

The President's Corner

2025 has been a fabulous year of service, education, and fellowship at HARC. Over 60 people have joined our club since January. John Morgan has been busy teaching classes and bringing his students to club meetings. Other HARC members have been running seminars at Gigaparts and we've all learned a lot from the programs this year, including build nights.

We've supported Winter Field Day, Field Day, Huntsville Hamfest, The Cotton Row Run, All You Can Eat Century Ride, and numerous severe weather events.

We've had fun gathering at big events like Field Day and smaller gatherings like club meetings. Next year, we'll have the ARRL National Convention and YOTA here in town. This club is what you make it.

We'll support those activities that members choose to support and we're always looking for new ways to better serve our club and our community. I encourage everyone to get involved -- participate in an event, share an idea, or give a program. HARC does many things and we've got roles for anyone who is interested.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Your President, Lisa Shier, N3WQL



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Meeting Minutes— by Don KZ4DJC

Date: November 7, 2025

Call to Order at 7:30 PM By: Lisa – N3WQL

Adjourned 7:56 PM

Attendance: In Person 25 Zoom 8 Visitors 2 Total 35

Announcements:

Lisa presented a donation to Signals Museum in the amount of \$1000.00

Spring Cycle Club presented a check in the amount of \$250.00

to the club for assistance with the All You Can Eat Bicycle Ride.

Arduino Build Nights –Nov 14, and Dec 19

Rick announced final call for Orders for new Huntsville Amateur Radio Club badges. \$15 (plus tax?) Payable at sign up.

Bill Yell reported on the December Rocket City Marathon. He is waiting on the locations of the aid stations to be confirmed.

Winter Field Day is the 4th weekend of January 2026. A chairperson is needed.

3rd AMSAT Field Day is Saturday

The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club[©]

Club Officers & Info

Lisa Shier	N3WQL	President	president@harc.net
Rick Copeland	KE4IOH	Vice President	vicepresident@harc.net
Don Carter	KZ4DJC	Secretary	secretary@harc.net
Bill Yell	K4IBY	Treasurer	treasurer@harc.net
David Oakley	KQ40AO	Officer at-large	doakley314@gmail.com
Mark Brown	N4BCD	Officer at-large	mark.n4bcd@yahoo.com
Leigh Bartlow	WD4CPF	Officer at-large	brtlo54@gmail.com

Meeting location: Signals Museum, 1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35801

Online via Zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6588519706?pwd=Z2VxVGJ0SCsvN2NTSFJ5TE5BVklRdz09>

Meeting time: Every Friday, 7:30 PM (except on major holidays)

Mailing address: HARC, PO Box 2196, Huntsville, AL 35804

Visitors welcome at all meetings.

Club website: 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

Meeting Minutes—continued

Business:

Bill Yell presented the Treasurer's Monthly Report. There was discussion regarding unplanned spending for copyrights and spending vs. budget. A motion to pay the bills was passed and the report was approved.

Presentation:

Tonight: Call 911

Next meeting: Arduino Build Night November 14, 2025

Date: November 14, 2025

Call to Order at 7:30 PM By: Rick KE4IOH

Adjourned 7:40 PM

Attendance: In Person 28 Zoom 6 Visitors Total 34

Announcements:

Bill Yell reported on the December Rocket City Marathon. He is waiting on the locations of the aid stations to be confirmed.

Huntsville Amateur Radio Club Christmas Party is December 12th. Meats (Turkey and Ham) and drinks will be furnished. Sign up for side dishes.

Winter Field Day is the 4th weekend of January 2026. A chairperson for this event is still needed.

Business:

Rick KE4IOH Reported discussions with the Signal Museum as the Club meeting location are ongoing.

Presentation:

Tonight: Arduino Build Night

November 21st - CAVEC VE Testing by Ben Gentle AE4FQ

November 28th - NO MEETING - THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

Date: November 21, 2025

Call to Order at 7:30 PM By: Lisa

Adjourned 7:44PM

Attendance: In Person 29 Zoom 8 Visitors Total 37

Announcements:

Meeting Minutes—continued

Huntsville Amateur Radio Club Christmas Party is December 12th. Meats (Turkey and Ham) and drinks will be furnished. Sign up for side dishes.

Bill Yell reported on the December 14th Rocket City Marathon. He still needs a few more volunteers for the field. He is waiting for confirmation of locations of the aid stations.

Winter Field Day is the 4th weekend of January 2026. A chairperson for this event is still needed.

November 28th - NO MEETING - THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

December 5th - ZOOM Meeting Only - RT Systems Presentation

December 12th - HARC Christmas Party at Signals Museum

December 19th - Build Night - CW Decoder - Extra Parts are needed. Contact Steve Melo to order. **Cancelled due to Museum availability.**

Presentation:

Tonight: CAVEC VE Testing by Ben Gentle AE4FQ

New Members:

Gregorio Drayer Andrade - KR4HAN

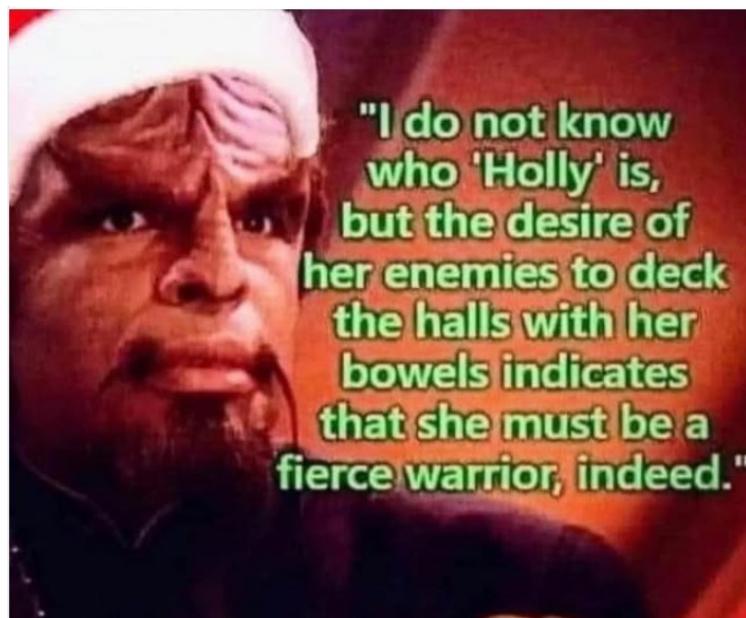
Jason Hunter - KC4LOS

Announced as New but previously voted in:

Tony Kenny - KN4ZZC voted in 10/17/2025

Diana Davidson - KR4GNS voted in 10/24/2025

Byron Hamby - KQ4NPA Member (Dues Payer) since 4/21/2025 Not shown on club roster.



HAYLARC Happenings—by Lisa N3WQL



Stephanie Clark, KN4MEW,



and Johnna Jenkins, KQ4LIC operate POTA at Monte Sano State Park with assistance from Willie Sandiefer, KO4ALY.

HAYLAC thanks Willie for his assistance with this outing.

Photo credit: N3WQL

For Sale

FlexRadio 6400 100W HF transceiver with ATU, FHM-2 hand mic, FlexControl, power cable fit with PowerPole connectors on both ends and factory XLR microphone cable. Factory shipping boxes included. Radio has no known issues.

Offering the FlexRadio 6400 package for \$1500.

73, Jim, KV4E

MFJ-884, X SWR/WATTMETER, 1.8-525 MHz, 200 W \$80

MFJ-939Y, PLUG & PLAY, 200W AUTOTUNER, HF, W/CABLE, YAESU 950/450/891 \$100 (\$150 for both MFJ-884 and MFJ-939)

Comet CHA-250HD HF/VHF Vertical Antennas CHA-250HD \$220 OBO

RadioWavz 20' Folded Terminated Dipole (FTD) \$150 OBO

Moonraker GPA-80 HF Vertical 80-6M Antenna 11-251 \$100

Ground Radial Plate for GP/Vertical (16/32 radials) with connection to 2" mast \$40

TRAM 1450 UHF BASE ANTENNA GMRS or 70CM
\$30 OBO

George Mink, N4HFE (two five six) 325-5471



Simulated Emergency Test Summary - by Steve KM4CJ

Simulated Emergency Test Summary

ARRL Section: Alabama

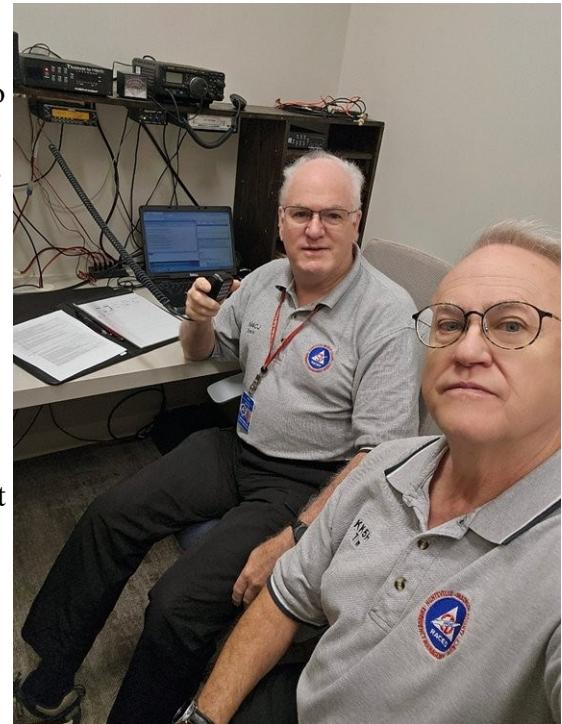
Area of Jurisdiction: Madison County

October 25, 2025

The Simulated Emergency Test (SET) was conducted by the Madison County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) organization in cooperation with the Madison County Emergency Management Agency (EMA). The exercise simulated a Category 5 Hurricane that had entered Mobile Bay. Its path would move northeasterly into North Alabama. This resulted in severe weather, power outages and a large influx of refugees from the south. The disruption prompted the need for communications support to our served agencies.

Communication assistance was requested by EMA and a Madison County ARES net was quickly established. The loss of power warranted the American Red Cross to open a public shelter to provide air conditioning and support of basic human needs including medicines/treatments for indigent patients. A call for communication support to the local hospitals was heeded. As the situation advanced, communication support was requested throughout the county at local fire departments, police departments, hospitals, and several community volunteer organizations. The severe weather produced heavy rain, high winds, and a spin up tornado. Amateur operators throughout the county participated from their local communities to pass traffic and assist in situational awareness. Traffic was also passed with several neighboring Alabama counties to assist mutual aid requests from their EMA's. The scenario concluded with the restoration of power and the passing of the severe weather. An 'all clear' was given for the sheltered to return home.

Five communication nets were activated to support the traffic demands. Fifty amateur radio operators participated in the SET serving twenty-three agencies in fifty-seven communities. A hundred and sixty-seven formal traffic messages were passed among the served agencies. The SET duration was 3.50 hours.



KM4CJ (AEC) and KK5H (EC) Operating from the Emergency Operations Center- 2025 SET

Simulated Emergency Test Summary—continued

Initial feedback from the served agencies has been very favorable. Our after-action feedback has yielded good discussion and actions as to what worked well and what needs to be improved. New this year was the testing of the emerging Meshtastic network and how it could be used to assist in emergency communications. We emphasized serving communities this year and as a result, we doubled the number of communities compared to last year. We used WINLINK exclusively to pass digital traffic. This proved to be an efficient way to route formal messages, however, there was some congestion with the repeater. We are analyzing the traffic load and use-case scenario to improve for next year. The Madison County ARES team was pleased with the operations and looks forward to implementing the lessons learned from this exercise to improve our support to the Madison County EMA and its served agencies.



KD4RVV, K4MDE, and KN4MEW Operating from Sharon Johnston Park Distribution Center. Photo by N3WQL – 2025 SET

Sincerely,

Steve Smith, KM4CJ
Huntsville Madison County ARES, Assistant Emergency Coordinator



WG7V, KB7DLG, KK4KOW and N4DIX - Operating at the LDS Shelter on Sparkman Drive – 2025 SET

General Announcements

For those who are interested in learning CW but need some Elmering, Laura K4CNY has created a GroupMe group that you can use to ask questions and arrange with Elmers for on-the-air practice.

If you are interested in Elmering, we can always use your help!

To join, click here: https://groupme.com/join_group/70112276/7m2J4TpK

Interested in local POTA activations? Connect here.

<https://groups.io/g/harc-pota/messages>

You can request a subscribe here, or write me here for an invite.

robert.ehresman@gmail.com

Time flies. Days turn to years, years into decades. It's a lot easier to renew your FCC license before it expires. That goes for your XYL too. Ask me how I know.

Handy Bookmarks:

What contests are this weekend? <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

What DXpeditions are active? <https://dxnews.com/calendar/>

What are the solar conditions? <https://www.qrz.com/>

Huntsville Amateur Radio Club <http://harc.net>

North Alabama DX Club <http://nadxc.org>

Huntsville Area YL Amateur Radio Club <https://haylarc.wordpress.com/>

Madison Co ARES/RACES <https://madisoncountyalema.gov/amateur-radio/>

North Alabama Repeater Association <http://n4hsv.net/>

Marshall Space Flight Center Amateur Radio Club <https://www.nn4sa.org/>

From Your Publisher

Last month I showed the tower and antennas in daylight. November's project was putting Christmas lights on the house and tower.

The apex of the lights is at 42', about a foot below the thrust bearing. Each leg is 200 mini incandescent lights powered from one extension cord hoisted up using a rope & pulley left in place from last month's antenna raising.

There is no increase in noise from the incandescent lights.

Mark N4BCD on Lynchburg Hwy in Mulberry TN.



Program and Project Managers

Madison Co Emergency Coordinator	Tim Holland KK5H
Field Day Chairman	Leigh Bartlow WD4CPF
Public Information Officer	Open
K4BFT Club Station Trustee	Laura Morgan K4CNY
Picnic/Food Coordinator	Warren K4MMW & Karen Alford
Training/Education Coordinator	John Morgan N4CNY
VOX Publisher	Mark Brown N4BCD
Property Manager	John Equi KM4VSY
Video Manager	Billy Gold KM4BGF
Webmaster	Steve Molo KI4KWR
Club Historian	Jonathan O'Rear KD4MPW
Repeater Program Announcer	Kelley Johns W4VPZ

Important Exam Info (updated September 2025)

Schedule:

- 1st Saturday each month (holidays → 2nd Saturday)
Madison Co. Fire Training Academy, 300 Shields Rd, Huntsville, AL
Time: 9:00 AM (arrive 8:30-9:00)

- 2nd Wednesday each month
GigaParts, 6123 University Dr, Huntsville, AL
Time: 5:30 PM

Registration: Please register ahead of time

- Details and sign-up: <https://cavec.us/testsched/>
- You need an FRN to register
- FCC FRN info: <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/support/knowledge-base/universal-licensing-system-uls-resources/getting-fcc-registration>

Contact:

- Email: vec@cavec.us

What to bring:

- Legal photo ID (driver's license, passport, student ID, etc.)
- If no photo ID: bring 2 forms (SS card, birth certificate, utility bill, etc.)
- Any CSCEs not yet in FCC database
- Exam fee: \$5 cash (exact change)
- FCC Registration Number (FRN) - see FCC site for details

Calculators:

- Non-programmable calculators are allowed.
- Programmable calculators are not allowed unless the testing team can clear or reset the memory on site before the exam. The Session Manager has final say.
- Calculator apps on phones or tablets are not allowed.

Online Exams:

- Remote sessions are available. See the Get Licensed page at <http://cavec.us> for details.

Additional Services from CAVEC:

- Full-Service License Renewals: CAVEC offers complete support with renewals and administrative updates. More information: <https://cavec.us/renewals>
- Club Station Call Sign Administrator (CSCSA): CAVEC is authorized to process Club Station Call Sign requests. More information: <https://cavec.us/cscsa>



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