

◆ Squelch Tales ◆

Volume 1 Issue 3

July, 1994

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

Welcome To The New Look!

by Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC

Welcome to the quarterly N.F.A.R.L. newsletter, and its brand new look. I know it's quite a bit different from the previous style and layout, but I believe that this layout will allow us more functionality in the long run. For instance, we can now make effective use of fonts and imported pictures. The sample NFARL logo just to the right was drawn in Aldus Type Twister, and imported into this program, Microsoft Publisher. This means we can now have articles complete with drawings, sketches, diagrams, and scanned-in images. So how about it? What we need is more input from our members and readers. All you need to do is submit an article and any associated material, and I'll do the rest.

Last year we had only 4 or 5 people contribute to the newsletter. I'd like this to be the start of a wider base of contributions. Remember, this is YOUR newsletter. If you want to see new and different things in it, then all you have to do is contribute.

By-the-way, I remembered to add something to this news letter that has been consistently missing in the past. An oversight on our part. What was missing? The time and location of the monthly meeting, that's all! We had a lot of new hams who got copies of



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Squelch Tales, and didn't know where to come to join us for dinner and a program. So, on page 2 you will find the needed information along with other club related information.

Another change in this month's newsletter is that KD4APK is no

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Farewell to a Good Friend

by Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC

You know, when David Fellows, KD4APK, first told me that he was moving away from Atlanta, I had mixed feelings. Ever since I first joined the club 3 years ago, he has been a major part of the N.F.A.R.L. He was literally everywhere, doing everything.

I will never forget the Blizzard of '93. When most people were just trying to survive with no electricity, Dave was by his radio talking to people, offering comfort during an uncertain time, making telephone calls for those who couldn't, and arranging for people with 4-wheel drive vehicles to get firewood to those without heat. But, you see that's the kind of person David is.

And he didn't just do for other people, he did for the N.F.A.R.L. too. When the club needed a vice-president, he was there offering his services, and doing a great job. When Dave Vanderwall decided not to seek a second term, several people came to me to ask me to run for president. Before I gave my answer, I asked David if he wanted the position, since he was the vice-president.

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North Fulton Amateur Radio League,
Inc.

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CLUB REPEATERS
145.470 Mhz out (-0.6 Mhz)
147.060 Mhz out (+0.6 Mhz)

NFARL BBS
552-0868 (1200-2400-9600 B-N-1)
Dan Turner, WA4BRO, Sysop

Articles for the NFARL newsletter may be sent on disk (ASCII text format) by mail to Jeff Weinberg, 2714 Fieldstone Path, Marietta, GA 30062, or uploaded via modem (in ASCII format) to the NFARL BBS, ATTN: Jeff Weinberg, AA4RC. Or, you can FAX your articles directly to me at 552-9495. Other types of input formats include Word for Windows, Word-perfect, RTF, RTF-DCA, XLS, MS Works, and Windows Write. Acceptable graphics formats include PCX, BMP, HGL, PIC, GIF, CGM, WMF, TIF, DRW, EPS, WPG, and PCD.

You may also contact Jeff at 740-7939 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
Alt. Frequency: 147.060 Mhz

Monthly Meetings:

Second Wednesday of Each Month at the
Cherokee Cattle Company
11205 Alpharetta Highway, Roswell
664-0490
Dinner - 6:30 PM
Meeting & Program - 7:30 PM

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North Fulton Amateur Radio
League Quick Repeater Guide
145.470 & 147.060

Open Commands

- #1 **Echo Test**
- #2 **Deviation Test**
- #3 **DTMF Test**
- #4 **Time**
- #5 **Sinad Test**
- #6 **Frequency Test**
- #7 **Display Mail**
- #8 **Send Command Out Link**
- #9 **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 Page**
- 4 **Directed Patch Page**

Additional copies of the repeater manual are available for \$5 each. Contact Jeff Weinberg at 740-7939 for details. All checks should be made payable to the N.F.A.R.L.

ARRL Membership Reminder

Did you know that you can join, or renew your membership to the American Radio Relay League through the N.F.A.R.L.? That's right. For each new member that joins the ARRL through our club, the N.F.A.R.L. gets \$5. For each renewal, the club gets \$2.

You can get new member forms from any issue of QST, or from the ARRL. For renewals, the ARRL asks that we submit your renewal dues along with the form the League sent to you.

The process is easy. For new members, bring any N.F.A.R.L. officer a completed membership form and make out a check for the appropriate amount to the NFARL. For renewals, give any club officer your renewal form complete with any changes, and a check for your membership made out to the N.F.A.R.L. The club will take the application and money, and send this material (minus the money for the club) to the ARRL for processing.

Please don't wait until the last minute to give us your renewal form and ARRL dues. Processing takes several days, and you could miss out on an issue of QST if your form doesn't get to League Headquarters on time.

Amateur-Of-The- Year Award

It's time again to consider who deserves the N.F.A.R.L. Amateur-Of-The-Year Award. If you have a nominee, please contact Jeff Weinberg, at 740-7939. An A.T.O.Y. nominee should be a person who has significantly given of themselves to the club, community, and Amateur Radio during the previous year.

Welcome to the New Look

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longer listed as the vice-president of the N.F.A.R.L. In case you haven't heard, Dave Fellows got a great job opportunity in Virginia and has moved from our fair state. In fact, Dave has moved to the exact same town I grew up in over 27 years ago. Talk about a small world!

Later in the newsletter, there is information about Sci-Trek needing volunteers to work the station. George Scott, KC4WHZ, is one of the main "movers and shakers" in this effort. From what I've heard, he's already done an outstanding job. George tells me that they especially need volunteer help on weekends. One possible activity that has been discussed is an overnight "lock-in" at the museum for station volunteers and others interested in Amateur Radio. Doing this during a contest weekend was even discussed. Talk about dedication and fun.... contesting and teaching all at the same time.

By now you probably have heard that after reconsideration, the N.F.A.R.L. has decided not to participate in the Southeastern Hamfest this year. This decision was made after careful consideration, and was agreed to by a majority of the board. The N.F.A.R.L. wishes the hamfest well in 1994, and we look forward to an exciting event.

Well, that's it. I hope you like the new newsletter format. Until the next newsletter in October, 73's, and have a safe Summer.

Needed:
Squelch Tales advertisers. If you know of someone who would like to advertise in this newsletter, please contact Jeff at 740-7939.

Farewell to a Good Friend

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David said that he felt that I would do a better job for the club, and told me that he would support me in any way he could to help insure the success of the N.F.A.R.L. I can honestly say that he always did that.

If I needed advice, he was always there, never more than a telephone call away. Even if he was in the middle of a job, if he could, he would call me back and take the time to discuss a concern or idea. I could always count on David to provide me with sound advice. But, wasn't he like that for everyone?

Field Days just won't be the same without David. With the addition of his "trailer", David not only offered the services of his generators, radios, and antennas, he made a fun event even more fun, if that's possible. Over the past two Field Days, David had the trailer set-up, and a tent for sleeping. When I headed home, he was still on-the-air, or chatting with someone. You see, my idea of camping out is a Motel 6 with black-and-white TV. David loves this sort of thing.

David also gave back to the local community. Ask Chuck, KD4LXQ, how many events David worked for Roswell/Alpharetta HamWatch. Ask Frank, WA2OTJ, how much David contributed to his scout group and license class.

Now at the beginning of this piece, I noted that I had mixed emotions about David's leaving. You see, David chose to move away to the home town I grew up in many years ago. Talk about small worlds, and small towns. It's the type of place that David will do very well in and enjoy. I always told my Dad that if I could ever get David to come to Virginia, he could help answer a lot of computer questions that could not be answered

locally. Well, it appears that David may have that chance, after all.

And as for me, other than the times David makes it back down to Atlanta, I'll get to see him when I go back to visit my folks.

In any event, David has been made a life-time member of the N.F.A.R.L. in recognition of his service to the club and the community. He will get this newsletter, and still have repeater privileges. Who knows, maybe he'll exercise his reverse patch privileges every now and then and say "Hi y'all" during rush hour.

I'm going to miss David Fellows' help, his cheerful on-air greetings, his enthusiasm, his unselfish volunteer spirit, his dedication to the club and other people, and most importantly, his day-to-day friendship.

Anyway, thank you for your help and friendship David. We all wish you the best in building your new life in Virginia.

**Emergency #'s To
The Rescue?**

Ever wonder why the emergency numbers for the repeater seem to be a secret? Well, they aren't.

The reason why the club hasn't published speed dial numbers for local emergency agencies (police and fire) is that with the implementation of 911 by all metro counties, repeater calls to this service have become a puzzle. Why?

Well consider this. Take for example the Sweat Mountain repeater. If you dial '911' thru the repeater, the emergency call gets routed to Woodstock in Cherokee County. The telephone for the repeater is in a Woodstock exchange. Let's say you were in Marietta, and you

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Emergency Numbers to the Rescue?*(Continued from page 3)*

needed to make an emergency call. You dial '911' or we program in '911' to a speed dial. When your call goes through to Woodstock, they have to route it to Marietta. When it gets routed to Marietta, it does not come in on Marietta's 911 line. Since emergency telephone personnel are trained to answer 911 calls first, and calls coming in on other lines in a lower priority, your call through Woodstock doesn't get the priority that a call straight to Cobb County 911 would have.

The same holds true for calls to regular telephone emergency numbers that are not 911. These incoming calls get secondary treatment to any incoming 911 calls.

The puzzle is this. With a repeater that serves the entire Metro area, and is linked into Cherokee County's 911 service, how do we provide reliable emergency telephone service to people in other counties?

If you have a solution, or could help come up with a solution, the club would be glad to hear it. But be forewarned. He or she who has a good idea is a prime candidate to head up the effort to make the idea happen.

Yearly Dues Statements Mailed to Club Members

In June, the club began billing its members for renewal of their dues. No more will you have to remember if your "dues are due", as Fred says on the repeater.

When you get your statement, take a few moments to review the information to see

if we have made any errors. If you do, please return the statement, with any corrections, to the club P.O. Box with your dues so that we can correct our user database.

Also, please check your mailing label. If your membership date is 6/30/94, your membership has expired. So please continue your support of the N.F.A.R.L., and renew your membership today!

Availability of User Numbers

Effective with the membership renewal period in June, all un-renewed user numbers will be made available for reuse after one month of the lapse of a user's membership.

Here's how the system will work:

- Upon lapse of a membership, the user's account will simply be deactivated, not deleted. The account will remain deactivated for a period of one month.
- After one month, the user number will be released for reassignment. However, the account will not be deleted until it is reassigned. Upon reassignment, the old account will be deleted, and a new account using the same user number will be created. This will initialize the user profile and delete all old speed dial numbers for use by the new user.

Additionally, there are a small number of user numbers in the 1 - 20 range available. However, these numbers are reserved for assignment to members who consistently volunteer for club activities. Here is a chance to get a lower user number on all N.F.A.R.L. repeaters, if you want one. It's simple, just become a regular volunteer for N.F.A.R.L. activities and ask. If a number is

available, you'll get it. That's all there is to it. So become a volunteer.

HAMFEST CALENDAR

*courtesy of the SERA Repeater Journal
and the ARRL*

Southeastern Amateur Radio Convention, Atlanta, GA	July 23-24
Central Georgia National Hamfest, Perry, GA	August 6 (New Date)
Jacksonville Hamfest, Jacksonville, FL	August 6-7
Huntsville Hamfest, Huntsville, AL	August 20-21
Confederate Signal Corps Hamfest, Madison, GA	August 27
Shelby Hamfest, Shelby, NC	September 3-4
Statesboro Hamfest, Statesboro, GA	September 10
Lunierland Hamfest, Gainesville, GA	September 24
Anniston Hamfest, Anniston, AL	September 24 (not verified)
Fallfest, South Boston, VA	September 24
Rome Hamfest, Rome, GA	October 1
Augusta Hamfest, Augusta, GA	October 8
Ham Expo, Lawrenceville, GA	November 5-6

