Another promise kept:

As your President I am very pleased to inform you that the IRS has granted our application as a 501(c) (3). This is only for our State of Alabama corporate entity 045-257, which was restored in July. The effective date of exemption is December 29, 2015. This means contributions made to the club entity 045-257 are deductible in the 2015 tax year. Now to the obvious question - No, your dues are not deductible. Please contact your tax advisor regarding any deductible expenses you may have incurred supporting club activities for Cotton Row Run, Field Day, the Rocket City Cycle Club, the Rocket City Marathon and many other events we supported last year. If you need a letter of recognition of your contribution contact me or Bob Burns. We will review your information and provide a letter back to you on Club Letterhead. Our letter back to you does not indicate it is a legitimate deductible expense on your Tax filing, this is only between you and the IRS, and we are not your tax representative. But if it is a legitimate expense as ruled by the IRS it would be further supported by our letter back to you. I want to thank all the board members in support of this effort; we all worked very hard at this.

It took us about 6 months and a lot of hard work to get this done. We have said all along that you did not need to dissolve the club and reform it again to obtain the 501 (c) (3) and this proves that. All we did was update the constitution, complete IRS Form 1023 and submit the $400.00 filing fee. The board approved the $400.00 filing fee expense back in December as prescribed in the procedures in the constitution.

What the other club led by the other group did was dissolve the club, file a new name reservation and re-incorporate which cost about $375.00, add to that the IRS filing fee of $400.00 and it amounts to $775.00. Yet some parties thought that this was the only way to obtain the 501 (c) (3) and they professed it was cheaper. What we have done has proven that this argument was untrue. The dissolution and reforming was not justified to obtain the 501 (c) (3).

Have you noticed the number of new members we have? We now have a total of 370, Wow.

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From your President

What’s coming that you do not want to miss in February?
February 5th is a live demo of how to set up Ham Radio Deluxe direct from a support expert from HRD, Tim Browning KB3NPH.

February 12th is home brew night; Homebrew Wire Antennas will be presented by Tom Hatter K4AKC. “Home Brew” is all about building from scratch or making significant modifications to a radio or accessory (i.e. Tuner, interface, switch etc.), so bring in your projects and do a show and tell of your project what you discovered or learned from doing it.

February 19th is VHF - UHF DXing - as presented by John Reynolds N5AYD. For example 6 Meters is still a VHF frequency, and you can do a lot of DX on 6 Meters.

February 26th is Emergency Operations and Go Kits by Steve Smith KM4CJ and Wayne Reed K4TTZ. If you do not have a “Go Kit” this is a great chance to learn from experienced Hams that can show you how. If you have a “Go Kit” bring it to the meeting to show others.

So, I hope to see you at one of these exciting meetings and hear you on the air.

73 and God bless you all.

Bill Bathgate
President, HARC

The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club

Club Officers & Info

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Callsign</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bill Bathgate</td>
<td>KD8IGK</td>
<td>President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:president@harc.net">president@harc.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Todd Cline</td>
<td>N7KDT</td>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td><a href="mailto:vicepresident@harc.net">vicepresident@harc.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Reinhart</td>
<td>KD4IYD</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td><a href="mailto:clreinhart41@gmail.com">clreinhart41@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Burns</td>
<td>K4RHB</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td><a href="mailto:treasurer@harc.net">treasurer@harc.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jack Hemby</td>
<td>W5WQQ</td>
<td>Officer at-large</td>
<td><a href="mailto:JHemby@knology.net">JHemby@knology.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gary Suckow</td>
<td>W9SGM</td>
<td>Officer at-large</td>
<td><a href="mailto:suckowg@yahoo.com">suckowg@yahoo.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Boyette</td>
<td>KK4KKT</td>
<td>Officer at-large</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kk5kkt@juno.com">kk5kkt@juno.com</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Meeting location: Red Cross Building, 1101 Washington St. Huntsville, AL 35801
Meeting time: Every Friday, 7:30 PM (except on major holidays)
Mailing address: HARC, 117 Honor Way, Madison, AL 35758
Visitors welcome at all meetings.
Club callsign: K4BFT (http://www.qrz.com/db/K4BFT)
Website: www.harc.net
Mail reflector signup: follow the link below the HARC logo on the home page
On a recent Saturday, Jim N4KH and I had a blast working from Russell Cave as part of the ARRL’s National Parks On The Air event. We arrived about an hour before operation time (9 AM) to set up the station. We only operated 4 hours mostly on 20 meters SSB and we made over 253 contacts with the farthest to Germany.

I had to contact the National Parks Superintendent for approval of putting up an outside antenna and station and the National Parks employee’s were great and very polite to us. Jim and I did get a little cold and found talking keeps you warmer than typing.

Our next trip we will be operating more on 40m SSB and CW.

73,
Dave KN4OK
Jim N4KH
A Weekend Hike—by Tom K4AKC

On Saturday afternoon, I took my FT-817 along on a hike to the top of Green Mountain. This was good exercise after not hiking for the past 45 days. In my hiking bag, I had everything I needed to set up a QRP station... except my battery, which I had forgotten to bring. I had not charged the radio’s internal battery, but there was some power left in it, so I decided to attempt to make a contact.

I tied my 5 mm para cord to a suitable rock which was lying nearby. I whirled the rock around and launched it upward. The rock sailed across a limb at about the 35-foot level. A good rock I thought, as I stashed it between two trees, saving it for another hike. I unrolled my 20-meter end-fed zepp from a sandwich bag and tied it to the cord. I pulled my antenna up into a vertical position. The bottom end of the antenna conveniently reached the nearby park bench. It was nice how that worked out!

I quickly adjusted my ZM-2 balanced line tuner until it’s little LED extinguished. I set the power level to one watt so as to make the battery last as long as possible. I called CQ several times, signing K4AKC/P and suddenly I was called by Craig WB3GCK, who had a strong signal from Middletown, PA. Craig was operating portable at his daughter’s house. He was putting 4 watts into an end-fed half wave antenna which was strung across the back yard. A 2-way QRP contact, portable to portable! This was fun.

I called CQ a few more times, then the radio shut down because of the weak battery. Then I hiked down the mountain and headed to Waffle House, where I recharged my own battery.

On Sunday, I arrived back at the mountain around noon, this time with a charged battery. Inspired by the previous day’s contact, I set the output power level to one watt. I called CQ and was answered by AA5TB, who has a web page which shows results of his research on end-fed antenna design. He must have been surprised when I answered “Hi Steve in TX”. We had a nice chat, QRP both ways. He said the Mocking Birds were singing in their nests; they must have thought it was springtime with 70-degree weather.

I had plenty of battery power, so I then increased the radio’s output to 2 1/2 watts. I made several additional contacts.

W9OD Appleton, WI K2 5W               KI4GQP Miami, FL HB1A 3W
RA1M/MM off Nova Scotia (I think) KX3 QRP          KC8CJG Harbor Beach, MI QRP
VE2JCW Montreal 100W                      AB0BM Cherokee, Iowa 100W
K3Y /9 (OP was NX1K) Whitefish Bay, WI         K9KHJ Milwaukee, WI
W2WC Halfmoon, NY

As I tuned around, I heard a lot of other stations on the air. However, I was only calling CQ from a clear frequency, except for the Russian, whom I called directly. It seems that my end-fed zepp antenna is a good performer, despite the fact that it rolls up into a sandwich bag, needs no counterpoise or ground radials, and is cheap to build. Perhaps next time, I’ll put it up as an inverted L.

I saw a lot of hikers; several of whom stopped to ask about my radio setup. I also put my Bear Grylls survival knife to good use. I used the serrated blade to cut through tough thorns and drag them away. Not a job for a wimpy pen knife.

As the sun began to sink in the West, I packed everything away and headed for Waffle House. This had been a good day. Hope to see some of you on the trails soon.

Tom K4AKC
The Huntsville Area Young Ladies Amateur Radio Club will be participating in a Ladies’ Day at Gigaparts on Saturday, February 13. All area YLs are invited to drop in, with or without an OM, for a visit. The hours for the event will be announced by Gigaparts and posted on the web site www.haylarc.org. We look forward to meeting some new YLs!

For Sale

Vintage 1KW AM Broadcast Transmitter  $850
Folks, I have decided to sell my Bauer 707. It’s ready to ship to someone who can do what I don’t have time to do. Read all about it and see 24 photos (of a larger collection) on Craig’s List at the link below. If you can’t use it, please spread the word to your engineer and ham radio friends. Just the Sola Constant transformer in it is worth more than I am asking. I just want it to have a good home and get on the air again.
73, M.D. WA4DXP

http://huntsville.craigslist.org/ele/5401279419.html

Transceivers:

FT-950 $ 850
TenTec Pegasus $ 350
Kachina 505 DSP $ 50
Small Wonder Labs PSK-40 $ 50

Digital Interface Equipment

RIGblaster Blue $ 125
US Navigator $ 100
SignalLink SL1 $ 40
TenTec Model 712 $ 30
BuxComm Rascal II $ 30
BuxComm Rascal IIA $ 35

All the above equipment is in very good to excellent condition and was mostly used during FLDIGI code development by the author. David W1HKJ 256, 828, 3105
Meeting Minutes—by Craig Reihhart KD4IYD

January 8, 2016 (this week’s were recorded by Mark N4BCD)

Vice-President Todd Cline N7KDT welcomed 82 members and guests to the meeting. Pizza and soft drinks were provided jointly by the Huntsville Amateur Radio Club (HARC) and the North Alabama Repeater Association (NARA) to those attending tonight.

Announcements:

Todd read a thank you letter from Gail McGovern, President & CEO of the American Red Cross, thanking the Huntsville Amateur Radio Club for the $200 donation as thanks for providing the club a dedicated meeting space and for the club’s continued support of the Red Cross as a served agency.

A list of several member applications were read and by voice vote elected into membership. The club welcomes:

- KK4KO    John White
- W3PTL    Steve Kolb
- KM4OSP   Billy Yell
- KM4ECD   Teri Estes
- KK4MDP   Richard Stone
- WD6FZF   Mark Ballard
- KI4ITI   Josh Freeman
- KM4HSG   Thomas Freeman
- KM4ORP   Monte Austinson
- W4PNS    Ike Slack

Treasurer Bob Burns K4RHB reported that including the new members, there are now 368 active members in the club.

M.D WA4DXP reported on his plans to activate Little River Canyon and possibly Russell Cave as part of the ARRL’s National Parks on the Air celebration this year. M.D. will be making a scouting trip to meet with the rangers to pre-plan before the actual activations and will be inviting club members to participate.

Rich KE4IOH reminded everyone that License Testing would occur the following morning.

Tom KI4VFV reminded everyone that the monthly ARES/RACES meeting would be the following Thursday.

There was no further business conducted so the HARC meeting was adjourned and the floor given over to Ron Schaffer W4VM, President of the North Alabama Repeater Association for officer elections and a presentation.

For the election, nominees from the floor were solicited and none were made. The repeater association nominees for office were the incumbents from last year and were re-elected by acclimation. They are:

- President: Ron Shaffer: W4VM - president (at) n4hsv.net
Ron’s program provided an overview of the Repeater hardware by site along with details of hardware upgrades made during the year, and noted that NARA in the last fiscal year has become a tax exempt 501C3 organization. Contributions should include the TaxID # 47-4739149.

In addition to the club officers, Ron listed a corp of helpers that are available either on the air or through email to answer technical questions. They are:

Stephen    KK4TJP  Chris       W4ORS  Chris       KM4KTC
Ernie        WA4BPS  Rob          N4WGY  Kevin       K4IVE
Gary         N4TXI  Scott       N4JN  Curtis      N9AIL

January 15, 2016

Announcements:

Todd K7KDT called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He then welcomed all members and visitors. He then asked the members to introduce themselves by name and call sign. There were 30 members and one visitor present.

Mark N4BCD mentioned that the North American QSO Party would begin at 12 o’clock noon Central Standard Time tomorrow January 16, 2016. He encouraged members of the club to get on the air and get involved.

Tom K4AKC noted that Randy Byars K4EHT was in Huntsville Hospital recovering from bypass surgery. He encouraged the members to send get well cards. Peggy K4EGB said that she would take care of the sending a get well card from the club.

Jack W5WQQ said that he attended the Learning Quest Rally Day on Tuesday January 12, 2016 and passed out club flyers. He said that while looking at their courses he noticed that there was going to be a course on Ham Radio taught by Bill KD8IGK. Todd K7KDT said he would have to contact Bill KD7IGK to see what he had in mind.

Old Business:

Todd K7KDT divulged that next weekend, January 23, 2016, that M. D. WA4DXP will make a scouting trip
Meeting Minutes—continued

to Little River Canyon and possibly Russell Cave to start making arrangements to activate the above, as part of the ARRL National Parks on the Air.

New Business:

Todd K7KDT announced that the club had 2 new applicants for membership. They are: Ron Evans-K4VPE and Jane Evans-KM4AYD. The club approved their memberships unanimously. This brings our total club membership to 368 members.

Bob K4RHB presented the Treasurers report for the month of December. The club’s checking account starting balance was $5,246.33. The total expenses for the month were $832.32. The total income for the month was $1559.70. The end balance for the month was $5,973.71. The motion to accept the Treasurer’s report was made and seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Program:

The program was entitled Kick Butt Portable and Stealth Antennas presented by Craig Behrens NM4T. He presented a humorous and thought provoking look at how portable and stealth antennas should be scientifically designed to get the optimum use and performance with the materials you have on hand. I personally have enjoyed each one of Craig’s presentation’s and always come away with some information that I can use.

The January 22 meeting was cancelled due to snow & icy roads.

January 29, 2016

Announcements:

Jack W5WQQ called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. He then welcomed all members and visitors. He asked the members to introduce themselves by name and call sign. There were approximately 40 members and 1 visitor present.

Jack W5WQQ announced the programs for February. They are as follows:

February 5, 2016-Ham Radio Deluxe-presented by a representative of the company, hopefully Rick Ruhl.

February 12, 2016-Homebrew Wire Antennas-presented by Tom Hatter K4AKC.
February 19, 2016-VHF-February 26, 2016 UHF DXing-presented by John Reynolds N5AYD.

February 26, 2016-Emergency Operations and Go Kits-presented by Wayne K4TTZ.

There was no old or new Business brought up and the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Program:

The program was an auction conducted by Tom Duncan KG4CUY. We had a great deal of radio and computer equipment to be auction off. It was done with great deal of aplomb by Tom. His efforts were met with lots of laughter and fun was had by all.

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What: Spotter Training Class
When: March 8, 2016 (Tuesday) 6 PM
Where: US Space & Rocket Center—Davidson Center (Talk-In on 146.94 if you need directions)

Dates & times for other counties can be found at: http://www.srh.noaa.gov/hun/?n=skywarn
ARES / RACES Meeting Minutes—by Steve KM4CJ

Madison County, Alabama ARES Monthly Meeting Minutes
January 14, 2016

The meeting was conducted in the Huntsville-Madison County EMA’s EOC.
The sign-in log indicates 23 in attendance.
Business meeting started at 18:00 central time.
Tim, KK5H, opened the meeting by welcoming everybody.

Steve, KM4CJ, summarized the minutes of the last meeting and gave a treasury report of $500.

Announcements:

Tim – KK5H - Welcomed everyone to the New Year. We have some exciting programs and events planned for 2016.

EMA - Chris - KF4MMF - Reported on the Madison County Emergency Planning meeting that was held last week. Chris said he reported on our ARES/RACES 2015 SET scenario and results.

EMA - Scott - W4SSW announced the next SKYWARN Spotter’s class will be in March.

VOAD - N4COE - The next meeting will be Tuesday, February the 16th at 11:00am. Elections will be held in April.

Business:
Tim - KK5H announced the ARES/RACES Domain name was up for renewal. The cost is $45 for three years.
A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to use funds to renew the domain name.

Program:
Wayne - K4TTZ and Steve - KM4CJ, gave a presentation on GO Kits and brought their GO Kits for a demo.
The presentation and demo was well received.

Meeting Adjourned at 19:10

Respectfully Submitted,
Steve - KM4CJ
Madison County AEC
# Treasurer's Report
The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club

## Checking Account
by Bob Burns, K4RHB
Sunday, January 31, 2016

### Checking Starting Balance:

$5,973.71

### EXPENSES PAID FROM CHECKING

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<td>HARC half of pizza for Annual Kickoff Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Occasions: Food</td>
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**Total Expenses**  
$64.41

### INCOME DEPOSITED INTO CHECKING

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<td>Donation</td>
<td>Proceeds from Auction Night</td>
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**Total Income**  
$1,264.61

### RECONCILATION

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<tr>
<td>Checking Total Expenses</td>
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<td>Checking Ending Balance</td>
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Treasurer's Report
The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club
Savings Account
by Bob Burns, K4RHB
Sunday, January 31, 2016

**Savings Starting Balance:**

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**Withdrawals from Savings**

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**Total Expenses**

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**Savings Deposits**

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**Total Income**

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**Reconciliation**

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**Total Monetary Assets**

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<td>$ 7,274.20</td>
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</table>
Above: The home page of QRZ.com displays a random callsign & photo from their subscriber database and changes every few hours. On Sunday, January 17, club member Kevin Ivey K4IVE was featured.