

Here's an invitation to participate in

TechFest 2011

To view the complete info package, just follow the link below.

<http://tinyurl.com/23lopad>

We are offering a free table for Amateur Radio clubs or groups that wish to either present a mode or method of operation or display club materials. We have limited space so the sooner we know you wish to participate, the better. You are welcome to reserve a table and talk about your group and their activities. If you haven't attended a TechFest in the past, you'll find it's a great way to meet fellow hams and learn about how others enjoy our hobby. If you are interested, please phone or email Norm, wa4zxv@arrl.net.

This is a completely open event, so please share the date and time with your friends.

73

Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV

Here's a note I received last year about TechFest:

"For me TechFest was a Rip Van Winkle experience! I hadn't been on the air in 40 years, and I didn't know how to start up again. SMDs, Echolink, satellites, software defined radios! Techfest exposed me to what was new, but also gave me a Proustian sense of the present - CW, DX clubs, and tube radios - the kinds of things I use to do.

Going to TechFest is like going to a giant candy store. Lots of sweets, but also lots of flavors. At TechFest, it's all radio, but there are lots of different radio flavors to sample.

At TechFest I met hams with similar interests (building kits and CW), clubs to help me get on the air, and equipment that I could build and use. What I saw at last year's TechFest helped me chart my direction in ham radio.

I plan to be back this year to sample a little more - and perhaps discover another radio flavor to sample.

Phil, licensed in 1959, back in ham radio in 2009."

Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society TechFest 2011



- **Free Admission - Bring your family and friends**
- **Free Tailgating - Bring your old or new equipment** to sell or trade (Bone yard opens at 8:00)
- **Free Indoor table for your clubs demonstrations -** Sign up to share your expertise or interest (reservations required).



What: TechFest 2011
When: January 8, 2011, 10:00 AM-2:00 PM
Tailgate from 8:00 AM till 12:00 Noon
Location: St Marguerite D'Youville Church
85 Gloster Rd NW, Lawrenceville, GA 30044
(Just off Highway 29, SW of Lawrenceville)
Price: Free! Includes Chili/Burger lunch

You are invited to attend, participate and publicize this event in your Amateur Radio publications.

The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society (GARS), and The Gwinnett Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), will be hosting our annual **TechFest**. In recent years we have invited regional radio groups to participate by setting up a table with information about their activities and to demonstrate some type of amateur radio mode, method, technology or experience. This will be an opportunity for the community to become aware of the many modes of operation of Radio Amateurs and view some of the preparations taking place by public service volunteers in the Ham radio community. Unlike Field day, this is not a contest or race. It is a chance to experience parts of our hobby that you might never have seen. Or to show your friends and family what Amateur Radio is about.

- See demonstrations of Packet Radio, APRS, IP-based communications.
- Learn how Amateur Radio and Scouting are having fun and working together to improve everyone's world, and how you can get your kids and grandkids involved.
- Take one of the Amateur Radio Exams (please read the VE testing requirements VE Fee Applies).
- See Amateur Radio Digital Modes in operation, including D-Star!
- Talk to Amateur Radio Emergency Services personnel.
- Visit the Tailgate lot for that special purchase.
- HF, VHF and UHF radios will be in operation at scheduled intervals.
- Eat and compete at the GARS Chili Cook-Off. Burgers also provided.
- Demonstrations of HF, VHF, UHF, QRP, CW, Satellite, digital, antennas, portable operations, electronic gadgets, Club and Ham Services.
- Forums – in years past, there have been class room style forums on DXing and tower building. We would be interested in hearing your idea for a presentation this year.

You are invited to EAT and COMPETE at the GARS Chili Cook-off at the GARS **TechFest**. Some of the best chili in North Georgia will be free for you to eat and enjoy. And if you think your version of your Grandma's chili is "the bomb" (sometimes literally), bring a crock pot full of it with you and compete for coveted honors among your amateur brethren.

The idea of **TechFest** was first tested in 1998 when Kevin Berry, KF4RMA expressed interest in an event who's primary function was to expose members of the community to the many facets of Amateur Radio.

TechFest is a chance to hear the truth about radios and antennas, without the flashy spin that a salesperson might put on it. Indeed, no dealers or commercial activity is permitted during the event. **TechFest** encourages the free exchange of ideas and knowledge. Watch the GARS web site for the latest information on this year's **TechFest**. It is an inside event, so unless there is some really strange weather, it should occur as scheduled.

The tailgating area outside in the parking lot at GARS **TechFest** has grown over the years. It has become a nice place to buy, sell, or trade radio gear, electronics, and other radio related items. Even towers have been known to be sold at **TechFest**. Tailgating starts at 8:00am and usually runs until about noon. Tailgate space is free and on a first come first serve basis. If you plan to set up some tailgate space, you will need to bring your own tables and chairs.

If you, or your club, have a special interest in some mode of amateur radio operations or electronics and would like to share your equipment and experiences or expertise with the community, please give me a call at 770-313-9410 or email at wa4zxv@arrl.net to arrange for a table to showcase your project. Space is somewhat limited, so go ahead and reserve a table now. This is also a good time for Elmers to show up and share some tales of Ham radio history.

TechFest setup starts at 9:00am and doors open to visitors at 10:00am. Lunch is served around noon along with the delicious GARS Chili Cook-off chili.

Be sure to invite your non-Ham family and friends. This should be a great family experience and a time for some of our younger citizens to become interested in the Magic of Amateur Radio.

Questions or comments can be directed to me, Norm Schklar, WA4ZXV, Cell 770-313-9410, wa4zxv@arrl.net. **TechFest** information is available on the web site www.gars.org.

GARS TechFest 2011, January 8, 2011

This is preliminary information and subject to change. July 14, 2010



TechFest Demonstration / Table Request

(Please Print / Write Clearly)

Your Name: _____

Organization: _____

Callsign if applicable: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Title of Demonstration: _____

Description of your demonstration: _____

Number of tables: _____

Do you need power? Yes No

Do you need access to outside antenna? Yes No

Thank you for participating in GARS TechFest.

Setup will start @ 9:00 AM

Mail to:

TechFest Chairman

480 N Peachtree Street

Norcross, GA 30071

Email to: wa4zxv@arrl.net

Fax to: 770-755-5411

TechFest 2011

January 8, 2011, Lawrenceville, GA

sponsored by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

TechFest is both an *ARRL-sanctioned hamfest* and a *show-and-tell* of the various facets of amateur radio. TechFest forums and exhibits will cover:

- MARS
- SSB
- D-STAR
- CW
- Echolink
- QRP
- PSK31
- Packet
- VHF
- AMSAT
- UHF
- HF

Other attractions include:

- ARRL Exhibit
 - VE Testing
 - ARES
 - Local EmComm
 - Tailgating
- and it's all free, no entry fee, no tailgate fee

Do you know someone you'd like to introduce to ham radio? This is an excellent opportunity to do so!

TechFest will be held at: St. Marguerite D'Youville Catholic Church
85 Gloster Road NW
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

advance information
subject to change

For more info, visit www.gars.org.

TechFest 2011

January 8, 2011, Lawrenceville, GA

sponsored by the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

TechFest is both an *ARRL-sanctioned hamfest* and a *show-and-tell* of the various facets of amateur radio. TechFest forums and exhibits will cover:

- MARS
- SSB
- D-STAR
- CW
- Echolink
- QRP
- PSK31
- Packet
- VHF
- AMSAT
- UHF
- HF

Other attractions include:

- ARRL Exhibit
 - VE Testing
 - ARES
 - Local EmComm
 - Tailgating
- and it's all free, no entry fee, no tailgate fee

Do you know someone you'd like to introduce to ham radio? This is an excellent opportunity to do so!

TechFest will be held at: St. Marguerite D'Youville Catholic Church
85 Gloster Road NW
Lawrenceville, GA 30044

advance information
subject to change

For more info, visit www.gars.org.