

Lanierland ARC W4ABP Newsletter

<http://www.lanierlandarc.org>

February 2008

President's Corner

As we move through February we are rapidly approaching our severe weather season here and in other parts of the country. Just this past week there were several deadly tornados that ripped through several states, with 59 confirmed fatalities. We tend to forget these storms could have just as easily landed here in our area. Past history indicates that we are subject to these types of storms and we may be overdue for one to hit our area.

My point is, **ARE WE READY?** Maybe so, maybe not. I fear the latter would be more accurate. To be ready we must organize, plan and train for the disaster that may or may not come. Once a disaster has occurred, it's a little late for us to properly organize and plan our response. We might possibly put something together "on the fly" that would to some degree work, but why not make it a little easier on everyone and organize and plan before something happens. The Statewide Tornado Drill this past week revealed to me several deficiencies which we need to improve on. One thing I observed in our area is that we had very few local amateurs participating. Folks, we need to have commitment from members to support our local ARES group by having your participation in these drills etc. Without individual participation, no response plan, no matter how detailed and well planned it might be, will work. Hall County EMA is our "Primary Served Agency" in this area and we should be willing to give priority to their needs no matter what other affiliations (Salvation Army, GA Baptist, Red Cross, etc.) we might have. There is absolutely nothing wrong with working with the other organizations, I am involved with several of them myself, but we must be willing to fill the needs of our primary served agency first and foremost.

I hope we, as a group, will make a commitment to make ourselves **READY TO SERVE** our community during a disaster by becoming more organized,

better trained and being available when the call comes. By doing so we can fill the name of being the professional communicators we are known to be.

I'm looking forward to Chuck Lemming's presentation at this month's meeting. Chuck will be giving a program on professional net procedures, net management and net protocol (Army MARS style). He will also be giving information about the Army MARS program. This program goes hand in hand with us becoming better prepared to use our communications skills during disasters.

I look forward to seeing each of you at Curt's on the 26th for food, fun, fellowship and the club meeting to follow. Don't forget there will be a couple of door prizes (one for the ladies and one for the men).

73, Terry, W4TL

VE testing Results Sunday February 3, 2008

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING

Clyde Smith KD4FAA upgraded to Extra

Sam Wright KI4UVV upgraded to General

Chase Dixon (New Tech) KJ4BRC (12 years old)

"Special thanks to Roger, WB4T and his VE team for their time and effort to provide the testing session"

"Point To Ponder"

Dit- a diddle dot dit.

Back when the telegraph was the fastest method of long-distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse Code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the office address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office.

The young man filled out his form and sat down with the seven other applicants in the waiting area. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet.

They assumed that the young man who went into the office made a mistake and would be disqualified. Within a few minutes, however, the employer escorted the young man out of the office and said to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job has just been filled." The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and one spoke up saying, "Wait a minute, I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair!"

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but the last several minutes while you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse Code: 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.'" None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. The job is his.

The point, you may ask. Pay attention to what's going around you.
It could be beneficial.

Congratulations to Mike Hall, N4HGO as recipient of the 2007 LARC "HAM of The Year"

Mike is known as "The Voice of W4ABP" and has called our weekly directed nets for many years. His familiar voice rings out over the air with announcements of interest to all.

His willingness to help the club prosper and the dedication he demonstrates is a true example setter.

We are most fortunate indeed to have such an outstanding individual in our midst.

CLUB LOGO ITEMS

(See John Brandon KE4PCF)

Ball Caps Embroidered Logo



\$10.00

T-Shirts (Silk Screen LOGO)



\$10.00

Embroidered Patches



\$3.50

Supply is limited so HURRY and get yours !!!



ARRL Certification and Continuing Education (C-CE)

Visit

<http://www.arrl.org/cce/>

for more info

**Minutes for January 22, 2008.
Lanierland Amateur Radio Club**

A meeting of the Lanierland Amateur Radio Club was held on Tuesday January 22, 2008 at Curt's Cafeteria. The meeting was called to order at 6:55 p.m. by President Terry Jones. Introductions were made around the room.

Members and guests enjoyed a delicious birthday cake and sang a chorus of Happy Birthday to Ruth Jones.

Past President Doyle Gantt made a presentation of the 2007 Ham of the Year plaque to Mike Hall for his years of service to the club.

Terry told the club that door prizes will be presented at the meeting for both men and women.

Under announcements, the Dalton Hamfest will be the last Saturday in February. The Orlando Hamfest is also scheduled for February.

The minutes of the November 27th meeting were read and approved.

John gave the Treasurer's report. He reported that dues for 54 members had been received and added to the roster. The Treasurer's report was accepted.

Under new business, Terry listed the committee appointments for 2008. Terry is the chair of the Repeater Committee. Training Director is Ed Cravey. The web site editor and newsletter editor is Doyle Gantt. The Hamfest Committee is made up of Philip Loggins as chair with John Brandon and Roger Gibson. The

Property Control Officer is Lamar Grier. Chairing the Field Day Committee is Larry Tyson with Bob Scott, Roger Gibson and John Brandon. The Public Relations Officer and committee chair is Mike Hall. The Membership Committee is made up of Roger Gibson as chair with Doyle Gantt and Mike Hall. The Hall EOC Committee is chaired by Doyle Gantt with Philip Loggins, John Brandon and Chuck Leming. The Nominating Committee for the 2009 officers is made up of Perry Roper as chair, with Wallace Beggs and Bob Scott. Terry said that each committee is chaired by a member of the executive committee because the executive committee wants to be accountable to each other. These committees are listed on the club's web site.

Under committee reports, Roger reported for the Membership Committee that he wants to get together with Mike to compose a letter to be sent to former members who haven't rejoined the club. Larry reported that the Field Day Committee is looking into the possibility of using the Jackson EMC building for Field Day. Under the Repeater Committee, Terry reported that a lightning surge protector will be needed for the 440 machine on the mountain. Philip reported that the Hamfest Committee is also looking at using the Jackson EMC building for the 2008 Tailgating Fest.

Terry shared some dates to remember. Field Day is the last full weekend in June. The Tailgating Hamfest is Saturday July 12th. The LARC family picnic is scheduled for October 25th. The Christmas breakfast will be December 6th.

Doyle gave the report of the EOC Committee. The MOU with the county was examined and Doyle said that it is clear our emergency service is wanted by the county.

Terry discussed the auction of excess club equipment and listed the equipment that was auctioned. The dual band rig owned by the club at the Red Cross has now been placed in the club's jump kit. The single band radio has been donated to the Red Cross. The rig at the Chattahoochee Baptist Association has been returned to Lamar as the Property Control Officer.

John presented the club's budget for 2008. The budget is based on actual costs from last year and possible increases. Terry pointed out that the membership base alone does not support the club. We need to get members to renew and support the club. John said the biggest cost is the grass cutting. He also mentioned that we did not have a fundraiser last year. A motion to adopt the 2008 budget was made, seconded and the motion passed.

Terry talked about his concerns regarding the club's involvement and response with the Hall County EOC. He related the history of the club's involvement from the beginning of the facility when a dream list of ham radio equipment was presented to the county. The problem that Terry pointed out is having enough individuals to operate in the event of an emergency. Terry said that if we cannot support the operation, we need to terminate our agreement. Two or 3 people will be needed per shift in the event of a call out, plus people in the field. Who are we going to support? Terry also said that training classes are needed. Chuck Leming pointed out that Army MARS has the best training in the world. Chuck will have a program on net operations in February. Terry said that those

people interested in operating need to see the station manual. Doyle mentioned the need for training in operating the equipment. It may be that we need a signed commitment from members saying that you will support Hall County.

The business meeting was then adjourned.

Roger introduced our program for the evening. Nina Cleveland Hall is involved with emergency preparedness for Public Health District 2. She writes plans and works with regional hospitals. Part of her work involves planning and preparing for mass dispensing of medicine. She said that in planning, they find that communications break down. There is a medical reserve board with a database for registration and information. She is happy to make connections and to learn about ham radio. She has 250 volunteers to whom she is willing to send information about ham radio. John talked about a plan to place a dual band antenna with coax at each district health office and regional hospital. The Athens Regional Hospital is the only one to have the antenna.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Hall, Secretary
Lanierland Amateur Radio Club

Top 10 Ways to Save Water

1. Follow your local water use restrictions. The most important thing you can during times of

drought is to

follow your local water municipalities' current water restrictions. You can even get ahead of the curve and begin to conserve before restrictions are needed.

2. Fix leaking faucets and toilets. An average of 8 percent of all home water use is wasted through

leaks. Test

for a leaking toilet by lifting the lid off the toilet tank and putting a few drops of food coloring into the bowl. Wait a few minutes, and then look in the bowl. If the food coloring has made its way there, you have a leak.

3. Refit your plumbing. Determine the water output of your plumbing, such as faucets and showers,

and either

replace fixtures with newer, low flow models or install water-saving devices.

4. Shorten your shower to 5 minutes. Cut back on your shower time and you will rack up big

savings in water

and energy. Also, install a water-saving showerhead that uses 2.5 gallons/minute.

5. Save water through energy conservation. Large amounts of water are required to generate

electricity. hen

doing laundry, wash full loads only (but do not overload), wash and rinse in cold water, and clean the lint filter after each load to maximize drying efficiency. In the kitchen, use the dishwasher for full loads whenever possible and only soak or pre-wash dishes if food is cooked or burned on. If you must pre-wash, do so in a sink or basin.

6. Help your plants use less water. Cut back annuals and perennials during dry spells. They'll

bounce back

when it rains again.

7. Collect water to keep your valuable plants alive. You'll be surprised at how much drips from

your air

conditioner and at how much you catch in a rain barrel under your downspouts.

8. Prioritize plants. When water is scarce, give it to your valuable or irreplaceable trees and shrubs first.

Don't worry about annuals and turf grasses that are easy to replace.

9. Don't stress your plants. Don't fertilize when you can't water it in. And set your mower blade

higher than

normal to help keep your lawn alive during a drought.

10. Mulch. Cover the entire area from the trunk to the ends of the branches with pine straw, bark chips

or

shredded hardwood mulch. Use newspapers underneath to help the soil retain moisture.

Tips provided by the Drought Response Unified Command (DRUC). DRUC comprises the directors of the Environmental Protection Division of the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, the Georgia Environmental Facilities Authority, and the Georgia Division of Public Health. It was established by Governor Sonny Perdue to coordinate the state's role in mitigating the effects of Georgia's ongoing drought. For more information, visit www.droughtjic.org and www.conservewatergeorgia.net.

Mini Dxpeditions

Ed Cravey, KF4HPY

I have been reading in all the Ham and SWL magazines , QST, Worldradio, Monitoring Times, PopComm. and others of DX expeditions to far corners of the earth. All told of planning, equipment selection, accommodations, government permits, transportation and other basics. Even our own club members have been going to the far places of the world. They will all have their own stories to tell in due time. I will tell of my own local mini expeditions and maybe, when you do your expedition, you will have fun and gain experience too. My first mini expedition was during the second week of January 2008 at our daughter's condo in Helen, Georgia. I gathered my equipment together: Yaesu FT-817 QRP rig, MP-1 Super-antenna, laptop and assorted items to connect and power all the equipment in two tackle boxes. Betty, my wife and I arrived at the condo and settled in. I started to put the station together; the Super-antenna vertical was clamped to the balcony, counterpoise attached, cables run and a station set up in the loft. On going on the air, I found 2m confined to close in to Helen. No problem, I wanted to work PSK-31 on HF. To shorten this tale, the transceiver failed to transmit in SSB the vehicle of PSK-31. So I was relegated to watching a waterfall full of signals. Since the FT-817 is a great receiver, I played SWL and enjoyed worldwide listening. So what, dear reader, did I do wrong? I failed to check the

transceiver in advance. I failed to bring an SWR analyzer to complement the radio's SWR bar. Lesson learned the hard way. We continued to enjoy our stay in Helen, shopping and loafing. A week later we were to go on another trip.

The next trip was to Sky Valley, Georgia; a place we had been to before. I had spent 5 days preparing for my Extra exam, and checked into the Southbears net in Bessemer, AL using the same Super-antenna and FT-817 that failed me in the last paragraph; while there in 2004. This time I went about assembling my equipment with more care. The transceiver of choice was an ICOM 706 MkIIIG, the Super-antenna, Hamstick dipoles, MFJ-207 Analyzer, WMR Plug & Play interface and laptop, and MFJ Tiny Travel Tuner. Also included were antenna stands, masts, and wire antennas as backup. Our prior visit had been in a house, this time it could be a condo; so I needed to be ready for anything. It turned out to be a condo with balcony. So up went the Super-antenna with counterpoise, then the Hamstick dipole and masts in the fashion Terry, W4TL calls "cantilever antenna", thrust out from the balcony. I chatted with Roger, WB4T on the Gainesville repeater, 70 miles away. Good on FM, the dipole worked well too, with contacts in Ann Arbor, MI and Houma, LA. The Houma contact was interesting, as he had lived in Maysville; but the big surprise was that he knew Sky Valley well. His daughter was the city manager. Later I visited City Hall and delivered greetings from her dad. I enjoyed the Wednesday morning PSK net with Bobby, W4BLB and Duane, WB2YAD on 3580 KHz. I chatted with Otis and Charlie on the SPARC repeater; one in SC, the other in GA. While I was scanning the bands I did a little SWL'ing, picking up DX'ers Unlimited from Havana Cuba on 6000 KHz and a few other interesting stations. On Wednesday night we were in the middle of the snowfall and I checked in to the ARES net and LARC net in Gainesville, later the band went out and I couldn't hit the Wauka Mt. Repeater anymore. Did I enjoy myself? Yes! I played radio, read a novel, went shopping in Dillard and Clayton with Betty. We shopped in three stores taking about 4 hours. That "Shopper's Pace" will wear you out. Would I do it Again? You bet'cha! In future newsletters I will review the WMR P&P interface in comparison with the WMR NOMIC, plus a review of the MFJ 207 analyzer and its quirks.

73 Ed, KF4HPY

FEMA Independent Study Program (ISP)

For those of us who are emergency responders, it is a prerequisite to have taken and passed independent Study courses IS-100 (Introduction to Incident Command System) and IS-700 (National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction) as a minimum. All ISP courses are designed to allow you to learn at your own pace and at you leisure and are FREE. All it will cost you is a little time.

A list of all FEMA ISP courses and links for each course can be found at <http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp>

When you have completed the required courses (and/or other ISP courses) and have your course completion certificate in hand,, please let John Brandon, KE4PCF or one of his assistants know so we can get your training logged. Take as many of the courses as you wish but REMEMBER IS-100 and IS-700 are required.

TNX !

Tnx. That's the Morse Code abbreviation for thanks. Thanks is what I would like to say to the Lanierland Amateur Radio Club for awarding me the 2007 Ham of the Year plaque.

I first joined the club in the mid 1970's. The repeater was brand new but I couldn't use it. I was the holder of a novice class license, operating a tube type, crystal control Globechief transmitter for CW only. In fact, it was a club member who came over one Saturday morning just to show me I could make contacts with that rig.

All of the antenna work at my house has been done by club members. The current dipole was the result of Ed Cravey dragging me out of my air conditioned house on a summer afternoon into the boiling sun to hold ladders and pull wire. That night, back in the air conditioning, I checked into the Texas ARES net and the net control operator bragged on my antenna.

The last time I was on the lake when it actually had water in it, was for a club event supporting a Kayak race. I visited many restaurants for the first time as part of a club function. The last time I intentionally stayed up all night had to do with a club sponsored field day.

Due to the Lanierland Amateur Radio Club, I have eaten enough to float, stayed up to late and become sun burned. I am glad to be a part of this club. Thanks for the memories and the opportunities. For those of you who offer me rides, support and encouragement, thank you for making it possible for me to be a part of this hobby and this great fellowship.
73's Mike Hall, N4HGO

What's so hot about amateur radio in the modern day and age where anyone has a cell phone to talk around the globe and every continent is just one mouse click away?

Agreed, ham radio can seem almost archaic in today's high-tech saturated world. Hey, even a child can chat via IM with their pen pals continents apart (and I won't even get into why that can be a very bad thing...). There's many answers to what motivates us in ham radio:

- **When All Else Fails...**

This is the motto of amateur radio you have heard before. When disaster strikes (as simple as a prolonged power outage or as serious as hurricanes, earthquake or other major catastrophes), one of the first things to go out are regular phone and cell phone services. Most of our high-tech communication gizmos need power and can be overwhelmed during disasters. Many public agencies like police, fire department, Red Cross etc. all do have their own wireless radio infrastructure. But their infrastructure can also be affected by the outages and sometimes their regular staff is overburdened by the massive assistance requests. Ever since the very early days of amateur radio, fellow ham

operators volunteer their time and equipment to support those crucial crisis agencies by providing them with public service communications. Today, in the US, much of that emergency communication (emcomm for short) by amateur radio operators is organized under Amateur Radio Emergency Service or RACES.

- **An “excuse” to understand and tinker with electronics**

Amateur radio is as old as radio itself is, The early pioneers in the late 19th century (Heinrich Rudolf Hertz, Nikola Tesla and Guglielmo Marconi, just to name a few), for obvious reasons, did build their early radios as part of their wireless experiments. That spirit has carried on until today: Many hams still build their own complete radios or add and modify components like amplifiers or power supplies. Many modern electronic commodities we take for granted (e.g. TV, wireless LAN etc) spent their childhood days in amateur radio and owe their sophistication to engineering contributions of many hams.

- **Sense of accomplishment**

I'll never forget the “thrill” and sense of accomplishment when I was handed a CSCE for the first time. The really great thing is, it felt that way each and every single time I upgraded.

- **Learn a new language**

Learning Morse code eventually is like learning a new language. With increasing speed (typically above ~15-20 word per minute), the letters and words form their own and characteristic sounds. Similar to learning French, eventually the human brains stops merely translating but actually directly understands and correlates the sound patterns to their proper meaning. Fascinating!!

Quote of the Month

A slip of the foot you may soon recover,
But a slip of the tongue you may never get over.
Benjamin Franklin

Chinese Proverb

War does not determine who is right, war determine who is left.

Several of the digital modes (PSK, MT63, Pactor III, ALE, Etc.) that we now use are in jeopardy because of an impending proposal before the FCC. I encourage each of you to register a disapproval of this proposal to the FCC. Time is limited to get our comments in regarding this.

PLEASE GO TO THE BELOW LINK AND OPPOSE THIS PETITION TO THE FCC.
REMEMBER, THE SQUEAKY WHEEL!

Proceeding # is RM-11392

http://fjalfoss.fcc.gov/prod/ecfs/upload_v2.cgi

EXAMPLE: 1) The RM-11392 petition seeks to destroy digital data technology advancement in the Amateur Radio Service.
2) I oppose the RM-11392 petition!

“Ask not what the club has done for you” –“Ask what have you done for your club”

SOAPBOX

STANDARD ITU PHONETIC ALPHABET

A - Alfa	N - November
B - Bravo	O - Oscar
C - Charlie	P - Papa
D - Delta	Q - Quebec
E - Echo	R - Romeo
F - Foxtrot	S - Sierra
G - Golf	T - Tango
H - Hotel	U - Uniform
I - India	V - Victor
J - Juliet	W - Whiskey
K - Kilo	X - X-Ray
L - Lima	Y - Yankee
M - Mike	Z - Zulu

THE DXING PHONETICS

These Are Unofficial Phonetics Used By Many DXers

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| • A.....AMERICA, Amsterdam | O.....ONTARIO, Ocean, |
| • B.....BOSTON, Baltimore, Brazil | P.....PORTUGAL, Pacific |
| • C.....CANADA, Columbia, Chile | Q.....QUEBEC, Queen |
| • D.....DENMARK | R.....RADIO, Romania, Russia |
| • E.....ENGLAND, Egypt | S.....SANTIAGO, Spain, Sweden |
| • F.....FRANCE, Finland, Frank | T.....TOKYO, Texas |
| • G.....GERMANY, Guatemala, Geneva, Greece | U.....UNITED, URUGUAY |
| • H.....HONOLULU, Hawaii | V..... VICTORIA, Venezuela |
| • I.....ITALY | W.....WASHINGTON |
| • J.....JAPAN | X.....X-RAY |
| • K.....KILOWATT, Kentucky, King | Y.....YOKOHAMA |
| • L.....LONDON, Lima, Luxembourg | Z..... ZANZIBAR, Zebra |
| • M.....MEXICO, Montreal | |

- N.....NORWAY, Nicaragua

Ok, onto the soapbox I go. Standard phonetics, in my opinion, are the only ones to use. Many DXers use some that are both confusing and sometimes misleading. For example, if you guys heard me call "Kilowatt four Greece Russia Montreal" you'd think I had lost my mind. You may also think it could be some sort of 007 code message. I've heard DX stations and quickly gave up trying to identify who, what, when and where, especially when you throw in the foreign accent. Kilowatt can easily be misinterpreted as K W. So, is the above call KW4??? Is he/she in Russia, Greece or maybe Canada? Hey, I heard Russia. I want a Russian QSL card. Oh wait, I just thought they were in Russia because I heard the word. I had hard enough time burning dits and dahs into my gray matter, then, my neurons become dead shorted from all sorts of colorful words for letters on phone. I think you see my point.

Why not just use Kilo four Golf Romeo Mike! It's very simple and easily understood. Everyone would know I am calling good ole Gary K4GRM. No trying to interpret "hidden" meanings of the word and/or letter.

Thankfully, our group is very good at using STANDARD PHONETICS. I'm all for keeping it simple. Now all we have to do is convince others to do the same. Yeah, we tease each other with funny call sign meanings (suffix for me is Dummy Junior Grade) and Rogers full call in the funny mode is "Woolly Booger Cautro Thomas" or "Wait Be-Four Talking" but when we are at field day, running a directed net or passing emergency traffic, we always use standard phonetics. Well done folks!!

"What's your Vector, Victor"?

73 de Doyle, Wombat 4 Diode Javelin Guatemala (makes my head hurt)

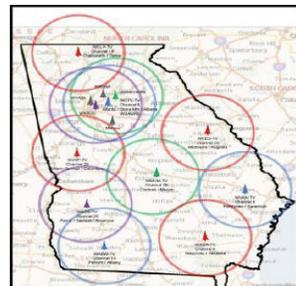
CLASSIFIEDS

If you have HAM related or computer related item(s) to buy, sell or trade, they can be listed in our monthly newsletter. Send the info (including photos if you wish) to W4DJG@bellsouth.net

This should be of interest to all who are interested or involved in emergency communication work.

Terry, W4TL

Statewide Digital Network Plan - A plan for a statewide digital network using the Georgia Public Broadcasting television towers across Georgia was presented at the Section ARES meeting on January 26th. The heart of the plan is the deployment of a D-Star repeater network. Using the GPB sites and the Internet connectivity provided by GPB, the repeaters can be linked on an ad-hoc basis to provide a state-of-the-art digital network capable of voice and data. Each site will be equipped with 2m, 70cm and 23cm repeater modules. On 1.2 GHz, the system can handle 128 Kb high speed data transfer. A copy of John WB4QDX Section Meeting presentation can be found on our web site at http://www.lanierlandarc.org/digital_emcomm.htm



Georgia Statewide D-Star Network Announced
Posted by: "John Davis" wb4qdx@arrl.net jdavis6129
Date: Sun Jan 27, 2008 2:50 pm ((PST))

Yesterday, I announced at the Georgia Section ARES meeting a plan that has been in the works for a while. The key part of the plan is to deploy full D-Star repeaters at each of the nine GPB towers to form a statewide Georgia D-Star network to support Emergency Communications. D-Star was chosen to create a digital communications network providing new capabilities today and to provide a platform for future services and applications. Thanks to Georgia Public Broadcasting, tri-band antennas are currently being installed on all nine GPB television towers at around the 500' level. Antennas and 1 5/8" transmission lines will be installed and maintained by GPB. Indoor equipment space, protected power and Internet connectivity will also be provided by GPB. Each D-Star site will be fully equipped with all modules (2m, 70cm, 23cm DD and DV) and a Gateway.

The first repeater in the network will be WX4GPB on the WGTV-TV tower on Stone Mountain in Atlanta scheduled to go in service in about two weeks. The repeater is sponsored by the Atlanta Radio Club and the full D-Star equipment was generously donated by Ham Radio Outlet.

The next challenge for the network will be to secure funding for additional sites. The plan is to seek a combination of public and private funding. Any groups around the state with access to donations, grants or other sources of funds for emergency communications and would be interested in sponsoring one or more of the sites, please contact me for further information.

Georgia has a great opportunity to create a premier network for emergency communications. With the creation of the Alabama D-Star network and D-Star sites in North Florida, the southeast will have tremendous capabilities for weather reporting and emergency communications.

My radio is sick. Who do I call?
We recommend "The Radio Doctor" Milton Lord, N4DA
Visit his web site at <http://www.n4da.com>
Or give him a call at 770-966-1166
While your on his site, check out his Home Brew AMP
"CQ Pluto, CQ Pluto, CQ Pluto"

February Club Meeting
February 26 at Curt's in Oakwood.
Dinner at 6pm with meeting at 7pm

Meeting Programs

February 26 Chuck Leming W4EDT *MARS net control procedures*
March 25 Greg Janney *Slide show of his trip to Iraq*

LARC dates for 2008 (mark your calendars)

Field Day June 28 & 29
LARC Hamfest July 12
LARC Family Picnic October 25
LARC Christmas Breakfast December 6

Lunch Bunch

Every Friday at 11:30 there is a lunch get-together at a local restaurant. The location is announced on the Wednesday night net, our web site under the activities tab and under the calendar icon as well as announced on the 146.67 repeater.

Repeater Info

146.67 (-) pl 131.8 Hz
224.840 (-) open
444.950 (+) 131.8 Hz

Hall County Nets

W4ABP repeater

146.67 (-) 131.8 Hz

Hall County ARES Net, Wednesday @ 20:00

LARC Net Wednesday @20:30

“Everyone is welcome to check in”

Upcoming HAMFEST

February-May

2008 Orlando HamCation™ & Computer Show

- February 8, 9 & 10 -

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

DALTON HAMFEST #26

Feb 23

Dalton Amateur Radio Club (W4DRC)

Talk-In: 145.230 (-) (No Tone)

Contact Harold Jones, N4BD

PO BOX 211

Rocky Face, GA 30740

Phone: 706-673-2291

Email: n4bd@dalton.net

<http://W4DRC.com>

Charlotte Hamfest

- March 8 & 9 -

<http://www.w4bfb.org/hamfest2008/hamfest.html>

55th Annual Kennehoochee Hamfest

March 15

Jim R Miller Park – Marritta, Ga

<http://www.w4bti.org>

**Calhoun Hamfest Cherokee
Capital Amateur Radio Society**

April 26

Sugar Valley Community Center

Sugar Valley, Ga

<http://www.k4woc.com>

Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society

2008 Upstate SC Hamfest

- May 3 -

<http://www.upstatehamfest.org/>

Experience amateur radio tradition

Dayton Hamvention® at the Hara Arena

1001 Shiloh Springs Road Trotwood, Ohio

57th show, **May 16, 17, & 18, 2008, Dayton Hamvention®**

<http://www.hamvention.org/>

Many thanks to those who submitted news, information and articles for this edition.

**If you have a topic of interest or just want to share an interesting story, please send it to Doyle at w4djg@bellsouth.net
Also, if you need a copy of our newsletter snail-mailed or e-mailed to you, just let me know...**

**As a reminder, the newsletters are archived within our web-site.
Each issue is listed with the most recent edition first.**

<http://www.lanierlandarc.org/newsletters.html>