



# The Signal Report

A Publication of the Greenwood Amateur Radio Society

VOLUME 11 ISSUE 2

FEBRUARY

HTTP://WWW.W4GWD.ORG

W4GWD@ARRL.NET

**Dues Are Due! Contact Tedd, AI4WN as soon as possible**

## 2014 CLUB OFFICERS

### President

Tyrone Sullivan, KJ4FWM

### Vice President

Adam Shirley, WJ4X

### Secretary

Jean Farmer, W4KKA

### Treasurer

Tedd Davison, AI4WN

### Repeater Trustee

Buddy Willis, W4DEW

### Activities Manager

Kevan Nason, N4XL

### Editor in Chief

Adam Shirley, WJ4X

### Asst. Editor

Liz Meadows, W2LIZ

### The W4GWD Repeater Network

147.165+ t107.2

Echolink: 584003

443.900+ t107.2

### W4DEW/R

146.910- t123.0

### W4GWM/R

145.420- DV

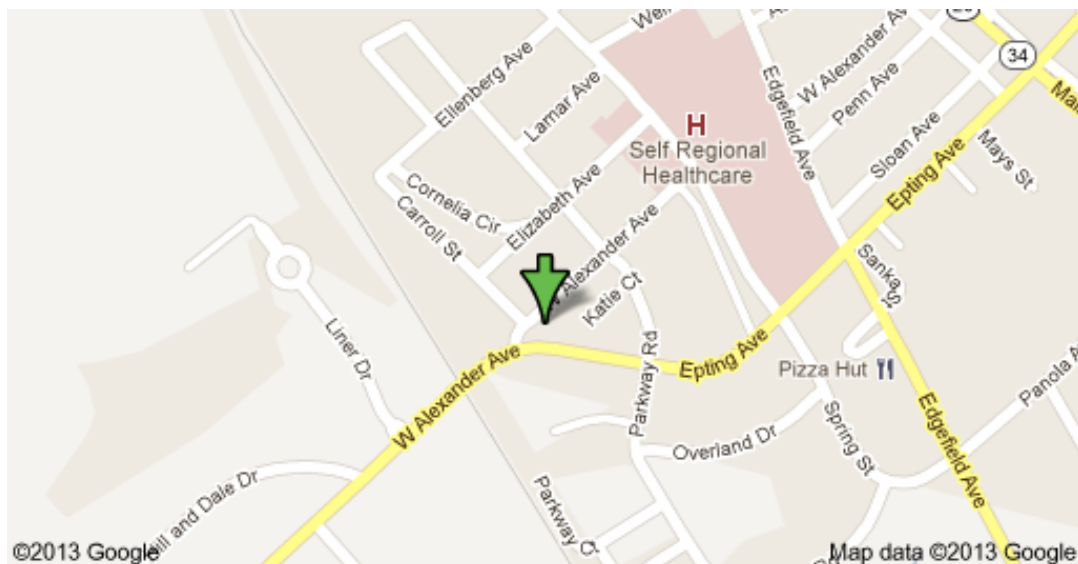
## D-Star Frequency Change



W4GWM/R C Module has changed frequency to 145.420- offset to avoid interference with other operations to our South. You will have to change your radios accordingly.

## February Meeting

This month's meeting will be Monday, February 16th. The Greenwood Amateur Radio Society now meets at the American Red Cross building, 520 Epting Ave. Greenwood, SC. Please join us at 7 for light refreshments, the meeting starts at 7:30 sharp. This month's meeting includes elections of 2015 club officers.



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GreenwoodARS

## Society Events:

### Chat 'N' Chew

Every Friday at 11:30am the members of the Greenwood Amateur Radio society meet at **Ryan's**, Bypass 25 NW, Greenwood.

Everyone is welcome to have lunch or sip your favorite beverage and chat for a while.

(Dutch treat).

### VE Exam Session April 7th, 2014 7:00pm

GARS ARRL Volunteer Examiners (VE) Team will have an exam session 7:00pm Tuesday, April 7th at The American Red Cross Building 520 Epting Avenue, Greenwood, SC 29646.

### Weekly Net

Each Thursday night at 9pm on the 147.165+ machine, The Greenwood Amateur Radio Society holds our weekly 2 meter net. Help spread the word for everyone to check-in to our net. If you would like to fill in or be a backup net control please let Buddy Willis, W4DEW know.

## Congratulations

### Happy Birthday!

Dan Farmer	KK6AA	February 16
David McCall	W4MCC	February 20
Ron Miller	KJ4OBY	February 21

### Happy Anniversary!

Kevan N4XL and Elizabeth Nason	February 14
Buddy W4DEW and Theaster Willis	February 25
Homer WB4MLU and Ethel Banks	March 19

### Echolink & DStar Update

Echolink is Running 100%. D-Star is up, and regularly connected to Reflector 30C.

**Are you an ARRL Member? Joining ARRL helps protect our rights as Amateur Radio Operators as well as providing education, QSL Bureau, technical advise, and the ARRL VEC. <http://www.arrl.org>**



Phil's Corner:

Hamisms #987

CQ, CQ,  
CQ...

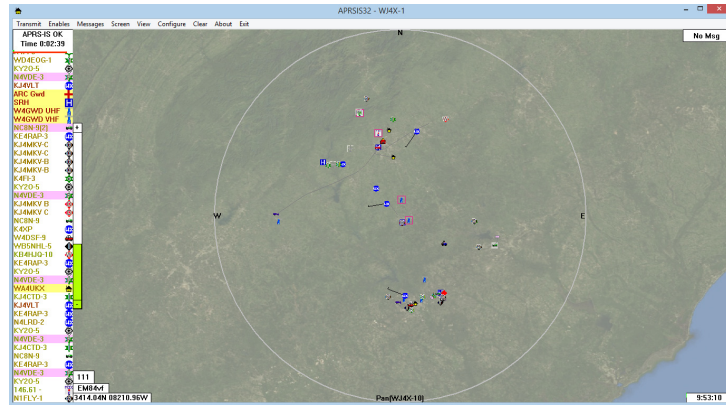
...QRL?

# Building a TNC from Adam WJ4X

Lots of projects are started during the cold months, my latest was building a new TNC-X / X-Digi.

APRS (Automated Packet Reporting System) is an amateur radio-based system for real time digital communications of information of immediate value in the local area. This can be position reports, alerts, messages or other bulletins. This data is relayed among many “digs” or digipeaters.

My kit began life as a bag of parts, a pair of circuit boards, and a simple instruction manual. Over a period of a few hours, I had successfully assembled the kit. The completed TNC takes data from a computer, in this case, a PIC, that runs a program that repeats what it hears, with a slightly altered header to indicate it has been repeated. The radio interface is simple for some radios via the packet connector (a 6 pin mini-din) or in my case, a few fly leads to pads inside the radio. Although I wouldn't recommend digging into your radio first time out, this kit assembly is challenging, yet accomplishable for an moderately experienced beginner due to some heat and polarity sensitive parts and small solder pads on the board. If you'd like to build one, I would be glad to help you.



Map View of APRS32 Windows Software



The TNC-X is also available as a shield for the Raspberry Pi and Beagleboard Black mini computers. For your kit, contact John at <http://tnc-x.com/>

# HAMFESTS and EVENTS:

Mark your Calendars! Greenwood Amateur Radio Society Hamfest at Piedmont Technical College January 2016

**03/13-14/2015 North Carolina Section Convention (Charlotte Hamfest)** Cabarrus Arena & Events Center 4751 NC Highway 49 North Concord, NC 28025 [www.charlottehamfest.org](http://www.charlottehamfest.org)  
Talk-In: 146.655- Contact: Andy Hawkins, K4GKK 704-537-7891 [k4gkk@w4bfb.org](mailto:k4gkk@w4bfb.org)

**03/21/2015 Ellijay Hamfest** Lions Club Fairgrounds 1729 South Main Street Ellijay, GA 30540 <http://www.w4hhh.org/fest.php> Talk-In: 145.170- T100 Contact: John Mullinix, KF4SKT 706-632-3343 [john@cohutta.com](mailto:john@cohutta.com)

## Greenwood Amateur Radio Society Meeting Refreshments List:

2014

Jan 2015: Open

Feb 2015: Open

March 2015: George & Betty

April 2015: Open

May 2015: Open

June 2015: Open

July 2015: Open

August 2015: Open

September 2015: Open

October 2015: Open

Let's fill those open slots!

Send an email to [adam@wj4x.net](mailto:adam@wj4x.net) to reserve your spot!

We will ask for volunteers for the refreshments list over the next few weeks, so be thinking of what month you'd like to volunteer!

## Packet Cluster:

- ◆ The American Radio Relay League protects our rights as Amateur Radio Operators <http://www.arrl.org>
- ◆ Support for SERA supports proper coordination! <http://www.sera.org>
- ◆ Remember your local and regional interest clubs!
- ◆ Southeast DX Club <http://www.sedxc.org>
- ◆ Spread The Word! 147.165 Net Thurs. 9pm
- ◆ Callsign info <http://www.ae7q.com>
- ◆ Track us: <http://aprs.fi>

## Classifieds:



**Old Motorola Radio, Mobile in desktop case kludge. Free to good home. \$0 May or may not work. Used to be packet station. Contact Adam WJ4X**

If anyone has any Ham radio stuff to sell or trade... list it in this column by calling Buddy, [w4dew@arrl.net](mailto:w4dew@arrl.net), 864-445-7574  
If you want to see your article or wish to advertise in The Signal Report, please send an email to the newsletter staff via [newsletter@wj4x.net](mailto:newsletter@wj4x.net)