



NARS NEWS

APRIL 2025

Northwest Amateur Radio Society

P.O. Box 11483

Klein, TX 77391

w5nc.net

3D
print
object

PLA filament roll

Cooling
fan

**President's
Message
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**Houston Hamfest
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**3D Printing
Page 11**

Print display

Heated
print bed

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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.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter by publishing an article, adding calendar events, or any other contribution, please send all submissions before the end of the month to the newsletter editor:

Vicki & Paul Owen (AC5EW/N5NXS), Newsletter Editors

President's Message

BY PAUL OWEN, N5NXS

Greater Houston Hamfest

I hope everyone enjoyed going to the Hamfest like I did. I saw a few NARS members there, and I also saw a lot of the hams I work with at various public service events, as well as members of other clubs. It looked like Friday didn't have as many this year, but a good crowd showed up on Saturday.

I went to the ARRL Membership Forum where John Stanton, N5AUS, spent an hour and a half talking about things we are all interested in, like "Where did my printed QST go?" and "When are we getting protection from those pesky HOAs that keep us from putting up the antenna we really want in our backyard?" At the end, they gave out quite a few books as door prizes, which was nice.

I'd like to welcome you back to another NARS tradition. Coming up is the NARS Spring Fox Hunt and Club Picnic – May 3, 2025, at Spring Creek Park, Tomball, TX. David, WJ9O, suggested adding a picnic to the Fox Hunt he was organizing. Please come out, even if only for the picnic. Maybe set up a radio and antenna.

More of NARS History

After NARS was formed in 1985, dues were only \$10 a year. In August 1986 we hit the century mark with 100 members on the roster. In November of 1989 dues went to \$15 a year. In November 1995, dues jumped to \$25 a year and we had over 150 members. Printing the NARS News, paying for the cost to mail it and the cost of a P.O. Box was going up because of the number of members...which is a good thing, right?

It was in the early years that NARS started Novice classes. What's a Novice? Well, back in the day, there were 5 license classes. You had Novice with 5 wpm morse code required, then Technician, then General with 13 wpm required, then Advanced, and finally the big one, Extra with 20 wpm required. Yes, there was a lot to study to get to Extra. And where do you get help to put all this book knowledge to good use? The biggest help was getting them to join a club. Not just any club, but our NARS club. After the new ham got a license, there were members that helped in all sorts of things that new hams still had to learn to get comfortable being on the air. At first, the new ham got an Elmer (an experienced ham who showed them the ropes). Then the club started to add all sorts of things you could do as a ham, and the club had volunteers to fill in where needed to help anyone become a more knowledgeable ham. Whether it was learning how to work a contest, build an antenna, put a PL-259 on the end of coax or build that new kit you read about in QST. NARS had the members to do that, and more. We were always helping with events called public service. We sponsored the March of Dimes, SIRE (a horse ride for helping young people with disabilities), Sunmart Texas Trails Endurance Runs, and participated in Houston events like Wings Over Houston, Houston Marathon, and weather events that seemed ever present in Houston. The club even helped with communications for a World Economic Summit held in Houston.

To be continued...

Repeater Status and Weekly Net Operations

The NARS Repeater Team has a lot on the menu going forward, to get the latest Repeater Status check out [Northwest Amateur Radio Society - Repeater Status Update](#).

Repeater update from Rich Jones, Jan 2025

LBT Repeater (Downtown). After the last visit the repeater output was deemed inadequate, so it was put into standby mode.

Galleria Repeater – UHF machine is operational as a standalone machine. The VHF machine is operational as a standalone machine.

Klein Repeater – Fully operational

W5NC HUB (Node 5987) – Allstar and Echo links are operational. DMR repeater (K5MAP) is connected, however it is experiencing some intermittent losses.

Short Term Projects – The repeater team committee is developing a repeater radio link via UHF, connecting W5NC Node 5987 to the UHF repeater in the Galleria. The radio link would utilize resources located at the HC ESD 16 HAM radio station.

NARS General Club Meetings

NARS holds monthly club meetings where a variety of topics are presented from a number of guests. Come learn anything from antenna design, to phasing, emergency response, and more!

Who: All club members, friends, or anyone interested in the Amateur Radio hobby

When: The Third Friday of the Month at 7:30pm

Where: HCESD 16 Admin, [18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379](#)
Zoom Conference Call, Meeting ID: 2815436502, Passcode: 123456

Exam Practice

Are you new to the hobby and looking to pass your Technician exam? Are you preparing to level up your license by taking the next level exam? Check out the questions below to test your knowledge!

Technician (Element 2)

T8C11

What is an amateur radio station that connects other amateur stations to the internet?

- A. A reoeater
- B. A beacon
- C. A digipeater
- D. A gateway

General (Element 3)

G1B09

On what HF frequencies are automatically controlled beacons permitted?

- A. 21.08 MHz to 21.09 MHz
- B. 28.20 MHz to 28.30 MHz
- C. On any frequency if transmissions are in Morse Code
- D. On any frequency if power is less than 1 watt

Amateur Extra (Element 4)

E6D12

What causes inductor saturation?

- A. Selecting a core with excessive permittivity
- B. Seclecting a core with low permeability
- C. Operation at excessive magnetic flux
- D. Operation at too high a frequency

See the answers on [Page 18](#).

NARS Membership – Due Dates and More

DID YOU
KNOW



Did you know that you can find your membership expiration date on the club website? Simply click the “Membership Reports” link on the home page or visit this link: [Northwest Amateur Radio Society - Club Roster](#). Find your name in the list and look at the “Expires” column of the table!

Amateur Radio News

An excerpt from the ARRL News

Radio Connects is 2025 ARRL Field Day Theme

'Radio Connects' is the new logo and theme for the 2025 Field Day coming up on June 28-29. This logo highlights the many ways that wireless technology connects people across distances near and far. Ham Radio provides a connection – both for practical communications and to form relationships with fellow radio amateurs.

"Local amateur radio clubs bridge generations. Contacts made across town or around the world allow cultural exchange, right over the air," said ARRL Public Relations and Outreach Manager Sierra Harrop, W5DX.

Make your plans to connect with radio for ARRL Field Day. Use the Field Day site locator (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day>) to find a site near you, and clubs planning to host a site may list their event information there as well. Radio Connects merchandise is available for pre-order from the ARRL Store. Items will be shipped in late April.



Get Ready for "Ham Radio Open House"

ARRL is inviting radio clubs and schools to organize a Ham Radio Open House in April, built around World Amateur Radio Day (WARD) on April 18. A site locator is now live on the ARRL Ham Radio Open House page. This event is designed to highlight technical innovations in ham radio, and show off the current state of the art. It will serve as a tool to tell the story of amateur radio being a path to tomorrow's technical careers. Find details at www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day.



ARRL Launches Dream Station Sweepstakes

ARRL has introduced a sweepstakes that gives members a chance to win an Icom Dream Station, which includes a limited edition IC-7760 HF/50 MHz transceiver, an IC-PW2 amplifier, and a microphone, all donated by Icom America.

The sweepstakes is running from January 3 to December 31, 2025 and is part of a year-long campaign to encourage new membership (and a fun way for current members to extend their support for ARRL). The winner will also receive a limited edition Seiko watch celebrating Icom's 60th anniversary.

Participation is open to full ARRL members in the US. Members will automatically earn sweepstakes entries when they 1) join or renew membership (earn 1 entry), 2) set up auto-renewal (earn 2 entries), 3) donate to the ARRL Diamond Club (1 entry earned for every \$50 donated). Members can earn up to six entries during the year-long campaign. For more information about the ARRL Sweepstakes and the official rules, visit www.arrl.org/dreamstation.



Between January 3 and December 31, 2025, full ARRL members in the US have a chance to win an Icom Dream Station.

Perfect Storm Exercise in California Gets Results

The ARRL San Joaquin Valley Section (SJV) conducted "Perfect Storm", an amateur radio emergency exercise, on March 5-7.

Dan Sohn, Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC), WL7COO, asked that a section-wide exercise be created that would engage both amateur radio operators and non-amateurs to become more active in their community's emergency preparedness and response capabilities. There were 120 participants from 9 counties within the SJV section, and two counties outside the section. Amateurs and participants were equipped with GMRS radios used to gather situational awareness data and it culminated in a two-hour period where the local groups forwarded their data to a mock Incident Command Post.

SJV Section Manager Steven Hendricks, KK6JTB, said the Perfect Storm exceeded expectations and was a resounding success. Plans are to have two of these exercises each year.

Hurricane Watch Net founder a Silent Key

Gerald E. Murphy, K8YUW, passed away on February 25, 2025. He was 88 years old and the founder of the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN).

The Net was organized by Murphy and Marcy Rice, KQ5MM, after Hurricane Betsy came through the Bahamas in 1965. Together, they established the first Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz. Murphy was a long-time resident of Lakewood, Ohio. Murphy managed the Net until February 1988, and continued to serve as Assistant Net Manager until retiring in March 1991.

Dayton Hamvention 2025 Award Winners

On March 11, 2025 the Hamvention Awards were announced. “We extend our heartfelt congratulations to the winners for 2025,” said Dayton Hamvention Awards Chair Michael Kalter,

Technical Achievement Award – Dr. Kristina Collins, KD8OXT. She serves as the Chief Operations Scientist for the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) Personal Weather Station Network. Listeners can hear her on WWV at 8 minutes past the hour and WWVH at 48 minutes past the hour, where she introduces the test signal for the WWV/H Scientific Modulation Working Group. She has been instrumental in organizing numerous workshops through HamSCI and has guided many undergraduate and graduate students in radio science projects.

Special Achievement – Julio Ripoll, WD4R. In 1980, he was chosen by Dr. Neal Frank, then director of the National Hurricane Center to man an amateur radio station within the NHC to facilitate communication with the Caribbean during hurricanes. Julio’s initial two-year assignment with the NHC has since extended to 45 years, covering over 100 hurricanes. He was also tasked with managing a team of amateur radio operators to help with the aftermath of the Haiti earthquake in 2010. Julio and his team’s use of amateur radio in public service demonstrated significant merit and high regard.

Club of the Year – RV Radio Network (RVRN). This group dates back over 40 years to a chapter of the Texas Good Sam Club, which included a few ham radio operators. It later expanded to become nationwide with over 450 members. It combined the love of recreational vehicles (RVs) with the meeting of fellow hams across the country.

Amateur of the Year – Neil Rapp, WB9VPG. From Union, Kentucky, he earned his novice ticket in 1976. Currently a visiting professor of chemistry at Xavier University, he has sponsored amateur radio clubs for 28 years at two high schools, introducing over 3,600 students to amateur radio. In 2019, he co-founded and became camp director of Youth On the Air America.

ARRL Audio News

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every week. ARRL Audio News is a summary of the week's top news stories in the world of amateur radio and ARRL, along with interviews and other features.

The On the Air podcast and ARRL Audio News are available thru podcast host Blubrry.com, iTunes, and Apple Podcasts -- [On the Air](#) | [ARRL Audio News](#).

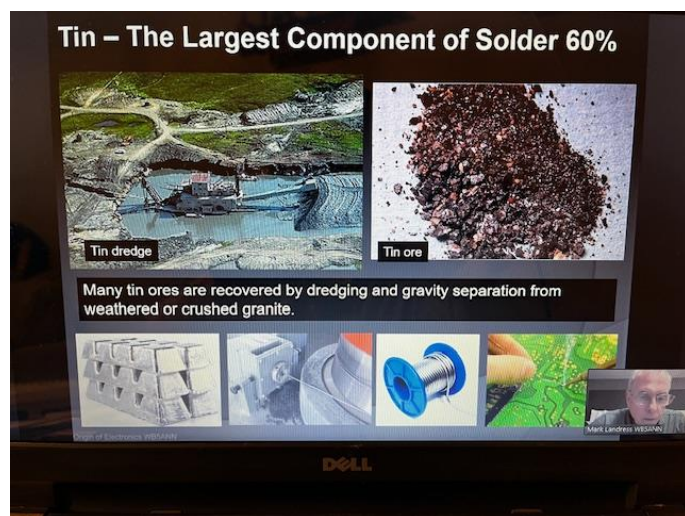


Locally, the Spring repeater KA2EEU, on 444.350, broadcasts the Amateur Radio Newslines on Sunday at 4 pm and it broadcasts ARRL Audio News at 7pm on Monday. The NARS repeater, W5NC, on 444.375, broadcasts the Amateur Radio Newslines on Saturday at 10am.

NARS Monthly Club Meeting

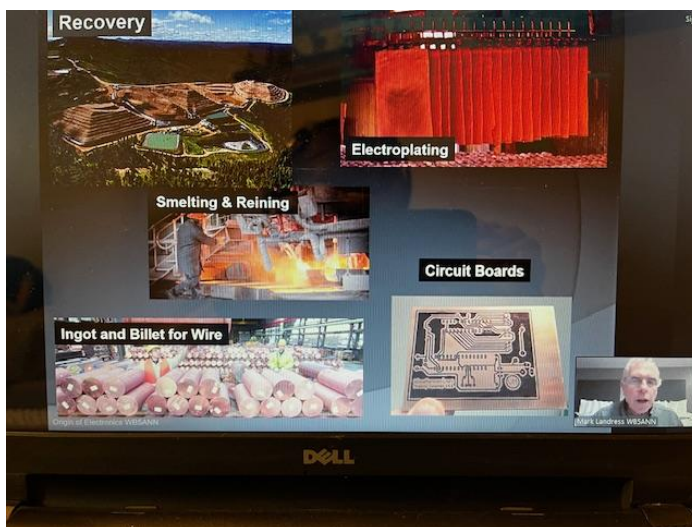
March Minerals Presentation

The feature program at the March meeting was presented by Mark Landress, WB5ANN, on minerals used in electronics. Landress explained that most metal ores started forming along the volcanic areas at plate boundaries. He explained the process from how minerals are formed to how they're found and then mined. He also covered the milling process to the finished product.



is used in solder. Other ores such as arsenic, gallium and germanium are used in LED's and semiconductors. Lithium comes from brine and is used in batteries, and petroleum forms from microscopic marine organisms and is used in PVC, polypropylene and OLED. There are some 'rare' earths, found around volcanos and are used in magnets, semiconductors and lasers.

The most used ores used in electronics are copper, which is used in wire and circuit boards; silicon, which is used in semiconductors and rectifiers; gold (which is mostly found as invisible gold now); iron, which is the bulk of the weight of a radio; lead; and tin, which



Next Club Meeting

Our next General Meeting will be held on April 18, 2025, at the HCESD 16 Admin Building – 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Spring, TX 77379. Jeff Walter, KE5FGA, ARRL South Texas Section Emergency Services Coordinator, will speak on ARES. We hope to see everyone there!

New Radio for New Hams: Jumpstart Program



QRZ, RT Systems and GigaParts have teamed up to offer a sustainable program that is available, while supplies last, to amateur radio operators licensed in the USA for 6 months or less. The program offers a coupon code to the new ham that gives them a QRZ-1 radio, programming cable, RT Systems programming software, New Ham Welcome Kit, and a QRZ membership for only **\$21.99 (+tax & + S&H)**.

What's Included:

- Explorer QRZ-1 Handheld Radio
- Programming cable
- RT Systems Programming Software
- Premium QRZ Subscription

How it Works:

1. Apply at <https://www.qrz.com/jumpstart>
2. Receive your unique discount code from QRZ via email
3. Add a QRZ-1 to your cart.
4. Add any accessories you may want to purchase.
5. At checkout, enter your unique discount code

NARS Name Badges: Get Yours Today!

Cindy (KM4YGG) and Art (KM4YGH) Grant are offering the club a deal for the NARS club on getting membership name badges. Each badge costs \$10.

To order, go to <https://badgesunlimitedllc.com/#!/4-2-NARS-CLUB-MEMBERS-ONLY/p/104217140/category=13635038> and pay the fees using the checkout capability on the website.



Amateur Radio Activities

The “Amateur Radio Activities” feature of NARS News highlights various activities related to ham radio. Each issue provides a quick overview for those who may be interested in learning new aspects of the amateur radio hobby. This article is taken from the October 2022 issue of QST.

3D Printing for Hams 101 by Christian Bravo, W4ALF

3D printing involves the build of a three-dimensional object from a computer-aided design (CAD) model stereolithography (STL) file. STL files are available online to download and open in software that preps the file, adds details specific to your printer, and follows instructions about how you want to print the object.

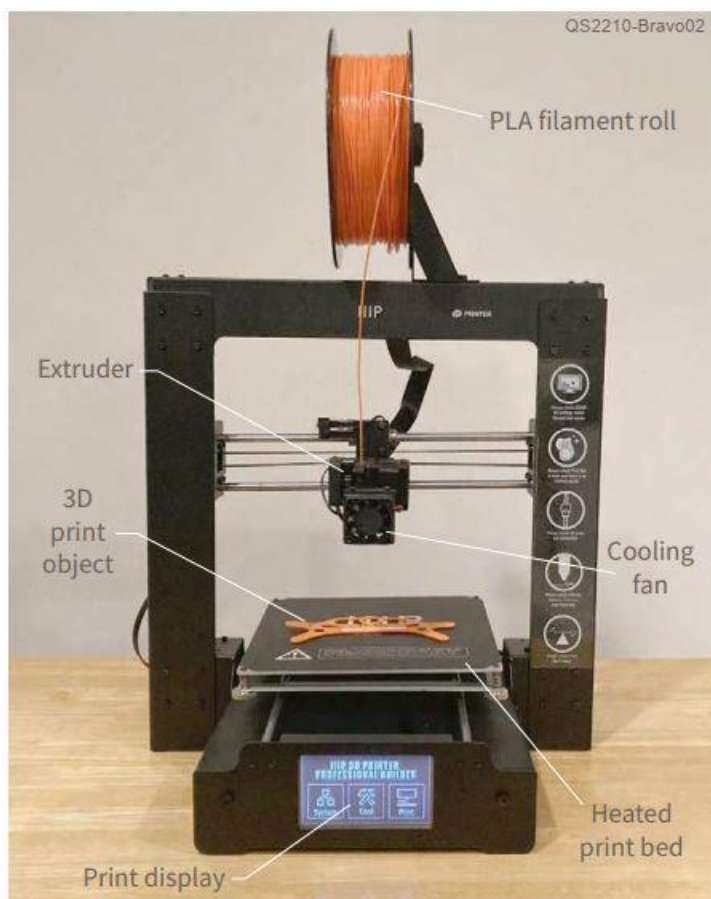
3D printers for consumer use are now priced at about \$200 and up, per desktop unit. The thermoplastic materials used for printing are also readily available and affordable. I’ve printed several items for myself, including a center support for a dipole antenna, a VFO knob for my Yaesu FT-817ND, and a straight key, to name just a few.

The STL File

There are various file types used for 3D printing – STL, additive manufacturing file (AMF) and Wavefront Object (OBJ) – but we will focus on one of the most common, the STL file. An STL file contains the 3D coordinates, or CAD model, that define an object to be printed. It will ultimately be used by slicer software to create a G-code output file that the 3D printer will read and print.

Typically, newcomers to 3D printing will start with ready-to-go STL files that others have created. You can alternatively use CAD software or online tools to create your own. The free and paid versions of *Fusion 360* and the Tinkercad tool, as well as the free application *OpenSCAD*, are all options to play around with.

Slicer Software and G-Code Files

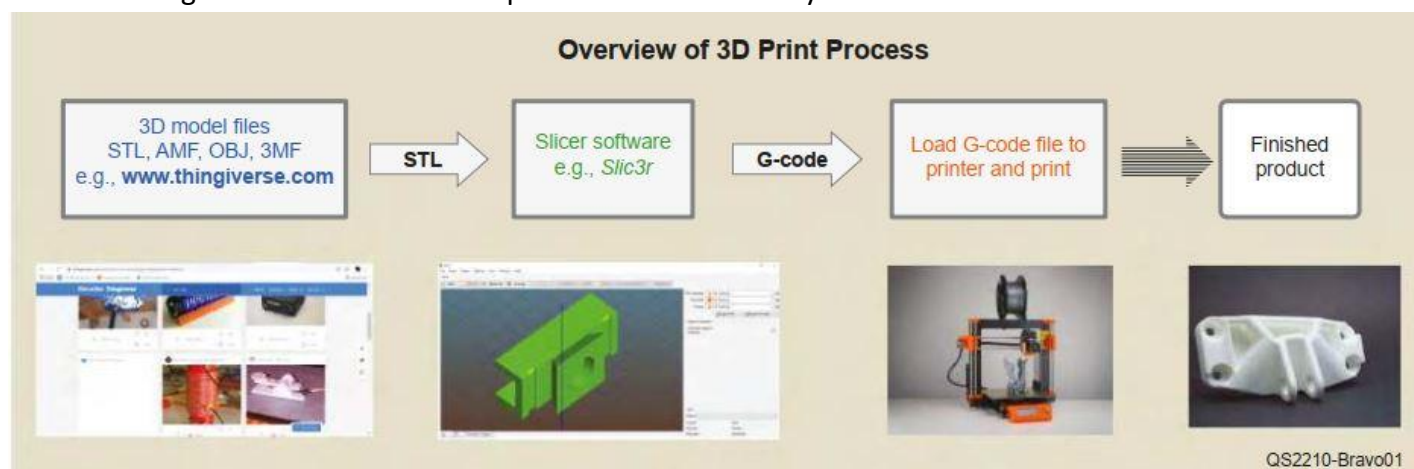


Monoprice 3D printer with an 8 × 8 × 8-inch print area and a heated print bed.

Slicer software like *Slic3r* and *Cura* can be downloaded for free. There is also fee-based software, such as *Simplify3D*. Slicing programs create layers of the object that you want to print by translating CAD drawings into a file that 3D printers can read.

After you have opened the STL file in the slicer program and added the settings for your printer, you can now save a G-code file, which contains commands for how a 3D printer should print a job. It stores instructions in plain text, with each line representing a different command. These commands determine how fast the printer should print, the temperature at which it should be set, where the printing parts should move, etc. An SD card is typically used to get the G-code file on the printer, but you can also get a Wi-Fi-enabled printer that allows transfer of the file without one.

Your choice of software might be influenced by what works well with your printer, or by what software your friends use – give them a call and ask questions! That’s exactly what I did.



Finding Something to Print

Online repositories such as www.thingiverse.com include STL files for thousands of printable items that pertain to every interest. As I write this article, a search for ‘ham radio’ yields 28 pages of ham-related files. There are many other popular sites, like www.cults3d.com, with a plethora of STL files to browse, load, and print.

The Printer

3D printers operate on the X, Y, and Z axes to deposit successive layers of material onto the print bed until the object is fully rendered. This method is called fused deposition modeling (FDM). The material is a roll of thermoplastic known as a filament, and it is dispensed by the printer through a heated extruder and nozzle. Some printers have heated beds or enclosed print areas to improve layer adhesion. Temperatures at the nozzle average about 180 degrees Centigrade, but this depends on the filament being used.

Printer specs will include a particular print area/size capability. This determines the maximum size of an individual print object per print job. Typical print bed sizes are about 8x8x8 inches. However, this does not

limit the final size of the end product. Large items are usually printed as multiple print objects that are later assembled into a larger object.

Desktop 3D printers are now quite affordable, and entry-level models can be purchased for \$200-\$300 on Amazon. Some popular brands to check out are Monoprice, Prusa Research, ELEGOO, Creality and Flashforge. But it's no problem if you're not ready to purchase a printer yet – most public libraries now offer print services for minimal cost or free. There are also third-party, fee-based print services available from many of the same sites that provide STL files, which makes 3D printing as simple as point, click, and purchase.

Print Filament

Typically, a single 3D printer is compatible with at least a couple of different filament types. Filaments are mostly thermoplastics such as polylactic acid (PLA), and polyethylene terephthalate glycol (PETG), to name a few. Filaments come in many colors and textures, including translucent or metallic. On average, filament diameters are approximately 1.75 millimeters. Your choice of material will depend on the application; for example, PLA is easy to print, fairly flexible, and biodegradable, and it has high tensile strength, but it is not UV or heat resistant. ABS is more durable and heat resistant than PLA, but it requires increased ventilation during printing. Some brands of filament to consider are HATCHBOX 3D, 3D Solutech, Inland, and even Amazon Basics. Filament rolls tend to run for about \$20.

Final Thoughts

Now that 3D printers have become accessible, ham radio operators can benefit from yet another tool for experimentation! Most entry-level printers and slicer software have fairly comparable features. It may be helpful to buy the same one that a friend has, so you can have a reliable resource for setup and usage.

Be patient with your first prints. It takes a few tries before getting the temperatures right for a particular filament, or the print bed-to-nozzle clearance at optimal printing height. For reference, check out an example print of an antenna loading coil created by SA2CLC at www.thingiverse.com/thing:4525375. Note that you'll need 10-gauge solid copper wire, gator clips, banana clips, and a spare SO-239 connector to complete this. Buddipole taps also work well for this coil.



An antenna loading coil for portable use printed with polylactic acid (PLA).

2025 Greater Houston Hamfest

NARS Members Attend Event!

The Brazos Valley ARC again hosted the annual Greater Houston Hamfest on 7-8 March at the Ft Bend County Fairgrounds. There was a contingent of tailgaters in the parking lot and swap tables inside, as well as vendors Ham Radio Outlet, EPO, Mastrant, and a number of others. There were two simultaneous seminars going on Saturday ranging from the ARRL Presentation to Solar Power for Ham Stations and Amateur Radio Digital Modes.



The ARRL program had about 75 attendees and centered around two topics, the dropping of the hard copy of QST magazine to members and an ongoing discussion of HOA restrictions on ham radio antennas. John Stratton, ARRL West Gulf Division director, explained that there are two legislative bills currently in the Legislature – HB 1094 and SB 459. ARRL believes they have a good chance of passing.

There was also a presentation by Walter Holmes, K5WH, on Digital Satellite Operations. He covered the different radios and antennas typically used as well as popular digital interfaces, software and the different modes of operations.



VE Sessions and Results

PROVIDED BY SYNOMEN HEBERT, KG5IRS

Attendees

On Saturday, March 22, 2025, a VE Test Session was held at HCESD 16 Admin, 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379. During the testing session, 10 candidates took 13 tests.

Technician
(Element 2)

5

Passed

5 Tests Given 0 Failed

General
(Element 3)

2

Passed

3 Tests Given 1 Failed

Amateur Extra
(Element 4)

4

Passed

5 Tests Given 1 Failed

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following for passing their new license exams¹:

- Richard E. Hare – new Technician
- Deukwoo Kwon – new Technician
- Joshua C. Lutman – new Technician
- Darrel W. Martin – new Technician
- Bob Stanton – passed Technician and General

Congratulations to the following for their successful upgrade:

- Larry E. Blanton KJ5JST – upgrade to General
- Miller R. James KJ5JYR – upgrade to Extra
- William C. Hallowell N8JIA – upgrade to Extra
- Edward G. Knight KI5SBC – upgrade to Extra
- Dexter Mars KJ5IGQ – upgrade to Extra

¹ Successful candidates will only receive their **NEW** licenses if they pay the \$35 fee to the FCC within 10 days of receipt of their notification emails. They will have to request the ARRL VEC to resubmit their paperwork if they miss the 10-day deadline. They do **NOT** have to retest.

Pre-registration for Testing Sessions

To pre-register for an upcoming testing session, you can use the following link:

HamStudy.org page link: <https://hamstudy.org/sessions/arrl/77070/inperson>

The next session will be April 19, 2025 at the HCESD 16 Admin Building. Please visit [Northwest Amateur Radio Society - License Exams](#) for the announcement.

Thanks and Gratitude

Thanks to the Exam VE's in attendance:

- Brett Hebert KG5IQU – session manager
- Synomen Hebert KG5IRS
- Bob Ewers K9HOU
- Michael Robinson KI0DE
- Paul Owen N5NXS
- August Canik KI5YPD
- Dale Schmirler KN4DSG
- Craig Veteto W5CEV
- Logan Hebert KG5LLM

VE Session Guidelines

If you have a temperature or feel ill – DO NOT attend.

Wear a mask if you are not fully vaccinated or feel the need to wear them.

Please send an email to either of the following if you plan on attending the test session:
Brett or Synomen Hebert – vec@w5nc.net

Volunteering and Becoming a Volunteer Examiner

Anyone who wants to observe and/or participate in a session is always welcome. Please let Brett or Synomen Hebert know if you want to learn more about becoming a volunteer examiner.

New & Renewing Club Members

New Club Members

Welcome to the following new members of NARS!

- Jerry Boyd WR5G

Renewing Club Members

Thank you to all the members who renewed their NARS membership this past month:

- Mike Pate, K5MAP
- Gregory Sanders, KE5DXA
- James Lovett, KI5NVD
- Mike Hvasta, KF5IUM
- Teresa Holmes, W5MOM
- Joshua Lutman, KJ5KQS

Training and Education

NARS

NARS Meeting Presentations - <https://w5nc.net/nars/index.php/club-info/technical-presentations>

ARRL

ARRL Online Course Catalog - <http://www.arrl.org/online-course-catalog>

ARRL Emergency Communications Training -
<http://www.arrl.org/emergency-communications-training>

ARRL Webinars - <http://www.arrl.org/ARRL-Learning-Network#schedule>

Exam Review for Ham Radio - <http://www.arrl.org/examreview>

Find an Amateur Radio License Class -
<http://www.arrl.org/find-an-amateur-radio-license-class>



Free Study Guides

A [study guide](#) for Technician license preparation, Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

A [study guide](#) for Technician license preparation on the Inland Empire VHF Radio Club website, Jack Tiley, AD7FO (Click on "Training Links" and go to the Technician training link)

Study Tools

[HamStudy.org: Cutting edge amateur radio study tools](#) - Free ham radio flash cards, practice tests, and question pools as well as introduction to ham radio and explanations for questions.

[Ham Test Online](#) – Study Tips for the Ham Radio License Exams

[HamExam.org](#) - Free Amateur Radio Practice Tests with Flash Cards

[eHam.net Ham Radio Practice Exams](#)

Paid Resources

[W5YI Group](#) - Your Resource for Ham Radio and Commercial Radio Licensing

[HamRadioPrep](#) - Enroll in Ham Radio Prep, the industry's #1 online test prep and training program, and pass your FCC Amateur Radio License exam on the first try - or your money back.

[HamTestOnline](#) - Study for your Ham Radio License Exam!

NARS Club Documents and Minutes

Did you know that you can find all of the club's public documents, including board meeting minutes, financial statements, and newsletters on the [Northwest Amateur Radio Society - Home](#) website?

Exam Practice Answers

Technician: T8C11 – D. A gateway

General: G1B09 – B. 28.20 MHz to 28.30 MHz

Amateur Extra: E6D12 – C. Operation at excessive magnetic flux

Of Interest to the Club

Houston Local Traffic Net

The Houston Local Traffic Net (HLTN) was formed July 14, 2020 in preparation for ARRL Field Day 2020. Originally called the Fort Bend County Traffic Net, the HLTN has been in continuous operation since then.

The nets ran on Monday nights for one hour with training sessions during the net. Because of the volume and interest in the Traffic Net, on April 15, 2021 an additional session was added on Thursday nights for 30 minutes and in 2020 the time was increased for up to an hour to also accommodate training.

The Houston Local Traffic Net currently meets from 6:30pm – 7:30pm twice a week handling National Traffic System (NTS) traffic (Radiograms) into and around the Houston Metro area and also includes, time permitted, traffic handling/training.

Monday's net: 146.940 (-) PL 167.9

Thursday's Net: 147.000 (+) PL 103.5

Backup repeater for both: 147.190 PL 123.0

A complete schedule of Area Traffic Nets is located on the HLTN.org 'Nets' web tab with the times and frequencies. Visitors are welcome and encouraged to check-in to listen and learn this important Amateur Radio skill.

Direct any questions, via phone or email, about the Houston Local Traffic Net, Radiograms, and Traffic handling to: Sheree Horton WM5N, ARRL South Texas Section Traffic Manager

GHSN monthly Simplex Propagation Net

Beginning January 2022, the [Greater Houston Simplex Network](#) will return to its regular schedule of the 4th Thursday evening of the month, with 6:15pm for the Zoom meeting and 7:00pm for the beginning of the net. Simplex frequencies are 146.540 MHz.

I would also like to restart the relay nets for the 2nd week of each month, so I need volunteer(s) to help out as Net Control Operator. I am just swamped with developing our cool new propagation application. Please contact me if you can help with this. The script is fully developed and can be found on [the website](#). Contact Mark - N5PRD@yahoo.com

Calendar

Club Activities and Events

NARS General Meeting – April 18, 2025 - HCESD 16 Admin – [18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379](#)

VE Test Session – April 19, 2025 – [18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379](#) - Check-in will start at 8:30am with testing lasting from 9:00am - 11:00am. All testing activities will be completed by noon.

The full NARS calendar can be viewed at: <https://w5nc.groups.io/g/main/calendar>

[Woodlands Event Comms - Ironman Texas](#) – April 26, 2025

[Texas MS 150 Hams – "Keeping Everyone Connected"](#) – April 26-27, 2025

NARS Spring Fox Hunt and Club Picnic – May 3, 2025, at Spring Creek Park, Tomball, TX

[Woodlands Event Comms - The Woodlands Triathlon](#) – May 10, 2025

Social Events

Wed Lunch Break – North

Take a break with fellow radio operators and enjoy a lunch together!

Locations are announced weekly on the NARS email reflector!

Lunch Break – Medical Center

Near the Medical Center and want to take a break with fellow radio operators and enjoy a lunch together?

Watch the NARS email reflector for details!

Saturday Breakfast

Saturdays at 7 am Broken Yolk Café, 16803 Stuebner Airline Road, Spring, TX 77379

Monday Lunch (Taildraggers Lunch)

Mondays at 11 am; Aviator's Grill at Hooks Airport Terminal

Hamfests and Conventions

May 16 – 18 | 2025 Dayton Hamvention at Greene County Fair and Expo Center, Xenia, OH

June 6-7 | DFW Ham Expo at Vista Mall Events Center, Lewisville, TX

July 12 | Tidelands Texas City Hamfest at Doyle Convention Center, Texas City, TX

August 16-17 | Huntsville Hamfest 2025 at Von Braun Center South, Huntsville, AL

Contests and Radiosport

ARRL Contest Corral

April 2025 - <https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2025/April%202025%20Corral.pdf>

For a calendar of ARRL contests, please see <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>.

For resources and results for all ARRL contests, please see <https://contests.arrl.org>.

For a list of Special Event Stations, please see <https://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>

Area Event Alert

The South East Texas Amateur Club will host a Hidden Transmitter Hunt – Mobile on July 19, 2025 at 10 am. The area will be the Northwest Quadrant of the Inner Loop, boundaries will be I-45 North, I-10 West and Loop 610 NW, approx.. ¼ of the inner city. The fox will be a mobile set on low power and transmitting at set intervals. The hunters will attempt to locate the Fox via RDF techniques. For those of you with Doppler or other high tech RDF, you are invited to come practice but you will be exempted from the prizes. The Fox will begin transmitting at 10 am, July 19 on 146.56 and we will have 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes. For more information contact Anthony at ke5gip@arrl.net.

Did you know...

NARS has a social media presence! Thanks to Sam Labarbera, K5FM, we have a Facebook page for those who would like to follow us there. Visit the [W5NC Facebook page](#) and join! It is open to ham radio operators, so there is a short quiz to qualify new members.

NARS Club Officers and Information

Board Officers with Voting Privileges

President: Paul Owen, N5NXS, officers@w5nc.net

Vice President: Robert Ewers, K9HOU, officers@w5nc.net

Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU, treasurer@w5nc.net

Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR, officers@w5nc.net

Director: Rich Jones, W5VEK, officers@w5nc.net

Director: Jorge Gutierrez, WK5J, officers@w5nc.net

Committee Team Members

Administrative Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN

Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, K5FM

Newsletter Editors: Vicki & Paul Owen, AC5EW /N5NXS

Public Information Liaison: TBD

ARRL/VEC Liaison: Brett Hebert, KG5IQU

Repeater Team Lead: Rich Jones, W5VEK

Lead Net Control Operator: Mike Lizzio, WA2TOP

Webmaster: Bill Buoy, N5BIA, webmaster@w5nc.net

Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

Did you know...

that NARS has a messaging service, called Groups.io, that allows you to connect with a giant group of experts, club members, and resources. Get more information on our club website at [Northwest Amateur Radio Society - W5NC Email Reflector](#)

Club Nets

The Weekly Tuesday Evening Net - Every Tuesday at 7:00 pm. Join us on one of the W5NC DMR access points:

- Hotspot: Brandmeister NARS Talk Group 3146211 CC 1 Slot 2
- Klein: 440.3000 DMR Repeater CC3 Slot 1
- Droidstar/Dudestar Apps: CC1 Slot 2

The Weekly Wednesday Evening Net - Every Wednesday at 8:00 pm. Join us on one of the W5NC Analog access points:

- NARS Analog Access
- Klein: UHF Analog Repeater 444.3750 Tone 100
- Access points:
 - ALLSTAR: 59847
 - Echolink: W5NC-R

Please be on the lookout for a weekly message from Mike WA2TOP on w5nc.groups.io/g/main for more information.