



Greenwood ARS

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY

2008 CLUB OFFICERS

President

Earl Powell,
KC4AXY

Vice President

Joe Mimms,
K4GBH

Secretary

Jewell Mimms,
K14WJO

Treasurer

Tedd Davison,
A14WN

Repeater Trustee

Buddy Willis,
W4DEW

Activities Manager

Adam Shirley,
WJ4X

Elections

GARS club elections are coming up February 16, 2009! This is a time you need to be there and support the candidates of your choice. The nomination committee for 2009 club officers are Buddy Willis W4DEW, Kevin Nason N4XL and Phil Henry WW4I. They need your support, suggestions and input on who will make a strong leadership team for 2009.

The committee will present their nominations for club officers at the February meeting, The floor will then be open for any other nominations from the members present.

Any comments or suggestion please contact:

Buddy Willis w4dew@arrl.net

Kevan Nason knason@emerald.is.com

Phil Henry ww4i@arrl.net

SC SSB Net



The SC Single Sideband Net (SCSSB) is a public service body consisting of Amateur Radio (Ham) operators who meet daily at 7:00 pm on 3.915 MHz for the purpose of passing formal written traffic into, out of, and throughout the state of South Carolina. The net is a member of the National Traffic System (NTS) and is affiliated with the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) headquartered in Newington, Conn. All licensed Amateurs with HF privileges are invited to check in.

Upcoming Society Events

Chat N' Chew

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

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

(Dutch treat).

VE Exam Session 7:00pm April 7, 2009 Greenwood Red Cross

GARS ARRL Volunteer Examiner (VE) Team will have an exam session 7:00pm, Tuesday at The American Red Cross Building, 520 Epting Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29646.

Weekly Net

Every Thursday night at 9pm on 147.165+, The Greenwood Amateur Radio Society holds the weekly 2 meter net. Help spread the word to check into the Net.

If you would like to fill in or be a backup net control please let Buddy Willis, W4DEW know.

Weekly Ladies Net

The GARS Weekly 2 Meter Female Amateur Radio Net began on Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 8 PM on the GARS 2 Meter Repeater. This net will be held every Tuesday night at the same time.

All interested female amateurs are invited and encouraged to check in. Subjects of discussion will be anything of interest to women.

If you have any questions, please contact Jean (W4KKA) at 864-953-0004 or Jo (KC4UU) at 864-446-7187.

Congratulations

Happy Birthday!

Dan Farmer	KK6AA	Feb 16
Nelson Henry	KG4ZLU	Feb 24
Bill Yoder	W4YOD	Mar 14
George Rambo	KI4ZSZ	Mar 29

Happy Anniversary!

Kevan (N4XL) and Elizabeth Nason	Feb 14
Roger (KJ4EPL) and Debbie Moore	Feb 20
Homer (WB4MLU) and Ethel Banks	Mar 19
Bill (W4YOD) and Beth Yoder	Mar 21

The missing Q signals... #54

QZZ? - Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?

What happened to the "B" Battery?

A and B "batteries" were multi-cell sources for the early battery radios - where the A battery supplied the filament; and the B battery supplied the B+ - or plate voltage. The A batteries ran anywhere from 2 to 6 volts; (5V being the most common filament voltage; you used a rheostat to adjust as the battery ran down); 67 and 90 volts were most common B batteries. These used a bunch of cells - series to stack up to the B+ voltage; the A batteries were usually series (to give enough voltage) & parallel to give enough current.

There were also C batteries - (not to be confused with C cells) - they usually supplied some bias (negative) voltage for output stages, etc. Back to the "Cells" There are - or were, A and B cells, (like AA, C & D cells today) but they aren't commonly used anymore - but they did (some do) exist.

Here are Cell Types and their approximate specs (Being "cells" they are all 1.5V carbon): Type Size (Diam x Height) Wt. (lb.) Ed Note dimensions are approximate -- see Vendor data sheets for each

manufacturer's specs. i.e Eveready ALSO SEE Standard Cylindrical Battery Sizes -- MANY MORE SIZES HERE

A - 5/8 x 1 7/8 .046

AA - 17/32 x 1 7/8 .033

AAA - 0.41 x 1.75" 9.7 grams

AAAA - 0.327 x 1.673" 6 grams

B - 3/4 x 2 1/8 .077

C - 15/16 x 1 13/16 .1

D - 1 1/4 x 2 1/4 .22

E - 1 1/4 x 2 7/8 .29

F - 1 1/4 x 3 7/16 .35 (commonly used in packs to make A batteries)

G - 1 1/4 x 4 .4 6 - 2 1/2 x 6 2 .2 is also still around, used both in industry and by hobbyist (glow plugs in model airplanes and cars gas engines). These are those tall cells with two binding posts on top - one in the center - and one at the edge.

There are also BR, CD, FL, FL-I -> FL-9, J, K, M, N, NS, & P cells.

Classifieds

Cubic ST-2R 2KW antenna tuner \$350 obo, contact Jeremy Manning ki4ccz@gmail.com for additional info and photos.

For Sale or Offer for Entire Lot:

\$ 20.00 Rosy test center
 \$ 20.00 Workman swr meter
 \$ 10.00 GE speaker
 \$ 50.00 Astron RS35m power supply
 \$ 25.00 2 Ringo ranger antennas (parts missing)
 \$ 25.00 CDE Rotor control box
 \$ 25.00 CDE Rotor control box
 \$ 30.00 three 2 meter antennas \$10.00 each
 \$ 20.00 Magnet mount CB antenna
 \$ 10.00 3 amp power supply 12 volt
 \$ 40.00 Tram1481 2 meter antenna (NEW)
 \$ 20.00 VHF meter

\$ 5.00 Radio Shack 12 v power supply
 \$ 5.00 Radio Shack 13.8 power supply
 \$ 10.00 2 way antenna switch
 \$ 20.00 Kenwood mike
 \$ 20.00 Mirage pre-amp RCI
 \$ 25.00 Box of Assorted Tubes
 \$ 8.00 8 pl 259 connectors (NEW)

call or email
 Dewey "Buddy" Willis W4DEW@arrl.net
 (864) 445-7574 home
 (864) 554-3543 verizon

If anyone has any Ham radio stuff to sell or trade... list it in this column by calling Buddy, W4DEW, 864-445-7574, w4dew@arrl.net

CQ Test: By N4XL

We talked about the NAQP last issue. I hope some of you were able to try it out. Just to give you an idea what a modest station can do I'll some about talk my effort. During 10 hours of operation I was able to make 575 unique contacts. There were 47 different U.S. States (including Alaska and Hawaii), some Canadians, a couple Central Americans and two Caribbean stations. I've exchanged a dozen or so QSO cards and was able to give two people South Carolina which was the last state they needed to get their Worked All States award. Most importantly – I had a lot of fun doing it! So if you think you can't work many people because you don't have a good station, look at those numbers again. I think I have an average station compared to most hams.

One of the things that has revolutionized contesting is the advent of logging programs. These have evolved into very sophisticated programs. They read the frequency, band and operating mode from your radio, and the time from your computer; and when you type in a call and hit enter on your keyboard it logs all the data automatically for you. Here's some other things they can do: sense when you are out of band and warn you, tell you if you have already worked a station or not (you usually do not get credit for working the same station more than once on the same band), tell you what states or countries you still need for multiplier credit, if you only get two or three letters of their call they can provide a list of stations with those letters to help you get the missing ones, and it can show you where the gray line is so you can use that knowledge to help see where in the world propagation may be opening. They have many other features, but there are some particularly useful features I'll talk about now and in future columns.

The first is the band map. This shows the band you are on and what radio stations are on what frequencies in that band. The map can be populated with stations either manually or you can let the computer find and populate the map for you. Since I always work contests in the unassisted category my map is not filled up when I start a contest. When I log a station as described above, my logging program automatically puts the station on the map. That way when I am Searching and Pouncing (S&P) for stations and tuning back and forth across the bands and here a

station, I can look at the band map and see if I've already worked someone on that frequency or not rather than waiting to here his call and looking it up. That allows me to tune away quickly and find someone else.

Another way the band map can be used is to log onto a website and have that website populate the band map for you. There are several sites out there. Hams let their computers update the website with contacts they have made and then your computer downloads the station call and frequency. It then puts the station on your band map with a color designation telling you if you have already worked them or need them for points. Then instead of turning your radio dial you hit the page-up or page-down key and your computer automatically changes frequency to the next station you haven't worked yet.

Using the band map in the automatic fill mode saves you typing. This is because when you tune in to a station on the band map their call and exchange information (if known) is automatically filled into the appropriate spaces of the contest program. You need to verify the stations call and exchange information doing this though since whoever typed it into the web page might have been wrong or mistyped. More on logging programs in the future.

Next month is a favorite contesting month for me. Two of my favorite international DX contests are coming up. Both the ARRL International DX Contest and the CQWW WPX contest. They are both 48 hour contests. The WPX contest should be particularly interesting to a new contester. WPX stands for World Prefix and the multipliers there are anything unusual in a prefix. Adam will have a good one as WJ4 is his prefix. Phil also has a good one in WW4 as does Dan KK6AA. People like Me and Buddy are more run of the mill with our N4 and W4 prefixes. Some of you newer guys with KJ4 or KI4 could find yourselves to be highly valued too since many of the newer people with these calls stay on VHF.

73's and hope to see you in the contest.

—N4XL

How will you communicate?

Being prepared for an emergency communication deployment involves a wide range of considerations, including radio equipment, power sources, clothing and personal gear, food and water, information, and specialized training.

The last thing you should need to do when a call for assistance comes is think of and locate all the items you might need. Any experienced emergency responder knows how important it is to keep a kit of the items they need ready to go at a moment's notice. This is often called a "jump kit" or "go kit."

Without a jump kit, you will almost certainly leave something important at home, or bring items that will not do the job. Gathering and packing your equipment at the last moment also wastes precious time. It is important to think through each probable deployment ahead of time, and the range of situations you might encounter. Here are a few basic questions you will need to answer:

- Which networks will you need to join, and which equipment will you need to do so?
- Will you need to be able to relocate quickly, or can you bring a ton of gear?
- Will you be on foot, or near your vehicle?
- Is your assignment at a fixed location or will you be mobile?

- How long might you be deployed - less than 48 hours, up to 72 hours, or even a week or more?
- Will you be in a building with reliable power and working toilets, or in a tent away from civilization?
- What sort of weather or other conditions might be encountered?
- Where will food and water come from?
- Are sanitary facilities available?
- Will there be a place to sleep?
- Do you need to plan for a wide variety of possible scenarios, or only a few?
- Can some items do "double duty" to save space and weight?

Most people seem to divide jump kits into two categories: one for deployments under 24 hours, and one for up to 72 hours. For deployments longer than 72 hours, many people will just add more of the items that they will use up, such as clothing, food, water, and batteries. Others may add a greater range of communication options and backup equipment as well, or mini manuals for all equipment

Remember in addition to including your basic radio equipment, you will need to pack personal gear, not limited to seasonal appropriate clothing, first aid kits, identification, GPS systems, sleeping arrangements, etc.



If you'd like to see
your article here,
send an email to
WJ4X@amsat.org

Club Corner

Everyone had a great time at the Hamfest. There are a lot of new purchases brightening up hamshacks across North and South Carolina and Georgia.

Members are getting interested in expanding their RF envelope, hearing a lot of our stations on the HF bands and HF nets. They are also participating in the National Traffic System and moving messages across the area.

A few club members are having to repair antennas due to the wind.

A few powerful HF stations are going up in our area, hope to hear them on the air soon.

That's it this month, stay tuned for more!
Let us know what you're up to by sending an email to
Adam, WJ4X@AMSAT.ORG

COMING HAMFESTS and EVENTS:

28 Feb 2009
Dalton Hamfest #27
Dalton ARC
<http://www.w4drc.com>
Talk-In: 145.230(-) no tone
Contact: Harold Jones, N4BD
PO Box 211
Rocky Face, GA 30740
Phone: 706-673-2291
Email: n4bd@windstream.net
Dalton, GA
North Georgia Fairgrounds
501 Legion Drive

14-15 Mar 2009
Roanoke Division Convention
Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society
<http://www.w4bfb.org/hamfest.html>
Talk-In: 145.290(-) & 146.940(-)
Contact: Mary & Tom Hunt, N4MH & KA3VVJ
16007 Wynfield Creek Parkway
Huntersville, NC 28078
Phone: 704-948-7373
Email:
hamfestinfo@w4bfb.org
Concord, NC
Cabarrus Arena & Event Center
4751 Highway 49 North

21 Mar 2009
Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club
<http://www.w4bti.org>
Talk-In: 146.880 - offset (PL100)
Contact: Don V. Heppe, W5LGK
1425 Ridgeway Drive
Acworth, GA 30102
Phone: 404-630-1249
Email:
W5LGK@bellsouth.net
Marietta, GA
Jim Miller Park
2245 Callaway Road

11 Apr 2009
North Carolina State Convention (Raleigh Hamfest)
Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
<http://www.rars.org/hamfest>
Talk-In: 146.640 - (no tone)
Contact: Chuck Littlewood, K4HF
2005 Quail Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC 27609
Phone: 919-872-6555
Fax: 919-872-6555
Email: k4hf@arrl.net
Raleigh, NC
Exposition Center Building
1025 Blue Ridge Road

2 May 2009
South Carolina Section Convention (2009 Upstate Hamfest)
Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society
<http://www.upstatehamfest.org>
Talk-In: 146.61
Contact: Rusty Kirkpatrick, AJ4RK
351 Old Georgia Road
Moore, SC 29369
Phone: 864-978-7519 (Days) or 864-576-9643 (Eves)
Email:
aj4rk@bellsouth.net
Spartanburg, SC
Piedmont Interstate Fairgrounds
575 Fairgrounds Road

6 Jun 2009
Georgia State Convention
Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC)
<http://www.atlantahamfest.com>
Talk-In: 146.820 (PL 146.2)
Contact: John Talipsky, N3ACK
385 Madison Chase Drive
Lawrenceville, GA 30045
Phone: 678-618-2190
Fax: 678-985-2906
Email:
johnn3ack@comcast.net
Marietta, GA
Jim Miller Park
2245 Callaway Road

27-28 June 2009
ARRL Field Day
Greenwood Amateur Radio Society's Field Day will be held this year in the '96' park, in Ninety Six, South Carolina. Come on out and enjoy operating in a casual "contest" that demonstrates both emergency operating styles and quick rapid fire contacts. Many different modes and bands will be on display, including satellite and digital modes such as PSK 31.
Please contact Adam WJ4X@amsat.org for more information!

22-23 Aug 2009
West Virginia State Convention
West Virginia State Amateur Radio Council
<http://www.qsl.net/wvsarc>
Talk-In: 145.39 (Alt. 147.88)
Contact: Patrick Shea, N8MIN
27 Jackson Street
Weston, WV 26452-1513
Phone: 304-269-3468
Fax: 304-427-2187
Email:
pshea@citynet.net
Jackson's Mill, WV
WVU Convention Center & Jackson's Mill 4-H Center
Jackson's Mill Road

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE YOUR HAMFEST OR
EVENT LISTED HERE, PLEASE CONTACT
ADAM, WJ4X@AMSAT.ORG**