



The Signal Report

A Publication of the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS)

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2021

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

W4GWD@ARRL.NET

2021 CLUB

OFFICERS

President

Russell Myrick, KN4TUI

Vice President

Tommy Owens, K4XB

Secretary

George Crane, W3RXF

Treasurer

Tedd Davison, AI4WN

Repeater Trustee

Buddy Willis, W4DEW

Activities Manager

Mitchell Litwer, KJ4JGP

Editor in Chief

Michael Wills, KA4CSM

Librarian

Jack Witt, KN4SIK

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



Analog Repeaters are up.
DMR and D-Star are up.
Echo link is down, continuing to undergo technical evaluation.
Repeater Linking Project-Linked during nets and special occasions

December 2021

The GARS Christmas party originally scheduled for December 14, 2021 has been cancelled. Due to Covid activity the following club activities are postponed until further notice. VE sessions, in person meetings, Chat-n-Chews & the GARS Hamfest originally scheduled for 1-8-2022. The next GARS club meeting will be held "On the Air" and on Zoom on 14 December 2021 at 8 p.m. A net roll call will be taken and it will become the official attendance roster for this meeting. The GARS 2m (147.165) and 70 cm (443.900) repeaters will be linked during this meeting time.



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**Merry Christmas &
Happy Hanukkah to
all. Remember the
reason for the season.**





Greenwood Amateur Society Recurring Events:



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Chat 'N' Chews

Have been postponed until further notice due to Covid.

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 nets. If you would like to fill in or be a backup net controller please contact [Tedd Davison, A14WN](#).

VE Exam Session

Due to Covid all GARS ARRL Volunteer Examiners (VE) sessions have been postponed until further notice. Please contact Buddy Willis, w4dew@arrl.net with any questions.

Congratulations!!

Happy Birthday!

Happy Anniversary!

Andrew Hodges	KU4LAW	Dec 3
Robert Gillian	W4VIA	Dec 7
Fred Pinson	K4RM	Dec 10
George Miller	WD4GBB	Dec 15

George (WD4GBB) & Jennie Miller Dec 2
Darrell (AF4E) & Dena Manning Dec 3

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>

Presidents QSO



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I trust everyone had a nice Thanksgiving with some family and friends. We were home with combinations of family over the 4 days. Stayed pretty close and enjoyed the Grandkids in particular. With all that is going on in the world there is always something to be thankful for.

Covid-19 continues to be with us and with another variant. But as noted last month we all need to be cautious and determine our level of interactive and public activities.

Our club meeting on Tuesday December 14th will be as the October and November meetings. Initial Check-ins on Air in a directed net protocol then following the Agenda sequence. The net portion of the meeting will conclude with club members participating in a Zoom session. I think a number of us thought that went pretty well. K4XB Tommy will provide the Zoom credentials (meeting ID and password) as we get closer to the meeting date.

As of now we continue to plan and look forward to resuming in-person activities in 2022.

Also be thinking of names for officers for 2022-23. A nominating committee will be formed to serve as in the past per club guidelines. I think doing activities noted above would encourage and hopefully increase participation in our weekly nets, meetings, etc. And always open to comments, suggestions and concerns from our membership. Hope to catch you on the Nets and see/hear you on our meeting Tuesday 12/14 at 8:00pm

I have really enjoyed the cooler weather. And I'm sure it has made a difference on the level of hard work by the groundskeeping crew.

Wishing you and your families and friends a Happy Holiday season, a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Always appreciate our officers, net controllers and input from each of our members.

Stay Safe,

Russ, KN4TUI



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George Crane W3RXF, has been a GARS member since 2014. He has been the club Secretary for 6 of those years, a position he has held with great success, commitment, and enthusiasm. He will be stepping down soon. If you are interested in filling this position, please contact George, Russ Myrick or any club officer. This is a great opportunity to contribute to your club.

Popular Electronics, December 1955, provided by Darrell, AF4E

<https://worldradiohistory.com/Archive-Poptronics/50s/55/Pop->

Easy, cheap foxhunt antenna attenuator

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Rgm514AV2w>

RDF equipment ideas for VHF foxhunting and radio orienteering

<http://homingin.com/equipment.html#:~:text=If%20you%20are%20a%20typical%20ham%20radio%20operator%2C,called%20the%20%22body%20fade%22%2>

Bouvet Dxpediton

<https://www.3y0j.no/>



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RADIO AMATEUR NEWS

15 Cents
JULY
1919
Edited by
H. Gernsback



IN THIS ISSUE:

THE AUDION AND THE AMATEUR
By Dr. Lee de Forest
EXPERIMENTS ON GROUND ANTENNA
By Chas. D. Herrold

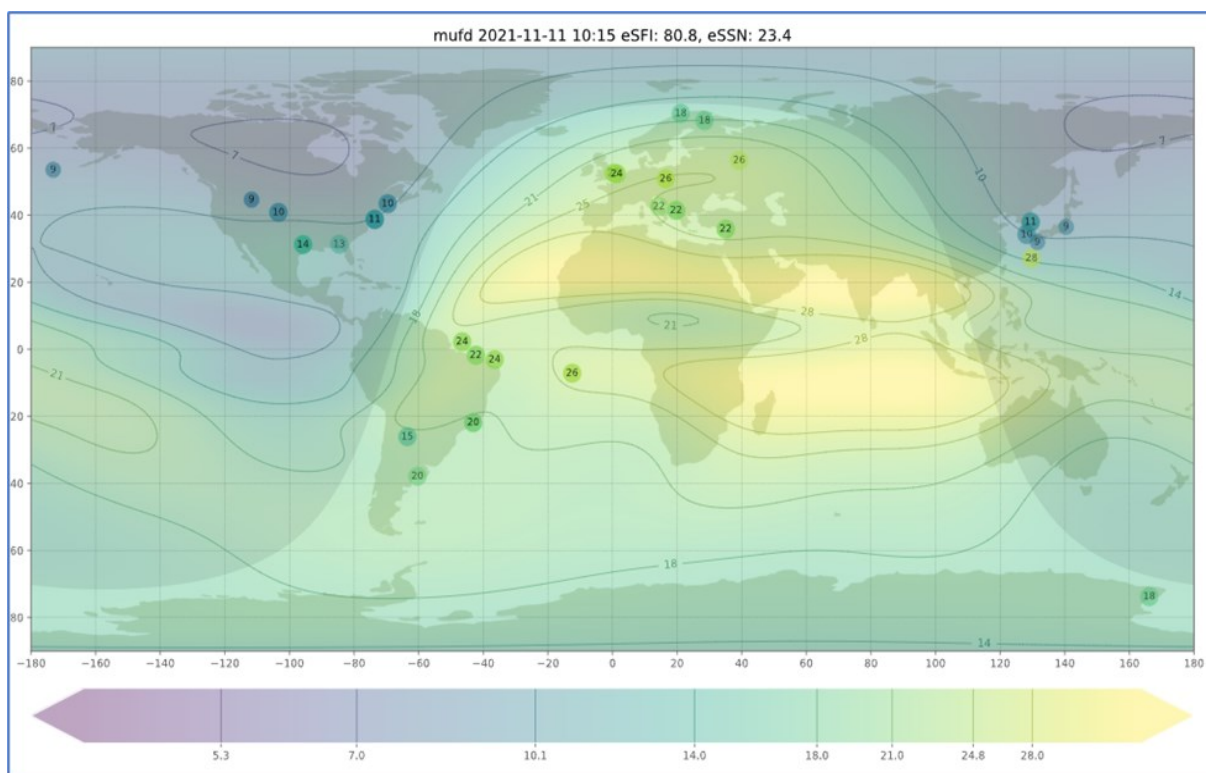
HOW I BECAME A RADIO BUG
By Thomas Reed
DESIGN OF ROGERS GROUND ANTENNA
By J. Stanley Brown

PUBLISHED BY EXPERIMENTER PUBLISHING CO. 23 FULTON ST. N.Y.C.

Kevan, N4XL gave a very interesting mini class on a means of visualizing the Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF.) A chart can be seen below.

Several hams are discovering a website operated by KC2G which provides near real time maps and data about atmospheric conditions that can be used to find likely available HF and 6 meter propagation paths between geographical locations. Click on the “About” tab found at the top of the website to learn more. Below is a map showing a MUF chart taken at 10:15 UTC on 11/11/2021.

<https://prop.kc2g.com/>



Skywarn storm spotter training

<https://www.wrdw.com/2021/11/23/skywarn-storm-spotter-training-hosted-by-wrdwwagt-columbia-county-ema/>



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If you use or are interested in 5G the below links may be of interest, provided courtesy of Darrell, AF4E

<https://www.avweb.com/insider/is-a-5g-showdown-looming/>

<https://www.avweb.com/aviation-news/faa-to-take-regulatory-action-over-5g-interference/>

<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/travel/2021/11/02/faa-issues-safety-alert-5-g-interference-aircraft/6254513001/>



Following is the net report for October 2021

2 meter

check-ins	84
traffic	5
sessions	5

70 cm.

check-ins	52
traffic	4
sessions	4

Tnx. 73 de AI4WN

We had 11 of our members meet on Zoom immediately after our roll call on the air on 11-9. "On the Air" meetings will continue to be held simultaneously for the time being. Russ KN4TUI, Tommy K4XB and David KY4GM are available to assist and answer questions with set up and use on there electronic devices. We hope to resume in person meetings in January 2022.

My experiences with FT8. KA4CSM



After a lot of trial, error and perseverance I finally got FT8 up and running. I installed Grid Tracker and Dimension 4 (for time synchronization) along with it. FT8 is designed to maximize communication even when signals are very weak (as low as -24db). This means that even low powered stations and stations with sub-optimal antennas can make contacts worldwide. You can choose to either call CQ or choose and pounce.

For anyone interested I found an excellent U Tube for installing it on a IC 7300, <http://youtu.be/WE668jOU5wU> other rigs have similar UTubes. I have spoken of the importance of a good antenna many times in the past, Kevan N4XL has proven that point time and again. Up until now most of my HF time was spent on 40 meters with some 20 but could not get anything else on my DXCC Dipole. FT8 is a weak signal digital mode which has opened up the world for me with my current antennas. Since starting on FT8 two weeks ago I have made over 70 DX contacts (Norway, Ireland, Slovak Republic, Latvia, Barbados and many others) on 40, 30, 20, 17 & 15 meters. Give it a try, I think you'll like it.

Getting started with FT8

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyWX0i87P0o>

Band	Mode	QSL	Sent	Revd	DXCC
40m	FT8		-18	-07	United States (K)
40m	FT8		+02	-05	United States (K)
40m	FT8		-15	+10	United States (K)
20m	FT8		-04	-18	England (G)
20m	FT8		-07	-08	Czech Republic (O)
20m	FT8		-15	-03	Croatia (8A)
20m	FT8		-16	-19	Netherlands (PA)
20m	FT8		+00	-06	United States (K)
15m	FT8		-05	-17	Italy (I)
15m	FT8		-11	-11	Austria (OE)
15m	FT8		-16	-14	Italy (I)
15m	FT8		-12	-16	Germany (DL)
15m	FT8		+00	-10	Germany (DL)
17m	FT8		-04	-07	Sweden (SM)
17m	FT8		-17	-09	Slovak Republic (O)
17m	FT8		-12	-10	Austria (OE)
17m	FT8		-13	-12	Italy (I)
17m	FT8		-09	-13	Italy (I)
17m	FT8		-11	-19	Scotland (GM)



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HAMFESTS & EVENTS

The Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS) Ham fest originally scheduled for January 8, 2022 has been postponed due to COVID. It has been rescheduled for January 14, 2023

[Hamcation](#) , Orlando, Florida 11-13 February 2022,

- * 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:

None submitted.

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

Mike