

❖ 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



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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

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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

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North Fulton Amateur Radio League, Inc.

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Secretary - Judie Medin, KE4EPS
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CLUB REPEATERS
145.470 Mhz out (-0.6 Mhz)
147.060 Mhz out (+0.6 Mhz)

INTERNET: jlwainb@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

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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, Cookeville, TN
November 12*
- 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:

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

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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.

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

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KE4HIL	132	Rick	Clark	N4UAY	203	Hamp	Smith
KE4HMN	104	Oliver	Staley	N4UCK	391	Jim	Altman
KE4HNN	106	Sue	Gutkes	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

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(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, KE4GBB, 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, KE4GBB, 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)

(Continued from page 10)

directions to the Christmas Party in December. Also, a club application form will be included in the next edition of the newsletter.

The October meeting will be a family picnic and will cost \$2 per person with children under 5 free. Both two-meter repeaters will be monitored to help people with directions.

There is now a telephone number people can call to get club information. The number is 552-9495 and is available 24 hours per day.

There will be a short business meeting at the October picnic, and the topic of the meeting will be the annual, officer elections held during the November meeting.

Steve asked for comments from Fred Moore, N4CLA, treasurer of the club. Fred noted that there was \$1,546.48 currently in the club's checking account. He also noted that the club had \$610 in receivables, and \$4516.38 in the savings account. (A full summary of the club's financial status can be found in this newsletter. -ed)

On the technical side, Fred noted that the intermod problem on the Sweet Mountain repeater had been particularly bad this past weekend. He noted that the club had purchased two more cavities to hopefully help solve the intermod problem. Immediately following this discussion, Fred answered some questions about remote receivers.

Fred noted that he would try to work on the 440 repeater this weekend.

Steve noted that he has photos of Field Day and invited members to direct comments and suggestions about Field Day '95 to him.

Steve also reminded everyone about the club net every Monday night at 8 PM held on the 145.470 repeater. The net includes a swap shop and announcements.

Steve Knittle, KC4YBO, gave information about the MS150 event coming up in early October.

There were 3 new hams at the meeting. It was noted that Steve Mays had upgraded to Advanced Class during a recent September testing session.

Bert, KE4FOV, invited club members to participate in the Habitat for Humanity's Ride for Pride event at Chateau Elan coming up this weekend.

Al, KC4RIB, invited members of the club to participate in the operation of the SciTrek Amateur Radio Station called "STARS". There was a brief discussion about operating modes, station activities, etc.

The business meeting concluded at 8:00 PM. Respectfully submitted by Rose Daley, KE4MCW, filling in as club secretary for Judie Medin, KE4EPS.

Writers Wanted

Ever want to put pen-to-paper? No? Not even a little bit? Be honest.....

Well, if you have ever had the urge, even a little one, here is your chance. *Squelch Tales* needs people to contribute articles and news. Sure, I can fill 16 pages with "this-and-that" once every 3 months, but after awhile, people will get tired of the "same old news". Every one is an expert at something. And, you would be surprised at how many people are indeed interested in what you have to contribute to the club.

So, don't be bashful. If you have something to report or say, send it to *Squelch Tales* Editor, P.O. Box 1741, Roswell, GA. 30077.

Contester's Corner

If you have material you would like to submit to this column, please send it to the Contester's Corner, *Squelch Tales*, P.O. Box 1741, Roswell, GA 30077.

Upcoming Contests

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| October 8-9 | Hambrew Fall Festival |
| | Illinois QSO Party |
| | Pennsylvania QSO Party |
| | VK/ZL/Oceania DX Contest (CW) |
| October 10 | WIAW Qualifying Run |
| October 12-14 | YL Anniversary Party. CW |
| October 15-16 | Simulated Emergency Test sponsored by ARES |
| | QRP ARCI Fall CW QSO Party |
| | RSGB 21/28 MHz CW Contest |
| October 26-28 | YL Anniversary Party, Phone |
| | CQ World-Wide DX Contest, Phone |

Hints for SciTrek Volunteers

The SciTrek Amateur Radio Station (S*T*A*R*S)

Getting There. SciTrek is in the Atlanta Civic Center property on the East side of Piedmont Road between Ralph McGill and Pine Street. DO NOT park in front of SciTrek along Piedmont Avenue unless you pay to park there. This is not free parking. Instead, turn down Pine Street to the second driveway East of Piedmont. Turn right and park in the staff parking lot immediately behind the building. Walk around to the entrance. The Museum and radio station are both on the lower level.

Getting "Legal". Ask the attendant at the entrance to the Museum if the station is already open. If it is not open, ask to have Security meet you at the attendant's station in a few moments. Get directions to the EDUCATION OFFICE. There, look for a steel desk holding a ring binder with several divisions. Open it at the tab marked STARS and enter your name, date, and department ("Ham"). Put your Call Sign in the Comments space. The desk drawers contain dozens of SciTrek Volunteer badges. A marking pen and some blank badges are also available if you cannot find one to suit you. Feel free to wear your own Ham badge, *but be sure to also wear a volunteer badge, or you must have a paid ticket.* Return to meet the guard at the attendant's station, or if the station has already been opened by another volunteer, get directions to the station.

Opening the station. Security will unlock the entry door and the steel gate

over the counter. You are now on your own. Roll up the gate with the endless chain, and hook one chain loop over a peg. Antenna connections are behind the hinged panel in the middle of the station. The lines from the antennas and the lines to the radios are color coded with small bands near the connectors. Matching the bands will insure that each radio has the appropriate antenna connected to it. (Note: the feed line from the HF antenna has two colored bands as it must be shared by the HF station or the RTTY station.) Push up the circuit breakers near the entrance. This makes power available to all radios, ATV and associated computers, although individual units may be on or off. Set out the code keys on the counter. Attach the keyboard and the mouse to the Geoclock computer on the counter. Make sure that each work station has a pencil, a scratch pad of paper, and the appropriate log book. Locate a ring book containing simple suggestions for each rig and operating mode. Use the note book for operator's comments. Constructive criticism is welcome, but give your name, call, and phone number so we can get more details if necessary. Relax and have fun!!!

"Working" the station. Use the station call sign, W4NT, but use only those frequencies and modes covered by your own license class, unless a suitable Ham will act as control operator. Log all contacts, but put your own call sign in the comments space in the log book. Ask for a QSL card for the station worked, and, if possible, ask for a SASE to send out a STARS QSL card. Encourage the children you meet to use the code keys and show them how to work the Geoclock program. When you sense any real interest on the part of a child, tell them about courses, classes, tests, etc. Show them the book "NOW You're Talking". Explain the various radios in the station. Use your own judgment about bringing one or two children into the station itself. There is often a Ham on 145.470 or 145.410 willing to chat with a potential Ham for a few minutes. If you want more folks to visit the area, use the microphone at the ticket desk to make

an announcement on the P.A. system in the Museum. There is a script in the station for this announcement, or make your own script. NEVER LEAVE THE STATION UNATTENDED!

Closing Down. Call for Security to come to secure the station. While waiting, shut down the circuit breakers. This will not affect Geoclock or the lights which are on different circuits, and are left on. Disconnect the antennas. Remove the keyboard and the mouse from the Geoclock computer, but leave the program running. Pull the code keys back, clear of the overhead gate, and slowly lower the gate above the counter. When Security arrives, please make sure that they lock the gate with their key. Close the door as you leave. The station is now secure and ready for the next volunteer operators. Your help today is really appreciated. Return your volunteer badge, unless you are planning to return to operate the station again in the very near future. And, next time, try to bring a friend.

The SciTrek Telephone Number is 522-5500

Extensions

- 251 - STARS Radio Station
- 232 - Security
- 260 - Ticket Counter Attendant
- 224 - Deb Soruco**

** Deb is SciTrek's coordinator for the radio station. Try to meet Deb. She can be very, very helpful. And when you meet her, encourage her to continue her studies to get her Amateur Radio operator's license.

SciTrek address: 395 Piedmont Avenue,

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☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆☆ N.F.A.R.L. days to man the ☆
☆☆ STARS station: ☆
☆☆ ☆
☆☆ 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays ☆
☆☆ of each month. ☆
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Field Day Results - 1994

Field Day Call used: AA4RC
Field Day Location: Woodstock Street
Park & Soccer Complex, Roswell, GA
Number of Transmitters in simultaneous
operation: 6
ARRL/Canadian Section: GA
Entry Class: A - Club group portable
Power Source: Generator
Call Sign of Novice/Tech station:
KD4YDD

CW				Phone			
QSOs		Power Output		QSOs		Power Output	
160				160			
80	211	100		80	34	100	
40	376	100		40	253	100	
20				20	624		
15	110	3/100		15	39	100	
10				10	158	100	
6				6	30	25	
2				2	10	50	
Other	Pac.	12	50	Other			
Other	ATV	3	1	Other			

Total CW QSOs = $712 \times 2 = 1424$
Total Phone QSOs = $1148 \times 1 = 1148$
Total QSO Points = 2572
Total QSO points x Power Multiplier of
2 equals Claimed Score = 5144

Bonus Points = 1200

Total Score Submitted = 6344

The Stories of My Death...

Mark Twain once responded to a reporter that the stories about his death had been greatly exaggerated. Well, this is another case of this unfortunate practice.

At the August club meeting, I made the unfortunate announcement that the Dayton (Ohio) city council had voted to condemn the Hara Arena and demolish it in favor of a new development. It was promptly brought to my attention that 1) the Hara Arena is a privately owned facility, and 2) that there was no indication from the Dayton Hamvention folks that the annual hamfest was going to be anywhere but at the Arena, since a recent contract extension to use the facility had just been signed.

Well, I decided to see what was up. Was my usually reliable source for this information right or wrong? So I made some telephone calls to my wife's family in Dayton. As I've mentioned before, my father-in-law lives near the Arena, and my wife's uncle is in real estate in the area. I figured that between the two of them, I'd find out what was really going on.

Personally, I hoped that the information was wrong. Though I have been married for 20 years, I have never been able to make it to Dayton for a Hamvention. I have built-in room, board, and transportation. A ham's delight. It would be just my luck to finally get to go, and have the event change locations.

Well, my luck holds, and I learned a valuable lesson. The lesson is, don't believe everything you hear, at least not right away. The word is in. To the knowledge of the business community in Dayton, the Hara Arena is safe from the wreckers ball. At least for the foreseeable future. There are no publicly announced plans to destroy the Arena in favor of some other structure, i.e. condos, offices, or a shopping mall. For now the venue of the Hamvention will remain the same.

I have been told that stories of this type have circulated about the Hamvention for years. They started out as a practical joke, and have persisted ever since. Some practical joke, eh?

In any event, the Hara Arena is privately owned by Ralph Wompler who recently tried to get zoning permission to build a motel near the arena. His efforts were stopped at the state and local levels by the actions of neighbors in the area.

But, knowing something about the increasing value of commercial real estate in the North side of Dayton, only time will tell whether the site of the annual Hamvention can withstand the test of time.

Club Information Is Now On-Line

N.F.A.R.L. club information is now "on-line", and is as easy to get as picking up your telephone and dialing 552-9495.

Once the automated system answers, you will be presented with a short menu of items. Just press '5', and you will get a message that gives you a summary of basic N.F.A.R.L. information.

This is a great way for new people to find out more about the club and how to contact us both by mail or telephone.

One note, you will need a touchtone phone to make the system work.

Upcoming Programs

October 12 - Family Picnic. Come one, come all to a picnic at Vern Fowler's (W8BLA) house. Vern offered, and we're going to take him up on his offer. Vern lives at 11315 Stroup Road. See the "October Meeting Directions" article in this newsletter. "Hey Vern! Know what I mean?"

November 9 - Election of Officers and Annual Business Meeting

Program: Annual elections and an open forum where you can ask the officers club related questions, and help make policy and set the club's direction for the up-coming year.

December 14 - Annual Christmas party

Program: Christmas family banquet. See the Christmas column in this newsletter for directions to the party.

January 12 - Open for suggestions.

February 8 - Open for suggestions.

March 8 - Open for suggestions.

April 12 - Open for suggestions.

May 10 - Annual club auction.

Program: The fourth annual NFARL auction of radio and computer equipment.

Our Goal

Our goal is simply to be the best newsletter of its type in Atlanta. The NFARL newsletter should be something people look forward to getting 4 times a year.

In order to meet this challenge, this publication needs the support of its readers. If you have an article or letter of interest, please send them in to be published. The more contributors, the better the newsletter.

Also, if you have any comments or suggestions about this newsletter, please send them to the attention of the *Squelch Tales* Editor, P.O. Box 1741, Roswell, GA 30077.

Next newsletter:	Jan. 5
Articles Deadline:	Dec. 16
Announcements Deadline:	Dec. 16
Ads Deadline:	Dec. 21
News Deadline:	Dec. 16
Newsletter Cutoff:	Dec. 23

Squelch Tales

1994

North Fulton Amateur Radio League, Inc.
P.O. Box 1741
Roswell, GA 30077

Membership exp: 12/31/1994

Inside This Issue:

- ⇒ Repeater Command Summary
- ⇒ Hamfest Calendar
- ⇒ Field Day Results
- ⇒ Membership Application
- ⇒ Hints for Sci-Trek Volunteers
- ⇒ Atlanta VEC Schedule
- ⇒ Latest Cub Roster
- ⇒ Club Info Now On-Line

Atlanta and
N.F.A.R.L.
North Georgia