

Stone Mountain Hamfest



TOP OF THE ROCK



The Newsletter of the Alford Memorial Radio Club

November 2015

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

Home Brew Show and Tell, Nov 12th Show us what you made!!



Grand Prize
Winner

Student Shack



Lots of Club
Booths

2 Days of
Great
Forums



November Issue Contents

- President's Notes
- Next Meeting Program, Repeater Info
- Pictures from Hamfest
- Local Ham Events & Turnip Truck Net Info
- Articles
- Birthdays and Member info
- Calendar for November
- VE Testing and Club Meetings
- Sponsors



Message from the President

It's November! Daylight Saving Time is behind us and the first full weekend in November is our 43rd annual HamFest. I sure hope to see all of you out there sometime that weekend. Remember the HamFest takes a lot of work to put on. It helps tremendously if everyone contributes to the effort.

Our November meeting, to be held on the 12th, will have a program entitled "Homebrew Show-N-Tell," hosted by Mike, KK4KHS. If you have a homebrew item you would like to showcase please let Mike know about it. I'll have something there that I built for use with my TTY equipment.

The Saturday following the HamFest, November 14, 2015, the North Fulton Amateur Radio League (NFARL) will host its annual HAMJAM 2015. It will be at the Metropolitan Club, 5895 Windward Parkway, Alpharetta. The hours are 8:00AM to 1:00PM Please plan on attending and supporting this fine event. I know I will be there. And here is a link for more information: <http://www.hamjam.info/>

Coming up in just a little over a month will be our annual Christmas Party. It will be on December 10, 2015 at 7:00PM in the Fellowship Hall of the Annistown Road Baptist Church. We will be using the same caterer we used last year as every indication was that the food and service was excellent. There is however one

change over how we have done this in the past. Starting this year there will be a \$10.00 charge for each individual over the age of 16. Anyone 16 or younger still eats for free. This is very similar to how we did the Field Day BBQ this year, just slightly higher in cost. **There is a signup form on our website for you to make your reservations. Please do this before midnight on November 29, 2015** as we have to give a final head count to the caterer on the 30th. Here is the link to the reservation form: http://www.totr-radio.org/Christmas_2015.html

That's about it for this month, short and sweet, now back to getting my ducks in a row for the Hamfest!

73

Steve, N4TTY



AMRC November Meeting Program

“Homemade Show and Tell”

Thursday November 12th at 7:00 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, Snellville, Ga. 30039**

The Alford Memorial Radio Club 76 Repeater is located on top of Stone Mountain, approximately 110 ft. up the TV transmission tower. Echolink is available on this repeater.



Located at Exchange Park, up and running beautifully,



In February of 2015 the old Micor 145 and 444 repeaters and the cabinets associated with that equipment were

replaced with brand new Kenwood commercial grade repeater equipment .



Being relocated to Exchange Park, currently not operational.

**Get ready for the
Upcoming
Christmas Party!!!!**

**At the Dec. 10th meeting
we'll have the Christmas
Party. So click here**

**[http://www.totr-
radio.org/
Christmas_2015.html](http://www.totr-radio.org/Christmas_2015.html)**

**To make your
reservations.**



Stone Mountain Hamfest 2015



Ham Radio Events In Our Area

--2015 HamJam

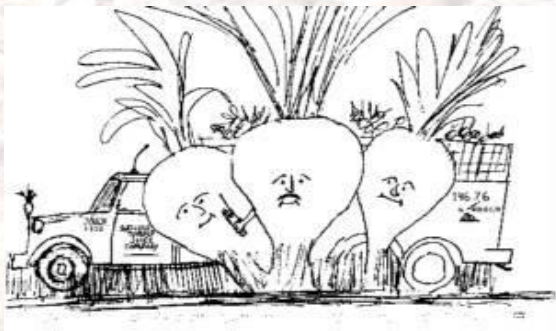
The 2015 HamJam event takes place on Saturday November 14 from 8AM to 1PM. All of the information about HamJam and it's purpose is located at www.hamjam.info . The location is one block east off GA 400 at exit 11 on Windward Pkwy. Go east one block and the Metropolitan Club is located on your right at 5895 Windward Pkwy, Alpharetta, GA 30005.

The prize list for the drawing is now over \$8,100. You may purchase tickets on line until November 11th , or at our ticket sales tables at HamJam until the mid-morning break.

Our online ticket sales will end at midnight on November 11, 2015.

TechFest Saturday, January 9th 2016

<http://www.techfest.info/>



Join us on the "Turnip Truck Net" Saturdays 10:30pm-1am 146.760 pl107.2

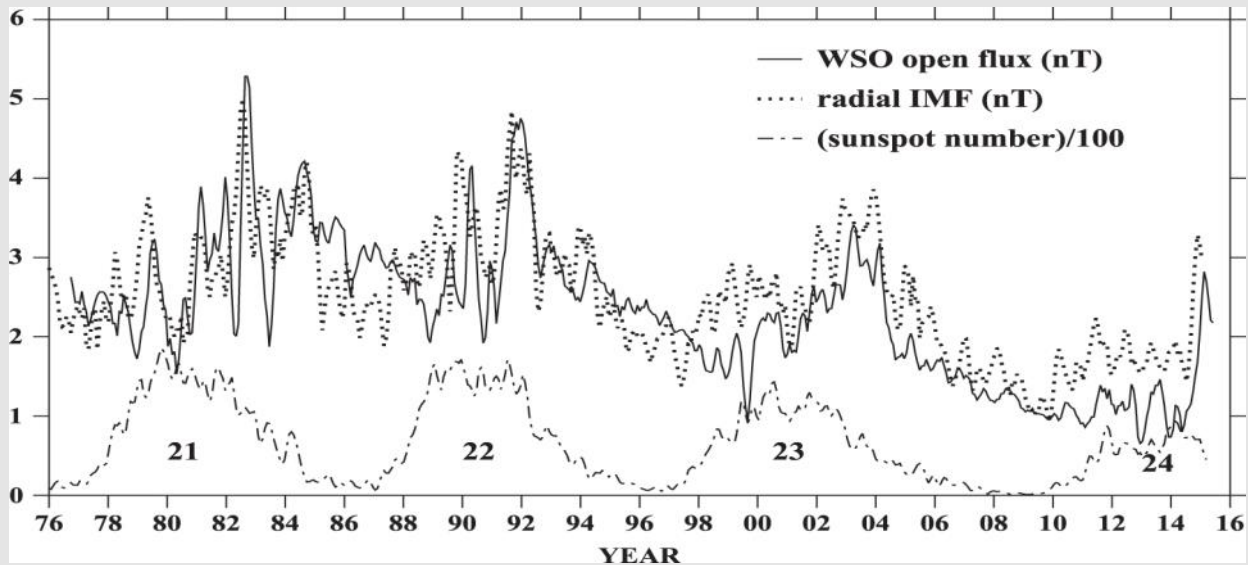
Turnip Truck Badges now available for Turnips from The Sign Man.

<http://www.thesignman.com/>

Get Yours at Stone Mountain Hamfest!!

Send us a picture of your Turnip Truck Net Name Badge,
Check in late Saturday Nights

Finally, Some Good News About the Next Solar Cycle

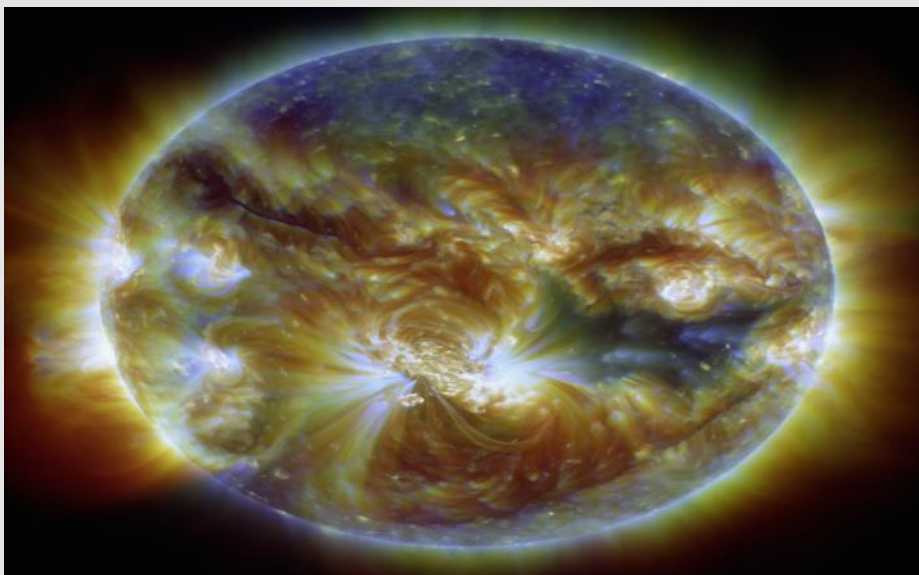


Until mid-2014 Solar Cycle 24 was remarkably quiet. Despite the steadily declining solar flux since mid-2014, the Sun's large-scale magnetic field suddenly strengthened late in 2014 reaching its highest value in more than twenty years.

Using these and related observations, two Naval Research Laboratory researchers, Wang and Sheehy, predict in their August 2015 article in *The Astrophysical Journal* that Solar Cycle 25 may reach an amplitude similar to Solar Cycle 24.

Until the unexpectedly sudden and strong increase in the Sun's large-scale magnetic field, some solar scientists feared that Solar Cycle 25 might achieve a much lower amplitude than Cycle 24. Those fears might now be put to rest.

Full article here. <http://aasnova.org/2015/09/02/witnessing-solar-rejuvenation>



AMRC Membership Page

New AMRC Members since September Meeting

Jim Boyd, KB9VTM

New Members:

Total Members as of Oct. 1, 2015:
161

**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 October:**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
From All of Us at AMRC

AB4YL Allison
AB4NW Karen
W4KXM Larry
KF4PWI Scott
AI4UQ Carolyn
KS4MM Chris
KM4DEB Tom
KB4JHX Buzz
Elaine Honeycutt
KI4BQS Kenneth
K4KQK Jerry
KJ4QIB Puddin
N4XHJ David

73 - K4GZZ

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

To make changes to your AMRC membership (moved, new email address, new phone number, etc.), please email the Membership Committee - 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

DX Contesting and Operations links.

425 DX NEWS

Amateur Radio Lighthouse Society - World List of Lights

Announced DX Operations by NG3K

Asia (((DX))) Window (ASIA HF DX WebCluster)

BOLETIN DE DX EN ESPAÑOL by CE1RKV (Spanish)

DX News Letter by DL1EK & DL7VOA (at NG3K Web Site)

DX SUMMIT (last 250 DX-spots)

hfradio.org - propagation by NW7US

Hot DX Tips From the NJDXA by NA2M

IOTA (Islands On The Air) Web Site

LES NOUVELLES DX (French)

LY4A "Daily Dx News"

Near-Real-Time MUF Map

Propagation by N6RT

Solar Activity Information - from DX-Listeners' Club, Norway

The OPDX Bulletin - Internet Edition by KB8NW

11/14/2015 | HamJam 2015

Location: Alpharetta, GA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: North Fulton Amateur Radio League

Website: <http://hamjam.info>

11/21/2015 | Montgomery ARC Hamfest

Location: Montgomery, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Montgomery Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.w4ap.org/news/Hamfest.htm>

01/02/2016 | Freezefest

Location: Locust Fork, AL

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Blount County ARC

Website: <http://www.freezefest.com>

01/09/2016 | TechFest 2016

Location: Lawrenceville, GA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.GARS.org>

02/12/2016 | ARRL National Convention (Orlando HamCation®)

Location: Orlando, FL

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Orlando Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://hamcation.com>

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>

Upcoming Club Events

UP-COMING PROGRAMS FOR ALFORD MEMORIAL RADIO CLUB.

**November - 12th Homemade Show and
Tell**

December - Christmas Party

January Digital PSK-31

**February Hands on class. Building a roll
up J-Pole for 2m or 440**

Hugh Manning 1948-2015

Hugh was President of the Alford Memorial Radio Club in the mid 1980's. It is with much sadness that we bring this news to our membership



Silent Keys

Their tubes may no longer glow, And their
transmitters no longer send;
Their keys are still and silent now, But their
signals will never end.

Ham shacks now are silent and lonely, Their
letters are no longer aired;
So let us not forget their calls, Nor the time
together we shared.

Their souls are now of the stars, As are the
signals they did send;
Their calls are traveling the heavens, On and
on they go for time without end.

AMRC Officers and Committee Chairs

Steve Garrison,
President

N4TTY



Mike Smith
Vice President

KK4KHS



Dave McWhirter
Secretary

KB4UVV



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

Opportunities

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-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

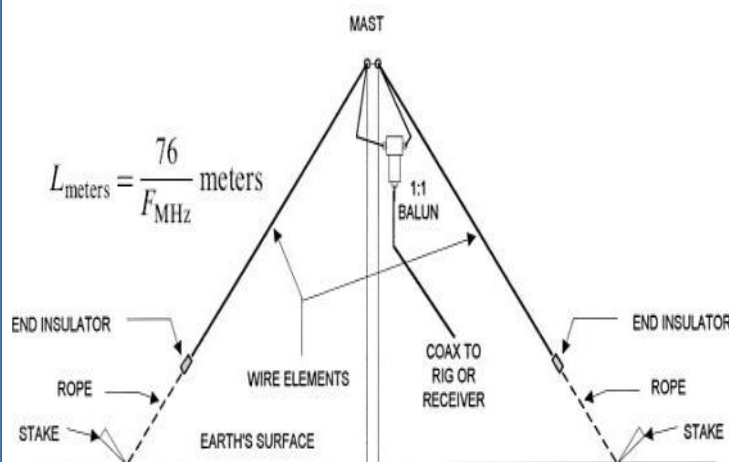
ARMS Recurring Calendar

- ♦ Monthly club meeting is the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30pm
- ♦ 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

Getting On The Air

I recommend installing your new dipole as an inverted vee. The center support could be a tree branch, a flagpole, or a wooden or fiberglass pole. The $\frac{1}{4}$ wave legs of your inverted vee should each have an end insulator on them, and then some nylon, dacron or other guy rope leading out to a handy attachment point. That attachment point could be your fence post, a tree, or a tent stake shoved into your lawn. In this way, you only need one tall support, which is the center of your inverted vee. The center of your inverted vee won't sag when you attach your feedline, as would a horizontal dipole supported only at the ends. And, if you're using fiberglass tubing as the center support, the $\frac{1}{4}$ wave legs of your antenna do an admirable job of guying the center support. Just make sure that the enclosed angle of your inverted vee is at least 90 degrees. And, although plenty of purists might disagree with me, when you adjust the length of your new inverted vee for minimum SWR, anything less than 2.0:1 is fine at HF. Don't sweat the small stuff.

This is not a "how to" article. This is, instead, a "just build it" article. Take my word for it: Building your own antenna is loads of fun. In fact, you might just get so much satisfaction



Club Member News Page

Who was Alford?
And Why, is your club named for him?

Being a fairly new ham myself, I was also curious about the history of the name-sake to the Alford Memorial Radio Club. After many questions to many members, Al Hughes, Past Club Trustee, has discovered archived articles with information about Dick Alford, W4BOC.

The Alford Memorial Radio Club is dedicated to the memory of Dick Alford, a well-known and respected Atlanta Ham whom pass away several years ago. Dick Alford was versatile and operated CW, Phone, and Teletype, and was a pioneer on Two Meter FM in the Atlanta area.

Dick was an operator of the old Atlanta Police Radio Station WDPY, begging in 1936. He entered World War II as a lieutenant in then Signal Corps. While working on a transmitter located on Green Island in the Pacific, Dick was injured in a high voltage accident. He was discharged with the rank of Captain and again affiliated himself with the Atlanta Police department. His injury later forced his retirement and he devoted a great amount of time to his hobby, Ham radio.

One of his avid interest was helping the new Ham get started. Many areas amateurs will also remember Dick was once a Vice Director of the ARRL. It is with great pleasure that we take this opportunity to honor Dick Alford, a Ham whose friendship and helpfulness will occupy a warm place within the memory of all Atlanta areas hams.

The Alford Memorial Radio Club was founded with then primary purpose of building and installing an amateur repeater for Atlanta, Ga.

More information on Dick Alford in the November TOTR.

Generators For Sale, Carter Bennett

EX350 Honda 2-stroke engine and inverter. Super light weight. 150 and 300 watt selection. Nice and quiet for camping. Used to operate test equipment in the field. In good working condition. \$225



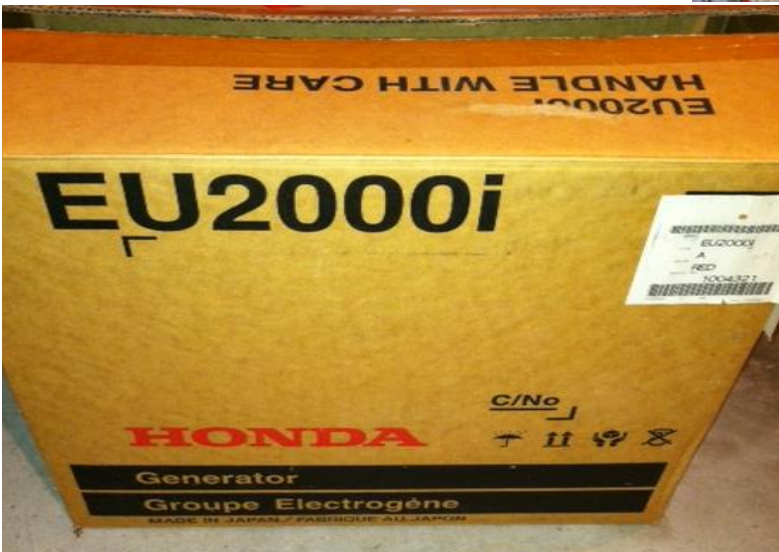
Honda EX800 Easily portable unit. Has 12V charging cable. Easy to start and runs well. Has easy-open lid for access to circuit breakers and spark plug wrench. \$400.





Honda EX1000 The generator with a full KW of power. Has an easy-open lid to expose spark plug wrench, circuit breakers, etc. Very nice unit. Includes 12V charging cable. \$475

EU1000i, Still in the original box and has never been run. Includes storage cover. \$650



EU200i Everyone seems to appreciate the 2KW inverter-powered generator. It has been started but only for testing. Then the fuel has been drained out. Very nice unit. \$790

Contact: Carter Bennett. carterebennett@bellsouth.net

"AMRC NOVEMBER NETS REPORT"

AMRC Net		DeKalb ARES Net			Turnip Truck Net	
Sunday Night Net			RF	Winlink		
OCT-4	26	OCT-4	14	13	OCT-3	12
OCT-11	23	OCT-11	18	10	OCT-10	3
OCT-18	16	OCT-18	18	8	OCT-17	6
OCT-25	23	OCT-24	14	9	OCT-24	10
					OCT-31	7

AMRC CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 Setup at Fair- grounds 12 noon	6 Setup at Fair- grounds 8am	7 Hamfest Turnip Truck 10:30pm
8 Hamfest 7pm AMRC Sun- day Night Net 8pm DeKalb ARES NET	9	10	11	12 5:00 - 6:30 PM Dinner at Shane Rib Shack 7:00-9:30pm ARMC Meeting	13	14 7am 8am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner HamJam Turnip Truck 10:30pm
15 7pm AMRC Sun- day Night Net 8pm DeKalb ARES NET	16	17	18	19	20	21 7:00– 8:30 am Break- fast at Metro Café Diner Turnip Truck 10:30pm
22 7pm AMRC Sun- day Night Net 8pm DeKalb ARES NET	23	24	25	26 Turkey Day	27 Play on Radio Day	28 7:00– 8:30 am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner Turnip Truck 10:30pm
29 7pm AMRC Sun- day Night Net 8pm DeKalb ARES NET	30	1 December	2	3	4	5 7:00– 8:30 am Breakfast at Metro Café Diner Turnip Truck Net

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 http://www.arrl-ga.org.</i></p> <p>First Sunday, ODD Months 2 pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep, & Nov) VEC: WCARS Braselton Public Utility Building 4986 Highway 53, Braselton, GA Roger Gibson, WB4T (770) 271-4210 or (770) 712-9560 w4rlg@bellsouth.net</p> <p>First Sunday, EVEN Months 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>Second Saturday 10:00 AM Alpharetta North Park, Adult Activities Center 13450 Cogburn Rd, Alpharetta, GA 30004 Ian Kahn, KM4IK E-mail: km4ik.ian@gmail.com</p> <p>Second Saturday, ODD Months VEC: ARRL 8:30 a.m. GMC Community Ctr 5325 Leon St. Stone Mountain, GA Frank Haynes, KV4SP (678) 467-3712</p> <p>Second Sunday VEC: W5YI 2 pm Gwinnett County Fire Station #5 3001 Old Norcross Road Duluth, GA 30096 Contact: Dave Bruse, W4DTR Email: exams@gars.org</p> <p>Third Saturday VEC: W5YI 2 pm (Except December) Lifeway Church 1654 Atlanta Highway #109 Steve Donellan, N5SMD (404) 520-0368 Email: n5smd@comcast.net</p> <p>(continued in next column)</p>	<p><u>Thanks to the following VE's.</u></p> <p>Frank, KV4SP Jeff, KC4CKN Ed, WA4VFH Jere, K4FUM</p> <p>Thanks & 73, Steve. N4TTY</p> <p>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 w4tga@arrl.net 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.</p> <p>Fourth Tuesday ARRL VEC 7 pm @ United Way Service Center 6279 Fairburn Rd., Douglasville Jessie Clower, KB4WFK (770) 942-6466</p> <p>Fourth Sunday 2:30 pm Georgia Tech Van Leer Elec. Building Rm. W218, 777 Atlantic Dr. See www.w4aql.com Alexander G. Carver (404) 894-2936 acarver@ece.gatech.edu</p>	<p>First Tuesday 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>First Thursday 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>Second Monday Georgia Tech ARC Room W218 Van Leer Electrical Engineering Bldg. Georgia Tech Campus Meeting at 7:00pm</p> <p>Second Tuesday Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society http://www.gars.org/w4gr/ EOA Building at Briscoe Field Lawrenceville, Ga. Just off Hi Hope Road Dinner at Flying Machine Restaurant at 5:30pm then meeting at 7pm.</p> <p>Second Thursday Alford Memorial Radio Club Annistown Road Baptist Church Intersection of Annistown Road & Spain Road, Snellville Dinner at 6:00pm Meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 146.760(-)</p> <p>Second Saturday North GA QRP Club Board Room of The Shepherd Center at 2020 Peachtree Rd, NW, Atlanta at 10:00 AM</p> <p>Third Tuesday North Fulton Amateur Radio League Alpharetta Recreation & Parks Dept. Alpharetta Adult Activity Center 13450 Cogburn Road Alpharetta, GA 30004 meeting at 7:30pm Talk In - 145.47(-)</p>



ATLANTA, GA:

Store Hours:

10AM-5:30PM Mon - Sat

Telephone hours:

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

TOLL FREE: 800-444-7927

LOCAL: 770-263-0700

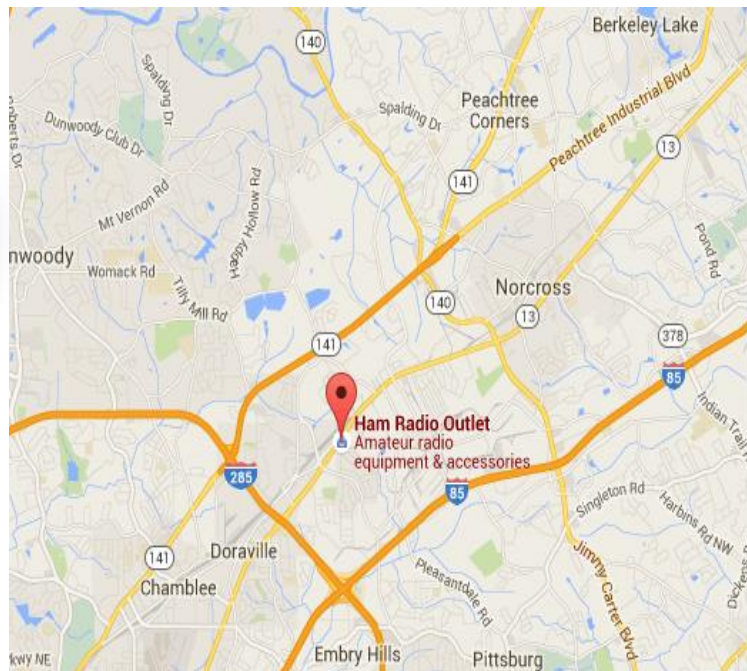
FAX: 770-263-9548

EMAIL: atlanta@hamradio.com

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Atlanta, GA 30340-1364





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