



# *North Fulton Amateur Radio League NFARL eNEWS*

*March 2021*

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

[www.nfarl.org](http://www.nfarl.org)



## ***Wes Lamboley, W3WL Dayton Special Achievement Award Recipient 2021***

***John Kludt, K7SYS***

Congratulations, Wes.

We are all so proud of NFARL's Wes Lamboley, W3WL. We all know him to be a tireless promoter of Amateur Radio. Ever the advocate for youth in Amateur Radio, Wes is the driving force behind the NFARL youth outreach fund, YESA. Ever the competitor, Wes has had so much to do with our Field Day wins in the 3A class.

But we all know these things. Here are some things you might not know about Wes that I think you will find interesting:

Wes has been on seven DXpeditions, five of which were to locations in the Southern Ocean. These efforts included adventures to Easter Island, Heard Island, Bhutan, South Sandwich/South Georgia Islands, Comoros (D68), Kerguelen and South Orkney Island. While on Easter Island, the team decided to give people "true RST reports." If you ask Wes about that he will laugh and tell you, "That lasted about 3 minutes – then back to 5NN for everyone!"



*(Continued on page 2)*

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## ***Wes Lamboley, W3WL (continued from page 1)***

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In the early days of space flight, one of three tracking stations was at Cooby Creek, 14 miles north of Toowoomba, Australia. The site included a 40-foot dish, one of the projects that Wes was involved with. This dish was part of NASA's Application Technology Satellite program. This was still at a point in time when the technology to communicate with satellites was still under development. And Wes was there as part of the effort.

Early on, we really didn't know much about how pilots moved their heads and their eyes when looking at the instrument board. In Wes' basement you will find a plywood contraption and if you ask him about it, he will tell you that is part of a system he cobbled together to begin to unravel that mystery. Turns out it was really quiet an undertaking.

Wes worked extensively on the Hellfire Missile system. He has several good stories about that – and bunch more he can't share.

Wes, ever the competitor, was a member and president of the North America Aviation radio club while living in Columbus, Ohio. It seems there was a friendly competition between local clubs based on the best single transmitter. Wes came up with a mechanical device that allowed them to, in fact, run nine transmitters but only have one on the air at any given time. They used this to their advantage for a couple of years but, alas, the ARRL changed the rules such that an "octopus" or other such mechanical device was no longer legal. Now you know!

As part of his career Wes, spent a fair amount of time in England as an Engineering Liaison for Boeing on a jointly developed tactical radar-guided missile with the Marconi/British Aerospace Corporation. On his first day in St. Albans, he met and became friends with a gentleman named Tony. Tony was fascinated with Elizabethan England, so fascinated he had quit his regular profession and become the court jester with a group of Elizabethan reenactors. Seems Wes was invited to an event in Hatfield House. This is where Elizabeth in 1558 learned she had become the Queen of England. Anyway, so Wes gets invited to the front of the hall, is asked to kneel and is knighted, sword and all, by "Elizabeth, Queen of England" as a knight of the realm. Little did we know all the years we were in the presence of "Sir" Wes Lamboley!

So how did Wes get W3WL? On the way to Heard Island they had stopped at Reunion Island. Wes was working 160 and it was noisy. He noticed that 2 letter calls were easier to pick out. Back on the ship, he used the ship's radio to call Bev (his lovely wife for those of you who have not met her) and asked her to find him a two-letter call. When he got back from Heard Island he was W3WL. Wes adds that some day he may move the Delaware! But not any time soon!

*(Continued on page 3)*

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## ***Stray- / QST, page 15, August 1954***

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W1WPR read in his local paper of a hi-fi outfit that has a "three-way speaker and is supposed to tickle the ear up to 17,000 db." That's really being tickled to death...

## ***Wes Lamboley, W3WL (continued from page 2)***

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If you have ever been to Dayton with Wes he seems to know everyone and watching him work the crowd is a thing of beauty. Wes tells the story of being at the DX forum giving the story with some others on South Sandwich/South Georgia and he was asked "What's the most important thing on a DXpedition?" His answer, "The support of your wife." That reply got a standing ovation from the 300 plus folks in attendance.



As I was preparing this, Wes reminded me he is a raconteur – a storyteller. The next time you see Wes ask him about these and his many other adventures. He will gladly share them with you.

Wes, well done and a much-deserved award.

John, K7SYS

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## ***Name This Ham / Jim Stafford, W4QO***

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You may not have met yet, but this ham is well known to many. This ham was only licensed about 6 months ago but already holds an Extra class ticket. This ham has progressed quickly in technical knowledge by reading and watching YouTube videos. This ham has established a rather functional, basic station capable of operation from 40M thru 440MHz. This ham has become somewhat of an expert in designing and building End Fed Half Wave antennas, which work great. The EFHW antenna allows this ham to not only work SSB but venture into the FT8 world where contacts come easily. This ham proudly uses a FT-991A as a main rig. You may not know that this ham is a great guitarist and organist and has played in bands during most of teen and adult life. This ham has retired from the medical maintenance business. This ham is already on the NFARL VE team! You might also have heard this ham regularly on the club's TechTALK net. This ham is also working on CW skill development, and has almost mastered the basics. Quite a lot of ham radio achievement for a "new" ham. Who is this ham?

*Turn to page 8 to verify your answer to "Name This Ham"*

## President's Corner / John Norris, N4IHV



From left; Wes Lamboley, Martha Muir, John Norris, Wally Strom, and Jim Stafford

Wes Lamboley W4WL; Martha Muir W4MSA; Jim Stafford W4QO, Wally Strom and I visited the Innovation Academy in Alpharetta, Georgia on March 4, 2021. We hope to set up a radio club there. This is a very impressive STEM school in the Georgia School System.

Our club was given a generous donation to the NARFL, YESA program by Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers Club (MATPARC) for \$9,621.16 for which we are very grateful. They chose NFARL because of our strong youth program. This donation will allow us to expand our program.

We have lots of celebrities in our club this month. Here are a few of them:

- Wes Lamboley, W3WL has been given a Special Achievement Award by Hamvention 2021. This is a well-deserved award and could not have gone to a better recipient. Wes has done a tremendous job for NARFL over the years. He is a true promoter of youth and its many programs. Congratulations to Wes for his many years of service.
- Audrey McElroy, KM4BUN and Jack McElroy, KM4ZIA are on the March 2021 cover of CQ Magazine. There is an article inside that you should read. Terry Joyner, W4YBV also has an article in the March 2021 issue. Terry Joyner, W4YVB is the new US Islands on the Air (USI's) Special Event Manager. Terry has done a wonderful job for USI's program and will be a real asset to them going forward. Go to [usislands.org](http://usislands.org) home page and you will see a picture of NFARL in action and information about new events.
- Martha Muir, W4MSA has been chosen secretary/treasurer for ARISS-I, Amateur Radio on the International Space Station ([ariss.org](http://ariss.org)). Martha is active with ARISS and her skills will be very valuable to them.

There are many NFARL members who have done excellent things for Amateur Radio that I have not mentioned in this article. I will share information about their contributions going forward. We will continue our meetings by Zoom until further notice.

Here are some thoughts and observations about life as a ham to consider as we work our way through the pandemic.

- What is a Ham? Webster's states a ham is someone involved in amateur radio.
- **Help a member**; Hams typically are willing to help others involved or interested in amateur radio.
- **Heal a machine**; Hams are notorious for repairing radios and any affiliated equipment.
- **Hear a message**; Hams love to operate their radios and listen to cw, ssb, FT 8, etc.

And finally, what is a Hamster? My XYL says that we are like hamsters running on a wheel because we always want to learn and never stop the process.

I hope everyone has a safe and productive month.

John Norris, N4IHV

NFARL President

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## Monthly VE Test Session at Slope's / Wes Lamboley W3WL

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This Saturday marked the fourth straight time that the roster of test takers led to all passing! Eleven candidates took the tests today, and there were some notable achievements. First, Diane Pete, KN4KSD, took her Amateur Extra exam and aced it. Congrats, Diane! Next notable accomplishment was Victor Godyn. Victor is retired now, but got interested in radio when he was 12 and got the Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge. I do not know how old he is now, but suffice it to say he is "mature". Victor took all three elements and passed them all and is now an Extra! Congrats, Victor! Two others, Timo Tschupp and Nathan Loyd took both Tech and General and passed both. A great day for ham radio and again a big "Well Done" for Ian and his team of volunteer examiners.

It is a privilege to be able to talk a bit with the test takers and understand what got them interested in radio and what their objectives might be in our hobby. Several got started in Scouts with the Merit Badge program. Others began with SWLing. Still another had a neighbor that he helped with antennas and became interested that way. Four people wanted to learn more to help in emergencies. One guy thought ham radio was dead. He was looking for a hobby during COVID and Googled "hobbies" and found out different. He is an IT guy, and the digital modes and protocols blew him away. He will be an Extra soon.

All for now, but as usual, a GIANT shout-out to **Slope's Southern Style Barbecue** for welcoming us into their establishment; they have indeed made many happy who otherwise could not have joined us in the hobby.

Candidate Name	Test	Call (If Any)
Jim Kempthorne	Tech	
Diane Pete	Extra	KN4KSD
Victor Godyn	Tech/ General/ Extra	
Greg Stenger	Tech	
Jay Etheridge	Tech	
Glen Schendel	Tech	
Darryl Vasconi	Tech	
Ray Shader	General	KO4MPL
Jerry Oberholtzer	General	KI4ADP
Nathan Loyd	Tech/General	
Timo Tschupp	Tech/ General	

## The Georgia QSO Party



The Georgia QSO Party for 2021 will return to its normal operating periods of 1800Z (2:00 pm EDT) Saturday until 0359Z (11:59 pm EDT) and Sunday and 1400Z (10:00 am EDT) to 2359Z. (7:59 pm EDT)

All NFARL members and friends are encouraged to participate in the GQP in 2021. This is your chance to "be the DX." It is a real opportunity to practice "running," calling CQ and letting other stations come to you. It is also a chance to test your station's effectiveness under contest conditions and help to improve your abilities as an operator.

**We would like to ask all NFARL members and friends, who will be operating in the Georgia QSO Party, to please submit your name and call sign to note your participation in this year's "Challenge".** This way we can track and listen for the familiar calls in the contest, and also tally scores for the "NFARL Challenge" awards program. Certificates will be awarded in all categories for various achievements.

### The North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Recognizes



# N4FN

## Neil Foster



**1<sup>st</sup> Place - Single Operator  
QRP - Mixed**

**Certificate of operating achievement  
NFARL Challenge  
2014 Georgia QSO Party**

*Continued on Page 6*

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## Georgia QSO Party - (continued from page 5)

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Also, there will be 10 special event call sign stations on the air during the event (operated by NFARL members):

The stations will be:

**N4N - N4F – N4A – N4R – N4L** and **K4N - K4F – K4A – K4R – K4L**

Work 5 of these 10 in any combinations to spell **NFARL**. Use Ns or Ks, SSB and/or CW, any band combo to spell **NFARL**

**Special "Spell NFARL" Certificate will be awarded.**

# GEORGIA QSO PARTY



To be added to the NFARL QSO Party Challenge list, please email me with your name and call sign to [n4tol@arrl.net](mailto:n4tol@arrl.net). Updates to the list and the "Challenge" will be posted to the reflector going forward as new details emerge and new names are submitted. Please sign up and help encourage others to join the fun, and feel free to contact me with any questions.

Thank you - John N4TOL

For information and details about the GQP please visit:

<https://nfarl.org/ga-qso-party/> and <https://gqsoparty.com>

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## March Club Meeting Invitation

**Please use this information to access Zoom and join our March club meeting.**

The meeting begins on Tuesday March 16, 2021 at 7:00PM EDT.

7:00-7:30PM Social Gathering

7:30 PM-7:45PM Greetings & Club Business Update

7:45PM Guest Presenters; John Tramontanis N4TOL & Mike Roden W5JR

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/97054955684?pwd=V1psd09nWUZNVFN3N2pGRkNBbHlxQT09>

Meeting ID: 970 5495 5684

Passcode: 610429

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## ***Encounter with My Dental Hygienist / Wes Lamboley, W3WL***

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I am really lucky and still have all my teeth. My dentist's dental hygienist cleans them every 6 months, which seems to be part of my luck. This last time I went there was a new hygienist, and she was using a "dental loupe" to assist her vision in the cleaning. It occurred to me that a "loupe" would really help me in working on small electronics, as I do not care for looking through a desk-mounted magnifier. When I use a magnifier my neck always gets tired and it seems the magnifier is not always in the best position for what I am trying to see.

The hygienist pointed out how she did not need to strain her neck and she was able to see much better with the loupe. She gave me more details about the loupe and said hers was custom made, but I could probably get one for around \$100. She said she has been using a loupe for years and that they are fairly common in her profession. The loupe was new to me, and many of you may

have already had the same idea that I had when first I saw it in use. Then I thought that many of the older people in the club may not need to go to a hygienist, as they can simply put their teeth in a glass of fizzy stuff and the job is done.

As soon as I got home from the dentist I looked on-line and found one for \$52.00 and ordered one. When it came I was truly impressed with the quality, and it is fully adjustable to my vision and neck bending requirements. I love it. The photo to the left will give you an idea of what it looks like; the built-in light has adjustable intensity and a high-capacity lithium battery. I thought I would write up this article in case you have trouble working on small stuff like I do, and have not had an "Ah Ha" when seeing a loupe-wearing hygienist.



[https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/618%2Bs8gazL.\\_AC\\_SL1200\\_.jpg](https://images-na.ssl-images-amazon.com/images/I/618%2Bs8gazL._AC_SL1200_.jpg)

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## ***Name This Ham / Answer from page 3***

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Our "Name This Ham" for March 2021 is Steve Randall, KO4VW. Steve joined NFARL in September 2020. Make sure you say hello to Steve at our next meeting.





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## ***Trip to Dalton / Mike Riley, KN4OAK***

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Traffic was light as we entered 75N at exit 277. The ride was going smoothly, we were on time and I still had plenty of warm coffee. I expected we would arrive on schedule. "When did you last go to a Hamfest?" Terry asked. I took a moment to recall. "I think it was Dalton in 2019, but I'm not sure", I replied, laughing in my head that maybe memory loss was due by association to the pandemic. Or, maybe not.

Exit 336 arrived just as the sky brightened. There were still low clouds that threatened mist, but it wasn't raining. Traffic on the by-pass was light and soon we were turning right onto Cleveland Highway. I took the remaining sip of coffee as we turned from Legion Drive into the fairgrounds. We paid Tom the entrance fee and made our way to building #2 to unload the goods we planned to sell.

We had the tables paid for, arranged, and connector inventory laid out by 8AM. There appeared to be a reasonable crowd already in the buildings and starting to assemble in the bone yard. More NFARL club members had arrived. Most went off to canvas the event and search for discoveries amongst the various vendor caches. By 10:30 AM we had sold a few NFARL patches and CPO Kits, but weren't having much luck with the BNC connectors.

John N4IHV returned for his bone yard explorations and suggested we talk with a few of the other vendors selling BNC and other connectors at other location inside the buildings. We did so, and discovered quickly that there wasn't much demand for the BNC connector as an individual or bulk item. We also learned a few things about the presentation methods other vendors used. Most presentations were loose parts in bins with a price tag on the bin. Not the bulk bags we had. Completed cable assemblies seemed to be more popular than individual connectors. Loose parts caught prospective customers attention better than bulk packaging.

By 1:30PM the crowd had thinned substantially. We'd sold about 20 CPO kits, some patches and an old transceiver for parts. And one bag of connectors for \$2.00. Given the uncertainty stemming from the pandemic, and the Hamfest attendance level, I think the event can be claimed as a success. We saw folks and vendors that we hadn't seen for a while, got a chance to talk and listen to conversations about radio and operations we likely wouldn't have if we didn't take a chance to attend, and generally felt good about it as we left for home. Here are some photos to prove that we indeed were there, had fun and are waiting for the next one...



*Continued on page*

# Trip to Dalton— continued from page



Waiting for Customers...(left)  
Fred W4FRA, John N4IHV, Wayne  
KE4YU & Mike KN4OAK

Alicia KY4EN & Josh K4NGW talk  
with Mike KN4OAK (below)



Above; Warren KD4Z exchanges information on PCB design with a ham while Fred W4FRA sells a CPO Kit.

At right: (from r to l) Wayne  
KE4YU, John N4IHV, Fred W4FRA,  
Warren KD4Z, & Merry Cagle



## Extra Extra! / From the Extra Class Question Pool

New info for Technicians and Generals and a refresher for Extra Class Licensees!



### E9A12

**How much gain does an antenna have compared to a 1/2-wavelength dipole when it has 6 dB gain over an isotropic antenna?**

- A. 2.79 dB
- B. 3.85 dB
- C. 8.15 dB
- D. 6.0 dB

*See answer on the last page!*

Studying for your Amateur Extra-class license?  
The [current question pool](#) is effective through June 30, 2020.

The new Amateur Extra-class license examination question pool, effective from July 1, 2020, through June 30, 2024, has been released and is available at the National Conference of Volunteer Coordinators (NCVEC) [website](#).

Ian NV4C and his team hold license test sessions on the second Saturday of each month. For more information including upcoming test dates, [click here](#).

## Contest Corner

For more contest information, go to [WA7BNM Contest Calendar: Home](#)

± Wisconsin QSO Party	1800Z, Mar 14 to 0100Z, Mar 15
± 4 States QRP Group Second Sunday Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 15
± Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	2300Z, Mar 21 to 0100Z, Mar 22
± SKCC Sprint	0000Z-0200Z, Mar 24
± CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	0000Z, Mar 27 to 2359Z, Mar 28
± FOC QSO Party	0000Z-2359Z, Mar 27

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## ***NFARL Upcoming Events and Dates***

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- **Every Sunday — NFARES net** - 8:30 PM - 147.06 MHz (+) PL 100  
All licensed hams are welcome, you do not need to be an ARES member!  
Check [NFARES.org](http://NFARES.org) for more information.
  - **Every Monday — Tech Talk** - 8:30 PM - 145.47 MHz (-) PL 100  
NFARL's flagship technical based "non check-in" net. The net is always better when using the web based chat room (Discord) but Internet is not required to join the net. Check [NFARL Nets](#) for more information and "how to". Here's the link to the NFARL server on Discord web app <https://discord.gg/spr2a9D>
  - **Every Wednesday — Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch** - 11:15 AM  
Location: Slope's BBQ, 34 East Crossville Road, Roswell, GA 30075  
(770) 518-7000 *Call to verify operations*  
***Dining Room now OPEN with COVID-19 Restrictions. Get Take Out if you can't stay!***
  - **Every Thursday — YL Net** — 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM - 145.47 MHz (-) PL 100  
Check NFARL Nets [website](#) for "how to." This is a great opportunity for YL's to get on the radio with other YL's! OM's (guys) are welcome to listen in to this YL net.
  - **Every Thursday — CW SIG** — 8:00 PM on ZOOM. Meeting ID is 815 5160 3634; password is CW-CHAT (all CAPS)
  - **Every Saturday — Royal Order of the Olde Geezers Breakfast** - 9 AM  
Location: Reveille Café, 2960 Shallowford Road, Marietta, GA 30066  
(770) 971-6800 *Call to verify operations*  
***Dining Room now OPEN with COVID-19 Restrictions.***
  - **Second Tuesday — NFARES Meeting** - April 13, 2021 ***Online meetings only until COVID-19 Restrictions Lifted.*** Check [NFARES.org](http://NFARES.org) for more information.
  - **Second Saturday – VE Testing - NFARL April 10, 2021 session: *COVID-19 Restrictions in place. By reservation only.*** See the "[Test Sessions](#)" web page and [NV4C's message](#) on the NFARL Groups.io reflector for details & registration process. Contact Ian at [nv4c.ian@gmail.com](mailto:nv4c.ian@gmail.com) for questions / concerns / reservations.
  - **Spalding Amateur Radio Club Video Supervised Virtual VE Exam**- Go here and review info <https://k4cxs-scarc.wixsite.com/k4cxs>
- **Third Tuesday — NFARL Club Meeting** - March 16, 2021, 7:30 PM  
***Online meetings only until COVID-19 Restrictions Lifted***  
***— March 2021 Topic: Georgia QSO Party—NFARL Challenge Preview John Tramontanis N4TOL and Mike Roden W5JR Zoom opens at 7PM for Social Networking. Meeting begins promptly at 7:30***
- **Fourth Tuesday – NFARL Executive Team Meeting** - March 23, 2020, 7:00 PM  
***Online meetings only until COVID-19 Restrictions Lifted***  
— monitor website and NFARL Groups.io reflector for updates.



## Contact Us

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## **North Fulton Amateur Radio League**

P.O. Box 1741  
Roswell, GA 30077

[nfarl.org](http://nfarl.org)

eNews can be located online at:  
<https://www.nfarl.org/enews/eNewsIndex.html>

## Club Repeaters

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

\* Currently off the air

**Club Call signs: NF4GA and K4JJ**

**Extra Extra answer: B** (question E9A12)

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