

# N F A R L

## squelch tales

### NORTH FULTON AMATEUR RADIO LEAGUE

July 1988

Editor Lewis Cason (N4HRA)

#### \*\* MINUTES FOR THE JUNE NFARL MEETING \*\*

The meeting was called to order by Dan, WB4PYL at 7:35 on June 8. The minutes were read and approved.

Fred, N4CLA, volunteered his transceiver for use during field day. Fred also reported on the status of the intermod on 145.47. Fred is working with a CATV company to correct a problem with some hardline.

Field day will be held at the soccer field under the water tank in Roswell on June 25-26.

Jack, NC4E reported that the Atlanta Radio Club will provide a booth for ARES at the Atlanta Hamfest. The Hamfest will be held July 9 and 10 Hall E of the World Congress Center.

Alan, N4QXH, reported a special ARES net will be conducted on June 20 from the Roswell City counsel chambers. The mayor of Roswell will issue a proclamation during the counsel meeting declaring the week of June 20-26 "Ham Week" in the city of Roswell.

#### \*\* SECRETARY'S REPORT \*\*

Field day is now over and the scores have been tabulated. The North Fulton Radio League club station operated from about 2:00 p.m. LCL Saturday until about 3:00 p.m. Sunday. During the contest we suffered an air strike from an oversized thunderstorm (one the lightning bolts actually hit the Roswell water tank) and an actual emergency involving the loss of four telephone exchanges in Alpharetta and Forsyth county.

Regardless of the difficulties the follow points were scored:

40 M PHONE	-	303
20 M PHONE	-	59
15 M PHONE	-	61
10 M PHONE	-	5
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TOTAL		428

Total Score is expected to exceed 1000 points.

We would like to thank everyone who participated in the field day contest and picnic. The Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)

The ARES Nets operating in the Atlanta area are as follows:

North Metro: 145.47 MHz; Monday at 9:00 PM and Saturday at 10:00 AM.  
 DeKalb: 146.76 MHz; Monday at 8:00 PM. (time & freq. may change)  
 Gwinnett: 147.075 MHz; Tuesday at 9:00 PM.  
 Clayton: 145.17 MHz; Monday at 8:00 PM.  
 Forsyth: 147.15 MHz; Sunday at 8:00 PM.  
 Bartow: 145.27 MHz; Wednesday at 9:00 PM.  
 Statewide ARES Coordination Net: 3975 kHz; Sunday at 6:00 PM.

All interested hams are invited to check into any or all of these nets. Membership in the ARRL, the repeater club or ARES is not required to participate in any of these nets.

Metro Atlanta District ARES BBS: 434-8523 ARES Conference, File Area 60.  
 Gwinnett ARES BBS: 925-5487 (Scientific Atlanta ARC BBS) Conf. & File Area 1.

## ARES BOOTH AT ATLANTA HAMFEST

The Georgia Section of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service will be manning a booth at the upcoming Atlanta Hamfestival in the Georgia World Congress Center on July 9 and 10. This is in addition to the three hour ARES forum to be held at the Hamfest. Signing up new members and making new laminated photo ID cards will be the two main activities at the booth. Georgia Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC) Jack Sanders, NC4E, says that there are presently 917 hams registered in ARES statewide, with over 300 of them residing in the Atlanta area. Since this booth represents ARES statewide, volunteers to staff the booth are to be drawn from all over the state. Clubs that sponsor ARES activities or allow the use of their repeater or other facility for ARES events will be welcome to place club membership information at the ARES booth.

## ROSWELL HAMWATCH KICKOFF

The official kickoff of the Roswell Hamwatch Program, which was postponed last month, was rescheduled for Monday, June 20, with a special North Metro Emergency Net at 7:30 that evening. The net will be called from the meeting of the Roswell City Council to demonstrate the capabilities of amateur radio. Hamwatch is a cooperative program between the Roswell Police Department and local amateurs where the hams act as additional observers for the police and use their radios to report incidents of concern to law enforcement.

### \*\*\* MEETING NOTICE \*\*\*

The next meeting of the North Fulton Amateur Radio League will be held on Wednesday July 13th, at 7:30 PM at St. David's Church on Old Roswell Rd.

Directions are as follows:

From Highway 9 and Holcomb Bridge road take Holcomb Bridge East toward Ga. 400. Take a left at the first traffic light which will be Old Roswell Road. The church will be 3/4 of a mile on your right. Talk in on 145.47 or 147.06.

## BRUSH FIRE THREATENS AMATEUR REPEATERS

A brush fire on Sweet Mountain in northeast Cobb County on June 13 burned over 100 acres and threatened the buildings containing several amateur repeaters and other communications gear. Firemen are not sure about the cause of the fire but there are rumors that it was set when construction workers were clearing out vegetation and burning it. The fire spread quickly on the drought parched mountain. Ralph Fowler, N4NEQ, a member of the Civil Air Patrol, gained access to the sealed off mountain to remove CAP repeater equipment. While he was at it, he also rescued two amateur repeaters, the 145.47 N4CLA repeater, on which we have the twice weekly North Metro ARES net, and the 146.73 KD4NC packet repeater, home of WESTLAN. Ralph took the machines down the mountain and turned them over to Fred Moore, N4CLA, who was very grateful to get them away from the fire. I think I can speak for the entire amateur radio community in thanking Ralph for his good work.

Rick Black,  
WA4MPW  
EC Newsletter Liason,  
ARES Metro Atlanta District

### From The Editor

Information For the newsletter can be sent to myself the followings ways.

- The LARC BBS phone no. 949-0687
- Packet (WA4VMV)
- Mail to:

Lewis Cason (N4HRA)  
749 Barnsmill Trac  
Marietta, Ga. 30062

The cut off date for the newsletter will be the 25th of the month.

73'S  
Lewis Cason

# Instructions for using the DARTH-II Repeater Controller

07/06/88

## Member Autopatch

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To use the member autopatch perform the following steps:

1. Press your PTT.
2. Enter a Pound sign (#) then the three digit access code and then your speedial code or telephone number.
3. Release the PTT.

\*NOTE\* You DO NOT let up on the PTT like you did with the old controller.

## Emergency Autopatch

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To use the emergency autopatch perform the following steps:

1. Press your PTT.
2. Enter a Star (\*) then the three digit emergency speedial code or the emergency telephone number.
3. Release the PTT.

\*NOTE\* You DO NOT let up on the PTT like you did with the old controller.

## User Functions

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- Cancel - Enter # to cancel the current function in progress.
- Echo Mode - Enter #1; Hear the "Echo Mode Active" message; then make a short transmission. Your transmission will be echo'd back so you can here it.
- Deviation Mode - Enter #2; Hear the "Deviation Mode Active" message; then make a short transmission. Your average deviation for the entire transmission will be read back to you.
- Touch Tone Test - Enter #3; Hear the "T T Ready" message; then make a transmission pressing any digit. Your digits will be read back to you.
- Time Check - Enter #4; The repeater will say the time/date.
- Force ID - Enter #5; The repeater will ID.

## Mailboxes

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- Record a message - Enter #7; Hear the "Mailbox record mode active" message then enter your three digit speedial and the speedial your sending the message two; Hear the "Ready" message; then make a transmission to record your message ( 20 secs or less ); hear the "Message to XXXXX complete" message.

### Mailbox Record Example:

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#7  
< repeater talks >  
028003  
< repeater says "Ready" >  
"I make a transmission of my message"  
< repeater talks >
```

This example would send a message from speedial 028 to speedial 003.

Reading Mail - Enter #8; Hear the "Mailbox mode active" message; then enter your three digit speedial; hear the message that says you have X messages. If you have messages enter the message number you want to hear; enter # when you are done.

\*NOTE\* Messages you read will be deleted when you press # or when the transmitter drops.

### Other Information

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The emergency speedials and the member speedials are not the same. You can only use emergency speedials on the emergency patch and member speedials on the member patch.

There is NO TIME LIMIT on emergency patch calls. There is a time limit placed on member patch calls.

The party you are talking to on the autopatch will hear a short "Beep" when you release the PTT. You can tell them this so they will know when to talk.

You will hear a cover tone when someone is entering touchtone digits. You will not hear touch tones repeated.

You will not get a dial tone when using the patch. The first thing you will hear is the ring or busy signal.

If you get a "Disk Space Low" message when recording a message, you will not be able to record the message. The only solution is to read some messages ( to delete them ) or talk to a control operator.

## CHICKAMAUGA - 1988

1988 is the 125th anniversary of the Battle of Chickamauga, the most costly engagement ever fought by American Soldiers. To honor those who fought, on both sides, this Civil War battle will be re-enacted in Summerville, Georgia on the weekend of September 16, 17 and 18.

This is going to be big!

5000 plus infantry, cavalry, artillery, etc.  
10000-15000 craft and tradesmen, womenfolk, children and camp followers.  
25000 plus spectators each day!

Georgia ARES has been requested to assist with communications - the needs are many:

8-11 "shadow" units, for internal communications and coordination.

4-7 fixed and remote units, for field communications and emergencies.

(The above are needed from Friday Morning thru Sunday evening.)

Also "Battlefield Coordinators" to coordinate the re-enactments.

This will be a fine opportunity to dust off your old telegraph sounders and brush up on American Morse. Wouldn't it be great to use C-W for "battlefield coordination" during the re-enactment?

The organizers will provide meals and lodging and make facilities available for supplementary activities, such as a Special Event Station and commemorative QSLs.

The organizers are:

Napoleonic Tactics Inc.  
Attn. Nancy Nierd  
P.O. Box 336  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
(717) 334-0850

The American Civil War Commemorative Committee, Inc.

P.O. Box 19486  
Alexandria, Virginia 22320

Opportunities are available for all classes of operators and all interests: net operators, traffic handlers, digital communications, backpackers, equipment installers, climbers, and the Special Event

Station.

With the large crowds anticipated, hams will have many opportunities to promote our hobby to the public and media. Not to mention have a great deal of fun and exposure to historical events.

A special event station is planned. A battlefield scene commemorative QSL is planned. The callsign for the station will be announced at a later date.

This is going to be exciting. It's September 16, 17 and 18. There's plenty of time now to schedule some time off and plan it with the XYL.

Applicants are not required to be Georgia hams. Amateur Radio operators from all other states are welcome and wanted.

Even if you cannot participate, please, please pass the word along to local clubs, BBSs, nets and round-robins.

Send applications to: John Heard N4JJK, 2003-Brookview Drive, Dalton, GA 30720.  
or by packet, WB4Z0J @ WA4VMV