

eNEWS May 2008

www.nfarl.org



eNEWS is "what's happening" in **North Fulton!** Check the headlines of each item and mark your calendar. Always be on the lookout for a way **YOU** can help on these activities/events.

For news outside our area, read ARRL.org or [eHAM.net!](http://eHAM.net)

Here's your **North Fulton ARL eNEWS for May 2008.**



Summary of upcoming events and dates

- **Every Wednesday** - Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch - 11:45 AM - Slopes BBQ
- **Every Sunday** - **NFARES net** - 8:30PM - 147.06 Mhz (+.600) & PL 100
- **Every Monday** - **Tech Net** - 8:30 PM - 145.47 Mhz - See details on page 2.
- **Mid Month Madness** - Atlanta Hamfest - June 7 - Miller Park - Marietta.
- **Field Day** - June 28-29 - Waller Park Extension – <http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/>

Regular Club Meeting – May 20 @ 7:30 PM - First things first - don't forget to bring your **camp chair, please and if you can - bring 2!!** **May program - Verne Fowler, W8BLA - Contesting** Our speaker is a long time ham who is qualified to speak on contesting like few others. He is a regular from the Grand Cayman Island during contests and will give you tips on how to really enjoy making rapid fire contacts to test out your antennas, your equipment, and to pick up needed states, counties, and countries for awards.

By the way, if you are interested, you can join us for dinner at the Alpha Soda on Haynes Bridge Road in the shopping center, just south of Hwy 120 (Milton Parkway). We meet at 6PM and leave @ 7PM. It is about 5 minutes from the Fire Station.

ARES Meeting - May 20 @ 6:30PM

The program will be an introduction to the **Metro Medical Strike Team (MMST)** by Chuck Cannarella and Robert Crowe. Chuck is the MMST Coordinator for the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency and Robert is the Assistant Director of Nursing and the Emergency & Disaster Preparedness Officer for Emory-Adventist Hospital.

MMST is an emergency preparedness organization responsible for the 19 metro Atlanta counties. It is comprised of member organizations representing healthcare facilities, police, fire/rescue, Georgia Defense Force, Public Health, CDC, American Red Cross, and various other public service organizations. **All are welcome to attend whether ARES member or not.**

Both meetings gather at the EOC – Located behind the Alpharetta Fire Station #1 at 2970 Webb Bridge Road, Alpharetta, GA. Go to this map: <http://tinyurl.com/yhd25e>

Door prizes- Toys for Techies - If everyone **brings one** good, clean item/book to give away as door prizes, then everyone will win one... +Gift Certificate from HRO.

Mid-Month Madness – May 3 - Ham Cram - 19 people passed their Tech test after the Ham Cram and 3 more passed the next weekend at our regular test session. Listen for the KJ4DY_ callsigns. The 19 all received their calls from the DY block.

NFARL TECH NET meets Mondays at 8:30 PM - Join us on 145.47, to discuss technical topics lead by **WB4MAK**. As far as we know, no one else conducts a net quite like this one. It uses the repeater, Google, a chat room, and now **Echolink** to enhance the quality of this unique net. Go to the website and look under ACTIVITIES/NETS and you'll find the link to the CHAT room. Some great links are posted each week as participants search for answers on the web and listen to experienced members explain things on the repeater.

Repeater News - Echolink is here! The 145.47 repeater now has Echolink. This allows you to connect to the repeater when you are out of town VIA THE INTERNET! This is just one of the capabilities. It also allows the repeater to be connected to other repeaters for general chatting or during emergencies to link repeaters all over the world. It is complex so go to a web page devoted to Echolink on our website: <http://nfarl.org/echolinkOverview.html> for info.

NFARL Repeaters and PL-Please be aware that 145.47, 147.06, and 444.475 are ALL now requiring that "YOU" turn on "YOUR" PL encoder to 100Hz in "YOUR" radio to make the repeaters work. Without this tone being set and turned on, you may think the repeaters are NOT working. We have been advertising that we were going to start using PL. It has been in all the news letters for quite some time

Running PL on the repeaters is becoming a standard through out the USA. This is not just being done here in the Metro Atlanta area or just on the NFARL repeaters. NFARL has resisted using PL for at least 2 decades, because we didn't want to keep travelers passing through the area to be locked out of the repeaters or club members that didn't have this capability. However the time has basically come, where we now need to start running PL on all of our repeaters.

If you will turn your PL encoders on and keep them turned on in a memorized channel for these three repeaters, it will not be necessary for you to know whether the repeater is expecting PL or not. It will just always work.

If you need help in figuring out what and how to set your radio, you may call me or send me an email, and I will help you the best I can or find someone that can help you. Please read your manual that came with your radio first. Most every radio today has the capability to use **PL**(Motorola Private Line) / **CTCSS**(Continuous Tone-Coded Squelch System) / **CG**(General Electric Channel Guard).These are all the SAME thing.

Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch each Wednesday @11:45 till? -. In the last 3 lunches, we have had 16, 17, and 16 respectively. **Remember, when you go through the line, be sure to ask them to print a receipt and include it in the Radio Club stack. It helps the cause.**

Club Membership – Our goal is for 2008? **150!!** We are now into **MAY** and are currently at **139!** --There has always been some question regarding when **dues are due**. The way the club dues / renewals are currently set up is that they are due every 12 months from the date you joined NFARL. So if you joined May 22, your renewal would be due on the next May. This

basically does two things for the club. First it keeps a more constant cash flow for the club receivables, and second it makes it easier on you. If you find that you need to change your annual renewal date to fit your budget, just say so. It is just a click away on the computer. BIG NEWS- We have now made it even easier for you to continue your membership by simply clicking on this link <http://www.nfarl.org/shop/mart.html> and taking advantage of the new secure PayPal or personal credit card function on our newly revamped NFARL web site. No more check writing, no more stamps, no more envelopes, no more electronic bill pays. **Click, Click, Click and you are done**

ARRL Membership - Currently **69% of NFARL are members of the ARRL FLASH:** You can now use **PayPal** to join ARRL - using <http://www.nfarl.org/shop/mart.html> **The club benefits if you join ARRL via our club. So help us out when you join.**

Check our website & join our Yahoo reflector – Here’s how to keep in touch with your club. Visit our website - www.nfarl.org - which was recently upgraded by Bill, K4YJJ. You’ll find all kinds of valuable info there such as up to the minute news, how to become a ham or upgrade, **photos** of club events, a **ROSTER** of members, and a club **calendar**. While you’re there click on the **YAHOO GROUP** button and take a spin around. While you’re at the NFARL YAHOO GROUP, click on the **JOIN THIS GROUP** button and become part of the NFARL mailing list. You may also join by simply sending an email message with your **name** and **callsign** in the body to: nfarl-subscribe@yahogroups.com.

You can also go to <http://www.nfarl.org/eNewsIndex.html> and get **previous issues of the eNEWS**. From now on, the newsletter will be stored on the website without being attached to your typical email newsletter notification and will be just a hot link in the email.

VE Exams – 12 people passed elements at the May 10 session. 7 Techs, 3 Generals and 2 Extras! Check guidelines on the club website. <http://www.nfarl.org/licenseExamInfo.html> Begin your ham radio experience or upgrade now! **NEXT TEST SESSION Aug. 9, 2008 10AM at the EOC, our regular meeting location.** <http://tinyurl.com/yhd25e>. HEY, that is 31 NEW HAMS in less than 2 weeks!

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Club Repeaters

145.470 (-600Khz)	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn
147.060 (+600Khz)	100 Hz	Roswell WaterTower
443.150 (+5Mhz)	No Tones	Roswell WaterTower

		(MATPARC/NFARL)
444.475(+5Mhz)	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn



ARRL Club Affiliate



**NFARL
Club Supporter**



SERA Supporter