



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

Well, it's that time of the year, and I don't mean the holidays! Winter Field Day (WFD) is coming up at the end of January and I hope you will consider participating. I will present a brief overview of WFD and what we need to do to get ready for it. Several of us participated last year and we had a really good time. I hope you will consider helping out this time. I hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving holiday!

73,
Dave McLin, AC4A

**Come to the meeting
on Monday and you are
instantly eligible to win
a UHF radio two-pack!**

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NEXT MEETING **November 25, 2019**

The next meeting of the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association will be held at Sarah's Kabob Shop in Greensboro.

**MEETING TOPIC: Board
Elections**

GARA Board Meeting Minutes

No November board meeting.

GARA Meeting Minutes

GARA General Meeting
Monday, October 28, 2019
7:15pm

Sarah's Kabob Shop, Market Street, Greensboro

Scott Toth, ND4L opened the meeting at 7:15pm and gave updates regarding board elections, Amazon Smile, and GARA Gear available through w4gso.org.

Dave McLin, AC4A explained Winter Field Day during the VP report.

Matt Trull, KX4GG discussed plans to build redundancy into the VHF and UHF repeater systems and ongoing work on those.

Dave McLin, AC4A gave a presentation on his development of an automated solar battery charging system that will move batteries into and out of the charging circuit depending on the battery's state. This lead to further discussion around solar setups in general.

Tommie Lauer, K4MTL moved to adjourn and Matt Trull, KX4GG seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Scott Toth, ND4L.

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.

From the President's Shack

It's hard to believe that it's November and Christmas is almost here. Thanksgiving is this week, so hopefully that will mean that everyone can take some well-earned rest and enjoy time with family and friends. I'm really looking forward to next year and what it will offer, but first things first: we need to end the year on a high note by holding our annual elections. Elections require 25% of active members to be involved, so that means that we need at least 14 members to be at the meeting on Monday to meet quorum. To help encourage you to attend and participate, we will be giving away a door prize of two brand-new UHF HTs that you can use as walkie talkies or however you like. Each person who attends will have one chance to win and no money is necessary.

Here is the slate of candidates as it stands now:

FOR THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT Scott Toth, ND4L
FOR THE OFFICE OF VICE-PRESIDENT Carl Fenske, KC4WGA
FOR THE OFFICE OF ENGINEERING CHAIR Matt Trull, KX4GG
FOR THE OFFICE OF FINANCIAL CHAIR John Strandberg, W4DX
FOR THE OFFICE OF OPERATIONS CHAIR Open
FOR THE OFFICE OF TREASURER David McLin, AC4A
FOR THE OFFICE OF SECRETARY Yakov Rokhlin, KN4RBN
FOR THE OFFICE OF MEMBER AT LARGE Drew Paschal, WB4IHY
FOR THE OFFICE OF MEMBER AT LARGE Jesse Lindley, K4AX

We are happy to have a ballot with some respectfully contested positions, so if you're interested in running for any position, even if it already has a candidate, please let one of our Nominating Committee members, Bill Flaherty, W1GY or Dan Williams, N2LGH know! We also have the Operations Committee Chair position still open, so if you have any interest, please contact me directly and I can let you know what's involved.

Considering that we don't have a December meeting, I'd also like to encourage you to join the Greensboro ham radio community for the Christmas Social that will be held on December 2. You can read more about it on Page 11. I hope you all have a blessed Thanksgiving, and I hope to see you Monday!

73,
Scott Toth, ND4L
GARA President

Engineering Report

We are continuing to work on a redundancy plan for both the UHF and VHF repeaters. Some of the hardware has been purchased and I hope to be configuring it soon, holiday season permitting!

73,
Matt Trull, KX4GG

From ARRL...

ARRL Legislative Advocacy Committee Drafting New Bill Addressing Antenna Restrictions

www.arrl.org/news/arrl-legislative-advocacy-committee-drafting-new-bill-addressing-antenna-restrictions



11/21/2019

The ARRL Board of Directors Legislative Advocacy Committee is in the process of drafting a new bill to address the issue of private land-use restrictions on amateur radio antennas. The proposed legislation would be the successor to the Amateur Radio Parity Act. The Legislative Advocacy Committee, chaired by Pacific Division Director Jim Tiemstra, K6JAT, will report to the Board soon, once plans are fleshed out. Tiemstra told the ARRL Executive Committee (EC) on October 12 in Aurora, Colorado, that Advocacy Committee members have traveled to Washington to meet on multiple

occasions with members of Congress and their staffs to inform them of the committee's plans.

ARRL Washington Counsel Dave Siddall, K3ZJ, told the EC last month that he understands the conditional exemption of amateur radio licensees from the RF exposure measurement requirements in the FCC's Part 97 Amateur Service rules is proposed to be removed. A Report and Order in FCC Docket WT 13-84 is making the rounds that, if adopted, would make amateur licensees subject to the same requirements as all other FCC licensees. The Report and Order is expected to be released before year's end.

Siddall also reported to the EC that the FCC is poised to address the 60-meter band amateur allocation adopted at World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15). The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), on behalf of US government primary users of the band, has insisted that the maximum permitted power for radio amateurs must not exceed that agreed to at WRC-15 — 15 W effective isotropic radiated power (EIRP) or 9.1 W ERP — despite the fact that Canada has authorized its amateur licensees to use 100 W, and eliminate the current discrete channels, which ARRL's petition proposed to retain. NTIA oversees federal government frequency allocations and users.

Minutes of the October 12 Executive Committee meeting were posted this week on the ARRL website.

From ARRL...

OH2BH to be on the Air from Myanmar

<http://www.arrl.org/news/oh2bh-to-be-on-the-air-from-myanmar>



11/20/2019

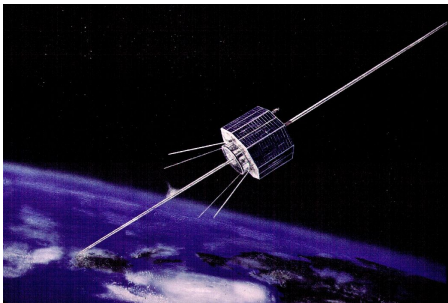
The government in Myanmar has given limited amateur operating privileges to Martti Laine, OH2BH. He will use XZ2D. Laine reports that authorities in the Southeast Asian nation have only permitted him to operate on 15 meters and higher, but he is hoping to obtain permission to operate on a spot frequency on 20 meters.

"Getting 14.065 kHz temporarily for the duration of 48 hours would be magic," Laine said. Members of the worldwide amateur community wrote the Myanmar government to support Laine.

"As Radio Arcala, OH8X, remains at their Climate Park with more than 110,000 mangroves planted," he continued. "[O]ur dream remains to activate the Union of Myanmar from our own site from the noise-free Ayeyarwady Region of Myanmar." The XZ2D license is valid until next April 17. Laine said he has been setting up his station and should be on the air on November 21. According to Club Log's DXCC Most Wanted list, Myanmar is #48.

Happy 45th Birthday, AMSAT-OSCAR 7!

<http://www.arrl.org/news/happy-45th-birthday-amsat-oscar-7>



11/20/2019

The world's longest-lived satellite, AO-7, turned 45 years old this month. It was launched on November 15, 1974, from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. After nearly 7 years of service, AO-7 was thought to have reached the end of its life in June 1981 due to battery failure, and a premature obituary appeared in the *AMSAT Satellite Report*.

In an interesting footnote, although AO-7 was thought to be nonfunctional after 1981, it's been reported that the Polish Solidarity movement used AO-7 to pass messages in 1982, while Poland was under martial law.

Twenty years later, on June 21, 2002, G3IOR reported hearing "an old-style CW beacon" from an unknown OSCAR near 145.970 MHz. It didn't take long to identify the satellite as AO-7, which remains operational and well-used while it's in sunlight.

To celebrate AO-7's 45th birthday, AMSAT plans to auction a set of gold-plated AO-7 cufflinks and a 50th Anniversary AMSAT lab coat (size 42R). The auctions are now live on eBay and will conclude shortly after 0200 UTC on November 26, 2019. AMSAT reports that 100% of the proceeds will go toward Keeping Amateur Radio in Space. — *Thanks to AMSAT News Service*

Spotlight on a Member

Jesse Lindley, K4AX

My interest in Amateur radio was sparked by my father, W4TR. He started in the late 60s, and as a child there was always a tower and a ham shack everywhere we lived. My father worked for JA King Scales for a long time in the repair department, traveling far and wide to different



manufacturers each day fixing measuring equipment. Knowledge from electronics and trouble shooting in amateur radio set him down that path. My father taught me a lot about Amateur radio, designing antennas, formulas used, basic troubleshooting, radio gear, etc. I enjoy and miss the conversations we used to have that ranged from roofing filters, to amps and antennas. He passed away this year and being involved in Amateur radio is one way I can keep a part of him around.

I first got the radio bug in 1996 and got a technician license KF4KQI and unfortunately I didn't stick with it, life got in the way and it went on the back burner. Renewed my license though and in 2006 the interest in radio hit me again, especially getting on the HF bands, and I quickly upgraded to General getting on HF digital modes and quickly upgraded to Extra to work the great DX I kept hearing in the DX window on some of the bands. Eventually I found my way back to the local VHF/UHF repeaters, and joined G.A.R.A. I've enjoyed being a member of G.A.R.A., serving on the board, and participating in events like Field Day when I can.

My interests in radio are fairly widespread. Started using SDR radios about 10 years ago, and have had a few Flex Radios, built SDR kit radios from the Softrock series, and used a few various SDR receivers. I enjoy using about any mode on HF and mostly chase DX there. Locally I use the FM repeaters, C4FM, D-STAR and sometimes DMR repeaters. Most recently my interests have found me on 2m SSB and FM simplex a lot and have met a lot of great hams there.

73,

Jesse K4AX

From ARRL...

More than 1 Million Contacts Logged during ARRL Field Day 2019

<http://www.arrl.org/news/more-than-1-million-contacts-logged-during-arrl-field-day-2019>



11/14/2019

ARRL Contest Program Manager Paul Bourque, N1SFE, reports that nearly 1.1 million contacts were made during the 2019 ARRL Field Day – the most popular operating event in North America. Bourque reported the 2019 ARRL Field Day results, which are available starting on page 64 of the digital edition of the December 2019 issue of QST. Bourque says in his article that more than 36,000 radio amateurs took part in ARRL Field Day 2019 across all 83 ARRL/Radio Amateurs of Canada sections, up slightly from the 35,250 reported last year. The total number of contacts

was down by about 7% from 2018's 1.18 million contacts.

"This year, 3,113 entries were received from local clubs and emergency operations centers (EOCs), as well as individual portable, mobile, and home stations," Bourque wrote in QST. Most entries were in Class A – club or non-club groups of three or more.

Of the nearly 1.1 million contacts, approximately 46% were made on phone, and 456,000 (42%) of contacts were made on CW. The remaining 138,000+ (12%) of the contacts were made on digital modes, such as FT8 and RTTY.

"This is a substantial increase compared to 2018, when total QSOs on the digital modes numbered just over 56,000," Bourque reported. "With the last 2018 release of WSJT-X (which now supports Field Day exchanges), many participants made use of FT8's ability to communicate when band conditions weren't being cooperative."

Top 10 scores ranged between W3AO's Class 14A entry from Maryland-DC, with 32,356 points, to W1NVT's 14,876-point Class 2A entry from Vermont.

Bourque said that 95% of the 3,113 entries received came through the Field Day web applet.

"Not only is ARRL Field Day an opportunity to sharpen operating skills in temporary and portable locations, it's also an occasion to showcase amateur radio to the local community, with clubs often setting up in publicly accessible locations and interacting with non-hams," Bourque wrote.

Soapbox comments for Field Day 2019 are available on the ARRL website. ARRL Field Day 2020 will take place June 27 – 28.

VE Testing

Every month, W4VEC holds testing sessions 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.

In Greensboro, testing sessions are scheduled on the second Saturday of the month, except in March when it is the third Saturday. The next testing session in Greensboro will be on December 14th 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@arrrl.net, cell (336) 420-9424.

In High Point, testing sessions are scheduled on the last Saturday of the month. The next testing session in High Point will be on November 30th 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@arrrl.net.

Look Who Passed

Greensboro VE Session - November 9, 2019



Mark E. Fenton, KN4ZUU
Greensboro, NC
Earned General

High Point VE Session - October 26, 2019

No picture available

Charles Clark, KN4ZKU
Greensboro, NC
Earned Technician



Thomas S. Cudo, KN4ZKV
Greensboro, NC
Earned Technician



Jesse Z. Hooven, KN4ZKW
High Point, NC
Earned Technician

No picture available

John M. Polese, KN4ZLA
Greensboro, NC
Earned Technician

FEEDLINE

No picture available

Micah T. Sams, KN4ZKX
Browns Summit, NC
Earned Technician

No picture available

Chase D. Wilhelm, KN4ZKY
Greensboro, NC
Earned Technician



Austen T. Young, KN4ZKZ
Pleasant Garden, NC
Earned Technician

Ham Radio Christmas Social



The annual "Ham Radio Christmas Social" will be held on Monday, December 2nd, 2019.

LOCATION: The "New" Golden Corral, 4404 Landview Drive, Greensboro, NC 27407. This is the same location where the old restaurant previously stood but is a new facility. Arrival time this year is **6:30 p.m.**

We ask that you bring some canned goods or other non-perishables which will be donated to the Greensboro Urban Ministry. Gary Hastings (KE4IAN) and the Gate City Jazz Band will provide music, including some seasonal tunes as well as some of their



favorites. All amateur radio operators, their families and/or guests are invited. Please mention this event to any ham who you think may not know about it. We have a nice large private room reserved, which seats up to 80 persons. Upon entering the restaurant, pay at the register and tell them you are with the ham radio party.

Please RSVP to w4jlh@bellsouth.net by November 30th with a number in your party so I can notify the restaurant of the number to expect at the event. Thank you and 73- Jim, W4JLH

Calendar of Events

Nov. 25	GARA General Meeting (Sarah's Kabob Shop, Greensboro)
Nov. 30	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Dec. 14	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Dec. 23	GARA General Meeting (Sarah's Kabob Shop, Greensboro)
Dec. 28	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Jan. 11	W4NC First-Fest (http://w4nc.com Winston-Salem, NC)
Jan. 11	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Jan. 25	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Jan. 27	GARA General Meeting (Sarah's Kabob Shop, Greensboro)
Feb. 8	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Feb. 24	GARA General Meeting (Sarah's Kabob Shop, Greensboro)
Feb. 29	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)
Mar. 13	Charlotte Hamfest (http://www.charlottehamfest.org Concord, NC)
Mar. 21	VE Session (Hinshaw United Methodist Church, Greensboro)
Mar. 23	GARA General Meeting (Sarah's Kabob Shop, Greensboro)
Mar. 28	VE Session (Hickory Chapel Wesleyan Church, High Point)

The purpose of this calendar to provide information on events in and around our area that might be of interest to our readers. As you might expect, there are many more events (public service, hamfests, flea markets, etc.) taking place in North Carolina and around the Greater Greensboro Area. If you know of an event that would be of interest to our readers, please contact the Board of Directors at info@w4gso.org.

FEEDLINE

FOURTH MONDAY – at 6:30 p.m., the Greensboro Amateur Radio Association has a regular monthly meeting at Sarah's Kabob Shop, 5340 W. Market., Greensboro, NC 27409. 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 Nov. - Jan. 2019

Dec. 14th

Jan. 11th

Feb. 8th

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