



Our mailing address
Greenwood Amateur Radio
Society
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Greenwood, SC, 29649

2024 CLUB

OFFICERS

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Jack Witt, KN4SIK

The W4GWD Repeater Network

147.165+ t107.2
443.900 +

W4GWM/R
145.420- DV
W4DEW/R

The Signal Report

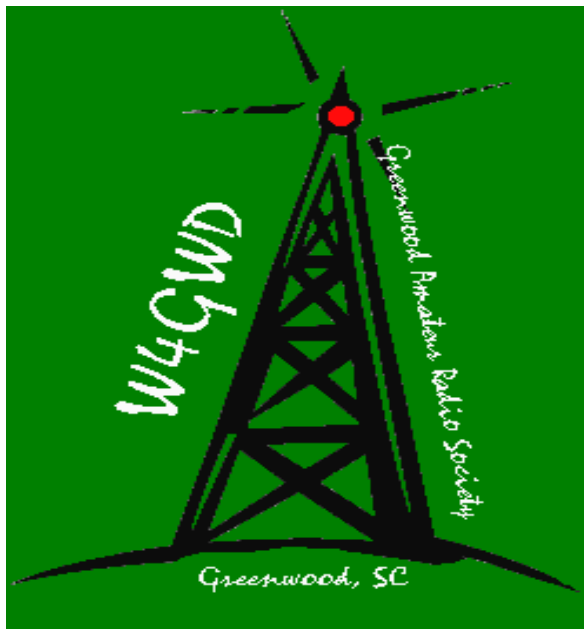
A Publication of the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society (GARS)

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AUGUST 2024

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

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

August 2024

The next GARS monthly meeting will be held at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2330 Cokesbury Rd, Greenwood on **August 13 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 **August 6, 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!

Michael Wills KA4CSM Aug 9

David Strawhorne WT3M Aug 12

Sherree Wills Fmly Mbr Aug 15

Darrell Manning AF4E Aug 31

Happy Anniversary!

David (N4WDC) & Regine Collins
Aug 12

Mitchell (KJ4JGP) &
Diantha Litwer (N4DLL)
Aug 15



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



"If you are interested in ARES/RACES, we are having a meeting at 5:30PM August 12th at the Courthouse EOC. Please contact Adam@wj4x.net if you need any details."

Adam WJ4X

Kevan N4XL and Michael N2PKD of the Spartanburg Amateur Radio Club gave a presentation to the 2nd Battalion South Carolina State Guard about Amateur Radio is, its capabilities, and what services it could provide to the State Guard in times of emergencies. The Guard was very appreciative and expressed the desire to explore opportunities with both the state ARES group and individual radio clubs in the 14 upstate counties in their assigned area of responsibility. *Kevan N4XL*



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.



Short Wave Radio, August 1934

[Short-Wave-Radio-1934-08.pdf \(worldradiohistory.com\)](#)



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Common Sense Rules for using Ham Radio Repeaters A good refresher submitted by Darrell AF4E

1. Listen, listen and listen some more to make sure the repeater is not already in use before making a call out to someone. Give people enough time to pick up the mic or walk into the room to respond before calling multiple times in a short period of time. If they don't respond, give it a few minutes and try again.
2. Identify with your call sign when you come onto the repeater if nobody else is talking to alert other users that you are there and available to talk to. It is also a good idea to give your location so people who listen via scanning devices know where you are and/or which repeater you are using.
3. Give the repeater a chance to "drop" between transmissions. This allows the repeater time out timer to reset AND it gives other people a chance to get a word in edge-wise. Don't get in the habit of "shot gunning" the repeater and not give others a chance to comment on the conversation. This is especially important on a popular and busy repeater! Avoid lengthy transmissions, conversations and other activities that may tie up the repeater and keep it from being used by other people – SHARE! Most repeaters have a 2-3 minute time out timer. Just RE-key the repeater to reset it.
4. Do not interrupt existing conversations unless you have something meaningful to add. Also yield your conversations to recognized activities such as RACES, ARES, Skywarn or a "net".
5. "Doubling" is also highly discouraged. Give the other guy a chance to talk! Keying up too quickly and covering up another user is just plain rude.
6. Use plain English in speaking to others. Do not use CB radio lingo. Because FM repeaters have an amazingly "clean" sound to it, the use of a lot of verbal shorthand (like that used in CW operations, Q signals and phonetics) is usually discouraged.
7. Emergency communications take precedence over all other communications on the repeater – if someone declares an Emergency, allow them to interrupt traffic. ALWAYS yield to emergency traffic.
8. Discussions of selling anything other than ham radio gear is highly discouraged and is not allowed under FCC rules.
9. Avoid political soap boxing. Do not engage in personal antagonisms. You can talk about pretty much anything on the repeaters – however, discussions about politics and religion are discouraged. Things can get personal very quickly. Users are expected to be polite, act like responsible adults and keep confrontation to a minimum. Watch your language, repeaters are "G-Rated" 24 hours a day.

Report any UN-authorized use of the repeater to the repeater owner or person responsible for the operation of the repeater. Only licensed Amateur Radio Operators are authorized to use ANY radio repeater. The repeaters are usually open to any and all licensed Amateur Radio Operators.

Jamming another user or the repeater is against FCC rules, common sense and simple social rules of adult conduct.

Support your local repeaters, repeater owners and local clubs.

Have FUN!



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GARS participated in a jeep rally fundraiser in support of the Special Olympics. It was held on July 13 at the Greenwood Airport. We were invited to set up, show some rigs & be available to answer questions about amateur radio and alternative forms of communication.



GARS tent on left, our trailer on right



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To many jeeps coming & going to get a count. Many different makes, styles, & builds





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People often ask me about End Fed Half Wave antennas. I've only skimmed it so far, but here's a link to what seems to be a well prepared presentation about them. Those of you who have one or are thinking of using an EFHW might find it useful. I did notice that although he talks a bit about common mode current, I was less than thrilled about his not stressing enough (in the portion I listened to) how important it is to use a robust current balun to eliminate it. Many successful hams would not recommend using a simple coil of coax or depending on coax laying on the ground to eliminate common mode current. Although they can reduce current on the shield those methods do not usually provide enough impedance to be effective. Despite that criticism, I thought he had many sound ideas and I plan to sit down and closely listen to everything he has to say since I'm considering erecting an EFHW myself.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BX_DPoZbV4

Kevan N4XL



ELECTRICAL THEORY BY JOSEPH LUCAS abit of humor submitted by
Dave AG4GR

Positive ground depends on proper circuit functioning, which is the transmission of negative ions by retention of the visible spectral manifestation known as "smoke". Smoke is the thing that makes electrical circuits work. We know this to be true because every time one lets the smoke out of an electrical circuit, it stops working. This can be verified repeatedly through empirical testing.

For example, if one places a copper bar across the terminals of a battery, prodigious quantities of smoke are liberated and the battery shortly ceases to function. In addition, if one observes smoke escaping from an electrical component such as a Lucas voltage regulator, it will also be observed that the component no longer functions. The logic is elementary and inescapable!

The function of the wiring harness is to conduct the smoke from one device to another. When the wiring springs a leak and lets all the smoke out of the system, nothing works afterward.



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Extracted from the Swamp Fox Contest Group newsletter July 2024.
written by Kevan N4XL

This wasn't in the reflector, but it is a good place to reiterate this point. You folks who think if you only had a better radio or had 1500 watts then you too would be at the front of the pack should reread N2OG's comment immediately above five or ten times. Yeah, those things you want do help, but propagation is king. All you really need is a decent antenna(s), a decent radio, and to improve your contesting skills. Then when propagation between areas is similar you will place well. EU is the primary source of Q's and mults for us during contests. New England has about a 7 dB advantage to EU over us due to their geographic location. That's like them running 800 watts compared to our 100. We **MUST** be better operators than them or have better propagation to be on a level playing field. Since we can't control propagation, we must sharpen our skills and put up the best antennas we Page 5 of 18 can. A new amplifier or radio isn't anywhere near as important as propagation, skill, local terrain effects on Take Off Angles, and antennas. By the way... them running 800 watts and us only 100 isn't anywhere near as significant an advantage as many hams think it is. It is only a bit over 1 S unit on the other person's meter. It's not even the difference between S9 and S9+10 dB. We **CAN** be competitive from SC if we're good enough. We just normally won't beat the superstations or the very topmost operators – but we will every now and then when propagation is better for us or when we spend more BIC time than they do.



Below is a very informative newsletter from Quicksilver Radio. Among other things it contains an excellent video on crimp kits and installing connectors. It is posted solely for your information & evaluation and is not being endorsed by the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society.

Mike

newsletter@qsradio.com

jk

HAMFESTS & EVENTS

DX and Contest Convention August 15, Huntsville, AL. W4dxcc.com

Shelby Hamfest August 30—September 1, 2024 <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

CLASSIFIEDS

Nothing submitted

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- * 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>

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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
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