



**W5NC**

Houston, Texas

Northwest Amateur Radio Society

A 501(c)(3) Organization

An ARRL Affiliated Club

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# NARS NEWS

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**NOVEMBER 2025**

Northwest Amateur Radio Society

P.O. Box 11483

Klein, TX 77391

[w5nc.net](http://w5nc.net)

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# President's Message

BY PAUL OWEN, N5NXS

## QSL Cards and More of NARS History

I want to thank Marty, W5MF and Mark, K5GQ for the great program they put together. I would like to thank Kyle, K5KNV, for handling the board meeting and the general meeting in my absence.

For this November program, I have a PowerPoint file that was done by a ham who is not a member of our club talking about QSL cards. I encourage you to dig out a couple of cards that you find special and bring them to the meeting to show off, whether it's that rare one or your QSL from the Space Station QSO you had. It is becoming a thing of the past to mail a QSL card. Since I was a ham BC (before computers). I had to keep a written log and mail out QSL cards every week to get confirmed contacts. With Logbook of the World, QRZ and eQSL services you have almost instant confirmation of your contacts.

I want to thank David, WJ9O, for planning the Fox Hunt for the first weekend in November. There will be a cookout afterwards. At the last one I brought out my HF radio and set up a dipole antenna.

In a short 2 months we will have our December (Bill Stietenroth), K5ZTY/SK Show and Tell meeting. Please bring that special something that you're just dying to show off at this meeting.

## NARS History

During the late 1990's and early 2000's the club was very active with members supporting all kinds of public service events. In fact, we had some of the coordinators that put together the ham team to provide the necessary communication for the event. I just did the Wings Over Houston Airshow, at which the club would have about 7 or more participants. On Saturday, I saw one of our new young hams, Lucas, K15WYC, with his Dad having a grand time walking around the ramp. Other big events were the MS150 bike ride, Houston Marathon, and Bike Around the Bay. The club had members that coordinated hams for the Buffalo Bayou Regatta, March of Dimes Walk, Salvation Army Bell Ringers and the Texas Trails Endurance Run.

I must say that some of these events were all weekend, with long days. It took a lot of effort to stand in the same place, or walk, all day. We don't have the younger members that can participate in these events.

For the last meeting of the year, since 2012, is the K5ZTY/SK Show and Tell where everyone is invited to bring that special project they have been working on all year, or might seem like all year. Uncle Zedd loved both the serious and the lite-hearted side of this meeting.

*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](#)

*Repeater update, August 2025*

**LBT Repeater (Downtown)** - Is off the air (standby).

**Klein Repeater** – Fully operational with UHF linked to ALLSTAR.

**W5NC HUB (Node 59847)** – Allstar and Echo links are operational. DMR repeater (K5MAP) is connected.

## 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)**

#### **T1B10**

Where may SSB phone be used in amateur bands above 50 MHz?

- A. In at least some segment of all these bands
- B. Only on repeaters
- C. Only in sub-bands allocated to General class or higher licensees
- D. On any band if the power is limited to 25 watts

### **General (Element 3)**

#### **G1D09**

How long is a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) valid for exam element credit?

- A. 365 days
- B. 30 days
- C. 180 days
- D. For as long as your current license is valid

### **Amateur Extra (Element 4)**

#### **E8D05**

What is the most common method of reducing key clicks?

- A. Insert low-pass filters at the transmitter output
- B. Increase keying waveform rise and fall times
- C. Reduce keying waveform rise and fall times
- D. Insert high-pass filters at the transmitter output

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 - Membership 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

## ARRL Campaign to Pass Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act

ARRL has launched its nationwide grassroots campaign aimed at the passage of legislation that would grant Amateur Radio Operators the same rights to install antennas on their property as those enjoyed by users of TV antennas, wireless internet and flagpoles. The bipartisan bills – H.R.1094 and S. 459 are designed to prevent restrictive homeowner's associations (HOA) rules that currently prohibit or severely limit the installation of amateur radio antennas. "This legislation is about restoring equal rights to licensed Amateur Radio operators," said ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR. "These restrictions hinder not only the enjoyment of Amateur Radio, but also its vital role in emergency communication during disasters."

ARRL is calling on its members and all licensees of the US Amateur Radio Service to take action by sending letters to their congressional representatives. Through a dedicated online tool at [HOA page - Legislative](#), amateurs can easily generate and submit pre-drafted letters with a few clicks. Every letter matters!

## FCC Announces Intent to Delete Minor Part 97 Provisions

The FCC has announced plans to delete or modify four minor provisions of Part 97. ARRL Washington Counsel has reviewed them and determined there is no impact on today's modern Amateur Radio Service.



- Delete 97.27 relating to modifying station licenses. It duplicates Section 316 of the Communications Act.
- Delete 97.29 this concerned the procedure to replace paper licenses. The FCC stopped producing paper licenses at the end of 2020.
- Delete 97.315 (b)(2) grandfathered HF amplifiers purchased before April 28, 1978 by an amateur radio operator for use at that operator's station. The applicability of this rule has long passed.
- Delete 97.521 (b) and Appendix 2 relates to VEC regions, which were based on the traditional amateur call sign areas. The FCC no longer limits VECs to regions and there is no reason for doing so given the nature of remote exams.

## Current News...

the ARRL website posts recent news on current events, activities, and policies that are taking shape in the Amateur Radio world. The following is an excerpt from their News section.

## 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.



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

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 60<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.arrl.org/dreamstation).

## Hurricane Melissa Update @ October 29

WX4NHC was activated on Monday, October 27 for Hurricane Melissa forecast track affecting Jamaica, Cuba and the Bahamas. On Tuesday morning Jamaica saw winds of 165 miles per hour batter the island and the hurricane went over eastern Cuba as a Category 2 hurricane Tuesday night. In its path was also the Bahamas and Bermuda.

WX4NHC will be active and on the air on the Hurricane Watch Net frequency 14.325 MHz most of the time and 7.268 MHz depending on propagation.

## 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.



## How to Become a Volunteer Examiner

If you're interested in becoming an ARRL Volunteer Examiner it's easy and free. There are three steps to becoming a VE –

1. Review the [Volunteer Examiner Manual](#), paying special attention to Chapter 2. Also review the published manual [Supplemental Information](#)
2. Complete and sign the [ARRL Application / Open-Book Review](#) (40 questions).
3. E-mail, fax or mail forms to – ARRL VEC, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111 USA. You can also fax to 800-594-0339 or email to VEC @arrl.org

Once you are accredited, you'll receive a laminated VE badge to wear at exam sessions and a certificate suitable for framing. You don't have to be an ARRL member to be a VE, but you must include with your application a copy of your accreditation certification if you aren't an ARRL member.

VE sessions can be paper based or computer based (either in-person or remote sessions). Monthly NARS VE sessions are in-person computer based, using ExamTools software. To grade these computer-based exams a VE must go through a short training course on the ExamTool's website. Once completed they will qualify to grade ExamTools based exams.

At VE sessions, VE's may be asked to help with checking in examinees so knowing what IDs are accepted and how payment can be made is important. The current VEC Exam fees are \$15 for adults and youth under 18 pay \$5. If the examinee fails the exam and wants to re-take it during the session they must pay another fee.





# NARS Monthly Club Meeting

## October Contesting Program

The October monthly meeting was presided by Club Vice President Kyle Vann, K5KNV. The special program for the evening was given by Marty Fitzgerald, W5MF, on Contesting.

Marty's presentation at the most recent NARS meeting was both engaging and informative, offering a vivid snapshot of the Texas QSO Party and the teamwork that drove his crew's success. He began by inviting questions before diving into an overview of the 18-hour contest, explaining how points are awarded for each contact, and how multipliers are earned by reaching new counties, states, and countries.

Marty highlighted the gear that made the operation smooth and how it was all arranged to avoid interference while allowing simultaneous CW and voice work. Despite various hindrances, the team amassed 134 multipliers, covered roughly 75 of Texas's 254 counties, and scored a total of 271,814 points, a testament to their preparation and perseverance.

Marty concluded by expressing gratitude to the audience, volunteers, and NARS organizers, and hinted at future upgrades and encouraged fellow hams to experience the excitement and rewards of contesting. His enthusiasm and candid sharing of both challenges and triumphs left everyone inspired and appreciative of his contributions.

Thanks to Kyle for this article.

## Next Club Meeting

Our next General Meeting will be held on November 21, 2025, at the HCESD 16 Admin Building – 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Spring, TX 77379. We hope to see everyone there.

## New Radio for New Hams: Jumpstart Program



Through a partnership with GigaParts, this program is designed to lower the barrier to entry into amateur radio by providing new hams with a high quality radio for **only \$17.99 (plus tax and shipping)**. The radio is supplied with an antenna, desktop cradle charger, battery, and belt clip. Effective February 28, 2025, new hams will be entitled to a **70% discount** on the Explorer QRZ-1 VHF/UHF handheld transceiver, as well as a variety of accessories.

The eligible ham must have a QRZ account and be able to log in and apply for the program. Certain types of identification, including a photo ID, will be required. This information is not shared or exchanged with any party and is used only to validate eligibility under this program.

This program is available exclusively to USA licensed amateur radio operators who obtained their first license from the FCC within the last 6 months. The Jumpstart program may be changed or terminated without notice based on availability and corporate sponsors.

### 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.

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 with photos is taken from the March 2025 issue of QST.

### A 6-Meter Turnstile Antenna by Bill Gerhold, K2WH

Early in my ham radio career, as a Technician Plus licensee living in a garden apartment, my main interests were the VHF/UHF bands. At that time, *The Radio Amateur's VHF Manual* offered a construction article for a horizontally polarized 2-meter “turnstile” antenna. I built the antenna as described, and it worked well with my Ameco TX-62 20W AM transmitter and a 2-meter Ameco Nuvistor downconverter feeding an old 1939 Hallicrafters SX-17 shortwave receiver.

Fast-forward 53 years, and I now have a commercial triband vertical antenna for 2 meters, 1.25 meters, and 70 centimeters, and a horizontal beam for 2 meters and 70 centimeters. What was missing was an antenna for 6 meters.



I decided that a turnstile antenna would satisfy my requirements, as it is horizontally polarized, relatively small, and omnidirectional. So, I ordered an old *VHF Manual* from eBay, found the original article for the 2-meter turnstile, and proceeded to gather the materials needed to upsize the antenna to 6 meters.

#### Antenna Description

A turnstile is simply two crossed dipoles positioned at right angles to each other and mounted on a non-conductive central hub. To achieve the omnidirectional pattern, one dipole is fed 90 degrees out of phase with the other dipole using a  $\frac{1}{4} \lambda$  delay line. I made my delay line from RG-59 75 ohm coax. The RG-59 delay line connects in parallel with the RG-58 feed line (shield to shield and center to center), and then to one dipole. The other end of the RG-59 delay line connects to the other dipole.

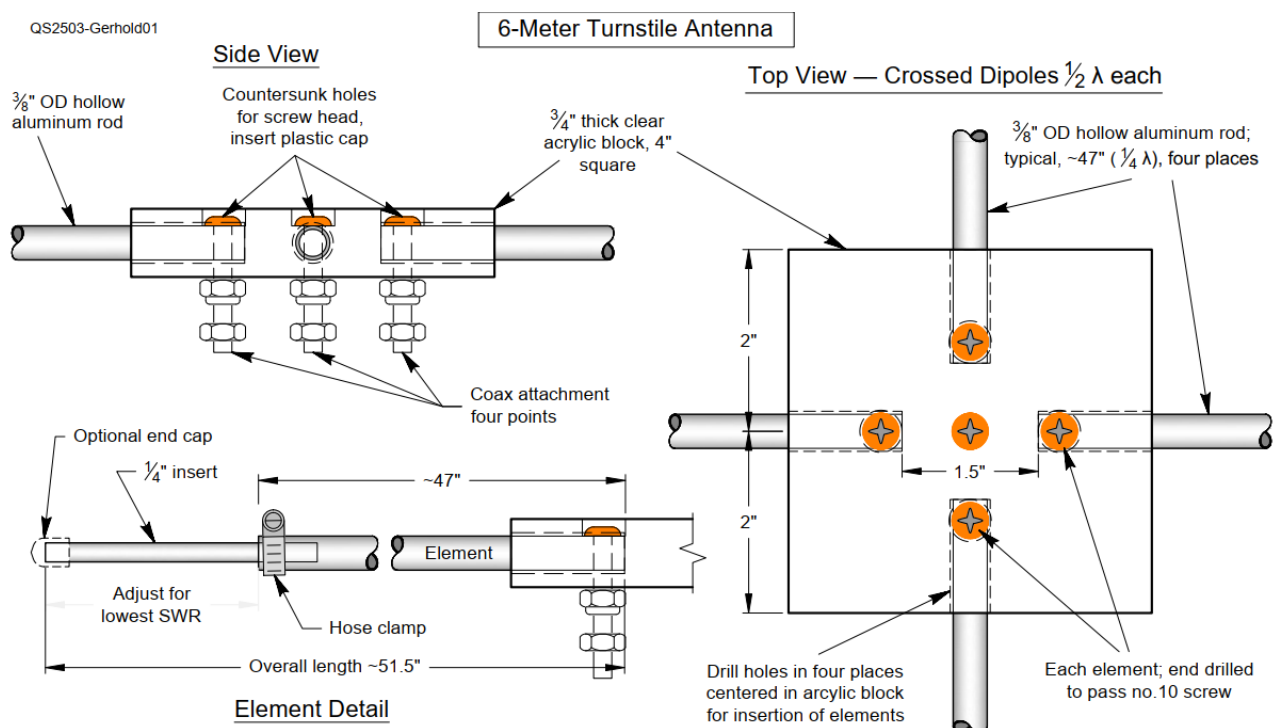
It is important for the delay line to be 75 ohms. If the delayed dipole, which should have about a 70 ohm resonant impedance, is fed with 50 ohm line, at  $\frac{1}{4} \lambda$  it will transform the delayed dipole impedance to about 33 ohms. When fed in parallel with the un-delayed resonant dipole (also 70 ohms) the power will not divide evenly between the two dipoles, resulting in a slightly oval-shaped azimuthal pattern, and the input impedance will be about 22 ohms (resulting in a 2.3:1 standing wave ratio (SWR). With the 75 ohm phasing

line, the impedance will be 35 ohms giving about a 1.4:1 SWR, and you will achieve the desired circular pattern.

To calculate the electrical length of the delay line, I multiplied the velocity factor (VF) of the line (0.66 for RG-59) by the  $\frac{1}{4} \lambda$  free space length. For the length in feet, this is  $(245.9/F \text{ MHz}) \times \text{VF}$ . The calculated length of the delay line for a center frequency of 50.125 MHz was 3.24 feet, or 38.9 inches. I fanned out both ends of the coax and installed a crimp lug to the shields and center conductors on both ends. The length is measured lug tip to lug tip.

## Antenna Assembly, Tuning, and Construction

The construction details are shown in Figure 1. The center support, consisting of a 4 x 4 x  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch thick block of clear acrylic plastic I found on eBay, is shown in Figure 2. The dipole elements are 47-inch lengths of  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch OD aluminum tubes (6061 material), slotted on the far end to accept  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch aluminum inserts for



**Figure 1** — Six-meter turnstile construction details.

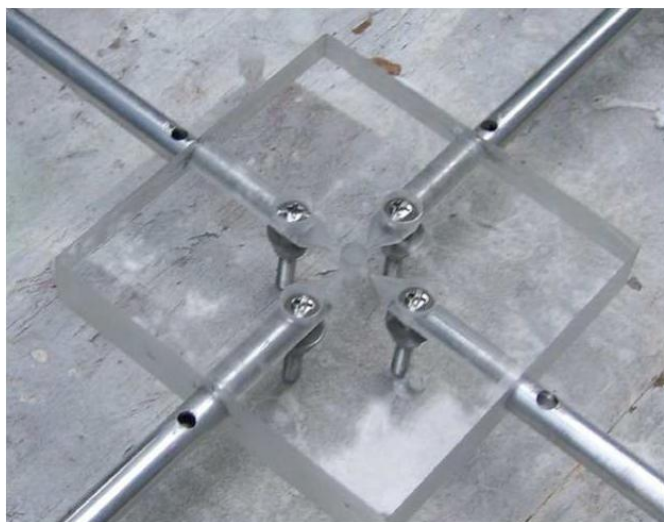
length adjustments. All hardware is #10 stainless steel, and stainless hose clamps are used to secure the inserts.

Though not necessary, drill bits for drilling acrylic and the use of a drill press can make preparing the center support a bit easier. Finally, I weatherproofed the open ends of the coax with clear silicone rubber. Figure 3 is a close-up view of the fully assembled center support, which includes the delay line. This photo shows the assembly mounted on a wooden pole with the coaxial balun for initial testing.

## Testing and Adjustments



Using an antenna analyzer, I adjusted each dipole for resonance on my desired center frequency with the delay line disconnected. I added four Mix 34 snap-on ferrite cores to the RG-58 feed line at the dipole to eliminate any common-mode currents. I then adjusted the sides of the dipoles equally. The finished dipole lengths after adjusting the ¼-inch inserts were 51.50 inches, but the overall lengths are not critical.



**Figure 2** — The center support, consisting of a 4 × 4 × ¾-inch-thick block of clear acrylic plastic.



**Figure 3** — The fully assembled center support, which includes the delay line.

Next, I attached one end of the 75 ohm delay line to the feed line and one dipole, and then connected the free end of the delay line to the other dipole. I measured a 1.2:1 SWR with a nice dip at 50.313 MHz. The antenna's 2:1 SWR bandwidth was 48 to 56 MHz. As described, the turnstile easily handles 100 W. For higher power, consider using LMR-400 for the feed line and LMR-400-75 for the delay line.

## Installation

The turnstile is installed on an 18-foot mast. The bottom three 3-foot mast sections consist of TV masts available at hardware stores. These have swaged ends, so they stack easily. The top section of 2-inch OD x 8-foot aluminum tubing was obtained in the bathroom section at a hardware store.

The turnstile is attached to the mast with two U-bolts and a 90-degree aluminum L bracket. The bracket is connected to the center of the acrylic block with a #10 stainless steel bolt, as seen in Figure 4.



**Figure 4** — The turnstile is attached to the mast with two U bolts and a 90-degree aluminum L bracket.

Figure 5 shows the feed system with the turnstile mounted in place. Figure 5 also shows the L bracket mount, the delay line, and the ferrite chokes.



**Figure 5** — A close-up view of the feed system with the turnstile mounted in place.

## Conclusion

This turnstile antenna is perfect if you have limited space. It is compact, does not require a rotator, requires little or no maintenance, and is quite broad banded. It may just be the stealthy antenna you need for 6-meter DX, especially with Cycle 25 at its peak.

My turnstile has been in service for 6 years. I have worked summertime 6-meter DX from the Caribbean to South America, and even Europe using FT8. I also made a meteor-scatter contact during the Perseid meteor shower using MSK144.

I would like to thank Kurt Rieger, K2NNJ, for helping me build this antenna.

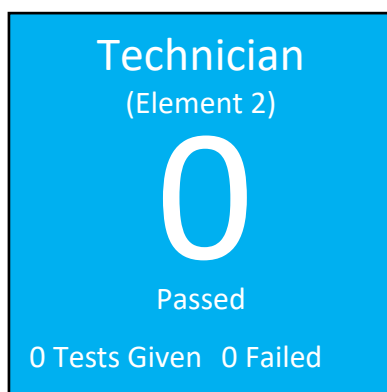
*About the author – Bill Gerhold, K2WH, was first licensed in 1971 as WA2AEH while in high school. He went on to study electrical engineering at a local university and then worked for General Electric Company in the transportation and power switchgear division for 21 years. Bill retired in 2015 from a small engineering firm. You can contact Bill at [k2wh@optonline.net](mailto:k2wh@optonline.net).*

## VE Sessions and Results

PROVIDED BY SYNOMEN HEBERT, KG5IRS

### Attendees

On Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025, a VE Test Session was held at HCESD 16 Admin, 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379 in conjunction with Field Day. During the testing session, 2 candidates took 2 tests.

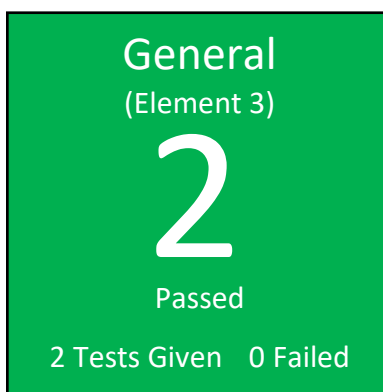


Technician  
(Element 2)

0

Passed

0 Tests Given 0 Failed

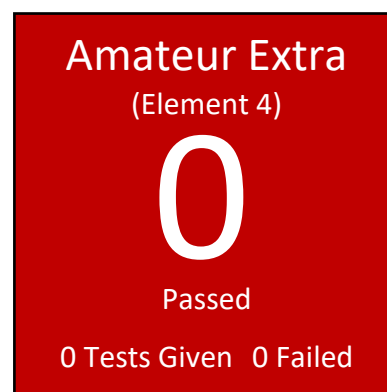


General  
(Element 3)

2

Passed

2 Tests Given 0 Failed



Amateur Extra  
(Element 4)

0

Passed

0 Tests Given 0 Failed

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following for passing their license exams<sup>1</sup>:

- Alvin Parish Jr – passed General
- Walter Reeves – passed General

### 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 November 22, 2025 at the HCESD 16 Admin Building. Please visit [Northwest Amateur Radio Society - License Exams](#) for the announcement.

<sup>1</sup> 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.



## Thanks and Gratitude

Thanks to the Exam VE's in attendance:

- Brett Hebert KG5IQU – session manager
- Synomen Hebert KG5IRS
- Dale Schmirler KN5DS
- Kyle Vann K5KNV

### 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](mailto: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

## Renewing Club Members

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

- Michael Lizzio, WA2TOP
- Craig Veteto, W5CEV
- Dale Schmirler, KN5DS
- A. John Canik, KI5YPD
- Albert Chambers, W5CBA

# Training and Education

## NARS

NARS Meeting Presentations - [Northwest Amateur Radio Society - Meeting 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)

## Online Video/Audio Courses

[Online Technician license exam self-study course](#), Fred Benson, NC4FB - The purpose of the resources developed for this course is to provide candidates in geographical areas that do not provide classes and candidates who cannot attend a class with the means to prepare for the Technician license exam. The materials cover all questions in the question pool with explanations, sub element tests, and sample license exams. Help is available upon request via email.

Benson also offers a ["kid friendly" self-study course](#) and a self-study program especially designed for [emergency services personnel](#).

"The Ham Whisperer" [Video Course](#), Andy Vallenga, KE4GKP – This course is based on the FCC question pool sequence to assist with Technician license preparation.

[A Self-Study Video Course](#), Dave Casler, KE0OG – This course provides a guided self-study [video course](#) based on ARRL's Ham Radio License Manual curriculum.

[Online Technician License Preparation Course](#) – Chris Johnson, N1IR

## 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.

[HamTestOnline](#) – 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:** T1B10 – A. In at least some segment of all these bands

**General:** G1D09 – A. 365 days

**Amateur Extra:** E8D05 – B. Increase keying waveform rise and fall times

# 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

CENT	UTC	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
8 AM	1300		FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
9 AM-2 <sup>45</sup> PM	1400-1945	VISITING OPERATOR TIME				
3 PM	2000	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
4 PM	2100	CODE BULLETIN				
5 PM	2200	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
6 PM	2300	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE
7 PM	0000	CODE BULLETIN				
8 PM	0100	DIGITAL BULLETIN				
8 <sup>45</sup> PM	0145	VOICE BULLETIN				
9 PM	0200	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE	SLOW CODE	FAST CODE
10 PM	0300	CODE BULLETIN				

## W1AW Schedule

Morse code transmissions on 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555 MHz

Slow code = practice sent at 5, 7 ½, 10, 13, and 15 wpm

Fast code = practice sent at 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13, and 10 wpm

Code bulletins are sent at 18 wpm

Voice transmissions on 1.855, 3.99, 7.29, 14.29, 18.16, 21.39, 28.59, 50.350 and 147.555 MHz.

Digital transmissions on 3.5975, 7.095, 14.095, 18.1025, 21.095, 28.095, 50.350 and 147.555 MHz.

Bulletins sent using 45.45-baud Baudot, PSK31 in BPSK mode and MFSK16 on a daily revolving schedule. For more information, visit W1AW at [www.arrl.org/w1aw](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw)

# Calendar

## Club Activities and Events

NARS General Meeting – November 21, 2025 - HCESD 16 Admin – [18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379](#)

VE Test Session – November 22, 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>

## 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

December 6 | Minden Amateur Radio Christmas Hamfest, 711 Gradney St, Minden, LA

February 13-15, 2026 | Orlando HamCation & SE Division Convention, Orlando, FL

February 20-21 | Greater Houston Hamfest & ARRL State Convention, Rosenberg, TX

## Contests and Radiosport

*ARRL Contest Corral*

**November 2025 -**

<https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2025/November%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>

### 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](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

Vice President: Kyle Vann, K5KNV, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU, [treasurer@w5nc.net](mailto:treasurer@w5nc.net)

Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

Director: Rich Jones, W5VEK, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

Director: Jorge Gutierrez, WK5J, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

## Committee Team Members

Administrative Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN

Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, K5FM

Newsletter Editor: Vicki Owen, AC5EW

Public Information Officer: TBD

VE Team Lead: Brett Hebert, KG5IQU

Repeater Team Lead: Rich Jones, W5VEK

Lead Net Control Operator: Mike Lizzio, WA2TOP

Webmaster: Bill Buoy, N5BIA, [webmaster@w5nc.net](mailto:webmaster@w5nc.net)

Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

## 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](https://w5nc.groups.io/g/main) for more information.

### 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 Groups Email Reflector](https://www.nwars.org)