

## NASA SCIENTIST AND ASTRONAUT TO DELIVER KEYNOTE ADDRESS AT NARS 2018

*North American Repossessors Summit chooses inspirational keynote speaker, former astronaut Dr. Tom Jones, to discuss the importance of leadership, education and unity*

IRVING, Texas November 7, 2017 North American Repossessors Summit (NARS), an industry event hosted by the American Recovery Association, Inc. (ARA) and headline sponsor Harding Brooks Insurance, is proud to announce Thomas D. Jones, PhD., veteran NASA astronaut, scientist, pilot and author will keynote the tenth annual event to be held April 19-20, 2018. The theme for this year's summit is *Stronger Together: Celebrating 10 years of leadership, education and unity*, with Dr. Jones delivering an inspiring story of adventure, teamwork and inspiration to motivate audiences to work hard together to overcome obstacles to their own particular mission.

In more than eleven years with NASA, Dr. Jones flew on four space shuttle missions to Earth orbit. On his last flight, he led three spacewalks to install the centerpiece of the International Space Station, the U.S. laboratory, *Destiny*. He has spent fifty-three days working and living in space. A graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Dr. Jones piloted B-52D strategic bombers, earned a doctorate in planetary sciences from the University of Arizona, studied asteroids for NASA, engineered intelligence-gathering systems for the CIA, and helped NASA develop advanced mission concepts to explore the solar system.

Dr. Tom Jones is truly an American hero and we are greatly honored to have him speak at this year's NARS, said Dave Kennedy, president of ARA. His inspiring story will give attendees a better perspective on the dedication needed to overcome obstacles in our industry, the rewards of good teamwork and determination, and how to encourage and motivate themselves personally and professionally to continue to push their businesses and our industry towards success.

Dr. Jones is the author of several current space and aviation books, including *Sky Walking: An Astronaut's Memoir*. The Wall Street Journal named *Sky Walking* one of its Five Best books on space. Dr. Jones' awards include the NASA Distinguished Service Medal, four NASA Space Flight Medals, the NASA Exceptional Service award, the NASA Outstanding Leadership Medal, the NASA Exceptional Public Service award, Phi Beta Kappa, the Air Force Commendation Medal, and Distinguished Eagle Scout. The Main Belt asteroid 1082 TomJones is named in his honor.

There will be other insightful speakers and powerful roundtable discussions again at this year's NARS. Additional speakers will be announced soon. Registration for exhibiting and various sponsorships is now open for NARS 2018. To learn more about these opportunities, go to [reposummit.com](http://reposummit.com).

Early bird registration for attendees is also now open, offering a nearly 25% savings on regular-priced entry. In addition, the names of all early bird registrants will be provided to lenders for possible inclusion in their invitation-only vendor meetings they are hosting on April 19. To register, visit [reposummit.com](http://reposummit.com).

### **About North American Repossessors Summit**

The North American Repossessors Summit (NARS) is a 2-day conference for professionals in the recovery

and remarketing industries to come together from across the country to address key issues impacting their industries and businesses. NARS provides an open and collaborative environment for these professionals to address industry challenges and complexities and lay out the foundation for the future. The summit welcomes recovery and remarketing specialists belonging to every type of professional organization and association across the country. For more information, visit [www.reposummit.com](http://www.reposummit.com).