

Our new mailing address is:
Greenwood Amateur Radio
Society
P.O. Box 49591
Greenwood, SC, 29649

The Signal Report

A Publication of the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS)

VOLUME 21 ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2023

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

W4GWD@ARRL.NET

2023 CLUB

OFFICERS

President

Russell Myrick, KN4TUI

Vice President

Kevan Nason, N4XL

Secretary

George Crane, W3RXF

Treasurer

Mitch Litwer, KJ4JGP

Repeater Trustee

Buddy Willis, W4DEW

Activities Manager

Di Litwer, N4DLL

Editor in Chief

Michael Wills, KA4CSM

Librarian

Jack Witt, KN4SIK

The W4GWD Repeater Network

147.165+ t107.2

Echo link: 584003

443.900+ t107.2

W4GWM/R

145.420- DV

W4DEW/R

146.910- t123.0



The 2m (147.165) and 440 (443.900) Analog Repeaters are both up.

The GARS D-Star repeater is up.

Repeater Linking: our 2m and 440 repeaters are not linked during nets but will be during special occasions

October 2023

The next GARS monthly meeting will be held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2330 Cokesbury Rd, Greenwood on October 10, 2023 beginning at 7:30 pm. The doors will be open at 7:00 pm for members to have a time of fellowship and setup for the meeting. Hope to see you all there



Greenwood Amateur Society Recurring Events:



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Chat 'N' Chews

Begin gathering at 1115 at different locations each week. Kin KJ4BAK will announce locations on both the Monday and Thursday night nets. 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 nets. If you would like to become a net controller or a backup please contact [Kevan Nason, N4XL](#).

VE Exam Session

The next VE testing session is on October 3, at 7 p.m.. It will be held in the same room as our regular meetings at the Westminster Presbyterian church, 2330 Cokesbury Rd, Greenwood SC. Please contact [Tommy Owens, K4XB](#) with any questions. No walk-ins, please preregister with Tommy, K4XB.

Congratulations!!

Happy Birthday!

Russell Myrick	KN4TUI	Oct 6
Marsha Ridlehuber	KD4AYF	Oct 15

Happy Anniversary!

David (K4DWR) & Betsy Russ
Oct 14
David (WT3M) & Sally Strawhorne
Oct 24
Vernon KQ4FBT & Regine Clamp
Oct 29
Russell (KN4TUI) & Judy Myrick
Oct 31



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Our monthly GARS club meeting was held on September 12, 2023. It was attended by 16 members with 3 on zoom.

Kevan N4XL gave an excellent presentation on troubleshooting an OCF dipole

The location for the GARS hamfest was discussed in length. Di, N4DLL has looked and contacted many different venues. The James Medford Center had been booked by another group for 1-13-24 so in order to maintain our “first hamfest of the year” distinction and with no feasible alternatives we were forced to book 1-6-24 with the potential to lose the Wireman's participation.

BUT 1-13-24 became available so Di, immediately booked us in again retaining our date. Thank you Di for your diligence.

Dave KY4GM announced our club will hold a simplex net on the fourth Thursday of each month immediately following the 2m net. Unless noted otherwise it will be held on 147.570. No tone & no offset

Aubrey Collins, KO4UGN application for membership was voted on and unanimously approved. Aubrey will officially become a GARS member upon receipt of his dues.

HamSCI Presents *The Solar Eclipse QSO Parties* – October 14, 2023, and April 8, 2024 submitted by Di, N4DLL

Join with thousands of your fellow amateurs as part of the largest crowd-sourced contest for ham radio scientific exploration ever! The SEQP is for learning more about how the ionosphere works. Use any mode, any band for all or part of each day! *Participation can be from everywhere* – you need not be near the path of either eclipse to contribute valuable data by participating. For details on the SEQP contest and rules go to www.hamsci.org/contest-info.

For the Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge using CW, WSPR and FST4W modes go to www.hamsci.org/contest-info.

If you're an SWL or AM DX'er, there is an event for you as well! Go to www.hamsci.org/mwrecordings/.

HamSCI serves as a means for fostering collaboration between professional researchers and amateur radio operators. It assists in developing and maintaining standards and agreements between all people and organizations involved. Its goals are to advance scientific research and understanding through amateur radio activities and encourage the development of new technologies to support this research.



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We've Been Invited Back: iMAGINE Lakelands STEAM Festival

GARS has been invited to participate in the iMAGINE Lakelands STEAM Festival scheduled for **Saturday, October 21, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.** in uptown Greenwood.

The iMAGINE Lakelands STEAM Festival is designed to showcase PreK-12 education and career pathways in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) through fun, hands-on learning for families from across Abbeville, Edgefield, Greenwood, Laurens, McCormick, Newberry, and Saluda Counties.

This is a highly visible street festival that engages companies, schools, and non-profits in providing exciting, interactive STEAM learning exhibits for PreK – 12 students and their families. The purpose of the festival is to ignite the interest of students in STEAM learning and career pathways.

iMAGINE is a program of South Carolina's Coalition for Mathematics and Science (SCCMS) at Clemson University.

Last year over 100 people visited our booth and learned about GARS, Ham radio, and Morse Code.

Our GARS booth introduces kids (and adults) to Morse Code. In addition to learning how to convert the letters in their first names into Morse Code, and tap out their names on a real Morse Code key, festival participants can also tap out "SOS SOS CQD CQD -- MOY" just like the radio room operators on the sinking Titanic. Participants can also make a necklace or bracelet with their names in Morse Code.

Club members DO NOT have to know Morse Code to participate in this event. [Contact me](#) Di if you have any questions/suggestions.

Hope to see you there Di, N4DLL



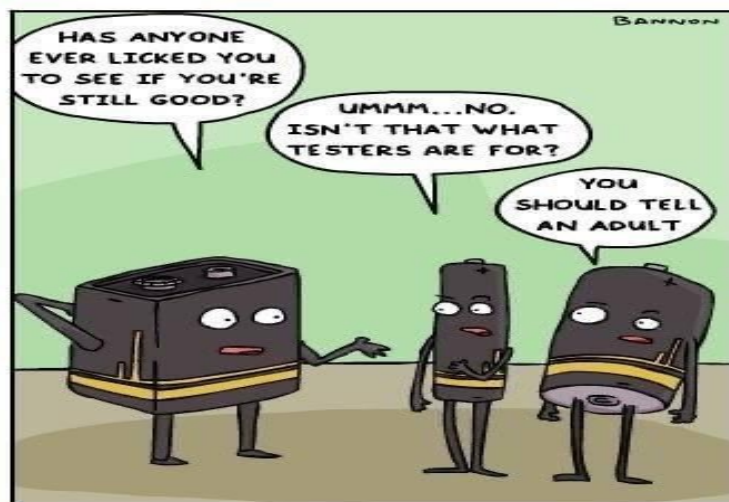
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Condolences to Adam Shirley WJ4X on the passing of his mother, Teresa Kay Shirley on September 11. 2023.

As requested by the family the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society made an contribution to the Humane Society of Greenwood in her memory.

Skywarn and storm spotter program training.

<https://www.weather.gov/gsp/skywarn?fbclid=IwAR1MJxf9I2sdrnXgTVDTu1Gmkg3JVjAjqik4K91X3J9W-FQp5PcmiPY350>



Attention all Veterans of any service, any time frame. If you would like to be recognized in our November issue please [send me](#) your name, callsign, dates of service and anything you would like us to know about your service. If you were in last Novembers issue I will use the same information unless you tell me differently. Go to W4gwd.org and see the newsletter index at bottom of page.



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Taken from the Swamp Fox September Newsletter, provided by Kevan, N4XL

From Nov/Dec 2003 NCJ. Gary W9XT says “Be Loud”. Being loud is relative. You are loud at S5 on a quiet band, but weak at S9 if QRM is S9+20 dB. Know which bands and at what times you are loudest.

He also said “From time to time there will be a thread on the Internet contest forums about how contests are unfair or fixed. Usually this is started by a contester who has been contesting for a couple of years and has been unable to crack the top ten list. While the playing field is certainly not level, the reality is that some contesters spend decades developing their skills and stations. They spend countless hours between contests preparing for the next one. It would be unrealistic to make the PGA tour a year or two after picking up your first golf club. You are not going to become a world-class contester just by operating a couple of Sweepstakes.”

Excerpts from the Jan/Feb 2003 issue of the National Contest Journal Contest Tips, Tricks & Techniques section by Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT

AA4NU suggests reading the NCJ. Whenever he meets a beginning contester he loans him a stack of NCJs from the last few years and tells them to read them all.

K5AF told SO2R ops “S&P low and run high.” This means you should be CQing on the higher of the two bands and search and pouncing on the lower one. The reason for this is that harmonics of the CQing transmitter will not fall into the band you are listening to. This is especially useful to those without elaborate filtering systems.

K9GS said when CQing, “Always strive to correctly copy the full call sign of the calling station the first time. This helps establish a rhythm which increases not only your rate but the total score.”

W6EU’s tips were: • Change your goal from “making 1000 QSOs” to “staying in the chair the full allowed time.” • Set up a TV set in the shack. Turn the sound down and watch a football game while you operate. (Editors note: Time for SO2R/SO2V instead?) • Test out your station and software several days before the contest.

W9XT tips were: • Use spreadsheets to plan contest strategies. Play what if scenarios to determine optimal mix of CW and SSB QSO’s (for mixed mode contests). • If trying a different category entry, i.e.: QRP, get on the air several times before the contest using that band/mode and learn some of its idiosyncrasy’s and tricks.

Congratulations to Kevan N4XL for being at the top of the Swamp Fox Contest Group Leaderboard on September 18, 2023. He is #1 in overall standings with 7915 total QSO’s and 5814 CW QSO’s.

Way to go Kevan.



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Our **second Simplex net** was held immediately after our 2 meter net on September 28. Dave, KY4GM was the net controller and N4XL, KA4CSM, K4XB, KA4PQA, WT3M & W3RXF all checked in. I (KA4CSM) could only hear KY4GM, perhaps as I was out on the lake further than others. I could only hear KY4GM as he checked others in. KY4GM is using a Tram 1481 35 feet up from the bottom fed with lmr 400, confirming the importance of a good antenna.

Several observations for those not familiar with simplex operations:

The National 2m simplex calling frequency is 146.520, Greenwood county is 147.570. UHF simplex is 446.000. Our net is held on 147.570
Protocol states the National Calling frequency is used to start communications then QSY to another frequency
No offset & no tone are used
No repeater is involved—simply station to station (Line of site)
Depending on your QTH you may not hear others checking in or talking on the net.
For information on the use of simplex contact [David, KY4GM](#).

HCJB High power shortwave— high in the Andes
Submitted by Al West KB4RA

<https://youtu.be/lZpFHADp27g?si=9H--wM8h2n8Hebw>

Ham Radio Horizons— October 1977

[Ham-Radio-Horizons-10-1977.pdf \(worldradiohistory.com\)](#)

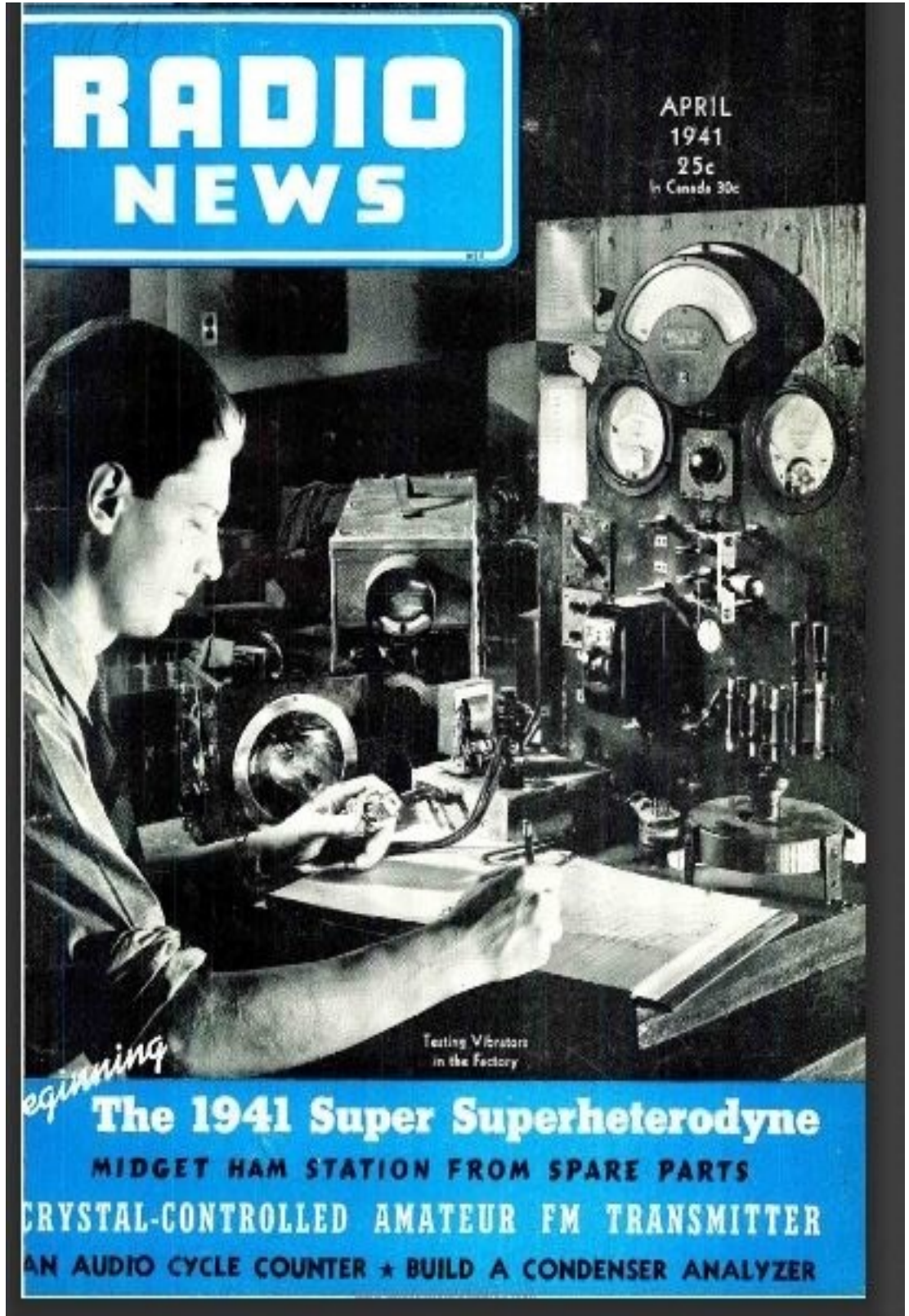
Please contact [Jack](#) Witt KN4SIK if you have any comments or suggestions the GARS library. It is there for GARS members use. The Wall locker is unlocked. If you'd like to checkout a book, find one you like and take it, then email Jack your name and its title.





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August 2023 Net Reports, submitted by John Gendron, NJ4Z, abridged

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Net / Check Ins / Traffic / Sessions / Reported By

Anderson Radio Club 2m Net / 538 / 31 / 31 / W3SUE

Big Ears Aynor Repeater/ 37 / 0 / 4 /KD2OJQ

Blue Ridge 2 Meter Net / 1719 / 36 / 31 / W4DJW

C.A.R.E.S. Net / 41 / 0 / 4 / N6WWG

Carolinas Net / 286 / 99 / 62 / AA4MP

Carolinas Slow Net / 108 / 21 / 31 / KI4KZS

CARC Sunday / 95 / 16 / 4 / KU5N

CARC Simplex / 28 / 0 / 2 / KU5N

FARC/ 112 / 3 6/ 6

Greater Pee Dee 2m Net / 977 /57 /31 /KK4KSZ

Greenwood ARC 2m Net / 124/ 7 / 7 / N4XL

Greenwood ARC 70cm Net/ 23 / 3 / 3 / N4XL

Horry Co. ARES 2m net /7/1/1/ AC2LB

Horry Co. ARES simplex net/ 11 / 1 / 1 /WB4FTU

Kershaw ARC 2m Net / 59/ 6 / 8 /KK4RUI

Lancaster County 2m Net / 22 / 2 / 4 / N4WMB

PALS Net / 791 / 40 /31/ KK4MQN

SC ARES Statewide HF Net / 96 / 7 / 4 / KN4KRZ

SC Midland ARES Training Net/ 52 / 25 / 4 /KN4KRZ

SC Heart Training Net /244 / 0 /5 / KQ4KK

SCSSB Net 1118 / 94 / 31 / KG4RUE

South Carolina VHF/UHF ARES Net / 290 / 2 / 4 / KI4RAX

York County ARES/ 49/ 0/ 4/ /KO4ICI

jk

HAMFESTS & EVENTS

71st [Rock Hill Hamfest](#), October 7, 2023

Aiken County Ham Radio Tailgate, October 14, 2023, 8-2Pm,
[contact talarcpost26@gmail.com](mailto:talarcpost26@gmail.com) for more information

44th Annual Lake Hartwell Hamfest at Darwin Wright Park, 106 Anderson Beach Blvd, Anderson, October 21, 2023, 9:00 A.M. until ?

C.A.R.E.S. Annual Hamfest, Southside Baptist Church, Gaffney, SC. October 21, 2023
Information 864-490-6398 or email ki4mjk@gmail.com

Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS) Hamfest, James Medford Center at Piedmont Tech, January 13, 2024

CLASSIFIEDS

Nothing submitted



- * The American Radio Relay League protects our rights as Amateur Radio Operators <http://www.arri.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>



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



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Greenwood Amateur Radio Society Silent Key Memorial

Established in Memory of all Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS) Radio Operators who were club members and are now Silent Keys. They were friends, family, & fellow hams and all are missed. Page 1 of 2

Call	First name last name	Date of Death
KK4WJQ	Cynthial Penman	Saturday, February 25, 2023
WB4KXE	Harvey Hill	Friday, October 07, 2022
W8PC	Bob Skutt	Friday, July 22, 2022
N2OEE	Bob Wiener *	Tuesday, April 12, 2022
AJ4PU	David Haynes *	Friday, November 26, 2021
KB4YON	Eldora Keck	Thursday, October 14, 2021
WD4BWK	Franklin Mitchell	Saturday, September 25, 2021
KE4NL	Bill Sargent	Sunday, August 29, 2021
W3COX	Jim Cox *	Friday, July 16, 2021
KC4JUC	John March	Tuesday, June 22, 2021
KI4WJO	Jewell Mimms	Tuesday, July 14, 2020
AK4EK	Jim Gresham *	Tuesday, July 07, 2020
WB4MLU	Homer Banks	Sunday, June 07, 2020
KC4UU	Jo Henry *	Sunday, October 06, 2019
WW4I	Phil Henry *	Tuesday, January 01, 2019
KJ4VJ	Bert Keck *	Tuesday, October 23, 2018
AD4XA	Charles Pruitt	Saturday, October 06, 2018
KG4WRC	Don Finlayson	Monday, March 13, 2017
N4IDL	Jack Wheless	Tuesday, January 17, 2017
KN4D	Max Sisson	Saturday, November 12, 2016
K4GBH	Joe Mimms *	Tuesday, December 29, 2015
KV4IAV	Marion Elledge *	Sunday, December 27, 2015
KC4JWM	Alice Taylor *	Friday, December 11, 2015
K4FPF	Paul Valentino	Saturday, May 23, 2015
KC4KZ	Don Henderson *	Friday, April 03, 2015
W4PY	Warren Wise *	Saturday, February 14, 2015
KD4YPI	Todd Hendrix	Saturday, March 08, 2014
KD4BKV	Margaret Fort	Monday, September 16, 2013
KF4Y	Jim Long	Thursday, November 10, 2011
WA4DLB	Harry Davis	Thursday, November 11, 2010
W4GSW	Gay Willis *	Wednesday, August 11, 2010
K4DOK	Morton Sanders	Tuesday, June 15, 2010
W4LS.	George Miller	Thursday, August 13, 2009
W4JAK	Allen Kennemore	Monday, June 29, 2009
KC4IEL	Brenton Bailey	Friday, May 15, 2009



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Call	First name last name	Date of Death
KE4QQS	Stanley Green	Saturday, September 27, 2008
WA4TNO	George Fort	Tuesday, June 10, 2008
KA4OPC	Paul Savage *	Thursday, January 10, 2008
KD4BBZ	Richard Gillian *	Friday, February 02, 2007
K4HAN	Ancel Ouzts	Wednesday, June 21, 2006
KB4CK	Guy Copland *	Monday, April 17, 2006
K4HIH	Richard Addison	Saturday, April 15, 2006
KG4LEZ	James Shiles *	Sunday, January 01, 2006
KC4GZV	Walter Davis	Sunday, May 16, 2004
KA4PQA	Odel Lyda *	Thursday, September 25, 2003
WA9FWO	Franklin Kolar Jr *	Saturday, August 09, 2003
WD4JOU	Walt Spearman *	Monday, June 30, 2003
W4WQM	Margaret Duchett	Thursday, June 19, 2003
KC4MQA	Elbert Shirley	Sunday, January 12, 2003
KB4BUR	Nell Spearman *	Sunday, November 17, 2002
KC4CMF	Fred McKinney *	Thursday, April 04, 2002
K4QMY	Dan Hammett	Friday, September 28, 2001
KC4ZJP	Cecil Sutton *	Thursday, January 25, 2001
WA4JOS	Robert Buffington	Saturday, August 12, 2000
WV4B	Glen Jennings	Friday, January 14, 2000
K4VIA	Earle Gillian *	Monday, January 12, 1998
KC4JWL	James Taylor *	Monday, January 13, 1997
KC4LSN	JR Labron Jones *	Thursday, March 21, 1996
WA4TME	Brenda Fort	Tuesday, October 25, 1994
KD4EHP	Anne Miller	Thursday, March 24, 1994
W8MID	Jack Mc Guffee	Monday, September 07, 1992
N4LTL	James Wellmaker	Tuesday, February 05, 1991