



## ***eNEWS October 2011***

[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 this month's **North Fulton ARL eNEWS.**



## ***HamJam 2011 – October 22***

The big Saturday is almost here!

From **9:00 AM to 12:30 PM** on **October 22** at the **Roswell Cultural Arts Center**, three **top-notch speakers** will talk amateur radio.

- **Kay Craigie N3KN**, president of the ARRL, will probe "The Future of Amateur Radio."
- **Tom Rauch W8JI**, a ham for 49 years, will uncover "Antenna Myths."
- **Eric Swartz WA6HHQ**, one of the founders of Elecraft, will explore "Starting a Ham Radio Company."

It's all **FREE** and so is the parking!

**REMINDER: THERE WILL BE NO MEETING ON OUR REGULAR MEETING NIGHT.**

You can help support this event by purchasing raffle tickets (\$5 each; five for \$20) for **valuable prizes** (full info at [www.HamJam.info](http://www.HamJam.info)).

You may also buy tickets through a NFARL or SEDXC representative, through NFARL MART at [www.nfarl.org/mart/HamJam\\_2011\\_Raffle\\_Tickets](http://www.nfarl.org/mart/HamJam_2011_Raffle_Tickets), or AT THE DOOR or during the 11:00 AM BREAK.

**See you there!**



## Summary of Upcoming Events and Dates

- **Every Wednesday** - Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch - 11:00 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
  - **Mid-Month Madness** - **JOTA** - **October 15** - Atlanta Athletic Club Field, Johns Creek
  - **Simulated Emergency Test** - **SET** - **October 16**
  - **October Club Meeting** - **No meeting for October** - **HamJam replaces**
  - **HamJam** - **October 22** - Roswell Cultural Arts Center – 9:00 AM
  - **VE Testing Session** - **October 29** - Alpharetta Adult Activity Center – 10:00 AM
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## *President's Corner for October*

I would like to start by acknowledging the enlightening presentation given on "The Basics of HF Phone Operation" at our September meeting by Wes Lamboley W3WL and Ian Kahn AK4IK with a little help from yours truly. As our club theme for October is "Get on HF Month," the material was very timely.

For October, 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 (see details in this newsletter). We are privileged to be a part of and to have an event of this magnitude right here in our own backyard of Roswell. Be sure to attend and take advantage of this great opportunity.

Speaking of opportunities, the HF bands have been on "fire," literally, with favorable sunspot activity that has created openings on all bands at various times of day to spots all over the globe. As I write this column, the T32C DXpedition to Christmas Island in East Kiribati (of which NFARL is a sponsor), has been active on all bands and all modes around the clock. They have been worked by many club members already, so make sure you put them in the log. They will be active until October 26 so there will be plenty of chances to get them on different bands and modes.



Also in October, club members will be participating in two important events: The Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) on Saturday, October 15, and the 2011 North Fulton ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on Sunday, October 16 (see details on both in this newsletter). Both of these activities -- supporting scouting and participating in emergency communication preparations -- are key ways we as amateurs show the value of our spectrum and skills in using it. So, please pitch in and volunteer.

73 - I look forward to seeing you at HamJam on October 22 and I hope to hear you on the HF bands in October!

John N4TOL

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## **Get Involved With Kids, JOTA / Jon Wittlin K4WIT**

NFARL will join other amateur radio clubs and individual operators to participate in Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) on Saturday, October 15. The local event will take place at the Atlanta Athletic Club Field, 1930 Bobby Jones Drive, Johns Creek. This year's theme is Peace, Environment and Natural Disasters, an exciting activity that focuses on the strength of Scouting to act and support in unforeseen circumstances. Since 1958, JOTA has been an annual event in which Scouts and Guides all over the world speak to each other via amateur radio. Each year about half-a-million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves during JOTA.

For full information on JOTA, please see

[http://scout.org/information\\_events/events/jota/the\\_54th\\_jota\\_2011](http://scout.org/information_events/events/jota/the_54th_jota_2011)

Volunteers are appreciated. We will be setting up at 4:00 PM Friday and will be operating from 7:00 AM Saturday. Any radio-related displays or exhibits are welcomed and encouraged! If interested in helping, please respond directly to me at [k4wit@nfarl.org](mailto:k4wit@nfarl.org). If you can't help at the field, please make contacts with the Scouts, many of whom can be found on or near the following frequencies:

Band	SSB	CW
80 m	3.690 & 3.940 MHz	3.570 MHz
40 m	7.090 & 7.190 MHz	7.030 MHz
20 m	14.290 MHz	14.060 MHz
17 m	18.140 MHz	18.080 MHz
15 m	21.360 MHz	21.140 MHz
12 m	24.960 MHz	24.910 MHz
10 m	28.390 MHz	28.180 MHz
6 m	50.160 MHz	50.160 MHz

## **Simulated Emergency Test on October 16 / Mike Cohen AD4MC**

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

Thanks to the 47 volunteers who have already signed up, we have exceeded last year's record number of 43. There is still time to sign up to join this team that is representing NFARL and the North Fulton ARES.



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](mailto:w4qo@nfarl.org)) or Mike Cohen AD4MC ([ad4mc@nfarl.org](mailto: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/>.

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## ***Sign Up Now for Next HamCram / Wes Lamboley W3WL***

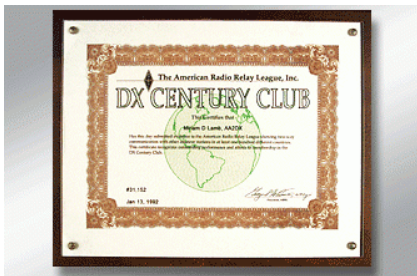
NFARL will be holding a General HamCram on Saturday, November 12 at the Living Science Center, 4095 N. Arnold Mill Rd., Woodstock. The session will begin at 8:00 AM and end about 4:00 PM with the completion of testing and grading of the General exam. The new General instructional materials will be made available to all participants immediately upon registration.

Cost of the class, including all fees, lunch and refreshments is \$25.00. All persons currently holding a Technician Class license wishing to upgrade to General may register at [NFARL Mart](#). Please sign up immediately, as at least three weeks review of the materials provided is recommended before attending the HamCram session! The class will be limited to 25 people. If registration exceeds 25, NFARL members will have priority in participation.

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## ***NF4GA at 109 Confirmed DXCC Entities / Dave Higdon KD4ICT***



We are still receiving submissions for our club DXCC award and they are being added to the log. We currently have 109 confirmed entities. Our QSL rate has surpassed 50 percent. You can continue to submit your NF4GA contacts to [award@nfarl.org](mailto:award@nfarl.org)

Thanks to Logbook of the World, we accomplished our goal very quickly. For those of you not yet submitting your personal logs to LoTW, maybe this will motivate you. If anyone needs assistance with LoTW, please contact me at [kd4ict@nfarl.org](mailto:kd4ict@nfarl.org) and I will be happy to

help.

For those who have contributed, your certificates will be distributed at HamJam 2011 on October 22. For those unable to make HamJam, we'll catch you at a meeting or at Hungry Hams.

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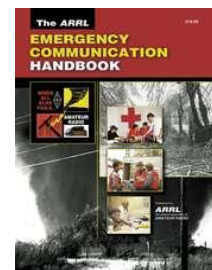
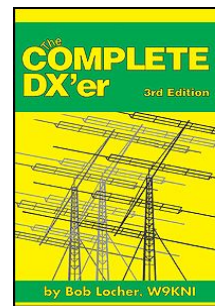


## ***Two Books Explore Timely Topics / Keith Plossl K4KRX***

There are two major events for NFARL in October: The T32C DXpedition to Christmas Island and the ARES Simulated Emergency Test. The library has two books recommended on these topics: The Complete DX'er by Bob Locher W9KNI and The ARRL Emergency Communication Handbook edited by Steve Ford WB8IMY.

The Complete DX'er covers how to build the skills needed to be more effective at DXing. It does assume that hams can also use CW. However, reading between the lines, one can learn the all-important lessons of how to listen. Listening is key to DXing in the author's view. This could be a very valuable book for those who are interested in more effective DXing.

The second book is The ARRL Emergency Communication Handbook, which explains how emergency communications help during real emergencies. The fact is that when all else fails it is volunteer radio amateurs who handle the communications during local and national emergencies. This book covers emergency communications from beginning to end as a beginner needs to understand it.



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## ***My New Motto: Just Do It ... / Chuck Catledge AE4CW***

Many of you know that I'm pretty anal about perfecting my antennas, so I thought I'd share my alter-ego antenna story.

I was determined to work T32C, the DXpedition to Christmas Island, on as many bands as possible while at the beach this past week. Unfortunately, I had only vertical antennas for 40 meters through 10 meters, but I had been lucky to work the DXpedition on each of those bands except 40 meters. Of course, I had made sure that the verticals were perfectly tuned with SWRs well under 2:1 and was also sure that had helped me snag T32C so easily.

As luck would have it, while looking for them on 40, I found then calling CQ on 80 CW ... and I didn't have an 80-meter antenna! Bummer! But, for some reason I pushed the antenna tuner button to see if there was a chance of tuning the 40-meter vertical ... and amazingly it worked! And, more amazingly, I worked T32C on either the first or second call.

I got to wondering how much power I was actually radiating, so I went out with my AIM-4170 antenna analyzer and measured the 40-meter vertical on 3.51 MHz where the T32C had been calling CQ. The SWR was **290:1** (yes, really!) with an R of 4.3 ohms and an X of -245 ohms. With 100 feet of RG-8 and RG-8x coax, I calculated that 7 watts was getting to the antenna and considerably less than 1 watt was being radiated .... real QRP.

So, I now have a new motto: ***If the SWR is less than 300:1, call CQ!***



## ***Is Your Member Info Up to Date? / Fred Moore N4CLA***

Have you upgraded since you joined NFARL? Or do you have a new address? Or maybe you have changed phone numbers or your email address? Does your membership reflect your current license class and expiration date?

- Go to <http://www.nfarl.org/mart>
- Log in with your user ID and password.

Look on the left side of the page and find <**My Account**>.

When the **My Account** page is displayed, it will show what is in your account. If you see something that needs to be updated, notice which one of the categories needs to be changed, then look on the top line and click <**Edit**>. You will find a matching category. Select it, make the change and be sure to go to the bottom of the page and select <**SUBMIT**>, otherwise your changes will not be completed.

Each and every one of you can update all of your personal information in your NFARL record.

- Each and every NFARL customer record is unique only by your email address.
- Every field in your record can be managed by you.
- 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.
- When you make changes to your data, be sure to go to the bottom of the page and select <**SUBMIT**>, otherwise your changes will not be completed.

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## ***Public Service / Bill Reed K4YJI***

**HAMJAM** Volunteers will be needed for HamJam 2011 for set-up activities, visitor greeting, soliciting donations, etc. We need at least 10 volunteers to be at the [Roswell Cultural Arts Center](#) at 7:45 AM on Saturday, October 22. Contact [Bill Reed K4YJI](#) for more information and to volunteer.

**Chattahoochee Nature Center Halloween Hikes** – October 21, 22, 28 and 29. Twelve to 14 volunteers will be needed each night for crowd control and safety issues. Contact [Charles Turner K0CZR](#) or by phone – 770-943-7686 to volunteer.

**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 and 6. Volunteers will be needed on Saturday for set-up, booth tending, and tear-down. For more information and to volunteer, contact [Dave Brackett AK4CL](#).

More details on volunteer opportunities for all events are on the NFARL website in the [Public Service Section](#).

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## **Contact Us**

<b>President</b>	John Tramontanis N4TOL 770-789-9188	<a href="mailto:n4tol@nfarl.org">n4tol@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 770-993-5758	<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>	Chuck Catledge AE4CW 770-641-7729	<a href="mailto:ae4cw@nfarl.org">ae4cw@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Program &amp; Mid-Month-Madness Chairman</b>	John Kludt K7SYS	<a href="mailto:k7sys@nfarl.org">k7sys@nfarl.org</a>
<b>Field Day Chairman</b>	Scott Straw KB4KBS	<a href="mailto:kb4kbs@nfarl.org">kb4kbs@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 560686 NF4GA-R	<b>100 Hz</b>	Sweat Mountain
<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 Mountain
<b>443.150 (+)</b>	<b>No Tone</b>	Roswell WaterTower
<b>444.475(+)</b>	<b>100 Hz</b>	Sweat Mountain
<b>927.0125(-)</b>	<b>146.2 Hz</b>	Sweat Mountain

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