

## From Your President

We have had some very interesting programs over the past few weeks and I hope you made it to the meetings to see them. If not several of the presentations are now posted on the HARC website for you to enjoy. Although it is not as good as actually seeing and hearing the presentation, it is still some great information so go check them out.

We are continuing to meet at the new Red Cross building on Airport road for our weekly meeting unless we are planning on a large number of members, or the Red Cross is not available for some reason. In which case we have to rent meeting space at another location to accommodate the larger group. This is expensive and was not accounted for in our current budget. The number of participants at our weekly meetings are also starting to grow as new members join and others get interest in the hobby. So, we would still like to find a larger meeting location if possible. If you know of anyone knows of another location, we could use please let me know.

I hope some of you got a chance to participate in Winter Field Day on January 26 and 27. I visited the Dade County, Georgia ARES winter Field Day on Saturday and had a good time. They were set up inside the New Home Volunteer Fire Department. Their club had four phone stations and one digital station operating on 20 meters and 40 meters and were making quite a few contacts. I also enjoyed spending some time with one of my Elmer's Mr. Bryan Paige, K4GC and his family, who are all hams. I realize our club does not currently participate in this event but I think it might be something we should consider in the future. It would not have to be as elaborate as our summer Field Day but I think it would still be a fun event.

We have had some excellent programs at our meeting over the past several weeks but unfortunately, we do not have any more on our schedule. So, if have a program you would like to present please let me or Leigh know so we can get you on the schedule. I am also looking for suggestions for subjects of future programs you would like to see. I will do my best to find someone who can give a program on that subject. In addition, if you have any suggestions on any other projects or fun activity you would enjoy at our meetings please let us know.

Keep radio active and stay warm  
73, Billy Gold KM4BGF—President, HARC



## Table of Contents

From your Publisher	2
Letters	3-4
HARC Meeting Minutes	4-8
ARES / RACES Meeting Minutes	8-9
License / Testing Info	10
Websites for EveryHam	10
Program / Project Managers	12

## From Your Publisher

ABCDEFGHIJKLMOPQRSTUVWXYZ abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz 01234567890

Notice anything in the line above? It's a new font used in this issue. I think a ham radio publication needs 0's with a line through them to better distinguish them from O's. Consolas 11 point. What do you think?

News from the ARRL Board of Directors meeting... Southeastern Division Director Greg Sarratt W4OZK nominated (and seconded by Delta Division Director David Norris K5UZ) the Orlando Hamcathon to host the ARRL National Convention in 2021. The motion passed on a voice vote.

It was fun getting on the radio during the recent cold snap just to rag chew with house bound hams in the frigid north. With nothing else to do, many hams passed the evenings on 75m and 40m reviving the almost lost art of conversation.

73, Mark N4BCD

## The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club<sup>®</sup>

### Club Officers & Info

Billy Gold	KM4BGF	President	president@harc.net
M.D. Smith	WA4DXP	Vice President	mdsmith@hiwaay.net
Craig Reinhart	KD4IYD	Secretary	clreinhart41@gmail.com
Bob Burns	K4RHB	Treasurer	treasurer@harc.net
Jack Hemby	W5WQQ	Officer at-large	JHemby@knology.net
John Boyette	KK5KKT	Officer at-large	kk5kkt@juno.com
Tom Hatter	K4AKC	Officer at-large	k4akc@arrl.net

Meeting location: Red Cross Building, 1015 Airport Rd SW, Huntsville, AL 35802

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 website: [www.harc.net](http://www.harc.net)

Club callsign: K4BFT (<http://www.qrz.com/db/K4BFT>)

Mail reflector signup: follow the link below the HARC logo on the home page

## Letters

Jan 11, 2019

To: HARC Hsv Amateur Radio Club  
From: M D Smith mdsmith (at) hiwaay.net

Subject: Apollo 11, 50th Anniversary Special Event info on website

I have put up a link [ [harc.net](http://harc.net) ] on the home page for the Apollo 11 moon landing event taking place at the S&RC July 19-21, 2019. We will have two or three trailers there and multi-stations on the air as W4A operated by club, K4BFT.

Click for pdf file and flyer on the event. More as it becomes available.

73,  
M.D. WA4DXP  
W4A Special Event Coordinator

---

*Forwarded for publication from several readers....*

Jan 21, 2019

To: several clubs & individual hams.  
From: Brad Arnold k4nha (at) jcar.us

Subject: 147.36 K4SCO Repeater Frequency Modification

Due to extreme interference from another repeater near Nashville with the same frequency pair the K4SCO 147.36 SKYWARN linked repeater will be changing frequencies this coming Sunday, January 27, 2019. We have exhausted all other options to remedy the interference without success so we've coordinated a new frequency pair through the Frequency Coordination groups here in Alabama and all neighboring states.

New Frequency and CTCSS Tone:

147.090 +offset 203.5 PL

New settings will be live in the afternoon on Sunday, January 27, 2019. Please share this information to anyone/anywhere as needed.

Sincerely,

Brad Arnold, K4NHA

President - Jackson County Amateur Radio

Assistant Emergency Coordinator - Jackson County ARES/RACES

## Letters—Continued

Jan 29, 2019

To : North Alabama hams

From: Tim KK5H - Madison County Emergency Coordinator

Subject: NWS spring storm spotter class

Will be March 14, from 6-8:30pm , at the space and rocket center. It will be in the National Geographic Theatre. We recommend attending a spotter class at least every other year, to keep your skills honed.

Thanks,  
Tim

## Meeting Minutes by Craig KD4IYD

January 4, 2019

Joint NARA/HARC meeting

### Announcements:

Billy KM4BGF called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM. Due to being a joint meeting it was impossible to get the number of members and visitors. There were 65 people present.

Billy KM4BGF mentioned that the meeting next week will be back at the new Red Cross Building starting at 7:30 PM.

Billy KM4BGF noted that the technician licensing class will start on Monday, January 7 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM. To acquire more information go to the Huntsville amateur Radio Club website.

**Old Business:**None

### New Business:

Billy KM4BGF announced that the club has three new applicants for membership. They are: Tim KM4TSV, Josh W4ZZK, and William KK4SSO. The club approved their memberships unanimously.

The HARC business meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM.

**Program:** NARA Yearly Report conducted by Rob N4WGY

## Meeting Minutes—Continued

Rob started by thanking all of the businesses and individuals who have supported NARA this past year. The Financial Report was that they did not spend much nor did they take in much money leaving them with a surplus of a little over \$10,000. In 2018 they installed a 1200 Band Packet Mode Winlink 2000 radio to use as an email gateway at 145.09 MHz . They cleaned up the installations at Burritts and Green Mountain. Finally the addition of a Yaesu Digital Fusion Repeater. Their plans for 2019 are to add an RX Voter System for the 145.33 or the 146.94 repeater, to scout additional sites for remote bases, to completely refurbish the Motorola MSF 5000 VHF to replace the aging GEMSTR II at the 146.94 repeater. Finally update the software for ease of operations for linking repeaters. In closing Rob thanked everyone for their support and help in 2018 and in the future. Rob received a large round of applause for his effort and his leadership in 2018.

-----

**January 11, 2019**

### **Announcements:**

Billy KM4BGF called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. There were 34 members and 2 visitors present.

Billy KM4BGF thanked everyone who attended last week's joint meeting of NARA/HARC. He remarked that it was a well-attended meeting with a lot of information from NARA.

Billy KM4BGF passed around a flyer for the upcoming Apollo special event Station that will take place in July. We will soon be asking for volunteers to man the stations at this event.

John N4CNY gave a brief report on the first meeting of the new tech class that took place on January 7, 2019. He said that all the class members seemed to be excited and interested in ham radio. There were approximately 15 students in the class. They are expecting a larger number of students on Thursday.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

The business meeting adjourned at 7:44 PM.

**Program:** Cloud Computing and Information Management presented by Richard KN4GJV

## Meeting Minutes—Continued

This presentation looked at different ways of processing information that we are saturated with everyday, using the cloud to acquiring information and compressing it to allow us to make better decisions. Richard received a large round of applause at the end of his presentation for sharing with us a different way of looking at the information that we are bombarded with every day.

-----

**January 18, 2019**

### **Announcements:**

Billy KM4BGF called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. There were 36 members and 3 visitors present.

Billy KM4BGF brought to the attention of the club that there is a bill being presented in the Alabama legislature for the abolishment of using handheld devices for electronic communication in a moving vehicle. We need to be sure that amateur radio will be exempt from this law. If it is not exempt please contact your legislative representative and let your voice be heard.

Billy KM4BGF stressed that we are in need of programs to be present to the club. The last scheduled program is January 25, 2019.

### **Old Business:**

Billy KM4BGF gave a report on the technician class, with the help of John N4CNY. He revealed that there were 16 students attending this Thursday's class. The class seems to be going well and a lot of good questions are being asked. The only complaint is Bob's K4RHB microphone placement, which is placed on one side, when he turns away it makes the class not able to hear him. Some suggestions made by the members were to center the mike or use a headset with mike.

Billy KM4BGF mentioned that Leigh WD4CFP asked last year at the new officers' induction to be relieved of his job as program coordinator. We need someone to step up and take this position.

### **New Business:**

Billy KM4BGF presented the treasurer's report for December 2018. The club's checking account starting balance was \$7478.19 the end balance for the checking account was \$7889.78. The overall balance of all accounts was \$8428.16. The motion was made and seconded to accept the treasurer's report. The motion passed unanimously. If you wish to see a more detailed account of the treasurer's report you can find it on the HARC website.

## Meeting Minutes—Continued

Karen XYL asked if the Red Cross has received its donation from the club for 2018. Billy KM4BGF said he would have to check with Bob K4RHB to see if it was done.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM

**Program:** Audio Distortion in HF Receivers by Bob K8KI

Bob discussed how receiver audio distortion, which has been specified and tested in the same way for decades, does not give a true picture of how a radio sounds. He gave a behind the scenes look of what he did and the conclusions that he drew in writing his QST article in the July 2018 issue. Bob was given hearty round of applause, for all his insightful work.

-----

**January 25, 2019**

### **Announcements:**

Billy KM4BGF called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. There were 33 members and 1 visitor present.

Billy KM4BGF announced that next week's meeting will be held at Kasey's on S. Memorial Pkwy. This will be for dinner, socialization, and a short business meeting starting at 6:30 PM.

### **Old Business:**

Billy KM4BGF answered a question from last week's meeting. He mentioned that Bob K4RHB has not sent out the Red Cross donation but will do so in the near future.

Billy KM4BGF noted that 78% of the HARC membership has paid their dues. We need 58 new members or some of the old member to pay their dues to balance the 2019 budget.

Billy KM4BGF again put out a plea for program ideas, people to volunteer to present programs or projects to do. If you have any of the above please contact Billy or Leigh.

### **New Business:**

M. D. WA4DXP gave a short report on the Apollo 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary special events stations, which will take place on July 19 through the 21<sup>st</sup> at the US Space and Rocket Center. He mentioned that we still need contest grade radios and 2 trail-

## Meeting Minutes—Continued

ers. The setup will take place on Friday and take down will take place on Sunday, on the aforementioned dates. The idea was kicked around, by the membership, of putting together a vintage 1969 station for show. M. D. passed around a sign up sheet for those who are interested in participating in at the special event stations.

Billy KM4BGF announced that the club had a new applicant for membership. He is: Ethan KX40S. The club approved his membership unanimously.

The club business meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

**Program:**WinLink 2000 presented by Rob N4WGY

Rob presented a program on email over the radio. It included an overview of WinLink and demonstration on how to set up WL2K. Rob received a large round of applause for all his hard work in putting the program together.

## ARES / RACES Meeting Minutes—by Steve KM4CJ



**January 10, 2019**

The meeting was conducted in the Huntsville-Madison County EMA's EOC.

The sign-in log indicates 20 in attendance.

Business meeting started at 18:00 central time.

Tim, KK5H, opened the meeting by welcoming everybody.

Steve, KM4CJ, gave a treasury report of \$804.33.

**Announcements:**



## **ARES / RACES Meeting Minutes—Continued**

Our December ARES meeting was at Kacey's Home Cooking. We had a great turnout and Bill Yell , KI4IBY, was awarded ARES Ham of the Year.

Tim asked for topics of interest for the this year's meetings? If you have something you would like to hear about let Tim or any of the officers know.

CERT: Scott, W4WSM, reported that there are several CERT classes ongoing right now keeping him busy. There is still a shortage of instructors and if interested please contact Scott.

### **New Business**

A motion to approve \$85.00 for expenditure of badge printing supplies was unanimously approved.

A motion to set the cost of a badge at \$2.00 was unanimously approved that included a provision for the Emergency Coordinator to waive the cost for an individual if needed.

Tim, KK5H, encouraged us to consider some of these New Year's resolutions: Volunteer to be a Net Control, learn a new digital mode, practice WebEOC, take a CERT course, take a FEMA course, and do something to improve the reliability of your station.

### **Program:**

Steve, KM4CJ, provided an overview and live demonstration of PiGate. PiGate is a portable Emergency E-mail Gateway that can be deployed at a disaster sight to provide a means for served agencies to send email via the WinLink2000 Remote Mail Server system. More information can be found at <http://pigate.net>.

Meeting adjourned 19:06 central time.

Respectfully Submitted,

Steve Smith

Assistant Emergency Coordinator

ARES Madison County

## License—Testing Info

License exams are at 9AM the first Saturday of every month at the **NEW Red Cross Building, 1015 Airport Rd SW, Huntsville, AL 35802** The fee is \$10 (cash) (\$5.00 for students) You must bring some form of Government-issued picture ID and for those upgrading, the original plus a copy of your current FCC license.

Please see our website: [www.cavechamexam.com](http://www.cavechamexam.com) for more information. Questions may be emailed to [cave.org \(at\) gmail \(dot\) com](mailto:cave.org@gmail.com).

73,  
Joe Henderson, N4CB, CAVEC CVE.

## Websites for EveryHam

Staying current on ham radio news is easy by checking a few sites as frequently as time permits. Here are some favorites:

<https://www.qrz.com/>

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

<https://www.eham.net/>

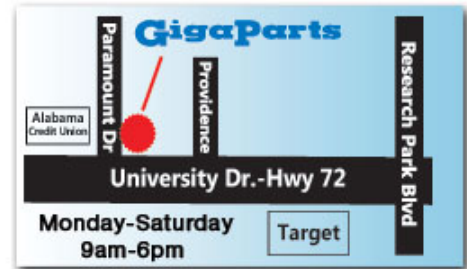
<http://www.dxscape.com/>

<https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

## Club Financial Notice

For the complete Treasurer's report, visit [www.harc.net](http://www.harc.net)

Click on the Club Info tab and scroll to the bottom of the page.



**GigaParts**  
[www.gigaparts.com](http://www.gigaparts.com)  
 Huntsville's Own  
 Amateur Radio Superstore  
**(256) 535-4442**



*Everything you need for your next ham radio project!*  
*Rope • Coax • Connectors • Tools*

## Program and Project Managers

Madison County Emergency Coordinator	Tim Holland, KK5H
Field Day Chairman	HARC Officers
Public Information Officer	Bill Yell K4IBY
K4BFT Club Station Trustee	Tom Duncan, KG4CUY
Picnic/Food Coordinator	Dick Christiansen, W1TV
Training/Education Coordinator	Bob Burns, K4RHB
VOX Publisher	Mark Brown, N4BCD
Program Coordinator	open
Webmaster	M.D. Smith, WA4DXP
Repeater Program Announcer	Kelley Johns W4VPZ