



NARS NEWS

April 2018

Important Dates

Monthly club meeting:

Third Friday of each month, 7:30 pm.
(except January) See bottom of page
1 for details.

Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, Next meeting, April 24,
2018, 7:30 pm at: Ponderosa Fire
Station 17061 Rolling Creek Drive,
Houston

VE License Exam:

Next exam, Saturday, April 28, 2018
at 8:00 AM at Tomball Regional Hos-
pital, 1st floor Green conference room.

Lunch Break—North

April 11 B.J.'s Brewery
April 18 Gianna's
April 25 Spring Creek BBQ
May 2 Pei Wei
May 9 Panera Bread

Lunch Break—Medical Center

April 11 Silver Palace Chinese Buffet
April 18 Mirningside Thai
April 25 Pronto Cucinino
May 2 Antonio's Mexican Grill
May 9 Jason's Deli

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

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

Friday, April 20,

Featuring

Jimmy Vance W5ZTX

A discourse on

the subject of

“Remote Radio Operation.”

W5ZTX, first licensed as a Novice in 1988, shortly thereafter passed the Technician and then General. Finally took the extra test about 3 years ago. Involved with many different aspects of the hobby using HF along with VHF/UHF. Currently the president of Katy Amateur Radio Society.

Reviews of past lectures:

“Shocking but oh, so true” Rolling Pebble Magazine
“Awesome and revealing” Editor of Resistance is Futile Monthly
“Every child should know about this!” The Quarter pounder,
TX Console of Internal Faith,
“Who would have thunk it!” CEO, in shock of Say What? News.

MEETING FRIDAY APRIL 20, 6:30 – 9:00 @ Denny's
located on NW corner of FM 2920 and TC Jester.

This is located a few blocks west of the barbecue place. WHY?
Our most recent temporary home, Spring Creek Barbecue was booked for a pre-
wedding dinner this month.

PLAN B is moving to the Denny's down the street on FM 2920 @ TC Jester.

There is a meeting room in the back with a TV.

Denny's expectation is attendees purchase dinner, as we are getting use of the
room for “free.”

Richard Nelson, KF5WRD, President - NARS

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, March 24 VE Test Session Results at Tomball Regional Hospital

We had 3 candidates taking 5 tests.
Element 2 tests given: 3; passed 3
Element 3 tests given: 2; passed 0
Element 4 tests given: 0; passed 0

Congratulations to:

Richard Saunders - new Technician
Donald Jenkins - new Technician
Matthew McLendon - new Technician

Thanks to the VE's in attendance:

Martin Rogoff N5GPS
Stephen Protz KA5AUD
Ted Blackburn N9GVR
Sheree Horton KF5LMJ
R Ferguson K5LLR
Ron Horton KF5LFL

The next monthly session will be held 0800 Saturday, April 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

Did you know that NARS now has a new address?

You should have by now.
Please update your address list!

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



**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.*

President's Column –

By Richard Nelson, KF5WRD

Well, we made it through March and are heading into April.

I will continue to use this forum to inform the club about what is happening – good and bad. If there is something you want me to address here, send me an e-mail.

I want to begin by thanking the Board Members who have really jumped in to assist this past month. Our most recent home, Spring Creek Barbecue was booked for a pre-wedding dinner this month, so we are moving to the Denny's down the street on FM 2920 @ TC Jester. There is a meeting room in the back with a TV. Denny's expectation is attendees purchase dinner, as we are getting use of the room for "free."

The Board members have continued searching for a permanent home, but have been stymied by a few factors:

(1) facilities being unavailable on Friday evenings, or
(2) facilities costing too much, e.g., \$200/night - \$500/night.

(3) Facility is generally not open to public or is in location without great parking, etc.

(4) Some good sites are already booked up.

Keep watching the Reflector for changes, as the situation remains fluid.

Several board members have arranged for speakers or to give presentations themselves in the next few months. So that is shaping up nicely.

The 66 repeater situation remains unchanged, and we are still waiting to hear about getting access to the site. I'll let you know if and when something new develops.

The last big thing is Field Day. I hear people tell me that they want to do it, but we still haven't had anyone volunteer to coordinate. I understand several of the club members (myself included) are running into family commitments or medical issues. But I fear we may have to consider cancelling Field day if we cannot get any volunteers. I have heard some other clubs in the area faced similar difficulties in the past year.

To use the now hackneyed phrase, "Keep Calm and Carry On". Until Next month -- Richard



ARLB008 W1AW 2018 Spring/Summer Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1300 UTC (9 AM ET)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1400 UTC to 1600 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM ET)
1700 UTC to 1945 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET)
(Station closed 1600 to 1700 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM ET))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2000 UTC (4 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2000 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2100 " (5 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
2200 " (6 PM ET)	DIGITAL	Daily
2300 " (7 PM ET)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
2300 " "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0000 " (8 PM ET)	CWb	Daily
0100 " (9 PM ET)	DIGITAL	Daily
0145 " (9:45 PM ET)	VOICE	Daily
0200 " (10 PM ET)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0200 " "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0300 " (11 PM ET)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8025 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475 18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 50.350 147.555

DIGITAL: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095 18.1025 21.095 28.095 50.350 147.555

VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290 18.160 21.390 28.590 50.350 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM

CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM

CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

DIGITAL = BAUDOT (45.45 baud), BPSK31 and MFSK16 in a revolving schedule.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds. On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2230 UTC (6:30 PM ET), Keplerian Elements or active amateur satellites are sent on the regular digital frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Thursdays and 0000 UTC (8 PM ET) Fridays. Audio from W1AW's CW code practices, and CW/digital/phone bulletins is available using EchoLink via the W1AW Conference Server named "W1AWBDCT." The monthly W1AW Qualifying Runs are presented here as well. The CW/digital/phone audio is sent in real-time and runs concurrently with W1AW's regular transmission schedule.

All users who connect to the conference server are muted. Please note that any questions or comments about this server should not be sent via the "Text" window in EchoLink. Please direct any questions or comments to w1aw@arrl.org.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Digital at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour. FCC licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1400 UTC to 1600 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM ET), and then from 1700 UTC to 1945 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM ET) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur license or a photocopy. The complete W1AW Operating Schedule may be found on page 90 in the March 2018 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>.

Grumpy's back in style!

I stumbled upon an article the other day on that great time-waster in the sky known as the internet. The premise was that a young man, trying to improve his computer language writing skills had formed a Twitter group: "#100DaysofCode." The idea was to get a group to encourage one another to improve their code writing skills by dedicating themselves to work, at home, after work, for at least one hour a night writing code, in whatever language they were working on. This should help them all to improve their code writing skills.

My small mind looked at the article and drifted to another code skill. Imagine spending an hour a night working on your Morse Code skills. At 7:00 PM each night get on 30, 40 or 80 CW and practice your code skills. Call CQ, or answer one. Find someone at your speed and have a QSO. Don't rely on RST, QTH, and name, but actually get on and chat. 7:00 PM is just a suggestion. Find a time that works for you. If you get on the approximate same time and frequency, you will find some of the same folks on at the same time. Then you can really get to know them by having real rag chews.

W1AW sends code practice at 6 and 10 PM. That can count for your time for #100DaysofCode. There are areas of the bands that seem to be hangouts for the slow speed guys and areas of faster operators. Just get on and listen. Find your niche and get on.

I suppose you can join the Twitter group #100DaysofCode and report your progress there. That should really surprise a few folks who don't see that Morse Code is a code too !

HAMVENTION DIVERSION: HEARING (AND SEEING)

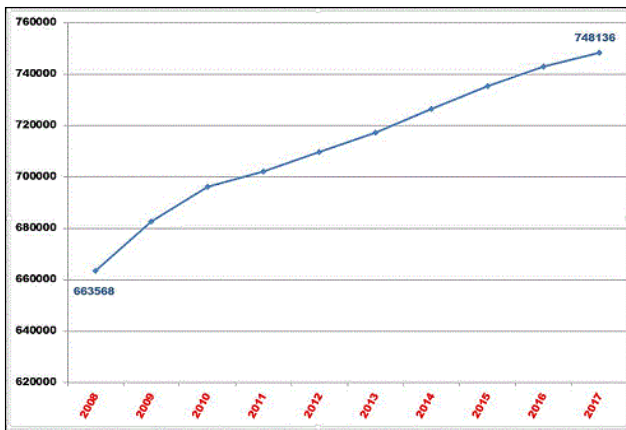
VOICE OF AMERICA/JIM/ANCHOR:

JIM/ANCHOR: If you're heading to Ohio for Hamvention in May, there's one stop you'll want to make. Neil Rapp WB9VPG tells us where -- and why. NEIL: When the lights go out at the Greene County Fairgrounds after a busy day at Hamvention, what happens next? The National Voice of America's Museum of Broadcasting has that answer: A visit to West Chester, Ohio, a half-hour or so away from the convention by car. The museum is open for extended hours during Hamvention weekend, and visitors can get an early start on Thursday when the museum is open from 1 to 4 p.m. The museum will have especially late hours until 9 p.m. on Friday May 18th and Saturday May 19th.

This historic site, known as VOA's Bethany Station, had six of the world's most powerful shortwave transmitters sending messages to Europe, Africa and South America between 1944 and 1994, when the studio finally went silent. Attendees can visit the exhibits dedicated to broadcast pioneer Powel Crosley Jr., see a huge collection of Drake Amateur Radio gear and VOA's remaining 250,000-watt transmitter as well as the 1960s master control room. Or do what hams enjoy best: get on the air from the ham shack for WC8VOA, the West Chester Amateur Radio Association. For more information on hours and exhibits visit voamuseum.org - and see you in Ohio!

More than 30,000 New Ham Licensees and 7,000 Amateur Radio Exam Sessions in 2017

For the fourth year in a row, more than 30,000 new licensees joined the Amateur Radio ranks, and ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VEC) conducted more than 7,000 Amateur Radio exam sessions, serving some 35,350 candidates for a new or upgraded license. At the end of December 2017, the US Amateur Radio population stood at 748,136.



The Amateur Radio population has grown steadily over the past decade.

At nearly 378,000, Technician licensees represented the largest segment, with General (174,206), Amateur Extra (145,034), Advanced (41,938), and Novice (9,056) trailing. Licensee numbers showed continued growth across all classes except Advanced and Novice, which the FCC no longer issues; those numbers continue to drop.

"I'm hopeful that the number of new licensees will be more than 30,000 at the end of this year," ARRL VEC Manager Maria Somma, AB1FM, said. "I would love to see this trend continue!"

Hamvention is less than 45 days away. Firm up your plans now.

Many of the Dayton contest related activities are listed on the Contest Super Suite web site at <http://contestsupsuite.com>. Four nights of Super Suite fun hosted by the North Coast Contesters (NCC), the Frankford Radio Club (FRC) and the Mad River Radio Club (MRRC).

There is a tab for Contest Related Events which gives you a good summary of activities including speaker/topic information for the Hamvention. Friday Antenna forum, the Saturday RTTY Contest forum and the Saturday Contest forum. ConTest University (CTU) is held the day before Hamvention opens. Information to register is at <http://contestuniversity.com>. CTU is still taking applications for CTU tuition scholarships for those 25 years old or younger – use the Contact Us tab to apply.

The Dayton Contest Dinner will be held Saturday evening May 19. Club tables are filling up and singles are still available. Chris, DL1MGB is the speaker. Details are at <http://contestdinner.com>. The 29th annual Dayton Top Band dinner is Friday May 18. Jerry WB9Z is the speaker. Details are at <http://topbanddinner.com>.

Then there is four nights of pizza parties in the Contest Super Suite hosted by the Potomac Valley Radio Club (PVRC), the Yankee Clipper Contest Club (YCCC) and the Society of Midwest Contesters (SMC).

Hope to see you in Dayton.



Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

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

Vice President

Keith Dutson NM5G - Pending
281 516-1466
kdutson@sbcglobal.net

Treasurer

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

Secretary

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

Directors

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

Ron Horton KF5LFL
713 299-7013

Ron.Horton88@gmail.com

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

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

Administrative & General Info.

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

Send changes in address, phone, or email to:

NARS
P.O. Box 11483
Spring, TX 77391

Nets

2 meter Wed. 8 pm. 146.660, tone 141.3
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 kdutson@sbcglobal.net

Meetings

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

NARS News Editor

Joe Sokolowski, KD5KR
281 380-8015
jfsokosm2@gmail.com
Remote Abilene, TX office, now serving the
Northwest Houston Metropolitan Area

NARS News is published monthly by the Northwest Amateur Radio Society. Send all articles and materials for the newsletter to: Editor, Joe Sokolowski, jfsokosm2@gmail.com 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.