

# TOP OF THE ROCK

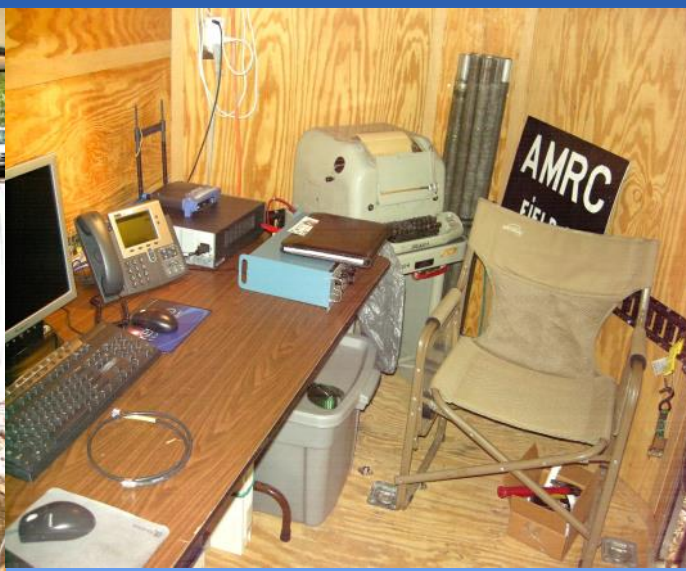
The Newsletter of the Alford  
Memorial Radio Club

June 2015

<http://totr-radio.org/>

Summer time fun, get ready for ARRL Field Day

## Field Day Preview W4BOC Stone Mountain Park



2015 ARRL FIELD DAY

**HAM RADIO**



See page 3 for details!

# Message from the President

**W**ow, the year is rapidly slipping away. Seems like just yesterday we were celebrating New Year's Day, then all of a sudden Memorial Day Weekend roared by and now here we are in June. I must be having way too much fun. I hope all of you have been having just as much fun as I have playing radio and experiencing all the varied aspects of this great hobby of ours.

**S**peaking of fun, in just a few weeks is the biggest FUN event of the year will be happening at Stone Mountain Park. The annual ARRL Field Day event of the Alford Memorial Radio Club will again this year be held in the Events Meadow at the park as it has been for the last few years. Be sure to mark your calendars, if you haven't already, for Saturday and Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>. By the way, mention you're at the park for the Amateur Radio Field Day Event, or something similar, and they will let you in without having to pay the park's daily fee.

**S**etup for the event will start on Friday the 26<sup>th</sup> around noon with the installation of the long wire antennas in and amongst the trees at the Event Meadow. If you are able to come out on Friday we can sure use the help. The more that help the easier it is on the whole group and the quicker we can be finished. Then on Saturday morning the 27<sup>th</sup> a group of us will meet at the Golden Corral on US78 at 7:00AM for breakfast. After breakfast we will head to the park for the main setup event of tents and operating stations. That is a lot of work also, so again we need your helping hands. The club will provide cold cuts for sandwiches and all the fixin's for lunch around noon time for those helping out with the setup.

**A**ctual radio operations start at 2:00PM and runs continuously until 2:00PM on Sunday, so plan to come and have a lot of FUN playing radio. After all, that is what this hobby is all about. Some of you night owls can really help in the middle of the night as those of us that have been there since the beginning start to run out of steam.

**A**t 6:00PM on Saturday we will have a BBQ dinner with BBQ from Community Q in Decatur. All we ask is that each of you that plan on attending the BBQ makes a reservation via our website so we know how much food to order. Reservations need to be made by June 17<sup>th</sup>, but we will be taking late orders at the club meeting on June 18<sup>th</sup>. We are asking for \$5.00 for each adult, age 15 or older, while children 14 or younger eat free. Also plan on bringing a "side" of some sort (iced tea, lemonade, chip, deserts, or salads are best) along with some lawn chairs as seating is **very** limited!

**W**eb site link: <http://www.totr-radio.org/field-day2015.php>

**I**f you've never attended a Field Day Event this is your opportunity to get really involved. And if you're a old hand you sure don't want to miss another opportunity for a weekend of FUN. Everyone can have a chance to sit down at a radio and make contacts all over the country, Canada, and even the rest of the world.

Come on out! You won't regret it.

Thanks and 73s,

*Steve, N4TTY*





# AMRC June Meeting

## *“Field Day 2015 at Stone Mountain Park”*

By Al, Hughes NZ4A  
Field Day Chairman

*Thursday June 18 at 7:30 pm*

*Meet at Shane’s Rib Shack for  
supper before the meeting*

Meeting are held at the Annistown  
Road Baptist Church  
at 4554 Annistown Road, Stone Moun-



2015 ARRL FIELD DAY  
**HAM RADIO**



110 ft. up the TV transmission tower.

The Alford Memorial  
Radio Club 76 Repeater is  
located on top Stone  
Mountain approximately



Temporarily down with  
antenna problems.



new Kenwood commercial grade repeater equipment

In February of 2015 the  
old Micor 145 and 444  
repeaters and the cabi-  
nets associated with  
that equipment were  
replaced with brand



repairs were made to the antenna system at Exchange Park.

In January of 2015 the  
repeater was moved to  
the top of Stone  
Mountain as a tempo-  
rary location while



**Join the 160,000+ Members of ARRL**



# AMRC Field Day 2014 Pictures





# Beginner's Corner

## Getting Ready To Setup and Operate Your First Ham Radio Station

as a New Technician Class Operator!

By Don Butler, N4UJW Hamuniverse.com

(Updated 06-2014)

Now that you have passed that Technician exam and you are the proud "owner" of your call sign, some of you may say to yourself....what's next... or if you are planning on getting that first license and are still in the planning stage and have not already setup your first ham radio station for on the air operation, then here are some good tips and information that you should think about ahead of time.

The first thing you need to know is that ham radio has a looooooong learning curve. You can be a ham for 50 years and still be learning something new every day if you want to. Also know that Ham radio may not be "plug and play" like you may expect! You will have many questions from the start that are not learned in the "books". Get yourself a good local "Elmer" who can guide you on your way!

What ham radio equipment do I need?

What radio should I get?

What kind of antenna?

Should I build an antenna or buy one ready made?

What bands should I operate on?

What are the most popular ham bands for a Technician class operator?

How about a power supply, what do I need?

Why do I need a power supply?

What kind of coax should I buy?

What types of connectors do I need for coax?

Should I operate mobile only, base station, both?

What about lightning protection and grounding?

Operating in an EMERGENCY situation!

What kinds and types of tools will I need?

Where can I get help if I need it?

Hopefully we will attempt to answer these questions and others or at least get you going in the right direction! You will have to do your research as to what rig, what antenna to build or buy, what rating power supply and many other questions that only you can answer. What is right for my station setup may not be the same thing you want or need. If you came here to get brand and model recommendations, stop reading now, but if you want a good general idea of how to set up your first ham station then read on.....

**This article is in no way intended to be all inclusive and would be impossible, but is intended to make you ask yourself questions so you can be a better than average ham radio operator! If you ask yourself a question that you can't answer, then to get the answer....is up to you! Do your research!**

### Introduction

We get many emails from "Newbies" to ham radio who don't have the slightest idea of where to start building their station so they can get on the air and start having fun with ham radio. Many are excited about getting their license but are still in the study stage and start thinking about the future when they do get that license.

Thousands of new hams come from all walks of life with little or no training, background, or related education that can be directly used to help them set up a station. Ham radio can be a very technical "hobby" and knowing some basic electronics, electricity, and some very simple laws of physics will help.

It's not rocket science....just a couple of steps under that! GRIN!

If you don't have this type of background then just a word of warning, you may be considered just an "appliance operator with a license" by some hams. Sorry, I do not intend to make you mad or offend you, or downgrade you in any way, but this is the way some of the old timer hams look upon the "newbies" who have little or no radio related or electronic background and only passed an exam by memory work! Just overlook them and they will go away and learn what you need to know to become a good operator by learning more and more each day about the things you really need to know that was not on the exam.

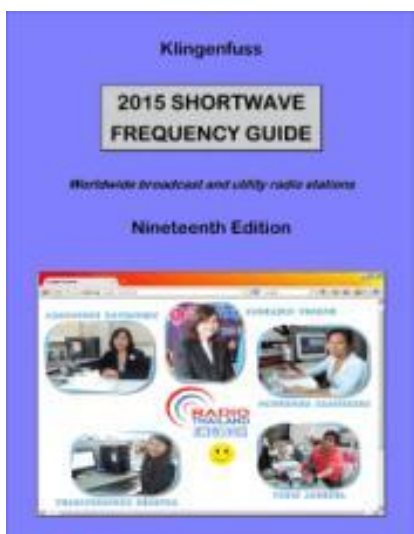
*continued on page 6)*

People with little or no related ham radio background must rely on the instructions that come with ham equipment and the advice of other experienced hams to help them get their station on the air. Sometimes the operator's manual.....is too simple.....or just the opposite....way too complicated if you are not familiar with ham radios in general and the basic hookup procedures to get a station on the air. The "newbie" can be overwhelmed with all of the "stuff" that he needs to know before he puts his station on the air.

Some study manuals do not help very much in this respect when it comes to setting up a new ham radio station because they are designed to help you pass the exam and do not to teach you thousands of other things you need to know that won't be on the exam questions. These "other" things you need to know will come with time and much help from either your research on the internet, books, (yes, you will have to do lots of reading and more study now that you have your license), ham friends, and many other sources. ***"Any knowledge gained by extra study on your part will make you a much better and respected operator and will help you advance in ham radio. We all were not born knowing everything, so it will take time and lots of effort on your part along with the help of others. Don't expect to learn it all from the internet....you will need to buy....yes....buy reference books that are great teaching tools for all the information you may need. Check out some of the reference books and ads on this page....get them...and start learning more!"***

If you don't see the highly recommended **"ARRL Operating Manual"** listed in the ad below...just click on any of the ads and use the Amazon search....you will find it!

This is considered the "Bible" of ham radio! —————>

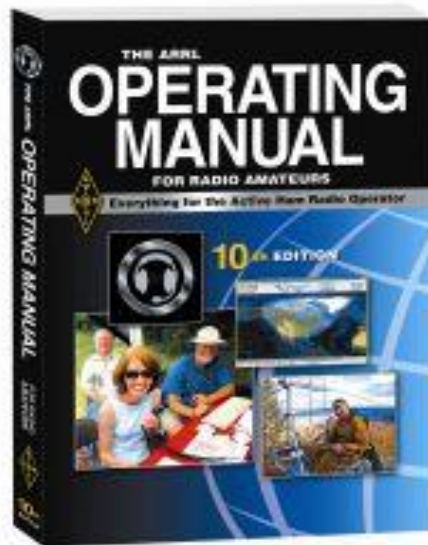


## Another Great Publication

This guide covers the latest schedules of clandestine, domestic, and international broadcast stations worldwide. It was compiled by a new team of international top experts assisted by experienced collaborators and monitors from around the globe.

2015 Shortwave Frequency Guide features a gigantic broadcast frequency list with thousands of entries, and a superb alphabetical list of stations as well. Even more entries cover utility stations worldwide (Red Cross, United Nations and more).

With clearly arranged frequency and schedule tables, year after year, these famous databases are totally revised from scratch. This is the most up-to-date worldwide shortwave radio handbook available today!



## 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 and 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-Sa;	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



# Dipole Chart submitted by Karl Phillips K4GZZ

Half Wavelength Wire Dipole Length in feet (=468/fmhz)

MHz	ft	MHz	ft	MHz	ft	MHz	ft	MHz	ft	MHz	ft
1.8	260.0	3.5	133.7	7	66.9	14	33.4	21	22.3	28	16.7
1.81	258.6	3.51	133.3	7.01	66.8	14.01	33.4	21.01	22.3	28.01	16.7
1.82	257.1	3.52	133.0	7.02	66.7	14.02	33.4	21.02	22.3	28.02	16.7
1.83	255.7	3.53	132.6	7.03	66.6	14.03	33.4	21.03	22.3	28.03	16.7
1.84	254.3	3.54	132.2	7.04	66.5	14.04	33.3	21.04	22.2	28.04	16.7
1.85	253.0	3.55	131.8	7.05	66.4	14.05	33.3	21.05	22.2	28.05	16.7
1.86	251.6	3.56	131.5	7.06	66.3	14.06	33.3	21.06	22.2	28.06	16.7
1.87	250.3	3.57	131.1	7.07	66.2	14.07	33.3	21.07	22.2	28.07	16.7
1.88	248.9	3.58	130.7	7.08	66.1	14.08	33.2	21.08	22.2	28.08	16.7
1.89	247.6	3.59	130.4	7.09	66.0	14.09	33.2	21.09	22.2	28.09	16.7
1.9	246.3	3.6	130.0	7.1	65.9	14.1	33.2	21.1	22.2	28.1	16.7
1.91	245.0	3.61	129.6	7.11	65.8	14.11	33.2	21.11	22.2	28.11	16.6
1.92	243.8	3.62	129.3	7.12	65.7	14.12	33.1	21.12	22.2	28.12	16.6
1.93	242.5	3.63	128.9	7.13	65.6	14.13	33.1	21.13	22.1	28.13	16.6
1.94	241.2	3.64	128.6	7.14	65.5	14.14	33.1	21.14	22.1	28.14	16.6
1.95	240.0	3.65	128.2	7.15	65.5	14.15	33.1	21.15	22.1	28.15	16.6
1.96	238.8	3.66	127.9	7.16	65.4	14.16	33.1	21.16	22.1	28.16	16.6
1.97	237.6	3.67	127.5	7.17	65.3	14.17	33.0	21.17	22.1	28.17	16.6
1.98	236.4	3.68	127.2	7.18	65.2	14.18	33.0	21.18	22.1	28.18	16.6
1.99	235.2	3.69	126.8	7.19	65.1	14.19	33.0	21.19	22.1	28.19	16.6
2	234.0	3.7	126.5	7.2	65.0	14.2	33.0	21.2	22.1	28.2	16.6
		3.71	126.1	7.21	64.9	14.21	32.9	21.21	22.1	28.21	16.6
		3.72	125.8	7.22	64.8	14.22	32.9	21.22	22.1	28.22	16.6
		3.73	125.5	7.23	64.7	14.23	32.9	21.23	22.0	28.23	16.6
		3.74	125.1	7.24	64.6	14.24	32.9	21.24	22.0	28.24	16.6
		3.75	124.8	7.25	64.6	14.25	32.8	21.25	22.0	28.25	16.6
		3.76	124.5	7.26	64.5	14.26	32.8	21.26	22.0	28.26	16.6
		3.77	124.1	7.27	64.4	14.27	32.8	21.27	22.0	28.27	16.6
		3.78	123.8	7.28	64.3	14.28	32.8	21.28	22.0	28.28	16.5
		3.79	123.5	7.29	64.2	14.29	32.8	21.29	22.0	28.29	16.5
		3.8	123.2	7.3	64.1	14.3	32.7	21.3	22.0	28.3	16.5
		3.81	122.8			14.31	32.7	21.31	22.0	28.31	16.5
		3.82	122.5			14.32	32.7	21.32	22.0	28.32	16.5
		3.83	122.2			14.33	32.7	21.33	21.9	28.33	16.5
		3.84	121.9			14.34	32.6	21.34	21.9	28.34	16.5
		3.85	121.6			14.35	32.6	21.35	21.9	28.35	16.5
		3.86	121.2					21.36	21.9	28.36	16.5
		3.87	120.9					21.37	21.9	28.37	16.5
		3.88	120.6					21.38	21.9	28.38	16.5
		3.89	120.3					21.39	21.9	28.39	16.5
		3.9	120.0					21.4	21.9	28.4	16.5
		3.91	119.7					21.41	21.9	28.41	16.5
		3.92	119.4					21.42	21.8	28.42	16.5
		3.93	119.1					21.43	21.8	28.43	16.5
		3.94	118.8					21.44	21.8	28.44	16.5
		3.95	118.5					21.45	21.8	28.45	16.4
		3.96	118.2							28.46	16.4
		3.97	117.9							28.47	16.4
		3.98	117.6							28.48	16.4
		3.99	117.3							28.49	16.4
		4	117.0							28.5	16.4

3.885 120.5

mHz FT  
18. 26.00



# All Hams On Deck!!!

Normally in late June I celebrate my anniversary and travel for family vacations, but 2012 was different. As a recent retiree, every day is a vacation day and in 2012 my spouse was out of the country on family business. That being the case, I thought that I should see what Field Day was really all about.

I have been a ham for 25 years and prior to last year I had participated in Field Day only once — several years ago when my local ARES group gathered at a local park for the day. Therefore I had a very limited file of previous Field Day plans to draw from. My first task was to check out the ARRL® website to learn what the different classification numbers and letters meant. I was very impressed with the extensive array of Field Day information that was available, and the website presented it in clear and simple terms. As I got more comfortable with the rules, I could feel my excitement build and I began to formulate my plans. With a basic 100 W HF radio, portable antenna and emergency generator on hand I decided to operate as Class 1B (one transmitter, portable). To keep it simple I set up at my own house and operated only SSB. Yes, I am considered portable, whether I have hauled my station and accessories 100 miles or 100 feet.

I brought the generator out of storage and located it 100 feet away from my operating spot. The distance of 100 feet was significant — it is the length of my extension cord. The antenna was a new Buddipole. I had purchased it with the intention of using it for an RV station during camping trips. So I placed my rig, microphone and foot switch on my deck and mounted the Buddipole in the dipole configuration nearby. That was my entire Field Day station.

## All Hams on Deck

My first log entry was made at 1815 UTC. I was quite pleased that I had completed setting up and was operating within 15 minutes of the start of Field Day. I was off and running on 40 meters. Not surprisingly the band was saturated with signals. There was not a quiet spot on the entire SSB segment. The tuning dial became an extension of my fingers as I worked it back and forth across the band. Three hours later I took my first break. Operating portable from one's own deck has its advantages. Food and water were right at hand and an air conditioned escape from the ever present Georgia heat and humidity were just a few feet away in my living room.

## Round Two

After being energized by the coolness of conditioned air and nourished from a quickly prepared meal of macaroni and cheese, I was back on the air. The 40 meter band was still packed from end to end with the sound of "CQ Field Day." I kept my antenna configuration the same. My fingers were repositioned back on the dial as I grabbed my log and pencil and listened for a new call sign. I worked the 40 meter band for a few more hours before I called it a night.

## Easy Up, Easy Down

The next day brought more of the same. With occasional breaks, I kept a steady but casual and relaxing pace going until my 24 hour operating period was over. Packing up was as easy as setting up; 15 minutes and my teardown was complete.

I counted up my log sheets and found that I had made 74 contacts. While the "point hounds" may not be impressed because I didn't establish a heart pounding contact per minute rate, copy an ARRL bulletin, invite a dignitary or send a message to my section manager, I did accomplish my goal. I planned and successfully executed a portable Field Day station, made numerous contacts and had a blast with this wonderful hobby called Amateur Radio. I've already checked next year's calendar and confirmed that there won't be a conflict with our anniversary. Now I just have to wait through a whole year's anticipation!

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*Charlie Pitchford, N4QET, was first licensed as a Novice in 1986. As an Amateur Extra class license holder, he enjoys rag-chewing and chasing DX on the HF bands. Charlie is retired following a 29 year career with the YMCA of Albany, Georgia and in The State YMCA of Georgia. He serves as assistant emergency coordinator for Bartow County ARES and also volunteers with the American Red Cross Disaster Services. Charlie can be reached at 281 Holly Springs Rd NE, White, GA 30184, [cpitchford3@yahoo.com](mailto:cpitchford3@yahoo.com)*



# Tips for Public Service Communicators

## After Nepal earthquake, people turn to ham radio!!!!

An old tech shows its resilience, while new tech reveals its problems.

On Saturday, Nepal was shaken by a massive earthquake that registered a 7.8 on the Richter scale, causing widespread destruction [in areas of dense population](#), and preventing aid workers from reaching more isolated villages in the mountainous regions. [As of Tuesday](#), at least 5,000 people were dead and at least 10,000 were injured. Hundreds of thousands of people have been left homeless. With any natural disaster, communication can often become a matter of life and death, and if phone lines are broken and cell towers

crumble, relaying messages to the outside world and coordinating rescue efforts becomes that much more difficult. Add to that the fact that [Nepal's government is woefully unprepared](#) to handle such a humanitarian crisis, and chaos reigns.

Still, some volunteers are trying to impose order on the chaos. After the quake, which shook cities in India as well as Nepal, volunteer ham radio operators from India traveled to the region to relay messages from areas whose communications infrastructure is broken or overloaded. [Ham radio, also called amateur radio](#), is a means of sending and receiving messages over a specific radio frequency, and it is often used in disaster situations because it operates well off the grid; transceivers can be powered by generators and set up just about anywhere.

Amateur radio has taken a back seat with hobbyists in recent decades as other means of wireless communication have become cheaper and easier for people to use (you don't need a special license from the FCC to operate a cell phone, although sometimes it seems like we'd be better for it if that were the rule). The decline in participation rates is unlikely to change substantially in the US, and the [Times of India noted](#) that awareness about ham radio is still low in India and nearby areas. Still, it has proven to be effective as a means of communication in Nepal in recent days. Ars spoke to Jim Linton (whose call sign is VK3PC), the Chairman of the [International Amateur Radio Union's \(IRAU\) Region 3 Disaster Communications Committee](#), to get a sense of what kind of information ham radio operators are getting (Region 3 encompasses the vast Asia-Pacific area; Linton is based in Australia). Throughout the day, Linton received updates from Jayu Bhide (call sign VU2JAU), who is the National Coordinator for Disaster Communication for the Amateur Radio Society of India. Bhide was in frequent contact with people on the ground in the mountainous regions of Nepal that had been hit the hardest.

As of today, Bhide told Linton, rescue teams are still struggling to find missing people trapped in the ruins. In one case, a hotel housing four doctors was demolished during the quake. Only one of the doctors survived, and he stationed himself in a Red Cross facility across the street from the demolished hotel. "The flights from Kathmandu airport were delayed and people were stranded [in] several places," Bhide added. "More than 17 Red Cross camps were set up."



(Continued on page 10)



# Tips for Public Service Communicators (cont'd)

(Continued from page 9)

"The situation is still one of chaos," Linton wrote to Ars this morning. "The Government of Nepal has asked all people to stay out of buildings due to them being unsafe." As of Tuesday morning, four amateur radio operators from India's Gujarat region and four others from North Delhi have left to set up stations at critical places in Nepal. Three operators, including Bhide, said they are setting up High Frequency and Very High Frequency stations on the border between India and Nepal.

Amid the chaos, many Nepalese have struggled to get messages out to family members in other countries. The *Los Angeles Times* noted that the disaster has worsened the economic woes of an already poor country, which has long depended on foreign aid and remittances from family members working outside of Nepal. Bhide told Linton on Tuesday that much of his work had been to relay inquiries from family members abroad looking for news of their families. "Many messages piled up to pass on to Nepal to find missing people," Bhide reported.

"Many more HAMS were busy passing messages as well as forwarding them to relatives," Linton wrote to Ars.

According to a [January 2015 report from the Nepal Telecommunications Authority](#) (PDF), only three percent of Nepal's population relied on fixed telephony service like Public Switched Telephone Network (PTSN) or [Wireless Local Loop \(WLL\)](#) lines. By contrast, 86 percent of the population said they relied on mobile phone service to communicate. 39 percent of the population reported that they had Internet access. It is unclear how much of that communications infrastructure remains intact.

Bhide noted that "a request was also made to Ministry of Nepal to make mobile roaming free so that Indian mobiles as well as other mobiles can be used. It will reduce the load on wireless communication." On Tuesday, he added, "The mobile network and some telephones lines were restored along with power in some places."

## **New tech, same problems**

For areas where Internet is still accessible, some solutions to determine the safety of family members have surfaced. The [International Red Cross quickly set up a website](#) on which family members outside of the disaster area can report people for whom they are still searching. People who are safe in Nepal can report their safety on the site, called "[Restoring Family Links](#)," as well.

Facebook also dusted off its "Safety Check" feature, [announced in October 2014](#), which asks people who are ostensibly in an affected area to confirm that they're safe in the event of a natural disaster so that friends and family around the world won't worry.

Still, this feature, while well-intentioned, is not a perfect solution to distributing information—issues about Internet access aside.

I personally noticed the feature on Sunday when I got a notice in my feed alerting me that Sonia Paul, a former colleague of mine who has been working in India for a couple of years, was "marked safe." She had listed [Lucknow, India—a city that did experience some destruction from the quake—as her location](#), but when I messaged her a day later, she said that she'd been working in Mumbai and never was in any danger.





# Public Service Communicators

DeKalb ARES Participates in Public Service Exercise Members of DeKalb County ARES participated in the state-wide Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV) Drill held at Stone Mountain Park from May 5 – 8. The purpose of this exercise was to test the capabilities of the MCV as well as the ability of the crew to use them. Many agencies brought their MCV's including Civil Air Patrol, National Guard and the GSP Aviation Unit brought their Bell 407 Helicopter to participate. Six (6) Teams were assigned with 4-5 MCV's. DeKalb County was on team 5. DeKalb County Police sent their MCV as part of this exercise. The personnel on the DeKalb County MCV team included: • Tactical dispatch team personnel consisting of 911 center communication officers; • Multiple members who are trained in all functions/operations of the MCV including COML leadership and COMT technical operations; • Personnel who are licensed as an Amateur Radio operator or attachment of volunteer ARES members to assist the MCV and its members with ARES related tasks. That's us folks!! Additionally, there was all the equipment needed to support these people, including: • Tools kits and supplies to troubleshoot and make necessary simple repairs to radio, telephone and computer equipment. Examples are fuses, connectors, plugs, testing equipment (phone test sets, probe tracer kits, punch down tools, etc.) and radio programming software/cables. • Tactical or deployable equipment such as repeaters, gateways, radio caches, tripod antennas, data networks.



The amateur station located on the MCV consists of a Yaesu FT-857D HF/VHF transceiver. Additionally, there is a Signalink interface and a Kantronics KPC3+ to support digital operations. Each ham operator brought their own computers to hook to this equipment. In preparation for this exercise, Barry W4TGA & George AI4UR installed a Little Tarheel antenna on the roof of the MCV, significantly upgrading its HF capability. The installation was quite a task as it involved mounting the antenna on the roof of the vehicle and running cable down inside the walls of the vehicle. The installation took 3 days. There were a few scrapped knuckles and choice words resulting from this task. All the ARES members involved in this had to have general class licenses or better because of the requirement to use HF communications for some of the tasks. I am proud to say that we successfully completed all tasks assigned to us!

Here are some of the things we were asked to do: • Produce a weather report for the team leader (COM-L) including a weather map. This was obtained by using Winlink to get what is called a grib file from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). A GRIB file contains a weather map which can be displayed on the computer's monitor. • Set up a D-RATS reflector to allow a members of the group to chat. • Simulate a complete failure of all other communications equipment, phones, tactical radios, satellite communications and use the amateur radio operators to provide all communications with incident command. The participants were provided free meals at the Evergreen Lodge in Stone Mountain. For the hams, this was probably the most exciting part! All in all, this exercise allowed ARES members to practice their incident command system skills as well as being great fun.

The participants in the 2015 exercise were: AI4UQ, Carolyn Olive AI4UR, George Olive – EC DeKalb County ARES KD4EHA, John Altizer KJ4ZZB, Scott Sheppard, AEC N4MPC, Pat DeLoe N4TTY, Steve Garrison - AEC Digital Communications & President AMRC W4TGA, Barry Kanne George Olive – EC, DeKalb ARES Fun Fact:

The MCV's top speed is 55 MPH.





# AMRC Membership Page

## New AMRC Members since May

**KM4KNU Nicole**  
**KM4KNV Chaz**  
**KM4EQS Bill**  
**WB2PSB Zargon**

**New Members: 4**

**Total Members as of June 1, 2015:**  
**123**

**Join us for our weekly  
breakfast gathering at  
7AM most Saturdays at:**

**Metro Café Diner**  
1905 Rockbridge Rd. *Stone Mountain, GA 30087*

**The following members are  
celebrating birthdays  
in June:**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!**  
**From All of Us at ARMC**

K4HAP Harvey  
W4MZQ Butch will be 99 yrs.  
(and Proud of it)  
KM4BHK Bob  
KM4FPO Michelle  
KM4DEY Gillian  
W4ETN Bob  
KC4YCF Mike  
N8UR John  
N6OTU Jeri  
KK4PPY Steve  
NZ4A Al  
KE4TUW Larry  
KD4ATL John  
KI4UNJ Jim  
KM4FMT Susan  
KK4HUH Patrick  
KJ4VV Alejandro  
WB4OZV Mac  
N4BFR Jim

## AMRC MEMBERSHIP

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

[http://totr-radio.org/membership\\_files/membership.htm](http://totr-radio.org/membership_files/membership.htm)

To make changes to your AMRC membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.), please email the Membership Committee - [steve.n4tty@gmail.com](mailto: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 - <http://www.arrl.org>

**Membership Chair:** Steve Garrison [steve.n4tty@gmail.com](mailto:steve.n4tty@gmail.com)



## ARRL CONTESTING INFO

( All names of contests are links in .pdf version)

### June

13-15 [June VHF](#) <http://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>

21 [Kids Day](#) <http://www.arrl.org/kids-day>

27-28 [Field Day](#) <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

### July

11-12 [IARU HF World Championship](#)

### JUNE VHF: Mission & Objective

For amateurs in the US and Canada (and their possessions) to work as many amateur stations in as many different 2 degrees x 1 degree Maidenhead grid squares as possible using authorized frequencies above 50 MHz. Stations outside the US & Canada (and their possessions) may only work stations in the US (and its possessions) and Canada. Stations in KH0-9, KL7 & KP1-KP5, CY9 and CY0 count as W/VE stations and can be worked by DX stations for contest credit.

KIDS DAY: June 21st. ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grandkids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public! Kids Day is designed to give on-the-air experience to youngsters and hopefully foster interest in getting a license of their own. It is also intended to give older hams a chance to share their station and love for Amateur Radio with their children.

## Stay In The Loop!!!!

Get email notification from you clubs events, updates, announcements. Sign up for these links:

<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/alfordmemorialradioclub/info>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AMRC.TOTR/>

<https://www.facebook.com/DekalbCountyEMA?fref=ts>

<https://twitter.com/StoneMtnRadioCl>

## HAMFEST CALENDAR

### Southeast US

06/06/2015 | [\(Atlanta Ham festival\)](#)

Location: Marietta, GA Type: ARRL Convention pending Executive Committee approval Sponsor: Atlanta Radio Club & Kennehoochee Amateur Radio Club Website: <http://www.atlantaHamfest.com>

07/25/2015 | [Cullman ARC Hamfest](#)

Location: Cullman, AL Type: ARRL Hamfest Sponsor: Cullman Amateur Radio Club Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Cullman-ARC>

07/25/2015 | [Bryon Tailgate](#)

Location: Byron, GA  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Central Georgia ARC  
Website: <http://www.wa4ort.com>

08/15/2015 | [Alabama State Convention \(Huntsville Hamfest\)](#)

Location: Huntsville, AL  
Type: ARRL Convention  
Sponsor: Huntsville Amateur Radio Club  
Website: <http://www.hamfest.org>

HAMFEST/CONVENTION

09/12/2015 | [Hamfest Augusta](#)

Location: Grovetown, GA  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Amateur Radio Club of Augusta  
Website: <http://www.facebook.com/hamfestaugusta>

### **HAMFEST/ CONVENTION**

**11/07-08/2015 | [Georgia Section Convention \(Stone Mountain Hamfest\)](#)**

**Location:** Lawrenceville, GA

**Type:** ARRL Convention

**Sponsor:** Alford Memorial Radio Club

**Website:** [http://](http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com)

[www.stonemountainhamfest.com](http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com)



## Up Coming Ham Radio Events

### **SUPER IMPORTANT, MUST READ**

**Peachtree Road Race** volunteers needed. Volunteers still needed for Peachtree Road Race. Spots vary from very active (you'll move around a lot and) to pretty much being in one place. If you want to come play radio early on July 4, email Chris at [KS4MM@arrl.net](mailto:KS4MM@arrl.net) and he'll get you the details. [http://www.doitsports.com/volunteer2/jobs-by-date.tcl?event\\_id=191810](http://www.doitsports.com/volunteer2/jobs-by-date.tcl?event_id=191810)

**Also we are working on planning for the 2015 Stone Mountain Ham-fest.** If you want to be more involved and have more responsibility, let us know. We have lots that needs to be done and we are trying to spread the wealth to allow more member involvement. Email any club officer for more information. July 4 from about 5:30 am to 1:00 pm. All sorts of positions available.

### **!!!!!!Final Reminder!!!!!!**

As a reminder, the current General Class License Exam Question Pool will expire this June 30th. The new General Question Pool will be used for all General Class License Exams beginning July 1st. If you have been studying the 2011 - 2015 General Class Question Pool, you will want to take your General Class License Exam between now and June 30th.

## **Alford Memorial Radio Club supported the Color Vibe Race in the City of Stone Mountain on Saturday May 16th.**

AI4UR George Olive  
W4TGA Barry Kanne  
N4TTY Steve Garrison  
KM4EQS Bill Santangelo  
KM4JKN Pamela Meridy  
WA4VFH Ed Honeycutt  
KK4MNU Rick Pawlowskie  
KJ4TZR Paul & Diana  
Hollis  
K4GZZ Karl Phillips  
KK4KHS Mike Smith



## AMRC Officers and Committee Chairs

Steve Garrison, N4TTY  
President



Mike Smith  
Vice President



Dave Mc Whirter  
Secretary



Barry Kanne, W4TGA  
Treasurer



Chris Balch KS4MM  
Hamfest Chairman



Gene Blackburn N4UJ  
W4BOC Trustee



George Olive .. AI4UR  
DeKalb ARES EC



Steve Vogel W4PSV  
Public Information Officer



Richard Dickson W4WRD  
Apparel Mgr



Chris Balch KS4MM  
Counsel

Steve Garrison, N4TTY  
Membership Chair

Al Hughes NZ4A  
Field Day Chair

Frank Haynes, KV4SP  
VE Team Chair



# EXTRA! EXTRA!

## Opportunities

**Peachtree Road Race** volunteers needed. July 4 from about 5:30 am to 1:00 pm. All sorts of positions available. [http://www.doitsports.com/volunteer2/jobs-by-date.tcl?event\\_id=191810](http://www.doitsports.com/volunteer2/jobs-by-date.tcl?event_id=191810)

**NORTHWEST DIGITAL NET:** The Northwest District holds a digital net every Tuesday evening at 7:30pm taking check-ins on 3.583 with PSK125 centered between 1000 and 1500 depending on nearby traffic. Look for NCS to be call sign W4NWG.

## 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-Sa; 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

- ◆ Monthly club meeting is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month at 7:30pm **June is 3rd Thursday only 2015 due to vacation Bible School.**
- ◆ 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 Every Saturday Night at 11pm.

The meeting minutes will be available for review at the Jun 18th, 2015 meeting at the Annistown Road Baptist Church.

## Upcoming Programs

June 18th	Field Day
July 9th	Go Kits, DeKalb ARES
August 13th	TBA
September 10th	Home Brewed Hand Made Ham Stuff
October 8th	Stone Mountain Hamfest
November 12th	TBA
December	Christmas Party

Club Members Want, Sell, Buy Items.

- Mirage 144-148 2in-150out B215 for sale. KK4KHS

This section will be for club members who would like to list some items which seem to be cluttering up their shack and aren't using. Also if there is something your looking for it can be listed here also. Please send me an email by the 25th of the month. [KK4KHS@arrl.net](mailto:KK4KHS@arrl.net)



## "AMRC NETS"

\*

AMRC		DeKalb ARES			Turnip Truck	
Sunday Night Net			RF	Winlink		
May 3	20	May 3	16	13	May 2	12
May 10	24	May 10	15	12	May 9	12
May 17	25	May 17	17	13	May 16	19
May 24	24	May 24	20	12	May 23	19
May 31	39	May 31	23	13	May 30	13

## ARMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JUNE 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6 7:00- 8:30 am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner
7 7 pm ARMC Sunday Night Net  8 pm DeKalb ARES Net	8	9	10	11	12	13 7:00- 8:30 am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner
14 7 pm ARMC Sunday Night Net  8 pm DeKalb ARES Net	15	16	17	18 5:00 - 6:30 PM Dinner at Shane Rib Shack 7:30-9:30pm ARMC Meeting	19	20 7:00- 8:30 am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner
21  7 pm ARMC Sunday Night Net  8 pm DeKalb ARES Net	22	23	24	25	26 <b>Field Day Prep</b> Antenna Setup for Field Day. Stone Mtn. Park Events Meadows	27 <b>Field Day</b>  7:30- 8:30 am Breakfast at Golden Corral
28 <b>Field Day</b> 7 pm ARMC 2m Net 8 pm DeKalb ARES Net	29	30	1	2	3	4 7:00- 8:30 am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner



Metro Testing Sessions	Ham Exam Results	Metro Club Meetings
<p><i>AMRC publishes Metro Atlanta VE exam schedules as a service and is not responsible for errors or changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions. Find additional sessions online at <a href="http://www.arrl-ga.org">http://www.arrl-ga.org</a>.</i></p> <p><b>First Sunday, ODD Months</b>  2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, &amp; Nov)  VEC: WCARS  Braselton Public Utility Building  4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA  Roger Gibson, WB4T  (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560  <a href="mailto:w4rlg@bellsouth.net">w4rlg@bellsouth.net</a></p> <p><b>First Sunday, EVEN Months</b>  2 pm (Feb, Apr, Jun, Aug, Oct, Dec)  VEC: WCARS  Hall County EOC  470 Crescent Dr. Gainesville, Ga.  Perry Roper, KO4RD  (770) 536-3056</p> <p><b>Second Saturday</b>  10:00 AM  Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center  13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004  Ian Kahn, KM4IK  E-mail: <a href="mailto:km4ik.ian@gmail.com">km4ik.ian@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Second Saturday, ODD Months</b>  VEC: ARRL  8:30 a.m.  GMC Community Ctr  5325 Leon St.  Stone Mountain, GA  Frank Haynes, KV4SP  (678) 467-3712</p> <p><b>Second Sunday</b>  VEC: W5YI  2 pm  Gwinnett County Fire Station #5  3001 Old Norcross Road  Duluth, GA 30096  Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR  Email: <a href="mailto:exams@gars.org">exams@gars.org</a></p> <p><b>Third Saturday</b>  VEC: W5YI  2 pm (Except December)  Lifeway Church  1654 Atlanta Highway #109  Steve Donellan, N5SMD  (404) 520-0368  Email: <a href="mailto:n5smd@comcast.net">n5smd@comcast.net</a></p> <p>(continued in next column)</p>	<p>We had a very good test session on May 9th, 2015.</p> <p><b>3 individuals tested</b></p> <p>3 - New Technicians</p> <p>And then 1 of those 3 upgraded to General</p> <p><u>Thanks to the following VE's.</u></p> <p>Frank, KV4SP  Jeff, KC4CKN  Ed, WA4VFH  Jere, K4FUM</p> <p>Thanks &amp; 73,</p> <p><b>We are always looking for operators for the various hospital stations. If you are interested in taking on a hospital assignment, please contact Barry Kanne (W4TGA) via email at <a href="mailto:w4tga@arrl.net">w4tga@arrl.net</a> for details. This will require your ability to operate the station for drills, exercises as well as real events. Barry Kanne, W4TGA, Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator - Public Health Georgia Amateur Radio Emergency Service.</b></p> <p><b>Fourth Tuesday</b>  ARRL VEC  7 pm @ United Way Service Center  6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville  Jessie Clower, KB4WFK  (770) 942-6466</p> <p><b>Fourth Sunday</b>  2:30 pm Georgia Tech  Van Leer Elec. Building  Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr.  See <a href="http://www.w4aql.com">www.w4aql.com</a>  Alexander G. Carver  (404) 894-2936  <a href="mailto:acarver@ece.gatech.edu">acarver@ece.gatech.edu</a></p>	<p><b>First Tuesday</b>  Kennehoochee ARC  Downtown Marietta  Fire Station #1, Training Room  112 Haynes Street  Marietta, Georgia 30060  Meeting begins at 7:00pm  Talk In 146.880(-)</p> <p><b>First Thursday</b>  Atlanta Radio Club  Georgia Red Cross HQ  1955 Monroe Dr., Atlanta  Meeting is at 7:30pm  Talk In -146.820(-)  N.E. Georgia ARC  Commerce Public Library  Meeting is at 6:30pm  Talk In - 147.225(+)  PL 123.0</p> <p><b>Second Monday</b>  Georgia Tech ARC  Room W218  Van Leer Electrical  Engineering Bldg.  Georgia Tech Campus  Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p><b>Second Thursday</b>  Alford Memorial Radio Club  Annistown Road Baptist Church  Intersection of Annistown Road &amp; Spain Road, Snellville  Dinner at 6:00pm  Meeting at 7:30pm  Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p><b>Second Saturday</b>  North GA QRP Club  Board Room of The  Shepherd Center at  2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta  at 10:00 AM</p> <p><b>Third Tuesday</b>  North Fulton Amateur Radio  League  Alpharetta Recreation &amp; Parks  Dept.  Alpharetta Adult Activity Center  13450 Cogburn Road  Alpharetta, GA 30004  meeting at 7:30pm  Talk In - 145.47(-)</p>



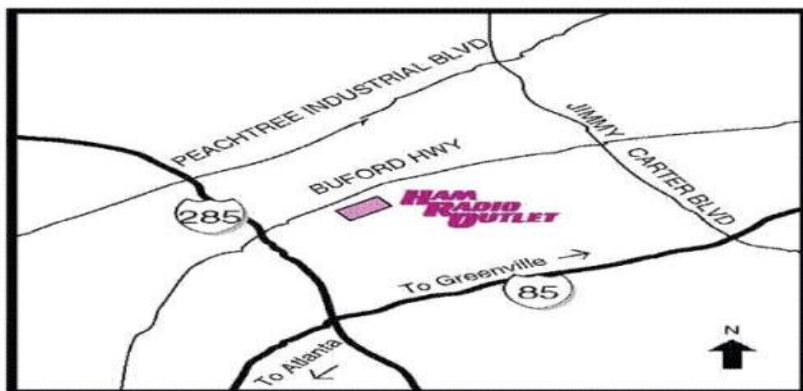
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From QST November 1954

Future Field Days on the Moon seemed reasonable enough for cartoonist W1ICD to pen this QST cover in June of 1954. Where will we be operating in June of 2015?

61 Years Later.....Not on the Moon yet! Stone Mountain Park is better to me.

*Mike* KK4KHS

See you there.

