



W5NC

Houston, Texas

Northwest Amateur Radio Society

A 501(c)(3) Organization
An ARRL Affiliated Club

NARS NEWS

JULY 2024

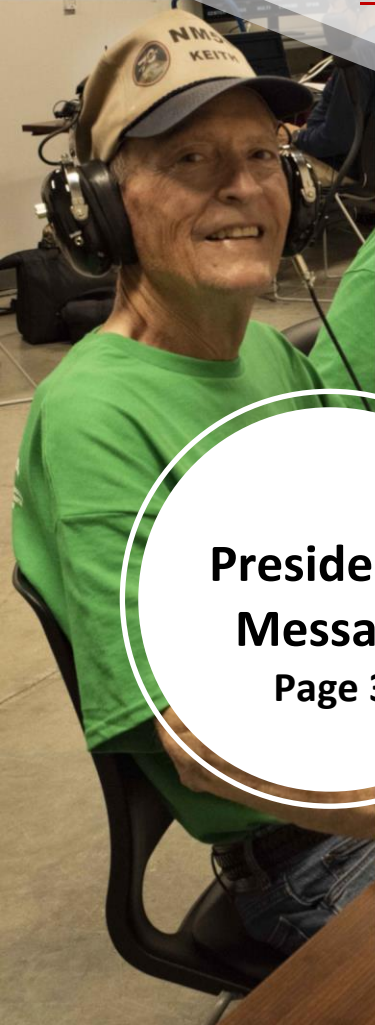
Northwest Amateur Radio Society

P.O. Box 11483

Klein, TX 77391

w5nc.club

NARS Field Day
2024



**President's
Message
Page 3**

**Field Day
Report
Page 10**

**Field Day
Pictures
Page 13**



Contents

President’s Message	3
Exam Practice.....	5
NARS Membership – Due Dates and More	5
The ARRL Letter	6
NARS Monthly Club Meeting	9
2024 Field Day With NARS.....	10
2024 Field Day in Pictures.....	13
NARS Name Badges: Get Yours Today!	27
VE Sessions and Results	28
New & Renewing Club Members.....	29
NARS Club Documents and Minutes	29
Training and Education	30
Of Interest to the Club	32
Calendar	33
Club Activities and Events.....	33
Social Events	33
Hamfests and Conventions.....	34
Contests and Radiosport.....	34
NARS Club Officers and Information	35
Board Officers with Voting Privileges	35
Board Non-Voting Associate Members	35
Club Nets.....	35
Repeaters.....	35

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:

Brandon Rogers (K5BLR), Newsletter Editor

k5blr@arrl.net

President's Message

BY PAUL KENT, KI5FJS

Presidential Leave of Absence

This month our President, Ron Matusek WA6TQH has taken a medical leave of absence. Please keep him in your prayers for a speedy recovery.

Field Day

In addition, Ron has asked me to write the monthly President's letter and the first thing that comes to mind was our annual NARS Field Day. I would like to give a special thanks to Paul Owen N5NXS and his team of volunteers for such a successful event. Among these volunteers, I would like to extend a personal thank-you to Mike Lizzio WA2TOP for the gang of operators, for the Master Chef team of Rich Jones W5VEK, and for James Blackburn, WB5AW, who keep the setup, operations and demob army moving. Thanks to everyone for their participation. I look forward to seeing the final scores

And most importantly it was good to see the young enthusiastic operators.



As well as a seasoned mechanical engineer.



For the month of July, I've asked Paul Owen to give us a lessons-learned presentation on our Field Day; what we did well and what we could have done better. David Holden, WJ9O, will also provide his presentation on the Fox Hunt.

Update on Repeaters

A brief update on the downtown repeater antenna: currently we have CMS, a firm providing certified climbers, scheduled to do a site visit to inspect the antenna and antenna mount. CMS will be inspecting the site for climber tie-off points and clarifications to the methods of procedure (MOP), a plan of action required by building management, on the 2nd of July. Once the MOP is officially accepted by the building management, we will schedule a date to remove the old antenna and install a new dual band antenna on the mount to the right. Once these operations are completed, we should have a standalone repeater on the air. Keep your fingers crossed for the week of 15th July; that's our target week.

Mike Pate K5MAP has resigned as repeater team lead and Rich Jones W5VEK has stepped up to handle the lead/management of the team. We appreciate your continued club support.

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)

T8D10

Which of the following operating activities is supported by digital mode software in the WSJT-X software suite?

- A. Meteor scatter
- B. Weak signal propagation beacons
- C. All these choices are correct
- D. Earth-Moon-Earth

General (Element 3)

G9D05

What is an advantage of vertically stacking horizontally polarized Yagi antennas?

- A. It narrows the main lobe in azimuth
- B. It allows simultaneous vertical and horizontal polarization
- C. It allows quick selection of vertical or horizontal polarization
- D. It narrows the main lobe in elevation

Amateur Extra (Element 4)

E6B05

What characteristic of a PIN diode makes it useful as an RF switch?

- A. Ability to dissipate large amounts of power
- B. Low junction capacitance
- C. Reverse bias controls its forward voltage drop
- D. Extremely high reverse breakdown voltage

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: <http://www.w5nc.club/nars/index.php/2014-03-30-18-23-31/membership-reports/club-roster>. Find your name in the list and look at the “Expires” column of the table!

The ARRL Letter

An excerpt from the weekly ARRL Letter

ARRL Logbook of The World Returns to Service

ARRL Logbook of The World® (LoTW®) returned to service July 1, 2024. It had been offline as part of a systems service disruption.

As work progressed on the network, some users encountered LoTW opening briefly during which some 6600 logs were uploaded. The logs were not processed until this weekend as we tested that the interfaces to LoTW were functioning properly.

We are taking steps to help manage what will likely be a huge influx of logs. We are requesting that if you have large uploads, perhaps from contests or from a DXpedition, please wait a week or two before uploading to give LoTW a chance to catch up. We have also implemented a process to reject logs with excessive duplicates. Please do not upload your entire log to “ensure” your contacts are in LoTW as they will be rejected.

Despite this request, we have seen several recent DXpeditions upload large log files and many amateurs have uploaded logs with excessive duplicates. This negatively impacts the backlog time.



Did you know...

that the ARRL sends a weekly letter describing some of the current events, activities, and policies that are taking shape in the Amateur Radio world? The following is an excerpt from these letters in January. View all the ARRL letters at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter>

Lastly, please do not call ARRL Headquarters to report issues you are having with LoTW. You can contact support at LoTW-help@arrl.org.

Through the end of the year, you may experience planned times when LoTW will be unavailable. We have been using this time to evaluate operational and infrastructure improvements we would like to make to LoTW. Those times will be announced.

We appreciate your patience as we worked through the challenges keeping LoTW from returning to service. We know the importance of LoTW to our members, and to the tens of thousands of LoTW users who are not ARRL members. LoTW, just behind QST, is our second most popular ARRL benefit.

Hurricane Beryl: Hurricane Watch Net Active

BY: JOHN ROSS, KD8IDJ, AND SIERRA HARROP, W5DX

Wednesday, July 3, 2024, 9:20 AM EDT Update:

Hurricane Beryl, now a Category 4 storm, continues its track across the central Caribbean Sea moving at 20 mph with winds sustained winds of 145 mph.

As of Wednesday morning, the National Hurricane Center reports Beryl will bring hurricane conditions to Jamaica by midday with life-threatening winds and storm surge and is expected to approach the Cayman Islands by Wednesday evening into Thursday.

Bobby Graves, KB5HAV, [Hurricane Watch Net](#) (HWN) Manager, reports the HWN is active as of Wednesday, July 3rd, at 7:00 AM EDT (1100 UTC) on 14.325.00 MHz, and at 8:30 AM EDT (1230 UTC), or just as soon as the Waterway Net has completed, on 7.268.00 MH.

“Any additional change to the forecast track could bring hurricane conditions, perhaps, even landfall, on Thursday across the Cayman Islands. We will watch the track closely,” said Graves.

“The Hurricane Watch Net is also preparing for a Friday activation for when Hurricane Beryl is expected to make landfall in the Yucatan of Mexico. As always, we greatly appreciate the daily users and various nets who use 14.325.00 MHz and 7.268.00 MHz for allowing us a clear frequency. It certainly makes our job easier, and I know those in the affected area appreciate it as well. Our prayers go out to those who could be affected by Hurricane Beryl. HWN is prepared, ready to serve, and do what we can to help save lives.”

Yesterday, Zian Julio Aguirre Taboada, XE1ATZ, Director of the National Emergency Network, of the Mexican Federation of Radio Experimenters, asked for the protection of 7128 kHz that will be used during the activation of their network due to the threat of the intense Hurricane Beryl.

Amateur radio operators have been preparing for activation since Sunday evening June 20. The [Voice Over Internet Protocol \(VoIP\) Hurricane Net](#) was activated Monday Morning July 1, 2024, and was secured at 500 PM EDT Monday. Hurricane Beryl intensified into an intense Category-4 Hurricane as it swept through the Grenadines, Grenada, and Petit Martinique with impacts also into St. Vincent, St. Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad, and Tobago.

Some of the net reports were utilized in the 11 AM Monday 7/1/24 NHC Advisory. They included structural damage reports to buildings with roofs

blown off, trees/wires/poles down, storm surge and heavy rainfall related flooding.

“We appreciate any and all support from Amateur Operators in the affected area,” said Rob Macedo, KD1CY, director of operations for the VoIP Net.

ARRL [Director of Emergency Management](#), Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, reminded amateurs it’s important to be ready to help.

“Now is the time to make sure you are prepared individually and as a group. Touch base with your partner agencies. As NOAA has predicted the potential for a busier hurricane year know your plan. We all will be watching and staying connected with Officials in the coastal regions of the country. Amateur radio still has a very important role during times of crisis and as we have seen in the past hurricanes can test a community’s preparedness better than most other disasters.”

More updates will be available on www.arrl.org

Ham Radio Operators Showcase Emergency Readiness

BY ANDREW HODGE/THE NACOGDOCHES DAILY SENTINEL

NACOGDOCHES — Ham radio operators from Nacogdoches and Angelina County participated in the annual Field Day event on June 22-23, testing emergency readiness and showcasing their hobby. Members of the Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club and the Deep East Texas Amateur Radio Club broadcasted for 24 hours from the Nacogdoches Emergency Operations Center, aiming to connect with as many fellow hobbyists as possible across North America.

Roger Kraut-Kremer highlighted the importance of ham radio during emergencies, stating, “We support the cities, county, and state during emergencies.” The event also emphasized the

camaraderie among operators, with Kraut-Kremer sharing a personal story of assistance from a fellow hobbyist in Greece.

The Nacogdoches Amateur Radio Club meets monthly at the Nacogdoches Emergency Operations Center. For more information, visit w5nac.com and detrac.net.

Ham Radio Operators Gear Up for Active Hurricane Season

As the anticipation of an active hurricane season grows, local leaders in Jefferson Parish are emphasizing the importance of power resilience in disaster scenarios. The Jefferson Amateur Radio Club recently showcased its crucial role in emergency communication during a weekend event at the Wally Pontiff Playground in Old Metairie.

Club president Chris Miltenberger highlighted the unique capabilities of ham radios, which operate without the need for traditional utilities like internet and phone service. This method of communication is particularly valuable when strong winds and storms knock out these utilities.

The event was part of the national Ham Radio Field Day, bringing together around 40,000 amateur radio operators nationwide to simulate emergency conditions. Participants used only generators and solar power, demonstrating the resilience and reliability of ham radio systems during power outages.

Reflecting on the aftermath of Hurricane Ida, Miltenberger shared his personal investment in

batteries to ensure communication capabilities even without air conditioning. The Jefferson Amateur Radio Club collaborates with emergency officials, hospitals, and Red Cross shelters to ensure effective communication during emergencies.

The club invites the public to its clubhouse, open Thursday nights and Saturday mornings, to experience the power of ham radio firsthand.

ARRL Podcasts Schedule

ARRL Forums at Dayton Hamvention 2024

This year's Dayton Hamvention, which occurred on May 17 - 19 in Xenia, Ohio, will be extra special -- it's also the 2024 ARRL National Convention. ARRL Director of Marketing & Innovation Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, joined May's podcast to share details about ARRL-sponsored activities at the show, including several of the ARRL-sponsored forums and the Youth Rally.

ARRL Audio News

Listen to [ARRL Audio News](#), available every Friday. 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 on blubrry, iTunes, and Apple Podcasts -
- [On the Air](#) | [ARRL Audio News](#).

NARS Monthly Club Meeting

2024 Field Day

The Northwest Amateur Radio Club (NARS) demonstrated its prowess during the annual ARRL Field Day, held on June 22-23. This event, which combines contesting, emergency communications exercises, and community outreach, showcased the club's commitment to radio excellence. Field Day was held on June 22-23, 2024 at the HCESD 16 Admin Building – 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Spring, TX 77379.

Next Club Meeting

Our next General Meeting for the month of July will be held at the HCESD 16 Admin Building – 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Spring, TX 77379. Paul Owen will give us a lessons-learned presentation on our Field Day operations and activities. In addition, David Holden, WJ9O, will also provide his presentation on the recently-held Fox Hunt. We hope to see everyone there!

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, 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

2024 Field Day With NARS

BY: PAUL OWEN, N5XS

2024 Field Day was Fantastic! At least I think so.

I hope everyone had a good time. Whether it was operating a station or visiting with another Ham.



Rudy W5HRH, Marty W5MF, Jerry N5EKO, Mike WA2TOP, Jason KR1BBT, Brandy WE9L, Jorge WK5J, Tom N5RIV, Ron WA6TQH, Michel KI5WLU, Sheree WM5N, Keith NM5G, Brynn KE5KRV, Logan KG5LLM, Paul N5NXS, Vicki AC5EW, Rich W5VEK, James WB5AW, Bill N5BIA, Russ KI5QMY

It started out on setup day with Rich, W5VEK, telling me before I got to the building that there was a VFD class going on in the big room till 3:30. We gathered in the operating room to go over my plan for the day and make sure that we would drink water to stay hydrated. Every time I turned to do something I had someone asking me what they could do. At times I needed to be inside to set up the room and outside to tell them where to plant the pole for the end fed half wave antenna (which was provided to us by Mike, K5MAP). Then there was the dipole that I got from John W5PDW, to set up and after I got started with that, I was told I was needed inside. I left the rest of the dipole setup chore to James AA5JW. Jorge, WK5J, had a vertical to set up so I sent some helpers to help him.

We got done in no time and everyone started putting their stations on the air to check out the antennas. So, the setup day was done, and everyone seemed ready for Field Day to begin.

My Saturday started out with going to breakfast at the “Broken Yoke Café” and then went to the building to do the VE session with 8 candidates to test.

I had some time before lunch to set up some tables in the big room and at the entrance to it for the welcome table. My wife, Vicki, AC5EW, worked there both days, so a big thank you to her for getting everyone to sign in.



My compliments to Rich, W5VEK, and James, WB5AW, for the all the meals. We had a very nice Field Day cake as desert after lunch. It had the ARRL Field Day logo on it and it looked amazing.

It was nice to hear that there were no problems with interference between stations. The operators of all the stations did work well together. My thanks to Mike, WA2TOP, who each week sent out the operator signup list and it also was to let everyone keep FD weekend open and sign up to the Field Day groups.io. I also was pleased to have Marty, W5MF, for the CW station, Russ, K15QMY, for the Digital station and Jerry, N5EKO, for the VHF and Satellite stations. We kept the 3 stations on the air all night long. I want to thank the GOTA crew we had. Jorge, WK5J, provided the radios and antenna. The Hebert Family, Brett KG5IQU, Synomen KG5IRS, Brynn KE5KRV and Logan KG5LLM, provided the education table along with the morse code keys and a neat certificate when they could send a word in morse code and stayed with Jorge to help with the visitors on Saturday. I also need to thank Bob, K9HOU, for providing some of the morse code practice oscillators and the different type of keys like a Bug and single and 2 paddle keys.

We did have one problem on Saturday that needed fixing. The GOTA antenna was not working. We first tried changing the coax feed line but that didn't fix the problem. So, I pulled the dipole antenna feed line from the Ham operating room and pulled it to the GOTA radio. Jorge got on 40 meters and had some young operators started to make contacts. Eventually, I asked around what we could do. Jerry offered his POTA vertical. We set it up and it worked on 15 meters. Another young Ham, Joel KJ5BDP, got on the GOTA station and he made 18 contacts.

Sunday came and the operators were anxiously waiting to be called to breakfast. The eggs and biscuits were great. Yes, Rich had more to offer but that's what I had for my breakfast. He did have a problem with the coffee machine, but he went out and got Starbucks coffee.

The rest of the day went smoothly. The number of contacts was looking good. At the end, we had a preliminary total score of 7,679 points and we had about 1,475 bonus points. There were 71 participants. We had 3 young people work at the GOTA station with 29 contacts. The CW station did beat out the SSB station operators by getting 514 to their 508 contacts. Digital station won the day by getting 783 contacts. It really was a good show all around and I want to thank everyone for helping me to make this Field Day go as well as it did.

I have some items that I missed and that we may be able to improve next year:

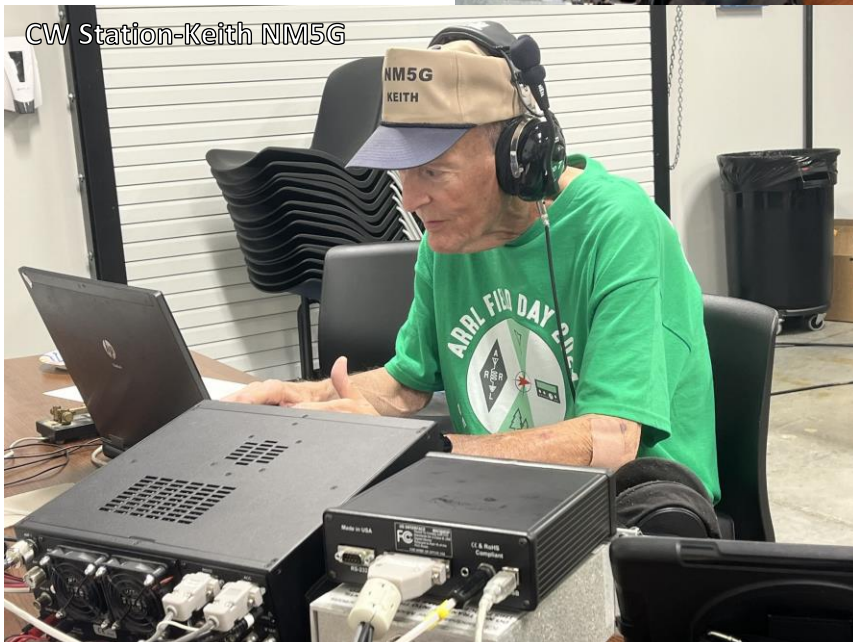
- I didn't think about getting other hams to help me with setup day, making sure they knew exactly what I had in mind where the antenna supports were going to go.
- We should have another ham know what was needed to get the coax run to the triplexer and radios in the room.
- Someone should have been asked to get the W1AW bulletin on Friday.
- I should have gotten the word out to a scouting group earlier. One of their scout masters did reach out 2 days before but never gave me a head count that we could be expecting to visit.
- We should get with Klein PR person to get their social media pages with Field Day information.
- We should put out the FD banner at the curb a couple of days before the event.

Despite improvements we could make, Field Day was a fantastic event for the NARS club!

2024 Field Day in Pictures

NARS would like to thank John Ellis, W5PDW, James Wheeler, AA5JW, and Paul Owen, N5NXS, for these pictures from Field Day!







Marty W5MF and Skip K5LLR



Marty W5MF, Scott KA2EEU-Spring Fire Chief



Russ KI5IUM, Paul N5NXS and Jerry N5EKO



Russ KI5IUM, Scott KA2EEU and Jerry N5EKO

Russ KI5IUM, Scott KA2EEU and Jerry N5EKO

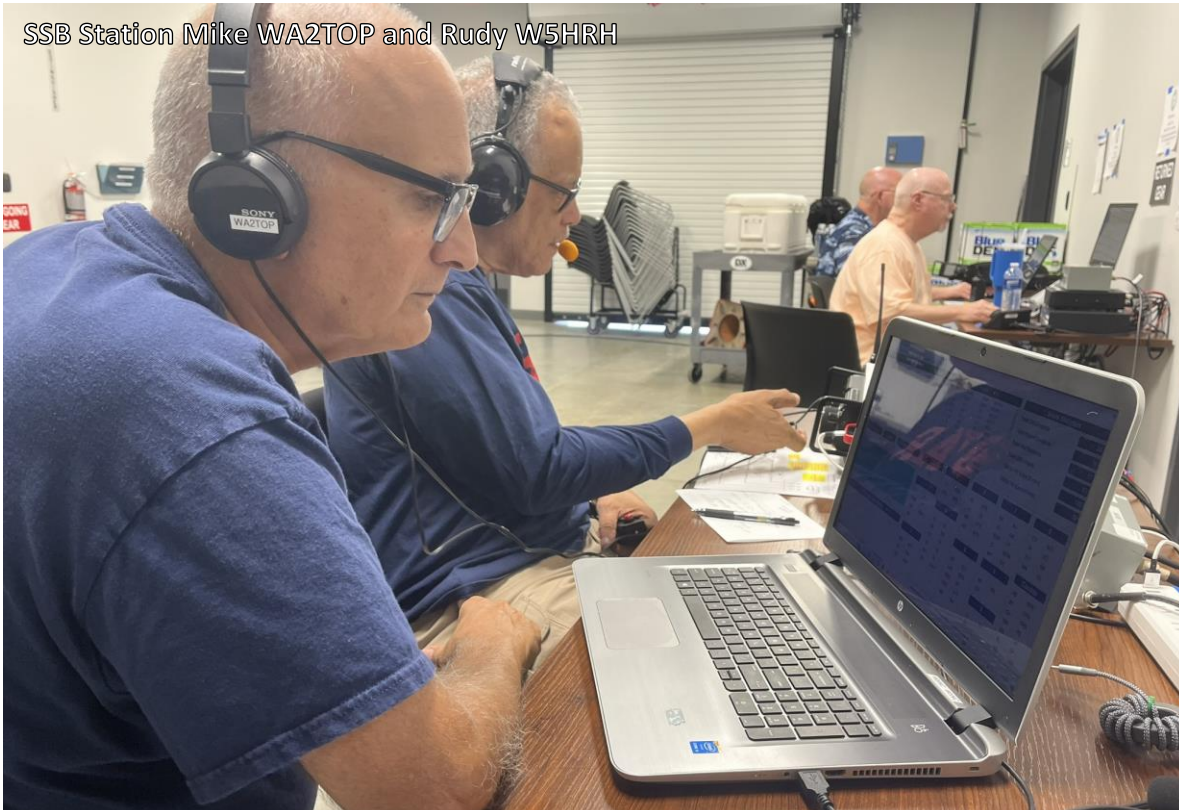


Satellite Station-Jerry N5EKO



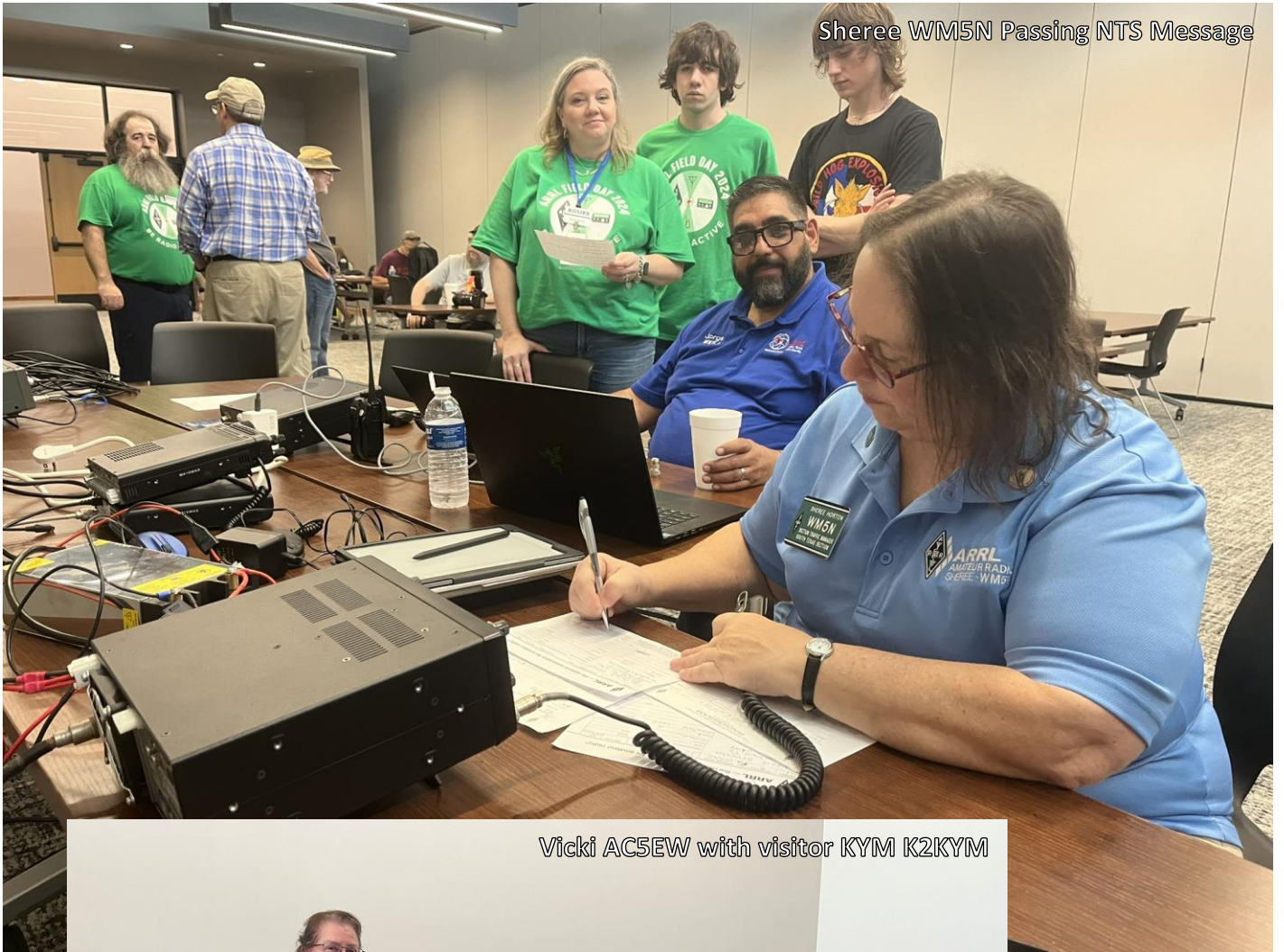
Satellite Station-Jerry N5EKO and Phil K15VPF

SSB Station Mike WA2TOP and Rudy W5HRH



SSB Station Mike WA2TOP and Rudy W5HRH

Sheree WM5N Passing NTS Message



Vicki AC5EW with visitor KYM K2KYM







WA2TOP and Grandkids





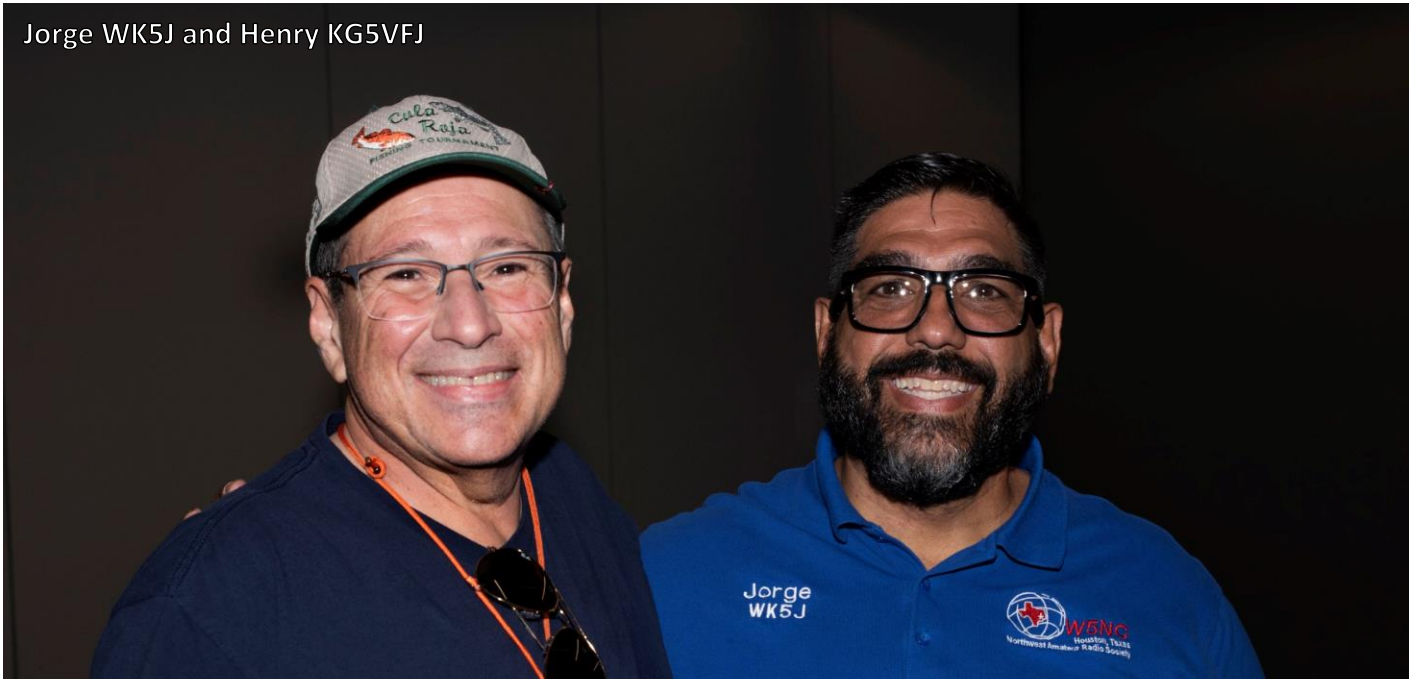
Brynn KJ5KRV, Talor and Joshua



Talor and Joshua



Jorge WK5J and Henry KG5VFJ



Education Table Marty W5MF, Brynn, Martin KJ5FYU and Olivia



GOTA Crew-Hebert Family
Brynn KE5KRV, Brett KG5IQU, Synomen KG5IRS, Logan KG5LLM



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 and can be delivered at the next NARS meeting (if ordered two weeks or more before the next meeting).

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.

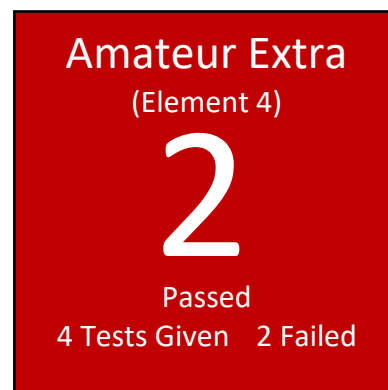
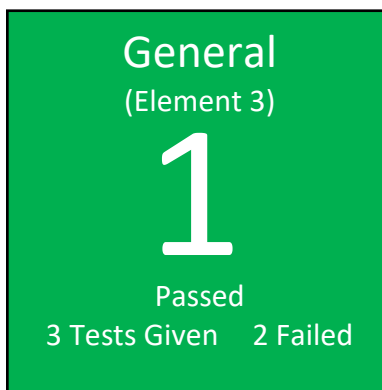
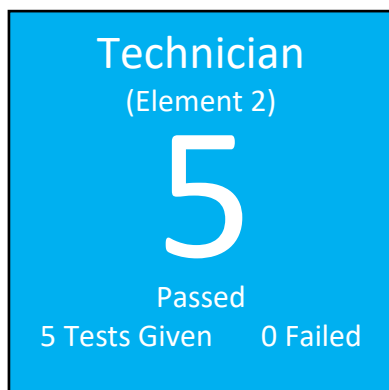


VE Sessions and Results

PROVIDED BY SHEREE HORTON, WM5N

Attendees

On Saturday June 22, 2024, a VE Test Session was held at HCESD 16 Admin, 18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379. During the testing session, 9 candidates took 12 tests.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following for passing their new license exams¹:

- Mitchell Boughter (youth) – Technician
- Charles Hall – Technician
- Earnest Holcomb – Technician
- John Waller-Delarosa – Technician
- Daniel Williams – Technician

Congratulations to the following for passing their upgrade exams:

- Dale Martin KI5OBQ – upgrade to General
- Ronald Kollman KD5JRR - upgrade to Extra
- Benjamin Springs KR1BBT - upgrade to Extra

Pre-registration for Testing Sessions

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

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

The next session will be July 20, 2024 at the HCESD 16 Admin Building. Please visit www.w5nc.club 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:

- Michael Robinson KI0DE – Assist. Session Manager
- Brett Hebert KG5IQY – Assist. Session Manager
- Vicki Owen AC5EW
- Paul Owen N5NXS
- Brandy Lang WE9L
- Synomen Hebert KG5IRS
- Brynn Hebert KG5KRV

VE Session Guidelines

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

Wear masks 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:

Sheree Horton - wm5n@arrl.net or 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 Sheree Horton 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!

- Robert Bridges, KI5WAL
- Robert Callahan, KC5T
- Chris McGrail, KJ5EWS
- Joel Wilson, KJ5BDP

Renewing Club Members

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

- Raymond Donaldson, KJ5BRC
- Brett Hebert, KG5IQU
- Brynn Hebert, KG5KRV
- Logan Hebert, KG5LLM
- Synomen Hebert, KG5IRS
- Jonathan McBride, KI5JKG
- William Norton, KN5KX

NARS Club Documents and Minutes

DID YOU
KNOW



Did you know that you can find all of the club's public documents, including board meeting minutes, financial statements, and newsletters on the [club website](http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/) at http://www.w5nc.club/doc_repos/?

Training and Education

NARS

NARS Meeting Presentations - <http://w5nc.club/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!

Exam Practice Answers

Technician: T8D10 – C. All these choices are correct

General: G9D05 – D. It narrows the main lobe in elevation

Amateur Extra: E6B05 – B. Low junction capacitance

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 – July 19, 2024 - HCESD 16 Admin – [18606 Stuebner Airline Rd, Klein, TX 77379](#)

VE Test Session – July 20, 2024 – [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

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

Did you know...

NARS has a social media presence! Thanks to Sam Labarbera, N6HB, 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.

Hamfests and Conventions

July 12 - 13 | [HamCon: Zion](#), ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Convention, St. George, Utah

July 13 | [Tidelands Hamfest](#), Texas City

July 19-20 | [Radio Fiesta](#), San Antonio

August 17 - 18 | [Huntsville Hamfest](#), ARRL Southeastern Division Convention, Huntsville, Alabama

August 22 - 25 | [Northeast HamXposition](#), ARRL New England Division Convention, Marlborough, Massachusetts

September 28 | [Red Rivers Radio Amateurs Hamfest](#), ARRL Dakota Division Convention, West Fargo, North Dakota

October 18 - 20 | [Pacificon](#), ARRL Pacific Division Convention, San Ramon, California

Contests and Radiosport

ARRL Contest Corral

July 2024 - <https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Contest%20Corral/2024/July%202024%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>.

NARS Club Officers and Information

Board Officers with Voting Privileges

President: Ron Matussek, WA6TQH, 713-825-9606, officers@w5nc.net

Vice President: Paul Kent, KI5FJS, officers@w5nc.net

Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU, 713-828-8630, treasurer@w5nc.net

Secretary: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR, 713-294-6630, officers@w5nc.net

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

Director: TBN

Board Non-Voting Associate Members

Administrative Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN

Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, N6HB

Newsletter Editor: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR

Public Information Liaison: TBN

ARRL/VEC Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N

Repeater Team Lead: Rich Jones, W5VEK

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

Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

Club Nets

DMR Weekly Net – Every Tuesday at 7pm. Tune in on Talkgroup 3146211 for information on configuring codeplugs, see the DMR pages on the Club website (<http://w5nc.clubs>) or contact a club Elmer.

The Weekly Wednesday Evening Net - Every Wednesday at 8:00 pm. Join us on one of the W5NC repeaters: 146.660 MHz, -600kHz offset, PL 100.0 - wide area centered on downtown Houston and/or 444.375, + 5 MHz offset, PL 100 best in the Spring / Klein area. You can also join from anywhere in the world by connecting to EchoLink node W5NC-R or via Allstar (node #59847).

Repeaters

For information on NARS-managed repeaters, please see the club website at <http://w5nc.club/nars/index.php/repeaters/nars-repeaters>

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 <http://w5nc.club/nars/index.php/social-media/email-reflector-groups>