



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



Brian Wilson, KJ4LKY, Editor

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Soccer Tournament Re-Cap

By Thomas Fleming, KJ4YDP

Over Memorial Day weekend there is no doubt that any member of our great club or even lurkers of our repeater heard a lot of traffic going on with names and numbers. I would assume that there were even some people that while flipping through the dial were wondering "What is going on here?" Simple answer for this is it was time once again for GARA to give back to the community. GYSA (Greensboro Youth Soccer Association) now Greensboro United Soccer Association host three (3) soccer tournaments throughout the year. They promote youth sports along with helping their association raise money for their efforts in putting on a wonderful exhibition of youth soccer.

Where does GARA fit into all of this? Our club, for more than 20 years, has provided communications for GYSA during these events. Over the years our role has diminished due to technology; however, we do play a vital role in keeping track of one of the main objectives of any tournament, scoring. What good is a tournament to decide the rankings of teams

without keeping score?

This being my first year in helping with this event, I gained a wealth of knowledge of what our role is now and was in the past. Presently, we handle scoring and check to make sure remote sites have what they need to operate. It sounds real easy when you listen to the traffic on the air but as I

found out first hand; IT CAN BE STRESSFUL. A small tournament consists of 4 locations where games are taking place all day and most times with only a 15 minute intervals between games. Add on top of that there are close to 30 fields with play happening at any time on the first day. Not stressed yet? Add in 200+

see **Soccer**, page 10

The History of GYSA & GARA

By Allen Bradley, KD4IUN

The Wrangler Jeans / McDonald's Youth Soccer Classic is Greensboro Amateur Radio Association's longest running public service project. GARA has been closely involved with Greensboro Youth Soccer for 31 years.

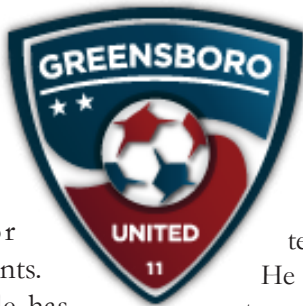
In 1980, Morris Jefferys, K4SNI,

was the Tournament Director of a new soccer tournament. He had a challenge; there were no facilities in Greensboro with enough fields to support the number of teams invited to participate.

He arranged to play on fields at various parks and schools all over Greensboro. How could he coordinate the activities on all of these fields? He was also a very active member of GARA and the Trustee of the K4SNI club repeater on 146.61 MHz located on the Guilford College

campus. Problem solved. With the help of Roy Smith, N4BYU, Richard Love, KD4TB, Bob Mays, KE4MOW, and other legends of ham radio in Greensboro, the tournament was a big success. It quickly grew to use every available soccer field in Guilford County.

The tournament was sponsored by the Greensboro News-Record for the first four years. All activities were coordinated by ham radio from a log cabin on Aycock street on the

see **History**, page 9

NEXT MEETING Monday, June 27

The next meeting of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association will be Monday, June 27th, at the Golden Corral Steak House, 4404 Landview Dr, Greensboro, NC 27407, off Wendover Ave. near Sam's Club. This month's meeting will be a presentation on Public Service Scanning.

GARA Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting Minutes May 23, 2011

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association held their monthly meeting on May 23, 2011, at the Golden Coral restaurant located near the intersection of Wendover Avenue and I-40.

The meeting was called to order at 7:15pm by Chris Thompson, K4HC.

Chris asked everyone to identify themselves.

Ernie Wall, NC4EW, said that all bills are paid, and we have 97 members at this time.

Al Allred, K4ZKQ, said that our outgo is less than forecasted and our income is more than forecasted.

Bob Mays, KE4MOW, spoke about the picnic that was held recently and stated that it was a "Grand ol time and if you missed

it then you have our condolences."

Todd Smith, AK4TS, said that we should all give Bob and his wife a round of applause for a job well done in making the picnic a success.

Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, has followed up with John Doggett, AJ4DV, about the Field Day coordination between GARA and Guilford ARES.

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, said that everything is "Hunky Dory" and he is still looking for the interference we have been getting.

Betty Williams, KC2BFN, is still looking for more members.

Allen Bradley, KD4IUN, spoke about the soccer tournament coming up this weekend and reminded us that the repeater will be used periodically during the two days so please go through net control.

Roy Smith, N4BYU, said that there was a mistake in the minutes published in last months feed line.

Allen Minter's, AI4NG, name was misspelled and should be corrected. Roy also said that Allen has moved into an assisted living residence. Chris asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes with the change. Roy made a motion to approve and Terrell Brown, K4TLB, seconded, and the minutes passed.

Gerald Donnelly, N4PAX, introduced Terrell who gave a great program on the Dayton Hamvention and then an additional program about ham radios appearances in movies and TV.

The meeting ended at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, GARA Secretary.

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

President Chris Thompson, K4HC
Vice-President Gerald Donnelly, N4PAX
Treasurer Ernie Wall, NC4EW
Secretary Greg Spencer, KG4UQV
Financial Al Allred, K4ZKQ
Engineering Chair David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF
Operations Bob Mays, KE4MOW
Member-at-Large Todd Smith, AK4TS
Member-at-Large Betty Williams, KC2BFN
Appointed Positions:
Webmaster Tom Forrest, N4GVK
Newsletter Editor Brian Wilson, KJ4LKY

The Feed Line is ©2011 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 2nd 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 June 13, 2011

The GARA board of directors held their monthly meeting on June 13, 2011, at the Greensboro Public Library on Benjamin Parkway. Board members in attendance were: Chris Thompson, K4HC; Bob Mays, KE4MOW; Al Allred, K4ZKQ; Betty Williams, KC2BFN; David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF; Ernie Wall, NC4EW; Todd Smith, AK4TS; Roy Smith, N4BYU; and Greg Spencer, KG4UQV.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Chris Thompson.

Betty brought in some of our current brochures, and we discussed whether or not any changes or updates need to be made. Chris asked everyone to review the brochure and make suggestions to Betty. Betty is also sending out e-mails to invite people to the meetings.

David said that he has not seen any occurrences of the interference we were having. David said that he received a complaint about the repeater not identifying correctly. David has monitored the repeater extensively and could not detect a problem. David said that it could have been something that came in over the Eccolink connection, but he is not sure. He will continue to monitor the repeater and look for problems.

Greg said that he has been in contact with John Doggett, AJ4DV, about the Field Day coordination and Ernie Wall, NC4EW, has delivered a copy of our insurance information to the town of Summerfield.

Chris said that he would like to continue looking for a new meeting venue and encouraged everyone to keep looking for a suitable spot.

Bob said that the picnic was a success, and he donated the unused bread to the Potters House.

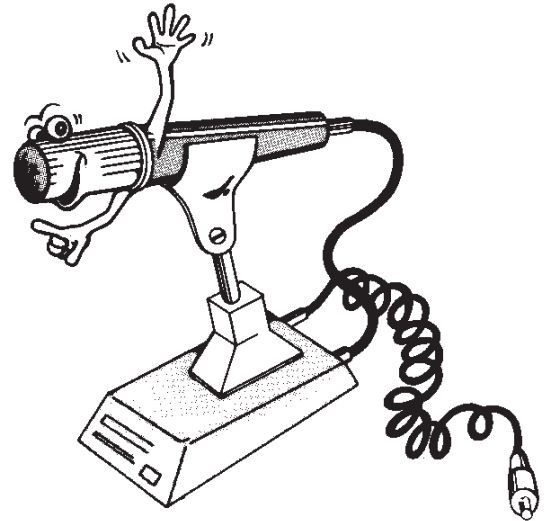
Bob commented that the reservation service that Todd set up worked perfectly.

Bob said our next club project is the Open House coming up on October 1st. He will follow up with John Strandberg, W4DX, about the planning.

Ernie gave the treasury report and stated that he has paid the equipment insurance premium, and he has forwarded an updated list of our covered equipment to the insurance company.

Al said that our expenses are less than forecasted and memberships are coming in faster than forecasted. We have approximately 100 members at this time.

Todd said that Thomas



Fleming, KJ4YDP, has begun to work with the soccer tournaments. Chris said that we need more people to help share the work.

Todd also spoke about the possibility of having some club T-shirts made. There will be more to come on this issue at a later date.

Todd said that one of our members came to him with a request for the board. The member is concerned about the way some people are using the repeater and suggested that we all need to all practice good repeater etiquette and set a good example for others.

David made a motion to end the meeting and Betty provided the second. The meeting ended at 8:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, GARA Secretary.

From the President's Shack

Field Day is almost here, and I hope all of you have an opportunity to get out and enjoy this event. Field Day epitomizes many of the different activities within the hobby of Amateur Radio – contest operation (even though this technically isn't a "contest"), public service, experimentation, construction, elmering and camaraderie all play a huge part in this summertime event. Every group has a different priority in their operation – with some emphasizing the number of contacts made, some the score, some socializing, and some public outreach and recruiting. All are valid, and all of these come together for a fun-filled 24 hour operating period.



The GARA/ARES Field Day will be held at the Summerfield Athletic facility – see the GARA website for additional details. Even if you don't make this event (I won't be there, due to a long-standing commitment every Field Day weekend), I hope you take time to participate in some fashion, even if it's only operating a few hours from your home station.

Rick, NM3G; Craig, N8STA

and myself recently concluded the Sunday afternoon "Beyond Extra" course, and I'm glad to note that there are several new Amateur Extra class operators locally now – I think in part to the regular on-air discussions using the Extra Class License Manual as a guide. This was not a complete course – but a supplement to self-study that the students have been/are doing. I hope to see a few more upgrades soon. Along with this, of course comes access to some prime "DX" radio real-estate. I hope the new Extras are enjoying their new privileges.

That's about all for now. Until next time, keep havin' fun!

73,
Chris

GARA Meeting Topic for June: "Public Service Scanning"

By Gerald Donnelly, N4PAX

The June 27, 2011 GARA meeting will be a presentation with Q&A by Mark Robertson, KG4STP; Nathan Jackson, K4NWJ; and "Dub" Bridges, N4DUB; on "Public Service Scanning". While not exactly an Amateur Radio topic, most amateurs either got their start eavesdropping on the scanner frequencies or actively listen to the utility, service bands for the latest in emergency traffic.

If you haven't kept up with the advances in scanning technology (for example, do you know what "trunked radio scanning is?"), this is your chance to find out the latest about scanning technology and frequencies from our local ham scanning experts. Come and give them your support and bring plenty of questions.



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 Glenda

Nicholson, AG4NC, and a group of volunteers, each month there are new or upgraded hams in our area.

In June, we had 5 individuals who passed their test(s) and earn either their Technician, General or Extra class license.

Next month's testing session

will be on June 11th at #3 Centerview Dr, Hickory Building, Greensboro, NC 27407 at 9:00am. While walk-ins are welcome contacting the lead VE is preferred. Please contact Glenda Nicholson at (336) 674-3810 or by email at ag4nc@bellsouth.net



*Larry Pike - AK4JB,
Upgrade to Extra*



*Michael Miller - KK4COM,
Passed Tech and General*



*Ryan Lawrence - KK4COL,
Passed Tech and General*



*James Sandknop - KK4CON,
Passed Tech*



Roy Smith, N4BYU, and our newest VE Larry Campbell, W4JLC

All Photos Courtesy of Todd Smith, AK4TS

Engineering Update for June, 2011

From David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF

VHF repeater interference: I have not heard anyone complain about this for several weeks, nor have I heard it. If it returns again, we have some promising targets to check out based on previous measurements, as I detailed in this space a few months ago.

V H F Repeater ID:

I received a call from N4BYU, Repeater Trustee, regarding an anomaly that he observed a couple of weeks ago (I did not hear this). During a QSO, he heard the repeater transmit a CW ID, but it was truncated (i.e. not complete). After receiving this report, I monitored the repeater for several hours, and did not hear anything unusual. The repeater controller has programmed timers that ensure that the ID is transmitted every 10 minutes when the transmitter has been active, and during those several hours, a proper ID was transmitted every 10 minutes. What was the truncated ID that was heard? Perhaps one of the two Echolink stations that are tuned to this repeater had a user from somewhere else that had an issue with their ID? The source of this bad ID is unknown



at this time, but I am fairly certain that it was *not* generated by the VHF repeater controller. If any member hears anything unusual while using the club repeaters, please contact me and I'll look into it. We want to make sure our repeaters not only provide the best possible service to the club, but also remain within the parameters required by the FCC rules!

D-Star: I've been studying some more on the administration of the D-Star gateway, and trying to learn more about it. There are several excellent Yahoo groups relating to D-Star administration, and D-Star gateway systems, and nearly every question I have in my mind about it has already been asked and answered on these forums, so searching them yields some valuable information.

I know there are some of you out there who have questions and curiosity about D-Star, and how it works. I would be more than happy to answer questions you may have or demonstrate the operation of our D-Star repeater.

Until next time,
73, David AJ4TF

For Sale

Contact Tom Forrest, N4GVK, n4gvk@bellsouth.net or call 336-202-8650

HEATHKIT 1 KW LINEAR AMP. SB-200 w/ Manual

Was purchased a while back. Never used it as I don't have the antenna system to do it justice. It was suppose to be in good working order when I purchased it. This is a 1 KW on CW and 1200 on SSB using 2 - 572-B tubes - wired for 110, but can be wired for 220 Volts. Asking \$300 (they have been advertised on QRZ for \$400) - sold as-is, no warranty. No shipping, pick-up only. Over all it's very clean. More information: www.rigreference.com/rig/5254-Heathkit_SB-200

KENWOOD TM-D710 DUAL BAND RADIO

This is the best dual-bander made by Kenwood. 50W output - 3 power levels. It was purchased new a couple of years ago and has never been mobile and in a clean environment. Mint Condition. Used very little. This radio is capable of packet and has built in modem, APRS and Echolink ready - computer programmable with free software from Kenwood. Programming (PG-5G) cable not included. Asking \$385 - All manuals and original box - sells for \$539 when you can get a coupon from HRO.

More information:
www.kenwoodusa.com/Communications/Amateur_Radio/Mobiles/TM-D710A

100 Watts, Lousy Antenna – Update

By Chris Thompson, K4HC

As of May 26th, I achieved 100 country confirmations using Logbook of the World, and have earned DXCC. Some perhaps interesting observations from this pursuit:

I decided to actively chase DXCC in mid-February, and made the first contact towards this during the ARRL DX CW contest on February 19th. Between February 19th and May 26th, 86 different countries confirmed contacts – so only 14 of my total came from casual operation before actively chasing this award.

many of my confirmations were from non-contest contacts, and were from a mixture of modes – CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK – and each one of these modes provided at least some of the unique country confirmations.

My band and mode totals:

Mixed	100	80M	10
CW	78	40M	43
Phone	38	30M	21
RTTY	17	20M	47
		17M	12
		15M	31
		10M	18

One final point – my CW totals are greater only because that's my mode of choice and I spend more time there than on other modes. Your own totals will reflect your preferences – but give strong consideration to expanding your arsenal by adding new modes – and also trying new bands.

Next up....Worked All States....

73,
Chris



Contests provided a significant number of confirmations as shown below:

ARRL DX CW – 44 countries confirmed – Approx. 10 hours participation

ARRL DX SSB – 20 countries confirmed – Approx 5 hours participation

CQWW WPX SSB – 10 countries confirmed – Approx 2 hours participation

There were some duplicated countries between the different 'tests' – but totaling about 55 new ones all together. Obviously, I did not dedicate a HUGE amount of time during contests – but I didn't ignore them, either.

Also, it should be obvious that

Silent Key: Roger Alden, WA4MS

It is with deep regret and sorrow that I must inform you of the death of Rober Alden, WA4MS. Roger's son, David, has sent to me Roger's Obituary which covers everything very well. Here is the text:

Roger Bacon Alden, age 85, of 6600 Earnhardt Drive, Greensboro, NC, died peacefully, surrounded by his loving family Wednesday, June 8, 2011 in Moses Cone Hospital.

He was born in Danville, VA on May 6, 1926, a son of William Frank Alden and Clara McPeak Alden. Roger graduated from George Washington High School in Danville.

He was a Veteran of World War II and served in the United States Army Air Corps as a waist gunner on a B-24 bomber.

Roger was founder and president of Alden Metals, Inc for 28 years until his retirement. He was a member of Starmount Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, for over 25 years, past president of Edward R. Murrow Chapter of the Kiwanis Club, Life Member of American Rapid Relay League, former member of Greensboro Amateur Radio Club, Trustee for Amateur Repeater 146.16/76, member of Y. B. M. Club, former member of the Guilford County Construction Advisory Board, and

a former member of the Starmount Country Club. For many years he enjoyed playing golf and horticulture. Roger was a lifelong HAM radio operator and loved building and fixing desktop computers. His family was always the center of his life.

Roger is survived by his wife of 64 years, Doris Wyatt Alden, his son, Roger David Alden of Greensboro, NC, daughter, Elizabeth Wyatt Alden of Dorset, VT, his brother, John D. Alden of Williamsburg, VA, his sister, Betty Lou Jordon of Little Rock, Ark., and his granddaughter, Adrienne Page Alden. He was predeceased by his brother, William F. Alden, Jr. and his sister, Katherine Oakes both of Danville, VA.

Funeral arrangements are being handled by Townes Funeral Home in Danville. A private grave side service will be held at a date to be determined. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Greensboro Heart Association.

Roger will be remember by all who knew him, appreciated his friendship and service to the amateur radio community. Those memories will live on. Roger was a long time member of our Thursday Luncheon Group.

73,
Don Harris, W4BUZ

Guilford County Amateur Radio Emergency Service

Presents:

ARRL Field Day

June 25-26, 2011

2:00 PM^{EST} Saturday to 2:00 PM^{EST} Sunday

Operating Round-the-Clock

Summerfield Athletic Park

5200 US 220 North, Summerfield, NC

Free and open to the public!

Families and community leaders encouraged to attend!

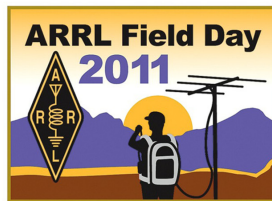
All are welcome to watch and participate!

Come see what Amateur Radio is all about.

Please ask us about the *Get-On-The-Air* Station.



www.guilfordares.org



www.arrl.org



**American
Red Cross**

www.redcross.org



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Weldon Fields, W4AJT, Celebrates His 97th Birthday

The following was sent out to all those that are a part of the Thursday Luncheon Group, organized by Don Harris, W4BUZ. We wanted to recognize Weldon's birthday as well, so we thought this announcement was worth printing.

At last Thursday's luncheon meeting, it was announced that our senior oldest Luncheon Group Member, Weldon Fields, W4AJT, will celebrate his 97th Birthday on Wednesday, June 8th. The group wished Weldon a most Happy Birthday.

Weldon was a member of the old Greensboro Radio Club, Inc. from its early beginnings and has served the amateur radio community and public good

very well over the years. He has specialized in amateur emergency communications, traffic handling training nets, emergency station configuration and operation, RACES, ARES, etc. over the years. Weldon is featured on the Members and Friends of the Greensboro Radio Club video cassette tape 1 where he displays historical photos of the old club, the Civil Defense mobile station he configured and gives

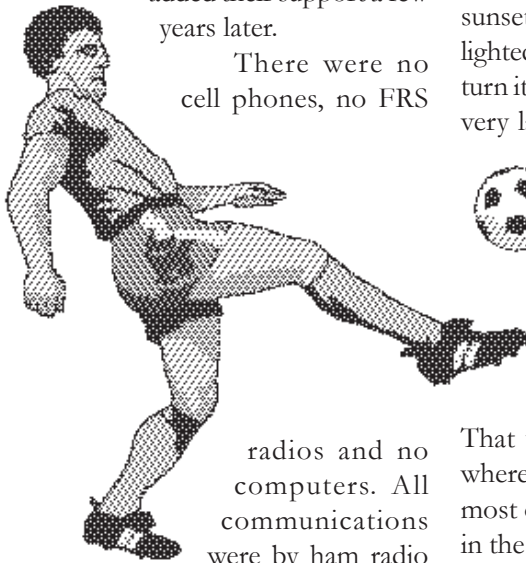
his amateur history into 1990. Weldon is appreciated for his good work and friendship by all who know him. Happy Birthday, Weldon, from all the Luncheon Group



History

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UNCG campus. The tournament was so successful that it quickly grew to be the largest and most popular in the Southeast. The sponsorship changed to Wrangler Jeans and McDonald's added their support a few years later.



There were no cell phones, no FRS

radios and no computers. All communications were by ham radio

and all score tabulations were done by pencil and paper. Elizabeth House was a sports writer for the News-Record. She became the tie-breaker for the tournament until she moved to Hawaii in 1994. The rules used to determine which teams advance to semi-finals and championship games can be very complicated with closely matched teams. Now a computer gives the answer in milliseconds but back then Elizabeth was the authority. She persuaded her brother to create a database on his Apple IIe so the scores could be more easily tabulated and posted but it did not have the ability to break ties and calculate advancements. It also could not accept new score entry while it was printing a report. It took about 20 minutes to print so the radio operators just had to wait until it was finished.

GARA basically ran the tournament. Radio operators would arrive at the GYSA office on Lendew St. at 7:00 AM Saturday, pick up the game balls, corner flags, site manuals, coolers, ice, water, fresh fruit, match reports and anything else required and head for their assigned site. At the end of the day, hopefully before sunset because none of the fields were lighted, they would bring it all back and turn it in. The GYSA staff would work very late sorting it all out for Sunday morning when the whole operation was repeated.



The first phase of the new soccer complex at Bryan Park was completed and that presented new challenges. Net control was clearly needed at Bryan Park.

That was the largest venue and also where the Tournament Director was most of the time. Scoring was located in the office on Lendew St. so control of the net was split between Soccer Control, George Blosser, N4CPV and Scoring, Dave Chesney, N4DFH. George had an amazing ability to operate a radio in each hand while dealing with three or more people face to face at the same time. He answered everyone's questions and handled an amazing amount of traffic and never got flustered. Whenever an operator had scores to report he would turn the net over to Dave as needed. This is why the net control is variously called Soccer Control or Scoring depending on the nature of the traffic even today. Some of the "old timers" still remember when the two stations were miles apart. Dave was replaced by Madeline Bradley,

KD4SVJ, in 1993.

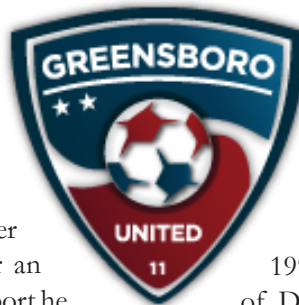
GARA had some membership turnover in the mid-90s. Howard Weinstein, K4CFI, was President in 1993. He didn't know Dale Kelly, WD4CVM and Orin Harding, WA4TBR were the organizing forces behind the 40 or more volunteer radio operators it took to handle the tournament at the time. Howard panicked when he saw the tournament approaching and asked Allen Bradley, KD4IUN, to round up some volunteers. This resulted in considerable confusion because Allen didn't know Dale and Orin either. When everything was settled, Dale and Orin were glad to retire from the tournament after the many years they had served and turn it over to Allen.

The real genius behind it all is Teri Barton. She was hired by GYSA about 1982 and has been behind the scenes ever since. Executive Directors, Board members, Tournament Directors and various volunteers have come and gone, but Teri is still behind the scenes organizing and teaching the newbies how to run a tournament. She would

schedule the games, prepare the match reports and handle most of the many details that create a successful tournament.

The tournament faced another challenge in 1995 when the GYSA Board of Directors realized their best tie-breaker, Elizabeth, had moved to Hawaii.

Next Month we will talk about how they overcame this hurdle and others in Part Two: The History for the GYSA and GARA Partnership





Wrangler®/McDonald® Youth Soccer Tournament

Wrangler

May 28-29

Soccer

continued from page 1

teams that are entered and different divisions for ages along with boys or girls. This can make for a fun day of keeping track of who is playing where and when. Lucky most of this is taken care of by the GYSA which allows us to keep track of the main focus of our job description.

In the past before cell phones, computers, and the internet, GARA's role was much greater and included patching phone calls for some people, getting medical crews to injuries, and just making sure the facilities were clean and stocked. The stories that were told to me make me wish I could have been there throughout the entire time we have provided our service to make these events as good as they have ever been. With the past there is always a future to come. Madeline and Allen Bradley (KD4SVJ & KD4IUN) have led us in this event for almost 20 years and they are ready to retire from leading these tournaments. I guess this is where I come in; I volunteered to be the "go-to guy" for this because I would really hate to see our organization to not be a part of this.

In the future, we hope to keep playing our vital role with the events by employing our fantastic members that volunteer their time

to come out and call in scores on Saturday and Sunday; taking the time out of their lives to support the organization to help keep track of an otherwise out of control event. Another great aspect of GARA's participation in these events that tie up the repeater for the better part of 2 days; is that it helps provide funds to meet the operating cost of our club. With the grant provided by GYSA, we are able to offset the cost of maintaining the repeater, paying the insurance needed for equipment and events, and other perks we try



to provide for our members. These types of events are the core of why we exist and continue to thrive as a club.

With another tournament close to the same size as this past one scheduled for September 3&4 (Labor Day weekend), we need to start planning for manpower now. Just a few hours out of either one of these days will help take a burden off of the chairmen and also assist

providing us with grant that benefits us all. If you can provide some time out of the busy Labor Day weekend to help not just the club but also a great service for the community please contact Thomas Fleming (KJ4YDP) by email at KJ4YDP@aol.com for more information and thank you in advance for your participation. We hope to have great tournament once again.

A special thanks to the members that came out and helped with the tournament over the Memorial Day weekend. They kept everything rolling as smoothly as possible.

Madeline Bradley, KD4SVJ
Allen Bradley, KD4IUN
Chan White, KJ4ADX
Al Allred, K4ZKQ
Sasha Varlamov, KK4BAY
Stan Varlamov, KK4BMD
Bob Mays, KE4MOW
Brian Michael Wilson, KJ4UBW
Terrell Brown, K4TLB
Roy Smith, N4BYU
Greg Spencer, KG4UQV

With out the operators stationed at various locations the real-time scoring would be close to impossible with no errors that we have provided over the years. We look forward to having more events as good as previous events for another 20+ years to come.

Photo Recap of the GARA Picnic



Greg Spence, KG4UQV, and Weldon Fields, W4AJT, as well as many others, enjoy the good food and fellowship found at the 2011 GARA Picnic at Hagan-Stone Park. Many attended and most were able to enjoy the company of at least one person they had not seen in a while or meet someone new. Thank you to the GARA Board for organizing and then executing such a wonderful event.

Bob Mays, KE4MOW, and Todd Smith, AK4TS, were busy grilling all the hamburgers and hot dogs at the 2011 GARA Picnic. We send out a BIG thank you, not only to these two men, but also, Bob's wife and all the others that it took to have a wonderful picnic. Thank YOU, Bob and Todd!!



Young and old enjoyed the picnic: children as young as 10 and one gentleman as old as 96 (he is now 97.) The older sat and talked while the younger were able to run, play, skip rocks, climb trees, etc. Thank you to all who came and enjoyed the time. Without the membership's attendance, all the work by the Board and the work by those that prepared food, would have been a waste. We all look forward to what is planned for next year's picnic.

All Photos Courtesy of Tom Forrest, N4GVK

Area Happenings

FOURTH MONDAY – at 6:30pm, the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association have their regular monthly meeting at the Golden Corral, 4404 Landview Dr, Greensboro, NC 27407, off Wendover Ave, near Sam's Club. 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 17C)

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 July to Dec. 2011

July 9, 2011

August 13, 2011

September 10, 2011

October 8, 2011

November 12, 2011

December 10, 2011

Location: #3 Centerview Dr,
Hickory Building,
Greensboro, NC 27407

Time: 9:00am

Contact: Glenda Nicholson

Phone: (336) 674-3810

E-mail: ag4nc@bellsouth.net

GARA REPEATERS

145.150 MHz - offset, 100 Hz. tone

442.8625 MHz. + offset, Digital D-Star



Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

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Greensboro, NC 27417

www.w4gso.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL

The Official Publication of GARA