



eNEWS July 2009

www.nfarl.org

eNEWS is "what's happening" in **North Fulton!** Check the headlines of each item and mark your calendar. Go to arrl.org or eHAM.net for the national news, but here is your **North Fulton ARL eNEWS** for July 2009.



Summary of upcoming events and dates

- ❑ **Every Wednesday** - Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch - 11:30 AM - Slopes BBQ
- ❑ **Every Sunday** - **NFARES net** - 8:30PM - 147.06 Mhz (+ 600) & PL 100
- ❑ **Every Monday** - **Tech Net** - 8:30 PM - 145.47 Mhz (PL 100) - Check website for "how to"
- ❑ **Every Friday** - **Youth Net** - 5:00 PM - 145.47 Mhz (PL 100) - Join AJ4JQ or others...
- ❑ **Alive-After-Five** - **July 16**. 5PM - 9PM Downtown Roswell Street Fair with NFARL there.
- ❑ **License Exam Testing** - July 18. 10 AM - EOC at 2970 Webb Bridge Rd, Alpharetta
- ❑ **Mid Month Madness - Field Trip to Fry's** - August 1 - 10 AM - Alpharetta

Regular Club Meeting - Tuesday, July 21, 2009 - 7:30 PM

PROGRAM: **Understanding HF Receivers - W4QO**. Jim will be explaining all those mysterious knobs and buttons are on your HF receiver.



Filters, bandpass, IF shift, preamps, attenuation, and modes will be addressed. This will be a demonstration of simple and complex rigs but aimed at the newbie to HF operating. An Elecraft K3 will be used in the demonstration as well as an SWL Rockmite!

We meet here: Masonic Lodge Hall, 194 Milton Ave, Alpharetta, GA. Go to map: <http://tinyurl.com/5t7swd>. The Lodge is located across from the old Milton High school.

Door prizes - Toys for Techies - If everyone brings one good, clean item/book to give away as door prizes, then everyone will win one... + Gift Certificate from HRO. Support HRO!

We Eat before We meet - If you are interested in dinner before the meeting, you can join us at Yet another new restaurant in Alpharetta directly on Main St (Hwy 9). It is called **Smoke Jacks**. It is located at 29 South Main St, (Hwy 9). <http://tinyurl.com/kjq193>. We meet between 5:30 and 6PM and leave @ 7PM for the meeting which is located literally just minutes away. The meal prices are from \$6 and up. Hope to see you there.



Presidents Corner - June was the busiest and best month of the year for the NFARL with the club hosting an outstanding field day. *This field day, I predict, will have been one of the largest, if the not the largest, field days in the Nation.* It was hot and I wish those folks in Connecticut would remember how hot it gets down South during June. Even with the heat we had more than 250 participants and our score was better than last year. But with all the statistics aside, I know everyone had a great time with great fellowship and great food. This will be the first of many thanks to Ian Kahn, our Field Day

Chairman and the other members for the field day committee. In the end though, it's all the great members of NFARL who participated and made this event such a huge success. For the first year in our field day history we achieved bonus scores in every category. Thank you to all of NFARL for all you did for this outstanding field day.

The NFARL **Contesting Special Interest Group (SIG)** continues to gain momentum. In the June session we focused on how to perform as a "run" station during a SSB contest in preparation for Field Day. Everyone had the opportunity to work on the air with another station and practice the most efficient way to "run" a frequency. For the July 25th session we'll be focusing on how to integrate your logging program into your ham station for automated logging and rig control. This will be an opportunity for people to bring their computer/rig and actually have assistance with configuration and software. Everyone is welcome to attend; stay tuned to yahoo for more info.

VE Testing - For July please remember that we will conduct VE testing on Saturday, July 18th, at 10 AM, at the EOC behind Alpharetta Fire Station Number 1. Details are on the NFARL.org website.

MMM - Lots of MMM activity between the May and June meetings. Early in the June we had a great showing at the Atlanta Radio Club Hamfest. The ARC really stepped up this year and put on one of the best hamfests in the area. We had a lot of club participation and made a lot of money selling PowerGate kits and batteries. Thank you to everyone who helped. Then the week before FD, we also conducted our most successful build-a-thon to date with Chuck, AE4CW, organizing this event to build a PowerGate power transfer unit. We had over 30 people attend the build-a-thon and sold over 50 kits. The best thing is that at the end of the build-a-thon every kit worked perfectly! This month we'll be having as our **MMM** - a **FIELD TRIP to Fry's**. Details follow.

The NFARL is firing on all cylinders so please continue to lend your support when asked and invite your friends and anyone you meet to attend our events. Everyone is welcome to attend the friendliest ham radio club in the Nation. 73, Mack, WB4MAK@nfarl.org

MMM –Mid Month Madness is a great way to increase your learning and technical skills in various ways. Join the North Fulton Amateur Radio League for an exciting amateur radio activity between meetings. These activities are announced on the web page at www.nfarl.org. This month - **August 1** - we will have a **FIELD TRIP to Fry's** electronics store. Join us for breakfast at **Burger King at 9AM**, just south of Fry's on Hwy 9, and then over to **Fry's at 10AM** for an hour (?) of fun. There you'll have the opportunity to explore the electronics section, ask question, receive suggestions, and offer suggestions on potential uses for all the stuff in that section.

Field Day Update - Thanks to the outstanding participation of everyone in the club, we had another record-setting Field Day in 2009. A total of 259 people visited our site this year, a record by a sizable number. The municipalities we support honored us with five (5) Amateur Radio Week/Field Day proclamations (Roswell, Alpharetta, Milton, Sandy Springs, Fulton County), plus we received one from Governor Purdue and the State of Georgia. Several dignitaries visited us again this year. They included Mayor Jere Wood (Roswell), Mayor Arthur Letchas (Alpharetta), Councilwoman Becky Wynn (Roswell), Councilman Bill Lusk (Milton), Commissioner Lynne Riley (Fulton County), and Secretary of State Karen Handel. I hope to have our final score by the July 21st regular club meeting. Thank you to everyone who planned or participated in this year's event! Check out the 600 FD photos [here](#). 73 de AK4IK, Ian



Ham Radio and the Peachtree Road Race - Thirty ham radio operators turned out early Saturday morning on the 4th of July to provide communications for the 40th running of the Peachtree Road Race. The weather was great for the 55,000 runners, more than 3000 volunteers, and countless spectators. The North Fulton Amateur Radio League and North Fulton ARES had a very respectable showing with nine communicators logging more than 50 of the total 146 hours in support of the event. Thanks go out to these club members who so generously volunteered their holiday time: **KE4QLH** David, **AD4MC** Mike, **KG5WU** Wayne, **K2ZPF** Steve, **K4YJJ** Bill, **N4BFR** Jim, **WK4U** Tim, **AF4IA** Lee and **KD4NKE** Shelia.



Amateur Radio Emergency Service Report: On June 25, a number of the NFARL ARES (SIG) reported for duty at the North American Mission Board - the group's primary focus for service - to get things ready for the upcoming Hurricane season. In attendance were **Greg - KB4R, Jim - N4SEC, Bill - K4YJI, Dave - KD9RU, John- K3WNL, Tom - W4UOC, Chuck - AE4CW, and Terry - W4TL.** The ARES group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (7:30PM) at the Sandy Springs City Hall for education and training. At the most recent meeting, members traded helped each other become more familiar with equipment at the NAMB such as the TS-2000, Echolink, D-star, and WinLINK. If you would like to join this very special group, contact Tom (the NF Emergency Coordinator) at w4uoc@nfarl.org. The net meets every Sunday night at 8:30PM on the downtown repeater - 147.06 (PL 100). You do not have to be a member of the group to check in or participate in the training. You do **not** have to be a NFARL member to join NFARES.



NFARL TECH NET meets Mondays at 8:30 PM - Join us on **145.47 mhz** to discuss technical topics lead by **Joe N7QPP**. As far as we know, no one else conducts a net quite like TechNET. It uses the repeater, Google, a chat room, and now **Echolink** to enhance the quality of this unique net. Go to the website and look www.nfarl.org/nets.html. There you'll find the link to the CHAT room. Some great links are posted each week as participants search for answers on the web and listen to experienced members explain things on 145.47.

Website www.nfarl.org - And speaking of TECH! - Have you checked out the many features and subsections of our award winning website? Not to be missed is the **FEATURED**



ARTICLES section. Some of these are gleaned from elsewhere on the web but several are by members of the NFARL such as long time member but expatriate (in TEXAS now), Hal Myers, K4JHM, on Lightning Protection. Just this month, resident author and TechNET regular, **Bob Freeman, KI4SBK**, has another of his personal submissions. This time on **Homebrewing**. In this article, Bob explains his version of a great "Electronic Load", complete with photos.

Don't miss it at this NFARL website location: http://nfarl.org/articles/DIY_elec_load_01.pdf.

And more .. We are also featuring this month an article by **Jim Streible, K4DLI**, on the antenna he designed for the 40M CW station at Field Day. Called the **Extended Double Zepp** or Double Extended Zepp (depending on how you are facing the antenna, I guess)! And it works on all bands with a tuner, of course. The article shows what the "pattern" looks like for all the HF bands and along with impedances. You can jump to that article here: <http://tinyurl.com/m59tqe>



And continuing on The Tim Lemmon series on Shortwave Listening tips is included along with his first two articles from the May and June eNEWS in that same **FEATURED ARTICLES** section of the website. Tim's article this month is entitled **Welcome to the WORST time for short wave listening!** *And starts with ...* Yep, 4pm is probably the worst time to hear broadcast stations on short wave. Even worse than lunch time! Some of the North American **pirate radio** stations start broadcasting about this time. More common is a little later in the evening. [more...](#)



Editor's note: We're trying something a bit different this month. Contributed articles which we'd like to preserve by giving them their own spot on our website are being introduced in eNEWS but with a [hot link](#) to the full article on our website. Let us know if you have difficulty with this approach. We believe it ties the eNEWS into the website and make them both more manageable and it makes the articles "searchable" on the web by others all over the world.

YOUTH NET – Meets every Friday at 5:00 PM on 145.47 Mhz (PL 100). You also do NOT have to be a YOUTH to join the net. Join our very capable Net Control, Frances, AJ4JQ, for this fun net. Invite some youngsters, too.



AJ4JQ at FD

Youth Membership - The executive committee voted to give all youth "FREE" membership in NFARL until the end of their 18th birthday, regardless of whether you are a family member or not. Just go to the Mart page on our web site and complete the member information form.

ARRL Membership - Currently we are at 70% of our club membership. Our goal is to have as many NFARL members as possible be members of the ARRL. You can now use **PayPal** to join ARRL - using <http://www.nfarl.org/mart/>. **NFARL benefits financially** if you will join or renew your ARRL membership thru NFARL. So help us out when you join or renew.

Are your dues due? It is now EASIER TO JOIN and renew - We have now made it even easier for you to continue your membership or join NFARL by simply clicking on this link <http://www.nfarl.org/mart/> and taking advantage of the new secure **PayPal** or personal credit card function on our newly revamped NFARL web site. No more check writing, no more stamps, no more envelopes, no more electronic bill pays. Dues/renewals are currently set up so they are due every 12 months from the date you joined NFARL. So if you joined in May, your renewal date would be due on the next May. It is just a click away on the computer. Many of our members have received notices for renewal but have not renewed. **Help us by renewing.**

Contact us:

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Club Repeaters

145.470 (-) **	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn
147.060 (+)	100 Hz	Roswell WaterTower
224.620 (-)	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn *
443.150 (+)	No Tone	Roswell WaterTower *
444.475(+)	100 Hz	Sweat Mtn
927.1625(-)	151.4 Hz	Sweat Mtn

* Joint Venture with the MATPARC club. ** This repeater has Echolink - Node 381631



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Affiliate



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Club Supporter



[SERA](#) Supporter