

August 2018

Northwest Amateur Radio Society

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### Lunch Break - North

Aug 15 Spring Creek BBQ  
 Aug 22 Pei Wei  
 Aug 29 Panera Bread  
 Sep 05 Jason's Deli  
 Sep 12 Adriatic Café  
 Sep 19 Woodlands Sweet Tomatoes

### Saturday Breakfast:

Saturdays at 7 am  
 Denny's 6504 FM 2920 @ TC Jester (west of Kuykendahl)

### Lunch Break - Medical Center

Aug 15 Pronto Cucinino  
 Aug 22 Antonio's Mexican Grill  
 Aug 29 Jason's Deli  
 Sep 05 Buffalo Grille  
 Sep 12 Southwell's Hamburger Grill  
 Sep 19 Pappas Barbecue  
 Sep 26 Silver Palace Chinese Buffet

### Monday Lunch (was Taildraggers lunch):

Mondays at 11 am; Goodson's in Tomball

*Next Meeting: Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup>*

*Ponderosa Fire Station*

**Buffalo Bayou Regatta**

Come hear about the Buffalo Bayou Regatta from the perspective of Trudi Smith. Trudi is on staff for the Buffalo Bayou Partnership.

NARS News is published monthly by the Northwest Amateur Radio Society (NARS). Northwest Amateur Radio Society is a Special Services Club affiliated with the American Radio Relay League, ARRL Club No. 2120. Please send all submissions to the newsletter editor before the end of the month prior to publication.

# Meeting Location

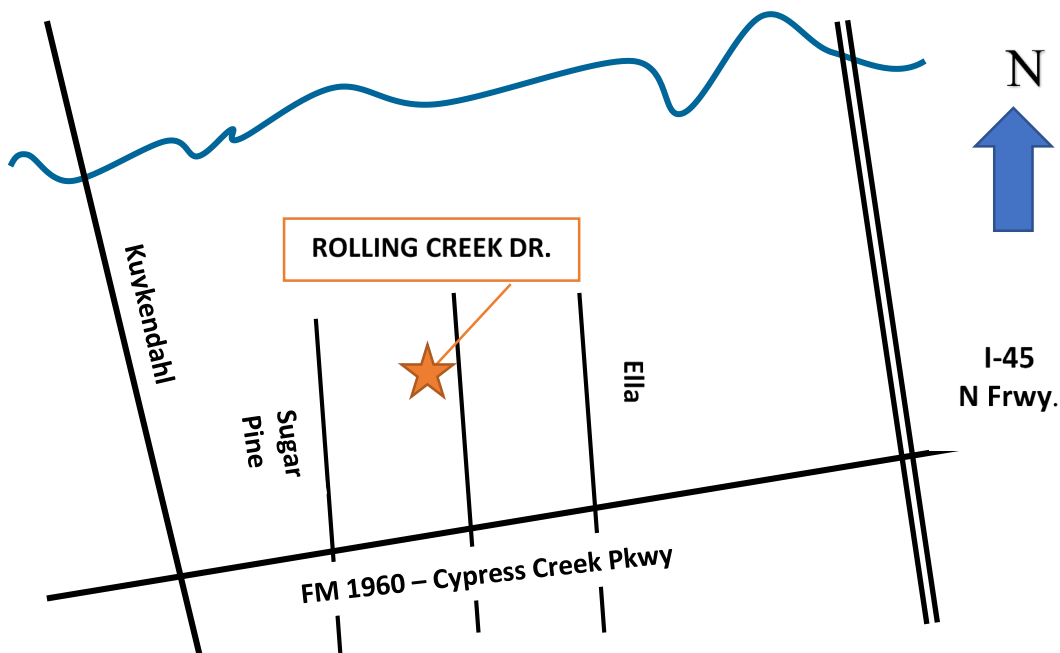
Ponderosa Fire Station Headquarters – Station 61  
17061 Rolling Creek Dr.  
Houston, TX 77090



Picture from <http://www.ponderosavfd.org/equipment/index.html>

The Board wishes to thank the Ponderosa Fire Department for the generous offer allowing NARS use of their facility.

## LOCATION MAP — 17061 Rolling Creek Dr.



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## Tips and Tidbits from the Grumpy ol' Ham

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I'd say DX Tips, etc, but since the sun has gone quiet, I'll just pass on some tidbits.

Summer in Texas. We like it here because we don't have to shovel snow and spin out on ice. Our northern neighbors like it up there because it's cooler in the summer. We have air conditioning, so I'll take Texas over the North.

This does make you think that putting up solar panels on the roof might be a good idea. When you look around the ham shack and realize all your gear runs on 12 Volt D. C., it makes it even more sense to run your own ham power grid. Running your whole house would be pretty expensive, but a panel or two just might do the trick for your shack.

It's hard to imagine that at one time, great swaths of New York City ran on 110 Volt D. C., not A. C.

Thomas Edison championed big D. C. generators and wired New York. I'm sure you've seen old appliances that say "110 V AC/DC" That's because they had to work in either environment. Lucky for us, and unlucky for Mr. Edison, Nikola Tesla's idea of alternating current won out.

The more amazing fact is that ConEd, the electricity provider for New York City, didn't complete the turnover from D. C. to A. C., until 2007! Add to this, since many old buildings and shops were established in Direct Current time, ConEd has installed on premise rectifiers to continue to provide DC.

DC powered elevators are just not cheap to replace, just to give one example.

Enjoy your power.

73

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## AUGUST MEETING

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### Field Day Planning

**Come hear about the Buffalo Bayou Regatta from the perspective of Trudi Smith.**

June 15 7 pm Ponderosa Fire Station, 17061 Rolling Creek, Houston, TX

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## JULY MEETING RECAP

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### All About hurricane Harvey

Jeffery A Walter, KE5FGA, who is our ARRL STX SEC, presented all about hurricane Harvey.

He showed maps of Harvey's path along with actual daily rainfall amounts reported by NOAA and volunteers. He also displayed examples of the ICS and other forms that were used for Harvey and will be used for future events.

## Update to Technician Class Exam Question Pool—JULY

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**NEW Technician class (Element 2) pool took effect on July 1, 2018 and will be valid until June 30, 2022.**

On July 1, 2018 a new Element 2 Technician class question pool took effect for examinations. The question pools review is part of a regular process and each question pool is reviewed and updated on a four year rotation. The General pool is scheduled for an update in 2019. All current question pools and useful information pertaining to the pools can be viewed on the ARRL Web at [www.arrl.org/question-pools](http://www.arrl.org/question-pools). [www.ncvec.org/](http://www.ncvec.org/).

## Congratulations

- Michael Williams - new Amateur Extra (started the day with no license)
- James McBride - new Technician
- James Schultz - new Technician

Saturday, July 28<sup>th</sup>

We had 3 candidates taking 6 tests.

Element 2 tests given: 3; passed 3

Element 3 tests given: 2; passed 1

Element 4 tests given: 1; passed 1

Thanks to the VE's in attendance:

Ted Blackburn N9GVR, Bill Bierman N5RDO, Stephen Protz KA5AUD, Martin Rogoff N5GPS, Ron Matusek WA6TQH, and Skip Ferguson K5LLR.

And to Keith Dutson NM5G, NARS ARRL VE Liaison

Special points of interest:

- Next VE Session August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018; 8 am at Tom-ball Regional Hospital
- Contact Keith Dutson NM5G

**NARS now has a new address!**

**Please update your address list!**

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

NARS WEBSITE: W5NC.NET

E-Mail Reflector: mailman.qth.net.



4721 Watonga Blvd.  
Houston, TX 77092  
[www.ofarc.org](http://www.ofarc.org)

*V.E. Exams every 4th Saturday of the month at 9:30 a.m.*

*Contact: John Westerlage  
[NSDWI@ofarc.org](mailto:NSDWI@ofarc.org) for further info.*

## Hamfest Calendar

**10/06/2018 HamEXPO**

**Location: Belton, TX**

**Website: <http://hamvention.org>**

# NARS Information

## General Membership Meetings

3rd. Friday each month at 7:30 pm. —  
EXCEPT January Banquet  
New location Ponderosa Fire Dept.  
17061 Rolling Creek Dr. Houston

## Weekly 2m Net

Wed. 8 pm.  
Monitor Reflector for Current Repeater  
Coordinator: Jerry Whiting KB5VGD  
g\_whiting@sbcglobal.net

## Board Meetings

Monthly, last Tuesday of each month at  
7:30 pm. EXCEPT December  
Ponderosa Fire Dept.  
17061 Rolling Creek Dr. Houston

## NARS name tag

If you would like a NARS name tag get  
in touch with Sheree Horton at a gen-  
eral meeting or contact her via email  
at sher5456@gmail.com. Sheree needs  
your name and call.

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# NARS Officers & Other Contacts

## President & Board Chairman

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

## Vice President

Keith Dutson NM5G  
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

## Newsletter Editor

Martin Rogoff N5GPS  
832-603-0036  
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  
ronm1@att.net

## Mike Bowen N8ILU

281 954-0940  
mike5664g@yahoo.com

## Texas QSO Party

Co-coordinator: Chuck Sanders NO5W  
832 657-4832  
no5w.chuck@gmail.com

## Administrative & General Info.

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

## Web site

URL: <http://www.w5nc.net>  
Web Master: Bill Buoy N5BIA  
281 370-3510 n5bia@arrl.net

## NARS E-Mail Reflector

NARS@mailman.qth.net  
Coordinator: Keith Dutson NM5G  
keith1@dutson.net

## VE Session (ARRL) Manager

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

## Texas QSO Party

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