

# W9JOZ

Volume 8, Issue 9

September 2018

## Next Meeting is September 20, 2018

Weekly 2 meter Net

We are having the Saturday Night Net  
at 8:00 pm on the 145.410 repeater.

Hope you can check in and join us for  
some good conversation.

Foxhunt is September 23rd this month.

Thanks  
John W3ML



Meetings are at the Henry F. Schricker  
Library on the third Thursday of each month,  
with the exception of December.

The library is located on west Culver Road,  
two blocks west of Highway 35.



Are you on the air?

Richard, K9QA is an official ARRL DXCC  
Card Checker. Contact him at  
k9qa@arrl.net to have your cards  
checked.

DX Century Club

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## September Events

### Birthdays

8th - KC9DHD, Dwight

18th - KD9LNB, Garry

20th - KB9GPW, Steve

**Starke County Amateur Radio Club Weekly 2 Meter Net will  
be on each Saturday at 8:00 p.m. Central time.**

DAY OF WEEK: Saturday 8:00 p.m. Central time

HOST: KN9OX Repeater

FREQUENCY: 145.410 - 600

PL TONE: 131.8

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## Fox Hunts

**Next Fox Hunt is scheduled for September 23rd.  
It was move to a week later due to unforeseen circumstances.**

**Foxhunts are the third Sunday of each month.**

**Miles and a two-hour time limit**

**Meet at 1:00 CST at the Sandy Acres Park on the south end of Knox.**

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## News Items Listed

**See all the For Sale Items at**

**[www.w9joz.org/forsale.htm](http://www.w9joz.org/forsale.htm)**

**There are a lot of them there.**

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The Lafayette Hamfest is September 8 and it is back in the old site at the Fairgrounds on Teal Rd.  
It is no longer at the Boy Scout camp.

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## **Antenna Building Season is Still Here**

**The general measuring procedure is always the same...**

**Set your radio to CW or FM mode (not SSB).**

**Tune to the low edge of the band you are adjusting for.**

**Transmit and calibrate your SWR meter<sup>1</sup>**

**Transmit and take an SWR reading and write it down.**

**Tune to the high edge of the band you are adjusting for.**

**Transmit and calibrate your SWR meter<sup>1</sup>**

**Transmit and take an SWR reading and write it down.**

**(<sup>1</sup> single needle meters only)**

**These readings will tell you if the antenna is too long or too short:**

**If the low edge has the lower SWR the antenna is too long.**

**If the high edge reads lower the antenna is too short.**

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**Radioville Special Event is October 6th.**

**It has been submitted to QST and is on QRZ.**

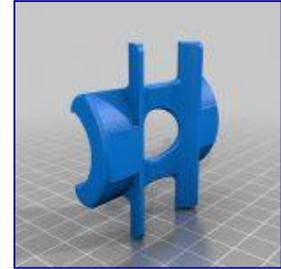
**Setup is after breakfast at Fingerhut in North Judson.**

# 3D printed parts for ham radio

By Dan Romanchik, KB6NU

One of the things that I keep telling myself that I need to learn how to do is 3D printing. This morning, I ran across a couple more 3D printing projects for ham radio that I thought I'd pass along.

The first I found on reddit: 3D Printed Parts for Portable Tape Measure Yagi Designs ([https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/963br3/3d\\_printed\\_parts\\_for\\_portable\\_tape\\_measure\\_yagi/](https://www.reddit.com/r/amateurradio/comments/963br3/3d_printed_parts_for_portable_tape_measure_yagi/)). The summary on Thingiverse (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:3042505>), which is a website where "makers" share their designs, says:



These parts are made for use with 1-in. PVC pipe and 1-in. Harbor Freight tape measure steel. You can use electrical tape to attach the element holders to the side of the pipe, and use the driven element bridge to give structural rigidity across the driven dipole element. I have used this with up to 5 elements on 2m with good success. When not using the antenna, just pinch the elements to remove them from the holders, and store them INSIDE the tube! you can add some end caps to make this ultra portable. Use these parts with any of the multitude of tape measure YAGI design guides online.

Here's a look at an antenna made with these parts:



The element holders are attached to the boom with electrical tape in the photo above. While I haven't tried it, I'd suggest that the antenna might be a bit more robust if you could screw or perhaps glue the holders to the boom.

There are lots of other cool amateur radio 3D printing projects available on Thingiverse (<https://www.thingiverse.com/search?q=ham+radio&dwh=415b6d8da129c3c>). Browsing through the list quickly, here are just two that look like they might be useful to me:

- Soldering Fingers (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:1725308>). This project looks simple and quick.
- $\mu$ Bitx Case (<https://www.thingiverse.com/thing:2925336>). I still gotta do something with the  $\mu$ Bitx I bought. This looks like it might get me started.

## Finally getting in gear

Last week, I attended a 3D printing class at our local maker space, All Hands Active (allhandsactive.org), and now I feel like I can finally attempt a 3D printing project. I'm thinking about starting out with the simple Soldering Fingers project. If that goes well, I'll try a Raspberry Pic case and finally start using that in the shack. And, while these projects all seem pretty cool, I feel like I'm only scratching the surface.

Have any of you 3D printed anything cool for your ham radio projects? Is there another source of designs for ham radio 3D printed stuff besides Thingiverse?

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When he's not 3D printing enclosures for his ham radio projects, Dan blogs about amateur radio, writes exam study guides (www.kb6nu.com/study-guides), and operates CW on the HF bands. Look for him on 30m, 40m, and 80m. You can email him about your experiences with 3D printing at cwgeek@kb6nu.com.

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## Building the Double Size G5RV Antenna

By 2E0DBD

This is a nice article on how to build one of these antennas. Just click on link to open the PDF document.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/12BMDf95UBbT8-ZrKCv1pEAWUiVei\\_B6G/preview](https://drive.google.com/file/d/12BMDf95UBbT8-ZrKCv1pEAWUiVei_B6G/preview)

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## Handy Hint

### Coiled Cord for Soldering Irons

By Steve Mollman-KD9HL

Have you ever set your soldering iron down and inadvertently burned its cord? One way to help avoid that happening is to replace the cord on the soldering iron with a coiled appliance cord. Either use one off of an old appliance or they are sometimes available from electrical supply stores. Most cords stretch out to from three to ten feet or so but compress to less than a foot.

Be sure to use a cord having wire diameters equal to or greater than the cord you are replacing.

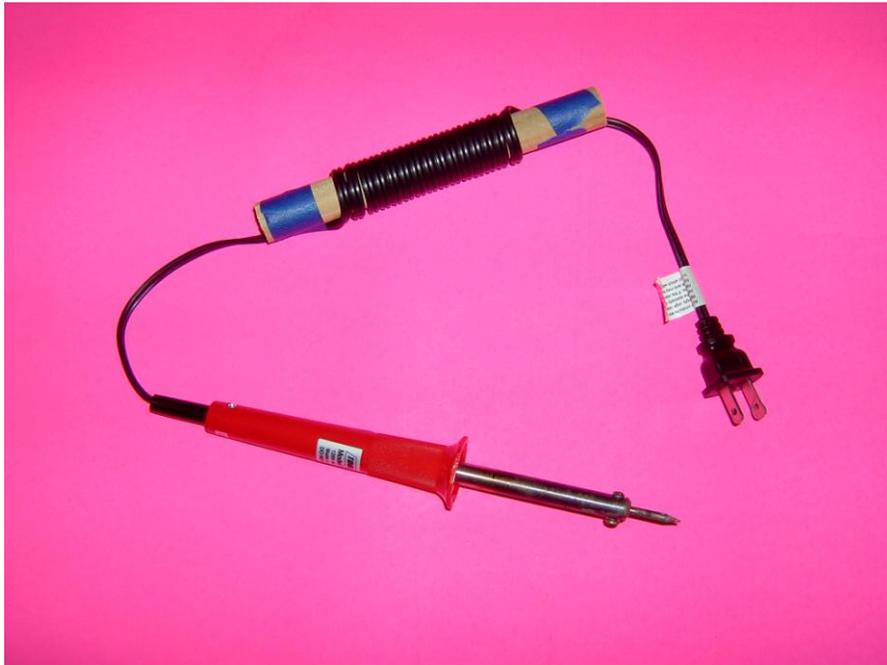
Want to make your own? It turns out it's fairly easy to convert your straight cables into coiled ones. Here's what you need:

- A piece of small diameter tubing or doweling. ½" diameter seems to be a good size for lamp type cords.
- Masking tape-Blue painter's tape works well.
- A hair dryer or heat gun

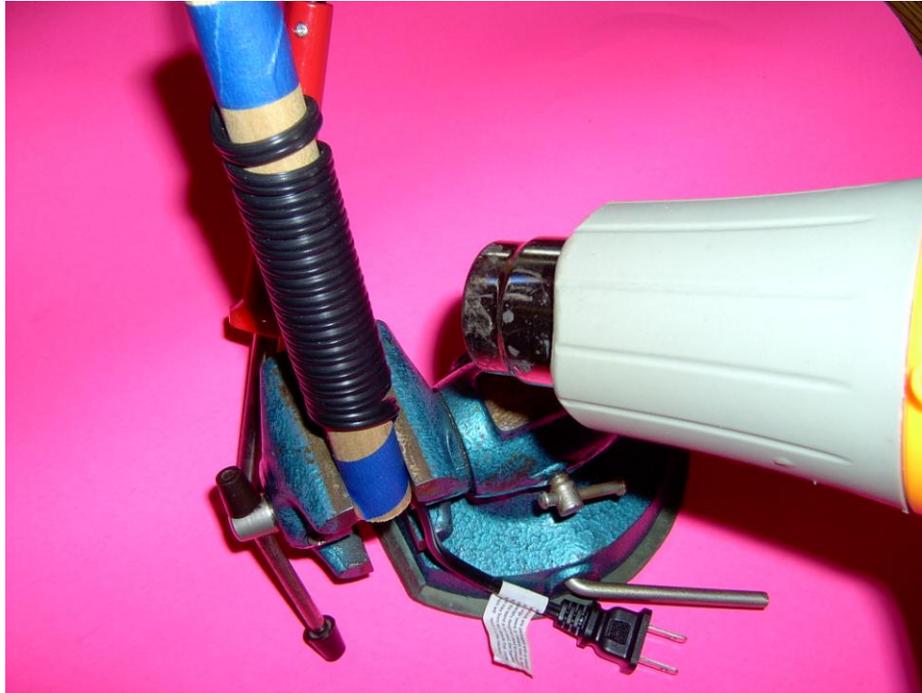


**Step 1:** Using tape, secure one end of your cable to one end of the tubing, leaving about 6 "of cord from the tape spot.

**Step 2:** Tightly wrap the cord around tubing, working your way to the other end. Once you've got about another 6" or so remaining, apply another piece of tape.



**Step 3:** Turn on your hair dryer or heat gun and point it at the coiled cable for about two minutes. If the resulting coil is "looser" than you want, repeat. Keep the heat gun 3-4 inches away, and make sure to heat the cable all over, not just on one side. Because you're applying heat (albeit indirect), there's the risk of damaging your cable or shortening its lifespan.



**Step 4:** You're done! Let the cable cool completely -- at least 5 to 10 minutes. Then remove the tape, slide out the tubing, and presto: one nicely coiled cable.



This hint is also useful for other type cables. One that comes to mind are those ubiquitous USB charging cables for cell phones, GPS devices and other gadgets. For those thinner cables use a piece of tubing or rod that is smaller than what we used for the soldering iron. Even a full length pencil would work well for those applications.

◀73's and good DX▶

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## FCC Launches “More than Seven Dirty Words” Podcast

08/28/2018

[UPDATED and CORRECTED 2018-08-29 @ 1350 UTC]

The FCC has launched a new podcast series, [More Than Seven Dirty Words](#), that will feature interviews with FCC officials and staff in addition to others in the communications arena. The podcast aims “to share untold stories, explain important policy issues, and maybe even do the impossible — make telecom interesting,” the FCC said in announcing the new media outlet.

“One of the wonderful things about the digital age is the many ways to share information, so we’re excited to launch this new FCC podcast,” said FCC Chairman Ajit Pai, who shares some banter in a brief introductory segment with program host, FCC Policy Advisor Evan Swarztrauber. Guests will share their personal stories behind FCC news headlines and break down various telecommunications-related issues. The podcast’s title is drawn from the first episode’s introductory discussion, which touches on the court fight over George Carlin’s “Seven Dirty Words” and the fallout from the 2004 Super Bowl halftime show.

The first podcast, “[Puerto Rico se Levanta](#)” runs 22 minutes and focuses on the FCC’s response to the 2017 Puerto Rico hurricane disaster.

Episodes will be available at [fcc.gov](http://fcc.gov), as well as on iTunes, and Google Play.

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## ARRL Announces Director, Vice Director Candidates for Fall Election

08/23/2018

The ARRL Board of Directors’ Ethics and Elections Committee has declared as eligible the candidates for the 2018 Board election cycle. Incumbent Directors in four ARRL Divisions face challengers, as does one Vice Director. Both chairs are open in the Northwestern Division.

- **In the Central Division**, Incumbent Director Kermit Carlson, W9XA, is being challenged for the seat by Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L. Vice Director Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA, is unopposed for re-election.
  - **In the Hudson Division**, Director Mike Lisenco, N2YBB, faces a challenge from Ria Jairam, N2RJ. Vice Director Bill Hudzik, W2UDT, is unopposed for re-election.
  - **In the New England Division**, Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, is being challenged for re-election by Fred Hopengarten, K1VR. Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, has no opposition for re-election.
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- **In the Roanoke Division**, the incumbent Director and Vice Director face challengers. Director James Boehner, N2ZZ, is being opposed for re-election by George Hippisley, W2RU, while incumbent Vice Director Bill Morine, N2COP, will be facing off against John Humphrey, W4IM, to retain his seat.
- **In the Northwestern Division**, both the Director's and Vice Director's chairs are up for grabs, as incumbent Jim Pace, K7CEX, has opted not to seek a new term on the Board. Incumbent Vice Director Bonnie Altus, AB7ZQ, is in a three-way race for the Director's seat. The other two candidates are Horace Hamby, N7DRW, and Mike Ritz, W7VO. A three-way race also exists for the Vice Director's seat that Altus is vacating in order to run for Director. The candidates are Delvin Bunton, NS7U; Daniel Stevens, KL7WM, and Mark Tharp, KB7HDX.

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Editor's Note: I will be voting for Kermit Carlson, W9XA

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If you have something for the newsletter, please send it to me before the 20th of the month.

See you at a meeting.

73

*John*, W3ML

