



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

# Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



Betty Williams, KC2BFN Editor

[www.w4gso.org](http://www.w4gso.org)[info@w4gso.org](mailto:info@w4gso.org)

## This Month's Program

This month, Nathan Jackson (K4NWJ) will be giving a presentation on the Greensboro and NC public service communications infrastructure. Nathan is a lifelong resident of Sophia NC, just south of Greensboro, near the “tall towers”. Nathan chose a career in public safety dispatch and is in his 15<sup>th</sup> year in that field. He is a telecommunicator with Guilford Metro 911 at the rank of Master Telecommunications Specialist. I hope you can make it to the meeting to hear Nathan's talk.

Thanks, Dave. AC4A

*See Dave's entire blurb on page 2.*

### INSIDE THIS EDITION

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### NEXT MEETING July 23, 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 July 23, 2018. The topic, Greensboro & NC Public Service Communications Infrastructure, will be presented by Nathan Jackson, K4NWJ.

I had a great 4th of July week. I was able to make a clean sweep of all 13 colony stations plus the two bonus stations. Interestingly enough, the NC station turned out to be the hardest to work. I guess those sky waves were waving somewhere else. I also contacted the KH1/KH7Z Baker Island DXpedition on SSB and FT8 just before they shutdown. My lucky week. Other club members did even better. I finally got my 80M/40M doublet working with some tips from Chris (K4HC). Nice to be able to make contacts on those two bands. We also had a blast during Field Day. Band conditions were very challenging, so we did not make as many contacts as last year, but we compensated by doing bonus activities like sending formal message traffic (thanks to John Trull, KN4IGN for making that happen), making contacts on battery power (thanks again to John Trull, KN4IGN for supplying the solar-charged battery), and making a bunch of contacts by someone under 18 (thanks to Thad Paschal with help from Cameron, AJ4TW). We had a nice cookout late Saturday evening, and several of us camped out Friday and Saturday night. The ARRL assistant section manager stopped by, as did several hams new to Field Day. All in all a pretty good effort. I hope we can do even better next year. **I will be out of the country from mid-July to until mid-October, but I hope to hear you on the bands.**

This month, Nathan Jackson (K4NWJ) will be giving a presentation on the Greensboro and NC public service communications infrastructure. Nathan is a lifelong resident of Sophia NC, just south of Greensboro, near the “tall towers”. He has been married to his wife Amy for 12 years and has a daughter (Abby / 6) and a son (Davis / 2.5). Nathan has been involved in amateur radio since March of 2000 and currently holds a General Class License. His amateur radio interests range from long distance DX to local repeater and simplex contacts, all by using various emission modes (data, voice, etc.), to public service, to dabbling in equipment maintenance and service. His most recent ham activities have been a continuing application of the DMR (Mototrbo) digital voice protocol as well as the P25 digital voice protocol. He has been testing the waters of Winlink / Pactor on HF. Nathan chose a career in public safety dispatch and is in his 15<sup>th</sup> year in that field. He is a telecommunicator with Guilford Metro 911 at the rank of Master Telecommunications Specialist. I hope you can make it to the meeting to hear Nathan's talk.

## Dave AC4A

### 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](http://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 July

## Regular Meeting Minutes – June 2018

GARA June Meeting Field Day Site

There were no minutes taken at this meeting

### Greensboro Amateur Radio Association 2018 Financial Forecast Income (Projected)

As of 7/17/18

Source	Budgeted	Budgeted	Budgeted	Actual	Actual	Actual	Variance
	Quantity	Amount Per	Total	Quantity	Amount Per	Total	
Membership Dues	90	\$24.00	\$2,160	75	\$24.00	\$1,800	<b>(\$360)</b>
Cash Donations	10	\$20.00	\$200		\$1,385.00	\$1,385	<b>\$1,185</b>
Sales from Gear Donations	1	\$500.00	\$500	1	\$500.00	\$500	<b>\$0</b>
Sales of unused GARA equipment	1	\$300.00	\$300			\$0	<b>(\$300)</b>
Amazon Smile Income	1	\$30.00	\$30	1	\$44.00	\$44	<b>\$14</b>
Raffles - Proceeds	1	\$0.00	\$0	1	\$110.00	\$110	<b>\$110</b>
SpreadShirt.com Commission	1	\$20.00	\$20	1	\$20.00	\$20	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total Income</b>			<b>\$3,210</b>			<b>\$3,859</b>	<b>\$649</b>

## FEEDLINE

### Expenses

Expenditure	Quantity	Amount Per	Total	Quantity	Amount Per	Total	
Property Insurance (Mercer)	1	\$468.00	\$468	1	\$468.00	\$468	\$0
Liability Insurance (Mercer)	1	\$320.00	\$320	1	\$320.00	\$320	\$0
Website Hosting	12	\$21.35	\$256	12	\$21.35	\$256	\$0
P.O. Box	1	\$86.00	\$86	1	\$86.00	\$86	\$0
S.E. Repeater Assoc. Dues	1	\$35.00	\$35	1	\$35.00	\$35	\$0
GARA Picnic Supplies	1	\$200.00	\$200	1	\$200.00	\$200	\$0
Field Day Site Fee	2	\$160.00	\$320	2	\$160.00	\$320	\$0
Spectrum Internet	12	\$70.00	\$840	12	\$74.00	\$888	\$48
Spectrum Installation	1	\$99.00	\$99	1	\$99.00	\$99	\$0
Sponsorships	1	\$50.00	\$50	1	\$50.00	\$50	\$0
Miscellaneous Engineering	1	\$400.00	\$400		\$224.00	\$224	(\$176)
<b>Total Expenses</b>			<b>\$3,074</b>			<b>\$2,946</b>	<b>(\$128)</b>

**Net Income (loss)**

\$136

\$913    \$777

### Potential Events

NC/SC QSO Party

N4G

GARA Picnic

GARA Open House

Field Day

Shelby Hamfest

Foxhunt

Antenna building party

SOTA Activation (Hanging Rock?

Pilot Mountain?)

July 28: WCARS Hamfest, Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Waynesville, NC,

<http://wcars.org>

August 11: 20th Annual Cape Fear ARS Swapfest, Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, Fayetteville,

NC, <https://cfarsnc.org>

August 31 – September 2: 62nd Annual Shelby Hamfest/ARRL Roanoke Division Convention,

Shelby Amateur Radio Club, Shelby, NC, <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

October 14: Maysville Hamfest, Maysville Hamfest Association, Maysville, NC, for further information, contact bhighland at NC dot rr dot com.

November 18: JARSFest, Johnston Amateur Radio Society, Benson, NC, <http://www.jars.net>

## Radio Amateur to Pay \$7,000, Face Restricted Privileges to Settle FCC Interference Case

The US Department of Justice and the FCC have reached a settlement with Brian Crow, K3VR, of North Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, to resolve allegations that Crow intentionally interfered with the communications of other Amateur Radio operators and failed to properly identify. The core component of the settlement calls on Crow to pay \$7,000 to the US Treasury, the FCC and US Attorney for the Western District of Pennsylvania Scott W. Brady announced in separate July 3 news releases. In addition, Crow's Amateur Extra class license will be restricted to Technician-class privileges for 6 months, and he has agreed to discontinue contact with the individuals involved in this case. Crow's Amateur Extra privileges will be restored after 6 months, "if no new violations have been found," the FCC said.

"Amateur Radio licensees know that the rules require them to share the airwaves, which means that bad actors cannot plead ignorance," FCC Enforcement Bureau Chief Rosemary Harold said in an [FCC release](#). "This settlement is a significant payment for an individual operator, and it sends a serious message: Play by the rules in the Amateur Radio band[s] or face real consequences. We thank the US Attorney's Office for understanding the importance of this type of case and pushing it forward to ensure a resolution that included strong penalties for substantial violations of the law."



The settlement resolves a civil complaint (USA v. Brian Crow [No. 17-595]) in Federal District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania to recover an unpaid \$11,500 fine that the FCC imposed on Crow in a 2015 [Forfeiture Order](#).

The FCC recounted in its *Forfeiture Order* that it had responded in March 2014 to "several complaints of intentional interference" on 14.313 MHz, and that Commission agents used radio direction-finding techniques to determine the transmission sources. According to the court complaint against Crow, FCC agents tracked transmissions to Crow's residence and monitored them for approximately 3 hours and heard him transmit slow-scan television (SSTV) signals and a prerecorded voice transmission of another Amateur Radio station on the frequency.

The FCC said it worked with Brady's office to craft the agreement with Crow arising from its *Forfeiture Order* "that found his behavior violated the Communications Act and the Commission's rules."

# From the President's Shack

July 2018

Another Field Day has passed, summer is upon us, and fall will be here before we know it. I want to express my gratitude, again, to David McLin, AC4A for organizing GARA's Field Day activities and giving us a great event at Hagan Stone Park. If you couldn't attend, I hope you'll put next year's activities on your calendar already and make a point to prioritize it. You won't be disappointed!

In some sense, things seem slow down over the summer. Everyone is taking vacations to the beach or the mountains or spending time with family at reunions, so there are fewer people around the workplace or at your other normal spots. This slowness doesn't need to translate to inactivity on the radio though; there are a lot of HF contests over the summer in which you can participate, and if you're not into those, there are many friendly people in the area who would love to chat. Just like with other things, repeater activity takes a hit over the summer too, but I would like to encourage you to throw your callsign out on 145.15 or 442.8625 on D-Star and have a chat every so often.

With that in mind, please consider joining us for GARA's weekly ragchew net at 8:30pm on Sunday evenings. The net is informal and won't take much of your time to join, and once the directed portion is finished, you can sit back and enjoy listening to Amateur Radio Newsline explain all the things that are happening in ham radio around the world.

Finally, also with repeater activity in mind, I'd like to make a proposal: I would like to designate the **third Saturday of every month as GARA Repeater Day**. The purpose of the monthly GARA Repeater Day is to have as many hams as possible stop by one of our repeaters and start a conversation to get to know new people and learn new things about old friends. There are a couple of reasons for choosing this day- first, many of the new Technicians who tested on the second Saturday will likely have fresh new tickets that they would like to use and designating the third Saturday seems like a good time to get a bunch of people on the repeaters to help ease them onto the air. Second, having a designated day to jump on the repeaters and say "Hi" will help you to remember when it is so that you can fire up your VHF or UHF D-Star rigs and participate. Hopefully being intentional about meeting other local hams on the air one day per month will encourage everyone to be more active more often. The first GARA Repeater Day will be this coming Saturday, July 21. I hope to hear you there!

Thanks, as always, for your continued support of our club. GARA is here to serve you and provide opportunities for us all to get together and learn. I sincerely hope that I will see you at this month's meeting at Cooper's on July 23.

Very best,

Scott Toth, ND4L

# July Engineering Report

Field Day was great this year. We put up an antenna mast with two beams (6m and 2m) and an additional 2m vertical. It was fun and challenging to get all the gear and antennas up and operational. Right up until time for Field Day to start we were making changes and tweaks to the systems. Once we were on the air we found that operating conditions weren't as good as last year, but we still had a lot of fun operating and made several 6m contacts to boot! Nightfall brought some needed relief from the sun's heat and a chance to enjoy a hot meal. For next year let's start thinking about the items we will need to help make the event as successful as possible. Some of these items you may have laying around your shack collecting dust! Here's a few things I would like to start gathering to make a club kit for Field Day and other events:

- 450-ohm window/ladder line
- 50-ohm coax feed line
- 3/16 Dacron rope
- 550 paracord
- baluns
- extension cords
- power strips

Matt Trull, KX4GG

## *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 Aug. 11th 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](mailto: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](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net).

## Look Who Passed

. Greensboro, NC 14 July 2018



Nathan B. Benton  
Greensboro, NC  
Earned Technician



Robert J. Cates KN4CMF  
Greensboro, NC  
Earned General



Ernest L. Jones KN4MYB  
Kernersville, NC  
Earned General



Allen R. Hill KI4QCK  
Summerfield, NC  
Earned General



Thomas J. Hill K4TJH  
Winston-Salem, NC  
Earned General



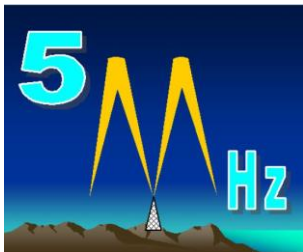
Daniel C. Stimeling (Clay)  
High Point, NC  
Earned Technician



# Calendar of Events

Jul 23	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House in Salon "B", Greensboro)
Jul 28	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
July 28:	WCARS Hamfest, Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Waynesville, NC, <a href="http://wcars.org">http://wcars.org</a>
Aug 11	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Aug 11	20th Annual Cape Fear ARS Swapfest (Fayetteville, NC <a href="http://www.cfarsnc.org">http://www.cfarsnc.org</a> )
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 <a href="http://shelbyhamfest.org">http://shelbyhamfest.org</a> )
Sep. 8	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Sep. 10	GARA Board Meeting
Sep. 24	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House in Salon "B" Greensboro)
Sep 29	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Oct. 8	GARA Board Meeting
Oct. 13	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Oct. 22	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House in Salon "B" Greensboro)
Oct 27	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Nov. 10	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Nov 12	GARA Board Meeting
Nov. 24	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Nov. 26	GARA Election Meeting (Cooper's Ale House in Salon "B" Greensboro)
Dec. 8	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Dec. 20	GARA Board Meeting (transition meeting)
Dec.?	Area Ham Christmas (holiday) Party TBA
Dec. 22	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](mailto:kc2bfn@att.net).



**Hungary has regained access to 60 meters.** The Hungarian National Media and Info communications Authority (NMHH) has [published an update](#) to the National Frequency Allocation Table to provide Amateur Radio access to the band 5,351.5 to 5,366.5 kHz at a maximum power of 15 W EIRP, per World Radiocommunication Conference 2015. Previously, 3-month permits were available to allow access to 5,350 to 5,450 kHz at 100 W, but these were discontinued in 2017. -- *Thanks to Paul Gaskell, G4MWO/The 5 MHz Newsletter*

# 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 Newline. 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

Aug. 2018 to Nov. 2018

Aug. 11, 2018

Sep. 8, 2018

Oct. 13, 2018

Nov. 10, 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](http://www.w4gso.org)

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