



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

# Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



Brian Wilson, NX4U, Editor

www.w4gso.org

info@w4gso.org

## GARA News - New Officers Elected

In case you were not at November's meeting here are the results of GARA's annual election. GARA's elected officers for 2014 are:

President; Tom Bertolino, KB1P  
 Vice President; Cameron Conover, AJ4TW  
 Treasure; Craig Bondy, N8STA  
 Financial; Todd Smith, AK4TS  
 Secretary; Greg Spencer, KG4UQV  
 Operations & Repeater Trustee; Roy Smith, N4BYU  
 Member at Large; Fred Lomax IV, KV4PI  
 Member at Large; Jesse Lindley, K4AX

By an omission error the nominee for Engineering Chairman, David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF was left off the ballot, which resulted in a vacancy in that office for 2014. However, David was appointed by the board (during its meeting on Dec 9th) to fill the vacancy until the membership can approve the appointment. There will be a vote by the membership (during the January 27th General Meeting) to approve his appointment.



## This Month's Program

Our January Meeting will be held on Monday, January 27th at 7:00 pm in Captain Bills Seafood & Steakhouse located at 6108 West Market Street in Greensboro. Come early have dinner and catch up on the latest club info, gossip, and connect faces to call signs.

The presentation topic for this month is the Sandblast Rally. The Sandblast Rally is an annual event and the largest rally racing event held in the Eastern U.S. The event is held near Cheraw, SC. The presenter is Anders Green, KI4IWX. He will brief us on how Hams are used to organize the event communications.

Some reminders:

- Your club membership runs from January to December. GARA dues was due on January 1st. If you have not paid your dues save a stamp, pay your dues while you are at this month's meeting. Craig Bondy, N8STA, GARA's treasurer will have the both the Club and ARRL join/ renewal forms with him.

- If you are a D Star user, the board asks if you would make a \$25.00 donation to help cover the cost running the D Star repeater.

See you at the meeting

### NEXT MEETING Monday, January 27

The next meeting of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association will be Monday, January 27th, at Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, 6108 West Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27409, between Guilford College Road and Swing Road. This program for this month's meeting will be a presentation about The Sandblast Rally - the largest rally racing event held in the Eastern US. The presenter will be Anders Green, KI4IWX.

## GARA Meeting Minutes

### Regular Meeting Minutes November 25, 2013

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association held their monthly meeting on November 25, 2013, at Captain Bills Seafood Restaurant located at 6108 West Market Street in Greensboro.

Donna Ferguson KD4WIK called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Donna asked that all veterans stand and be recognized.

#### OFFICER REPORTS

Tom Bertolino, KB1P, said he had nothing to report.

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, gave the engineering report outlining some issues that he is working on with the D-STAR repeater. David also said that he has the N4G special event station paper work drafted, the call sign reserved and he will file the application as soon as possible with the new board members names listed on it.

Todd Smith, AK4TS, reminded us that it is time to pay our dues. Tom reminded the D-STAR users to pay an extra \$25, if possible, to help cover the internet cost for the gateway.

Roy Smith, N4BYU, said that he would accept dues since Craig Bondy, N8STA, was unable to make the meeting.

Chan White, KJ4ADX, nothing to report. Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, nothing to report.

John Strandberg, W4DX, gave a report on the recent Ham Radio Expo held at the Greensboro Science Center. John thanked every one who helped to make it a success. Donna thanked every one as well. John said we are looking at having the Open House soon.

Donna asked for a round of introductions. Donna spoke about VE testing.

Jim Hightower, N4JLH, spoke about the upcoming Christmas party and invited everyone to come.

Weldon Fields, W4AJT, said that hams in other areas of North Carolina don't talk about new hams like we do and it seems there are more new hams in the piedmont area. Weldon said he was real proud of the new Hams.

#### ELECTION OF 2014 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Donna read the list of nominees -

President: Tom Bertolino, KB1P; Vice President: Cameron Conover, AJ4TW; Secretary: Greg Spencer, KG4UQV; Treasury: Craig Bondy, N8STA; Financial: Todd Smith, AK4TS; Operations: Roy Smith, N4BYU; At-Large: Fred Lomax, KV4PI; At-Large: Jesse Lindley, K4AX

Donna opened the floor to nominations.

Weldon Fields, W4AJT, made a motion to accept the nominations. Roy Smith, N4BYU, seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Donna spoke of the reason she was stepping down as president is because of other responsibilities. Donna then played a video of the ARISS contact that GARA helped to make possible between the space station and McNair elementary school.

Jim Hightower, W4JLH, made a motion to approve the minutes; Tom Bertolino, KB1P, seconded. The motion passed.

*Respectfully submitted by Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, GARA Secretary.*



#### The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

President Thomas Bertolino, KB1P  
Vice-President Cameron Conover, AJ4TW  
Treasurer Craig Bondy, N8STA  
Secretary Greg Spencer, KG4UQV  
Financial Todd Smith, AK4TS  
Engineering Chair David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF  
Operations Roy Smith, N4BYU  
Member-at-Large Fred Lomax IV, KV4PI  
Member-at-Large Jesse Lindley, K4AX  
*Appointed Position:*  
Webmaster & Newsletter Editor  
Brian Wilson, NX4U

The Feed Line is ©2014 by the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association and published monthly. Our address is P.O. Box 7054, Greensboro, NC 27417. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide the club and prospective members information about the club and amateur radio in general. Material and information should reach the editor by the first Friday of the month for the next edition of the newsletter. Opinions expressed in "The Feed Line" do not necessarily represent the views of the officers, directors, editor or members of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association. Material may be reproduced, provided proper credit is given to GARA.

## Board Meeting Minutes - Dec

The GARA board of directors held their monthly meeting on December 9, 2013, at Captain Bills. The members present were: Donna Ferguson, KD4WIK; Craig Bondy, N8STA; Chan White, KJ4ADX; Tom Bertolino, KB1P; Todd Smith, AK4TS; Roy Smith, N4BYU; and Greg Spencer, KG4UQV.

Visiting the board was Cameron Conover, AJ4TW, who was elected as vice-president for 2014 at the November club meeting.

Donna opened the meeting at 7:00 pm.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Donna spoke about the issue of David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, not being on the ballot for engineering chairman. Tom made a motion to appoint David to the position, Greg seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Donna passed the keys to the PO Box over to Tom who was elected as her successor.

### OFFICER REPORTS:

Tom asked Craig for a list of members who did not renew this year so he can send them a card.

Todd said he hopes the board can do more fund raising this next year. Donna said she has a few things that have been donated to the club that the board can use for fund raising.

The board discussed places to have the GARA picnic and the board is still looking at dates. Roy said the board should have a date and place by February. Todd said he would research some shelter possibilities. The board discussed having a raffle at the picnic for a new HT; more details will follow.

The board revisited the idea of starting an online way of collecting dues. After some discussion Roy made a motion to table this discussion until next month, Donna seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Cameron introduced himself and told us about his hobbies and occupation.

Craig said the club has 34 members that have renewed for 2014 at this time.

The board discussed sponsoring an award for the North Carolina QSO party. Donna made a motion to sponsor the award, Roy seconded and the motion passed.

Roy said that the board needs to push D-STAR contributions more so the club can cover the internet cost.

The board discussed doing some testing of new internet services, Tom made a motion to take a clear modem and test it at the repeater site to find out for sure if it will work, Greg seconded, the motion passed. Todd and Roy will go to the repeater site and test the signal strength and get back to the board.

Chan said he had nothing to report but he wanted to thank the board for allowing him to serve.

Greg had no report.

Tom said he has been in touch with the federal government concerning his information request.

Tom said he will go ahead and start a new request for 501(c)3 status.

Roy made a motion to end the meeting; Craig seconded the meeting ended at 8:25pm.

Tom made a motion to adjourn, Jesse seconded, all in favor and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 20.33.

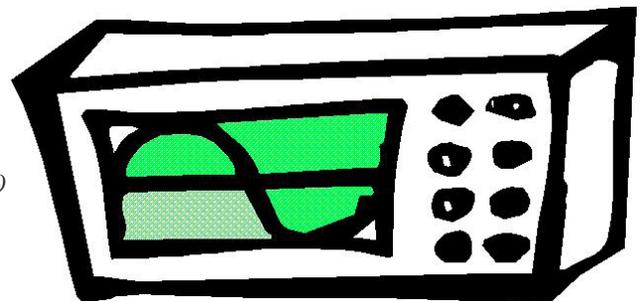
*Respectfully submitted by Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, GARA Secretary.*

## For Sale

### TECHTRONIX R7903 FOUR CHANNEL OSCILLOSCOPE 500 MHZ

Not pretty, but works fine. Has manual and Modules 7A19  
- Vertical RF Plug-in Amplifier 600 MHz 50 Ohm in, 7A26 -  
Dual Trace Amplifier, 7B85 (has manual) - Delaying Time Base,  
Fast, 1 ns/div, installed. \$500 complete.

Contact Sarvasri at 336-644-1111 if interested.



## Board Meeting Minutes - Jan

The GARA board of directors held their monthly meeting on January 13, 2013, at Captain Bills. The members present were: Tom Bertolino, KB1P; David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF; Jesse Lindley, K4AX; Cameron Conover, AJ4TW; Fred Lomax, KV4PI; Todd Smith, AK4TS; Roy Smith, N4BYU; and Greg Spencer, KG4UQV. Chan White, KJ4ADX, was also in attendance

Tom opened the meeting at 19:10

Tom spoke about some members who said they will not be renewing for 2014 and the reasons given Tom went over the treasury report since Craig Bondy, N8STA, could not make it to the meeting.

Todd gave the financial report and stated that the board really needs to get more revenue coming in. The board discussed some ideas about fund raising.

David gave the engineering report stating that he is seeing some issues with the D-Star controller database. David has replaced a bad Ethernet board on the D-Star gateway. The VHF repeater is working fine.

Roy said The board needs to send a memorial contribution in the name of Peggy Mauldin, N4JBM, who became a silent key on January 11th 2014

Jesse said he would like to see GARA offer alternate ways of collecting dues such as a link on the web site.

Todd said that he has discussed adding a forum plug-in to the web site, and that the board needs to look at a different web host.

Tom said that he is working on a presentation for a local elementary school. Todd said that he has some items on order from the ARRL that would be good to use for the school presentation.

Todd also spoke about the club picnic and stated that he has narrowed the choices down to Bur Mill Park and Gibson Park. After some discussion Roy made a motion that the club have the picnic at Bur Mill Park. Roy did not get a second.

Jesse then made a motion to go to Gibson Park David seconded and Tom and Todd both abstained, the motion carried. The picnic will be on the afternoon of May 24th, 2014.

Tom asked Greg Spencer to clarify the date for field day and according to the ARRL it will be June 28th & 29th. Greg also said that he has not yet been asked to head up field day by ARES but he expects to be asked.

David said that he mailed the permit application to the park service for the N4G special event station coming up on March 15th & 16th.

The board discussed whether or not to grant new technicians a free year of membership to GARA. After some discussion Tom made a motion to not give free memberships, Roy seconded, all were in favor and the motion passed. Todd said that he will work on an updated information packet that can be handed out to new hams at the testing sessions.

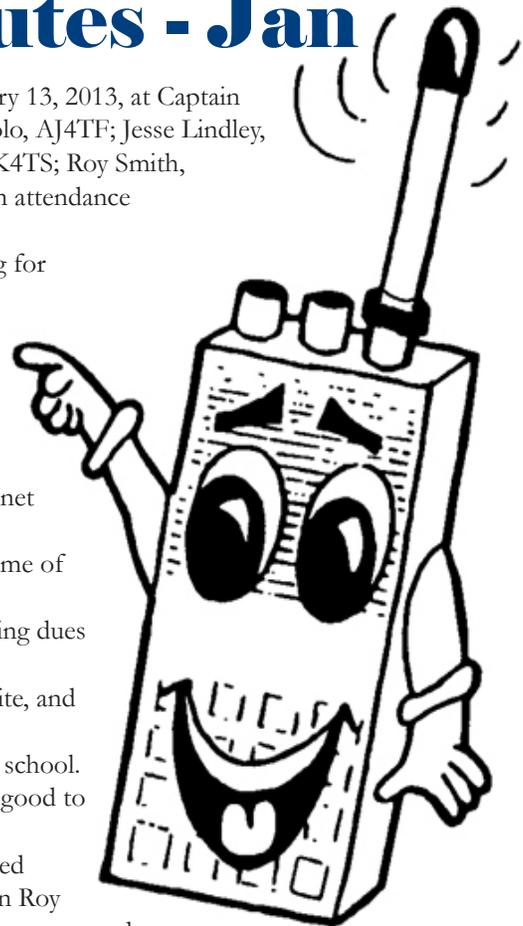
The board also had a discussion about starting a way of accepting dues payments. Todd presented some research that he did to compare various payment methods. After discussing this Tom made a motion to go with Pay Pal, Cameron seconded, all were in favor and the motion carried.

Cameron spoke about an automobile rally that is coming up in South Carolina that will incorporate ham radio. Cameron will contact the organizer about coming to speak at the January club meeting.

The board discussed the internet issue for the repeater. The engineering committee made a list of optional ways of implementing control of the repeaters over the internet instead of over the phone line as it is at this time. After significant discussion, Cameron made a motion to go with option 2. This consists of dropping the phone line and going with VOIP. Todd will research best value of VOIP devices/services. Tom seconded, David abstained, the motion carried.

Tom made a motion to adjourn, Jesse seconded, all in favor and the motion carried. The meeting ended at 20.33.

*Respectfully submitted by Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, GARA Secretary.*



## From the President's Shack

Here we are at the beginning of another year. Where did the year go? It seems as if it was just a couple of months ago that I was sitting in the N4G tent. Now this event is less than two months away. The N4G event is scheduled to be held at Guilford Courthouse National Military Park on Saturday, March 15th with setup on the 14th. This is an excellent event for new Techs and other hams who want to get/gain experience on the HF bands. If you are interested in helping out with this event you can contact David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF. David's email address is [aj4tf @arrl.net](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net).

I would like to thank the club's membership for electing me as GARA's president. Also, I would like to thank the outgoing president, Donna Ferguson, KD4WIK, for stepping up to the challenge of being the club's president when no one else would. Donna good luck in your Gold Wing pursuits, I can only hope that I can manage the club as well as you did. A thank you goes out to Chan White, KJ4ADX, for his tour as member-at-large. I hope to see both of you at the club's meetings.

For the past two years GARA has been operating with a deficit. The Board is making every effort not to raise dues by looking into ways to cut costs and increase revenue. During the year you will see some changes in the way GARA does business. The changes are designed to limit costs and raise money. Some of the changes will obvious other changes will not be so obvious. In any case, the board will keep you informed of any and all changes.

I am (as well as the board members) continuously looking for ideas to improve the way the club is run, and how to support the membership. Keep in mind that GARA is your radio club and the GARA Board works for you, the club members. If you have any thoughts on how the club should be run or how the board can better support its membership please let me or a board member know. You can contact me by email or talk to me at a GARA meeting. My email address is [kb1p@arrl.net](mailto:kb1p@arrl.net).

I hope you see you at one or all our meetings.  
Tom Bertolino, KB1P  
President, GARA



## NC QSO Party and FrostFest

The following was sent to GARA. If you would like for GARA to participate, please contact a board member and let your desire be made known.

*The 2014 North Carolina QSO Party is coming February 23. We are anticipating a great event this year. As the clubs manager for the NCQP committee, I would like to put your club on our list of participants for this year's exciting event. The NCQP committee would like to know of your club's plans, so please let us know what call-sign you will be using. If you have any special plans for location, modes, expeditions, etc., we are eager to hear about them.*



Frostfest is less than TWO WEEKS AWAY! Tables are still available, but time is short to order them online and by mail order.

Orders received after Saturday, January 25, 2014 will be held at Will Call in the Frostfest office at RRC, and will be available for pickup on Friday, January 31, 2014 from 10:00AM until 6:00PM, and starting again at 7:00AM on Saturday, February 1, 2014(the day of the show).

ALL online ordering will close at 8:00PM, Tuesday, January 28, 2014. Join us for our pre-show Eyeball QSO at the Courtyard Marriott from 7-9PM, Friday, January 31! For more information, see more at [www.frostfest.com](http://www.frostfest.com).

## Congratulations! You Passed!

Every month on the second Saturday, except in March when it is the third Saturday, W4VEC holds a testing session for those who live in the area. This provides an opportunity for individuals to be able to test for their amateur radio license or upgrade. Thanks to Roy Smith, N4BYU, and a group of volunteers, each month there are new or upgraded hams in our area.

In December, there were five (5) who passed their test(s) and earned either their Technician, General or Extra class license, and in January there were four (4).

Next month's testing session will be on February 8th at Hinshaw United Methodist Church, 4501 High Point Road, Greensboro, 27407, at 9am. While walk-ins are welcome contacting the lead VE is preferred. Please contact Roy Smith at (336) 312-0647 or by email at [n4byu@arrl.net](mailto:n4byu@arrl.net)

If you cannot make it to this test session, W4VEC holds a second test every month in this area. Test sessions are held at 10am on the last Saturday of each month at the Red Cross High Point Chapter, 815 Phillips Ave., High Point, NC 277262. Walk-ins are welcome. Contact information is Bob Williams, KB4TWG, email [robwilliams@northstate.net](mailto:robwilliams@northstate.net), phone (cell), 336-812-5500.

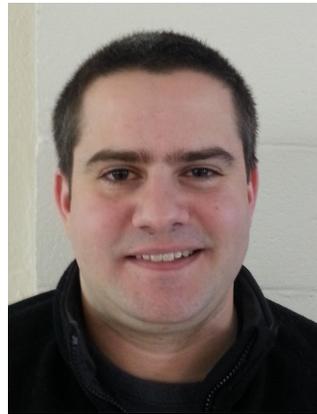
All Photos Courtesy of Roy Smith, N4BYU



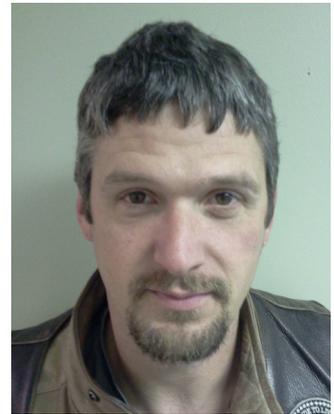
*Scott Toth, K4VXN  
Passed Tech AND Gen*



*Craig Atkins, KK4VXK  
Passed Technician*



*David Bond, KK4VCG  
Passed General*



*Andy Warner, KK4VXJ  
Passed Technician*



*John Starrett, KK4WLG  
Passed Technician*



*Charles Hahn, KK4WLE  
Passed Technician*



*Brian Shore, KV4TJ  
Passed Extra*



*Sam Whittington, KK4WLF  
Passed Technician*

## Engineering Update for December, 2013 AND January, 2014

From David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF

### DECEMBER ENGINEERING UPDATE

There has been lots of activity behind the scenes in the past month. Our primary issue has been the failure of two network interface cards (NIC) in the D-Star repeater, breaking the connection between the repeater and the Internet gateway.

Last month, I told you about the network problem somewhere in the 10.x.x.x local LAN. The local 10.x.x.x LAN is used to allow the repeater controller and the gateway to access the Internet through the router. The problem was traced to a right angle PCI adapter in the repeater controller that the NIC plugs into, and I said last month that if the problem recurs, we would consider switching the local LAN to a USB to Ethernet interface.

The problem reoccurred only a few days after I wrote last month's column, so I replaced the right-angle NIC with a USB to Ethernet adapter. The repeater controller is a Windows XP machine, and it recognized the device with a minimum of setup activity needed. The D-Star machine was back on the air.

Alas, my enthusiasm was to be short lived. About a week later, I received another report that the D-Star machine was not able to link to other machines over the internet. Some troubleshooting indicated that the likely culprit was a failure in the internal local network, the 172.16.x.x net, which is a point-to-point connection that connects the controller and the gateway directly. Since that net is served on the gateway computer by a NIC plugged into the same type of troublesome right-angle PCI adapter, I zeroed in on that being the likely culprit. The gateway computer is a separate computer running CentOS Linux, so I knew that plugging in a new network card, especially a USB-to-Ethernet adapter, might not be quite as easy as it was under Windows. As I expected, although the device was recognized as a USB device, the device driver in the Linux kernel was too old to recognize it as an Ethernet port. Luckily, Linux is designed to be flexible and easily modified, (if one knows what they are doing). Device drivers are called 'modules' and can be loaded and unloaded from a running system without (in most cases) shutting the system down or rebooting it. (try that with Windows!) Here's how I did it:

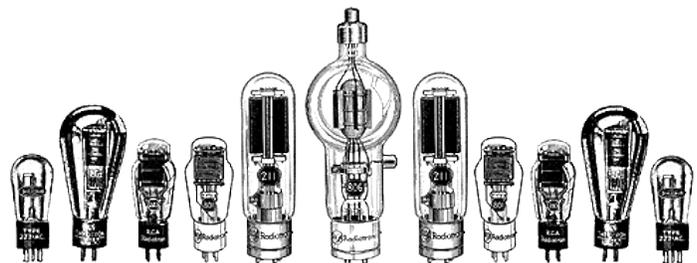
I purchased a second inexpensive USB to Ethernet 10/100 adapter, just like the first one. There are many brands out there, but a lot of them will use the ASIX chipset. In this case, the device was an IOCREST USB 2.0 Ethernet Adapter, which uses the ASIX AX88772B chipset. The Linux kernel has a kernel module for these devices built in, called 'asix' but depending on the age of the kernel, I knew that I might have to compile a newer version from source code.

It's easy to find out:

Plug the adapter into a USB port.

```
$ /sbin/lshw
```

...



see Engineer, page 8

## Engineer (continued from page 7)

Bus 001 Device 002: ID 0b95:772b ASIX Electronics Corp. AX88772B  
Look for the vendor/device ID (in this case 0b95:772b). Now check the kernel driver 'asix' to see if the USB device is listed as part of the kernel:

```
$ /sbin/modinfo asix
filename:      /lib/modules/2.6.18-308.20.1.el5/kernel/drivers/usb/net/
asix.ko
license:      GPL
description:   ASIX AX8817X based USB 2.0 Ethernet Devices
author:       David Hollis
srcversion:    0A6B74EEDAAB81B31A451C5
alias:        usb:v0B95p7E2Bd*dc*dsc*dp*ic*isc*ip*
...
```

In the case of the existing Linux kernel, it was not listed, preventing the operating system from recognizing it as an Ethernet device, so I had to compile a new driver module.

To compile the kernel driver:

- I got the correct version off the CD that comes with the device, and copied it to the computer. Included with the source code, was a "makefile" which describes how the source is to be compiled and linked.

- Make the kernel module by running the 'make' command:

```
$ make
```

The kernel module object code "asix.ko" will be created. To install it, I had to be logged in as 'root'. I removed the old kernel module from the running kernel:

```
# modprobe -r asix
```

- and then installed the new module:

```
# make install
```

```
# modprobe asix
```

At this point, the adapter was recognized as an Ethernet port, and I was able to configure the port using the Network Configuration tool. Also note that I did ALL of this remotely, from home (although I needed to go back to the site to reconnect the ethernet cable to the new adapter).

The D-Star machine is back on the air. I still have an issue with disk space on the gateway database that I need to work on, but I'll write about that in a future column.

### VHF REPEATER:

I have much to tell you about the VHF machine as well. In order to be a good steward of your money, the GARA board of directors is looking for ways to cut the expenses that the club has to pay every month. One of the largest expenses is the telecommunications bill, which covers both the internet (DSL) connection, and the telephone line at the repeater site. Of course the internet connection is used to provide external internet service to the D-Star repeater. The telephone line is used to provide the following services



## Update (continued from page 8)

on the VHF repeater:

\* Autopatch capability to club members (for those who don't know what an autopatch is, it is the capability to make local telephone calls using your radio over the repeater. Of course, they won't be private calls, since everyone listening to the repeater will be able to hear BOTH sides of the conversation!)

\* Telecommand capability to the VHF analog repeater in compliance with FCC Part 97.213 rules

\* Dial out capability to the Amateur Radio Newsline phone bank to play the weekly ARNL report during the Sunday night News and Information Net

The GARA board has contacted the telecom carrier (AT&T) and determined that the club can save over \$500 per year by dropping the analog telephone service from the account, and just keep the internet service. We are looking at several options for maintaining services on the VHF repeater, but, unfortunately, not all of the options include the autopatch capability. For sure, autopatch usage is not what it once was... back in the day, before the proliferation of cell phones and widespread cell phone service, amateur radio repeater autopatch was used much more than it is today. I think I have heard someone use the W4GSO autopatch maybe 3 times in the last couple of years. However, you should know that we are considering options that would disable the autopatch capability from the VHF repeater. If you have opinions about this topic, or any other topics, please contact any of the GARA board members and express them, either positive or otherwise.

### JANUARY ENGINEERING UPDATE

Although December was busy for the Engineering Committee, January has been relatively quiet. I hope everyone had a nice holiday season.

#### UHF (D-STAR) REPEATER

After repairing the Ethernet ports on the D-Star Gateway (see the December report), the gateway has been operating continuously since then. I still need to work on the database, but it is not preventing the gateway from operating.

#### VHF REPEATER:

As I wrote in the December report, in order to save money on the monthly telecommunications bill for the repeaters, the GARA board is considering options that might disable the autopatch capability from the VHF repeater. If you have opinions about this topic, or any other topics, please contact any of the GARA board members and express them, either positive or otherwise.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about your club repeaters, either VHF or D-Star, or any other technical topic, please contact me at [aj4tf@arrl.net](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net)

Happy New Year from the GARA Engineering Committee!



## Silent Keys

### Peggy Mauldin, N4JBM

A note of sadness today, January 11, as GARA member Peggy Mauldin, N4JBM, wife of Bill Mauldin, WG4R, passed away Saturday morning shortly after 1 AM, losing her battle with breast cancer. Mrs. Margaret (Peggy) Durham Mauldin, of Greensboro, died Saturday, January 11, 2014 at Beacon Place following a lengthy illness. A funeral service will be held Wednesday, 11:00 a.m., at Friendly Ave. Baptist Church by Dr. Patrick Cronin and Rev. Jack Morris. Interment will follow at Forest Lawn Cemetery. Peggy was born June 30, 1938 in Guilford Co., the daughter of the late John Rich Durham and Margaret Weisner Durham. She was a member of Friendly Ave. Baptist Church where she was active in the choir, hospitality and the ladies ensemble. Peggy was a member of the National Society of Decorative Artists, had received the CDA degree and painted ornaments for the White House, the Smithsonian and the Blair House. She was a graduate of Greensboro Senior High School, Class of 1956, and graduated as an RN from City Memorial Hospital in Winston-Salem. Surviving in addition to her mother of Greensboro are her husband, William (Bill) Mauldin; daughter, Kendra Scalse and husband Tom of Greensboro, son, William "David" Mauldin, Jr. and wife Bethanne of Durham and grandson, Benjamin David Mauldin. Friends will be received Tuesday, 6:00-8:00 p.m., at Hanes-Lineberry N. Elm Chapel. Memorials may be directed to: Friendly Ave. Baptist Church Building Fund, 4800 W. Friendly Ave., Greensboro, NC 27410. Written and audio condolences may be made at [www.haneslineberryfuneralhomes.com](http://www.haneslineberryfuneralhomes.com)

### John Stuart, KA2IOD

JOHN CALHOUN STUART, JR. GREENSBORO John Calhoun Stuart Jr., 80, died on January 15, 2014 from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis. Born in Washington, DC, to the late John C. and Edna Kritz Stuart, he moved several times with his family throughout the South before settling in Greensboro. John graduated from Greensboro Senior High and North Carolina State University with a Degree in Electrical Engineering. He received a Master's Degree from Duke University also in Electrical Engineering. He had a forty plus year career with the Bell system, beginning with Bell Labs, which brought him and his family to Basking Ridge, NJ for over 16 years. John retired from Lucent Technologies in Greensboro and went on to pursue entrepreneurial endeavors; working in Kazakhstan through IESC helping a start-up computer company, back in Greensboro as Director of the Nussbaum Center and then working for John Kim developing Fanta City International Shopping Center. As a member of the First Presbyterian Church he served as an Elder and worked on various committees throughout his membership. John also was a member of the Greensboro Kiwanis Club. He was an expert ham radio operator, who was certified as having communicated with ham operators in all 50 states and over 100 countries. Sailing was lifetime passion and he ventured through many areas of the world. More recently, he enjoyed a new hobby and passion - painting with watercolors. Overall John is most known for his friendly smile, loving demeanor, and outstanding love for his wife, family, and friends. John is survived by Sara, his wife of almost 57 years, his three children - Laura and Tim Taylor of Coronado, CA; Robert and Julie Stuart of Denver, CO; and Gennie and Chris Murphy of South Orange, NJ- his six grandsons, and his younger brother, Keith Stuart of Greensboro. He is predeceased by his son, John C. Stuart, III. A memorial service will be held Saturday January 18 at 11 AM at Starmount Presbyterian Church, Greensboro NC. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro, 617 N. Elm St., Greensboro, NC 27401 for the Haiti Children's Fund or NC State Engineering Foundation, Campus Box 7901, Raleigh, NC 27695-7901. Online condolences may be made to [www.haneslineberryfuneralhomes.com](http://www.haneslineberryfuneralhomes.com).

### Eugene Craven, W4GC

EUGENE RAY CRAVEN RAMSEUR Eugene Ray Craven, 81, of Ramseur, died Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at Randolph Hospice House in Asheboro. Funeral Services, 3 p.m. Friday, January 24, 2014, at Parks Crossroads Christian Church, Ramseur. Officiating, Rev. Jim Turner, Rev. Randy Kelley. Burial will follow in the church cemetery with military honors by the Randolph County Honor Guard. Eugene was a native of Randolph County, a retired Design Engineer with Burlington Industries at the Corporate Headquarters in Greensboro, a veteran of the U.S. Army, and a member of Parks Crossroads Christian Church. He was an avid Amateur Radio Operator for more than 30 years with call letters W4GC, having completed his extra class license. He was preceded in death by parents, Irvin and Ila West Craven, sisters, Virginia Craven Souther, Velna Craven Rose. Survivors: wife, Barbara York Craven, of the home, daughters, Gina Gibson, and husband, Mark, of Greensboro, Sherry Gaster, and husband, Michael, of Asheboro, sister, Shirley Padgett, and husband, Jerry, of Franklinville, brother, Lloyd Craven, of Franklinville, grandchildren, Aaron Gibson, Drew Gibson, Michaela Gaster. Visitation, 2 to 3 p.m., Friday, Parks Crossroads Christian Church, Ramseur, and other times at the residence. Condolences may be made online at [www.loflinfuneralservice.com](http://www.loflinfuneralservice.com). Arrangements by Loflin Funeral Home & Cremation Service, Ramseur. Memorials may be made to, Hospice of Randolph County, PO Box 9, Asheboro, NC 27204, or to the Arthritis Foundation, PO Box 96280, Washington, DC 20077.

## Calendar of Events

- Jan 25 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Jan 27 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Feb 8 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Feb 10 GARA Board Meeting
- Feb 22 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Feb 24 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Mar 7-8 North Carolina Section Convention  
(2014 Charlotte Hamfest) <http://www.charlottehamfest.org>
- Mar 10 GARA Board Meeting
- Mar 15 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Mar 14-16 N4G Special Event (Guilford Courthouse National Military Park)
- Mar 24 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Mar 29 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Apr 12 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Apr 14 GARA Board Meeting
- Apr 19 Roanoke Division Convention (Raleigh Hamfest) <http://www.rars.org/hamfest>
- Apr 26 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Apr 28 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- May 10 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- May 10 Rockingham County Swapfest (Reidsville, NC) <http://www.rcarc.com>
- May 12 GARA Board Meeting
- May 24 GARA Picnic Gibson Park (High Point)
- May 26 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- May 31 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Jun 9 GARA Board Meeting
- Jun 14 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Jun 23 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Jun 28 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)

This purpose of this calendar to provide information on events in and around our area that might be of interest to our readers. As you might expect, there are many more events (public service, hamfests, flea markets, etc.) taking place in North Carolina and around the Greater Greensboro Area. If you know of an event that would be of interest to our readers, please contact Tom, KB1P at [kb1p@arrl.net](mailto:kb1p@arrl.net).

# Area Happenings

**FOURTH MONDAY** – at 6:30pm, the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association have their regular monthly meeting at Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, 6108 West Market St., Greensboro, NC 27409. Please plan to gather at 6:30pm for dinner. The meeting is scheduled to start at 7:15pm

## CLUB NETS:

**SUNDAYS** – at 7:30pm, the **Technical Forum** on the 145.150;

- at 9pm, the **GARA News and Information Net**. This net features *NewsLine* and is on the 145.150, W4GSO repeater. Roy Smith, N4BYU is always looking for net controls. Contact him if you would like to help.

**TUESDAYS** – at 8:30pm **The Triad SkyWarn Net** meets on the 147.225, K4ITL repeater, no tone required.

**TUESDAYS** – at 9pm, the **D-STAR Net** meets on 442.8625 (W4GSO B and Reflector 54C)

**WEDNESDAYS** – at 8:30pm, **The Guilford Amateur Society Rag Chew Net** holds their weekly net on the 145.250, W4GG repeater with an 88.5 Hz. tone. Jim Hightower, W4JLH is the net control.

**THURSDAYS** – at 9pm, **The Guilford County ARES Net** meets on the 145.150 repeater (100 Hz. tone).

## OTHER ACTIVITIES :

**FIRST MONDAY** – **The Guilford County A.R.E.S.** monthly meeting is held at 1002 Meadowood St. off W. Wendover Ave, in the EMS building, beginning at 7pm.

**THIRD MONDAY** – at 6:15pm **The Guilford Amateur Society** holds their monthly meeting at Tex & Shirley's Restaurant in Friendly Shopping Center. Eat at 6:15pm and the business meeting begins at 7pm.

**THURSDAY** – at 11:15am, Greensboro Hams get together for lunch. Thursday lunch group is meeting at the K&W Cafeteria, 300 Forum VI Mall at Friendly Shopping Center. Talk-in is on the 145.150, W4GSO repeater with a 100 Hz. tone.

**EVERY FRIDAY** – at 8pm (approximately) Greensboro Hams get together for coffee at Starbucks at Edney Ridge Rd.

## The W4VEC Testing Schedule Feb. to May 2014

**February 8, 2014**

**March 15, 2014**

**April 12, 2014**

**May 10, 2014**

**June 14, 2014**

**July 12, 2014**

**Location:** Hinshaw United Methodist Church, 4501 High Point Road, Greensboro, NC 27407,

**Time:** 9:00am

**Contact:** Roy Smith

**Phone:** (336) 312-0647

**E-mail:** n4byu@arrl.net

## GARA REPEATERS

145.150 MHz - offset, 100 Hz. tone

442.8625 MHz. + offset, Digital D-Star



**Greensboro Amateur Radio Association**

P.O. Box 7054

Greensboro, NC 27417

[www.w4gso.org](http://www.w4gso.org)

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