



*North Fulton
Amateur Radio League
NFARL eNEWS*

October 2018

*Over 40 Years Promoting
Service | Friendship | Education | Fun*

www.nfarl.org



NFARL October Club Meeting Program:
Bouvet Island

Presented by:

Bob Allphin, K4UEE

Bob Allphin has participated in, led, or co-led DXpeditions to ELEVEN of the DXCC "top 10 most wanted". They are Baker/Howland (#8), Heard Island (#4), Bhutan (#3), South Sandwich Islands (#6), South Georgia Island (#10), Peter I Island (#4), Lakshadweep (#2), Desecheo Island (#6), Saba/St. Eustatius (all-time new one), Amsterdam/St. Paul (# 4) and Navassa Island (#1). In 2012, the HKØNA Malpelo Island DXpedition ranked #12 "most wanted", set a new World Record for QSOs for non-hotel, non fly-in DXpeditions.



Bob is a member of the CQ DX Hall of Fame and the Board of Directors of INDEXA.

He will be presenting a program this month on "Bouvet Island" at the NFARL meeting on Tuesday, October 16th.

Bob's presentation includes photo highlights of the DXpedition and at the island, the Betanzos vetting process, key learnings, planned refund of remaining funds, his discussion of a second attempt, and personal observations.

NFARL Upcoming Events and Dates

- **Every Sunday — NFARES net** - 8:30 PM - 147.06 MHz (+) PL 100
All licensed Hams are welcome, you do not need to be an ARES member!
- **Every Monday — Tech Talk** - 8:30 PM
147.06 MHz (+) PL 100 and Echolink node 560686
NFARL's flagship technical based "non check-in" net. The net is always better when using the web based chat room but Internet is not required to join the net. Check NFARL Nets [website](#) for more information and "how to".
- **Every Wednesday — Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch** - 11:15 AM
Meet with your fellow club members every Wednesday!
Slope's BBQ, 34 East Crossville Road, Roswell.
- **Every Thursday — YL OP Net** – 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM
147.06 MHz (+) PL 100 and Echolink node 560686
Check NFARL Nets [website](#) for "how to."
OM's (guys) are welcome to listen in to this YL net.
Great opportunity to get your YL's on the radio!
- **Every Saturday — Royal Order of the Olde Geezers (ROOG) Lodge No. 1**
9:00 AM - Reveille Café, 2960 Shallowford Road, Marietta (at Sandy Plains and Shallowford). Everyone is welcome: You don't have to be "old" or a "geezer" to join this breakfast get-together.
- **Second Saturday – VE Testing** - 10:00 AM
NFARL provides Amateur (Ham) Radio test sessions on the second Saturday of each month - Walk-ins are welcome, no appointment is necessary. All exam modules are offered at all sessions.
Location: [Alpharetta Adult Activity Center at North Park](#)
13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004
Please check our [website](#) for more information.
- **Second Tuesday — NFARES Meeting** - 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Fellowship Bible Church, 480 W. Crossville Road, Roswell.
Check [NFARES.org](#) for more information.
- **Third Tuesday — NFARL Club Meeting** - **October 16, 2018**, 7:30 PM.
Pre-meeting activities begin at 7:00PM.
Location: [Alpharetta Adult Activity Center at North Park](#)
13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004
Program: "Bouvet Island" by Bob Allphin, K4UEE
- **Fourth Tuesday – NFARL Executive Team Meeting**
October 23, 2018, 7:00 PM
Location: [Arbor Terrace at Crabapple](#)
12200 Crabapple Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004
Meetings are open to all NFARL members. Space is available on a first arrival basis. Please contact the [President](#) to ensure available space.

Hints and Hacks (sort of) / Jim Stafford, W4QO

Here are a number of ideas/thought/tricks that I've come across lately and thought I'd share them.

1. Old QSTs – I suppose I'm the only repository of old QSTs in the club. Folks are always "offloading" their old copies to me. I try to give them away as much as possible. But here is what I've found – I challenge you to pick up an old QST – even those more than 10 years old – leaf through it and NOT find one article idea of interest to you. Recently, I scanned through a couple of old copies. One was from August 1984 issue of QST. On page 32 there is a sidebar entitled Inverted VEE Revisited. There is a continuing dialogue about whether an Inverted VEE is "as good as" a horizontal dipole. It was interesting reading. Oh, you don't have the August 1984 issue of QST? You can probably get it from me or as an ARRL member, you can access past issues online. This page is from an article you can read at: http://p1k.arrl.org/pubs_archive/75671

2. Joel Halas, W1ZR, who spoke at HamJam #1 in 2009 writes the "Doctor Is In" each month in QST and are always great reading. We can scour QST issues and spend hours reading old "Doctor Is In" columns or we may buy a compilation of a massive number of his responses in the relatively new ARRL book –The Best of The Doctor is In. Believe me, you can enjoy this book almost on a continuous basis and you read and reread it. W0RON says he remembers Joel was not too positive in his comments at HamJam #1 regarding End Fed Half Wave antennas. I don't remember that comment but I did not find it expressed in his book as he explains how the Zepp antenna works and why it's called that. On page 8, he seems to give some good comments on the Zepp which is an EFHW.

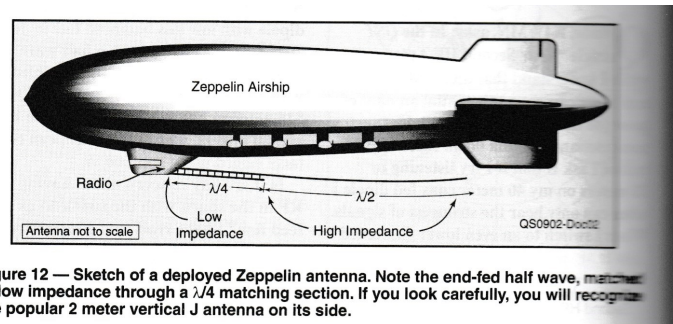
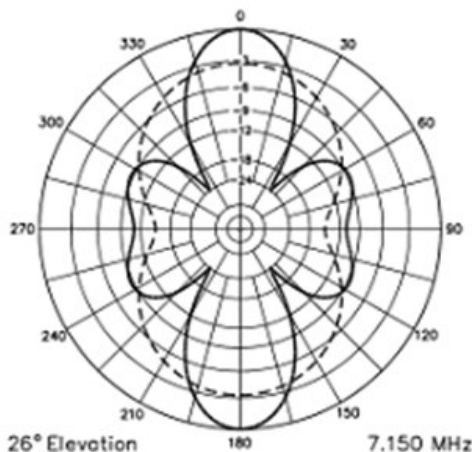


Figure 12 — Sketch of a deployed Zeppelin antenna. Note the end-fed half wave, matched to low impedance through a $\lambda/4$ matching section. If you look carefully, you will recognize the popular 2 meter vertical J antenna on its side.

3. At the September 30 shack visit to my house, some were not familiar with my Extended Double Zepp antenna. They should not feel alone as many hams I speak to on the air are also not familiar with that antenna. We've mentioned the ZEPP antennas but what is an Extended Double Zepp? First, let me mention that I had dinner with Roy Lewallen, W7EL, (I know – name dropper) at Dayton one year. Roy is most known for his EZNEC program. I asked him why we do not seem to hear of a $5/8$ wave antenna being used on HF? He kindly reminded me that that EDZ antenna is $2 \times 5/8$ wave antennas side by side. Oops, egg on face.. as I think I already was using the EDZ antenna at that time. If we take the Zepp antenna shown in the drawing, put two of them end to end, extend each half wave to $5/8$ wave we have the EDZ antenna. My EDZ is 178' long as I recall



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and is matched to 50 ohm with a 19 foot section of ladder line. There I transfer to coax. Many of you will say that this looks like a G5RV. Well, it is in a way. It a doublet of a certain length and matched to 50 ohms. Since I am using it on multiple bands, I leave off the balun as mentioned by G5RV himself. Mine has a very nice match right at 7.175 MHz and covers the entire band nicely. It has some gain off the sides, not much, and I have that "gain" pointed toward Europe. For a nice article on the EDZ, see this one by Rudy Severns, N6LF http://rudys.typepad.com/ant/files/antenna_colinear_zepp.pdf who calls it the Double Extended Zepp.

We always discuss these kinds of things at the club's weekly TechTalk net on Mondays at 8:30PM.

NFARL Maker Sig Update / Roger Shaddick, N7BU

FireLabs I stopped by and took a tour of the Firelabs Maker Space the other day. I missed a couple of club members that left before I got there and one who was already there.

They've been doing some wiring in the building during the week. I will post on the reflector the next time they plan on doing more wiring.

They plan on a soft opening sometime in November with the grand opening sometime next spring.

They are still looking at about \$50 for a single monthly membership, but they haven't decided yet. We talked about the support the club could provide. We even discussed the possibility of a joint membership arrangement.

They are installing an RFID system in the building that would control access to the building and equipment. This means two things for us as a club. NFARL club members could have access to the building and the radios, but not the rest of equipment unless they have a Firelabs full membership. It also means the Firelab members that do have an amateur licenses could also use the radio equipment.

I did a visual site survey for possible antennas locations. There is a cupola on the top of the roof that might be used for a VHF/UHF antenna. I think we would have to limit the HF antenna to some type of wire antenna. However, any structures added to the building or grounds would require the approval of the city since they still own the building. There is also a very nice room that they are going to use a classroom. It would provide a space we could conduct ham crams and testing.

Maker Faire 2018 is coming up. Saturday & Sunday, October 27-28 at Georgia Freight Depot (10:00am-5:00pm) – Speakers, workshops, exhibits, demonstrations, food etc.

Maker Faire is a gathering of fascinating, curious people who enjoy learning and who love sharing what they can do. From engineers to artists to scientists to crafters, Maker Faire is a venue for these "makers" to show hobbies, experiments, projects. We call it the Greatest Show (& Tell) on Earth - a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity, and resourcefulness.

<http://atlanta.makerfaire.com>

Well Shucks Story / Larry Byrnes, AA4QO

About six months ago I started having trouble with a lot of noise on the 145.470 (Sweat Mountain), and the 147.060 (Roswell) repeaters. I suspected my antenna, and/or something emitting noise from inside or near the house. I spent a lot of time grumbling about this problem, and yet not doing anything about it.

Finally, I decided that it was interfering with the ARES net and Tech Talk and I needed to find the problem. The first step was to check the antenna. My 2M antenna is a Discone antenna, mounted on the NW corner of my house. This had worked well for two and a half years because the Sweat Mountain repeater was Northwest of me, and the Roswell repeater was North of me.

Getting the antenna down and back up is a tricky affair because it is 13 feet up one side of the house with an eight-foot drop on the adjacent side. At my age 21 feet is a long way down. But with the help of my son I managed to get the antenna down, inspected and remounted without tragedy. There was nothing wrong with the antenna. That left me with the feeling that it was some sort of noise or my radio is bad. I tried an entire home blackout with no change in the problem. I then borrowed a radio from Grant, KK4PCR and eliminated the radio as the problem. So, it HAD to be noise.

Then, the Roswell repeater was repaired, and suddenly no problem with hearing the Roswell repeater! But, the Sweat Mountain repeater is still an issue.

At this point I need to point out that I am not only a relatively new HAM, I sometimes get off on the wrong track. So, during the next Tech Net I finally started paying attention to all the nice meters on my radio and noticed that it isn't noise, but instead the signal is dropping out intermittently. So, something is getting between me and the Sweat Mountain repeater. I live just below the top of the Northridge ridge, and so far, I had no problem receiving Sweat Mountain over the edge of the ridge. But just out of curiosity I walked up the ridge, climbed a couple of fences and looked over the top of the ridge. There before me was an answer. The old ranch style house that used to be over the ridge, had been replaced with two three-story stone homes. I checked with my neighbor and he told me they had been there about six months, the same time I started having problems with reception!

Mike – AD4MC suggested that I just slide those two houses to the left a bit. But, before I had a chance to do that, move my antenna, or raise my antenna higher, the Sweat Mountain repeater was taken out of service. Well shucks, problem solved.

President's Note:

Again, many thanks to everyone that has offered suggestions and resources for a new repeater location. We have several viable options before us and if all goes as well as expected we may have the 145.47 back on the air before the end of the year.

Thanks for supporting NFARL.



HAMJAM 2018

It's All About Youth!

Saturday - November 10, 2018- 8:15am - 1:00pm **VE session- 8AM (Pre-Register)**
Mill Springs Academy (WA4MSA) - 13660 New Providence Road - Alpharetta, Georgia 30004

Presented by the North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Endorsed by

**SouthEastern DX Club - Alford Memorial Radio Club - Cherokee Amateur Radio Society - Atlanta Radio Club
North Georgia QRP Club - Chattanooga Amateur Radio Club - Silver Comet Radio Club
Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society - Sawnee Amateur Radio Society - Kennehoochee ARC**

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DX Engineering - Ham Radio Outlet**

NFARL and our sponsors are pleased to present an event to raise funds that will be used to encourage youth to get involved in Amateur Radio and its related STEM education activities.

The event is open to all and it is **FREE** to attend, thanks to our sponsors and your generosity in **purchasing raffle tickets**. 2017 HamJam prize winners: <http://hamjam.info/Raffle/RafflePrizes.html>

Presentations begin at 9AM as we welcome this year's speakers:



Dale Parfitt, W4OP, Glenville, NC, is the owner of PAR Electronics, Inc and is the designer of the original end fed dipole series -End Fedz and the Omniangle line of horizontal omni VHF/UHF antennas. More info: www.parelectronics.com Dale will speak on **Microwave Earth-Moon-Earth Communications**.

Rick Boulis, N4HU, and **Tom Harrell, N4XP**, from right here in Georgia-home of many premier DXpedition teams, will speak on their role in the Baker Island DXpedition in mid-2018. See reverse for details and speaker info re: **"FT-8; Baker Island and Beyond"**

Jeri Ellsworth, AI6TK, Palo Alto, CA is a self-taught electrical engineer who works in the space industry and is heavily involved in the Maker/Hacker movement. Check: www.jeriellsworth.com An acknowledged speaker, she will talk on **"My Life in a High Tech World"**.



Raffle tickets are available for a \$5 donation per ticket (or 5 tickets for \$20) and will be available at the Stone Mtn HamFest, at many endorsing club meetings, at HamJam itself

and are available online at www.nfarl.org/mart

You need not be present to win raffle prizes.

HamJam Benefits Youth Programs! 100% of net proceeds from HamJam apply to youth, education, scholarships, materials, and STEM activities ONLY!

Support HamJam and Youth Programs by purchasing your raffle tickets.

Check details at www.hamjam.info

10/9/2018

Officer Slate for Board of Directors for 2019

/ John Kludt, K4SQC

Every year we have the opportunity to elect the Board of Directors for the upcoming year. In September President Daryl Young appointed John Kludt, K4SQC, Terry Joyner, W4YBV and Roger Shaddick, N7BU to the Nominating Committee. We are happy to say that we have completed our work and per the Bylaws present to the memberships of the North Fulton Amateur Radio League the following slate of officers for 2019:

- ♦ President – Daryl Young K4RGK
- ♦ Vice President – Jim Stevens KJ4QVT
- ♦ Secretary – Martha Muir W4MSA
- ♦ Treasurer – Fred Moore III N4CLA
- ♦ Membership – Stephen Kemp WB4CVB
- ♦ Activities – Bob Hensey K4VBM

We feel this is a very strong slate of officers. There is a nice mixture of currently serving officers and officers new to the Board of Directors. There is a good mixture of long time, really long time (Fred!) and newer members to the club. After a call for nominations from the floor, **there will be a vote on the slate of officers at the October meeting.** Once affirmed, the new officers assume their duties effective with the close of the Holiday Party this December.

On behalf of the Nominating Committee I want to thank all who participated in this process. I want to especially thank those who stepped up and are willing to serve on the North Fulton Amateur Radio League Board of Directors in 2019.

Short biographies of each of the nominees follow.

President—Daryl Young, K4RGK

Originally intrigued with electronics at age seven I was one those kids that took everything apart, and usually got it all back together and working again! Building breadboard circuits, listening to shortwave and sending Morse code messages across the house via wires with my father was a good start towards radio. Getting licensed to transmit was never on the horizon during those years so it was much later in life when the Ham radio bug took hold.



After reaching DXCC I shifted my radio time to the Amateur Radio Satellites. On the "birds" I collect grids, make QSO's on the SSB satellites, download and decode telemetry and occasionally work some digital mode satellites. I recently achieved VUCC-Satellite.

Currently serving as NFARL President I have served on the NFARL Board of Directors for three consecutive years.

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Vice President—Jim Stevens, KJ4QVT

Originally from Maryland, I had always been interested in electronics since my Dad brought home a textbook on electronics from the school where he taught. Amateur radio developed from that interest but the code requirement was too daunting. In High School the electronics shop teacher tried to encourage pursuing a license but life was already complicated by that point and there just wasn't time.



At 16 I joined the local fire company and found a passion for serving the public. Many times I found myself on the back of an engine in the wee hours of the night knowing full well I could be home in bed instead. After my fifth trip to the emergency room to deal with progressively serious injuries, I felt God had a different plan for me and so I accepted a transfer from Hewlett-Packard Company to go to the Atlanta office.

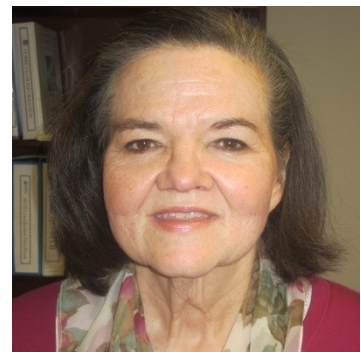
Many years passed and I was raising a son who had a great interest in Scouting and a daughter with special needs. While I was down sized, I was talked into going with the troop to summer camp. There my son and I took the Radio merit badge course from Rial Sloan (AI4ZV) from Tunnel Hill. It was his passion for the hobby that was the final push. In 2009 I passed the Technician test and got my ticket.

With the encouragement of Jim Millsap, I joined the Cherokee radio society and found I had an interest in again serving the public through ARES. At the time I was commuting from Woodstock to Norcross and found myself spending a lot of time on the late North Fulton repeater. It was through friendships and encouragement found there that I pressed on to General and joined the club. Here I again found the opportunity to serve through NFARES and continue to increase my involvement as time permits.

I look forward to serving The North Fulton group as Vice President and hope to have much more success than another Vice President from Maryland, Spiro T. Agnew...

Secretary—Martha Muir, W4MSA

I have been a ham for 7 years now and a member of NFARL for nearly 6 years. My interest in ham radio is using it as a means to promote STEM in the classroom. I am presently serving as the Section Youth Coordinator and Assistant Section Manager for Youth for the Georgia Section of ARRL. I am grateful to NFARL for all their help with the Amateur Radio program at Mill Springs Academy.



Treasurer—Fred Moore, N4CLA

I first acquired my Novice call KN8NXX in 1958. I served 4 years in the USAF 1961 – 1965 during the Bay of Pigs. Went to work for IBM in 1967 and retired in 1992. During my tenure with IBM I moved to Roswell in 1977. In 1978 I installed the first NFARL repeater on 145.47 MHz at the water tower located at Woodstock



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St. and Minhinette Dr.

I have served in most NFARL BoD capacities since my move to Roswell in 1977 and have served as Treasurer for most of that time. I have been married to my beautiful bride Catherine for 37 years.

Membership Chairman—Stephen Kemp, WB4CVB

I have been a Ham for 54 years, first licensed as WN4VND in Summer of 1964. I have participated in RACES and ARES and was one of the first participants in ARRL Emcom courses.

I passed Amateur Extra at 2:30 AM April 15, 2000 at the Southeast VHF Society convention.

I am currently a VE with NFARL Team and a member of the USCG Amateur Radio Club. I had a secondary call sign WB1COX while stationed in Connecticut with the USCG in the 70's.



Radio Officer with Civil Air Patrol and USCG Auxiliary. NFARL member off and on since 2000. My daughter got her license through Ham Cram in December 2015 and has since become a General. She has a vanity license that was my Fathers' WD4BDQ. He was first licensed 11 years after I was.

Activities Chairman—Bob Hensey, K4VBM

I still consider myself a newcomer to ham radio, going on 5 years.

I received a Technician Class license in 2013 and was assigned the call KK4VBM by the FCC, but didn't operate very much. I upgraded to General Class in April 2014, applied and received the vanity call, K4VBM, and acquired a used Kenwood TS-870 transceiver.

With the help of elmer, N2OBH, I constructed my first dipole antenna using home-made ladder line for feedline and a borrowed Johnson Matchbox 250 tuner and I was loose on the HF bands!

Upgraded to Extra Class June 2016. Still working on learning CW.

Member of NFARL (since 11-2014) and GARS, OMISS member, Feld Hell Club member, SKCC member and 10-10 Intl member.

I was appointed to the Advisory Board of eQSL for 2018, I'm also an eQSL Support Volunteer.

I love to operate HF (especially digital modes) and chase DX (160 confirmed on LoTW). I do some contesting and I'm a member of the Georgia Contest Group. I'm currently in the top 25 in the ARRL 2018 Grid Chase Contest.



WSJT-X Version 2.0 On The Horizon / John Kludt, K4SQC

The FT8 development Team has been hard at work on Version 2.0. A number of the issues as well as “wants” and “needs” from WSJT-X 1.9.1 are being addressed in this new release. Added or enhanced features will include:

- Better support for compound call signs
- Improved support for North American VHF contests
- Support for ARRL Field Day
- Support for ARRL RTTY Roundup
- Support for EU VHF contests

Not too many of us will be participating in the EU VHF contests but the addition of support for Field Day could be a real game changer. If you haven’t seen it yet, on the <Advanced> tab under setting you check ARRL Field Day, enter your exchange (typically “3A GA” for NFARL) and you are off to the races. Could not be easier!

Contest support and the other enhancements come at a cost, however. The message structure has been expanded to 77 bits from 72 bits and that means when fully implemented the WSJT-X V2.0 message structure will not be backward compatible with WSJT-X 1.9.1. So to make this all work we all need to stay on the latest version. If you like to beta test there are three release candidates for testing purposes –rc1, -rc2 and –rc3. One of the things that made operating somewhat difficult with V1.9.x was operators who installed a beta release and then continued to run it. Learning from that experience, or so I would surmise, the development team for V2.0 has built expiration dates into all of the v2.0 beta releases. The release schedule is as follows:

- September 17: –rc1 (expires October 31)
- October 15: –rc2 (expires November 30)
- November 12: –rc3 (expires December 31)
- December 10: –GA (full release of WSJT-x 2.0)

It is important to stay current, especially with the General Release on December 10, 2018, if you are planning to use MSK144 in the ARRL January VHF contest. MSK144 messages generated with 2.0 cannot be decoded by 1.9.1 and the converse does not work either. FT8 and MSK144 have had a decided impact in the VHF contest realm and being current will be key to enhanced scores.

The WSJT Development Team is doing some great work here and we can support them by staying on the correct and current version of the software. Further information can be found at https://physics.princeton.edu/pulsar/k1jt/Quick_Start_WSJT-X_2.0.pdf

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eNews can be located online at:

<https://www.nfarl.org/enews/eNewsIndex.html>

Club Repeaters

Frequency—Description	P.L. Tone	Location
* 145.470 (-) EchoLink Node 560686 NF4GA-R	100 Hz	TBD
147.060 (+) Primary ARES Repeater	100 Hz	Roswell Water Tower
* 224.620 (-) Joint Venture with MATPARC	100 Hz	TBD
443.150 (+)	100 Hz	Roswell Water Tower
* 444.475 (+)	100 Hz	TBD
* 927.0125 (-)	146.2 Hz	TBD

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