

The Signal Report

A Publication of the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS)

VOLUME 22 ISSUE 04

APRIL 2024

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

W4GWD@ARRL.NET

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

2024 CLUB

OFFICERS

President

Kevan Nason, N4XL

Vice President

David Collins, N4WDC

Secretary

David Davenport, KY4GM

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
443.900 +

W4GWM/R
145.420- DV
W4DEW/R



Remember the Reason for the Season

APRIL 2024

The next GARS monthly meeting will be held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2330 Cokesbury Rd, Greenwood on **9 April 2024** 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 or have a question about net controllers please contact [Chris Ahif, KQ4GGG](#).

VE Exam Session

The next VE testing session is on **April 2, 2024**, 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!

Ken Trapnell	KQ4RB	Apr 4
David Hicks	KQ4JJE	Apr 5
David Davenport	KY4GM	Apr 22
Tedd Davison	AI4WN	Apr 26
Mike Willis	KN4SU	Apr 28

Happy Anniversary!

Aubrey (KO4UGN) & Grace Collins
Apr 28



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Some **notes on the GARS monthly meeting** held on March 12, 2024. We had approximately 19 present, 1 guest and 3 on zoom. Kevan N4XL in his first meeting as President opened up the meeting by asking members to identify themselves and what they spent the most time doing in amateur radio. He later asked members what they expected from the club. There were 2 presentations on “Go Bags”. Dave KY4GM & Dave WT3M both showed and discussed the components of there Go Bags. (pictures below) Both were well received with lots of discussion. There was also discussion on the newsletter (see my remarks on next page) The club trailer will be moved to Wesley Commons on 3-15, if not sooner. Thanks to both Al KB4RA & Dave N4WDC for making this happen. As a reminder the trailer needs work, if you'd like to volunteer in assisting with this please contact [Kevan](#). The summer Field Day was discussed, it will be 22-23 June this year. The theme this year is “Be Radio Active.” Dave KY4GM will coordinate with the town of 96 for use of the pavilion in the city park. Di, N4DLL will once again coordinate the clubs participation in the event. Kevan N4XL discussed operating the station for 24 hours. “Field Day is officially an operating event not a contest. Its purpose is to demonstrate the communications ability of the amateur radio community in simulated emergency situations for as long as necessary.” Any comments or suggestions should be directed to [Kevan](#) or [Di](#).

Mike



Dave, WT3M



Dave, KY4GM

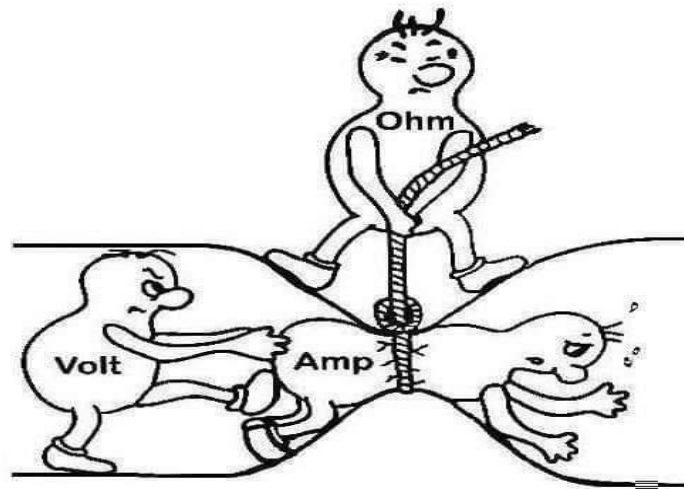


Dave, WT3M



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Updated South Carolina ARES/RACES Tactical Communications Plan (contains lots of information, Ka4csm)

<https://ares-sc.org/tactical-communications-plan/>



Kevan N4XL was the Net Controller on the GARS Simplex net held at 630pm on 3-28. Three people attempted to check in to the net, 2 were successful one could hear Kevan but could not be heard by them. The next simplex net will be 4-24-24 on 147.570 (no tone or offset). **In order to gather meaningful data as many as possible should attempt to join this net. You don't need to be an ARES participant to join. Should you attempt to check in but cannot be heard the net controller needs to know this contact either [Kevan](#) or [Dave](#) also report any station you may hear along with a signal report.**

My thoughts of staying on as editor of our newsletter.



I'm not opposed to staying on as editor for awhile longer. I'm just not convinced that many in our membership read them. As I listen to our nets I hear people not knowing the date of the next club meeting or VE testing or what hamfests are coming up etc. I have spent several hours a week working on the newsletter for more than 7 years. Not complaining I actually enjoy it. It's one way I can give back to the club. I can't contribute much involving anything physical due to my back, both shoulder and knee replacements. That being said I do wish more people would contribute articles or anecdotes etc.

Of course if anyone wants to step up and take over publishing the newsletter on a monthly basis. I'll assist you and step aside now.

Mike, KA4CSM

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Ask an Elmer

We are trying something new, with not much support to date. Di N4DLL, had the idea of beginning an “Ask the Elmer” column each month in our newsletter. If you have a question or simply wondered about something ask one of our Elmers. The Elmer will answer your question and send his response to both to you and me. State in your email if you want to remain anonymous. I will post in the next newsletter for all to see and learn from..

[Russ Myrick, KN4TUI](#)
[Kevan Nason, N4XL](#)
[Dave Davenport, KY4GM](#)
[Mitch Litwer KJ4JGP](#)

Mike

Select your Elmer and send in your question.

Ask the Elmers (an advice column for Hams)

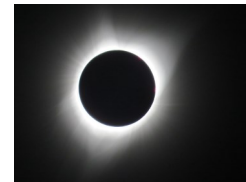
Dear Elmers,

I heard there is a solar eclipse happening sometime this year (2024). When will it happen, and will we be able to see it in South Carolina? Also, does a solar eclipse cause problems with ham radio transmissions?

-- Just wondering

Dear Just Wondering,

Thank you for your question.



Seeing a solar eclipse, especially a total solar eclipse, is a truly awesome experience, and a rare occurrence in most people’s lives. Hopefully, you experienced the total solar eclipse that occurred over South Carolina on August 21, 2017.

This year, on April 8th, another solar eclipse will occur across part of Mexico and North America. Most Americans will be able to see it in some form, but the distance between your location and the path of totality will determine how much of the sun will be covered by the moon. The path of totality, the complete covering of the sun by the moon, of this eclipse is too far to the north and west of South Carolina for us to see a total eclipse. However, we will see a partial eclipse for 2 hours 33 minutes, with 79.1% of the sun obscured by the moon at the peak of the eclipse. Depending on local weather, the partial eclipse which will be visible throughout all 48 contiguous U.S. states. The eclipse will begin at 2:06 p.m., with totality between 3:19 p.m. and 3:23 p.m., and will end at 4:33 p.m.

As to whether a solar eclipse affects ham radio signals, the answer is yes, When the moon blocks the sun during a solar eclipse, there is a noticeable change in the Ionosphere, or upper atmosphere of the Earth. This change in the Ionosphere affects radio communications, including ham radio.

73, The Elmers



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SOLAR ECLIPSE WILL OCCUR SOON

A total solar eclipse that will be seen across North America will occur on Monday, April 8th. It will be the last of its kind in the US for the next 20 years.

Hams across North America are asked to participate in a study about how the ionosphere functions by getting on the air to help scientists in a series of ionospheric experiments.

Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation (HamSCI) has presentations for hams interested in participating on Wednesday, March 27 at 8:00 PM (Eastern) - 5:00 PM (Pacific)*, and that same day at 10:00 PM (Eastern) - 7:00 PM (Pacific)*. Both 30-minute presentations will held on Zoom and they will feature HamSCI's Festivals of Eclipse Ionospheric Science (FoEIS). The presenters will take your questions during the presentations.

Here is the [link to the presentations](#).

The program will start by covering HamSCI's basis and purpose, and quickly move into why they are conducting experiments, how hams and shortwave listeners (SWLS) can participate, and what they hope to learn from the event. Along the way, they will discuss why the science behind the event is important to users of the high-frequency radio spectrum - including amateur radio operators!

Learn about the HamSCI's eclipse-focused operating events:

[Solar Eclipse QSO Party](#) (SEQP)

[Gladstone Signal Spotting Challenge](#) (GSSC)

[Medium Wave Recording Event](#)

[Time Delay of Arrival \(TDOA\) Event](#)

[Grape 1 Doppler Receiver Project](#)



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A big thank you and gratitude to [George Crane, W3RXF](#) who served as the GARS Secretary for many years and has recently stepped down as one of our Net Controllers. Thank you for your commitment to our club George. We look forward to seeing you at future meetings/events.

Thank you to Al West, KB4RA for stepping up as our newest Net Controller.

This is why women live longer...



Using COAX as a counterpoise

[Natalie 2M Retention YT Meta \(youtube.com\)](#)

The new Extra Class FCC Element 4 Question pool becomes effective July 1, 2024



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participating in a Winter Field
Day on Jan 27/28 2024.



Please contact [Jack](#) Witt KN4SIK if you have any comments or suggestions for the GARS library. It is there for GARS members use. The Wall locker (located at Westminster Presbyterian Church) 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.



73, Amateur Radio Magazine, April 1961

[73-magazine-04-april-1961.pdf \(worldradiohistory.com\)](#)



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GARS VHF & UHF & Saluda (not on map) repeaters
Sorry its blurry but its the best I could do. Mike
Addresses and coordinates provided by Buddy W4DEW

443.9000
1117 Park Place Rd.
Greenwood S C
Lat 34-11-52
Lon 82-05-27

147.165
146 TV Tower Road
Laurens, SC
Lat 34-22-29
Lon 82-10-03

146.9100
475 Greenwood Highway
Saluda, SC
Lat 34-00-14
Lon 81-49-30



**SC House Bill 4549 “The Amateur Radio Antenna Protection Act”
Summary**, provided by Di, N4DLL

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=4549&session=125&summary=B>

Full Text of same bill

https://www.scstatehouse.gov/sess125_2023-2024/



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February 2024 National Traffic System Report for South Carolina compiled by
Section Traffic Manager Dean, N4AJK

February 2024 Net Reports, Abridged

Net / Check Ins / Traffic / Sessions / Reported By

Anderson Radio Club 2m Net / 662 / 29 / 29 / W3SUE

Blue Ridge 2 Meter Net / 1453 / 35 / 29 / W4DJW

C.A.R.E.S. Net / 45 / 2 / 4 / N6WWG

Carolinas Net / 264 / 102 / 58 / AA4MP

Carolinas Slow Net / 119 / 29 / 29 / KI4KZS

CARC Sunday Net / 107 / 4 / 4 / KU5N

CARC Simplex Net / 36 / 2 / 2 / KU5N

Florence ARC 70/5/4/ WB6GUC

Greenwood ARC 2m Net / 79 / 5 / 5 / N4XL

Greenwood ARC 70cm Net / 23 / 9 / 9 / N4XL

Lancaster County ARC 2m Net / 19 / 0 / 4 / N4WMB

PALS Net / 753 / 31 / 29 / KK4MQN

Ridge ARC VHF Net / 118 / 15 / 12 / KD4HDR

Ridge ARC HF Net / 2 / 1 / 7 / KD4HDR

SC Statewide ARES HF Net / 81 / 12 / 4 / KN4KRZ

SCSSB Net / 1129 / 89 / 29 / KG4RUE

South Carolina VHF/UHF ARES Net / 247 / 4 / 8 / KI4RAX

HAMFESTS & EVENTS

[Ridge Amateur Radio Club Tailgate party](#), 4-6-24

[Raleigh Amateur Radio Society Hamfest](#), 4-6-24

[Solar QSO Party Rules 4-8-24](#) <https://hamsci.org/seqp-rules>

[Rookie Roundup \(arrl.org\)](#) SSB, 4-21-24

[Columbia Spring Swapfest](#), 4-27-24

[Savannah Hamfest and Swap meet](#), 4-27-24
https://coastalamateurradiosociety.net/wpW4LHSblog/?page_id=1357

[Dayton Hamvention](#) 5-17-19

CLASSIFIEDS

Nothing submitted

-
- * 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>
-

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	Cynthia 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