



eNEWS Sept. 2011

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 this month’s **North Fulton ARL eNEWS.**



HamJam2011

October 22

hamjam.info

Bring \$5 or \$20 to the September meeting or Hungry Hams (or go to NFARL MART) to buy raffle ticket(s) to help pay expenses and infuse our scholarship fund. See you there!

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)
- **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 Edward Doyle KJ4NRN and others
- **Second Tuesday** - **NF ARES meeting** - 7:00 PM at the Sandy Springs city office complex
- **Third Tuesday** - **Club Meeting** - September 20 - Wes Lamboley W3WL – “The Basics of HF Phone Operation”
- **VE Testing Session** - September 24 - 10:00 AM - Alpharetta Adult Activity Center
- **HamJam 2011** - October 22 - Roswell Cultural Arts Center

Program Update / President's Corner for September

The program for our September meeting will address "The Basics of HF Phone Operation". The presentation will be by our very own Wes Lambolely W3WL (at left) with a little help from some friends. This should be a great lead-in to our club theme for October, which is "Get on HF" month for NFARL.



Of course, we have already set the groundwork for this event with many club members chipping in to achieve DXCC for the club call sign NF4GA on Logbook of the World (LOTW). This goal was achieved in early September. Congratulations to all who contributed their contacts and a thank you to Dave Higdon KD4ICT,

who coordinated this effort!

For the remainder of September and the month of October the club will promote an initiative to get members to use their HF privileges, whether Technician, General or Extra.

As you may be aware, NFARL is one of the sponsors of the T32C DXpedition to Christmas Island, which is scheduled to take place September 28 through October 26. We encourage all in the club to try to contact this operation.

For those who are new to HF, we hope that Wes' presentation will provide you with some of the tools, information and impetus to move forward. If that is not enough, there will be many Elmers available to help you get started in the right direction. If you do not have an HF station, no problem, as there will be an "open house" program where club members will open their shacks to share the HF experience with interested club members.

To conclude next month, NFARL and the Southeastern DX Club will be presenting HamJam 2011 on October 22. This event will feature some of the most prominent speakers and personalities from the amateur radio world.

73 - I look forward to seeing you at the meeting on September 20 and I hope to hear you on the bands!

John N4TOL



Braves Game a Big Hit for All

More than 50 NFARL members along with family and friends enjoyed watching the Atlanta Braves defeat the Los Angeles Dodgers on Sunday afternoon, September 4, during the Labor Day weekend. Bob Citronberg KI4GHT donated the tickets, parking passes and Chipper Jones bobble-head dolls to NFARL. Those attending also had access to the exclusive 755 Club. The Braves won the game 4-3 on a Martin Prado walk-off single in the bottom of the ninth.

Emergency Drill Volunteers Needed / Mike Cohen AD4MC

The 2011 NF ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) is Sunday, October 16, from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

Thanks to the 34 volunteers who have already signed up, we are well on our way to exceed last year's record number of 43. It would be great to emulate the success Dave Higdon KD4ICT is having with his NF4GA DXCC LoTW goal and make it all the way to the magic number of 100 SET volunteers this year!

We need your support to volunteer to be at one of the 40+ locations in six north metro cities: Alpharetta, Milton, Roswell, Johns Creek, Dunwoody and Sandy Springs.

Check out [set2011_station_locations-master](#) to see the specific locations.

Ideally, we will have up to four volunteers at each location, so let Jim Stafford W4QO (w4qo@nfarl.org) or Mike Cohen AD4MC (ad4mc@nfarl.org, 404-981-8624) know which location you want.

You can always get the latest information at <http://nfarl.org/ares/ares.html> and <http://nfares.nfarl.org/>.

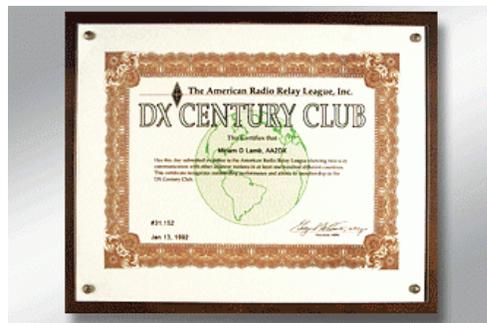


It's Time for Club DXCC Happy Dance! / Dave Higdon Jr. KD4ICT

Things certainly took off over the past month. On Labor Day we received our 100th match on LoTW! 9M6XRO in East Malaysia was number 100. Now we have the credits and more for DXCC. Thanks to everyone who submitted logs and also to those who attempted contacts but never made the QSO. I know a couple of members said they tried but couldn't beat some of the pileups. All efforts are appreciated. On a couple of nights, I saw NF4GA on CW Skimmer knocking them off pretty quickly. That was cool.

We have 296 contacts in our LoTW log with 138 matches. Of these, 101 are unique entities. We will see what our totals are down the road. Who knows, maybe someone will decide we can shoot for Honor Roll.

I will continue to add contacts to our log. So, if you have the opportunity to work some of the ones we don't have confirmed, please continue to submit your ADIF files or the details to award@nfarl.org and we will see how far we can go.



Yes, a Book Can Boost Your Signal / Keith Plossl K4KRX

I learned many years ago that my speaker quality limited my music listening quality. Sure, the amplifier played a role as did the quality of records and CDs, but even studio grade electronics make low-quality sound without studio-grade speakers. There seems to be a great similarity between speakers and antennas. The speakers transform an electronic signal into air-pressure waves. The antenna radiates power and receives signals back from distant locations. The antenna is key. As one NFARL ham put it, if you can't hear 'em, you can't work 'em.

To help our members hear 'em and work 'em, the library has several books on antennas and DXing. These books discuss the role of both low SWR (impedance matching) and far-field radiation patterns to help communications with distant stations. What does your north far-field pattern look like? When I got asked that question, I had no clue. I got that info on my G5RV antenna and learned my pattern varied depending on band and antenna orientation. A quick glance at an azimuthal map centered on Atlanta revealed that having a major pattern lobe headed north will help determine if India, Pakistan and Nepal are even possible as receive locations.

Our book of the month for September is Low Band Dxing - 4th Edition by John Devoldere ON4UN.

A ham donated it when the 5th Edition was published. The book covers far-field radiation patterns and achieving low SWR losses by impedance matching. Read this book and see if you get a broad-based understanding of antennas and transmission line matching for low band DXing. This is a great book, I'm told. Let me know by email at kplossl@bellsouth.net if you want to borrow it.

General HamCram Rescheduled

The General Class HamCram originally scheduled for Saturday, October 1, is being postponed until November. Tentatively, the new date is Saturday, November 12. The location will be determined later. Cost is \$25.00, which includes drinks and pizza for lunch. The class will start promptly at 8:30 AM and will conclude after testing at 4:00 PM.

Don't miss this opportunity to upgrade and have a lot of fun on the HF bands! Plan to sign up early on the NFARL Mart (http://www.nfarl.org/mart/General_HamCram_2011), as this class will probably fill up quickly.

You Can Update Your NFARL Info / Fred Moore N4CLA

Have you upgraded since you joined NFARL?

Does your membership reflect your current license class?

- Go to http://www.nfarl.org/roster_v3/roster_v4.php
- Each and every one can update all of your personal information in your NFARL record by logging into <http://www.nfarl.org/mart/>.
- Every NFARL customer record is unique only by your email address.
- Literally every field in your record can be managed by you.
 - Be sure that when you make any changes to your information, go to the bottom of that page and click on the <Submit> button, otherwise, what you changed or added will not take affect or be stored

- You can renew your membership at any time. If you renew before your membership expires, the new renewal time is added to the end of your current membership.
 - You will receive an email 30 days before your membership expires as a courtesy. At the end of this 30-day window, you will receive another message that your membership has expired.
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Public Service / Bill Reed K4YJI

HamJam 2011 – October 22. Volunteers will be need for set-up, visitor greeting, selling raffle tickets, etc. Contact Bill Reed K4YJI.



Chattahoochee Nature Center Halloween Hikes – October 21, 22, 28 and 29. Volunteers will be needed for crowd control. Contact Charles Turner K0CZR.

Atlanta Marathon – October 30. Volunteers will be needed for health and safety communications. Contact David Ziskind KE4QLH.



Alford Memorial Radio Club – Stone Mountain Hamfest – November 5. Volunteers will be needed for set-up, booth tending, and tear-down. Contact Dave Brackett AK4CL.

Atlanta Half Marathon – November 24. Volunteers will be needed for health and safety communications. Contact David Ziskind KE4QLH.

Contact information for all events is on the NFARL website along with more details in the [Public Service Section](#).

Contact Us

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Club Repeaters

145.470 (-) EchoLink Node 560686 NF4GA-R	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
147.060 (+) Primary ARES repeater	100 Hz	Roswell WaterTower
224.620 (-) Joint Venture with the MATPARC club	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
443.150 (+)	No Tone	Roswell WaterTower
444.475(+)	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
927.0125(-)	146.2 Hz	Sweat Mountain



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