

The President's Corner



HARC Field Day 2026 Sharon Johnston Park, HARC Was There, we executed, we learned, we had fun and now it is in our rear view mirror. This year, HARC migrated from 4A to 5A classification by adding a HF digital station. We had 43+ members attend this event at one time or another. Thousands of contacts were made amongst all the stations including the HF CW, HF Phone, HF Digital, GOTA, Satellite, VHF/UHF Phone and Digital stations. We introduced a few new people to amateur radio by enabling them to make their first QSO on the air. We had a good turnout of new members and even a few that stayed all night and operated in multiple stations. The new HF digital station worked the entire 24 hours on battery power outside without any air conditioning. There was always a line of operators at this station waiting their turn to get on the air and learn. The weather this year was outstanding! Yes it was the end of June and as expected, we did have some heat but once the sun went down the temperature dropped and the full moon lit the park and made it very pleasant both inside the RV's and at the outside stations. Oh and as a bonus, NO RAIN and NO MUD.

Results: For the contest portion of Field Day, the numbers are being compiled and submitted to ARRL and we will see the results soon.

Operationally: Everything went pretty smooth, towers were erected, and antennas were hoisted to tower booms, pushup masts and strung into trees. I counted close to 20 different antennas being deployed including End Fed dipoles, Off Center Fed dipoles, Center Inverted V's, Yagi's, Delta's as well as single and multiband Verticals. Emergency generators arrived, setup and cables were ran very quickly. Thank you to Huntsville/Madison County for providing the Emergency Generators to provide the AC power for the RV's. The pavilion was actively being setup with all the food, food preparation and drinks (special thanks to Tabitha and Garland Sharp for their efforts).

Technically: We were much better prepared this year by having at the ready and implementing RF band pass filters, common mode choke filters, AC EMI/Surge Filters, alternative power sources, and cables. We had multiple members ready and willing to assist

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and troubleshoot issues whenever and wherever needed. We did see some noise floor issues during setup which were quickly addressed and resolved. We did not experience any station to station interference this year even though we added the 5th station. I contribute this to the planning, preparation and execution that the station operators performed prior and during the field day weekend. Breakdown on Sunday afternoon was going very smooth until we had a winch cable break on the crank up tower trailer. This put a stop to the breakdown/lowering of two remaining station towers. The crank up tower trailer winch cable was repaired on the following Monday and Tuesday which allowed a small working party to return to the park on Wednesday morning to disassemble the remaining two towers (Special Thank You to everyone that volunteered to assist on Wednesday morning).

Special Thank You and a job well done to Leigh Bartlow for the amazing job as Field Day Chairman. Lessons learned from last year and new procedures were implemented and they had a positive impact on the successful operations of all stations. Another big "Thank You" to everyone involved in the logistics of making this event happen such as equipment movement from and to the storage unit, trailer and trailer towing services from membership.

Thank you to Steve Smith KM4CJ (Assistant Emergency Coordinator) for setting up the Field Day NTS station, demonstrating operations and sending the K4BFT Situation Report (SITREP) via WinLink.

Fiscally: We have finally got all the banking/ treasurer responsibilities transferred over to the new club officers and now we are able to make fiscal transactions. This year for the Field Day event, we had to incur additional club costs as we did not have enough RV's to facilitate all the stations and we had to rent 3 RV's. Last year, we only rented one RV. This being one of the largest annual events with a large member participation, it is important that we support the event as best we can. We will be discussing in the upcoming membership meetings on how we can support this event. This is the second year that we have conducted Field Day at Sharon Johnston Park. Everyone has made comments as to how well this location works for this event. It is a very beautiful venue and the park staff has been very accommodating. I have reserved the same area and pavilion for next year. We also had the 5th Monday meeting HARC Auction Night. Who knew that our Vice President was an auctioneer (Thanks David)? We auctioned off 3-4 tables full of "STUFF" (radios, 3d printer, canopy, books, test equipment, CW keys, meters, etc...). It was fun and a good showing of members and goods for sale.

What Next:

The Huntsville Hamfest. This is another large event that HARC provides a large number of volunteers that make this event the World's Friendliest Hamfest. Please sign up and help us continue to have a great Hamfest right here in Huntsville.

We have a couple more working parties coming up real soon. One to finish relocating HARC owned towers to the new semi-permanent location and another to pick up and inventory of donated amateur radio equipment.

In Closing: The last month as being the first 30 days as the newly elected president for HARC it has been both challenging and rewarding for me. I am a firm supporter and will continuously lobby that Huntsville Amateur Radio Club is a "Club of Members" and the

The President's Corner—continued

membership needs to be involved and make decisions as to where and how the club moves forward. As the elected president, I will provide leadership and my recommendations as to how to proceed but, the final decision/vote needs to come from the members of the club. I have a request from all members, **Please get involved!** All of you have a wealth of experience, knowledge, and skills that can and will make you and HARC proud and a valuable asset to our community and this club. I am going to steal a phrase from another HAM friend of mine which is "You Have To Be There". Think about that phrase as it applies to many areas of everyday life and amateur radio.

Thank you for your support and 73!

Don N4SEI

The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club®

Club Officers & Info			
Don Bertram	N4SEI	President	president@harc.net
David Oakley	NA4CG	Vice President	vicepresident@harc.net
Don Carter	K4DJC	Secretary	secretary@harc.net
Daniel Sherfey	KQ4HWN	Treasurer	treasurer@harc.net
Jonathan O'Rear	KD4MPW	Officer at-large	jonkd4mpw (at) yahoo(dot) com
Willie Sandifer	KO4ALY	Officer at-large	wsndifer (at) gmail(dot) com
Mark Brown	N4BCD	Officer at-large	mark.n4bcd (at) yahoo(dot) com

Meeting location: Signals Museum, **1806 University Dr, Huntsville, AL 35801**
For Zoom link, sign up to HARC reflector for weekly link.

Meeting time: **Every Monday, 7:00 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

Events Calendar

EVENT	WHEN - WEEKLY	NOTES
HARC meeting	every Monday, 7 PM	visit HARC.NET for details
Amateur Radio Learn & Social at Gigaparts	every Tuesday, 4 - 6 PM	details via HARC email reflector
Lunch gathering	every Wednesday, 11 AM	China Buffet on Jordan Ln.
ARES practice net (FM)	every Thursday, 7:30 PM	147.220+ pl 136.5, backup 146.94- 100.0
SKYWARN (FM) net	every Thursday, 8 PM	147.24+ 82.5, 442.775+ 107.2
HARC net (FM) net	every Friday, 8 PM	145.33- pl 100
EVENT	WHEN - MONTHLY	NOTES
ARES monthly meeting	1st Thursday of Month	EOC, Hsv City Hall, 305 Fountain Cir. time: 5:30 for pizza, 6pm mtg starts price: \$3 for 2 slices
HAYLARC monthly meeting	2nd Thursday of Month, lunchtime	1st timers, send email to: haylarc (at) harc (dot) net for location and to get on mail list.
NADXC meeting	2nd Tuesday of Month, 6:30 PM	visit NADXC.ORG for details
ARES Digital Voice Net	2nd Thursday of Month, 7 PM	Mode - Varies, Frequency - Varies Details will be annouced via ARES email

Note: some of these functions may be pre-empted by holidays or other special occasions.



ARES Club banner designed by Wayne K4TTZ (SK)

HARC Field Day Photos & Musings—by Mark N4BCD

I guess one can count me as a participant at K4BFT's Field Day because I was there on Friday to assist with antennas and one tower raising. The rest of the weekend was spent with the Fayetteville's W4BV effort. As a past FD Chairman (2016) and score submitter (2016, 2017), I looked fondly at all the photos realizing HARC has an amazing number of members contributing their time & energy for a great outcome.

There's not enough space to publish all the photos from the many contributors so visit Field Day Photos at: <https://photos.app.goo.gl/1qMKfbG8bnJmToCK9>



Public Location,
there's an easy 100
points.

Media Coverage, an-
other 100 points.



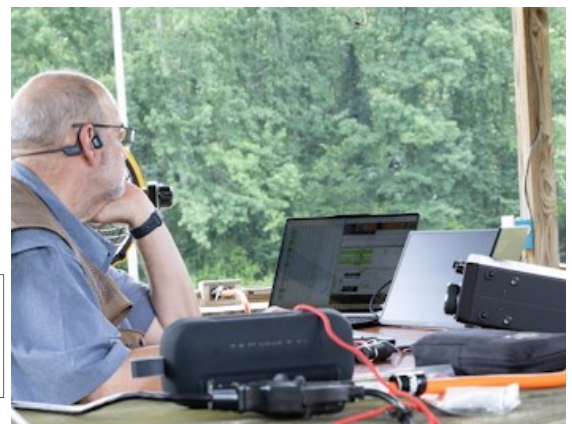
Emergency Power –
100 points

Alternate Power
(Battery/Solar) –
100 points



GOTA Coach—100
points and 5
points / QSO

New for 2026,
FT8 - 2 points/
QSO



HARC Field Day Photos & Musings—continued



NTS Message to Section Manager-100 points.
10 additional outgoing NTS messages, another
100 points.



Satellite QSO-100 points. Additional QSOs add
to K4BFT's total. We call our hobby wire-
less?



Safety Officer-100 points

CW still rules. Digital & CW contacts
are worth 2 points each versus 1 point
for Phone contacts. The two CW stations
combined for thousands of points.

The 40/15 CW station set a record in 2021
with 1557 QSO's that still stands.



Meeting Minutes—by Don K4DJC

June 1, 2026

Call to Order at 7:00 PM By: Lisa Adjourned: 8:07 PM By: Don

Attendance: In Person 36 Zoom 4 Visitors 0 Total 40

Announcements:

- Silent Key – John Trickey KB4IW Services June 27th at 1:00PM – Masonic Lodge in Athens.
 - Huntsville Hamfest Volunteer Portal is open. Sign Up!
 - Hamfest – ARRL All Day Forums on Friday of Hamfest \$90 including lunch. See Hamfest.Org for details.
 - ARRL Friday Night Dinner Under the Saturn V Rocket \$100. See Hamfest.Org for details.
 - Amateur Radio Technician Class at GigaParts beginning Sept8th. 6-8 PM.
- The 5th Monday will be a regular meeting.

Business

- HARC HAM of the Year Award – John Morgan N4CNY
- Honorary Member Award – John Equi KN4BSY

Presentation:

- **Tonight's Meeting: Officer Installation.** Each officer gave a brief personal biography.
- Installation of 2026-27 Club Officers
 - o President – Don Bertram – N4SEI
 - o Vice-President – David Oakley NA4CG
 - o Secretary – Don Carter K4DJC
 - o Treasurer – Daniel Sherfey KQ4HWN
 - o At Large Members
 - o Jonathan O'Rear – KD4MPW
 - o Willie Sandifer – KO4ALY
 - o Mark Brown – N4BCD
 - o Appointed Managers
 - o Billy Gold – Audio-Video manager

Meeting Minutes—continued

- o Steve Molo – WEB Master & Youth Ambassador
 - o Mark Brown – VOX Editor
 - o John Equi – Property Manager
- Jonathan O'Rear – Assistant Property Manager

Field Day Update Leigh Bartlow presented an update on Field Day Plans to date. Discussions covered Bands and Modes, Station Leads, Plans and Schedules and a lively discussion on minimizing Station and Band interference. Station Managers will meet this week to discuss how best to manage these issues.

- Tonight the Club voted unanimously to accept the membership application of Jim Clifford NK3V from Scottsboro, AL.

June 8, 2026

Call to Order at 7:00 PM By: Don-N4ESI Adjourned: 7:50 PM

Attendance: In Person 43 Zoom 8 Visitors 6 Total 57

Announcements:

Treasurer transition is still ongoing. Treasurer's May Report at June 15th meeting.
OTA Camp Update: Brief update on the status and help needed to set up antennas,
HamFEST update: Note Changes on HAMFEST.ORG Lots of Vendors. Spots over sold, re-working layout to accommodate.

QST "Year of the Club". ARRL has designated 2026 as the year of the club, recognizing that the growth and development of amateur radio rely on our vibrant community of radio clubs. With that, the ARRL is interested in featuring HARC in one of the QST Club Spotlight columns for 2026. Chuck Lewis (N4NM) will work with the ARRL editor to coordinate and provide our input.

The 5th Monday in June will be a regular meeting (FD Recap)

HARC swap meet/auction will be held after recap

K4MIE Ham Shack is open to all members/guest/visitors. FCC rules and regulations apply when utilizing the station. We have recently organized the station to be more operator friendly and added additional equipment with additional equipment / modes upcoming. We are currently updating the web-based station standard operating procedures which includes radio and software/application operation and configuration. Please feel free to utilize /learn/ operate the K4MIE station.

Business

Storage Locker relocation completed on Saturday June, 2026

The following members spent 3-4 hours relocating and organizing the new locker:
John Equi, Jonathan O'Rear, David Oakley, Tim Huffaker, Rick Copeland, Billy Gold and Don Bertram. Thank you very much. The club appreciates all your efforts.

Field Day Update Leigh Bartlow: Excessive rain this week has shown some antenna positions will need to be adjusted due to standing water and wet ground.

Meeting Minutes—continued

Station Manager update: Station Managers met to discuss items raise in last week's meeting. One of the recommendations was to use filters / chokes / accessories, and obtain them for Field Day. A motion was made, seconded and passed to purchase the needed filters for the appropriate band

Questions?

Closing comments: What's next:

Possible Band Pass filter testing on VNA/Spectrum Analyzer (See what and how the filter impacts the signal)

Possible COAX feed line testing with Rig Expert.

Safety Brief from FD Safety Officer

Adjourn meeting

Presentation:

Tonight - New and Upcoming Products from DX Engineering - Tim K3LR

June 15, 2026

Call to Order at 7:00 PM By: Don-N4ESI Adjourned: 7:47 PM

Attendance: In Person 37 Zoom 8 Visitors 2 Total 47

Announcements:

YOTA News

Museum Tour- Thursday the 18th, 30 +/- YOTA attendees will tour the Signal Museum. Among things they will do, will at the museum will witness Band Pass filter testing on VNA/Spectrum Analyzer to see what and how a filter impacts the signal, test coax feed line with a Rig Expert. Any Ham volunteers are invited to attend and assist.

HAMFEST Update - Mark Brown gave a status update on the actions going on in preparation for the event. ARRL participation this year is major. Volunteer that have signed to help at HAMFEST may be able to obtain at a discount a HAMFEST Volunteer shirt. Rick Copeland will be providing information in an upcoming email to volunteers.

Chuck Lewis updated the club regarding the QST magazine "Year of the Club" article which will be forthcoming in the magazine.

The 5th Monday meeting in June will serve as a Field Day Recap presentation and the usual auction will follow the presentation.

Business:

Club Property Update

Tower Storage- Gary Sukow W9SGM was recognized for storage of the Club trailer and towers for many years. A new storage area is needed Don N4SEI has volunteered to provide storage for these items after Field Day. There are several pieces of tower remaining at Gary's place that will need to be relocated soon.

Field Day Update - Leigh Bartlow reported on Field Day. Additional trailers or an RV are still needed. A motion to authorize the rental of the needed trailer(s) for the stations lacking facilities was made and passed. Cost would be around \$500 (delivered, set up, and retrieved) for each trailer up to two trailers. There is a possibility of an available trailer at no cost which would then only require one.

Meeting Minutes—continued

Band Pass Filters are expected Wednesday, Common Mode Chokes, and AC line filters will also be used at Field Day.

New Members:

The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club was extremely excited to accept membership applications this week for the following new members:

Cynthia Ohnmacht - K4SYD
 Brandon Stiefel - WB4CS
 Solon James - N4SGJ
 Benjamin Steck-N2YBS
 Steve Brewer- W4ASF
 Henry La Branche - KR4MND
 Steve Jones - K4KM
 James Dixon- KR4MSC

Presentations:

Tonight - "Antennas: The Third Dimension - Gary Sutcliffe W9XT
 June 22nd - YOTA Camp Update

June 22, 2026

Call to Order at 7:00 PM By: Don-N4ESI Business Adjourned:7:25 PM

Attendance: In Person 48 Zoom 9 Visitors 1 Total 58

Announcements:

Treasurer transition is still ongoing.

Andy Milluzzi KK4LWR, ARRL Southeastern Division Vice-Director was present and offered to do a presentation anytime to HARC.

Chuck Lewis updated the club regarding the QST magazine "Year of the Club" article which will be forthcoming in the magazine.

The 5th Monday meeting in June will serve as a Field Day Recap presentation and the usual auction will follow the presentation.

Business:

HARC Property Update:

Currently the tower trailer is located at N4SEI QTH pending Field Day

All the Rohn 25 Tower sections are currently on Trailer at N4SEI QTH pending Field Day

Still a few Rohn 25 sections at Gary's (some bent/damaged) and some guy wires and miscellaneous antenna radials that will need a few members to assist loading and relocation to N4SEI QTH in July

Field Day Trailer Update: Rick Copeland KE4IOH Additional Station trailers are reserved.

Field Day Update Leigh Bartlow- Next Weekend is Field Day. Four volunteers will meet Wednesday at the storage unit to load equipment for Field Day. Jordan gave a Safety Brief for the Field Day event set up.

Station Manager update:

The Club received a \$700 donation for purchase of the band pass filters by an anonymous donor. Band Pass Filter arrived. Ordered 2-15m, 2-20m, 2-40m, 2-80m. Plus the

Meeting Minutes—continued

2 that Leigh had purchased. Club now has a total of 10 band pass filters in their inventory.

Quantity of 6 AC EMI Line Filters. Chuck Lewis N4NM currently building terminals and filter caps, Don Bertram N4SEI building chokes, electrical boxes, and outlets.

Will be evaluated and ready for use by Field Day.

Thursday YOTA visit to Signals Museum

Special thanks to the Signal Museum and Volunteers that assisted in the visit.

Performed Band Pass Filters testing demonstration on 10 Tactical Radio BPF, 3 DX Engineering BPF) using Spectrum Analyzer

Performed mixer demonstration using Spectrum Analyzer and mixer.

Performed Transceiver sensitivity testing demonstration on Icom 7000MK2.

Performed Cable testing and TDR using Rig Expert 650

Numerous YOTA members got on the air in K4MIE Shack and made contacts using Phone, CW, and Digital



Presentations:

- Presentation tonight: Antennas: YOTA Camp Recap Steve Molo KI4KWR and Daniel Sherfey KQ4HWN.
- June 29th – Field Day Recap / 5th Monday Auction

June 29, 2026

Call to Order at 7:00 PM By: Don-N4ESI Business Adjourned: 8:05 PM

Attendance: In Person 53 Zoom 6 Visitors 2 Total 61

Announcements:

Treasurer transition update: Transition complete.

Chuck Lewis updated the club regarding the QST magazine “Year of the Club”.

Sam Henderson AG4XF has offered to donate Rohn 25 tower pieces (like new), rotor, rotor controller and cable, two beam antennas and controller cables to the Club to keep, sell, or give away. It is in good shape and requires no take down. A motion was offered, seconded, and passed to accept the equipment which will be stored at the N4SEI QTH. Volunteers will be needed for loading and unloading in July.

Business:

ARRL HARC Field Day Recap

Special Thanks to: All the support staff. Cooks, Preparations, Cleanup, Transportation, Setup, Breakdown

HARC Property Update:

Currently the tower trailer is located at N4SEI QTH pending repairs due to cable failure during Field Day Breakdown. Will repair and we will need 6+ people to assist in returning to Sharon Johnston Park to break down the 2 remaining towers. Need names and phone numbers to coordinate day and time All the Rohn 25 Tower sections are currently on Trailer at N4SEI QTH pending Field Day

Excess water, soda, snacks discussion. A motion was made for the Club to donate

Meeting Minutes—continued

the remaining water, sodas and snacks to the Signals Museum. The motion was seconded and passed.

Still a few Rohn 25 sections at Gary's (some bent/damaged) and some guy wires and miscellaneous antenna radials. 7-8' (50') Sections off brand tower. (hardware location unknown). Will need a few members to assist loading to relocate to N4SEI QTH in July. Names and numbers for volunteers were provided to N4SEI for time coordination.

Thank you to the \$700 Donation to Club for purchase of band pass filters. The club now has 10 new Band Pass Filters, 2-15m, 3-20m, 3-40m, 2-80m. 4 of the filters that were picked up for field day use need to be returned to the club, 2-15M

BPF. N4SEI recommended that we procure a few more filters for 6M and 10M.

Quantity of 6 AC EMI Line Filters were built and made available to all stations. There are still 2 EMI Line Filter that need to be returned to the club. Thank you to Chuck Lewis for designing and assisting with the building of the 6 filters for the club.

Field Day Trailer Recap: Rick Copeland KE4IOH reported on costs for trailer rental for Field Day. Total cost was around \$1500 for the 3 units.

Field Day Update: Leigh Bartlow gave an update on Field Day results

Finalizing Field Day log and submittal process: Logs will be reviewed and submitted in a few days.

Station Manager Field Day Recap:

- Update from all stations

- What worked?

- What do we need to improve?

- More coax availability: Determine lengths for next year.

- More 4' ground rods and ground wire

- Is there anything that we want to add next year?

- Microwave in pavilion

- Breakfast Sunday morning?

- Informational/educational digital signage in pavilion

Reservations for Sharon Johnston Park will be made for next year.

New Members:

The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club was pleased to accept the membership application this week for the newest member, Roy Archibald K4HOT

Tonight: 5th Monday Auction Night

"Sold for one dollar to the cheap ham at the far table."

Photo & Caption by Dick W1TV



For Sale

Hallicrafters S 40A receiver - Free to a good home, it's an excellent candidate for restoration complete with all the tubes and the instruction manual. It was given to me new as a Christmas present in 1949 and served me well during my early years in ham radio. If interested, contact Clyde, W4SCU, by text at two five six 651-9097, or acware (at) aol (dot) com.

Clyde W4SCU

Icom 7300 in great condition \$450
MFJ 259-C SWR analyzer \$200

Steve Brewer W4ASF
W4ASF.net (at) gmail (dot) com
Two five six 683-1545

Harc Members, I have lowered the price of many of the items that I previously posted. All items are in great condition.

Yaesu FTM-200DR Transceiver (w/BT card and data cable), \$190
25' GigaParts Fiberglass Push Up Mast, \$125
Comet 2x4 SR Antenna and Diamond K515S Luggage Rack Antenna Mount, \$125
Arrow 146/437-10W BP Handheld Radio Satellite Antenna, \$125
Powerx SS-30DV Switching Power Supply, \$75
Winkeyer USB Rev C, \$75
Heil Boom, ICM Microphone and Foot Switch, \$150
N3ZN Paddle, \$250

These items are also listed with detailed descriptions on FB under ham radio gear for sale.

73, Jim KV4E
South Huntsville

HARC Programs Available on YouTube—by David NA4CG

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

New videos were added to the channel since March 2026:

4 Apr 2026. **HAM Radio Deluxe**. Presented by Dr. Michael Carper (WA9PIE). Dr. Carper presented an overview of the HAM Radio Deluxe software suite. This presentation covered many of the software's features, including HRD Rig Control, HRD Logbook, HRD DM-780, HRD Rotator Control, HRD Satellite Tracking, and how the software license works (Perpetual software license).

13 Apr 2026. **Field Day Preparation**. Presented by Leigh Bartlow (WD4CPF). Only 10 weeks away! Current preparations update including a complete FD timeline.

27 Apr 2026. **100 Years of SuperHet, Why it's Time to Move On**. Presented by Michael Walker (VA3MW/K2EAF). Mike began the presentation with a short history of the Super Het radio and the associated issues with that technology. He then went on to present the features and capabilities of the Flex Radio.

4 May 2026. **North Alabama DX Club and DXing**. Presented by Bruce Smith (AC4G) and Steve Werner (AG4W). Bruce provided an introduction to DXing and an overview of the Huntsville DX club. Steve then presented various DXing activities: experimentation, Earth-Moon-Earth bounce, and DXpeditions to name a few.

11 May 2026. **Getting Started in HF**. Presented by Michael Burnette (AF7KB). Michael presented a complete introduction into getting started with HF communications. He discussed radios and antennas among other topics. This presentation walks an HF beginner through all the necessary steps to get started in HF communications.

15 Jun 2026. **Antennas - The Third Dimension**. Presented by Gary Sutcliffe (W9XT). Gary discussed various antenna modeling and propagation pattern calculation programs. He married analysis that showed incoming signal angles to antenna radiation patterns thus providing data that would allow the user to optimize their antenna design. He also showed how terrain would affect the antenna patterns. Gary presented data from a new modeling tool, TERA, which can be found here: <https://www.k6tu.net/>

These recordings can be accessed via the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/2r6vmv5v>.



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.

HAYLARC Happenings—by Lisa N3WQL



HAYLARC held our May business meeting on June 11 at the Metro Diner on Airport Road. Our next business meeting/social luncheon will be held at 11:30. We will be meeting at Ted's BBQ, 212 Andrew Jackson Way, Huntsville, AL 35801, in Five Points.

HAYLARC members participated in Field Day in a variety of roles. Kelley Johns, W4VPZ, was the station manager for the 80/20 phone station. Lynda Bartlow, WB4TJE, and Tabitha Jones W4ISD, organized the food area, along with assistance from their OMs. Lisa Shier N3WQL, was the photographer. Laura Morgan, K4CNY, participated in Field Day with the Muscle Shoals Amateur Radio Club.

Our activity for July will be a soldering class at Lisa Shier's house on July 7 from 6 to 8 PM. We had so much fun the last time, we decided to do it again! It's also good to have indoor activities in the hot summer months. Please bring your own soldering iron. Bring your own project or we will have some kits you can build.



ARES Monthly Meeting Minutes - by Steve KM4CJ

Madison County, Alabama ARES Monthly Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2026

The meeting was conducted at the Madison County EMA EOC.
There were 14 in attendance.
The meeting started at 18:00 central time.

Tim, KK5H –If you have any photos from this year's ARES activities, send them to Tim, KK5H, as he is updating our poster board for Hamfest. Byron, KQ4NPA, has volunteered to be our ARES Hamfest table coordinator. Tim announced our next meeting will be a Game trivia question game night.

EMA - Chris, AI4U, announced a multi-agency exercise will be conducted on June 17th involving a hazardous train derailment. Emergency communications are not expected to be needed. The Madison County Emergency Planning Committee Meeting will be held June 23rd.

David, NA4GC, announced a few programs coming up at HARC that are ARES related. 13th July – National Hurricane Center Overview, and 3rd August – Message passing.

Steve, KM4CJ, reminded the group that the Digital Net is the 2nd Thursday of the Month at 7:00 PM. We will be using the HSV DMR repeater 442.275 +, cc1, slot 1, TG 31014 – BransMeister Server,

Program:

Steve, KM4CJ, gave a presentation on preparation for Field Day.

Meeting adjourned 19:10 central time.

Respectfully Submitted

Steve Smith

Assistant Emergency Coordinator

ARES Madison County



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://madisoncountyaalema.gov/amateur-radio/>

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

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

RF belongs inside the coax, not the power line

Another FD first for 2026, inside view of a Power Line Common Mode Choke. These were used at all FD stations for powering equipment. Any RF picked up from the long power cables running from the generator to the trailers was blocked.



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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