October 5 and 10 by Flight Engineer Mark Vande Hei, KG5GNP, while Flight Engineer Joe Acaba, KE5DAR, accompany Bresnik outside the ISS for a third spacewalk on October 18.



During the first spacewalk, Bresnik and Vande Hei will replace a faulty component on the station's robotic arm, Canadarm2. The second and third spacewalks will be devoted to lubricating the newly installed mechanisms,

known as end effectors, and replacing external cameras. The spacewalks will be the first for Vande Hei.

ARRL News

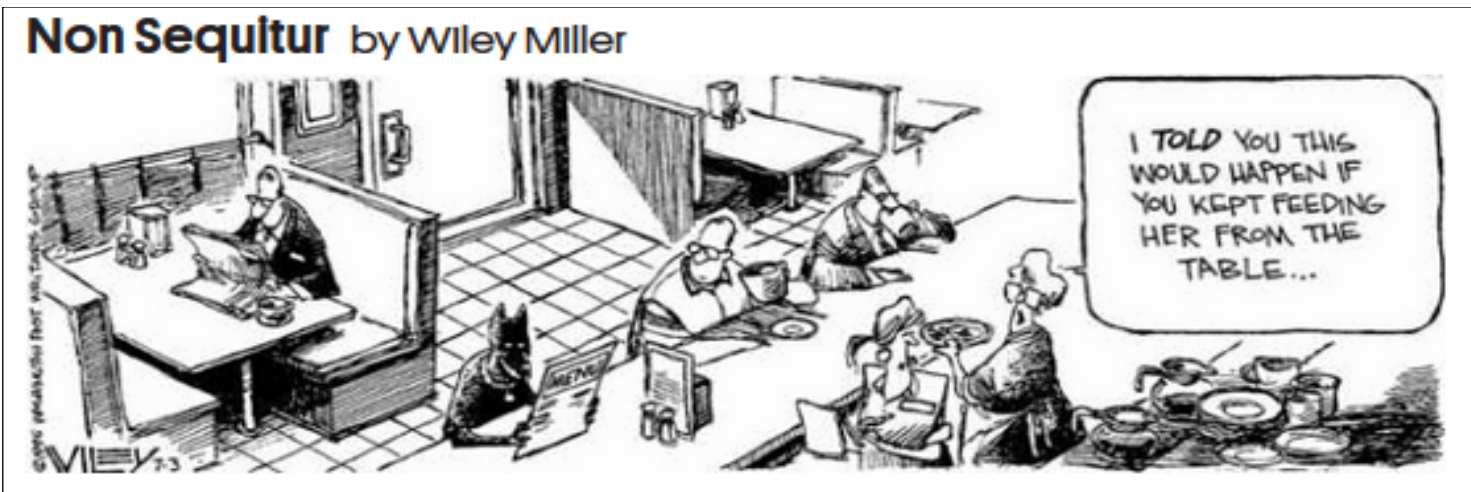


Election of NARS 2018 Officers!

The election of NARS 2018 officers takes place at the November meeting. The club needs to elect new Directors. Please consider taking one of these positions.

NARS needs new ideas to insure its future. All it takes is to attend board meetings each month and assist in voicing your ideas on how to better the operation of the Northwest Amateur Radio Society. You can help make a difference!

Contact Keith Dutson at kdutson@sbcglobal.net or just come to the general meeting on November 20th. We'll do the rest.....



Time to ring the bells for The Salvation Army!

Each year Narsians get together for one Saturday to man the kettles for the Salvation Army at the Wal-Mart located at the corner of US 249 and Spring Cypress Road. This year NARS members will be ringing the bells on **Saturday, December 2nd**. Two volunteers are needed for each one hour shift, starting at 10 a.m. and ending at 5 p.m.

Jerry Whiting KB5VGD, is coordinator for this worthy event and is now accepting names of those wanting to devote a little time for those in need. Sign up now and get your favorite time slot! Hey! Get off your duff and do something nice. The "Great Provider" may decide to give you a break someday....

Jerry Whiting g_whiting@sbcglobal.net

October Meeting - A Deeper Look at DMR

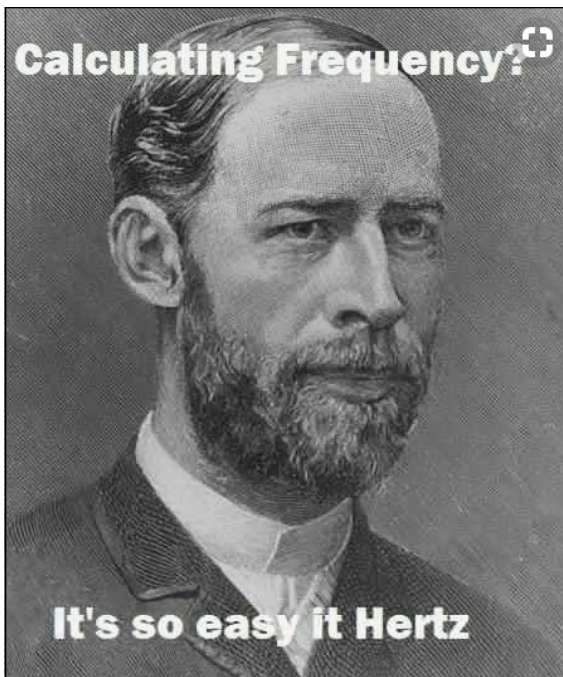
Marty Fitzgerald W5MF will present the following:

- A quick review as to what DMR is
- Talk Groups (Digital Contacts), Channels, Zones, Digital Receive Groups, and Scanning
- Differences between DMR-MARC, Brandmeister, and DMRplus
- Review and demonstration of codeplug programming TYT radios with TYT CPS software and code plug editors
- Repeater usage, some do's and don'ts
- Demonstration of different dongles: SharkRF OpenSPOT and DVMEGA-Raspberry Pi.
- Q/A

Ron Matussek WA6TQH will present the following:

- Basic operational information on RFinder
- An operational demonstration
- Features and future plans for RFinder
- YouTube presentation

If you have a DMR radio, and want to learn how to use it, this information will get you off and running. It may also pique your interest in this new mode, to get you started.



Who invented the word "electricity?"

Dr. William Gilbert, who became physician to Queen Elizabeth in 1601. Dr Gilbert gave the name "electric" to static electricity produced by rubbing a piece of amber with a cloth. He derived the name from *electron*, the Greek word for "amber."

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Fall is a season associated with changes: changes in the trees, and the weather. There are also changes occurring with NARS, and this is the subject of this month's column.

One change has been our meeting location. The next meeting will be at Spring Creek BBQ on FM 2920 (same as last month). With the Community Center out of commission for an indeterminate period, we are in search of a new permanent meeting site. A few possibilities had to be rejected as they exceed our budget; lacked adequate parking; or had other issues. If you know a Goldilocks site, please e-mail me.

I want to thank the Board Members for all the assistance they have provided these last few months. The club has been navigating through several changes, and it has not always been easy. Elections are next month — If you want to change things in the club, this is your opportunity to become part of the solution.

One item that was requested was a change in venue for the Banquet in January. We have decided to hold the event at the Backyard Grill on Jones Rd. — more details are forthcoming. We will carry on, and keep working through these changes and others with your support.

Richard Nelson KF5WRD

Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

New members:

Marie Rogoff, new tech, Christopher Blake, new tech,
Daphnine Rawlinson K5VQY

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

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Richard Nelson KF5WRD
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Richard-nelson@hotmail.com

Ron Matusek WA6TQH
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Mike Bowen N8ILU
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Treasurer

Sheree Horton KF5LMJ
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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
713 299-7113

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 kdutson@sbcglobal.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, 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.