



**Our mailing address**  
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**

# The Signal Report

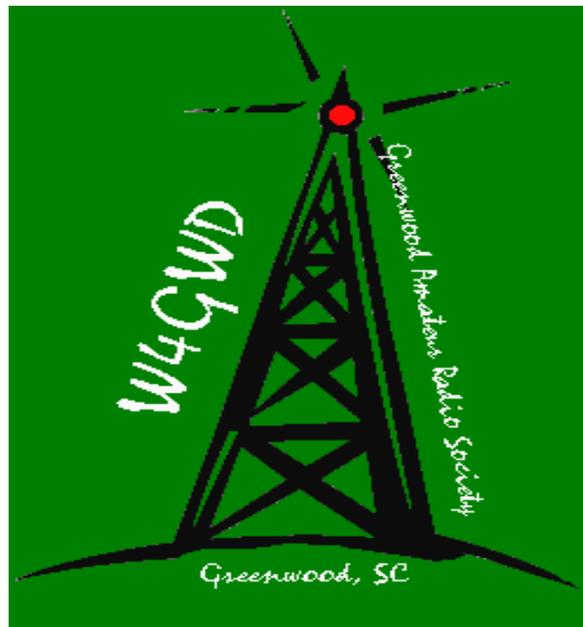
A Publication of the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS)

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

[W4GWD@ARRL.NET](mailto:W4GWD@ARRL.NET)



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

The GARS D-Star repeater 145.420's the new amplifier was recently installed.

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

## June 2024

The next GARS monthly meeting will be held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2330 Cokesbury Rd, Greenwood on **11 June 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 **June 4, 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. **Walk-ins are now welcomed**, no preregistering, bring \$15 cash, must have FRN & two forms of ID, contact [Tommy, K4XB](#) with any questions

## Congratulations!!

### Happy Birthday!

Kevan Nason	N4XL	Jun 5
David Russ	K4DWR	Jun 9
Adam Shirley	WJ4X	Jun 15
George Crane	W3RXF	Jun 20
Diantha Litwer	N4DLL	Jun 24

### Happy Anniversary!

Mike (KA4CSM) & Sherree Wills
Jun 2
Earl (KC4AXY) & Betty Jean Powell
Jun 5
Tedd (AI4WN) & Gail Davison
Jun 15
Andrew (KU4LAW) & Dawn Hodges
Jun 21



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The summer Field Day was discussed, it will be 22-23 June this year. The theme this year is “Be Radio Active.” **Dave KY4GM** has received approval with the town of 96 for use of the city park on both days. (see map below) **Kevan N4XL** discussed operating the station for 24 hours. Set up will be the morning of the 22nd then 24 hr operation through morning of the 23. Bring your own food/water. “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.” It will be further discussed at the 06-11 monthly meeting.



Map provided by Di, N4DLL

10 x 20



20 K Generator



10 x 10



Generac GP 3300I



**Chris KQ4GGG** has acquired all the above plus Light Kits, Light Strings, extension cord, 2 tables a new GARS table cloth plus a 2nd Generator 3500 that was used last year

**Tedd AI4WN**, shared his thoughts on Field Day: It is all about amateur radio operators participation in the legacy era of Amateur Radio. You must remember that from 1916 to 1933 the evolution of AM radio was a gigantic leap in engineering pioneered by unpaid hobbyists. Field day was a way to demonstrate that with short notice amateur radio operators could set up and communicate with other operators from across the county. The first Field Day in 1933 was governed by rules that evolved every year to encourage the maximum participation of USA licensed operators. During a few years of World War II, amateur radio was embargoed and field day did not happen.



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## Mystery Shack

David Collins N4WDC forwarded this picture of a GARS members nicely organized shack. Anyone know who it belongs to? Forward answers to [David](#). Correct answers will be posted in the next newsletter. If you would like your shack to be featured send a picture and any info you'd like published to [Mike](#).

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[Blind-hams Groups.io](#)





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A recent change to the GARS VE testing session procedures has been implemented. Walk-ins are now being allowed providing they have received a FRN number. Examinee must bring with them two forms of identification, and \$15.00 in cash. If testing for General or Extra they must bring a copy of their current license. Contact [Tommy K4XB](#) if you have any questions.

*Tommy K4XB*

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Anyone interested in free online Amateur Radio Classes, see below  
Submitted by Kevan N4XL

SCHEART will be offering Ham (Amateur) Radio classes in June of 2024. This is for Technician, General and Extra. All classes will be running from **June 10th through 14th** from 6pm to 9pm. Some classes will not take the whole week but will finish when all the material is covered. These classes run concurrently. You can only choose one of the classes.

We're presenting the classes by video conference using Zoom (<http://zoom.us>) If you didn't have the time to attend in person before, now is your chance. Email me at [midlandsve@gmail.com](mailto:midlandsve@gmail.com). I'll forward your email to your instructor, They will send you an invitation to the video conference.

Here's a tutorial on how to use zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/az6ms9ua>

If you've never used videoconferencing before, Here's a couple of tips:

Use a headset or headphones. Any headphones that plug into your computer will do. Even the wired ones that came with your cell phone, if it's using the 1/8" plug. This eliminates feedback when you unmute your microphone.

Mute your microphone when not speaking to the instructor. Otherwise, the class will hear any background noise from your computer.

Find the text/chat function and use it.

**New hams must start out with the Technician course.**

All classes are free. If you wish to attend, RSVP to [MidlandsVE@gmail.com](mailto:MidlandsVE@gmail.com). I'll need a real name, not a handle. **Be sure to tell me which class you want to take and include you cell number.**

Testing will be offered on **June 15th** at 08:30 am at SCETV headquarters, 1041 George Rogers Blvd in Columbia. We'll take care of the administrative work first and start the testing at when the admin work is done. Bring a photo ID, an original and copy of any Ham Radio license, your FRN and \$10.00 cash. If a child is testing and has no photo I.D., bring a copy of a birth certificate. Also, once the FCC processes your application, they will want an additional \$35.00.

**If you are testing for the first time, you must bring your FCC Registration Number (FRN), which you can get here:** <https://tinyurl.com/yayymn28>

If you're coming for testing only, email us so we can plan accordingly.

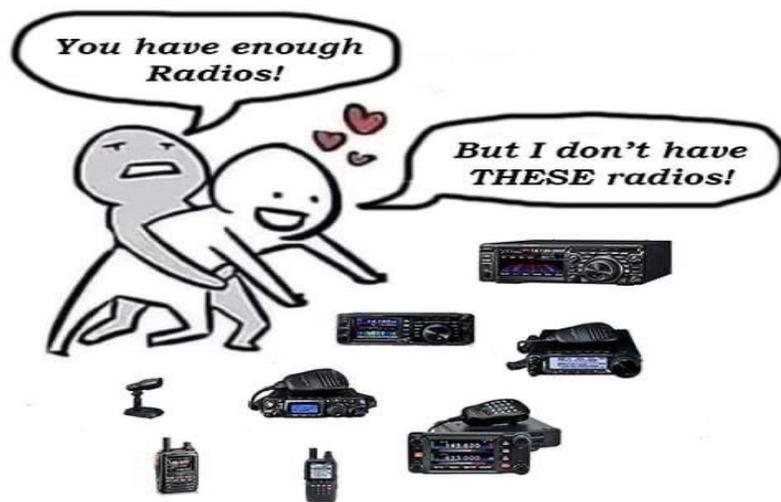


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participating in a Winter Field Day on Jan 27/28 2024.

**David KY4GM** has stepped down from being the Greenwood County Emergency Coordinator. **Adam Shirley WJ4X** is the new Greenwood County Emergency Coordinator. Anyone interested in ARES or RACES should contact [Adam WJ4X](#). One of the prerequisites to this is becoming a volunteer at Self Regional. This involves a background check, physical, & proof of some shots. These are necessary to allow access to the amateur radio room located at Self.



Please contact [Jack 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. **Mitch KJ4JGP** has recently donated several books on antennas.



Ham Radio Today, June 1983

[HRT-1983-06.pdf \(worldradiohistory.com\)](#)



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# Ask an Elmer

We are not getting much support for this to date. **If you'd like it to continue please support it.** 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.

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There were 23 members and 1 on zoom in attendance at our May 14 monthly meeting. Field Day was discussed and covered elsewhere in this newsletter. GARSFEST was also discussed in detail. It will be held at St. Mark UMC. **Al West, KB4RA** gave a presentation on the facilities available to us at St. Marks. Setup for it will occur on January 10 with GARSFEST on January 11, we will close it up at 2 pm then cleanup and out by 5 pm. We will have a food truck on site. No tailgating (largely due to insurance) or VE testing will be offered. There is a children's playground available for use. **Di, N4DLL** gave a talk on the GARS visit to 96 Middle School where GARFS members gave 6 graders a class on CW, they were very attentive. (article & pictures next page)

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Anyone interested in becoming a VE with W5YI should contact [Dave Collins N4WDC](#). In order to be eligible you must hold a General, Extra or advanced license. Email him with any questions.

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**Kevan N4XL** received a request from a jeep owners group for our club to give a class and demonstration of how amateur radio could enhance there off road-ing experience. More details to follow as they become available.

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



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GARS Guest Presenters at Edgewood Middle School, submitted by Di N4DLL , pictures on next page

At 11:40 p.m. on April 14, 1912, the RMS Titanic, in route from Southampton, England to New York City, struck an iceberg in the North Atlantic Ocean. Until the ship sank two hours and forty minutes later at 2:18 a.m. on April 15th, wireless operators Jack Phillips and Harold Bride transmitted increasingly desperate messages for help, using both the older emergency code CQD (Come Quickly Distress) and the newer code (SOS).

At 2:10 a.m. Phillips sends this message: SOS SOS CQD CQD MGY. MGY was the Titanic's call sign. Phillips final transmission at 2:17 a.m. reads, CQD this is MGY...CQD this is ---

On April 15, 2024, 112 years to the day the RMS Titanic sank, students in Edith Bryan's 6<sup>th</sup> grade English Language Arts classes at Edgewood Middle School in Ninety Six, spent the day with GARS members learning about the electromagnetic spectrum, the use of ham radio in emergency situations, Morse Code, and the Titanic. The students were completing a six-week study of the Titanic covering everything from the construction of the ship, to the different classes of society onboard, to who was ultimately responsible for the disaster.

KJ4JGP (Mitch), started each 90 minute class period with a lesson on the electromagnetic spectrum and how the Titanic transmitted and received wireless messages. Students then translated their first names into Morse Code, made Morse Code name bracelets, and got hands-on practice sending Morse Code with N4WDC (David Collins), W3RXF (George Crane), KN4SIK (Jack Witt) and KB4RA (Al West). KN4SIK, our resident Titanic specialist, discussed some little-known facts about the Titanic and KB4RA shared a story about his grandfather who gambled away his ticket on the Titanic. Each class period concluded with the students viewing a 5-minute clip from the video, "Titanic Text Messages – A Streaming Log of Distress Transmissions." You can view it at [https://youtu.be/FxRN2nP\\_9dA?si=hzPcS7nPGSuGX5e3](https://youtu.be/FxRN2nP_9dA?si=hzPcS7nPGSuGX5e3).

With one 90-minute class in the morning and one in the afternoon, the GARS group ate lunch in the school cafeteria and pronounced the food to be very good. In addition to providing lunch for our group, Ms. Bryan also gifted each presenter with a gift card to Chick-fil-a.



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jk

## HAMFESTS & EVENTS

[Atlanta Ham festival](#) 6-1-24

## 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](mailto: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
KK4RVA	Colie Floyd	Tuesday, April 9, 2024
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



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Call	First name last name	Date of Death
KC4IEL	Brenton Bailey	Friday, May 15, 2009
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