

## November 2018

## The Newsletter of the Alford Memorial Radio Club



## Winner Winner Chicken Dinner!



#### **November Issue Contents**

- President's Notes and Meeting Info
- Membership and Birthdays
- DMR Update Barry W4TGA
- Hamfest Photo Gallery
- Famous HAM W6CAB
- Agnes Scott Information
- November Homebrew
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- Nov Calendar/ Net Numbers



### **President's Notes October 2018**

Thank you to everyone who came out to help make this year's Hamfest happen. With the members of both AMRC and GARS, we had plenty of help all three days and most every part went smoothly. Now we can start planning for next year. I hope all of you are on the nice list, so your letters to Santa will be fulfilled with all those new radio toys you've had your eyes on. Please sign up for our holiday club social. Go to www.totr/radio.org to sign up, or click here.

We have a couple of weeks to get ready for helping with the Christmas Parade (December 1, 2018). Please sign up with DEKALB ARES to assist in their event. More announcements will be on the Dekalb ARES groups io page and the Sunday Night Dekalb ARES net. Subscribe to those and check them out for more information. Click <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a> to volunteer for the parade.

Remember to pay your club membership dues, as our membership year ends for everyone on Dec. 31 st. Avoid the rush and get your renewals in early, only \$30 for single or family per year. Alford Memorial Radio Club is very active and has lots of expenses.

Your membership dues may seem like a very small amount when it comes to our

overall expenses, but every little bit helps. Let's shoot for a record number of new members this year. Everyone find someone to mentor as a new ham and get them to join the club. All of you can be an Elmer and I guarantee you that you will love the experience of getting someone started in this wonderful hobby that we enjoy so much.

I want to thank everyone who helped at the Hamfest. For those of you who were unable to help this year, you missed a fun time. Hamfest is where we earn the bulk of our funding for the club year. We're very fortunate to have such an active club.

That's it for this Month!

73,

Mike Smith, KK4KHS



## **AMRC December Holiday Party**

December 13, 2018
7pm
The Fellowship Hall
Annistown Road Baptist Church

Please RSVP by Midnight on December 5, 2018 Click Here for the Reservation Form

The Alford Memorial Radio Club 76 Repeater is located on top of Stone Mountain, approximately 110 ft. up the TV transmission tower. Echolink is often available on this repeater. Since February of 2015 Kenwood commercial grade repeater equipment has been located at Exchange Park.











#### **BREAKING NEWS!** It is on the AIR!

The Alford Memorial Radio Club has purchased the FIRST club sponsored DMR repeater in Georgia.

And as of October 31, 2018, The DMR Repeater is on the Internet!

The frequency is 441.8125 MHz with a +5 MHz offset. It uses Color Code 1.

There are test code plugs on the club's Groups I/O page. More code plugs will be available as members develop them.

## AMRC Membership

## As of Nov 1, 2018 Total Memberships=150

#### **Welcome New Members:**

John Kemker, W5NNH Donna Cable, KN4OUM Greg Kiker, KI1KER Tina Kiker, KI2KER Bill Perkins, KB4KFT

### AMRC MEMBERSHIP

To become a AMRC member, or to renew your AMRC membership, please visit our website

http://totr-radio.org/membership/memapp.htm

To make changes to your AMRC membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.), please email the Membership Chairman-steve.n4tty@gmail.com

You can **renew or update** your Amateur Radio license information with the FCC at their website for free

http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/index.htm? job=home

To update your ARRL information, please visit their website - <a href="http://www.arrl.org">http://www.arrl.org</a>

Membership Chair: Steve Garrison, N4TTY

#### Club Dues Help Support Our Repeaters and Club Activities

Club Membership Renewals are due in January 2019.

## HADDY BIRTHDAY!!

#### From All of Us at AMRC

Birthdays by Steve N4TTY

NOV 04 AB4NW Karen Whited

NOV 06 W4KXM Larry Fussell

NOV 08 KF4PWI Scott Hartlage

NOV 09 AI4UQ Carolyn Olive

NOV 09 AJ4XI Jim Popoff

NOV 12 KB4JHX Buzz Ashby

NOV 12 W1MKW Gretchen Mann

NOV 12 NONCQ Nick Nikley

NOV 14 AB4YL Allison Lynch

NOV 14 KM4ONE William Wisenburg

NOV 15 Elaine Honeycutt

NOV 16 N3ACK John Talipsky

NOV 16 KK4SWJ Jennifer Dreggors

NOV 17 KX4FW Sharon Foster

NOV 19 KI4BQS Kenneth Dalton

NOV 20 K4KQK Jerry Wilson

NOV 21 K0EHL Randy Koehl

NOV 22 KN4OLG Carlene Parker

NOV 24 KJ4QIB Puddin Garrison

NOV 27 KM4FMW Donna McCord

NOV 30 N4XHJ David Mitchell

## DMR has come to Stone Mountain, courtesy of the Alford Memorial Radio Club—W4TGA

Over the past few months interest has been building in the acquisition and operation of a DMR (Digital Mobile Radio) repeater at our primary repeater site on the top of Stone Mountain. This is a new type of technology for our members to use and will provide a comparatively low cost way to get into 21st century mobile communications.

DMR was developed by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) as a way to provide commercial, high quality two-way radio communications while reducing the occupied bandwidth of the radio spectrum. It has been immensely successful in much of the developed world and had found its way to the USA in the form of Motorola branded MotoTurbo. In fact, our base station is a MotoTurbo model that we repurposed to amateur radio use. Here is a photo of the repeater unit:



One of the main advantages for our club members is the low entry cost into this new and growing field. Traditional digital radio systems have come with a price tag that kept many from participating. To layout \$500+ for a HT was a very steep hurdle for most of us to climb. DMR HT models run from \$80 to \$180 and are coming down in cost as time passes. Now digital voice communications is within the grasp of most of our members.

Our repeater at Stone Mountain provides two voice paths, known as Time Slots. Each time slot can support a separate conversation without any interference to the user on the other time slot. And because we have doubled our voice throughput while cutting RF bandwidth in half, we are providing a new technology that offers growth without being concerned about overcrowded spectrum in urban areas like Atlanta.

The repeater has an output of 50 watts into a 4 cavity duplexer which costs us about 10 watts of power with about 40 watts headed to the antenna, under the dome. The same antenna, with a rated 7dB gain, supports the receiver, also via the duplexer and the

effective coverage seems to be very similar to what we have found with our existing 2 meter station at double the power and with a receive antenna high on the TV tower. There is a net gain in perceived performance with digital that will work to our advantage over time.

The amateur radio DMR network is world-wide and tied together by computers via the internet. There are several network operators supporting repeaters like ours around the world. Ours is currently connected to the K4USD.ORG network. Take a look at their website to see the list of available places and networks with whom we can now communicate.

As this is all new to us, we looked to Tom Power (W8RED) who came to our club meeting over the summer to give us a detailed presentation about "What is DMR?" Tom operates some DMR repeaters in the Atlanta metro area and can speak from his experience on the "do's and don'ts" of DMR operation. We followed Tom's model and sourced the repeater from a north Georgia Motorola dealer who also happens to be a ham. Ken Bryant (K1DMR) provided the club with the equipment at a reasonable cost so we could begin our journey.

Tom also is using the K4USD.ORG network to support his repeaters and so we elected to go with them for world-wide network support. This may change over time, but it gave us a solid known base from which to launch our new adventure.

Today, our system is up and operating at full power. It has been under test for about 3 weeks at ½ power to see how far we could reach under less than ideal circumstances. The list below is the current talk group and time slot assignments for our initial launch. We will be looking for member reaction to our initial grouping and anticipate we may change some talk group assignments over time.

The channels with the X are considered "full time" users of the Time Slot to which they are assigned. That is, if nothing else is using that time slot, then the one with the large X is there. Other Talk Groups with the small x are available on a Push-To-Talk basis. That is, if for example you wanted to use the Tennessee Statewide Talk Group (3147) then you can select that by having it as a part of your Code Plug and simply hitting the PTT on your radio.

(**DMR Continued**). If that Time Slot (TS2) is not in use, then you will be switched to the Tennessee Statewide Talk Group and as long as you use the PTT with that group once every 5 minutes, you will maintain that talk group on time slot 2. However, if you stop using that talk group for 5 minutes, the time slot will revert to it's normal use with the Georgia Statewide talk group.

You may select ANY of the talk groups shown on the chart above, but the ones with the small x are recommended by both Tom Power and John Burningham who operates the K4USD.ORG system. So for example, if you have a Contact set up in your code plug for the Massachusetts Statewide talk group (3125) you may select it just like any other talk group on Time Slot 2. The same 5-minute rule will apply.

#### THERE WILL BE A QUIZ AFTER YOU READ THIS. (Just kidding)

This system will teach us a new language with terms such as: Code Plug, Time Slot, Color Code, etc. As the holidays are upon us it may be difficult to find a free 3-4 hours to hold a get together so we may all start speaking the lingo. But we will try.

In the meantime, we have posted a basic Code Plug for the TYT model MD380 HT so you can get started with one of the lowest cost, but reasonably high quality radios.

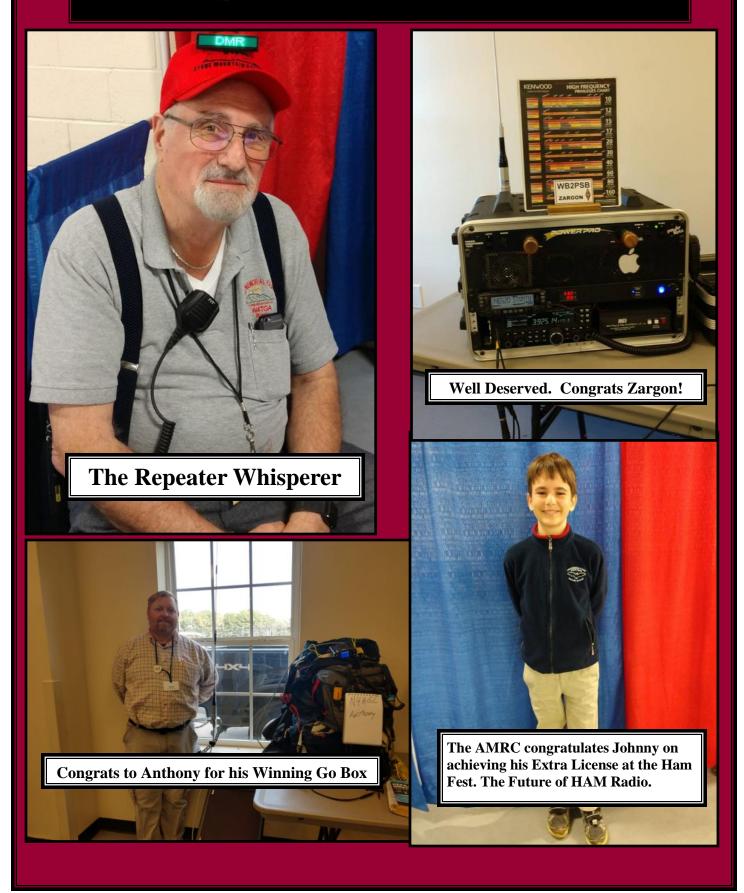
Several of our members have already acquired radios and have been doing range testing of the system while it was in its test mode. Any of them will be happy to share what they have learned and in no time you will be-

W4BOC (rev. 20180922)
Recommended TGs for typical users are marked with an "x" (PTT) or "X" (Full-time), I would also program a DMR simplex and 446.000 analog simplex for a total of 16 channels

	Talk Group	TS	TG#	
	AllCall	1/2	16777215	
x	ATL Metro	1	8 (FT)	
х	BM-NA	1	93	
х	BM-WW	1	91	
x	Bridge	2	3100	
	CommI	I	3777215	
	Comm2	2	3777216	
	Crossroads	2	8710	
	D⊂state	z	3111	
	DEstate	2	3110	
	DMRp USA	I	133	
x	FL state	2	3112	
x	First Coast	2	31121	
$\mathbf{x}$	GAstate	2	3113 (FT)	
	ILstate	2	3117	
	INstate	2	3118	
	JOTA	2	907	
	JOTA TACI	2	9071	
	JOTA TACI	2	9072	
	KYstate	2	3121	
x	Loca12	2	2	
х	Loca19	1	9	
x	Loca19	2	9	
	MAreg	2	3173	
	MAstate	2	3125	
	MDstate	2	3124	
	Mistate	2	3126	
	MNstate	2	3127	
	MTreg	2	3177	
	MWreg	Z	3169	
x	NA-Cati	1	3	
	NET 31001	2	31001	
	NEreg	2	3172	
	NYstate	2	3136	
	OHstate	2	3139	
	PAstate	2	3142	
х	Parrot	2	9998	
	SC state	2	3145	
	SEreg	2	3174	

	SFreg	2	3175
	5Wreg	2	3176
	TACI	2	8951
	TAC310	2	310
	TAC311	2	311
	TAC312	2	312
	TAC313	2	313
	TAC314	2	314
	TAC315	2	315
	TAC316	2	316
	TAC317	2	317
	TAC318	2	318
	TAC319	2	319
	INTEN	2	314710
х	TNstate	2	3147
	TXstate	2	3148
	UA AIII	2	119
	UA A112	2	129
	UA Engl	2	113
	UA Engl	z	123
	UA Geri	2	110
	UA Gerz	z	120
	UA Spai	2	114
	UA Spal	2	124
	USA	2	1776
	VAstate	2	3151
	Wistate	z	3155
х	WW-Cati	1	1
	WWE-Call	I	13
	WWG-Call	I	10
	WWS-Call	I	14

## **2018 Stone Mountain HamFest**















# Famous HAM Vi Barrett W6CAB

Go To https://www.ocregister.com/2018/09/20/one-of-fbis-first-female-dispatchers-continues-to-bust-stereotypes-from-her-fullerton-living-room/

Click <u>here</u> to read the article on Vi Barrett, One of the FBI's First Women





#### **Public Information Steve Vogel W4PSV**

## AGNES SCOTT OBSERVATORY & SHACK OPEN HOUSE

## SCHEDULE 2018-19. Bradley Observatory and Delafield Planetarium 8-9pm

<u>December 14, 2018:</u> Gongjie Li (Georgia Tech) Obliquity Variations of Stars and Planets: Hints on the Formation and Habitability of Exoplanets

January 2019: No Open House

<u>February 8, 2018:</u> Chris De Pree (Agnes Scott College) - Other Worlds in Science Fiction

March 22, 2018: William A. Calder Spring Equinox Concert

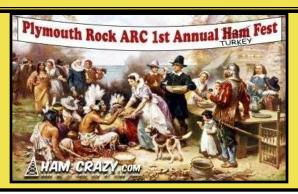
April 12, 2018: Alumna Lecture & Open House

May 3, 2018: Kevin Marvel (American Astronomical Society)

For more information about the Agnes Scott Partnership or events, please contact Steve Vogel at svgec@bellsouth.net. For Directions Click <a href="here">here</a>. Or copy and paste the following <a href="https://www.agnesscott.edu/maps-directions.html">https://www.agnesscott.edu/maps-directions.html</a>







#### Merchandise from Alford Memorial Radio Club

Stop by the Merchandise table at the next AMRC meeting and order your Ham vest, check out the new AMRC polo shirts with club logo and your call sign. See Greg Mann KM4RKT or email him at km4rkt@gmail.com with questions about items, or size and cost.

Greg can now accept Credit/Debit (Including chip cards), Google Pay and Apple Pay to make purchasing your apparel needs easy.

## 2018 AMRC Officers and Committee Chairs

Mike Smith, KK4KHS President smithrm71@yahoo.com

Pat De Loe, N4MPC Vice President patdeloe@gmail.com

Allison Lynch, AB4YL Secretary allison48fan@yahoo.com

Greg Mann, KM4RKT Treasurer /Apparel Manager km4rkt.greg@gmail.com

Gene Blackburn, N4UJ W4BOC Trustee g.blackburn@ieee.org

Jim Penland, N4RAR DeKalb ARES EC

Steve Vogel, W4PSV Public Information sydec@bellsouth.net

Steve Garrison, N4TTY Membership Chairman Steve.n4tty@gmail.com

Jim Penland, N4RAR Counsel

Zargon Field Day Chair

Frank Haynes, KV4SP VE Team Chair

Gretchen Mann, W1MKW TOTR Editor gretchelby@gmail.com



















#### **EXTRA! EXTRA!**

## Peach Corner November Recipe

#### Ares State Net Listings:

## Georgia State SECTION HF NETS!!!!!

- Georgia ARES Statewide 3975 KHz 2200 UTC Sunday K4GK Net Manager
- Georgia ARES Digital 3583 KHz 2100 UTC Sunday K4GO Net Manager
- Georgia Single Sideband Net 3975 KHz 7 PM Daily KE4VPD Net Manager
- Georgia Traffic & Emergency Net 3982.5 KHz
   7:15 Daily KI4NGD Net Manager
- Georgia Cracker Net 3995 KHz
   7 AM M-Sa & 8 AM Sun AF4XZ Net Manager
- Georgia Traffic Net 7287.5 KHz (3587.5 Alt) Mon-Sat; WA0CGZ Net Manager
- Georgia Training (CW) Net 3549 KHz slow speed CW; 9 PM Daily; KG4FXG Net Manager
- Georgia State Net (GSN) 3549 KHz 7 PM & 10 PM Daily; K4GK Net Manager

Georgia ARES Web Site, Check it out!!!

https://gaares.org/index.php

#### Slow Cooker Cream Corn

- 8 ounces cream cheese, cut into pieces
- 1 cup whole milk
- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) unsalted butter
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 2 pounds frozen corn
- Optional: black pepper
- 1. Combine ingredients in slow cooker. Stir to combine.

  Cover and cook on low for 4 hours. At about 3 hours it will completely come together. Allow to cook for the full 4 hours for the best results.
- 2. Add black pepper to taste.

  Serve and enjoy.

Add a little Milk to it if it sits and congeals or will be in the cooker heated for a while.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING! W1MKW- Gretchen Mann

- Monthly club meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup>
   Thursday of the month at 7:00pm
- Every Sunday at 7:00 pm: AMRC Sunday Night Net on the 146.760 repeater.
- Every Sunday at 8:00 pm: DeKalb ARES Net on the 145.450 repeater.
- Every Saturday at 7:00 am: AMRC Weekly Breakfast, Metro Café Diner, Stone Mtn, Ga.
- Turnip Truck Net at 11pm Saturday Night



## **November Homebrew**







Our November Meeting was the Annual Homebrew Meeting. Pictured Top Left, Beau KM4YMI, Top Right Gene N4UJ, and Bottom Left, Steve N4TTY. All were sharing their homebrew projects.

The Totr thanks Judy Kanne, K4JLK, for submitting these photos from the Homebrew meeting.

## Buy, Swap, Sell

Kenwood TS120s - 100 watts ...with power supply. \$100.

Yaesu FT-920 -100 watts - bands 6 thru 160. No power Supply. Internal antenna tuner does not work. \$600.

Contact Karl Phillips K4GZZ

K4GZZ.karl @gmail.com or call cell - 770-617-5723

## **Once Upon A Ham Fest**

Way back in 1960 (I think) my dad's friend Walt Crowe, W4FWH, who was licensed as 4AQ back in 1923 (that's another story in itself), invited me to ride with him up to the Rome, GA hamfest. I had already been to a few hamfests in my short ham career, but I jumped at the chance to go with Walt. He reminded me of Hiram Percy Maxim, with the requisite moustache, pipe, and gray hair, just like the founder of the ARRL.

Walt picked me up one fine Saturday morning and we proceeded to drive to Rome. The hamfest was out in the country at what looked like a campground of sorts, with log cabins and a big barbeque pit. As I remember it, there were no vendors and few if any "tailgaters". I do not remember a flea market" area, either. It was more like a .... picnic! I do remember that there was a "talk-in" station on 75 meters. Most hams with mobile units operated on the 75 meter or 10 meter bands, with big antennas attached to their car or truck bumpers. There were no repeaters back then, so 2 meters was the province of home station experimenters like Walt, who was one of the pioneer VHF/UHF operators in the Atlanta area. The "talk-in" station consisted of a Collins 75A receiver and 32V transmitter with a combined weight of around 200 lbs. which took up most of a big heavy table.

The OT's were drinking beer from Dixie cups and the smell of barbecue filled the air. Suddenly someone yelled "Here come the Alabama folks". A caravan of cars, most with big 75 meter whip antennas, appeared on the road to the camp.

Walt said that a movie was going to be shown in one of the cabins. We went over to watch it, and I found out that it was a home movie made at the Rome hamfest in the 1930's! Lots of shots of old cars, and it looked like they were at the same spot where we were! Several of the people recognized themselves and other hams, both living and silent keys, in the film, and let it be known with loud expressions of acknowledgment. What an experience! After a great barbecue lunch, we headed back home to the (modern) 1960's. Of all the hamfests that I have ever attended, that one stands out as truly unique. Walt W4FWH, ex 4AQ, passed away in the mid 1980's, but I'll be forever thankful that he asked a young 16 year old ham to go to the Rome hamfest.

Gene, N4UJ

ex: K4UJS, KN4UJS, WG6AHH (Guam, not California); also (unofficial) cw operator in the USN aboard ships NHNF and NIIZ (1966-1968). No, I DID NOT have a bug (speed key) license and I was an ET, NOT an RM. Hi!

# AMRC November 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 7AM Breakfast At Hardees  11pm Turnip Truck Net
4 7pm Sunday Night Net 8pm DeKalb ARES Net	5	6	7 8pm Em Comm Rag Chew	8 7pm Monthly Meeting Annistown Road Baptist Church	9	10 7AM Breakfast At Hardees  11pm Turnip Truck Net
11 7pm Sunday Night Net 8pm DeKalb ARES Net	12	13	14 8pm Em Comm Rag Chew	15	16	17 7AM Breakfast At Hardees  11pm Turnip Truck Net
18 7pm Sunday Night Net 8pm DeKalb ARES Net	19	20	21 8pm Em Comm Rag Chew	Happy Thanksgiving	23	24 7AM Breakfast At Hardees  11pm Turnip Truck Net
25 7pm Sunday Night Net 8pm DeKalb ARES Net	26	27	28 8pm Em Comm Rag Chew	29	30	

## **Activities**

Date	Event	Website	Location / Notes		
Monthly	Club Meetings	First Thursday of Month → Second Tuesday of Month → Second Thursday of Month → Third Tuesday of Month →	Atlanta Radio Club www.atlantaradioclub.org (Atlanta) Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society www.gars.org (Lawrenceville) Alford Memorial Radio Club www.totr-radio.org (Stone Mountain) North Fulton Amateur Radio League www.nfarl.org (Alpharetta)		
Second Saturday of the month	North GA QRP Club meeting	www.nogaqrp.org	This small, but growing, group of amateur radio enthusiasts, most of whom are within 90 miles (and more) of Atlanta, are interested in promoting the development of low power amateur radio known as QRP. Meetings are normally held at the <b>Shepherd Center</b> , 2020 Peachtree Rd., NW Atlanta, GA 30309		
Second Sunday Tech SecondSunday.tech Sunday of the month		SecondSunday.tech	2:00 – 5:00 PM at the <b>DeKalb Peachtree Airport</b> . This is a monthly hands-on technical session for hams and people interested in Amateur Radio activities. Check website for any changes in location		

#### **DECEMBER 1, 2018**

Volunteer to help with communications at CHOA's Annual Holiday Parade. To Sign up go to https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx? id=egLBsOBuOkSg6Oq9UyKRzdK8g0vtYnRJtRljuKr-XPtUMIVXWDBUVkxVNlRENEtXOEJTUkhBSzcySy4u Or Click Here.





		<u>octo</u>	BER NETS	REPORT		
AMRC		DeKalb ARES			Turnip Truck	
Sunday Night Net			RF	Winlink/DRats		
OCT 7	27	OCT7	12	9/7	OCT 6	15
OCT 14	30	OCT 14	12	9/7	OCT 13	9
OCT 21	34	OCT 21	16	10/8	OCT 20	12
OCT 28	31	OCT28	14	9/8	OCT 27	11



#### HRO ATLANTA, GA:

#### **Store Hours:**

10AM-5:30PM Mon - Sat

#### **Telephone hours:**

9:30AM-5:30PM Mon-Sat

**LOCAL:** 770-263-0700

**FAX:** 770-263-9548

EMAIL: atlanta@hamradio.com

Address: 6071 Buford Hwy NE, Atlanta, GA 30340



Jim Massara, N2EST

n2est@hamtoons.net

## Law Offices of Ruth Primm and James Penland

Click <u>here</u> for website www.northlakelawfirm.com





-AND MORE!

Robert (Mike) Smith 5191 La Paloma Dr. Lilburn, GA 30047 Phone (404)-509-3104 Smithrm71@gmail.com

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#### **Gentlemen Start Your Engines**

https://www.facebook.com/groups/AMRC.TOTR/ref=br rs

Or Click <u>HERE</u> to see the HAMFest Drag Race.



## ARRL Contest Calendar

http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar Click Here



Join us for
Breakfast
every Saturday am at
7AM . Meet
us at Hardees
on 5259
Stone
Mountain
Hwy, Stone
Mountain, GA
30087. Start
Your Morning