

# Squelch Tales

Volume 3 Issue 1

January, 1996

The Quarterly Newsletter of the North Fulton Amateur Radio League, Inc.

## News from the North Side

by Pat Patterson, AD4GJ

**S**pring is here and ain't it great! Time to start getting things done around the house and time to start doing a lot of things with the N.F.A.R.L.

We've got some great events coming up this year to keep your interest, such as the auction in May, Field Day in June. A lot of us will be working the Olympics and Paralympics in July and August, and I know that Steve, KC4YBO and Nicole, KE4NPF will have lots of things for volunteers to do this year.

Our new officers have promised us to make our club bigger and better, but they can't do it alone. They need your help. In this issue is a form for you to fill out to express your opinions and ideas on how we can go about making our club the best in Georgia. Please take the time to offer your suggestions and mail it back. You may not think that your opinion counts, but, believe me, it does!

This form serves another purpose, in that we are trying to build a database of all the members that have E-mail ID's and/or Internet access. We hope to, within a short time frame, have a home page on the Internet, so that we can publish our newsletter to the world. With an E-mail address, we can at least send it out electronically. Hopefully, this will substantially reduce the cost of publishing the newsletter, so that we can again start publishing it monthly.

So, PLEASE, fill out the form, and mail it back to me. I will compile the results

it back to me. I will compile the results and publish them in the next Squelch Tales.

Meantime, get active. This club can only be as great as the people in it. Right now, we've got a great bunch of people, but I know that we're going to get bigger and better.

73

Pat



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Information &  
**FUN!!!!**

On  
All  
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## President's Corner Steve Mays KS4KJ



Well, here it is, March in Atlanta. Just when you think things are warming up the temperature drops into the low tens. Today, on the other hand, it's in the sixties and it is trying to rain. But

from here out things will improve and get warmer so that we can all get outside and do the things we have been putting off. Things like repair and maintenance on your house that you knew in January needed to be done. Things like finally washing your car and waxing it so you can actually see what color it is. Things like fixing that antenna that broke during the first real ice storm we had this year (a G5RV maybe). There are lots of things to do now that the weather is improving, and I hope you will make some time for radio-related things as well.

The public service season is getting ready to kick off in a big way, with lots of events that are fun to participate in, and will help our community as well. Sure, you have to get up early and put in a few hours of work, but you get to be outdoors AND talk to people--what could be better?

The hamfest season has already started (by the time you get this both the Dalton and Kennebec hamfest will have occurred--did you have fun? Any money left?) and there will be plenty of

(continued on page 17)

**Squelch Tales**  
 North Fulton Amateur Radio  
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President - Steve Mays, KS4NJ  
 Vice-President - Al Fricker, KC4RTH  
 Treasurer - Fred Moore, N4CLA  
 Secretary - Leah Cook, K2AVH  
 Membership Coordinator - Steve Mays

**CLUB REPEATERS**  
 143.470 MHz om (-0.6 MHz)  
 147.060 MHz om (-0.6 MHz)  
 444.475 MHz om (-3.0 MHz)

**NEWS, BBS**  
 332-0868 (1200-2400 R-N-1)  
 Dan Turner, W44BRG, 5966

Articles for the NFARL newsletter may be sent on disk (ASCII text format) by mail to Pat Patterson, 2070 Laurel Hill Way, Roswell, GA 30076, or uploaded via modem (in ASCII format) to the NFARL BBS, A1TN, Pat Patterson, AD4GJ. Other types of input format include Word for Windows, WordPerfect, MS Works and Windows. Write/acceptable graphics formats include PCX, BMP, HCL, PIC, GIF, TIF, DRW, and PCD.

You may also contact Pat at 770-992-8355 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  
 All Frequencies: 147.060 MHz

**Monthly Meetings:**  
 Second Wednesday of Each Month  
 Dinner - 6:30 P.M.  
 Meeting & Program - 7:30 P.M.  
 Alpha Soda  
 Alpharetta, GA  
 Table on 145.470 MHz

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**North Fulton Amateur Radio League Quick Repeater Guide**  
 145.470, 147.060, 444.475

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

- User Commands**
- 0\*N Emergency Patch
  - 1\*N User Patch
  - 2 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
  - 4 Directed Patch Page

Additional copies of the repeater manual are available for \$6 each. Contact Fred Moore at 770-992-0877 for details. All checks should be made payable to the N.F.A.R.L.

**FCC License Status**  
 Number:  
 1-800-322-1117



**The Milk Class - Author Unknown**  
 Optimist: The glass is half full.  
 Pessimist: The glass is half empty.  
 Futurist: The milks in the wrong half of the glass.

Parental programmers: Well, what type of milk is it?

C Programmer: No thanks, I drink straight from the jug.

Assembly programmers: No thanks, I drink straight from the cow.

Basic programmers: No thanks, I'm still nursing.

MIS: ITL DRINK IT IF YOU CAN GIVE ME UNTIL NEXT YEAR.

Fuzzy logic guys: I may or may not have drunk some part of that milk.

Prolog programmers: I know I drank it - just don't ask me how.

Non-procedural language programmers: I drink it when nobody was looking.

UI designers: What's that crap in my glass? Pentium users: I drank Glass # 499999999 but don't hold me to that.

Windows users: Where's my straw?

Mac users: Where's my pump?

UNIX users: Nahh... too easy.

Shareware game author: That glass is free; the next one you have to pay for.

Security consultant: Where'd the rest of the milk go?

CIA: What makes you think that's milk? NSA: We know what it really is.

Copy protection crazies: Somebody drank half my milk and didn't pay for it!

Free Software Foundation: That milk is the cow's contribution to all mankind!

Schroedinger: That damned cat got into the milk again!

Bill Gates: Not enough market share to be Microsoft Milk.

Apple Computer: You guys really oughta be drinking Ferner.

IBM: Rent the glass from us and we'll fill it with something we know is good for you.

MS: Thanks for getting your milk withholding correct this year.

National news media: Hey, we wanted OFF!

## Atlanta VEC Schedule

(All days are once a month for each notation)

- 1st Saturday Jonesboro**  
9:00 AM George White  
KN4NG 361-6850
- 1st Sunday Lawrenceville**  
2:00 PM Duane Reynolds  
WB2YAD 962-9582
- 1st Monday Roswell/Marietta**  
7:45 PM Delaine McCarthy  
KM4FV 993-9758
- 2nd Sunday Cartersville**  
3:00 PM Mark Swicord  
KD4EYF 975-1309
- 2nd Tuesday Snellville**  
7:00 PM Wayne Taylor  
WD4CCA 498-7759
- 2nd Saturday Stone Mountain**  
8:30 AM Hal Martin  
KI4RD 978-9160
- 3rd Saturday Marietta**  
9:00 AM Larry Huff  
WA4CQZ 955-3171
- 4th Sunday Atlanta**  
2:30 PM John King  
AB4GK 381-5291
- 4th Friday Lilburn**  
7:00 PM Howie Gould  
W4NVF 921-8362

## Metro Atlanta Area Nets and Roundtables

|                    |                 |                                |
|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Mon</b> 145.47- | <b>8:00 PM</b>  | <b>NFARL Net</b>               |
| Mon 147.21+        | 8:00 PM         | Conyer ARES Net (PL 162.2)     |
| Mon 145.45-        | 8:00 PM         | ARES Net (Decatur)             |
| Mon 3.975          | 8:00 PM         | Swap Net                       |
| Mon 145.41-        | 8:30 PM         | MATPARC Net                    |
| Tue 147.075+       | 8:00 PM         | Want, Swap, Sell & Info (GARS) |
| Tue 147.075+       | 9:00 PM         | CW Practice Net (GARS)         |
| <b>Tue</b> 145.47  | <b>10:30 PM</b> | <b>Insomniac Net</b>           |
| Wed 145.41-        | 8:00 PM         | QCWA Net                       |
| Wed 147.075+       | 8:00 PM         | Packet Net (GARS)              |
| Wed 146.655-       | 9:00 PM         | BSRG Net (PL 188.8)            |
| Wed 146.67-        | 9:00 PM         | LARC Net                       |
| Thu 146.88-        | 8:00 PM         | Kennahochie ARC                |
| Thu 147.225+       | 8:00 PM         | NE Ga ARC (1st Thu @ 9:30 PM)  |
| Thu 147.15         | 8:00 PM         | Simplex                        |
| Thu 145.41-        | 9:30 PM         | AMSAT                          |
| Thu Cable 57       | 9:30 PM         | Amateur Television (ATV)       |
| Fri 3.898          | 8:00 PM         | GA Traders Net                 |
| Fri 146.76-        | Midnight        | Turnip Truck Net (PL 107.2)    |
| Sat 7.275          | 8:00 AM         | Swap Net                       |
| Sat 146.76-        | Midnight        | Turnip Truck Net (PL 107.2)    |
| Sun 7.275          | 9:00 AM         | GA Traders Net                 |
| Sun 3.963          | 5:00 PM         | GA ARES                        |
| Sun 146.76-        | 7:00 PM         | Roundtable AMRC (PL 107.2)     |
| <b>Sun</b> 145.47- | <b>8:00 PM</b>  | <b>HamWatch Net</b>            |
| Sun 147.075+       | 8:00 PM         | Gwinnett ARES Net              |
| Sun 146.82-        | 8:00 PM         | ARC Net                        |
| Daily 146.76-      | Noon            | Brown Bag Net (PL 107.2)       |
| Daily 3.975        | 6:00 PM         | WX & Skywarn                   |
| Daily 146.79-      | 8:00 PM         | Sassafruss Mtn. Net            |
| Daily 146.88-      | 11:00 PM        | Late Nite Owl Net              |

(Thanks to the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Club (GARS) for the initial listing.) This is a "living list" which means it will be constantly changing. If you know of any nets or RoundTables that could be listed here, please contact the editor.



## HAMFEST CALENDAR

Courtesy of SERA Repeater Journal and ARRL

|             |                 |            |                  |
|-------------|-----------------|------------|------------------|
| April 5-6   | Albertville, AL | June 8     | Wins-Salem, NC   |
| April 20-21 | Birmingham, AL  | June 8-9   | Atlanta          |
| April 27-28 | Greenville, SC  | June 14-15 | Albany, GA       |
| May 4       | Dayton, OH      | July 6     | Salisbury, NC    |
| May 4       | Greenville, SC  | July 27    | Asheville, NC    |
| June 1      | Nashville, TN   | August 3-4 | Jacksonville, FL |



# Repeater Emergency Codes

POLICE

**CHEROKEE** (770)

- 100 479-5511 317 County
- 101 479-2525 317 Canton
- 102 479-5518 Little River
- 103 479-5518 Oak Grove
- 104 926-7778 Woodstock

**CLAYTON**

- 300 471-4242 770 County
- 201 366-4141 Forest Park
- 202 478-7407 Jonesboro
- 203 366-8035 Lake City 770
- 204 961-4000 Morrow 770
- 205 966-3382 Riverdale

**COBB**

- 300 499-3911 County (770)
- 301 974-3111 Acworth
- 302 948-2974 944-4533 Austell (770)
- 303 422-2505 Kennesaw 770
- 304 422-3420 Mableton
- 305 429-4900 52806 Marietta (770)
- 306 943-1616 Powder Spgs
- 307 434-6666 (770) Smyrna

**DEKALB**

- 400 294-2911 County (604)
- 401 458-0124 95650 Chamblee (604)
- 402 294-2911 Clarkston
- 403 373-6551 Decatur
- 404 458-8566 6390 Doraville
- 405 768-7171 Hapeville
- 406 294-2911 Lithonia
- 407 469-0101 Stone Mt.
- 409 294-2911 Tucker

**DOUGLAS** (770)

- 500 949-6666 1212 County
- 501 942-3211 Douglasville
- 502 942-2127 Lithia Spgs 944-1212

**FAVETTE**

- 600 461-6353 County
- 601 461-4111 Fayetteville
- 602 487-7977 Peachtree City
- 603 487-7977 Tyrone

POLICE

FIRE

- 911
- 0.0
- 0.1
- 0.2
- 0.3
- 0.4
- 0.5
- 0.6
- 0.7
- 0.8
- 0.9
- 0.00
- 0.00
- 0.11

**FULTON**

- 700 768-8200 County
- 710 768-8200 Alpharetta 770
- 711 475-5553 5900 Atlanta
- 712 669-2121 5333 College Park
- 713 766-9627 361 East Point
- 714 768-8200 Fairburn
- 715 964-1441 Mountain Park
- 716 768-8200 Palmetto
- 717 768-8200 Red Oak
- 718 893-6077 9934 Roswell
- 719 964-1332 Union City

**GWINNETT**

- 810 963-0123 County
- 811 963-0123 Buford (770)
- 812 963-0123 Duluth 770
- 813 963-0123 Lawrenceville
- 814 963-0123 Lilburn
- 815 963-0123 Mountain Park
- 816 963-0123 Norcross
- 817 963-0123 Snellville
- 818 945-5397 Sugar Hill
- 819 963-0123 Suwanee
- 821

**HENRY**

- 910 957-9121 County
- 912 946-4512 Hampton
- 913 957-5200 Locust Grove
- 914 957-1217 McDonough
- 915 957-9121 Stockbridge

**FULTON COUNTY**

- ATLANTA POLICE
- FULTON COUNTY
- DEKALB COUNTY
- COBB COUNTY
- GWINNETT COUNTY
- CLAYTON COUNTY
- GEORGIA STATE PATROL
- ATLANTA FIRE DEPT
- MARIETTA POLICE/FIRE
- ATLANTA GAS LIGHT
- White Police
- GA Power

**CHEROKEE** (770)

**CLAYTON**

**COBB**

**DEKALB**

**DOUGLAS** (770)

**FAVETTE**

**GWINNETT**

**HENRY**

**FULTON COUNTY**

**CLAYTON**

**COBB**

**DEKALB**

**DOUGLAS** (770)

**FAVETTE**

**GWINNETT**

**HENRY**

**FULTON COUNTY**

**CLAYTON**

**COBB**

**DEKALB**

**DOUGLAS** (770)

**FAVETTE**

**GWINNETT**

**HENRY**

**FULTON COUNTY**

**CLAYTON**

**COBB**


# Who's Who in the N.F.A.R.L.

(As of March 5)

|     |        |          |            |     |        |          |             |
|-----|--------|----------|------------|-----|--------|----------|-------------|
| 4   | AA4RC  | Jeffrey  | Weinberg   | 327 | KD4IKZ | David    | Jacoby      |
| 72  | AA4ZC  | Larry    | Boden Jr.  | 326 | KD4ILA | David    | Mayer       |
| 121 | AA5Q   | Jack     | Brabham    | 333 | KD4KEY | Martha   | Clark       |
| 47  | AB6FD  | Brad     | Freeborn   | 335 | KD4LXQ | Chuck    | Daley       |
| 63  | AD4GJ  | Pat      | Patterson  | 1   | KD4NC  | Doug     | Drye        |
| 117 | AD4YZ  | Bill     | Kimes      | 21  | KD4PEN | Joel     | Garrett     |
| 255 | AD4ZR  | Russell  | Akridge    | 60  | KD4RFK | Rick     | Patchin     |
| 336 | AG6R   | Bryan    | Carl       | 300 | KD4RTY | Caroline | Keown       |
|     |        |          |            | 148 | KD4RUA | Phillip  | Butler      |
| 59  | K3PPY  | David    | McBride    | 351 | KD4SGK | Alan     | Manning     |
|     |        |          |            | 79  | KD4SGR | Bill     | Reynolds    |
| 97  | K4AHJ  | Tom      | Knight     | 53  | KD4TFG | Jeff     | Medin       |
| 107 | K4FLS  | Sam      | Agee       | 237 | KD4TWN | Ann      | Seay        |
| 260 | K4GLZ  | Everett  | Thomas Jr. | 65  | KD4UMM | Jim      | Moore       |
| 71  | K4JHM  | Hal      | Myers      | 69  | KD4YDD | Scott    | Brown       |
| 20  | K4JMX  | Alan     | Dages      |     |        |          |             |
| 252 | K4UAF  | Don      | Rogers     | 94  | KE4CKA | Wendell  | Webb        |
| 92  | K6EID  | Phil     | Finkle     | 88  | KE4CWG | Ken      | Bishop      |
|     |        |          |            | 102 | KE4DCJ | Nancy    | Smith       |
| 30  | KA4GGI | Joseph   | Pastuch    | 101 | KE4EGD | Terry    | Smith       |
|     |        |          |            | 99  | KE4ENH | Adam     | Lee         |
| 272 | KB4KAY | Todd     | McGinnis   | 54  | KE4EPS | Judie    | Medin       |
| 131 | KB4KBS | Scott    | Straw      | 50  | KE4EPU | Gregory  | Wieland     |
| 317 | KB4KHQ | Lane     | Watts      | 365 | KE4EXQ | Ira      | Rappaport   |
| 124 | KB4LWS | Diane    | Andrus     | 48  | KE4FOS | Edward   | Hotchkiss   |
| 125 | KB4LWT | Larry    | Andrus     | 68  | KE4FOV | Bert     | Bruner      |
| 91  | KB4VSS | Greg     | Culpepper  | 104 | KE4HMN | Oliver   | Staley      |
|     |        |          |            | 106 | KE4HNN | Sue      | Gutkes      |
| 256 | KC4AZR | Kathleen | Foulkes    | 105 | KE4HNP | Mike     | Langley     |
| 649 | KC4GPW | Monte    | Freeman    | 113 | KE4IGA | Sam      | Freeman Jr. |
| 360 | KC4HUM | David    | Shively    | 112 | KE4JKN | Susan    | Mays        |
| 89  | KC4RIB | Al       | Fischer    | 116 | KE4JKR | Creed    | Crutchfield |
| 220 | KC4ROW | Kenny    | Snyder     | 119 | KE4JTX | John     | Vlad Jr.    |
| 275 | KC4WHZ | George   | Scott      | 127 | KE4MCW | Rose     | Daley       |
| 231 | KC4YBO | Steve    | Knittel    | 75  | KE4MLU | Elaine   | Sanders     |
| 122 | KC4ZTP | Mike     | Brooks     | 135 | KE4NPE | Jerry    | McKibben    |
| 262 | KC4ZTY | Steven   | Sheppard   | 27  | KE4NPF | Nicole   | Reynolds    |
|     |        |          |            | 133 | KE4NPG | Ashton   | Tomlinson   |
| 10  | KD4APK | David    | Fellows    | 58  | KE4OLP | Steve    | Howard      |
| 129 | KD4APR | Kathleen | Coleman    | 42  | KE4QFQ | William  | Chenault    |
| 283 | KD4APT | Shiona   | Cavaliere  | 83  | KE4SJM | Wesley   | Shultz      |
| 301 | KD4ATP | John     | Keown      | 52  | KE4SWX | Michael  | Gresham     |
| 43  | KD4BIO | John     | Brewer     | 51  | KE4TEG | Keith    | Hylton      |
| 302 | KD4EQE | Philip   | Zeigler    | 331 | KE4VFI | Leah     | Cook        |
| 57  | KD4FTZ | Ina      | Earhart    | 95  | KE4VGW | Daniel   | Lawrence    |
| 303 | KD4FYJ | Bill     | Pickens    | 80  | KE4WLQ | Steve    | Cook        |
| 320 | KD4HFR | Mario    | Ruhnke     | 67  | KE4WLR | Robin    | Cook        |
| 312 | KD4HLM | Douglas  | Allen      | 66  | KE4WOC | Mike     | Cook        |
| 304 | KD4HYX | Donna    | Pickens    | 78  | KE4WYV | Daniel   | Render      |

|     |        |          |            |
|-----|--------|----------|------------|
| 84  | KE4ZAA | Jared    | Baker      |
| 86  | KF4DAO | Mark     | Lukos      |
| 87  | KF4DMU | John     | Dallas     |
| 358 | KF4DVM | John     | Galbraith  |
| 359 | KF4DVN | Penny    | Anderson   |
| 362 | KF4DZV | Cliff    | Segar      |
| 361 | KF4ECD | William  | Cassanova  |
| 346 | KF4EOM | Ken      | Kizzee     |
| 345 | KF4EYL | Clayton  | Juckett    |
| 368 | KF4FBK | Steven   | Vore       |
| 366 | KF4FID | Ellen    | Rappaport  |
| 363 | KF4FGG | Cynthia  | Segar      |
| 170 | KF4ZZ  | Judd     | Converse   |
| 96  | KG8EN  | Dave     | Vandervall |
| 8   | KI4XO  | John     | Smith      |
| 41  | KI6CQ  | Paul     | Brewer     |
| 128 | KJ4YM  | Mark     | Coleman    |
| 266 | KM4FV  | Delaine  | McCarthy   |
| 56  | KM4KB  | Charles  | Earhart    |
| 22  | KM4MG  | Mary     | Stern      |
| 337 | KQ4BG  | Richard  | Seay       |
| 342 | KQ4WZ  | Donald   | Reed       |
| 33  | KR4MM  | Bryan    | Gay        |
| 328 | KR4TG  | Michael  | Del Pozzo  |
| 103 | KS4CC  | David    | Hunt       |
| 268 | KS4CM  | Bill     | Stanton    |
| 134 | KS4GT  | Ruth     | Clemens    |
| 2   | KS4KJ  | Steve    | Mays       |
| 108 | KS4OP  | Steve    | Porter     |
| 25  | NI4BM  | James    | Alderdice  |
| 330 | N3FDT  | Michelle | Bonelli    |
| 329 | N3FDU  | Mike     | Bonelli    |
| 130 | N4BNC  | Dave     | Isom       |
| 3   | N4CLA  | Fred     | Moore III  |
| 85  | N4GFF  | Carl     | McKinney   |
| 11  | N4HRA  | Lew      | Cason      |
| 77  | N4JDO  | Mary     | Olson      |
| 70  | N4JH   | Tony     | Boden Sr.  |
| 34  | N4KUF  | Ernest   | Massingill |
| 74  | N4LPJ  | Cliff    | Walker     |
| 155 | N4PZA  | Patton   | McKinney   |
| 251 | N4QVP  | Bob      | Stam       |
| 16  | N4QXH  | Alan     | Stern      |
| 265 | N4SE   | Mac      | McCarty    |
| 44  | N4SHO  | Chuck    | Rann       |
| 203 | N4UAY  | Hamp     | Smith      |
| 202 | N4UJO  | Larry    | Richardson |
| 207 | N4UO   | Walter   | Wilson     |
| 205 | N4VTH  | Fairy    | Smith      |
| 285 | N4VYP  | Dorothy  | McKinney   |
| 157 | N4WJI  | Marilyn  | Stafford   |
| 280 | N4YIE  | David    | Gibson     |
| 261 | N4ZCX  | George   | Price      |
| 282 | N4ZUQ  | David    | Cavaliere  |
| 73  | NC4E   | Jack     | Sanders    |

**DID YOU FORGET**



If you haven't paid your dues yet and they are past due, please do so now. Keep your repeater privileges intact.

Thanks .....

|     |        |          |             |
|-----|--------|----------|-------------|
| 90  | ND4D   | Chuck    | McGinnis Jr |
| 120 | NK4U   | Nancy    | Drabem      |
| 247 | W2HIK  | Fred     | Holcomb III |
| 181 | W4DQT  | Bill     | Plage       |
| 18  | W4EJF  | Forrest  | Shelton     |
| 253 | W4IRZ  | Bill     | Reynolds    |
| 334 | W4NAR  | George   | Ryan        |
| 19  | W4OO   | Jim      | Stafford    |
| 35  | W4SHP  | Jack     | Van Hatten  |
| 49  | W4UXJ  | Marvin   | Moss        |
| 321 | W4WKP  | Johnny   | Fearon      |
| 152 | W4YBV  | Terry    | Joyner      |
| 400 | W8BLA  | Vern     | Fowler      |
| 55  | W8SOA  | Jack     | Conrad      |
| 61  | W4BNN  | Mike     | Henry       |
| 5   | W4BRO  | Dan      | Turner      |
| 230 | W4BVI  | Marvin   | Ramos       |
| 6   | W4FNI  | Mike     | Connell     |
| 347 | W4POU  | Gilbert  | Butler      |
| 276 | W4WSP  | Michelle | Weinberg    |
| 82  | WB2HMG | Frank    | Lombardi    |
| 100 | WB3JAU | Larry    | Mortley     |
| 81  | WB4GTL | Duane    | Farmer      |
| 28  | WB4PYL | Dan      | Gustafson   |
| 45  | WB4ZBV | Kim      | Clough      |
| 145 | WB4ZTA | Gunny    | Clough      |
| 319 | WB5ZDH | Don      | French      |
| 367 | WB9GMO | Michael  | Hammel      |
| 29  | WD4NIT | Warren   | Coleman     |
| 39  | WV5R   | Cam      | Clayson     |



## N.F.A.R.L. Treasurer's Quarterly Report

(Jan. 1 thru Mar. 15, 1996)

|                               |                 |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Income:                       |                 |
| ARRL Renewal                  | 30.00           |
| Auction Income                |                 |
| Contribution Income (Tickets) |                 |
| Contribution Income (Unrestr) | 25.00           |
| Dues Income                   | 1,055.00        |
| Interest Income               |                 |
| Miscellaneous Income          |                 |
| <b>Total Income</b>           | <b>1,110.00</b> |

|                                   |         |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Expense:                          |         |
| Advertising                       |         |
| ARRL Expenses                     |         |
| Auction Expenses                  |         |
| Awards                            |         |
| Bank Charges                      | 6.00    |
| Equipment Purchases               | 135.94  |
| Field Day                         |         |
| Liability Insurance               |         |
| Licenses                          |         |
| Newsletter Printing               |         |
| Office Supplies                   |         |
| Parts                             |         |
| Postage                           | 102.40  |
| Printing (Manual Reproduction)    |         |
| Printing (Misc)                   |         |
| Rent (POB)                        | -150.00 |
| Software                          |         |
| T&E (Entertainment - Hall Rental) |         |
| (Meals - Christmas)               |         |
| (Cook Out)                        |         |
| (Field Day)                       |         |
| Taxes (Georgia Corp Tax )         |         |
| (Georgia Dept of Revenue)         |         |
| (IRS)                             |         |
| (Sales Tax )                      |         |
| Telephone (Sweat Mountain )       | 96.84   |
| (Water Tower )                    | 78.09   |
| Void                              |         |

**Total Expenses 269.27**

**Net Income 840.73**

## Ham Watch

by  
Nicole KE4NPF

Hello, my name is Nicole Reynolds, callsign is KE4NPF. I would like to take a moment to tell you about Roswell-Alpharetta Hamwatch. Hamwatch is a volunteer organization specializing in training for emergency communications. Public service events, classroom and specialized training are the base of our activities.

Hamwatch meets the first Wednesday of every month. The current location for these meetings is at the Alpha-Soda in Alpharetta on Haynes Bridge Road. Dinner is at 6:30 PM, meeting at 7:30 PM.

Hamwatch holds a radio net every Sunday evening at 8:00 PM on the N.F.A.R.L. 145.470 Mhz (-600 kHz) repeater. In addition Hamwatch holds a training exercise, generally, the third Sunday of every month. You can also call the voice attended information line at (770)410-3928 for more information about Hamwatch, meetings, and Public Service Events. You may also leave a message for a Hamwatch representative to contact you.

The following is a list of upcoming Public Service Events. Any time you can donate is greatly appreciated.

When: April 6, 1996  
Where: Roswell, GA  
What: St. Andrews Rowing Regatta  
Contact: Susan Mays, KE4JKN, 770-429-1346, ke4jkn@radio.org  
Comments: Rowing Regatta. Commit time: 0700-1300

When: April 13, 1996  
Where: North Fulton, South Cherokee, and South Forsyth Counties  
What: MS Spring Classic  
Contact: Nicole Reynolds, KE4NPF, 770-449-7978, williamr@mindspring.com  
Comments: Bicycle Tour. Multiple courses. Commit time 0700-1700

When: May 5, 1996  
Where: Lake Lanier Islands, Hall and Forsyth Counties  
What: American Diabetes Foundation Tour de Cure  
Contact: To be determined  
Comments: Bicycle tour. Multiple courses. Commit time: 0700-1700

When: May 24, 25, 26, 1996 (Friday, Saturday, and Sunday)  
Where: Emory University  
What: Georgia Special Olympics Summer Games  
Contact: Bob Langford, WW4K, 770-921-8083, Signature electronic@sid.net  
Steve Finger, KB4DNQ, 770-979-4712  
Comments: Olympic style event. Multiple locations. Multiple days. Very large number of operators required.

Come out and join us for a good time (and generally a good meal!)

'73  
Nicole KE4NPF



The meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Pat ADAMS suggested keeping a copy of the emergency numbers in Squelch Tales in your glove box. That you can report an accident yourself instead of going thru a third party. Fred NACLA says that the problem with that is that since the reporter is providing the call comes in as a "yellow" light instead of a "red" light that comes in on a 911 call. Fred has been talking with 911 to get a unique number for the reporter to get the same service as the direct dial 911 calls.

Fred talked about the possibility of remote receivers, but advised that each one would cost about \$400 to \$500.

The 145.47 repeater problem is not fixed. Fred explained that due to the large amount of activity on the mountain and no single point of control, we may just have to live with it. Fred says that he has another possible site in mind for the 145.47 repeater.

Everyone attending the meeting introduced themselves by name and calling.

Al talked about Scott's and requested a donation from the club of \$100 to assist them in purchasing equipment. A large sum of money was donated originally but has since been depleted. The club voted to donate the money.

Last month there was confusion about Field Day. It will be held on June 23 & 24 this year. Al called the ARRL and confirmed the dates.

Al mentioned that since he had assumed the Vice-President's role, Leah Cook had agreed to assume the Secretary's position.

Meeting time-changes were by KE4LNO, EHAM, KE4FTD, CLIF, KE4DZV and RIA, KE4FVQ.

Meeting convened at 7:30PM by Al Fisher, Vice-President in the absence of Steve Mayo, President.

Steve mentioned that the next meeting is March 13th and the meeting was closed at 8:33 PM.

Headly Janet, W4AAETL, who runs his own business Service Provider company, spoke to the group about the internet, past, present and future. He also answered any and all questions and provided the group with sign-up forms for his service at a reduced price for Ham.

Head, ALBERT, reminded and invited everyone to join in the fun on the Internet. Next week Tuesday at 10:30 PM.

Steve RCAFBD, requested assistance with the MS WAIR, with 5 locations in the Atlanta area on March 23rd.

Steve asked if there was any old business and there was none. He then asked if there was any new business and Jeff AARIC, invited everyone to visit his homepage on the World Wide Web. He says it's getting better every day.

He also mentioned the annual auction in May and that volunteers are needed for that. He also mentioned that Fred Day is on the 22nd and 23rd of June (it had been published in the last Squelch Tales in the 29th and 30th of June).

Steve advised everyone that the 440 repeater is in default mode, due to power problems on the mountain and explained to all what that means.

Steve asked everyone that the 440 repeater is in the position permanently. (No one volunteered).

That Pat ADAMS was taking the minutes for this meeting, but that he would like someone to volunteer to fill the position permanently. (No one volunteered).

Steve briefly described the speaker for the evening and the subject matter. He advised us that our Vice-President, Curt, W4YR, has taken a position for at least 6 months as a contractor in Indiana and that the Vice-President's position would now be filled by the current secretary, Al Fisher, KC4RHH. He advised the group that Pat ADAMS was taking the minutes for this meeting.

The meeting was opened by the president, Steve Mayo at 7:41 PM.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 PM.

The meeting was then turned over to the MIA, KE4FTD, for a discussion on Field Day. The program eventually turned into a discussion on internet.

The meeting was called to order by Steve Mayo, KS4KJ at 7:43 PM.

Steve mentioned that several people had not paid their dues yet and requested that they get them in ASAP.

Headly Janet, W4AAETL, who runs his own business Service Provider company, spoke to the group about the internet, past, present and future. He also answered any and all questions and provided the group with sign-up forms for his service at a reduced price for Ham.

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## CRACKING THE CODE

By BRAD FREEBORN AB6FD

Do you have the technician class blues? Have you hit the wall at 10 wpm and can't quite pass the 13 wpm code test? How many of us have seen a good friend, relative, or spouse upgrade and ask us to general or beyond?

Because of the 13 wpm Morse code requirement, many will be codeless techs for the remainder of their amateur lives. There are some of us too, that are angered that a Morse code test is required to gain voice privileges on 20m and refuse to pursue the upgrade.

Some of the main reasons people do not upgrade are legitimate and some are simply excuses to justify procrastination. Whatever the reason, it is a fact that the frequencies above 50 MHz offer a multitude of interesting and practical operations. The modes available are overwhelming, with packet, fm, data, ssb, satellite, moonbounce, television and microwave just to name a few, can usually satisfy a no code tech's appetite for the hobby.

However, there are some that desire to operate a world class hf station with ssb and extended frequency privileges. For those that truly possess this desire, upgrading is inevitable, but can be difficult for some.

Here are some valuable tips for learning and passing the general code test:

1. Set a target date to take the code test. Six months is sufficient time for most. Keep this appointment with yourself!

2. Choose this date in schedule with a V.E. team that might offer a multiple choice code examination. Call in advance to confirm this.

3. Choose a code practice lesson wisely. Select one with a tone pleasant to your ears which seems reasonably paced and best suited for you.

4. It is usually better to use code tapes rather than some of the software programs. Much of the software is good, and can benefit some. However, do not copy code with a keyboard. The V.E. team will not offer you a keyboard to copy code, only pencil and paper. Learn the code in the same way that the test will be given, with pencil and paper only!

5. Always copy code with pencil and paper while learning or building your code speed. Trying to learn or build code speed while driving in your car is rarely beneficial. Driving requires too much of our attention and intro-

duces many distractions. This makes for a very poor learning environment and could distract attention from driving. Also, sending code with a practice oscillator is a lot of fun, but offers no advantage on test day where copying, not sending is required. Try to practice in a quiet area when and where it is possible. Note that copying code in block letters is undesirable.

6. Your code lessons should include practice QSO's, or sample code tests. Become familiar with the various types of antennas, rigs and abbreviations such as qth, rst, qrt, wx for weather reports, etc. **VERY IMPORTANT:** Don't stop copying! If you lose rhythm, try to regroup as soon as possible. Never give up!

To sum all this up, when test day comes you will be better prepared for the test instead of trying to white-knuckle your way through. If the V.E. team administers a 20 wpm code test before the 13 wpm as most usually will, don't be afraid to sit in on it. You have nothing to lose and it will make the 13 wpm seem a bit more tame and who knows, you may even get lucky!

Now to introduce the word "is". "Is" is important because almost all of the information you will need to copy to pass the code test will follow the word "is". "Is" is "dit-dit, dit-dit-dit". It sounds like "get-set, this-is-it". So when you hear "is", it means get set, here comes important information. By practicing qso's, A code test format such as the following example will be no stranger to you. Just try to copy as many letters as you can after the word "is". Your copy might look something like this:

"VVVVVV A-GJ de -V5- tx Pa- for the calendar rst 5-9, 59- Na-e her- is C-. Qth is -tl-t-, -a- -ig is a k--oo- ts -20 and a-t-nn- is a v-t-c-up l--ect. Wx her- is -ol-/ree-ng. My a-e is 3- and class is g---. Must qrt for an -ppo-m--. -D4- de W-R. ar sk" **HERE IS A SAMPLE QUIZ:**

1. Call of the sending station: A. KL7FR B. N4CLA C. WV5R
2. Name of the sending station: A. Cam B. Fred C. Jose
3. RST report: A. 589 B. 588 C. 599
4. QTH of the sending station: A. Nome, AK B. Atlanta, Ga. C. Rome, Italy
5. Type of rig: A. Yaesu B. Icom C. Kenwood
6. Type of antenna: A. Vertical B. Beam

C. Dipole

7. Weather report: A. Hot/Humid

B. Cool/Windy C. Cold/Freezing

8. Age of the sending station: A. 25 B. 34 C. 51

9. License class of sending: A. Extra B. Advanced C. General

10. Reason to go QRT: A. Work B. Party C. Appointment

You are allowed to miss three out of ten to pass. Call signs and RST reports are generally sent twice. So what you missed the first time, you get a second chance. You can now play wheel of fortune with your copy and fill in the blanks by using the multiple choice answers given on the test itself! If you practice qso's, you will generally know where your weak spots are. For most of us, the weak areas will be call signs and numbers. You can also pass the test by having one minute of perfect copy, which consists of 65 characters in a row. Numbers and punctuation marks count as 2 characters each. Fill in the blanks on your copy after you've finished answering the test questions.

There is more to taking a code test than just going in nervous. As you can see, cracking the code is only a matter of interpreting your own code copy though qso practice. Don't become intimidated by the code or expect immediate results. Be patient with yourself, don't "over practice" and above all, don't burn out. Usually 15 minutes in the morning, 15 minutes in the afternoon and 15 minutes in the evening will produce desirable results. **YOU CAN DO IT!**

For those of you who would just like to learn the Morse code up to 5 wpm, I offer a 5 wpm practice tape for the cost of a blank tape and postage.

Contact me at (770) 433-2905. Good luck with your upgrade. 73's AB6FD



# News From Amateur Radio Newsline

## ARRL VS. MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE

Topping the news this week is word that the ARRL appears to be getting ready to end malpractice suits in response to the rising tide of malicious interference on the ham radio bands. This, in response to the rising tide of unresolved malicious interference complaints filed by the ham radio community. And as a result, an ARRL Executive Committee ad hoc panel has recommended that the League look to Congress for any long term solution.

## ARRL LETTER GOES INTERNET

The ARRL Letter is going weekly on the Internet, but current subscribers to the printed version will only be seeing it once a month. The decision to convert to electronic delivery also means that the Letter will now be available of charge to any ham who has the ability to access the ARRL Home Page on the World Wide Web or several commercial sites. This includes America Online, CompuServe and Genie.

The League notes that a survey of subscribers in early 1995 indicated an interest in electronic delivery because information delivered that way will be more timely.

Current subscribers to the printed version of the ARRL Letter will have their subscriptions extended so that they will receive the same number of copies as they would have under the twice monthly mailing. The League is also writing the annual subscription rate for new

mail out subscriptions as well.

A year ago of the Westlink Report ham radio newsletter ceased publication after more than two decades due to declining revenues. With the ARRL Letter going to weekly on the Internet and once a month on paper, only Fred Mata's W5YI Report is left on a twice monthly mail delivered schedule.

The only question left is whether or not W5YI will follow the ARRL and Newsline to the Internet. We posed that question to Fred Mata. He says that he has no plans of going to electronic delivery at this time. Mata is planning to start his own home page on the World Wide Web but he says he is into the printed page to stay.

## NYC HAM CHARGED

A ham recently hailed as one of the nation's best known dealers in vintage amateur radio gear has been charged with theft and attempted bribery. Harold Gurzky, K6DZ of Richmond Hill, New York was arrested on December 11th after a sting operation allegedly caught him in the act of receiving stolen property that police say he bribed an undercover officer to steal.

According to published reports, Gurzky who was a civilian employee of the New York City Police Department and who worked at the police radio repair shop was on his job as a repair technician on December 6th when he is alleged to have approached an undercover detective and offered him a \$100 to remove five pieces of test equipment stored in the shop.

With the Queens District attorney's and Police Internal Affairs officers present, the transaction took place and was secretly videotaped. Soon thereafter, Gurzky was placed under arrest with the stolen equipment in his possession.

Ironically, Gurzky also happens to be a trustee of a repeater in Queens, New York that is primarily sponsored by hams who are members of the New York City Police Department. The investigation of Gurzky's alleged illegal activities is being carried out under the supervision of Sergeant Gary Westbecker of the Queens Internal Affairs Bureau. Assistant

## COMING BACK

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## THIS WEEK IN AMATEUR RADIO

A probation revocation hearing for computer hacker Kevin David Mitnick, N6NHG, has been set for the end of January. Mitnick is the alleged computer super hacker who was arrested in North Carolina last February. He has since entered into a plea bargain on federal charges but still faces the probation violation in Southern California.

## MITNICK PROBATION HEARING

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District Attorney David W. Lee is prosecuting the case. If convicted on all charges, K6DZ faces up to seven years in prison.

## COURSE, NEWSLINE

Once the agreement is signed, telephone lines will be secured and installation of the network audio uplink equipment can proceed. The network will utilize transponder 18, that's 9B vertical for those using commercial satellite receiving equipment, at 5.8 MHz wideband analog audio. Artek F2 provides excellent coverage of North America with spot beams aimed at Alaska and Hawaii.

But the best part is that Artek F2 is expected to remain operational into the 21st century and provide a more permanent home for the net-work. Look for This Week in Amateur Radio to return to the air early in 1996.

This Week in Amateur Radio carries ARRL Bulletins, contest and convention information, propagation forecast summaries, RAIN, the radio Amateur Information Network, and of course, Newsline.

Underwrites the network uplink costs. The agreement awaits formal signing by the uplink carrier and SKYVISION, which grants of TTN including This Week in Amateur Radio, will return to the air in January. The agreement awaits formal signing by Tech Talk Network and operators of the Canadian Teleart Artek F2 commercial communications satellite. All communications hobby professions satellite.

Artek F2 provides excellent coverage of North America with spot beams aimed at Alaska and Hawaii. But the best part is that Artek F2 is expected to remain operational into the 21st century and provide a more permanent home for the net-work. Look for This Week in Amateur Radio to return to the air early in 1996.

## News From Other Amateur Radio Clubs

### Radio Club More Than Just A Bunch of Hams

by Dale Kuska  
Campus News  
The Navy's University

Students here at NPS spend most of their free time with their noses stuck in school books. Many, however, somehow find spare time to participate in extra-curricular hobbies and activities. Amateur radio is one of these hobbies. Radio or "ham" operators enjoy a wealth of possibilities, including recreation, as well as being an integral unit in public events and emergency services. The NPS Amateur Radio Club takes full advantage of these possibilities.

The NPSARC is the largest club of its kind in the area, boasting over 200 members, both military and civilian. They hold two meetings each month, often featuring guest speakers who discuss all aspects of communication, including fiber optics, the Internet, and of course Amateur Radio. Some recent guests have come from AT&T, The Salvation Army, and many NPS professors.

The organization is also very active in the community. Members serve as vital communication links during many major local events. For the past seven years, the club has been responsible for all communication during the Big Sur Marathon. Ron Coleman [KM6DZ], long time member of the NPSARC, says "The whole purpose is to have communication at every check-point, in case of some kind of emergency. We also set up Amateur video sites, where doctors can watch the runners and check for any signs of fatigue."

The club is also used during the Feast of Antennas, the Fourth of July fireworks show, and the Monterey County Special Olympics, among others.

Membership in the Amateur Radio Emer-

gency Service is very important to the NPSARC. This service provides vital communication between local charities and officials in emergencies. The club practices this once a month.

Lt. Steven Bible [N7HPR] operates the club's station in La Mesa Village. The club boasts contact with just about every country in the world.

Recently, the group put their experience and training into action during the January and March floods. The NPSARC provided communication for all American Red Cross shelters in the Monterey Bay area.

"We had over 100 ham operators spread to all Red Cross chapters and shelters", Coleman says. "Without phone and power, we were the only form of communication."

Dave Johnson, Director of Emergency Services for the Monterey County Chapter of the American Red Cross says, "if it hadn't been for the radio club, we would have been in real trouble. They were the only communication we had for almost 72 hours. They were fantastic!"

For the Internet buff, there is an endless supply of information on amateur radio in the World Wide Web. Over 60 clubs and organizations provide home pages for new and experienced, young and old, and everyone else in between. In addition, there is the Amateur Radio Newsline, a weekly on-line newsletter dealing with varying aspects of amateur radio.

The NPSARC also has its own home page on the Internet. Here, net surfers can find out more about the club, its events, activities, meetings, speakers, and membership information.

Where does the interest in Amateur Radio come from? Lt. Steven Bible [N7HPR], a self-proclaimed ham and member of the

NPSARC, has difficulty explaining his attraction to the hobby. "I started at 12 years old. I read magazines and taught myself through trial and error. It is a fascination. You can wire up a bunch of boxes and talk to other people, meet people with similar interests. The best part is, that the journey getting there is half of the fun."

David Bradley, a ham operator since 1946, says "ham radio is a very auxiliary hobby. No matter what you're doing, you can always bring your radio with you."

For those who feel an interest in Amateur Radio and want to learn more, the group offers free weekly Amateur Radio classes, and holds the test every other month to obtain an FCC license. Anyone can investigate the NPS Amateur Radio Club at the following World Wide Web address:

<http://www.sp.nps.navy.mil/npsarc/k6ly.html>

or by writing to them at:

NPS Amateur Radio Club  
833 Dyer Rd., Room 437  
Naval Postgraduate School  
Monterey CA 93943-5121

# # #

*(In the last ScquelchTales, I published an article taken from "The Splatter", newsletter of the Amateur Radio Club of Augusta. I thought it was a great article. They publish their newsletter on the WWW, so if you have access, it's <http://www.cstra.net/garyborb/arca.htm> Here's another great one for those of you that don't understand the solar cycle, including me - Pat AD4GJ)*

### The Declining Solar Cycle

As we approach the solar minimum, in the next few years, what can we expect to encounter on our HF frequencies?

*(continued on page 13)*

## Amateur News From The ARRL

## Question Pool Committee

ARRL Executive Vice President David Sumner, K1ZZ, advised FCC Private Wireless Division Chief Robert H. McNamara on February 13, 1996 that the mechanism to maintain question pools for FCC Amateur Radio examination elements has broken down and no longer operates as FCC rules require. ARRL wants the FCC to issue a public notice to that effect, clearing the way for the creation of a substitute mechanism.

Service examinations are maintained and to issue public notice to that effect.

The League asks the FCC to terminate its agreement with any VEC that took part in the decision to exclude the ARRL/VEC or other VEC from cooperating in the maintenance of the question pools, as their action violated Section 97.523 of the FCC's rules. The League has invited all VECs to cooperate in creating a replacement Question Pool Committee, which would be open to all FCC-recognized VECs.

The League's request stems from last year's decision by a majority of the Volunteer Examination Coordinators to incorporate a previously informal organization as National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators Inc. (NCVEC) and some other VECs chose to not participate in the corporation. At that time, Sumner emphasized that ARRL Volunteer Examiners Department Manager Bart Jahnke, (WB9NM) would continue to participate with other VECs on issues of common interest, and that the League did not want to change the cooperative relationship that existed between the ARRL and other VECs. NCVEC Inc later removed Jahnke from the question pool committee (QPC), which had been the mechanism for VECs to cooperate in maintaining question pools for written ham radio examination elements.

In October, FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Deputy Chief Ralph Haller confirmed that the NCVEC has no recognition in the Communications Act or the FCC Rules, and that the FCC views each VEC individually. He said the FCC expected all VECs to be able to participate in question pool activities. In December, the FCC's McNamara asked NCVEC Inc president, Dalton H. Tansill, WB4HOK, to immediately reinstate the ARRL/VEC to a seat on the QPC. The conference formally requests the FCC to advise Tansill that the question pool committee operating exclusively under the NCVEC is no longer the mechanism through which question pools for Amateur Radio

The ARRL/VEC coordinates approximately two-thirds of all FCC Amateur Radio examinations.

## Vanity Calls Delayed

ARRL has learned that the FCC may delay until mid-1996 the announcement of when it plans to open the first gate or gates of the vanity call sign program. A Commission spokesman says the FCC first wants to deal with remaining Petitions for Reconsideration it has received. The FCC had been expected to announce opening dates early this year. FCC vanity call sign application Form 610V is now available, but the FCC will not accept completed forms until it opens the appropriate filing gates. Prospective applicants can get the FCC Form 610V package by writing ARRL, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please include an aise Form 610V also

The ARRL said its exclusion also resulted in errors in the revised question pool for the Amateur Extra Class written examination, element 4B, released by the Question Pool Committee December 1 for use starting July 1, 1996. The League said VECs can correct this by simply not using the defective questions in their examinations.

The ARRL said its exclusion from the QPC caused material appropriate for study by prospective Technician Class applicants to be left out of the Novice (element 2) and Technician (element 3A) syllabi the committee released February 1, 1996. The present syllabi are not acceptable to the ARRL because study guides prepared for these examinations won't include the missing material, and applicants won't be tested on it.

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Atlanta 1996



###

crowded.

Michael Smalls, the co-chair of the Olympic Broadcast Frequency Coordination Committee he said. "But Atlanta is already pretty crowded."

force," Funk emphasized. "We wish it was different," he said. "But Atlanta is already pretty crowded."

Frank said the policy will "unfortunately have an impact upon Radio Amateurs attending the games." Since VHF and UHF handheld radios are known to be easily modified for widespread use, security officers will not permit amateur H-Ts at Olympic venues, he said. "Some may argue that this policy is unreasonable. It may or may not be, but it will be in effect and on-

TV in Atlanta.

stant News Operations Manager at WAGA-TV in Atlanta.

And I once found Amateur repeater FCC. "And I once found Amateur repeater coordination difficult," joked Funk, who's Assistant News Operations Manager at WAGA-

TV in Atlanta.

"To say things are going to be tightly controlled is an understatement," Funk said, adding that all broadcast-related RF gear will be required to pass an Olympic certification inspection in addition to that required by the FCC. "And I once found Amateur repeater coordination difficult," joked Funk, who's Assistant News Operations Manager at WAGA-TV in Atlanta.

Andrew Funk, KB7UV, a member of the Olympic Broadcast Frequency Coordination Committee, has issued a word of warning for hams coming to Atlanta for the Olympics. Leave your H-Ts at home!

## Bound

Leave The HT Behind If You're Olympic

###

3676

is available from the FCC via the Internet at <http://www.fcc.gov/forms/Form610V>, or <http://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/forms/Form610V/>, or by fax at 202-418-0177. Ask for Form 006108 The FCC's Forms Distribution Center also accepts orders for Form 610V at 800-418-

(continued from page 11)

### The Declining Solar Cycle

Scientists, from about 1700 on, have kept track of the sun's activity. They do this by a daily observation of the solar disk and counting the number of "sunspots" on it. Sunspots show up as little dark patches on the face of the sun and they vary slightly in quantity from day to day. The spots are visible due to the temperature of the solar gasses in the sunspot being much cooler than surrounding gasses. The more areas cooled, the more sunspots will be observed. So, one may say with assurance, many sunspots mean an active sun and few sunspots mean an inactive sun. The sunspots are counted daily by many observatories around the world, but the number that is used in propagation studies is the monthly smoothed number that is used as provided by the solar observatory of Zurich, Switzerland. There is a historical chart of these smoothed sunspot numbers upon which future predicted solar trends are developed.

The average number of years between solar maximums (or minimums) is 11 years, hence, the popular term "the eleven year solar cycle." Actually the 11 year cycle is not symmetrical, that is, it rises faster than it declines. Generally speaking, we think of the solar maximum as being about number 110, and the solar minimum as being about 10. There have been some exceptions to the rule, notably in solar cycle 19 where solar maximum reached sunspot Number (SSN) 190, considerably higher than the norm of SSN 110.

Now that we know about the solar cycle, what does it mean with regard to radio communications? Well, it does many things, but we will discuss only those associated with high frequency radio amateur bands. The more active the sun, the more dense the ionosphere (as a general rule). Therefore, we might say that at SSN 10, the ionosphere is thick and dense. At SSN 10, the ionosphere is thin and more transparent to radio waves. At SSN 110, due to the characteristics of the ionosphere, very high HF frequencies propagate because the ionosphere will bend them back to earth. At SSN 10, only lower

frequencies return to earth.

It is not uncommon during a winter day at SSN 110 to have a predicted maximum useable frequency (MUF) of 40 MHz on a 2000 mile path (of course, most HF equipment only tunes to 30 MHz!). It is common on a winter night during SSN 10 to operate 2000 miles at a 4 MHz MUF. These are the extremes for the path. Simply stated, during SSN MAX, higher frequencies are useable over HF radio paths. During SSN MIN, lower frequencies are useable over the same HF radio paths. Looking at this in a very practical vein, if we take an HF radio system 1500 miles in length in July of 1988 (SSN 110) we might have a MUF of 21.3 MHz. In July, 1995 (SSN 15) the MUF might be 8.4 MHz. You can see, low SSN years mean a decreased MUF so the higher frequencies will not be useful during these years.

As the solar cycle decreases, so does the useable portion of the HF spectrum. As an example, during SSN MAX, frequencies from 4 to 30 MHz were the most used, but during SSN MIN, frequencies from 2 to 18 MHz will be the most used. The 10 meter band (28 MHz) will be unusable except for local direct wave use and the 15 meter band (21 MHz) will be a "hit and miss" situation depending on the season, direction, and solar abnormality. Current projections are we will hit SSN MIN about October, 1996.

As you are aware (or I hope you are) normally the higher in frequency one operates, the less atmospheric noise is encountered, the less atmospheric absorption is experienced, the fewer number of hops is required on a given radio path, and the more efficient the antennas are. When we start using lower frequencies, the reverse is true. There is a greater level of atmospheric noise on frequencies under 10 MHz. Ionospheric absorption is greater, it takes more hops of a lower frequency to go the same distance as a higher frequency would propagate with fewer hops - hence more loss, and last but not least, the antennas become less directive, more restrictive in bandwidth and have less gain. Although the signal-to-noise requirement, to provide the same type and grade of ser-

vice, will remain the same, there will be less opportunity to achieve it by virtue of all the other limitations. Unfortunately, this will affect the low powered transmitters the most.

Associated with SSN MAX are Sudden Ionospheric Disturbances (SID), also referred to as Short Wave Fade (SWF) and Ionospheric Storms. These phenomenon occur at, or close to, the solar maximum. The active sun has more gaseous eruptions, referred to as solar flares. The immediate result of a solar flare of significant magnitude is a SID/SWF in the daylight portion of the earth. Ionospheric storms are produced sometime after a solar flare has occurred. The charged particles are drawn into the earth's magnetic field causing enhanced ionization of the F layer of the ionosphere. Dependent upon flare severity, sometimes the entire ionospheric structure is enhanced. Anyway, the number of occurrences of the SID/SWFs and Ionospheric storms drops significantly as the SSN MIN is approached. SID/SWFs can cause severe attenuation of the radio signals (especially the lower frequencies) due to increased adsorption in the D layer. This normally lasts from a few minutes to a few hours. The Ionospheric storm usually lasts from hours to days and it affects mostly the higher frequencies, but can also affect the lower frequencies if the D layer is also enhanced. Abnormal solar-caused outages should be sharply reduced during the quiet years.

I hope this article has given you an insight to the SSN MIN problem, and I also hope it will dispel any unusual notions you might have about the subject. Don't throw up your hands in despair. We can communicate, but it calls for a little more communications savvy, and a little more work.

Chuck, W4MEW



A Little Humor

Electricity

Here is a dissertation on physical science for your enlightenment. I don't know where it came from so it must be true!

Today's scientific question is: What in the world is electricity and where does it go after it leaves the toaster?

Here is a simple experiment that will teach you an important electrical lesson. On a cool dry day, scuff your feet along a carpet, then reach your hand into a friend's mouth and touch one of his dental fillings. Did you notice how your friend twitched violently and cried out in pain?

This teaches one that electricity can be a very powerful force, but we must never use it to hurt others unless we need to learn an important lesson about electricity.

It also illustrates how an electrical circuit works. When you scuffed your feet, you picked up batches of "electrons", which are very small objects that carpet manufacturers gave into carpet so that they will attract dirt. The electrons travel through your bloodstream and collect in your finger, where they form a spark that leaps to your friend's filling, then travel down to his feet and back into the carpet, thus completing the circuit.

AMAZING ELECTRONIC FACT: If you scuffed your feet long enough without touching anything, you would build up so many electrons that your finger would explode! But this is nothing to worry about unless you have a sharp, thus completing the circuit.

Although we modern persons tend to take our electric lights, radios, mixers, etc. for granted, hundreds of years ago people did not have any of these things, which is just as well because there was no place to plug them in. Then along came the first Electrical Pioneer, Benjamin Franklin, who flew a kite in a lightning storm and received a serious electrical shock. This proved that lightning was powered by the same force as carpets, but it also damaged Franklin's hair so severely that he started speaking only in incomprehensible maxims, such as, "A penny saved is a penny earned." Eventually he had to be given a job running the post office.

After Franklin came a herd of Electrical Pio-

ners whose names have become part of our electrical terminology. Myron Volt, Mary Louise Amp, James Watt, Bob Transformer, etc. These pioneers conducted many important electrical experiments. Among them, Galvani discovered (this is the truth) that when he attached two different kinds of metal to the leg of a frog, an electrical current developed and the frog's leg kicked, even though it was no longer attached to the frog, which was dead anyway. Galvani's discovery led to enormous advances in the field of amphibian medicine.

Today, skilled veterinary surgeons can take a frog that has been seriously injured or killed, implant pieces of metal in its muscle, and watch it hop back into the pond - almost. But the greatest Electrical Pioneer of them all was Thomas Edison, who was a brilliant inventor despite the fact that he had little formal education and lived in New Jersey. Edison's first major invention in 1877 was the phonograph, which could soon be found in thousands of American homes, where it basically sat until 1923, when the record was invented. But Edison's greatest achievement came in 1879 when he invented the electric company. Edison's design was a brilliant adaptation of the simple electrical circuit the electric company sends electricity through a wire to a customer, then immediately gets the electricity back through

Please remember to recycle this newsletter!



another wire, then (this is the brilliant part) sends it right back to the customer again.

This means that an electric company can sell a customer the same batch of electricity thousands of times a day and never get caught, since very few customers take the time to examine their electricity closely. In fact, the last year any new electricity was generated was 1937.


Today, thanks to men like Edison and Franklin, and frogs like Galvani, we receive almost unlimited benefits from electricity. For example, in the past decade scientists have developed the laser, an electronic appliance so powerful that it can vaporize a bulldozer (2000 yards away, yet so precise that doctors can use it to perform delicate operations to the human eyeball), provided they remember to change the power setting from "bulldozer" to "Eyeball."

WHY ASK WHY?


1. Why do you need a driver's license to buy liquor when you can't drink and drive?
  2. Why isn't phonic spelled that way?
  3. Why are there interstate highways in Alaska and Hawaii?
  4. Why are there flotation devices on planes instead of parachutes?
  5. Why are cigarettes sold in gas stations if smoking is prohibited?
  6. Do you need a silencer to shoot a name?
  7. Can you imagine a world with no hypothetical situations?
  8. How does the guy who drives the snowplow get to work?
  9. If a cow laughed, would milk come out it's nose?
  10. If nothing sticks to Teflon, how does Teflon stick to the pan?
  11. If you're in a vehicle going the speed of light, what happens when you turn on the headlights?
  12. Why do they put trails on the keypad of the drive up ATM?
  13. Why do we drive on parkways and park on drivers?
  14. Why is it when you transport something by car, it's called a shipment but something sent by ship is called cargo?
  15. You know that indestructible little black box used on planes? Why can't they make the whole plane out of that stuff?
- And my personal favorite: If you had buttered toast to the back of a cat and dropped it from a height, what would happen?

# N.F.A.R.L. Member Survey and Opinion Poll

|  | Completely Satisfied     | More Than Satisfied      | Satisfied                | Less Than Satisfied      | Completely Dissatisfied  |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| How satisfied are you with the club, in general?                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| How about the meetings?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| How satisfied with the meeting facility?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| How satisfied are you with the auction?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| How satisfied are you with Field Day?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| How satisfied are you with Squelch Tales, overall?                               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| How about the layout?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| How satisfied with the articles?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| How satisfied are you with the 145.470 repeater? (If not used, don't answer)     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 10. How satisfied are you with the 147.060 repeater? (If not used, don't answer) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 11. How satisfied are you with the 444.475 repeater? (If not used, don't answer) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 12. If you would be interested in a class to upgrade to General, check this box. | <input type="checkbox"/> |                          |                          |                          |                          |

If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of the club not mentioned here, please start with #13 and write in this box:  =

Complete and mail to:  
 NFARL Squelch Tales Editor  
 Pat Patterson  
 2070 Laurel Mill Way  
 Roswell, GA 30076

No, just kidding. Use this box: 

Use the reverse side of this page to indicate any ideas or suggestions that you may have to improve the club.





**DX Corner**  
by  
**Mike KR4TG**

om time to time , you'll hear conversations about working stations in distant parts of the world. The evidence that backs this is in the form of DX magazines and/or interesting articles in CQ or QST about a DXpedition (a granted visit by outside ops). Some very interesting, and then some are very common. What is it about ?

**The Chase :** tuning up and down the bands listening for weak signals from a tip from the "Packet Cluster" or for articles in magazines or newsletters. Many people have dedicated many hours of sleepless and nervous nights and mornings. Those times are common for "band Openings" to occur. A minor lesson in propagation tells us that the F-layer of the ionosphere splits into two separate parts, allowing longer distance contacts on the lower bands (40 , 80, 160 meters). During the mid-morning openings the F2-layer is charged to minimum, and will allow signals to be reflected back to earth over a great distance (anywhere in darkness). These openings are commonly called Grey-line openings, and occur for the short period of sunrise - 3 min to 5 min respectively.

nce this DX station is spotted on a band operating, it comes HOT NEWS to those listening around or tuning to the Packet Cluster. Out of the woodwork stations appear, as if they're waiting for a parade to begin. Then in an instant the once quiet frequency comes flooded with stations calling from seemingly everywhere. The successful stations who make the contact are usually the ones who spend more time just listening and instinctively pop in when "timing" is right. Many stations come to learn that patience and perseverance will outperform a kilowatt hands down. I have worked well over 200 countries with only 100 watts. Near 100 on 80 meters alone on just an inverted-v. So here you have it, armed with only a dipole and 100 watts, all you need now is for conditions to be good. Listen for the DX station to describe his station to you, and then respond when his signal matches, or is better than yours. Then listen for an opening in the noise. When you hear him call respond with your call sign unless he/she asks otherwise and find out who the station went back to. While many stations will keep shouting their call signs , you could slip in and make a contact right out from under their noses. It works everytime....

**The DX Stations :** Usually when you hear an unfamiliar call sign called out on a given frequency, it's their prefix (or first part of their call before a number) will designate their location on the globe. for example: A, K, W, are usually USA calls or US possessions. EA, L, SP, are prefixes found in the European countries of Spain, Germany, and Poland. Sometimes you'll hear call signs that are nearly familiar like: TI4-KR4TG, meaning that KR4TG (wishful thinking) is operating portable in Costa Rica. Then again others will sound a little strange like: HG73DX, designating a Special Event station operating in Hungary (HG\_). But all in all, with a little help from a DXCC list you could quickly identify the operating station without any problem.

sometimes during a DXpedition and/or contest

operation you might hear the same call sign on two or more bands at the same time. No, you're not hearing things. That is merely the efforts of a Team operation. These teams consist of a small group of Amateurs who have dedicated time, money and their own personal gear sometimes to put a small island, or remote place "on the air". Remember that it's their effort, in their visit to contact thousands of other hams worldwide.

**The Paper Chase:** After all is done, and you've made the contact and logged it in your book, consider the Awards that could be achieved from all your efforts. There are many Awards available for various types of operating: Worked All States, Worked All Continents, DX Century Club, and others. The important thing to consider here, is that any of these awards are available for 10, 6, and 2 meters as well. With this in mind, one could be a successful DXer if only a Tech or Tech+ licensee. When conditions prevail, during Cycle Peak, these bands could also provide lots of DX to work via SSB, CW, RTTY through the use of satellites or Moonbounce. I hope to be active on 2 meters for Moonbounce during cycle peak. It should prove to be very exciting.

QSL'ing is an Art.... not necessarily. Many stations are very successful in their collecting these sought after postcards from all over. There are a few things to remember however, I'll try to sum this up briefly:

1. consider the cost of return postage - most countries are more expensive than we are.
2. Overseas mail takes longer - even via air mail the wait can be 2 weeks to 6 months.
3. Does the DX station have a QSL manager? - valuable especially when they live stateside
4. Consider the DX Bureau- maybe a long wait - but much cheaper in the long run.
5. Consider the DX station - he may have to answer 30,000 people's cards- send an International Reply coupon(s) or a US 15 bill - but remember that in some countries it is prohibited to be in possession of US currency.

In some cases one could have a good "rag-chew" session with a DX station. It is always nice to be able to convey life stories or happenings on each other's side. In fact, you'll find that more DX stations would prefer a good conversation. For example : Two months ago I had talked to a station in the African Nation of Namibia V51BO. His name was Bassie, and he informed me of the lack of adequate logging software available in his country. You see, even the DX stations are interested in earning awards as well as we are. "No Problem", I told him and even told him of some frequencies that would better enable him to make the contacts he needed. I sent him some simple logging programs via Air Mail along with my QSL card and a picture of my station for his collection. About a month later, I got a telephone call from a ham in North Carolina, and he told me Bassie was on frequency and calling for me. Of course this was a little weird at first, but in tuning on the radio to 80 meters, I heard him working stations all over the US. After listening for a while, I heard him break from a station and call my call sign....Wow a DX station calling me? Well it was true, and he wanted to both thank me for the software, and give me an almost rare contact on 80. I must have been the envy of all who heard our brief QSO, but it just goes to show that hams are friends anywhere, anytime, and on any frequency. I can hardly wait to hear him on 160 meters one day.....CU in the pile-ups, God DNing us 73

Mike KR4TG

**President's Corner**  
*(continued from page 1)*

ways to relieve yourself of that "discretionary income" that's clogging your wallet (or purse). Of course, June brings Field Day and the opportunity to help show what NFARL can do

I have also had suggestions on getting North Fulton members to stage demonstrations of amateur radio in public locations to show the world at large what we do and why it's fun. I like this idea, but it will take YOU, the members, to make it happen. Once again, it will take a few hours (but not getting up at 5am!) to do ourselves and our community some good, and have some fun in the process. So, what do you think?

In this newsletter, you will find a survey form that I really hope EVERYONE will fill out and send back in. This is only to get information and ideas about what you think about our club and the direction you want it to go in. It only take a few minutes to fill out and mail back, and 32 cents won't break anyone, so please take the time and a stamp and help us know what you want. If you want to discuss anything, my phone number and email address is below, so use them. We've got a good organization here and it can only get better.

I'd like to announce that we have a new secretary for North Fulton. Her name is Leah Cook and her call is KE4VFI. She has graciously agreed to fill the remainder of Al Fischer's term as secretary, as Al has moved to the vice-president chair to replace Cam Clayson, who has gone to Indianapolis for a one year work contract. (Did you follow all that?) Here's how things stand:

- President-Mr. Goofy KS4KJ
- Vice-President-Al Fischer KC4RIB
- Secretary-Leah Cook KE4VFI
- Treasurer/repeater-trustee Fred Moore N4CLA
- Editor-Pat Patterson AD4GJ

Well, that's all for now. If you feel the need to contact me, call me at: 770-429-1346. Email me at: 77435.1253@compuserve.com. Catch me on the repeaters. See me at a meeting. Telegrams also work. Bye ya'll.

Steve Mays KS4KJ

NFARL



# Upcoming Programs

May 8 - 5th Annual N.F.A.R.L. Auction. Bring items you wish to sell to this favorite annual club event.

June 12 - Field Day discussion. This is a great time to find out about this year's Field Day plans and schedule.

June 22/23 - Field Day

July 10 - *Open for suggestions*

August 14 - *Open for suggestions*

September 11 - *Open for suggestions*

October 9 - *Open for suggestions*

November 13 - *Open for suggestions*

December 14 - Annual Christmas Party

*(As you can see, we are desperately in need of someone to step forward and say that they will give a presentation to the group. All it takes is a little knowledge of the subject and the courage to do it.....Please!!!)*

*(In the last Squelch Tales, I mistakenly published the dates for Field Day as June 29-30. I was promptly corrected by our fearless President; no, not Hillary, but Steve Mays, who so diligently keeps me on my toes. Sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused - Pat AD4GJ)*

# 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.

# Squelch Tales

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

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