



The Oracle

Newsletter of the Silver Springs Radio Club

Oldest Radio Club in Marion County, FL



K4GSO.us

November 2023

Membership/Events

Elbert Wilkinson, KQ3K, Chairman

For those who missed the October meeting, it was a good one. The room at GCH was overflowing - again. Don't forget to stick a folding chair in your trunk just in case the regular chairs are taken and you would like to sit! As noted in previous *Oracles*, we are a healthy growing club where members are involved in our activities and more importantly, welcoming to our guests.

At the meeting, two new members were approved and welcomed by the membership:

Jonathan Kadegis, K4KJJ, General

Dee Seagraves, KO4TMZ, Technician

Also returning to active membership is Sharon Malik, KN4SMM, General. We currently have two applications pending for the November meeting. So, how many members will we have on rolls? Good question. Here's the breakdown.

Technicians	24
Generals	37
Advanced	5
Extras	47
Associates	4
Total	117

We are on a roll with membership growth, so keep it up. If you know of other hams who would be interested in joining, please invite them to our meetings, operating days or club activities. There is an online application and a link to a paper application on the K4GSO.us website. We continue to encourage our technicians to upgrade to at least General Class and Generals to Extra to enjoy the full benefits and privileges of their licenses.

As a special note, the club is migrating its membership rolls to HamClubOnline.com (<https://www.hamclubonline.com/>). This is an Amateur Radio Club Management System written by hams for hams. You should have received a "Welcoming Email" in the last few weeks. If not, please check your spam folder. Our club Secretary, Gray Moffet, KC3DWY, has been

Continued on next page...

Next Meeting

Tuesday, November 21, 2023

Green Clover Hall

319 SE 26th Terrace, Ocala

6:00 PM Socializing and Mentoring

7:00 PM Meeting

Election of Officers

Program: Hamfest, Elbert KQ3K

SSRC Board of Directors, first Tuesday, 7:00 PM

Green Clover Hall

All are welcome

Upcoming Events

December 2—SSRC Hamfest

First Christian Church, Ocala

Doors Open at 7:30 AM

Setup Friday, December 1, 7:00 AM

[Hamfest Sign Up Here](#)

December 19—Holiday Party

Green Clover Hall

Doors open at 6 PM, Dinner at 7 PM

Bring a dish to share

[More Info](#)

Silver Springs Radio Club Net

K4GSO Repeater, 146.610, PL 123

Mondays at 7:30 PM



*** Notice ***

Our club is growing and Green Clover Hall has a limited number of chairs. Please consider bringing a folding chair or two as a back up.

leading this effort. Please direct any questions or inquiries to him at gray.moffett@hotmail.com.

Finally, to all members - there are lots of opportunities to be involved. Regardless of your license class, we continue to learn from each other. Newer hams – don't be afraid to ask questions and for help. Older hams – take a newer ham under your wing. If you there are programs you would like to see presented or if you have subject matter expertise (or experience) and would be willing to present a program, please contact one of the club officers. Our club leadership team has some good ideas on member involvement – so, not only get radio-active - stay radio-active! Like most endeavors – we

only get out of it with the effort we put in it.

Hamfest is almost here, so saddle up! Setup will be Friday, December 1 and the event will take place on Saturday the 2nd at First Christian Church. Final details are being completed to make this another successful event. As previously reported, most of our vendors have confirmed their attendance but three will not be there, so it will be a little smaller than last year.

Regardless, we still need help with Friday setup and vendor unloading assistance. Saturday we will need help with parking, tailgate, VEs for testing, door monitors, rovers, takedown and vendor loading assistance. At present we have 15 who have volunteered to help but we could use a couple more. A signup form is on the Website. The final operation plan will be present-

Fun with POTA—KQ3K

Elbert Wilkinson, KQ3K, Chairman

Susi, my XYL (aka "Management"), the two dogs, Gunner and Trooper, and I recently completed a drive along the Natchez Trace Trail Parkway. This is an historic 444 mile slow (45mph) scenic drive from just outside of Franklin, TN southwest to Natchez, MS. This is a trip the XYL had been bugging me to take. I said yes since the entire trail is a POTA designated site (K-4560) with three distinct park sections – TN, AL and MS. Along our slow drive down the trace I was able to complete four activations.

The first was in Tennessee at the Gordon House highlighted by park rangers informing us that several wanted felons had been spotted a couple miles away and to avoid any strangers who might approach on foot. I quickly logged my 10th Q and we moved on. Further south the next day, I activated at Colbert Ferry, a beautiful river park just inside Alabama on the Tennessee River. While there we were fed grilled chicken kabobs by a church youth group that had cooked way too much food. I guess we looked hungry. I was hoping they would follow us down the Trace every day so we could mooch more food. No luck. The next two days we completed the Mississippi section where I completed two more quick activations at Jeff Busby Park and further south at Rocky Springs. The reason they were quick is because for some reason, the bathrooms were closed and when you got to go...! The Trace eventually ends in Natchez, MS where we started our homeward leg.

We spent four days heading home driving along the gulf coast and revisiting some places we had been 30 years earlier. Most we didn't recognize due to the intense commercial development along the gulf coast. We spent

two days in Daphne, AL which is just east of Mobile across the bay. I got to activate Meaher State Park, K-1047, which is within line of sight of the battleship USS Alabama. The next day we moved on to Destin where I activated Fred Gannon Rocky Bayou State Park, K-1873, a beautiful quiet park punctured by the sound of nearby Air Force and Navy flight operations.

For the trip, I made 186 Qs on the six activations. Not that many but I accomplished my goal to get valid activations at each park. My rigs were the Xeiugu G-90 and the X6100. Antennas used were a BuddiStick Pro and a Wolf River Coil Mini with a vertical. To cap it off, we spent ten days, nine nights on the trip, almost 2000 miles and spent some of the kids' inheritance. We had beautiful weather the entire time. My dogs were good travelers. Susi was a good sport about my POTA activations. We had mostly good accommodations and a lot of good food at great restaurants. Now, get out there, have fun and POTA ON!

MORE POTA INFORMATION

For those who are interested in POTA activities, there are five "Official Events". Events start at 0000 UTC and end 2359 UTC on the days listed. They are:

- New Year's Week (first full week of the new year)
- Support Your Parks on the third full weekend of each quarter. These are "activity weekends" where the objective is to get out in the parks and have as much fun as possible.
- Winter – 3rd Full Weekend in January
- Spring - 3rd Full Weekend in April
- Summer - 3rd Full Weekend in July
- Autumn - 3rd Full Weekend in October.

Pictures on next page...

Fun with POTA, Continued...



TVARC Holds Licensing Courses

Brad Castelli, KN9B



Amateur General Licensing Course on Monday evenings, Jan. 8 - Feb. 26, 2024 in The Villages, Florida

The Villages Amateur Radio Club is holding an in person General license course. You will meet once a week for seven weeks followed by exams on the last night. The course is free and open to the public.

More class details and study resources are listed on the club website; www.K4VRC.com ("Interest in becoming a ham" tab). You are encouraged to get your friends to sign-up too, so you can study together.

Contact: Brad KN9B, kn9b@arrl.net

Amateur Extra Licensing Course on Monday evenings, Mar 4 - Apr. 8, 2024, in The Villages, Florida

The Villages Amateur Radio Club is holding an in person Extra license course. You will meet once a week for five weeks followed by exams on the last night. The course is free and open to the public.

More class details and study resources are listed on the club website; www.K4VRC.com ("Interest in becoming a ham" tab). You are encouraged to get your friends to sign-up too, so you can study together.

Contact: Brad KN9B, kn9b@arrl.net



SILVER SPRINGS RADIO CLUB 2023 HAMFEST



Saturday, December 2, 2023
FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH
1908 EAST FORT KING STREET, OCALA, FL 34471
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 AM

Grand prize and door prizes
Grand prize tickets separate from door prize tickets. Admission ticket stub good for door prizes only. Both tickets available at the door only! Additional Grand Prize tickets \$5 each.
No online sales.

Grand Prize



YAESU FTM-300DR

VE Testing

One session only at 10:00 AM
Bring two forms of ID & FRN + FCC Reference copy, if upgrading
Test Fee \$15 cash.
Test slots are limited.
Pre-register at K4GSO.US

Commercial Vendors

Tower Electronics
Signman Of Baton Rouge
J T Communications
Paradan Radio
Satellite Sam
And others

Active military and first responders in uniform and kids under 12 free.

Flea Market & Tailgate

Inside flea-market tables in Fellowship Hall

Must buy tickets for Grand Prize.

Separate Tailgate area on first-come first-parked basis.
No advance reservations.
(Bring your own tables and chairs)

*****REAL, NOT FAKE*****
Ham Food and drinks available for purchase from Scout Troop 439

TALK-IN ON K4GSO
VHF 146.610 PL-123

General Admission	\$10
Tailgate – Car & Driver	\$20
Each Extra Tailgate Space	\$10
Additional Person	\$10

**MORE INFORMATION ON THE
SSRC WEBSITE:
WWW.K4GSO.US/HAMFEST**

SPECIAL NOTE:

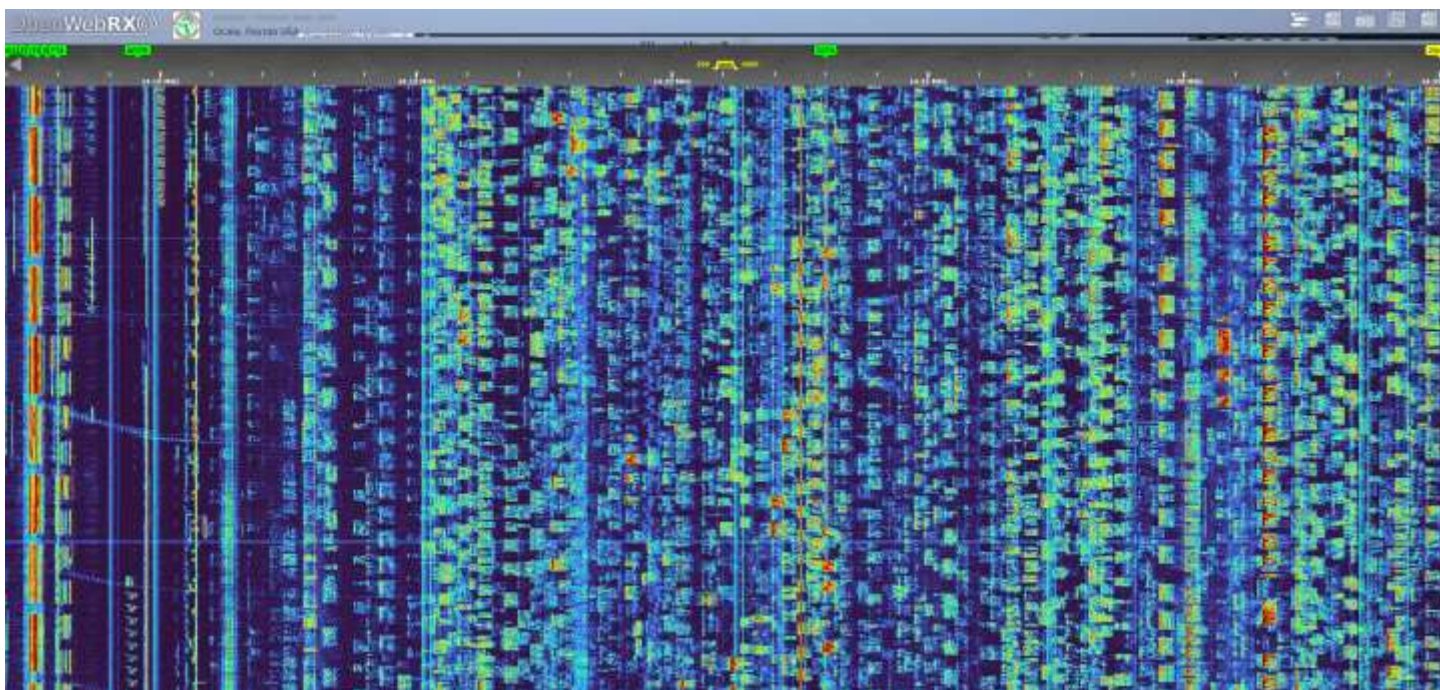
By attending the SSRC Hamfest, you are acknowledging that an inherent risk of exposure to COVID-19 exists in any public place where people are present. You assume all risks related to exposure to COVID-19 and agree not to hold the Silver Springs Radio Club, First Christian Church, or any of their directors, officers, employees, vendors or volunteers liable for any illness or injury.
The SSRC will follow all Federal, State and Local guidelines to keep our visitors safe.

K4GSO Web SDR—Nick, K4NDZ

CQ WW 10m Scope



CQ WW 20m Scope



How do I use it?

Visit <http://k4gso.com/sdr>. The controls are at the lower right. You can change bands, frequencies, and modes (USB/LSB/Digital/etc). Questions? Ask Andy NA4DA, Nick K4NDZ, or use "The" Google"

SSRC Has a Group Email! Have You Signed UP?

Andy Allen, NA4DA, Director

We have established a "group email" for the club on the Groups io platform. You may already have an account with Groups io as many of the hardware and software companies we use in this hobby have a group.

Our group is: K4GSO

Just type groups.io in your search bar and follow the link to the site. Sign up if you don't have an account and search for our group: K4GSO. You will see our group: K4GSO / Silver Springs Radio Club. Click on the button: Apply for membership in this group. You're now a member.

We have a wealth of knowledge in our club. This is a tool to tap into it.

Questions? Andy NA4DA 212-729-0446



Silver Springs Radio Club Holiday Party

December 19, 2023

6:00 PM Party Setup & Socializing

7 PM Dinner

Green Clover Hall

319 SE 26th Terrace, Ocala

Plan to attend with your spouse or guest.

SSRC will provide the Ham and Tim K8TAT will do the Turkey!

Also provided: Soft Drinks, Water, Coffee, Paper Products, and Utensils.

Please bring a dish of your choosing, serving 6-8, to share.

Extra folding chairs will be appreciated.

If you need more information, contact Marty N4GL

n4gl.marty@gmail.com

If your dish needs a serving utensil beyond plastic tableware, please bring one along.



Fun with POTA—NY5E

Adam Parker, NY5E, Vice President

I took the Xiegu G90, the ICOM-7100 and Ranger to Rainbow Springs State Park (K-1912) for the POTA Weekend drive!!

Below: operated from the bed of the Tundra using the bed's hard-cover as a field desk.



Antenna: 27' Jack-Kite telescoping fiberglass mast with 17.5' vertical wire, a 4:1 Unun and a 6' counterpoise (3' on the pole, 3' on the ground). I was able to log QSO's on 10-15-17 and 20 meters!

Logged Q's as far away as Italy with the ICOM IC-7100 (not bad for 100 watts and a speaker wire antenna)!

Also logged a half dozen contacts running QRP with the Xiegu G90 and the optional HSOC 7" touchscreen!

All in all, it was loads of fun with beautiful weather, great band conditions and patient operators. My dog Ranger developed "mic-fright" and was unable to perform as a second operator.

Editor's Note: Adam should have taken his cat. Just saying.. N4GL

Orlando HamCation needs your help! It takes an army of Volunteers to make HamCation happen every year. If you volunteer for HamCation for just four hours, we will give you a ticket to get into HamCation all weekend. We need volunteers starting on Tuesday morning all the way through Sunday afternoon, after the show ends.

Just to highlight a few of the areas that are needing help right now, Tailgate, RV, Forums, IT, Logistics, On Site Ticket Sales, Security, and Talk-In.

For more information on volunteering for HamCation, including signing up, go to www.hamcation.com/hamcation-volunteer. Also on this page is the full list of volunteer areas and the description and duties of each area.

HamCation gives back Track your hours that you volunteer and HamCation will make a donation to your Ham Club/501 C 3 organization of your choice. (We'll provide you with the form)



February 9-11, 2024



Sumter County ARES
 Amateur Radio Emergency Service
 Mark Newby, KX4LEO
 Emergency Coordinator



Sumter County ARES Hearts for our Hospital Bicycle Challenge

November 11, 2023

Sumter County ARES again coordinated amateur radio support for the 8th Annual Hearts For Our Hospital Bicycle Challenge, held on Saturday, November 11, 2023.



Amateur radio operators from Sumter, Lake, Citrus and Marion counties worked together to provide communications for the event, which consisted of 10-mile, 20-mile, 32-mile, 64-mile and 100-mile routes. Amateur operators were positioned at rest stops along each route. Amateur operators in vehicles patrolled their assigned routes providing assistance to riders and to keep the command post informed of the progress of the riders.

The command post was staffed by the Incident Commander, Net Control Operator, the Sumter County Sheriff's Office, APRS operator, and the liaison to the event host.

Our volunteers in field assignments used APRS to report their positions which were displayed on a large monitor in the command post. When incidents were reported, the location of those incidents were plotted on APRS making it easier for responding personnel to locate.

A Directed Net for this event was conducted on the K4HOG repeater. We want to thank the Hog County Amateur Radio Association for the use of their repeater.



The following amateur radio operators helped make this years' event safe and enjoyable for the 363 cyclists who participated:

Ed Nance - N4ZIV, Kristen and Rob McKeivitt - K7KLM, Larry Peterson - N2AMW, Mark Tetlow - KB1UHA, Gil Chapin - WB2UTI, Straight Hollis - KT4YA, Jeff Taffuri - KO4NCC, Lionel Hector - WD0DBT, Roger Weed - KV4I, Joe Cohen - N1EFE, Carl Berry - KC5CMX, Steve Walbrun - KD8WAA, Verne Betlach - K4VEB, Paul Kock - KD2HQV, Greg Madore - K1MGR, "Michael "Spike" McKenzie - N4EBF, and Incident Commander Mark Newby - KX4LEO.

KC5CMX Participates in *Hearts for our Hospital* Bike Challenge

Carl Berry, KC5CMX

With Hayden out of commission, I stepped up to take his place at Rest Stop C.



KC5CMX



**A Year-long Operating
Event Recognizing
Volunteers**

The Silver Springs Radio Club Presents....

Satellite Day

October 28, 2023

Nick DelZotto, KN4NDZ, Event Chair

There were two available satellite passes Saturday morning. Lynn KD9BVG from The Villages came through in the clutch and brought his IC-9700. We attached Nick K4NDZ's Arrow 2 handheld dual-band ya-gi.

The ISS passed over but nothing was heard on the FM repeater... We did collect the special event SSTV image (see attached).

A few minutes later AO-91 made a pass and we heard much activity including stations from Mexico but Lynn was unable to break in. We learned afterward there was a coax connection misconfiguration causing the 70cm band not to work for both satellites. Another learning experience (That's the point, isn't it?)

Prior to the satellite passes Nick deployed the 15 element 2 meter beam to try some 2 meter FT8 and SSB phone. FT8 QSO's were made with Jacksonville, Brooksville, and Ft Myers stations. With 45 watts we were heard as far as Spartanburg, SC (see PSKreporter attached). Not bad for the 2 meter band with moderate conditions.

Again, a good learning experience and a chance to introduce satellite operations to those interested. Around 10 hams came through. An enjoyable time was had by all.

Pictures from:

K4NDZ

KG4DIW

KO4OIG



Continued on next page.....



Winch Motor Relay Reversing Wiring Harness Diagram

Carl Berry, KC5CMX

I made up a wiring diagram for using on a reversing switch with relays. Basically for a winch motor, or something with power and the need to reverse polarity, such as a motor.

- This will work if you have the wiring harness
- You can get the harness from O'Reilly, AutoZone, NAPA, etc.
- About \$50 in parts, but worth it and NO soldering to the relay!
- ****NOTE**** It was not built with a limit switch. Watch the ends



Required Parts

- 2 12V 30A 5 pin relays
- 2 wiring harnesses
- 1 bag of wire nuts, 10 GA
- 1 bx 10GA wire eyelets heavy duty
- 1 12V DPST momentary switch
- 1 roll each 10GA primary wire
- Red
- Black
- 1 30A Automotive circuit breaker or fuse
- 1 Solar panel with controller
- 1 12V lawnmower battery
- 1 12V winch
- 1 waterproof (Cable TV) box
- 1 battery box
- Solder
- 10-15 3" zip ties

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2,500 lb. Winch

Harbor Freight winch is ok
 May come with wireless remote
 If it gets wet, it will not work at all
 The wiring harness included is CRAP!

THROW IT AWAY! It overheats and will melt!

- Using the following steps and parts, you should be able to build and install a *real* winch harness to wherever it's needed in about 25 minutes or less. The hardest part is putting the eyelets on the wire for the connections



12 Volt lawnmower battery

- Cheap is alright – this is from Walmart
- Get an old battery to turn in or you'll get hit with a core charge

Solar panel and controller

- Amazon
- Harbor Freight
- Lowe's
- eBay
- Auto parts stores
- Home Depot

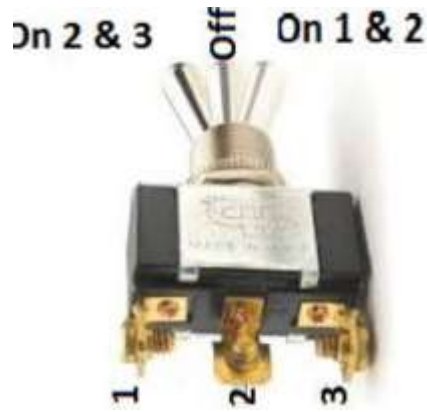


Solar Charge Controller

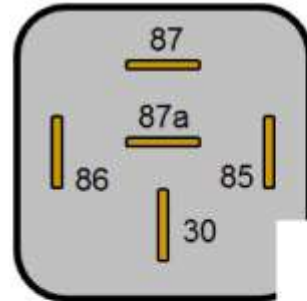


- I recommend assembling the relay wire packages first, then Run the wires through gromet.
- Connect the switch and mount on door
- Drill ½" hole to mount the switch

- 1 & 2 will turn motor out
- 2 & 3 will reel it in
- Or Vice versa

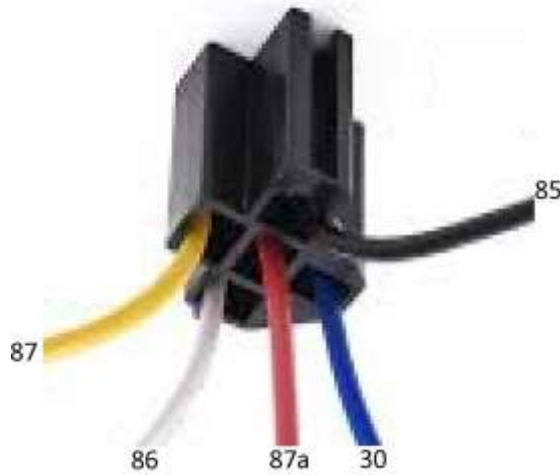


Automotive Relay, 12VDC, 20A @ 12V, 5 Pins, SPDT, Pin Config: B1



WIRING HARNESS AND COLORS (2 of these)

- PIN 30 BLUE
- PIN 87 YELLOW
- PIN 86 WHITE
- PIN 87a (CENTER) RED
- PIN 85 BLACK



30 Amp Circuit Breaker

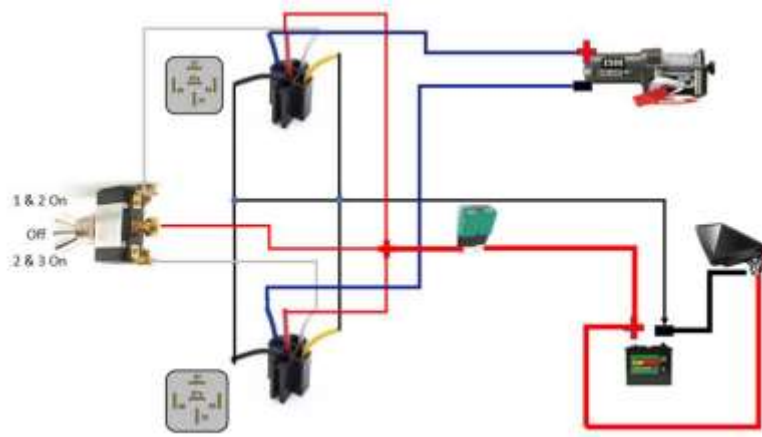
Eyelets to attach

Shovels to attach



This is the Completed Circuit

- PIN 87 YL
- PIN 8G WH
- PIN 87a RD
- PIN 30 BL
- PIN 85 BK



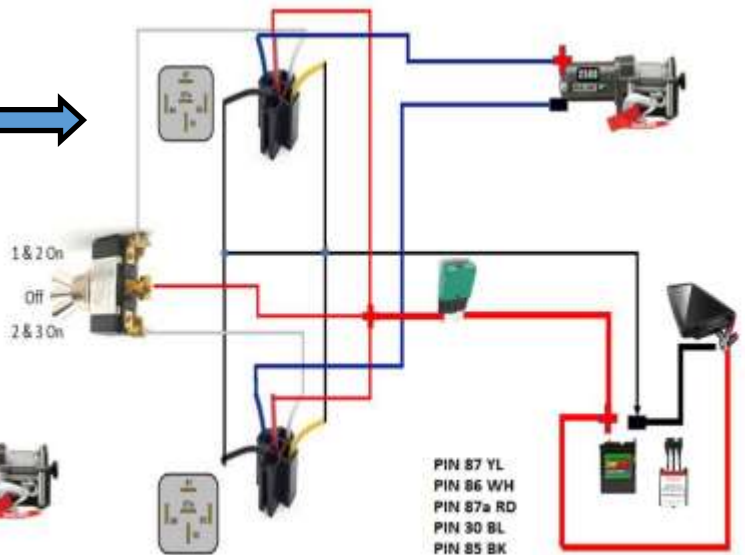
- PIN 87 YL
- PIN 8G WH
- PIN 87a RD

The wiring harness will be the first item we look at. First thing I want to point out is that the *COLORS INDICATED HERE ARE ONLY FOR EMPHASIS, THEY ARE NOT THE COLORS ON THE HARNESS!!*. Not all harnesses have the same color codes.

I recommend that you use the same colored wire as what is on the harness when you extend them. You may either wire nut or solder the wires and tape them up as needed.

STEP Two

Identify the wires from leads 85 and 87. Tie them together and secure with wire nut and enough wire to run to the battery. Insert circuit breaker/fuse in-line to the positive side, about 10-15" from battery

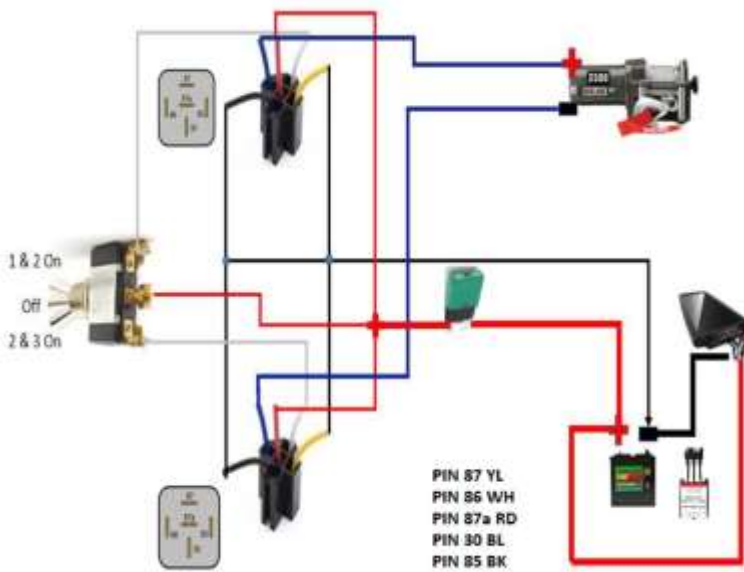


- PIN 87 YL
- PIN 86 WH
- PIN 87a RD
- PIN 30 BL
- PIN 85 BK



STEP Three

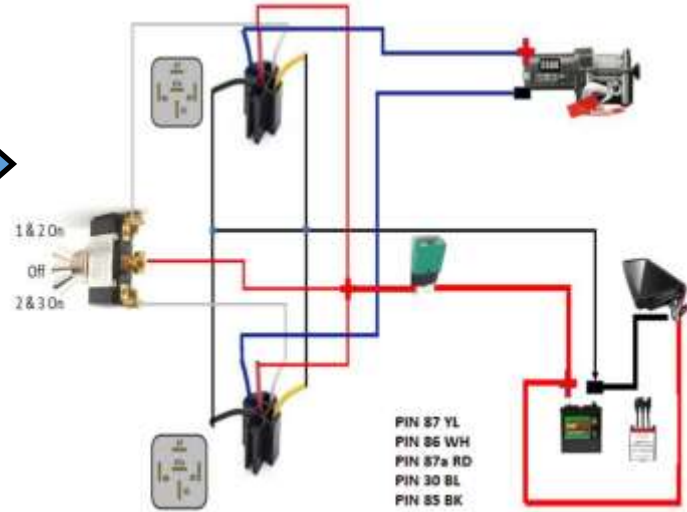
Pin 86 from both relays are going to go to the switch. Put an eyelet on each end.



- PIN 87 YL
- PIN 86 WH
- PIN 87a RD
- PIN 30 BL
- PIN 85 BK

STEP Four

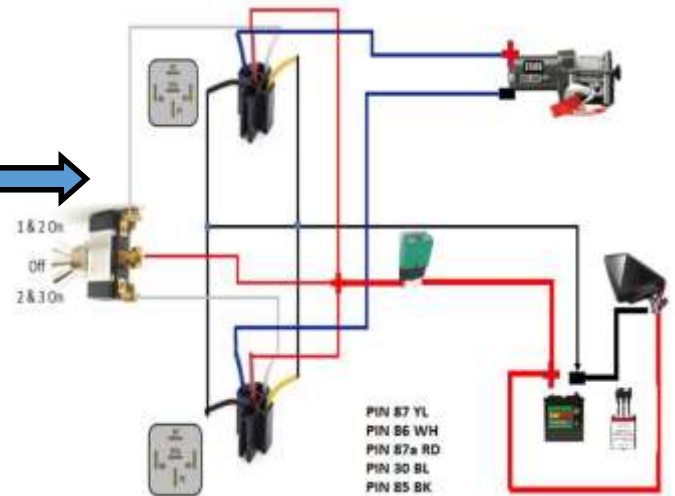
Pin 30 will go to each side of the motor. Extend the wires with red and black runs, as appropriate and add eyelets.



STEP Five

The ground wire from the battery will be tied to the center pin. Tap the wires into the ground wire from the battery to the switch. Make sure the run is long enough.

Put eyelets on both ends of the main ground wire.



STEP Six

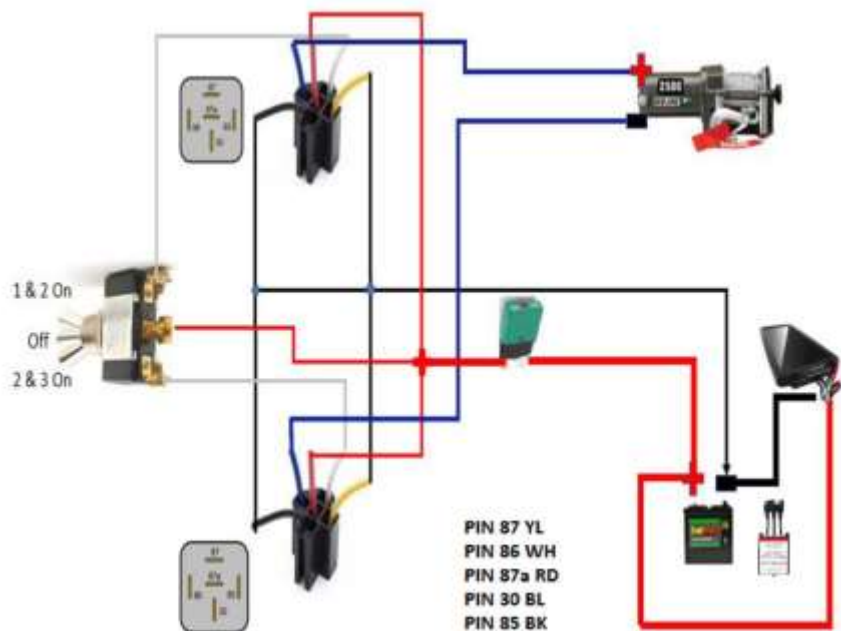


At this point both relays have pin 30 not tied to anything.

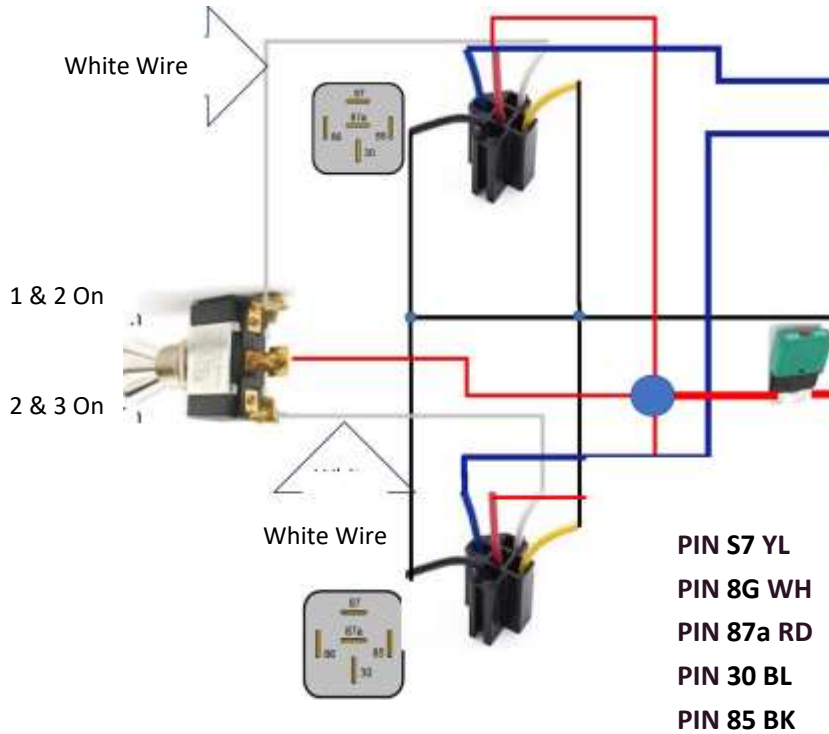
One of the relay's pin 30 will be connected to the positive side of the motor and one to the negative.

REMEMBER: Tie in the charge controller as directed by the manufacturer

Everything else, tying it down is up to your imagination and ham operator logic.



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2023 SSRC Officers

[President - Hayden Kaufman, N2HAY](#)
[Vice President - Adam Parker, NY5E](#)
[Secretary - Gray Moffett, KC3DWY](#)
[Treasurer— Carl Berry, KC5CMX](#)
[Past President - Bill Gillespie, KW5BG](#)

Directors:

[Andy Allen, NA4DA](#)
[Terry Strey, KN4FMH](#)
[Tim Trombley, K8TAT](#)

[Club Minutes and Financial Reports](#)



SSRC Board of Directors
first Tuesday, 7:00 PM
Green Clover Hall
All are welcome

- [SSRC Logo Shirts & Caps](#)
- [Green Clover Key Card](#)
- [Perry Field Access](#)
- [Membership Application](#)
- [Buy/Sell/Trade](#)
- [QST NFL – NFL Section Newsletter](#)
- [Silver Springs Radio Club Website](#)
- [NFL Section Website](#)
- [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)
- [NG3K DX](#)

Committee Chairs

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[Trustee K4GSO – Wayne Brown, N4FP](#)
[Newsletter – Marty Brown, N4GL](#)