

◆ Squelch Tales ◆

Volume 1 Issue 4

October, 1994

The Quarterly Newsletter of the North Fulton Amateur Radio League, Inc.

Of Hamfests and Parties....

by Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC

Now that it's October, I guess I can get back to cool nights, and goooooo sleeping weather. Though, the Summer wasn't so bad, if you liked lots of rain. All in all, I didn't have to reseed this fall, and that's a new one.

As you can tell, Fred et. al. have been working on the repeater again. He has found that two antennas (one for receiving and one for transmitting) work better than the single, "let's let one do it all" antenna we had up there before. In a continuing effort to keep ahead of the RF gremlins on the mountain, Fred has received approval to buy two more cavities to put on the '47' machine. His goal is to get far enough ahead of any potential problems we may have on the mountain, that he can concentrate on getting the repeater equipment on top of Sweat moved over to the cabinet, and get the 440 machine on-the-air. The problem with a good transmitter site such as Sweat Mountain is that "it's a good transmitter site". Therefore, it is a very popular place to put radios, antennas and services. So popular that the growth of services using the mountain has grown almost unbelievably in the past several years. As this growth continues, more and more RF is added to the environment up there. And, as time passes, existing equipment gets older and less precise. It is



Inside This Issue

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| Repeater Command Summary | Page 2 |
| Hamfest Calendar | Page 2 |
| Atlanta VEC Schedule | Page 3 |
| Election Night Procedures | Page 3 |
| Call For Candidates | Page 4 |
| Membership Roster | Page 5 |
| October Meeting Directions | Page 7 |
| Christmas Party Directions | Page 7 |
| Treasurer's Report | Page 8 |
| Secretary's Report | Page 9 |
| Contester's Corner | Page 11 |
| Editorial | Page 12 |
| Hints for Sci-Trek Volunteers | Page 13 |
| Field Day Results | Page 14 |
| Dayton Update | Page 14 |
| Club Information On-Line | Page 14 |
| Membership Application | Page 15 |
| Upcoming Programs | Page 16 |

not uncommon for antennas or feedlines or radios to start acting erratically after a good rain, storm, or sudden temperature change. Problem is, if you happen to be the unfortunate one to be interfered with, it's up to you to find out what's doing the interfering. Then, once that's done, you

(Continued on page 4)

500+ MB, I Don't Think So

by Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC

Here's a little something I learned over the Summer. First off, I will warn you, this is about computers. Personal computers, to be more exact, and the continuing effort to get more from our PC's without breaking the bank and incurring the wrath of a YL or XYL (or OM).

Anyway, I decided to up the storage capacity on my home system this Summer. I had one 200 MB hard disk set up as C drive, and a 340 MB hard disk set up as D drive. When I got the 340 drive back last year, I decided that I would make it a single partition (I like wide open spaces), and Stack it to double the usable space. $340 \times 2 = 680$ MB, right? Well wrong. I assumed that I had all that extra space until I started checking around for a new, larger hard disk in August. I wanted one of the new 540 MB hard disks that can be had for around \$325. So, I checked and found that buying the 540 MB drive, at least for my system, wasn't a very good idea.

Why? Well, first off, my bios wasn't current enough to handle anything over

(Continued on page 3)

**North Fulton Amateur Radio
League, Inc.**

P.O. Box 1741
Roswell, GA 30077

InfoLine: 404-552-9495

Editor - Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC
404-740-7939

President - Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC
Vice-President - Steve Mays, KE4GBB
Treasurer - Fred Moore, N4CLA
Secretary - Judie Medin, KE4EPS
Membership Coordinator - Steve Mays

CLUB REPEATERS
145.470 Mhz out (-0.6 Mhz)
147.060 Mhz out (+0.6 Mhz)

INTERNET: jfweinb@ix.netcom.com

NFARL BBS
552-0868 (1200-2400-9600 8-N-1)
Dan Turner, WA4BRO, Sysop

Articles for the NFARL newsletter may be sent on disk (ASCII text format) by mail to Jeff Weinberg, 2714 Fieldstone Path, Marietta, GA 30062, or uploaded via modem (in ASCII format) to the NFARL BBS, ATTN: Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC. Or, you can FAX your articles directly to me at 552-9495. Other types of input formats include Word for Windows, Wordperfect, RTF, RTF-DCA, XLS, MS Works, and Windows Write. Acceptable graphics formats include PCX, BMP, HGL, PIC, GIF, CGM, WMF, TIF, DRW, EPS, WPG, and PCD.

You may also contact Jeff at 740-7939 to discuss the submission of an article to the newsletter. No copyrighted material may be submitted to *Squelch Tales* without proper written authority from the copyrighted source.

NEWS NET EVERY MONDAY
At 8:00 P.M. on 145.470 Mhz
Alt. Frequency: 147.060 Mhz

Monthly Meetings:

Second Wednesday of Each Month at the
Cherokee Cattle Company
11208 Alpharetta Highway, Roswell
664-0490
Dinner - 6:30 PM
Meeting & Program - 7:30 PM

NOTE: *Squelch Tales* is Copyright © 1994 by the North Fulton Amateur Radio League, Inc.

Original stories, text, graphics, and charts may be reproduced in any form, by any publication, without prior consent, provided proper credit is given.

**North Fulton Amateur Radio
League Quick Repeater Guide**
145.470 & 147.060

Open Commands

- #1 **Echo Test**
- #2 **Deviation Test**
- #3 **DTMF Test**
- #4 **Time**
- #5 **Sinad Test**
- #6 **Frequency Test**
- #7 **Display Mail**
- #8 **Send Command Out Link**
- #9 **Play Announcement**

User Commands

- *0*N **Emergency Patch**
- *1*N **User Patch**
- *2 **Patch Redial**
- *7 **Mailbox**
- *8 **Open Mail**
- *10 **Change Password**
- *12 **Record User Name**
- *15 **User Profile**
- *20 **Speedial Maintenance**
- *25 **User Hang-up Code**
- *30 **CTCSS Command**

N = Number To Dial

Only from Phone Line

- 1 **Reverse Patch**
- 2 **Monitor Air**
- 3 **Non-directed Patch Page**
- 4 **Directed Patch Page**

**Additional copies of the
repeater manual are
available for \$5 each.
Contact Jeff Weinberg at
740-7939 for details. All
checks should be made
payable to the N.F.A.R.L.**

HAMFEST CALENDAR

*courtesy of the SERA Repeater Journal
and the ARRL*

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Hamfest, Stark, FL | October 15 |
| 3rd Black Warrior Swapfest Tuscaloosa, AL | October 15 |
| Hamfest, Waycross, GA | October 15 |
| Hamfest, Chattanooga, TN | October 22-23 |
| Computer Show and Hamfest, Mobile, AL | October 29 |
| Ham Expo, Lawrenceville, GA | November 5-6 |
| 2nd Annual Hamfest and Computer Show, Myrtle Beach, SC | November 12 |
| TVARN Hamfest, Cookville, TN | November 13* |
| 17th Annual Hamfest, Montgomery, AL | November 12 |
| Suncoast Convention '94, Tampa, FL | November 19-20* |
| 6th Annual JARSFEST, Benson, NC | November 20 |
| Hamfest, Greensboro, NC | December 3 |
| Wiregrass ARC Hamfest, Dothan, AL | December 3* |

* - not a confirmed date

Atlanta VEC Schedule

(All days are once a month for each notation)

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1st Saturday 9:00 AM | Jonesboro George White KN4NG 361-6850 |
| 1st Sunday 2:00 PM | Lawrenceville Duane Reynolds WB2YAD 962-9582 |
| 1st Monday 7:45 PM | Roswell/Marietta Delaine McCarthy KM4FV 993-9758 |
| 2nd Sunday 3:00 PM | Cartersville Mark Swicord KD4EYF 975-1309 |
| 2nd Tuesday 7:00 PM | Snellville Wayne Taylor WD4CCA 498-7759 |
| 2nd Saturday 8:30 AM | Stone Mountain Hal Martin KI4RD 978-9160 |
| 3rd Saturday 9:00 AM | Marietta Larry Huff WA4CQZ 955-3171 |
| 4th Sunday 2:30 PM | Atlanta John King AB4GK 381-5291 |
| 4th Friday 7:00 PM | Lilburn Howie Gould W4NVF 921-8362 |

Needed:

Squelch Tales advertisers. If you know of someone who would like to advertise in this newsletter, please contact Jeff at 740-7939.

(Continued from page 1)

500 MB, and the the system wouldn't be able to set it up with the proper number of cylinders. Next, to really get the most from drives over 500 MB, I would need an Enhanced IDE controller.

I had started to suspect during my backups and "chkdsk" runnings that not all of the 680 MB I thought I had was really there. So, I did a little extra checking. Yep, add up the used space and the available space from chkdsk, and the total was only 501 MB. That meant that about 179 MB, I thought I had, wasn't really there. Or was there, but useless to me and my needs.

So, what to do. First, I went out and purchased a 420 MB drive. I installed it as the slave drive removing the 200 MB drive and replacing it with the 340 MB drive, and the 420 auto-configured very nicely. Next, I installed DOS 6.22 and partitioned the 420 MB drive into two 210 MB partitions. Next, to see if compression would work, I ran the new DRVSPACE routine in 6.22 to compress the logical drives D and E. I left the 340 MB drive as a single partition, and set it up as boot drive C, uncompressed.

After all was said and done, I ran chkdsk on all three drives. According to the routine, I now have about 1.2 GB of addressable space as a total for all three drives.

There are several lessons to be learned here. First, before you buy a hard drive, make double sure ALL of your equipment can handle it. If you must compress your drives to get more use out of them, be sure that you are using the right version of system bios, as well as having the correct disk controller card installed in your system.

With a little planning and care, you can truly get the most from your equipment upgrades.

Election Night Procedures - 11/9/94

Annual elections for club officers will take place at the Cherokee Cattle Company on Wednesday, November 9, 1994, at the regular business meeting beginning at approximately 7:30 PM.

When you come in to have dinner, or participate in the meeting, please see Michelle, WA4WSP, (my wife) or Judie, KE4EPS, the club secretary to check in and be confirmed as a current member of the club. According to our by-laws, only current members of the club may participate in the election process or help conduct club business.

I will have a listing of all current members, and we will check off your name, and give you a strip of paper to use during the election.

I know, it sounds like a lot of unnecessary work doesn't it? After all, past elections were a lot simpler than this. But, we are incorporated now, and we are presenting ourselves to the IRS as a bona fide, non-profit institution that will be run like a corporation. Right?

Anyway, the election of officers, and the following discussion of club business and concerns is a very important part of the club's regular business activities. It should be conducted in a professional manner, worthy of the type of club that we are.

After all, our elections will take place just after the public general elections. You should be used to going up to the clerk, having you name found and checked off, and getting a piece of paper to do your voting with.

See you then.

Call for Candidates

As per the by-laws of the North Fulton Amateur Radio League, Inc., the annual election of club officers will occur at the November club meeting to be held on 11/9/94. At that time, the offices of President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary will be filled by a vote of the membership present from a slate of available candidates.

If you are interested in running for any of these four offices, please contact me, Jeff Weinberg, or any current officer, and let us know you would like to be considered by the membership for a specific office.

You can reach the officers of the club either on one of the club repeaters or at the club's post office box. Frequencies, telephone numbers, and the club's address, can be found in the newsletter masthead on page 2.

You can reach me at 740-7939. If I am not available, please leave a voice mail message for me and I will note your call.

(Continued from page 1)

need to contact the person in-charge, if you can find him or her, and then work with that person to get the problem fixed.

Last year was a great example of the complexity of finding and fixing a problem. Without going into details, it wasn't a pretty site to see Fred going up and down the mountain trying everything he could think of to isolate the trouble point in a paging transmitter.

And yep, I agree with you, it would be nice to be able to report the problem to an authority (i.e. FCC) to get the problem found and fixed. Unfortunately, that's not the way life works. Thankfully, the organization that owned the equipment

causing us problems was easy to work with, and fixed the problem quickly.

Work continues on getting the club IRS Non-Profit, tax exempt status. (I haven't forgotten about it.) I asked a "kind soul", who volunteered to do the work for us, to see if we can have the process completed by the end of this year. That's our goal, so keep your fingers crossed. Just remember, that the paperwork is thick and complex, and the IRS will kick back the application and forms if everything isn't exactly to their liking.

A reminder that the October meeting is NOT at the Cherokee Cattle Company, but rather over at Vern Fowler's house. Directions are included in this newsletter. And, don't forget, to help defray the cost of this family picnic by please bringing \$2 per person. Children under 5 are free. We will have people monitoring the 145.470 and 147.060 repeaters and 147.555 simplex to help get you there. It should be fun, and I emphasize the word "family". Please bring drinks and a dessert or side dish of your choice to help round-out the meal.

If you had dinner at the Cherokee Cattle Company prior to a club meeting in the past four months, you may have noticed that while the quality of the food has remained good, the quality of the service has gone down markedly. Several people have asked me about whether there was somewhere else we could meet each month. My thoughts on that are, if someone would like to find us a good meeting place in Roswell that can replace the Cattle Company, please consider yourself empowered to do some investigation. And, come back to the club to see what the members think of your selection. But, please remember that we need a facility that has good food for dinner, and a room away from the general public. The room should be "free of charge" like it is now, and have capabilities similar in equipment to the room we are currently meeting in. If you can find a

place meeting these specifications, please let me know.

As was mentioned at the August club meeting, The N.F.A.R.L. is scheduled to coordinate security at the upcoming Ham Radio '95 hamfest. This is a NEW hamfest that is being coordinated by Vern Fowler, W8BLA. It will be held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, April 7, 8, & 9 at the North Atlanta Trade Center off I-85 in Gwinnett County. I attended the first organizational meeting for the hamfest on August 9, and N.F.A.R.L. should get good support from the hamfest committee and the Gwinnett police.

According to Vern, Ham Radio '95 is NOT replacing any existing hamfest and is deliberately scheduled for early April. I know, Dayton is only three weeks later. *(See my Dayton update later in this newsletter. -ed)* But, there is a method to this madness. Wouldn't it make sense for the major distributors to stop in Atlanta on their way from Orlando to Dayton to show their wares? Anyway, there is another meeting in October, and I'll keep you informed of what's going on.

Finally, arrangements have been made to hold the annual Christmas Party for the N.F.A.R.L. at the Chimney Springs Club House in East Cobb county. We've had the party there two years in a row, and it was worked out well. It's a nice "homey" setting with plenty of parking and room for everyone who shows up to celebrate with us. We'll even have a fire in the fireplace for you again this year.

Like last year, we will have people monitoring 145.47, 147.06 and 147.555 to help get you there. There are directions to the club house in this newsletter.

Well, that's it. I hope you have a great and safe holiday season. The next newsletter will be out in January.

Jeff, AA4RC

Membership Roster

(As of September 30)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|----------|------------|--------|-----|----------|-------------|
| | 024 | Duane | Reece | KD4FYJ | 303 | Bill | Pickens |
| | 137 | John | Mills | KD4HDE | 292 | Chris | Craig |
| | 700 | Joy | Watts | KD4HFR | 320 | Mario | Ruhnke |
| AA4RC | 004 | Jeff | Weinberg | KD4HLM | 312 | Douglas | Allen |
| AA4ZC | 072 | Larry | Boden Jr. | KD4HYX | 304 | Donna | Pickens |
| AA5NQ | 121 | Jack | Brabham | KD4IKZ | 327 | David | Jacoby |
| AD4FB | 341 | Daniel | Ortiz | KD4ILA | 326 | David | Mayer |
| AD4GJ | 063 | Pat | Patterson | KD4KEY | 333 | Martha | Clark |
| AG6R | 336 | Bryan | Carl | KD4LJG | 165 | Chris | Cammons |
| K3GA | 062 | Stu | Kravitz | KD4LJI | 169 | Richard | Cammons |
| K3PPY | 059 | David | McBride | KD4LXQ | 335 | Chuck | Daley |
| K4AHJ | 097 | Tom | Knight | KD4MZQ | 313 | Ron | Greer |
| K4GLZ | 260 | Everett | Thomas Jr. | KD4NC | 001 | Doug | Drye |
| K4JHM | 071 | Hal | Myers | KD4PEN | 021 | Joel | Garrett |
| K4JMX | 020 | Alan | Dages | KD4RFK | 060 | Rick | Patchin |
| K4UAF | 252 | Don | Rogers | KD4RTY | 300 | Caroline | Keown |
| K6EID | 092 | Phil | Finkle | KD4RUA | 148 | Phillip | Butler |
| KA4GGI | 030 | Joseph | Pastuch | KD4RUC | 352 | Chuck | Tinsley Jr. |
| KB4KBS | 131 | Scott | Straw | KD4SGK | 351 | Alan | Manning |
| KB4KHQ | 317 | Lane | Watts | KD4SGR | 079 | Bill | Reynolds |
| KB4LWS | 124 | Diane | Andrus | KD4SHE | 037 | Marshall | Magee |
| KB4LWT | 125 | Larry | Andrus | KD4TFG | 053 | Jeff | Medin |
| KB4NUC | 064 | John | Hess | KD4TWN | 237 | Ann | Seay |
| KC4AZR | 256 | Kathleen | Foulkes | KD4UMM | 065 | Jim | Moore |
| KC4KHA | 255 | Russell | Akridge | KD4WLC | 033 | Jim | Booth |
| KC4RIB | 089 | Al | Fischer | KD4YDD | 069 | Scott | Brown |
| KC4ROW | 220 | Kenny | Snyder | KD4YRA | 038 | Luis | Velazquez |
| KC4VZQ | 357 | Brian | Dugger | KD4ZDX | 123 | Erwin | Valdez |
| KC4WHZ | 275 | George | Scott | KD4ZNP | 076 | Bill | Agee |
| KC4WZE | 126 | Randall | Routh | KE4AQP | 114 | John | Strika |
| KC4YBO | 231 | Steve | Knittel | KE4ATI | 163 | Ray | Cammons |
| KC4YBT | 042 | David | Walls | KE4BPM | 118 | Bill | Collins |
| KC4YRW | 268 | Bill | Slatton | KE4BSB | 189 | Ted | Cromey |
| KC4ZLU | 209 | Paul | Grether | KE4CQG | 087 | Jonathan | Lorber |
| KC4ZTP | 122 | Mike | Brooks | KE4CWG | 088 | Ken | Bishop |
| KC4ZTY | 262 | Steven | Sheppard | KE4DCJ | 102 | Nancy | Smith |
| KD4APF | 281 | Brint | McClellan | KE4EGD | 101 | Terry | Smith |
| KD4APK | 010 | David | Fellows | KE4ENH | 099 | Adam | Lee |
| KD4APR | 129 | Kathleen | Coleman | KE4EPS | 054 | Judie | Medin |
| KD4APT | 283 | Shiona | Cavallere | KE4EPU | 050 | Gregory | Wieland |
| KD4ATP | 301 | John | Keown | KE4FOS | 048 | Edward | Hotchkiss |
| KD4DLV | 325 | Brian | Greer | KE4FOV | 068 | Bert | Bruner |
| KD4EQE | 302 | Phillip | Zeigler | KE4GBB | 093 | Steve | Mays |
| KD4FTZ | 800 | Ina | Earhart | KE4GBE | 191 | Michael | Hall |
| | | | | KE4GFN | 267 | Dan | Reid |
| | | | | KE4GHA | 138 | Gary | Leazer |
| | | | | KE4GXG | 108 | Steve | Potter |

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

| | | | | | | | |
|--------|-----|----------|-------------|--------|-----|----------|--------------|
| KE4HIL | 132 | Rick | Clark | N4UAY | 203 | Hamp | Smith |
| KE4HMN | 104 | Oliver | Staley | N4UCK | 391 | Jim | Altman |
| KE4HNN | 106 | Sue | Gulkes | N4UJO | 202 | Larry | Richardson |
| KE4HNP | 105 | Mike | Langley | N4UUO | 207 | Walter | Wilson |
| KE4IGA | 113 | Sam | Freeman Jr. | N4VTH | 205 | Patty | Smith |
| KE4IHB | 239 | Kaushik | Mehta | N4VYP | 285 | Dorothy | McKinney |
| KE4IHC | 115 | John | Dowdney | N4WTA | 213 | Nancy | Vogt |
| KE4IKA | 103 | David | Hunt | N4YIE | 280 | David | Gibson |
| KE4ILT | 111 | Anthony | Flowers | N4ZCX | 261 | George | Price |
| KE4JKN | 112 | Susan | Mays | N4ZUQ | 282 | David | Cavaliere |
| KE4JKR | 116 | Creed | Crutchfield | NC4E | 073 | Jack | Sanders |
| KE4JTX | 119 | John | Vlad Jr. | ND4D | 090 | Chuck | McGinnis Jr. |
| KE4KAT | 136 | Keith | Mauldin | NK4U | 120 | Nancy | Draheim |
| KE4MCW | 127 | Rose | Daley | W2HIK | 247 | Fred | Holcomb III |
| KE4MJX | 117 | Bill | Kimes | W4DQT | 181 | Bill | Plage |
| KE4NPE | 135 | Jerry | McKibben | W4EJF | 018 | Forrest | Shelton |
| KE4NPG | 133 | Ashton | Tomlinson | W4IRZ | 253 | Bill | Reynolds |
| KE4QFE | 023 | Mike | Zachritz | W4LDD | 274 | Howard | Holley Jr. |
| KE4QLD | 134 | Ruth | Clemens | W4NAR | 334 | George | Ryan |
| KF4ZZ | 170 | Judd | Converse | W4QO | 019 | Jim | Stafford |
| KG8EN | 096 | Dave | Vanderwall | W4SHP | 035 | Jack | Van Hutten |
| KI4XO | 008 | John | Smith | W4UXJ | 049 | Marv | Moss |
| KJ4YM | 128 | Mark | Coleman | W4WKP | 321 | Johnny | Fearon |
| KM4FV | 266 | Delaine | McCarthy | W4YBV | 152 | Terry | Joyner |
| KM4KB | 056 | Charles | Earhart | W8BLA | 400 | Vern | Fowler |
| KM4MG | 022 | Marty | Stern | W8SOA | 055 | Jack | Conrad |
| KM4OB | 212 | John | Vogt III | WA2OTJ | 332 | Frank | Grantham |
| KO4CA | 270 | Mac | Brown | WA4BNN | 061 | Mike | Henry |
| KQ4BG | 337 | Richard | Seay | WA4BRO | 005 | Dan | Turner |
| KQ4WZ | 342 | Donald | Reed | WA4BVI | 230 | Marvin | Ramos |
| KR4OX | 322 | Bob | Underwood | WA4FNJ | 006 | Mike | Connell |
| N1ABM | 025 | James | Alderdice | WA4POU | 347 | Gilbert | Butler |
| N3FDT | 330 | Michelle | Bonelli | WA4WSP | 276 | Michelle | Weinberg |
| N3FDU | 329 | Mike | Bonelli | WA4YNZ | 305 | Bill | Hampton |
| N4CLA | 003 | Fred | Moore III | WB2HMG | 082 | Frank | Lombardi |
| N4GFF | 085 | Carl | McKinney | WB3JAU | 100 | Larry | Mottley |
| N4HRA | 011 | Lew | Cason | WB4GTL | 081 | Duane | Farmer |
| N4JJH | 070 | Tony | Boden Sr. | WB4PYL | 028 | Dan | Gustafson |
| N4LPU | 074 | Cliff | Walker | WB4RTP | 192 | Avery | Davis |
| N4OSQ | 264 | Diana | Hess | WB4RUJ | 245 | Hal | Orego |
| N4PUB | 077 | Dan | Wingate Sr. | WB4ZBV | 045 | Kim | Clough |
| N4PZA | 185 | Patton | McKinney | WB4ZTA | 145 | Ginny | Clough |
| N4QVP | 251 | Bob | Stam | WD4BWP | 034 | Randal | DePriest |
| N4QXH | 016 | Alan | Stern | WD4FSU | 040 | Owen | Adair |
| N4SE | 265 | Mac | McCarthy | WD4NIT | 029 | Warren | Coleman |
| N4SHO | 044 | Chuck | Rann | WW5R | 039 | Cam | Clayson |

Remember When?

Remember when you were new to the 2 meter or 440 airwaves? The day you finally got your license, and with mike in hand you nervously keyed the transmitter, gave your call, and prayed that someone would answer your call and not make you feel like a total jackass?

Well, admit it or not, we have all felt that way, at least once. And, as we hear new hams get on the air in the future, we need to remember just how it felt that first time on the air for us, and realize that they feel the same way too.

It doesn't take long to get our "air legs" and feel like old pros. But what helped us get to that point was the understanding we got from other, more experienced hams, who made us feel welcome, answered our questions, guided us by telling us what we were doing wrong, and encouraging us by letting us know when we were getting better.

This is the spirit of Amateur Radio. In a sense, we are all new hams each time we turn on the radio and key the mike. We can make foolish mistakes whether we have been on the air for 20 minutes, or 20 years.

I have been on the air now for 18 years, and still feel a little bit of wonderment that I can sit at home or in the car and talk to someone anywhere in North Georgia, and make new friends along the way.

The N.F.A.R.L. is known for the friendliness of its members, and the quality of operators on its repeaters. When we hear a new ham, or young operator, eagerly trying to break into the ranks, let's all remember that with proper guidance, help, and understanding, this new ham can easily become a valuable part of our club and our on-air, repeater group.

Christmas Party Directions - 12/14/94

Here are the directions to this year's Christmas Party. Once again, it's at the Chimney Springs Subdivision clubhouse in East Cobb county, where it has been held for the past 2 years. The address is 2465 Hearthstone Circle NE, Marietta, and the telephone number is 992-5055.

Using the intersection of Alpharetta Highway and Holcomb Bridge Road in Roswell as a starting point, here are the directions to get to the party:

Go South on Alpharetta Highway (away from the Cherokee Cattle Company) for approximately 1.4 miles. You will go through 2 traffic lights until you get to a third light. You will see a Texaco station straight ahead of you. At the third light, make a left on Atlanta Street. Go about 0.7 miles South (through 2 more lights) until you get to the light on the South side of the Square in Roswell. At this light, turn right (GA 120 to Marietta). Go West on GA 120 for 4.4 miles (through 3 lights) until you get to the fourth light at Johnsons Ferry Road. Turn right (North) on Johnsons Ferry and go 2.5 miles (through 4 lights) until you get to a fifth light at Post Oak Tritt Road. Turn right on Post Oak Tritt and go to the flashing yellow light. Tritt School will be on your left. Turn right onto Country Lane and go one block (dead end). Turn left on Chimney Springs Drive. Go to the **SECOND** stop sign (the second street named Hearthstone Circle) and make a right. The clubhouse will be the first driveway on your left. The address is on the mailbox stand. There is room for about 40 cars at the clubhouse, and an additional 50 cars on the other side of the tennis courts which are next to the club house. There is a walkway from the far parking lot, through the tennis courts to the clubhouse.

We will have people monitoring 145.47, 147.06, and 147.555. This party is for the entire family, and gives us an opportunity to share the joy of the season with our loved ones.

You will be contacted prior to the party to see if you will be attending, and how many people you plan on bringing. Also, as in past years, we will break up the membership into groups, and ask each group to bring a vegetable, other side dish, or a dessert. The club will provide the main fixings, plates, silverware, cups and drinks. See you there!

October Meeting Directions

As you know by now, the October meeting isn't just a meeting, it's a family picnic. That's right, Vern Fowler has offered us the use of his place to hold our October meeting as a Fall cookout (rain or shine).

Now, here are the directions to Vern's place. Vern lives at 11315 Stroup Road in north Fulton County. Stroup Road is near Woodstock Road (GA 92) which runs between Roswell and Woodstock. To come from Roswell, go to the intersection of Alpharetta Highway and Holcomb Bridge Road and go West away from GA 400. This is Crossville Road. It will become a 6-lane highway and a little later Woodstock Road. Go to the traffic light of Woodstock Road and Bowen Road. Mountain Park Road runs North, Bowen Road runs South. Turn left onto Bowen Road (turn right if you are coming from Woodstock) and go 3/10 mile to Stroup Road (on your right). Turn right on to Stroup Road, go to the first stone mailbox stand on the right and this will be 11315. Turn into the driveway and find a parking spot near Vern's house. **Don't block the driveway!**

That's all there is to it. We will have people monitoring the 145.47 and 147.06 repeaters if you need help.

Quarterly Treasurer's Report

Club Renewals Due

N.F.A.R.L. Balance Sheet As of September 17, 1994

Assets:

Current Assets

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Checking/Savings | |
| NFARL Checking | 1,546.68 |
| Petty Cash | 66.35 |
| Total Checking/Savings | 1,613.03 |

Accounts Receivable

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Receivables | 610.00 |
| Total Accounts Receivable | 610.00 |

Other Current Assets

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Savings Account | 4,516.38 |
| Total Other Current Assets | 4,516.38 |
| Total Current Assets | 6,739.41 |

Total Assets **\$6,739.41**

Liabilities & Equity:

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Other Current Liabilities | |
| Sales Tax | -0.75 |
| Total Other Current Liabilities | -0.75 |
| Total Current Liabilities | -0.75 |
| Total Liabilities | -0.75 |

Equity

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Open Balance Equity | 3,239.50 |
| Retained Earnings | 2,399.24 |
| Net Income | 1,101.42 |
| Total Equity | 6,740.16 |

Total Liabilities & Equity **\$6,739.41**

For most of us, it is quickly approaching that time of year again. You know, the time of year when we all get into a festive mood, go to parties, fight the crowds at the malls, look forward to long holiday weekends, football games on TV, big dinners, gifts, and, for some of us, getting our club renewal notice.

Anyway, for those of you whose renewal period expires on December 31 (you can check by looking at the expiration date printed on your mailing label on this newsletter), Fred will be sending out renewal statements around the first of December.

Because the club goes through this time and expense to remind you that "your dues are due", we have tightened up the period between the renewal date and when accounts are deactivated on both repeaters. Effective with the June, 1994, renewals, all accounts not current as of the Saturday following the due date for renewals are deactivated. If an account is not renewed within one month of the due date, the account number will be made available for reassignment to new club members.

So watch your mailbox!

All member addresses and telephone numbers are strictly confidential and can not be given out to any member. However, names, addresses, telephone numbers, and call signs can be used by coordinators of authorized club activities such as the annual auction, Field Day, and the Christmas Party. All other uses of this information without prior consent of the board of directors is strictly prohibited.

Quarterly Secretary's Report

July 13, 1994

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC. He announced tonight's program to be presented by Walt Zaleski from the National Weather Service. He is a specialist in severe storms, and will speak on that topic tonight.

Jeff asked if everyone had received a copy of *Squelch Tales*. Please see him after the meeting if you did not receive a copy.

Jeff announced that the Secretary and Treasurer's reports would be published in the next *Squelch Tales* in October. Jeff also asked for articles from the general membership.

Technical Committee Report: Fred Moore, N4CLA, reported he had been up on Sweet Mountain to place a new antenna into service. He stated that the receiver and transmitter each now have their own antenna.

Fred asked for comments on the new dues mailing procedure. Most members liked it. Jeff reminded everyone that the mailing label on the newsletter shows your membership expiration date. If your dues are not paid by the expiration date, then your account on both repeaters will be deactivated, and after 30 days, your number will be released for reuse.

Old Business:

None.

New Business:

1. Cathi Moore talked about the

Roswell Habitat for Humanity event in August. It will be an art auction at Naylor Hall. She asked for Volunteers to help with security from 8/18 - 8/20/94. A sign-up sheet was circulated to the membership.

2. Jim Stafford brought up the idea of purchasing amateur radio books from the ARRL and donating them to the Roswell Library. Their present collection is old, and the library would like books newer than 1989. The idea was tabled until the August meeting, and Jeff asked Jim to investigate the exact cost of buying the books, and to bring this information back for further discussion. George Miller mentioned that the NFARL had donated books to the library in the past.

3. Jeff mentioned the "Celestial Event" happening this Friday, 7/15/94, at 11:30 PM. A comet would be hitting the planet Jupiter. The Fernbank Science Museum would be having lectures on the event from 7/19 - 7/23/94. He mentioned that the radio effects would get to Earth about 3 hours after the event, and that the Matparc repeater members would be happy to answer questions or give more information about the event. The Matparc repeater frequency is 145.41.

4. Jeff announced that the October 12, 1994, meeting would be held at Vern Fowler's home. There will be a picnic dinner, and Vern

might present a program on operating procedures. The 8/10/94 program will be on SciTrek. It will be presented by Jim Stafford.

5. Jeff announced he has some 1993 CQ and QST magazines if anyone would like copies. Otherwise, he will donate them to SciTrek.

6. Chuck Daley, KD4LXQ, announced the family breakfast on Sunday, 7/17, at the Southern Skillet restaurant at 9:00 AM, and the Hamwatch training session afterward. He also mentioned that the Georgia State Games were still in need of volunteers. Please see him if interested.

Steve Mays, KE4GBB, thanked everyone for their participation in Field Day '94. It was a big success. He has some leftover items from the event, too. Please see him after the meeting. Preliminary results are:

- 650 CW contacts,
- 750 Phone contacts,
- 3 ATV contacts, and
- we had packet, 10M, and 6M contacts too.

(See the article with final contest results in this issue. -ed.)

New Members: 2
 New Licensees: 2
 Visitors: 1
 Upgrades: 1

The meeting was closed at 8:00 PM. Respectfully submitted by Judie

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)
Medin, KE4EPS, Secretary.

August 10, 1994

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC. He announced the program tonight is on the SciTrek station called "STARS". It will be presented by Jim Stafford, W4QO.

Jeff reminded everyone that articles were needed for the October newsletter. He introduced the NFARL board members, and asked for questions for the Secretary or the Treasurer. No questions were asked.

Old business:

1. Jim Stafford, W4QO, began the discussion on donating ARRL books to the Roswell Library. He stated that 23 books cost \$120, and would include an ARRL Handbook, Operating Manuals, and Antenna Books. He said anyone can order books, and that the club should buy the books and donate them. He suggested the books be split between the Roswell (Fulton County) and the Sandy Plains (Cobb County) libraries. A motion was made for the club to buy a set of ARRL books, spend the \$120, and distribute them as the club saw fit.

A lively discussion followed on where to place the books, and to even offer a challenge to other clubs to purchase and donate books, too. The club motion was amended to state the following: "The club will spend \$120 to purchase the ARRL book set, and will donate the books to the Roswell Library in Fulton County." The vote was called, and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Jeff brought up the October meeting. He proposed that the meeting be a

picnic, be held at Vern Fowler's home, and that it cost \$2/person. The picnic would include hamburgers and hotdogs, and the desserts would be brought in by club members. He asked for a motion to officially have the meeting at Vern's. The motion was made, and passed unanimously.

3. Steve Mays gave the final club tally for Field Day '94:

- 6344 total points as a category 6A station
- 712 CW contacts
- 1148 Phone contacts
- 3 ATV contacts
- No satellite contacts

Steve thanked everyone, especially Alan Stern and Steve Knittle for all of their assistance. Steve hoped next year we would have one logging program, and asked for any comments or suggestions for next year be directed to him.

4. Steve Knittel, KC4YBO, announced the MS 150 Bike Ride was coming up. Volunteers are needed. It will go from Gwinnett County through Conyers, Covington, etc. to Rock Eagle (at the Scout Camp). The dates for the event are 10/1 - 10/2/94.

New Business:

1. There will be a new local Hamfest in 1995 called Ham Radio '95. The Ham Radio Foundation is sponsoring the event, and Vern Fowler, W8BLA, is the President. Money will be donated to Scottish Rite Hospital. The NFARL will be handling the security, and it will be held at the North Atlanta Trade Center in Gwinnett County. The dates of the hamfest are 4/7 - 4/9/95.
2. Jeff mentioned that the Monday Night Net is being run by Steve Mays, KE4GGB, temporarily and Steve needs help. Please volunteer,

or there may not be a Net.

3. It was decided to hold the annual Christmas Party at the Chimney Springs Clubhouse once again this year. The club will put down the \$100 security deposit to reserve the clubhouse.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| New Licensees: | 1 |
| License Upgrades: | 2 |
| Visitors: | 5 |

Remember to pay your dues. The membership year goes from July to June.

Al Meyers stated that he had a 55 foot, crank-up, antenna tower for sale. Price: \$400.

Remember that the September and November meetings will be held at the Cherokee Cattle Company.

The meeting was closed at 8:15 PM. Respectfully submitted by Judie Medin, KE4EPS, Secretary.

September 14, 1994

Steve Mays, KE4GGB, opened the meeting at 7:37 PM. He invited all guests at the meeting to please sign-in in the guest book.

Steve noted that the program for the evening was on QSL Bureaus, and was being presented by Nancy Draheim, NK4U.

Steve asked everyone to listen for Elaine, KE4MLU, who was having surgery on Friday.

The October newsletter will be sent out the first week in October, and arrive at people's homes well before the October meeting being held at Vern Fowler's house. The newsletter will include directions to Vern's house as well as

(Continued on page 11)

