

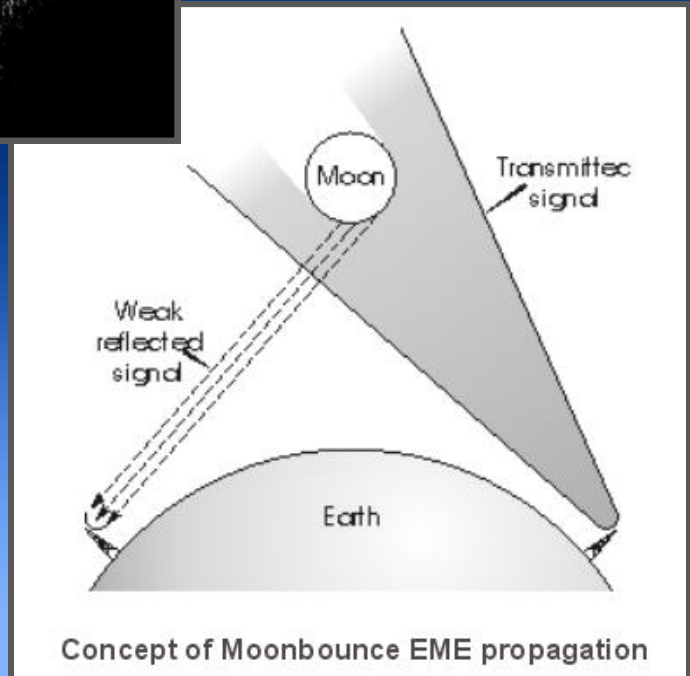
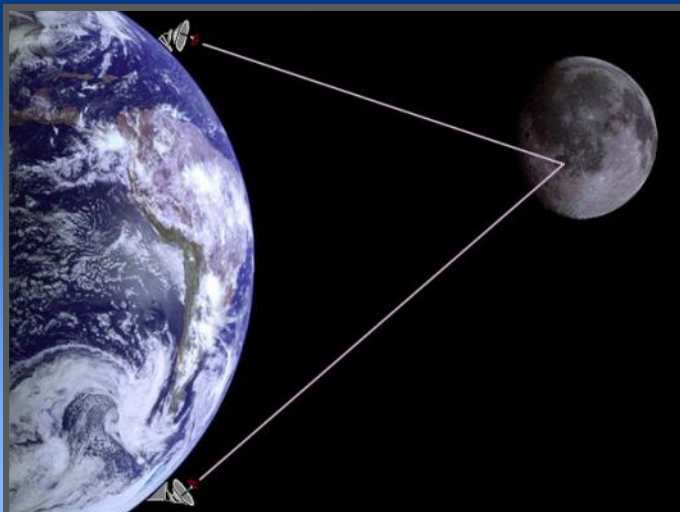


# The GARzette

The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society  
April 2016 <http://www.gars.org/> Volume 25, Issue 4



## EME, Earth-Moon-Earth Communication (Moon Bounce)



Learn more at our next meeting!

# Message from the President

Here we are starting April and plans for the Georgia QSO party are in full swing. This year promises to be the biggest gathering yet with multiple stations and modes working out of Harbins Park in Dacula using the GARS call sign W4GR. Gwinnett County will be activated in style. If you don't have other plans then Harbins Park is the place to be! Many thanks to one of our own GARS directors, Norm WA4ZXV, for being the Georgia QSO Party chairman and helping to put all of this together.

Well, what is the Georgia QSO party anyway?

Amateur operators from all over Georgia, the United States, and all the world will be attempting to contact as many Georgia counties as possible. There are many contest type activities in the amateur radio hobby and collecting counties is one of them. It's a difficult job and Georgia alone has 159 of them! Some folks like to "roam" throughout Georgia with mobile or portable stations activating some of the more rare Georgia counties. Operators outside of Georgia can take the opportunity to log Georgia towards their "Worked All States" certificate. If you are looking for your WAS award then keep a watch out for the other state QSO parties. You can always be guaranteed that there will be many participants on multiple bands looking for contacts. I hope to see many of you at Harbins Park for this exciting event. Please go the GARS.org website for all the details.

The next big GARS event coming up in April is the "2016 North Georgia Fox Hunt". What's all this Fox Hunt thing all about, you ask? Well, that's where we go a-ridin' into town, a-whompin' and a... Oh no wait, that's a number 6! A radio Fox Hunt is where we try to put together our radio direction finding equipment (RDF) and locate the source of an RF transmission. The signal is usually intermittent and in Morse code. Several local Amateur Radio clubs have been invited and will be participating. Don't be intimidated if you don't have any direction finding equipment. There will be fun to be had by all. Special thanks to another of our directors, Kyle W4KDA, for his tireless planning of this event. Please check the



*"GARS welcomes Ray Rector, WA4NJP, for his presentation on Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) at our next meeting April 12<sup>th</sup>. This is one you don't want to miss!"*

link on the GARS.org website for more details.

GARS welcomes Ray Rector, WA4NJP for his presentation on Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) at our next meeting April 12<sup>th</sup>. This is one you don't want to miss! Also don't forget that Satellites in the Park, May Madness, the Dacula Memorial day parade, and many other events are coming up soon. Keep up to date on the GARS.org site to follow one of Georgia's most active amateur radio clubs.

Thanks and 73's,

*Rick Cobb,* N4XYX

***"It is not the class of license the Amateur holds, but the class of the Amateur that holds the license."***

[Author Unknown]



# GARS April Meeting

## “EME, Earth-Moon-Earth Communication” (Moon Bounce)

by WA4NJP, Ray Rector

Tuesday, April 12, 2016  
7:00 pm

Sports Aviation Complex - Hangar 1  
690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045

[Directions](#)

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### **GARS Communications**

2 Meter Repeater  
147.075(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone

APRS  
144.390 -- 1200 Baud  
W4GR

D-Star  
WD4STR  
145.060 + (1.4 MHz)  
440.550 + (5 MHz)

2 Meter Repeater  
147.255(+) MHz  
107.2 PL Tone

6 Meter Repeater  
53.110 (-1 MHz)  
No PL tone

70 Cm Repeaters  
444.525(+) MHz  
82.5 PL Tone  
442.100(+)  
100 PL Tone

**Don't forget  
to support our  
advertisers at the  
back of 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 n4gyn@arrl.net. 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 Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV who prints copies for distribution at meetings, etc. and Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the news letter 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>

Newsletter Editor: Ray Bailey—N4GYN  
770-689-6620 or [editor@gars.org](mailto:editor@gars.org)



# Member QRZ Pages

For a few months we will be featuring the QRZ page of various members of GARS.

This month we are featuring the QRZ page of :

## **K9SDR - LELAND FORD**

When you click on the link below you will find this picture of him.

<http://qrz.com/lookup/k9sdr>

Read his notes and get to know him better.  
You'll be glad you did.



Here is an excerpt from his page:

“I had a Technician license for a number of years but was never very active in the hobby. I just recently retired so now I have some extra time. :) I upgraded my license to Extra Class and decided to change my callsign to reflect one of my interests. I am a member of ARRL and AMSAT. ”

Watch for another featured GARS member QRZ page in next month's GARzette!

## News, Press Releases, & General Interest

**04/01/2016 | Washington, D.C.** – Today, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission or FCC) approved Report and Order 14-987af which reinstates the Morse Code test for General Class and Amateur Extra Class licensees. “It was a big mistake eliminating the Morse Code test,” admits Dot N. Dasher, the FCC's director of examinations. “We now realize that being able to send and receive Morse Code is an essential skill for radio amateurs. As they say, it really does get through when other modes can't.”

Not only will new applicants have to take the test, but General Class licensees who have never passed a code test will have one year to pass a 5-wpm code test. Similarly, Amateur Extra class licensees that never passed a code test will have one year to pass a 13-wpm test. Those amateurs that fail to pass the test will face revocation of their operating privileges. Materials for administering the examinations will be distributed to Volunteer Examiner Coordinators by the end of April, so that they can begin the testing on May 1, 2016.

For more information:

<http://www.kb6nu.com/fcc-to-reinstate-morse-code-test/>

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### From ARRL News

**Clarity on Amateur Radio Parity** — <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Regulatory/Clarity%20on%20Parity.pdf>  
03/22/2016 | [SBE Urges FCC to Improve Medium-Wave Noise Environment](#)  
[Learn More](#)

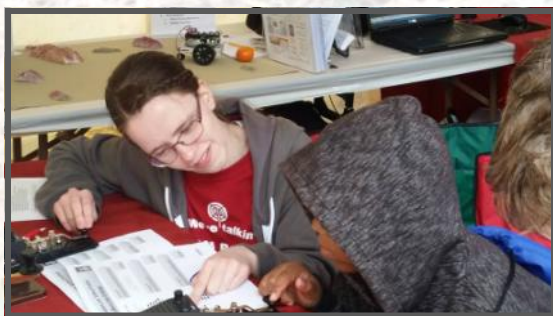
(Continued on page 18)

# GARS Happenings



Certificate of appreciation presented to Charles Osborne, K4CSO, for his presentation of "Radio Astronomy" at the March meeting.

## 2016 Science Fair Pictures



# More Happenings

## 2016 North Georgia Fox Hunt

sponsored by  
The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

- \* Saturday April 16th, 2016 at 10AM EDT
- \* Radio Direction Finding on 2m and 70cm
- \* Form teams to represent your club
- \* Trophies for each class will be presented later
- \* Teams must register at the starting point to participate
- \* Event starts at the sign in front of the Goodwill at 8560 Holcomb Bridge Road, Johns Creek GA (some GPS say this is Roswell) <https://goo.gl/CR7Sg7>
- \* There is no charge to participate \*
- \* Entries are separated into "Classic" and "Doppler Assisted" classes
- \* 147.150+ 141.3 for instructions and critical fox information

The 2016 North Georgia Fox Hunt is a life-like scenario. There is widely heard interference on 2m. Your team hunts for it (by car). Once discovered, you will find it is a legal cross band repeater, and is not the actual source of the interference. The real interference is coming from 70cm and you must hunt for the source (on foot).

**Come out and represent your club!**

More information is available at  
[http://www.gars.org/w4gr/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=184:2016-fox-hunt&catid=2&Itemid=101](http://www.gars.org/w4gr/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=184:2016-fox-hunt&catid=2&Itemid=101)

73, *Kyle* W4KDA

---

## HamCram Exam - Saturday March 26 Session Results

### 13 New Technicians

#### Special thanks to our instructors:

John Davis, WB4QDX  
Nick Doemland, AB4CQ

#### And to the VE's who made this exam session possible:

- Allison Lynch, AB4YL
- Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN
- Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ (Co-CVE)
- Dale Lynch, AE8DL
- Frank Haynes, KV4SP
- Karen Whited, AB4NW
- Larry Whited, AB4NX
- Rick Cobb, N4XYY
- Sid Weaver, N4NQ (Co-CVE)

Thanks & 73,

*Dave Bruse*, W4DTR (CVE)

GARS VE Team Leader  
Email: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)



# Coming Events

## The Georgia QSO Party



### GARS and the Georgia QSO Party!

**2016** marks the **55<sup>th</sup>** consecutive (nearly) year that the Georgia QSO Party (GQP) has been challenging amateurs all over the world with the best award/plaque program in the US. IN 2015, **323** amateurs submitted logs vying for the thirty-nine award plaques that could be earned.

The GQP is held in a pair of ten-hour sessions on the second full weekend in April; this year that is **April 9-10, 2016**. All or nearly all 159 Georgia counties should be on the air.

#### GARS GQP Activities - April 9 and 10 at Harbins Park

( <http://goo.gl/maps/M4vU7> )

Talk-In: 147.075 + 82.5

More about GQP on [www.GeorgiaQSOparty.org](http://www.GeorgiaQSOparty.org)



## Dacula Memorial Day Parade May 30<sup>th</sup> 2016

0700 Hrs at Hebron Baptist Church in Dacula. We will be there to help setup the parade participants.  
We will be finished by 1300 Hrs.



Contact [Earl, AF4FG](#) to get more information or search on this web site.  
[Click here to sign up for parade. When finished simply close that window.](#)

# MAY MADNESS 2016

**The purpose** is to get new hams comfortable talking on the air and to help us get familiar with new members and each other. If you talk to a new member you get an extra point. If you talk to an old member you may be talking to someone you don't usually hear on the air. The top ten scores will win a prize to be awarded at the June meeting.

- **Contest begins Friday May 6 at 6:00 PM and ends Sunday May 15 at 11:59 PM**
- **Only GARS members may participate**
- **Bands**  
UHF VHF 2 Meters 1.25 Meters 70 cm 33 cm 23 cm Any amateur GHz freq  
HF Any HF frequency where Tech class license is allowed to operate
- **Modes**  
SSB (voice) FM Digital (CW is a digital mode)  
Contacts may be simplex or repeater
- **Frequencies**  
Any simplex frequency is allowed Any station can be worked once per band per mode (Once on simplex or repeater. These are not two separate modes)
- **Exchange**  
Call Sign.— Old GARS member (OM, or New member (NM), **New Ham (NH)**, **Gars Officer/Committee Chair/Director/Trustee (Exec Committee)=(EC)**.

New members are those who have joined GARS since 6/1/15. Anyone who was a member in the past but has not been a dues paying member for at least 10 years prior to rejoining after 6/1/15 is considered a new member for purposes of this contest. (Since a new member or a **New Ham** cannot contact himself, he automatically receives 1 bonus point.)

- **Awards**  
**Highest overall score wins special prize...W4KLY's mounted vacuum tube!**

**Top Ten scores receive a unique GARS hat unique to this year's contest.**  
*All participants who turn in a log receive a GARS patch, or decal, and a May Madness Certificate*

**The New Ham with the most points receives a certificate: "Hardest Working New Ham" less than 2yrs.**

**XYL or YL with the most points receives certificate "May Madness XYL/YL".**

**1st log rec'd by AB4HF with higher score than AB4HF's 2015 posted log wins special prize-W4KLY's special award.**

Jeff Cutchins-GARS May Madness AB4HF [www.HamsOnCams.com](http://www.HamsOnCams.com)



# Remembering Johnny Fearon

You Old Timers remember Johnnie Fearon? I met him on a teenage 20 meter net when I was a new general ham in Denison Iowa in 1958. Sorry to say he is an SK known by many Atlanta hams and missed by all. [Deceased November 13, 2009]

Tom Koch W4UOC

*FYI, Johnny was the person that invited me to my first GARS meeting. Until about 4 years ago, he was always at Field Day working CW.*

Norm Schklar, W4ZXV

40 • THE ATLANTA CONSTITUTION, Thursday, April 29, 1954

## WEE KEY POUNDER

# Boy, 9, Blind Since Birth, Is Expert Radio Operator

Special to The Constitution

CAMP GORDON, April 28—Nine-year-old Johnnie Fearon of Atlanta, blind since birth, astonished seasoned radio operators here during a visit with an uncanny ability to operate transmitters at a sending rate speed well above normal.

The boy wonder, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Fearon, who live at 4165 Club Dr., is the youngest holder of a general class amateur radio license in the nation.



Johnnie Fearon

"The only thing I can't do is see." Johnnie sends some 30 words per minute, well ahead of the average mark registered by op-

erators graduating from a 24-week course. Johnnie has a home transmitter set which was built for him by a group of "Ham" radio operator friends. He identifies himself as the "wee key pounder," after his call letters, W4WKP.

erators graduating from a 24-week course.

Johnnie has a home transmitter set which was built for him by a group of "Ham" radio operator friends. He identifies himself as the "wee key pounder," after his call letters, W4WKP.



# SOTA

## Summits On The Air



### *Atlanta SOTA Seminar 2016*

**The 2016 annual Atlanta SOTA Seminar will take place on June 9 and 11.**

The seminar is designed to help the aspiring SOTA activator experience his/her first successful activation. On June 9, we will hold an online meeting to prepare and plan for our activation. On June 11, we will activate Black Mountain [W4G/NG-022](#).

#### **Topics**

- How to register for SOTA
- How to post an activation alert
- How to plan an activation
- Collecting your SOTA points
- The typical SOTA QSO
- Tracking your SOTA progress
- What to pack
- Setting up and tearing down

#### **Requirements**

- You must be able to hike about a mile up-hill. (We'll go slowly!)
- If you are handicapped, please contact the seminar organizer. We will arrange an accessible activation at another summit.
- You must be able to carry your own supplies for a half-day outdoors. (e.g. sunscreen, water, snack)
- You do NOT need to have a radio. Bring your own or share a mic/paddle with another seminar participant.
- You must be a licensed ham radio operator.
- You must have a computer with an internet connection. (We're holding our training session via a Google Groups meeting.)

#### **How to Register**

**Email: [seminar2016 {at} k4kpk.com](mailto:seminar2016@k4kpk.com) no later than Saturday, June 4, 2016.**

See you on the summits!

**73 DE K4KPK / *Kevin***

Where can I find out more? K4KPK's site: <http://k4kpk.com/content/sota-menu>

Email me (K4KPK). My email address is available via <http://www.qrz.com/db/K4KPK>.

Bio: K4KPK, Kevin Kleinfelter is Georgia's first SOTA Mountain Goat. He has completed more than 175 activations. *This story is Copyright 2016 Kevin P. Kleinfelter. A non-exclusive right to redistribute in electronic or printed form is granted to amateur radio clubs operating in the metro Atlanta area. All other rights reserved.*

# “Not Spam ... it’s an opportunity”

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

The attached item [below] is submitted to the League [and others] as either a "Correspondence" submission or as an "OP-Ed" piece, however they choose to use it, but I also felt compelled to share it [with] the principals, both immediate and organizational, for the National Traffic System, as well as my fellow net control stations.

I invite and entertain your comments. All addressees please feel free to share it with my original authorship acknowledged.

73,

**Steve Robeson, K4YZ - Winchester, TN**

When “we”...the Radio Amateur community, promote the virtues of our avocation to others, one of the leading benefits of the service is our ability to communicate in emergencies. “When All Else Fails, Amateur Radio” has become a popular by-line on tee-shirts, in our journals, on coffee cups, and when promoting ourselves to the media.

One of the hallmark features of that credo used to be the Amateur’s ability, even pride, in being able to “pass traffic”, whether by voice, Morse Code, or any of the various data modes up to its delivery point. But as technology has pushed more-and-more of that traffic to digital modes, our voice and CW nets have become almost barren of traffic...ANY traffic, save for “Hi John” exchanges between check-ins, announcements of up-coming ham-fests or recent passings of silent keys. In other words, we’re losing those skills that are at the very basis of validating the continuance of the Amateur Radio Service to the community. We’re actually talking ourselves out of a reason for being!

Among the few exceptions has been a phenomena that some of our members have come to refer to as “ham spam”...Messages generated by other Amateurs addressed to newly licensed or recently up-graded Amateurs congratulating them on their accomplishment. Many are from other nets or Amateur Radio social organizations inviting recent check-ins to come back often, wish them birthday greetings, etc.

As one of the alternate net control stations for the Tennessee Single Sideband Traffic net, I’ve received several direct complaints from various members, some of them close friends, complaining about the “ham spam” traffic slowing down traffic net check-ins. Until recently, I really didn’t know how to respond to these “complaints”, other than to acknowledge the participant’s issues. But a recent personal incident has given me a perspective on this issue that I wish to share with the community.

Specifically, I accepted one of these “ham spam” messages congratulating a fellow with a local address, but otherwise unknown to me, on his recent upgrade to General. I dutifully called the number provided, spoke with a family member who agreed to pass it on, and called it a day. The very next day I received a call from the Amateur to whom the original message had been addressed, and what followed was a very productive and satisfying conversation about a great many things involving Amateur Radio, including traffic handling, all of which the recipient hadn’t known about despite having been licensed since the late 1990’s. He was grateful beyond words for the original message and the “scoop” I’d passed on to him as a product of our new

conversations.

We have since developed a very good friendship. He’s been to my home a couple of times and we’ve shared several QSO’s on both VHF and HF. He’s decided to become more active in several different aspects of the hobby. The point of the matter is that had it not been for that “ham spam” message opening that door and giving me the chance to introduce myself to a fellow Amateur I’d not previously known and offer (him, in this case) an avenue to ask questions, bounce ideas off of someone else, and learn about the greater Amateur Radio community, he might not have taken those initiatives!

We should remember, folks, “NTS” stands for “National Traffic System”. These nets are not organized as social events or meant for casual QSO gatherings. They’re SPECIFICALLY organized for the purpose of supporting traffic handling and all that that entails. If nothing else, “ham spam” offers an opportunity for training. It’s traffic! It’s a message that was originated, sent by, and is now on the delivery end of the Amateur Radio National Traffic System!

Let’s also remember another long-forgotten practice of traffic handling. IT’S NOT THE HANDLING OR DELIVERING STATION’S PEROGATIVE TO QUESTION THE PROPRIETY OF THE MESSAGE OR ITS CONTENT! That is the obligation of the ORIGINATING station. It is OUR responsibility to handle the traffic exactly as received. Add nothing...take nothing.

Also, let’s remember that today’s “ham spam” is practice for tomorrow’s health and welfare message from another “Katrina” incident or similar tragedy, and our ability to quickly AND efficiently move those messages may be the only life-line another human being has to their loved ones. No, “ham spam” isn’t that traffic, but its practice for the day it is, and that, in my mind, makes it worth the effort alone.

The American Radio Relay league sponsored “Elmer Award” I received from my new friend Glen Aussiker, KE4LBS, is the other! Just one “ham spam” message created a new friendship and opened new doors for an Amateur that was otherwise oblivious to one of Amateur Radio’s oldest and most honored traditions.

So next time you think of it as “spam”, try a new perspective.

It’s NOT “spam”...it’s an opportunity!

# Beginners Corner

## 222 MHz: Use It or Lose It

I recently purchased a Kenwood TH-F6 HT as a retirement gift to myself. It is a great little radio (Review hopefully to follow). I did get the RT systems programming software for it, as I have done for just about all of my radios. This radio has the 222 MHz band in it, coupled with nearly “DC to daylight” receive coverage. That made it the choice for me. I wanted to explore the 222 MHz band. The only problem is that no one seems to be on this band. Perhaps I am not listening when others are talking on the band. I know that a couple “222” repeaters in the area have been down, but there must be SOMEONE using the band when I am monitoring!

There was a recent cartoon in CQ Magazine making fun about the lack of activity on the band. I wonder why there is so little activity here. I have found that not many people have radios capable of 222. One reason for the lack of hams on the band is a supposed dearth of equipment. Few radios, even the “all band” radios, include 222. Yet, the same CQ issue showcased an inexpensive Chinese handy talkie (HT) for this band.

There was also one base station mentioned. The magazine even had an advertisement for a 222 MHz repeater system. This band once covered from 222 to 225 MHz, but due to lack of activity, hams lost 2 MHz to commercial interests. Yes, I know that even two meters and 440 don't seem as active as they should be, either. From what people have told me, cell phones have siphoned off some of amateur radio traffic on the VHF and UHF bands.

Now I will make my plea. Let's get on 222! For new hams and old alike, how about purchasing a 222 capable radio? When you upgrade your equipment, let's insist on a radio that is 222 capable. There is at least one web site that lists some of the 220 MHz gear: <http://www.slvrc.org/220band.htm>. On Amazon.com there is a Baofeng UV-82X that includes the 222 MHz band for under \$50.00. Yes, Baofengs aren't intuitive, but the two I have (2 meters and 440 only) are great little radios once you program them.

222 is sometimes referred to as “the forgotten band), but I have seen forums on the web saying that this band has great propagation, and that repeaters cover better than other bands. We hams may be sitting on a proverbial “gold mine” and not know it.

May Madness is coming to GARS, naturally in May. Perhaps we can set a record for the number of 222 MHz contacts. Until then, maybe we can generate some interest and activity in this valuable band. Let's talk this band up with fellow hams around the Metro Atlanta area. Your comments are welcome. Post a comment to the GARS reflector ([GARS@yahoogroups.com](mailto:GARS@yahoogroups.com)) or you can email me at [kj4cmy@gmail.com](mailto:kj4cmy@gmail.com).

73 de *David Harden*, KJ4CMY



# GARS Membership Page

## New GARS Members in March

**NO NEW MEMBERS**

**New Members: 0**

**Total Members as of April 1, 2016  
- 275-**

**Join us for our weekly  
breakfast gathering at  
7:30 AM most Saturdays**

**at**

**Golden Corral  
2155 Riverside Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30043**

**[\(Directions\)](#)**

**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in April:**

---

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**  
**From All of Us at GARS**

---

**Christopher Bagby (KM4BOP)**

**James Boyd (KJ4YN)**

**Paul Branson (KA4YZR)**

**Doris Brown**

**Charles Burts (K4CHB)**

**David Carmichael (KM4GBI)**

**Anna Dominguez (KF4UOC)**

**Leland Ford (K9SDR)**

**Dozier Griffith (WA4DEO)**

**Peter McDade (KK4WEP)**

**Stan McDonald (KI4H)**

**James McGinty (W4BGT)**

**Michael Parrott (N4MEP)**

**Phil Smith (K4PWS)**

**Steven Wisenburg (KM4CVU)**

## 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 e-mail the Membership Committee - [membership@gars.org](mailto:membership@gars.org)

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>

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

Membership Chair: Karen Albritton, KI4HPP  
Committee Members: Dave Bruse, W4DTR, Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ

# Net Managers Corner

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

### GARS NEEDS MEMBERS TO SERVE AS NET CONTROLLERS

GARS is a great Amateur Radio service club and we have the membership and awards to prove it. Our club is a very busy and active club and we use the Monday night net to get the 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 that 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 twelve primary people who serve as NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. In no particular order, they are:

Norm - WA4ZXV	Kyle - W4KDA	Mitch - N0DIM
Hal - W4IGE	Don - KW4AL	Ray - N4GYN
Sandy - KJ4DRO	John - WB4QDX	Bill KK4AUA
Kevin - KK4WOG	Chuck - KK4TKJ	Charles - N4CEA

As GARS Net Manager (Chuck KK4TKJ), I need 30 people to fill NCS positions. I do plan to 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 45 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 me at [KK4TKJ@arrl.net](mailto:KK4TKJ@arrl.net). Sign up to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is.

73 and see you on the Nets!

*Chuck McCord.* KK4TKJ Net Manager



**Don't miss the “KNOW IT ALL” Net  
Wednesday nights, 8:30-9:30 pm**



We have moved to a new format. We begin with current events and announcements. Then we Introduce New Technology. Then we have check-ins and general discussion. Post net is Rag Chew format.

*Jeff*—AB4HF

Everyone is having great fun on this net! Come join us and become a “KNOW IT ALL”.

**TIME: 8:30 every Wednesday evening on the GARS repeater - 2m 147.075 + PL 82.5**

## From ARRL Contest Calendar

>>>> NOTE: For more information click the links <<<<

## April 2016

17 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

## June 2016

11-13 [June VHF](#)

18 [Kids Day](#)

25-26 [Field Day](#)

## July 2016

9-10 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

## August 2016

6-7 [August UHF](#)

20-21 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)

21 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

## September 2016

10-12 [September VHF](#)

17-19 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)

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

## October 2016

17-21 [School Club Roundup](#)

22-23 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)

## November 2016

5-7 [Nov. Sweepstakes – CW](#)

19-21 [Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone](#)

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

## December 2016

2-4 [160 Meter](#)

10-11 [10 Meter](#)

18 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)

Southeast US**04/09/2016 | [2016 Mobile Hamfest](#)**

Location: Mobile, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mobile Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w4iax.net>

**04/23/2016 | [Wiregrass Amateur Radio Club Spring Tailgate](#)**

Location: Headland, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Wiregrass Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w4dhn.org>

**04/23/2016 | [Waynesboro Hamfest](#)**

Location: Waynesboro, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Burke Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://waynesborohamfest.com>

**04/23/2016 | [Calhoun Hamfest](#)**

Location: Sugar Valley, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cherokee Capital Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.k4woc.com>

**05/14/2016 | [DeKalb Amateur Radio Club Tailgate](#)**

Location: Fort Payne, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: DeKalb County Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w4gbr.org>

**06/04/2016 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Atlanta Hamfest\)](#)**

Location: Marietta, GA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Atlanta Radio Club (W4DOC) &

Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club (W4BTI)

Website: <http://www.atlantahamfest.com>



# BSA Venture Crew 73 Wants You!

IF YOU are between 14 and 21 years old, enjoy outdoor activities, and have an interest in radio technology, **Venture Crew 73 is for you.**

- Venture Crews are part of the Boy Scouts of America.
- *Venture crew 73 is chartered by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society.*
- Venture crew 73 is coed.
- *Meetings are on the second Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm, at EAA 690 Hangar at:  
Briscoe Field - Sports Aviation Complex  
Hangar 1, 690 Airport Road  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045*
- Crew 73 is a youth-run organization, which means that our Crew President and other youth plan the Crew's outings and activities each month.

We enjoy:

- ◊ *Camping*
- ◊ *Hiking*
- ◊ *Horseback Riding*
- ◊ *Shooting Sports*

- Crew activities usually mix high adventure and the use of Amateur Radio.
- For more information, attend our next meeting or contact:

**Steve Back, WB2OGY**

Venture Crew 73 Committee Chairman

Phone: 770-712-9069

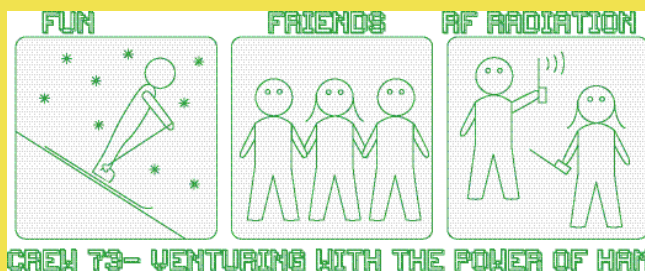
E-mail: [committeechair@venturecrew73.org](mailto:committeechair@venturecrew73.org)

**Ryan Girard, KG4WPB**

Venture Crew 73 Advisor

Phone: 770-508-3650

E-mail: [rgirard@knights.ucf.edu](mailto:rgirard@knights.ucf.edu)



## GARS Officers and Committee Chairs

Rick Cobb, N4XYX  
President



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
Vice President



Nick Doemland, AB4CQ  
Secretary



Sid Weaver, N4NQ  
Treasurer



Nick Nikley, N0NCQ  
Program Manager



Karen Albritton, KI4HPP  
Membership Chair



Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
Ham Exam Team Leader



David Adcock, KA4KKF  
Webmaster, Field Day Chair



Dorothy Jubon, N2DLJ  
Public Information Officer



Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC  
TechFest Chair, Apparel Mgr,  
Education Chair



Ray Bailey, N4GYN  
GARzette Editor



Jeff Cutchins, AB4HF  
Multimedia Chair



John Ackermann, N8UR  
W4GR Trustee



Eddie Foust, WD4JEM  
Repeater Chair



Mike Weathers, ND4V  
WAS-Checker, Historian



Chuck McCord, KK4TKJ  
Net Manager,



Mike Swiderski, K4HBI  
Technical Advisor



Mitch Matteau, N0DIM  
Winter Field Day



Pam Meridy, WB1AKQ  
QSO Party and VHF Contest  
Chair



### DIRECTORS

Kyle Albritton, W4KDA



David Adcock, KA4KKF



Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV





**EXTRA! EXTRA!**

**MAY MEETING**  
**Field-Day Preparation**

by **KA4KKF, David Adcock**

(Remember, Field-Day will be June 25<sup>th</sup>. and 26<sup>th</sup>.)

**Repeater Status**

147.075 operational in Snellville  
147.255 operation in Snellville  
444.525 operational in Snellville  
Link remote receivers being added  
442.100 operational at Goshen Springs  
145.590 operational at Bogan Road  
6M currently down

**MARCH MEETING MINUTES**

Rick, N4XYY, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

First time visitors were welcomed and roundtable introductions were made. Ticket upgrades were recognized:

Attendance: 65

**General Business**

Sid, N4NQ, gave the treasure's report. Voting took place and the treasure's report was approved.

Karen, KI4HPP, gave the membership report: GARS has 281 members.

*NOTE: Rick reminded us that our designation as a "Special Service Club" requires that 50% of membership also be an ARRL member (GARS receives a portion of the sign-up and renewal fee. see Sid, N4NQ for details)*

Nick, N0NCQ, Program Manager announced that Ray Rector, WA4NJP will be presenting "EME – Earth-Moon-Earth" at the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Future Programs**

May 15<sup>th</sup> – "Field Day Preparation" by David Adcock, KA4KKF

June 14<sup>th</sup> – "Ice Cream Social"

July 12<sup>th</sup> – "Remote Control your station" by Ray Bailey, N4GYN

**Event Recaps & General Updates**

No updates this month

**Net Schedule**

- GARS Want, Swap, Sell and Information, Monday's @ 7:30pm
- ARES Training , Monday's @ 8:30pmm  
Know-it-All, hosted by Jeff, AB4HF, Wednesday's @ 8:30pm

**Program**

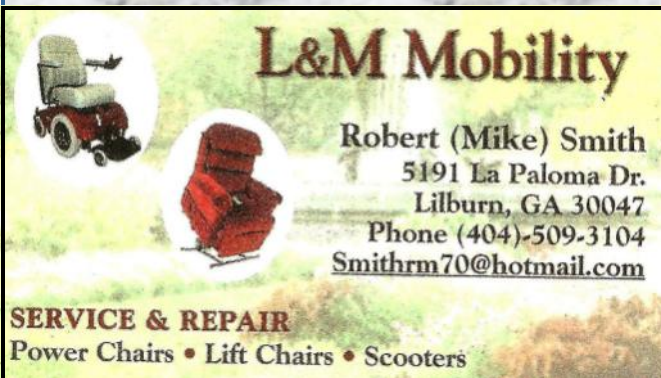
Rick, N4XYY and Nick, N0NCQ presented Charles Osborne, K4CSO with a certification of appreciation for his presentation on "A peek into Radio Astronomy"

**Upcoming Events (for details go to GARS.org)**

Georgia Death Race – 3/19-20  
Atlanta Science Festival – 3/26  
Technician HamCram – 3/26  
Georgia QSO Party – 4/9-10  
Gwinnett ARES Deployment Day – 4/9  
Multi-club Fox Hunt – 4/16  
May Madness – 5/6 – 5/15  
Satellites in the Park – 5/21  
Memorial Day Parade – 5/30  
13 Colonies Special Event 7/1 - 6

Meeting concluded around 9:15pm

*Nick*, AB4CQ, Secretary



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**GARS Recurring Calendar**

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7 pm
- ◆ Every Monday at 7:30 pm: GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net +  
8:30 pm: ARES Training on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Wednesday at 8:30 pm: GARS Know It All Net on the GARS 147.075 MHz repeater
- ◆ Every Saturday at 7:30 am: GARS Weekly Breakfast, Golden Corral Restaurant, Riverside Drive, Lawrenceville
- ◆ Second Sunday at 2:00 pm: GARS Ham Exam Session, Fire Station #24  
2735 Mall of Georgia Blvd  
Buford, GA 30519

## Extra Extra

### GARS Calendar of Events for 2016

- GARS Breakfast, every Saturday morning
- GARS Ham Exam Session - 2nd Sunday every month
- Georgia QSO Party                      April 9 - 10
- North metro area Fox Hunt    April - TBD
- May Madness                              May 6 - 15
- Satellites in the Park                  May 21
- Memorial Day Parade                  May 30
- ARC/KARC Hamfest - 1st Saturday of June
- Field Day                                    June 25 - 26
- W4GR Spcl Event - 40th Anniv.    Summer
- Maker Faire - 1st Weekend of October
- Sept VHF/UHF Contest                Sept 10 - 12
- Stone Mt. Hamfest                    November 5 & 6
- JOTA - 3rd Weekend of ...          October 15

(from page 4).....More ARRL news!

03/23/2016 | ["Amateur Radio Roundtable" Connects Live with Heard Island DXpedition](#)

W5KUB's "Amateur Radio Roundtable" webcast scored a live, audio-only interview on March 22 with the leader of the Heard Island VK0EK DXpedition, Bob Schmieder, KK6EK.

[Learn More](#)

03/22/2016 | [Hamvention 2016 Award Winners Announced; Joe Taylor, K1JT, is Amateur of the Year](#)

Nobel Laureate Joe Taylor, K1JT, of Princeton, New Jersey, has been named as the 2016 Dayton Hamvention® Amateur of the Year.

[Learn More](#)

03/22/2016 | [Heard Island VK0EK DXpedition Team Has Arrived, Operation Hours Away](#)

The VK0EK DXpedition "reconnaissance team" has arrived on Heard Island.

[Learn More](#)

03/22/2016 | [Hamvention 2016 Award Winners Announced; Joe Taylor, K1JT, is Amateur of the Year](#)

Nobel Laureate Joe Taylor, K1JT, of Princeton, New Jersey, has been named as the 2016 Dayton Hamvention® Amateur of the Year.

To view these links, get your pdf copy of the GARzette here:

<http://gars.org>

### GARS CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR APRIL 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
3	4 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	5 6:30 - 8:00 pm GARS Exec Meeting	6 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	7	8	9 <b>GA QSO Party</b> <b>18:00Z to 03:59Z</b> Brkfst @ Golden Corral
10 <b>GA QSO Party</b> <b>14:00Z to</b> <b>23:59Z</b>	11 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	12 5:00 - 6:30 PM Dinner Flying Machine <b>7:00—9:00pm</b> <b>GARS Meeting</b>	13 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	14	15	16 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast <b>North Georgia</b> <b>FOX HUNT</b> <b>10am</b>
17	18 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	19	20 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	21	22	23 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive
24	25 8:00 - 8:30 pm GARS 2m Net	26	27 8:30 - 9:30 pm GARS Know-It-All Net	28	29	30 7:30 - 9:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral Riverside Drive

## Metro Testing Sessions

GARS publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <http://www.arrrl-ga.org>.

### First Sunday, ODD Months

2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov)  
VEC: WCARS  
Braselton Public Utility Building  
4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA  
Roger Gibson, WB4T  
(770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560  
[w4rlg@bellsouth.net](mailto:w4rlg@bellsouth.net)

### First Sunday, EVEN Months

2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)  
VEC: WCARS  
Hall County EOC  
470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga.  
Perry Roper, KO4RD  
(770) 536-3056

### Second Saturday

10:00 AM  
Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center  
13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004  
Ian Kahn, KM4IK  
E-mail: [km4ik.ian@gmail.com](mailto:km4ik.ian@gmail.com)

### Second Saturday, ODD Months

VEC: ARRL  
8:30 a.m.  
GMC Community Ctr  
5325 Leon St.  
Stone Mountain, GA  
Frank Haynes, KV4SP  
(678) 467-3712

### Second Sunday

VEC: W5YI  
2 pm  
Fire Station #24  
Mall of Georgia Boulevard  
Buford, GA 30519  
Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR  
E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

### Third Saturday

VEC: W5YI  
2 pm (Except December)  
Lifeway Church  
1654 Atlanta Highway #109  
Steve Donellan, N5SMD  
(404) 520-0368  
E-mail: [n5smd@comcast.net](mailto:n5smd@comcast.net)

(cont. next column)

## Ham Exam Results

We had four applicants for the March 13 testing session. Three of the four applicants passed exams as follows:

Two new Technician class  
One upgrade to General class

Many thanks to these VE's who made the exam possible:

Sid Weaver, N4NQ (Co-CVE)  
Frank Haynes, KV4SP  
Nick Doemland, AB4CQ  
Rick Cobb, N4XYX  
Larry Whited, AB4NX  
Karen Whited, AB4NW  
Bill Cherepy, WB4WTN  
Dave Bruse, W4DTR (CVE)

73,

*Don Bagby*, KK4NJM (Co-CVE)

GARS VE Team Leader  
E-mail: [exams@gars.org](mailto:exams@gars.org)

GARS VE Website:  
[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS\\_VE\\_Team/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/GARS_VE_Team/)

### Fourth Tuesday

ARRL VEC  
7 pm @ United Way Service Center  
6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville  
Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  
(770) 942-6466

### Fourth Sunday

2:30 pm Georgia Tech  
VanLeer Elec. Building  
Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.  
See [www.w4aq1.com](http://www.w4aq1.com)  
Alexander G. Carver  
(404) 894-2936  
[acarver@ece.gatech.edu](mailto:acarver@ece.gatech.edu)

## Metro Club Meetings

### First Tuesday

Kennehoochee ARC  
Downtown Marietta  
Fire Station #1, Training Room  
112 Haynes Street  
Marietta, Georgia 30060  
Meeting begins at 7:00pm  
Talk In 146.880(-)

### First Thursday

Atlanta Radio Club  
Georgia Red Cross HQ  
1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  
Meeting is at 7:30pm  
Talk In -146.820(-)  
N.E. Georgia ARC  
Commerce Public Library  
Meeting is at 6:30pm  
Talk In - 147.225(+)  
PL 123.0

### Second Monday

Georgia Tech ARC  
Room W218  
Van Leer Electrical  
Engineering Bldg.  
Georgia Tech Campus  
Meeting at 7:00pm

### Second Thursday

Alford Memorial Radio Club  
Annistown Road Baptist Church  
Intersection of Annistown Rd &  
Spain Rd  
Stone Mountain  
Dinner at 6:00pm  
Meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 146.760(-)

### Second Saturday

North GA QRP Club  
Board Room of The  
Shepherd Center at  
2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta  
at 10:00 AM

### Third Tuesday

North Fulton Amateur Radio League  
Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept  
Alpharetta Adult Activity Center  
13450 Cogburn Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30004  
meeting at 7:30pm  
Talk In - 145.47(-)  
For more, go to: <http://www.gars.org/>

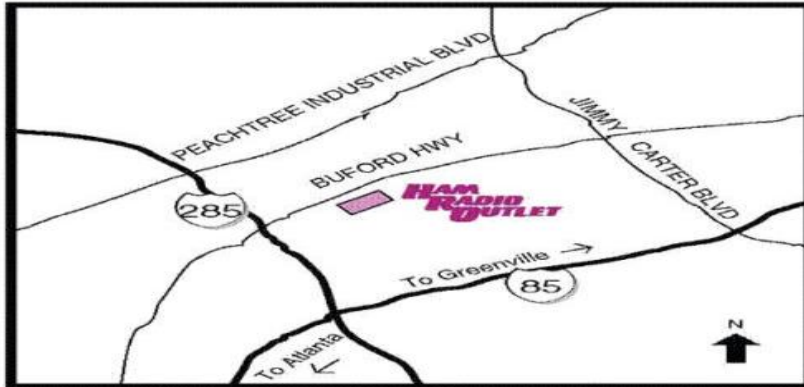
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