



eNEWS August 2010

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 is your **North Fulton ARL eNEWS** for **August 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** – On sabbatical until September
- **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
- **August Club Meeting - August 17** – **VHF and UHF Are Not Just For Repeaters, Bob Mantell, K4ESA**
- **Mid-Month Madness - August 21-22** – **Huntsville Hamfest Road Trip**, join a car pool!
- **Mid-Month Madness - August 29** – **NFARL Day with the Atlanta Braves**
- **Mid-Month Madness - September 4-5** – **Shelby, NC Hamfest Road Trip**, join a car pool!
- **General HamCram - Sept 18** – Living Science Center – See details below. Enroll now!
- **VE Test Session - September 18** – Alpharetta Adult Activity Center, 10 AM - Noon
- **September Club Meeting - September 21** – **Mobile Rig Installation, Mike Roden, W5JR**

Regular Club Meeting - Tuesday, August 17, 2010 - 7:30 PM

PROGRAM: VHF and UHF Are Not Just For Repeaters, Bob Mantell, K4ESA

Bob Mantell K4ESA will be speaking on how to begin using the VHF and UHF bands for more than just repeater contacts. Intended to be an overview of getting started on 6 meters, 2 meters, and 70 cm SSB/CW, Bob will discuss SSB/CW VHF contacts, collecting grid squares, antennas, feedlines and the different types of propagation. Bob is one of NFARL's most accomplished VHF/UHF operators and can also be found on 10 meters, operating SSB and FM.

The August meeting is Tuesday, August 17, 7:30 PM at the Alpharetta Adult Activities Center. Details on the meeting location can be found [here](#).

Pre-Meeting show & Tell: VHF/UHF High Gain and Unusual Antennas. Bring along your high-gain and other unusual VHF/UHF antennas for show and tell. This isn't your father's J-pole!! Doors open at 7:00 p.m. COME EARLY for the best seats!

We meet here: Alpharetta Adult Activity Center, Alpharetta North Park, 13450 Cogburn Road. Turn onto North Park to reach the AAAC driveway & 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.

We Eat before We meet: If you are interested in dinner before the meeting, you can join us at **Dickey's Barbecue Pit** in Alpharetta. It is located at 13075 Highway 9 N, about ¼ mile north of Fry's. Click [here](#) for a map. We meet between 5:30 and 6 PM and leave by 7 PM for the meeting which is just 5 minutes away. The meal prices are \$5 and up. Hope to see you.

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

President's Corner for August



One of the key attributes of our club is “**Hams Helping Hams**”. Of course this idea is not new to Ham radio and goes back to the earliest days when there were few publications, virtually no classes and only a small number of Hams. So, helping each other was the natural way to learn about Ham radio! The term “**Elmer**” arose to signify one who helped others learn the ropes. These “Elmers” played a major role in not only helping Hams get their licenses but also in learning all the practical aspect of getting on the air and operating.

In our modern world of Ham radio we have all sorts of publications, training aids, classes (and don't forget the internet!) to help us learn about our hobby. These are all great, but they largely leave out the person-to-person interaction and personal experience that can make such a difference in how we not only learn but also how we put Ham radio into practice.

I continue to be amazed at the awesome array of talent we have in our club. Some are old-timers but many are relative new-comers. Just think how great the impact would be if each one of us who has a Ham radio talent would share it with just one other club member? How about **helping a new Tech get on the air**, or **coaching a Tech working on their General**, or **helping a new General learn the HF ropes**, or **coaching a small group on digital modes**, or **sharing your contesting or DX skills**, or **coaching our younger members**, or **teaching a small class on using simple test equipment**, or **putting up antennas**, or.....? I'm sure you get the idea!

I challenge every member to identify just one of your talents and then to let [Wes, W3WL](#) or [me](#) know that you would be willing to share that talent with another club member. Don't be shy; you have more to contribute than you can imagine; just click above and send us an e-mail now.

Speaking of being an “Elmer” or “Coach” or Mentor”, we have a General HamCram coming up on September 18. So, here is an opportunity to put your skills and talents to use right away. Our goal is to have each student leave the class with their General license and the name of an “Elmer”. Let's up the ante on what “**Hams Helping Hams**” means at NFARL. How many will say “Just put me in coach!”? Thanks for volunteering!!

73, Chuck, AE4CW

NFARL Day with the Atlanta Braves

Bob Citronberg, KI4GHT has generously donated to NFARL 50 tickets for the Atlanta Braves – Florida Marlins game on Sunday, August 29 at 1:35PM. These upper deck tickets have a great view of the field and are available to on a first-come, first-served basis. To claim from one to a maximum of four tickets, please send an e-mail to Bill, K4YJI with your request (k4yji@nfarl.org). Tickets will be available for pickup at the club meeting on August 17 and at Hungry Ham the following two weeks.



Attendees will have access to the exclusive 755 Club for refreshments and a cool atmosphere, access to parking passes for up to ten vehicles (car pooling encouraged!), and the ability to bring food and drink (no cans or glass) if they will fit under a seat (16" x 16" x 8" soft container).

This would be a great time to invite some of our youth or prospective youth members to ride with you to the game. What a great way to get to know them better. And of course this is an opportunity to share some baseball with family and friends at no cost. We hope to see you at the ball park on the 29th!

NFARL Rig Loaner Program and Sunset of Remote Base Station



Our club has a long and proud history of making loaner rigs available to new Hams. This month we are announcing an enhanced loaner program that will allow more Hams access to more equipment. The program features both VHF/UHF as well as HF rigs such as the Yaesu FT-840. To allow us to serve the largest number of Hams, the loaner period will be limited to a maximum of 90 days. During that time we provide assistance in locating permanent rigs that can be purchased for good prices. If you are interested in securing a loaner rig, please contact one of the club officers.

In concert with the enhanced loaner program we have decided to sunset the club remote base station. Mack, WB4MAK has provided all the equipment (> \$2000) and personally supported the remote base station operation for the past two years. Unfortunately, the software vital to the operation of the station is no longer supported by the author and is technologically obsolete. And, continued local operation and support is not a viable option. Usage of the station has declined over the past year to less than 12 hours per month and fewer than 10 frequent users. So, with a huge "thank you" to Mack for sponsoring and operating this project for the benefit of our club members over the past two years, the NFARL remote base station will sign off the air on August 15.

North Fulton ARES Update

The NFARES will be holding the 2010 SET (Simulated Emergency Test) on Sunday, October 10th from 3-6PM. The simulated emergency will be a hurricane and we are hoping that our preparation will be for a test and not a real hurricane emergency. With your help, we will provide ham radio operators at all Sandy Springs, Johns Creek, Roswell, Alpharetta and Milton fire stations and pass messages between stations using the NTS (National Traffic System) format. Our goal is to be able to pass all messages using simplex and cross band repeaters without using club repeaters that may become too busy during a real emergency. Last year's SET was lots of fun and we are looking forward to having even more fun this year. We will be discussing the SET in detail at our next NFARES meeting on Tuesday, August 10th. Please join us. You can also volunteer by contacting Mike, ad4mc@arri.net.



GENERAL Class HamCram set for September 18

NFARL's next HamCram will be of the General Class variety on Sept. 18 at the **Living Science Center** on North Arnold Mill Road. Full details are on the [website](#) and you do need to register. The cost is \$25 which covers the exam fee (\$15) and a pizza lunch/soft drinks/water all day/etc! People doubt you can learn enough for the General test in one day - YOU CAN'T! You must do preparation work for 3 weeks (minimum) prior to the HamCram Saturday. You should go ahead and get a General Class study guide of some variety (Gordon West?) and begin going through it. Also, once you enroll, you will receive a link to "Crib Notes" which you must study intently prior to the class. Sign up now for the HamCram - General Class. And don't forget that our local North Fulton Library branches and our own Club "Library" may have study guides you can use; just check.



See the [General HamCram Flyer](#) below for additional details!

School News



We have some good activity beginning at two area schools that NFARL is working with at this time. First, Living Science Center which hosted the last Technician HamCram is being outfitted with their station for the coming school year. We currently have six students and 2 teachers licensed at that school and they anticipate a great Radio Club this year at the school. Frances, AJ4JQ, is the trustee of the school club station – KJ4LS. Recently, AE4CW and W4QO installed their antenna and brought in the feedline. Cabinet work should progress this week to the

point where the equipment can be installed. They have an ICOM 718 w/ tuner for HF and a Yaesu 2M radio (NFARL loan-around pool) for that band.

Second, plans are being finalized at the Marist High School working with teacher Roger, N7BU, who has already set up a station there but needs antenna work before school opens soon. Roger has attended two of the ARRL Teacher Institutes (<http://www.arrl.org/teachers-institute-on-wireless-technology>) and expects big things this school year with NFARL help. If you want to be involved, be sure to send a message to w4qo@nfarl.org and in the title put the word SCHOOL.

Service Opportunities

Alive After 5 - Thursday, August 19th

Alive After Five Roswell, Thursday, August 19, 5 to 9 PM. Jim W4QO has a small group of frequent volunteers, but would like to more members drop by and spend an hour or so helping out. Contact Jim at W4QO@nfarl.org



Upcoming Hamfests

The Huntsville Hamfest

Saturday, August 21, 9 AM to 4:30 PM and Sunday, August 22, 9 AM to 3 PM. Check out the details at the website, <http://hamfest.org/Activities.php>

Shelby Hamfest

Dallas, NC 2010, Saturday and Sunday, September 4th and 5th. This hamfest is always Labor Day Weekend. Check out the details at the website, <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org/hamfest.htm>

North Fulton Amateur Radio League Date: Saturday, September 18, 2010

Time: 08:00 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Dayton Hamvention® 2010 Club of the Year

Woodstock, GA 30188

NFARL General HamCram



- Would you like to take the next step in Ham Radio by earning your General Class license?
- If you would like to be on the HF bands within just a few days, this class is designed just for you.
- Experienced instructors will guide you through the process. You will succeed!



Join the North Fulton Amateur Radio League for a **General Class HamCram on Saturday, September 18 at 8:00 AM**. The location is the Living Science Center near the intersection of Fulton, Cobb and Cherokee counties. To enroll you must register on-line at www.nfarl.org via the HamCram button. The deadline for registration is Saturday, August 28th.

Questions? Contact Wes Lambole: w3wl@nfarl.org

Highlights

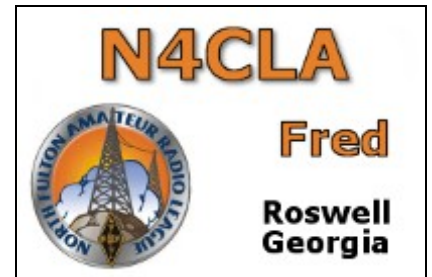
- ◆ Three weeks of reviewing pre-read material before the class
- ◆ One day of instructor training on the material
- ◆ Testing at the end of the day
- ◆ 99% success rate
- ◆ \$25 paid via web (lunch & test fee included)



Sponsored by the
North Fulton Amateur Radio League and
Living Science Home Studies, Inc.

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 and click on the badge icon after you log in. We accept PayPal, personal credit cards, and checks sent to the club mailbox, **NFARL, PO Box 1741, Roswell, GA., 30077**. See me at the meeting or go to the mart and make your order.



ARRL Membership



Thank you for supporting our National organization, ARRL. Our current percentage of ARRL membership in the club is now at **72.4%** down from **74.9%** last month, that represents **205** ARRL members out of **283** 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 www.nfarl.org/mart. If you renew directly with the ARRL, thank you, but please send me an email to n4cla@nfarl.org indicating that you did renew so we can update your club record and also keep current on the memberships.

NFARL Membership

We currently have **283** active members as of the writing of this newsletter. The following members have joined since the June of this year. This list will become a 3 month rolling list starting with the current month and going back 2 months. **Please greet our newest members and welcome them to the organization the next time you see them.**

FirstName	LastName	Call	MbrSince	Membership Role	role_exp	Lic Class
Greg	Johnson	KJ4WNJ	2010-08	Full Member	8/1/2011	Technician
James	Clark	W2OKQ	2010-08	Full Member	8/7/2011	Technician
Amanda	Sahlstrom	KJ4CJW	2010-07	Family Member	7/20/2011	Technician
David	Brackett	KJ4WNU	2010-07	Full Member	7/22/2011	General
John	Cicio	No Call	2010-07	Full Member	7/21/2011	Not Licensed
Peter	Sahlstrom	W4PGS	2010-07	Full Member	7/21/2011	General
Blake	Muscara	KJ4VWS	2010-06	Youth Member	3/13/2013	Technician
Chris	McBride	KI4APG	2010-06	NFARL Full Member	6/6/2011	Technician
Christian	Kuhtz	KJ4VPK	2010-06	NFARL Full Member	6/15/2011	Technician
Dave	Kirschner	K4BWV	2010-06	NFARL Full Member	6/28/2011	Extra
Dawn	Redd	KB3UUD	2010-06	Youth Member	7/2/2019	Technician
Jacob	Caldwell	KJ4VWL	2010-06	Youth Member	6/18/2019	Technician
Jessie	Gay	KJ4VWO	2010-06	Youth Member	6/7/2015	Technician
Justin	Wolozin	KJ4VWW	2010-06	Youth Member	5/3/2016	Technician
Samuel	Ernst-Fortin	KJ4VPI	2010-06	Full Member	6/7/2011	Technician
Stephen	Schreiman	KJ4MWF	2010-06	NFARL Full Member	6/16/2011	General

Renewals

This is just a friendly reminder regarding your NFARL and ARRL memberships. It has now been 1 year and 12 weeks 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, and then one after it does expire.** 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@nfal.org Your membership is good for 365 days from the date you renew or join. The other piece of this is that your name will automatically fall off the membership roles after the 365 days. You can, however, automatically renew your membership at any time prior to the expiration and the renewal is just added to the current expiration date. Please, if you change your email address or are not sure that it is correct, or you have a question about why you are not receiving notifications you can check this by logging into www.nfarl.org/mart. and verifying that your email address is correct.

Contact Us

President	Chuck Catledge, AE4CW 770-641-7729	ae4cw@nfarl.org
Vice-President & Training and Education Leader	Wes Lamboley, 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 Mtn
147.060 (+) Primary ARES repeater	100 Hz	Roswell WaterTower
224.620 (-) Joint Venture with the MATPARC club	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn
443.150 (+)	No Tone	Roswell WaterTower
444.475(+)	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn
927.0125(-)	146.2 Hz	Sweat Mtn



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