What do you know about DX? / Steve Randall, KO4VW

A Potpourri of Skills, Technique & Experience

One of the oldest specializations in amateur radio is called DX-ing. DX is a ham term for distant station. Some hams become involved in amateur radio so that they can contact far-away stations, and they challenge themselves to continue pushing the limits further and further. 

Perhaps this definition doesn’t quite fit your comprehension of DX. Perhaps you’ve never really paused to think about what DX is or involves. Perhaps you believe DX is too far a reach for you become involved in. Whatever your understanding of DX might be, come to the April 2023 NFARL Club meeting where you’ll be treated to a breadth of information on the topic.

Wes Lamboley, W3WL, will start us off in this journey by giving us a “DX101” presentation providing a view of some basics infused with a few examples on the importance for the basics. Nathan Wood, K4NHW, will connect to Wes’ discussion with his presentation “DX'ing; Operating from the other side of the pile-up”. Nathan will provide real-life examples from the DX'er point of view. I’ll bet we can get him to explain the various call sign prefixes found on his QRZ page, as well!

NFARL's April club meeting will take place on April 18th at Preston Ridge Community Center, 3655 Preston Ridge Road Suite 100, Alpharetta, GA 30005. The facility's doors will open at 7:00PM. Our meeting will begin at 7:30PM and should conclude by 9:00PM. You can find the details, including the Zoom link here, or use the Zoom link below to join us if you’re unable participate live in-person (of course, you’ll need your own refreshments...).

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86255827457?pwd=a1FHR3FlbDBqMUVuY3plMIDdFa2VMQT09
Meeting ID: 862 5582 7457
Passcode: 584698
Find your local number: https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kdQc8IE9oj

1 https://www.universalclass.com/articles/self-help/ham-radio-areas-to-explore-dx-and-qrp.htm#:~:text=One%20of%20the%20oldest%20specializations%20in%20amateur%20radio,to%20continue%20pushing%20the%20limits%20further%20and%20further
President’s Corner / Mike Riley KN4OAK

The First 100 days

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 was somewhat of a milestone for me. I had “officially completed 100 days in office” as your NFARL President. I’m still reflecting on what that actually means to me (and anyone else, for that matter), but here’s just a few things I can state as a result.

I am humbled by the feeling of responsibility that comes with being an officer of this club. I have a constant awareness that I am a in a role as a servant leader to all club members and stakeholders the club is involved with. My desire is to perform the role to the best of my ability and help you make the club into a fantastic experience for everyone involved.

I have a much deeper sense of appreciation for those who have been and are now involved with leadership roles in this organization. Collectively, the quality of our club function results in satisfaction from the organizational effort of participation. Club leadership roles are intended to help the club realize the satisfaction of accomplishments.

As a club, we’ve got a list of activities and event we usually participate in. Are these enough to satisfy all of our membership? What else can we do to derive our enjoyment in participation while attempting to deliver against the six objectives in our Articles of Incorporation? I’m interested in hearing from membership as to what they think. Can we do more? Should we assess how well we do today and make plans to set objectives for improvement? Please drop me an email or give me a call and let me know what your thoughts are. I’m receptive to all types and forms of feedback and input. It is necessary for me to hear so I’m able to have a solid understanding of how well I’m performing in my role.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Mike Riley, KN4OAK
President- NFARL

ARRL Field Day 2023 is coming! / Mike Riley, KN4OAK

There are changes in 2023 ARRL Field Day Rules

ARRL Field Day is held yearly on the fourth weekend in June. This year the dates are June 24th and June 25th. To help prepare, I’m suggesting you review the rules and other pertinent information on the ARRL website at http://www.arrl.org/field-day at your earliest opportunity.

For 2023 NFARL intends to operate using a plan similar to that used on 2022. We’re going to operate with a joint Field Day Leadership team again. You’ll be hearing more in the coming weeks as we solidify roles and plans. Our Field Day location, once again, will be at Groveway Community Park in Roswell. We’ve reserved the facilities and are in the making plans for the operating team and picnic, etc. You’ll be notified when we get the signup sheets activated in the next week or so.

In the meantime, please feel free to contact me at KN4OAK@nfarl.org or 404-680-2132 should you have any questions or need information.

Regards,

Mike KN4OAK
NFARL Continues the Picnic Tradition

U.S. Islands Awards Program (USI) is an amateur radio award program centered around chasing and activating river, lake and ocean shore islands within the 50 United States and its Territories and Protectorates.¹

Want to participate in a “mini-DXpedition”? This is a great opportunity! Every year USI conducts two operating activities; their One-Day-Getaway (1DG) and their W/VE Island QSO Party. As a club, NFARL participates in both of these events (we’ve got a connection via Terry Joiner, W4YBV...). USI 1DG event falls on the second weekend in May, and NFARL holds a picnic at the West Bank Park, Lake Lanier, GA, in conjunction so we can participate.

So plan to join us! **May 13, 2023 at shelter #SL08203, WEST BANK PARK, Lake Sydney Lanier, Cumming, GA.** We’ll arrive before 8AM and leave at the end of the day. There is a $5.00 USD fee per car for entry to the park. We’ll have a signup sheet posted on Groups.io by April 23, 2023. Besides food and radio operations, there will be other activities to participate in; mini-fox hunt, find the hidden APRS beacon, show off your portable rig, etc.

Here’s a map of the shelter location (in case you need it). You can contact Dave, KO4USA at ko4usa@yahoo.com or any other club officer for more info.

What do 6th Graders know about Amateur Radio?

Webb Bridge Middle School 6th grade students will be participating an ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) contact during the middle of May 2023. North Fulton Amateur Radio League will be assisting with the contact, as it is a tele-bridge event. As part of their classroom experience leading to the contact experience, NFARL participated with the 6th grade Science teachers by introducing various topics related to science and amateur radio to the students on March 31, 2023. To connect the event to the ARISS contact, and make the day memorable, the Science teachers proclaimed that Friday as “Space Day” for the sixth graders.

During the eighteen 6th grade science classroom periods held on “Space Day”, several NFARL members volunteered their time to provide basic, introductory level presentations on CW, basic principles of electricity, time coordination, electromagnetic spectrum and radio wave characteristics, and a Tesla coil demonstration. This focused effort to present these topics to approximately 400 students over the 18 classroom periods, was a learning opportunity for the students and NFARL members. The NFARL team thanks the Webb Bridge Middle School staff for allowing us to provide them assistance.

Many factors figured into making the Space Day presentations happen. These included understanding and sorting through the presentation logistics, selecting the topics and developing the presentations, putting together a feedback survey questionnaire. We finally agreed on four volunteers presenting their selected topics over the scheduled classroom periods while Wes and Martha would rotate through the four classrooms during each period. In addition to the selected presentation topic, each of the four “stationary” presenters used Martha’s support write up on ARISS as a means make a connection with their presentation topic. While this wasn’t ideal, it did maximize the use of available volunteers and coverage topics. Thanks to Steve KO4VW for the CW presentation, Ted K4MPM for his work on time standards and coordination, Dave KO4USA for the basic electricity and circuit fundamentals, Mike KN4OAK for the radio wave presentation, and Wes and Martha for the Tesla overview and Tesla coil demonstration.

So where do we go next with his work? We’re in the process of reviewing the lessons learned points, along with analyzing the post-class survey information. We’re planning to use the outcomes to format workshops for use at other ARISS related events, as well as foundation work for “Ham Camp” style workshops, along with consideration of basis for a pre-club meeting youth meeting. More on these ideas and outcomes as they develop.

While we were very focused on making the presentations, we didn’t get the opportunity to capture many pictures. However, there is one we thought could help shed some light on the activity. Here’s a photograph of Wes W3WL, demonstrating the energy dissipated by the Tesla coil by having students light a fluorescent bulb. Look! No wires!

Our take away- sixth graders at Webb Bridge Middle School know some things about amateur radio and the science associated with it.
We have all had mentors—or “Elmers” as they are called in ham radio. There are the people that share their time with us and enable us to understand concepts better, or help us with an antenna raising, or show us a different way to operate our stations or, or, or -the list goes on. Elmers supply the juice that makes ham radio such a great hobby.

One of my Elmers was Bill Parker-W8DMR. Bill was not only my boss at North American Aviation where my career began, but also became a dear friend after we got to know each other. Bill had the gift of being able to explain complex concepts in an exciting way that was both engaging and informative. Somehow every person in one of his presentations was on the edge of their seats shortly after his presentation began. Such a talk was given at the Columbus Amateur Radio Club in Ohio back in the 70’s. The subject for the evening was “Standing Waves”- one of the most misunderstood concepts in ham radio and one of the most difficult to understand in terms of the physical attributes lying therein. Everyone knew it was bad to have standing waves, but not every one knew why, and what could be done about them. Bill guaranteed that by the end of his presentation everyone in the room would be able to visualize standing waves, and appreciate and understand them much better.

Now for a history lesson. Back in World War Two our country was in dire need of being able to utilize every able-bodied person to “Win The War”. The U.S. Navy realized that woman could be of great importance in the war effort, and organized the WAVES, acronym for the "Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service" military unit. WAVES were established on July 30, 1942, as the U.S. Navy’s corps of female members. During World War II some 100,000 WAVES served in a wide variety of capacities, ranging from performing essential clerical duties to serving as instructors for male pilots-in-training. Initially, they did not serve overseas. Several thousand WAVES also participated in the Korean War. The corps continued its separate existence until 1978.

There just happened to be a WAVES office in Columbus, Ohio. Bill went to their office and explained that he needed three able-bodied WAVES to stand for a photo. He got three volunteers. You can see below probably the only photo in existence of a standing wave ratio of two to one!

Needless to say, when everyone saw the photo there was a good laugh, but Bill had everyone’s attention. He went on to give a riveting explanation of standing waves and we were all the better for it. Thank you Bill, for all you have done: the hobby is better because of you and all the Elmers like you!
Submit Your Georgia QSO Party—NFARL Challenge Scores / John Tramontanis, N4TOL

As of April 13, twenty participants have submitted their preliminary scores for the "NFARL Challenge" club challenge in the Georgia QSO party.

**It would be great to have a good report of preliminary scores at the next meeting Tuesday April 18th - so try to send them in!!**


If you did sign up on the list and would like to submit, please do so.

In addition to sending your spreadsheets to me - please remember to submit your Cabrillo file to the GQP website.

1). **Submit your Cabrillo file to the GQP:**

   You can submit your entry directly on the GQP Log Submission page:
   https://gaqsoparty.com/gqplogsub.php

   The online submission page on the GQP website has a drop down for affiliated clubs where you can indicate your club as "North Fulton Amateur Radio League". Also, be sure to indicate "North Fulton Amateur Radio League" in your Cabrillo file as well.

   **Important, for consistency and proper accounting for our club scores, be sure to enter "North Fulton Amateur Radio League" as your affiliated club in your Cabrillo file submitted to the Georgia QSO Party.**

   ![Do not use: North Fulton ARL, NFARL, or any other derivation](image)

   There are excellent instructions on their webpage under the "Log Submission" tab on how to do this. **The deadline is "two weeks" after the GQP weekend - by midnite April 23rd.**

   73 John N4TOL  n4tol@arrl.net

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**2023 Sandy Springs Lantern Parade Successful** / Mike Cohen, AD4MC

A big THANK YOU goes out to our SSFC and NFARES Team members who helped to make the 2023 Sandy Springs Lantern Parade a success. The fantastic weather sure was a plus. Our communications and "guiding light" support was very much appreciated by the SSPD, SSFD and the Event Coordinator. I heard that many of the walkers thanked us for being there for them.

We all like to go to these events simply because they are fun, but it sure is good to know that we have clearly demonstrated that we can provide a useful service for these public events.

Please send along your comments to help make the next event even better.

Thanks again!

   Andrea, andrich98@yahoo.com, 678-777-1043 &
   Mike C. (AD4MC), ad4mc.mike@gmail.com, 770-262-5212
Are you operating QRP and getting frustrated with Broadcast stations that are overloading the front end of your radio? Sometimes depending on where you are operating from this could be a big problem. Well, here is a simple solution!

This is a small, easy to build kit / project that may interest you. This BCI Filter (Broadcast Interference filter) will stop broadcast stations from overloading the front end of your receiver. The kit is available for $19.99 on www.K9DP.Com (it is also available prebuilt for $39.99). Building the kit took about 30 minutes. The most time-consuming part of the build was winding the two toroids. (See Figure 2)

The instructions come packaged with the kit. They are easy to follow and with only a few parts to solder. This could be deemed a beginner’s kit.

As seen by Figure 3, the filter provides in excess of 40dB attenuation across the Broadcast band. If you are operating at 160M, this device will introduce 3dB of loss. Across the rest of the HF band the insertion loss is negligible (<0.06 dB). My bench results matched the projected specs.

This may just be what you need to get rid of that broadcast interference. I recommend it.

Enjoy - Dave Bisciotti
KO4USA

Figure 1

Figure 2

The Final

Figure 3
Congratulations! New & Upgrade Hams / Wes Lamboley, W3WL

Again Slope’s Barbecue hosted our Volunteer Examiner Team by providing plenty of space for the testing session this month. Five guys (not the hamburger place) got their new Tech license or upgraded to General. Please do congratulate the five guys below when you get the chance!

Steve Migel got his General. He got interested back in the CB days and then got on 2 meters with a Tech. He has been wanting to get a General and finally had time to do it! Steve runs a mobile body shop.

Steve Migel - KM4WVP

Jimmy Carver

Jim Carver got both his Tech and General. He also has been interested in ham radio and has recently retired from Lockheed after a career in Avionics and Electronic Warfare. Jim also is into HO model railroading.

Gustave Steinacher

Gustave Steinacher was into CB back in the 90's. His neighbor is a ham and urged him to get his ham license. He has worked in electronics for many years.

Gustave Steinacher (with Wes W3WL on right)

Chad Kirkendall - KQ4GWC

Chad got his Tech last session and his General this time. He will be back for his Extra next month! Chad is a stay-at-home dad with four children.

Matt Nylin (no photo)

Matt has been interested in ham radio for more than 20 years and finally has the time to get his license. We are all looking forward to helping Matt get started!
Don Rogers, K4UAF, here.

My cousin, K4ICR, has his home station antenna equipment for sale. The equipment consists of:

- 41' of Rohn 25G tower; 3 ea 10' straight sections, 1 ea 4' base section, 1 ea 7' top section w/ mast, and misc SS guy wire
- Mosley TA-33 Tri-Band beam
- Hi-Gain HAM-IV rotor, professionally refurbished appx 5 years ago
- 80/40m trap dipole

The above is located near Adairsville GA, appx 5 miles east of I-75. The arrangements are cash & carry for the lot; you pick up and move. He desires not to split the lot and sell piecemeal. The equipment is located outside, in back of a barn, supported on wood timbers, w/ ready access to move.

He is asking $300 for the lot, but that is negotiable.

We would appreciate it if you would put this in the club newsletter.

Thanks, Don, K4UAF  red_41@bellsouth.net

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**E5B03 — How is impedance in polar form converted to an equivalent admittance?**

A) Take the reciprocal of the angle and change the sign of the magnitude
B) Take the reciprocal of the magnitude and change the sign of the angle
C) Take the square root of the magnitude and add 180 degrees to the angle
D) Square the magnitude and subtract 90 degrees from the angle

*See answer on the last page!*

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. Note the new Technician class license examination question pool is effective July 1, 2022.

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](#).

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**K4ICR For Sale / Don Rogers, K4UAF**

Don Rogers, K4UAF, here.

My cousin, K4ICR, has his home station antenna equipment for sale. The equipment consists of:

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Thanks, Don, K4UAF  red_41@bellsouth.net
## Contest Corner

These are some contests and events besides the "routine K1USN, CWops, and other organizational events" scheduled to occur the near future.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contest Name</th>
<th>Time &amp; Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nebraska QSO Party</td>
<td>1300Z, Apr 15 to 0100Z, Apr 16 and 1300Z-2200Z, Apr 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Texas State Parks on the Air</td>
<td>1400Z, Apr 15 to 0200Z, Apr 16 and 1400Z-2000Z, Apr 16</td>
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<td>Michigan QSO Party</td>
<td>1600Z, Apr 15 to 0400Z, Apr 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ontario QSO Party</td>
<td>1800Z, Apr 15 to 0500Z, Apr 16 and 1200Z-1800Z, Apr 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Dakota QSO Party</td>
<td>1800Z, Apr 15 to 1800Z, Apr 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quebec QSO Party</td>
<td>1200Z-2200Z, Apr 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB</td>
<td>1800Z-2359Z, Apr 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Run for the Bacon QRP Contest</td>
<td>2300Z, Apr 16 to 0100Z, Apr 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>YOTA Contest</td>
<td>0800Z-1959Z, Apr 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>North American SSB Sprint Contest</td>
<td>0000Z-0400Z, Apr 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>432 MHz Spring Sprint</td>
<td>1900 local - 2300 local, Apr 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital</td>
<td>0001Z, Apr 29 to 2359Z, Apr 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida QSO Party</td>
<td>1600Z, Apr 29 to 0159Z, Apr 30 and 1200Z-2159Z, Apr 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW</td>
<td>0001Z, May 6 to 2359Z, May 7</td>
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<td>7th Call Area QSO Party</td>
<td>1300Z, May 6 to 0700Z, May 7</td>
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<td>Indiana QSO Party</td>
<td>1500Z, May 6 to 0300Z, May 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Delaware QSO Party</td>
<td>1700Z, May 6 to 2359Z, May 7</td>
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[https://contestcalendar.com/fivewkcal.html](https://contestcalendar.com/fivewkcal.html)
NFARL Upcoming Events and Dates

- **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](https://www.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](https://www.nfarl.org/nets) for more information and “how to”. Here’s the link to the NFARL server
  on Discord web app [https://discord.gg/spr2a9D](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
  Dining Room is OPEN. 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](https://www.nfarl.org/nets) 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 Wednesday — CW CHAT** – 8:00 PM on ZOOM.
  New meeting link and credentials:
  [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84722087419?wd=VlN2d0xvQVhKcDIUL0R4N1hQMTQ2UT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84722087419?wd=VlN2d0xvQVhKcDIUL0R4N1hQMTQ2UT09)
  Meeting ID: 847 2208 7419; Passcode: CW-CHAT

- **Second Tuesday — NFARES Meeting - May 9, 2023** Now meeting in-person!
  Meeting location: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 500 Norcross St. Roswell,
  GA 30075. Enter using the "Family History Center" Door. See [NFARL](https://www.nfarl.org) website for details &
  Zoom link. NFARES members receive Zoom invitation automatically.

- **Second Saturday – VE Testing - NFARL May 13, 2023 session**: 8:30 - 10:30AM
  Slope's BBQ, 34 Crossville Road, Roswell, GA 30075. Seating will be limited to 20 - preregistration is required. Registration is by email to Ian NV4C; monitor registration opening &
  closing on the website. [Click here for more information](https://www.nfarl.org/nets).

- **Fourth Tuesday — NFARL Executive Team Meeting** - April 25, 2023, 7:00 PM.
  Online meeting only — monitor website and NFARL Groups.io reflector for updates.

- **NFARL Club Meeting— Tuesday, April 18, 2023— 7:00 PM** Preston Ridge Community
  Center, 3655 Preston Ridge Road Suite 100, Alpharetta, GA 30005. The facility’s doors
  will open at 7:00PM. Our meeting will begin at 7:30PM and should conclude by 9:00PM. Our
  meeting topic is 2 for 1!: **DX101**, Wes Lamboley W3WL & **DXing**; **Operating from the
  other side of the pileup**, Nathan Wood K4NHW
  See [NFARL](https://www.nfarl.org) website for details & Zoom link

- **US Islands / NFARL One-Day-Getaway Picnic—Saturday, May 13, 2023** All Day!
  West Bank Park Shelter #SL08203, Lake Sydney Lanier, Cumming, GA. See article above in
  this newsletter edition.
# Contact Us

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<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Email</th>
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</table>

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

nfarl.org  

eNEWS can be located online at:  
https://nfarl.org/enews-index
Club Repeaters

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

* Currently off the air

Club Call signs: NF4GA and K4JJ

Extra Extra answer: B (question E5B03)

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