Another year is upon us once again. It's already 1995, and next year will be the Olympics. Several people have asked me over the past year whether the Olympic Committee will be drawing volunteers from the ranks of the Amateur clubs in the area. My take on this topic is that it will probably be unlikely. Instead, there are a number of "sponsoring" organizations that are keeping records of how much community time people in the area put in on their behalf. The Olympic Committee may draw from this pool of volunteers, and then again they may not. I don't think anyone is really very clear on exactly what they will do in the long run.

But, if this is where they will indeed get their volunteers from, then one organization that would be good to do volunteer work for (they are all very worthwhile) and would let you take advantage of your hobby, is Sci-Trek. We have devoted a great deal of time to the new Sci-Trek station in the pages of this newsletter during the past year, and it's worth "plugging" again. If you have the opportunity, volunteering at Sci-Trek is a very worthwhile effort. Even though I haven't had the chance to get to the station yet, it is on my list of "must do's".

Where will the Olympic Committee get the people they want to coordinate the extensive communications needs they will have next year? Well, most probably they will draw upon the advice of experts in this field, and provide their own secured communications during each event.

On another note, I want to thank the membership for re-electing me to the office of President. This will make my third term in office, and I have really enjoyed every minute of it. At the November meeting, one of our members made the suggestion that we might consider term limits on each of the offices of the club. My thoughts on this suggestion are that term limits are both a blessing and a curse. They are a blessing in that they limit the amount of time any one individual can spend as an officer of the club. This "encourages" others to step forward and offer up their name for consideration for an office. This is a good thing, assuming that people want to run for each of the offices. But, as the man (or woman) once said, "How will we know until we try?" And, here is where the curse comes in.

Term limits can artificially limit the amount of time an individual is willing to donate to the club. Each office in any club has a certain amount of responsibility associated with it. Not everyone in the club wants to take on a specific type of job, or any job at all, for that matter. Term limits can artificially cut off the amount of time a member is willing to give back to their club. And, as a result, a very qualified individual may have to leave simply because their time is up. I liken it to asking someone to retire at 65, even when they have a number of...
North Fulton Amateur Radio League Quick Repeater Guide
145.470 & 147.060

Open Commands
#1 Echo Test
#2 Deviation Test
#3 DTMF Test
#4 Time
#5 Sine Test
#6 Frequency Test
#7 Display Mail
#8 Send Command Out
#9 Play Announcement

User Commands
*0*N Emergency Patch
*1*N User Patch
*2*P Patch Redial
*7 Mailbox
*8 Open Mail
*10 Change Password
*12 Record User Name
*15 User Profile
*20 Speedial Maintenance
*25 User Hang-up Code
*30 CTCSS Command

N = Number To Dial

Only from Phone Line
1 Reverse Patch
2 Monitor Air
3 Non-directed Patch Page
4 Directed Patch Page

Additional copies of the repeater manual are available for $6 each. Contact Jeff Weinberg at 740-7938 for details. All checks should be made payable to the N.F.A.R.L.

N.F.A.R.L. club information is “on-line”, and as easy to get to as picking up your telephone and dialing 552-9495.

Once the automated system answers, you will be presented with a short menu of items. Just press ‘5’, and you will get a message that gives you a summary of basic N.F.A.R.L. information.

This is a great way for new people to find out more about the club and how to contact us both by mail or telephone.

One note, you will need a touchtone telephone to make the system work.

North Fulton Amateur Radio League, Inc.
P.O. Box 1741
Roswell, GA 30077

InfoLine: 404-552-9495

Editor - Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC 404-552-9495
President - Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC
Vice-President - Steve Mays, KE4JBB
Treasurer - Fred Moore, N4CLA
Secretary - Ron Daley, KEAMCW
Membership Coordinator - Steve Mays

CLUB REPEATERS
145.470 Mhz out (-0.6 Mhz)
147.060 Mhz out (+0.6 Mhz)

INTERNET: jjweinb@ix.netcom.com

NFCRL BBS
552-0868 (1200-2400-0600 8-N-1)
Dan Turner, WA4HRO, Sysop

Articles for the NFCRL newsletter may be sent on disk (ASCII text format) by mail to Jeff Weinberg, 2714 Fieldstone Path, Marietta, GA 30062, or uploaded via modem (in ASCII format) to the NFCRL BBS, ATTN: Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC. Or, you can FAX your articles directly to 552-9495. Other types of input formats include Word for Windows, Wordperfect, RTF, RTF-DCA, XLS, MS Works, and Windows Write. Acceptable graphics formats include PCX, BMP, HGL, PIC, GIF, CGM, WMF, TIF, DRW, EPS, WPG, and PCD.

You may also contact Jeff at 552-9495 to discuss the submission of an article to the newsletter. No copyrighted material may be submitted to Squelch Tales without proper written authority from the copyrighted source.

NEWS NET EVERY MONDAY
At 8:00 P.M. on 145.470 Mhz
Alt. Frequency: 147.060 Mhz

Monthly Meetings:
Second Wednesday of Each Month at the Cherokee Cattle Company
11208 Alpharetta Highway, Roswell
664-0400
Dinner - 6:30 PM
Meeting & Program - 7:30 PM

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Good working years left in them. However, the suggestion is a good one.

In order to institute term limits within the club, the By-Laws must be changed. In reviewing the By-Laws, I find that the section governing change to the By-Laws is section 7.10. This section reads:

7.10 These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the total club membership, or by a two-thirds vote of members present at any meeting if advance notice of the proposed amendment(s) has been published for all members to read in the club newsletter. Proposals for amendments shall be submitted in writing and shall be read for word by the Secretary just prior to voting.

At the January meeting, I will bring up the suggestion of term limits made at the November meeting. If there is sufficient interest in pursuing a change in the By-Laws to institute term limits, a proposal to change the By-Laws will be drawn up and published in the April Squelch Tales. To help insure that everyone has a voice in this matter, a voting ballot will be published in the next newsletter (if a proposal is made), and each member will have the opportunity to vote on the measure and return their ballot for counting and consideration. As section 7.10 notes, it takes 51% of the total membership, or 66% of the members attending a regular monthly meeting to change the By-Laws. If we get enough response from the ballot, then the matter will be decided. However, if response to the ballot is light, then the matter will be voted on by the membership attending the April meeting.

For those of you who are getting on to the Internet these days, I will be publishing a sample list of “hot” Internet addresses that I have accumulated over these past few months. In the last newsletter I noted that I had finally taken the plunge and gotten on to the net. Well, I think I may have taken a deep plunge into a shallow pool and hit my head. “Why”, you ask? Well, I found that I was coming across interesting site addresses as I explored the network. So I began writing those addresses down. Well, I found that people were interested in these addresses, so I began distributing them, and they would share their interesting addresses with me. Well, it’s gotten out of hand. To the tune of over 5,300 addresses! And, it’s growing every week.

Anyway, I’ll put my contribution to “surfing the net” in this and following issues in a section appropriately entitled “The Net Surfer”. I’m always looking for good contributions to my growing list of addresses. If you find my contributions of worth, please send them yours in return, and I will share them with other club members.

I would like to remind everyone about Ham Radio ’95, the newest hamfest in the Atlanta area. The N.F.A.R.L. is a co-sponsoring area club of the event (see the associated article). Not only does this hamfest give us an opportunity to participate in its function, it gives us the opportunity to help our own club. The club has purchased 50 hamfest tickets at $5 each. We will be reselling these tickets for $6.50 each. Here is a great opportunity for us to generate extra revenue for the club. The more we sell, the more we make.

One last item, I am DESPERATELY in need of meeting topics. You know, something to fill the time between 7:50 and 9:00. In the past, we’ve had programs on weather, electrical safety, radio development, law and Amateur radio, etc. Well, I’m out of ideas, and I need your help. So, H-E-L-P. Please call me at 740-7939 and give me some assistance in this area. Have a safe Winter, and I’ll “talk” with you again in the Spring.

Jeff, AA4RC
FOR SALE

Intel 9600 Baud Modern, EC, $80, 552-9495, AA4RC, Jeff Weinberg.

IBM 8513 VGA, Color Monitor, 13", GC, $75, 552-9495, AA4RC, Jeff Weinberg

Panasonic KX-P1080, 9-pin, Dot Matrix printer, EC, $30, 552-9495, AA4RC, Jeff Weinberg

AT&T 6300, XT-compatible computer, 1Mb RAM, 1-10Mb Hard Disk, 1-20Mb Hard Disk, Mono Monitor, 5.25" 360k floppy diskette drive, extended keyboard, manuals, great as a packet station, simple BBS, or second computer that will run DOS programs, EC, $225 complete, 552-9495, AA4RC, Jeff Weinberg

AT&T Color Monitor for Model 6300, original shipping box, EC, $75, 552-9495, AA4RC, Jeff Weinberg

Stacker Disk Compression software, latest version (4.0), 3.5", in original box, $40, 552-9495, AA4RC, Jeff Weinberg

IBM Proprinter Classic, had print-head, contains additional print memory, great for parts, FREE to a good home, 552-9495, AA4RC, Jeff Weinberg

Mini-size, Add-on, Dual Serial Port Card, 1 - 16550 AFN Port, 1 - 16450 Port, Good for high speed communications, Like new - never used, $15, 552-9495, AA4RC, Jeff Weinberg

If you have equipment or software for sale, please consider putting your items in the newsletter. It’s free for club members, and $3 per 4-line item for non-members. Send your list of items to: "Classifieds - For Sale", c/o Squelch Tales, P.O. Box 1741, Roswell, GA, 30077. Please remember to put your telephone number, call (if you have one), and name on each item.

By-the-way, I haven’t forgotten about the auction in May. I am just plain out-of-space around here, and need to start freeing up places on the floor, chairs, and tables. There will be more for sale at the auction. -J.W.

Here's something to consider. We have done such a good job of taking care of the Chimney Springs Clubhouse over the past 3 parties, that we have been offered the use of the subdivision’s picnic facilities anytime we want to. And, best of all, it would be for no charge. All I need to do is notify the Homeowner’s Office of our intent, and the picnic grounds will be reserved in our name. There are grills, a meeting “pit”, playground for the children, a lake, and a beach. There are also walking paths around the lake. In the Summertime, it’s a great place to meet.

What do you think? Should we take Chimney Springs up on its offer and have a Summer Family Picnic (in addition to the picnic we have for Field Day)? Let me know what you think. -Jeff Weinberg-

Don’t Forget
Ham Radio
‘95

Ham Radio ‘95 is the newest hamfest in town. Sponsored by the Ham Radio Foundation, Inc., part of the proceeds to this event will be given directly to the Scottish Rite Children’s Hospital.

The N.F.A.R.L. is one of the sponsoring clubs of this event, and will be providing security for the hamfest. If you are interested in participating in security, please contact one of the officers. It should be a fun event for everyone.
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Squelch Tales
AppleWebSearch (Apple Info):
  MACHHTTP/applewebsearch.sit.h
  gx

Archological Database:
- telnet.cast.uark.edu (login: nadb)

Archeology (USC Mercury
Project):
- http://www.usc.edu/dept/raiders/

Arizona Statue University Info:
- telnet info.asu.edu
  (login: www <cr> 'G'

Art (links to animation & clipart):
- gopher cs4sun.cs.ttu.edu
  (select: art & images)

Art (works of art arranged by artist):
- gopher unix5.nyaed.gov

AstraNet (Prodigy Services Co.):
- http://www.astranet.com

Astronomy (AstroWeb)
- http://marvel.stsci.edu/net-
  resources.html

Astronomy (NASA):
- http://heasarc.gsfc.nasa.gov/Star
  Trax/Browse.html

AT&T 1-800 Directory:
- http://att.net/dir800

AT&T You Will Server:
- http://youwill.com

ATI Technologies (video cards):
- http://www.atitech.ca
- ftp atitech.ca (cd /pub/support)

Auburn University:
- http://mallard.doc.auburn.edu/

Auroral/Solar Report:
- finger daily@xi.uleth.ca

Australian Web Servers:
  p.html

Austrian MAC Group:
- telnet amdalinz.edvz.uni-
  linz.ac.at
  (userid/password <cr>)

AutoPages of Internet:
- http://www.clark.net/pub/networx/a
  utopage/autopage.html

Aviation:
- http://adswww.harvard.edu/ GA/ga_i
  nfo.html
- http://aviation.jsc.nasa.gov
- gopher gasnet.med.nyu.edu
  (select: Aviation)

The above selections are just that,
selections from a much larger list of
addresses for the Internet that I have been
compiling over the past few months. I
noted its size in an earlier article in this
newsletter.

I tried to pick addresses from the “A’s”
that would be representative of hobbies,
environment, business and government.
Of particular interest is the address for
the Amateur Radio callsign database.
It’s fairly up-to-date, and if you have a
graphical front end like Mosaic, you will
get a very nice data entry field in which
you can look up people or calls. The
NASA address is also interesting in that
you can use it to browse other NASA
sites and get pictures, files, or general
information about space. The AT&T
“You Will” server is the first attempt by
this major corporation to put multi-media
on-line. In fact, with the right hardware
and software, you are supposed to be able
to run short “infomercials” like the “You
Will” commercials we see on TV. Of
course, most of the Colleges and
Universities are on-line, and the Auburn
address will let you “visit” that university
not too far away.

Next issue I’ll visit the “B’s” to see
what’s of interest. Who knows what I’ll
run across in the next three months. If
you are interested in getting a copy of my
list, it is available for private use only (no
sharing or commercial use) for the cost
of a diskette and postage. Just send me a
1.44, 3.5" diskette with a S.A.S.E., and
tell me what data format you would like
the file in. Mail this to: AA4RC, P.O.
Box 1741, Roswell, GA, 30077.
Quarterly Treasurer’s Report

N.F.A.R.L.
Balance Sheet
As of December 22, 1994

Assets:
Current Assets
  Checking/Savings  874.25
  NFARL Checking  66.35
  Total Checking/Savings  940.60

Accounts Receivable
  Receivables  1,163.37
  Total Accounts Receivable  1,163.37

Other Current Assets
  Savings Account  4,543.01
  Undeposited Funds  275.00
  Total Current Assets  6,921.98

Total Assets  $6,921.98

Liabilities & Equity:
Liabilities
  Current Liabilities  305.00
  Other Current Liabilities  -0.75
  Total Other Current Liabilities  -0.75
  Total Current Liabilities  -0.75
  Total Liabilities  304.25

Equity
  Open Balance Equity  3,239.50
  Retained Earnings  1,814.91
  Net Income  1,563.32
  Total Equity  6,617.73

Total Liabilities & Equity  $6,617.73

Reminder:
May is Auction Month

It’s not too early to remind everyone that May is Auction month at the N.F.A.R.L. Traditionally, the May program is an opportunity to have a great deal of fun by bringing in items you no longer need and auctioning them off. As in previous years, you can elect to keep 90% of the selling price (the club keeps 10%), or donate the entire proceeds of the sale to the club.

The better the equipment and materials brought to the auction, the more interesting the auction will be. In previous years we have auctioned off whole QRP stations, radios (HF and VHF), computers, computer parts, printers, antennas, power supplies, audio speakers, books, manuals, and odds-ends. Things have sold for as little as 50 cents, or as much as $200.

It’s a lot of fun, and helps the club. The club has earned as much as $325 for a single auction night. So start getting things ready to sell!

The N.F.A.R.L. has no way of knowing whether you wish to continue your membership with the club. It would be greatly appreciated if you would mail back to the club the invoice you receive, along with your payment. OR indicate on the invoice that you no longer wish to continue your membership. This will help us in planning our budget for the year and keeping our records accurate. -Fred-
Quarterly Secretary’s Report

October 12, 1994

The meeting was called to order by Jeff Weinberg (AA4RC) at 7:30 PM.

The Treasurer and Secretary’s reports from the last 3 months stand as written in Squelch Tales. The technical committee had no report.

A special ‘Thank You’ goes to Vern Fowler (W8BLA) from the NFA RL for hosting the meeting tonight at his house. Vern will provide tonight’s program on his “Hamshack” in his basement.

Items of Business:

1. Remember that Squelch Tales has membership forms for renewals and new members. Please update your personal information if it has changed in the past year. Fred Moore (N4CLA) will now be sending out statements for club renewals. Your repeater privileges will be revoked by the end of the first week in January, 1995, if you have not paid your dues on time. They will be reactivated after your dues have been paid.

2. Remember to renew or join the ARRL via the club. The NFA RL gets $2.00 for each person who joins via our club, and $5.00 for each new ARRL member joining through the club.

3. Articles are always welcome for Squelch Tales, and a new information phone number for the club has been established by Jeff Weinberg. The number is 552-9495, mailbox #5. It can only be accessed by a touch-tone telephone.

4. November is election month for the club. Anyone interested please contact Jeff at #740-7939, or any club officer on the air. The November meeting will be an open program. Our meeting place is in question. The Cherokee Cattle Co. has some concerns with the club which Jeff is working on with them. Contact Jeff if you have any suggestions on a new meeting place.

5. The ARRL books are at the Roswell Library being cataloged. They should be ready for use soon.

6. The Christmas Party will be at the Chimney Springs clubhouse. Directions are in Squelch Tales. The Amateur of the Year award will be presented to Chuck Daley (KD4LXQ) at the party.

7. Jeff discussed “Repeater Etiquette” with the members present. The following items were mentioned:

- Allow the courtesy tone to sound at the end of each of your transmissions. Also, allow the repeater to drop so that other operators have ample time to join in a conversation taking place.

- Be courteous! Recognize the person who throws out their call sign.

- The repeater is not a CB radio station. Please, do not use CB “Ten Codes”.

- Please be aware of the language you use on the air. Do NOT say anything on-the-air you do not want your own family to hear.

- Conduct NO commercial business on any NFA RL repeater, or any repeater anywhere. Fred Moore (N4CLA) is the NFA RL trustee, and he will decide if traffic is appropriate or not. If you are in doubt, DON’T DO IT! On at least one occasion, possible commercial traffic was heard being conducted on one of the NFA RL repeaters.

- Please identify with your complete call sign. And remember, you must ID at least every 10 minutes, and at the end of the conversation before you sign off.

- Though nothing will be said to possible offenders on-the-air, they will receive telephone calls explaining what they did wrong and asking them not to do it again.

Vern Fowler is the “OO” coordinator for Georgia. He is in charge of 27 OO’s in the state. (See the associated article elsewhere in this newsletter.) Vern will send out a postcard as a reminder to the first time offender. After 4 violations, a pink slip will go out to the operator. These slips also go to the FCC, and then the operator will have to respond to the FCC.

8. New Licensees:

   Tech - 1
   Other upgrades - 1

Jeff recognized the club’s Amateur

(Continued on page 10)
Extra class operators. There were 6 present at the meeting. They have passed all the written and CW tests given to Amateur Radio operators. Jeff congratulated them, and encouraged all of the club’s members to go for their Amateur Extra license.

New Members: 1
Visitors: 2

Steve Mays (KE4GBB) reminded everyone about the “Head of the Hooch Rowing Regatta” in November.

Jim Stafford (W4QQ) made the following announcements to the assembly:

- The weekend of 10/15-10/16 is the Simulated Emergency Test on-the-air.

- The S*T*A*R*S station at Scitrek is participating in the Scouting Jamboree on-the-air. Station operators are needed, please contact Jim if interested.

- Sunday, 10/23/94, is the kickoff date for Science Week and Scitrek will be participating in those activities as well.

- Roswell North Grade School is trying to get an ATV Repeater station on the air. If you would like to donate equipment, a camera, TV, antenna, or radio, please contact Jim Stafford.

The meeting was concluded at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judie Medin, KE4EPS.

The election of officers for the the Board of Directors was brought to the floor by Jeff. Jeff asked the nominating committee for the names of anyone interesting in serving on the Board, and no names had been brought to their attention. The nominating committee members were Rose Daley (KE4MCW) and Steve Knittel (KC4YBO).

Items of business:

1. Here are the results of the 1994 North Fulton Amateur Radio League elections for the 1995 Board of Directors:

   A. Jeff Weinberg opened the floor for nominations for President. Michelle Weinberg, WA4WSP, nominated Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC, for President. The nomination was seconded. No other names were placed into nomination by the membership present. Jeff Weinberg was elected President by a majority of the members present.

   B. Jeff Weinberg opened the floor for nominations for Vice-President. Cam Clayson, WV5R, nominated Steve Mays, KE4GBB, for Vice-President. The nomination was seconded. No other names were placed into nomination by the membership present. Steve Mays was elected Vice-President by a majority of the members present.

   C. Jeff Weinberg opened the floor for nominations for Treasurer. Steve Knittel, KC4YBO, nominated Fred Moore, N4CLA, for Treasurer. The nomination was seconded. No other names were placed into nomination by the membership present. Fred Moore was elected Treasurer by a majority of the members present.

   D. Jeff Weinberg opened the floor for nominations for Secretary. Jeff Medin, KD4TFG, nominated Alan Stern, N4QXH, for Secretary. The nomination was seconded, but declined by Alan. Judie Medin, KE4EPS, and Rose Daley, KE4MCW, were then nominated for Secretary. Both nominations were seconded. No other names were placed into nomination by the membership present. The results of the vote were 11 votes for Judie Medin, and 15 votes for Rose Daley. Rose Daley was therefore declared elected to the post of Secretary having carried a majority of the voting members present.

   Judie Medin was thanked for the great job she had done as Secretary of the NFARL in 1994.

   2. New Licenses:

      Upgrades: Extra - 1
      General - 1

      Steve Mays, KE4GBB, has passed his Amateur Extra written test, and is practicing on his 20 wpm CW.

      New members: none
      Visitors: none

   3. Remember, the December meeting is the Christmas Party at the Chimney Springs clubhouse. Michelle Weinberg, WA4WSP, will be coordinating it this year. The NFARL will supply the meat and drinks, and all members will be asked to bring a side item. The club will be contacting you prior to the party on what to bring. Chuck Daley, KD4LXQ, will be presented with this year’s Amateur of the Year award at the party.

   4. The January meeting place is still in question. Jeff is working with the Cherokee Cattle Co. for their meeting room. Also needed are program topics for 1995. Contact Jeff if you have any ideas for these programs.

   The meeting concluded at 8:00 PM.

An open discussion followed with the 1994 members of the Board of Directors. A motion was made for the club to purchase a repeater card from AD Technologies. It was noted that in the past, AD Technologies has donated 2 repeater cards for use by the club in its repeaters on 145.470 and 147.060. The new card will be used for the 440 MHz repeater when it is brought into service. The motion was seconded and passed.
Alan Stern began a discussion on increased participation in running the club. (See the Presidents article earlier in this newsletter. - ed) He brought up the idea of term limits for the club’s Board of Directors. Jeff Weinberg and Fred Moore noted that in order to implement term limits within the NFARL now, a change would have to be made to the club’s by-laws. It was decided that at the January meeting, the matter will be discussed again, and if the membership presents feels that this is a good idea, then a ballot will be placed into the April Squelch Tales, with a vote to follow at the April meeting on the subject. This will allow all members of the club to have the chance to express their opinions on this topic.

Fred Moore was asked about the status of the 440 repeater. Fred reported that all of the C440 repeater equipment on Sweat Mountain had been moved to the cabinet, but that work still needed to be done on the antenna and feedline, as well as incorporating the 440 repeater controller into the computer being used by the 145.470 repeater. Fred promised to do his best to get the repeater up and running at the earliest opportunity. Fred reminded the group that with the holidays coming up, this was not a good time of year for him to spend time working on the new repeater.

Respectfully submitted by Judie Medin, KE4EPS.

December 14, 1994

The Christmas Party was held at the Chimney Springs clubhouse. There was no formal meeting held for the club.

However, the 1994 Amateur of the Year award was presented to Chuck Daley, KD4LXQ, for his long history of dedication to emergency communications and preparedness in the North Fulton area.

Jeff Weinberg was given a present from the club thanking him for his service as President. The present was a telephone made up to look like an old time radio.

Each member of the 1995 Board of Directors was introduced to the club members present. Jeff Weinberg - President, Steve Mays - Vice President, Fred Moore - Treasurer, Rose Daley - Secretary. Once again, Judie Medin was thanked for her fine work as Secretary in 1994. Jeff noted that as editor of the newsletter, he particularly appreciated Judie’s ability to write the minutes in a manner that he could easily read. The party lasted until after 9 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Judie Medin, KE4EPS.

P.S.
I want to thank the Board and all of the club members for their support this year. I enjoyed representing the club as its Secretary, and look forward to working with the club in the future. Thanks!!
-Judie-

Writers Wanted

Ever want to put pen-to-paper? No? Not even a little bit? Be honest.....

Squelch Tales needs people to contribute articles and news. Every one is an expert at something. And, you would be surprised at how many people are indeed interested in what you have to contribute to the club.

So, don’t be bashful. If you have something to report or say, send it to Squelch Tales Editor, P.O. Box 1741, Roswell, GA. 30077.
There are many ways to volunteer in this hobby. Volunteerism is a keystone to Amateur Radio, so when people volunteer, they are only fulfilling one of the unspoken requests that being a "Ham" places on them. The government doesn't make it a requirement, and no one will ever force you to do something extra. But still, Amateurs from Novice to Amateur Extra feel the need to give back something that was "given" to them.

Why people volunteer is personal. How they volunteer is as varied as there are people in this hobby. Some people work public service events, donating countless hours to help with auto traffic, crowd "control", "health-and-welfare" communications, coordination of event volunteers and managers, and any other activities deemed necessary by event organizers. Hams show up at "oh-dark-hundred" to help setup and get organized. They work long, hard hours in blustering heat, numbing cold, rain, and sleet. Long after participants and spectators have gone home, Amateurs are still on-site putting equipment away, and getting ready for the next event on the calendar.

For these hams, volunteerism is putting in the long hours of hard work in a very public sense. However, there are many hams out there who may not expend as much physical energy, but whose dedication to the hobby is as strong as any other volunteer. These are the hams who either give of their time to be Volunteer Examiners (VE's) or what is known as Official Observers (OO's). These are the hams I would like to take a closer look at now.

What makes an Amateur want to become a Volunteer Examiner. A person at a club meeting once asked me if I was a VE. When I told him I was, he asked how it felt to be sitting up at the front of the room giving the tests, rather than taking them. You know, I really hadn't thought much about it until then.

I remember when I first started taking tests for my licenses. (Oh no! Not "I remember when again" speech? I promise to keep this short.) Until the mid-1980's, all tests (except for Novice) were given by FCC personnel, either at their offices, a prearranged site, or at hamfests. A lot has changed since the VEC's took over this testing. It's a lot friendlier atmosphere now than back then. Not because the FCC people weren't friendly, but when you process that many people on a regular basis, you tend to forget the individual groups who come your way. So, the Amateur Service applicants got processed just like the commercial service applicants did.

So, how do I feel when I participate in a VE session? Well, I won't pretend to speak for other VE's, but I feel that the time I give in each testing session I work is my way of giving something back to the people I meet, and my hobby. I feel that I contribute as much back to my hobby as anyone else who volunteers their time. I am proud of the effort I have made to get my certification, and participate in some small way to the giving of tests. Michelle and I used to work long hours helping at events. I personally believe that being a VE is as rewarding to me as anything I have previously done. And, it gives me an opportunity to help the group I feel I owe a lot to, the Atlanta Amateur community.

The other group I mentioned at the beginning of this editorial was the Official Observers. This group is often misunderstood in their activity and intent, and many times looked upon with suspicion.

Amateur Radio has always been one aspect of the radio service that has prided itself on taking care of itself with minimal help from the government. Back in the mid-70's, during the big CB boom, the FCC had its hands full trying to keep up with CB people out-of-band, running illegal power, working DX, using improper ID's, etc. It was a radio service almost, if not totally, out-of-control. People fought, literally, with other service users over who had the right to talk on a channel. Most of the time this involved one person jamming another person. Sometimes, rarely, it came down to physical assault. The good thing to come from all this was a large influx of people, tired of the "CB mess" who made the switch to Amateur Radio. Michelle and I were a part of that crowd who came over in the mid-1970's.

The tradition of looking out for ourselves has grown over the years. Now there is a service that encourages volunteer operators to monitor the ham bands, not to "enforce", but rather to help hams who might be unknowingly breaking a rule or regulation.

The intent here is that it is far better for the Amateur, and the Amateur Radio Service, if an operator learns of a mistake from another ham in a caring, friendly way, rather than having to get something in the mail that can literally ruin his or her day.

Each month, each volunteer Official Observer, or OO, fills out a report for their state coordinator showing how many hours they volunteered to this effort. It is not unusual for an OO to spend well over 50 hours per month monitoring the bands. These people are not monitoring because they have a desire to be policemen, or policewomen, but because they want to help each of us. That's all. And again, each of these volunteers feels as good about the job they do as the VE, or the person working a public service event.

What does it take to be a VE or an OO? Basically a license, and a desire to help other hams. As a VE, holding an Amateur Extra license is a big help, because an Extra can give a test to anyone, while a General and Advanced can only give tests to someone applying.

(Continued on page 13)
(Continued from page 12)

for a license up to one level below the level of license they currently hold. For the ARRL, becoming a VE also means taking a test to become certified.

Becoming an OO is much like becoming a VE. You need a license, passing a certification test, and a desire to help your fellow hams.

Who can become a VE or OO? For a VE, you need at least a General Class license. Generals can give tests to Technician and Novice applicants. Advance Class licensees can give tests to Novices, Technicians, and General applicants.

And, as I noted earlier, Extras can give tests to everyone. Having three Extras around for a test session makes life a lot easier for the coordinator of the session. Rules clearly state that each session MUST have at least 3 qualified examiners present. If these 3 examiners are not present, then the results of the session will not be accepted by the FCC, and no tests will be given. Each participating examiner must sign a form giving our names and calls certifying that we participated in the session and adhered to the rules governing VEC sessions.

To become an OO, there is a set procedure that a potential OO goes through to become a part of what is known as “The Amateur Auxiliary to the FCC’s Field Operations Bureau”, or just “The Amateur Auxiliary”. A recommendation is made by the OO coordinator for the state to the ARRL Section Manager (SM). All OO appointments are initiated by the Section Manager or the SM’s designee, the OO coordinator. The SM then sends an appointment card to ARRL HQ indicating a recommendation. The prospective OO then is sent a training guide, other material, and an examination. The candidate then takes the open-book test and sends the exam back to the ARRL for grading. The candidate is then notified if he/she has successfully completed the exam. If the candidate failed to pass certain areas, a retest is given. Once the training is complete, the SM is notified, and the new OO is sent an appointment certificate.

The training guide for The Auxiliary Service is over 60 pages long, and is very comprehensive. There are specific procedures that the OO candidate must study and understand on how to deal with potential problems that may be caused by fellow hams. In all cases, cooperation and help is stressed, and if necessary, the notification of proper OO officials. The objective here is to help each other, and continually prove to the Federal Government that we are more than capable of helping ourselves with as little government intervention as is possible.

In fact, the stated general objectives and concepts of The Auxiliary Service are to:

1. foster a wider knowledge of, and better compliance with, the laws, rules, and regulations of the Amateur Radio Service,
2. extend the concept of self-regulation,
3. enhance the opportunity for individual amateurs to contribute to the public welfare, and
4. enable the FCC to efficiently and effectively utilize its manpower and resources.

In all, both services are working well, and continually need new people joining to help them provide better service to the people they help every day.

If you are interested in either being a VE or OO, you can contact the ARRL. The ARRL is the coordinating organization for the OO service. However, the ARRL is only one of several coordinating VEC’s in the U.S. The ARRL can either direct you to a local ARRL coordinator to help answer your questions, or can provide you with information on other VEC’s operating in your area.

Either way, in my opinion, being a VE or OO is a great way to volunteer your time, and give directly back to a service that has given all of us a lot in return.

So whether you decide to work a parade or bike race, coordinate a regatta or hamfest security, volunteer your time to Sci-Trek or participate in club events like Field Day, or decide to go a step further and become a VE or OO, you are still contributing, still giving back. More importantly, helping to maintain the quality of the service that is the history of Amateur Radio over the past 80+ years.

To all of the volunteers out there, no matter what you volunteer for, I salute you for your commitment, dedication, time, and effort.

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Program Topics Needed

With the beginning of each new year comes a new challenge. The challenge is to come up with a set of program topics that people will enjoy each month.

Some programs are already set because they are annual events. In May we have our annual auction. By-the-way, now is the perfect time to start saving things for the annual auction. The better the equipment, the more interesting the event.

In June, the topic is Field Day. It’s a great time to ask people about Field Day plans and goals. (By-the-way, see the comparison of Field Day scores over the past few years elsewhere in this issue.)

November is election night, and a Q&A session with the officers. It’s a great time to get your club related questions answered.

December is the Christmas party. The rest of the year is open. Remember this is your club, so let the officers know what you want to see as a program.
Field Day Results
1991 - 1994

Field Day Recap

Total Points

CW by Band

Phone by Band

Novice Contacts

Field Day Notebook:

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# NORTH FULTON AMATEUR RADIO LEAGUE

## P.O. BOX 1741  ROSWELL, GA. 30077  MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

<table>
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<tr>
<td><strong>State:</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Zip:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Do you wish to become a member?</strong> Yes No</td>
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<td><strong>Phone:</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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## Amateur Radio Activities

- [ ] Packet
- [ ] FM
- [ ] CW
- [ ] RTTY
- [ ] AMTOR
- [ ] SSB
- [ ] ATV
- [ ] OSCAR
- [ ] HF
- [ ] 2M
- [ ] 220
- [ ] 440

Are you interested in becoming a volunteer for:
- [ ] public service
- [ ] emergencies
- [ ] both

Do you have:
- [ ] emergency power
- [ ] 4 wheel drive vehicle
- [ ] truck

Would you like to be contacted by Roswell/Alpharetta Ham Watch?  [ ] Yes [ ] No

## Hobbies/Occupation

What other hobbies do you have? What is your occupation?

## Contact Information

- **Home Telephone Number:**
- **Office Telephone Number:**
- May we contact you at home?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No  [ ] Best Times:
- May we contact you at work?  [ ] Yes  [ ] No  [ ] Best Times:
- Please restrict calls to emergency situations:  [ ] Yes  [ ] No

Spouse’s Name:  

Children’s Names:  

## Membership Dues Information

- [ ] Student/Retired  $15.00
- [ ] Add’l members in same family  $5.00/person
- [ ] Standard Membership Dues  $30.00
- [ ] Donation  $ 

Please Do Not Write Below This Line

- **Dues received:**
- **Amount:**
- **Check No.:**

Presented to membership:  

- **Date:**
- **Approved**  Not Approved

Member Number assigned:  

- **Date:**
- **Speed dial implemented:**
  - **By:**

Entered in mailing list:  

- **Date:**

Information forwarded to:  

- [ ] ARRL
- [ ] ARES
- [ ] Ham Watch

FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY.
Annual NFARL auction. Bring your used gear, computer equipment, manuals, software, etc. for sale. The more stuff we have, the better the auction.

June 14 - Field Day Discussion.
July 12 - Open for suggestions.
August 9 - Open for suggestions.
September 13 - Open for suggestions.
October 11 - Open for suggestions.
November 8 - Election of Officers and general question & answer session.
December 13 - Annual Christmas Party.

Our Goal

Our goal is simply to be the best newsletter of its type in Atlanta. The N.F.A.R.L. newsletter should be something people look forward to getting 4 times a year.

In order to meet this challenge, this publication needs the support of its readers. If you have an article or letter of interest, please send them in to be published. The more contributors, the better the newsletter.

Also, if you have any comments or suggestions about this newsletter, please send them to the attention of the Squelch Tales Editor, P.O. Box 1741, Roswell, GA 30077.

Next newsletter: Apr. 2
Articles Deadline: Mar. 11
Announcements Deadline: Mar. 16
Ads Deadline: Mar. 16
News Deadline: Mar. 22
Newsletter Cutoff: Mar. 25

North Fulton Amateur Radio League, Inc.
P.O. Box 1741
Roswell, GA 30077

Membership exp: 12/31/2000
Fred Moore III
11795 King Road
Roswell, GA 30075

Inside This Issue:
⇒ Repeater Command Summary
⇒ Hamfest Calendar
⇒ Field Day Results 1991-1994
⇒ Membership Application
⇒ The Net Surfer
⇒ Atlanta VEC Schedule
⇒ Latest Cub Roster
⇒ Classifieds