



eNEWS February 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 **February 2010.**



Summary of upcoming events and dates

- **Every Wednesday** - Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch - 11:30 AM - Slopes BBQ
- **Every Sunday** - **NFARES net** - 8:30 PM - 147.06 MHz (+ 600) & PL 100
- **Every Monday** - **TechNet** - 8:30 PM - 145.47 MHz (PL 100) - Check website for "how to"
- **Every Friday** - **YouthNet** - 5:00 PM - 145.47 MHz (PL 100) - Join AJ4JQ and others...
- **Second Tuesday** - **NFARES meeting** - 7PM at the Sandy Springs City office complex
- **February** - **Youth Emphasis Month** – **Introduce a youngster to ham radio!**
- **February Club Meeting - Feb.16** - **Youth Night** with AB1CD & AB2CD presenting **"Electricity's Greatest Hits"**. **Invite a young person to come with you!**
- **Mid-Month Madness** - Orlando HamCation **Feb. 12-14** & Dalton Hamfest **Feb. 27**

Regular Club Meeting - Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2010 - 7:30 PM

Program: **"Electricity's Greatest Hits" with Jim, AB2CD and Shelly, AB1CD**



For a preview click [here](#).

Jim and Shelly Phillips have made a career out of bringing science and radio to children. In addition to the work they do in schools, they have built a classroom/lab in their home where they host small groups whenever possible.

Ultimately, they would like to see basic electronics and technology become a bigger part of the middle school curriculum. Shelly and Jim try to visit a school and present their

program whenever they are in a community on business.

They operate their amateur radio station from a lab in the lower level of their home. Called The Technology Learning Center, it is a combination classroom / ham shack / electronics lab where they teach science and technology to children of all ages. The lab has its own call sign and operates under the club call K1TLC.

They are also two thirds of a W5YI VE team and share a passion for helping others enter the hobby. Amateur exams are administered by appointment at their home in Acworth.

Please join us in enjoying a program for young and old, alike.



Pre-Meeting Show and Tell: Come see a hands-on exhibit of fascinating electrical circuits and gadgets. Doors open at 7:00 p.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.

Atlanta-area Club Activities

- Southeastern Antique Radio Society Swap Meet, Saturday, February 20th at the Doubletree Hotel on Holcomb Bridge Road near GA400. See [Southeastern Antique Radio Society Club](#) for more information.
 - Martin F. Jue of MFJ Enterprises will speak at the Georgia Tech Van Leer ECE Building, 777 Atlantic Drive, Atlanta Thursday, on February 25, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.
-

Presidents Corner for February:



IT'S NO SECRET. THE FUTURE OF HAM RADIO DEPENDS ON YOUNG PEOPLE. And for this reason, during February we are placing a special emphasis on our young members and all they bring to our great hobby. Plus, we are doing all we can think of as a club to encourage young folks to give Ham radio a try. But the very best thing we can do is to identify individually a youngster and begin to share with them the magic of radio.

Remember how you got started? Most likely it was an older person who encouraged you, took the time to show you what Ham radio is all about and then mentored you along the way until you got your first ticket, built your first station and then beyond. Kids have a lot of distractions, but your personal attention can make all the difference. They are technically savvy and will have little trouble picking up the technical aspects of Ham radio. Right now, I'm working with one of my grandsons, and I know many of you are doing the same with your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews and the kid next door. My challenge to all of us (me included!) is to pass on the love of what we do with Ham radio to at least one young person. I hope you will take me up on that challenge!

You can begin by inviting a youngster to the club meeting this month. I can promise you they will enjoy it immensely. We will have special seating for them up front so they will see all the hands-on demos and experiments up close. And, Jim and Shelly are particularly skilled in communicating with young people. Don't delay; invite a young friend today!

I can't close this month's Corner without saying a special thanks to everyone who has contributed and participated in the Antenna and CW Special Interest Groups (SIG's) that began in January. You will see more on this later in this newsletter, but the sheer number of folks who are active in these groups is amazing. And it's not too late to join! Just contact Wes, W3WL or Jim, W4QO and they will welcome you!

For now, 73 Chuck, AE4CW

Public Service Opportunities

- **Kennehoche Amateur Radio Club Hamfest**, Saturday, March 20, 2010. Will need NFARL volunteers to set-up booth at 7:30 am, tend booth from 8 am to Noon and take-down booth at noon. We need at least 2 volunteers in the booth each hour and 5 volunteers to set-up and take-down the booth. To volunteer and/or request more information e-mail Bill Reed K4YJI at k4yji@nfarl.org
- **2010 ING Georgia Marathon**, Sunday, March 21, 2010. Will need volunteers to work the hydration stations and other selected sites along the route of the race starting at 6:30 am at the hydration stations. The race is scheduled to close at 2 pm. There will be a "dress rehearsal" on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at the DeKalb Fire/Rescue HQ starting at 1 pm. To volunteers and/or request more information e-mail Elliott Fried KJ4CQJ at kj4cqj@arrl.net.

More detail on each of these service opportunities will be on the NFARL web site, www.nfarl.org

Youth News



Featured Ham - Edward Doyle – KJ4NRN

Edward got into ham radio after his sister Frances, AJ4JQ, got her Extra Class license. Edward is 12 years old and a Technician, and he is learning more about being a ham from Frances and his father, N4JJD. He is also working on the Morse code. He and his sister are in a friendly competition, with Frances still in the lead. He enjoys 2 meters, the HF bands (what he has of them), and using Echolink. He logs for his sister whenever he can, and at times he has been a stand-in net control for

the North Fulton Amateur Radio League Youth Net. He also enjoys rag chewing on 10 meters. Edward attends East Cobb Christian School and is very interested in studying to become a marine biologist when he gets to college.



Featured Ham - Frances Doyle – AJ4JQ

Frances got interested in ham radio when she started listening to commercial shortwave stations on her dad's old Yaesu FRG-7. She first saw a real HF operation when she visited her great uncle, W0MJN, in Iowa, and saw his shack. She got her Technician in 2007 at the age of fourteen and then proceeded to successfully pass the General and Extra Class exams, all with no outside help! Frances especially loves DXing, and her country count as

of now is 112 since January 2009. She claims it's much easier to get through pileups because everyone wants to talk to "the YL."

She is a member of the North Fulton Amateur Radio League and is the regular net control for their Youth Net, which meets Friday at 5 pm EST on our 2 meter repeater, Echolink node #381631. She is also a member of the Young Ladies Radio League, the ARRL, and the USS Hornet Amateur Radio Club (her great grandfather captained the Hornet (CV-12) in the Pacific during the latter part of WWII, from 1944 to 1945).

Frances is home schooled but takes classes at Living Science, a home study center. The center is in the process of starting a ham radio club, and Frances has already obtained a call sign: KJ4LS. Frances loves science, and hopes to study aerospace engineering at Georgia Tech. In her spare time she enjoys playing the piano (she has competed successfully at the state level), tennis, Spanish, reading, cooking, needlepoint and crocheting. In what's left of her spare time she is learning the Morse code!

- **YOUTH NET** – Meets every Friday at 5:00 PM on 145.47 MHz (PL 100). You 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.

Special Interest Groups (SIGS) Started in January!



Antenna SIG: The Antenna SIG had its first meeting at the Masonic Hall on January 30 with 41 in attendance. Jim Streible, K4DLI, and Roger Anders, AA2HT, led the presentations and discussions on decibels, electrical wavelengths, and impedance. Regular antenna SIG net meetings are taking place each Thursday at 8:30 PM on the Club repeater (145.47 MHz). We had 26 check-ins the first session, and a variety of issues related to dipole antennas were discussed. The next meeting at the Hall will be on March 6 so as not to interfere with the Dalton Hamfest. All are invited to participate in the SIG, both at the Masonic Hall and the on-the-air meetings utilizing the repeater and the Club chat room at nfarl.dodropin.com. To learn more about the Antenna SIG including how to sign up, click [here](#).



CW SIG: Again in 2010, the club is sponsoring a CW class for those interested in this aspect of ham radio. 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. Sign up via email at w4qo@nfarl.org. You may also study along at home IF you can't come to the meetings. Just follow a syllabus that we'll provide. To learn more check out this [link](#).

Concurrent with the 2010 class, we now have CW101 - an online class you can join to learn CW. Register with w4qo@nfarl.org and you will receive a "pack" of materials via email to keep track of your progress. Each week you will also receive links you will use to keep pace with the class and with the "on the air" code practice sessions on M-W-F at 8PM. You will also have a mentor assigned who will help you over the rough spots. So register now and be ready.

Field Day 2010: Plans are well underway for Field Day 2010. This year's theme is "I'm a Ham – My Playground is The World". Most of our station captains are in place, and everyone will hear soon for requests for operators. This year, we are introducing new volunteer opportunities and improving some from last year. I am placing a call out now for runners to work 4-8 hour shifts during Field Day. These runners will run errands for ice, drinks, generator fuel,



anything that is needed off-site. We'll also have the shift lead positions again. These people will handle any issues on-site when your captains are not present – checking the generators for fuel and safety, providing necessary assistance to operators, getting coffee/drinks for people who can't leave the radios, etc. I am also looking for someone to coordinate the bonus points for us. This person makes sure we have someone handling the bonus point categories – getting the W1AW bulletin, passing an NTS message to the SM/DEC, etc. If you would like to volunteer for any of these positions, or offer to help in any other way, please email Ian at ak4ik@nfarl.org. Finally, we are introducing a new feature to the NFARL Field Day this year. We have a dedicated email box just for email traffic. If you have comments, questions, complaints, suggestions, etc., please send them to fieldday@nfarl.org. Thank you and 73, Ian Kahn, AK4IK, 2010 Field Day Chair.

North Fulton ARES Update

ARES has important goals outlined for 2010. They include:

- Disaster Assessments for our communities
- North Fulton Fire Station Assessment and deployment of VHF/UHF antennas
- Monthly tests from Fire Station locations
- D-Star hands-on training
- 2010 SET – Proposed for October
- Continued development of Web Site

The February 9th ARES Meeting covered these topics:

- North American Mission Board (NAMB) support discussion – Amateur and MARS frequencies – including WinLink, SSB, Echolink, and D-Star
- Discussion on GEMA's "Damage Assessment Process"
- Further discussion of Chat/Comm back-up communications plan for the Cities of Sandy Springs and Johns Creek

How to get involved in the North Fulton ARES:

- Weekly NFARES Net is every Sunday night at 8:30 PM. ARES is using the NFARL repeater on 145.470(-) P/L 100 until the Roswell repeater antenna is replaced. All ARES members from other groups, as well as non-ARES amateurs are encouraged to check in.
- NFARES meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm ET. The location is usually the [City of Sandy Springs](#) (PDF, 300KB) [Council Chambers](#) (PDF, 104KB). Meeting participants frequently gather for a pre-meeting dinner at 5:45 pm at [Tijuana Joe's](#) restaurant (between Sandy Springs City Hall and QuikTrip). We meet in-person on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm ET. Check out the NFARES web site at: nfares.nfarl.org for additional information

NFARL TechNet 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.

Mentoring - NFARL prides itself on helping members - both young and old - enjoy ham radio to the fullest. Check out this [link](#) for information on hams who will help **YOU**. If you have an area that you need help with that is not in this list, please send an e-mail to mentor@nfarl.org. **DO NOT BE SHY**. If you need help with an area not listed, others probably do as well. 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 or mentors.

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
Hermann	Wagner	DL8MCP	2010-01
Lanier	Deal, Jr	KJ4RSW	2010-01
Bruce	Snyder	KC4BB	2010-01
Ron	Gill	NV4U	2010-01
Mike	Combs	K4LMS	2010-01
Steve	Garrison	N4SEG	2010-01
William	Helbig	KJ4RBJ	2010-01
Neil	Holland	KJ4QJY	2010-01
Carl	Alper	KD4UGA	2010-01
Jim	Phillips	AB2CD	2010-01
Shelly	Phillips	AB1CD	2010-01

This is just a friendly reminder regarding your membership. It was 38 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 in addition to their original 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 new 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 you feel it 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. **Renewals are just added to your existing membership.**

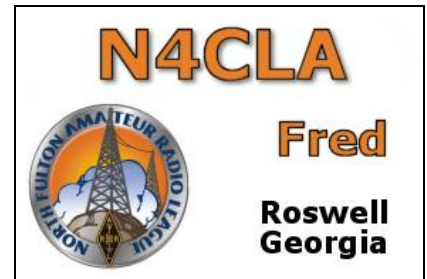
Please log in and update your membership record with any changes. This is your record. If you have moved, or your phone number has changed, or you want to change your **UserID** Logon or **password**, you can literally change any of this information. Your membership expiration is also located on www.nfarl.org then choose **MEMBERS** and look at the Membership Exp Date. If you have forgotten your password you can **ask the system to send you a new one time password**. It is located immediately under the LogIn area.

ARRL

Our percentage of ARRL membership in the club is now at **67.9%**. 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 along with a lot of other extras. It is called QST. If you are not a member of the ARRL, please consider supporting them. You can JOIN or 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. We just recently sent off another order on Monday December. These badges have magnetic backs so they will not poke holes in your clothing, they are NOT etched badges, 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 ea. 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, POBox 1741, Roswell, GA., 30077.

Contact Us:

President	Chuck Catledge, AE4CW 770-641-7729	ae4cw@nfarl.org
Vice-President & Training and Education Leader	Wes Lambolely, W3WL	w3wl@nfarl.org
Secretary & Community Service Projects	Bill Reed, K4YJI	k4yji@nfarl.org
Treasurer & Repeater Trustee	Fred Moore, N4CLA 404-434-4499	n4cla@nfarl.org
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 Roden, 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



[ARRL Club](#)
[Affiliate](#)



[NFARL](#)
[Club Supporter](#)



[SERA](#) Supporter