



# Georgia On My Mind

Monthly Newsletter of the ARRL Georgia Section



June 2023

## Summer is Prime Ham Time

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### Letter from the Editor

#### **Fellow operators - I need your help!**

I hope you enjoy every issue of this newsletter, and I try to keep you informed and celebrate your events, successes and awards. Let's all brag on ourselves!! Let's share our good times with each other, physically and over-the-air.

However.... If you don't tell me about your news, I have a really hard problem knowing or publishing it. I may be good, lol, but I'm not that good.

My appeal has five facets:

- 1)If you are part of a club, please email me with the name of this club, the area it services, and contact information. Then, I can send spam, scratch that, request emails for information.
- 2)If you, or your club has participated in an event, again, email me! Let me know what you did, where you did it, any awards or details of interest and pictures are a nice touch.
- 3)If you have earned an award, POTA, ARES, WAS, and have a certificate, send it to me.
- 4)If you just earned your license, or have upgraded your license, send me that all-important email and let's brag on your achievement.
- 5)If you, or your club, will be sponsoring an activity or event - Hamfest, Swapfest, Fox Hunt, training class - and you are inviting the public, let me know, so I can let the entire state know.

I know that I'm missing out on a lot of news, and I'm sure you'd love to see your picture on these pages. TELL ME ABOUT IT!!!

Karen Spradlin, K4LJS  
Editor, Georgia on My Mind  
[GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com)

### Upcoming Events

June 24-25 - FIELD DAY

9/9/23 - Villa Rica Gold Rush Special Event

**Georgia on My Mind** is a monthly newsletter of the ARRL, Georgia Section, highlighting the activities of Amateur Radio Operators and Clubs within the State.

To submit pictures, articles, or notices, please email the editor Karen Spradlin, K4LJS, at [GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com](mailto:GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com) before the 5th of each month.

To see previous issues of **Georgia on My Mind**:  
[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1f6WBBhYzN-4Z-D69x0ceGIIpGcQulWI1?usp=share\\_link](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1f6WBBhYzN-4Z-D69x0ceGIIpGcQulWI1?usp=share_link)

# Legislative Action Needed

## All Amateur Radio Operators & Clubs House Resolution 4006

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit the application of certain private land use restrictions to amateur station antennas, and for other purposes.

<https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/house-bill/4006/titles>

The United States Congress is considering the "Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act" to remove private land use restrictions that prohibit, restrict, or impair the ability of Amateur Radio operators from operating and installing reasonable antennas on property that they own or control. This Act by Congressmen Bill Johnson (OH-06) and Joe Courtney (CT-02) reintroduced a bill in the US House of Representatives on June 12 - H.R.4006.

It is important that all Amateur Radio Operators, no matter if these restrictions apply to you or your station, ask your Congressman to support this legislation, especially during an emergency or disaster situation where Amateur Operators have the radio communications equipment needed to help our community, county, region and state emergency response.

Whether or not you are actively participating in Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) or other supporting civic teams, it is important to contact your U. S Representative asking them to support and pass this important legislation.

Georgia's 14 Representatives are:

- 1st District: Earl "Buddy" Carter,
- 2nd District: Sanford Bishop,
- 3rd District: Drew Ferguson,
- 4th District: Henry C. "Hank" Johnson,
- 5th District: Nikema Williams,
- 6th District: Rich McCormick,
- 7th District: Lucy McBath,
- 8th District: Austin Scott,
- 9th District: Andrew Clyde,
- 10th District: Mike Collins,
- 11th District: Barry Loudermilk,
- 12th District: Rick Allen,
- 13th District: David Scott, &
- 14th District: Marjorie Taylor Greene

If you do not know your U.S. Representative (Federal) enter your address on this webpage <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/GA#representatives> and find their contact link and phone numbers. Tell them you are self-supporting, buying and maintaining your own equipment for your base station and mobile/portable station for many types of radio and digital communications. If you're ARES, specifically mention your participation in ARES or AuxComm or CERT or SkyWarn or another program, your emergency response training for county, state and federal programs.

You may remember last March 2023; the Federal Emergency Management Guidelines provides a framework for communications resources within incident management that officially includes support from Amateur Radio Operators.

Share this with your family and friends asking them to contact their U.S. Representative in support of this important legislation.

Links:

[ARRL Notice \(PDF\)](#)

[House Bill \(PDF\)](#)

[This notice with example response \(PDF\)](#)

[Example response to your Representatives\(docx\)](#)

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## Georgia House Bill 706 dies in committee

<https://legiscan.com/GA/bill/HB706/2023>

Contact your local representative and encourage them to help push this through next year!

Tell your Representative and Senator you are one of over 19,000 Amateur Radio Operators in the State of Georgia and ask them to resubmit this bill next year, to reinstate the Amateur Radio License Plate without the special license plate fees.

Put in your home address at this website: [https://openstates.org/find\\_your\\_legislator/?address=](https://openstates.org/find_your_legislator/?address=)

# Items of Note

## WebMaster needed for Georgia Section

Georgia ARES is looking for a new Administrator/Designer (one person) to support two Georgia Amateur Radio websites, [gaares.org](http://gaares.org) and [arri-ga.org](http://arri-ga.org). Effective immediately or ASAP.

### Job skills:

You will need a solid understanding of HTML, PHP/phpMyAdmin, javascript, and Linux command line. We have awesome local Admin support for Linux, if you need it.

### Duties:

Admin duties include updating dynamic information to keep the websites current, maintain the members' list, reset passwords, respond to messages from users, and update the calendar. Designer would resolve design issues that occur (rarely) and update specific static text, links, maps, and documents. The websites' designs are stable and they support the Georgia ARES and ARRL-GA current needs. Any design changes would be determined by your skill level. A basic interview is part of the process. It usually takes a few hours a month to maintain the websites.

**HELPFUL skills:** Monitor gaares groups.io for GAARES announcements, updates, or any applicable information that can be added to the websites or the calendar.

Send an E-mail with an overview of your skills and experience to [dbbenoist@yahoo.com](mailto:dbbenoist@yahoo.com). We'll set up an interview and answer any questions you may have.

## Dangerous Microwave Radiation Exposure from Cell Phones - go Hands-Free

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/543831361229329>

This is a presentation regarding the fact that Telstra (an Australian telecommunication company) is now advising their clients of the dangers of this radiation. She references a Consumer Reports report of the signal transmissions from cell-phones and the harm it does to bone marrow.



Before the  
Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)	
Philip J. Beaudet	)	File No.: EB-FIELDNER-22-00034515
Licensee of Amateur Radio Station N6PJB, Burney, California	)	NAL/Acct. No.: 202332010003 FRN: 0001977578

NOTICE OF APPARENT LIABILITY FOR FORFEITURE

Adopted: May 30, 2023

Released: May 30, 2023

## Ham Operator Faces Fine for Disruptions to WARFA Net

A California man faces a possible \$24,000 fine for allegedly playing recordings during an amateur radio net and not providing his call sign.

Philip Beaudet has been issued a notice of apparent liability by the Federal Communications Commission for “apparently willfully and repeatedly interfering with the radio communications of the [Western Amateur Radio Friendship Association](#) while it was attempting to hold a regularly scheduled net and for failing to provide station identification on amateur radio frequencies.”

Beaudet is licensee of N6PJB in Burney, Calif. A net is an on-air meeting of amateurs.

The FCC said it received numerous complaints about Beaudet. It says that its agent went to Burney three times in late 2022 and in each case heard Beaudet playing recordings on 3.908 MHz that caused interference to the WARFA net while failing to provide his own call sign.

It said he has 30 days to pay the proposed fine or to respond with reasons it should be reduced or cancelled. “We caution Beaudet that future violations of this kind may result in significantly higher forfeitures or revocation of his amateur license,” it added.

Article courtesy of:

<https://www.radioworld.com/news-and-business/business-and-law/ham-operator-faces-fine-for-disruptions-to-warfa-net?fbclid=IwAR35JhJG7qc8TjuyMwp3upxgsj54F0D2SHQfQjlgYr6OQBLedOy68CNg1Uk>

Read the FCC ruling at:

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-23-449A1.pdf>

# Field Day Locations



Club	Location	Address	City
ARC of Augusta	Blythe City Hall	294 Church St.	Blythe
Athens	Fire Station #7	2350 S. Barnett Shoals Rd	Athens
Atlanta	Brook Run Park	4770 N. Peachtree Rd.	Dunwoody
Barrow County	Davidson Masonic Lodge	200 Pleasant Hill Church Rd.	Winder
Central GA & Middle GA ARC	Central Baptist Church	1120 Lake Joy Rd.	Warner Robins
Chattooga			
Cherokee Capital	Ag Center	1282 Hwy 53 Spur SW	Calhoun
Cherokee County	Rob Long Farm	2481 Hwy. 113	Taylorsville
Coastal	Airport Rec Center	194 Crossroads Pkwy.	Savannah
Columbus	Ellerslie Park	3280 GA Hwy 85	Ellerslie
Dalton	Prater's Mill	5845 Hwy. 2	Dalton/Varnell
David M Fiedler Memorial ARC	Pointes West Army Resort	Campsite 2M	Fort Gordon
Ellijay	Mountaintown Community Center	261 Mountaintown Rd.	Ellijay
Fayette County	Brooks Bears Football Field	905 Hwy 85 Connector	Brooks
Forsyth Monroe County	Country Club Park	343 Country Club Dr.	Forsyth
Hinesville ARES	Fort Morris	2559 Ft. Morris Rd. Campsite Pioneer 01	Midway
Jasper ARC	Cornerstone Church	140 Cornerstone Dr	Jasper
N. GA Tri-State	Meeks Park	Hwy. 515	Blairsville
Paulding County	Bill's Place		
Thomasville	Shriners Club	US 19 / GA 3	Thomasville
Tri-County	Jackson Co. Fire Training Center	64 Fowler Dr.	Jefferson
Tri-States	Cedar Grove Comm. Center	5395 W Cove Rd.	Chickamauga
West GA	Little Tallapoosa Park	1930 Hwy. 113 N	Carrollton

# Club Activities

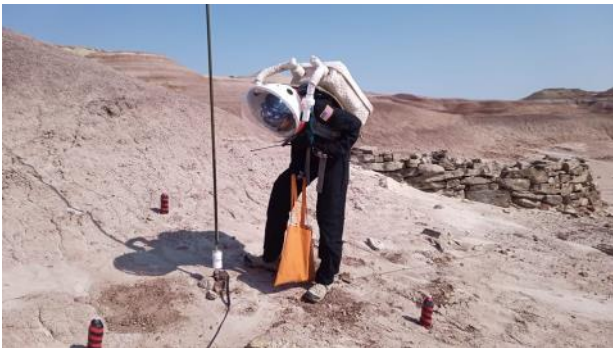
## North Georgia Amateur Radio Club

May 24's fox hunt was a great success. It only took about 45 minutes for the fox to be found. Actually I thought I hid it better than that. We had 7 hunters show up and I made 8. We had lunch at Rooster's after the hunt. A good time was had by all! I'm looking forward to the next one where we may expand the hunt area....this was too easy!



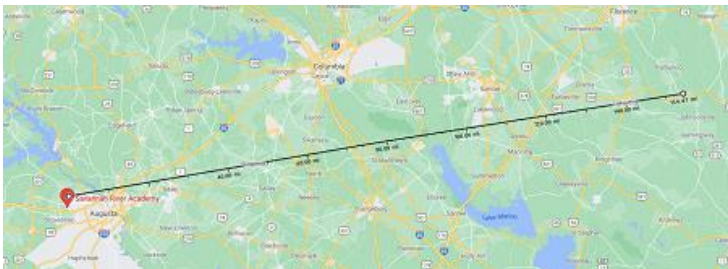
## Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County

KO4HLC, Rachel Jones, is running an HF portable station at the Mars Desert Research Station (MDRS) in Utah. Her crew, 281, is the last one of the MDRS season. She was trying to get 50 contacts before the end of day May 26.



Additionally, the ARCCC would like to recognize and thank Major Christopher Mace, Squadron Commander of the Civil Air Patrol at Daniel Field, for locating and recovering the Savannah River Academy's payload!

The balloon traveled over 154 miles. I know the students will be excited to see the pictures the payload was able to capture. We would like to personally thank all of the balloon chasers.



## Radio Merit Badge Sees Biggest Gain in Scouting

According to a *Scouting* magazine study of Merit Badges earned in 2022, Radio had the biggest jump.

It is now the 81st most popular Merit Badge, up from being 98th in 2021. Trailing just behind it on the biggest gains list is the Electronics Merit Badge, which jumped 15 spots, from 80th to 65th. To earn the rank of Eagle Scout, members must earn 21 badges, 14 of which are standard. The Scout gets to choose the remaining badges based on personal interests.



Special event station K4S in Jasper, Tennessee, 2018 photo; Radio Scouting.

## West Georgia Amateur Radio Society Carrollton, Georgia

There is a lot going on in West Georgia and Ham Radio. March saw a 4-fox hidden transmitter hunt. This was great fun with 7 teams hunting the foxes and a luncheon afterwards. Participants from Paulding, Carroll, Douglas, Heard, Haralson counties in Georgia as well as Cleburne County Alabama. We are planned a "learn about hidden transmitter hunts" day on Saturday April 29, 2023 at the VFW fairgrounds in Carrollton. The day will include demonstrations, building tape measure ya-gi antennas to be used at future events and an opportunity to test new skills. If you are interested in joining us, keep on eye on [wgars.com](http://wgars.com) or facebook/[wgars](http://wgars.com) or contact us at [club@wgars.com](mailto:club@wgars.com)

Georgia State Park Weekend – A number of members were around the state activated parks. N4K-GO, Kory, and Marty AF4XL operated from a pavilion at Chattahoochee Bend State Park along with Marshall, KK4OHF operating from the luxury of a cabin.

The warmer weather means the jet stream is changing and when the time is right we will be launching our first high-altitude balloon of 2023. With all the recent balloon controversy, this should be monumental hi-hi. Our local news station (WLBB) had the WGARS Balloon team on the air for a 30 minute interview recently, so there seems to be a great deal of community interest.

## Jasper Radio Club

Winter Field Day Results are in!!

Jasper Radio Club took first place in Georgia in our class. We also took Tenth place over all in our class. Great job everyone!!!

# Club News

**The Gwinnett County Fox Hunt was held on May 13<sup>th</sup>** and it seemed everyone had a great time!

I stated in a couple of postings, that the hope is that others will take interest and coordinate their own Fox Hunts in the various counties around the Atlanta Metro area. I will make available all planning and analysis documentation to anyone desiring to put a Fox Hunt on and utilize any aspects of this hunt event.

The 'first-to-find' of the off-site MAMA Fox was a Father/Daughter team. Surprisingly, the 'first-to-find' of the baby fox (PUP), was a **Different** Father/Daughter team. Way to go!

This event started on a beautiful day with nice temperatures and sunny skies in Eastern Gwinnett County.



We began with some brief introductions and to explain the objectives of the day for the Fox Hunt. I introduced our instructor guides: Jim Sorenson (KA4IIA) and Tim Lemmon (WK4U) who would give brief training sessions, including tips and tricks of using the various types of techniques and equipment that would be used. The goal – to find as many transmitters as possible, and above all, have fun and learn.

Once the frequencies for the initial hunt were posted on the 'Fox-o-Pole', one group stayed at ground zero (the Fox Den) at the Harbins Park Pavilion, while another group assembled and tested their equipment, then proceeding to seek out the Mama Fox which was hidden in nearby Tribble Mill Park.

There were some brief instructions given at the pavilion where the first training transmitter was located. This transmitter was not hidden, and was in full view on a tripod. The point of this was to see the fox and learn how one's equipment and various techniques behaved in relations to that transmitter. Once getting familiar with this, small groups were given the frequency of a second training transmitter, and headed for it some 300 feet Northwest. This second training transmitter was a little more

challenging as the location was in the woods, where we must now consider 'RF reflections', and the art of signal attenuating. With the instructors giving some DF'ing coaching, every last person/team found this transmitter by using their equipment and applying the various techniques to locate the small, camouflaged large pill bottle sized transmitter container laying in a small hollow tree stump.

As everyone would eventually make their way back to the Fox Den, they would see the frequency of the Pup Fox posted on the Fox-o-Pole so they in-turn could search for this one too. And those hunters returning from finding the Mama Fox (and everyone did), would return to see the Pup frequency posting where they could also go in-search for.

The Pup Fox was not aggressively hidden in the woods and was only 20 feet from the paved trail. However, me being a Geocacher, I decorated the slightly larger container, in camouflage, complete with fake leaf material. This Pup would be a bit harder to spot visually. Attenuation here is your friend. Here again, everyone found the Pup safe and sound.

Congratulations to **Richard (KR4OS) & Jessica (KR4JM) Matthews** (father/daughter team), who were the First to Find the **Mama Fox**. (left)

Congratulations to **Hal (W4IGE) & Hope (KO4PVM) Collier** (father/daughter team), who were the First to Find the **Pup Fox**. (right)

I want to thank Earl Whatley (AF4FG) for helping



with the event execution. I would also like to thank our instructors/guides: Jim Sorenson (KA4IIA) and Tim Lemmon (WK4U) - for providing instructions and guidance to the newer participants as well as hints to those just needing a nudge in the right direction.

<https://groups.io/g/GARS/album?id=287022>

*Joe Biddle (AD4PZ) Event Coordinator*

# Club Outings

## Atlanta ARC

The Atlanta Radio Club, W4DOC, participated in the 2003 Hams for PanCan Special Event Station, April 29th, in conjunction with the 2023 PurpleStride Pancreatic Cancer Walk.

The goal of Hams for PanCAN is to raise awareness, over the air, for pancreatic cancer through the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network's (PanCAN) PurpleStride event, the ultimate walk to end pancreatic cancer.

Due to a strange set of requirements from the PurpleStride folks, the ARC like other clubs were forced to operate from remote sites other than the actual PurpleStride location at the Westside Reservoir Park. The W4DOC event was held in Dunwoody at Brook Run Park. We still met the ultimate goal, raising awareness over the airwaves of pancreatic cancer, nonetheless.

Hams for PanCan grew out of a Special Event hosted by the Skyview Amateur Radio Society K3MJW in 2022. The folks in Kennsington PA reached out to many clubs across the country with an invitation to participate in the 2023 event.

ARC participated as a secondary station under the callsign W4DOC while the organizing group for Region 4 in Orlando, Lake Monroe Amateur Radio Society N4EH, operated as N4P. Other clubs operated in their regions as N#P or under their local club callsign.

Band conditions were not real cooperative and the QSO count for the event nationwide so far is 700. For those who made contact with N4P, a nice QSL card was being offered through the QRZ page N4P.

The Atlanta Radio Club looks forward to participating in 2024.

## Monroe County

Justin K2JFM, (Greg AA4AB in the back) Craig WB4WH, and Scott KK4CS manning the special event station at the Autism Festival. Broadcasting as K4A - special event call!



At the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Save-A-Pet Rescue Ride on 6/10/23, AA4AB-Greg Bridges shares his go-box and expertise.

## Barrow County

Farmers Market in Winder. We set up the first Saturday of every month to meet the public and talk about amateur radio and how we are involved in the Barrow community.



# In the News

## Ellijay Amateur Radio Society

Congratulations on our member Bill Hall (K9HRO) on making it into last weeks Ellijay newspaper honoring Memorial Day. Bill is a Gilmer County Reserve Deputy and performs Tapps for their honor guard. Bill also provides this service personally at the National Cemetary in Marietta. Thanks Bill for providing this time honored talent to our community and deserving veterans.



William Hall, an honorary deputy with the Gilmer County Sheriff's Office, plays "Taps."

## Fayette County

Fun night for the Fayette County Amateur Radio Club (April 27) - a fox hunt , pizza, and club meeting!

Congratulations Bryan Macera K7CPT first to find the foxes, closely followed by Jeff Davis KO4LEG.



## Cherokee County

I wanted to let everyone know that the CARS Club has officially been chosen as a host club for a direct ISS contact in early 2024. This is a huge honor and a huge undertaking to prepare for this event. We will be forming a team of about 4-5 people to assist with this event. Mac McCluer (AI4AK) has most of the needed equipment, but will need a lot of logistical help in preparing, testing, and deploying it the day of the event. We anticipate some additional STEM events at the school leading up to the Contact Date.

If you have a flexible schedule, have interest in helping with STEM activities, and can join this team, let me know. More info can be found at: <https://www.ariss.org/> You will see Mountain View Elementary School listed as the site. The North Fulton club is also involved and acting as the 100% redundant back-up station.

Martin Buehring - KB4MG  
Cherokee Amateur Radio Society - President



# ARISS

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station

## Gwinnett County

Lilburn Elementary School was one of 8 schools nationally to be selected for a Space Station contact during the January-June 2024 period. Of all the activities that GARS participates with youth, being a part of an ISS contact is at the top. Next step will be working with Daryl Young (NFARL) in the development of an equipment plan. Stay tuned for more news on this event.

Ralph Pickwick KJ4CNC  
Education Chairman  
Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society



# VHF Contest

A little POTA/VHF Contest/Portable operations action this weekend.

AF4DN, NG4DX & K4SJR logged 1,200+ contacts, at 3800' between the VHF contest and POTA activations, using FT-8 on 2 meters & 6 meters, 10, 15, 17, 20 & 40 meter



# Dots, Dashes & Tidbits

## Chattooga Amateur Radio Club



The repeater is repaired and we have put it back into service.  
KK4QWH  
147.225  
Summerville.



## Georgia Section Nets

### **ARES Phone & Digital Nets**

*Note: GA ARES Net information can be found at [gaares.org](http://gaares.org) – Select Nets & Frequencies*

### **Georgia Section ARES Net:**

Section Net Manager – Frank Hobbs, KN4QJ  
[kn4qj@arrl.net](mailto:kn4qj@arrl.net)

Net control operator – Frank Hobbs, KN4QJ  
Alt. net control operator – Jim Altman, W4UCK

### **Georgia Section ARES Digital Nets:**

Section Digital Net Manager, Don Jones, K4GO  
[k4go@arrl.net](mailto:k4go@arrl.net)

*Digital Team Leaders also serve as net control operators.*

### **Winlink Team Lead, Russell Prevost, AB4QQ**

Net control operators: Brian Freeman KN4DLT, Mark Bell N7GRB, Bill Hall K9HRO, David Blubaugh, ND1J

### **PSK & Traffic Nets Team Lead, Del Davis, W4DEL**

Net control operators: Bob Garza K4TLG, Don Jones K4GO Ken Wallis KM4HOS, Richard Austin W4BYT

### **D-RATS Net Team Lead, Hank Blackwood, K4HYJ**

Net control operators: Rial Sloan AI4ZV, Brian Freeman KN4DLT, Ed Walraven KM4IOA, Carter Grant KN4KBL

## **A.R.E.S. Monthly Report for June 2023**

Number of DECs/ECs reporting - 44

Number of ARES nets - 1893

Nets with NTS liaison -

Number of Exercises &

Training Sessions - 1013 (2638 hrs.)

Number of Public Service events - 26 (206 hrs.)

Number of Emergency Operations - 1 (27 hrs.)

Number of SkyWarn Operations - 1 (4 hrs.)

**Total of Exercises & Events 1041**

**Total of person hours 2874**

## Athens Radio Club

The Athens Radio Club held a SWAP MEET on June 6, 2023 during our monthly meeting at Fire Station # 2 in Athens.

