



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

# Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



Brian Wilson, NX4U, Editor

www.w4gso.org

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## Proposed Amendments

From Tom Bertolino, KB1P

GARA is applying to IRS for tax exempt status. The application for 501(c)(3) certification is called Form 1023. According to the Instructions for Form 1023 and IRS Publication 557 (Tax-Exempt Status for Your Organization) GARA's current Articles of Incorporation must contain two IRS Requirements to qualify for 501(c)(3) certification. The requirements are:

1. The purpose statement must limit the organization in some way by reference to section 501(c)(3)
2. The organizations' Articles of Incorporation must include a Dissolution Clause.



see Amendments, page 4

## This Month's Program

Our April Meeting will be held on Monday, April 28th at 7:15 pm in Captain Bills Seafood & Steakhouse located at 6108 West Market Street in Greensboro. Come early have dinner and catch up on the latest club info, gossip, and connect faces to call signs.

**During the Business part of the meeting, GARA's Board will ask the membership to approve amendments to GARA's Articles of Incorporation.** These amendments are required by the IRS before they will consider GARA's appellation for tax exempt status. You should have received an email explaining the required changes from Tom Bertolino, KB1P. If not please send him an email at kb1p@arrl.net to request the email.

The presentation topic for this month is entitled: 3D Printers, presenter Robert Gusek, NC4RG. Robert will cover a variety of topics as they relate to Ham Radio. He has made replacement knobs for the FT-817 radio, and has printed his own dipole insulators. This should be interesting presentation and one you should not miss.

### Some reminders:

- The Triad Highland Games are looking for Ham volunteers to help them control the event. The event is scheduled for May 3rd. If you are interested in helping out please contact: Ernie Wall, NC4EW, at nc4ew@att.net
- If your ARRL membership is up soon or you want to join ARRL, you can do it through GARA. Renewal/ Join forms are available at this meeting. Craig Bondy, N8STA, GARA's treasurer will have the forms with him.
- Don't forget GARA's Technical Forum held every Sunday night at 7:30 pm. The Forum is hosted by Layman Idol, KK4LLY.

## NEXT MEETING Monday, April 28

The next meeting of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association will be Monday, April 28th, at Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, 6108 West Market Street, Greensboro, NC 27409, between Guilford College Road and Swing Road. The program for this month's meeting will be 3D Printers, presenter Robert Gusek, NC4RG.

## GARA Meeting Minutes

### Regular Meeting Minutes March 24, 2014

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association held their monthly meeting on March 24, 2014, at Captain Bills Seafood Restaurant located at 6108 West Market Street in Greensboro.

Vice President Cameron Conover, AJ4TW, called the meeting to order at 7:15 PM. Cameron officiated the meeting for President Tom Bertolino, KB1P who was out of town.

#### CLUB BUSINESS and OFFICER REPORTS

Cameron asked that anyone who has any suggestions about presentations for club meetings to please contact him.

Secretary Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, had nothing to report.

Financial officer Todd Smith, AK4TS, said we have a good turnout tonight. Todd reminded everyone that dues are due; Todd said the board is moving along with the PayPal setup and the calendar is up to date on the website. Bob Gusek, NC4RG, will do a presentation on 3D printing at the April meeting.

Operations Chairman Roy Smith, N4BYU, spoke about the Quarter Century Wireless Association and Amateur radio testing. May 26th is our normal meeting date, and it is also two days after the club picnic. Roy posed the question whether we should hold the meeting at the picnic or hold it on the normal meeting date? We will take a vote at the next meeting. Roy invited hams to come out to Captain Bills on Friday night for an informal night out. Roy also said Techs and Generals should consider upgrading.

Engineering chairman David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, said the D-Star repeater issue is being investigated.

David said that we are still occasionally getting interference on the 145.150 MHZ repeater.

David spoke about the N4G special event station that we held recently.

Member-at-Large Fred Lomax, KV4PI, said the Science Fair is coming up this Friday at Nathaniel Green Elementary School.

Member-at-Large Jesse Lindley, K4AX, said he had nothing to report.

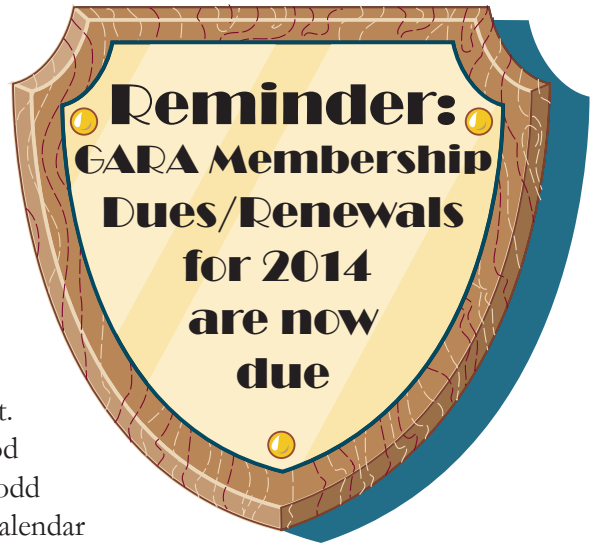
Todd reminded us the GARA Picnic is coming up on May 24th at Gibson Park.

Cameron asked that everyone identify themselves.

Chan White, KJ4ADX, made a motion to approve the minutes, Layman Idol, KK4LLY, seconded and the motion carried.

Cameron and Jesse gave the presentation on SDR using the RTL dongle.

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



#### The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

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

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

## Board Meeting Minutes - March

The GARA Board of directors held their monthly meeting on April 14th 2014, at Captain Bills Seafood located at 6108 W. Market Street in Greensboro. GARA president Tom Bertolino, KB1P, called the meeting to order at 7:10pm. Members present were: President Tom Bertolino, KB1P; Vice President Cameron Conover, AJ4TW; Engineering Chairman David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF; Financial Todd Smith, AK4TS; Member-at-Large Fred Lomax, KV4PI; and Secretary Greg Spencer, KG4UQV.

Tom gave an update on the 501(c)3 proposal he is preparing. David made a motion to bring the proposal to the membership at the next general meeting for approval, Cameron seconded, all in favor and the motion carried.

Cameron said he has Bob Gusek, NC4RG, lined up to do a presentation on 3D printing for the April meeting. Todd highlighted the results of the survey he did recently about presentation ideas.

The board discussed whether to hold the May meeting at the GARA picnic or to hold a separate meeting on the following Monday which is Memorial Day. Tom made a motion to bring this to the membership at the April meeting, Cameron seconded, all in favor and the motion carried.

Todd said he is looking at some different ways of raising funds. Todd also said the board needs to start taking reservations for the picnic.

Greg said that Roy and he had visited the SunTrust bank on Friday April 11th, and set up a new collection account that can be linked to the new PayPal account that Todd has been working on. This new account will be for funds collections only and keeps the funds in our other accounts safer. Greg explained the benefits of this type account over a checking account and that he told the banker that the board needed to provide final approval before the account could be finalized. Tom made a motion to go ahead with the new account, Fred seconded, all in favor and the motion carried.



Todd asked about making a donation to Amateur Radio Newline. After some discussion Tom made a motion to table this until September. Cameron seconded, all in favor the motion carried.

David gave the engineering report stating that the recent problem with the D-Star has been repaired. David said the power amplifier appeared to have taken a power surge probably as a result of a lightning strike. The VHF repeater is working well.

Tom suggested to Fred that he send a picture from the recent Technical Fair at General Green Elementary School to the ARRL.

Tom said he would like to see the public service section of the newsletter expanded.

Todd said he has received some reports the Amateur Radio Newline audio seemed to be skipping Sunday night. Fred said that he experienced the same thing when he first started using basic talk at home and then it cleared up.

Tom made a motion to adjourn David seconded and all were in favor, the motion carried, and the meeting ended at 8:30 pm.

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

## Amendments (continued from page 1)

The instructions for Form 1023 give examples of acceptable Purpose Statement and Dissolution Clause which the Board used to satisfy the IRS requirement. The attached copy of GARA's proposed Amended Articles of Incorporation that contains these changes (all changes in the attachments are underlined and italicized)

In addition the board added at the end of 3(d) the following statement "and provide for the education, training, and experience necessary to provide for the expansion of a qualified amateur radio pool". This statement will allow GARA to link our 501(c)(3) application to our Articles of Incorporation and gives the application a better chance of approval. (This change is also underlined and italicized in the attachment)

Before the IRS will accept the GARA's Amended Articles of Incorporation they have to be certified by the Secretary of State of NC. North Carolina's state law requires all amendments to an organization's Articles of Incorporation must be approved by its members before the Secretary of State can certify the document. During the April 28, 2014, General meeting I will brief GARA's proposed Amended Articles of Incorporation to the members present for their approval.

Below is a copy of GARA's proposed Amended Articles of Incorporation. Please read the following and if you have any questions, please ask them during the briefing.



### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF GREENSBORO AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

The undersigned, being of the age of eighteen years or more, does hereby make and acknowledge these Articles of Incorporation for the purpose of forming a nonprofit corporation under and by virtue of the laws of the State of North Carolina:

1. The name of the corporation is Greensboro Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
2. The period of the corporation is perpetual.
3. The purposes for which the corporation is organized are:
  - (a) Exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal revenue Code or corresponding section of any federal tax code;
  - (b) the fostering and promotion of intercommunication by electronic means for the personal benefit of the members and without pecuniary gain;
  - (c) the relaying of messages by radio without charge;
  - (d) the promotion of interest in amateur radio communication, experimentation, and provide for the education, training, and experience necessary to provide for the expansion of a qualified amateur radio pool;
  - (e) the advancement of the radio art; and
  - (f) to engage in any lawful act or activity for which corporations may be organized under 55 of the General Statutes of North Carolina.
4. Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purpose within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code,

## Articles (continued from page 4)

or shall be distributed to the federal government or to a state or local government, for public purpose.

5. The address of the initial registered office of the corporation in the state of North Carolina is 2205 Red Forest Road, Greensboro, Guilford County, North Carolina; and the name of its initial registered agent at such address is Morris T. Jeffreys.

6. The number of directors constituting the initial board of directors shall be nine (9); and the names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as directors until their successors qualify under the by-laws and be elected are:

Name	Address
Roger B. Alden	107 Elgin Place, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410
Fred X. Brown	1212 Jefferson Road, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410
Rufus Brown	2500 Celeste Street, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410
Kenneth Holliday	1923 Halifax Street, High Point, North Carolina 27260
Morris T. Jeffreys	2205 Red Forest Road, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410
Gerald W. Schultheiss	2905 Robinhood Court, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410
Jerry D. Stubblefield	3506 Fox Place, Greensboro, North Carolina 27408
Karl White	4802 Kingswood Drive, Greensboro, North Carolina 27410
Charles P. Wilson, Jr.	4101 Summerglenn Court, Greensboro, North Carolina 27406

6. The name and address of the incorporator are Donald C. Mead, 5510 Rockingham Road East, Greensboro, North Carolina 27407.

### Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation

1. The following Amendments to The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association's Articles of Incorporation were recommended by Board of Directors and approve by the membership as required Chapter 55A, North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act, at the General Meeting held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

a. Paragraph 3(a) statement was added. The new statement reads as follows, "Exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal revenue Code or corresponding section of any federal tax code,"

b. Paragraph 3(d) statement was changed as follows: "the promotion of interest in amateur radio communication, experimentation, and provide for the education, training, and experience necessary to provide for the expansion of a qualified amateur radio pool,"

c. Paragraph 4 was added: The new paragraph reads as follows, "Upon the dissolution of this organization, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purpose within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government or to a state or local government, for public purpose."

### Ratification

Be it known by all who shall see these presents that these Article of Incorporation have been duly accepted by the members of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association sitting in meeting on this \_\_\_\_\_ the day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. and, at the direction of the members, the currently elected officers do hereby set forth their signatures upon which these Articles and By-Laws shall become effective.

Thomas S Bertolino, KB1P, President \_\_\_\_\_

Cameron Conover, AJ4TW, Vice President \_\_\_\_\_

Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_

Craig Bondy, N8STA, Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_



## From the President's Shack

In my January's President's letter I stated, that during the year the membership will see some changes in the way GARA supports its membership and cuts its operation costs. It is time for an update on the progress that the Board has made towards these goals. During the past four months the board has been working on (but not limited too): becoming a certified as tax Exempt Corporation; establishing a way the membership can pay dues on line; and reducing the club's combined phone and internet bill.

Although preparing the paperwork for filing the 501(c)(3) certification has taken longer than I thought, we are making progress. The paperwork is about 90% complete. The next step in the process is to amend GARA's Articles of Incorporation. The IRS requires two statements be added to GARA's original Articles of Incorporation before they will consider GARA's 501(c)(3) application. Once GARA amends the articles, they have to be certified by the Secretary of State of NC. The state of North Carolina requires that the amended Articles of Incorporation be approved by GARA's General Membership before they will certify the amended Articles of Incorporation. I will present the board-approved, amended Articles of Incorporation to the general membership for approval during this month's meeting.

The Board has established a PayPal account for GARA and is in the process of placing a PayPal link on our web site. In the near future, the membership will be given the opportunity to; pay dues, renew/join their ARRL membership, and pay picnic fees on line.



The board has replaced Bellsouth/AT&T's phone line with Basic Talk resulting in an average savings of over \$40 per month.

GARA's picnic is scheduled for around 5pm Saturday May 24th at Shelter 2, Gibson Park in High Point. The picnic is scheduled to run from 5pm to around 8pm with food being served around 6pm. Setup is planned to start at around 4pm. The cost is the same as last year; \$7.00 for adults (children 11 and under eat free). The hot dogs, hamburgers, and soft drinks will be supplied by the Club. If you want to bring your favorite side dish or dessert please do, and bring a little more to show off how good a cook you are.

This year's Triad Highland Games are scheduled for May 3rd at Bryan Park, Browns Summit, NC with opening ceremonies and dinner held the during evening of May 2nd. Ernie Wall, NC4EW, is looking for ham volunteers to help him support the running of the event. Most assignments start in the morning and end the early afternoon. If you cannot volunteer for the whole day, Ernie will work something out with you. If you are interested in helping Ernie, you can send him an email at [nc4ew@att.net](mailto:nc4ew@att.net).

I hope to see you at the meeting,  
Tom Bertolino, KB1P  
President, GARA



## Congratulations! You Passed!

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

In April, there was one (1) who passed his test(s) and earned his Technician class license.

Next month's testing session will be on May 10th at Hinshaw United Methodist Church, 4501 High Point Road, Greensboro, 27407, at 9am. While walk-ins are welcome contacting the lead VE is preferred. Please contact Roy Smith at (336) 312-0647 or by email at n4byu@arrl.net

If you cannot make it to this test session, W4VEC holds a second test every month in this area. Test sessions are held at 10am on the last Saturday of each month at the Red Cross High Point Chapter, 815 Phillips Ave., High Point, NC 27726. Walk-ins are welcome. Contact information is Bob Williams, KB4TWG, email robwilliams@northstate.net, phone (cell), 336-812-5500.



**Dustin Genton, KM4ADX**  
*Passed Tech*

Photo Courtesy of Tom Bertolino, KB1P

## List Public Service Events Here

By Tom Bertolino, KB1P

In an effort to support area public service events and assist ham coordinators with their recruitment efforts the Feed Line will publish a list of Public Service Events held in the Triad area. The event will appear in Feed Line until the event's date has passed. It will contain the event name, date, where the event will take place, and the ham coordinator's contact information. If you want to list your event in the Feed Line please contact Tom Bertolino at kb1p@arrl.net with the following information: name of event, date of event, where the event take place, and your contact information and any special radio equipment required.

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	POC
May 3, 2014	Triad Highland Games	Bryan Park	Ernie, at nc4ew@att.net

*[In order to make this column a success I need the help of the GARA membership. If you have volunteered for a Public Service Events in the past or are currently scheduled to help out in an upcoming event please let the person who recruited you know about this column (or send me their contact information and I will let him know about this service). Publishing their event in the "Feed Line" might stop their last minute requests for help over the local nets.]*

*If you are a Public Service Event Ham coordinator list your event here, you cannot always depend on Ham's who worked your event in the past. There will always be scheduling problems that will prevent those who volunteered in the past to volunteer again or those last minute family or work problems that will leave you shorthanded. By advertising your event early an often you will increase your volunteer base. The "Feed Line" will give you a way to advertise your event to over 100 club members not to mention the non-member who read the club's newsletter.]*

## Engineering Update for April, 2014

From David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF

Wow. That's all I can say about this winter. I think it's finally gone! At this writing (Sunday April 13th) the temperature is close to 80F. It's hard to believe that just 6 weeks ago it was snowing. I guess the groundhog was right.

### UHF (D-STAR) REPEATER

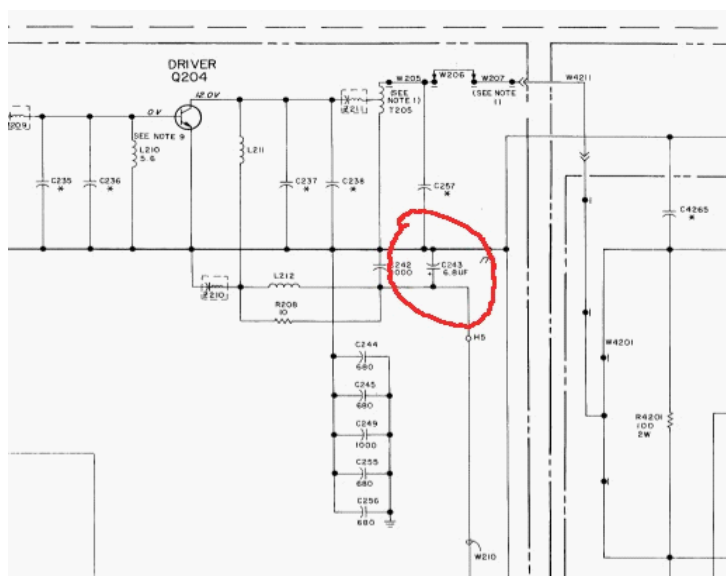
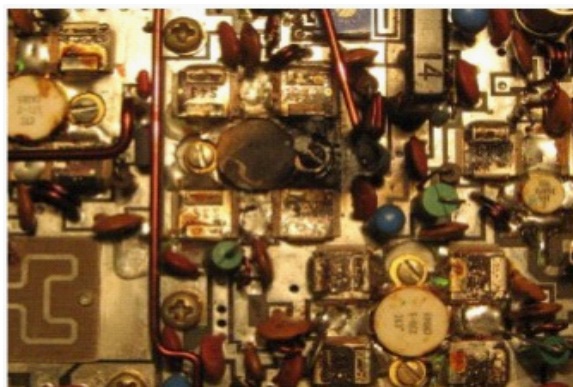
There is a lot to report on the D-Star repeater. As I reported for the last few months, the engineering committee has received several reports on the D-Star repeater that the output power also seems lower than normal. This got worse over the course of the last couple of months.

A little bit of background: the D-Star repeater uses a modified GE MASTR-II continuous duty UHF power amplifier (nominally capable of 100 watts). It has 4 stages of gain on the preamplifier which raises an input power of around 2 watts up to 40 watts. This 40 watts is split 4 ways using a Wilkinson splitter and applied equally to 2 pairs of RF power transistors set up as 4 parallel class C amplifiers. The outputs of each of the 4 transistors is fed into another pair of Wilkinson combiners that combines the outputs of the 2 pairs of transistors into the final amplifier output (which then is fed to the duplexer and the antenna).

Finally, Arch, KT4AT, was able to get to the site and examine the repeater along with Roy, N4BYU; Tom, KB1P; and Layman, KK4LLY (I was on business travel that day). What they found was a blown capacitor in the power amplifier, along with at least one bad RF power transistor that caused the output combiner resistors to overheat.

Here is the section of the preamplifier driver where the capacitor "was". All that was left was some black residue on the board, there was nothing left of the capacitor!

This portion of the amplifier schematic shows the location of the blown tantalum capacitor. It is on the power input rail that supplies the 40 watt driver output transistor collector. It is the first thing that an incoming power spike might see.





## Engineer (continued from page 8)

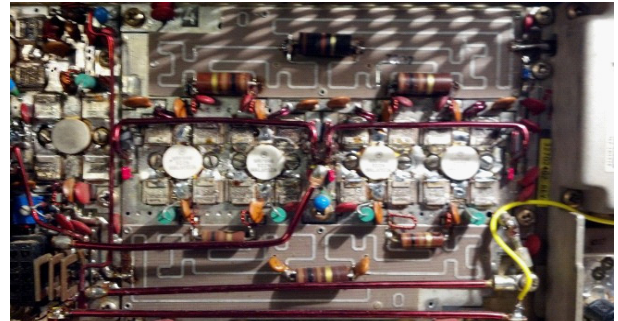
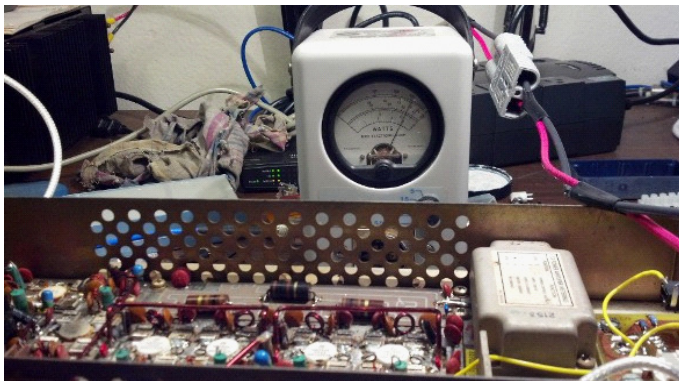
repeater with a spare that he had available, which got the repeater back up and running at full power.

The club's power amp has been repaired, with a replacement capacitor, new combiner resistors, and 4 new MRF646 UHF power transistors.

Repaired power amp with new transistors and combiner resistors:

After putting it back together, we keyed it up using an IC91 D-Star HT, and were pleased to see over 100 watts output!

Arch plans to do some longevity testing on the unit by keying it up for 8 continuous hours to make sure that there are no other weak components in it. If this checks out, we will swap this amp back into the repeater at a future date.



### VHF REPEATER

From time to time, we have received reports of interference being heard on the input of the VHF repeater, and have heard it myself. Those of you who have been around for a while know that this happens periodically, and we have never been able to track down the exact source. A few days ago, I was mobile, and talking with another ham who happened to be located not far from me in High Point. I heard

some crackling on his signal, so I switched my radio to “reverse” (this means listening on the repeater INPUT frequency, instead of the normal output frequency). I could hear the other station, but more importantly, I could also hear the similar crackling on the repeater input. This suggests that the interference was coming in on the repeater input.

### NEW EQUIPMENT

I have installed two Tripp-Lite ISOBLOK plug in surge suppressors, one on each repeater cabinet. The VHF repeater was plugged into a questionable device that belongs to the site owner, the D-Star repeater did not have any extra surge protection other than that provided by the UPS in the cabinet (the power amp's power supply is NOT connected through the UPS). I hope this additional measure of protection will prevent any future power surges from reaching our equipment.

### NEW PROBLEM REPORTING SYSTEM

The club has been working on an on-line problem reporting system that will be available to members to submit reports of repeater operation. Watch for this coming soon to [www.w4gso.org](http://www.w4gso.org)

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

73 from the GARA Engineering Committee!

## GARA Picnic 2014

This year's Picnic will be held on May 24th at Gibson Park, shelter 2. The park is located in High Point. The picnic is scheduled to run from 5pm to around 8pm with food being served around 6pm. Setup is planned to start at around 4pm. The cost is the same as last year; \$7.00 for adults, children 11 and under eat free. The hot dogs, hamburgers, and soft drinks will be supplied by the Club. If you want to bring your favorite side dish or dessert please do, and bring a little more to show off how good a cook you are.

Donna Ferguson, KD4WIK and Layman Idol, KK4LLY plan to do the cooking this year, they stated, they will not stop anyone from flipping hamburgers or helping to setup if they want.



Everyone is invited to attend. You do not have to be a GARA member to attend. We know this is the Memorial Day Weekend, but GARA's picnic is a great way to start the Memorial Day weekend with family and friends.

If you plan to attend we ask you to let us know as soon as possible so we get enough food and supplies. You can let us know by contacting any board member. Or better yet, let us know at the April meeting.

## “The Hang Out” - Each Friday Night

Years ago local area hams would get together at a local eatery on Friday night. This hasn't been done in years, so I called Cap't Bill's and I believe we have set up in a private room from 7-9pm on Fridays.

If we do start again, as of now it will be free, but we should eat or at least leave a couple dollars for the wait staff. It will keep them happy and help us keep it free. This will be the new group in Guilford County.

**The Friday Night Hang Out at Cap't Bills**, later to be shortened to “The Hang Out.” No officers, no dues, no bylaws. Just come and hang out. \$2.00 for the help, please.

## “Forgotten 98” K9W - DXpedition to Wake Island

I want to extend a special invitation to the May 3, 2014 meeting of NC4AR. We have Lou Dietrich N2TU coming to present the story of the “Forgotten 98” K9W DXpedition to Wake Island.. Please use the attached flyer to advise other hams of the upcoming presentation... Many of you may know Lou from hamfests and different venues, so come on to Thomasville, shake his hand, be part of the celebration... Look forward to seeing you there...

73, Gerald, KF4NEF

## Reminder - W1AW/x Portable Operations

A reminder to all who may be interested, that in order to work all states using W1AW/x portable operations, you must begin operating by the week of May 7 thru May 13.

Both Utah and Nebraska will be on the air that week as their second and final operation for the year.

So far, it's been very easy to work each state. Even a station with a modest antenna should be able to earn this special Worked All States award, using only W1AW portable operations.

For more information, including the upcoming schedule, visit [www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party](http://www.arrl.org/centennial-qso-party)

## FreeFest 2014

Can't make it to Dayton this year? Well, if you are in the area, we are having a free tailgate hamfest in Greensboro, NC on May 17th from 8:00 AM until Noon. We will be in the rear parking lot at the RFMD Headquarters building at 7628 Thorndike Road in Greensboro, approximately 1/2 mile south of the I-40/NC-68 interchange.

Bring your own tables and chairs, and enjoy a morning of tailgating. We plan on having local amateur radio dealers on hand for those items that just can't be found in any car trunk!

Did I mention that this is Free? Yes, this is our third year of a free hamfest. No cost, no long lines, and plenty of free parking. We have vending machines and an on-site ATM as well as indoor restrooms.

We will not be offering food or beverages; there are plenty of restaurants in the area, so grab your coffee and biscuit before you arrive!

We will have a talk-in on the W4GG repeater (Thanks once again Guilford Amateur Society!) on 145.25 (-600 offset, 88.5 Hz tone), and if you need more information, you may wish to visit [kd4rf.org](http://kd4rf.org).

## Silent Key

### Phillip Brinsfield, WA4SOY

SHALLOTTE Phillip Marion Brinsfield, 77, of Shallotte, formerly of Greensboro, died Tuesday, April 15, 2014 at his home. Mr. Brinsfield was born on July 5, 1936 in Fulton Co., GA, a son of the late Marion William and Elizabeth Cannon Brinsfield. He retired as owner and operator of Brinsfield Motors in Greensboro, NC. He was a long time member of the Tri-Beach Cruisers and was an avid salt water fisherman. Surviving are his wife, of 58 years, Joan Norrell Brinsfield; four sons, James W. Brinsfield, of Shallotte, Richard Dale Brinsfield, and wife, Donna, of Oak Ridge, NC, Michael A. Brinsfield, and wife, Cindy, of Shallotte, and Steven M. Brinsfield, and wife, Anita, of Myrtle Beach, SC; sister, Eleanor Vann, and husband, John, of Pinehurst, NC; three grandchildren, Jonathan Brinsfield, and wife, Jessie, Christopher Brinsfield, and Jessica Brinsfield; and his beloved dog, Asia. Funeral services will be conducted at noon on Friday, April 18th in Brunswick Funeral Service Chapel. Burial will follow in the Brunswick Memorial Gardens. Family will receive friends one hour prior to the service at the funeral home. Casketbearers will be his four sons, Dale, James, Michael, and Steven Brinsfield, and his two dear friends, Richard Eury, and Mike Cain. Private online condolences may be sent to the family at [www.brunswickfuneralservice.com](http://www.brunswickfuneralservice.com). The family request in lieu of flowers memorials may be directed to Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF), 26 Broadway, 14th Floor, New York, NY 10004. Brunswick Funeral Service, Shallotte, NC.

## Are you receiving GARA emails?



**GREENSBORO AMATEUR  
RADIO ASSOCIATION**

GARA sends periodic emails with club news and announcements. If you use Gmail, you may be overlooking our emails! Gmail has added a new feature called **Tabs** to your inbox. This feature is designed to make your inbox easier to manage by using different tabs to automatically organize your incoming mail into categories. This new organization causes emails from GARA to end up in the **Promotions** tab, rather than in the **Primary** mailbox. Here's a tip you can use to help ensure your email is delivered to the **Primary** tab.

- ① Go to the Promotions tab
- ② Find an email sent from "GARA-Greensboro Amateur Radio Association", (or sent from "events@w4gso.net")
- ③ Left-click and hold on the email, and drag it from the Promotions tab over to the Primary tab
- ④ Release the mouse and the email will drop into the Primary tab
- ⑤ Gmail will display a yellow box asking if you want to make this change permanent. Click **YES** to ensure that all messages from GARA appear in the Primary tab going forward.

## DID YOU TAKE OUR SURVEY ?

GARA wants your feedback and opinions about possible future meeting program topics, or other meeting comments. If you did not yet take our brief survey, please do so by visiting

<http://tinyurl.com/GARAsurvey>



## Calendar of Events

- May 3 Triad Highland Games, volunteers, please contact Ernie Wall, NC4EW, at [nc4ew@att.net](mailto:nc4ew@att.net)
- May 10 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- May 10 Rockingham County Swapfest (Reidsville, NC) [www.rcarc.com](http://www.rcarc.com)
- May 12 GARA Board Meeting
- May 24 GARA Picnic Gibson Park (High Point)
- May 24 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- May 24 DurHam Fest (Bahama, NC) <http://www.rowanars.org>
- May 26 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Jun 9 GARA Board Meeting
- Jun 14 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Jun 23 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Jun 28-29 Field Day
- Jun 28 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Jul 12 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Jul 12 29th Annual Firecracker Hamfest (Salisbury, NC) [www.rowanars.org](http://www.rowanars.org)
- Jul 14 GARA Board Meeting
- Jul 19 Mid-Summer Swapfest (Cary, NC) [www.qsl.net/n4nc](http://www.qsl.net/n4nc)
- Jul 26 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Jul 26 WCARS Hamfest (Haywood County Fairgrounds, Waynesville, NC) [wcars.org](http://wcars.org)
- Jul 28 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Aug 9 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Aug 11 GARA Board Meeting
- Aug 25 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Aug 30 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Aug 30 North Carolina State Convention (Shelby Hamfest)( Shelby, NC) [www.shelbyhamfest.org](http://www.shelbyhamfest.org)
- Sep 8 GARA Board Meeting
- Sep 13 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Sep 22 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Sep 27 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Oct 13 GARA Board Meeting
- Oct 11 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Oct 25 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Oct 27 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)

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

# Area Happenings

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

## CLUB NETS:

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

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

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

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

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

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

## OTHER ACTIVITIES :

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

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

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

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

## The W4VEC Testing Schedule

May to Oct. 2014

May 10, 2014

June 14, 2014

July 12, 2014

August 9, 2014

Sept. 13, 2014

Oct. 11, 2014

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

**Time:** 9:00am

**Contact:** Roy Smith

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

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

## GARA REPEATERS

145.150 MHz - offset, 100 Hz. tone

442.8625 MHz. + offset, Digital D-Star



**Greensboro Amateur Radio Association**

P.O. Box 7054

Greensboro, NC 27417

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

**FIRST CLASS MAIL**

*The Official Publication of GARA*