VOX

November 2026

VOX

Monthly Newsletter of the Huntsville Amateur Radio Club©

The President's Corner

Fall is here and the holiday season is approaching fast. I want to wish everyone a Happy and Safe Thanksgiving.

NOTE: The annual HARC holiday feast will be December 14th, 2026 starting at 6PM at the Signals Museum. Through a very generous anonymous donation of $300 to cover the venue rental, we will not be selling tickets to cover this cost.

We have had 55 new members join us this calendar year with more applications being submitted every month. That is impressive and welcome to all the new members.

The **2026 Alabama ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET)** took place on Saturday, October 31, 2026, from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Numerous scenarios both expected and un-expected were exercised. The Huntsville zoo animals escapee showed to be interesting and fun.

News from ARRL: ARRL has submitted a new re-districting proposal which would move the State of Alabama out of the South Eastern Division and put our club in the Delta Division. This action will go into effect starting February 1, 2027 unless there are substantiated reasons as to why it should not occur. This re-districting is primarily occurring to equalize the members within the divisions.

Winter field day is scheduled for the 4th full weekend in January 2027. Please visit https://winterfieldday.org/ for rules and additional information as we will be discussing this event in the coming meetings.

73, Don Bertram (N4SEI)
HARC President

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From your Publisher

HARC needs a NEW VOX PUBLISHER. Between Dec-2010 and Jan-2011, I took over this newsletter from Tom Duncan KG4CUY (SK). This publication marks the 190th issue since my start. It's time to hand over the reins.

The VOX newsletter, except for a few lost issues, has been published continuously since 1961. Those issues are essentially the heartbeat of the Huntsville Amateur Radio Club, recording names, dates, happenings, and plans. Help is needed to continue this important tradition.

The format isn't as relevant as the content. Microsoft Publisher, used by Tom and I for decades is probably not the best choice since that software is going to a paid subscription extra to the core suite of MS Office products. A new person can start using any format he or she is comfortable with, such as MS Word or an Open Office application.

What is essential is the continuation of the VOX. My last issue will be Dec-2026. Please contact a club officer for transition planning to make the Jan-2027 issue a reality. 73, Mark N4BCD. Huntsville Hamfest-Chairman, HARC Officer-at-large, Lincoln County Amateur Radio Association–Secretary.

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

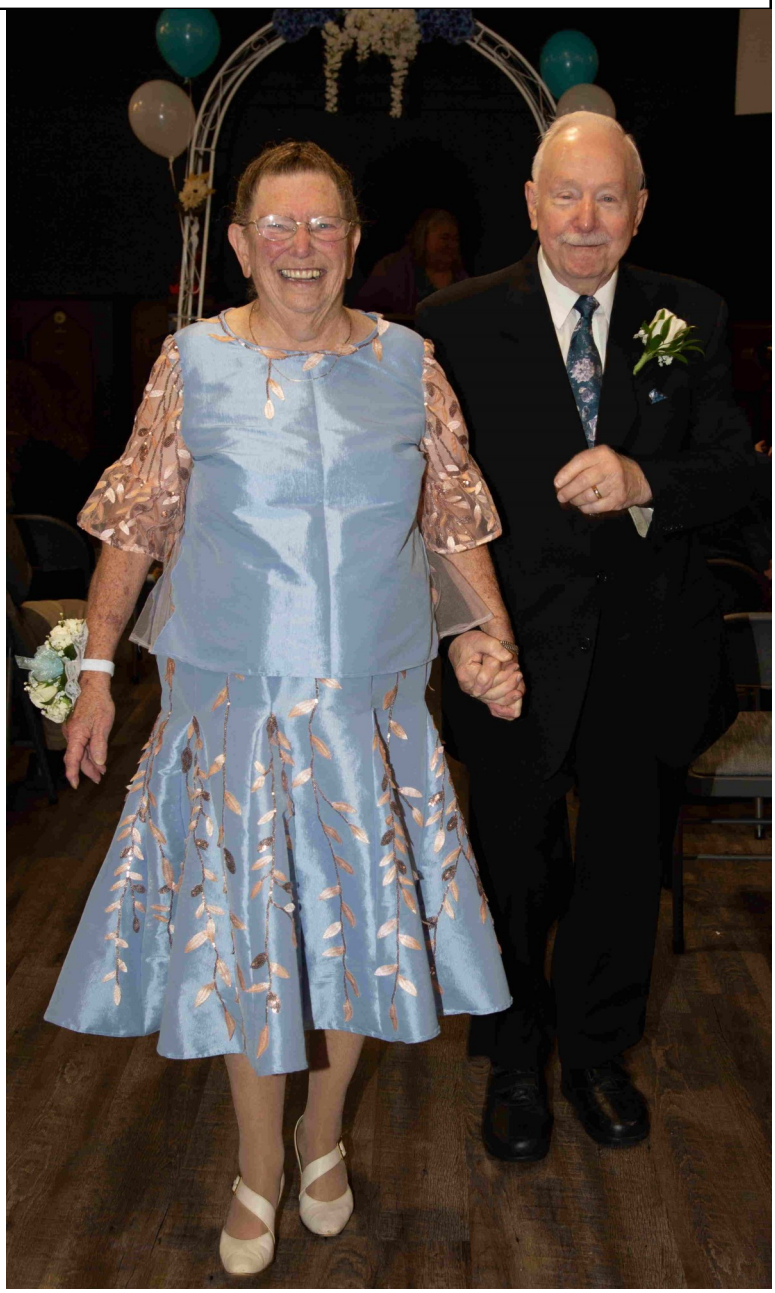
EVENT	WHEN - WEEKLY	NOTES
HARC meeting	every Monday, 7 PM	visit HARC.NET for details
Lunch gathering	every Wednesday, 11 AM	China Buffet on Jordan Ln.
ARES practice net (FM)	every Thursday, 7:30 PM	147.220+ pl 136.5, backup 146.94- 100.0
SKYWARN (FM) net	every Thursday, 8 PM	147.24+ 82.5, 442.775+ 107.2
HARC net (FM) net	every Friday, 8 PM	145.33- pl 100
GOTA station at GigaParts	every Saturday, 9 AM to 6 PM	intermittently on other days
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)



Basil Burleigh "Leigh" Bartlow WD4CPF (SK)



Leigh Bartlow, WD4CPF, of Huntsville, Alabama, passed away peacefully on October 28, 2026, surrounded by his loving family.

Leigh was a pillar of the local amateur radio community. Operating as an Amateur Extra under the call sign **WD4CPF**, he spent decades building friendships across the airwaves and mentoring new operators. As a dedicated member of the **Huntsville Amateur Radio Club (HARC)**, Leigh was incredibly instrumental in organizing and coordinating the annual **ARRL HARC Field Day** operations for numerous years. His leadership, logistical brilliance, and enthusiasm transformed Field Day into a premier event that brought the entire club together and prepared local operators for critical emergency communications.

Leigh was a devoted individual who cherished time with family, friends and fellow HAM's. His quiet patience, sharp wit, and willingness to help anyone solve a technical problem left a lasting mark on all who knew him.

Leigh is survived by his wife, Lynda Bartlow WB4TJE.

Memorial services announcement will be forthcoming.

"Leigh's key is silent now, but his signal carries on in the air waves and the community he built. 73, Leigh, from all your friends at HARC. WD4CPF is now a Silent Key."

Thoughts and prayers
Don Bertram N4SEI (HARC President)

Oh; this will take a while to process. Think of the ham radio operator stereotypes...Leigh met all the positive standards...and none of the negatives. He was the kind of ham most of us want to be; and the kind of person most of us aspire to be. Missed already.

73, Leigh
Chuck, N4NM

Leigh Bartlow WD4CPF (SK)—continued

Howdy All,

Leigh will be remembered as a pillar of the club. He was a champion for all the best parts of amateur radio and a good friend to all who knew him. We were lucky to see him just a few days ago at the meeting.

Farewell WD4CPF, 73, CU LATR, SK

Kevin E. Ivey
K4IVE



About 25-30 years ago, after a trip to Europe, Leigh proved that he and I were ninth cousins. We were the same generation from two brothers (Will and Harman Johnson von Borkeloo) who immigrated to New Amsterdam in 1661.

RIP Cousin
Johnny, KR4F

I can't say anything about Leigh that hasn't already been said, except the he was one of the most patient and kind fellas I've ever met, and we are all better for knowing him. RIP Leigh,

Jim N4KH



Boy, this is tough news to hear. Leigh was certainly a Ham's Ham. Always willing to help with your project or event. The first to raise his hand when the call for volunteers went out. I remember him at the old Red Cross building on Andrew Jackson…sitting there in his HARC vest with his call proudly on display. I recall all the work he and Leon Bell did getting the

Leigh Bartlow WD4CPF (SK)—continued

club's first 2 meter repeater up and running. I believe that was on Green Mountain.

When a few of us wanted to try our hand at Amateur TV, Leigh was a charter member of the group and a needed advisor. From his home atop Brindley Mountain he had a dynamite signal. When we wanted to add dial up weather radar to the repeater he built a relay to do just that.

The Huntsville Track Club needed hams to provide vital coms for their races. They didn't have to look any farther than Leigh to make that happen. I lost track how many years he headed up that effort.

As a club officer he was a great leader and mentor. For many years he took on the job of Hamfest Hospitality chair. He turned that into a family affair with Lynda and her daughter and husband teaming up. As Field Day Chairman Leigh inspired us to do our best...and we did, year after year.

Leigh Barlow shared his love of Amateur Radio and we are so much the better that he came our way.

God Bless,

Dick, W1TV





Meeting Minutes—by Don K4DJC

October 5, 2026

Call to Order at 7:00 PM By: Don B-(N4SEI) Business Adjourned: 7:40 PM

Attendance: In Person 27 Zoom 7 Visitors 0 **Total:** 34

Announcements:

Madison County ARES/RACES will conduct their annual Simulated Emergency Training event on October 31, 2026.

There will not be a HARC Meeting on October 12, 2026, Columbus Day.

ARRL Field Day 2027 will take place from Saturday, June 26, to Sunday, June 27, 2027

The official ARRL Field Day Results will be published in the December 2026 issue of QST magazine and online at the ARRL Field Day Results Page. URL: field-day.arrl.org/fdresults.php

Chattanooga Hamfest 2026 will be held October 16(noon-7:00 PM)-17(8:00 AM-3:00 PM), 2026 at The Colonnade 264 Catoosa Circle in Ringold, Georgia. Admission $10 (covers both days) Talk-in 145.390 Tone 107.2 or ECHO 859388 W4AM-R.

Update, in response to HARC's "Letter to Amend Alabama Sales and Use Tax Exemptions to include Amateur Radio Clubs Supporting Emergency Communications": Senator Arthur Orr has drafted a bill that would provide tax exempt status to 501 (c) (3) qualified Amateur Radio Clubs within Alabama. This draft bill still must be approved but it is a great step forward and will help HARC and numerous other amateur radio clubs within Alabama with the fiscal and administrative actions required for sales and use tax within the state of Alabama. This DRAFT Bill was provided by Charlotte McKelvy, Morgan County Delegation Legislative Coordinator in Decatur, AL

Winter Field Day was discussed. The response from the Club was enough to merit looking for a location and a date.

Business:

Treasurer's Report-Daniel (KQ4HWN) gave the Treasurer's Update which approve by motion, second and unanimous voice vote.

Holiday HARC Social gathering -Cost will be borne by individual members attending rather than using club funds. Location to be determined.

Presentation:

Tonight' Presentation: ARRL: Advocacy, Service and Lifelong Learning – Andy Milluzzi (KK4LWR) ARRL Southeast Vice-Director.

Meeting Minutes—by Don K4DJC

October 19, 2026, Presentations:

The ELMER Program – Mark Fahlgren(KR4DRJ)

The 2026 ARES Simulate Emergency Training (SET) – Steve Smith (KM4CJ).

New Members:

HARC received no new member applications this week. The total number of new members this year remains at 50.

October 12, 2026 – Columbus Day, no meeting.

October 19, 2026

Call to Order at 7:00 PM By: Don B-(N4SEI) Business Adjourned:7:10 PM

Attendance: In Person 38 Zoom 6 Visitors 1 **Total:** 45

Announcements:

Madison County ARES/RACES will conduct their annual Simulated Emergency Training event on October 31, 2026.

ARRL Field Day 2027 will take place from Saturday, June 26, to Sunday, June 27, 2027

The official ARRL Field Day Results will be published in the December 2026 issue of QST magazine and online at the ARRL Field Day Results Page. URL: field-day.arrl.org/fdresults.php

Winter Field Day was discussed. The response from the Club was enough to merit looking for a location and a date. No location determined yet.

Club Spotlight – HARC (Chuck N4NM) No Update

Business:

Treasurer's Report-Daniel (KQ4HWN) Attorney's invoice for Logos and Trademark has been paid.

Holiday HARC Social gathering -Cost will be borne by individual members attending rather than using club funds. Location to be determined.

Presentation:

Tonight's Presentations:

The ELMER Program – Mark Fahlgren(KR4DRJ)

Meeting Minutes—continued

The 2026 ARES Simulate Emergency Training (SET) – Steve Smith (KM4CJ).

New Members:

HARC received no new member applications this week. The total number of new members this year remains at

Aubry Stewart, KR4OJH, General.
Carter Vaughn, N4CDV, Technician

October 26, 2026

Call to Order at 7:00 PM By: Don B-(N4SEI) Business Adjourned: 7:19 PM

Attendance: In Person 31 Zoom 9 Visitors 3 **Total:** 43

Announcements:

Madison County ARES/RACES will conduct their annual Simulated Emergency Training event on October 31, 2026.

ARRL Field Day 2027 will take place from Saturday, June 26, to Sunday, June 27, 2027

The official ARRL Field Day Results will be published in the December 2026 issue of QST magazine and online at the ARRL Field Day Results Page. URL: field-day.arrl.org/fdresults.php

Winter Field Day was discussed. The response from the Club was enough to merit looking for a location and a date. No location determined yet.

After many years of dedicated service Mark N4BCD has announced his retirement as editor and publisher of the HARC VOX, the club newsletter. The search has begun for his replacement. If you are interested in filling this position, please contact any club officer.

Business:

A motion was made and passed to set the date for the HARC Holiday Party for Monday December 14th beginning at 6:00 at the Signals Museum. Tickets will be sold to cover the costs of the facility rental. Details will follow.

Presentation:

Tonight's Presentations:

Military Auxiliary Radio Service (MARS) by Stephen KK4KVD

New Member voted in tonight: Ryan Gaulding – KR4PJW

HAYLARC Happenings—by Lisa N3WQL

HAYLARC held our monthly lunch meeting on October 8. We cancelled the planned activity for October, a POTA activation, due to the hurricane and suggested that members participate in the AREA/ RACES Simulated Emergency Test on October 31. Lisa Shier, N3WQL, was running a simulated distribution center at Sharon Johnston Park for the SET with assistance from Stephanie Clark, KN4MEW.

The November lunch meeting will be on the 12th at 11:30 AM at Ted's BBQ in Five Points (212 Andrew Jackson Way NE, Huntsville, AL 3580). HAYLARC will sponsor a soldering class on Thursday, November 19th from 6-8 PM at Gigaparts. We will have some kits and supplies available, but people are welcome to bring their own. This class is open to the public and is free.



(right) Stephanie Clark, KN4MEW, and Lisa Shier, N3WQL, operating at Sharon Johnson Park during the Simulated Emergency Test. Photo Credit: KM4CJ



Steve Smith, KM4CJ, operates at Sharon Johnston Park during the Simulated Emergency Test. Photo Credit: N3WQL

ARES Monthly Meeting Minutes - by Steve KM4CJ

Madison County, Alabama ARES Monthly Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2026

The meeting was conducted at the Madison County EMA EOC.
There were 21 in attendance.
The meeting started at 18:00 central time.

Tim, KK5H – Reminded everyone of the up coming Simulated Emergency Test (SET) on October 31st. Tim announced the ARES Dinner will be December 10th at Kacey's Home Cooking.

EMA – Chris, AI4U, announced CERT Class 85 from the Madison County Tech School has graduated. The next CERT classes will begin in January. You can go to the CERT website to sign up.

Next month's program we will be a discussion of the SET exercise.

Program:

Steve, KM4CJ, gave a presentation of final preparations for SET.

Meeting adjourned 18:45 central time.

Respectfully Submitted
Steve Smith
Assistant Emergency Coordinator

A big thank you to all who participated in the ARES 2026 Simulated Emergency Test (SET) Saturday morning. We are in the process of compiling the results and we will have more to report next month.



Steve KK4KVD, Richard KK4MDP, and Tim KK5H – Operating at Madison County EOC – 2026 SET

For Sale

Mercury Lux KM3KM 1500W Solid-State Amplifier (MRC-LUX) – Complete Bundle with LUX INT 7 & Factory Handle Kit.
Cosmetic: 9.5/10 – immaculate front panel, touchscreen, and chassis.
Operational: 10/10 – fully operational with no history of faults, repairs, or component failures

If interested please respond to fs1000j (at) gmail (dot) com
Local cash sale only.
Sales Price: $4500 OBO
73,
Jim KV4E
————————————————-

Ameritron ALS1306 HF+6 1200W Solid State Amplifier 1.5-54 MHz . . . 1200 Watts PEP Output,

Instant Automatic band switching, no tuning, no warm-up, SWR protected, Quiet Variable-Speed Cooling . . . PEP FWD/REF Metering...PA Balance /ALC Metering and LED Indicator . . . Front Panel Band/Error LEDs . . . more!

I'm asking $2100 for it, FOB my office in downtown Huntsville. Call or text my cell two five six, 527-8521 if interested.
73,
M.D. Smith, WA4DXP
————————————————-

ICOM R71A HF receiver for sale. $250. If any members might be interested, they can contact me at garhart1947 (at) gmail.com
 Thank you.
- Gary Eberhart. KQ4CVN

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

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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

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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.

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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/

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Title

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.

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• 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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