



**W5NC**

Houston, Texas  
Northwest Amateur Radio Society

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# NARS NEWS

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**JANUARY 2022**

Northwest Amateur Radio Society  
P.O. Box 11483  
Spring, TX 77391  
[w5nc.net](http://w5nc.net)

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**NARS News** is published monthly by the Northwest Amateur Radio Society (NARS). Northwest Amateur Radio Society is a Special Services Club affiliated with the American Radio Relay League, ARRL Club No. 2120.

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

Brandon Rogers (K5BLR)  
Newsletter Editor  
[k5blr@arrl.org](mailto:k5blr@arrl.org)

# President's Message

BY RON MATUSEK, WA6TQH

## A NEW YEAR, A NEW BEGINNING!

As I began to write this letter, I came across a couple quotes that I thought should be shared with all of you. With all the challenges of 2021 and more to come in 2022, I am reminded of all the talent we have in our club and the commitment each of you bring to achieving club goals. This has become obvious given our continued growth and feedback from the community. Recently we have had some additions/changes to our board. Brandon Rogers K5BLR is assigned interim "Secretary & Newsletter Editor". Neal Naumann N5EN is assigned interim "Admin Secretary & VHF Net Control". Sam Labarbera N6HB will continue as "Social Media Director and DMR Net Control". John Parmalee K5VGM will fill the position of "Public Information Liaison". The enthusiasm and commitment demonstrated by these board members it what makes NARS stand out among other clubs! Please congratulate them on these positions!

### Creating a Plan and Executing!

Ideas are an essential ingredient in the life of any person. Changes have the capability to change the entire course of life, ideas can make miracles happen, and ideas are what determine the course of your life. Without ideas, you cannot survive or dream of an achievement. It takes just moments to think of idea but needs a lot of thinking and planning to execute them. "Ideas are the beginning points of all fortunes," said Napoleon Hill. If you believe that your idea is good, even an army cannot resist them. It is in your hands to implement your ideas and see the success in life. HG wells once said, "Human history is in essence a history of ideas." If you have the grit, drive, and plan to execute your ideas in the right way there is no stopping you in the way to success. So, get ideas.



### New Year Thoughts

Thought means the act of thinking about some issue, event, or a person. One always spares a thought for something or someone important or significant. Thoughts determine our actions. Thought can be of two types. The positive thought always thinks about that only the best will happen or materialize and have great energy. A positive thought is also called a positive vibe. On the other hand, negative thought is a pessimistic thought which can never foresee success in any venture. A negative thought is also called a negative vibe. A positive thought will always force you to see the glass as half full rather than half empty. According to Buddha, "All that we are is the result of what we have thought. If a man speaks or acts with an evil thought, pain follows him. If a man speaks or acts with a pure thought, happiness follows him, like a shadow that never leaves him."

I appreciate your commitment to the NARS Club and support throughout this past year. I am hoping you get the opportunity to relax and spend time with your loved ones during the holidays.

Do not forget our Awards Banquet January 21st. More information will be published on our web site at [www.w5nc.net](http://www.w5nc.net). We will also announce the "Ham of the Year" at the banquet. See you all there!

Happy New Year!

Ron Matusek  
President NARS

# The ARRL Letter

An excerpt from the weekly ARRL Letter

## SKYWARN Spotters and Nets Track Deadly Storms

Amateur Radio activity related to the deadly spate of tornados on December 10 in Kentucky, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Missouri, and Illinois was largely associated with the National Weather Service (NWS) SKYWARN program. Weather spotters, most of whom are radio amateurs, followed the progress of the storms, sharing that information with NWS offices and related partners.



SKYWARN groups across Arkansas followed the progress of the parent storm from the formation just northeast of Little Rock until it crossed the Mississippi River. According to Gary Gibbs, KE5HKW, SKYWARN Coordinator for Craighead County, Arkansas, Emergency Management, volunteers were very active in the Jonesboro area. This area includes Monette Arkansas, where the Monette Manor -- a long term care facility -- was destroyed. -- Thanks to J.M. Rowe N5XFW, ARRL Arkansas Section Emergency Coordinator

Similarly, SKYWARN teams out of NWS Memphis were all over this and there was a whole lot of traffic that crossed multiple states. Memphis NWS uses a linked amateur radio digital network (DMR

talkgroup) for their consolidated storm-spotting efforts and it appeared to work very well, considering the extreme situation. -- Thanks to Robert Hayes, KC5IMN, ARRL Mississippi Section Emergency Coordinator

The Red Cross is reported to have set up portable cell phone towers in areas that don't have service because of damage to the telecommunications infrastructure.

## ARRL Podcasts Schedule

The latest episode of the On the Air podcast (Episode 24) features some tips about how to improve the effective range of your handheld transceiver.

The latest edition of the Eclectic Tech podcast (Episode 49) features a chat with Ward Silver, N0AX, about the new edition of his book, Grounding and Bonding for the Radio Amateur, and the general importance of station grounding.

The On the Air and Eclectic Tech podcasts are sponsored by Icom. Both podcasts are available on iTunes (iOS) and Stitcher (Android) as well as on Blubrry -- [On the Air](#) | [Eclectic Tech](#).

**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 December. View all the ARRL letters at <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter>



Arrl.org. 2021. ARRL Letter. [online] Available at: <http://www.arrl.org/arrlletter?issue=2021-12-16> [Accessed 29 December 2021].

# NARS Monthly Meeting

December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 7:30pm - Klein Fire Station #3

For the December Club meeting, club members met together to show off their projects and gadgets in the club's annual "Show and Tell" meeting. Members brought a variety of items to share with the club, including, but not limited to:

- Custom PCBs
- Soldering projects
- Repeater Kits
- Hardware for Balloon Launches
- Mobile Operating Kits
- Handmade baluns, antennas, and equipment

It was clear from the demonstrations that the NARS club is full of amazing members with a broad set of interests and skills and it was a delight to see these skillsets on display.

## Next Club Meeting

The January club meeting will be our annual Awards Banquet and will be held at Valley Ranch BBQ, 22548 Texas 249 Access Rd, Houston, TX 77070. Join the club for a celebration of the year, the club's activities and to celebrate this year's Ham of the Year Award!



### NOTE!

Due to the risk associated with the COVID pandemic, the Fire Station is currently not open and all meetings will be held on Zoom, until further notice

## 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: Klein Fire Station #3, [9755 Landry Blvd, Spring, TX 77379](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9755+Landry+Blvd,+Spring,+TX+77379)

Zoom Conference Call, Meeting ID: 2815436502, Passcode: 123456

# 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 beginners and those who may be interested in the learning new aspects of the amateur radio hobby.

## Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF)

BY BRANDON ROGERS, K5BLR

I have played various versions of Hide-and-Seek throughout my life. Whether it was the simple child’s game that we all know, capture the flag, orienteering, or geocaching, almost all age groups find a way to play a variation on this beloved childhood game. Amateur radio’s version is called Amateur Radio Direction Finding.

### What is ARDF?

Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF), also known as Fox Oring, Radio Orienteering, or Foxhunting, “is an amateur racing sport that combines radio direction finding with the map and compass skills of orienteering. It is a timed race in which individual competitors use a topographic map, a magnetic compass and radio direction finding apparatus to navigate through diverse wooded terrain while searching for radio transmitters.” ([Amateur radio direction finding - Wikipedia](#), December 2021)

In other words, operators use directional antennas to zero-in on, and locate, a transmitter (also known as a fox). As high-power transmitters can be difficult to locate when you get close, due to the signal being equally strong in all directions, many foxes are low-power (<15W), although this depends on the size of the area for the activity. Even with lower power transmitters, operators often leverage attenuators in their direction-finding rigs to reduce the perceived power of the transmitter. This can help to identify the direction of the signal when close to the source.

ARDF activities can be large or small scale; simple or complex.

Many ARDF organizations exist across the United States and competitions ([see ARRL-sponsored activities here](#)) occur throughout the year. These competitions are often large events with hundreds of operators competing to be the first to find the fox.

While ARDF competitions can be overwhelming for beginners, everyone can participate in smaller, more local options. Many operators start by meeting up at a park with a friend to setup QRP transmitters (<5W). In a few hours, each partner searches for the other’s transmitter. This version of the activity can be popular with amateur radio clubs, Scout troops, and individuals.

It is also important to note that hunters only receive the signal during a foxhunt. This means that foxhunting activities can be a good way to expose unlicensed individuals, or those new to the hobby.

Of course, the operator of the fox (transmitter) does need to be licensed, but this means that a single amateur operator can create an activity that can be enjoyed by many investigating or new to ham radio.



## Equipment Needed

To get started with ARDF, you will need a minimum kit, including:

- A mobile receiver for the VHF/UHF bands
- A directional antenna
- A fox (or small, lower power transmitter for the VHF/UHF bands).
- Attenuator (optional, but recommended)

Mobile receivers are easy to find; many folks use cheap HTs as ARDF receivers. However, make sure that you have the right connectors to be able to attach the directional antenna.



A directional antenna can be purchased but frequently it is built by the operator. In ARRL's *July/August 2021* edition of the *On the Air* magazine, plans were shared on how to construct a simple directional Yagi antenna from PVC and welding rods.

Many other ham operators have also created tutorials and plans for directional antennas from all types of resources. Joe Leggio, WB2HOL, has created [a design using a standard metallic tape measure](#). This design has the benefit of allowing the elements to be rolled up, when not in use.

Other operators have created variations of the tape measure design and can be found with a simple Google search.

Building a fox can be quite simple. Popular designs for a fox include the use of an Arduino board or Raspberry Pi single board computer to control an HT. Simple



control circuits can be made to trigger the PTT button and play audio via the microphone in jack.

Some popular and simple designs, including the software, can be found at the links below:

- Auto-Keyer for Radio "Fox Hunting", <https://create.arduino.cc/projecthub/nfarrier/auto-keyer-for-radio-fox-hunting-e89b99>
- Arduino Fox, NP2WJ, <http://np2wj.com/arduino-fox/>
- Fox Hunt Transmitter, Whitecourt Amateur Radio, <https://wcar.ca/pg/fox-tx/>
- PiFox, Corey G. Harding, KM4EFP, <https://github.com/km4efp/pifox>

I have built the Arduino Auto-Keyer and the PiFox and both work well. The Arduino Auto-Keyer is limited to CW, but the PiFox and transmit both CW and phone. Note: The PiFox codebase is a bit old and may not work with the newest version of the Raspberry Pi OS. However, it is easily fixed, if you know the basics of coding.

It is interesting to note that the Arduino Fox project, while limited to CW, also promises to accept DTMF tones to allow the transmitter to be controlled remotely. This helps when you want to adjust the transmitter, but don't want to give away its location to the hunters.

Of course, pre-built foxes are also available. Check out the availability by searching the Internet for "fox hunt transmitter".

## How do I get started?

Getting started is as simple as going to a park with a friend and practicing with your directional antenna. Gradually increase the difficulty, create a fox, and improve your equipment as you improve your foxhunting skillset.

# VE Sessions and Results

## Attendees

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, we had 9 candidates take 15 tests.

Technician  
(Element 2)

**6**

Passed  
6 Tests Given 0 Failed

General  
(Element 3)

**4**

Passed  
6 Tests Given 2 Failed

Amateur Extra  
(Element 2)

**0**

Passed  
3 Tests Given 3 Failed

## Congratulations!

The NARS Club extends our sincerest congratulations to the following:

### *New Technician*

- Lucinda W Bailey
- Brian D Crumby
- Kirk D Edge
- Linda S Jordan

### *New General*

- Elwood A Savidge
- Duyen Wolken

### *Upgrade to General*

- Brandon W Coon (KI5MJH)
- Kurt Nauck III (KI5SRA)

## Next Session

The next session will be January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Please note this is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. Please visit <http://www.w5nc.net> for the announcement.

## Thanks and Gratitude

Thanks to the Exam VE's in attendance:

- Robert Ewers K9HOU
- Ronald Matusek WA6TQH
- Marvin J. Wilken KT4W
- John Parmalee K5YGM
- Sam Labarbera N6HB
- Brian Derx N5BA
- Keith Dutson NM5G

## VE Session Guidelines

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

- Tables and chairs will be arranged to meet social distancing. DO NOT MOVE THEM.
- 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](mailto:wm5n@arrl.net) or [vec@w5nc.net](mailto:vec@w5nc.net)



## New Club Members



The NARS Club welcomes its newest members for the month of December:

Mark Brantana, N5PRD

Lucinda Bailey, KI5TAE

Dave Laylor, WA5OUW

## Training and Education

### NARS

NARS Member Articles and Tutorials -

<http://w5nc.net/index.php/2014-03-31-00-54-20>

### 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>

### Other

Amateur Radio License Practice Tests - <https://hamexam.org/>



## Of Interest to the Club

### Houston Local Traffic Net

The Houston Local Traffic Net meets each Monday from 6:30-7:30pm on 146.940 / 167.9 and each Thursday from 6:30-7:00pm on 147.000 / 103.5. The purpose of the net is to pass National Traffic System (NTS) radiogram messages into and out of the Houston area. The Monday night net includes an instructional segment as well as handling radiogram traffic.

## GHSN monthly Simplex Propagation Net

Beginning January 2022, the [Greater Houston Simplex Network](#) will return to its regular schedule of the 4<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:N5PRD@yahoo.com)

## From the Community...

The “From the Community...” feature of NARS News shares articles and information coming from the ham radio community, reprinted with permission.

### The First Law of Dropped Screw Dynamics

BY JOHN PORTUNE, W6NBC

(PROVIDED BY NARS CLUB MEMBER JOHN PARMALEE, K5VGM)

Ham Radio corollary to the well-known law of the universe, “battered toast always falls butter-side downward.”

Richard Feynman, the well-loved outspoken American theoretical physicist, known for his work in quantum mechanics, was he, I believe, who said, “There are two classes of people in the world, those who understand the full implications of the Second Law of Thermodynamics (entropy) and those who don’t.”

Entropy – all systems tend toward disorder – is easiest to see in ham radio in the way screws and nuts jump out of your fingers when you are working on a radio project. Clearly, they are the best handiwork of the Second Law. I put it this way, “Screws and Nuts have a highly perverse mind. I have been keeping my eye on them now for some time, and believe me, I know. Here are the rules of screw entropy at your workbench:

#### IF YOU DROP ONE

- It will always roll farther than you think.
- If there is something it can roll under, it will.



**1940 QST Cartoon**

- It rolls in the opposite direction of the sound of falling.
- If it falls without making a sound, you’ll never find it.
- When it hits, it seeks for a hiding place that you “just can’t quite reach.”
- If you try to find it with a magnet it will be made of brass or stainless steel.

- If it falls on a carpet it buries itself deep in the pile.
- If you watch it fall, it knows you are watching, and this time will forego its evil intentions.
- If you remove one, it won't be where you laid it on your workbench when you go to put it back.
- All screwdrivers in reach, when you want to put it back, will be one size too large or small. (Screws and screwdrivers are in cahoots) 1940 QST Cartoon
- You will find it in your shoe when you leave the room.

#### *DROPPED FROM A LADDER OR TOWER*

- Big bolts and nuts will always hit and damage something, and favor the newest Mercedes, Lexus, or Cadillac in the parking lot.
- They will always bounce just outside your property.
- They love flower beds and dense ground cover.

#### *JUNK BOX COROLLARIES*

- If you need four screws for a project, there will only be three in your junk box.
- If you need a 1 in. screw, the longest in your junk box will be  $\frac{3}{4}$  in.

- If you need a 6-32 nut, all the nuts in your junk box will be 8-32.
- All screws in your junk box will be slot-blades if you need a Phillips
- Your local hardware store is always out of the size you need.

#### *CONSPIRACY DEMONS*

- Solder hardens 1ms after a component is too hot to hold onto.
- If you spill something on your workbench, the only paper in reach to wipe it up will be your schematic.

Readers: send your own screw(y) rules to John Portune W6NBC, [jportune@aol.com](mailto:jportune@aol.com). 519 W Taylor St. Unit 111, Santa Maria CA 93458.

*Portune, J. (2020). The First Law of Dropped Screw Dynamics. W6NBC.Com. Retrieved December 30, 2021, from <http://w6nbc.com/articles/2020-screwentropy.pdf>*

*See more work by John Portune at <http://w6nbc.com>*

## Just for Fun

### The Great Harvey Wells Caper

#### Part 1 – The Pink Ticket

BY RON LITT, K5HM

(PROVIDED BY NARS CLUB MEMBER JOHN PARMALEE, K5VGM, REPRINTED WITH PERMISSION)

It was April in New York City. I was on my way home from the regular weekly breakfast with the Queens County Bagel, Bowling and Spark Club.

These were the halcyon days of kid-dom on the cusp of adulthood. I had my General Class ticket now for about two years. Got my acceptance letter from

college and it was six months before anybody would hear of Sputnik. Life was good.

As I walked home from the bus stop, I was thinking about getting on the air today and rolling up a few new states for my WAS. I needed South Dakota and my old buddy Ralph from the QCBB&SC said there were only three active hams in the whole state. I

could see that South Dakota was going to be a real challenge.

I climbed the front steps two at a time, walked through the front door and headed directly for my basement ham shack. I am halfway down the hall when I hear my old man say, “Where are you going?”

Any kid who has reached the age of five, immediately recognizes the peril in that question. It’s not a question really, it more a combination of Red Alert, General Quarters and Take Cover simultaneously.

I turned around to see the old man advancing toward me. He was upset. I tried to think of anything I did or failed to do in the last twenty-four hours. I aced my Physics quiz, took out the trash last night, and didn’t leave any wet towels in the bathroom, check, check, check.

He was about two feet away when he stopped, thrust a letter in front of me and said, “What’s this?” His hand was shaking so much, I couldn’t read the envelope at first, but it looked very important. Eventually, the oscillation decayed enough for me to see better. It was one of those business window envelopes with no stamp. The top right-hand corner of the envelope contained the words, U.S. Government Official Business!

The old man was really wound up; like a pressure cooker ready to explode. He’d lived his life avoiding entanglements with authority. He was 4-F for the draft in WWII, voted at least once in every election and was an associate member of the Police Benevolent Association. Any unexpected things that had to do with “Official Business” made him very nervous.

Desperately, I tried to think of something that would get him in such a lather. I had gotten my draft card six weeks ago. Maybe this was the

dreaded, “Greetings from Uncle Sam” letter. Then I noticed the return address, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC.

I stopped breathing. The FCC! This was worse than getting drafted. Looking through the window of the envelope I could see the paper inside. A pink ticket!

The envelope was torn open. At the top of the page, I could see the words, Notice of Violation! He’d already read it and assumed the worst; a life sentence for me at Leavenworth. I was doomed!

Flight was the only response I had. I grabbed the letter and ran for the basement. I read and re-read the notice several times. Cold sweat was dripping off me.

The letter said that my signal had been observed operating at a frequency out of the band at such and such time and date. It demanded I explain what happened. That I take immediate steps to prevent this from happening in the future and that I report those steps to the FCC within 30 days. No wonder the old man was upset. Single handedly, I had brought the wrath of the entire federal government down on our home.

I pulled out my log and started flipping pages; hoping this was a mistake. Some other guy with a similar call sign, maybe. The time in the letter was around 2 AM. Was the FCC really awake that late?

I ran my thumb down the logbook pages slowly, hoping against hope. Yikes! There it was. At the alleged hour, I had been on the air. What could I do? “The old man was right, you’re going to Leavenworth”, said the voice in my head.

That night I’d logged several calls to DX stations who were calling CQ on the other side of the 20-meter band edge. The last entry in the log that night was a guy in VK-land that I had finally managed to work. I was so excited I almost woke the old man out of a

sound sleep to tell him. I must have strayed too close to the band edge!

Maybe I'll just throw myself on the mercy of the court. "Your honor, I'm just a kid. I didn't know I was committing a crime." "I fell in with a bad crowd; they dared me to do it!"

In a panic, I called my old buddy Ralph on the land line. Ralph was a charter member of the QCBB&SC. He knew everything about ham radio. He had been a ham so long that he said Marconi was his Elmer.

After an eternity of rings, he answered. Without giving him a chance to say hello, I unloaded on Ralph in one single breath. When I finally finished, Ralph calmed me down and assured me that I was not going to Leavenworth. "Yeah kid (everyone was a kid to Ralph), I got my first pink ticket in '36", he said softly, as if someone were listening.

What a relief! My old buddy Ralph, the greatest Elmer of all time had gotten at least a couple pink tickets and he was still walking around a free man. There was a ray of hope for me!

I could swear he was grinning on the other side of the phone. The voice in my head said, "Yeah, they'll probably confiscate all your radio gear instead."

It was only two years earlier that I went to the FCC offices in Manhattan to take my General exam under the watchful eye of Lurch, the examiner. I still remember the big bullpen where the FCC guys worked. They were all dressed alike too; white shirts rolled up to the elbow, black ties and black pants. It was the official FCC uniform. I didn't know what would be worse; just quietly going off to Leavenworth or having a squad of FCC men in black show up at my house in front of all the neighbors!

"Listen kid", he began; his voice had a way of piercing through the QRM in my head. "You just need an accurate marker for the band edge. A crystal calibrator. You can pick one up at Harrison Radio for about ten bucks." I could hear Ralph take a deep breath. He'd been a chain smoker for twenty years, so his inhale had a signature wheeze, just like a good CW operator's fist.

Then he continued, "The dial markings on your VFO ain't worth the plastic they're printed on kid. So, when you are chasing DX, don't get any closer than three kc to the band edge marker, no matter what."

"Hey Ralph", I said "What about the letter I have to write? What should I say?" Ralph started in again, "Listen kid, just tell them the truth, you'll be fine. See you later kid." And then there was a click.

I sat for a long time; thinking. The U.S. phone band ended at 14200 KC. Most of the good DX was always just below that. We worked split back then, running full carrier double sideband AM, pushing as close to the band edge as we dared, calling for that rare station we needed.

I wasn't willing to give up a whole three kc of band, if I didn't need to do it. Maybe I could just turn down the mike gain. Just listening to twenty meters some nights it was easy to see how everybody pushed the limit. Still, I was willing to do or say anything get back in the old man's good graces and the FCC off my back! Finally, the beginnings of a diabolical plan began to form in my head. If I played my cards right, I would solve my FCC problem and then some.

*To be continued...*

# Calendar

## Club Activities and Events

VE Session – January 29, 2022 - Klein Fire Station #3, 9755 Landry Blvd, Spring, TX 77379

NARS Awards Banquet – January 21, 2022 – Valley Ranch BBQ, 22548 Texas 249 Access Rd, Houston, TX 77070

## Social Events

### Lunch Break – North

Jan 05 Spring Creek BBQ on 2920  
Jan 12 Mi Rancho  
Jan 19 Cheddar's 21001 IH-45, Spring  
Jan 26 Jason's Deli at Champion

### Lunch Break – Medical Center

Jan 05 Jason's Deli  
Jan 12 Mia's Table  
Jan 19 Buffalo Grille  
Jan 26 Antonio's Mexican Grill

### 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.

We also have a Twitter feed. Follow us on [https://twitter.com/nars\\_w5nc](https://twitter.com/nars_w5nc)

## Hamfests and Conventions

January 14-15, 2022 - Cowtown Hamfest, ARRL North Texas Section Convention, Forest Hill, TX

January 22, 2022 - Winterfest, hosting the ARRL Midwest Division Convention, Collinsville, Illinois

January 28 – 29, 2022 - Capital City Hamfest 2022, hosting the ARRL Delta Division Convention, Jackson, Mississippi

February 10-13, 2022 - 2022 ARRL National Convention at Orlando HamCation®, Orlando, Florida

February 18 - 19, 2022 - Yuma Hamfest hosting the ARRL Southwestern Division Convention, Yuma, Arizona

March 4-5, 2022 – Greater Houston HamFest, ~~Fort Bend County Fairgrounds, 4310 Texas 36 Rosenberg TX 77471~~

### CHANGE TO GREATER HOUSTON HAMFEST!

Due to the rise of COVID infections and other issues, The Greater Houston HamFest will not be held in 2022. However, after careful consideration and detailed planning (read - a spur of the moment thought), there will be a replacement. This year will mark the beginning of the Greater Houston Tailgate or the GHT.

This will be an informal event held at Duhacsek Park in Southwest Houston. The date is April 16<sup>th</sup> and will held from 7 am to 3 pm. In addition to the tailgate, there will be license testing, exhibits, food sales, and equipment raffles. All tailgate sales will be held outdoors in the main parking lot of the facility with parking in the grass south of the parking lot.

Admission will be simple - \$5 per vehicle. Whether you are selling or buying, the entry fee will be \$5. People will be able to pay as they drive into the park and from there, they can either park to sell or park to buy.

The raffle will have two main prizes – an Icom IC-718 HF radio and an Anytone AT-D878UV11 DMR handheld radio. The raffle tickets will be sold at the tailgate and on-line.

More information for the GHT and the raffle tickets will soon be on the web site and weekly e-mail blast so stay tuned.

Hope to see everyone at the Greater Houston Tailgate on April 16th!

April 23, 2022 – Emory Hamfest, Emory, TX, Rains Amateur Radio Association

June 17-18, 2022 - Radio Fiesta, San Antonio Radio Club

## Contests

<p><b>January 2022</b>            1: <u>Straight Key Night</u>            2: <u>Kids Day</u>            2-3: <u>RTTY Roundup</u>            16-18: <u>January VHF</u>            29 – 30: <u>Winter Field Day</u></p>	<p><b>February 2022</b>            8-12: <u>School Club Roundup</u>            20-21: <u>International DX – CW</u></p>	<p><b>March 2022</b>            6-7: <u>International DX– Phone</u></p>
<p><b>April 2022</b>            18: <u>Rookie Roundup – Phone</u></p>	<p><b>May 2022</b></p>	<p><b>June 2022</b>            12-14: <u>June VHF</u>            19: <u>Kids Day</u>            26-27: <u>Field Day</u></p>
<p><b>July 2022</b>            10-11: <u>IARU HF World Champ</u></p>	<p><b>August 2022</b>            7-8: <u>222 MHz and Up Distance</u>            21-22: <u>10 GHz &amp; Up – Round 1</u>            22: <u>Rookie Roundup – RTTY</u></p>	<p><b>September 2022</b>            11-13: <u>September VHF</u>            18-19: <u>10 GHz &amp; Up - Rnd 2</u></p>
<p><b>October 2022</b>            18-22: <u>School Club Roundup</u>            23-24: <u>EME - 2.3 GHz &amp; Up</u></p>	<p><b>November 2022</b>            6-8: <u>Nov. Sweepstakes – CW</u>            20-22: <u>Nov. Sweeps. – Phone</u>            20-21: <u>EME-50 to 1296 MHz</u></p>	<p><b>December 2022</b>            3-5: <u>160 Meter</u>            11-12: <u>10 Meter</u>            19: <u>Rookie Roundup–CW</u>            18-19: <u>EME - 50 to 1296 MHz</u></p>



# NARS Club Officers and Information

## Board Officers with Voting Privileges

President: Ron Matussek, WA6TQH, 713-825-9606, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

Vice President: Paul Kent, KI5FJS, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

Treasurer: Tom Hoherd, KK5YU, 281-370-2941, [treasurer@w5nc.net](mailto:treasurer@w5nc.net)

Secretary: Brandon Rogers (Interim), K5BLR, 713-294-6630, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

Director: Rob Nixon, KD5BXZ, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

Director: Kirc Breden, N6XJB, [officers@w5nc.net](mailto:officers@w5nc.net)

## Board Non-Voting Associate Members

Administrative Secretary: Neal Naumann, N5EN

Social Media Liaison: Sam Labarbera, N6HB

Newsletter Editor: Brandon Rogers, K5BLR

Public Information Liaison: John Parmalee, K5VGM

ARRL/VEC Liaison: Sheree Horton, WM5N

Repeater Team Lead: Marty Fitzgerald, W5MF

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

Trustee: Paul Owen, N5NXS

## Club Nets

DMR Weekly Net – Every Tuesday at 8pm. Tune in on Talkgroup 3146211 for information on configuring codeplugs, see the DMR pages on the Club website (<http://w5nc.net>) or contact a club Elmer. Sam Labarbera, N6HB, coordinates this Net.

VHF Weekly Net – Every Wednesday at 7pm. Join us in one the W5NC repeaters: 146.660 MHz, -600 kHz offset, PL 141.3 (Galleria) or PL 100 (Cypress area). You also join from anywhere in the world with a computer and the EchoLink software. Neal Naumann, N5EN, coordinates this Net.

## Repeaters

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

### Did you know...

that NARS has an email list service (sometimes known as an email reflector, Listserv, or email distribution list) that allows you to connect with a giant group of experts, club members, and resources. Register today at:

[http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/  
listinfo/nars](http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/nars)