



## **eNEWS Oct. 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 **October 2010.**



### **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
- **Mid-Month-Madness** - **Oct. 16** – **Jamboree on the Air at Bert Adams Scout Reservation**
- **October Club Meeting** - **Oct. 19** – **Youth Night at NFARL- come see our youth in action**
- **Mid-Month-Madness** - **Oct. 23** – **Softrock SDR receiver kit build at WB4MAK**
- **Stone Mountain Hamfest** – **Nov. 6-7** – **Come see our new ultra-friendly booth concept**
- **HamJam 2010** - **Nov. 13** – **Joe Taylor, N1JT, Ward Silver, N0AX and Hal Kennedy, N4GG**
- **NFARL Holiday Party** - **Dec. 11** – **Five course Italian dinner – Mark your calendar!**

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### **Regular Club Meeting - Tuesday, October 19, 2010 - 7:30 PM**

**PROGRAM: Youth Night at NFARL with Francis, AJ4JQ; Chris, WA4YG; Edward, KJ4NRN**  
**By Jim Stafford, W4QO**

Bring out the kids again this month as our speakers will be some of our NFARL Youth Members. We have almost 20 "youth" on our roster and many are very active hams. So invite your kids, grand kids, neighbor's kids/grand kids, etc. All our speakers have 90 or more countries worked, enjoy rag chewing, contesting, kit building and more.



**Chris Howard, WA4YG** – Chris was licensed less than 2 years ago, progressing to Extra Class in about 4 months. Chris was 13 at the time! He learned CW in about one week and has been an enthusiast ever sense. He also is interested in QRP and has built his own SW-40 transceiver. Chris is active in Boy Scouts and recently completed a major hike at Philmont Scout Ranch in NM.

**Frances Doyle, AJ4JQ** – Frances was already an Extra Class when she heard about our club. She did this on her own without help! Once the Elmer team from our club put up an doublet antenna at 75', Frances was on her way to 100 countries. She initiated the school radio club at Living Science and is the club trustee there. She is currently enrolled at both Living Science and Kennesaw State in her senior year of high school.



## **Regular Club Meeting (continued)**



**Edward Doyle, KJ4NRN** – Edward got the bug after he saw the fun Frances was having and at age 12 got his Technician. Not to be confined to the 2M repeaters, he competed with Frances for rig time using the 10M band to full advantage. Before he passed his General, he had almost 50 countries worked on 10M. Edward is a whiz at contesting and a major force on GOTA this past Field Day. Now that Edward is a General, he has worked a total of 104 countries! Edward also attends Livings Science. And somewhere along the line, their proud dad got his license too (N4JJD)!

Please come out to support our youth. Let's set an attendance record. They will each tell their story of what they enjoy about ham radio. And as a special guest this month, we have Georgia's own Youth Promoter extraordinaire – Andrea Hartlage, KG4IUM, who is no longer a teen but who has been active in every aspect of ham radio and is now a student at GA TECH. Guess what? She is also running for Vice Director of the SE Division of the ARRL. She will represent us well and will be telling us about that at the meeting. Her website is <http://www.southeasterndivision.org>

It's YOUTH NIGHT AT NFARL – don't miss it!

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### **Pre-Meeting Show & Tell: Puzzles and Games for Youth and Adults.**

Come early and join the fun as Youth and Adults try out the **Transistor Toss**, the **Secret Resistor Decoder**, the **Mystery Part Identifier** and last but the most challenging of all **Send and Receive you Name in Morse Code!** Kids and adults of all ages are invited to help each other solve the puzzles and enjoy the games. Be sure to bring your favorite young person to the meeting ..... a niece or nephew, the kid next door who is always looking at your antennas, or just about anyone!!

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**We meet here: Alpharetta Adult Activity Center, Alpharetta North Park, 13450 Coghurn 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.

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**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! **Special Deal!!!** Dickey's is celebrating its 69th anniversary on October 19<sup>th</sup> – our meeting night – and is offering pulled pork BBQ sandwiches for \$1 (max of 2) all day.

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### **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.

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**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 October***



October will be our last regularly scheduled meeting for 2010, and it will be a doozy with **Youth Night at NFARL!** **Frances, AJ4JQ**, will fill us in on the joys of DXing with over 100 countries in the bag, **Chris, WA4YG** will relate his experiences building a SW-40 CW rig and getting it on the air, and **Edward, KJ4NRN** will challenge our Technician members to try out the 10M band. The youth are all about what Ham radio is and what it will become with their leadership. I hope you will make a special effort to join us for this meeting and share the enthusiasm these new hams have for our hobby.

November is right around the corner and everyone is thinking about elections, right?! Well, NFARL is going the jump the gun and vote early. The election of club officers for 2011 will be held at the October club meeting on October 19th. In addition to any nominations from the floor the Board of Directors is pleased to present the following slate for your consideration:

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| President      | John Tramontanis, N4TOL. John is an avid DXer with 292 countries to his credit. He has been a member of NFARL since 1988 and has served as vice-president of the SEDXC. John brings a strong set of leadership skills to the job and will be an excellent president.                       |
| Vice-President | Wes Lambole, W3WL. Wes is currently serving as vice-president as well as our leader for Training and Mentoring. Wes' passion for helping Hams improve their skills and learn new skills served our club well this year and he has plans in the works for enhancing these programs in 2011. |
| Secretary      | Bill Reed, K4YJI. Bill is doing a great job as club secretary while also serving as managing editor of eNEWS. Bill has some new ideas in the works for eNEWS which you will be hearing about very soon.  |
| Treasurer      | Fred Moore, N4CLA. No club has a better treasurer than Fred. NFARL is very fortunate that Fred is willing and able to serve us so well. We all look forward to his continued contribution in 2011.   |

On a related note, please remember to return the ballot you just received from the ARRL for Director and Vice-Director of the Southeastern Division. The Board recommends you vote for Greg Sarratt and Andrea Hartlage for these positions.

Last but not least, buy your tickets now for **HamJam 2010 on November 13**, and mark your calendar for the **Holiday Party on December 11!**

For now 73,

Chuck, AE4CW

# HamJam 2010

By Mack McCormick

Mark your calendars for **HamJam 2010** on Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> 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. Net proceeds from the raffle will be donated to the NFARL and SEDXC scholarship funds.

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**The Mart now has raffle tickets on sale. Click [here](#) to buy raffle tickets at our Mart. You can also purchase them at the door or from a member of the NFARL Executive Committee.**

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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.

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## ***Tech Net – October and November Special Guests***

The October special guest will be a representative of DX Engineering.

The November special guest will be Neil Foster N4FN. Neil has 50 years of ham radio experience and is an active DXer with 322 countries confirmed and numerous DX awards. He operates both from a base station at home and mobile. His topic will be Ham Radio Deluxe.



## Service Opportunities

**Alive After 5** – Thursday, October 21th, 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](mailto: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. Details are available on the [NFARL web site Public Service page](#). Contact Charles Turner K0CZR at 770-943-7686 to

volunteer.

### AMRC Stone Mountain Hamfest

AMRC Stone Mountain Hamfest, Saturday and Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup> 8 AM to 4 PM and 7<sup>th</sup> 8 AM to 2 PM. NFARL Volunteers will be needed to staff the club booth in 1 to 2 hour shifts. Contact Bill @ [k4yji@nfarl.org](mailto:k4yji@nfarl.org)



Check the [NFARL web site Public Service page](#) for more details.

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## Software Defined Receiver Build

There will be a building session on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8 AM at the QTH of WB4MAK. This session is open to people who have previously ordered and already received their SoftRock Lite II kits from Tony Parks. We can accommodate about 10 -15 builders at this session. The goal is to learn how a software defined radio works and to build a simple software defined radio. It promises to be educational and a lot of fun. You'll also gain experience with soldering surface mount experience. Everyone should leave with a working receiver.



## NFARL Software Defined Receivers on the Web



NFARL now has three software defined receivers available for monitoring your signal or for listening on the web. You can even listen at work! You may access these at <http://wb4mak.com>. The receivers cover 80M, 40M, and 20M. Full technical details and operating instructions are on the website. Enjoy this great resource.

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## North Fulton ARES Update



The next NFARES Meeting is November 9th at 7:00 PM. The meeting is at the Sandy Springs Municipal Complex.

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

44 hams at 34 locations in 5 cities made the 2010 NFARES SET a great success.

We passed over 60 messages among the fire & police departments, hospitals and shelters in all five North Fulton cities; Alpharetta, Milton, Roswell, Sandy Springs and Johns Creek.

Our Net Control Station operators coordinated three separate nets into a single North Fulton communications center: Area Wide NCS, **Wayne (KG5WU)**; Alpharetta Police HQ, **Scott (N4SBD)**, 2M NCS and **Jim (N4SEC)**, 440 NCS; Roswell Alpharetta Public Safety Training Center (RAPSTC), **Marty (N4JDO)**, 2M NCS and **Scott (KB4KBS)** & **Dave (KD4ICT)**, 440 NCS; Sandy Springs 911 Emergency Operations Center; **Matt (AJ4NT)**, 2M NCS and **Tom (W4UOC)**, 440 NCS.

Many hams who took part in this SET were newly licensed or new to the community service aspect of ham radio.

We also forwarded a wireless message through the ARRL National Traffic System (NTS) to a non-ham location in Washington state via D-Star/D-Rats, AirMail/WinLink and CW/NTS.

"WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS - AMATEUR RADIO" was clearly demonstrated at the 2010 NFARES SET



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## NFARL Elmer Program

An Elmer is a person you can call up and get help on any ham Radio subject you may have questions about. We have at least 13 Elmer volunteers in the Club: 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.

We need additional volunteers. Contact Wes, W3WL at [w3wl@nfarl.org](mailto:w3wl@nfarl.org) to volunteer.

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

## 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. To the right 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 N4CLA at the meeting or go to the [Mart](#) and place your order.



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## NFARL Membership

We currently have **285** active members as of the writing of this newsletter. The following members have joined since the June of this year.

first_name	last_name	call	mbr_since	class
John	Jones	KJ4VPJ	2010-10	General
Daniel	Bushee	KJ4PQS	2010-09	Technician
Larry	Gantt	KJ4YOT	2010-09	Technician
Manu	Rao		2010-09	Not Licensed
Zac	Hinds	KJ4PRE	2010-09	Technician
Greg	Johnson	W4GMJ	2010-08	Technician
James	Clark	W2OKQ	2010-08	General
Ron	Kral	KJ4VWX	2010-08	Technician

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

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## ARRL Membership



Thank you for supporting our National organization, ARRL. Our current percentage of ARRL membership in the club is now at **66.3%** up from 64.7% last month. That represents **189** ARRL members out of **285** 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](http://www.nfarl.org/mart) . If you renew directly with the ARRL, thank you, but please send me an email to [n4cla@nfarl.org](mailto:n4cla@nfarl.org) 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 20 weeks that we moved all of our membership to the [www.nfarl.org](http://www.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. As with all database migrations, there will be exceptions. So 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) . 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 if you do not renew. 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, please log in to your account at [www.nfarl.org/mart](http://www.nfarl.org/mart) and insure your email address is correct. We DO NOT ask for any personal information, credit cards numbers or bank account numbers. All we need are your phone numbers, email addresses and mailing addresses.

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## ***QRP in the Park NFARL Style***

A few NFARL members, QRP types, have been gathering on Sunday afternoons behind the main house at Leita Thompson Park (Highway 92 in Roswell) usually around 2:00PM.

If you have a QRP rig and would like to join in, please feel free to drop by. Who knows what you might hear or contact!! There is plenty of room for a half dozen or so operators.

Bob KI4GHT in action operating QRP:



Photo by Mark K4PGR



## 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 Water Tower
<b>224.620 (-)</b> Joint Venture with the MATPARC club	<b>100 Hz</b>	Sweat Mtn
<b>443.150 (+)</b>	No Tone	Roswell Water Tower
<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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