

North Fulton ARL

eNEWS



eNEWS - April, 2007

eNEWS is getting bigger and it's due to your support and interest in NFARL activities. You'll notice that we include very little here that NFARL is *not* actually doing. Read ARRL.org or eHAM.net for that stuff! Here is your April edition:

Meeting - April 17 - 7:30 PM

Ted Bruce, KX4OM, will be returning from the great presentation he made in February. This month he'll be speaking on "Techniques for Learning". Ted has found that he has learned much more "since school" than he did "in school". He'll tell us all how to do it this month! Our meeting is held at the **Alpharetta Fire Station #1** at **2970 Webb Bridge Road**. The meeting time is 7:30 PM and will end around 9:00 PM. For directions to the meeting site <http://tinyurl.com/yhd25e> As you know, we are getting 35-40 at the meetings so **throw in a folding camp chair** if you have one. ***New this month - Toys for Techies - Bring good, clean items to give away as door prizes.*** What do you have that is surplus - books, components, antenna parts, radios, transceivers, amplifiers, well, you get the idea. We still have the HRO Gift Certificate each month, but we want more!

Make note: The **May 15 Meeting - K1TV on the WCC commercial station on Cape Cod - More to follow!**

Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch

Members have started congregating at the Slope's BBQ on Crossville Road each Wednesday at 11:45AM. Come join us. Bring a friend. Slope's is just EAST of Crabapple Road on Crossville in Roswell.

Techs on Ten Net - Fridays 9PM

The Techs on Ten net is not just for Techs. Everyone should check in. There is much trading of 10-10 numbers and there should be some new ones on this week. The freq is now 28.470. If you check in and if this is your first HF contact, tell the NCS (NF4GA) and a certificate will be sent your way. A thought provoking question is posed each week. If you have a question to provoke - send it to w4qo@nfarl.org

Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

Victor, KI4HPX, had to step down as EC due to work. Thanks Victor for your effort in the ARES - we know you'll still be around to help. Coming onboard is **Tom Koch, W4UOC**, our March speaker! Tom says he is looking forward to helping put North Fulton ARES on the map. So if you have an emergency call Tom! BTW Tom's generator is one we'll be using on Field Day. See: <http://www.nfares.org/> Did you know that the North Fulton ARES net meets on 145.47 each Sunday at 7:30PM? Everyone, please check in and meet your ARES members/leaders.

Field Day 2007

Planning is underway for this year's FD. Like the "old" days it will be at Waller Park. Teams are forming now! They include Power, Antennas, Food, Shelter, Station 1, Station 2, and Bonus Points - the theme is **Fun Day, Family Day, and oh yes, Field Day**. Contact kc4ybo@nfarl.org if you have any ideas or equipment that belongs to the club so he can inventory it soon. Work a little, work a lot - there is FOOD for all!! Mark your calendar - June 22 - 23.

KARC Hamfest Report

Team Leader Lee, AF4IA, reports about 14 of you helped with the Kennehoochee Hamfest table. Thanks to Lee and all who helped. We plan to do this again at the Atlanta RC Hamfest on June 2. So plan to sign up when the call goes out. Our table was a buzz of activity with our new banner on the wall, computers doing demos, and a projector to show off the new club **NFARL Nuggets 2007**. This CD contains over 400 megs of fun stuff in several aspects of ham radio and is our club fund raiser for this year. At the hamfest,

we sold over \$400 worth for the club treasury - **Can you smell the cookout at FD now?** If you do not have your copy, come to the meeting - it is \$5 for club members and \$10 for others. If you would like one mailed, you could send the money to **N4CLA** but just come to the meeting! For a summary of what is on the CD, check out <http://tinyurl.com/2qvp6q>

Upcoming Contests

Our club is sponsoring a plaque in the upcoming **GA QSO Party**, which will be held April 14-15. What's that? Well, it's the spring contest where the rest of the country/world tries to work Georgians. You will be very popular in this one - phone or CW. NFARL's name will be on the plaque for the winner of the **GA LOW POWER PHONE** category along with the winner's name of course. This one is a lot of fun even if you've never done a contest before. Check out <http://gqp.contesting.com/> for details and exchange.

Shack Visits

Each month we try to have activities between meetings. Details are being finalized for **Shack Visits** in early May. Stay tuned to the **YAHOO list** for info. You're not on that list? To become a member of the NFARL mailing list, just send a message with your name and callsign in the body to: nfarl-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Now if you would also like to read the archives online, see projects from club members, etc, you may go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nfarl/> and click the **JOIN THIS GROUP** in upper right corner, and just follow the instructions from there. Come on, join the group. You don't have to be a member of NFARL to join the group. We would like to thank those of you that have become NFARL-YAHOO members.

Mentoring Team

If you would like to be a helper to a new or prospective ham, send your name to HELP@nfarl.org Or, if you need **HELP**, do the same. We are now matching up helpers and helpees. We feel this can be a more efficient way to get folks moving up through the levels of ham radio rather than a class. Classes require a lot of "coordinated" effort - location, scheduling, publicity, materials, instructors, etc. Not

everyone is ready for the same level of instruction at the same time. With all the great study materials out there, including an online license course from ARRL, many folks just need someone to talk to or coach them with a few topics to pass the test. At the present time, we have 4 identified mentors who are working with people. More are needed. Is it you?

Note: For those looking for a formal class to achieve the TECH or upgrade to General, the **Forsyth Co. ARES team** is beginning classes in late April. Check it out:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nfarl/message/976>

New Hams

Speaking of new hams - **Jeff, KI4UTS**, just received his license. Took the test at KARC Hamfest, came by the table, joined our club, bought a CD, came to the March Meeting, and got his ticket in late March - longer than he wanted it to take! However, he is now on the air with a loaned handheld - listen for him. **KI4TBD, Erwin**, is also a fairly new ham in our club. He has been on the Techs on Ten net and is a regular on the 145.47 repeater. Have you noticed - activity is picking up on the repeater especially around noon and PM drive time. Any other new hams out there - let us know at info@nfarl.org

Membership

The club is now standing at 65 paid members. We want a hundred before year's end. This will take initiatives on a number of fronts - old members to renew, telling others you know about the club (we have a small business card you should carry to give out which you can pick up at the meetings), bring a friend to the meeting, invite someone to the lunch bunch. In all, we need your help to **Hit A Hundred!**

License Privileges

We do need to mention one thing that is not directly NFARL. Many Tech licensees are confused about their HF privileges. At the Tech level, you are **only** allowed VOICE HF privileges on the 10M band - 28.300 to 28.500. You may operate CW in the area of the bands assigned to the Novice class. If you're not sure, don't go there! For full band chart, check the ARRL site:

<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>

Secretary/Treasurer Request

Renewals and New memberships are sent out electronically to our members based on the anniversary date of their joining the club. There have been rare instances where someone will have paid their dues and shortly thereafter will receive another invoice indicating that their dues are again due. The invoicing process is done mostly in an automatic mode, and is a QuickBooks application, so if this has happened to you, please send me a reply back to the address from where the invoice was sent, or send an email to info@nfarl.org indicating that there is a problem. Please do not feel that we are trying to double bill you.

Well that is all for now. Please plan on coming if you haven't been to a meeting in a while. We would love to see you again. Last month we had 40 people in attendance and we're growing each month.

If you have questions or suggestions for the club, please send your email to: help@nfarl.org