Roswell Georgia 30077
P.O. Box 1741
North Fulton Amateur Radio League
The Monthly News Letter of The
Scutch Tales
May 1992
SECURITY SYSTEMS

HOW SECURE IS YOUR HOME OR AUTO?

HAVE YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAD THEIR AUTO OR HOME BROKEN INTO?

THE LOSS CAN BE DEVASTATING. NOT JUST BECAUSE OF THE ITEMS TAKEN BUT DUE TO THE HELPLESS FEELING THAT COMES WITH A ROBBERY.

NOW YOU CAN FIGHT BACK AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE.

AS AN INDEPENDENT DISTRIBUTOR FOR QUORUM INTERNATIONAL, I HAVE WIRELESS ALARM SYSTEMS THAT YOU HAVE TO SEE. ALSO AVAILABLE IS THE PAAL. THIS IS A PERSONAL ATTACK ALARM. ONLY $30.00. FOR MORE INFORMATION......

DIGITAL PAGER 533-6195
HOME PHONE 404-396-1555

SOME DISTRIBUTOR OPPORTUNITIES STILL AVAILABLE.

STEVE KNITTEL KC4YBO
SQUELCH TALES
THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE

NORTH FULTON AMATEUR RADIO LEAGUE
P. O. BOX 1741
ROSWELL GEORGIA 30077

Editor - David Fellows KD4APK
HOME 404 889-2677 FAX 404 809-5199

President David Vanderwelle KC4AGK
Vice-President David Fellows KD4APK
Treasurer Fred Moore N4CLA
Secretary Hal Myers K4JHM

REPEATERS
145.470 Mhz out (+ 0.6 Mhz)
147.060 Mhz out (+ 0.6 Mhz)
444.475 Mhz out (+ 5.0 Mhz)

NFARL BBS
522-0868 (1200-2400-9600 B N 1) Dan Turner WA4BRO SYSCOM.

Articles for the NFARL newsletter may be sent on disk (ASCII text format) by mail to David Fellows P. O. Box 1651 Cumming GA 30030 or upload via modem (in ASCII text format) to the NFARL BBS ATTN: DAVID FELLOWS KD4APK

MAY 1, 1992 VOLUME 1 ISSUE 5

NORTH FULTON AMATEUR RADIO LEAGUE REPEATER GUIDE
145.47 -

OPEN COMMANDS

USER COMMANDS:

#1 ECHO MODE * = 0*N EMERGENCY PATCH
#2 DEVIATION TEST * = 1*N USER PATCH
#3 DTMF TEST * = 2 PATCH REDIAL
#4 TIME * = 7 MAILBOX
#5 SINAD TEST * = 8 OPEN MAIL
#6 * = 10 CHANGE PASSWORD
#7 * = 12 RECORD USER NAME
#8 * = 20 SPEEDIAL MAINT
#9 * = USER# + PASSWORD
#9 PLAY ANNOUNCEMENT N = NUMBER TO DIAL

* = VOICE INPUT # = CANCELS FUNCTION

200 CHEROKEE #00 = POLICE
300 COBB #10 = FIRE
400 DEKALB
700 FULTON
800 GWINNETT
IF YOU MISSED THE LAST MEETING, YOU MAY HAVE MISSED THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME TO GET A DEAL OF THE CENTURY. 10 METER RIGS WENT FOR $25.00, COMPUTERS WENT FOR $5.00 UP, SOFTWARE WENT FOR $1.00 UP, PRINTERS WENT FOR $5.00 AND ANTENNAS WENT FOR $5.00 UP. ANYONE WHO WAS THERE WILL TELL YOU IT WAS ONE OF THE BEST MEETINGS YET.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE PRESENTED BY THE SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB. IF YOU ARE A NO CODE TECH, A NEW HAM OR A SEASONED AMATEUR RADIO OPERATOR YOU WILL BE INTERESTED IN WORKING THE WORLD DX STYLE.

WORKING 2 METERS IS FUN, ENJOYABLE, ENTERTAINING AND LIFE ENRICHING. YOU CAN DONATE YOUR TIME AND TALENT TO VARIOUS CIVIC EVENTS. YOU MIGHT EVEN SAVE A LIFE BY CALLING FOR HELP ON YOUR 2 METER RIG. VHF AND UHF, AS YOU KNOW, ARE EXTREMELY POPULAR ESPECIALLY SINCE THE NO CODE LICENSES ARE ABUNDANT IN RECENT MONTHS. DON'T FORGET ABOUT HF THOUGH. PERSONALLY I ENJOY COLLECTING QSL CARDS. MY SHORT TIME GOAL IS GETTING A WORKED ALL STATES - CW, CERTIFICATE, (WAS). NOT ONLY IS IT A CHALLENGE WORKING TOWARDS THE CERTIFICATE, BUT READING THE COMMENTS ON THE BACK OF THE RETURNED QSL CARDS ARE A REAL TREAT. FOR EXAMPLE, TWO STATIONS DIDN'T EVEN HAVE A QSL CARD SO THEY DREW THEM OUT BY HAND, ONE ON THE BACK OF A POSTCARD AND THE OTHER ON A PIECE OF PAPER. SOME STATIONS ENCLOSURE A LETTER WITH THE QSL CARD. ONE OF MY MOST TREASURED WAS A 30 YEAR OLD HAM WHO DIDN'T HAVE A QSL CARD, COULD BARELY WRITE AND COULD HARDLY SPELL. HE DREW A COMPLETE QSL CARD AND WROTE A LETTER TELLING ME HOW HE ENJOYED OUR SHORT QSO. IT MUST HAVE TAKEN HIM THE WHOLE NIGHT DRAWING THE CARD AND WRITING THE LETTER. SO THERE IS A LOT MORE TO WORKING HF THAN JUST THE CONTACT, THERE ARE REWARDS THAT FOLLOW. ARE YOU INTERESTED?

DAVE Vanderwall K04SV

HAM OF THE MONTH

STEVE KNITTEL

STEVE IS OUR FIELD DAY EXPERT. LAST YEAR HE CO-ORDINATED THE SUCCESSFUL EVENT AND ONCE AGAIN THIS YEAR IT SHOULD BE BIGGER AND BETTER, THANKS TO STEVE. STEVE HAS BEEN MARRIED TO HIS WIFE, ANN, FOR 30 YEARS. THEIR DAUGHTER, LYNN, IS A STUDENT AT KENNESAW COLLEGE AND WORKS FULL TIME. LYNNE IS STUDYING FOR HER TECH LICENSE AND IS A BROWN BELT. STEVE HAS BEEN AN AMATEUR RADIO NO CODE TECHNICIAN FOR 1 YEAR WITH A GOAL OF OBTAINING A GENERAL TICKET. WORKING FOR THE ATLANTA JOURNAL AND HEAVY INVOLVEMENT IN PUBLIC SERVICE UTILIZING HIS 2 METER PRIVILEGES HE KEEPS QUITE BUSY. STEVE HAS WORKED THE MS 150 BIKERIDE, 4 REGATTAS, GEORGIA STATE GAMES, PARADES ETC. IN 1983 STEVE MOVED TO ROSWELL FROM WATERLOO, IOWA, OUR CLUB SHOULD FEEL VERY PROUD TO HAVE STEVE KNITTEL AS A MEMBER. IF YOU DON'T KNOW STEVE, YOU SHOULD. HE ATTENDS EVERY MEETING, WRITES THE FIELD DAY COLUMN IN THE NEWSLETTER AND IS ALWAYS TALKING ON 145.47. THANKS FOR YOUR ENTHUSIASM STEVE.

DAVE Vanderwall K04SV
Only 45 days till F D '92. HAVE Y O U signed up ?????????

That's the right number of days left till FUN DAY - FAMILY DAY and oh yes some still call it FIELD DAY.

The pre-planning is complete. Some volunteers have come forward and for that I THANK YOU. I still need someone to help with the publicity work. It really, is very easy.

Much of the equipment has been tentativly lined up. WE still need to build another loop antenna for the front field. I would like at least 2 novice/techs to step up and take charge of that station. I have access to the antenna, to a tent, etc. All you have to do is coordinate the process. These are valuable points we get to add to the club total. Ask Bill KC4YRW how much fun last year was.

I am still open to suggestions as to what YOU ALL want at YOUR Field Day. Remember this is a TOTAL club activity.

Items for my still NEED list: at least 1 more generator, 2 would be better; small A/C unit for the main building; 40' ladder; 6 long tables; HELP HELP HELP ... --- ...

To those of you who are not already on one of my LISTS... Let me hear from you SOON as to what Y O U would like to do for FD. This will save me or one of "helpers" from having to give you a phone call. PLUS you get first crack at the neat assignments........

73's

STEVE KC4YBO Beeper 533-6195 Voice Mail 231
Treasurers report Submitted by N4CLA, Fred L. Moore III

Checking account balance as of 04/08/92.............2,605.79

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Petty Cash Balance:...............................200.23*

Savings Account Balance 12/31/91:................2,450.85

Account activity

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Savings Account Balance 03/31/92:................1,118.22*

Total Balance as of 04/20/92:.....................4,320.24**

Bills due to be paid in 1992

Monthly Newsletters

(835.00 ea/mo x 12)............420.00

Telephone Bills

(Mar - December 1992 & $50.00/Mo x 12mo) 500.00

(145.47/147.06).................420.00

Insurance Radio/Computer Equipment ....100.00

Repeater site rental.................420.00

Projected bills total..............1,440.00
The list of addresses follows this note.

I have volunteered for many events during my time as a ham radio operator. In all other events, I would have to say that the interaction between the hams and the sponsoring group has always worked well. The end result of this event has definitely change the way hams will perform communications. Prior to the First Union Grand Prix, we worked together with a verbal agreement. Now I feel some formal Memorandum of Understanding will have to be in place for future events.

I have no ill feelings towards the First Union Bank. Without their sponsorship, an event like this would have never taken place. They are to be commended for making the investment in time, money, and personnel.

If there are any comments about the attached letter, please direct written comments to the P.O. Box listed above. I do not wish to discuss or argue the letter with anyone.

Sincerely,
Alan

The American Radio Relay League
Mayo Health System
Chief Executive Officer
Chief Don Hile
Major Holly
Marvin Arrington
Tommy Jenkins (AFC/EMA)
Governor Zell Miller
Wick Galley
Roswell/Alpharetta HamWatch, Inc.

The opinions in this letter are mine and mine alone. They do not represent the opinions of Roswell/Alpharetta HamWatch, Inc. While some people have associated me with the group and feel that I represent it, this has never been the case. I have always and still will act independently of any group when I find it necessary.

I thought each and every ham in the United States should be privileged to what has gone on with an event that Roswell / Alpharetta HamWatch, Inc. had agreed to do and what has happened with it. Please make sure that this letter gets posted to your club's BBS and gets put into a newsletter.

First, the event was the First Union Grand Prix. Our organization was supposed to provide backup safety and emergency communications for the event. No problem. Hams have done that for various groups thousands of times a year. But this time we encountered a new potential problem... Rioting and protesting against the Rodney King decision. We decided for "OUR OWN PERSONAL SAFETY AND WELFARE" not to participate.

Let me give you a detailed explanation why.
The City of Atlanta (Mayor Maynard Jackson and Chief Eldrin Bell) have given what we felt was the "politically correct" response to the rioting. "The City guarantees that there will not be any trouble." "The rioting is not near the event." "Mayor Holy and Mck and Chief Bell feel that you are over-reacting."

My response is very simple. The City would never admit that they cannot handle a problem with the Olympics coming. Here's one example: The City severely underestimated the number of officers needed for the Braves World Series Welcome Home Parade. The City had 1 officer for approximately each 2,500 people. Many officers were academy trainees and not fully trained to handle a crowd. I believe I have the numbers right.

"We (The First Union Grand Prix folks) feel that you are over-reacting and displaying a 'SUBURBAN MENTALITY.' You are sitting there watching the rioting on TV and think it is widespread." I have been told by a highly reliable source that random acts of violence were occurring outside the "hot spot."

As first the phrase 'SUBURBAN MENTALITY' didn't bother me. I thought I was in the middle of some type of name-calling by hot-heads and just brushed it off. But as more people read this letter and commented about it, I did get upset. First some biographical data is in order:

I was born at Emory Hospital in 1947. I lived on Piedmont Avenue between 13th and 14th Streets. I went to Clark Howell Elementary on Tenth Street between Peachtree and Piedmont. My grandfather had a grocery store at the corner of Juniper and Sixth Street. When I moved I went to Morningside Elementary. I used to go shopping at Rich's when the only Rich's was downtown. I used to walk to Ponce De Leon Ball Park and watch the Atlanta Crackers play baseball. I graduated from Grady High, attended Georgia State University when it was Georgia State College. I served 3 years in the Army from 1968 until 1971. After the Army, I moved back into Metro Atlanta. And I'm still a resident of Metro Atlanta. Mayor Jackson might even recall when he bought groceries from my Aunt Adina on Sunset Avenue. I don't remember him, but I do remember the store. Not only am I a "Native Atlantan" and an urbanite, but my whole family has a history in Metro Atlanta.

I didn't plan to go into a personal history, but I think that it is important to show that I did not exhibit a suburban mentality. I tried to present to the First Union Grand Prix folks my reasons for not participating. When they realized that they were not going to change my mind with their opinions, they tried to portray me as some type of suburban bigot.

Let me give you my personal feelings on the rioting and the potential for trouble at the race. First, rioting mobs will search out the best location for media coverage. What better place for a riot than on Atlanta's World Famous Peachtree Street? To make the pot sweeter, there will be international athletes competing. And the best part is that the Fox Network and Sports South will be covering the event. Local media will also be there.

Second, the City of Atlanta Police Department has been requesting additional help from outlying communities. Atlanta PD was even receiving specialized "riot items" prior to the weekend. Do they need additional riot gear and 1 POUND CAP-STUN GRENADES if there isn't going to be any trouble? If they are "covering their behinds" just in case, why can't we cover ours the only way we can?
Third, Majors Holly and Mock of the Atlanta Police Department were
each going to deploy 35 to 40 officers along the route. The
Fulton County Sheriff's Department will be providing additional
support also. The Sheriff's 'help' will be what was originally
called the Posse and is now called the Reserve. They are
volunteers just like us. To me the police coverage seems a little
thin for an event that is expected to draw around 100,000 people.
The police to crowd ratio is just about 1 officer for every 1,000
people.

Fourth, is it possible to tell a ham radio operator from an
off-duty or undercover officer? After all, we carry radios, some
wear D badges, some have special hats, and some wear bright
orange vests that say "EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS". Every ham knows
the answer to this one. If we look like 'em, wouldn't it make
good sense to an angry mob to go for the police look alike rather
than an a "civilian"?

Finally, if there is going to be additional police coverage "just
in case", exactly why would we be needed? Would the 10 to 12 hams
requested provide adequate coverage? HAM COMMUNICATIONS WOULD BE
AN INVALUABLE AID DURING A RIOT, BOTH FOR LOCATING PROBLEM AREAS
AND PROVIDING ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCIES. This is
the exact situation we wanted to avoid.

Here is a brief chronology of what has happened since we made our
decision to back off. On Thursday, April 30th, a group decision
was made to notify the First Union Grand Prix folks of our plan to
back out. They asked that we hold off on our decision until 2 pm
on Friday May 1. A good part of the day Friday was spent deciding
what to do. We felt that backing out was still the best plan. I
spoke to their representative while at home Friday evening. I
once again explained our decision.

On Saturday morning, I heard from representatives of International
Cycling Productions and WSB AM Radio. They once again echoed the
City's feelings that there would not be any problems. I once
again explained our concerns and I stated that I personally could
not ask any ham to put themselves into this situation. About 15
minutes later I heard from the lawyer representing the First Union
Grand Prix. We re-hashed the same stuff again. Since I would not
listen to his reasoning, their lawyer asked if our group had an
attorney and that he would be in touch with him about legal action
against the group.

Imagine that. Ham radio operators being threatened with a law
suit. As politely as I could I informed their lawyer that I would
be more than glad to take their call and number and refer it to our
attorney. I also informed him that now that legal action has been
threatened I have nothing further to say to the First Union Grand
Prix.

Later that day, I had a messages to call the Chief of the Atlanta
Fire Department and Holly Mullis from the City of Atlanta Special
Events Staff. These calls were not returned.

The First Union Grand Prix folks did try to get additional ham
support. They got in touch with one ham and recruited him. He
called me and told me of his plans. We talked about my concerns
and I told him about the threat of a law suit. He decided those
were "heavy-handed" tactics and would withdraw support also.
During his call to the First Union Grand Prix, they said that they
would not file suit. As of Sunday, May 3rd, I still have not
heard anything further about the threat of a suit.
There are some very important principles here to which we as hams subscribe. First, we cannot enter into a contract because 1) a contract requires compensation, and 2) the FCC forbids us from accepting compensation for what we do. Second, it appears that the First Union Grand Prix has put their event ahead of our own safety. Even though the First Union Grand Prix has a huge liability policy in place, we as hams still have to answer to our families and jobs. Our families and employers would certainly look at us as some kind of fool for doing something that we thought might endanger us.

Here is a interesting problem to wrestle with. Suppose when doing an event, we as hams “fall” as communicators. Can we then be sued for incompetency? Suppose we as safety and emergency communicators are involved in a lifesaving act. Something happens and a death occurs. What are our liabilities then? Can the family sue the event, the medical staff, and the hams?

What I think hams need to do is provide a very clear MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING to anyone requesting our help for an event. It should contain information as to the FCC rules, the “Good Samaritan Law” if one exists, and that because we are volunteers we can withdraw support for any reason at any time. We as hams receive no compensation by Federal Law.

The First Union Grand Prix has certainly soured my public service commitment. Without a MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING in place, I personally will not support any event for any group. My statement also includes the Georgia State Games, the Super Bowl in 1994, and the Olympics in 1996.

I hope to have a working MOU ready very soon. It’s too late to help me, but hopefully it will help hams in the future.

FYI. There were no officially reported incidents of violence or problems during the First Union Grand Prix. However, what I am about to relay is a rumor and as of the writing of this letter, I do not have all the facts. There was a report of a ham being “jostled” by the crowd and the radio was either taken away or taken away and broken.

More FYI: As I said earlier, 100,000 people were expected to watch the First Union Grand Prix. Official estimates were around 30,000. Draw your own conclusion.

73,
Alan, W4QXH