



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



Julia Toth, Editor

www.w4gso.orginfo@w4gso.org

This Month's Program

Join us this month for a recap of GARA's Field Day activities and results led by Matt Trull, KX4GG.

INSIDE THIS EDITION

Meeting Minutes

President's Message

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New Hams

NEXT MEETING **July 22, 2019**

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 22, 2019.

MEETING TOPIC: **Field Day Recap**

From ARRL: **Centenarian Radio Amateur's Efforts Helped Pave the Way to the Moon**

<http://www.arrl.org/news/centenarian-radio-amateur-s-efforts-helped-pave-the-way-to-the-moon>

07/18/2019- The Nashville Tennessean newspaper recently featured the story of a 104-year-old ARRL member who contributed to NASA's effort to put the first humans on the moon 50 years ago this month. Cary Nettles, W5SRR, of Columbia, Tennessee — who calls himself the nation's oldest rocket scientist still alive — was a NASA project manager and research engineer on rocket propulsion systems in the 1950s and 1960s.

While working on the Centaur second-stage rocket program, Nettles, a Louisiana State University engineering graduate, determined that rocket engine failures NASA was experiencing were a result of misdirected exhaust destroying the vehicles' engines. Nettles told the Tennessean he came up with an "exhaust pipe" that solved the problem. In May 1966, an Atlas-Centaur launcher propelled the first Surveyor lander toward the moon. That year, NASA awarded Nettles and colleague Ed Jonash with its Distinguished Service Medal for "their superhuman effort in turning the troubled rocket into a reliable upper stage," according to a 2004 NASA publication, "Taming Liquid Hydrogen — The Centaur Upper Stage Rocket 1958 – 2002."

A Saturn V rocket with a liquid hydrogen-fueled second stage carried astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin to their rendezvous with the surface of the moon on July 20, 1969. Nettles retired from NASA the following year.

Nettles got his Amateur Radio license in 1945 and remains active on 40 meters as well as on VHF and UHF repeaters. He is a member of the Maury Amateur Radio Club. In addition to sustaining his interest in ham radio over the decades, Nettles is an enthusiast of "large-scale" steam trains, which he works on in his basement. Look for him Tuesdays at 1400 UTC on 7.215 MHz on the Steam Railroad Net.

In 2015, the year he turned 100, the ARRL Tennessee Section presented Nettles with its Elder Statesman Award.

The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

President Scott Toth ND4L | **Vice President** Dave McLin AC4A | **Treasurer** Drew Paschal WB4IHY | **Secretary** Gregory Ray KK4MHY

Financial Committee Chair John Strandberg W4DX | **Engineering Chair** Matt Trull KX4GG | **Operations Chair** Open

Members-at-Large: Chris Thompson K4HC and Jesse Lindley K4AX

Appointed Positions: **Public Information Officer/Newsletter Editor** Julia Toth

The Feed Line is ©2019 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

No Regular Meeting This Month Due to Field Day

GARA Board Meeting Minutes

President Scott Toth began our board meeting on July 8th at 7pm

Officers Present:

- Scott Toth
- Matt Trull
- David McLin
- John Strandberg
- Drew Paschal
- Chris Thompson

Business:

- Going to put the new duplexer on the air soon to test
- Wait until next tower climb to piggyback on the work to check antenna
- Insurance- Drew checking into renewal
- Operations Chair (appointment?)
- Additional operating events or other get-together
- Build ladder line jpoles or tape measure beams together? Summit activation? Shelby trip together, caravan. Homeschool co-op
- Field day radio grams

Chris moves, David seconds to dismiss.

From ARRL...

Dutch IARU Member-Society Invites Hams to Participate in 2-Meter Propagation Experiment

<http://www.arrl.org/news/dutch-iaru-member-society-invites-hams-to-participate-in-2-meter-propagation-experiment>

07/15/2019

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) member-society in the Netherlands, VERON, has invited radio amateurs from around the world to take part in what it's calling a 2-meter propagation experiment. VERON said the aim is to collect as much data as possible about contacts made on 2 meters. All modes are welcome. The event is set for July 20 from 1700 to 1900 UTC. Submit logs to ClubLog before August 1. "It is not a contest," VERON said. "Just have fun and give realistic reports."

From the President's Shack

Summer in North Carolina is hot - usually very hot, and the heat tends to last a while. One of the nice things about the heat is that it gives us hams an excuse to get on the radio rather than being outside sweating. I hope that many of you participated in the recent "13 Colonies" event that happens annually around Independence Day, but if you didn't, it's a great time where you try to work all 16 stations in order to achieve a "clean sweep." One of the most notable things about an event like this is the size of the pileups that are generated on HF despite the current propagation issues. Personally, I think part of the reason for this is because of the dearth of both stateside and DX HF stations that are out there to work. Everyone is concerned that propagation is bad, so lots of people stay off of the air until an event like that pops up. What if we, here in Greensboro, started calling CQ like DX stations do just to see how many stations we could work? Could we generate 13 Colonies-style pileups? I think we could and I would like to encourage you to try. I think we could even put together impromptu operating events either mobile or at each others' QTHs. Anyone onboard? If you have any interest in seeing what we can do to liven up the air, please drop us a line at info@w4gso.org and we'll get something coordinated.

Last month I mentioned how quiet our repeaters have been. I know that it's summertime so a lot of people are out of town on vacation, etc., but I want to continue to encourage you to drop your call on either W4GSO repeater to see who's around. Greensboro could really use some representation on the North Carolina and Friends D-star net that happens on our 442.8625 UHF multi-mode repeater at 9:00pm every Tuesday evening. We're a flagship repeater on that net, and often nobody from Greensboro checks in at all! I would love to hear you on it, or on a Yaesu System Fusion room chatting with people in other countries, or whatever. These repeaters are here for us to use and it would be great to keep them warm.

Finally, the board is working on a few initiatives to try and provide more opportunities for members to get to know each other. Obviously my previous suggestion is one, but we're also considering some "build parties" where we get together to learn to build inexpensive and useful ham-related items like antennas. Keep an eye out in the near future for details, but feel free to let us know if you have any ideas of your own for club events by e-mailing info@w4gso.org. Thanks for any suggestions you have and I look forward to seeing you at one sometime soon!

73,
Scott Toth, ND4L
GARA President

Spotlight on a Member

Chris Thompson, K4HC



I was first licensed at age 14 as a Novice in 1976 as WA4ZBF, along with my dad, Walt Thompson WA4ZAY (he's now WA2LT, but not active). We both pretty quickly upgraded to Technician and then General, where I stalled for a while. I joined the US Coast Guard out of High School in 1980 and started a 20 year career as a Radioman, retiring in February 2001 as a Chief Petty Officer. I now work in computer hardware and software technical support.

I took ham radio along with me to my various duty stations, sometimes pretty active, other times not so much, depending on what I could set up. I upgraded to Extra in 1988 (skipping Advanced – I passed both exams on the same day). When I started trying to chase DX with a little seriousness, I quickly discovered that “WA4ZBF” was a little long for success in pileups, and changed my call to K4HC in the vanity program in 1999.

Along the way, I've dabbled in pretty much everything except Earth-Moon-Earth and Microwaves. Mobile CW, Fast Scan TV, Slow Scan TV, VHF/UHF Weak Signal, Contesting, Satellites (who else remembers the old Russian birds, RS10/11 and RS12/13?). It's been a lot of fun and always something to keep my interest.

My current passion is chasing DX on HF, where I've confirmed 306 entities for DXCC, including 5 band DXCC plus 30/17/12 meters, 5 band Worked All States, Worked All States Triple-Play (CW/Phone/Digital), and a few others. I'm waiting (like the rest of us) for Cycle 25 to improve HF propagation and hopefully work especially SE Asia, where most of my remaining needed entities are.

This is a broad hobby, with many different ways to engage yourself. If you find things getting stale, look to trying something new. I'll bet you haven't done it all yet.

73,
Chris K4HC

From ARRL...

Scouts Attending World Scout Jamboree Set to Talk with Space Station via Ham Radio

<http://www.arrl.org/news/scouts-attending-world-scout-jamboree-set-to-talk-with-space-station-via-ham-radio>



7/19/2019

Thousands of Scouts from some 160 countries who will attend the 24th World Scout Jamboree this summer in West Virginia will have the chance to witness an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact during their stay. The theme of the World Scout Jamboree, which opens on Monday, July 22, is "Unlock a new world." If all goes according to schedule, a selected group of Scouts at Jamboree station NA1WJ will pose questions to astronaut Drew Morgan, KI5AAA, at the helm of OR4ISS on the ISS on Saturday, July 27 at around 2:30 PM. Morgan is an assistant scoutmaster. The contact will be enabled via a "telebridge" between NA1SS and

ON4ISS at AMSAT-Belgium. The event will be streamed live via Facebook. Work already is under way to assemble NA1WJ for the 11-day Jamboree.

"The station is coming together pretty well, we have most of our advance team here working on antennas, radios, rotators, and all that fun stuff," NA1WJ Trustee Bill Stearns, NE4RD, told ARRL. He also said that the launch of the first of three APRS-carrying balloons likely would take place today (July 19), with beams for NA1WJ also scheduled for mounting to on-site utility poles, "which means we'll be into full testing mode for HF starting then," Stearns said. The balloons are expected to reach 40,000 feet altitude and continue across the Atlantic and perhaps around the world, with tracking via APRS and WSPR.

In its proposal for the ARISS contact, Jamboree officials said they wanted the ARISS contact to serve as "the pinnacle experience during the World Jamboree," demonstrating to the nearly some 38,000 Scouts anticipated that "technology is a fascinating vocation as well as avocation and is a suitable area of pursuit within their Scouting program as well as at home when selecting an educational path for their lives and careers."

The Scouting program embraces a wide range of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) activities leading to merit badges in specific fields, including radio.

Scouts will start arriving over the July 20 – 21 weekend. The Jamboree will offer demonstrations of Amateur Radio on HF, VHF, UHF as well as multiple satellite contacts. The Jamboree also will offer Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) – hidden-transmitter hunts (foxhunting) – on 80 meters and 2 meters. More than 3,000 Scouts are expected to take part in the Amateur Radio demonstrations over the 11 days of the Jamboree, Scout officials said.

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.

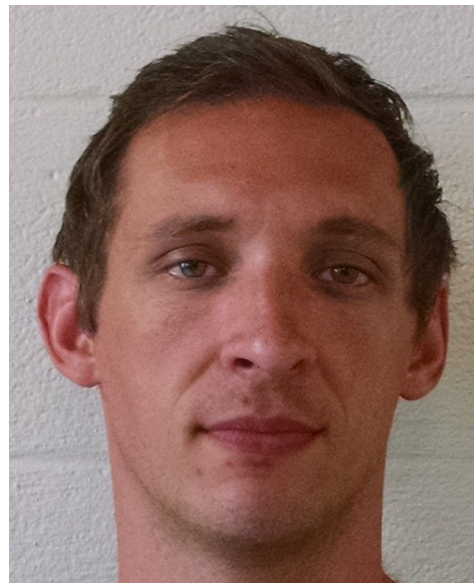
The next testing session in Greensboro will be on August 10th at Hinshaw United Methodist Church, 4501 Gate City Blvd., Greensboro 27407, at 9 a.m. While walk-ins are welcome, contacting the lead VE is preferred. Please contact David Macchiarolo, AJ4TF, email aj4tf@arrl.net, cell (336) 420-9424.

The next testing session in High Point will be on July 27th at Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, 301 Hickory Chapel Road (off MLK Jr. Drive), High Point 27262 at 10 a.m. **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 Greensboro VE Session - July 13, 2019



Jon J. Bratton, KN4VQA
Greensboro, NC
Earned Technician



Brian D. Cornwell, KD8SRZ
Aberdeen, NC
Earned General

FEEDLINE



Duncan L. Jones, KN4VQB
Greensboro, NC
Earned Technician



Peter J. Kapetanakis, KN4OCX
Winston-Salem, NC
Earned General



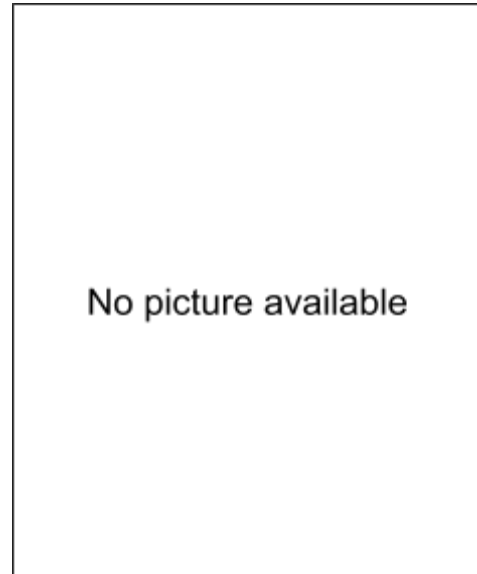
Allen C. Kendall Jr., KN4VQC
Greensboro, NC
Earned Technician



Phillip A. Mansfield, KN4VQE
Greensboro, NC
Earned Technician



David C. Ross, KX4TE
Summerfield, NC
Earned Extra



Camille J. Taylor, KN4UTZ
High Point, NC
Earned General



David Weilnau, KN4VQD
Danville, VA
Earned Technician

No July 2019 High Point VE Session

Open Invitation

FreeGate 2019 - Greensboro NC - September 21, 2019

The Qorvo (Formerly RFMD) Amateur Radio Club presents FreeGate 2019. A FREE tailgate swapfest! Yes, that's right FREE – NO ADMISSION FEE!

Conveniently located off of NC 68 just south of I-40. Saturday, September 21st from 8:00AM to 11:00AM -- This is NOT a rain or shine event. Please check our website at kd4rf.org if the weather looks suspect.

Qorvo (formerly RFMD) Headquarters -- Building A -- BACK parking lot ONLY please
7628 Thorndike Rd.
Greensboro, NC 27409

Talk in frequency - 145.150MHz PL 100.0 Hz

NO admission fee, NO space rental! All profit is yours! You do NOT have to be a member of the Qorvo Amateur Radio Club to buy, sell, visit, chat, etc. All are welcome! We provide a paved parking lot, on-site ATM, and indoor restrooms. You provide everything else: tables, canopies, power, drinks, food, and merchandise. Vendors: TBD. Please ... NO firearms, NO pornographic material permitted on site!

For more information: info@kd4rf.org or visit www.kd4rf.org

From ARRL...

FAA Reauthorization Act Language Serves to Exclude Vast Majority of Amateur Radio Towers

<http://www.arrl.org/news/faa-reauthorization-act-language-serves-to-exclude-vast-majority-of-amateur-radio-towers>

07/12/2019

Language in the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Reauthorization Act of 2018 will exclude all but a small number of Amateur Radio towers from marking requirements. Thanks to action taken in 2017 and 2018 by ARRL, the bill's original language was amended to the extent that amateur towers, as well as residential towers used for over-the-air TV reception, were effectively exempted from marking requirements.

The topic was addressed at the annual "Ham Radio and the Law" forum at the Dayton Hamvention® this past May. Some key points from that presentation: (1) Towers covered by the rules are structures at least 50 feet tall that support an antenna and are located in a rural area or on farmland or immediately adjacent to such land. (2) According to the Act, the term "covered tower" does not include any structure that is adjacent to a house, barn, or other building, and "is within the curtilage of a farmstead or adjacent to another building or visible structure."

ARRL Regulatory Information Manager Dan Henderson, N1ND, explains that, while a few Amateur Radio towers will fall under the Act's marking requirements and will have to be registered, towers in residential yards or within farmland are specifically exempted.

Calendar of Events

July 20	Mid-Summer Swapfest (http://www.qsl.net/n4nc Cary, NC)
July 22	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House, Greensboro)
July 27	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
July 27	WCARS Hamfest (http://www.wcars.org/wcarshamfest.htm Waynesville, NC)
Aug. 3	Roanoke HamFun (http://roanokehamfest.info/ Vinton, VA)
Aug. 10	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Aug. 10	21st Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Swapfest (http://cfarsnc.org)
Aug. 26	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House, Greensboro)
Aug. 30	Shelby Hamfest (http://shelbyhamfest.org)
Aug. 31	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Sept. 14	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Sept. 23	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House, Greensboro)
Sept. 28	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Oct. 5	Rock Hill Hamfest (http://www.ycars.org Rock Hill, SC)
Oct. 12	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Oct. 12	W4NC Fall-Fest (http://w4nc.com Winston-Salem, NC)
Oct. 26	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Oct. 28	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House, Greensboro)
Nov. 9	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Nov. 25	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House, Greensboro)
Dec. 14	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)

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 the Board of Directors at info@w4gso.org.

Blue Ridge Microwave Society



Blue Ridge Microwave Society

There is a new local ham organization dedicated to microwave work: the Blue Ridge Microwave Society (BRMS). This group is to promote VHF/UHF and Microwave activity with emphasis on frequencies above 1 Ghz. This group is new so there's not too much on the site yet, but there are a number of ham currently active on 23 cm, 6 cm, and 10 ghz who would like to promote more activity on the microwave bands. The BRMS just recently put together a group page located here: [Contact Stan Dillon, K4RCA](#), with interest or questions. You can reach him at k4rca@aol.com.

FEEDLINE

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

CLUB NETS:

SUNDAYS – at 8:30 p.m., 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 8:30 p.m. The Triad SkyWarn Net meets on the 147.225, K4ITL repeater, no tone required

TUESDAYS – at 9 p.m., the D-Star Net meets on 442.8625 (W4GSO B and Reflector 54C)

WEDNESDAYS – at 8:45 p.m., The Guilford Amateur Society Rag Chew Net holds their weekly net on the 145.250 W4GG repeater. Jim Hightower, W4JLH is the net control.

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

OTHER ACTIVITIES:

FIRST MONDAY – The Guilford County ARES monthly meeting is held at 1002 Meadowood St. off W. Wendover Ave, in the EMS building, beginning at 7 p.m.

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 11:15 a.m., 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 8 p.m. (approximately) Greensboro Hams get together for coffee at Starbucks at Edney Ridge Rd.

The GSO W4VEC Testing Schedule Aug. - Oct. 2019

Aug. 10th
Sept. 14th
Oct. 12th

9:00 a.m.

Hinshaw United Methodist Church
4501 Gate City Blvd.
Greensboro, NC

Contact:
David Macchiarolo
(336) 420-9424
aj4tf@arrl.net

GARA REPEATERS

145.150 MHz - offset, 100 Hz tone, FM and Fusion

442.8625 MHz + offset, D-Star and Fusion



Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

P.O. Box 39829

Greensboro, NC 27438

www.w4gso.org

FIRST CLASS MAIL

The Official Publication of GARA