



eNEWS Sept. 2010

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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 **September 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 (PL 100) for weekly ARES updates
- **Every Monday** - **Tech Net** – 8:30 PM - 145.47 MHz (PL 100) for technical Q & A
- **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
- **VE Test Session** - **September 18** – Alpharetta Adult Activity Center, 10 AM - Noon
- **General HamCram** - **September 18** – Living Science Center – 20 future Generals enrolled!
- **September Club Meeting** - **September 21** – **Mobile Rig Installation, Mike Roden, W5JR**
- **Mid-Month-Madness** - **October 16** – Jamboree on the Air, Radio Merit Badge class & Picnic
- **October Club Meeting** - **October 19** – **Youth Night at NFARL – Chris, WA4YG on Kit Building & CW; Francis, AJ4JQ on DXing; & Edward, KJ4NRN on Echolink & general fun!**

Regular Club Meeting - Tuesday, September 21, 2010 - 7:30 PM

PROGRAM: Mobile Rig Installation, Mike Roden, W5JR

First licensed in 1968 at the age of 16, Mike developed an early interest in HF mobile operation, mostly on 75 meters. He had the only car in the high school parking lot with a bumper mounted "bug catcher" antenna. Actually, the only car with any HF antenna on it! Finding where he parked was easy. His radio interests expanded to include FM and repeaters, weather spotting, traffic nets and contesting. Mike kept mobile operation as part of his interests as a means to have reliable "radio to go" communications should the conditions warrant. He has installed many a radio in his vehicles over the years and they have kept him company on many trips.

The meeting is at the Alpharetta Adult Activities Center. Details on the meeting location can be found [here](#).

Pre-Meeting Show & Tell: Mobile Rig Installations. Bring your mobile-rig-equipped vehicles for Show & Tell at 6:45 p.m. Small and simple or big and complex – all are welcome. Special parking for Show & Tell vehicles will be available near the entrance. Meeting doors open at 7:00 p.m. COME EARLY for the best parking and 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: Don't forget! - Bring a door prize this month!!

Everyone has a stash of useful items that are gathering dust. Share some of your stash and you will likely come home with something to add back to yours! 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 September



A great big **THANK YOU** to the 13 NFARLiteS who stepped up to the challenge of becoming an "**Elmer**"! There is no better way to serve your fellow hams than to share, teach and encourage. Check out the article by Wes, W3WL below to get all the details.

Everyone remembers the great November 2009 meeting at Roswell City Hall featuring QST's Technical Editor and "The Doctor is IN" columnist Joel Hallas, W1ZR. This year under the able leadership of Mack, WB4MAK, we have an even bigger extravaganza planned. Under the banner of **HamJam 2010** we are bringing two world famous hams to Atlanta on November 13. One is a Nobel Prize winning physicist and weak signal expert, and the other an Amateur of the Year and very prominent author and editor of multiple ham radio articles and books. I won't give away any more details here but look for Mack's article below to get the full scoop. Don't miss this one; it will be a day to remember!

Another meeting you will not want to miss is Youth Night at NFARL on October 19th. Our very own Youth will be presenting the program. Some of the highlights will include: **Chris, WA4YG** talking about his kit building and CW experiences; **Francis, AJ4JQ** describes her quest for DXCC, and; **Edward, KJ4NRN** relating his Technician successes on 10M and Echolink. Stay tuned for more on this program in the October eNEWS.

On Saturday morning, October 16, club members will be teaching radio concepts to a group of Boy Scouts. And by around noon the Scouts will be participating in the Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) with Scouts and Hams from across the US. Everyone is encouraged to come join the scouts and make some JOTA contacts. We will have both HF and VHF station operating. And, we will celebrate with a picnic starting at 1:00 PM. The location is still TBD, but will likely be in one of our North Fulton parks. Watch the NFARL Yahoo Group for more information.

Finally, you will not want to miss hearing **Mike, W5JR** speak about Mobile Rig Installation this month. I look forward to seeing everyone at the September meeting on the 21st at 7:30 p.m.

For now 73,

Chuck, AE4CW

HamJam 2010

By Mack McCormick

Mark your calendars for **HamJam 2010** on Saturday, November 13th from 9 AM until 12:30 PM at Georgia Tech. The map and meeting location can be found on the NFARL and SEDXC websites.

The North Fulton Amateur Radio League and Southeastern DX Club will be hosting three special guests. **Joe Taylor, K1JT**, a Nobel Prize winner, and active ham radio operator will be talking about weak signal work and EME. You also know Joe as the author of the WSJT and WSPR software that so many of us use.



Ward Silver, NOAX, the editor of the ARRL Handbook, frequent QST columnist, and author of Ham Radio for Dummies will also give an insightful presentation on his extensive experience in DXing and contesting. Ward is a very entertaining speaker that you won't want to miss.

We'll also be featuring our own **Hal Kennedy, N4GG**, who will provide a short introduction and demonstration of his Blue Lightning spark gap transmitter. This is a one of kind transmitter in the United States and uses authentic parts from that era.

Admission is free. To defray costs we'll be accepting \$5 or more donations which will give you the opportunity to win an **Elecraft K-3** or **Flex Radio 1500** transceiver. These rigs will make a great addition to anyone's shack.



Please talk this up and invite all your ham and non-ham friends to attend. This is a great opportunity for a university student to interact with a Nobel Prize winner. We'd like to see hams attend from a multi-state area for this special event.

We'll be asking for volunteers later to help with ticket sales, usher duties, and snack sales. You'll have plenty of opportunity to help your club.

This promises to be one of the ham radio highlights of the year that you won't want to miss.

Service Opportunities

Alive After 5 – Thursday, September 16, 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



Chattahoochee Nature Center Halloween Hikes

Friday and Saturday, October 22, 23, 29, 30 from 7 to 10 PM.

Hams will handle logistics along the trail. More details will be available shortly from Charles Turner K0CZR, Net Control for this event.

NFARL Day with the Atlanta Braves

QTH here is Turner Field. WX is perfect. Let's play ball ... roger?

Sunday, Aug. 29, was a great day for peanuts, popcorn, cotton candy, pizza, hot dogs, and, oh yes, baseball, as NFARL members, friends and family gathered at Turner Field in downtown Atlanta to see the Braves take on the Florida Marlins.



Thanks to the generosity of Bob Citronberg, KI4GHT, NFARL members who took advantage of the offer received free Braves tickets, parking passes and goodie bags with souvenirs (including an autographed baseball cap) for the kids. Tickets also allowed those attending to QSY to the exclusive 755 Club (so named in honor of Hank Aaron's 755 career home runs) to savor the game from that exotic QTH.

Based on QSOs with those at the game and numerous posts on the NFARL reflector, a good time was had by all.

Not only did the weather cooperate on a pleasant afternoon with temps in the 80s and bright, sunny skies, but the Braves delivered another of their nail-biting, late-inning come-from-behind finishes to snatch victory from the jaws of defeat at the very last minute. After trailing the Marlins most of the game, the Braves narrowed the gap in the eighth inning before tying the game in the bottom of the ninth as catcher Brian McCann delivered a walk-off home run that was decided by video replay.



And fans got to see Bobby Cox, in his last season as Braves skipper, ejected from the game, adding another notch to his major league record for expulsions.

As an added treat, NFARL Day with the Atlanta Braves was also Bark in the Park day. Some fans brought their favorite canine friends, many decked out in their Sunday best, along to enjoy the game. For the kids and dog-lovers in attendance, it was the icing on the cake.

Tech Net – September Special Guest

Now that TechNet has resumed for the fall, it is the goal to have a guest from outside the local area each month. For our September 20 net session, we have **Craig Johnson, AA0ZZ**, from Shoreview, MN. Craig is a QST author and most recently, the designer of the EZkeyer, which several of our club members have built. Craig will join us and tell us a little about some of his projects. Of course, he'll field questions from our "audience". To see more of Craig's activities, why not review his website? <http://cbjohn.com/aa0zz/index.html>



North Fulton ARES Update



The next NFARES Meeting is September 14, 201 at 7:00 PM. The meeting is at the Sandy Springs Municipal Complex. Topic is "Preparation for the SET".

NFARES/NFARL will be holding the 2010 SET (Simulated Emergency Test) on Sunday, October 10th from 3-6PM.

This year's simulated emergency will be "Hurricane Jay", 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, hospitals and shelters and pass messages between locations using the NTS (National Traffic System) format. Don't worry, we will train you how to use the NTS format.

In fact, you do not have to be an ARES member or have any previous experience with a SET to volunteer to join us for a great time. If this will be your first SET, that's fine. We can buddy you up with another ham at the same location who has worked on a SET before.

We had over 30 volunteers for last year's SET and we are looking forward to having even more volunteers this year.

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.

Please check out the available station locations by clicking on the NFARL Yahoo e-mail link that you should have received in a separate e-mail or by copying the following address into your browser: [set2010_station_locations-master](#)

The set2010-station-locations sheet will be continuously updated until the SET begins, so you will be getting the latest version whenever you click on the link. You can volunteer by contacting Mike Cohen at ad4mc@arri.net or 770-262-5212.



NFARL Elmer Program

What is an "Elmer"? An **Elmer** is a person you can call up and get help on any ham Radio subject you may have questions about. **Elmers** are people that will come to your house or have you over to their house to help you out on anything you are having trouble with understanding in Ham radio. **Elmers** are people that have a great belief in the goodness of Ham Radio and want you to develop that same feeling about our hobby. **Elmers** will want to gain an understanding of where you are and what you want to become in our hobby and will help you achieve that goal.

We have at least 13 **Elmers** in the Club, but, remember that all you usually need to do to get help is post your need on the Club reflector and ask! (What a Club!!!)

The **Elmers** that signed up at the last meeting are: [Bill Reed - K4YJI](#), [Neil Foster - N4FN](#), [Gary Bush - W6GB](#), [John Kludt - K7SYS](#), [Tim Lemmon - WK4U](#), [Joe Camilli - N7QPP](#), [Bill Hampton - W4OO](#), [Mike Roden - W5JR](#), [Steve Mays - KS4KJ](#), [Jim Stafford - W4QO](#), [Wes Lamboley - W3WL](#), [Chuck Catledge - AE4CW](#), and [Mack McCormick - WB4MAK](#). These folks are listed on the web site along with phone numbers. In addition to the Elmers, there is also a listing of "Experts" in various subjects that you may call as well.

The NFARL's motto is "Hams helping Hams" - give it a try if you have not already!

School Radio Station Report

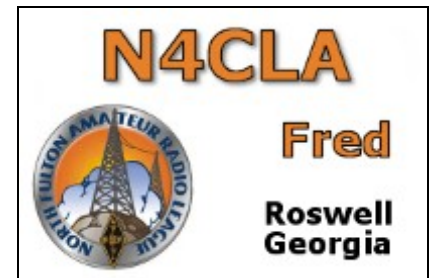
With the help of Chuck, AE4CW, we put the finishing touches on the **Living Science Center's amateur radio station** and it's WORKING! They now have a 40M Double Extended Zepp at about 50', an ICOM 718 for HF with an ICOM AH-4 autotuner, a Yaesu 1802 for 2M and they have internet live in the station.

The club will meet bi-weekly at 3PM on Thursdays. With 3 teachers licensed and 6 students already with a ticket, they should attract some nice attention among others. Listen for them as KJ4LS. Mr. Landrum, KJ4VWR, is our point contact there and Frances, AJ4JQ, is the station trustee. Questions/comments? W4QO@nfarl.org



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 NFARL 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 place your order.



NFARL Membership

We currently have **284** 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.

first_name	last_name	call	mbr_since
Greg	Johnson	KJ4WNJ	2010-08
James	Clark	W2OKQ	2010-08
Ron	Kral	KJ4VWX	2010-08
Amanda	Sahlstrom	KJ4CJW	2010-07
David	Brackett	KJ4WNU	2010-07
John	Cicio		2010-07
Peter	Sahlstrom	W4PGS	2010-07
Blake	Muscara	KJ4VWS	2010-06
Chris	McBride	KI4APG	2010-06
Christian	Kuhtz	KJ4VPK	2010-06
Dave	Kirschner	K4BWV	2010-06
Dawn	Redd	KB3UUD	2010-06
Jacob	Caldwell	KJ4VWL	2010-06
Jessie	Gay	KJ4VWO	2010-06
Justin	Wolozin	KJ4VWW	2010-06
Samuel	Ernst-Fortin	KJ4VPI	2010-06
Stephen	Schreiman	KJ4MWF	2010-06

Please greet our newest members and welcome them to the organization the next time you see them.

ARRL Membership



Thank you for supporting our National organization, ARRL. Our current percentage of ARRL membership in the club is now at **64.7%** down from 74.9% last month. That represents **184** ARRL members out of **284** 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](#) . If you renew directly with the ARRL, thank you, but please send me an email to [N4CLA](#) indicating that you did renew so we can update your club record and also keep current on the memberships.

NFARL and ARRL Renewals

This is just a friendly reminder regarding your NFARL and ARRL memberships. It has now been 1 year and 16 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](#). 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, 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 insure your email address is correct by logging you're your account at [NFARL](#). and verifying that your information is correct. We DO NOT ask for any personal information, credit cards or bank numbers. All we need is phone numbers, email addresses and mailing addresses.

Hints from Webmaster

The recent spate of upgrades and call changes has generated requests like "How do I update my Member info on the NFARL website?" Instructions for most of the requests are available on the Mart "How Do I ..." page, accessible from the Member Roster page on the main site and the Mart Menu. Clicking on either link will take you to the "How Do I ..." page and its instructions on how to change your email address, name, call, license class, license expiration date, and so on. We can add more instructions – let us know when you have trouble finding something.

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
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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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