

The Signal Report

A Publication of the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS)

VOLUME 17 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY 2020

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

[W4GWD@ARRL.NET](mailto:w4gwd@arrrl.net)

2020 CLUB

OFFICERS

President

David Russ, K4DWR

Vice President

Adam Shirley, WJ4X

Secretary

George Crane, W3RFX

Treasurer

Tedd Davison, AI4WN

Repeater Trustee

Buddy Willis, W4DEW

Activities Manager

Andy Bagwell, KN4DYV

Editor in Chief

Michael Wills, KA4CSM

The W4GWD Repeater Network

147.165+ t107.2

Echolink: 584003

443.900+ t107.2

W4GWM/R

145.420- DV

W4DEW/R

146.910- t123.0

WJ4X/R

442.600+ t107.2 / DV

Infrastructure Update

Analog Repeaters are up.

DMR and D-Star are up.

Fusion is up.

Echolink is still down, undergoing technical evaluation.

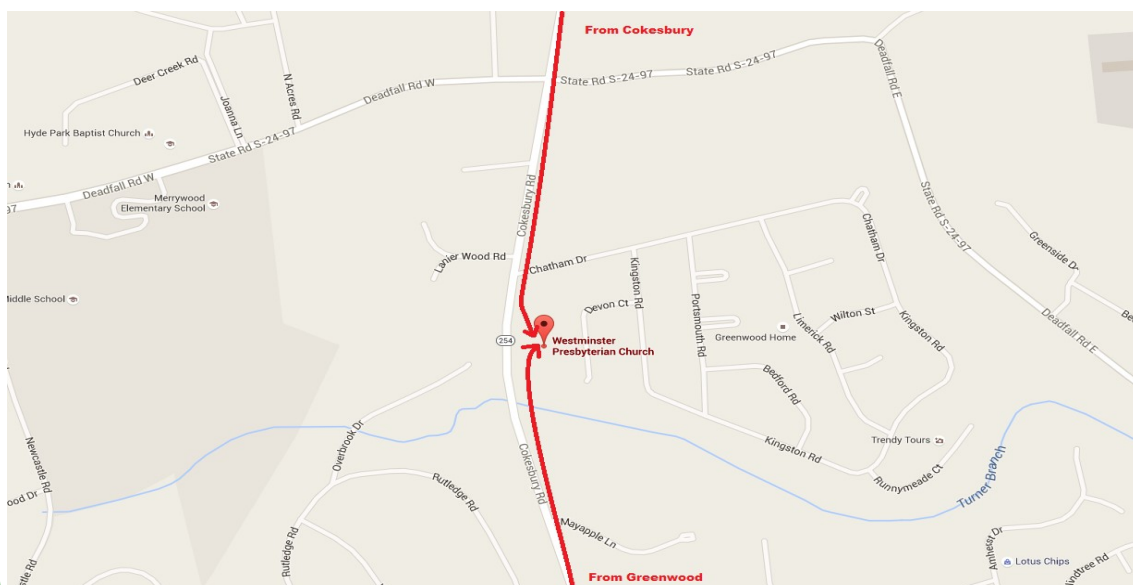
APRS iGate is up.

Packet Node is down, when up it is connected to the Carolinas Packet System at 145.010

Downtown Digi is up and operational

February 2020 Meeting

Our Club meets at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, located at 2330 Cokesbury Rd, Greenwood, SC. We normally meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month making our February meeting on the 11th



Greenwood Amateur Society Recurring Events:



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Chat 'N' Chew

Every Friday at 11:30am the members of the Greenwood Amateur Radio society meet at a local restaurant. Please check in to our Monday or Thursday radio net weekly, as locations change. Everyone is welcome to have lunch or sip your favorite beverage and chat for a while. **Dutch treat.**

Weekly Nets

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

VE Exam Session

The GARS ARRL Volunteer Examiners (VE) Team will have an exam session 7:00pm Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at the Westminster Presbyterian Church. The address is 2330 Cokesbury Rd Greenwood SC 29649-9515 We hope to see you there. Please contact Buddy Willis W4DEW w4dew@arrl.net

If you have any ideas for books you'd like to see in the GARS Library, Contact Mitch KJ4JGP

Congratulations

Happy Birthday!

David McCall	W4MCC	Feb. 20
Ronald Miller	KJ4OBY	Feb. 21
Dan Curry	KM4AJ	Feb. 22

Happy Anniversary!

Kevan (N4XL) & Elizabeth Nason
February 14
Buddy (W4DEW) & Theaster Willis
February 25

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>





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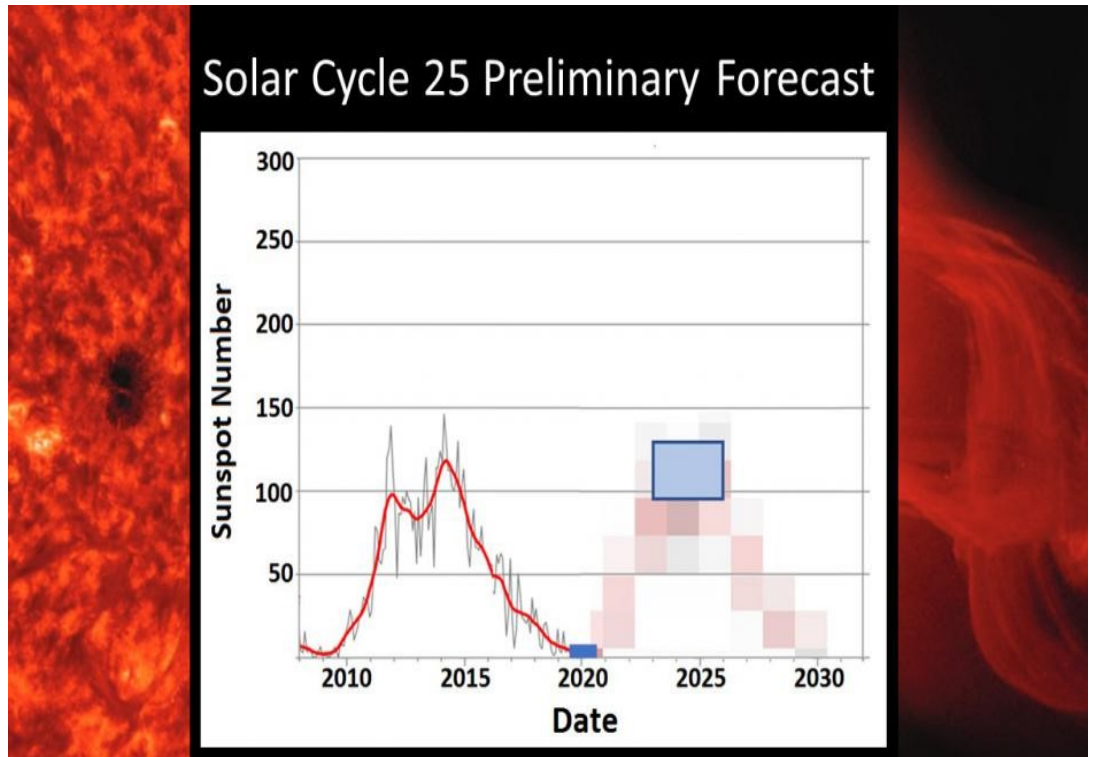
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Radio Trouble Finder Magazine, 1930 Edition

<https://www.americanradiohistory.com/Archive-Radio-News/Radio-News-Specials/Radio-News-Radio-Trouble-Finder-1930-.pdf?fbclid=IwAR2Fp3wRCzN6Ry>

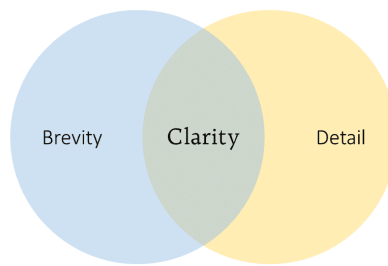
We are currently in Solar Cycle 24 which began in December 2008 and will end between now and September 2020. Thanks to Kevan, K4XB, for providing this.



<https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/news/solar-cycle-25-forecast-update>

Great reference for old parts, manuals radios etc. Thanks to Ted, AE4TJ, for providing it.

<http://www.ko4bb.com/getsimple/index.php?id=manuals>

**BREVITY AF5NP**

New hams, don't hesitate to make that first radio contact.

Experienced hams, don't hesitate to try a new band or operating mode.

Technician and General Class hams, don't hesitate to upgrade your license class.

All hams, don't hesitate... on the air. With your mic keyed to transmit, don't fill up time and space with "um...", "well...", "er...", "aah..." and other such sounds of hesitation.

It's not only annoying to hear but hesitation really clutters up the airwaves. In certain cases it impedes more important communication. For example, during a special event operation or true emergency communication (Emcomm) situation or drill, the Net Control Station (NCS) is constantly talking to various stations. If you're using up valuable time on the air, other stations cannot be relaying their info.

A good rule of thumb or general practice is to know exactly what you will say before you key the mic. Think first, then talk.

If Net Control asks you a question that you cannot immediately answer, don't take 20 seconds to stall or explain away your delay, just reply that you will get back to them. This frees up the net for others and lets the NCS know to expect a reply shortly.

The opposite of hesitation in radio work is brevity. Keep your transmissions short, few, and far between in a special event or Emcomm scenario.

Don't call in periodically just to let the net know you're still there. Net Control and the rest of the net assume you are there unless you have to drop off for a valid reason but you must inform them in such case.

Don't use 50 words where ten would do. Unfortunately, some hams are long-winded on a special event net. It takes forethought and practice to keep a report short and simple. Use the minimum number of words to communicate effectively.



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Brevity, AF5NP, Continued

Don't talk to sound important or just to hear your own voice. This is heard occasionally on a special event net; others can usually tell when this happens and it's aggravating.

Study up on Emcomm radio practices, guidelines, procedures and etiquette and then practice these. Drills and special events are perfect exercise. Refer to our "[EmComm Toolbox](#)" topic for such info.

Another form of clutter to avoid during a special event or Emcomm operation is speculation. Rumor, guessing, second-hand info, and supposition often lead to confusion and unnecessary concern. Just the facts, ma'am. Seriously, only give solid facts

EchoLink Complainers

But it uses the
INTERNET!

So does your
DX Cluster.

Greenwood Amateur Radio Society annual Hamfest



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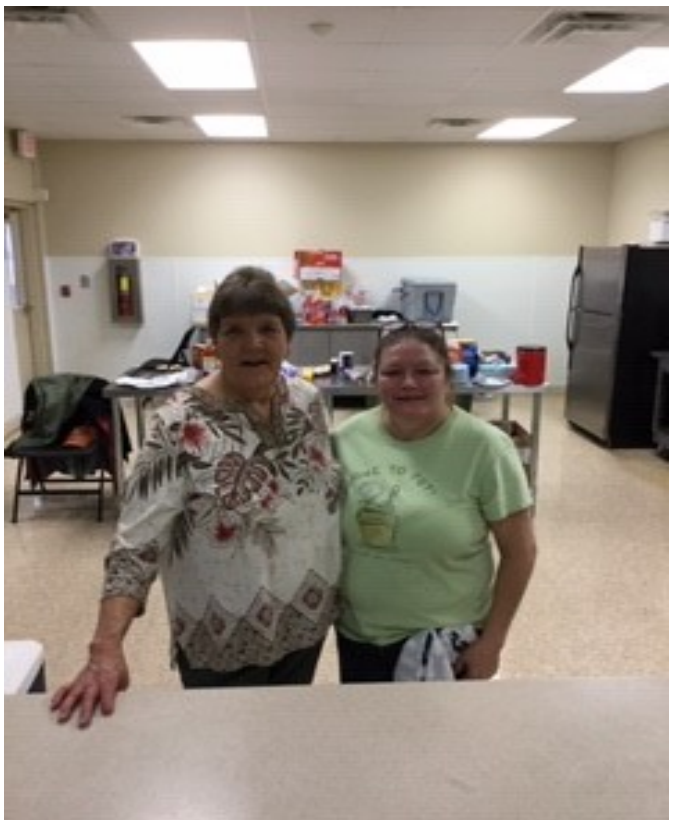


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The first President of our club, Joe Murph WB4UGA. When he was president our club was know as the Piedmont Tech Amateur Radio Club. He is holding up a plate with the call sign of our first repeater.

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Please welcome the newest member to our club **Paul Anderzunas, KO4ALK**. He has been licensed for one month now. I'm sure he will have plenty of questions.

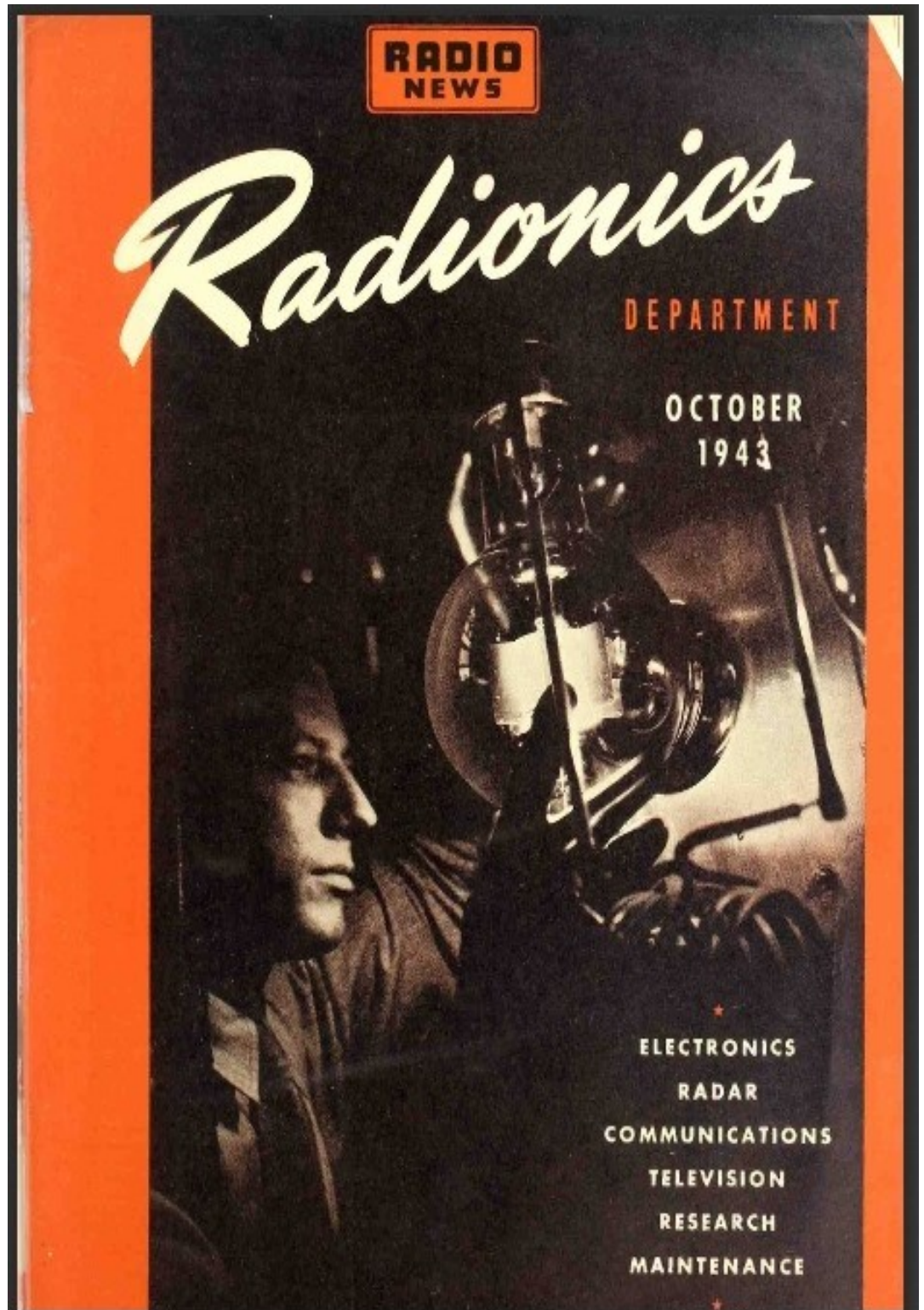
All members of ARRL who receive CQ Magazine should have recently received a link to the newest magazine "On the Air."



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The members of the recently established Nomination committee are Buddy Willis W4DEW, Andy Bagwell KN4DYV, and Russell Myrick KN4TUI. Thanks for *volunteering* guys. *Mike*

Their duties include soliciting names for the 2020 club officer positions. These names will be submitted to our President David Russ K4DWR, at the February Club meeting.. Dave will then ask the members present for any more names to be considered. A vote will then be taken and the newly elected or incumbent officers will be effective in March 2020.



Pease mark your calendars. Annual **dues** for the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS) **are due** to Tedd Davison AI4WN, by April 1., \$25.00 per individual membership, plus \$2.00 for spouse, plus \$2.00 more per student.



HAMFESTS & EVENTS

[HamCation](#) Orlando, Fl. Feb. 7-9, 2020

[Charlotte Hamfest](#), March 13-14, 2020

[Raleigh Hamfest](#), April 11, 2020

[Dayton Hamvention](#), May 15-17, 2020

Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS) Field Day, June 27, 2020,
details to follow

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- * 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 GARS weekly nets: 147.165 2m Net Thursdays 9 p.m.
443.900 70cm Net Mondays 8 p.m.
 - * Callsign info <http://www.ae7q.com>*
 - * Track us on APRS: <http://aprs.fi>
 - * Swamp Fox Contest Group <http://swampfoxcontestgroup.com>
-

Classifieds:

Classifieds will be run for 3 consecutive months then removed. They may be posted again after a 3 month period. 3 on then 3 off.

2m/440 antenna with channel master telescopic mast. Less than a year old, buyer must take down. Sale includes antenna, mast, approx. 50' coax, picture available on request. Make offer. 864-554-6005 or [Wayne, K4KF](#).

I hope you have enjoyed reading our newsletter. Please contact me at Mike31406@gmail.com with any ideas/comments/suggestions etc.

Mike