



NFARL eNEWS

 **February 2015**

www.nfarl.org

eNEWS is "what's happening" in **North Fulton** and surrounding area! Check out each item and mark your calendar. Go to arrl.org for national news, but here is this month's **North Fulton ARL eNEWS**.



Summary of Upcoming Events and Dates

- **Every Sunday – NFARES net** - 8:30 PM - 147.06 MHz (+) PL 100
- **Every Monday – Tech Net** - 8:30 PM - 145.47 MHz (-) PL 100 - Check NFARL Nets [website](#) for "how to."
- **Every Wednesday – Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch** - 11:15 AM - Slope's BBQ, 34 East Crossville Road, Roswell.
- **Every Thursday – YL Net** – 8:00 PM - 145.47 MHz (-) PL 100 - Check NFARL Nets [website](#) for "how to."
- **Every Saturday – Royal Order of the Olde Geezers (ROOG) Lodge No. 1** - 9:00 AM - Reveille Café, 2960 Shallowford Road, Marietta (at Sandy Plains and Shallowford). Everybody's welcomed: You don't have to be "old" or a "geezer" to join this breakfast get-together.
- **Third Tuesday – NFARL Club Meeting – February 17**, 7:30 PM - Alpharetta Adult Activity Center, 13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta.
Meeting begins at 7:30 PM. Pre-meeting activity starts at around 7:00PM.
Location: [Alpharetta Adult Activity Center at North Park](#)
13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004 [map](#)
Talk-in: 145.47+ (PL 100)
Meeting Topic: USI FL496R Turkey and FL497R Little Turkey Island / Jim Paine N4SEC, Terry Joyner W4YBV, Wes Lamboley W3WL



- **Fourth Tuesday – NFARL Executive Team Meeting – February 24**, 7:00 PM – Panera Bread, 1195 Woodstock Road, Roswell. Meetings are open to NFARL club members.

Coming Events

- **March 2015**

- **Third Tuesday – NFARL Club Meeting – March 17**, 7:30 PM - Alpharetta Adult Activity Center, 13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta.
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President's Corner / Bob Beeman k4bb

What a way to start the year! The NFARL was very active in January. Our participation in Techfest was a success. Add Science Night at Mimosa Elementary School and activities with Mill Springs Academy, and you can see how busy things get for our club volunteers. These activities are primary efforts in being part of the North Fulton and Atlanta communities, and in increasing our membership rolls.

If we are not growing, we are not trying.

In this vein we need people. We have tons of talent in our club. Now is the time to give back to the hobby. There are lots of things to do, and lots of people in the community that would be interested in our hobby if they just knew about the magic we all know. From HamCram, to VE testing, to Scouts, to schools, to civic groups, we have slots available. Get with John Tramontanis, N4TOL, and he will find a place for you to use your talents.

February got off to a running start. K1N, the Navassa Island dxpedition has worked thousands of hams around the world, and many of our NFARL members report having worked the island crew at all hours. This was a great one for DX, and it may be a long time before we see this entity on the air, again.

The big contest of the month is my favorite, the ARRL International CW DX Contest. The Big Test is scheduled for the weekend of February 21st and 22nd. The ARRL International Phone DX Contest is the first full weekend in March. No matter what class of license you hold, you can work some really good DX.

This year's CW SIG kicked-off with a bang. It started at W4QO's QTH, and 23 people have signed-up to learn or improve their CW skills. I have joined the SIG with the goal of increasing my speed ten words per minute, and I have regular on-air schedules with Jim, AD4J, to help me achieve this goal. There's room for all CW ops in this SIG. One

new feature is an online forum dedicated to the CW SIG for all members to post their results, triumphs, and frustrations. The URL is www.cwsig.com.

Our club now has over 330 members with diverse interests. Daryl Young, K4RGK, is leading a new SIG, **LINUX In The Ham Shack** . There are lots of programs available for Linux, and it is possible to run many Windows programs under [WINE](#). There are free office software bundles compatible with Microsoft Office. Put that old laptop back to use by installing Linux. You will be surprised what an enterprising ham can do for free.

We look forward to this month's program and hearing about the Expedition to Florida's Turkey Island by Terry Joyner, W4YBV, Wes Lamboley, W3WL and Jim Paine, N4SEC. It will be interesting to see what those guys were doing, way down upon the Suwanee River.

I look forward seeing you all on February 17 at our monthly meeting.

73

Bob Beeman
President
North Fulton Amateur Radio League

***Show Your Support for HR 4969,
the Radio Amateur Parity Act of 2014!***

Contact Your U.S. Representative!

Learn More [Here](#)



[NFARL MART](#) **TIPS / Fred Moore, N4CLA**

Tip Number 3

Let me preface this tip with some very basics of maintaining your MART Profile.

First, literally any field in your profile can be changed by you. This means your USERID, your PASSWORD and all other fields can be changed by you. You do not need to have a MART administrator make the changes unless you are having problems making these changes.

The second basic requirement is that if you do change "anything" on any given page, you MUST go to the bottom of that page where the change was made and select <SUBMIT>, otherwise nothing will change.

If you have forgotten your PASSWORD, there is a link that says [Request new password](#). Select this and a new password will be sent to your email address that was placed in your MART record. If you forgot your USERID, please do not create a new member record, send me an email [n4cla \(at\) nfarl \(dot\) org](mailto:n4cla@nfarl.org), and I will look up your record and reply with your answer.

There is always a list just above the MART login that says **How do I ...** and it is fairly complete on how to change specific areas in your profile. But remember, you MUST always select <SUBMIT> at the bottom of the page you changed for the change to take place.



NFARL Members Reach Out to Teachers at the Georgia Science Teachers Association's Conference / Martha Muir, W4MSA

Members of the NFARL Education Team, John K4SQC, Chuck AE4CW, Wes W3WL, and Martha W4MSA along with Macon Amateur Radio Club members Hurb N1DOG and Charles Kight AI4UN and Section Manager Gene W4AYK joined together to make formal and informal presentations to science teachers from across the state about the benefits of adding aspects of amateur radio and wireless technology to their classrooms at the Annual Conference of the Georgia Science Teachers Association. This conference, held in Macon, attracted over 300 pre-K through college level science educators. STEM was a major theme of the conference. STEM is an educational acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, four topics perfectly matched to amateur radio!

John gave three formal presentations about ARISS and the ARRL Teachers Institutes. The acoustics combined with the din of the crowd milling about and chatting with vendors made it a challenge for John to talk over all that QRM, but none the less, he managed. Martha finished up the formal sessions by talking about her experiences at the Teachers Institutes.

In between the formal sessions, the whole team manned an exhibit designed to attract teachers over so we could show them the wide diversity of aspects of amateur radio that they could use in their classrooms. We talked to our guests who didn't have time to attend the formal presentations about the ARRL Teachers Institutes and invited them to fill out a "Get Me a Mentor" form that we hope to use to match interested teachers with amateur radio clubs and hams across the state. Over 50 of these forms were completed and turned in. Before we left for the conference, Mike AD4MC, configured a system of radios that could be used to allow digital communications from within the steel and concrete Exhibit Hall to one of the Macon repeaters. Unfortunately, with all the other things we had going at our booth, this never was put into use.

Our booth was busy with teachers all day. Many visiting teachers spent over 15 minutes chatting with the team of hams at our exhibit. The interest is there! While NFARL is leading the way in reaching out to teachers, fortunately we don't have to do it alone. There is a growing interest by amateur radio clubs across the state to reach out to support their local teachers' budding interest in adding amateur radio and wireless technology to their STEM curriculum.

We created a survey for our guest educators to gauge their interest in what we offered.



ARES SUPER GO BOX / Gary Brass, AK4NA

Gary AK4NA sent me this article for the NFARL Enews. It is very detailed and deserves to be seen in its entirety.

The Super Go Box Includes;

- Case (w/rail kit) Pelican 1520 (Orange)
- Power Supply MFJ-4125
- Transceiver (w/separation kit) Yaesu FT-857D
- Autotuner (w/auto-tuning connector to the FT-857D) LDG Z-11 Pro II
- Battery Backup Module (Power Gate) Astron BB-30M
- Power Dist. (inside) Red-Dee-To-Connect PS-6AA
- Power Dist. (top) RigRunner 4004U (modified)
- Battery Booster (w/Remote Control) MFJ-4416B/BRC
- Control Head Mount Lido LM-600 (modified)
- Fans (2) Link Depot 80mm
- Light, LED, White (5 Volt) Champtek SLP-100A
- 5 Volt Power Supply Homebrewed
- Computer Odroid-U3

Monitor (8 inch, HDMI) Freeworld (China)
USB Hub (7 port) Gear Head UHT 7250 MAC

REMOVABLE ACCESSORIES

Meter, Radio LDG FT Blue
Hand Microphone Yaesu MH-59
Headset Yamaha CM-500
Headset Adapter (for the FT-857D) W2ENY
PTT Switch W2ENY
Key (Porta Paddle-II with base) American Morse Equipment
Sound Card Interface Tigertronics SignaLink-USB
Keyboard (Bluetooth) Rii mini RT-MWK01
Mouse (Bluetooth) Flashman MA-W6G5
Speaker, Computer (Bluetooth) Divoom Bluetune-Solo (Orange)
CD/DVD Drive LG GP08LU30
DC Power Analyzer (DOC WATTSON) RC Electronics
DC Power Cable (12 ga. w/ two 30 Amp Fuses, 30 Amp Powerpoles) HRO
DC Power Extension Cable (10 ga. w/ Battery Clamps, 30 Amp Powerpoles, 12 ft.)
Homebrewed
AC Power Cable (15 Amp Circuit Breaker, 3 Conductor, IEC Plug) TMC AP-37 (Modified)
AC Power Extension Cable (Orange, 15 Amp, 3 Conductor 25 ft.) Lowes

Due to space constraints I have posted the entire article on
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/NFARL/permalink/1660432194184385/>.
I hope you enjoy it.



Activities / John T, N4TOL

Several club members participated in "Family Science Night" at Mimosa Elementary School in Roswell on Thursday, January 22nd.

The NFARL group provided a look at, MAREA, "Mars Lander Amateur Radio Robotics Exploration Activity" with an active demonstration of a computer controlled robotic vehicle.

Also, a presentation was given on general amateur radio operation, DXing, and QSLing, with an operating HF station on site.

There was a hands on experiment for the students to see how an antenna/wire, when attached to a radio enhances and varies reception.

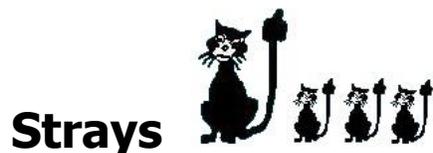
The crowd favorite, as always, was the Morse Code oscillator which allowed students and their parents to try their "fists" at CW and earn a coveted NFARL certificate.

Thanks to Cathy Freeman, KI4SBK, Tim Lemmon, WK4U, John Kludt, K4SQC, and Neil Foster, N4FN for making this activity a success.

The Mid-Month-Madness for February is the Tuna Tin kit build which will take place on Saturday, February 28th. Details are available on the NFARL website.

Also, on February 28th, is the Dalton hamfest which will kick off the Georgia hamfest season.

73 John N4TOL



NFARES Hosts Joint ARES Exercise / Wayne Chapman KG5WU

On January 18, NFARES participated in a joint cross-jurisdictional exercise with two other local ARES groups. The ARES teams from North Fulton, DeKalb and Atlanta each hosted a net on their own local repeaters. The purpose of the exercise was to test each participant's own ability to check into the nets of neighboring jurisdictions.

A total of 128 check-ins were made to the three nets. North Fulton and DeKalb each had 40 check-ins while Atlanta had 48. In all, there were 63 local hams from 11 metro counties participating, with 21 being able to check into all three nets. Twenty-two of the hams claim North Fulton as their primary location.

It was a great exercise that allowed hams to become familiar with the names, calls and voices of hams in neighboring jurisdictions. More joint exercises are expected throughout the year.

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Club Repeaters

145.470 (-) EchoLink Node 560686 NF4GA-R	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
147.060 (+) Primary ARES repeater	100 Hz	Roswell Water Tower
224.620 (-) Joint Venture with the MATPARC club	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
443.150 (+)	No Tone	Roswell Water Tower
444.475 (+)	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
927.0125 (-)	146.2 Hz	Sweat Mountain

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