



The Greensboro Amateur Radio Association

# Feed Line

Providing Amateur Radio news for the Triad



Julia Toth, Editor

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## This Month's Program

Field Day 2019 is about one month away. I hope you can participate this year. Setup will start Friday afternoon at 1400, June 21, with operations starting 1400, Saturday, June 22 and ending 1400, Sunday, June 23. Field Day will be held at Hagan Stone Park, group campsite 1. We also plan to have a club cookout Saturday, June 22, at 1800. Please sign up for the cookout on the GARA website. More info will be published as we get closer to the event. Come out and help us setup, operate, and eat!

For this month's presentation, I will talk about my trip to the Hamvention in Xenia, OH. The weather really cooperated this year so I had a nice trip. There were a lot of new products announced this year, as well as opportunities for hands-on with lots of neat equipment. If you have not yet been to Xenia, it's worth the trip.

Dave McLin, AC4A  
Vice President

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### NEXT MEETING May 27, 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 May 27, 2019.

**MEETING TOPIC:**  
**Hamvention Experience**

## Press Release

### *From the Asheville Radio Museum:*



**Radio Wizardry.** The Asheville Radio Museum will be open on Saturdays from 1 PM – 3 PM during June through August 2019. We welcome visits from hams, ham club groups and families with children – especially those interested in amateur radio and how radio waves were discovered and made useful. Dozens and dozens of ham and home radios on display, not to mention antique Morse code practice machines and a Morse recorder, a spark gap transmitter, World War II radios (Gibson Girl, B17 bomber, Nazi propaganda), Asheville's 1930s first police car radio, Philco's 1930s mystery remote

control for console radios, a replica of Marconi's first receiver and much more!

Admission and parking are free. Directions are on [www.avlradiomuseum.org](http://www.avlradiomuseum.org) at the bottom of the home page. For group tours or additional information, please use the contact form found near the directions.

Not able to drive to Asheville? Take our smart phone tour of two dozen interesting items on display. Download the free app from the link at the top of our home page. Many other Asheville tours also available using this app.

An interesting visit is guaranteed for all!

## 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

## Board Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2019

Meeting convened at 7:30 p.m.

### Officers Present:

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

### Field Day:

- Invite GAS to Field Day
- GOTA?
- Build a doublet? Matt made a motion to buy a spool of THHN and other supplies to build two antennas. Chris seconded. Motion passed.
- Picnic at Field Day? 6:00 p.m.
- Setup website for picnic food sales

### Other Business:

- Try new duplexer to test with amp
- Invoices for membership renewals- talk to Drew
- Operations Chair (appointment?)
- Updating the website with new articles every month
- Update donations page to include equipment in addition to money
- Miscellaneous
  - Purchase items for Field Day like feedline, antennas,

Motion to adjourn by Chris, seconded by David. Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

## Regular Meeting Minutes

Cooper's Ale House

April 22, 2019

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

### Officers Present:

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

### Continued Business:

- Operations Chair is still open. The monthly Feedline comes from [communications@w4gso.org](mailto:communications@w4gso.org).
- If you make purchases thru Amazon Smile, we receive a small percentage of the sale.
- The club has GARA branded merchandise for sale on our website, go to: about GARA, GARA gear, and then to Merchandise.

### Board Member Reports:

- President Scott Toth, ND4L asked for committee reports:
- Vice President, David McLin, AC4A has a goal to increase participation by club members. David's suggestions included: Winter Field Day, NC QSO Party, NA QS Party, ARRL DX Contest SSB, Open House and a cookout. Let David know of any ideas, this will be revisited at the April Meeting.
- Engineering Chair, Matt Trull, KX4GG reported that repeaters are working normally and Field Day preparations are underway

**Monthly Program:** David McLin, AC4A, gave a presentation about Field Day history and discussed GARA's Field Day plans and preparation activities.

Scott Toth made a motion to adjourn; Chris Thompson seconded the motion and the April GARA meeting adjourned at 8:00pm.

## From the President's Shack

Field Day has been on everyone's minds recently. It takes a lot of time, effort and energy to get everything ready for this big event and we would really love to see dozens of GARA members participate. As you may have heard, we have voted to invite the Guilford Amateur Society (GAS) to join us this year and are hoping to have a Get On The Air (GOTA) station available for new- or non-hams also. As an added bonus, we're planning to host our annual club picnic the evening of June 22 also, which will be located at the Field Day site. You'll soon see a link on [www.w4gso.org](http://www.w4gso.org) to choose and pay a nominal fee for your meal (everything will be provided!).

If you have never been to Field Day before, or if it has been a while, please consider coming for at least a part of the time. I remember back to my first in 2014 and it was probably the event that really got me excited about radio the most. I loved the camaraderie, the technology, the outdoors, and the excitement of working hundreds of stations around the country, and that experience has stuck with me since then. Operating in a "contest" with the bands full in a tent under the moon at night time with friends is something you don't forget and is worth experiencing at least once.

Thank you for considering and I hope we'll see you there. Even before then, I hope to see you at our May GARA meeting this Monday. Invite a friend! We love to see all of the new faces that have been around and hope to see even more.

73,  
Scott Toth, ND4L  
GARA President

## Engineering Report

I hope to see all of you out at Field Day 2019. This is a great opportunity to meet with fellow hams. For those more recently licensed this is also a good time to come out and ask any questions you may have. There will be a lot of knowledgeable people who are great resources. If the weather cooperates we typically put up the antennas the Friday preceding the start of operations. We would appreciate any assistance you can offer.

Matt Trull, KX4GG  
Engineering Chair

## From ARRL...

### ***AMSAT-NA Issues Call for Board of Directors' Nominations***

<http://www.arrl.org/news/amsat-na-issues-call-for-board-of-directors-nominations>



**05/20/2019**

AMSAT is soliciting nominations for its Board of Directors election. Four directors' terms expire this year: Jerry Buxton, N0JY; Clayton Coleman, W5PFG; Drew Glasbrenner, KO4MA; and Paul Stoetzer, N8HM. In addition, up to two Alternates may be elected for 1-year terms.

A valid nomination requires either one member-society or five individual members in good standing to nominate an AMSAT member for Director. Written nominations, consisting of the nominee's name and call sign and the nominating individuals' names, call signs, and individual signatures should be mailed to AMSAT, 10605 Concord St., Suite 304, Kensington, MD 20895-2526.

Hard-copy nominations are the preferred method, but an intent to nominate may be submitted electronically to [martha@amsat.org](mailto:martha@amsat.org) or faxed to 301-822-4371. Petitions must arrive at the AMSAT office no later than June 15. In the case of electronic nominations, a verifying traditional written petition must be received at the AMSAT office within 7 days following the close of nominations on June 15 to be considered valid. — Thanks to AMSAT News Service

### ***Radio Amateurs to Demonstrate Emergency Messaging Capabilities for Red Cross, FEMA***

<http://www.arrl.org/news/radio-amateurs-to-demonstrate-emergency-messaging-capabilities-for-red-cross-fema>



**05/17/2019**

Just days ahead of the 2019 Hurricane Season, dozens of hams along the US East Coast will demonstrate Amateur Radio's ability to deliver messages without commercial power, infrastructure, or permanently established stations for officials of the American Red Cross and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The Thursday, May 23 event will take place in coordination with ARRL, during a joint meeting with Red Cross and FEMA officials in Baltimore. The demonstration will be a mock response to a simulated disaster scenario — a major hurricane with mass casualties striking the east coast. Amateur Radio operators at portable stations from New England to the Carolinas will deliver messages to W1AW, which will then coordinate and deliver the information to officials attending the joint FEMA-Red Cross meeting in Baltimore.

Messaging will be handled using digital modes, which can allow for the transmission of images as well as text, as a showcase for the full range of modern Amateur Radio technology. The American Red Cross will also have a NexGen Emergency Response Vehicle parked at W1AW in Connecticut as part of the training exercise, which will take place from 1330 to 1530 UTC.

ARRL and its members have a long history of working with emergency response agencies, such as the American Red Cross and FEMA, to provide or support communication in times of disaster for served agencies and partners. A principal served agency, the Red Cross shelters, feeds, and provides emotional support to victims of disasters.



# 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 June 8th 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](mailto: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](mailto:aj4tf@arrl.net).

## Look Who Passed Greensboro VE Session - May 11, 2019



Kenneth R. Moore, KN4OWI  
Asheboro, NC  
Earned General



Keith D. Thomas, KA4JAH  
Kernersville, NC  
Earned Extra

## High Point VE Session - April 27, 2019



Bianca M. Rhym, KN4UGG  
Greensboro, NC  
Earned Technician



Richard A. Hicks, KN4LNJ  
Thomasville, NC  
Earned General



Micah D. Utt, KN4UGH  
Lexington, NC  
Earned Technician



## From ARRL...

### ***June Event in Europe to Assess Activity, Ability to Share Spectrum on 6 Meters***

<http://www.arrl.org/news/june-event-in-europe-to-assess-activity-ability-to-share-spectrum-on-6-meter>  
[s](#)



**05/21/2019**

The International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) has thrown its support behind an upcoming operating event on 6 meters aimed at assessing activity on 6 meters and the ability of Amateur Radio to share spectrum with government users on the band. The worldwide Amateur Radio community is invited to participate in the Czech-sponsored Pohotovostní (readiness) Test – or “P-Test” – which will take place on June 13. Agenda Item 1.1 for World Radiocommunication

Conference 2019 (WRC-19) will consider an Amateur Service allocation in the 50 – 54 MHz band in Region 1 (Europe, Africa, Asiatic Russia), taking into account studies looking into sharing between the Amateur Service and the mobile, fixed, radiolocation, and broadcasting services, “in order to ensure protection of these services.”

The Czech Republic’s telecommunications regulator CTO is investigating if theoretical study results match real life. The June test follows an initial trial that took place in late February in the Czech Republic. One objective was to verify that military and Amateur Radio stations could coexist on the band. The second test will take place when enhanced propagation is more likely. During the event, other 50 MHz band users will operate their own communication systems, and the IARU has cautioned radio amateurs not to interfere with their activities.

“The purpose of this event is to show regulators that amateurs and military stations can coexist without causing harmful interference to each other,” said an IARU Region 1 news article by Hans Blondeel Timmerman, PB2T.

The June 13 event will take place in two activity periods: The first will run from 0730 until 0900 UTC, and the second will take place from 1100 to 1230 UTC. Participating stations will call “CQ P (Contest)” and exchange signal reports, a sequential serial number, a six-character grid locator, and a geographical location.

Maximum power output will be 25 W PEP, the maximum power under Czech Amateur Radio Service regulations. Stations outside of the Czech Republic are requested to use the same output power to enable comparisons with the February test. The use of spotting networks is permitted. Submit logs no later than 1230 UTC on June 15.

“We would like to involve amateur stations experimenting with wideband modes in this test,” the IARU news article said. This could include reduced-bandwidth digital television or other wide-band emissions. Such stations would participate in the second activity period.

“There needs to be as much activity as possible on the band during these two periods, preferably sticking to the Czech power limit of 25 W ERP,” said UK Six Metre Group Chair Chris Deacon, G4IFX. “It doesn’t matter whether the band is open or not; just get on the air using SSB, CW, digital, or all three. This is your chance to do something to help the 50 MHz community in Europe and beyond.”

# Calendar of Events

May 27	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House, Greensboro)
June 8	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
June 22	GARA Field Day (Hagan Stone Park, Pleasant Garden)
June 22	GARA General Meeting CANCELLED for Field Day
July 6	34th Annual Firecracker Hamfest ( <a href="http://www.rowanars.com/events">http://www.rowanars.com/events</a> Salisbury, NC)
July 13	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
July 20	Mid-Summer Swapfest ( <a href="http://www.qsl.net/n4nc">http://www.qsl.net/n4nc</a> 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 ( <a href="http://www.wcars.org/wcarshamfest.htm">http://www.wcars.org/wcarshamfest.htm</a> Waynesville, NC)
Aug. 10	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Aug. 10	21st Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Swapfest ( <a href="http://cfarsnc.org">http://cfarsnc.org</a> )
Aug. 26	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House, Greensboro)
Aug. 30	Shelby Hamfest ( <a href="http://shelbyhamfest.org">http://shelbyhamfest.org</a> )
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. 12	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Oct. 12	W4NC Fall-Fest ( <a href="http://w4nc.com">http://w4nc.com</a> Winston-Salem, NC)
Oct. 26	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Oct. 28	GARA General Meeting (Cooper's Ale House, 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](mailto:info@w4gso.org).

## From ARRL...

### ***Puerto Rico Declares May 14 as "Radio Amateur Day"***

<http://www.arrl.org/news/puerto-rico-declares-may-14-as-radio-amateur-day>



**05/13/2019**

The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico has declared Tuesday, May 14, as "Radio Amateur Day," recognizing ham radio's "mission of transcendental service for the safeguard of life and property of the people." The proclamation, issued over the signature of Lieutenant Governor Luis Rivera Marin, notes that some 4,000 radio amateurs live in Puerto Rico.

"Especially during the emergencies by the passing of Hurricane Irma early September 2017, the radio amateurs were helping with communications on the air with various emergency agencies and the community in general when all the communications systems on the island failed," the proclamation recounts. "This commemoration provides the opportunity to exalt the valuable service of the radio amateurs of Puerto Rico and their contribution to the development and evolution of this important means of communication in our society"

# Area Happenings

**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 Newslines. 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 June - Aug. 2019

June 8th  
July 13th  
Aug. 10th

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

## FIRST CLASS MAIL

**The Official Publication of GARA**