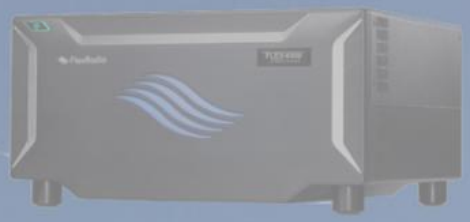
W5NC
Houston, Texas
Northwest Amateur Radio Society
A 501(c)(3) Organization
An ARRL Affiliated Club

NARS NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2025

Northwest Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 11483
Klein, TX 77391
w5nc.net



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President's Message

BY PAUL OWEN, N5NXS

ESD Radio Room and More of NARS History

I hope everyone enjoyed last month's program on "Radio Astronomy". I would like to thank Kyle, K5KNV, for setting up that program with Aaron Clevenson. Kyle also contacted Brian Havran, AF5IT, who will be at the September meeting to talk on "The Effects of the Atmosphere on Radio Transmissions." I am hoping to get ABR Industries to come to the meeting with a program also.

This month we had a ham operator donate a lot of equipment to the club. Rich and a few other members will help me go through the items. There are some good items that we can give away at the next meeting. There is also a box of books with publishing dates 2000 and later in there. I think we could use these books to raise money for the club. So, how about if we let members bid on the books they want during a meeting? Or should I post the list of books on the groups.io and do the bidding there?

You might ask, why do we need the extra money? The club is going to have some expenses that will be above the amount of money that is coming in from member dues. We have two repeaters that were taken down in June. To get them to another location we may have to buy coax and antennas for each. There is a new antenna location that the ESD is going to build in the Hwy 249/Spring Cypress area. One of these repeaters will be located on this new tower. The ESD will provide the coax, but we need to provide the antenna, which should be a commercial antenna. It should also be able to withstand the winds we get in this area if a hurricane comes through. This tower site will have internet so we will also need the equipment for networking and provide a power supply with a UPS.

We also need to replace the computers that the VE team is presently using. The board agreed last month to buy 2 new computers. We also received 2 used computers from Neal, N5EN, to help add to the number of computers available for testing.

NARS History

Back in 1990s, Bill Denton, WA5DWX and later as W5SB, Bill came back as an active ham after a long time away from it. He was amazed at all the changes that were going on at the time. I feel a lot of us who spent time building a career and raising a family have had that same feeling. Bill got back in the game by building a contest station at his QTH. He then started to invite hams to join him. He would have a crowd come over on contest weekends and everyone had a blast. He also offered new hams a chance to come over and see what it's like during a 10-10 rookie contest weekend.

Who would like to start doing this at the ESD building?

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, 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)

T2B12
What is the purpose of the color code used on DMR repeater systems?

A. Identifies the codec used
B. Defines the minimum signal level required for access
C. Must match the repeater color code for access
D. Defines the frequency pair to use

General (Element 3)

G9D04
What is the primary function of antenna traps?

A. To provide balanced feed point impedance
B. To prevent out-of-band operation
C. To notch spurious frequencies
D. To enable multiband operation

Amateur Extra (Element 4)

E9C05
What is the purpose of feeding an off-center-fed dipole (OCFD) between the center and one end instead of at the midpoint?

A. To create a similar feed point impedance on multiple bands
B. To suppress off-center lobes at higher frequencies
C. To resonate the antenna across a wider range of frequenacies
D. To reduce common-mode current coupling on the feed line shield

See the answers on Page 17.

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

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.

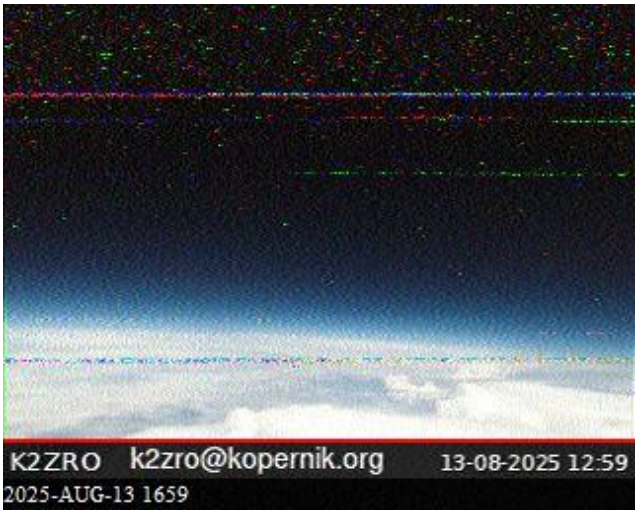
ARRL Serving its Members: NU2W's Story

The New England Division RFI Team helped Tom Lanieri, NU2W, with a significant RFI problem he's been suffering with for many years. After a move from New Jersey to Massachusetts, he had RFI issues due to noise and HOA restrictions. Tom had spent 40 years collecting vintage radio equipment such as a full Collins S-line, Drake twins, Heaths, Hallicrafters, amplifiers, receivers, transmitters and all the peripherals. To help with the problem Tom was introduced to one of the New England Division RFI teams consisting of W1DAN, W1EMI, and N2YCH.

The ARRL Team spent several visits to his home trying to determine the nature of the noise and how to deal with it. Tom noted that it was a true learning experience, and enjoyed 'sniffing out noise' with different antenna arrays, scope/analyzers and SDR devices. Tom looks forward to the Team's report on what his options are. They also left him with a new ARRL publication *Ham Radio for Indoors.* Tom concludes, "I am proud to be an ARRL member and to have met this entirely professional team of RFI techs."

Hams Track Campers' High-Altitude Balloon, Decode Images

The Kopernik Observatory put out a call recently for hams to receive and decode transmissions from a launch by its High Altitude Balloon Camp, and Amateur radio delivered! Social media was abuzz with images decoded from the K2ZRO-9 transmitters. The balloon was launched from Vestal, New York, and ascended over the Catskill Mountains. A crowd gathered at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station at ARRL Headquarters, where Station Manager Joe Carcia, NJ1Q, was tracking it. The decoded slow scan television (SSTV) signals showed black skies above, and cumulonimbus build ups below the balloon. A thunderstorm complex formed while the eye in the sky was above it.



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 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.

ARRL New Book Release: Stealth Antennas for Ham Radio

ARRL has released a new book, *Stealth Antennas for Ham Radio*, which is full of antennas to get you on the air no matter where you live. Even radio amateurs who live with antenna restrictions or covenant limitations will find solutions in this book. Learn how to install a multiband vertical that looks like a flagpole, or how to run an end-fed random wire along your roof so that neighbors will never notice. If you're looking for an invisible repeater connection, try the Ham Walking Stick.

This book will also help hams who want to stay unnoticed by neighbors. There are ideas for small lots, covenant-restricted properties, and many other living situations. Steve Ford, WB8IMY, kicks off the collection with safe, effective, and ethical stealth operation.

You can order the book from the ARRL online store or find an ARRL publication dealer. Retail is $22.95 and member price is $19.95.

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 Newsline 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 Newsline 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.

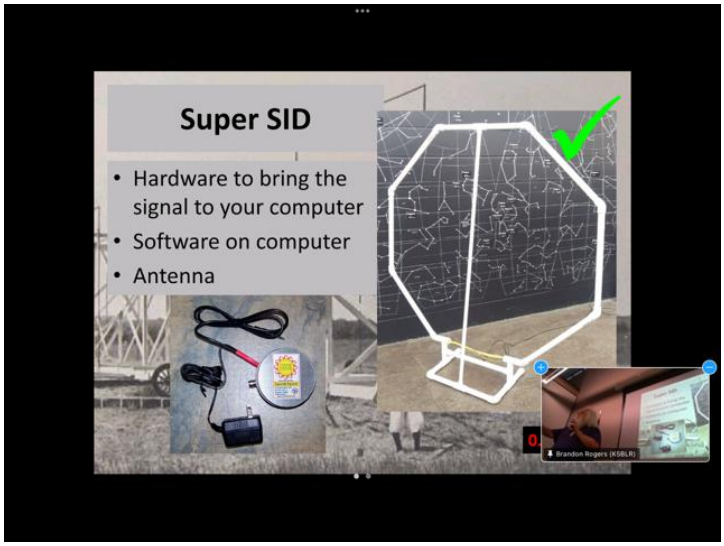
VE sessions can be paper based or computer based (either in-person or remote sessions). Monthly NARS VE sessions are in-person computer based, using ExamTools software. To grade these computer-based exams a VE must go through a short training course on the ExamTool's website. Once completed they will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

August Radio Astronomy Presentation

The August monthly meeting featured a presentation by Aaron Clevenson, AG5TW, on Radio Astronomy. Clevenson has a PhD in computer engineering (AI) and a Masters in Physics, as well as being an Extra class amateur radio operator. Clevenson covered the different parts of the radio spectrum and what receivers are being used to capture the signals from different parts of space. He mentioned that amateurs can build receivers that are inexpensive, easy to build and use, not too big, and are fun to operate. He explained the different types based on the source of the signals; for example, the Radio Jove and Itty-Bitty Telescope can be used to listen to signals from the sun. The Radio Jove is a double dipole antenna cut to 20.1 MHz, that can also be used to get signals from Jupiter (due to its strong electromagnetic field). The FM Radio, or radio dongle, can be used to hear signals from meteors. The Super SID, which can be made from PVC, is used to listen to signals from the Milky Way. It was interesting to listen to actual recordings of these different signals. In addition, Clevenson explained how to build each type of receiver and his experience with using them.



He also promoted the Astronomical League, which is a radio astronomy observing program. More information can be found at www.astroleague.org.

Before retiring, Clevenson taught at Lone Star College Montgomery, and is now the director of the Insperity Observatory at Jack Fields Elementary School in Humble. He mentioned an upcoming event, Astronomy Day Houston, will be on September 27 at the Observatory, is free and open to the public. Free reservations must be made to attend, by going to www.astronomyday.net.

Next Club Meeting

Our next General Meeting will be held on September 19, 2025, at the HCESD 16 Admin Building – 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Spring, TX 77379. We hope to see everyone there and we will have a special speaker.

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 2024 issue of QST.

An Easy Way to Use a Relay to Switch RF in an HF Station by Mark Persons, W0MH

I was looking for a way to easily check antenna voltage standing wave ratio (VSWR) before going on the air with an HF radio. It was cumbersome to disconnect the antenna and connect an MFJ-259 antenna analyzer. I used a similar process when testing my radio into a dummy load. I needed a four-port RF switch to handle the radio, a dummy load, the antenna, and an antenna analyzer. I couldn't find what I wanted, so I built my own (in lead photo). My station now includes a selector to choose one of four antennas and a companion switch to operate the relay that I describe here. This project will ease the operation and flexibility of any station.

Table 1 — Isolation and Matching

Frequency (MHz)	Port-to-Port Isolation (dB)	Return Loss (dB)	VSWR
1.90	61	53	1.004
3.80	54	51	1.005
7.20	49	50	1.006
14.2	42	42	1.016
21.3	35	37	1.041
28.4	34	34	1.014
52.0	31	30	1.138

Table 2 — Parts List

Schematic Part	Schematic Signifier(s)
1N4004 diodes	D1, D2
3.3 V, 1 W Zener diode, 1N4728	D3
Green LED	D4
Red LED, LTL-4213-FL	D5
1 kΩ, ½ W resistors	R1, R2
Additional Parts	
Single-pole-double-throw rotary switch with knob	
SO-239 chassis mount connectors	
Four-pin logic connector and mating connector	
Hammond 1411L aluminum utility box, 5 × 4 × 3 inches, DigiKey	
Tyco Electronics PRD-11DY0-12 double-pole-double-throw 12 V dc relay, DigiKey	

My experience as a radio broadcast engineer led me to understand that a standard open-frame 30 A, 240 V AC power relay would be right for the job. For perspective, 1500 W into 50 Ohms is 5.48 Arms of RF current with 274 Vrms. I've successfully used this relay many times with 1000 W AM broadcast stations. In that situation, there is 4000 W of peak power under 100% modulation conditions. It was perfect for selecting a main or auxiliary transmitter to the antenna. The standard

configuration is the main transmitter to the antenna and the auxiliary transmitter to a dummy load. Then at the flip of a switch, the auxiliary is on the antenna and the main transmitter is connected to the dummy load for maintenance.

The Build

I started this project with a 5 x 4 x 3" painted metal box. It has just the right amount of room to get wiring from the relay to SO-239 RF chassis connectors. I used braided wire to reduce inductance and VSWR. Yes, I soldered it to the relay parts. The relay has its own smaller wires that were intended for 60 Hz. The braided wire parallels them and conveniently goes to the SO-239 connectors, and it's flexible enough to not affect relay operation. The project is intended for 160 through 10 meters, but it will work up to 6 meters, which is the highest frequency I would recommend (see Table 1). See Table 2 for a parts list for this project build.

Figure 1 — Here you can see the braided wire to the connectors and the cross connections to the relay.

Figure 1 shows cross connections using more braided wire. It's important to leave space between the two to prevent an accidental short circuit. RF loss through the device is insignificant. I added extra screws and scraped away paint near the screw heads to keep the box pieces as RF tight as possible. I also put felt-pad feet on the bottom of the box to prevent accidental scratching.

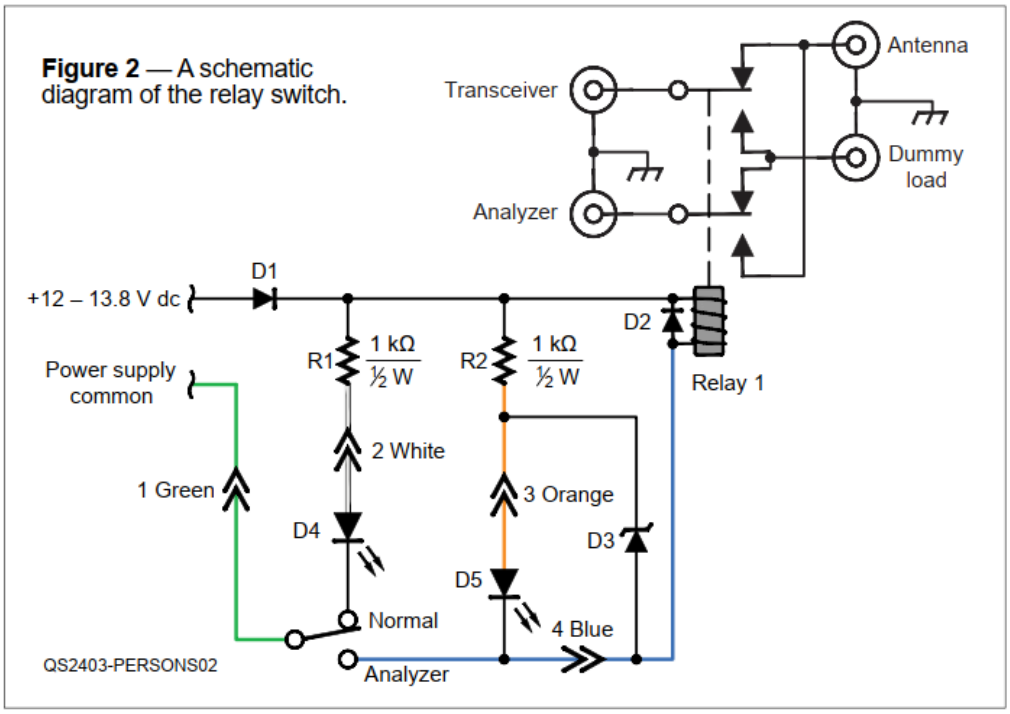


Figure 2 — A schematic diagram of the relay switch.

Point-to-point control and status wiring is on a solder terminal strip. The logic connectors I used were Cinch Jones P-306-CCT and S-306-CCT from my junk box. You can use almost any connector that has at least four conductors. The 12 V DC power comes from the station power supply, and less than .25 A of current is required. It should be fused accordingly at the station's 12 V power distribution

block. In Figure 2, you'll see that D1 is a steering diode to prevent problems if the power is connected backwards. The schematic also shows logic wire colors and terminals on connectors

Operating and Troubleshooting

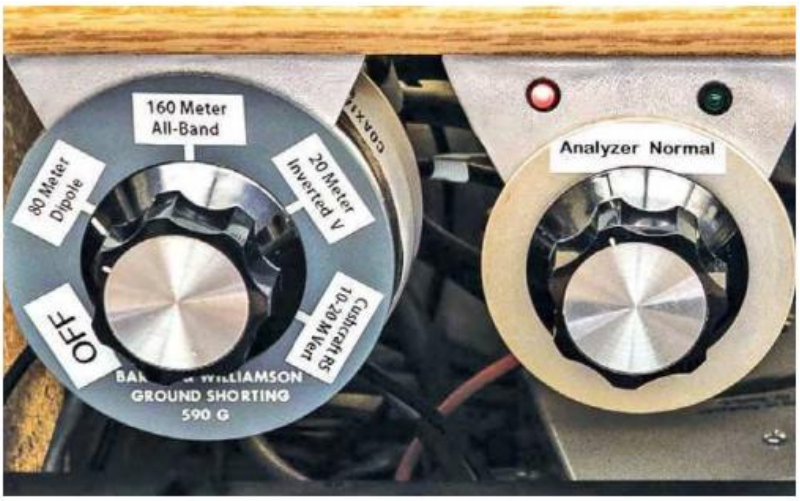


Figure 3 — The switch for my radio and antenna analyzer.

My daily routine involves selecting an antenna with the left switch in Figure 3. A red light blinks when I turn the switch on the right to the Analyzer, signaling that the radio is connected to the dummy load while the antenna analyzer is looking at the antenna. When operating on 80 meters, I check the dipole to see if its characteristics are as expected. When I select the All-Band antenna option, I tweak the antenna tuner for the lower VSWR. All of this happens with very little RF power going to the antennas. When I turn the switch on the right to Normal, it connects my radio to the antenna and the analyzer to the dummy load. Then I'm ready to go on the air with confidence that the antennas are okay.

I found that the analyzer meters were hitting full scale while I was running 1000 W into the antenna. I fixed this by installing a small relay at the analyzer RF input to isolate it. The dead-bug style of wiring is not pretty, but it works (see Figure 4).

In Summary

The relay described here will allow convenient antenna checking and tuner adjustments without putting noticeable power on the air to cause interference. You can take pride in adding flexibility to your station using this relay.

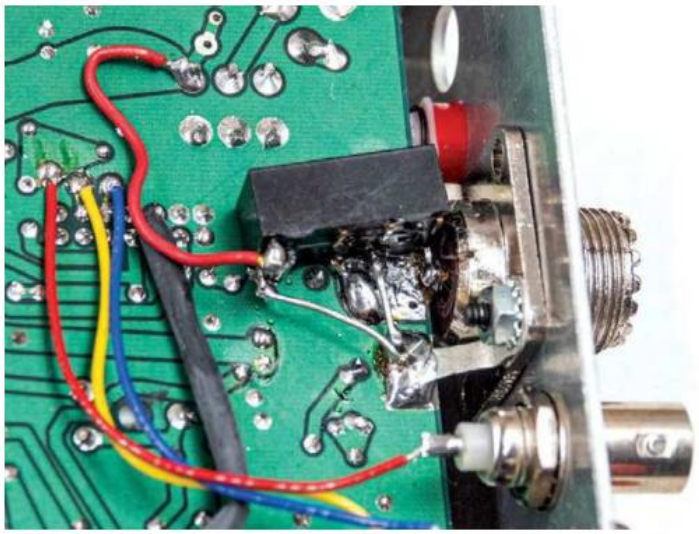


Figure 4 — The protection relay I added to my antenna analyzer.

About the author – Mark Persons, W0MH, is an ARRL Life Member and a Certified Professional Broadcast Engineer. He retired after 60 years of building projects and turning the dials on transmitters. Mark's website is www.mwpersons.com and he can be reached at teki@mwpersons.com

VE Sessions and Results

PROVIDED BY SYNOMEN HEBERT, KG5IRS

Attendees

On Saturday, August 23, 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, 3 candidates took 4 tests.

Technician (Element 2)	General (Element 3)	Amateur Extra (Element 4)
0 Passed	2 Passed	1 Passed
0 Tests Given 0 Failed	2 Tests Given 0 Failed	2 Tests Given 1 Failed

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following for passing their license exams[1]:

- Carlos Borjas, KJ5HMH, now AI5YI – passed Extra
- Thomas Migi Jr, KG5FFX – passed General
- Robert Townsend, K5RLT – 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 Sept 20, 2025 at the HCESD 16 Admin Building. Please visit Northwest Amateur Radio Society - License Exams for the announcement.

[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.

Thanks and Gratitude

Thanks to the Exam VE's in attendance:

- Brett Hebert KG5IQU – session manager
- Synomen Hebert KG5IRS
- Paul Owen N5NXS
- Paul Pacior KA5PUD
- Michael Stephen Robinson KI0DE
- 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

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

- Catrina Zapata, KJ5JQV
- Laura Bazaldua, KF5QAU
- Michael Estes, KR4CZF
- Charles Davis, KB5BAM (former member)
- Roger Runnels, WA5WCY (former member)
- Lucas Cabrera, KI5WYC
- Thomas Migi, KG5FFX
- Glenn Reeves, KJ5EYL

Renewing Club Members

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

- David Revere, WB5AYU
- Jeff Holderfield, WB5PCO
- Gregory Altimas, K5LTI
- Raul Pavon, AK5KK
- Krys Altimas, KI5ZNS

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)

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: T2B12 – C. Must match the repeater color code for access
General: G9D04 – D. to enable multiband operation
Amateur Extra: E9C05 – A. To create a similar feed point impedance on multiple bands

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^{45} 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^{45} 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

Calendar

Club Activities and Events

NARS General Meeting – September 19, 2025 - HCESD 16 Admin – 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379

VE Test Session –September 20, 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.

NARS Table at Lone Star College Tomball – September 16, 2025 @ 2 pm

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

September 12-13 | Slidell EOC Hamfest LA State Convention at Slidell, LA

October 4 | ARRL Hamfest at Cadence Bank Center 302 W. Loop 121 Belton, TX

October 12-17 | RVRN Radio Network Fall Rally, Elmendorf, TX

Contests and Radiosport

ARRL Contest Corral

September 2025 -
https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2025/September%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

Texas QSO Party – September 20-21, 2025. *Across the nation there are weekends that you hear stations calling CQ 'State' QSO Party. This is a contest that each state will put on the contest calendar. It is a great way to add to your county count for each state. If enough hams want to, we can open the ESD radio room to those who want to operate with a group. We can use the FD setup for multiple stations. Send me your name at, n5nxs@flash.net, if you want to participate, and watch the groups.io for posts with "TX QSO Party". You can also work this contest from your home QTH.*

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: Kyle Vann, K5KNV, 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 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

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.