



eNEWS DEC. 2008

www.nfarl.org

eNEWS is "what's happening" in **North Fulton!** Check the headlines of each item and mark your calendar. Go to arrl.org or eHAM.net for the national news, but here's your **North Fulton ARL eNEWS** for December 2008.



Happy Holidays!



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 (PL 100)
- **Mid Month Madness** – January 10, 2009 - Techfest – GARS – Lawrenceville – 10 AM to 2 PM; and January 17, 2009 – HamCram – General Class – 8 AM – Masonic Lodge
- **January 17, 2009** – VE Test Session – 10 AM – EOC behind Fire Station #1, Alpharetta

Regular Club Meeting – January 20, 2009 - 7:30 PM - a crew of our own members will be presenting a great program called Everything Sound Card. This is every mode you can work using your sound card, a simple interface, and your rig. All modes, such as PSK31, Heilscriber, Olivia, RTTY, Slow Scan TC, and yes, even MORSE code will be shown with audio! Of course, most of these modes take place on HF in the General class bands, so upgrade at HamCram and get on these fun modes. Don't miss this one – it's digital, it's analog, it's computers and ham radio – the future of our hobby! See you at our "new" regular meeting location.

Doors open - 6:45 PM - FREE refreshments - meet friends - socialize - bring a show and tell item to talk about - Enjoy the space - Wear your NFARL shirts, name tags, etc. **Talk in -145.47 MHz.** Details/maps/photos on website. Plenty of seating and plenty of parking (including across the street at high school) so bring friends, relatives, neighbors... **We meet here: Masonic Lodge Hall, 194 Milton Ave, Alpharetta, GA.** Go to map: <http://tinyurl.com/5t7swd> . We are located across from the old Milton High school.

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. Support HRO?

Let's eat before the meeting - If you are interested, you can join us for dinner at the Alpha Soda, just south of Hwy 120 (Milton Parkway) on Haynes Bridge Road in the shopping center. We meet at 5:45 PM and leave at 7 PM. It is about 5 minutes to the meeting location.

Member news– **Jimmy (W4VRX)** fell a week ago and broke his hip. It's all been patched up and he is recuperating. He seems in good spirits and hopes to be back on the air soon. Remember, Jimmy is 92 years old and a former B-17 pilot in WWII, so this is a minor setback for him.

Another member, **Dave (KD9RU)**, was able to plan his station arrangements before he went in for a knee replacement. He was the recipient of a Hams Helping Hams award, but was unable to attend the dinner. Jim (W4QO) took it to his house to make the presentation. Dave was taken "aback" by the award and expressed his sincere appreciation. Well, Dave, it's the club who appreciates your contributions. He even checked into the Johns Creek Hospital simulated emergency net from his bed on the Monday before Christmas. Here is a very interesting side note for those of you who enjoy football. Dave was the team trainer for the famous 1958 University of Buffalo football team who declined a trip to the Tangerine Bowl because at the time, the teams 2 black players would not be allowed to play on the field. It's a famous story, but this year the team made it back to a bowl for the first time in 50 years. The game will be the International Bowl in Toronto, January 3rd at noon. Join Dave in watching the game and congratulate him on beating Connecticut afterwards! The 1958 story was featured on ESPN recently and can be found at: <http://sports.espn.go.com/espn/eticket/story?page=buffalo58>. In the photo, over on the right edge, you'll see 4 trainers. Dave is the one on the left just behind #85.

Country Ham Holiday Dinner – In case you missed it...

85 Club members and spouses attended the holiday dinner at the Southern Skillet in Roswell. Being a "down home" kind of place, everyone was given the chance to dress "country" or "western" or both! The winner as far as costume was Terry Joiner, W4YBV (below), and his wife, Cynthia. After lots of visiting & eating, (the feast put out by Southern Skillet was delicious), head snake charmer, Jim, W4QO, called the assemblage to order. After a few introductory remarks, he recognized the recipients of the Hams Helping Hams award. These went to club members who, during 2008, helped at Field Day, JOTA, antenna building parties, antenna raising parties, HamCram sessions, VE activities, mentoring of new hams, nets, hungry hams, mid-month madness, and the many other ways members find to contribute to making our club successful. Members that were recognized were:

AE4CW – Chuck	KJ4DYO - Michael
AK4IK – Ian	N4CUS - John
K4DLI – Jim	N4NX - William
KB7WO – Richard	N4SEC - Jim
KD4NKE – Shelia	W3WL - Wes
KD9RU – Dave	W4GKF - Charles
KE4HMN – Oliver	W4JNM - Joel
KI4SBK – Cathy	W8BLA - Verne
KI7A – Walter	WK4U - Tim
KJ4DYH – Lynn	KU4MT – David



Congratulate them the next time you see them. (Contact Jim, W4QO, to get your award if you were not at the dinner.)

Jim also announced the 2008 Ham of the Year – Bill Cobb, K4YJJ – our webmaster! Bill made the most significant contribution to the Club in 2008 with hundreds of hours building the best club website in the country (decision of the judges is final – W4QO and WB4MAK!) Thanks Bill for helping the club reach 208 members in 2008!!

Incoming President, Mack, WB4MAK, presented Jim with a beautiful crystal globe award from the Club, recognizing Jim's leadership over the past two years.

We hope you had the happiest of holidays and a very Happy and prosperous New Year– and we look forward to spending time with all of you in 2009.

Thanks to all who brought toys for the children that were going to spend their Christmas in the hospital. Your gifts were very much appreciated.

Pictures of the event can be seen at
http://www.nfarl.org/photoAlbum2008/christmasParty_2008/index.html

Elected Officers for 2009: Here is the slate of officers who were elected for next year.

President - Mack, WB4MAK
Secretary - Shelia, KD4NKE
Member (FD) - Ian, AK4IK
Member (EC) - Tom, W4UOC

VP - Walt, KJ4HE
Treas - Fred, N4CLA
Member (Tech support) - Mike, W5JR
Member (Past Pres) - Jim, W4QO

Help us shine in 2009 – The new club officers under the leadership of WB4MAK have many old and new activities in the planning stages for 2009. Build-a-thons, shack tours, hamfests, field day, and many more will require your help while you're having fun. We're considering special interest groups within the club, such as DX, CW, QRP, foxhunting, VHF contesting, antenna parties, young hams, satellites, and soldersmoke to name a new. Contact the Club Officers to tell them what you want to do.

Mid Month Madness – Techfest – January 10th ... NFARL will be supporting the GARS TechFest for the 3rd straight year. This year we are honored to operate their Special Event Station – W4T. We'll be setting up two stations – 40M and 20M using both ends of the equipment spectrum. First, we'll have an SDR 5000 software defined transceiver, the most modern of amateur radios. Second, we'll feature a KWM-2 Collins tube transceiver from the early 60s. This will be set up as a "beginner" station with the bare essentials. The SDR station will have full computer support, graphics, and software tools. Take your pick! The details and directions are located at this web page: <http://www.gars.org>, then click on TECHFEST. **BUT we need lots of help.** We'll need to erect 2 antennas in record time. Displays open at 10 AM and so does our station, maybe earlier. We need at least 6 people dedicated to doing the antennas. There will likely be a planning session in early January, so volunteer by contacting w4qo@nfarl.org to help.

MMMM – More Mid Month Madness!! *HamCram – General class edition on January 17 starting at 8 AM...* If you are a TECH class now or expect to be by then, enroll in this special HamCram... and we do mean CRAM! There is much material to cover and we're not sure it has ever been done in ONE DAY, but let's go for it – think positive! You must register by the end of this year because there is a set of notes that you need to go through THREE times before the event. The cost is \$22 which covers a pizza lunch and the test administration at 4 PM. Enroll online at nfarl.org and click on HAMCRAM.

VE sessions announced – Our VE coordinator, **VERne (W8BLA)**, has set the dates for 2009 testing. The first is January 17, the same day as HamCram. This is followed by March 14, May 16, July 18, Sept. 19, and November 14. All are held at the EOC behind Fire Station #1 on Webb Bridge Road, which was our old meeting location. Full details are on the club website; click on TEST SESSIONS.

Is your QSL card on the website? – **Bring your QSL card to the meeting**, and we will place them on the web site <http://www.nfarl.org/qslMembers.html>. As time goes on, we will be incorporating areas for narrative BIO's and what ever else that "YOU" want to insert with your card. We now have over 200 members and only 33 club member QSL's on the website. Please bring your QSL CARD and HELP get our club cards on the page!!

ARES Meeting - The **A**mateur **R**adio **E**mergency **S**ervice has begun meeting on a different night from the regular club meeting. Both activities now have much to cover, and trying to cram it all into one evening is just not easy. So in July 2008, ARES began meeting on the **second Tuesday** of each month at the **Sandy Springs City Council Chambers** at the Morgan Falls Office Park. All are welcome to attend whether you are an ARES member or not. **Details are on the website.**

The NFARES group participated in an emergency drill with Emory Johns Creek Hospital on 12/22/08 at 9:00 a.m. There were 20 check-ins using VHF and DStar. Traffic was handled outgoing to HCA headquarters and local messages for call in support. Thank you to all stations who made this emergency drill a priority in their day and supported NFARES by checking in.

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 www.nfarl.org/nets.html. There 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 - The club's newest repeater (a joint venture with the MATPARC club) is the 224.62 repeater. Set your rig for MINUS 1.6 MHZ and PL100. If you do not have PLL, dial **7411**.

SERA NEWS - What is **SERA**? **S**outh **E**astern **R**epeater **A**ssociation. Do you get the SERA Journal? Go to: www.sera.org for info. on how to join SERA and support the coordinating body that coordinates the repeaters in the South East.

Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch each Wednesday @11:45 till? We meet at Slopes BBQ on Crossville in Roswell. Talk in 145.47. All are welcome to attend, NFARL member or not. Remember, when you go through the line, be sure to ask them to print a receipt and credit the Radio Club. It helps the cause. We have been having a consistent 20+ in attendance.

Bring a book to donate to the club library - We especially need license manuals of all classes. Remember these "expire" and you don't need it now that you've passed. Bring them to the meeting every month and pass to our librarian - Cathy, KI4SBK.

Club Membership – Remember back in January 2008, when we stated that our goal for 2008 would be **150**? And then 188!! Well we now have **215**. Thank you to all of our supporters. Are we still havin' fun?

27 Family members.
176 Full members
6 Honorary members
6 life members

EASIER TO JOIN - We have made it even easier for you to continue your membership or join NFARL 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.

There has always been some question regarding **when dues are due**. The way the club dues/renewals are currently set up is they are due every 12 months from the date you joined NFARL. So if you joined in May, your renewal date 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.

ARRL Membership - Currently we have dropped to 66%. Our goal is to have as many NFARL members as possible be members of the ARRL. You can now use **PayPal** to join ARRL - using <http://www.nfarl.org/shop/mart.html>. **NFARL benefits if you will join or renew your ARRL membership via NFARL. So help us out when you join or renew.**

Check out our website & join our Yahoo reflector – Here's how to keep in touch with your club. Visit our website - www.nfarl.org - 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@yahoogroups.com.

NFARL WEBSITE #1 – Thanks go to Bill, K4YJJ for the continued outstanding job that he is doing on the web site. The next time you see Bill, say thank you. 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.

Name Badges



NFARL now has a very nice name badge that sports our LOGO, Your First name, your City and State and has a magnetic back so it does not poke holes in your shirts. There are 38 people that have now ordered these badges. The last few badges that have recently been ordered have been single orders. I would like to place a big order after the meeting so if you are interested you can order off the web before the meeting or at the meeting for \$9/ea. paid at order time.

Please welcome – our new members and our members that renewed. We wish to say thank you for choosing NFARL for your personal involvement in Amateur Radio.

Customer	CALL SIGN	Member Since	
Conroy, Mark	K4PGR	2008-11	New Member
Cook, Andrew	KC9NTZ	2008-12	New Member
Hawkins, Harold	KD8DVY	2008-12	New Member
Klinkman, David	W4DKZ	2008-11	New Member
Kuo, Jonathan	KJ4HMF	2008-11	New Member
Mantell, Bob	K4ESA	2008-11	New Member
Morton Jr, Bill	W4ASE	2008-11	New Member
Pease, Bill	KJ4IDR	2008-12	New Member
Prager Jr, Frank	W8CXU	2008-11	New Member
Roden, Kim	W5KAR	2008-11	New Member
Schklar, Norm	WA4ZXV	2008-12	New Member
Scholberg, Lisa	KJ4FZO	2008-12	New Member
Sheaffer, Michael	W4ANO	2008-11	New Member
Tanner, John	KJ4HCL	2008-11	New Member
Wright, Sam	KI4UVV	2008-11	New Member
Aubert, Charles	KC4NRX	2007-04	Renewal
Beeman, Bob	K4BB	1999-01	Renewal
Bourn, Jason	KJ4HBZ	2008-06	Renewal
Burris, Adam	N7VLN	2007-11	Renewal
Camilli, Joe	N7QPP	2007-11	Renewal
Conroy, Mark	K4PGR	2008-11	Renewal
Cook, Andrew	KC9NTZ	2008-12	Renewal
Corley, Len	W4COR	2008-01	Renewal
Frazier, Ron	WA4NRG	2007-11	Renewal
Hawkins, Harold	KD8DVY	2008-12	Renewal
Higdon, David	KD4ICT	2007-11	Renewal
Howe, Ron	KB4RQM	2006-02	Renewal
Kelley, Shane	KF4TJY	2008-09	Renewal
Klinkman, David	W4DKZ	2008-11	Renewal
Kuo, Jonathan	KJ4HMF	2008-11	Renewal
Mantell, Bob	K4ESA	2008-11	Renewal
McGinnis Jr., Charles	ND4D		Renewal
Morrow Jr, James	WA4RDR	2007-11	Renewal

Morton Jr, Bill	W4ASE	2008-11	Renewal
Pease, Bill	KJ4IDR	2008-12	Renewal
Prager Jr, Frank	W8CXU	2008-11	Renewal
Reece, Duane	KE4RST	2000-05	Renewal
Reynolds, Stephen	W4CNG	02-2001	Renewal
Roden, Kim	W5KAR	2008-11	Renewal
Schklar, Norm	WA4ZXV	2008-12	Renewal
Scholberg, Lisa	KJ4FZO	2008-12	Renewal
Schwartz, Edward	KG2GM	2003-04	Renewal
Sheaffer, Michael	W4ANO	2008-11	Renewal
Smith, Jim	W4JDS	2006-11	Renewal
Swiderski, Mike	K4HBI		Renewal
Swiderski, Susan	AF4FO		Renewal
Tanner, John	KJ4HCL	2008-11	Renewal
Tramontanis, John	N4TOL	1990-12	Renewal
Wasilov, Victor	KI4HPX	2004-12	Renewal
Wilson, Walter	KI7A	1990-12	Renewal
Wright, Sam	KI4UVV	2008-11	Renewal

Contact us:

President	Mack McCormick, WB4MAK 770-753-4202	Wb4mak@nfarl.org
Vice President/ Program Chairman	Walt Woron KJ4HE	KJ4HE@nfarl.org
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Exec Team	Jim Stafford - W4QO	W4QO@nfarl.org
Exec Team	Tom Koch – W4UOC EC NF ARES	W4UOC@nfarl.org www.nfares.org
Exec Team	Mike Roden – W5JR	W5JR@nfarl.org

Club Repeaters

145.470 (-)	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn
147.060 (+)	100 Hz	Roswell WaterTower
224.620 (-)	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn
443.150 (+)	No Tone	Roswell WaterTower (MATPARC/NFARL)
444.475(+)	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn



**ARRL Club
Affiliate**



**NFARL
Club Supporter**



**SERA
Supporter**