

The President's Corner



HARC is facing significant challenges. Our meeting space at the Signals Museum on Fridays will not be available to us after April. However, we are well on the way to resolving those challenges. The Signals Museum has offered us the option of meeting in their space on Monday at

very attractive rental rates. We greatly appreciate their offer and value the relationship between the Museum and HARC. The membership has agreed to move our meetings to Monday evenings. I know this will cause schedule disruptions for members and may require us to increase dues, but I thank the membership for thinking about solutions and accepting the necessity of change. We do have a plan and I do not anticipate major challenges with getting everything sorted out with the new arrangement.

Your President,
Lisa Shier, N3WQL



Table of Contents

Email Reflector Sign-up	2
Meeting Minutes	3-5
Arduino Build Night Photos	6
For Sale	7
ARES Monthly Meeting Minutes	8
HARC Programs on YouTube	9
General Announcements	10
HAYLARC Happenings	11
Program & Project Managers	11
Exam Info (UPDATED September 2025)	12

Email Reflector Sign-Up

Want to be informed of club announcements? Would you like to pose a radio question to the membership? This is a reminder that HARC has an email reflector but, YOU MUST CHOOSE TO JOIN IT.

The reason for that is when the reflector was set up years ago, the HARC Board wanted to give individual members the ability to specify their choice of email address and the ability to choose a digest format or once a day emails. And it was evident some people did not wish to be automatically enrolled.

As it is, HARC only sends 2 or 3 emails annually to the entire membership, those being the HARC/NARA meeting announcement where dues are collected, and a Field Day blast. By joining the reflector, you'll stay informed of all the other news & happenings.

Joining is simple.

1. Open the www.harc.net page in any browser.
2. At the lower left corner of the page, click on the envelope icon 'Join Our Email List'.
3. Fill out the form with your preferred email address and choose individual email or daily digest.

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—by Don KZ4DJC

January 2, 2026 Holiday weekend, no meeting.

January 9, 2026

Called to Order at 7:30P By: Lisa-N3WQL Adjourned: 8:00
Attendance: In Person 37 Zoom 4 Visitors Total 41

Announcements:

HARC Annual Membership Dues are due. Cash, Check, or PayPal.
NARA Dues can be paid at next week's joint HARC-NARA Meeting.
Storm Spotters Class January 20th Space & Rocket Center 7:00PM-8:30PM

Business:

Bill Yell presented the November Treasurers report and was approved by membership.

Presentations:

Tonight - Arduino Build Night
January 16th - NARA-HARC Joint Meeting
January 23rd - ARRL Equipment Insurance
January 30th - Auction Night

Upcoming Contests:

VHF-UHF Contest 1:00-10:00 PM Saturday January 17th.
ARRL Celebration of the USA 250 Semiquincentennial Special Operating Event February 4th - 11th. (WAS-250)

New Memberships: for the year 2026 6 New Members

Last Name	First Name	Call Sign
Powell	Jason	KR4IRP
Myszka	Edward	KE4RNB
Lokken	Bill	K4WRL
Parache	Alexis	KR4IFC
Henderson	Sam	AG4XF
Clark	Brad	KJ4GPH

January 16, 2026

Called to Order at 1900 By: Lisa-N3WQL
Attendance: In Person 49 Zoom 15 Visitors 2 Total 66

Announcements:

No WINTER FIELD DAY
Club Membership Dues payments are due.
SKYWARN Storm Spotter Class January 20, 2026 at 6:00PM at the SPACE & ROCKET CENTER – National Geographic Auditorium.
January 17th is a Signal Museum workday beginning at 9:00AM

Meeting Minutes—Continued

New HARC Badges will be available next week.

New TECH Class at Giga-Parts at 6:00-8:00PM.

Presentations:

Tonight - NARA-HARC Joint Meeting

January 23rd - ARRL Equipment Insurance

January 30th - Auction Night

New Business:

N3WQL- Lisa presented the result of her meeting with Mark Bendickson regarding the HARC's Friday night meeting space some of the options presented with factors that may affect the Club financially after this year.

Move our meetings to a different location.

Friday nights at Giga-parts are already booked.

Open market rates for meeting space are \$50-\$75/hour.

Many possible meeting places do not have Zoom facilities.

Our best bets are likely to be a served agency or a church, but we have not had much luck finding places to meet when Signals Museum is not available.

Move our meetings to Monday or Wednesday night and stay at Signals.

If we wish to continue meeting weekly, we sign a contract and pay Signals \$2000/yr. At first estimate, this could require that we increase our dues.

If we wish to reduce our meeting frequency to once a month, like most radio clubs, it would be \$700/yr. Increase in dues would probably still need to be considered.

Wednesday nights are already taken for many people with church activities.

The HARC Board favors the moving of the meeting to Monday night. Signals has the necessary space and technical resources to meet our Club's needs.

Lisa requested conversations this week. We will consider the matter at the next club meeting on January 23, 2026 and vote on the issue.

New Memberships:

Dean Korsak - KR4IFF

Philip Staite - W7RXH

Paul Nelson - K4JAZ (returning member)

Martha Nelson - KM4CZY

Ronald Lamb - WB4VDN

Date: January 23, 2026

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

Adjourned 7:45 PM

Attendance: In Person 0 Zoom 32 Visitors 0 Total 32

Announcements:

Zoom-only meeting due to Winter Storm Warning.

Winter Field Day January 24 & 25, 2026.

Club discussion on new meeting location was postponed until January 30 meeting.

Meeting Minutes—Continued

Stay Weather Aware.

Presentation:

Tonight - ARRL Equipment Insurance
January 30th - Auction Night

Business:

Club discussion on meeting location was postponed until January 30th meeting.

January 30, 2026

Call to Order at 7:30 PM By: Lisa - N3WQL Adjourned 8:10 PM
Attendance: In Person 56 Zoom 5 Visitors 5 Total 66

Announcements:

FIELD DAY - Leigh-WD4CPF agreed to Chair the Field DAY one last time to train a replacement for him to head up future Field Days. Volunteers are requested to fill this responsibility.

Mike - KF4BOG Announced his All-Star node is operational AL#580980

Tom - WS4M Presented a brief slide show of his Michigan Amateur Radio Club's Winter Field Day.

Presentation:

Tonight- Auction Night led by Steve- KI4KWR
February 6th- WA1W/4 Steve KI4KWR
February 13th - Signals Museum Tour

Business:

Meeting Location Discussion -

Lisa presented the result of conversations with Signals Museum regarding HARC's continued use of the Museum as a meeting place. Signal has offered a contract for a year's use on Monday nights for \$2,000.00 beginning by the end of April. She also discussed the lack of other reasonably priced spaces to accommodate the Club. Discussions and question after the motion and second to accept Signals' offer included meeting time, continuation of contract after the one year and if early arrival and social time would still be happening. **The motion passed and the new Monday meeting start time would be 7:00 PM instead of the current 7:30.** The start time will be reviewed 90 to 120 days after the change to determine if the meeting could begin at 7:30. The timing of the Friday to Monday meeting day change is still to be determined.

Bill - K4IBY addressed the dues payment and receipt issue and its resolution.

New Memberships:

Mike Holland - KK4PMW

Arduino Build Night Photos—by Dick W1TV



For Sale

Yaesu FL2100B 80-10m linear amplifier

I acquired the thing years ago from a club auction in a "no output condition". The amplifier was cleaned and retubed in Oct. 2020 and tested it. I did an article on my efforts for the Long Path around then if you want to check it out. It barely been used since then.

The amp is wired for 110v. Testing showed with 80W drive it will put out from 450W to 700W into a dummy load for 80m - 15m. It is ineffective on 10m for some reason. You may be able to improve that by adjusting the bias and the filters. But I never did.

The amp isn't pretty to look at - it looks like someone previously tried to repaint the chassis with a broom. But all the meters and controls and knobs are present and work. More pictures available upon request.

Asking \$400. Contact me at AA2MA@arrl.net if interested. 73, Mark



Mark's actual amp.



Stock photo

ARES Monthly Meeting Minutes - by Steve KM4CJ

Madison County, Alabama ARES Monthly Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2026

The meeting was conducted at the Madison County EMA EOC.

There were 20 in attendance.

The meeting started at 18:00 central time.

Tim, KK5H – Announced ARES Shirts can be purchased from GigaParts for \$24.95. He also mentioned the National Weather Service Storm Spotter training will be held Tuesday, January 20th at the Space and Rocket Center.

EMA – Chris, AI4U, thanked everyone for there support to the EMA and to be weather aware for the end of this week.

CERT – James, KQ4VYQ, announced a new CERT class has started this week.

Program:

Steve, KM4CJ, discussed programming your DSTAR radio respect to the DTAR repeater call sign change from W4WBC to N4HSV. Steve talked about the role of the SKYWARN liaison during the training and activated nets.

Meeting adjourned 18:45 central time.

Respectfully Submitted

Steve Smith

Assistant Emergency Coordinator

ARES Madison County

Addendum: The NWS Spotter training class was held January 20th at the US Space and Rocket Center. There were 15 ARES members in attendance and an estimated attendance of 70.

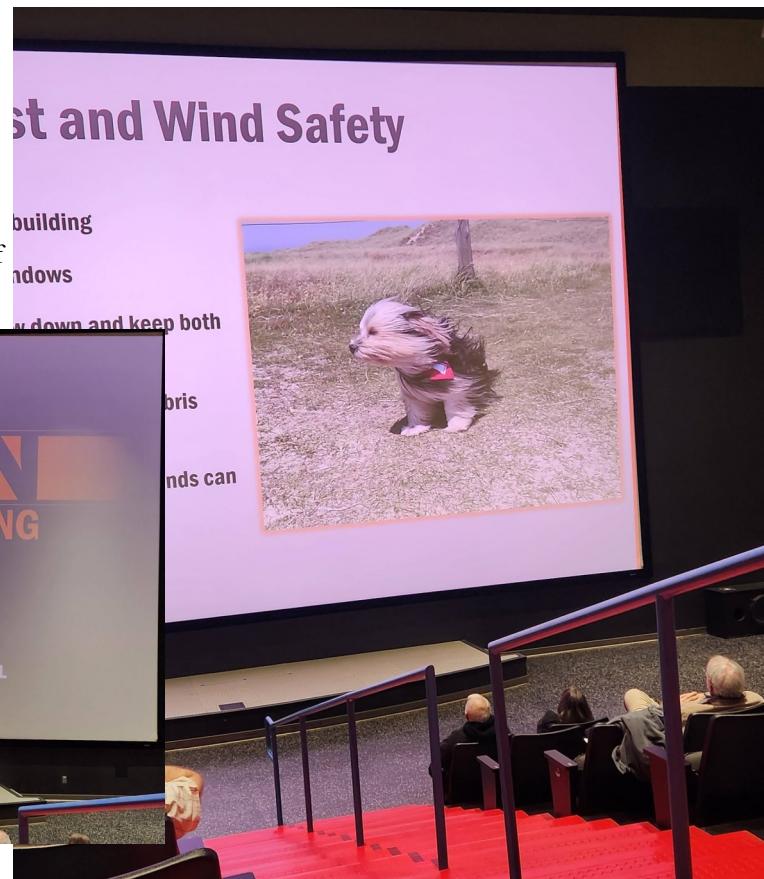


Photo: Steve Smith

HARC Programs on YouTube — by David KQ4OAO

Programs presented at HARC meetings are typically recorded and uploaded to the YouTube HARC channel, allowing members to view them at their convenience.

During the month of January three new videos were added to the channel:



The North Alabama Repeater Association (NARA) Annual Meeting. Ralph Hogan (W4XE), the NARA president, presented opening remarks followed by the 2025 year-end financial report. This was followed by a recap of 2025 as well as the plan for 2026. The presentation concluded with the election of the 2026 NARA club officers.



Ham Radio Equipment Insurance. Steve Molo (KI4WR) discussed various options for HAM radio equipment insurance options. The companies covered included Risk Strategies (ARRL), AMBA, Ham Radio Insurance Associates, and HRIA. Towards the end of the presentation, members discussed tower base construction.

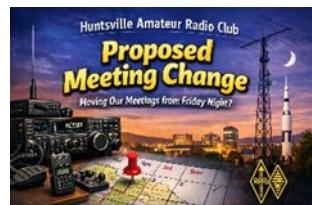


North Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (NOARC) Winter Field Day. Tom Cash (WS4M), who became a Snowbird this past year, found and joined a HAM radio club in Minnesota, NOARC. He shared photos and emails from fellow club members documenting their Winter Field Day operations. Tom was kind enough to pass along this information to the Huntsville Amateur Radio Club (HARC).



These recordings can be accessed via the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/4yeacdfk>. They can also be reached by scanning the QR code shown to the left, either will take you directly to the playlist. Additional archived videos will be added over time, so make sure to check back to see what's new.

The channel also features a HARC Tech Class playlist containing eleven instructional videos. These sessions are particularly valuable for amateur radio operators seeking a refresher on foundational concepts that may not have been revisited in some time.



For those interested in the discussions surrounding the decision to move the club meeting from Friday night to Monday night, the recordings are posted here: <https://tinyurl.com/4m3yneaz>.

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/>

HAYLARC Happenings—by Lisa N3WQL



HAYLARC met at Big Papa Gyros on January 8. We planned to gather at Lynda Barlow's home to make contacts during winter Field Day, but this activity was cancelled due to adverse weather.

Our next meeting is our annual Anniversary Dinner. It will be held on February 5 at 6:30 PM at Longhorn Steakhouse on Carl T. Jones Blvd. OMs are welcome to attend with members. This meeting is a week early to avoid conflicts with Hamcation and Valentine's Day.

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>



RADOS
PCS
GAMING GEAR
MAKERS
GADGETS
PERSONALIZED GEAR

WANT TO
SHOP THE
HOTTEST
WEEKLY DEALS
SUBSCRIBE AT:
GIGAPARTS.COM/NEWSLETTER

GigaParts
Technology Superstore

Shop these and more at GIGAPARTS.COM!

6123 University Drive
Huntsville, AL 35806

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA
@gigaparts

