



The

GARzette



The Official Newsletter of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

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[www.GARS.org](https://www.gars.org/)

**Don't forget to support our
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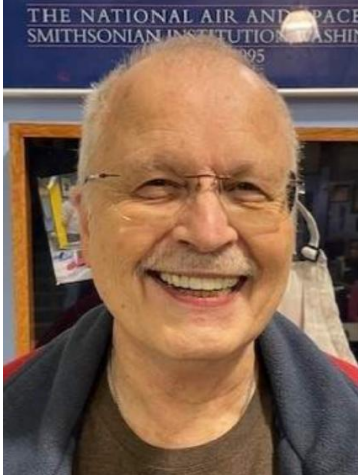


The next TechFest is January 30, 2027

**GARS Meeting: Favorite Projects and Websites
Tuesday October 13, 2026 at 7:00 PM**



President's Message



From the President...

October is going to be a busy month for GARS. There is JOTA, the Stone Mountain Hamfest, and the second installment of the GARS in the park outing.

JOTA is a scouts outing with ham radio to facilitate the scouts talking to each other around the world. I won't be able to make it this year, but when I went, I really enjoyed seeing the young future radio enthusiasts and talking to them about what ham radio can do. It is not always easy to put it in a way the cell phone and tablet game generation can enjoy and understand how it is not only a hobby of communication but also one of innovation and learning about electronics.

GARS is a co-sponsor of the Stone Mountain Hamfest in the sense GARS provides support for the Hamfest logistics, setup and tear-down, and also provide members for its planning. The GARS Volunteer Examiners (VE) group has provided the exam sessions, but this year we aren't and it allows the VE group to enjoy the Hamfest forums and the rest of what the Hamfest offers.

Speaking of Hamfests, the reason I am not going to be at JOTA is I am headed up to the Chattanooga Hamfest. It is smaller than the Stone Mountain one and takes me about 2 hours driving time to get there. I was there last year and found it was easy to talk to the vendors that were there and I also really did

enjoy the hotdog I had there. While I don't have a specific table there, the Stone Mountain Hamfest has a table there and I will put our upcoming TechFest information with the Stone Mountain Hamfest information.

GARS has been getting QSL cards from various contacts, some from years back Field Day contacts. GARS has not responded to receiving QSL cards until now. Shawnee Palmeri KR4HPC along with others at the Walnut Grove school have taken on this task including generating the GARS QSL card to be used to respond to the QSL cards GARS will use.

GARS also has a permanent (instead of just for specific events like Field Day) Safety Chair. Larry McDermott KE4ESV has volunteered to be the GARS Safety Chair for our expanding GARS events. For example, our second Sunday parks events should be monitored to be sure there are no injuries and the setup is engineered so everyone, operators and visitors, can be sure to just enjoy the event.

This month I am starting a column about DMR. It is going to provide things about using DMR and also how it works and hints about building and programming your DMR radios and the various ways to get started and operational ethics to be a good operator. Not sure if it will be a monthly column, but starting it is something I have been thinking about and decided this is as good a time as any to begin. Think of DMR as another way to talk to others using links that only licensed operators can use.

Bob – K4CQO

Club President / GARzette Editor

GARS Repeaters and Other Communications

2 Meter Repeaters

147.075(+) MHz Tone 82.5 – Snellville
 147.255(+) MHz Tone 107.2 – Snellville

1.25 Meter Repeater

224.580(-) MHz Tone 100.0, 1.6 MHz Offset – Grayson

70 Cm Repeaters

444.525(+) MHz Tone 82.5 – Snellville
 442.100(+) MHz Tone 100 – Norcross
 442.325(+) MHz Tone 100 – Buford

6 Meter Repeater

53.110 (-1 MHz) No Tone – Buford

Other Resources:

APRS

144.390 -- 1200 Baud W4GR

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, etc., Dave Bruse, W4DTR, who distributes the newsletter electronically, and Mark Prichard KN2TOD who delivers the *GARzette* to our local HRO store.

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 Upcoming 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.

When GARS meetings are available, they can be found on [YouTubeLive \(www.youtube.com/@GarsTube/streams\)](https://www.youtube.com/@GarsTube/streams) each month on the second Tuesday at 7:00 PM Eastern (information also available on <http://www.gars.org>). Members are able to attend the GARS Executive Meeting (via Microsoft Teams) on the 1st Tuesday of the month – send an email to the GARS President (president@gars.org) for information to attend.

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

- October 13th - Favorite Projects and Websites - Various GARS Members
- November 10th – POTA Every GA Park Visited Adventure
- GARS Holiday Party – December 5th no regular meeting

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

- October 20th - Favorite Projects and Websites - Various GARS Members
- November 17th – POTA Every GA Park Visited Adventure
- December – no meeting, enjoy the holiday season

**GARS Meeting – October 8, 2026
Review of Favorite Ham Radio and Related
Websites and Apps – Various Speakers**

This is GARS annual event where members share their favorite ham radio related websites and apps.

**GARS Workshop – October 15, 2026
CubeSat**

GARS workshops provide further information about the presentation given the week before on a one-on-one basis with the various presenters and there are also Elmers present on a variety of subjects to help with any questions you may have about ham radio – including help you're your equipment that you can bring in.

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

GARS would like to thank Annie Mehta for her CubeSat presentation.



GARS Happenings

20 Years ago in the GARS, ham radio, newsletter, Gwinnett 2006 October GARzette:

- Take a look at the JOTA article 20 years ago – nice graphic
- There were a lot of proposed by-law changes
- The GARS TechFest was advertised 20 years ago it was our 9th TechFest and means this year's is our 29th year of doing TechFest



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

Net Managers Corner

Monday Night 2 Meter “Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net”
Thursday Night 440 Buford Repeater 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 six operators who serve as the NCS for the GARS net every Monday night. GARS can always use more volunteers In no particular order, they are:

Ray – N4GYN David – KA4KKF Don – KM4BWT Joe – KR4LQL Chuck – KK4TKJ Ed – W4BSR

To volunteer to help as a NCS for the 440 Net contact Jim O'Brien KQ4RNA.

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 ([Click Here to Email our Net Manager](#)) to help support the effort that makes GARS the great club that it is. See you on the Nets!

GARS Sundays in the Park

Second Sundays in the Park

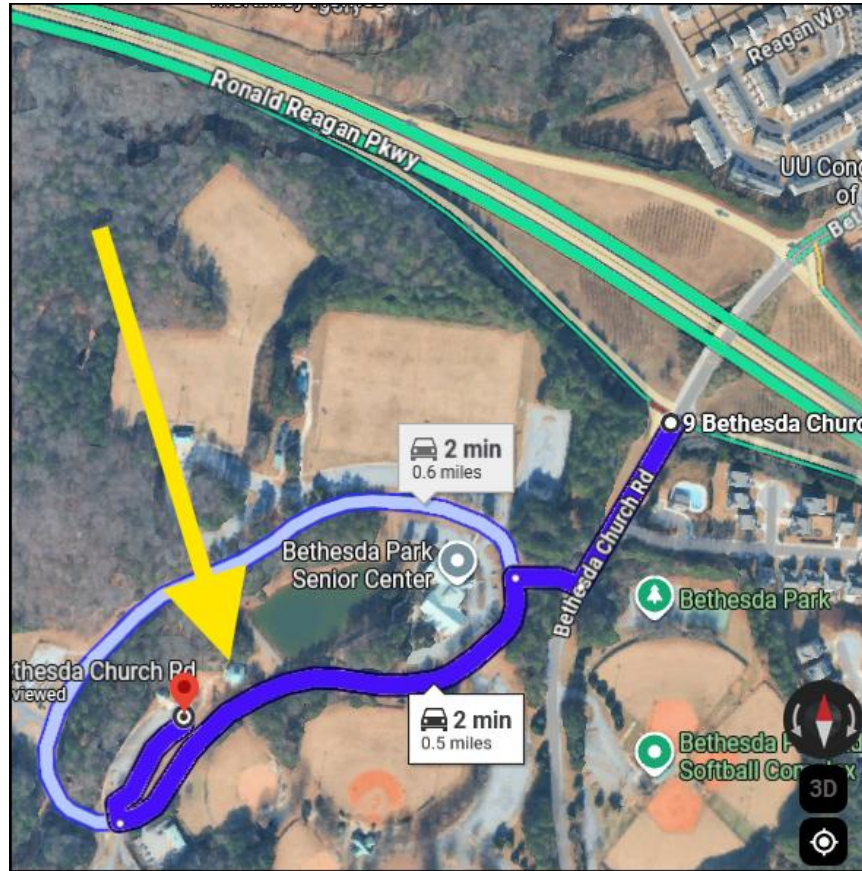
Here are some pictures for the September outing. It was a good event and there were 2 stations set up and also some good conversations and socializing besides getting on the air.





This is an opportunity to get out, set up your field portable radios, make some contacts together and have good fellowship with your friends in the club. Park outings may rotate between a few centrally located Gwinnett County Parks until we land on one which will best suit everyone who wishes to attend. Park outings will begin around 1:00 on the Second Sunday of every month at or near a central pavilion. Sometimes we may find that the pavilion has been rented, so bring your lawn chair, portable power, and a folding table just in case. If you have a pop-up canopy to share with others, let us know you're attending. This is an informal event, so drop in, bring a snack or cooler, stay as long as you like, and relax with your club friends.

The October **Second Sunday in the Park** event will be October 11th at 1:00 PM in Bethesda Park located (same place as the September event) at 225 Bethesda Church Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30044. Look for the pavilion next to the lake and between the Senior Center and the Aquatics Center.



I hope to see you there!

Edwin W4BSR

JOTA Jamboree on the Air

October 17th from 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

VFW Post 5255, 368 Grayson Highway,
Lawrenceville, GA 30046

For directions, please go to <http://goo.gl/maps/8b4zx>

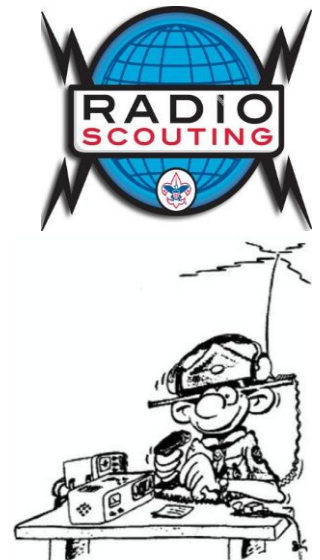
Jamboree-on-the-Air, or JOTA, is the largest Scouting event in the world. This is a free event that is open to all Cub Scouts, Scouts BSA, Venturers, Sea Scouts, Girl Scouts & the general public. Come learn and have fun at JOTA 2026. JOTA is an annual Scouting event that uses amateur radio to link Scouts around the world, around the nation, and in our own community. Scouts of any age can participate, from Cub Scouts to Boy Scouts, Ventures and Girl Scouts. This is the official JOTA site of the Northeast Georgia Council Amateur Radio Club KK4BSA.

Amateur Radio provides a fun way to learn communication skills and technology as well as providing a service to our community through the Amateur Radio Emergency Service.

For Scouts BSA interested in the Radio Merit Badge, we will be signing off on requirement 9(a). You can either bring a Blue Card or we will provide a signed certificate which can be brought to the Apalachee Advance-A-Rama where the other Merit Badge requirements will be covered.

For information contact Steve Back WB2OGY sb@sback.org.

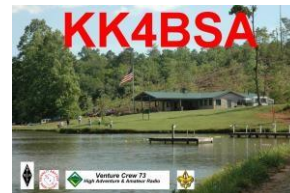
We will have 2-3 HF stations and one VHF/UHF station. Volunteers, Elmers, and Control Station Operators, please email Steve for more information on where you can help.



GARS



Gwinnett
ARES



NEGA Amateur
Radio Club Society

GARS Education Help Needed

Joeseeph Tollison KQ4YBT is serving as the GARS Education Representative for the Lilburn Middle School. Joseph needs radio contacts for the students to contact during the ham sessions for students at Lilburn Middle School. He needs people to stand by to talk to the students and ask them questions. Dates are:

OCT. 28, 2026
Nov. 11, 2026
Dec. 2, 2026

Jan. 6, 2027
Feb. 3, 2027
Mar. 3, 2027
Apr. 14, 2027
May 12, 2027

All around 3 pm. Please help out. They really enjoyed the first day contacting our operators. Note that thanks go to Joseph for talking to the kids during the sessions – they were excited.

Dave's Computer Tips

Groups.io — Keeping GARS Members Connected

By Dave Bruse, W4DTR (with a little help from ChatGPT)

GARS uses several online services to communicate with members and share information. One of the most important is **Groups.io**, which provides our email discussion group — often called an **email reflector**. It gives GARS members an easy way to communicate with the entire group simply by sending and receiving email.

What Is Groups.io?

Groups.io is an online service for email discussion groups. When a member sends a message to the group, it is distributed by email to the other members. You can reply directly from your normal email program, or read and respond to messages on the Groups.io website.

How Does GARS Use It?

GARS uses Groups.io primarily for member-to-member communication. Members can ask technical questions, share amateur radio information, announce activities, request help, or discuss topics of interest to the club.

It is separate from the regular GARS email system used to send newsletters and official club announcements.

How Do I Sign Up?

Joining is free. If you receive a Groups.io invitation from GARS, follow the instructions in the email to accept it and confirm your email address.

Once subscribed, you can choose to receive each message individually, receive a digest, or read messages on the Groups.io website.

Groups.io is an easy way to stay connected with other GARS members between meetings and take advantage of the knowledge and experience within the club.

Pro Tip: Using Multiple Email Addresses with Groups.io

Many of us use more than one email address. For example, you may have joined Groups.io using myname@mydomain.com, but later try to send a message from myname@anotherdomain.com. By default, Groups.io will not recognize the second address as belonging to you.

Fortunately, you can add alternate email addresses as **email aliases**:

1. Log in to Groups.io and click your name in the upper-right corner.
2. Click **Settings**.
3. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click **Advanced Settings for Email Aliases**.
4. Enter another email address you want to use and click **Add Email Alias**.
5. Repeat for any additional email addresses.

Once added, you can send messages to your Groups.io groups from any of those email addresses.

DMR Operation Hints

Options to get on DMR By Bob Hoffmann K4CQO

This installment is just going to list the various ways to access the DMR networks and some comparisons about them without going into how to get the equipment working. That is for a different month's addition.

Most "Radio Like" method

Use an HT or mobile / base station to connect to a DMR repeater. This is very similar to the analog radio connections to a repeater. However, with DMR, the connection to repeater is only the first leg of the connection and the repeater links to a DMR server with its defined Talk Groups (TGs). BTW, a DMR TG is just a place where you can find other to talk to. A TG is defined by areas like Georgia or by interests like JOTA.

When you move to another location the radio will need to be programmed to connect to the repeaters near the location where you are.

Using a Hotspot method

This is similar to the above method but the "repeater" is actually on your desktop. A Hotspot can be purchased or you can build your own using a Raspberry Pi. There are 2 types of Hotspots – simplex and duplex. A duplex Hotspot is functionally like a DMR repeater and has full access to both timeslots (TS) of the DMR protocol. A simplex Hotspot only has access to one of the TS. The term "simplex" is accurate since the simple Hotspot transmits and receives on the same frequency while the duplex Hotspot transmits and receives on different frequencies like DMR repeaters. Physically, a simplex Hotspot has a single antenna while a duplex one has 2 antennas.

Traveling with a radio and Hotspot is fairly easy. At the new location you have to connect the Hotspot to the Wi-Fi connection at your location and then you are ready to go since the radio is already programmed for the Hotspot and that does not change when you are in a new location.

Using Network Radio method

A Network Radio has many different forms, from the M1KE to the Radioddity units. These units convert your voice directly into the digital form and have an internet connection directly to the DMR Networks like a Hotspot connects without the need for an RF connection. These are all-in-one radios that can also have regular RF capabilities. This type does not need any other equipment to access the DMR TGs other than having an internet connection. A repeater near by or having a Hotspot is not needed.

For portable use this can be one of the easiest ways to connect on DMR. You only have a single unit (versus the radio and Hotspot) and just have to connect to the local Wi-Fi connection. The particular way that is programmed is different for each unit and while it is a single thing to do, its complication / simplicity is unit dependent.

Using a Mobile / Laptop App method

The final way to get to the DMR TGs is using an application on either your phone or laptop. The app functions like the Network Radio and uses either the phone's / laptop's Wi-Fi connection or its data connection (for the phone). There are several different apps that are available and are being developed and are currently available for Android phones and Windows laptops.

Since your phone is probably with you all the time and many travel with a laptop, this can be the easiest way to access DMR TGs when you are not in your shack.

GARS Workshops on the 3rd Tuesday is a great way to learn more about these methods and also to get any help with getting the method you chose working.

The Basics by Bob Schmid, WA9FBO

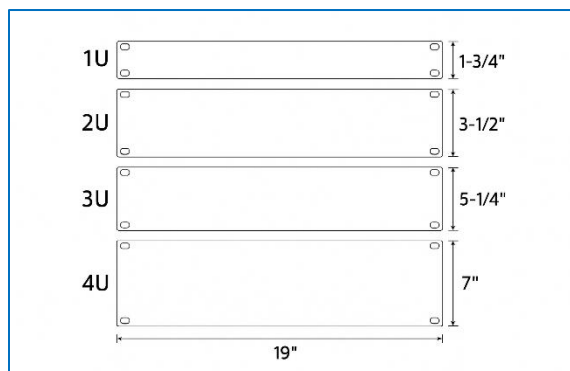
19" Racks

de: Bob Schmid, WA9FBO



Ever wonder why nearly every piece of professional radio, telecom, and computer gear fits into the same 19-inch-wide rack? We take it for granted, but its history goes back over 100 years.

In the early 20th century, when the telephone and railroad industries were booming, both needed standardized relay panels to control switches, signals, and communications. Western Electric (the Bell System's manufacturing arm) was making modular, rack-mounted relay panels for telephone exchanges. At the same time, railroad signal systems were being built into standard-sized relay enclosures. These racks made maintenance easier since technicians could quickly swap out failed units without rewiring the whole system. These early racks were – yup! – about 19 inches wide.



By the 1920s and 1930s, radio broadcasting was growing fast, and stations needed to stack their transmitters, amplifiers, and patch bays neatly in studios and transmitter sites. RETMA (Radio Electronics Television Manufacturers Association), the group responsible for setting industry standards for radio and TV equipment, recognized the advantages of the 19-inch rack and helped formalize it. This ensured that manufacturers built equipment to a uniform size, meaning stations and telecom companies could mix and match gear without worrying about compatibility.

In the 1950s RETMA evolved into the EIA (Electronic Industries Association). The 19-inch rack was practically universal, so the EIA set it in concrete with standard EIA-310. It dictates the 19-inch width for rack-mounted equipment, the 1.75-inch vertical increments (the "U" height), and standard hole spacing for easy mounting. This made life a lot easier for engineers, broadcasters, and IT professionals. No matter what brand of gear you bought, it fit.

What started as a radio and telecom standard soon took over the computer industry. Early mainframes were massive, but as computers shrank, companies like IBM and DEC started making minicomputers that fit neatly into 19-inch racks. By the 1980s and 1990s, every data center was built around rack-mounted servers, switches, and storage units.

Today, nearly everything in IT, broadcasting, and even some home audio setups is still designed to fit the same 19-inch standard.

Why 19 inches and not 18? Or 20? Practicality. It's wide enough to hold complex components but not too wide to make installation difficult. It became standardized early – the dawn of radio itself – meaning everyone stuck with it. And it's sufficiently accessible for one technician to mount or remove most rack gear without special tools.

There are some variations (like 23-inch racks for telecom and 21-inch ETSI racks in Europe), but 19 inches remains the global standard.



A Simple Look at Heat Sinking

Keeping your cool

Let's look at the basics of heat sinking—and why it matters. As temperature rises, the life of electronic components falls. The good news is that we don't have to guess whether something will run hot. By treating the thermal path like a simple circuit, we can estimate temperature and see what's really going on.

One important point: heat is generated at the junction inside the device. That means the junction is always hotter than the case—and often by more than you might expect. Even if the outside feels only warm, the inside can be much hotter.

Thermal resistance

We need a way to describe how easily heat moves from one place to another, and that's where thermal resistance comes in. Just as electrical resistance limits the flow of current, thermal resistance limits the flow of heat. When heat flows through a material, a temperature difference develops across it — the greater the resistance, the larger the temperature rise for a given amount of heat.

In a real device, heat doesn't travel through just one layer. It moves from the junction, through the case, into the heat sink, and finally into the surrounding air. Each step has its own thermal resistance, and each one adds a bit more temperature rise along the way.

Thermal resistances are written using the Greek letter theta (θ), followed by two letters that describe the path the heat takes. For example, θ_{JC} means junction-to-case — the first step in the thermal path. Next is θ_{CS} , case-to-heat sink, followed by θ_{SA} , heat sink-to-ambient air. Following this convention, θ_{JA} refers to the entire path—from the junction all the way out to the surrounding air — and is simply the sum of the individual steps: $\theta_{JA} = \theta_{JC} + \theta_{CS} + \theta_{SA}$. The units are degrees Celsius per watt ($^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$).

(Thermal grease, pads, or tape is used to fill gaps in the heat sink surface and improves heat transfer. These materials don't eliminate the resistance, but they reduce it, and are included in the case-to-heat sink term, θ_{CS} .)

We find the temperature rise ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) by multiplying the thermal resistance ($^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$) by the power (W). For example, if a device dissipates 5 W and heat sink A is rated at 10 $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$, the temperature rise will be 50 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. If heat sink B is rated at 2 $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$, the rise is only 10 $^{\circ}\text{C}$. Heat sink B is better — its lower $^{\circ}\text{C}/\text{W}$ rating means less temperature rise.

A familiar way to think about heat

Let's compare a thermal path to something we already know (Fig. 1). On the left is a simple series circuit with a voltage source pushing current through a few resistors. On the right is the same idea, but applied to a thermal path.

In the electrical picture, we often imagine voltage “dropping” as we move from the supply down to ground. But that's just a matter of viewpoint. We can just as easily start at ground and work upward, adding the voltage rise across each resistor until we reach the supply.

The thermal picture works the same way. Heat flows from the hot junction down to ambient, but if we start at ambient and work upward, each thermal resistance, from the heat sink, to the case, and finally to the junction adds a temperature rise. By the time we reach the junction, all of those rises add up to the highest temperature in the system.

(One difference from an electrical circuit is that there's no thermal “return path.” Heat doesn't flow in a loop—it simply moves from a hotter point to a cooler one, eventually reaching the surrounding air. In this analogy, ambient temperature acts like a reference point, similar to ground in a circuit.)

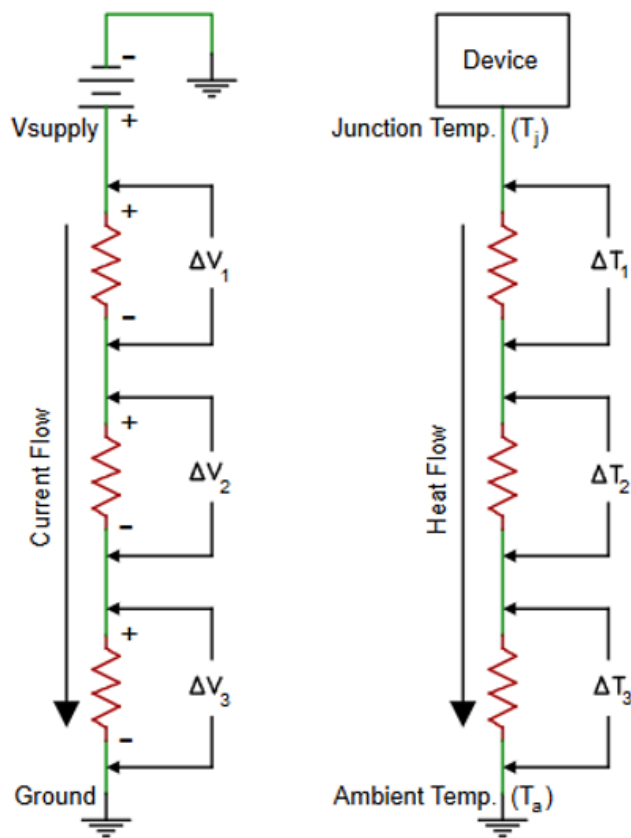


Figure 1- The thermal path can be viewed like an electrical circuit: heat flow corresponds to current, temperature rise to voltage, and thermal resistance to electrical resistance.

Estimating the junction temperature

Earlier we found the temperature rise by multiplying the total thermal resistance, θ_{JA} , by the power dissipation (P). If we add the ambient temperature (T_a), we get the junction temperature: $T_j = T_a + P \cdot \theta_{JA}$. Keep in mind that junction temperature limits matter. Some devices are rated for 150 °C, but many are limited to 125 °C—or even 100 °C. A result that looks acceptable at first glance can still push the device past its safe limit.

Choosing a heat sink

Assume we need a heat sink for a voltage regulator that has a maximum junction temperature of 125°C. The ambient temperature is 25°C (room temperature) and the power being dissipated is 5 watts. We can work backwards to find the total allowable thermal resistance: $\theta_{JA} = (T_j - T_a) / P$. The maximum allowable temperature rise is 125°C – 25°C = 100°C. Dividing by the power: 100°C / 5 W = 20°C/W. So the total thermal resistance—from junction to air—must be 20°C/W or less.

Now look at what's already fixed. The regulator's datasheet specifies the junction-to-case thermal resistance, θ_{JC} , as 3°C/W. The thermal grease (or pad) adds another 2°C/W for θ_{CS} . That leaves: 20 – 3 – 2 = 15°C/W. So the heat sink needs to be rated 15°C/W or lower.

What the heat sink is really doing

It's easy to think of a heat sink as something that “absorbs heat”, but what it really does is lower the thermal resistance between the device and the air (θ_{SA}). A bigger heat sink has a lower θ_{SA} . Better airflow lowers θ_{SA} too, and so does adding a fan. We don't store heat; we give it an easier path out.

Gonset G-76 Transceiver

Vintage Amateur Radio

de Bill Shadid, W9MXQ



As I look back on my personal ham radio history, there are many radios that I have never owned and some that I have never even seen and touched. Those include several models from Hallicrafters – the SX-88 Receiver or their television sets from the 1950's. One model from Collins I have admired from afar is the KW-1 AM/CW Transmitter. Hammarlund and National have models that fall into that category as well. Many 1960's home market Japanese and British radios fall into that category as well.

One radio that I have never owned or seen is the Gonset Model G-76 HF+6M AM/CW Transceiver. This radio was very attractively styled and was designed for full coverage of the 80-10-meter bands – plus a reasonable accommodation for 6-meters. I will explain that 6-meter accommodation a bit later.

There are some unique aspects to this radio that would not be immediately evident to a ham used to radios today. But first, here is a picture of the Gonset G-76:



Gonset G-76 HF+6M Transceiver (Gonset Model 3338)

Rigpix.com

Release of the G-76 on the market, in 1960, was actually only a few months after the game changing Collins KWM-2 SSB/CW Transceiver. What makes this so unique is that Gonset's G-76 was not an SSB Transceiver – it was designed as a plate modulated AM Transmitter that incorporated a separate Receiver. I have to say that “transceiver” as is used the way we think of that term today, is not that way with the Gonset G-76. It is correct to call the unit a receiver and a transmitter in the same cabinet. The only shared circuitry, other than power supply circuitry, is the fact that the AM Modulator Driver stage is used as the speaker audio amplifier in receive. Beyond that, the only thing the receiver and transmitter have in common is the antenna! But, in keeping with its single package design, I will use the term, “transceiver” to discuss its features. Remember also – Gonset referenced it as a “transceiver.”

The technology of the separate receiver and transmitter in the same cabinet was known at the time. Examples were common and included offerings from Heathkit, Hallicrafters, and others. However, some of the most popular radios of such radios were from the same Gonset that produced the G-76.

Ham radio licensees of my vintage (licensed in 1964) recall local emergency communications using Gonset AM Communicators for 6-meters, 2-meters, and even 220 MHz band in at least one model. Examples (each available in both 6-meter and 2-meter versions) are shown below:



Gonset Communicator



Gonset Communicator II



Gonset Communicator III



Gonset Communicator IV

While these “Communicator” models were well known in emergency communication circles, they were used for general communications as well on both VHF bands. In fact, in the 1960’s, while still living in my parents’ house while going to college, I worked my first DX on VHF – 6-meters. I had my 6-meter Gonset Communicator III model and its 6-watts output on AM driving a half-wave dipole up about five or six feet above ground. From my Central Illinois location, I answered a Cuban station calling CQ – and talked to the fellow for a few minutes. In those pre-FM days, most of us around town were using Gonset Communicators of one version or another. Allied Knight-Kit, Heathkit, Hallicrafters, Clegg, and others also had competing VHF AM transceivers.

The purpose of the above review of Gonset VHF gear was simply to give you an idea if the company’s roots. Returning to the G-76 Transceiver, it had a form factor not unlike the Collins KWM-2:

- Collins KWM-2 Front Panel Outside Dimensions – 14-3/4” Wide x 7-3/4” High
- Gonset G-76 Front Panel Outside Dimensions – 12-5/8” Wide x 5-1/8” High

The G-76 was a bit more compact than the KWM-2 but kept a similar balance of dimensions (form factor).

The G-76 used a single 6DQ5 as its Power Amplifier Tube. That tube, in turn, was modulated by a pair of 6DQ6B Tubes. Power expectations for the final amplifier are as follows:

Mode	Power Input	Calculated Power Output
AM	100	70
CW	120	90

Users of modern Linear AM Modulation in their SSB Transceivers do not see the plate efficiency of the Class C final amplifiers of the time.

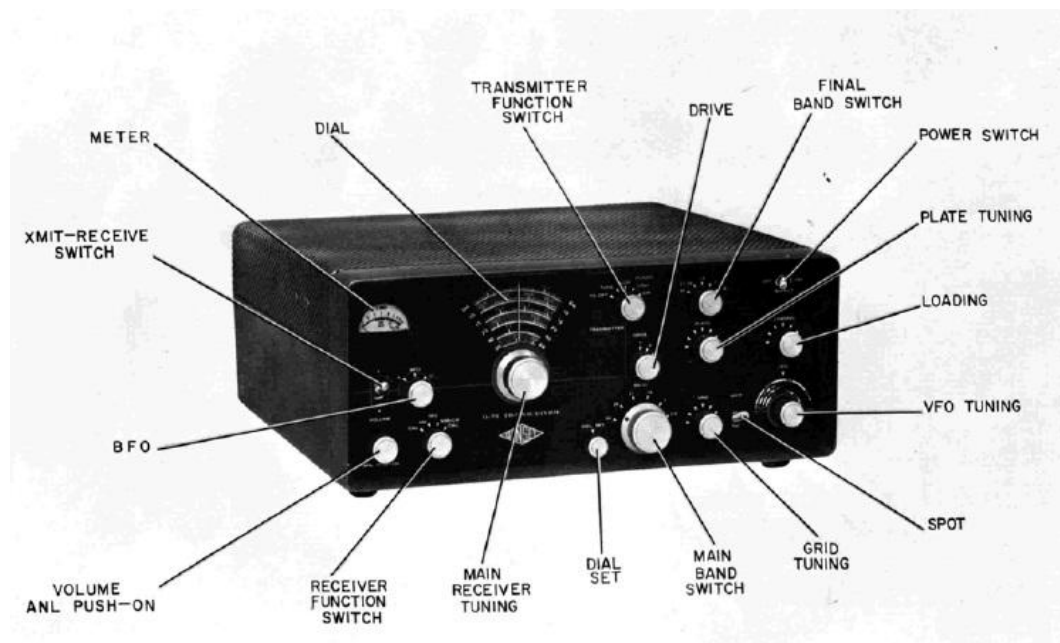
The final amplifier and modulator tubes used in the G-76 were popular at the time. Specifically, look at Hallicrafters' use of the two tubes – but not the same filament voltage, necessarily:

Hallicrafters Model	PA Tubes	AM Power Output	SSB Power Output	CW Power Output
HT-44	2x – 6DQ5	25 (Carrier)*	100	100
SR-150	2x – 12DQ6**	N/A	80	60

- (*) The HT-44 being primarily an SSB/CW Transmitter, used Linear Modulation for SSB. It had a resting carrier output of 25 watts with a carrier level of up to 100 watts at full modulation. “Linear Modulation” generally lacked the audio punch and fidelity of a plate modulated carrier, like used in the Gonset G-76.
- (**) The 12DQ6 and 6DQ6 tubes are identical in performance. The only difference is in the filament voltage.

Hallicrafters and Gonset were early users of Television Horizontal Sweep Oscillator tubes for RF amplification. Later users of this technology were Swan, Drake, National, Galaxy (WRL), and others. Yaesu and Kenwood from Japan and KW Electronics from the United Kingdom, among others, also jumped onto the “sweep tube” bandwagon. Heathkit was an early user of the technology but ended up with more traditional transmitting tubes, such as the 6146 series. My personal feeling is that properly used sweep tubes offered performance at least equal to tradition offerings of traditional tubes focused on RF service.

The layout of the front panel of the G-76 (as illustrated on the first page of this article) is pretty straight forward. Check this illustration from the Operating Manual that Gonset provided with the radio:



Gonset G-76 HF+6 Meter Transmitter / Receiver (Transceiver)
Gonset Company

Most controls are pretty easy to understand. We will cover only the basics, leaving the details to a user of the radio, following the Operating Manual Instructions.

- The BFO control is most useable for CW operation and setting the preferred listening offset. In addition, it is calibrated for Upper Sideband (“U”) and Lower Sideband (“L”) to indicate proper setting as appropriate for the band in use. The G-76 has an excellent SSB receiver.
- The Receiver Function Switch has an interesting design in that it has four positions, left to right, of CAL – AM – SSB/CW – CAL. Note the two operating positions (CW and SSB/CW) can easily switch to the internal 100 kHz Calibrator without switching past a different mode. So, when switching to the left CAL position from AM leaves the receiver in AM mode. In similar fashion, switching from SSB/CW to the right CAL position would leave the receiver in SSB/CW mode.
- The Main Receiver Tuning is the control for the Receiver frequency – and does not control the frequency of the Transmitter. The readout is a nicely design V-Arc, above the tuning knob.
- Look to the lower right corner of the panel to see the Transmitter VFO Tuning. This control, calibrated but not to the degree of detail present in the Main Receiver Tuning, sets the frequency of the Transmitter.
- Just to the left of the left of the Transmitter VFO Tuning is the SPOT control that, when pressed, sends out a low level transmit signal that can be heard in the receiver. The VFO Tuning would then be rotated until heard in the receiver – so the transmitter would be sending on the same frequency the receiver is tuned.
- Notice two Band Switches. One is the MAIN BAND SWITCH along the bottom row, large knob, just to the right of center. The other Band Switch is on the upper row of controls – to the right of center – and it is the FINAL BAND SWITCH. This second band switch handles the switching of the Pi-Network output circuit. These tuned circuits also are involved with the front end of the receiver.

This kind of multiple band switch circuitry was not common and is almost never seen today. It occasionally appeared, however, in the completely different receiver vs. transmitter circuitry in the days of AM/CW radios. While inconvenient in what we expect today, it is kind of an understood issue with a separate technology receiver and transmitter in the same cabinet.

- The VFO for the Transmitter section of the radio controls frequencies in the 80-10 meter bands – but does not cover transmit frequency on transmit for 6-meters. Transmit frequency on 6-meters is by crystal control only. The socket (on the rear panel) can, however, accept input from a six meter VFO.
- The TRANSMITTER FUNCTION SWITCH controls several transmit features. On this switch, the user can select a position to listen only and remove power from transmit only tubes to, for instance, save battery power in a mobile or portable operation. This switch also covers AM Power – 20 or 100 watts or engages CW power of 120 watts (input power). There is also a TUNE position for convenience when tuning the transmitter. That TUNE position allows grid current to show on the meter. All of the traditional controls for tuning a vacuum tube radio are present for grid tuning, drive level, plate, and load controls.
- From the point of view of a collector, 65 years after the introduction of the Gonset G-76, it is refreshing to see a heavy duty toggle switch (front panel in the upper right hand corner) to turn the main AC power on and off. This means that there is no delicate add-on switch contacts to an existing wafer switch or potentiometer to fail and become impossible to replace. Even after 65 years, a toggle switch is available and easy to replace.

As you would expect, the rear panel of the radio is much simpler in layout. Presented there are the antenna connector, power connector (see reference to power supplies later in this article), and crystal / external VFO connections for 6-meters. Also clearly noted are the Key Jack for a Morse Code Key, the Microphone Jack, and a Speaker Jack. Note that there is no internal speaker in the Gonset G-76. There are Microphone Gain and S-Meter Zero controls available on the back as well. Finally, there is a pin jack to allow constant measurement of grid current.



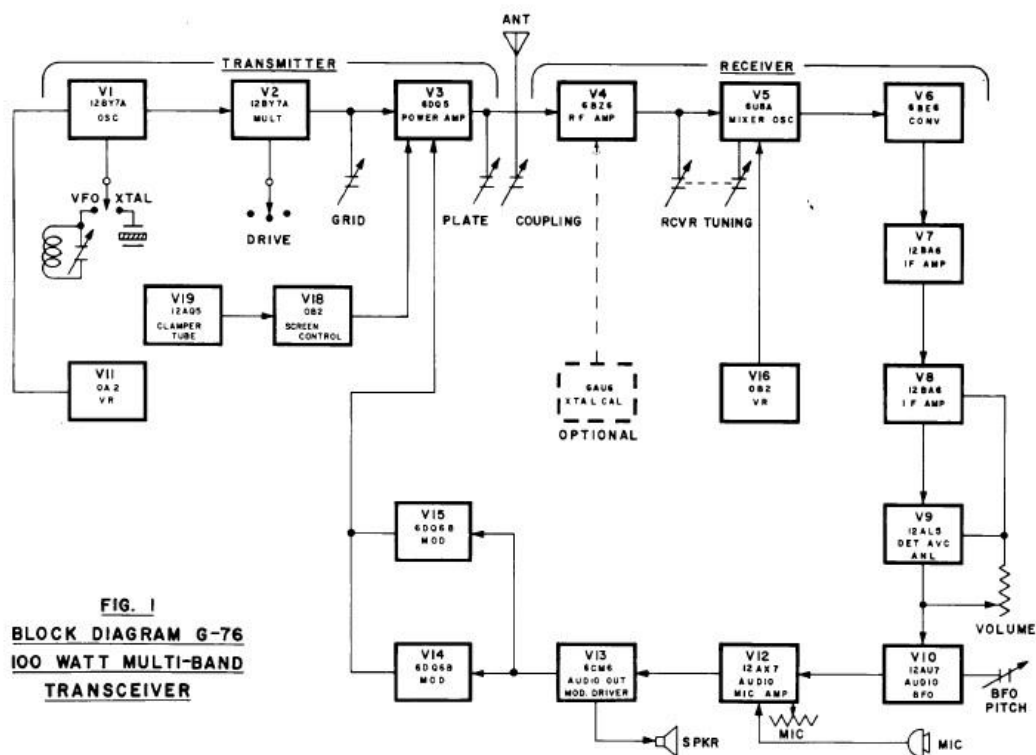
Gonset G-76 HF+6 Meter Transmitter / Receiver Rear Panel

Gonset Company

One can see the two 6DQ6 (V14 and V15) modulator tubes just to the right of the just right of center Modulation Transformer (T8). Not visible from this view is the 6DQ5 Final Amplifier (V3) – mounted horizontally, in the opposite direction to the modulator tubes.

The Gonset G-76 was equipped to install an optional 100 kHz Calibrator. Over the years I have found that many such options were never purchased by the original owner. In my case, I would merely copy the circuit and make my own calibrator. Finding the rather unique 100 kHz crystal these days is not so easy – but possible. The complicate band structure for different classes of license did not exist then, so we did not have multiple divisions on the band that are easily accessed (or avoided!!) with highly accurate frequency control systems.

I want to draw your attention, below, to the G-76 Block Diagram. If you look at the diagram, all items to the right of the top center shown Antenna are the Receiver section of the radio. All items to the left side of that same Antenna symbol are the Transmitter section. Check V13, just to the right of center along the bottom. That is the Audio Out / Modulation Driver tube. As such, this receiver audio output tube is also used as the Driver tube for the Modulation System in the transmitter. This kind of circuitry was common in radios that are basically a separate Transmitter and Receiver in the same cabinet, as referenced earlier in the article.

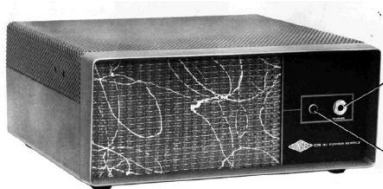


Gonset G-76 Block Diagram

Gonset Company

The Gonset G-76 was offered with two optional Power Supplies:

- Model 3349 Gonset G-76 AC Power Supply with Speaker
 - 120 VAC, 60 Hz, AC Input
 - Connection provided for the internally mounted speaker
- Model 3350 Gonset G-76 DC Power Supply
 - 12 VDC Automobile Battery Input



Gonset Model 3349 AC Power Supply
Gonset Company



Gonset Model 3350 DC Power Supply
Gonset Company

Here is a picture, for which I regrettably cannot find credit information, of the Gonset G-76 Transceiver. This shows the G-76 in a scene with its matching Model 3349 AC Power Supply/Speaker. This unit has seen some use as evidenced by a few chips in the leading edges of its cabinet bezel and the rusting

mounting screws on the front panel meter. Like many radios that were frequently used in mobile service, the G-76 is not easy to find in pristine condition.



Gonset G-76 Transceiver with the Gonset Model 3349 AC Power Supply/Speaker

Gonset made an attempt to replace the G-76 with a SSB Transceiver (a true transceiver) in the form of the GC-102 in about 1962 (at least announced by then). This 80-10 Meter transceiver never saw much more than prototype production. But they do appear from time to time on the market. There was also an announcement of a call called MSB-1 SSB/CW Transceiver that never materialized.

From what I can find from old advertisements in **73 Magazine**,TM There was some hype on the GC-102. Take a look at this advertisement in the magazine for the GC-102 and the matching GSB-201 Linear Amplifier. That amplifier outlived most other Gonset products and is still relatively common if you want one. The GSB-201 started as a four place 811A Triode Amplifier and eventually evolved to using four UE572B Triodes for 1,500 watts input.



**Been
"reading
the mail"
lately?**

Good news travels fast. And if you've been listening to local or DX bands you know that Gonset has come out with a new single side band transceiver that's everything you've been waiting for!

Of course you want the facts on the new Gonset GC-102, so here's the scoop. Whether you want to operate it barefoot or with shoes, the GC-102 is the best SSB transceiver you can buy!



Because the Gonset GC-102 receiver uses transistors and "hybrid" tubes, it operates from 12 volt DC with a minimum power drain!

Coupled with the Gonset GSB-201 Linear Amplifier, the GC-102 gives 1500 watts P.E.P. input.



ONLY THE GONSET GC-102 SSB TRANSCEIVER GIVES YOU ALL THESE DELUXE FEATURES!

- Mechanical filter used to generate side band.
- All bands, 80 through 10 meters, in basic 500 KC segments.
- 2-speed concentric dial drive with "coarse" tuning ratio of 20:1 (50 KC/revolution) and "vernier" tuning ratio of 100:1 (10 KC/revolution).
- Power input to final: 180 watts P.E.P.
- Receiver features dual conversion.
- Semi-digital dial presentation with 10 KC major divisions, 2 KC minor divisions.
- Highly stabilized VFO.
- Designed for mobile and fixed station operation.
- Separate AC and 12 volt DC power supplies.
- AC P/S forms pedestal for transmitter to match appearance of GSB-201 Linear Amplifier.
- "Edge-lighted" dial and illuminated "S" meter.
- 100 KC Crystal calibrator built in.
- Transceiver tunes WWV (15 Mcs) for calibration purposes.
- High voltage power supply is used only in "transmit" mode.
- VOX and speech amplifier sections are completely transistorized.

For the Gonset distributor in your community consult list on the next page.

GONSET
DIVISION OF YOUNG SPRING & WIRE CORPORATION
801 SOUTH MAIN STREET, BURBANK, CALIFORNIA

73 MAGAZINE

73 Magazine™ advertisement for the GC-102 Transceiver and the GSB-201 Linear Amplifier

73 Magazine

<https://www.virhistory.com/>

If you look carefully you will notice a pedestal below the GC-102. That is the bolt-on AC Power Supply. The styling look also went into the GSB-201 Linear Amplifier – but that was just interior space for the amp – not dedicated to its power supply. In my opinion, this was a unique look. Note in the above magazine advertisement that the automobile installation – where any such pedestal is absent. There

must have been a DC Power Supply but information on that seems to have vanished. Both AC and DC Power Supplies are mentioned in the above advertisement.

I am going to repeat some information included in a previous article on Gonset products. I want to remind readers again that the Gonset Company was founded by Faust Gonsett in the 1950's. Mr. Gonsett used a slightly shortened spelling of his name in the Gonset company name. He went on in the marketplace and his name appears in many different companies and products. He was a major factor, later in his life, with the development of the Sideband Engineers SBE SB-33 and SB-34 Transceivers – the first of the long lived hybrid radio design where a solid state transceiver used a vacuum tube driver and final amplifier. You saw those in several designs, including extensive product lines from Yaesu and Kenwood. And, also from Hallicrafters in their hybrid FPM-200 and FPM-300. Actually, the very limited production Hallicrafters FPM-200 probably predates Mr. Gonsett's work – but that point perhaps is due a bit more study. That hybrid design was included in the limited production Gonset GC-102, described above.

It is later years, Gonset Company became a part of Young Spring and Wire Corporation. They listed their address in Burbank, California, but that may have just been the Gonset factory. Young Spring and Wire Corporation was also listed in Archbold, Ohio. I can attest as a ham at the time, that the Young Spring and Wire Corporation owned Gonset through many years of operation. Having many interests (some noted here), I am not sure of the place of Mr. Gonsett in the later years of the company.

A special thanks go to Bob, W9DYQ, for his proof reading and his assistance in article development.

Thank you for reading my articles. Remember that I am open to questions and comments at my email address, W9MXQ@earthlink.com. Please share your experiences with the Gonset G-76 with me.

Notes:

¹ Much of the documentation for his article came from back issues of 73 Magazine, which seems now to be in the public domain. Also, when you see "Gonset Company" in the credit of a picture, it means it has been taken from Gonset product literature of the day or product Operating Manuals. Other credits are as shown.

W9MXQ



GARS Open Positions – Help Wanted

These are some of the positions that are available. If you have a background in any of these positions or want to learn them, they are available for you to fill.

- ❖ Marketing Chair
- ❖ Member Assistant
- ❖ Activities Chair – includes the following types of activities that can be sponsored by GARS
 1. Fox Hunt
 2. GARS Operating Contests
 3. Winter Field Day
 4. GARS Hamfest Volunteers
- ❖ Non-Chair Activities needed:
 1. “X” discussion handler

In order to offer your help with any of these, send an email to president@gars.org or contact the President (Bob K4CQO) at one of our meetings.

Membership Assistant

Need a volunteer to help process membership applications, and maintain the membership database. The ideal candidate should be comfortable using computer based applications, have good communication skills, enjoy working with others, and have an interest in helping GARS grow and thrive. No professional data entry or support experience is required – just enthusiasm, creativity, and a willingness to help and learn.

Marketing Chair Information

The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS) is seeking a volunteer to serve as Marketing Committee Chairman. This position is responsible for helping promote the club, its activities, and the benefits of amateur radio to current and prospective members.

Responsibilities include developing and coordinating marketing efforts for club events, membership recruitment, and special activities; assisting with social media and website promotion; and working closely with the Public Information Officer (PIO) to ensure consistent messaging and outreach.

The ideal candidate should have good communication skills, enjoy working with others, and have an interest in helping GARS grow and thrive. No professional marketing experience is required – just enthusiasm, creativity, and a willingness to help.

GARS Membership Pricing

New Membership: (Licensed Adults and Seniors who have never been a GARS member)	First Year Free	Youth Membership: (Licensed Youth ≤ 21) (Proof of age required)	Free (until age 22)
Adult Membership:	\$30 / 1-Year \$50 / 2-Years (\$10 savings) \$60 / 3-Years (\$30 savings) \$350 / Lifetime (One-Time Fee)	Senior Membership: (Age 65+) (Proof of age required)	\$15 / 1-Year \$25 / 2-Years (\$5 savings) \$30 / 3-Years (\$15 savings) \$150 / Lifetime (One-Time Fee)
Join Link: https://gars.org/join Renew Link: https://gars.org/renew			



GARS Membership

New Members in September

Michael Carney (KR4PDK)
Christopher Snowden (KR4EBF)

New Members: 2

**Total Members as of
September 30, 2026
370**

Join GARS members for our:

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

Friday weekly gatherings are held at the [Chilli's](#) at:
[947 Lawrenceville Suwanee Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30043](#)

Saturday weekly gatherings are held at the [Cracker Barrel](#) at:
[75 Celebration Dr, Suwanee, GA 30024](#)

Birthdays in October

Larry Andrus (KB4LWT)
Ray Bailey (N4GYN)
Bill Beguhn (NG4H)
Amy Bross (KR4HPB)
Scott Brown (KD4YDD)
Dale Burns (KI4MZO)
Dad Carmona
Bill Cohron (WD4AMC)
Jonny Dorminy (KN4LGM)
Charles Eiland (WA4RVO)
Neil Gardner (KO4UHX)
Benjamin Goings (KM4RTO)
Ellen Hawkins (KM4RRW)
Stacy Henderson
Joseph Iannazzone (KR4LQL)
Bill Kirk (N4WWK)
Kathy Kitz
Robert LaBerge (KC4BI)
Joel Levine (WA4HNL)
Hana Londono
Carol McDonald
Mac McDonald (NN4K)
THOMAS MCELROY (W4SDR)
Fnu Mihit Shubham (KR4MKQ)
Bill Nash (KO4ZDH)
Jason Pattillo (KR4CTH)
Cathy Pierce (K1YMW)
Bob Pursley (WD4KQQ)
John Reichmann (KC9ZKS)
Gregory Ridderbusch (KR4MIE)
Michael Sheaffer (W4ANO)
Andrew Souvinette (KQ4VUL)
Gaylynn Tollison (KF4OTA)
Matthew Valitalo (KQ4LSZ)
Mike Weathers (ND4V)
Glen Wendt (W3WWT)

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 – www.gars.org/gars/membership/. To make changes to your GARS membership (moved, new e-mail address, new phone number, etc.), please contact the Membership Chair at [Email](mailto:Email@gars.org) (<http://www.gars.org/contact/>) with any changes to your Membership information.

In order to report a Silent Key or member issues, use www.gars.org/gars/membership-chairman or www.gars.org/gars/email-health-wellbeing.

Membership Chair: Dave Bruse, W4DTR

Committee Members: Pam Brown KJ4RYV, John Aguirre KQ4EJV, Tee Stewart KR4GKY

ARRL MEMBERSHIP

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

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.





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 the Kroger Community Rewards program (a small portion of every purchase you make through Kroger is donated to GARS).

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

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

GARS on Social Media



Discord Request:

<https://gars.org/discord>



Groups.io:

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



Visit GARS on Facebook:

<https://gars.org/facebook>



Follow GARS on X:

<https://gars.org/x>



Join GARS on YouTube:

<https://gars.org/youtube>

GARS Mail Address:

GARS
P.O. Box 492531
Lawrenceville, GA 30049
<https://gars.org>

Officers



Bob Hoffmann, President
 K4CQO



Glen Wendt, Vice President
 W3WWT



Ralph Pickwick, Treasurer
 KJ4CNC



Michael Stewart, Secretary
 KR4CVF



Kevin Scott, Program Manager
 K4GTR

Managers and Committee Chairs



Dave Bruse, VE Team Leader, Membership Chair W4DTR



David Adcock, Webmaster KA4KKF



Ralph Pickwick, Education Chair KJ4CNC



Earl Whatley, Apparel Manager & Dacula Parade Co-Chair AF4FG



Michael Stewart, Activities – Dacula Parade Co-Chair KR4CVF



Mario Stewart, Public Information Officer KR4CUK



Bob Hoffmann, GARzette Editor K4CQO



Eddie Foust, Repeater Chair K4AIH



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



Chuck McCord, Net Manager KK4TKJ



Steve Back, Technical / RFI Advisor WB2OGY



Dallas Mellichamp, Workshop Leader, Field Day Chair N4DDM



Edwin Henderson, Multimedia Chair W4BSR



Dallas Mellichamp, Georgia QSO Chair N4DDM



Neil Derryberry, Elmer Manager & IT Chair WD4NET



Edwin Henderson, TechFest Chair W4BSR



Anita Morris, Health and Wellbeing KG4AJX



Shawnee Palmeri, GARS QSL card Chairman KR4HPC



Larry McDermott, GARS Safety Chair KE4ESV

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 General Meeting Minutes Tuesday, 09/08/2026

Attendees

President - Bob Hoffmann, K4CQO [GARzette Editor]
Vice President - Glen Wendt, W4WWT
Treasurer - Ralph Pickwick, KJ4CNC [Education Chair]
Secretary - Michael Stewart, KR4CVF [Dacula Parade Co-Chair]
Program Manager - Kevin Scott, K4GTR

Total Meeting Attendees: 45 (2 New Member)

Agenda

Opening Time: 7:00pm
Closing Time: 8:47pm
Membership Report: 369 Members as of 8/31/26

Programs: University of Georgia CubeSat by
Annie D. (KQ4NJC)

MEMESat-1
MOCI
COSMO

Upcoming Events:

JOTA - 10/17
Park Outing -9/13
Public Safety Fall Festival - 9/12

General Information:

Dallas is the new SK Eq Chair
Still working on Techfest
Techfest Survey
Shawnee P. KR4HBS new QSL Chair

Workshop Minutes – September 15th, 2026

Attendance: 15

Workshop: No Primary Topic

Presenter: Unavailable

Brief Summary: This Workshop did not follow the University of Georgia presentation on their satellite program and the use of Amateur Radio to communicate with their satellites.

Our guest speaker, Annie Dmitrieff KQ4NJC, was unavailable for our workshop, so we discussed a range of topics: MeshCore and the Gwinnett ARES MeshCore build in September. The newly formed GARS Safety Committee and its [email group](#) on GroupsIO. Various slingshots and other antenna launchers.

Elmers are always present at the GARS Workshops. Feel free to bring your questions to the Workshop. If your project is small enough to bring to the meeting, please let us know in advance so we can gather the necessary tools and test equipment.

73 Dallas N4DDM
Workshop Chair

GARS Calendar Events

GARS Events Calendar for 2026		GARS Recurring Calendar
TechFest Winter Field Day Dog Show Fundraiser Spring Technician HamCram Georgia QSO Party North metro area Fox Hunt Memorial Day Parade ARC/KARC Hamfest Field Day Summer General HamCram Fall Technician HamCram JOTA Stone Mt. Hamfest Holiday Party	February 21 2026 January 24-25 2026 March 25-29, 2026 April 11&12 2026 April 11-12 2026 April 2026 May 25 2026 June 2027 June 27-28 2026 July 25-26 2026 October 2026 October 2026 October 30-31 2026 December 2026	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 3 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 Thursday at 7:30 pm: GARS 440 Net on the GARS 442.325 MHz or 442.100 repeater - Every Friday at 11:30 am, GARS Lunch at Chili's - Every Saturday at 8:00 am GARS Breakfast at Cracker Barrel

GARS Calendar for October 2026 for more information go to gars.org

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 7:30 PM 440 Net	2 11:30 AM Lunch at Chili's	3 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
4	5 7:30 PM 2M Net	6 7:00 PM Exec Meeting	7	8 7:30 PM 440 Net	9 11:30 AM Lunch at Chili's	10 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
11 1:00 PM GARS Sundays in the Park	12 7:30 PM 2M Net	13 7:00 PM Meeting EAA 690 Hangar	14	15 7:30 PM 440 Net	16 11:30 AM Lunch at Chili's	17 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
18 3:00 PM Ham Radio Exams, EAA 690 Hangar	19 7:30 PM 2M Net	20 7:00 PM Workshop Meeting EAA 690 Hangar	21	22 7:30 PM 440 Net	23 11:30 AM Lunch at Chili's	24 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel
25	26 7:30 PM 2M Net	27	28	29 7:30 PM 440 Net	30 11:30 AM Lunch at Chili's	31 8:00 AM Breakfast at Cracker Barrel



Events – ARRL Contests / Hamfests

ARRL CONTESTING INFO

From ARRL Contest Calendar
> For more information click the links <

January 2026

- 1 [Straight Key Night](#)
- 3 [Kids Day](#)
- 3-4 [RTTY Roundup](#)
- 17-19 [January VHF](#)

February 2026

- 9-13 [School Club Roundup](#)
- 21-22 [International DX – CW](#)

March 2026

- 7-8 [International DX– Phone](#)

April 2026

- 19 [Rookie Roundup – Phone](#)

May 2026 (no ARRL Contests)

June 2026

- 6-7 [International Digital Contest](#)
- 13-15 [June VHF](#)
- 20 [Kids Day](#)
- 27-28 [Field Day](#)

July 2026

- 11-12 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

August 2026

- 1-2 [222 MHz and Up Distance Contest](#)
- 15-17 [10 GHz & Up – Round 1](#)
- 8-9 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)
- 16 [Rookie Roundup – RTTY](#)

September 2026

- 12-14 [September VHF](#)
- 5-6 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)
- 19-21 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)

October 2026

- TBD [Collegiate QSO Party](#)
- 31-Nov 1 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
- 19-23 [School Club Roundup](#)

November 2026

- 7-9 [Nov Sweepstakes–CW](#)
- 28-29 [EME - 50 to 1296 MHz](#)
- 21-23 [Nov Sweepstakes–Phone](#)

December 2026

- 4-6 [160 Meter](#)
- 12-13 [10 Meter](#)
- 20 [Rookie Roundup–CW](#)

For more information:

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

HAMFEST CALENDAR

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

10/09/2026 - 10/10/2026 - [Melbourne Hamfest](#)

Location: Melbourne, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Platinum Coast Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://hamfest@pcars.org>

10/10/2026 - [NOARC Annual Hamfest](#)

Location: Crestview, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: North Okaloosa Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://w4aaz.org/noarc/>

10/16/2026 - 10/17/2026 [Hamfest Chattanooga 2026](#)

Location: Ringgold, GA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://hamfestchattanooga.net>

10/25/2026 - [Wiregrass ARC - Fall Tailgate](#)

Location: Headland, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Wiregrass Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://w4dhn.org>

10/30 - 10/31/2026 [Stone Mountain Hamfest, ARRL GA Convention](#)

Location: Lawrenceville, GA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Alford Memorial Radio Club

Website: <http://stonemountainhamfest.com>

11/07/2026 - [Amateur Radio Festival and Tailgate](#)

Location: Trenton, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Dixie Amateur Radio Klub

Website: <https://www.qsl.net/w4dak/>

11/07/2026 - [EPARS Fall Hamfest](#)

Location: Dade City, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: East Pasco Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://k4ex.org>

11/07/2026 - [Foley Fall Tailgate](#)

Location: Foley, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Independent

11/14/2026 - [K4KDI Tailgate](#)

Location: Orlando, FL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: South Conway Rd. Baptist Church

11/14/2026 - [Montgomery Hamfest, ARRL Alabama State Convention](#)

Location: Montgomery, AL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

Website: <https://w4ap.org>

For more information: [www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-](http://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar)

[calendar](#). When searching by division, use Southeastern: GA, AL, FL
Delta: TN Roanoke: NC, SC

GARS Ham Radio Exams & Results

Upcoming GARS Ham Radio Exams

GARS Exam Sessions are held the 3rd Sunday of the month – Exam fee: \$10.00 cash
(Youth age 21 and younger are FREE, but you must ask for the discount and show proof)

Preregistration is REQUIRED, Doors open at 2:45 pm, exams start promptly by 3:00pm. For more information and to preregister, please visit <https://gars.org/exams/>

NOTE: Our exam team only conducts electronic exams on a tablet using HamStudy and ExamTools at our exam sessions, and we supply everything.

GARS VE-Team

VEC: W5YI-VEC

EAA 690 Hangar

690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA 30046

GARS VE Team Leaders

E-mail: exams@gars.org.



September 2026 Results

The GARS VE Team exam session results from September 20th:

1 new General who passed both Tech & General:

- Michael Carney – KR4PDK

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

W4DTR - Dave Bruse

KM4SWL – Richard Kitz

WS3V - Bill Rudd

K4CQO – Bob Hoffmann

Thanks & 73, Dave Bruse (Team Lead)

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.



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

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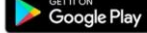
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For swap items, post and see items on GARS groups.io (<https://groups.io/g/GARS>).

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Go to <https://GARS.org/exams/> to learn more, and to register for an upcoming exam session.

Have an idea for entry into the GARzette?

Send the article to editor@gars.org and be published in next month's GARzette.