



Georgia On My Mind

Monthly Newsletter of the ARRL Georgia Section



November 2020

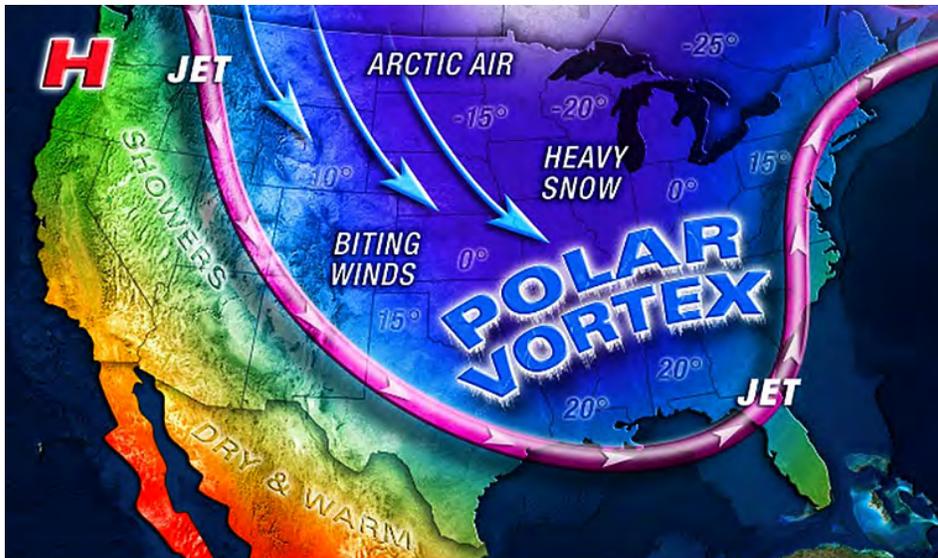
Special Issue: Club Programs, Promotion, & Motivation

New club programs help retain and motivate existing members while attracting new members. We explore new Georgia Section ARRL assets including tools, techniques, concepts and methods you can use to continue life-long learning and reach out to others, including new hams. Club officers and individual members play important roles by introducing youth, parents, teachers, community leaders and others to Amateur Radio of the 21st Century.

New Georgia Section ARRL Online Assets
Club Programs - Ideas, Sources & Presentations
Georgia on My Mind (GoMM) Newsletter Archive
Promoting Your Club
STEM Education Related

See next page for article describing folder contents.

Nov. 14 ARC - ARES EmComm Drill Showcases WinLink Message Relays



Enter a new message

Close Select Template Attachments Post to Outbox Spell Check Save in Drafts

From: W8ZY Send as: Winlink Message Request message receipt

To: ARCNORTHEAST

Subject: ARC 213-DR# . drill, Msg# . Routine

Attach: RMS_Express_Form_ARC 213 Message Initial Viewer.xml

ARC 213 GENERAL MESSAGE

DR#: Incident Name: drill Message#: **WinLink Express Template Example**
 Precedence: Routine
 To (Name and Position): arcnortheast
 From (Name and Position): w8zy
 Subject: drill
 Date: 2020-10-25
 Time: 16:05
 Message:
 Test

Approved by: w8zy
 Position/Title: sec

Express Sending Station: W8ZY
 Senders Express Version: 1.5.32.0
 Senders Template Version: ARC 213 1.4

A freak weather disaster wreaks havoc nationwide triggering a flurry of local WinLink messages transmitted to Divisional Clearinghouses. This is the extreme weather scenario launches a demo of our unique capability to relay precise messages via radio transmission Sat., Nov. 14 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. local time.

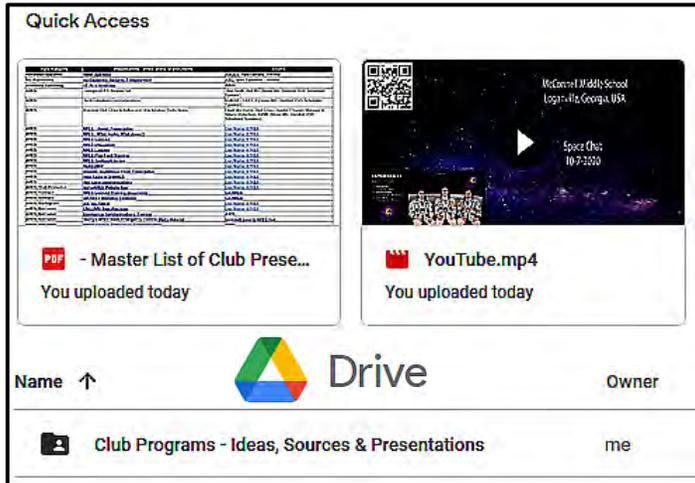
Use of WinLink message templates, primarily the ARC-213 General Message, will promote efficient message handling utilizing HF, VHF, UHF radio and, if available, an Internet pathway.

According to Georgia ARRL Section Emergency Coordinator Frank Dean, K4SJR said, "We want more operators to become familiar with using WinLink and its internal template collection. The ARC-213 (American Red Cross General Message Form) helps to standardize precise messaging.

"Unusual severe weather events across the entire country causing widespread utility outages and hazardous conditions make up the drill scenario. Review the [PDF briefing document](#). Email [Frank Dean](#) for drill instructions.

Slides, Outlines, Documents And Other Resources Now Available In Shared Google Drive Folders

Revisiting the same old topics for club presentations can get stale after a while. Now you can choose from slide shows, lists of programs and related material about dozens of topics covering nearly all aspects of Amateur Radio in a new Georgia Section ARRL Repository. These assets are contained in several publicly available Google Drive folders.



A growing collection of [Club Programs](#) include individual PDF files of presentation slides, outlines and documents. This folder contains a single PDF document listing Internet accessible presentations and videos.

The Club Programs folder contains a [Master List](#) of Club Presentations with includes links to videos and slides, a listing of Georgia Section ARRL officials with the area of responsibilities and the North Fulton Amateur Radio League's comprehensive list of "Things To Do In Amateur Radio."

PLEASE NOTE: All of this material was created by other people for public viewing. Respect their ownership of the materials. They are made available here for educational purposes only. Individuals may download a copy for their OWN use as a reference.

If used for a one-time educational presentation you must clearly provide author credits, preferably in writing within the material presented and spoken during verbal presentation.

We've made available an [archive](#) of Georgia Section monthly newsletters. Georgia on My Mind (GoMM) newsletter issues include current (starting with June, 2020), occasional bulletins and a few older back issues. This growing collection will add new issues as they are published and back issues as we locate those GoMM and earlier newsletters.

Your assistance in locating and [emailing](#) to us older Georgia Section newsletters will be greatly appreciated. If more than one issue is being provided you can compress (Zip) a collection of files and attach the compressed file if it is less than 25 MB. If the files are downloadable from a website or other online location simply copy the link(s) and paste them into your email to the address above.

A separate Google Drive folder for [Club Promotion](#) includes slides and other materials created for external audiences. In addition to outreach directed toward such groups as Scouting and Community Emergency Response Teams a good example of a general audience presentation is "A hobby that's fun & useful... A quick overview of amateur (ham) radio" presented to the Newnan Rotary Club during September, 2020 by Joe Domaleski, K14ASK.

A folder containing [STEM Education](#) related materials in different categories provides background information about formal Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education programs. Also included are Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) and related materials as well as classroom presentations and curriculum for use by teachers, some of which is created by ARRL.

Topic Category	Presentations - Video, Slides or Documents	Source
160 Meter Operation	160M Operation	ARCC , Pete LaPiere, K10YQ
5G, Electronics	5G Explained: Security & Deployment	ARC , Jyrki Penttinen - AG6SN
Antennas, Operating	HF Wire Antennas	ARRL
ARES	Georgia ARES Hospital Net	Bret Smith, W4HBS (Stone Mtn. Hamfest 2020 Scheduled Speaker)
ARES	"AUXC-Auxiliary Communications"	KJ4KKB / KK4YLX (Stone Mtn. Hamfest 2020 Scheduled Speakers)
ARES	American Red Cross Activities and How Amateur Radio Helps,"	David Abrohams, Red Cross Disaster Program Manager & Wayne Robertson, K4WK (Stone Mtn. Hamfest 2020 Scheduled Speakers)
ARES	ARES - Hawaii Presentation	Dan Marler K7REX
ARES	ARES - What works. What doesn't	Dan Marler K7REX
ARES	ARES Connect	Dan Marler K7REX

McElroy Family Amateur Radio Ballooning Update

Tom McElroy, W4SDR and Janet McElroy, K4PRM report that son Jack, KM4ZIA and daughter Audrey, KM4BUN were recently contacted by Mr. Bill Brown WB8ELK, an Engineer at NASA. Bill has worked with Jack and Audrey in numerous events and conferences over several years. He recommended Jack and Audrey participate in the [STEM in 30](#) Amateur Radio-equipped Balloon launch sponsored by the National Air and Space Museum.



STEM in 30 is a 30 minute webcast that engages middle school students in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) topics. The webcast series is directed toward middle school students. New episodes are released every month, followed by an Air and Space Live Chat. The [October 22, 2020](#) live chat session video includes Jack and Audrey who are introduced about three minutes into the 31 minute video.

The shows are interactive. Students respond to polls and submit questions that are answered online or during the live broadcast. Educators are provided with additional content and follow-up activities to extend the experience beyond the live webcast.

Each show meets Next Generation Science Standards. See the complete [listing](#) of shows and activities through May 13, 2021.

Jack and Audrey have become significant personalities online and were featured in the [July 2020](#) issue of this [newsletter](#). According to the McElroy's, "Balloons carry sophisticated Amateur Radio telemetry systems that allow you to use your mobile device to track the flight as it travels 28,000 feet across the earth.

"The event is part of middle-school outreach from the National Air and Space Museum, primarily targeting educators. Jack and Audrey are now veteran balloon builders and radio-telemetry experts so they were asked to launch, and participate in the Q&A panel of experts on the topic.

"Two weeks ago, we took them both out of school early to travel to Nashville for the favorable launch-time wind conditions. Their launch was included on the Smithsonian's STEM in 30 [Twitter feed](#). We received excellent feedback from Smithsonian staff, as well as the Forsyth Central High Schigh School STEM academy staff. Teachers have been stopping Jack and Audrey to offer congratulations."

On October 9th teachers from across the country participated in coordinated launch of medium altitude balloons. One of these balloons was still going, two weeks later having completed one lap around the globe. Audrey and Jack provided an update on the path of the balloon, what students can learn from a launch and how teachers can get involved in similar programs.

STEM in 30 was live.
October 22 at 1:00 PM · 🌐

Balloon Launch Update Live Chat
Earlier this month, 11 teachers and classrooms from across the country launched medium altitude balloons in a coordinated launch! Since the launch, these balloons have traveled thousands of miles and have been tracked over Ireland, Spain, and Italy. Tune in to hear from experts in the field and students who participated in the experiment and learn about this student project, the weather involved in taking these high-flying travelers, and how students can get involved in similar opportunities.

Jack and Audrey are shown lower right corner. Show host Marty Kelsey (upper left), teacher Trevor MacDuff (upper right) and KMBC9 Meteorologist Neville Miller (lower left).

Georgia Schools Benefit From ARISS Contacts

Enthusiasm for Space Science is driving the latest effort to land an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (**ARISS**) program in the Greater Augusta area. Rachel Jones, KO4HLC has taken up the challenge of promoting ARISS to schools. Talks are underway with a specific school to take on the challenge of securing and embracing a unique learning experience.

The overall effort in Georgia is quarterbacked by Martha Muir, W4MSA Georgia Section ARRL Assistant Section Manager, Section Youth Coordinator. She and other dedicated Amateur Radio operators have helped bring this successful Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (**STEM**). ARISS places Amateur Radio squarely in the classroom.

Martha's drive and dedication has helped make the ARISS program a success in several Georgia schools. She is one of many dedicated Radio Amateurs who help provide this truly unique learning experience for today's young students, some of whom will be tomorrow's innovators and leaders.



Daryl Young, K4RGK provides his mobile tower and antenna array with Az-EI pointing capability for ARISS programs.

Get Your Club And Local Educators Involved With Space Science & ARISS

- ▶ Learn about **ARISS goals and objectives**.
- ▶ Understand the role of **ARRL** and **AMSAT**.
- ▶ Read about **Hosting a Contact in the US**.
- ▶ Watch a video about **how to submit a proposal**.
- ▶ See recommendations for **Ground Station** configuration.
- ▶ Discover ARISS **News, Forms and Resources**.
- ▶ **Direct contact** (unscheduled) with ISS Astronauts.

[Download NASA's 20th Anniversary Poster Honoring ARISS](#)



Augusta And Savannah Clubs Jump Start Swap Meets In Georgia



“Must Wear Mask Inside” and face-shield are signs of the times at Amateur Radio Club of Augusta’s Oct. 17, 2020 Swap Meet - First in-person club event in 8 months.



Breathing Easier Outdoors



A Young Buyer Checks Radio At ARCA Swap Meet

Sellers Meet Buyers At Savannah Swap Meet



ARRL Georgia Section Manager David Benoist, AG4ZR makes a point while answering a question during his “meet and great Oct. 24.’



Bob Officer, WA6WAY enjoys the good weather during at the Savannah Swap Meet

Dalton Amateur Radio Club Hamfest Planned For Feb. 27, 2021

If all goes as planned (hoped for?) gates will open at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 27th for Georgia’s first publicly announced [2021 hamfest](#).

This ARRL sanctioned hamfest coincides with nearby Volunteer Examiner license testing. The Dalton Amateur Radio Club ([DARC](#)) sponsors an open repeater, W4DRC on the top of Fort Mountain. The repeater will be used for talk-in.

Admission is \$5 and an entry in prize drawings. There is an additional \$5 charge for boneyard sellers. Vendors should contact Tom Smith, KI4IG, via phone at 706 618-6097 or contact the club via [email](#) regarding tables.



Dalton Amateur Radio Club

W4DRC

PO BOX 211
Dalton, GA 30722
www.w4drc.com

W4DRC@yahoo.com
145.230 - 141.3
443.000 + 141.3

Georgia Amateur Radio News Items

GA ARES Nets Mapping Project

A project is underway to map contacts from state and local nets to develop a history of contacts over time and to analyze coverage of various nets and modes, valuable during emergency mobilization. Weekly map updates are planned and analysis will be shared. For additional information contact Lee Stone, KT4LS GA ARES ASEC Special Operations.

November Is CW Emphasis Month

North Fulton Amateur Radio League's ([NFARL](#)) Jim Stafford, W4QO will be leading the effort. According to NFARL President John Norris, N4IHV "We invite everyone who wants to learn CW to join Jim's online class during his weekly CW-CHATs Thursdays at 8:00 p.m. local time. During November a "boot camp" for those who want to go from zero to 5 words per minute sending and receiving speed. Email [Jim](#) with subject "Ready for CW" and include your name and call sign in the message.

LaFayette Middle School Radio Ramblers Combine Contest & Video

Jody Carter, W4LMS is a Computer Science Teacher at LaFayette Middle School (LMS) in LaFayette GA. She is the [Rambler Radio Club](#) sponsor at LMS. Jody reports that on October 19 and 20 two club members enjoyed radio contacts and simultaneous YouTube Livestreams with YouTuber [W7HU Alex](#). The "Ramblers" scored [3,000 points](#) in the [ARRL School Club Roundup](#) during the week of October 19-23.

2020 Georgia QSO Party Results

The Georgia QSO Party ([GQP](#)) is a Amateur Radio operating event conducted annually on the 2nd full weekend of April. This year the date was April 11th. Amateur Radio operators outside of Georgia contact Radio Amateurs located inside the state of Georgia. The GQP is sponsored by the [South East](#) Contest Club and [Southeastern](#) DX Club.

There are two club awards: Highest Aggregate Club Score **in Georgia** and Highest Aggregate Club Score **outside of Georgia**. Individual Radio Amateurs may assign their own score to count for a particular club's total score. A variety of [awards](#) are available to high scorers. For complete scoring see 2020 [Scores](#), [Plaque](#) winners and [Club Scores](#).

Mutual Assistance Team Video

Don Coltrane, KJ4UC Deputy Section Emergency Coordinator for GA ARES describes the Mutual Assistance Team concept as it applies to ARES. The hour-long [video](#) is part of a series of top quality Amateur Radio [training videos](#) available to anyone with an interest in the advanced topics covered. Dan Marler, K7REX leads the Radio Amateur Training Planning and Activities Committee (RATPAC).

In-Person VE Tests Available Again

North Fulton ARL VE sessions have resumed. Go to this [page](#) for detailed information about their test sessions conducted on the second Saturday of each month. The Amateur Radio Club of Columbia County sponsors [VE Testing](#) on the second Saturday of odd months.

These two organizations are representative of many testing sessions in Georgia listed by ARRL. Search their website for an up-to-date listing of [In-Person](#) or [Online](#) exam sessions. Be sure to double-check and confirm all listed information about a particular scheduled session you plan to attend.

Georgia ARES Oct. 2020 Report

Georgia ARES volunteers contributed a total of 2,486 hours of service in a variety of event classifications. For a complete breakdown see the 10-2020 Georgia ARES [Volunteer Hours](#) report. The Georgia ARES [District report](#) lists counties within the nine districts showing the number of ARES Connect users and hours volunteered.

Transmit Pictures & Text Via D-STAR

Joe Domaleski passed on information about a D-STAR Picture Net which is being used to exchange pictures, text messages, and positional information. According to information received, several ICOM transceiver models are being used with two Android apps communicating via REF072D.

Sending photos and graphics via the D-STAR digital mode is the subject of a variety of YouTube videos. Tommy Martin, N5ZMO representing AmateurLogic.TV has a [video](#) on the Icom America YouTube [channel](#). [HamRadioConcepts](#) has a good quality tutorial. Also see the [information](#) forwarded by Joe along with two photos.

SKYWARN Spotter Training Goes Live Online

Lynn Bianco, KN4YZ Georgia Deputy Section Emergency Coordinator reports that the first ever online SKYWARN Spotter Training was held October 14, 2020.

His email to GA ARES recipients generated considerable discussion about SKYWARN policies, procedures and training. An attached PDF file contained this well thought out and attractive Georgia [SKYWARN summary](#), shown below.

Although tornado season in Georgia tends to be in Spring and Summer months tornadoes are unpredictable and sometimes generate large areas of destruction.

There were 7 confirmed tornadoes in the NWS PTC region from the remnants of Hurricane Delta that came through Saturday afternoon and evening. Remember that lightning can strike as much as 10-15 miles away from the parent storm.

According to information provided on the [NWS training](#) portal, "Severe Weather Spotters are a vital link in the timely and accurate flow of weather information into and out of weather forecast offices. [Click here](#) to learn more.

"Storm Spotter training is available to the public as conducted by the local NOAA/NWS Forecast Office on an annual scheduled basis. If you are interested in attending these training sessions and becoming a spotter, please contact your [NWS Forecast office](#).

Several forecast offices cover various parts of Georgia including [Atlanta](#), [Charleston](#), [Columbia](#), [Jacksonville](#) and [Tallahassee](#). Each forecast office provides its own schedule for courses. Some provide details about on-demand online training.



National Weather Service Peachtree City Severe Weather Information www.weather.gov/atlanta



SEVERE WEATHER REPORTING PROCEDURES:

What to report...

TORNADOES FUNNEL CLOUDS WALL CLOUDS	Organized, persistent rotation
HAIL	Half Inch in diameter or larger
DAMAGING WINDS	Large branches, trees, powerlines, or signs blown down. Roof damage and structure damage.
FLOODING	Flooding of streets or highways. Is it posing a risk to life or property?
WINTER WEATHER	Any ice/snow accumulation
LIGHTNING	Injuries or damage caused by lightning

How to report...

- Keep your report **brief**
- **Identify yourself** as a trained spotter
- Provide your **exact location** or **cross streets**
- Tell us **what** you saw
- Give the **event's time**

If you are in doubt as to whether or not an event is severe, **make the report anyway.**

Never assume someone has already made the report!

Spotter Guidebook: <https://www.weather.gov/media/owlie/SGJune6-11.pdf>

HAM Radio (Local) Information

<http://georgiaskywarn.com/> **WX4PTC** **146.820 mHZ**

NOAA Weather Radio

STATION	LOCATION	FREQ. (MHz)
WXJ72	Taylor's Ridge	162.450
WWH23	Buchanan	162.425
KXI76	LaGrange	162.450
WXM32	Columbus	162.400
WXJ30	Americus	162.425
WXJ31	Thomaston	162.500
KEC80	Atlanta	162.550
WXK52	Chatsworth	162.400
KXI75	Blue Ridge	162.475
KXI22	Brasstown Bald	162.500
WXJ53	Cleveland	162.525
WXK56	Athens	162.400
KXI89	Eatonton	162.525
KXI28	Sandersville	162.450
KPS506	Washington	162.500
WXK71	Macon	162.475
KXI77	Eastman	162.400

TO REPORT SEVERE WEATHER 24 HOURS A DAY, ANY DAY OF THE YEAR:
Call **1.866.763.4466**

NWS Products to Look For & Monitor...

- Hazardous Weather Outlook
- Area Forecast Discussion
- Special Weather Statement
- Watches/Warnings

Spotter Database

<http://tinyurl.com/zw7snvx>

Facebook:

US National Weather Service Peachtree City

Twitter: @NWSAtlanta

YouTube:

NWSPeachtreeCity

Internet:

www.weather.gov/atlanta

Through Email...

SR-FFC.webmaster@noaa.gov

Cell Phone

mobile.weather.gov

Spotter Certificates:

http://www.weather.gov/media/ffc/spotter_cert_web.pdf

Club Recharge Revisited And Updated

Renee Conaway, KK4LOJ, ADEC Northeast GA ARES and Georgia Section Public Information Coordinator has, for many years, observed the activities of a variety of healthy and successful Amateur Radio Clubs. Some of these clubs and their members have directly benefited from her efforts and experience. She is also a key player in the managerial ranks of several major special events that include Amateur Radio in one way or another.

As a section official with public information and communications responsibilities she has shared her ideas, thoughts and observations about how Amateur Radio Clubs, Societies and Leagues can and do grow their clubs. Renee wrote a regular series of "Club Recharge" articles in this newsletter. Taken together, her ideas could be the basis for a handbook about the subject. Such a book is needed now more than ever.

Commenting on the status of club activities, ARRL Georgia Section Manager David Benoist said, "The Covid-19 Pandemic and resulting quarantine have caused a handful of clubs to all but disband. Many others have, out of necessity, cut back or eliminated in-person gatherings. We are starting to reverse this trend. Positive developments include recent club swap meets held outdoors, some renewed in-person license testing and other activities."

Positive Developments

A "silver lining" in the gray clouds of this public health crisis is the now almost universal familiarity and use of video conferencing and "distance learning." Use of Go-To-Meeting, Google Meet, Skype, Zoom and other online conferencing services has penetrated Amateur Radio and in many cases saved the day in keeping clubs together despite restrictions on gatherings. A significant step forward was adoption of license testing via online video. This innovation will have a long-term positive impact on the growth of Amateur Radio.

Perhaps the biggest positive factor in strong continued activities by Radio Amateurs world-wide is the cohesiveness and adaptability of our "hams." There have been many innovators, creators and cheerleaders for Amateur Radio. In fact, some clubs report strong growth in newly licensed operators who also became club members.

To build on this upward trend we're revisiting Renee's original "Club Recharge" program ideas and suggestions as the basis for this article.

New Hams Recruited At Public Service Events

[Part 97](#) of the FCC Rules state that the first of five basic principles of the basis and purpose of amateur radio is, "Recognition and enhancement of the value of the amateur service to the public as a voluntary, noncommercial communication service..." We are always looking for more club members. Volunteers at events like races, rides, and runs who strike up a conversation about how your radio works is a perfect recruit.

To discover new opportunities for public service start by asking your club members what other organizations they are involved in and if there are any events that could use communications assistance. Area civic clubs sponsor events and they need program speakers. Prepare a talk on amateur radio's public service mission. Communicate with the meeting chairs of the civic clubs and offer to give the presentation at an upcoming meeting. Look for events with geographical challenges for cell phones.

Reach Out To Public Safety Officials

Police and fire departments often use large public events as drills. Find out who will be in charge of the activities on the day of the event and ask how to be of service. When you are asked to participate in a public service event, make a plan. There are many Incident Command System ([ICS](#)) forms to help plan and coordinate volunteers and equipment. Practice the plan and test all equipment prior to the day of the event. Share your completed ICS documents with public safety officials if they haven't already provided their input. ICS is used by Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers.

Strength In Numbers

It's good to know your neighborhood neighbors so they don't mind so much when you put up another antenna. It's better to know your neighboring club neighbors! They are the first people you can reach out to when you need a little extra help at your next public service event. They are a great resource for program ideas for upcoming meetings. They have members who are skilled in things you may be missing in your club.

Joint Field Day operations with two clubs is a great opportunity to working with others to accomplish a successful event.A

Club Recharge, Continued

If you don't already do so, check in to other club's regularly scheduled nets. Strike up conversations during the "regular time" portion of the net. You may just find your next club program presenter! If you are an officer of your club, make it a point to contact officers of nearby clubs and get to know each other. Your amateur radio operating community will be stronger for it.

Community Outreach

Speaking of clubs, in the U.S. there thousands of community-based adult "service clubs" with weekly meetings featuring lunch or dinner speakers of community minded individuals. Some of the better known service clubs are [Altrusa](#), [Civitan](#), [Exchange](#), [Junior Chamber International](#), [Junior Achievement](#), [Kiwanis](#), [Lions](#), [Rotary](#), and [Sertoma](#).

Youth Development

A [Radio Merit Badge](#) is available for both Boy Scouts of America (now coed) and [Girl Scouts](#). The subject is applicable to Science, Technology, Engineering and Math ([STEM](#)) learning. It is an excellent way to assist young people while introducing them to the radio world we enjoy. In case you aren't aware of the annual Boy Scouts of America "Jamboree On The Air" ([JOTA](#)) worldwide event it's an easy way to visit and get acquainted with a participating Scouting organization and learn about their programs. Don't compete with existing scout troops and other units, simply offer a way to enhance their own programs.

Attracting new youthful hams means appealing to their current interests -- text messaging, wireless computing, space sciences, Linux and software programming, etc. A club meeting program relating to interests middle and high school [students](#) may be attractive to kids, parents, teachers, etc. Invite local Scout troops, school science clubs and other [youth groups](#) like [Boys and Girls Clubs](#), then build relationships with leaders of these groups.

Field Day is also a great event to attract young people to Amateur Radio. Organizations with local youth activities include [Civil Air Patrol](#) squadrons as well as high school [Air Force](#), [U.S. Army](#), [Marine Corps](#) and [Navy](#) Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps may welcome opportunities for novel field training exercises and exposure to radio communications techniques.

Home-schooling has grown into a major education activity. Parents and event organizers look for novel and interesting ways to teach Science and Math.

For home-schoolers, there is almost always a formal curriculum that includes STEM Topics. During the past decade home-schooling has become [organized](#) and [resources](#) have hugely increased. Opportunities for presentation of radio-related science topics to ad-hoc or organized groups of home-school students or formation of local or regional Amateur Radio clubs consisting of home-school students and parents might be possible in your area.

Helping a newcomer to Amateur Radio gain the knowledge and experience they need is one of the most important services clubs provide. Having knowledgeable, skilled and available Elmers in your club means your newly licensed hams know who to reach out to for help. Discovering a new Radio Amateur's specific interests and building on those interests is a good way to attract and retain new members committed to the club.

Elmering Elmers?

Amateur Radio [Elmers](#) are usually enthusiastic and knowledgeable about their particular area of Amateur Radio interests. Asking them to present a talk about their specialty expands your club's offerings and may even attract new Radio Amateurs.

If an Elmer has never presented a formal program find a club member who has done so. Elmering Elmers about presentation [techniques](#) could catch on! Your club might even sponsor a regional Amateur Radio oriented "how-to present" workshop (in-person or via video conference) to develop a regional cadre of new presenters.

Recognition

Personal recognition is vital in any ongoing organization. Longtime Elmers, net control operators, even individuals who progress to higher levels of licensing keep your people vital and active. Something as simple as a monthly, quarterly or annual award certificate can serve as a motivator for the recipient and might even foster growth of achievers in a club. If it's in your club budget, gift certificates to favorite stores or a special Elmer dinner are great ways to say thank you!

But Wait! There's More...

The ARRL website has something for everyone. A future issue of GoMM will provide a list of ARRL resources useful in attracting new Radio Amateurs and growing your club.