



KEY KLIP

AMATEUR RADIO CLUB OF SAVANNAH

NOVEMBER 2009 VOLUME 5 ISSUE 11

100TH ANNIVERSARY SCOUTING EXPO

~SUBMITTED BY PHILIP NEIDLINGER, KA4KOE

Hello my friends and friends of Scouting,

The 100th Anniversary Scouting Expo for the Coastal Empire Council of the BSA was held at the National Guard Armory on Eisenhower Drive in Savannah, Georgia from 10 AM till 4 PM. We began set up around 7:30 AM with a very limited operation in comparison to the previous effort at JOTA the weekend before, with only two (2) operating positions. Philip Neidlinger KA4KOE, Ralph Quinn W4REQ, and Ed Woodson NC5S were in attendance, as were KF4LMT, KI4MID, KJ4PSU, KJ4HAF, and KF4JBQ helping out with setup and breakdown. My Webelos 2 cubscout son Jordan assisted with photographic documentation of the event. I apologize if I left out any other volunteers, but we did not have a formal sign in roster. Your assistance was greatly appreciated!



We were requested to provide a radio demonstration for the Boy Scouts at the Expo by the council representatives a couple of months back and we agreed. As it was only a week after JOTA, we did not attempt to stage a massive radio blowout “gee-whiz” operation as before. The sizing was appropriate. We had approximately 30 boys show up. The CQ Worldwide Single Sideband Contest provided ample opportunities for contacts with overseas amateurs. One group of Scouts helped to contact Serbia, and that contact was followed with a discussion of the causes of World War 1.

The Scouts seemed to really enjoy the demonstration of Morse Code, and the need for amateur radio in case of natural disasters. Youngsters love to hear their names “beeped” out in code.

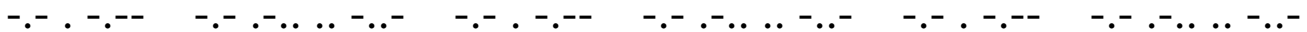
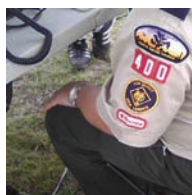
We had some rain come through around 1:30 PM with passing of a front, but it cleared up shortly thereafter, fortunately. Breaking camp in the rain, as we all know, is a miserable experience.

Photographs at Flickr are available at the link to follow. Click on the thumbnails and look for the hourglass symbol. You can get an original size file download if so desired.

<http://tinyurl.com/yztn7ll>

Yours in Scouting,

Philip Neidlinger KA4KOE



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THE FCC ANSWERS BACK

~SUBMITTED BY ROBERT OWEN, KJ4HAL AND ANDY BLACKBURN, WD4AFY

Back at the September 2009 ARCS Meeting, Robert Owen, KJ4HAL, did a program on digital vs. analog radio. He spoke about 3k radio, TDMA, and FDMA.

From this program, there was a discussion of the FCC legitimacy with hired personnel i.e. CEMA, Hospitals, EMS, Police Dept., Fire Dept., Red Cross, etc. who also encourage their paid personnel to have ham radio licenses. So, Robert posed the question, "Most of these people get paid for their services, so, is this a 'grey area' infiltration of commercial use on amateur bands?"

That's a Great Question...The FCC has an answer! See the below FCC response dated October 20, 2009.

PUBLIC NOTICE

**Federal Communications
Commission
445 12th St., S.W.**

**News Media Information: 202-418-0500 Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322**

**DA 09-2259
Released: October 20, 2009**

AMATEUR SERVICE COMMUNICATIONS DURING GOVERNMENT DISASTER DRILLS

Transmissions by amateur stations participating in government disaster drills must comply with all applicable amateur service rules. While the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary non-commercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications, is one of the underlying principles of the amateur service,¹ the amateur service is not an emergency radio service. Rather, it is a voluntary, non-commercial communication service authorized for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication, and technical investigations carried out by licensed persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.²

State and local government public safety agencies occasionally conduct emergency preparedness or disaster drills that include amateur operations. Some entities, such as hospitals, emergency operations centers, and police, fire, and emergency medical service stations, have expressed interest in having their employees who are amateur station operators participate in these drills by transmitting messages on the entity's behalf. The Commission's Rules, however, specifically prohibit amateur stations from transmitting communications "in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, *including communications on behalf of an employer.*"³

Given the public interest in facilitating government-sponsored emergency preparedness and disaster drills, we take this opportunity to provide a clear process for requesting a waiver, and the information that we require in order to consider granting such a request.⁴ Waiver requests should be submitted to the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau by the government entity conducting the drill, and must provide the following information: (1) when and where the drill will take place; (2) identification of the amateur licensees expected to transmit amateur communications on behalf of their employers; (3) identification of the employers on whose behalf they will be transmitting; and (4) a brief description of the drill. We emphasize that the filing of a waiver request does not excuse compliance with the rules while that request is pending. The waiver must be requested prior to the drill, and employees may not transmit amateur communications on their employer's behalf unless the waiver request has been granted.

~~Continued on next page

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In an actual emergency, the Commission's Rules provide that an amateur station may use any means of radio communication at its disposal to provide essential communication needs in connection with the immediate safety of human life and the immediate protection of property when normal communication systems are not available.⁵ In those circumstances, rule waiver is not necessary.

For further information regarding matters discussed in this *Public Notice*, contact William T. Cross of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Mobility Division, at (202) 418-0680, William.Cross@fcc.gov.

By the Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau; Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau; and Chief, Enforcement Bureau.

-FCC-

Notes:

¹ See 47 C.F.R. § 97.1(a). See also Recommendations of the Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks, *Order*, EB Docket No. 06-119; WC Docket No. 06-63, 22 FCC Rcd 10541, 10576 ¶ 111 (2007) (noting that the amateur radio community played an important role in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and other disasters)

² See 47 C.F.R. § 97.3(a)(4)

³ See 47 C.F.R. § 97.113(a)(3) (emphasis added)

⁴ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.925

⁵ See 47 C.F.R. § 97.403. See also Amendment of Part 97 of the Commission's Rules Governing the Amateur Radio Services, *Report and Order*, WT Docket No. 04-140, 21 FCC 11643, 11667 ¶ 52 (2006) (clarifying that amateur radio operators who are emergency personnel may use their amateur radio stations while in paid duty status, but not addressing the prohibition against transmitting messages on behalf of an employer)

2009 ARCS ELECTED OFFICIALS:

President: Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY, (912) 238-4676, andy@g-net.net
Vice President: Douglas Rowland, KF4EFP, (912) 826-7199, jdrowland@windstream.net
Secretary: Brandy Davis, KI4PZW, (912) 313-7546, ki4pzw@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Kayton Smith, W4KTN, (912) 238-3030, kayton3@comcast.net
Activities Manager: Beth Ann Blackburn, KI4ZDN, (912) 238-4676, bethann@g-net.net
Trustee: Kurt Hoffman, N4CVF, (912) 356-8581, n4cvf@arrl.net

NOVEMBER 10, 2009 MEETING

Beginning around 5:45PM, we will have a pre-meeting dinner at Salsarita's Restaurant, located at 5205 Waters Avenue, which is right around 67th Street. Grab a bite to eat and enjoy some camaraderie before the meeting.

The ARCS meeting will be held at Memorial Health University's Hoskins Building, Classroom 4 or 5, at 7:30PM. **Nominations for the 2010 Officers will be selected.** A short program will follow the meeting.

See you all there!

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The following information is an excerpt from the Ships of the Sea "Museum in the Moonlight" event program, provided by Philip Neidlinger, KA4KOE. For a full list of events at the museum, please visit their website at www.shipsofthesea.org, or call 912-232-1511.

Philip Neidlinger

Tonight, Mr. Neidlinger will be playing an old-style tube theremin ("Gabriella") which he built himself. He has been playing the theremin, whose playing technique requires great precision of touch and attention to pitch, for just over four years, and has won an honorable mention in Spellbound Radio's 2007 Theremin Competition. Mr. Neidlinger's wife Sheri may also accompany him on the digital keyboard tonight.

The theremin is a rarely-seen early electronic instrument in which the proximity of the player's hands to the vertical and horizontal antennae determines the pitch and volume of the sounds produced. This instrument was invented by Russian physicist Lev Termen (Americanized to Leon Theremin) in 1919. Originally intended to play the classical repertoire (as performed by Clara Rockmore) it has more often been heard as a sound-effects producer for film, but is enjoying a revival by serious players looking to expand the repertoire.

Typical selections for tonight's performance will be:

Moon River Mancini/Mercer

Twilight Time Nevins/Dunn/Ram

Smoke Gets in Your Eyes Kern/Harbach

As Time Goes By Hupfeld

Dream a Little Dream of Me Andre/Kahn/Schwandt

Les Berceaux ("The Docks") Faure

Nocturne, Opus 9 Chopin

Old Feather Blues M. Tempia

Memory Lloyd-Webber

Mr. Neidlinger will intersperse these tunes with some "humming" or free improvisation, and will also take some time to demonstrate the playing technique of the theremin.

For your reference and enjoyment, we have on display some sample copies of plans for Mr. Neidlinger's theremin.

Please use the links below to find out more about this instrument and some contemporary players:

theremin@neidlinger.us

www.myspace.com/panelectronica

www.thereminworld.com

www.peterpringle.com

www.lydiakavina.com

Search *Wikipedia* and *YouTube* for "theremin"

The 1993 film *Theremin: An Electronic Odyssey* is available through Netflix.

Museum in the Moonlight



featuring
Philip Neidlinger
Thereminist

Friday, November 6, 2009

7 - 9 pm

at the

Ships of the Sea Museum

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MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 8TH ARCS MEETING

Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY, ARCS President called the meeting to order at 7:30pm. Guy, K4GTM, gave the invocation and introductions were given. There were 12 people in attendance including 2 guests.

The September meeting minutes printed in the *Key Klix* were approved. The Treasury Report was given and approved.

Guy announced that there were 5 new HAMS to come out of the Tech Class. Congratulations to:

Fred Kuhn - KJ4PST
Charlie Maynard - KJ4PPE
Tim Bulick - KJ4PSS
Will Griffin - KJ4PSU
Kirk Meals - KJ4PTP

Guy also gave an update on Steve Jonas as he was ICU awaiting pancreatic surgery. The SET was a success and he thanked all who were involved.

Kurt gave a repeater update. A motion was passed for the purchase and use of a UHF duplexer provided by Kurt.

The 2010 Nomination Committee was decided: Guy McDonald, Robert Owen, Dave Delamater, and Andy Blackburn. Nominations will take place at the November 10th meeting. Please contact them if you would like to serve as an ARCS Officer.

A motion was passed to have a joint ARCS / CARS Christmas party. Confirmation and details will follow shortly.

Andy gave a presentation on portable masts and duplexers.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.

STEVE JONAS, K4SDJ, RECOVERY UPDATE

Steve was released from the hospital on November 1st and was able to attend the monthly CARS meeting. He is able to walk around the house with the assistance of his walker and is making great strides towards recovery. All of your prayers are definitely helping so please keep them coming. To keep updated with his progress visit Sue's blog at <http://www.k4sdj.blogspot.com>.

2009 ARCS / CARS JOINT CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Monday, December 7th, at 7PM, a joint Christmas party will be held at the Exchange on Waters. A large room which accommodates 60+ people has been reserved. Stayed tuned for more details!

HELP EARN FREE MONEY FOR ARCS:

FOOD LION SHOP AND SAVE PROGRAM

This reward program is free to all non-profit organizations and free for you to register. Food Lion will donate a percentage of what you purchase to the club. However, we must have **at least 25 people** sign up. Even if the quotas are not met for the quarter, Food Lion will still donate a minimum amount to us. So we urge you to take less than five minutes and sign up, even if you don't shop there regularly. Ready to help us get free money? Follow these quick steps:

Visit <http://www.foodlion.com> and click *MVP Card*. Then click *Lion Shop and Save* and select *Register MVP Card*. Click *Select Your Organization* and enter Savannah, GA. The Amateur Radio Club is the first on the list. Select *Add Your MVP Card* and enter *all* of the numbers on the back of your card (there are 2 smaller numbers outside of the barcode).
And that's it! We appreciate your support!

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ARES NOTES

~GUY McDONALD, K4GTM, CHATHAM COUNTY ARES EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Once again I want to thank everyone in Chatham and surrounding counties who regularly participate in our ARES program. It's your participation in the program that makes it a success and a benefit to our community. We've had another active month that has helped us be as prepared as possible to support our served agencies and our community at large. Here is a summary:

QUARTERLY ARES MEETING:

The next quarterly ARES meeting will be held in November. More details will be provided as they become available.

TRAINING ACTIVITIES:

The Georgia ARES statewide Simulated Emergency Test (SET) was held on Oct 2, 3, 4, 2009. Thanks to all in Chatham and surrounding counties who participated. We did a lot of cool stuff and I'll be working up a formal report

CHATHAM COUNTY ARES 2 METER NET:

Weekly Chatham County ARES Net is held at 8:00pm each Thursday evening on the 146.970 repeater. We need some additional Net Control Operators.

SAVANNAH AREA SIMPLEX NET:

Weekly Savannah Area Simplex Net follows the ARES Net each Thursday evening on 146.550 simplex. This net gives us some great practice in working a net without the benefit of our local repeater system.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES:

1. We have a new Section Manager (SM) and a new Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) in Georgia. Gene Clark-W4AYK assumed duties as SM and Mike Brown-KE4FGF assumed duties as SEC on Oct 1, 2009.
2. We checked in to the Georgia Regional Coordinating Hospitals monthly net from Memorial Medical Center K4MUM station on Oct 4th.
3. We performed a test of the N4CEM station at the CEMA EOC downtown on Oct 3rd.
4. We performed two tests of the K3SRC Savannah Red Cross station as well as the satellite internet and voice over IP system on Oct 3rd and Oct 14th.
5. FCC Issues *Public Notice* on Amateur Service Communication during Government Disaster Drills. We'll continue to follow how this notice affects our Served Agencies. You can see the Public Notice at the ARRL website.
<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2009/10/20/11151/?nc=1>
6. Stay up to speed with what's going on in the Georgia Section ARES at www.gaares.org.

VE TESTING SESSION

A VE session will be held at Memorial Health University's Hoskins Building on Saturday, November 14, 2009 at 9am. Please contact Guy McDonald, K4GTM at <http://www.k4gtm.blogspot.com> with any questions.

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K4GIV COPPER SLIM JIM 2 METER ANTENNA

~SUBMITTED BY TOM GILLAN, K4GIV

Credit for the original design and measurements of this antenna goes to F. C. Judd, G2BCX (SK)

Many thanks to Ralph, W4REQ for taking time to assist, and to Guy, K4GTM for the use of his test equip.

Living in an HOA development required me to become inventive in order to operate on HF and 2 Meters. I'm still working on HF, but here is my 2 meter solution:

The Slim JIM



The Slim Jim is a vertically polarized, end-fed, Omni-directional antenna with radiation efficiency about 50 % better than the conventional ground plane. The increased efficiency is achieved by a takeoff angle almost parallel to the ground, whereas a conventional $\frac{5}{8}$ ground plane exhibits a 30° angle. That represents a significant improvement in performance for an antenna that has no ground plane radials, low wind resistance and is unobtrusive to boot. For 2m the overall length is roughly 58 inches.

The name "Slim JIM" derives from the slender construction and the use of the **J**-type **I**ntegrated **M**atching stub that facilitates feeding at the base, thereby overcoming interaction between feeder and aerial, and presenting a feed impedance of 50 ohms.

How does it work?

Magic, pure magic: Generally speaking, it's an end fed folded dipole, operated vertically. As with all dipoles, the currents in each leg are in phase and the currents in the matching section are in opposition allowing little or no radiation. Correctly matched the VSWR should be less than 1.5 to 1 across the band (144 – 148 Mhz.) Keep in mind that no part of this antenna should be grounded.

How is it built?

The Slim JIM can be made from almost anything that will radiate: Twin lead, window line, wire coat hangers, or in my case, I chose $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick walled copper tubing. For support and separation I chose $\frac{1}{2}$ inch PVC 'T' fittings.

The materials list:

- 10 ft. section $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick walled copper tubing (Measure twice, cut once)
- 4- $\frac{1}{2}$ inch copper 90° elbows
- $\frac{1}{2}$ inch copper end caps

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- 4- 1/2 inch copper pipe clamps
- 4- 1/2 inch PVC 'T' fittings
- Short piece 1/2 inch sched 40 PVC pipe (to connect the T's)
- 8- 3/4 - 1/2 inch copper reducers (to hold the T's in place)
- 4- Sets brass nuts & bolts (brass and copper co-exist nicely)

Using the formulae below, cut the Cu for the frequency you want. (I cut mine for **146 MHz**.)

3/4 λ section:	8415/ f MHz	= length in inches	(57 5/8 in)
1/2 λ section:	5610/ f MHz		(38 7/16 in)
1/4 λ section:	2805/ f MHz		(19 7/32 in)
1/4 λ free space	2953/ f MHz	where used	(20 1/4 in)

The lengths are not real critical so don't ask why I measured to 7/32 instead of 1/4 in. Stay within 1/2 and things should work fine. Element Center to Center is 2 1/2 inches

For additional strength I inserted 1/2 inch round stock full length in all sections, and while that did increase the weight, it also made the aerial more robust. I would not hesitate to bumper/tripod mount and operate fixed mobile should the need arise.

Measure twice, cut once (I kept getting that backwards), dry fit all the pieces and mark where you will place the separators.

Clean, flux and solder all the joints. (after you insert the round stock)

Flatten 2 of the 4 pipe clamps to form a backing for the other 2 clamps. Mount the clamps on the lower section to act as the feed point and match point adjuster. If low SWR cannot be obtained by sliding the clamps up or down, you may, as I did, have to add a brass machine bolt & nut into one of the end caps to allow fine adjustment of the air gap. As constructed, the air gap on my aerial was about 1 1/2 - 2 inches. The analyzer showed that the gap had to be closed to about 1/2 inch to get the SWR readings reported.

After final adjustments seal the feed connections, run it up the flag pole and GOTA.

How well does it work?

This antenna at 15' agl has exhibited a substantial increase in my ability to operate Simplex; that being relative to another vertically polarized antenna at 25' agl. I cannot quantify the performance mathematically or by instrumentation; I can however quantify performance operationally; prior to using the Slim Jim I could copy a few stations simplex, but pretty much talked to my-self. The Slim JIM allowed me to contact north to Rincon, and south to Richmond Hill without using an analyzer. My starting point was half way up the matching stub. With the help of W4REQ I found the VSWR at my starting point was 2.5-1 and went back to the drawing board to bring it down a bit. That test however, combined with the small footprint allowed good operation without attracting a lot of attention. Right out of the 'box' a useful project.

Final measurements taken with an MFJ -259B analyzer loaned by K4GTM revealed VSWR of 2.0-1 across 140-150 MHz. If you are willing to accept 2.5-1, operation from 139 MHz – 153 MHz. bandwidth can be achieved.

For our use on 144 – 148 MHz, I measured: 144 MHz @ 1.2, 146 MHz @ 1.1, 148 MHz @ 1.3 – 1. Not too shabby for the cost a piece of copper, some fittings and 2 or 3 hours of time.

Again, the credit for this design rests entirely with Mr. F.C. Judd, G2BCX. It was his efforts and calculations that made this project work. I merely reported my own results, learning in the process.

I do, however, hope you find it useful. Stay tuned for the next project

73, de

Tom, K4GIV

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SWAP OR SALE

Please contact Andy Blackburn, WD4AFY, at andy@g-net.net for the following items:

FOR SALE: ATTENTION CB Radio Collectors.....Vintage early 70's tube type CB Radios.....Two 23 channel Courier tube type CB Radios: Courier 23 and a Courier 23+.

Radios are in good cosmetic condition, but operational status is not guaranteed. Great for nostalgia buffs.

Asking price **each** unit \$60.

Please contact Kurt Hoffman, N4CVF, at n4cvf@arrl.net for the following items:

1 FT-2600M 2-Meter Mobile Radio

60W Output

Front-firing speaker

1 Almost New (AN) w/box

\$219 new

\$110 OBO

1 VX-150 2-Meter HT

Includes 2 x 700ma batteries

AN w/box

\$119 new

\$90 OBO

1 Mirage B 5018 G 2-Meter, All-Mode Power Amp

50W in gives 160W out

New in Box, Never had power applied

\$329.95 new + \$49.95 Remote Head

\$275 OBO

1 Vibroplex Original Standard Semi-Automatic Keyer,
"Bug"

Manual and paperwork

Serial Number 101896

NIB

\$100 OBO

1 Radio Shack Universal Power Adapter

1.5, 3, 4.5, 6, 7.5, 9, & 12 VDC

300ma

New Condition w/box

\$5

1 Hamtronics R139 Weather Fax Receiver

Includes Power Supply

Does not scan, Otherwise EC \$5 OBO

1 Lakeview 2m ¼-wave ground plane base antenna

New in Bag

Extra Radial

\$25 OBO

1 Motorola T7200 "Talkabout"

HT

NiCad pack or AA's

"Wall Wart"

Charger

Sturdy Belt-Clip, 3 Interchangeable Face-Plates

Instruction Manual

Will work with GMRS REPEATERS

EC

\$99.98 new

\$35 OBO

1 Heathkit IG-72 Audio Generator

Looks good but needs repair \$ Make Any Offer

1 Heathkit IG-102 RF Signal Generator

Looks good, condition unknown

No probes

\$ Make Any Offer

1 Heathkit IT-21 Tube Checker

Condition Unknown

\$ Make Any Offer

1 Midland WeatherMax Plus Weather Radio

7 Channel

With Alert Function

NIB

\$10 OBO

1 Cobra 38 WX ST CB HT

Manual

DC Cig.-Lighter Power Cord

New Condition

\$25 OBO

1 Konnex SWR/Power Meter

15/60W

UHF Connectors

\$5

1ea Power Cord, Cigarette Plug on one end, Gator Clamps on the other

Maybe three feet long

New, Never Used

Two-to-One Cigarette Plug Adaptor

New, Never Used

\$20 for both

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ARCS OCTOBER 2009 2 METER NET REPORT

146.37 / 97 REPEATER

October 01 ~~ 15 check-ins October 08 ~~ 15 check-ins October 15 ~~ 10 check-ins
 October 22 ~~ 10 check-ins October 29 ~~ 16 check-ins

Thanks to all of you who checked into the nets! We look forward to hearing from you next Thursday!

37/97 Thursday Night Net Controls

November 05, 2009 Robert Owen, KJ4HAL
 November 12, 2009 Brandy Davis, KI4PZW
 November 19, 2009 Mark Zeigler, KD4PDX
 November 26, 2009 Guy McDonald, K4GTM

***Note: If there is a "no-show" net control for the ARCS 2 Meter Net, any ARCS NCS or ARCS member please feel free to pick up the net (allowing around 5 minutes). A Net Script can be found on the ARCS Webpage at: http://www.qsl.net/arcs/net_script.txt ***

November 2009 Net Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5pm- Georgia State ARES- 3.975 LSB 9pm- Coastal Amateur Radio Society- 147.330 (CTCSS 203.5)	1pm- GA Traffic Net- 3987.5 9pm- Southeast GA 6-Meter Ragchew- 50.200 USB	1pm- GA Traffic Net- 3987.5 8pm- Statesboro Amateur Radio Society- 147.105+	1pm- GA Traffic Net- 3987.5	1pm- GA Traffic Net- 3987.5 8pm- Chatham County ARES 146.970- 8:45pm- Savannah Simplex Net- 146.520 9pm- Amateur Radio Club of Savannah- 146.970-	1pm- GA Traffic Net- 3987.5	1pm- GA Traffic Net- 3987.5

*Comments, Questions, Ideas, or Submissions??
 Email the Editor at ki4pzw@yahoo.com*