



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



Betty Williams , KC2BFN Editor

www.w4gso.orginfo@w4gso.org

This Month's Program

Field Day is coming up soon. The first Field Day was held in 1933 and has run every year since except 1942 - 1945. Our Field Day event will be held in Hagan Stone park again this year, at group camp site 3. Instead of a technical presentation this month, I will provide an overview of our plans and what help we will need for a successful field day. I hope you can participate this year!

Thanks, Dave. AC4A

INSIDE THIS EDITION

President's Message.

Engineering Report

New Hams

Calendar of events

Financial Forecast

NEXT MEETING May 28, 2018

The next meeting of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association will be held at the Cooper's Ale House on Swing Road in Greensboro on May 28, 2018. The program will be presented by Dave McLin, AC4A. Topic: Field Day 2018.



ARRL has suspended registration for "Introduction to Emergency Communications" (EC-001). Registration was halted on April 30, after ARRL learned that the online platform provider for the course -- Connecticut Distance Learning Consortium (CTDLC) -- is being dissolved, effective July 1, according to CTDLC's parent, Charter Oak State College. CTDLC officials cited the fiscal challenges that the Connecticut state college and university system and the state as a whole are facing as the reason for shuttering CTDLC. As plans are made to move the course content to a new delivery platform, ARRL decided to halt registration. Anyone who signed up for the EC-001 session that starts on May 30 will receive a refund. ARRL has been developing new EC-001 content and will intensify the process of selecting a new platform to deliver it.

Hams on Dominica Conduct "Preparedness" Field Day in Advance of Hurricane Season

Members of the Dominica Amateur Radio Club Incorporated (DARCI) held a second Field Day-style emergency preparedness, awareness, and recruiting exercise on April 21. Radio amateurs on the Caribbean island are continuing the process of taking on a larger role in emergency preparedness and response for the Atlantic Hurricane Season, which begins June 1

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

President Scott Toth ND4L
 Vice-President Dave McLin AC4A Treasurer
 Jaimie Restrepo, N4JAI Secretary Gregory Ray
 KK4MHY Financial Chandlee White, KJ4ADX
 Engineering Chair Matt Trull KX4GG Operations
 Chair John Strandberg W4DX
 Members-at-Large:
 Chris Thompson, K4HC
 Jesse Lindley K4AX
 Appointed Positions:
 Public Information Officer
 Newsletter Editor
 Betty Williams KC2BFN

ARE YOU BENEFITING FROM THE ARRL WEBSITE?

A few topics to consider:

- Logbook of the World
- International Operating
- Tutorials
- Special Event Stations
- Contests
- QSL Services

Explore the website www.arrl.org and learn something new or refresh something old.

The Feed Line is ©2018 by the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association and published monthly. Our address is P.O. Box 39829, Greensboro, NC 27438. 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.

GARA Meeting Minutes

Board Meeting Minutes

THERE WAS NO BOARD MEETING IN MAY.

Regular Meeting Minutes – April 2018

GARA March Meeting Cooper's Ale House 4-23-2018

President Scott Toth began our April meeting at 7:15pm and asked for introductions.

Board Member Reports:

President, Scott Toth mentioned that almost all the money needed has been raised for the D Star Repeater. Scott would like to have Field Day at Hagan Stone Park and needed help to organize the activities.

Vice President, David McLin is working on presentations for the year.

Treasurer, Jamie Restrepo thanked members for paid dues. 35 members have not paid dues as of today. Financially, we are revenue neutral.

Operation Chair, John Strandberg noted our FCC license has been renewed till 2028.

Engineering Chair, Matt Trull stated they are nearly finished with installation and setup of the repeater.

Secretary, Greg Ray asked everyone to sign the GARA attendance sheet.

Monthly Program:

Matt Trull (KX4GG) gave us a presentation on the FT-8 digital mode. Matt covered setting up and using the WSJT-X software, FT-8 best operating practices, and hints for maximizing your QSO rate.

Scott Toth made a motion to adjourn; Steve Bartis K1MAR and David McLin seconded the motion and the April GARA meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectively Submitted by

Greg Ray

GARA Secretary.

From the President's Shack

May 2018

Well, the heat is slowly descending upon us, bringing us closer to summertime and enjoyable outdoor activities. Thankfully we've had our share of rain, too, which has kept our yards green, at least for a while. This weekend is the long Memorial Day holiday signifying the unofficial start of summer and serving as a warning that the ARRL Field Day is quickly approaching. Hopefully you'll be able to join us for our meeting on Monday night despite the holiday.

I know that many of you who participate in Field Day have your own traditions that you enjoy, but if you don't, I'd like to extend a personal invitation to participate in the club's activities with your GARA friends. Dave McLin, AC4A will provide all the details soon, but I have personally been to GARA field day activities for several years now and every time has been a fun learning experience that creates lasting memories for everyone involved. Please invite your ham and non-ham friends too as they'll get a chance to get on the air and experience the fun of amateur radio first hand.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for your continual support for our organization. Your board has a desire to see GARA grow and provide new opportunities for hams of all experience levels. Please consider how you might be able to serve the club by volunteering your time for Field Day setup, engineering assistance, website maintenance, weekly net hosting, membership recruitment or other areas that need continuous attention. Feel free to let me know if you have any interest in helping in any of those areas and I will be happy to discuss your involvement with you and connect you to the right people.

I hope you all have a blessed Memorial Day weekend, and please take some time to remember those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our Republic

Very best,
Scott Toth, ND4L

May Engineering Report

Field Day is quickly approaching. I hope you will join us at Hagan Stone Park, where we will be set up in the Group Camp 3 area. Be sure to let David McLin, AC4A, know if you would like to assist with the setup. This is a great opportunity to get some experience with putting up a wire antenna! A few years ago, when I attended my first Field Day event, I was excited to see how the operations supported disaster preparedness principles and I was able to ask other club members a slew of general radio related questions. Now that I've gotten to know many of you I enjoy having the chance to catch up and to hone my operating skills. What does Field Day mean to you?

Matt Trull, KX4GG

Greensboro Amateur Radio Association 2018 Financial Forecast Income (Projected)

Source	Quantity	Amount Per	Total	Actual as of 4-2-2018
Membership Dues	90	\$24.00	\$2,160	\$2,256
Cash Donations	10	\$20.00	\$200	
Sales from Gear Donations	1	\$500.00	\$500	
Sales of unused GARA equipment	1	\$300.00	\$300	
Amazon Smile Income	1	\$30.00	\$30	
SpreadShirt.com Commission	1	\$20.00	\$20	
Total Income			\$3,210	

Expenses

Expenditure	Quantity	Amount Per	Total	
Property Insurance (Mercer)	1	\$468.00	\$468	
Liability Insurance (Mercer)	1	\$320.00	\$320	
Website Hosting	12	\$21.35	\$256	
P.O. Box	1	\$86.00	\$86	
S.E. Repeater Assoc. Dues	1	\$35.00	\$35	
GARA Picnic Supplies	1	\$200.00	\$200	
Field Day Site Fee	2	\$160.00	\$320	
Spectrum Internet	12	\$70.00	\$840	
Spectrun Installment	1	\$99.00	\$99	
Sponsorships	1	\$50.00	\$50	Raleigh - SOC
Miscellaneous Engineering	1	\$400.00	\$400	
Total Expenses			\$3,074	WAS \$2540

Potential Events

NC/SC QSO Party

N4G

GARA Picnic

GARA Open House

Date Last

Modified:

5/25/2018

Field Day

Shelby Hamfest

Foxhunt

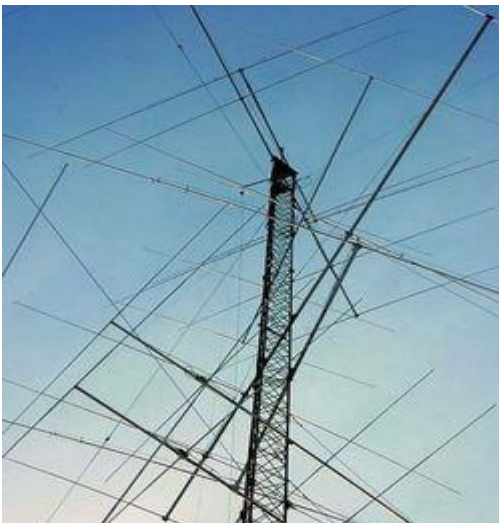
Antenna building party

SOTA Activation (Hanging Rock?

Pilot Mountain?)

ARRL is offering three cash prizes for this competition. First place is \$600, second place is \$250, and third place is \$150.

Design and Submission Requirements



Antennas must be designed for one or more bands between 2200 meters and 10 meters, must fit within a 30 × 50-foot area, and stand no taller than 30 feet at any point.

Participants must submit:

- Drawings with dimensions (hand drawings are okay)
- List of materials
- Description and summary of any measurements taken, including modeling and files (modeling is not a requirement)
- Photographs
- Discussion of observed on-the-air results and any comparisons with other antennas
- Submitter's name, postal address, and email address
- All antennas based on submitted designs must be the sole creations of the entrants and not available for sale.

Winners will be chosen based on ingenuity of design, mechanical and electrical safety, expected performance, and durability. The judges' decisions are final.

- Entrants must be ARRL members. ARRL staffers and QST advertisers are not eligible.
- Mail entries to:
 - QST
 - ATTN: Antenna Design Competition
 - 225 Main St.
 - Newington, CT 06111
- Participants also may [email their entries](#), including call sign and subject line of "2018 Antenna Design Competition." Those who need to submit more than 6 MB of material should use separate email messages. *Do not send* compressed ZIP files, as these will be rejected.
- Full details will appear in the June 2018 issue of QST.

VE Testing

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 David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, and his team of volunteer examiners for taking time out of their busy schedules each month to help new or upgraded hams in our area.

Next month's testing session will be on June 9th at Hinshaw United Methodist Church, 4501 Gate City Blvd., Greensboro, 27407, at 9am. While walk-ins are welcome contacting the lead VE is preferred. Please contact David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, email aj4tf@arrl.net, phone (cell), 336-420-9424.

New location for High Point VE testing: Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, 301 Hickory Chapel Road (off MLK Jr. Drive), High Point NC 27262. **Pre-registration is required. Contact David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, 336-420-9424 at least two days prior to the session.** David's email: aj4tf@arrl.net.

Look Who Passed

. First High Point Session – April 28, 2018



Nathaniel Reed KN4LWZ
Browns Summit, NC
Earned **Technician**

Jackie Rowe KN4LXA
Jamestown, NC
Earned **Technician**

Keith Saunders KX4KT, previous KN4LHF
Greensboro, NC
Earned **Extra**

Greensboro Session – May 12, 2018.



John Alexander KG4IYF
Thomasville, NC
Earned **General**

Lewis Eanes Jr. K4LJE
Eden, NC
Earned **Extra**

A. Randolph Massie
Liberty, NC
Earned **Technician**

William Perry KN4CCD
Burlington, NC
Earned **Extra**

Calendar of Events

May 28	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House in Salon "B", Greensboro)
Jun 9	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Jun 11	GARA Board Meeting
Jun 23-24	Field Day
Jun 25	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House in Salon "B", Greensboro)
Jul 7	33rd Annual Firecracker Hamfest (Salisbury, NC http://www.rowanars.org/firecracker-hamfest/)
Jul 9	GARA Board Meeting
Jul 14	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Jul 16	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House in Salon "B", Greensboro)
Jul 21	Mid-Summer Swapfest (Cary, NC) http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/
Jul 28	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
July 28:	WCARS Hamfest, Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Waynesville, NC, http://wcars.org
Aug 11	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Aug 11	20th Annual Cape Fear ARS Swapfest (Fayetteville, NC http://www.cfarsnc.org)
Aug 13	GARA Board Meeting
Aug 24	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House in Salon "B", Greensboro)
Aug 25	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Aug 31	Roanoke Division Convention (Shelby Hamfest) (Shelby, NC http://shelbyhamfest.org)
Sep 29	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Oct 27	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)

The 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 Betty KC2BFN at kc2bfn@att.net.

FT8 Activity Bumping Up at Some Expense to Other Modes

Despite largely dismal HF conditions, there is no doubt that the recent FT8 digital protocol has hams on the air. The mode has caught on so quickly that co-developer Joe Taylor expressed surprise last fall at the rapid uptake of FT8 for making contacts on HF bands Judging by Logbook of The World (LoTW) data, more than 2.3 million FT8 contacts were uploaded in 1 month -- a net gain of 1.2 million contacts on all modes over the same month last year, ARRL Radiosport Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, said. Over the same period, activity in some of the other modes has declined.

"

Area Happenings

FOURTH MONDAY – at 6:30 pm, the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association have their regular monthly meeting at Cooper's Ale House, 415 S. Swing Rd., Greensboro, NC 27410. Please plan to gather at 6:30 pm for dinner. The meeting is scheduled to start at 7:15 pm

CLUB NETS:

SUNDAYS – at 8:30 pm, the GARA Sunday evening net. This features a rag chew followed by News and Information including Amateur Radio Newslines. It is on the 145.150, W4GSO repeater. Scott Toth, ND4L is always looking for net controls.

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 8:45pm, The Guilford Amateur Society Rag Chew Net holds their weekly net on the 145.150, W4GSO repeater until further notice. 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 – The Guilford Amateur Society is currently looking for a new venue for their meetings. When found, that information will be posted here.

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 June 2018 to Aug. 2018

June 9, 2018

July 14, 2018

Aug. 11, 2018

Location: Hinshaw United Methodist Church, 4501 Gate City Blvd., Greensboro, NC
Time: 9:00am
Contact: David Macchiarolo
Phone: 336-420-9424
E-mail: aj4tf@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 39829

Greensboro, NC 27438

www.w4gso.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL

The Official Publication of GARA