



G.A.R.S. Monthly Newsletter

Web Page: www.w4gwd.org

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2007

Greenwood Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 2404
Greenwood, S.C. 29646

President

Earl Powell KC4AXY

Vice President

Joe Mimms K4GBH

Secretary

Betty Ann Cannon KF4BVK

Treasurer

Harvey Hill WB4KXE

Activities Manager

Bobby Gosnell KF4ZYO

July meeting

G.A.R.S. will meet Monday, July 16, 2007, at The Turner House on Bailey Circle, Greenwood, 7 pm for light refreshments and 7:30 pm for the meeting.

Congratulations

New Club Members

Buddy Howle KI4VJS and wife Janice
Kevin Nason NS4T and wife Elizabeth

New Amateur Operator

Adam Shirley KI4WQD

On passing the Tech. Amateur Licenses

Communications

Amateur radio can be a valuable backup for Fire, EMS, and Police communications systems. There are occasional Simulated Emergency Tests performed to uncover deficiencies in primary systems and once uncovered, these need to be addressed. Our Cities and Counties buy radio communications system with Aegis Encryption, Provoice Digital Clear Voice and Mobile Data Terminals, and are intended to provide 95% in building hand held coverage throughout the counties. Many of the radios in the system have

mobile data terminals for very sensitive communications. – Medical issues, fatalities, etc.

Citizen's health matters are confidential. HIPPA laws require patient confidentiality and radio systems take action to secure patient information. These are the rules that governments have to play by.

It is the responsibility of the governing bodies to provide, Fire, EMS and Police, services and support communications in an effective manner.

This would include the dispatch center and comm system infrastructure.

Amateur radio is not, and should not be the first line of communications in a functioning public safety communications system, paid or volunteer.

This said the trained professionals who risk their health and safety should be provided with effective communications systems as part of their duty gear.

Amateur radio's involvement is to provide backup communications in the event of a failure of normal communications circuits and anything goes when life and property are in imminent danger.

Emergency communications are not day to day activities for amateur radio operators, but rather, rare circumstances where extra help is needed and requested by the governing bodies. It should be a rare thing for amateur radio operators to provide communications for a fire department, EMS provider, or search and rescue team, and in those rare instances where amateur radio needs to be called into the picture, the imminent danger to life and property clause should indemnify the amateur radio operators who due to lack of training transmit confidential patient information over the air using amateur radio facilities. By training I am referring to use of non patient specific terms, ie, Patient number 1 has the following, Patient number 2, etc (messages relayed using amateur radio from paramedics to a medical control facility). This is only in the rare event and extenuating circumstances where any of this type of communication is carried by amateur radio in the first place, and where normal communications are not effective.

If amateur radio operators are routinely providing communications services for Fire, EMS, Search and Rescue,

and Police then something is wrong. In the rare event amateur radio is used, and then secure communications should not matter because of the life and property in imminent danger part when other normal facilities will not work.

Finally, when the event is finished, then a full evaluation of what broke down in the normal communications system should be conducted, and deficiencies noted and corrected. Even the ARRL uses the term "When All Else Fails".

Providing radio communications for parades, fun runs, marathons, weather nets, Field Day and so forth are great core projects that amateur radio operators can participate in and really shine.

Isn't it time to get back to amateur radio and let the professional Fire, EMS and Police folks do their jobs, and we as hams, enjoy amateur radio, including: all five parts of our purpose of being.....digital, linear or otherwise,

"The rules and regulations in this Part are designed to provide an amateur radio service having a fundamental purpose as expressed in the following principles:

(a) Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary noncommercial communication service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications.

(b) Continuation and extension of the amateur's proven ability to contribute to the advancement of the radio art.

(c) Encouragement and improvement of the amateur service through rules which provide for advancing skills in both the communications and technical phases of the art.

(d) Expansion of the existing reservoir within the amateur radio service of trained operators, technicians, and electronics experts.

(e) Continuation and extension of the amateur's unique ability to enhance international goodwill."

(Wonder if any one is more important than the next)?

Anyhow, that's my opinion

73

Arthur Undisclosed

HURRICANE'S

Are you ready this hurricane season? Effective ARES operators must consider safety and prepare, train, practice and test themselves. Prepare your personal Jump Kit, equipment, and provisions. Join and build your local ARES group.

Train by taking ARRL, Red Cross, and FEMA courses. Build your experience and practice on Field Day, the Simulated

Emergency Test, contests, nets, and public service events. Test your equipment in different configurations. Learn to operate it fully, efficiently and interoperable with other amateurs.

The hurricane season begins June 1 to November 30. To read about this year's hurricanes go to www.hurricanes.noaa.gov/ or www.noaa.gov/. You will find all the hurricane names for the year 2007 to 2011 on this web sight.

You can find information at the same web sight about tornados, April, May and June is tornado season.

Weather Alert Radios

- STATEWIDE (WIS) - Through the month of July, WIS and Food Lion stores are teaming up to offer Midland All Hazard Weather Alert Radios at a discount price of \$29.95 plus tax. The radios are now available at Food Lion stores in Sumter, and soon all Food Lion stores in the WIS viewing area will be stocking them. WIS also is working with Midland Radio Corp., the National Weather Service, and local public safety agencies to help viewers program their radios, and we are planning radio programming events throughout the month.

Field Day 2007

Several members from The GARS club visited other field events around the State



Brab Dukes WB4TRF, Elaine Dukes KA4PLU, Jimmie Hill KI4VFQ, Harvey Hill WB4KXE, Jewell Mimms KI4WJO, Joe Mimms K4GBH, Alice Taylor KC4JWM, Buddy Willis W4DEW and Gay Willis KI4VFT at the Ridge Amateur Radio club in Batesburg SC



Darrell Manning KI4BST, Jeremy Manning KI4CCZ and Dave Zugsberger KL7FO at the Anderson Amateur Radio Club in Anderson, SC

UP COMING HAMFEST

21 July 2007 + Cary ARC
SWAPFEST, Cary, NC

September 1 & 2
Shelby N.C.

12 Jan 2008 + Greenwood ARS
Greenwood Civic Center 1610 Highway 72 East
<http://www.w4gwd.org>

CHAT N' CHEW

Every Friday at 11:30 am to 1 pm at George's Family Steak House, 713 Bypass 25NE, Greenwood, 223-2707, a group meets to have lunch or sip your favorite beverage and chat for a while, (*Dutch treat*). Everyone is welcome to join.

WEEKLY NET

Every Thursday night at 9pm on 147.165+, The Greenwood Amateur Radio Society holds the weekly 2 meter net. Ms. Betty Ann KF4BVK or an alternant N/C will be there.

Tell everyone that you see and talk to come by and check in with them. They are doing a great job.

If you would like to fill in or be a back up net control, please let Ms. Betty Ann KF4BVK or Buddy Willis W4DEW know.

CELEBRATIONS

Happy Birthday July

July 4 Steven Lyda
July 10 Homer Banks WB4MLU
July 13 Joe Mimms K4GBH
July 15 Betty Powell
July 21 Elizabeth Nason
July 28 Dena Manning
July 28 Jeremy Manning KI4CCZ

Happy Anniversary's July

July 6 Brab WB4TRF and Elaine KA4PLU Dukes

Happy Birthday August

August 28 Bert Keck KJ4VJ
August 31 Darrell Manning KI4BST

Happy Anniversary's August

August 17 Marion KC4IAV and Edna Elledge
August 30 Phil WW4I and Jo KC4UU Henry

OTHER NEWS

The GARS Web page is up and running Jeremy KI4CCZ has updated the page and added pictures from the 2007 Hamfest.

Go to www.w4gwd.org and take a look. You can find this newsletter on the web sight each month also.

The club meetings are now listed in the Index Journal on page 2A each month under "Community Calendar".

CLASSIFIED

For sale one free standing tower
40 foot \$200.00
Call or e-mail Buddy Willis W4DEW
W4dew@arrl.net 864-554-3543

WTB one ICOM HM-56, HM-77 or HM-95 mike.
Call or e-mail Buddy Willis W4DEW
W4dew@arrl.net 864-554-3543

If anyone has anything they want to sell or trade, that is Ham radio related, and would like to place it in this column, call me at 864-682-7374 or E-mail kf4bvk@backroads.net.

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Newsletter Deadline
August 13, 2007