

October 2019

Northwest Amateur Radio Society

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Lunch Break - North

Oct 16 Woodlands Sweet Tomatoes
 Oct 23 BJ's Rest & Brewhouse
 Oct 30 Gianna's Restaurant
 Nov 06 Spring Creek BBQ
 Nov 13 Mi Rancho Grill & Bar
 Nov 20 Panera Bread
 Nov 27 Jason's Deli

Saturday Breakfast:

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

Lunch Break - Medical Center

Oct 16 Silver Palace Chinese Buffet
 Oct 23 Niko Niko's Café
 Oct 30 Pappas Barbecue
 Nov 06 Antonio's Mexican Grill
 Nov 13 Jason's Deli
 Nov 20 Buffalo Grille
 Nov 27 Vieng Thai Restaurant

Monday Lunch (was Taildraggers lunch):

Mondays at 11 am; Goodson's in Tomball

Next Meeting: Friday, October 18th

DMR Radio Workshop.

Part #1

- Hotspot parts required
- Where to obtain Pi-Star OS
- Assembly and Configuration
- Software Tools recommended for OS Installation and configuration
- Programming
- How to obtain technical support using ZOOM and NARS Talk Group.
- Laptops will be available for help in programming Radios.

Part #2

- Introduction to new \$50 NanoVNA Network Analyzer.
 - Calibration overview
 - How to use to check out actual stock antenna Freq Range and SWR of your portable antennas
 - How to generate charts
- Friday October 18th, 2019 at 7:30PM
- Klein Fire Department Administration, 16810 Squyres Rd., Klein, TX 77379.

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

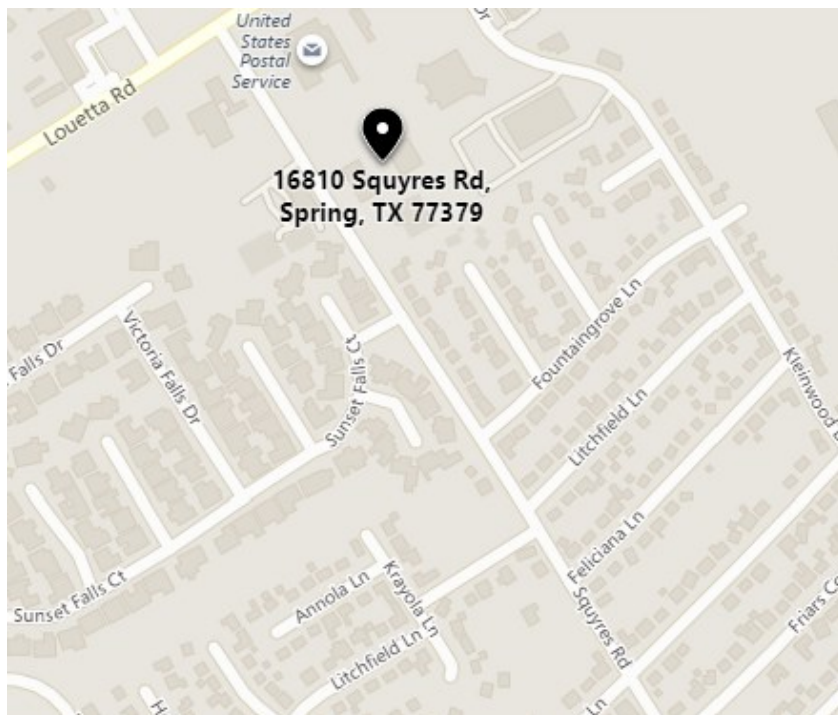
We will meet at Klein Fire Department Administration, 16810 Squyres Rd., Klein, TX 77379. It is located behind Klein Fire Station 4.



Picture from <http://kleinfiredept.com/services/stations/headquarters>

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

LOCATION MAP — 16810 Squyres Rd.



President's Corner

Make your voice heard!

Your ballot for ARRL West Gulf Division Director will soon arrive in the mail. When it does, we strongly urge you to cast your vote for the candidate you feel will be best to act in support of your concerns. John Robert Stratton N5AUS incumbent or Madison Jones, W5MJ. In the last WGD election less than 4,000 out of 11,500 potential ARRL Members of the WGD voted. This is a key election that will determine the direction of the WGD for the next 3 years. My opening statement at the beginning of this letter should give you a sense of urgency to cast your vote.

General Meeting

Our meeting this month will be a member's requested follow-up "DMR Workshop" with presentation by Ron Matussek WA6TQH. We will have couple Elmer's available to assist in programming radios and hotspots so bring your equipment. If planning to use your laptop be sure to have "Chrome" browser installed. (strongly recommended by pi-star developers) In addition to the DMR discussion, Ron will also introduce the new NanoVNA Analyzer. This VNA is about \$50 and provides easy measurements of Antenna Resonance and SWR plus much more. You might be surprised to learn that many of the HT antennas out there do NOT fall within the publicly stated resonance range of VHF or UHF frequencies. This VNA will also generate several reference graphs formats.

Voice Announce for Pi-Star / MMDVMHost

Beta release for patrons Make sure to back up your pistar settings and maybe SD card image before trying this. Keep in mind this is a beta and there are some known issues with some types of raspberry pi. To install just copy and paste this whole command into an ssh terminal on the pi. Make sure to run the command that corresponds to your hotspot type.

Raspberry Pi Zero:

```
rpi-rw; sudo wget kg5rki.com/install\_voice\_announce.sh; sudo chmod +x ./install_voice_announce.sh; sudo ./install_voice_announce.sh
```

All Other Raspberry Pi:

```
rpi-rw; sudo wget kg5rki.com/install\_voice\_announce\_pi\_zero.sh; sudo chmod +x ./install_voice_announce_pi_zero.sh; sudo ./install_voice_announce_pi_zero.sh
```

Continued on Page 4

CURRENT KNOWN ISSUES:

Sometimes does not install correctly on certain types of raspberry pi, but it has been successfully tested on raspberry pi 2 or 3, and pi zero.

VE Exam Session

Our next exam session we be at our regular location Tomball Regional Hospital on Saturday October 28th starting at 8:15AM. Walk-ins are welcome. Location will be in the Green Room just inside the main entrance.

Keep reading on through the Newsletter as NARS has a full calendar of exciting activities. Come on out and get involved!

See you at our October meeting!

Ron Matusek, WA6TQH President, NARS

Opportunities to Serve

OCTOBER MEETING

Our October Program will be a DMR Radio Workshop.

Friday, October 18th at Klein Fire Department Administration, 16810 Squyres Rd., Klein, TX 77379.

SEPTEMBER MEETING RECAP

Bob Naumann, W5OV, of DX Engineering, did an antenna presentation via Skype.

DMR Training

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of the Video of each Session please bring a USB stick (estimate 3GB per session) and we can make a copy available to you to download on your USB stick with a NARS donation of \$6.00 per session. You can sign up at the meeting. Many have requested this as a helpful tool to refer back to when programming radio's and other general information related to DMR. This video is NOT planned for wide public publication so take advantage of this opportunity.

Congratulations

- Dennis W. Rude – New Technician
- Terry N. Buford – New Technician
- Jerry E. Davis Jr. N5EKO - Upgrade to Extra

Saturday, September 28th
(Tomball Regional Hospital)

We had 3 candidates taking 4 tests.

Element 2 tests given: 2; passed 2

Element 3 tests given: 1; passed 0; Failed 1

Element 4 tests given: 1; passed 1; Failed 0

Thanks to the VE's in attendance:

Martin Rogoff N5GPS, Stephen G. Protz KA5AUD,
Cindy Grant KM4YGG, Robert Ewers K9HOU,
Brian C. Derx, N5BA, Sam Labarbera N6HB.

And to Ron Matussek WA6TQH , NARS ARRL VE Liaison.

Special points of interest:

- Next VE Session October 26th, 2019; 8:15 at Tomball Regional Hospital - Green Conference Room.

NARS WEBSITE: W5NC.NET
E-Mail Reflector: mailman.qth.net.

NARS now has a new address!

Please update your address list!

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



Houston Transtar Building

Conference Center West Entrance

6922 Katy Road

Houston, TX 77024

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

Contact: Mark Landress, WB5ANN@arrl.net for further info.

Welcome, Congratulations, and Condolences

NARS Info

NARS name tag

Any member can request a badge and should contact Cindy, KM4YGG, & Art, KM4YGH.

Board Meetings

The board meetings will be at 6:00 on the same date and at the same location as the general membership meeting, except for January due to the NARS award banquet.

General Membership Meetings

3rd. Friday each month at 7:30 pm. — EXCEPT January Banquet
Located at Klein Fire Station Administration, 16810 Squyres Rd., Klein, TX 77379. Located behind Klein Fire Station 4.

Weekly 2m Net

Wednesdays at 8 pm.
Monitor Reflector for Current Repeater.
Coordinator: Neal Naumann N5EN.

Weekly DMR Net

Tuesdays at 7 pm.
Monitor Reflector for Current Repeater.
Coordinator: Ron Matusek WA6TQH
ronm1@att.net

NARS Resource List

Digital Modes (Including DMR)

Walter Holmes – K5WH

Marty Fitzgerald – W5MF

Ron Matusek – WA6TQH

NARS Officers & Other Contacts

President & Board Chairman

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Mike Bowen WE5ET

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officers@w5nc.net

Directors (term expires 12/31/2020)

Richard Nelson KF5WRD
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officers@w5nc.net

Mike Pate K5MAP

281-376-1316
officers@w5nc.net

Texas QSO Party

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

Administrative & General Info.

Marty Fitzgerald W5MF
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officers@w5nc.net

Web site

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

NARS E-Mail Reflector

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

VE Session (ARRL) Manager

Ronald Matusek – WA6TQH
vec@w5nc.net

Texas QSO Party

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



NARS weekly 7AM Breakfast group at Dennys



Antenna mount

I had a problem of a mobile with a roof of mainly glass. There is also aluminum sections that I do not think will support a NMO mount.

This is a mount that slides into the two inch receiver hitch just like any ball mount. Welded square tube goes to the left past any interference with take gate opening or loading. Then it raises vertical by the tail lamp with a flat plate top that extends forward with a 3/4 inch hole to mount a NMO antenna mount. That also should act as a half wave counterpoise to the vertical antenna.

This was built by a local shop. If you would like one, please contact me for the information.

Bob Ewers

K9HOU

DE K9HOU – Robert Ewers



I rebuilt a 1943 vintage Vibroplex 'Bug'. I started with a complete disassembly and cleaning. I polished all parts in a vibrating tumbler. I took the ¼ inch steel base to Armed Concepts, a place that Cerakotes gun parts. They stripped the many layers of paint and

coated it in semi-gloss black Cerakote. I cut a polished brass plate for the top of the base and reassembled the key.

As you can see, the hard work paid off. I now have a better-than-new Vibroplex to grace the operating position!

