



eNEWS January 2010

www.nfarl.org

eNEWS is "what's happening" in **North Fulton!** Check the headlines of each item and mark your calendar. Go to arrrl.org or eHAM.net for the national news, but here is your **North Fulton ARL eNEWS** for January 2010.



Summary of upcoming events and dates

- **Every Wednesday** - Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch - 11:30 AM - Slopes BBQ
- **Every Sunday** - **NF ARES net** - 8:30PM - 147.06 MHz (+ 600) & PL 100
- **Every Monday** - **Tech Net** - 8:30 PM - 145.47 MHz (PL 100) - Check website for "how to"
- **Every Friday** - **Youth Net** - 5:00 PM - 145.47 MHz (PL 100) - Join AJ4JQ and others...
- **Second Tuesday** - **NF ARES meeting** - 7PM at the Sandy Springs City office complex
- **GARS TechFest** – Jan. 9 - Join the fun, work the booth, learn SMT soldering
- **January Club Meeting** - Jan. 19 - K4BKD "The Top Ten Reasons to Try Morse Code"
- **Chattahoochee Challenge Road Race** - February 6, 2010 – Ham help needed
- **Mid-Month Madness** - Orlando HamCation **Feb. 12-14** & TBA Construction Project
- **February Club Meeting** Feb.16 - AB1CD & AB2CD "Electrical Fundamentals Greatest Hits"

Regular Club Meeting - Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2010 - 7:30 PM

PROGRAM: "The Top Ten Reasons to Try Morse Code" – With Pete Riker, K4BKD.



This is certain to be an entertaining presentation on the benefits and joys of using Morse code. **Pete, K4BKD**, a long-time CW operator, was featured in QST Magazine on this very subject. He also spoke on his collection of keys at NFARL a few years ago. Pete was first licensed as WV2HLN in Oradell, NJ in 1959, received WA4BKD in 1972 and later his current call K4BKD.

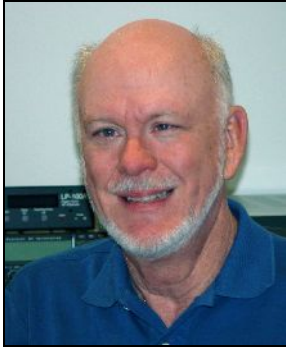
Pre-Meeting Show and Tell: Come see a collection of [vintage CW and AM rigs from the 40's, 50's and 60's](#). Doors open at 7:00p.m. COME EARLY for the best look!!

We meet here: **Masonic Lodge Hall, 194 Milton Ave, Alpharetta, GA.** Click [here](#) for a map. The Lodge is 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!**

We Eat before We Meet: If you are interested in dinner before the meeting, you can join us at [SmokeJack](#) restaurant in Alpharetta. It is located at 29 South Main St, (Hwy 9). Click [here](#) for a map. We meet between 5:30 and 6PM and leave @ 7PM for the meeting which is just 2 minutes away. The meal prices are \$6 and up. Hope to see you.

February Meeting: Don't miss our February 16 meeting. Our speakers will be [Jim \(AB2CD\)](#) and [Shelley \(AB1CD\) Phillips](#) presenting a very dynamic and visual program on the fundamentals of electricity and electronics. Jim and Shelly have been teaching science and technology to kids of all ages, 8-80. We guarantee this meeting will be a hit with everyone. Invite ALL your Atlanta ham and non-ham friends, ESPECIALLY the kids!



Presidents Corner for January: As your new president, let me first of all give credit to the outgoing officers and executive team for leading our club through a fabulously successful 2009. Under Mack's leadership we did more, learned more, served more and had more sheer fun than I think any of us could have imagined twelve months ago. The club's accomplishments throughout 2009 are far too numerous to enumerate here. But they will not be forgotten. Mack has compiled a record of 2009 I hope each of you will take a moment to read. It will remind you of how much we grew as a club and how much we owe to those who led and to every club member who contributed. Please click [here](#).

Now, let me take a moment to introduce you to the new club officers and executive team members for 2010:

Chuck Catledge, AE4CW – President

Wes Lamboley, W3WL – Vice-president and Training / Education Leader

Bill Reed, K4YJI – Secretary and Community Service Projects

Fred Moore, N4CLA – Treasurer and Repeater Trustee

Mack McCormick, WB4MAK – Past President and Special Events

Walt Woron, KJ4HE – Program and Mid-Month-Madness Chairman

Ian Kahn, AK4IK – Field Day Chairman

Jim Paine, N4SEC – ARES Liaison and Community Relations

Mike Roden, W5JR – Repeater Operations

Bill Cobb, K4YJJ – Webmaster

I hope we can get to know each of you personally. We are here to serve you and the North Fulton ham community. Feel free to contact any of us at any time. Our e-mails are "our call signs at nfarl.org."

And last, just a few words about what we have planned for 2010. We will continue with our tradition of outstanding monthly programs and mid-month activities. We are beefing up our SIG program by reprising the **CW SIG** and introducing a new **Antenna SIG** this month (see below). In addition we will implement significant new training and education programs that we will tell you more about in February. And we are planning a surprise Special Event that will knock everyone's socks off.

Thank you for the honor to serve; I guarantee that we will do our level best to carry on in the tradition of excellence that NFARL has come to represent.

Chuck, AE4CW

Special Interest Groups (SIGS) Coming in January!



Antenna SIG: The long anticipated NFARL Antenna SIG will kickoff at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 30. Have you always wanted to know HOW antennas work? Do you want to know why some antennas WORK WELL and others don't? Do you want to know how to pick the BEST antenna for your needs? Do you want to EVALUATE the wire antennas you are now using? Would you like to DESIGN and BUILD your own antennas? If you answered YES to at least one or two of these, the Antenna SIG could be for you. You

don't need a EE degree to participate. All you need is a keen interest, a desire to learn, a willingness to do some guided in-depth study and the ability to participate in weekly meetings. To learn more about the Antenna SIG including how to sign up, click [here](#).



CW SIG: Again in 2010, the club will sponsor a CW class for those interested in this aspect of ham radio. Not for everyone, CW is still finding a crowd of hams who joined the hobby after code was eliminated but who wish to find out why anyone would enjoy CW! After K4BKD talks to us at the January meeting about "10 reasons to try CW", the CW SIG will kick off 2 days later at W4QO's QTH for the first of 6 weekly sessions. This SIG is along the lines of a support group as you study the code. If you sign up, you should be prepared to spend at least 20 minutes per day, 5 days per week.

Each week new letters will be introduced and members will use CDs and the M-W-F CW net at 8PM on the 145.47 repeater for 20 minutes. Since sending is important to learning the code (10 minutes per day), members will be encouraged to obtain or build a CPO/keyer/paddle for their use. Some loaners will be available. So join us at 7PM each Thursday beginning on January 21 to get in on this fun mode. Sign up via email at w4qo@nfarl.org or during the January meeting at the CW SIG table. You may also study along at home IF you can't come to the meetings. Just follow a syllabus that we'll provide.

Youth Night: The February 16 NFARL meeting is being designated Youth Night with emphasis on recognizing our young enthusiasts. The program that night will be a Mr. Wizard style show about electricity and will be especially fascinating to younger members (and guests). So we'd like to have all our young members at the meeting and be recognized, but also bring all your family (niece, nephews, cousins), the Boy/Girl Scout next door, students from the Middle and High School Science classes and let's make this a HUGE event for them. So if you know a teacher at one of the local schools, drop them a note with one of our flyers (available on the website at: http://nfarl.org/pdf/club_brochure_total.pdf) inviting their students to our February meeting. They will not be disappointed.



Field Day 2010: Mark your calendars for this upcoming June 26 – 27, Field Day 2010! NFARL had a fabulous showing at Field Day 2009, and now it is time to start thinking about this year's event. We are kicking off our 2010 Field Day preparations with our first organizational meeting on 13 January. Many of last year's captains and committee members return to our team to put together what promises to be another outstanding NFARL event. An added feature this year is our dedicated Field Day email box, at



fieldday@nfarl.org. Please send any suggestions, comments or questions here, as this box will be monitored daily as we run up to the big event in June. We will also plan some logistics improvements this year to help activities flow more smoothly. I hope, finally, to also have a dedicated digital station on the air this year to add to our CW, 20m, 40m, GOTA, and V/UHF stations. Watch this space, the NFARL Yahoo! reflector, and www.nfarl.org for details as they become available. Anyone who wishes to volunteer for the Field Day team can drop me an email directly at ak4ik@nfarl.org.

Membership: We currently have **259 active members** as of the writing of this newsletter. Please welcome the following new members the next time you see them.

First Name	Last Name	Call	Member Since
Carl	Alper	KD4UGA	2010-01
Jim	Phillips	AB2CD	2010-01
Shelly	Phillips	AB1CD	2010-01
Cameron	Clayson	WV5R	2009-11
Edward	Doyle	KJ4NRN	2009-11
Jennifer	Clayson	KF4BUL	2009-11
John	Wagemaker	KJ4FPT	2009-11
Karen	Mallory	N4MPB	2009-11
Reuben	Ware	AJ4SY	2009-11
Roger	Shaddick	N7BU	2009-11

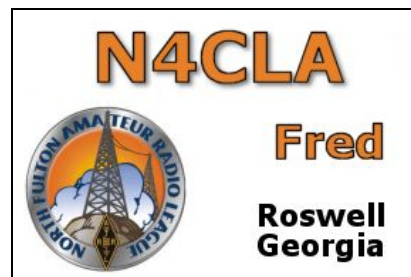
This is just a friendly reminder regarding your membership. It was 33 weeks ago that we moved all of our membership to the **NFARL.ORG** web site from the QuickBooks environment. We have tried to make sure that all the bits and bytes are in their proper places for each membership record. One thing that we have noticed is that there seems to be several people that have created new profiles. Please do not do this. If you can not remember what your profile is, please contact n4cla@nfarl.org and I will help you get into your profile. Do not arbitrarily just create another profile. Next, you should receive an automatic renewal notification 30 days before your membership expires. If we know you are an ARRL member and that is indicated in your profile, you will also receive a reminder about the expiration of your ARRL membership as well. However, as with all database migrations, there will be exceptions. If you feel that your name is not on the membership roles, and should be, or it is incorrectly categorized, please send a note to n4cla@nfarl.org. The other piece of this is that your name will automatically fall off the membership role exactly 365 days after you last renewed. You can automatically renew your NFARL and ARRL memberships at www.nfarl.org/mart anytime. It does not have to be after your notification. The renewals are just added to the existing membership.

Please log in and update your membership record with any changes. This is your record. If you have moved, or your phone number has changed, or you want to change your User Logon or

password, you can literally change any of this information. Your membership expiration is also located on www.nfarl.org and choose [MEMBERS](#) in the left column. If you have forgotten your password you can ask the system to send you a new one time password.

ARRL: Our percentage of ARRL membership in the club is now at **70%**. We highly encourage you to become an ARRL member and support your National organization. These are the people that help protect our/your frequency allocations with the FCC. They also provide a nice monthly publication for your membership. It is called QST. If you are not a member of the ARRL, please consider supporting them. You can make your ARRL membership renewals on our www.nfarl.org/mart.

Name badges: If you have been considering ordering your NFARL Name Badge, now would be an ideal time to do it. These badges have magnetic backs so they will not poke holes in your clothing. They are NOT etched badges as they are made using a photographic full color process, and the information on the badge will NOT wear off. This is an example of what the badge will look like, but with rounded corners and NO black border.



So if you are interested, they are \$9.00 each. All you have to do is go to <http://www.nfarl.org/mart> log in and click on the badge icon. We accept PayPal, personal credit cards, and checks to the club mailbox, NFARL, P.O. Box 1741, Roswell, GA., 30077.

NFARL TECH NET meets Mondays at 8:30 PM Join us on **145.47 MHz** to discuss **technical topics** led by "**What do you know**" **Joe, N7QPP**. We believe that no one else conducts a net quite like TechNET. It uses the repeater, a chat room, and now **Echolink** to enhance the quality of this unique net. We are joined by hams from around the country and sometimes the world via the DoDropIn Echolink net. Go to 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 145.47.

YOUTH NEWS

- **The Living Science School to get radio station** – In Cherokee County, the school already has a license and will soon install an antenna to get their new station on the air.
 - **Youth Net** – Meets every Friday at 5:00 PM on 145.47 MHz (PL 100). You also do NOT have to be a YOUTH to "check in" to the net. Join our very capable Net Control, Frances, AJ4JQ, (and sometimes brother Ed, KJ4NRN) for this fun net. Invite some youngsters, too.
 - **Remember** – Youth membership is FREE to those under 18. Just complete the form.
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Mentoring - NFARL prides itself on helping members - both young and old - enjoy ham radio to the fullest. This also means if you have an area that you need help with that is not in this list, and then YOU need to submit this information / question to enews@nfarl.org . DO NOT BE SHY, because what you may need help with, probably means there is someone else out there that needs the same help and won't ask because they don't know who to ask or what to ask or how to ask. And here is the deal. If you think you have something to offer in an area that is not

mentioned, don't be shy. Everyone has a certain amount of expertise in something. Send us a note and say you want to be added to our list.

Contact Us:

President	Chuck Catledge, AE4CW 770-641-7729	ae4cw@nfarl.org
Vice-President & Training and Education Leader	Wes Lambole, W3WL	w3wl@nfarl.org
Secretary & Community Service Projects	Bill Reed, K4YJI	k4yji@nfarl.org
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Past President & Special Events	Mack McCormick, WB4MAK 770-753-4202	wb4mak@nfarl.org
Program & Mid-Month-Madness Chairman	Walt Worn, KJ4HE	kj4he@nfarl.org
Field Day Chairman	Ian Kahn, AK4IK	ak4ik@nfarl.org
ARES Liaison & Community Relations	Jim Paine, N4SEC	n4sec@nfarl.org
Repeater Operations	Mike Rodent, W5JR	w5jr@nfarl.org
Web Master	Bill Cobb, K4YJJ	k4yjj@nfarl.org

Club Repeaters:

145.470 (-) Echolink Node 381631	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
147.060 (+) Primary ARES repeater	100 Hz	Roswell Water Tower
224.620 (-) Joint Venture with the MATPARC club	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain *
443.150 (+)	No Tone	Roswell Water Tower *
444.475(+)	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
927.0125(-)	146.2 Hz	Sweat Mountain



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