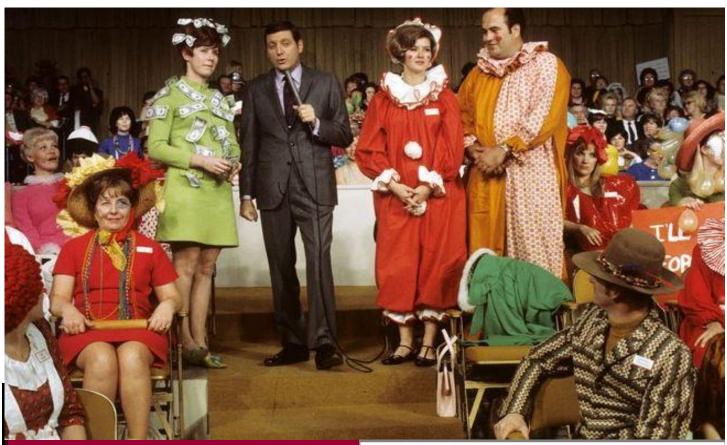


## October 2017

## The Newsletter of the Alford Memorial Radio Club



#### LET'S MAKE A DEAL: CLUB MEETING SWAP MEET



#### October Issue Contents

- President's Notes
- Meeting Information
- Membership Page & Birthdays
- Famous HAM of the Month
- Tip of the Month
- Famvention Program (1975)
- Member Spotlight of the Month
- Buy, Swap, Sell
- The AMRC October Equipment Sale
- October Meeting Equipment For Sale List
- Calendar for October 2017
- Amateur Radio Nets/ Activities



NOV. 4 - 5, 2017 The Largest Hamfest in Georgia!

SATURDAY: 8 AM — 4 PM SUNDAY: 8 AM — 2 PM



The Gwinnett County Fairgrounds 2405 Surgarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville, Ga 30045

http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com

**TAILGATE, FLEA MARKET, FORUMS, DOOR PRIZES & RAFFLE!** 

## **President's Notes October 2017**

As I sit to write my column for this month, I realize that it is autumn. The days are shorter and nights are longer. The weather is cooler, and the tree leaves are already changing colors. As a ham radio operator, what it means to me is more pleasant conditions to devote more time to my hobby. This includes more time for project building. I can also devote more time to much needed antenna work, as I prefer to work on my antennas in nice weather.

I recently had some trees trimmed around the house that have needed it for sometime. That said, I am faced with the fact that my G5RV is broken again and I no longer have any low hanging branches to hold it back up again. I hope to try a different type of wire antenna more conducive to my yard's new facelift. I have been contemplating an end fed wire. While planning to use my HF long wire for some winter operating.

Please remember to mark your calendars for the Stone Mountain Hamfest Nov 3rd-5th. This coming year promises to be our best year in a very long time. The weather man says sunny skies and cool temperatures. Help us begin funding your Hamfest, Buy your tickets now. Go to http://stonemountainhamfest.com/index.php/ticket-booth/ Or click here.

Hamfest planning is in full swing. At this month's meeting we need to finalize all the normal Hamfest positions – Club Table, Parking/Traffic Control, Marking Off the Bone yard, ,Moving Equipment from the Storage Facility to the Fairground and Back, Forums Management, Flea Market Assistance, Kitchen help, Ticket Booth Sales, and much more. These are important jobs that are needed for a successful Hamfest. We need everyone's participation, it is not a job for just a few. We would like to keep the Hamfest a yearly event, but cannot do it without sufficient help. The AMRC thanks you for your time as a volunteer and appreciates all the time you devote to the club. Click HERE to volunteer your time to help out in the tasks of your choice, there are

many options to choose from to make the Hamfest the best ever.

Remember, we need volunteers to help with setup on Thursday at 12pm-5pm and Friday November 3rd around 8:00 AM. Final details will be worked out at the October club meeting.

The ARRL has once again donated four very nice gift certificates to use as door prizes. Main prizes are on order and maybe we will get a few donated door prizes as well from some of our vendors. Please join us for both the meeting and of course we hope to see you all at Hamfest Saturday and Sunday!

Remember to bring your items and money for October's Meeting for the Swap Meet. After discussing the Hamfest, we will be holding a swap meet to sell or swap your own equipment. The Club will also have items for sale from our club equipment and silent key list presented in this newsletter.

That's it for this month. See you at the meeting and again at Hamfest!

73,

## Mike Smith, KK4KHS



## AMRC October Meeting Program

Thursday, October 12, 2017 at 7:00pm

Hamfest Planning and AMRC Swap Meet—Bring your items you want to swap, sell, or give away. There will be club equipment including silent key items for sale.

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.











## NOVEMBER MEETING:

HOMEBREW PROJECTS
SHOW AND TELL



## AMRC Membership

As of October 1, 2017
Total Memberships= 158
Welcome
Rachel Wills (KN4FTZ)
and Shahe Akyan

## 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

#### HADDY BIRTHDAY!!

#### From All of Us at AMRC

Birthdays by, N4TTY

Oct 6 KD4HPD Lee Flack

Oct 7 Diana Diggs

Oct 17 KI4WLW Ed Paschal

Oct 18 N2EST J Jim Massara

Oct 18 WD4IJE Forrest Wilson

Oct 20 N2ART Gail Massara

Oct 21 KM4UJP John Goodon

Oct 22 KE4UXY Watt Grage

Oct 23 W4PSV Steve Vogel



Third Weekend in October –Support the Scouts http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx





## Famous HAM of the Month Tom Thompson W0IVJ Boulder, Colorado

#### Grow Light Ballast RFI Filter Inventor

Tom Thompson was first licensed in 1955 in Odessa, TX with the call, K5BHB. In the 1960s he obtained his current call sign. He worked as an electronic engineer from NOAA where he was involved in instrumentation for atmospheric research but has since retired. He is a lifetime tinkerer. His ham radio interests include homebrew and rag chewing with friends on 80, 40, and 20 meters.

His current amplifier is homebrew and runs a kilowatt with two MRF154 MOSFET transistors. Currently I have a homebrew 40 ft. fold over tower with a 3 element SteppIR yagi. For 80 and 40 meters he has a trap dipole.

With the legalization of marijuana in Colorado, there has been an increase in RFI. Grow lamps are distinctive because they power on and off for 12 hours at a time, and marijuana grow lighting can be powerful enough to produce the same amount of radio interference as a 1,000-watt AM radio station, according to Bill Crowley, the Maine section manager of the Radio Relay League.

One cheaper ballast sold by big-box retailers produced 640 times the level of interference of a legal unit, per Mike Gruber, the league's resident radio interference expert, who performed the test.

According to Mr. Thompson, "The interference can cause a harsh, grating static generated by a lightning strike - except it doesn't stop."

Mr. Thompson was able to find a local grower whose lights were an issue and borrowed one of the lights. He invented a Grow Light Ballast RFI Filter, that solved the problem of the interference. There has since been a

commercial filter made. Thompson said that most of the growers he approached were willing to use the filters.

There are formal complaints that have been made to the FCC and in February this year, and the

the FCC stated they take interference seriously and are looking into multiple Complaints.

Please view his Amateur Radio projects including his Grow Light Ballast RFI Filter at http://www.tomthompson.com. Or Click here.

Source: theDailyMail.com February 2017

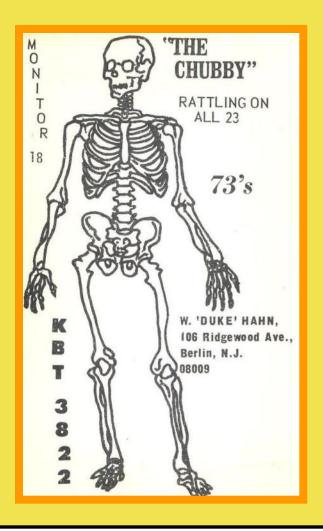
Tom Thompson, W0IVJ is pictured here with his Filter.



### **UP-COMING PROGRAMS FOR ALFORD MEMORIAL RADIO CLUB**

Join us for our weekly breakfast gathering at 7AM most Saturdays at: Metro Café Diner

1905 Rockbridge Rd. Stone Mountain, GA 30087



#### **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 Richard Dickson, W4WRD or email him at richie707@aol.com with questions about items, or size and cost.

If you are interested in being the AMRC's new apparel manager please contact Mike Smith, KK4KHS. Richard has agreed to stay on to train a new manager. Please consider. Richard has done a wonderful job over the last three years, Thank you Richard!

#### **2017 AMRC** Officers. **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 km4rkt.greg@gmail.com

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

Jim Penland, N4RAR DeKalb ARES EC

Steve Vogel, W4PSV **Public Information** svdec@bellsouth.net

Richard Dickson, W4WRD Apparel Coordinator richie707@aol.com

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

Jim Penland, N4RAR Counsel

Al Hughes, NZ4A Field Day Chair

Frank Haynes, KV4SP VE Team Chair

Gretchen Mann, W1MKW **TOTR Editor** gretchelby@gmail.com



















## Tip of the Month by Pat DeLoe, N4MPC

#### Stiffen an Antenna Pole Joint

Antenna poles designed to stack upon each other have a reduced end with a slight taper. This jointing method may have a slight wobble with the antenna poles depending on the mounting and guying method.

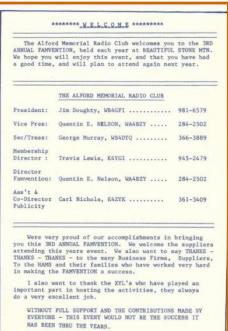
A 2 foot length of angle aluminum centered on the joint and 2 hose clamps will take the wobble out of the antenna pole connection.

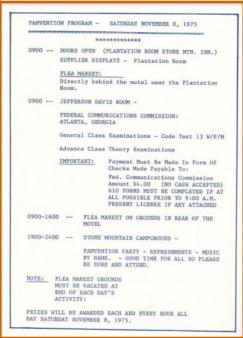


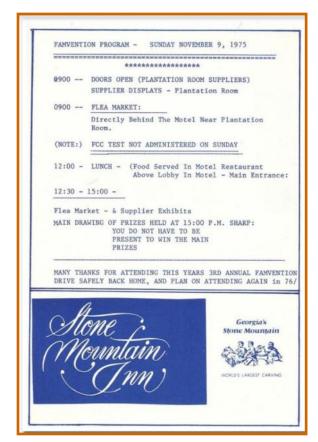


# WITH HAMFEST COMING FAST AND ALL THE CAREFUL PLANNING SWEAT AND TEARS, WE THOUGHT YOU'D ENJOY THESE OLDIES. DONATED BY TOM RODERICK, WA4GIM. (1975)











## Member Spotlight

## **Tom Roderick**

## **WA4GIM**



I was first licensed in about 1962 with the WN4GIM call as a novice and latter as WA4GIM first as a Technician then General class. I was active on HF and some 6 meters until I went into the Air Force in 1971. Back then my station was a Drake 2B receiver and a DX-60B transmitter for HF and a heath lunchbox 6 meter transceiver which I latter used only as a transmitter after getting a down converter for 6 meters and using the Drake for a 6 meter receiver.

From 1971 through 1975 I was pretty much QRT while serving in the USAF first in Thailand during the Vietnam conflict and latter in Dayton Ohio. In spite of being stationed in Dayton for three years I was NEVER able to make the Dayton ham fest. After separation I returned to the Atlanta area and became a member if the Alford Memorial Radio Club in 1975 or 1976 and have been a member ever since. I remained active in both the club and ham radio (mostly on 2 meters) until about 1986 when demands of both work and family again reduced my ham radio activities to zero. I began to get active again on 2 meters and in club activites in 2010 and have been becoming more active over the past few years. Currently I am only active on 2 meters, and 440,

On June 6, 2015 I took and passed my Extra Class exam at the Atlanta Hamfest in Marietta, Georgia. In November I bought a Yaesu FT-450D and a SGC automatic tuner and over several months managed to get an untuned doublet up about 50 feet. The feed line from the tuner is 300 ohm TV twin lead from the last days of Radio Shack. With the SGC tuner I have been able to get on all bands between 160 meters and 6 meters with the exception of 60 meters.

Current project, just beginning, is to use an SDRplay 2 as a second full bandwith receiver with the FT-450D with CAT control of the FT-450D from the SDR and vice versa.





Tom is an active member of the club, attending, presenting at meetings, and working hard preparing and tearing down Field Day (just to name a couple of things). He is reliable and a dedicated team member to the AMRC. He is always a big help to new hams and experienced ones alike. You can often find him on the other end of 2 meters for radio checks or for company, in your afternoon commute. We think he is a gem. Thank you to Tom for all you give to our club and all the members. We think you are irreplaceable and make us better operators through your hard work, generosity, and by sharing your knowledge. Bio info extracted from Tom's QRZ page.

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

#### **Dekalb Ares SET Drill**

#### 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 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

This past Saturday, Dekalb Ares participated in the SET Emergency Drill led by Jim Penland, N4RAR and James Popoff AJ4XI. Congratulations on a successful drill. Thank you to all members who participated and for being active in ARES.





- 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,
- Turnip Truck Net at 11pm Saturday Night



## **\$\$ Buy Sell or Swap \$\$**

**1. Contact Gene Blackburn N4UJ (** g.blackburn@j-omega-l.com ) is selling 7 complete years of QST magazine, good condition, 1964-1968 and1974-1975. 1975 was last year for the "little" magazines (6-1/2 x 9-1/2). Whole box for \$10.



2. Contact Allison Lynch AB4YL Allison48fan@yahoo.com for the following items





A. TDK Lambda HWS Power 150-12/HD 12V Never Used Power Supply Only \$35.00

#### 3. (Below) Swap Shop Item! LDG IT-100 Automatic Tuner

I purchased this from HRO 9/8/17 but realized It only works for ICOM. I can't get up to HRO much because they close at 530 everyday. Its listed on ebay at the moment but I would rather sell it to a local if anyone is interested. I am asking \$150. If anyone has any questions please send them to me directly at Nicholasblubaugh@gmail.com \$150.00.





#### AMRC Equipment For Sale at October Meeting

#### Silent Key Equipment for sale

Sale of this equipment by the AMRC is done solely as a benefit to the families of club members who are now silent keys. The following equipment is currently available. Please contact Gene N4UJ, at 678 227 3401 if you are interested in an item or items. This is my business cell phone, so please leave a message if I don't answer and I will get right back to you ASAP. I have tried to price all items realistically considering age and condition.

Hammarlund HQ-110 Amateur Band Receiver needs work 30 80-10 meters (no WARC bands) @1958

Hammarlund HQ-129X General Coverage Receiver 30

Needs work 0.5-30 MHz. (no cabinet) @1950

Kenwood TS 7950 2 meter transceiver and microphone 25

Needs TU-79 or other tone board to access repeaters.

Otherwise OK.

2 ea. Cetron NOS 572B/T160L tubes. Used in the Heathkit 50 ea. SB-200, Dentron Clipperton L, and possibly other amplifiers.

## AMRC Equipment For Sale at October Meeting pg 2

(2.)

2 ea. E.F. Johnson Low Pass Filter rated 1kW	10 ea.
Old QST magazines two or three complete years in 60's and	
some miscellaneous issues .25/copy	
Closed circuit B/W TV camera and monitor	20
Harris commercial 3-30 MHz. linear amplifier at least 1 kW.	1000
w/ spare 3-1000Z tube. Pick up only due to weight (300#?).	
20 meter wide spaced beam, new condition; I need more info	?
before I can set a price.	
50' tower good condition; due to location must be taken down	?
by competent professional tower personnel	
Several generators up to 12kW	Ask
B & W low pass filter	10
Simpson 260 VOM with case good condition needs some work	25
Yaesu MH-12 speaker mike	5
Radio Shack emergency telephone dialer	1
2ea. AIWA desk mikes with stands	5ea.
Tower beacon and control box	?
Lots of old tubes, parts, speakers, variable capacitors, etc.	Ask
Lots of old commercial FM gear and manuals	Ask

#### AMRC October Meeting Equipment for Sale Page 3

#### Surplus Equipment for sale owned by AMRC

Heath SB-100 transceiver 80-10 meters, condition unknownno power supply. Requires Heathkit HP-23 or similar power
supply.

Drake SPR-4 general coverage receiver, condition unknown.

Needs evaluation to set a price.

Drake FS-4 frequency synthesizer, condition unknown.

Needs evaluation to set a price.

Kenwood TS-820S transceiver, works OK, with MC-50 Mike. 200

Heathkit SB-400 transmitter, 80-10 meters (no WARC) needs 30

work.

Radio Shack phone patch 2

Pair S-2001 tubes (Japanese 6146) condition unknown 2

HAMJAM IS NOV 11, 2017. TO GO TO THE WEBPAGE FOR MORE INF, CLICK HERE.



"Gentlemen...tonight we will begin the Malicious Interference Net with a round of anonymous whistling, followed by free style profanity. Remember...no call signs!"

#### **September NETS REPORT**

AMRO		DeKalb ARES		Turnip Truck		
Sunday Night Net			RF	Winlink/DRats		
Sept 3	28	Sept 3	18	11/7	Sept 2	16
Sept 10	44	Sept 10	20	10/6	Sept 9	21
Sept 17	29	Sept 29	19	10/8	Sept16	15
Sept 24	24	Sept 24	16	11/6	Sept 23	20
					Sept 30	16

## AMRC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR October 2017

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	2,	3	4		6	7
7pm AMRC Sunday Night Net	_'					7am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner
8pm DeKalb ARES NET						11pm Turnip Truck Net
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7pm AMRC Sun- day Night Net		8pm Em Com RagChew Net		7pm AMRC Meeting		7am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner
8pm DeKalb ARES NET		Ragchew Net		Annistown Road Baptist Church		11pm Turnip Truck Net
15 7pm AMRC Sunday Night Net	16	17	18	19	20	21 7am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner
8pm DeKalb ARES NET		8pm Em Com RagChew Net				11pm Turnip Truck Net
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
7pm AMRC Sunday Night Net						7am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner
8pm DeKalb ARES NET		8pm Em Com RagChew Net				11pm Turnip Truck Net
29	30	31				
7pm AMRC Sunday Night Net		8pm Em Com				
8pm DeKalb ARES NET		RagChew Net				

#### **Activities**

Date	Event	Website	Location / Notes		
Monthly	Monthly Club Meetings First Thursday of Month → Second Tuesday of Month → Second Thursday of Month → Third Tuesday of Month →		Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society www.gars.org (Lawrenceville) Alford Memorial Radio Club www.totr-radio.org (Stone Mountain		
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 of the month	Sunday Tech	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.		

#### **Emergency Frequencies Information**

Various frequencies are currently being used in IARU Region 2 to support emergency relief forts.

#### **Hurricane Watch Net**

14.325.00 MHz, 7.268.00 MHz

#### SATERN Salvation ARMY

14.265 MHz, 7.262 MHz

60 Meters may be in use by FEMA for Interoperable communications. **Mexico** 7060 kHz and 7080 kHz to deal with the Earthquake and Hurricane Katia

#### St. Maarten

14290 kHz and 7190 kHz (Voice or PACTOR)

#### **US Wide Area traffic handling**

14115 kHz, 7115 kHz and if necessary 10115 kHz (all CW)

#### **Carribean Emergency and Weather Net (CEWN)**

3815 kHz, 7188 kHz and possibly 7162 kHz



Norcross

| Amateur radio equipment & accessories | Amateur radio equipment & accessor

<u>ATLANTA, GA:</u>

**Store Hours:** 

10AM-5:30PM Mon - Sat

Telephone hours:

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

LOCAL: 770-263-0700

FAX: 770-263-9548

#### **Special Thanks from the Editor to:**

- 1. Steve Garrison N4TTY- Membership/ Net #s/ Bdays
- 2. Gene Blackburn N4UJ- Equipment Sale List
  - 3. Mike Smith KK4KHS- President's Notes
  - 4. Tom Roderick for the old Ham fest Flyers. (Member Spotlight).

The Alford Memorial Club would like to thank **Barry Kanne W4TGA** for presenting in September . We appreciate everything you do for the club.

## ARRL Contest Calendar

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

October 2017

7-8 **EME - 50 to 1296 MHz** 

16-20 School Club Roundup

#### November 2017

4-5 **EME - 50 to 1296 MHz** 

4-6 Nov. Sweepstakes – CW

18-20 Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone



