



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

# Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



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## Do You Know the Legacy Of Your Photos?

By Tom Forrest, N4GVK

This particular article really has nothing to do directly with electronics and Ham radio, but does offer some insight into the future archiving photo files for those Hams who are “shutterbugs” and like to make photos of their equipment, shack, family and friends.

I recently went back into my archive files and pulled negatives from the 1960's and they were as good as the day the film was processed in the photo lab. Kodak stopped production of the popular Kodachrome film in August of 2009. Film as we knew it is becoming harder to purchase. The last roll of film was shot by famed photojournalist Steve McCurry. A documentary is being planned about his trip shooting the “last roll” of film by National Geographic. Even now, film captures the images in a way digital still has a hard time duplicating. Stored in a good environment, film can last for 75 to 100 years.

Today there's the digital camera. The compact device captures your image onto a CMOS (complementary metal oxide

semiconductor) or CCD (charge-coupled device) Both devices really work in the same way. The sensors convert photons of light as they strike the sensor into electrical charges, which are then read from the chip as digital information to the cameras memory card as 1's and 0's. The user can then remove the



YESTERDAY AND TODAY – A roll of black and white film, negatives and proof sheet, shot and processed in 1987 still hold near perfect images. At right is a modern CD for storage. At the top is a cassette of Kodachrome slide film which recently became obsolete.

memory card and copy the images to the computer hard drive for “processing” later in your favorite picture editing software and saved.

Now to the point of this article. Years ago negatives were archived in sleeves. Presently our images are stored on computer media. Technology changes quickly, making modes of operation expire and become obsolete much faster.

### NEXT MEETING Monday, August 23

The next meeting of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association will be Monday, August 23rd, at the Golden Corral Steak House, 4404 Landview Dr, Greensboro, NC 27407, off Wendover Ave. near Sam's Club. This month's program will be presented by Mike Atkins, N4VE. Mike owns an electronics store in Winston-Salem and will be discussing the services and products he offers.

This is on a large scale when compared to the days of saving film from a camera. During the dawn of the digital cameras, images were stored on floppies, ZIP drives, Jazz drives, and numerous internal hard drives and some other devices no longer available. Can they be retrieved today?

When digital imaging was first introduced to the newspaper industry on the early 90's, a hybrid system was used, where the cameras were film, the negatives were then processed and scanned into the computer. An archive of negatives was still retained.

Presently, most everyone stores their photos on CDs and DVDs. Where will technology be in 25 years? No one can really predict that in their crystal ball yet. Will you be able to leave your images on computer hard drive and expect

see **Photos**, page 4

## GARA Meeting Minutes

### Regular Meeting Minutes July 26, 2010

The GARA regular monthly meeting was held on July 26, 2010 at the Golden Corral restaurant located near Wendover Avenue and I-40.

Roy Smith, N4BYU, presided over the meeting in place of Will Ravenel, AI4VE, who was out of town.

Roy asked everyone to identify themselves and recognized several visitors.

There were 22 members and 8 visitors present.

There was a correction to the minutes from last month; Allen Bradley, KD4IUN's name was misspelled and Madeline Bradley, KE4SVJ's call sign was incorrect. The minutes were voted on and accepted.

Roy discussed the equipment that the club owns and operates.

Ernie Wall, NC4EW, gave the

treasury report stating that the "bills are paid, check book is balanced and there is money in the bank"

Al Allred, K4ZKQ, gave the financial report and stated that membership four more than forecast and expenses are less than forecast at this time.

Jesse Lindley, N4BFD, gave the engineering report noting that we are having some distortion on the weather radio and he is looking into it.

Betty Williams, KC2BFN, had nothing to add.

Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, mailed a letter of sympathy card to Chip Block, WB4KOW, after his wife passed away.

Allen Bradley, KD4IUN, said that there is a soccer tournament coming up on Labor Day weekend

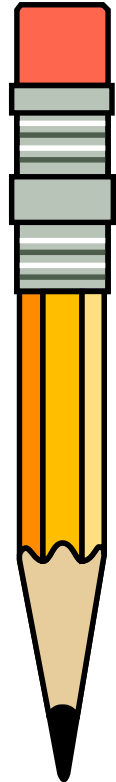
and he would like to have some volunteers.

Roy discussed the Picnic/party that GARA held to celebrate Weldon Fields, W4AJT's 96th birthday and his accomplishment of being licensed for 80 continuous years.

The program was given by Lee Wimbs, W1BMS, who discussed his Leenet logging program.

The meeting ended at 8:22pm.

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



#### The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

President Will Ravenel, AI4VE  
Vice-President Roy Smith, N4BYU  
Treasurer Ernie Wall, NC4EW  
Secretary Greg Spencer, KG4UQV  
Financial Al Allred, K4ZKQ  
Engineering Chairman Jesse Lindley, N4BFD  
Operations Bob Mays, KE4MOW  
Member-at-Large Rob Erikson, KG4OPX  
Member-at-Large Betty Williams, KC2BFN  
*Appointed Positions:*  
Webmaster Tom Forrest, N4GVK  
Newsletter Editor Brian Wilson, KJ4LKY

The Feed Line is ©2010 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.



## Silent Key, MS "Chip" Block, WB4KOW

It is with deepest sorrow that I inform you of the passing of our old friend and Thursday luncheon group member, M. S. "Chip" Block, WB4KOW. Chip, 93, died peacefully at his home on August 17, 2010, at 1:30am. A Graveside Service with Military Honors will be held for Mr. Block at 2pm on August 29th at The Temple Cemetery in Louisville, Kentucky.

Chip was a member of the Old Greensboro Radio Club, Inc., now disbanded, and attended our Thursday Luncheons for many years. Chip was very active in amateur radio on the low bands and VHF. Also, Chip held a FCC Radio telephone First class Commercial License. There was a wonderful obituary for Chip in the *Greensboro News and Record*.

We will miss Chip Block, but we will not forget him. If you were a friend of Chip's, you know why, He was one wonderful guy!

*by Don Harris, W4BUZ*

## Board Meeting Minutes July 12, 2010

The GARA Board of Directors held their monthly meeting at 7pm on July 12, 2010, at the Benjamin Branch Library. Board members present at the meeting were as follows: Will Ravenel, AI4VE; Al Allred, K4ZKQ; Ernie Wall, NC4EW; Jesse Lindley, N4BFD; Betty Williams, KC2BFN; and Greg Spencer, KG4UQV.

The Board discussed the open house and whether we should look into a different venue and possible dates, this discussion will be continued at the next board meeting.

Ernie gave the treasury report stating that all bills are paid and money in the bank.

Al gave the financial report. Al said that we have five more members than forecast and we have received \$50.00 so far this year toward the D-Star subsidy. The Board would like to remind D-Star

users that your help is appreciated.

The Board discussed the phone line cost, which has been fluctuating. Will said he will contact Roy and ask him to call bell south and find out what is causing the variation.

The picnic went great and there was a good turnout. Weldon Fields W4AJT was presented a plaque to commemorate his 80 years as a ham radio operator.

The Board discussed holding the picnic in the spring next year although no date was set.

Jesse said that we have a receive problem with both of the VHF repeaters. This indicates possible interference issues.

Betty said that she is still emailing potential members.

The Board discussed program ideas for the upcoming meetings.

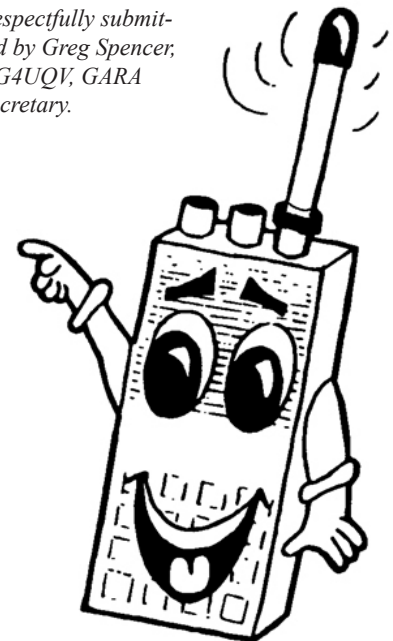
Will said that he will not be able to attend the next regular

meeting, as he will be out of town.

The Board is planning to have a trip to Mt Mitchell possibly in October.

Will made a motion to adjourn, Jesse seconded. The meeting closed at 8:10pm.

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



## Board Meeting Minutes August 10, 2010

The GARA board held their monthly meeting at 7pm on August 10, 2010, at the Benjamin Branch Library.

Members present were: Will Ravenel, AI4VE; Betty Williams, KC2BFN; Al Allred, K4ZKQ; Ernie Wall, NC4EW; and Greg Spencer, KG4UQV.

The Board discussed the open house location and date. Jim Waynick, N4JLW, has offered the fellowship hall at Hinshaw Methodist Church where the open house was held last year. The date

this year will be October 23rd, which will be one week earlier than last year. This will be discussed again at the next club meeting.

The Mt Mitchell trip is planned for October 16th. Will said that it would be nice to get some participation from the GAS club.

Will shared a report from Jesse. He said that we have been experiencing problems with the VHF repeater during thunderstorms and Jesse said he will look into it. Jesse also said that the weather radio is working well now.

Ernie gave the treasury report stating that all major bills have been paid.

Al said that the phone bill is still under investigation. Membership is up above forecast.

The elections are coming up in November and we need a nominating committee.

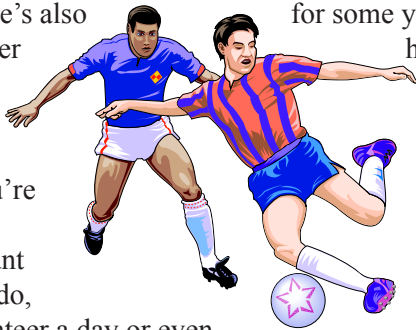
The meeting closed at 7:45pm.

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

## From the President's Shack

Who says Amateur Radio is a dying hobby? That's certainly not true in Greensboro if the number of new hams created in the last couple of months is any indication. There's lots of new calls on the air and a good number of upgrades too. If you haven't been on two meters lately, jump in and say hello.

It's kind of hard to tell but we're getting pretty close to Fall - my favorite time of year - and there's lots of activities coming up. Everyone's probably aware of the Dallas (Shelby) Hamfest on Labor Day weekend, but please keep in mind that there's also a GYSA Soccer tournament that Saturday and Sunday, as well. If you're not going to Dallas and want something to do, why not volunteer a day or even



half day to support communications at the tournament. Just send Allen Bradley, KD4IUN, an email at [kd4iun@arrl.net](mailto:kd4iun@arrl.net), or give him a call at 336-668-2612, and tell him you're interested. It's fun and helps out a good cause. I plan to work the tournament on Sunday.

Two other activities are being planned for this fall.

First, on Saturday, October 16th, there will be a road trip to Mt. Mitchell for some mountain top VHF or HF operations and a picnic. This was a popular annual event in the past but hasn't been organized for some years now. If anyone who has enjoyed these trips in the past would like to step up to coordinate this trip please speak up. Otherwise we'll just set a time and place to meet and form a caravan. It's about a 3 hour 15 minute drive.

Up in the morning and back in the late afternoon. I plan to take the FT-817 and work some of the QRP ARCI Sprint that's scheduled that weekend.

Second, the annual GARA Open House will take place on Saturday, October 23rd, at Hinshaw United Methodist Church on High Point Road. We'll talk about this at the next couple of meetings and there will be information posted on the club's web page, [w4gso.org](http://w4gso.org). We'll need volunteers to help with the various activities associated with this event. It has proven to be a fun way to demonstrate a range of Amateur Radio activities to our members and to the public. Let's show what we can do to inactive and prospective hams and keep the hobby growing.

That's it for now. See you at the meeting.

73 - Will, AI4VE

## Photos

**continued from page 1**

someone else to view them in 25 years? Even today, images stored on floppy 5.25 and 3.5s are all but impossible to read. Will we be able to read a JPG and TIF file in 25 years from a CD or DVD? Today, one can pull a 40-year-old negative from the archives, hold it up to the light and it appears as the day it was processed. There is the option of printing the negative the old darkroom way or scanning it into the computer.

In conclusion, we can't predict

the future, but you can take care in your storage. Make back-ups of digital files on various media in different formats. Never keep all back-ups in one place at the same site. Adobe offers a standard of the Digital Negative format as one method of saving.

The best way to save your valuable photos is to make prints by a trusted source, of all photos and images you wish to archive for years to come. A print is a lasting image of your digital file, if you store and display it properly. Today's print media touts a long life span for photos up to 200 years.

A lot of prints today are produced by a Giclee printing "dry process" using no chemicals, but highly stable inks. Also most modern processes today are friendly to the environment and the by-products can be recycled.

Take care of your file storage, make quality prints and your photos will remain legacy to your photographic skills in the future.

*Editor's note: Tom is a 42 year veteran award-winning photojournalist, and has worked for large daily newspapers and a stringer for the Associated Press. He can be reached at [n4gvk@bellsouth.net](mailto:n4gvk@bellsouth.net)*



## 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 August, we had 9 individuals who passed their test(s) and earn either their Technician, General or Extra class license.

Unfortunately, We were unable to get pictures at the testing session this month. We had a couple of old pictures, but hope to get some pictures in the future, or at least see them at the next club meeting.

Next month's testing session will be on September 11 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](mailto:ag4nc@bellsouth.net)



*Larry Campbell - KJ4WKB,  
Passed General*



*Todd M Smith - KJ4WRF,  
Passed General*

**No Picture  
Available**

*Corey A Ezell - AK4BF,  
Passed Extra*

**No Picture  
Available**

*Quinn R Wagner- KJ4WWD,  
Passed Technician*

**No Picture  
Available**

*Allen Little, II - KJ4DNO,  
Passed General*

**No Picture  
Available**

*Terry H Hendrix - KC8OEX,  
Passed General*

**No Picture  
Available**

*Duane Brantley - W5DMB,  
Passed Extra*

**No Picture  
Available**

*Tracy D Wright - KJ4WOO,  
Passed General*

**No Picture  
Available**

*Luis A Sanchez - KJ4WWC,  
Passed Tech & General*

## News Briefs That Effect the Ham Community

### Oklahoma Town Agrees RFI Ordinance Does Not Apply to Hams

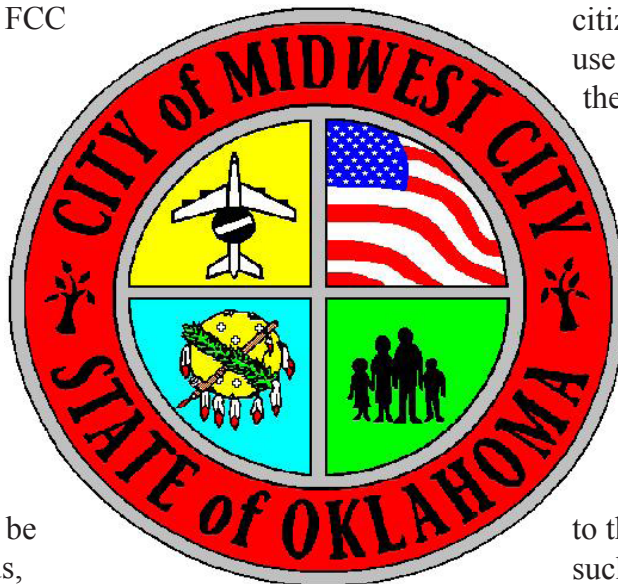
From ARRL

Acting on behalf of an ARRL member in Midwest City, Oklahoma -- who had been sent a notice by the town asserting that he was in violation of a town ordinance regarding radio frequency interference (RFI) -- the ARRL notified Midwest City officials that only the FCC is empowered to regulate such matters. Two weeks after ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, sent the letter to town officials, Midwest City Assistant City Attorney Randal D. Homburg sent an e-mail to the ham to let him know "the previously delivered notice is hereby rescinded [sic]. There will be no citations issued and thus, the issue is moot." Midwest City is in the Oklahoma City metropolitan area.

Calling the ordinance "null and void," General Counsel Imlay said the notice stated the ham "was in violation of the ordinance as the result of radio frequency interference appearing in a neighbor/complainant's home electronic equipment. The licensed radio

amateur was ordered to remedy the problem in one day, under penalty of a sanction assessed against the real property of the radio amateur."

The ordinance in question -- Midwest City Ordinance 27-3(9) -- reads: "In addition to other public nuisances



declared by other sections of this Code or law, the following [is] hereby declared to be [a] public nuisance: Operating or using any electrical apparatus or machine which materially and unduly interferes with radio or television reception by others." Section 27 of Midwest City's Ordinances deals with nuisances.

"As previously indicated,

it is the city's position that the ordinance cited in the notice, MCO 27-3(a)(9), does not apply to RF transmission devices licensed by the FCC as to their operation and use pursuant to the license," Homburg's letter read. "In the event there are future complaints from any citizen about a neighbor's use of these licensed devices, the city will direct the complaining party to file their complaints with the FCC."

Homburg went on to say that there is no issue with the language of the ordinance: "This council adopted the ordinance over eleven (11+) years ago, pursuant to the procedures for adoption such ordinance provided for under the city's charter. Your issue with the ordinance has been with the application of the cited section to the use of your licensed transmitting device. That is no longer an issue. This e-mail is the official position of the city. There should be no need for further inquiry from any other city official."

## K2BSA: Amateur Radio Fun in the Warm Virginia Sun

From ARRL

The 2010 National Scout Jamboree -- celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America -- was held July 26-August 4 at Fort AP Hill in Virginia. According to ARRL Rocky Mountain Division Director and K2BSA Station Coordinator/Manager Brian Milesosky, N5ZGT, ham radio was a big part of the event that attracted more than 43,000 participants from across the nation and around the world.

K2BSA has been a fixture at the BSA National Jamboree since the 1970s. This year, it had three elements: a demonstration station, licensing classes and VE exams, and radio merit badge instruction. The station was on the air on both VHF and HF -- 70 cm, 2, 6, 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters -- utilizing at least 10 transceivers and as many monoband Yagis or dipoles atop 60 foot tall telephone poles, to make contacts using modes and methods such as phone, CW, PSK31, meteor scatter, IRLP, D-STAR, APRS and satellite. "K2BSA made thousands of QSOs," Milesosky told the ARRL. "We put a dual-band repeater on the air held a nightly net for Jamboree participants who brought their handheld transceivers to the Jamboree."

Milesosky said that nearly 6000 youth scouts -- 13 percent of the total Jamboree attendance -- received thorough exposure to ham radio, touring the K2BSA station and getting on the airwaves.

Six lucky scouts conducted a memorable contact with astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5BOC, aboard the International Space Station (ISS) before a crowd of Jamboree participants.

"We held Technician license classes and two VE exam sessions daily, resulting in 147 new Technicians, 33 Generals and 8 Amateur Extras," Milesosky said. "210 scouts earned their Radio merit badges, too."

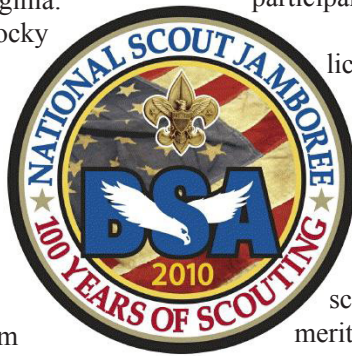
One of those 147 new hams is Lt Col John Haefner, KJ4WRN, Commander of Fort AP Hill. "He learned of K2BSA's presence and visited the station to inform us of his longtime desire to become a ham radio operator," Milesosky explained. "Making time in his busy schedule, he self-studied, and ultimately became a General class ham. Thank you for your and Fort AP Hill's support, Lt Col Haefner!"

Milesosky said that support from the ham community and manufacturers was also abundant:

"Manufacturers such as including Icom America, Yaesu USA, Ten-Tec, Heil Sound, MFJ, Cushcraft, HyGain, Buckmaster, HRO, XGGCOMM, Quicksilver Radio Products and Array Solutions loaned the K2BSA operation a lot of equipment. Icom America's Ray Novak, N9JA, and

Yaesu's Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, both traveled to the Jamboree to observe and assist with K2BSA's operations. The ARRL also provided significant support, including VE exam materials, license study manuals for loan to Jamboree participants, other publications, as well as the enthusiasm of longtime K2BSA staff member and QEX Editor Larry Wolfgang, WR1B, who served as ARRL's staff liaison."

Calling K2BSA's operation at the 2010 National Scout Jamboree "a resounding success," Milesosky thanked everyone who worked K2BSA while it was on the air, with special thanks to all scouts and Scouters who attended the Jamboree. "All eyes are on 2013 when the next National Jamboree will be held at its new permanent location: the Summit Bechtel Family National Scouting Reserve, located adjacent to the New River Gorge National River Park in West Virginia," he said. "We look forward to K2BSA to once again carry on its tradition of introducing thousands of youth to the extraordinary hobby and service of Amateur Radio."





# 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

Sept. 2010 to Dec. 2010

September 11, 2010

October 9, 2010

November 13, 2010

December 11, 2010

**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**

P.O. Box 7054

Greensboro, NC 27417

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

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