



## **eNEWS June 2010**

[www.nfarl.org](http://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](http://arrl.org) or [eHAM.net](http://eHAM.net) for the national news, but here is your **North Fulton ARL eNEWS** for **June 2010**.



## **New Meeting Location!** **Alpharetta Adult Activity Center** **Alpharetta North Park - 13450 Cogburn Road**

### **Summary of Upcoming Events and Dates**

- **Every Wednesday** - Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch - 11:30 AM - Slopes BBQ
- **Every Sunday** - **NF ARES net** - 8:30 PM - 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** - 7 PM at the Sandy Springs City office complex
- **Mid-Month Madness** - **June 5** - Atlanta Radio Club Hamfest, Jim Miller Park, Marietta
- **Technician HamCram** - **June 12** - Living Science School, 8 AM - 5PM.
- **June Club Meeting** - **June 15** - [NFARL Field Day Preparation](#), Ian Kahn, AK4IK
- **Field Day** - **June 26 - 27** - [Waller Park Extension](#), Roswell
- **VE Test Session** - **July 17** - Alpharetta Adult Activity Center, 10 AM - Noon
- **July Club Meeting** - **July 20** - ["Ten Things Every New Ham Should Know"](#), Rich Arland K7SZ

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### **Regular Club Meeting - Tuesday, June 15, 2010 - 7:30 PM**

**PROGRAM: NFARL Field Day** Have you spent the last six months wondering what all this Field Day stuff is people keep talking about? Want to be part of the action, but aren't sure where to be or when? Never worked HF before and want your chance? Ian Kahn, AK4IK, and the Field Day team will brief everyone on all the details of Field Day 2010 at the June club meeting. So come to the next meeting and have all your Field Day questions answered by our resident experts, the Field Day Team.

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**Pre-Meeting show & Tell:** Come see the latest results of the Kit Building SIG hosted by the proud constructors of the **Bitx20 SSB transceivers** described [here](#) as well as several "Un-usual Ham Gadgets". Doors open at 7:00 p.m. COME EARLY for the best seats!

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**We meet here: Please note our new meeting location - Alpharetta Adult Activity Center, Alpharetta North Park, 13450 Cogburn Road.** Turn onto North Park to reach the AAC drive & parking lot. There is ample parking for all! Talk-in will be on 145.47. Click [here](#) for a map.

**Door prizes - Toys for Techies:** Bring a door prize this month! If everyone brings one good, clean item/book to give away as door prizes, then everyone will win one! Pass on your little used Ham goodies.

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**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 6 PM and leave @ 7 PM for the meeting which is just 5 minutes away. The meal prices are \$6 and up. Hope to see you.

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**Hungry Hams:** Come join us at Slopes BBQ in Roswell, Wednesday at 11:30 AM!! Over 35 Hams regularly enjoy great B-B-Q and swap the latest information. Click [here](#) for a map.

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## President's Corner



The generators are humming, the antennas are hung high, rigs are tuning, QSO's are coming, burgers are grilling and NFARL Hams are having fun!! Field Day is that wonderful time of each year when Hams across the US and Canada take to the field to demonstrate our emergency preparedness and operating skills. We encourage every NFARL member to participate in Field Day. Come join us at Waller Park Extension on June 26 – 27 and operate on first class stations set up for 80M through 2M on SSB and CW.

NFARL enjoyed the largest Field Day attendance in 2009 and we are planning to exceed that in 2010! If you can't make it to the park, you can join in from your home or mobile station and make contacts throughout the US and Canada. For home/mobile operators, check out the rules and various classes of operation [here](#). And, be sure to check out Ian, AK4IK's article just below for more information on NFARL Field Day.

Did I mention that Dayton was a blast?! By all accounts this year at Dayton was the best in many years. Attendance was up as were the number of vendors inside and in the flea market. There was an air of real excitement. From Jim, W4QO's recognition as Amateur of the Year and QRP Hall of Fame inductee to NFARL's recognition as Club of the Year, the more than 30 NFARL Hams who made the trek to Dayton enjoyed an amazing experience.



None of this would have been possible without the amazing contribution of the Hams who call NFARL our club. All of us on the leadership team thank you for helping make NFARL a very special place for every Ham. Be sure to check out the huge assortment of Dayton photos on the NFARL website [here](#).

Hope to see you at the June Club Meeting and Field Day,

73, Chuck, AE4CW

## **Field Day 2010 – Ian, AK4IK**

It is almost upon us. Field Day 2010 is less than one month away, and we continue preparations. There are still good times available to operate so contact the station captain of your favorite station and grab a slot. Station captains are listed on the Field Day page of the NFARL web site, <http://www.nfarl.org>.

We also are still looking for volunteers to help us with things like bonus points (very important for our overall score!!!!), shift captains, runners, talk-in operators, greeters, etc. To help with one of these vital positions, please contact Clyde, KJ4MIJ, at [kj4mij@arrl.net](mailto:kj4mij@arrl.net) to volunteer.

Once again, we will have a raffle for a nice prize. If you come to Field Day **and sign in**, you will automatically receive a raffle ticket to win a \$100 gift certificate to Stoney River Steak House. This is an excellent restaurant and makes for a fine evening out. Also, we will have our third annual Field Day Photo Contest. All you shutterbugs bring your cameras and get the best photos you can of your, and the club's, Field Day experience. This is an excellent chance for you to take an active role showcasing our club. Some of the photos from the past two Field Days went into our submission for Club of the Year. The prize for the photo contest has yet to be determined, but will be announced no later than the June club meeting.

We will also have our traditional Field Day club picnic, with dinner starting at 6:00 PM Saturday night. Please RSVP for the picnic to Lynn Kahn, KJ4DYH, at [kj4dyh@nfarl.org](mailto:kj4dyh@nfarl.org) so we make sure to have enough food. As always, if anyone has any questions/comments/etc., you can contact me at [ak4ik@nfarl.org](mailto:ak4ik@nfarl.org), or send your comments to the club Field Day mailbox at [fieldday@nfarl.org](mailto:fieldday@nfarl.org).



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## **Public Service Opportunity – Bill, K4YJI**

Charles Turner, K0CZR has request volunteers for the Possum Trot at the Chattahoochee Nature Center on Saturday, June 19, 2010. Please contact Charles via email at [k0czzr@bellsouth.net](mailto:k0czzr@bellsouth.net), via Radio on 145.290 (IBM Repeater) during the day, or call him at (770) 943-7686. Charles would like your response by Wednesday, June 10, 2010.

Thanks NFARL members for your support of the Chattahoochee Nature Center

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## **Youth News – Frances, AJ4JQ**

My First Dayton Experience - This year my dad (N4JJD), my brother (KJ4NRN), Christopher Howard (KJ4HYG), and I (AJ4JQ) made the trek up to the Dayton Hamvention for the first time. I had heard how huge it was, and was very excited about all the neat things we'd get to see and the people we'd get to meet. We drove up all day Thursday, and on the way we talked to a few people who were also on their way to Dayton. After getting settled in the hotel room, Edward talked to several people on the radio from our room (which was on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor), who were also there for the Hamvention.



On Friday morning, we were up bright and early so we could get there right when it opened. The first place we went was the Hara arena, where many of the big dealers were. We wandered around and looked a many different booths, and saw lots of interesting headgear. There was one guy with a miniature tower on a helmet, someone with a Cat-in-the-Hat hat with an antenna on the side, and several people with orange helmets with antennas on the top.

After a while, we went to Ball Arena Hall, and found the ARRL Youth Lounge, where I was going to volunteer for a while. There were several kids who stopped by the lounge who were already licensed, but many of the kids did not really know much about ham radio. There were different activities the kids could do to earn certain amounts of points, with which they could get prizes at the end. Some of the activities were sending their name in CW, making a contact on the radio (with a control operator, of course), decorating a QSL card, and reciting the phonetic alphabet. They had a lot of fun, and most seemed pretty interested. After the Youth Lounge, I wandered around the ARRL Expo section, looking at the different booths.

On Saturday, we walked around some more, looking at the Flex booth, the Icom booth, the Yaesu booth, the Kenwood booth, the YLRL booth, and Gordon West's booth, just to name a few. And of course, we visited the North Fulton ARL's booth too.



While we were on our way to the Youth Lounge again, we stopped by the QSO Show's booth to see Jim Stafford (W4QO) being interviewed live about being the Ham of the Year. (The QSO Show is a show about ham radio that is broadcast on shortwave). After Jim was finished, they asked Christopher, Edward, and I to sit down too and be interviewed. We were asked questions about how we got into ham radio, what we thought was the best way to get youth interested in ham radio and things like that. It was a lot of fun, and there were probably several thousand people listening to the show at the time. After that, we continued on to the Youth

Lounge, and there we were all interviewed for the local Dayton NPR station. That was fun, too, and we had a great (though tiring) day.

On Sunday, we slept in, which was wonderful, because we were all tired from our late nights and early mornings. We checked out of the hotel, and headed over to the Hara Arena to see the presentation of the Club of the Year and Ham of the Year awards. Since we were all NFARL members, we got to stand with all the other members as Chuck (AE4CW) accepted the award for our club and Jim (W4QO) got his award. After that, we headed out and started the long drive back to Atlanta. We left with a lot of hats, bags, pens, stickers, keychains, magazines, catalogues, and cards, and a lot of new friends. We enjoyed every minute of it, and can't wait until the next time we can make it up there.



Frances Doyle, AJ4JQ

## **Antenna Special Interest Group (SIG) June – Wes, W3WL**



The Antenna SIG completed its 5th month with a face-to-face work session at the Masonic Hall. In attendance were 17 SIGers and 8 antenna tuners of various lineages. All the antenna tuners were opened up and inspected by the group, and a good appreciation of what it takes to match an antenna/feed line system to the transmitter was further appreciated. In addition, most all in attendance had their lap tops with them, and a tutorial, lead by

Chuck, AE4CW, took us through the ARRL antenna modeling software using examples of what we have learned thus far in the AntSIG.

The hands-on session was of great benefit to all who attended. In addition, the group discussed further topics for future Antenna SIG investigations. Two topics that were very popular were Antenna Modeling and Smith Charting. We are also investigating a Club buy of a more robust version of EZNEC. Please let Wes - W3WL ([w3wl@nfarl.org](mailto:w3wl@nfarl.org)) know of other topics you are interested in. A new group of learning experiences is being planned to begin in September.

This month we are focusing on **Wire Antenna Construction**, with the last face-to-face session being planned to actually build individual wire antennas as needed by the participants. Don't forget to join in the AntSIG net on Thursdays at 8:30 as we discuss this month's topic!

## **Kit Building Special Interest Group (SIG) – Mack, WB4MAK**

The kit building session now has three BitX20 SSB radios on the air. Newton, K0NWT said it best in his post to the NFARL reflector, "I made my first 2 QRP SSB QSO's with my own personally built BitX-20 radio within minutes of completing the alignment procedures last night. I cannot describe just how great the feeling was when I got a 59 report from Tim, W0YV in IA and a 22 report from Rick, WA7ND in OR! Wow!! I am really enjoying my latest achievement in this fantastic hobby!" The plan is for members to complete the remaining kits in the next couple of weeks and then we'll do a pre-meeting show and tell at an upcoming club meeting.



You should consider building your own kit. It provides a fantastic opportunity to learn construction skills, troubleshooting, theory, and use of test equipment.

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## **Sidewalk Radio - Alive After 5 – June 17 – 5 PM to 9 PM – Jim, W4QO**

Last month we accepted messages from the public and put them onto the National Traffic System.



I'll bet the recipients were surprised to receive a RadioGram (our equivalent of a telegram)! This month we'll be featuring Field Day and inviting the general public to attend our big event of the year. We'll have some FD props and handouts with maps. Come out and help us impress the community at **Alive After 5 in Roswell, 5 PM to 9 PM, Thursday, June 17**. We'll be next to the Go With the Flow store right there on Canton Street. Talk-in is on 147.06 MHz (PL100). To sign up,

send an email to [w4qo@nfarl.org](mailto:w4qo@nfarl.org). We'll have plenty of camp chairs and a cooler full of drinks.

Come on, you can do it! A great thing for new hams to support! You do not have to be there at 5 PM. Come by 7 PM to help for the last 2 hours.

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## **North Fulton ARES – Jim, N4SEC**



North Fulton ARES (Amateur Radio Emergency Service) meetings are held at the City of Sandy Springs Municipal Complex on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM. The next meeting is June 8. There is an informal gathering for dinner prior to the meeting at about 5:30 PM at nearby Tijuana Joe's on Roswell Road. All amateurs are welcome and you do not have to be a NFARES member to attend.

NFARES conducts a Net every Sunday night at 8:30 PM on the 147.060 (+) (Tone 100 Hz) repeater located on the Roswell water tower. The backup repeater is the NFARL 145.47. All amateurs are invited to participate in the net regardless of ARES affiliation.

The May meeting was led by Mike Cohen, AD4MC and concentrated on VHF/UHF cross band repeat. There was a live active demonstration using multiple dual band radios and simplex hand-held radios. A number of practical applications were reviewed, including Mike's use of vehicular cross band repeat during the 60 mile Sandy Springs Cycle Challenge and implementation of cross band equipment at ChatComm, the 911 service provider to Sandy Springs and Johns Creek. The use of these "Mobile repeaters" to enhance VHF simplex coverage of North Fulton County was discussed. They could be rapidly deployed to fill any coverage gaps during drills and actual emergencies.

NFARES Meeting on Tuesday June 8: Mike Cohen, AD4MC will be presenting "**Cross Band Repeat Part 2**". As in the May meeting, this will be a live demonstration with attendees participating. The focus of the June meeting will feature setting up tone squelch to minimize false keying. A hands-on workshop will be conducted to help you set up your radios for tone/tone squelch to use with cross band repeat during future SET and ChatComm exercises. Bring along your 2-meter radio (and manual if you have it) to join the fun!

City of Milton update: Tom Koch, W4UOC, Dave Hazel, KD9RU, and Jim Paine, N4SEC met with Milton Fire Chief Bob Edgar and Emergency Operations Director Matthew Marietta. Tom led the discussion and PowerPoint presentation explaining ARES and our active role in other North Fulton municipalities. The discussion went extremely well and NFARES members, coordinated by Dave, Milton AEC, will be making a survey of Milton's three fire stations followed by recommendations on equipment needed to work with the other North Fulton agencies.

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## **ARRL Membership – Fred, N4CLA**



Thank you for supporting our National organization. ARRL. Our current percentage of ARRL membership in the club is now at **80.5%**, that represents 223 ARRL members out of 275 club members. 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 join or renew your ARRL membership through NFARL. You can make your ARRL membership renewals at [nfarl.org/mart](http://nfarl.org/mart)

## NFARL Membership

We currently have 275 active members as of the writing of this newsletter. The following members have joined in April and May. **Please welcome them the next time you see them.**

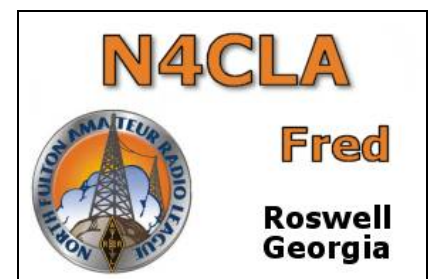
Call	Fname	Lname	Member Since	Membership Type
KJ4TMP	Jeffrey	Anderson	2010-05	NFARL Youth Member
N2OBH	Al	Savio	2010-05	NFARL Full Member
KG4VIB	Albert	Miles	2010-05	NFARL Full Member
W4CJV	Wayne	Rand	2010-05	NFARL Full Member
KJ4SPK	Bob	Flavin	2010-04	NFARL Full Member
K4YFA	Tom	McMurrain	2010-04	NFARL Full Member
N4HH	Don	Nesbitt	2010-04	NFARL Full Member
W4ALS	Allen L.	Shulman	2010-04	NFARL Full Member
KJ4EDM	Charlotte	Nelson	2010-04	NFARL Family Member
K5FSE	Jack	Nelson	2010-04	NFARL Full Member
W4LKL	Neal	Blochinger	2010-04	NFARL Full Member
K4FH	Christopher	Fowler	2010-04	NFARL Full Member
NZ6O	Ron	StJean	2010-04	NFARL Full Member



This is just a friendly reminder regarding your NFARL and ARRL memberships. It has now been 55 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. You should now be receiving automatic renewal notification for your NFARL and ARRL memberships 30 days before your membership expires. This should give you plenty of time to renew on line before your expiration occurs. 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](mailto:N4CLA@NFARL.org) The other piece of this is that your name will automatically fall off the membership roles exactly 365 days after the expiration date. You can, however, automatically renew your membership at any time and the new renewal is just added to the current expiration date. You can do this at [www.nfarl.org/mart](http://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, 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 [www.nfarl.org/mart](http://www.nfarl.org/mart) log in and click on the badge icon. We accept PayPal, personal credit cards, and checks sent to the club mailbox, **NFARL, PO Box 1741, Roswell, GA., 30077.**



## ***Your email address***

Here are some words for thought about your email address. I am not advocating changing your email address but I think that you might want to be made aware of the pit falls of owning an email address offered by your Internet Service Provider (ISP)

In today's world of electronic email, and offers made to you for bundling and the lure of cheaper prices, you tend to loose all your email as the result of taking the bait if you don't take steps to save these emails before moving to your new service provider. There are a lot of you today that have email addresses that have been offered to you by your ISP and also using their WebMail options. These typically are [xxx@charter.xxx](#), [xxx@comcast.xxx](#), [xxx@bellsouth.net](#), [xxx@clear.xxx](#), [xxx@att.xxx](#), email accounts and the list goes on and on.

My suggestion is that you use one of the free email service providers such as GMAIL, YAHOO, HOTMAIL and there are others out there where you are not dependent on your ISP. Remember, they do not care about your email. When you change your ISP, your email account is flushed FOREVER. It is GONE!

All I am trying to suggest is that if you care about your email history, then be proactive. Yes you will have to notify everyone in your email list that you are changing, but you will only have to do this once.

Then we have email accounts that are subscription based. The one that I can think of specifically is the ARRL email forwarding account that ARRL offers. The caveat to this one is that if you are using that email account and you let your ARRL membership expire, then your [xxx@arrl.net](#) goes silently away on the last day of your membership, and people that depend on maintaining contact with you at that address will "NEVER" know that your email account went silent SK, because ARRL does not send a bounce message to the sender that you do not exist anymore. These people that are trying to get in contact with you just think you do not want to communicate with them anymore and that you are ignoring them.

Anyway, these are a couple of things that you might need to consider regarding your email habits.

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## ***July Public Service Opportunity***

David, Ziskind KE4QLH, is looking for another 'army' of ham radio volunteers for this year's **Peachtree Road Race**. Can you join us on Sunday, July 4, 2010 for an Atlanta tradition and fun but important amateur radio public service opportunity. Please contact David at [ke4qlh@arrl.net](mailto:ke4qlh@arrl.net). Also please let him know if you have any preferences in terms of assignment, time constraints, etc.

Thank NFARL members for your continued support of various activities in the Atlanta area



## **Contact Us**

<b>President</b>	Chuck Catledge, AE4CW 770-641-7729	<a href="mailto:ae4cw@nfarl.org">ae4cw@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Vice-President &amp; Training and Education Leader</b>	Wes Lamboley, W3WL	<a href="mailto:w3wl@nfarl.org">w3wl@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Secretary &amp; Community Service Projects</b>	Bill Reed, K4YJI	<a href="mailto:k4yji@nfarl.org">k4yji@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Treasurer &amp; Repeater Trustee</b>	Fred Moore, N4CLA 404-434-4499	<a href="mailto:n4cla@nfarl.org">n4cla@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Past President &amp; Special Events</b>	Mack McCormick, WB4MAK 770-753-4202	<a href="mailto:wb4mak@nfarl.org">wb4mak@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Program &amp; Mid-Month-Madness Chairman</b>	Walt Worn, KJ4HE	<a href="mailto:kj4he@nfarl.org">kj4he@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Field Day Chairman</b>	Ian Kahn, AK4IK	<a href="mailto:ak4ik@nfarl.org">ak4ik@nfarl.org</a>
<b>ARES Liaison &amp; Community Relations</b>	Jim Paine, N4SEC	<a href="mailto:n4sec@nfarl.org">n4sec@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Repeater Operations</b>	Mike Roden, W5JR	<a href="mailto:w5jr@nfarl.org">w5jr@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Web Master</b>	Bill Cobb, K4YJJ	<a href="mailto:k4yjj@nfarl.org">k4yjj@nfarl.org</a>

## **Club Repeaters**

<b>145.470 (-)</b> Echolink Node <b>381631</b>	<b>100 Hz</b>	Sweat Mtn
<b>147.060 (+)</b> Primary ARES repeater	<b>100 Hz</b>	Roswell WaterTower
<b>224.620 (-)</b> Joint Venture with the MATPARC club	<b>100 Hz</b>	Sweat Mtn
<b>443.150 (+)</b>	No Tone	Roswell WaterTower
<b>444.475(+)</b>	<b>100 Hz</b>	Sweat Mtn
<b>927.0125(-)</b>	<b>146.2 Hz</b>	Sweat Mtn



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