North Fulton Amateur Radio League NFARL eNEWS

March 2018

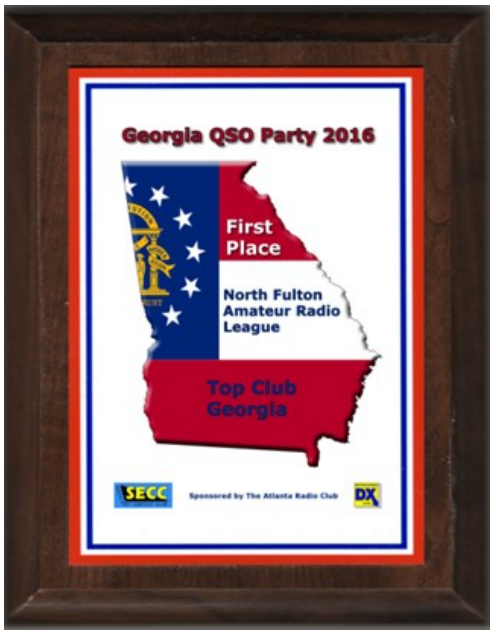
Over 40 Years Promoting
Service | Friendship | Education | Fun

www.nfarl.org

You Are Invited To The Georgia QSO Party!

The 2018 Georgia QSO Party will be held on April 14-15 with two operating periods: 1800Z Saturday (2:00 pm EDST Saturday) until 0359Z Sunday (11:59 pm EDST Saturday) and 1400Z Sunday (10:00 am EDST Sunday) to 2359Z Sunday (7:59 pm EDST Sunday).

We encourage all NFARL members and friends to participate in the Georgia QSO Party (GQP). This is your chance to "be the DX." It is a real opportunity to practice "running," calling CQ and letting other stations come to you. Special "coveted" NFARL certificates will be awarded to all club members and friends for participation in the contest. Certificates will also be awarded for key accomplishments in select categories.



Can you spell "NFARL"?

As we did last year, there will be operators on the air in the GQP sporting special 1X1 callsigns: N4N, N4F, N4A, N4R, & N4L and K4N, K4F, K4A, K4R, & K4L.

Work all 5 letters to spell "NFARL" and earn a special certificate. Work them in any combination: mixed, SSB, and/or CW, "N" prefixes or "K" prefixes. Can you get the clean sweep? These stations will be active, but the more time you spend operating in the GQP, the better your chance of winning the "spelling bee". This effort is to increase activity in the GQP, but the primary focus is to have fun in the contest.

The Georgia QSO Party

SECC — SOUTH EAST CONTEST CLUB

SOUTHEASTERN DX CLUB

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The topic for this month's club meeting, on March 20th, will be "Georgia QSO Party How To - at Home and on the Road (rover)". Please be sure to attend this meeting to get some operating tips for first timers and old hands as well, and NFARL club members will be accessible to answer questions and discuss details about the GQP.

Please visit the contest website for details: http://georgiaqsoparty.org/

The site will provide information such as: the contest rules, categories and awards, county lists, and many other details.

Please contact me with your intent to be part of the NFARL contest team for the GQP and we can put you on the list or feel free to contact me at n4tol@arrl.net with any questions.

I look forward to working you in the contest.

John Tramontanis, N4TOL

Radio Island Expedition & SWL / Terry Joyner, W4YBV

I will be on Radio Island N.C. on Thursday March 22nd and Friday March 23rd using our club call to activate the island.

This US Islands program island has been at the top of my list for the past 5 years. It has a lot of AM radio history over the years.

I will be using our call sign, NF4GA, on Thursday and my call, W4YBV, on Friday. If everything goes well I may be on the air on Saturday morning as well.

My hours will be 1600z to2400z each day. I'll start out on 40 meters around 7.260 then switch to 20 meters around14.260.

Please look for me for a club contact.

With a name like Radio Island we hope to have a lot of qso's!

Terry

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!

- **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 but Internet is not required to join the net. Check NFARL Nets website for more information and "how to".

- **Every Wednesday — Hungry Hams Lunch Bunch** - 11:15 AM
  Meet with your fellow club members every Wednesday!
  Slope's BBQ, 34 East Crossville Road, Roswell.

- **Every Thursday — YL OP Net –** 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM 145.47 MHz (-) PL 100
  Check NFARL Nets website for "how to."
  OM's (guys) are welcome to listen in to this YL net.
  Great opportunity to get your YL's on the radio!

- **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). Everyone is welcome: You don't have to be "old" or a "geezer" to join this breakfast get-together.

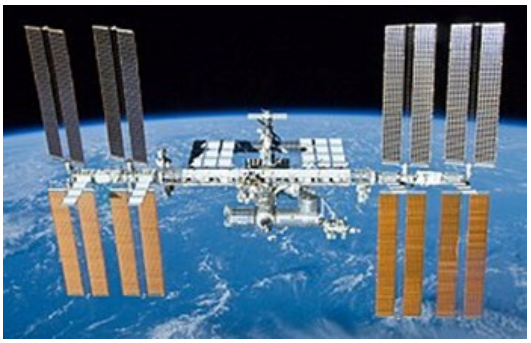
- **Second Saturday – VE Testing** - 10:00 AM
  NFARL provides Amateur (Ham) Radio test sessions on the second Saturday of each month - Walk-ins are welcome, no appointment is necessary. All exam modules are offered at all sessions.
  Location: Alpharetta Adult Activity Center at North Park
  13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004
  Please check our website for more information.

- **Second Tuesday — NFARES Meeting** - 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
  Fellowship Bible Church, 480 W. Crossville Road, Roswell.
  Check NFARES.org for more information.

- **Third Tuesday — NFARL Club Meeting** - **March 20, 2018**, 7:30 PM.
  Pre-meeting activities begin at 7:00PM.
  Location: Alpharetta Adult Activity Center at North Park
  13450 Cogburn Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004
  Program: The Georgia QSO Party -
  Presented by: Chuck Catledge, AE4CW

- **Fourth Tuesday – NFARL Executive Team Meeting**
  March 27, 2018, 7:00 PM
  Location: Arbor Terrace at Crabapple
  12200 Crabapple Road, Alpharetta, GA 30004
  Meetings are open to all NFARL members. Space is available on a first arrival basis. Please contact the President to ensure available space.

ARISS is Coming to MSA / Martha Muir, W4MSA



Hopefully you've heard by now that Mill Springs Academy will be hosting an ARISS Radio Contact at some point during the week of April 30 to May 4. (We won't know the exact day or time until a week ahead of time.)

ARISS stands for Amateur Radio on the International Space Station. During this phenomenal event, students will talk with an astronaut via ham radio as he flies over the school aboard the ISS.

Please plan on joining us. How?

2013 MSA ARISS Event

- Attend and bring your child/children.
- Invite a local school to join us bringing about a dozen or two students. About a half dozen schools have already been invited to join us for this ARISS, each bringing one to two dozen students. We can probably squeeze a few more in our gym. Please let Martha know if you are going to bring a group of students.
- Help in the setup of the antennas and other equipment. Contact Daryl K4RGK to volunteer to help with this challenge.
- Help with activities involving students before and after the actual ARISS. NASA, ARRL, and AMSAT, the three organizations involved in organizing these events like to see schools have activities going on at the school or venue in addition to the actual chat with the astronaut. Jim W4QO has arranged for a special event call sign to be used at a GOTA type station at Mill Springs during our ARISS week (April 30 to May 4). He's arranging other Amateur Radio activities, too. Mill Spring students and students from other schools will have the opportunity to experience what we do for fun and to advance the skills of Amateur Radio operators. Please contact Jim W4QO to volunteer to help with these activities.

2013 MSA ARISS Event

A Really Good Book / Wes Lamboley, W3WL

One of the messages from the recent HamJam came from Dan Henderson , N1ND, of the ARRL. He told us, among other facts, how few people actually get on the air after getting their license. The number was shocking – about 70% do not make their first contact with their own equipment.

This got me to thinking about the mission of HamJam and the focus on getting more youth involved with ham radio. But it seems there is a much larger picture that needs to be addressed as well, that being one of getting hams, no matter what their age, actually actively engaged with our hobby. The ARRL is struggling with this issue, and has come up with a potential approach that is described as "Life Long Learning", but they are quick to add they do not have all the answers.

Wes Lamboley, W3WL

One potential "answer" may lie in a book I recently discovered titled "Your First Amateur Radio HF Station", written by Steve Ford, WB8IMY. I was amazed at the clarity of Steve's writing, and its brilliance in explaining the decisions and how to make them in outfitting your first station in easy–to-understand terms. The various topics discussed include choosing a radio, antenna, computer, station accessories and the potential need for an amplifier. I read several reviews of the book on line; one of my favorites was a guy that said the book was "Too simple" and felt that just getting a Handbook would be much better. Well – DUUUUHHHH!

There is much more to the issue that just reading Steve's book, and that is where NFARL members can help by seeking out those among us that want to actually get on the air and "Elmering" them. I was lucky to have several Elmers during my ham career, and still do for that matter; it makes the hobby much more enjoyable and less intimidating.

73,

Wes, W3WL

Editor Note:

The ARRL has petitioned the FCC for extended Technician class HF privileges. If you would like more information on this process you can read the ARRL FCC petition here and the recent ARRL letter advising members of the process here.

When Just Any Old Coax Won't Do / John Kludt, K4SQC

Many of us start our ham radio careers on the low bands, 80/75 or 40 meters or on repeaters. One of the things we may have been taught is that "any old coax will do" and for those two situations that is very true within reason. As we all know, signal strength is lost on both transmit and receive within your feedline. Loss is basically dependent on three factors: the construction of the cable, the length of the run and the frequency.

We can be a little casual in our coax selection on the lower HF bands as the frequency component is in our favor. Our radios are all designed to see a 50 ohm load. Our dipole antennas have an intrinsic feed point impedance of 72 ohms (more or less). Either 50 ohm or 75 ohm cox works just fine. On the repeaters as long as we can get in, it does not matter too much. Usually our runs are short and that is in our favor. But when we use 50 MHz or higher the frequency starts to force us to be a bit more discriminating on our coax choices.

Bob, W4GA, in a club presentation a while back noted that "VHF" starts at 10 meters. Technicians have privileges on some of the HF bands and all of the VHF/UHF bands. Most of the current radios are capable of SSB and CW in addition to FM on 6 meters. Many have 2m and 70 cm capabilities. There is a whole new world of weak signal work that is available for exploration. The satellite uplinks and downlinks are found in the VHF and UHF bands. It is in these settings that the selection of coax becomes important. If signals are strong a few dB one way or the other admittedly does not matter. At the margin, and in weak signal work that is frequently where we are, every dB or fraction of a dB counts.

There is a handy website that lets you calculate signal loss by coax type, length and frequency. It can be found at http://kv5r.com/ham-radio/coax-loss-calculator/. Let's compare three 50 foot runs of coax, first at 144MHz and then at 432 MHz. Fifty feet is probably an average run of feedline in our stations. If your run is closer to 100 feet, then double all the numbers in the following table. Recall that signal loss applies both on the transmit side and the receive side.

RG-8X

Frequency	Power Input	Power Output	Loss dB	% Power Lost
144MHz	100 watts	51 watts	2.13 dB	39%
432MHz	100 watts	39 watts	4.18dB	62%

RG-8

Frequency	Power Input	Power Output	Loss dB	% Power Lost
144MHz	100 watts	75 watts	1.24dB	25%
432MHz	100 watts	58 watts	2.31 dB	41%

LMR400

Frequency	Power Input	Power Output	Loss dB	% Power Lost
144MHz	100 watts	83 watts	.795 dB	17%
432MHz	100 watts	73 watts	1.39 dB	28%

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It is possible to make up for feedline losses on both transmit and receive. On the transmit side you can simply run more power up to the limits of the capacity of the coax. The losses are translated into heat but this is a strategy that will work. For example on ARISS (Amateur Radio on the International Space Station) that occur on 2m we like to see 100 watts delivered to the antenna. Sometimes it is 200 feet from the radio to the antenna. Recall that LMR 400 has a loss of 1.5dB per 100 feet at 144 MHz. Putting 100 watts of 2m RF into a 200 foot run of LMR 400 therefore nets 50 watts of RF at the antenna (1.5dB times 2 = 3.0dB = 50% power loss). There are two possible RF solutions:

1. Use an amplifier at the station end of the line and put 200 watts of RF into the cable.
2. Even better if power is available, place a 2m amplifier at the antenna. Many of the 2m "bricks" (so called because they have an input and an output and an on/off switch) such as the Mirage B-5018G also have an RF switched receive preamp to help with the same loss on the receive side.

On the receive side a preamp at the antenna can help overcome feedline loss. The location of the preamp is probably a subject for another day. The purpose of the receive preamp is to improve the signal to noise ratio. Many would argue the downside of a preamp in the shack is it simply makes everything louder, both the noise and the signal. A good preamp at the antenna will improve the signal to noise ratio, not just make everything louder. The problem with receive preamps at the antenna is switching them out of the line if you are using the same feedline for transmit and receive. Failure to do so can have disastrous consequences. You may have seen the inside of a 432 preamp owned by Bob, W4ZST that was rated at 750 watts and accidentally got hit with over 1KW. Not a pretty sight! Preamps can be expensive, especially if they are RF switched or externally relay controlled.

Dr. John Kludt, K4SQC

As you begin to explore the VHF and UHF capabilities of your rig, especially beyond FM but even with FM if you are distant from your favorite repeater, the selection of coax becomes increasingly important. Most would recommend LMR 400 or its equivalent as the starting point if the run is going to be more than a very few feet. There are other solutions such as power amplifiers and receive preamplifiers and as you progress in your VHF/UHF journey you will probably acquire them all. You probably already own a VHF/UHF capable radio. A horizontally polarized antenna may be next. At VHF, maybe even at 10 meters, and increasingly at UHF coax selection is important. To be effective and make some Q's just any old coax simply won't do.

Georgia QSO Party Rover / Steve Knittel, AB4TT

CQ CQ This is **W 4 G** / Rover for GA QP

Hi Y'all !

This is what we hope you will hear and respond to in April. Two other hams and myself are planning to set up shop in a sprinter van with 2 radio stations. One of the antennas will be a Tar Heel 200A with a home brew cap hat. The other antenna will be a Hi Q.
Our Sprinter vehicle is 10' tall so it does not leave a lot of room above the van and still stay under bridges.

The party runs from 1800z to 2359z (2:00PM to 11:59 EDT) on Saturday and 1400z to 2359z on Sunday. We plan to stay approximately 30 min in each county.

Saturday we will start in Catoosa and work in north Georgia doing seven counties, then end up at Dade where we will overnight at Cloudland Canyon State Park. Our plan is to be on the air in Dade from 6 PM to midnight local time.

We'll be on 20 meters and 40 meters during the day, then switching to 40 and 80 meters at night. If the band gods play nice!

Our run for Saturday is:

Catoosa CATO, Whitfield WFLD, Murray MURR, Gilmer GILM, Pickens PICK, Gordon GORD, Walker WLKR, Dade DADE

Sunday we kick off at 1400z to 2359z. (10:00AM to 7:59PM EDT) This will be a LOT busier. The plan is to give out 20 counties.

Our run on Sunday is:

Chattooga CHGA, Floyd FLOY Bartow BART, Polk POLK, Paulding PAUL, Haralson HARA, Carroll CARR, Heard HEAR, Troupe TROU, Harris HARR, Muscogee MUSC, Marion MARI, Schley SCHL, Macon MACO, Taylor TAYL, Talbot TLBT, Meriwether MERI, Coweta COWE, Fayette FAYE, Clayton CLTN

We will be SSB ONLY.

We hope to talk to many of you. If you talk to us or even if you just hear us, Please Spot Us!

SPOTTING a mobile is critical for us to give out as many counties as we can.

Let the world know where we are!

Thank you,

The **W 4 G** /rover crew: Steve Knittel AB4TT, Bill Cobb K4YJJ, John Norris N4IHV

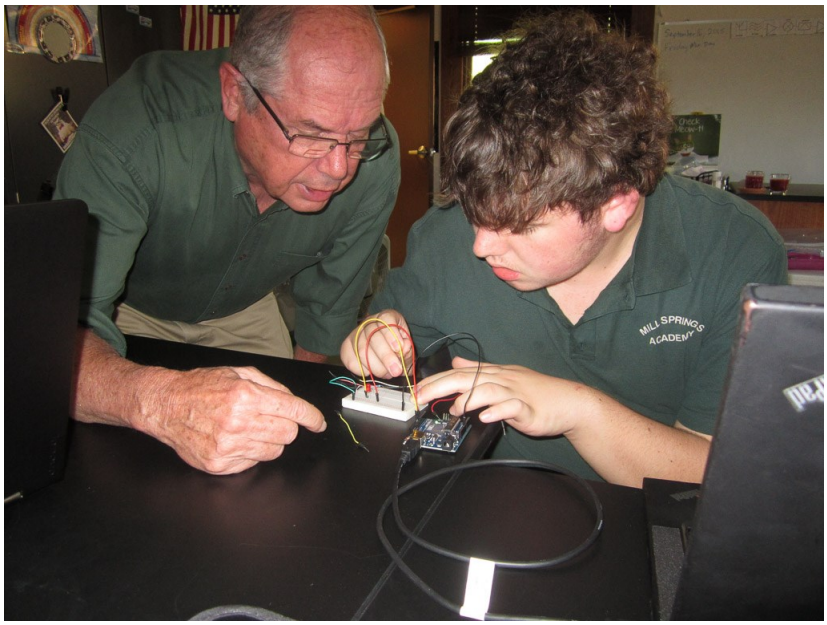
Did You Ever MAKE Something? / Jim Stafford, W4QO

Silly question? Every Ham makes things. In fact, if you don't like a lifetime of learning and making things, you probably won't enjoy Ham radio. In fact, Hams have been making things for over 100 years.

Now, how many times have you heard the discussion of "why don't we have more young people interested in Ham radio." Well, have you heard of the MAKER movement? It is highly related to the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) activities in schools all over the country. For example, if you would have ever attended a MAKER FAIRE, you would see all kinds of young people – college, high school, and even younger - who are massively in attendance.

That's why you may have noticed that a few of the NFARL members are involved in the local MAKER FAIRES and take Ham radio and electricity STEM ideas to the Faires via our exhibits. Now here is what's coming up – the City of Roswell has voted to turn the old Fire Station #4 into a MakerSpace. This would be available for the community to come and use various tools such as 3D printers, CNC machines, drill presses, etc. to MAKE things. Dr. David MacNair from GA TECH is leading the organization of this MakerSpace. Garry Brass, AK4NA, and I went to the city council meeting and spoke in support of the creation of the Maker Space. As info, Fire Station #4 has been moved around the corner and has a bright new station house.

I believe NFARL should form a team of interested members who could go to the MakerSpace a couple times per week (once per month for a given member) to help and advise people in soldering and other techniques. Or they might teach us! I believe this team (or SIG) would be well received and could provide some valuable assistance to the growth of the MakerSpace. If you are interested in helping me introduce NFARL to Dr. MacNair drop me an email to w4qo@nfarl.org



Lastly, do you know there is a MAKE magazine? I have subscribed to it for a couple of years and I have access to all 50 or so issues via the web. See the Make Magazine website at https://makezine.com/

Here is a link to the archive of issues: https://archive.org/details/MakeMagazine

And there are all kinds of MAKE videos on Youtube. Check them out!

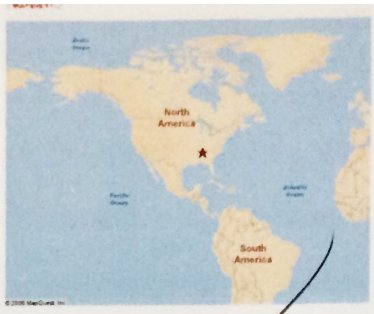
Keep on makin'

SWL's Are Doing A Great Job / Terry Joyner, W4YBV

During our club island contest last year we received (2) SWL reports on club contacts from JD Stephens (WA4216 SWL) in Hampton Cove , Alabama. As you can see his reports were complete with dates, times and contacts. This just goes to show you the following our club had from the Islands program this past year.

J.D. Stephens
(WA4216SWL)

3130 Cove Lake Rd., SE
Hampton Cove, Alabama
35763-8613, U.S.A.



NF4GA – Duck Island (TN-065)

c/o North Fulton Amateur Radio League
PO BOX 1741
Roswell, GA 30077-1741

Greetings from North Alabama !

I am pleased to report my SWL reception of your amateur radio station NF4GA activating Duck Island (TN-065). Below are the details from my DX log. I would very much appreciate your QSL card if my reception report is found to be correct.

BTW, I had the pleasure of logging your activation of Pine Island in August of last year, but was not fortunate to receive a QSL card for that Island. I am attaching a copy of my original DX report, and hope that you can QSL that island, as well.

DATE: June 17, 2017 TIME: 1629-1637 UTC/GMT FREQUENCY: 14,260 USB /20 Meters

1629 UTC -- NF4GA heard in QSO with N5UUA/M.
1630 UTC -- NF4GA heard in QSO with AC4QS.
1631 UTC -- NF4GA heard in QSO with W4CRV.
1632 UTC -- NF4GA heard calling CQ.
1635 UTC -- NF4GA heard in QSO with KB2PDX (?)
1637 UTC -- NF4GA heard in QSO with KS4OT.

RST = 4 7 (Propagation wasn't that great on this morning)

I hope that you have been interested to know that the Duck Island activation has been heard at my location. It may interest you to know that my radio is a Drake R-8 communications receiver (pictured at the top of this page) and the antenna which I used was a multi-band dipole, strung up in the attic.

To tell you a little about myself; I live near (and work in) Huntsville - a city in North Alabama of about 200,000 people. The industries here in Huntsville are primarily government defense and aerospace contractors. In fact, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is located here. I'm 54, married, have a 27 year-old daughter, 20 year-old twin children (one boy, one girl), and work as Systems Engineer for a technology company in Huntsville. My interests include radio DX, reading, and music.

I would be most grateful if you could confirm that I did indeed hear NF4GA/ Duck Island, if the details I have provided are found to be correct in accordance with your station's operating log. Once again, your reply is very important to me. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter and I look forward to your reply very soon. I am enclosing an SASE for your use.

73 and Good DX,

Challenge Yourself ? Learn CW! / Mark Coleman, KJ4YM

When I received my Novice ticket in 1985, code (CW) was part of the requirement for a license. Being able to copy code at 5 wpm and then answer questions regarding what you copied seemed a large undertaking. However I prepared by using tapes, group practice and ARRL online code practice. (My original Novice call was KB4OTB).

Novice license privileges at that time on HF were code only. I set up my station (Kenwood TS-520, MFJ tuner, and a multiband dipole antenna) and started working CW and making contacts. My first contact was a YL, Ann, in Columbus, OH. I was nervous and intimidated about my CW and thought "am I good enough to be on the air?" After a few contacts, I felt more confident in using code but not a proficient CW operator. I persevered making contacts and practicing code. My goal was to upgrade to General class. I could have more operating privileges but there was this 13 wpm code test I had to conquer. I persisted and felt that I could pass the test.

When the code test was administered, the volunteer examiner started with the 20 wpm test. I was encouraged to take the 20 wpm test but I didn't think I had a chance. The 20 wpm code test was a standard QSO and I was able to copy the important pieces (call sign, QTH, RST, Name, Rig, etc.). I was so surprised when I passed the test. I got my Advance license during that testing session and upgraded to Extra a year later.

I kept making some CW contacts but more frequently went to SSB voice. An old adage "if you don't use it you will lose it", applies for many with CW. For several years I did not use CW at all…not until I got the QRP bug.

QRP is low power operating (5 watts are less on CW…10 watts on SSB). QRP was a real challenge on SSB and I quickly saw that I needed to put down the mic and pick up the key. I had purchased a Heathkit HW8 (CW only) at the Columbus Hamfest back in the 1990's. That was my QRP rig. I would take it on vacation and make contacts using 5 watts. As usual with work and family I had to put ham radio on the back burner for a while.

I'm retired now so I made a decision to get back into CW. This is where I ran across CW OPS and the CW academy (https://www.cwops.org/). Since I knew the code, I signed up for the level 2 class to improve and regain my CW proficiency. As stated on the CW Ops website "The objectives for Level 2 training are to increase one's speed above 15 wpm through practice with head copying and sending; to hone one's skills in conversational QSOing, contesting and DXing." The class was for 8 weeks. We met using Skype and had assignments to increase our CW skills. One main lesson requirement was to get on the air every day and make CW contacts.

Since taking the class, my main mode of operating is CW. I'm not as proficient as I would like but I'm getting there. The CW Academy gave me the confidence to get back on the air, make CW contacts and to have fun.

If you are stuck in one mode and want a challenge, you need to investigate CW and the CW Academy. You can start with level 1 and learn the code or, as I did, level 2 with some code experience. Level 3 is for fast speed CW ops and contesting.

If you have any questions regarding my experience with CW Academy please feel free to contact me.

Mark Your Calendars Now for Field Day 2018 / Scott Straw, KB4KBS

Field Day this year, as always, will be on the FOURTH weekend of June. This year it is almost as early in the month as it could possibly be – June 23 and 24. We will be holding it at the same location as always, Waller Park Extension, or Groveway Community Park as it is now known. The address is the same – 161 Dobbs Drive. We will be setting up on Friday Morning June 22 and will have a Boy Scout Radio Merit Badge Class on Saturday morning. The "operating event where a score is kept" will begin in earnest at 2:00 Eastern Daylight Time and run for 24 hours. We will be operating in Class 3A which means three primary transmitters, a GOTA station, a 6 Meter station and a Satellite station. We will also have NFARES on site doing demonstrations and passing NTS traffic. We will break it all down and pack it up immediately after the contest.

It would seem that everything is "same ole, same ole", but not so. This year, we are once again committing to be "in it to win it." That means we are going to make some changes. To make our effort as productive as possible, we are going to field TWO CW stations and ONE Phone station. The reason is simple – historically we have had two PH stations and one CW station yet when you add up all the QSOs made using the two modes for the past three years, over 10,500 entries, the difference between the two modes is less than 175 contacts. Now consider that every CW QSO counts for two points and every PH QSO counts for one point, it only makes sense that we can increase our score by a significant amount by doubling the number of two-point stations.

Scott Straw, KB4KBS

Let me be quick to say that I don't fault the skill of our phone operators, they have posted enough contacts to make NFARL the best in class for two of the three years reviewed. The fact remains however that our CW operators using a single transmitter have matched our phone ops using two transmitters. My theory is that the far-end stations are the weak link. With CW, computer generated responses makes the exchanges almost automatic. With phone, the far-end operators range the gamut in skill level and the exchange can take several tries (and much more time) to complete.

Another thing we are going to do is put these two CW stations on our beam antenna and best low band wires. Our phone station will have the 80-meter loop antenna that the CW operators tore up the bands with the last several years so they're not being hobbled at all.

As always, we will have our 6 Meter station but this year we should be sporting a 6-element beam for that band. We will also have our satellite station set up and the number of potential "birds" to work is looking to be greater than in years past. With our increased focus on CW, we are planning to make CW satellite Qs this year.

For our GOTA station this year, I would like to propose that the North Fulton club issue a challenge to our three local school Ham Radio clubs, Mill Springs Academy, Fulton Academy of Science and Technology, and Cherokee Christian School. For the school club that logs the most

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(Continued from page 12)
POINTS on the GOTA station, NFARL will award a trophy (and bragging rights for one year). Notice that the emphasis is on points and not contacts as I am hopeful they will give a go at digital modes – RTTY, PSK-31, and possible FT-8 if it can be adapted to work for the Field Day exchange. If the students want to make PH QSOS, we'll be glad for that as well.

Finally, the most important thing: food. As in years past we will be holding our annual club picnic on Saturday evening at 6:00 PM. The club will provide BBQ, hamburgers, and hot dogs. We will be asking the club members to provide a covered dish vegetable or dessert. This is arguably the preeminent annual club event. You definitely need to make plans to be there.

Of course, an event of the magnitude of Field Day demands a lot of time and effort both in the planning and in the execution. If you have never participated in a club event or feel that you've been excluded from invitations to participate in the events that the club holds, then now is your time. Send me an email: kb4kbs@nfarl.org. Although our main objective is to post the highest score in the 3A classification, a close second is to involve as many club members as we can in Field Day. There are lots of ways to help, all we need is an indication of interest from you.

NFARES Presents its Capabilities to NFARL / Mike Cohen, AD4MC

A big appreciative thanks goes out to Daryl, K4RGK, for highlighting NFARES (North Fulton Amateur Radio Emergency Services) on the NFARL Home Page, http://nfarl.org/ and another big thanks goes out to John, N4TOL, for inviting NFARES to present its capabilities during the February NFARL meeting.

In case you missed the meeting, you can see the NFARL YouTube video at NFARES February 2018 Video and the PowerPoint presentation can be viewed at NFARES Presentation February 20, 2018.

One of the most important items in the presentation was the launching of our new

NFARES Handbook

This Cloud based document was created by Steven Hull, KW4HQ, and it has many links to other documents that are important to NFARES.

In the presentation, we emphasized the requirements of becoming a member of NFARES:

Dues: None
Ham license: Technician (or studying for a license)
Experience: None (We'll train you)
Equipment: Handie-Talkie (Ham Shack on a Belt)

There are many things you can do to advance your capabilities in NFARES, (check out the NFARES Handbook for additional information), but the above "requirements" will get you started.

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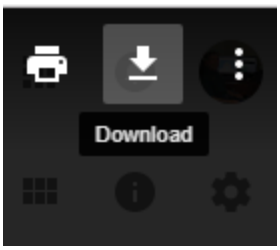
So....if you are interested in providing your own time and equipment for communication duties, for community events (spreading good will) and during disasters, sign up and join NFARES.

Download the NFARES Application form to your PC.

NFARES APPLICATION rev 10-11-17

The Download arrow will be in the top right corner of your screen.



Complete the form and send it to our NFARES Emergency Coordinator, Grant - KK4PCR

KK4PCR@NFARES.ORG

or bring the completed form to our next NFARES meeting.

Our monthly meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month from 7-9 PM at:

Fellowship Bible Church
Room 203
480 West Crossville Road
Roswell, GA 30075

We also have a weekly net every Sunday evening at 8:30 PM to practice our skills.

147.060 (+) PL 100 Hz
EchoLink N4SBD-R, Node: 522043

You don't need to be an NFARES member to attend our monthly meetings or weekly nets, but we sure will try to show you the many reasons why you will want to become a member of NFARES.

"Try it...you'll like it"…

- Mike

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eNews can be located online at:
https://www.nfarl.org/enews/eNewsIndex.html

Club Repeaters

Frequency—Description	P.L. Tone	Location
145.470 (-) EchoLink Node 56086 NF4GA-R	100 Hz	Sweat Mountain
147.060 (+) Primary ARES Repeater	100 Hz	Roswell Water Tower
224.620 (-) Joint Venture with MATPARC	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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