



January 2018

## 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.

### Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, Next meeting, Jan 30, 2018,  
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

Jan 10 Pei Wei  
Jan 17 Panera Bread  
Jan 24 Jason's Deli  
Jan 31 Russo's New York Pizzeria  
Feb 7 Sweet Tomatoes

### Lunch Break—Medical Center

Jan 10 Antonio's Mexican Grill  
Jan 17 Jason's Deli  
Jan 24 Buffalo Grille  
Jan 31 Southwell's Hamburger Grill  
Feb 7 Silver Palace Chinese Buffet

### 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 2)

### 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

# NARS NEWS

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

## Annual Awards

## Banquet!

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.*

*We will order from a special menu. See menu at:*

*<http://www.dutson.net/NARS/NARS%20Awards%20Banquet.html>*

*Activities begin at 6PM, with eyeball QSO's. Dinner orders will be placed at 6:30pm, and dining is planned for 7 to 8 p.m. 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/>*

*We have reserved a room that can seat 30 persons. I need your reservation to make sure you will have a seat.*

*Send a \*\*\*RESERVATION EMAIL \*\*\* to: [keith1@dutson.net](mailto:keith1@dutson.net)*

*Let Keith Dutson know if you will attend. We need to have an approximate count of those showing up.*

*[kdutson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kdutson@sbcglobal.net)*

## President's corner

Richard Nelson KF5WRD

### NARS in 2017

Ever wonder what NARS was up to in 2017? Here are a few clues:

- Buffalo Bayou Regatta, helping in setting a fundraising record.
- Field Day success taking STX 2A second place
- NARS members participating in the training of astronauts at Johnson Space Center
- A record setting ham class in which 20 participated and 18 getting new licenses
- Strong VE session performances resulting in 63 new Hams in spite of cancelling August session due to hurricane
- NARS members went on DXpedition in Nicaragua, winning 1st Place World plaque in CQ WPX SSB Expedition competition
- Texas QSO Party, sponsored by NARS, completed production & distribution of awards for 2014, 2015 & 2016
- NARS Board successfully took on responsibility of administrative secretary including change of NARS P.O. Box
- NARS held two informative meetings on use and demonstration of Digital Mobile Radio (DMR)
- Continued support to Redd School Lab Rats RC - W5LAB
- Performed NARS 2 meter repeater maintenance with plans to improve performance in 2018

Add to that, NARS was able to maintain uninterrupted monthly meetings despite the loss of our meeting site due to extensive flooding of our meeting place. Still working on obtaining another site. Will be following up on a request to use a Baptist Church. More to follow on this task.

Want more? Jump in, there's still room for you and your ideas!

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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  
[N5DWI@oafrc.org](mailto:N5DWI@oafrc.org) for further info.

## NARS Membership Renewal Notice

This is the annual request for NARS dues. These dues are used to keep the club running, and your membership active. All dues are paid annually, during December and January. If you paid during any other month, you receive credit for the next year on a pro-rated (monthly) calculation.

Dues:

Member - \$20

Member - Family (includes members of your family) - \$25

Student (not in family membership) - \$12.50

Member Name: Keith Dutson

Call-Class: NM5G Extra

Address: 24415 Deep Meadow, Tomball, TX 77375

Phone: 281 516-1466

Phone-Mobile:

Email: [kdutson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kdutson@sbcglobal.net)

Member Type: Member

ARRL Member: no

Newsletter Distribution: email

Date Join: 1995-01-01

Date Expire: 2018-01-10

Dues Amount: \$20

Let me know if any information above has changed. Thanks. Also, let me know if you did not receive a notice.

How to pay:

You may mail a check made out to NARS to:

NARS

P.O. Box 11483

Spring, TX 77391

You may pay by cash or check in person at the monthly general membership meeting, or at most of the Monday and Wednesday luncheons, and Saturday breakfast. Please consider renewing today so NARS can continue to be an active, productive club.

Thanks.

73, Keith NM5G

NARS Admin Secretary

**NARS now has a new address!**

Please update your address list!

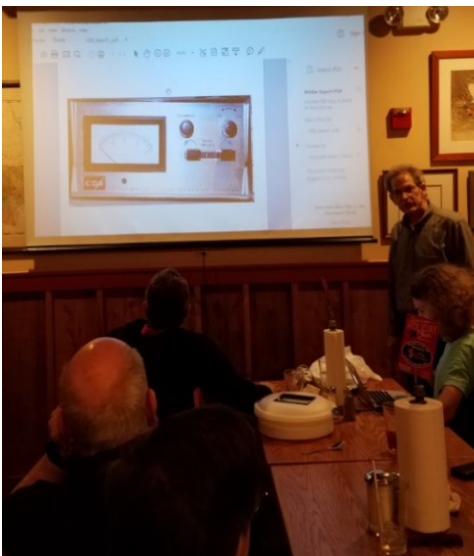
**Northwest Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 11483**

## Second Annual AM Rally Special Event Set for February 2-4 Weekend

The [AM Rally](#) special event once again is inviting operators to explore the original phone mode over the February 2-4 weekend. Co-sponsor Clark Burgard, N1BCG, said the event “is intended to be both fun and educational.” It encourages all radio amateurs to get on AM, possibly for the first time. “Because of resurgent interest in AM, the event is also an opportunity for amateurs new to AM to learn about proper settings and get the most performance out of their station, whether it’s modern, vintage, tube, transistor, software-defined, military, boat anchor, broadcast, home brewed, or commercially made,” Burgard said.

The [AM Rally website](#) includes tips and suggestions for various transmitter types as well as links to additional information. Certificates will be awarded for most states contacted and most contacts overall made by stations in five power-output classes. Some “special recognitions” will be made on an ad hoc basis, Burgard said.

The AM Rally gets under way at 0000 UTC on Saturday, February 3, and concludes at 0700 UTC on Monday, February 5. Band include 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, and 6 meters. The 2017 AM Rally, which was held in April, was [a huge success](#), with nearly 1,500 contacts reported on the 72 logs submitted. -- Thanks to Clark Burgard, N1BCG



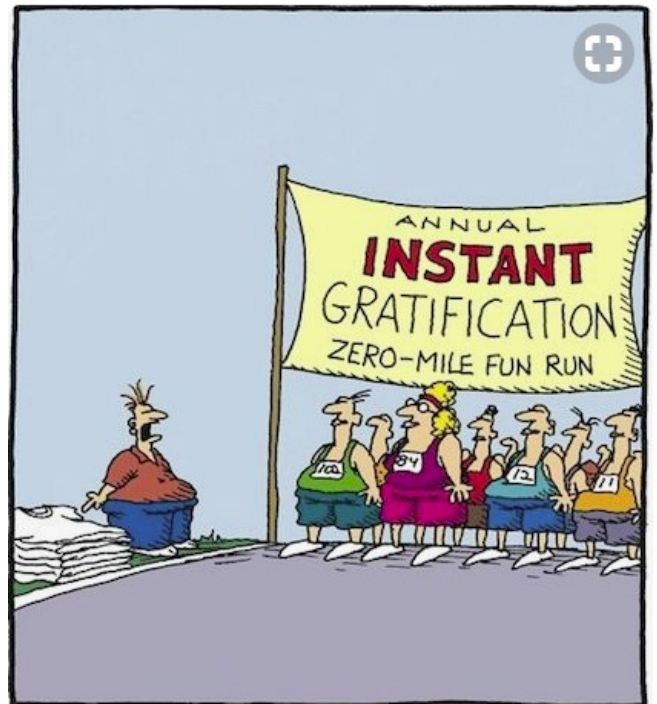
### *Help Needed for the 2018 Houston Marathon*

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

STEP 1: [www.hmhams.org](http://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.



“Runners to your mark. Get set. Go! ... OK, come get your T-shirts.”

## Another Radio Amateur Joins ISS Crew

ARRL News

The International Space Station crew is back to its nominal complement of six members, after Scott Tingle, KG5NZA, Anton Shkaplerov, and Norishige Kanai arrived on board early this week.

Cosmonaut Alexander Misurkin is the new Expedition 54 commander. The other crew members are Mark Vande Hei, KG5GNP, and Joe Acaba, KE5DAR.

On December 17, Tingle, Shkaplerov, and Kanai headed into space on board a Soyuz MS-07 vehicle from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.



(Front) Scott Tingle, KG5NZA; Alexander Misurkin, and Norishige Kanai (Rear) Anton Shkaplerov, Joe Acaba, KE5DAR, and Mark Vande Hei, KG5GNP. (NASA video)

CLOSE X

## 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 Dutton 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.

## Young Washington Radio Amateur Debuts Her Call Sign on HF, Hands Out Her Grid Square on Opening Day

January 1 was the opening day for the ARRL International Grid Chase 2018 (IGC), and newly minted General-class operator Katie Thompsen, KI7HCX, of Mt Vernon, Washington, used the occasion to embark on the chase *and* to get on HF for the first time using her own call sign.

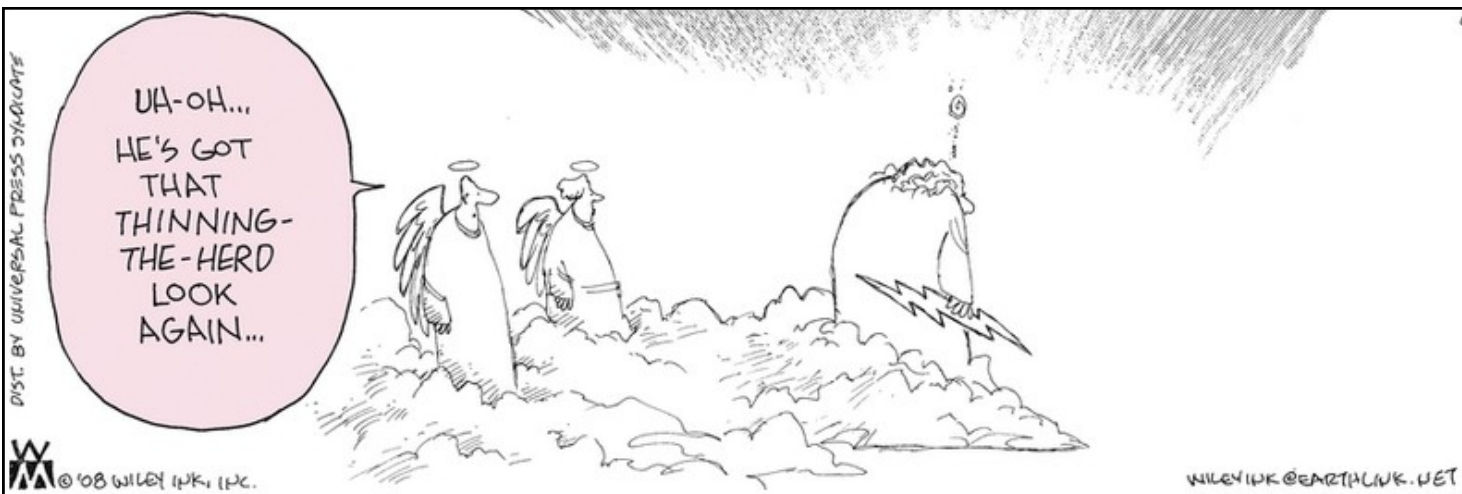
The 11-year-old comes from a ham radio family. Her dad, Todd, is W7TAO, while her older brothers are Mason, K7MWT, 15 — who upgraded to Amateur Extra at the examination session where his sister upgraded to General — and Tanner, K7TMT, 13.

“She called CQ Grid Square Chase on 20 meters and very quickly made 44 contacts,” her dad told ARRL. “She was very excited to work her first pileup and even had two Japanese stations QSO with her.

She’s anxious to continue participating in the grid square chase.” Todd Thompsen said all three young radio amateurs are looking forward to participating in **Rookie Roundup** in April.

The IGC is off to a rousing start, with more than 4,400 participants from around the globe already showing up on the **Leader Board**. Point totals for the International Grid Chase are shown for confirmed contacts only, and leader boards are updated several times a day; they are not based on real time data. All contacts on all bands except 60 meters are valid for Grid Chase credit, provided both stations upload their logs to Logbook of The World (**LoTW**) and get a match.

— Thanks to Todd Thompsen, W7TAO via ARRL News



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WILEYINK@EARTHINK.NET

# Welcome, Congratulations and Condolences

New Members:

Brandon Behar KG5WIX, & Robert Miller KG5JRJ

## 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 - 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

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

Ron Horton KF5LFL

713 299-7013  
Ron.Horton88@gmail.com

Ron Matusek WA6TQH

281 205-3068  
ronml@att.com

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,  
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.