

# The Signal Report

A Publication of the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 4

APRIL

[HTTP://WWW.W4GWD.ORG](http://www.w4gwd.org)

[W4GWD@ARRL.NET](mailto:W4GWD@ARRL.NET)

## 2016 CLUB OFFICERS

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### Asst. Editor

Liz Meadows, W2LIZ

### The W4GWD Repeater Network

147.165+ t107.2

Echolink: 584003

443.900+ t107.2

### W4DEW/R

146.910- t123.0

### W4GWM/R

145.420- DV

## Digital Update

D-Star is temporarily down for service

Echolink is up.

APRS iGate is up

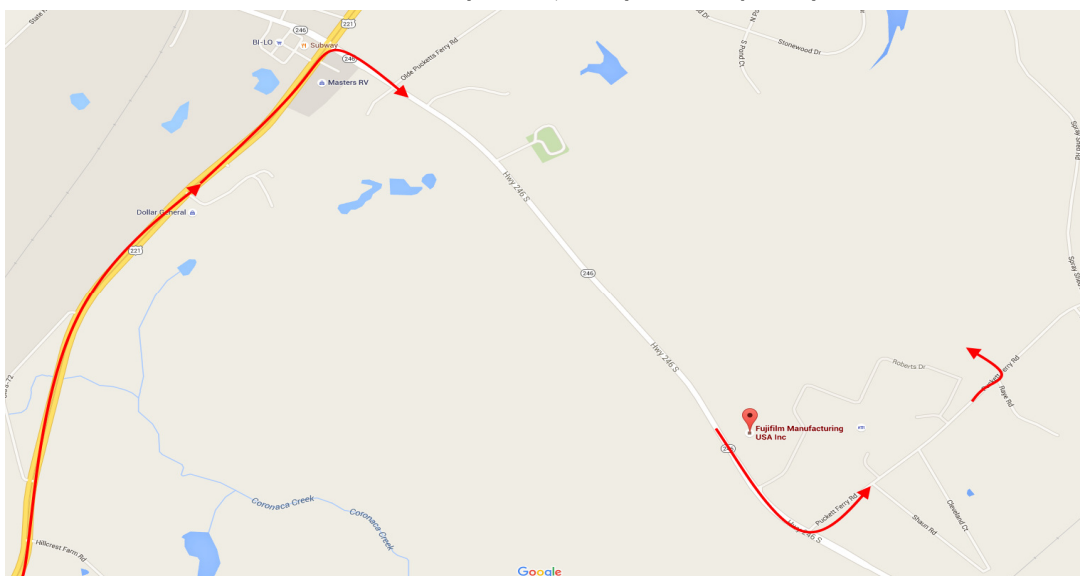
WJ4X-7 Packet Node is up and connected to the Carolinas Packet System. 145.010

Downtown Digi coming soon.

**DUES ARE DUE! Please contact Tedd, AI4WN to renew**

## April Meeting

This month's Club Meeting will be held at the Fuji "M" Plant at 7:00pm April 18th 2016. Below is a map to the location. You will need to sign in with the guard at the "K" plant. Please email the newsletter staff if you did not receive emailed instructions to this special meeting. This will be the last meeting at Fuji before we move to our new location. Thank you Fuji for your hospitality!





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GreenwoodARS

## Society Events:

### Chat 'N' Chew

Every Friday at 11:30am the members of the Greenwood Amateur Radio society meet at **Ryan's**, Bypass 25 NW, Greenwood.

Everyone is welcome to have lunch or sip your favorite beverage and chat for a while.

**(Dutch treat).**

### VE Exam Session

VE Exam Sessions are on hiatus due to the Red Cross relocation

### Weekly Net

Each Thursday night at 9pm on the 147.165+ machine, The Greenwood Amateur Radio Society holds our weekly 2 meter net. Our UHF net on 443.900+ is held Mondays at 8pm

Help spread the word for everyone to check-in to our net. If you would like to fill in or be a backup net control please contact Tedd Davison AI4WN@arrl.net

## Congratulations

### Happy Birthday!

Betsy Russ	Apr 5
Jewell Mimms KI4WJO	Apr 24
Tedd Davison AI4WN	Apr 26
Cindy Penman KK4WJQ	Apr 26
Theaster Ward-Willis	May 10
Teddy Johnson AE4TJ	May 17
Richard Donald N4LRD	May 21
Elizabeth Meadows W2LIZ	May 26

### Happy Anniversary!

Teddy and Ashley Johnson	Apr 1
Cindy and John Penman	May 9
David and Margaret Haynes	May 14
Dan and Christy Curry	May 20
Arthur and Cathy Gillespie	May 26

Phil's Corner:

### Hamisms #49

When all else fails, check the instructions.

**Are you an ARRL Member? Joining ARRL helps protect our rights as Amateur Radio Operators as well as providing education, QSL Bureau, technical advise, and the ARRL VEC. <http://www.arrl.org>**



## Contest Corner with Kevan N4XL

The Swamp Fox Contest Group is pleased to announce it will be presenting a “Contest Basics” class in Columbia, SC on Saturday April 30<sup>th</sup>. The course is geared toward any amateur who is interested in contesting, but doesn’t know much about how to actually do it. Location: SC ETV Telecommunications Center 1041 George Rogers Blvd. Columbia, SC 29201

## Tech Tips compiled by Kevan N4XL from QST

**Crimping Correctly:** A few years ago when [Powerpoles](#) started to emerge as the standard connector for ARES and RACES applications, it was time for me to change out my Molex connectors. Having no initial success in finding a die set for my Paladin [CrimpALL](#) tool, I noticed that [DX Engineering](#) was not only selling a crimp tool, but also individual die sets for PowerPoles, RG-8, RG8X and uninsulated and insulated wire connectors. After an exchange of e-mails with DX Engineering staff, I ordered the PowerPole die set. DX Engineering was not sure if it would fit my crimp tool but offered to accept its return if it did not. Eureka -- it fit perfectly as if Greenlee manufactured it! Subsequently, I purchased the RG-8 and RG-8X die sets for UHF and BNC connectors. If any readers owns a Paladin/Greenlee 8000 series [CrimpALL](#) tool, they can be safe in ordering the dies discussed above from DX Engineering. I am in no way connected with DX Engineering, just a satisfied customer.-- *Joseph Walc, W4EEI, Asheville, North Carolina*

**Solar Supply:** When looking at solar panels, there are three basic technologies: Amorphous, Poly-Crystalline, and Mono-Crystalline. Amorphous panels are common for small panels because they are inexpensive and can be cut to any size, but they wear out more quickly and/or not very efficient. They are usually a deep brown color. I recommend avoiding them. Poly-Crystalline is a good technology and should be the minimum acceptable. They are typically bluish tint and usually have a fractured pattern. Mono-Crystalline are the best. They last a very long time and have the best efficiency. These typically look black and usually have cells that look like rectangles with two clipped corners. There are some flexible panels, but their efficiency is usually not very good. For my heavy deployable go-kit, I use a solar package similar to the [USA STOCK 100 watt 12 volt Folding Solar Panel](#) with one or two 50 Ah batteries, depending on anticipated load.

# HAMFESTS and EVENTS:

Mark your Calendars! Greenwood Amateur Radio Society Hamfest at Piedmont Technical College January 2017

**05/07/2016** *Blue Ridge ARS Hamfest* Piedmont Interstate Fairgrounds 575 Fairgrounds Rd. Spartanburg, SC 29301 <http://brars.org> Blue Ridge ARS Talk In: 146.610- (No PL) Contact: Robert Webster WR8RW 864-663-9792 [wr8rw@mail.com](mailto:wr8rw@mail.com)

**09/03-04/2016** *Shelby Hamfest* Cleveland County Fairgrounds 1751 East Marion Street Shelby, NC 28150 <http://shelbyhamfest.org> Shelby Amateur Radio Club Talk-In: 146.88 (no pl) Contact: Ben Melvin, KM4C 704-477-1813 [km4c@me.com](mailto:km4c@me.com)

## Greenwood Amateur Radio Society Meeting Refreshments List:

### 2016

The list will return when we have a permanent location

Let's fill those open slots!

Send an email to [adam@wj4x.net](mailto:adam@wj4x.net) to reserve your spot!

We will ask for volunteers for the refreshments list over the next few weeks, so be thinking of what month you'd like to volunteer!

## Packet Cluster:

- ◆ The American Radio Relay League protects our rights as Amateur Radio Operators <http://www.arrl.org>
- ◆ Support for SERA supports proper coordination! <http://www.sera.org>
- ◆ Remember your local and regional interest clubs!
- ◆ Southeast DX Club <http://www.sedxc.org>
- ◆ Spread The Word! 147.165 Net Thurs. 9pm
- ◆ Callsign info <http://www.ae7q.com>
- ◆ Track us on APRS: <http://aprs.fi>

## Classifieds:



**Nothing this month!**

If anyone has any Ham radio stuff to sell or trade... list it in this column by calling Buddy, [w4dew@arrl.net](mailto:w4dew@arrl.net), 864-445-7574

If you want to see your article or wish to advertise in The Signal Report, please send an email to the newsletter staff via [newsletter@wj4x.net](mailto:newsletter@wj4x.net)