

Summer 2019 TOTR

Newsletter Of The Alford Memorial Radio Club

Field Day Frenzy



SSB Phone CW
PSK31 FT8 GOTA

Antenna Launching

Hoisting the Beam

Droid Flying

BBQ, Pudding,

Corn Casserole,

Mac n Cheese,

Fried Chicken,

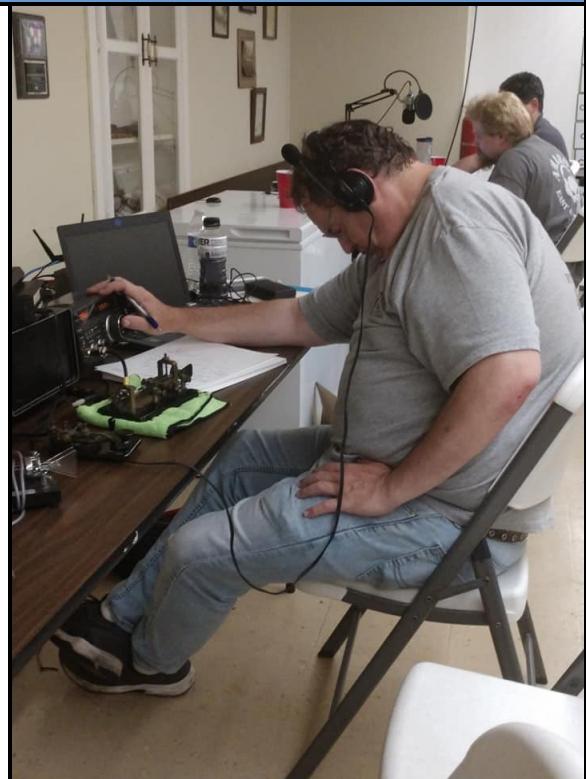
Watermelon Bowl

Fruit Salad

10M, 15m, 20m,
40m, 80M

Satellite Passes

And Cat Naps....



Summer 2019 Contents

President's Notes

Meeting Information

Membership News/ July Birthdays

Instant Recognition– Morse Code

Field Day Pictures

AMRC Officers

Calendar

August Birthdays/ Peach Corner Recipes

Net Numbers// Dog Show



July 2019 President's Notes

Field day was a great success. From our new location, we operated as 5A on emergency power. Jim did a great job on the BBQ and my thanks to all that brought the other food. Being in an air-condition building was a blessing. We appreciate the Stone Mountain Lodge #449 for their assistance. Many of us are gathering at the lodge on the first Saturday of each month to enjoy a great home cooked breakfast. Be sure to join us.

We made just over 700 contacts, with 268 of those being digital contacts, while the CW contacts came in at around 192 and phone contacts close to 267. While the total contacts were not as high as recorded in the past CW and digital were much higher than last year. The GOTA (Get On The Air) station recorded over 100 contacts as well. Great job everyone and thanks for the many hours of work put in by our Field Day crew. It sure was fun.

Next up is Hamfest November 2nd and 3rd at the Gwinnett County Fair Grounds, so mark your calendars. The Hamfest steering committee has been meeting for the past several months. We're very excited about some new strategies to continue to improve our Hamfest. We have some great forums already lined up, but we are going to need help from every one of our club members to pull off the best HamFest in Georgia. And I mean everyone. I urge you to set aside some of your time sometime. The Hamfest work starts beginning on Thursday October 31st and ends 6PM on Sunday November

spend that entire time making this event the best that it can be. This is the fund raiser that supports our club, so please plan to help.

It's time to start thinking about the officers that you want to oversee the Alford Memorial Radio Club for next year. The nominating committee will have a slate of officers selected by the September meeting and the floor will be opened for additional nominations at that meeting. Then the elections will be done at the October meeting.

See you at the next meeting.

Mike, KK4KHS



August 2019 President's Notes

My new issue: Age-Activated Attention Deficit Disorder goes like this ...

I decide to wash the car and start toward the garage, when I notice the mail on the table. I figure I might as well go through the mail before washing the car. I put my keys down on the desk, sort the mail, and discard the junk mail.

As I discard the junk mail, I see that the garbage can is full. I lay the bills down on the desk and pick up the trash can. I figure that since I'll be going near the mailbox while taking out the trash, I may as well pay these few bills first. Now where did I put my checkbook? Ah, here it is! Oops, there's only one check left.

My extra checks are in the other room. Oh! There's the soda I was drinking earlier! Hmm, I guess I'd better take it to the kitchen and discard it.

On the way to the kitchen, my flower arrangement catches my eye and I realize it needs more water.

I pour the soda down the sink. As I wipe a spot off the counter, I see my glasses on the windowsill. It's about time. I've been looking for them all morning!

I guess I'd better go put them away so I can find them again later. But first I've got to add water to my flower arrangement.

Hey! What's the TV remote doing in the kitchen? Aaaaaagh! I'd better take it to the living room, because we'll never think to look for it in the kitchen tonight. I take the remote out to the coffee table and find that the living room is a bit untidy.

I go around arranging cushions and throw pillows. Then I'm off down the hall...what the heck was I planning to do?

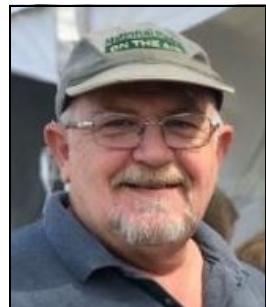
End of day: The car isn't washed, the bills are unpaid, the flowers aren't watered, the checkbook still only has one check, and now I can't seem to find my car keys! I don't seem to have gotten anything done today, but I just can't figure out why because I KNOW I WAS BUSY ALL-DAY LONG!!!

I realize this is a serious condition and that I'd better seek help. But first, I think I'll check my e-mail.

So put on your calendar, the second Thursday in each month, AMRC meeting. This will ensure that you will never forget it.

LOL— Yeah Right.

See you at the meeting,
Mike Smith, KK4KHS



Next AMRC Club Meeting

September 12, 2019

Program TBA

Fellowship Hall Annistown Road Baptist Church
Park in back of the church.

AMRC Repeaters

146.760 – On St. Mtn. approximately 110 ft up the TV transmission Tower. ECHO LINK available on the 76.

441.8125 – on Stone Mountain under the dome.

145.450 – Exchange Park

444.250 – Exchange Park

224.760 – Exchange Park



Repeater Manager Barry Kanne W4TGA

radio.w4tga@gmail.com



HAMS HELPING HAMS
Helping other HAMS get
on the Air since 2017.
Inquire on Groups.io if
you want to help.

AMRC MEMBERSHIP

August 1, 2019=139

We Welcome Our New Members!

[Wayne Robertson K4WK](#)

[Shane Bailey KN4SUV](#)

[Michael MacLeod KN4VSI](#)

Become a member of AMRC or renew by visiting our website <http://totr-radio.org/membership/memapp.htm>

Click [here](#).

**To Make Changes to your membership
(new address, email, or phone number)
please email**

Steve Garrison

Membership Chairman

Steve.n4tty@gmail.com

Update or renew your amateur radio license with the FCC at their website for free <http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm?job=home>. **Click [Here](#).**

Update or renew your ARRL membership at their website <http://www.arrl.org> **Click [here](#)**

Club Dues are Due in January.

Dues help support our repeaters and club activities. Thank you for promptly renewing.

Steve Garrison

N4TTY

Membership Chair



**Happy July Birthday from
AMRC**

JUL 02 WB4WTN Bill Cherepy

JUL 09 KJ4AKA Robert Swanson Jr

JUL 09 KN4BYB Allan Hicks

JUL 11 N2RRF Agnes Stevenson

JUL 12 KI4FWX Amy Hale

JUL 15 KJ4TZP Austin Harris

JUL 16 K4IO Burt Cram

JUL 17 KB4VEO Lori Fain

JUL 17 KK4SPS Martha Ford

JUL 18 KE4SFO George Coletti

JUL 21 WB2PSB Zargon Zargon J

JUL 21 WD4CCZ Charlie Broome

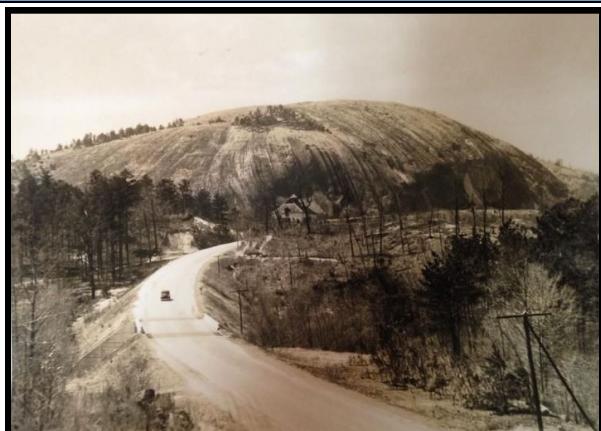
JUL 22 KI4FWY Rhett Aultman

JUL 22 KE4AXE Mary Ann Flack

JUL 27 KB4KFT Bill Perkins

JUL 30 KN4LFJ Jose Gonzalez

August Birthdays Page 12



Instant Recognition Morse Code

by Nancy Kott, WZ8C

Some Hams are content to rag chew at slow speeds and don't have a desire to go faster. This is fine! As long as you are getting on the air and having fun with Morse code, that is what is important. However, many frustrated Hams want to go faster. "How can I increase my code speed?" is the most commonly asked question. After learning the alphabet, Hams seemingly reach a "plateau", a period where they can't make further progress. Usually they can copy 5 or 6 WPM fairly well, but they go to pieces above 7 or 8 WPM. The answer is simple: they have not adequately learned the alphabet. They may deny this is true since they obviously must know the characters to copy 6 or 7 WPM. However, to copy CW at higher speeds requires more than merely recognizing characters: the recognizing must be instantaneous. By instantaneous recognition I mean the ability to recognize a CW character within a half-second after hearing its completion. Bill Pierpont, N6HFF, author of "The Art and Skill of Telegraphy," puts it this way: "Associate the code signal with the printed letter so intimately that when you hear or think of one, the other immediately pops into mind. Instant recognition is what we strive for. We must develop that patient, receptive state of mind that allows us to recognize each character instantly and accurately as soon as it has been completed."

How do you find out if you have instant recognition? One way is to play a code practice program. As each letter plays, can you immediately say or write the letter? Or do you think "ummm...A" or "...dit dah...ummm...A"? If there is a split second delay in your recognition of the letter, then you haven't learned that letter to the point of instant recognition. A split second may not seem like much; it's not going to make much difference when you're going 5 or 10 WPM but when you get to higher speeds it's going to mess you up. The time it takes you to think "...ummm" before recognizing the letter will be long enough to make you miss the next letter after it. It will snowball to the point where you lose whole words. You may get enough of it to make sense of the copy, but you will not feel comfortable chatting on the air. It might discourage you enough to make you want to give up because you feel you are practicing and practicing and aren't making progress.

I'm sure you've heard the stories of legendary CW operators who can carry on a high speed-chat on the air while drinking a cup of coffee and fielding questions from people in the room. These operators are comfortable with the code because it's so familiar they don't have to think about what they're copying. Irene, WO8E, feels she is at a plateau. Even though she has passed the 20 WPM test and has Instant Recognition and her Extra class license she doesn't feel comfortable carrying on a conversation at 20 WPM. We wondered if she had instant recognition, maybe she didn't and this was holding her back. She listened to the code characters one by one and sure enough there are a handful of characters that she has to think about before identifying them! Once you find you don't have instant recognition, how do you acquire it? There are two ways: the hard way and the easy way. The hard way is to proceed as you are doing, eventually instant recognition will come to you. With some people it may take years. The simple way is to go back to the alphabet and learn it as it should have been done in the first place. (con't page 7)

Your first reaction is probably to think it would be a waste of time because you may feel you've already memorized the alphabet. But, you've proved that you don't really know the letters because you don't have instant recognition of them yet. Once properly learned, the alphabet will produce faster speeds quickly and easily. The key is to over learn the alphabet so it becomes so ingrained in your brain that it's second nature. In psychology there is a "Law of Contiguity", which says that if two events occur no more than one-half second apart, the mind associates the two events. This means when a Morse code character is heard and it is followed within one-half second by a spoken letter of the alphabet, the mind will associate the Morse sound with the translation. The association works automatically, as a workman thinks "lunch" when he hears the noon whistle blow. But we quickly forget things learned by this association method, so we need to "over learn" them to make the code a part of our permanent memory.

Over learning occurs when we continue to practice something we feel we have already learned. However, boredom soon sets in when we go over and over material we think we've already mastered. This is why practice sessions should be short, two or three minutes at a time. Short, frequent practice sessions produce more results than fewer longer sessions. Concentrate, stay focused on your goal! Determine what characters you don't recognize immediately after they are played and concentrate on these. You should be able to say the name of the character as the last dit or dah is heard. If you don't, add it to your list. You can relearn the alphabet by using basic code tapes, listening to slow code on the air or even whistling it to yourself. It would be ideal if you could make your own tape concentrating on your problem letters, but don't omit the letters you already know. Remember, our goal is to over learn the code: all the reinforcement you can get is good for you.

The key to success with this method is to say the letter within a half second of hearing it; hearing it and quickly saying it over and over and over. The INSTANT you recognize the letter being played, say it out loud as fast as you can. Use spare moments during the day to whistle the code under your breath and quietly say the letter to yourself immediately afterwards. Do it while driving, sitting at your desk at work (no one will even suspect!), during commercials while watching TV, anytime you think of it. Spending just a few minutes many times a day will work wonders. By tapping out the letter with your finger as you say the letter aloud or whistle it, you involve more of your brain's memory centers. This increases your learning efficiency by reinforcing instant recognition with what is called "motor memory".

Doing a practice session right before you go to sleep has also been proven to help your brain commit material to memory. When you find that you have instant recognition with the letters. Your code speed will increase effortlessly. Then you will get to the point where you can work on having instant recognition with common words.

Nancy Kott

Silent Key

WZ8C





2019 AMRC Officers and Committee Chairs

Mike Smith KK4KHS

President

smithrm71@yahoo.com



Greg Mann KM4RKT

Vice President/ Apparel Mgr

km4rkt.greg@gmail.com



Anthony Acker ND4AA

Secretary



Zack Buersmeyer KN4HKB

Treasurer



Gene Blackburn N4UJ

W4BOC Trustee

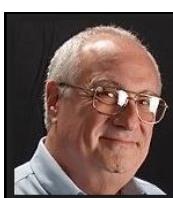
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Zargon W4PSB

Field Day Chair



Gretchen Mann W1MKW

Totr Newsletter Editor

gretchelby@gmail.com



Frank Haynes KV4SP

VE Team Chair

If you would like to serve on a committee or assist a chair person in their work, contact Mike KK4KHS. It is a great way to make contacts and learn. Don't be shy.

August 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1.	2.	3. Breakfast 7AM Hardees Turnip Turck Net 11pm
4. AMRC Sunday Night Net 7pm	5.	6.	7 Emm Comm Rag Chew 8pm	8. AMRC Monthly Meeting 7pm	9.	10. Breakfast 7am Hardees Turnip Truck Net 11pm
11. AMRC Sunday Night Net 7pm	12.	13.	14. Emm Comm Rag Chew 8pm	15.	16.	17. Breakfast 7am Hardees Turnip Truck Net 11pm
18. AMRC Sunday Night Net 7pm	19.	20.	21. Emm Comm Rag Chew 8pm	22.	23.	24. Breakfast 7am Hardees Turnip Truck Net 11pm
25. AMRC Sunday Night Net 7pm	26.	27.	28. Emm Comm Rag Chew 8pm	29.	30	31. Breakfast 7am Hardees Turnip Truck Net 11pm

August 2019 Birthdays

AUG 01 KB4UVV Dave McWhirter
AUG 02 KA4IAO Wes Akins
AUG 03 KI4VWG Janice Smith
AUG 06 Margaret McWhirter
AUG 07 KM4HZP Ron Koon
AUG 08 KM4OXD Raul Perez
AUG 09 KJ4WIB Ann Popoff
AUG 09 K4GZZ Karl Phillips
AUG 10 KM4HJ Peggy Vaughn
AUG 11 KK4NZE Mike Ford
AUG 12 K4SWV John Dreggors
AUG 14 K4MEM Kim Smith
AUG 15 KJ4ZZB Scott Sheppard
AUG 15 KI4SBY Katie McWhirter
AUG 21 KM4KAC Juanita Koon
AUG 22 WD4DUI Rob Bennett
AUG 22 KC4TOW Doris Price
AUG 22 KK4WOD Ray Elliott
AUG 22 KQ4LE Kevin Wood
AUG 23 AB4NX Larry Whited
AUG 23 Vanessa Wood
AUG 24 KE4QCM Tom Fuller
AUG 29 W4WRD Richard Dickson
AUG 29 KK4ZIH Allen Smith
AUG 29 KE4PPF Jenni Bolton

It Does Not Work! **Louis Vermond, VE3AWA**

"I don't know if it works" = It does not work.
"I am unable to test the item." = It does not work.
"I don't know anything about ham gear." = It does not work.
"Powers on." = It does not work.
"Lights up." = It does not work.
"I am afraid to plug it in." = It does not work.
"It made sounds." = It does not work.
"I do not have an antenna to test it." = It does not work.

Peach Corner Recipe.

Ingredients:

2Cups All Purpose Flour

2.5C sugar

4tsp baking powder

1C whole milk

2Tbs canola oil

2 cans water packed pitted tart cherries, well drained

2-3 drops red food dye

1/8 tsp almond extract

Whipped cream or ice cream if desired.

Mix flour, 1Csugar, baking powder, milk and oil. Pour into shallow 3 qt baking dish.

In separate bowl combine cherries food color , remaining sugar, and if desired extract and dye.

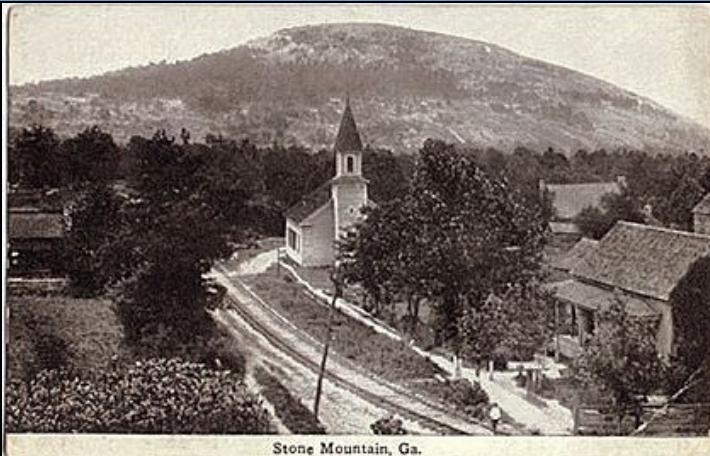
Spoon cherry mixture over batter. Put in pre-heated 375 degree oven and bake 40-45 minutes. Serve warm with whipped cream or ice cream.

Enjoy!

Public Information



Agnes Scott Program will resume in the Fall. Stay tuned for information regarding programs and open house events.



Stone Mountain, Ga.

June 2019 NET NUMBERS

AMRC		DeKalb ARES		Turnip Truck	
Sunday Night Net		RF	Winlink/DRats		
June 2	27	June 2	22	10/9	June 1
June 9	17	June 9	17	7/5	June 8
June 16	17	June 16	8	4/1	June 15
June 23	22	June 23			June 22
June 30	25	June 30	16	8/5	June 29

July 2019 Net Numbers

AMRC		DeKalb ARES		Turnip Truck	
Sunday Night Net		RF	Winlink/DRats		
July 7	25	July 7	15	7/6	July 6
July 14	27	July 14	14	10/7	July 13
July 21	19	July 21	12	8/0	July 20
July 28	17	July 28	12	7/4	July 27

CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ CQ

AMRC Merchandise

Jackets



Polo shirts

Tshirts

Hats

Name tags

Emergency Vests

Contact Greg Mann KM4RKT

km4rkt.greg@gmail.com

Cash, Credit/Debit, Checks
Google Pay, and Apple Pay



**AMRC
Field Day
Frenzy
2019
Good Times
Good Friends**





Do you know?

Tom Rodderick WA4GIM

The photo graph below. Can you tell us??

1. Where is it?

2. What is the significance of this place to the Alford Memorial Radio Club?

Tom asks that answers be ready for the October meeting where ALL will be revealed!

Happy Belated Birthdays June 2019

JUN 02 K4HAP Harvey Pierce J
UN 10 KN4OUM Donna Cable

JUN 11 KI2KER Tina Kiker

JUN 11 KC4YCF Mike Hough

JUN 15 NZ4A Al Hughes

JUN 15 N6OTU Jeri Buchwald

JUN 17 KD4ATL John Morgan

JUN 18 KM4FMT Susan Kimsey

JUN 20 KN4QLZ Saad Alsaad

JUN 29 WB4OZV Mac Russell





8/22/2019-8/25/2019

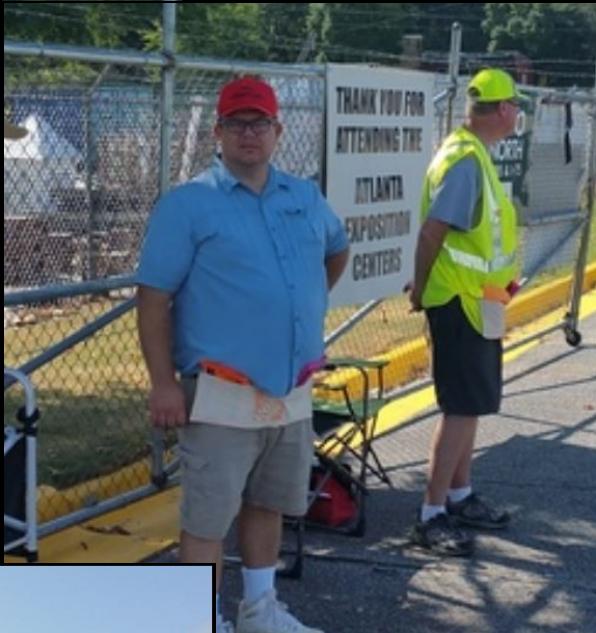
**AMRC Volunteered
and sold tickets to the
Dog Show.**

**Thanks you to those
club members who
worked the gates in
the heat to raise
money for the club.**

**It was a fun day for
all.**

Hot but fun.

Knick Knack
Paddy
whack , give
a dog a bone.
This old man
came rolling
home.



**AMRC
Fund
Raiser**



HRO Atlanta, Georgia
6071 Buford Hwy NE,
Atlanta, GA 30340
Store Hours Mon -Sat
(10am- 5:30pm)
770-263-0700 (Phone)
770-263-9548 (Fax)
atlanta@hamradio.com

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Lilburn, GA 30047
Phone (404)-509-3104
Smithrm71@gmail.com

SERVICE & REPAIR
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Come to breakfast for food & conversation every Saturday at 7am at Hardees located at 5259 Stone Mountain Hwy Stone Mountain, GA 30087.

Find an updated GA repeater list by going to <https://oldtopographer.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?>

ARRL Contest Calendar

September 2019

14-16 [September VHF](#)

21-22 [10 GHz & Up - Round 2](#)

21-22 [EME - 2.3 GHz & Up](#)



W9KIU
KEN IN UNDERWEAR
Ken Law
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Chicago, IL 60631, U.S.A.
5873 W. Overhill Ave.

