



The

GARzette



The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

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www.GARS.org

**Don't forget to support our
advertisers at the back of the
GARzette.**



**GARS January Exhibition of the
Technical aspects of Amateur Radio
Held at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds**

**GARS Meeting: Ice Cream Social at Harbins Park – Field Day site
Tuesday June 11, 2024 at 7:00 PM**



President's Message

From the President...

Happy June everyone and welcome to summer. While we've had some interesting solar weather recently, it is still a great time to enjoy the peak of this solar cycle.

While ultimately the **Dacula Memorial Day parade** was cancelled this year due to bad weather, that didn't stop GARS members from showing up in full force ready to work. As Earl AF4FG said, we were within 15 minutes of being full setup and ready to roll. Thanks everyone who showed and also helped with the quick breakdown; we got everyone out of there within minutes of the rain hitting. Let's hope for better weather next year.

I also enjoyed getting to several of our members at the recent **Atlanta HamFest**. Thanks to Dallas N4DDM to helping coordinate the forums and also man the table for those interested in GARS.

Coming up:

Field Day is just a few weeks again and I hope to see several of you out at Harbins Park on June 22 through 23. We are still looking for a potential GOTA station to help out and as always, we need operators to come help make the event a success. Come early to help with antenna setup and stay for The food. Lunch, dinner, snacks, midnight ice cream, and breakfast – hopefully no one leaves hungry. Socialize, operate, and just in enjoy the day with fellow hams.

For more information, please visit the [Field Day page](#) on the website.

73,

Kevin W4KIB
Club President

GARS Repeaters and Other Communications

<p><u>2 Meter Repeaters</u></p> <p>147.075(+) MHz Tone 82.5 147.255(+) MHz Tone 107.2</p> <p><u>1.25 Meter Repeater</u></p> <p>224.580(-) MHz Tone 100.0, 1.6 MHz Offset</p> <p><u>70 Cm Repeaters</u></p> <p>444.525(+) MHz Tone 82.5 442.100(+) MHz Tone 100 442.325(+) MHz Tone 100</p>	<p><u>6 Meter Repeater</u></p> <p>53.110 (-1 MHz) No Tone (Offline for Maintenance)</p> <p>Other Resources:</p> <p><u>APRS</u></p> <p>144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR</p> <p><u>D-STAR (WD4STR)</u></p> <p>145.060 + (1.4 MHz) 440.550 + (5 MHz)</p>	<p>6M Currently down</p> <p>147.075 Operational in Snellville</p> <p>147.255 Operational in Snellville</p> <p>224.580 Operational in Grayson</p> <p>442.100 Operational at Goshen Springs Rd, Norcross</p> <p>442.325 Operational in Buford</p> <p>444.525 Operational in Snellville</p> <p>Link remote receivers being added</p>
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Notable Web Links

Ham Radio Glossary: <https://noji.com/hamradio/glossary.php> a very comprehensive listing provided by Noji Ratzlaff KNØJI. On his site there is also a lot of information about getting started in ham radio.

Need Help – Let GARS Elmers answer your questions

Send an email to elmers@gars.org with the subject listing the area (like Antennas, Repeaters, Digital, DMR etc.) of your query to get to GARS Elmer volunteers.

About the GARzette

The *GARzette* is the official monthly newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the Amateur Radio art.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Previously copyrighted submissions cannot be accepted for reprinting unless permission from the appropriate publisher is provided in writing along with the information being submitted. If reprints are from publications allowing their unrestricted use, please include a copy of the printed permission contained in the publication.

If possible, bring your articles to the monthly meeting in Microsoft Word or rich text (.rtf) or text or HTML format or by e-mail to editor@gars.org. Artwork can be accepted in most any graphics format and can be submitted via e-mail to the same address. Alternate means of submittal can be arranged when necessary.

In keeping with the Amateur Radio spirit, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of The *GARzette* articles by other Amateur Radio club newsletters provided that proper credit is given to the individual author and *The GARzette*.

The GARzette is published each month with the assistance of Karen KI4HPP and Kyle W4KDA who print copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the newsletter electronically.

Deadline for submissions is the 28th of each month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

For additional information view our Website at: <http://www.gars.org> [PS— Articles to publish in the *GARzette*, either written by GARS

members or published elsewhere, are always welcome. —Ed.]

Newsletter Email: editor@gars.org Editor: Bob Hoffmann, K4CQO

GARS Personalized Mugs for sale – Bits Print and Press



**Jolie
Dellaneve-
Brown,
KO4AHI**



mailto:bitsprintandpress@gmail.com

GARS Meetings & Workshops

GARS Meetings and Workshops are held in-person at the EAA 690 Hangar, 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046.

Meetings and Workshops are OPEN to all, feel free to share your invite with others.

GARS Meetings Schedule (second Tuesday @ 7:00 PM): (these are the presentations)

- June 11 - Ice Cream Social and Field Day Preparations at Harbins Park in Dacula (our Field Day site)
- July 16 - Simple Get on the Air Antennas for HF, VHF, and UHF – Dallas N4DDM
- August 13 – What can I do with DMR – Bob Hoffmann K4CQO
- September 10 - Mobile Installations - Alex Kowalchuk AK4AM

Workshop Schedule (third Tuesday @ 7:00 PM): (these are the Hands-on Workshops)

- June 18 - Preps for Field Day, Installing and configuring N3FJP logging software
- July 16 - Get on the Air Antennas for HF, VHF, and UHF - Dallas Mellichamp N4DDM
- August 20 – What can I do with DMR – Bob Hoffmann K4CQO
- September 17 - Mobile Installations - Alex Kowalchuk AK4AM

GARS Meeting – June 11, 2024

The meeting in the month of Field Day (June) is always an Ice Cream Social held at the GARS Field Day site. Members and their family are invited to Harbins Park.

GARS Workshop – June 18, 2024

The workshop will be a finalization for the Field Day preparations for the 2-Day annual Field Day event held June 22nd & 23rd.

Feel free to bring any ham related questions you have including equipment setup and usage. We typically have 5 or more Elmers at each Workshop.

GARS would like to thank Kevin Igarashi-Ball W4KIB for his SOTA (Summits on the Air) presentation and the associated equipment Kevin uses when going to a summit.



GARS Happenings

20 Years ago in the June 2004 GARzette:

- Dave, KA4KKF, gave a preview of the upcoming Field Day
- There is a good “Member Spotlight” on Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV
- The Dacula parade went off, however there was rain in 2004 too, heavy before and light just as the parade started

You can always browse the GARzette archive at <http://www.gars.org/newsletters>. 73, Bob, K4CQO, GARzette Editor



Health and Wellbeing – Sandy Jackson, KJ4DRO

Look for this resource on [Email \(https://gars.org/contact/\)](mailto:https://gars.org/contact/) and use it as a means to convey information about a GARS family member or Silent Key notification.

Net Managers Corner

Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”

GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROL STATIONS!

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club with the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is very busy and active, and we use the Monday night net to get timely information out to our members. Weekly participation is needed to make our net function well. There is only a small group of very dedicated people who make the net happen each week, and we need more members to volunteer to serve as Net Control Stations (NCS) on a rotating basis.

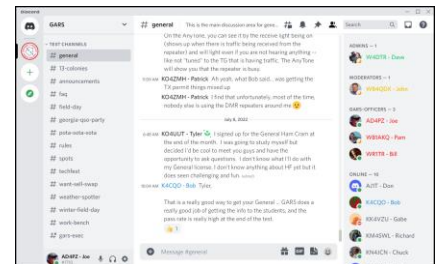
Out of almost 300 members, there are only five operators who serve as the NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Ray – N4GYN David – KA4KKF Kevin – W4KIB Bill - WD4AMC Chuck – KK4TKJ

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I would like to have more volunteers to fill NCS positions. I do plan and post the schedule months in advance. Any conditions will be accommodated that you as a rotating NCS need to place on the scheduling of your duties. If your plans change, I can make adjustments for the schedule to work, and I will make those changes happen as soon as I am notified of a problem. As Net Manager, I also send out reminders each week to let the NCS scheduled know he or she is NCS for the next Monday night net. In short, serving as a rotating NCS is a small duty but a great contribution to the club. The “Want, Swap, Sell Information Net” begins promptly at 19:30 every Monday night and runs about 30 minutes. As a scheduled NCS, you will request the assistance of a volunteer alternate NCS each time you have Net Control. Your simple duties will be to tune in to the GARS repeater, read the script, take a few notes and forward the information to me for record keeping.

Please lend a hand and contact (Chuck) via [Email \(https://gars.org/contact/\)](mailto:https://gars.org/contact/) to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is. See you on the Nets!

Don't forget about our Discord utility for GARS announcements, news, activity spotting and more. See <http://www.gars.org> top of the home page. This is a sample of Discord. →



The Dacula Memorial Parade

GARS went to the parade site, sat there broken hearted, tried to ...



And then the rain came



GARS went to breakfast



For the first time in – well, forever – the Memorial Day Parade was cancelled. Storms which had pelted the U.S. with rain, lightning and high winds all week finally blew into Dacula and for the first time in 31 years rained us out. We were 15 minutes from being set up when the parade organizer called it off and he was just in time. GARS and ARES loaded up as the rain started and the lightning began just as we were leaving a deserted parking lot. Thanks go to those wet volunteers who showed up.

DAVID	KA4KKF	RYAN	KJ4DRN	YOSEF	KQ4HIR	TIM	KJ4FTZ
LYNN	W4SHT	LARRY	AB4NX	STEVE	WB2OGY	RICARDO	W4RMZ
FISHER	W4LON	GLEN	W3WWT	ALEX	AK4AM	MARK	KN2TOD
BOB	K4CQQ	PAM	KJ4RYV	DON	KQ4LWU	ANDRE	W7ALS
KEVIN	W4KIB	JOLIN	KO4AHI	JIM	KQ4RNA	RICK	N4XYY
DALLAS	N4DDM	HAROLD	KJ4FPR	BILL	WR1TR	RICHARD	KM4SWL

Earl AF4FG

Finding and Using Primo Vintage Radios

Vintage Amateur Radio

de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



One of the goals and delights in collecting vintage radios is finding examples that “look like they came off the original factory production line just this morning.” Many readers know that I surround myself with such collectable items. Finding such radios is not easy – but it is far from impossible.

So, the general thinking amongst the ham radio operators, short wave listeners, and general radio aficionados is that such radios – be they receiver, transmitter, transceiver, accessory, or whatever – is the gem of the century when found. Their vision is of a prized vintage radio emitting golden tones of CW, AM and SSB from Ham Radio and Shortwave Broadcast stations while shining like a new penny with spotless paint, bright and clear vacuum tubes, and a nicely plated chassis. Maybe like this gem acquired from Nationwide Radio¹, a few months ago . . .



Hammarlund HQ-180C General Coverage Shortwave Receiver
Looking brand new today – but built in 1959, over 60 years ago

W9MXQ Collection

Radios such as this are rare – not unobtainium² – but not an everyday find. So, you locate such a prize and what do you do? There is a tendency to plug them in and enjoy their beautiful sound – radios of that time did have beautiful audio and some of them could be defined as hi-fidelity when connected to a high-quality speaker.

In this article I am going to describe several exceptional physical condition radios, how they sounded after their initial power up³, what steps took place, and how they sounded and operated when this extra step in the restoration process was done. Let me emphasize that this article assumes that you have followed a procedure to render the radio safe to operate from information provided in this series of articles³ or by having the process professionally done.

In the case of the Hammarlund HQ-180C, after confirming its power supply integrity it sounded okay but not stellar – not the way this rather spectacular receiver is supposed to sound. So, to this radio we apply the long-practiced enhancement technique used by Bob, W9DYQ, and me in our radio restorations. This is a wholly unscientific approach that has netted positive results for years for the two of us.

To start with, the Hammarlund HQ-180C Receiver (from 1959) was powered on with 105 to 125 volts AC, so the tubes were illuminated, pilot lamps showing, but the [SEND, RECEIVE, CAL] Switch set to SEND (which for the receiver running alone is Standby).

The receiver is allowed to sit, under power, in Standby, for hours. I keep it somewhere I can keep an eye on it – only letting it stay under power, out of my sight, for more than a few minutes. At night it is off or any significant times if I am not with it, it is off. I like to have the radio under power, on Standby, for a total of 24 to 36 hours. More – even more than 36 hours – is good.

Result? When returned to regular operation, it had reduced background noise, quieter operation (electrically) of switches, and improved audio response. Subjective? Yes. But I am familiar enough with these radios to know when I hear changes.

Now for another example of this technique . . .



Drake TR-4Cw/RIT HF Transceiver
 Cannot anywhere be distinguished from brand new

W9MXQ Collection

The HQ-180C was a pretty basic improvement and no other changes were needed. Some radios require more work. Here is an example of that in a fairly rare Drake TR-4CW/RIT HF Transceiver. These were very-late in TR-4 production and for a while was made in parallel at Drake to the TR7 HF Transceiver.

The TR-4Cw/RIT came to my collection as one of the most pristine radios I had ever seen to this point. After all, it was made nearly 44 years ago. As it turned out, it screeched and howled when it made any audio output at all.

This radio had two issues – one being that part of the tube filament string was lighting intermittently. That turned out to be a break inside the main chassis wiring harness that bundled perhaps two dozen wires securely laced together every inch or so. Opening the harness to find the broken wire was deemed impractical so the circuit was completed with an added wire wrapped into the harness. (Hmmm, one short paragraph on finding a broken wire in a harness – the process takes a lot longer than these few lines of text!)

When the wiring harness was corrected the radio came to life, received signals, and seemed relative

sensitive and selective. But it was still noticeably pinched in audio and seemed strangely unpleasant to the ears. It was setup to run with a trusted Drake AC-4 AC Power Supply. The MODE switch was set to SSB (although any position would be fine) and the RF Gain was set to zero. The radio was run under power for what became close to fifty hours. It was close to me when I write one of these articles, so I was able to monitor it for long periods over several days. In this case, I ran the radio with the top cover removed so I could confirm that the formerly open filament line had not developed into more similar issues. The open cabinet gave me a chance to look at the interior of this pristine radio that appeared to have been virtually unused. (That pristine look probably is because of its intermittent cable harness that was never successfully detected⁴.)

The end result was a radio that worked beautifully. The sounds warmed – that is, audio response became smoother, and the radio became a joy to the ear.

Another such radio that came in excellent condition – acknowledging that few will ever arrive looking like the Drake TR-4Cw/RIT – was a complete Kenwood TS-511S HF Transceiver station . . .



Kenwood TS-511S HF Transceiver and Accessories PS-511S, TS-511S, and VFO-5SS

(W9MXQ Collection)

This station – the first Kenwood model to be widely imported into the United States and Canada – was on the market in about 1971 (now 50 years ago). Henry Radio Stores imported Kenwood radios and sold them in their stores plus other stores.

This radio was the first Japanese radio I ever used – it was at Field Day in the mid-1970's in Bloomington, Illinois, my hometown. I really liked the radio and since getting seriously into collecting had looked for a good example. The one I found included the extremely rare matching VFO-5SS Remote VFO.

This beautiful radio package came to me with no discernable audio at all, most of the time. But it would occasionally come to life on receive – only to “go mad” in a bit in loud pops and howls then go completely dead. When working a try at transmitting netted arcing in the power amplifier cabinet (shielded compartment on the right rear of the chassis that enclosed the two 6LQ6 final amplifier tubes and associate tank circuitry.

Even though this radio successfully got beyond the initial tests and burn in with the PS-511S AC Power Supply, it ultimately was found to have an intermittent in the 300 volt “Low High Voltage” regulator, controlled by a 6BM8 High Mu-Triode Power Pentode. This tube crosses as also a 6GW8. The voltage adjust pot was open but responded to an attempt to repair it using parts salvaged from an inventory of Japanese radio parts.

This circuit also provides other outputs for screen voltages used for control of lower- level circuits. The resulting intermittent voltages were causing erratic behavior in lower-level circuits. Then a mechanical problem with the Plate Tuning Variable Capacitor in the tank circuit was causing arcing when the transmitter was engaged. With difficulty I was able to straighten the thin aluminum rotor side plates that

were somehow damaged by a former owner. (Try repairing variable capacitor plates sometime!!! Perhaps a stretch here but Newton’s Third law says, “**For every action, there is an equal and opposite reaction.**” He was right!!!)

Upon the completion of necessary repairs, this radio did not have the sound expected from a Kenwood radio⁵. To try and regain what I remember as an incredibly comfortable radio to use at that Field Day, years ago. I put the radio through the “power on but inactive period” described with the other radios in this article. In this case, the radio was powered on and the RF Gain set to zero. Also, the VFO-5SS was set to XMIT to make sure it was drawing power. In this case, about 24 hours were put on the radio while it sat in my office during the work week when I was in the house.

The net result was the smooth sound we know emitting from Kenwood Receivers and Transceivers. Success!! This radio also came from Mark Olson at Nationwide Radio¹. Mark presented the radio to me as having problems and giving me an accurate description of what he heard when trying to use it. Mark knows me as a technician capable of making necessary adjustments in a radio based on his accurate description of symptoms. I benefit from many years of study of radios, interpretation of designs, and careful listening to a seller to gauge the potential to make a malfunctioning radio work again.

Another Kenwood radio, a TS-940S HF Transceiver, that actually had problems. However, none of the problems could be tied to physical repair issues. It appeared only to be suffering from time on the shelf. Indications seemed to show a malfunctioning transmitter in that it would sometimes fail to operate. The radio would go into transmit mode, but no output would be present. In times when the transmitter was working, it was confirmed that both the Power Amplifier and Power Supply fans – which are thermostatically controlled – were coming on when needed. They were operating properly.

With continued work in getting the transmitter to work, it became more regular in operation (as mentioned) without ever finding a cause. Without knowing for sure that there was any issue, I did apply cleaner (Caig DeoxIT) to the power level potentiometer and also to the switch for XMIT (that manually enables transmit) and the VOX ON/OFF switch (that engages semi-automatic and full break-in CW keying and Voice Operated Phone modes).

This is the Kenwood involved in this project . . .



Kenwood TS-940S HF Transceiver with SP-940 Speaker Console

(W9MXQ Collection)

This radio is a work in process – it has responded to many hours – perhaps over fifty – of power on in standby. No hint of past problems has come up. After its time under power but not operating it was used on CW and SSB extensively with no hint of a problem. A week ago, it was returned to its box for storage and will soon be brought back on-line for another series of tests. This is the most dramatic example of the effectiveness of just letting a radio sit under power for many hours to allow its components to heat up and be exposed to operating voltages. In the case of the TS-940S, however, being all solid-state there is minimal heat involved in most of the circuitry – especially in standby mode.

On the bench as I write this installment is a long-time favorite that has not been operated for a long time. Unfortunately, radios need this long standby operation if allowed to sit idle for any significant period of time. This classic NCX-5 station is from about 1965 and was manufactured by the National Radio Company.



National NCX-5 Mark II HF Transceiver VX-501 Remote VFO – NCX-5 Transceiver – NCX-A AC Power Supply

(W9MXQ Collection)

This station was the subject of an article in this series several years ago. It is now on the bench idling in preparation of being used. This vintage radio dates from 1965 as the Mark II – the original version dates from 1964. This later version has an improved balanced modulator, among other things.

These are a few examples of radios that have been returned to life completely or enhanced by some attention to details. All of the radios in this article were also aligned as a part of their work – so what you see in this article is not the sum total of the return to operation. Power supply confirmation, control lubrication, contact cleaning, and alignment are all in addition to what is indicated in this article. Restoring vintage radios is a lot more than just bringing them up on primary power. Even that small step is potentially fatal to a radio if not done correctly and carefully. Radio restoration is very satisfying but definitely a skill that comes from long experience! Be careful and stay safe in your work with vintage radios – for your protection and the protection of the historic radio!!!

I appreciate that you read my articles. Remember that I am open to questions and comments anytime at my email address (W9MXQ@TWC.com).

A special note of thanks to my proofreader, Bob Bailey, W9DYQ. Bob is a lot more than a proofreader as he often adds commentary that makes it into the article.

Credits and Comments:

- ¹ One of my best sources of vintage radios of exceptional quality as well as OEM parts for same, is Nationwide Radio (<http://www.KE9PQ.com>) of Suamico, WI. The proprietor, Mark Olson, KE9PQ, is a good friend as well as the source for supporting parts to keep my vintage radio collection operating.
- ² I often use the term “unobtainium” to identify something impossible to find. “A highly desirable material that is hypothetical, scientifically impossible, extremely rare, costly, or fictional, or has some of these properties in combination.” This definition is from the Search Engine at <http://www.bing.com>.
- ³ The subject for last month’s article.
- ⁴ This is not the first time I have run into wiring issues in a radio. I once had a Drake R-4C that had an intermittent audio problem. Long story shortened – it was a never soldered wire to one audio power amplifier tube. The wrap on the wire was just enough for long periods of operation then it would fail. Soldering the connection cleared the problem for the long term. The number of hand soldered connections in these old radios meant that the chances for one being missed was present. I have run into it many times – and almost always in some pristine radio that likely was in that condition because it was just not dependable.
- ⁵ This radio, was the first of the Kenwood TS-500 series in North America. It was sold outside this region as the identical TS-515S. In Japan and outside North America it was preceded by the earlier TS-510S. The current Kenwood TS-590SG in North America owes its heritage to this TS-511S.

© W9MXQ



GARS Membership

New Members in May

Franco Bocalon (KQ4SAX)
Johana Cuello
Tim Brady (KJ4FHZ)
Adolfo Guzman (KQ4RMQ)

New Members: 4

**Total Members as of
June 1, 2024
355**

Birthdays in June

Mark Bell (N7GRB)
Harold Brown (KI4FPR)
William Carmichael (NV4Q)
Hope Collier (KO4PVM)
John Davis (WB4QDX)
Jim Gaffney (K4YNA)
Cara Guidry
James Hinkle (AG4ON)
Fisher Londono (W4LON)
Jim Marchand ()
JD Masters (KQ4ELD)
Ralph Matchette (KE4IHD)
Rick Morris (KD4VOJ)
Lew Newlin (KM4YWK)
Karen Ngowe (WZ4DVA)
Joshua North (W4JJN)
Brian Page (N4TRB)
Robert Pence (KM4AAP)
Michael Pringle (KQ4QHP)
Michael Ray (KO4SSU)
Charles Roberts (K4HFO)
Ron Rogers (WW8RR)
Kenneth Schroder (KC4SR)
Barry Sharp (N4CS)
Evelina Silva (KO4FQI)
Bill Van Duynhoven (KE4TVA)
Courtney Wagner (KN4GZI)
Blaine Wasden (W4SDN)
Kathy Wasden (KW4SDN)

Join GARS members for our:

- weekly lunch bunch at 11:30 AM most Fridays
- weekly breakfast gathering at 8:00 AM most Saturdays



Friday weekly gatherings are held at the [Vintage Home Kitchen](#) at:

[555 Progress Center Ave
Lawrenceville, GA 30043](#)

Saturday weekly gatherings are held at the [Cracker Barrel](#) at:

[75 Celebration Dr
Suwanee, GA 30024](#)

GARS MEMBERSHIP

Your current GARS membership status is shown in the monthly newsletter e-mail towards the bottom of the message. To become a GARS member, or to renew your GARS membership, please visit our website – <http://www.gars.org>. To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please contact the Membership Chair at [Email \(https://gars.org/contact/\)](mailto:membership@gars.org) with any changes to your Membership information.

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP **Committee Members:** Dave Bruse, W4DTR

ARRL MEMBERSHIP

To update your ARRL membership information, please visit their website - <http://www.arrl.org>.

MAINTAIN YOUR LICENSE

You can update your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free - <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/universal-licensing-system>. License renewal is subject to the \$35 FCC fee.



Donating to GARS

Your GARS donation can be used for a certain purpose by donating to one of these funds:

- GARS SK Memorial Fund for Education (to remember and honor Silent Keys);
- GARS Scholarship Fund (Administered by the ARRL for awarding scholarships);
- GARS General Fund (any club purpose).

GARS has joined these rewards programs (a portion of every purchase you make through these merchants may be donated to GARS):

- Kroger Community Rewards program.

For more information on how to sign up for these rewards programs, or to donate to GARS, visit

<http://gars.org/gars/donations-to-the-club>

GARS on Social Media



Discord Request:

<http://gars.org/discord>



Groups.io:

<http://gars.org/groups.io>



Visit GARS on Facebook:

<http://gars.org/facebook>



Follow GARS on X:

https://x.com/GARS_Hams



Join GARS on YouTube:

<http://gars.org/youtube>

GARS Mail Address:

GARS
P.O. Box 492531
Lawrenceville, GA 30049

Officers



Kevin Igarashi-Ball, President W4KIB



Alex Kowalchuk, Vice President AK4AM



Drew White, Secretary KQ4NUQ



Glen Wendt, Treasurer W3WWT



Kevin Scott, Program Manager K4GTR

Managers and Committee Chairs



Karen Albritton, Membership Chair KI4HPP



Dave Bruse, VE Team Leader W4DTR



David Adcock, Webmaster, Field Day Chair, TechFest Chair KA4KKF



Ralph Pickwick, Education Chair KJ4CNC



Earl Whatley, Apparel Manager AF4FG



Bob Hoffmann, GARzette Editor K4CQO



Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair WD4JEM



Mike Weathers, WAS / DXCC QSL Card Checker and Historian ND4V



Chuck McCord, Net Manager KK4TKJ



Steve Back, Technical / RFI Advisor WB2OGY



Dallas Mellichamp, Workshop Leader N4DDM



Sandy Jackson, Health and Wellbeing KJ4DRO



Kevin Igarashi-Ball, Multimedia Chair W4KIB



Dallas Mellichamp, Georgia QSO Chair N4DDM



Neil Derryberry, Elmer Manager WD4NET

Open Winter Field Day Chair

Directors and Trustees



Joe Biddle, AD4PZ



Kyle Albritton, W4KDA



John Davis, WB4QDX



Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN W4GR Trustee

GARS Meeting Minutes

GARS – MEETING 5/14/2024

- President Kevin Igarashi-Ball (W4KIB) opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and closed the meeting at approximately 8:35 p.m.
- New hams and visitors: Kevin (W4KIB)
 - First time visitors recognized.
 - Two new extras and one new technician recognized.
- May birthdays listed, and congratulated.
- Treasurer Report: Glen (W3WWT)
- Membership: Kevin (W4KIB) Currently there are 355 members.
- VE Team: Bob (K4CQO)
 - Expected drop in participation as other Atlanta group as posting their session to ARRL site.
 - Currently have two signed up for upcoming session.
 - If you are upgrading to Extra, the question pool changes in July.
 - GARS will be taking over testing at the Stone Mountain HamFest
- Programs: Kevin (K4GTR)
 - May – SOTA – an event may follow
 - June – Ice Cream Social in prep for Field Day
 - July – Dallas will present on building simple antennas.
 - August – DMR practical applications
 - September – Favorite websites
 - Check the Site for more information.
- Apparel: Earl (AF4FG)
 - Field day t-shirts orders close end of week. Distributed at June meeting
- Memorial Day Parade: Earl (AF4FG)
 - May 27th at 7:00 am
 - Still need 8-10 volunteers to help with parade.
 - You will need a safety vest and an HT. If you don't have the gear, it will be provided. This is a fun event and worth doing.
- Repeaters: David (KA4KKF)

- Echolink interface parts are on order. Hope to have it back up in a couple of weeks.
- Working with county to get links tested and put back in
- Reminded the repeaters that the club has available and that they are on the website
- Field Day: David (KA4KKF)
 - Still need band captains, antenna crew, food
 - Reminder people to come out and operate
 - Paul Kelly volunteered for CW stations
- Trail Update: Joe (AD4PZ)
 - Joe walked through the build out process of the new GARS equipment trailer that will be coming out to Field Day transport equipment
 - Trailer will be stored at the airport next to the EAA hanger 6
- Other: Kevin (W4KIB)
 - Kevin (W4KIB) announced GARS receiving a \$2,500 grant from QCWA.

Program: Summits on the Air with Kevin Igarashi-Ball (W4KIB).

Workshop Minutes - May 21, 2024

Number in Attendance: 12

Workshop Topic: Future GARS Projects and Events

Presenter: SOTA (Summits on the Air) - Kevin Igarashi-Ball W4KIB

Brief Summary: Kevin W4KIB brought various SOTA setups and assorted gear and had them on display for folks to ask questions and get ideas.

Tim KJ4FHZ brought his HT to get it programmed for the Dacula Parade. The DMR group and a few of us discussed the feasibility of getting a DMR repeater and swapping out one of our 70c repeaters.

Elmers are always present at the GARS Workshops. Feel free to bring your questions to the Workshop and if your project is small enough to get to the meeting, let us know in advance via email so we can have tools, test gear, etc.

GARS & ARRL membership distribution as of 5/25/2024

GARS ARRL MEMBERSHIP COUNTS			
Type	Total	Licensed GARS Members (Voting Members - for ARRL)	Unlicensed GARS Members (Non-Voting Members)
Total GARS Members	356	294	57
- ARRL Members	180	180	0
- NON ARRL Members	176	114	57
ARRL Member PERCENTAGE	50.56%	61.22%	0.00%



Events – GARS and others

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar

> For more information click the links <

2024 January

1 [Straight Key Night](#)

6 [Kid's Day](#)

6-7 [RTTY Roundup](#)

20-22 [January VHF Contest](#)

February

12-16 [School Club Roundup](#)

17-18 [International DX – CW](#)

March

2-3 [DX Contest – SSB](#)

April

21 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

May

No planned contests

June

1-2 International Digital Contest

8-10 [June VHF](#)

15 [Kid's Day](#)

22-23 [Field Day](#)

July

13-14 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

August

3-4 [222 MHz and Up Dis Contest](#)

17-18 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)

18 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

24-25 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)

September

14-16 [September VHF](#)

21-22 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up – Rnd 2](#)

21-22 [10 GHz & Up – Wknd 1](#)

October

19-20 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

21-25 [School Club Roundup](#)

November

2-4 [Nov. Sweepstakes - CW](#)

16-17 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

16-18 [Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone](#)

December

6-8 [160 Meter](#)

14-15 [10 Meter](#)

22 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)

For more information:

<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>

HAMFEST CALENDAR

[Please confirm the status of a Hamfest before making plans to attend]

06/22/2024 - [Dade City Lodge Pre-Field Day Hamfest](#)

Location: Dade City, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Dade City Lodge/Green Swamp Chapter NAQCC

07/13/2024 - [Cullman Amateur Radio Club Hamfest](#)

Location: Cullman, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cullman Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://cullmanarc.com/hamfest/>

07/20/2024 - [51st Annual Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest](#)

Location: Cary, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cary Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://caryarc.org>

07/26/2024 - 07/27/2024 [Milton Ham Fest](#)

Location: Milton, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Milton Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://miltonarc.org>

08/17/2024 - 08/18/2024 [Huntsville Hamfest, ARRL SE Div. Conv.](#)

Location: Huntsville, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Huntsville Hamfest, Inc.

Website: <http://hamfest.org>

09/21/2024 - [Gadsden Hamfest](#)

Location: Gadsden, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Gadsden Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://Gadsdenhamfest.com>

10/19/2024 - [MARCIFEST 2024](#)

Location: Bradenton, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Manatee Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

10/26/2024 - [Wiregrass ARC - Fall Tailgate](#)

Location: Headland, AL

Type: ARRL HamFest

Sponsor: Wiregrass ARC

Website: <http://w4dhn.org>

11/09/2024 - [Montgomery Hamfest](#)

Location: Montgomery, AL

Type: ARRL HamFest

Sponsor: Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w4ap.org>

For more information: www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar

When searching by division, remember some states adjacent to GA are in different divisions: Southeastern: GA, AL, FL Delta: TN Roanoke: NC, SC



GARS Events Calendar for 2024		GARS Recurring Calendar
TechFest Winter Field Day Spring Technician HamCram Dog Show Fundraiser Georgia QSO Party North metro area Fox Hunt Summer General HamCram Memorial Day Parade ARC/KARC Hamfest Field Day JOTA Fall Technician HamCram Stone Mt. Hamfest Holiday Party	January 13 2024 January 27-28 2024 March 23-24, 2024 March 5-6 2024 April 13-14 2024 April 2024 July 27-28, 2024 May 27 2024 June 1 2024 June 22-23 2024 October 2024 September 2024 November 2-3 2024 December 7 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December) Monthly Club Meeting 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046 • 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 pm (except December) Monthly Workshop 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046 • 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2 pm GARS Ham Exam Session 690 Airport Rd Lawrenceville, GA 30046 • Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater • Every Monday at 8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater • Every Friday at 11:30 am, GARS Lunch at The 5 Spot • Every Saturday at 8:00 am GARS Breakfast at The 5 Spot

GARS Calendar for June 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
2	3 7:30 – 8:00 PM 2M Net	4 7:00 PM Exec Meeting	5	6	7 11:30 AM Lunch at Home Kitchen 8:30 - 9:30 PM 70CM Talk Net	8 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
9	10 7:30 – 8:00 PM 2M Net	11 7:00 PM Meeting Harbins Park, Ice Cream Social	12	13	14 11:30 AM Lunch at Home Kitchen 8:30 - 9:30 PM 70CM Talk Net	15 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
16 2:00 PM GARS Ham Radio Exams, EAA 690 Hangar	17 7:30 – 8:00 PM 2M Net	18 7:00 PM Workshop Meeting EAA 690 Hangar	19	20	21 11:30 AM Lunch at Home Kitchen 8:30 - 9:30 PM 70CM Talk Net	22 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel Field Day at Harbins Park
23 Field Day at Harbins Park	24 7:30 – 8:00 PM 2M Net	25	26	27	28 11:30 AM Lunch at Home Kitchen 8:30 - 9:30 PM 70CM Talk Net	29 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
30						

Local Ham Radio Exams & Meetings

GARS Ham Radio Exams

GARS Exam Sessions are held the 3rd Sunday of the month

Preregistration is **REQUIRED**

Doors open at 1:45pm, exams start promptly by 2:00pm

For more information and to preregister, please visit <https://gars.org/exams/>

GARS VE-Team

VEC: W5YI-VEC

EAA 690 Hangar

690 Airport Rd

Lawrenceville, GA 30046

GARS VE Team Leaders

E-mail: exams@gars.org.



May 2024 Results

The GARS VE Team exam session results from May 19th

William C Carson went from no license to Extra, KZ4HV

New Technician licenses:

- Benjamin A Goodwin, KQ4SJA
- Theodore D Roman, KQ4SHU
- Calvin C Starling, KQ4SJB

Special thanks to the Volunteer Examiners who made this exam session possible:

W4DTR – Dave (CVE)

K4CQO – Bob (CVE)

AB4QQ – Russell

KM4SWL – Richard

AF4FG – Marvin

NV4Q – Bill

NF4L – Nathan

Thanks & 73,

Bob Hoffmann, K4CQO (CVE)

Local Ham Radio Exams

In order to find an exam session near you, please visit http://www.arrl.org/exam_sessions/. Contact the information in the listing for further information.



Local Ham Radio Meetings

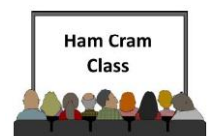
In order to find a local Ham Radio Club meeting near you, please visit <http://www.arrl.org/find-a-club>. Contact the club for meeting information.



Note: The Amateur Extra question pool expires at midnight UTC on June 30, 2024, and all Amateur Extra exams will use the new question pool beginning on July 1, 2024. If you are studying for Amateur Extra, be sure your study guide is for the correct question pool (usually printed on the cover).

GARS General HamCram

WHEN: Saturday 7/27/2024 and Sunday 7/28/2024; 8:00 am to 4:00 pm each day, exams start at 4:00 pm Sunday (this is a CLOSED exam session, only open to registered students of the class).





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1/2 page	\$150
Full page	\$200

For swap items, post and see items on [GARS groups.io](http://GARSgroups.io).