



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



Brian Wilson, NX4U, Editor

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ARRL Membership

By Brian Wilson, NX4U

Are you a member of ARRL? Maybe you have been in the past, and have let your membership slide, or maybe you have considered it, but have just been putting it off. This year may be the best time ever to consider membership. It may be the best time to consider something greater than just a one year membership. Rates are set to increase in January of 2015, and it is no small increase. Annual membership will increase from \$39 to \$49, but a lifetime membership will increase from \$975 to \$1,225. If you choose, you may pay your life membership fees over two and a half years. Currently, that is only \$122 each quarter.

Also, if you choose to join at a club meeting, and join through GARA, then your local radio club will receive part of the proceeds of your membership fee. Join ARRL and support GARA at the same time, plus receive all the benefits of ARRL membership.

If you are unsure whether or not membership in ARRL is right for you, just ask a GARA Board member for more information, and they will be happy to assist you.



This Month's Program

Our next meeting will be August 24, 2015. The meeting will be held 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.

The presentation topic for August is: "Pointers on Applying for ARRL Awards", by Chris Thompson, K4HC. Chris, will give us insight and pointers on applying for ARRL awards with both paper QSL's and LOTW confirmations.

Some reminders:

GARA has new name badges. If you do not have your, you can get your name badge at any meeting.

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.

NEXT MEETING Monday, August 24

The next meeting of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association will be Monday, July 27th, 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 is "Pointers on Applying for ARRL Awards", by Chris Thompson, K4HC.

GARA Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting Minutes July, 2015

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association held their monthly meeting on July 27, 2015, at Captain Bills Seafood Restaurant located at 6108 West Market Tom Bertolino, KB1P, called the meeting to order at 7:15pm. Tom asked everyone to identify themselves.

CLUB BUSINESS and OFFICER REPORTS

Cameron Conover, AJ4TW, spoke about Field Day results. Cameron also stated that Perry Sullivan, AF5XG, was the winner of the most QSO contest.

Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, had no report.

Tom and Scott Toth, KV4UP, gave the treasury report and balances.

Roy Smith, N4BYU, spoke about license testing and new hams. Roy also spoke about prorating dues for new members that join in the middle of the year. Tom Bertolino, KB1P, made a motion that any new member who joins GARA can prorate their dues by quarter. Cameron Conover, AJ4TW, seconded, and the motion passed.

Jesse Lindley, K4AX, said that he will be programming the new repeater this week and that all parts are on hand. He said that he is unsure of an installation date at this time.

Betty Williams, KC2BFN, said that she is waiting for a date on the Open House.

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

President Thomas Bertolino, KB1P
Vice-President Cameron Conover, AJ4TW
Treasurer Todd Smith, AK4TS
Secretary Greg Spencer, KG4UQV
Financial Scott Toth, KV4UP
Engineering Chair Jesse Lindley, K4AX
Operations Chair Roy Smith, N4BYU
Member-at-Large David Bond, KK4VCG
Member-at-Large Patrick Moore, K2CPR

Appointed Position:

Public Information Officer
Betty Williams, KC2BFN
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.

Chris Thompson, K4HC, said that ARRL dues will be increasing to \$49.00 per year in November 2016. He said that hams can save some money by paying for three years ahead or going to a lifetime membership.

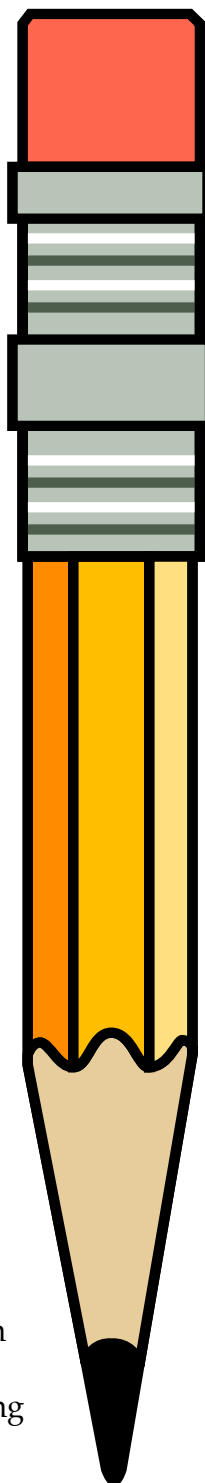
Tom presented a calendar for upcoming events.

David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, spoke about license testing at the High Point club.

Roland Kraatz, W9NPX, from the Charlotte Radio Digital Radio Group gave the presentation on digital radio.

Chris Thompson, K4HC, made a motion to close the meeting, Patrick Moore, K2CPR, seconded and the motion passed. The meeting ended at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, GARA Secretary.



Board Meeting Minutes - August, 2015

No board meeting in August, 2015.

Respectfully submitted by Greg Spencer, KG4UQV, GARA Secretary.

From the President's Shack

By the time you read this, school's summer vacation will be over, and school buses will be running along with kids who are getting on or off the buses. Please take the time and drive with care.

Where has the year gone? It's already late August. Labor Day weekend is two weeks away and GARA's elections are just three months away. It's time to consider if you want to run for a GARA Board position. GARA's board members are elected for one year term. Every board position for 2016 is open. Current board members if they choose to run for their position will have to be elected in November. The election is open to any GARA member in good standing that holds a valid ham license. So any GARA member who meets the above criteria can run for any office.



Since I joined GARA, there has not been an election where there was more than one member running for the same position. Board members have been elected by acclamation after the nomination committee presented a slate with only one member per position. This practice over the years has caused the membership to become complacent about elections. A case in point, last year's elections had to be held in January, because the membership lost interest in the election process. The lack of concern was demonstrated by attendance. There were not enough members who attend the November meeting to have a quorum. (The By Laws require that a quorum be present to hold an election.) I hope this year's election is different. Maybe we will have enough members present to have a quorum and more than one member running for an office.

I encourage each member, who meets the criteria to run for an office, consider being a candidate for a GARA board position. I believe an election with more than one member running for a position can only benefit the club and rekindle membership's interest in the club's elections.

To help you make a decision to run for a position, I will outline some of the tasks of a board member. Being a board member requires a person holding the position to be able to allocate time in his schedule to accomplish his duties and responsibilities as outlined for his office in GARA's By Laws. In addition board members are required to: submit monthly reports to the board and newsletter; to attend once a month board meeting and GARA's

see President Letter, page 4

President Letter (continued from page 3)

Monthly General Meetings. Depending on scheduled events and special projects there may be a time when a board member will need to schedule additional time in order to help plan and organize these events/projects. If you plan to run for or are considering running for a board position or just want more information on what additional tasks a particular board position may require, please let me know. My email address is kb1p@arrl.net.

GARA's elected board positions are: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Finance Chairman, Engineering Chairman, Operation Chairman, Repeater Trustee, Member at Large 1, and Member at Large 2.

I hope you will consider running for a GARA board position.

The presentation topic for this month's meeting is: "Pointers on Applying for ARRL Awards", by Chris Thompson, K4HC. Chris, will give us insight and pointers on applying for ARRL awards with both paper QSL's and LOTW confirmations. I am looking forward to Chris' presentation.

See you at the meeting.

Tom Bertolino, KB1P

President, GARA



**GREENSBORO AMATEUR
RADIO ASSOCIATION**

August Engineering Update

From Jesse Lindley, K4AX

XXX

Thanks and 73 de K4AX

see Engineering, page 5

Engineering (continued from page 4)

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 August, there were five (5) who passed their test(s), and earned either their Technician, General or Extra class license.

Next month's testing session will be on September 12th 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 277262. Walk-ins are welcome. Contact information is Bob Williams, KB4TWG, email robwilliams@northstate.net, phone (cell), 336-812-5500.

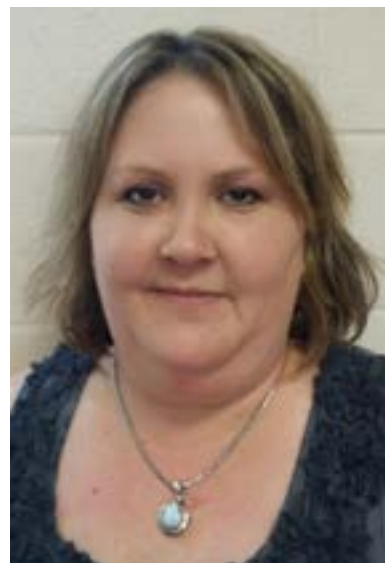
Photos Courtesy of Tom Bertolino, KB1P, and/or Roy Smith, N4BYU



***Randy Barnett - KM4MLN
Passed Tech***



***Chris Kivett - KM4MLP
Passed Tech***



***Lisa Turner - KM4EXZ
Passed Extra***



***Michael Williams - KM4MLO
Passed Tech***



***Jonathan Tuttle - KM4MLM
Passed Tech***

Calendar of Events

- Aug 24 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Aug 29 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Sep 5 Roanoke Division Convention (Shelby Hamfest <http://shelbyhamfest.org>)
- Sep 12 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Sep 14 GARA Board Meeting
- Sep 26 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Sep 28 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Oct 10 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Oct 12 GARA Board Meeting
- Oct 24 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Oct 26 GARA General Meeting (Captain Bill's Seafood & Steakhouse, Greensboro)
- Nov 9 GARA Board Meeting
- Nov 14 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Nov 15 JARSFest 2015 (Benson, NC <http://www.jars.net>)
- Nov 23 GARA General Meeting "GARA Elections" (Captain Bill's, Greensboro)
- Nov 28 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)
- Dec 12 VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
- Dec 14 GARA Board Meeting
- Dec 26 VE Session (Red Cross Building, High Point)

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@arrrl.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 Sept. to Dec, 2015

Sept. 12, 2015

Oct. 10, 2015

Nov. 14, 2015

Dec. 12, 2015

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

FIRST CLASS MAIL

The Official Publication of GARA