



The Prez Sez

Oyez... Oyez... Oyez... Come one, Come all: Ladies and Gentlemen: The special event for the start of our spring season will be here March 18th and March 19th. On each of these wonderful days (Saturday and Sunday) from 1400 zulu until 0000 zulu (check with QST - page 100)... You don't have to tune in to listen to this Special Event commemorating the Air Disaster of Flight 242 here in Northwest Georgia... YOU can actually be on the air doing this event. Our Club... THE SILVER COMET AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY has been invited by none other than that talented and gracious dapper of Polk County, Mr. David Walk (of the K4BBH fame) to host this Special Event from his home in Rock Mart.

We will be meeting at his home to broadcast a D3 style station. Although there will be food provided, any help in this area will be greatly appreciated. As Dave will be the man in charge and setting up "things"... any questions should be forwarded to him either at "dtwalk@gmail.com" or to his cell phone "503-382-7199".

Now let's get together to make this the GREAT event that our club can do. We need to do this.

John Reynolds - W4TXA



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W4RSC "Radio Silver Comet"

The Silver Comet ARS, Inc. a 501 (c) (3) Not for Profit Organization



Russell Space Team Russell Elementary Amateur Radio Club - KM4RE



**Christian Laster - KM4KPJ
and
The Russell Elementary School
SPACE TEAM AND HAM
RADIO CLUB**



**Silver Comet ARS President
John Reynolds - W4TXA
presenting Cooper Jones
KM4WNA, age 9, with a
certificate for passing his
General test.**



**Thank you Chris for the very interesting and informative presentation.
WOW! We all were impressed and envious.**

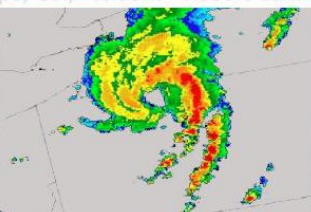


Special Event Notice!

On March 18 & 19, the Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society will hold an "On-The-Air" Special Event commemorating the 40th anniversary of the crash of Flight 242 in New Hope, GA on April 4th, 1977. This event will be held at the home of Dave - K4BBH, on top of Braswell Mountain.

If you wish to participate as a Special Event operator, please contact Dave. Experience is not required as there will be mentors available to assist. Operators are needed to man two or three positions.

Below is a sample of the certificate that will be available to those stations that have worked W4RSC "on-the-air" during this event and have applied for a certificate. QSL cards are also available.

Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society, Inc. Special Event
In Commemoration of the 40th anniversary
Flight 242 crash in New Hope, GA on April 4, 1977
Remembering the 72 people who died in the worst plane crash in Georgia history



On the afternoon of April 4, 1977, Captain Bill McKenzie and First Officer Lyman Keele piloted Southern Airways Flight 242 into the sky over Huntsville, Ala., headed east toward Atlanta, Ga. Minutes after takeoff, Flight 242 entered a heavy thunderstorm. Both pilots attempted to use their in-flight weather radar to find a region of clear air. Despite seeing an area on their radar that looked calmer, it was actually the strongest area of the storm. The pilots didn't realize that the heavy rain caused the radar to inaccurately portray an area of hail as an area of light precipitation. Both engines quit due to large hail being ingested into the engines. As the plane descended, it broke out of the storm but now had no engine power. Despite a valiant effort by the crew to land the plane on a portion of road near New Hope, Ga., the plane's wing clipped a gas station during landing, causing it to burst into flames. Of the 85 people onboard, 63 perished in addition to 9 on the ground; 23 survived.

Sponsored by: W4RSC
Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society
P.O. Box 1873
Hiram, GA 30141
www.silvercometars.org


John Reynolds - President
Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

ARS W4RSC Confirming our 2X QSO with:

David Walk, K4BBH

DATE/TIME: 1/16/2017 9:09:00 PM **BAND:** 17 **FREQ:** 18.126 **RS:** 59

Operator: DTW **QTH:** Rockmart, GA • Grid - EM73mx • Polk County



Want to get on DSTAR?



The NWDR ThumbDVTM adds D-STAR DV capability to your computer or laptop allowing you to get on the D-STAR network *without a radio.*

The FTDI USB to serial converter has preinstalled driver support for Windows and Linux. Mac OS X is available from FTDI.

The ThumbDVTM is sold as a tested unit with applications software offered by others.

NW Digital Radio

<http://nwdigitalradio.com/thumbdv-and-dv3000-resource-page/>

******* *Lost* *******

***Icom IC-92AD 2m/440 DStar Handie Talkie
in a Motorola labeled Soft Case
S/N 0205684***

***Please Contact: K4CGA, Chuck DuVall
K4CGA@arrl.net***

Field Day 1980 (K4CGA style ex-WB4BQX)



**My operating position
consisting of the
Heathkit SB-Line, a
good fan, and a tent
full of screened
windows.
Winchester VA**

**My 2 element 40M
fiberglass beam on 20
feet of tower. Off time
was spent roughing it
in my van or food tent.**



**Overall view of the
Field Day site with the
40M in the foreground
and the 20M/2M, &
15M, in the back. Not
visible is the 80M
Dipole**

Field Day 2017 (W4RSC style)



*Details To Be
Announced*

Did You Know?

Crow Facts

Researchers for the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority found over 70 dead crows in the greater Boston area recently, and there was concern that they may have died from Avian Flu. A Bird Pathologist examined the remains of all the crows, and, to everyone's relief, confirmed the problem was definitely NOT Avian Flu. The cause of death appeared to be vehicular impacts.

However, during the detailed analysis it was noted that varying colors of paints appeared on the bird's beaks and claws. By analyzing these paint residues it was determined that 98% of the crows had been killed by impact with trucks, while only 2% were killed by an impact with a car.

MTA then hired an Ornithological Behaviorist to determine if there was a cause for the disproportionate percentages of truck kills versus car kills.

He very quickly concluded the cause: When crows eat road kill, they always have a look-out crow in a nearby tree to warn of impending danger. They discovered that while all the lookout crows could shout "Cah", not a single one could shout "Truck."

Makes you wonder why you gave me your email address, huh?

Did You Know?

The Telescope from 'Goldeneye' Is In Trouble

The U.S. National Science Foundation is accepting proposals from anyone who wants to take over operations.



AP

By [Associated Press](#) and Danica Coto
Jan 25, 2017

The future of one of the world's largest single-dish radio telescopes is in question after the U.S. National Science Foundation announced Wednesday it was accepting proposals from those interested in assuming operations at the Arecibo Observatory in Puerto Rico.

The announcement comes as the federal agency runs out of funds to support the observatory, which features a 1,000-foot-wide (305-meter-wide) dish used in part to search for gravitational waves and track asteroids that might be on a collision course with Earth.

<http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/arecibo-telescope-in-trouble.552917/>



WELL WHY WOULD YOU TAKE THAT ON, YOU TELL ME !!!

By Lee WB4QOJ

Most hams now a day's only see Digital or SSB, some AM on HF. FM on VHF or UHF. But, another world is out there and waiting for you to explore and it's easier than you think to conquer.

Let me back up a few years (maybe many). Taking your test in front of an FCC examiner. It was tough because most of us waited till they showed up at a testing session once or twice a year. You studied hard, got CW under your belt. 5 wpm Novice, 13 wpm General and Advanced and 20 wpm Extra. Then you had to copy five minutes and you had to get a straight one minute error free in that five mins. I was sweating bullets. Well it was not over. You then had to do the same back to the examiner with a straight key. WOW ROUGH. THE PRESSURE WAS ON. Then all the written questions, mounds of math and on and on. Enough to give you an ulcer. It was worth it, you were proud and you had slain the Dragon.

A lot of new Hams or want-to-be Hams today do not have the good fortune of having a mentor. That is why we are lucky with K4ELI and his Team that he has put in place to help with mentoring, helping and following through till the TEST, then under the wing to make sure good practices are followed.

Well, a little off track but it all works together. I have heard a lot of chatter from some of our group and others around talking about brushing up on, THAT'S RIGHT CW, Continuous Wave, Dots and Dashes. Yes, MORSE CODE. The original digital. It's fun, it's not dead and it is something that takes time to conquer.

Many years ago when I was a Shortwave Listener an inspiring Ham, there was a man that lived two streets over from me, his name was Harry. Harry had a small house and a small garage he turned into a ham shack. Every time I went by his house there was a new antenna, all wires or homemade verticals, all shapes and sizes and configurations. I was amazed.

One day I stopped in, I was about 14 years old and asked Harry if I could see what he was doing. Being an old time ham he said sure young-in come on in. He had an old Johnson Invader Transmitter and a National NC303 Receiver. I was drooling. He had 300 ohm twin lead (homemade) coming in through the wall to a kilowatt Johnson Matchbox.

On his desk was an old Black and White Remington Manual Typewriter. (More on that later) I asked him what he liked about ham radio the most. He said fast and very dogmatically, "ANTENNA BUILDING and CW". I understood the Antenna part but not the CW part at that moment. We talked about antennas, matching networks, feed lines and what worked best in his mind. What worked for him was always tinkering and building. (A TRUE HAM IN ALL SENSE OF THE WORD).

Then we started talking CW. He had an old Vibroplex Keyer, a grey one, not fancy but it worked for him. He fired up the receiver on 40 meters, his favorite band. Low end CW portion and all I could hear was ringing. Now the Typewriter. He did not write a QSO down he copied it down on his manual typewriter at 45 WPM that's right 45, FORTY-FIVE, 100% COPY. But now comes the fun part. As we were talking, CW ringing in the back ground, he started laughing. I thought I said something wrong. It was not me it was the CW ringing out of the NC303 on 40 meters at about 30 wpm. He apologized and said that the QSO in the background was several friends that he talked to all the time and one told a joke he thought was funny. OK THINK ABOUT THAT. We were talking face to face and he was coping 30 wpm CW IN HIS HEAD and heard the joke and thought it was funny. WOW what a talent. I was inspired. Then finally some time later I got my Novice.

Harry helped me with SWL antenna designs and IT WAS FUN. You know 40 meters is a big SWL Band HI HI.

So those that are looking to brush up on CW, GO FOR IT. You may not be like Harry. You may use computer programs to help send and receive, BUT don't use that as a crutch find a key, keyer or Iambic paddle that works for you and HAVE FUN, It's all part of the hobby and it's not dead. Dah-Dit-Dah

RADIO DIRECTION FINDING (RDF)

The Original "HANDI-Finder" For Hidden Transmitter Hunts (Fox Hunts)

HANDI-Finder Website: <http://www.handi-finder.com/>

HANDI-Finder: <http://www.homingin.com/hfinderfix.html>

The Original "HANDI-Finder" Kit

1 to 4 units: \$27.95 each plus \$6.00 S/H (\$33.95 for 1)

(3 units: $3 \times \$27.95 = \$83.85 + \$6.00 \text{ S/H} = \89.85 Total)

5 to 9 units: \$27.00 each plus \$8.00 S/H

10 and above: \$27.00 each with "FREE SHIPPING"

For more information, contact Rick Wells at (330) 225-7373

***TO ORDER, send the proper amount,
by check or Money-Order, made payable to:***

"RALTEC"

and mail to:

Rick Wells

P.O. BOX 271

BRUNSWICK, OH 44212-0271

<http://www.noard.com/noardhdf.htm>

***For Additional Information on Transmitter Hunting
and/or the HANDI-Finder
Joe Moell, K0OV "HOMING-IN"***

RADIO DIRECTION FINDING (RDF)

THE "SEARCHER" RADIO DIRECTION FINDER

A direction finder antenna that connects to any UHF/VHF Ham Radio or Scanner. Great for fox hunting, finding hidden transmitters that are raising havoc with your repeater.

Comes complete with a case, and all the parts to construct a 24" wide VERTICAL DI-POLE antenna.

You can have fun with this kit and it won't break your pocketbook. SDF-1 Kit \$44.95

<http://www.rainbowkits.com/kits/sdf-1p.html>

CONTEST & SPECIAL EVENTS

ARRL 2017-2018 Contest Dates - Ver 1.0c, 17 Oct 2016

| | |
|--|---|
| January 2017 1 Straight Key Night 7 Kids Day 7-8 RTTY Roundup 21-23 January VHF | February 2017 13-17 School Club Roundup 18-19 International DX – CW |
| March 2017 4-5 International DX– Phone | April 2017 16 Rookie Roundup – Phone |
| June 2017 10-12 June VHF 18 Kids Day 24-25 Field Day | July 2017 8-9 IARU HF World Championship |
| August 2017 5-6 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest 19-20 10 GHz & Up – Round 1 20 Rookie Roundup – RTTY | September 2017 9-10 EME - 2.3 GHz & Up 9-11 September VHF 16-17 10 GHz & Up - Round 2 |
| October 2016 17-21 School Club Roundup 22-23 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz | November 2016 5-7 Nov. Sweepstakes – CW 19-21 Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone 19-20 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz <i>November 2017</i> 4-5 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz 4-6 Nov. Sweepstakes – CW 18-20 Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone |
| December 2016 2-4 160 Meter 10-11 10 Meter 18 Rookie Roundup–CW <i>December 2017</i> 1-3 160 Meter 9-10 10 Meter 17 Rookie Roundup–CW | <div> <p>Check your emails for additional contest and special event activities</p> </div> |

RECENT CONTEST RESULTS

K4LDC's Contest Summary Report for ARRL School Club Roundup

Created by N3FJP's School Club Roundup Contest Log

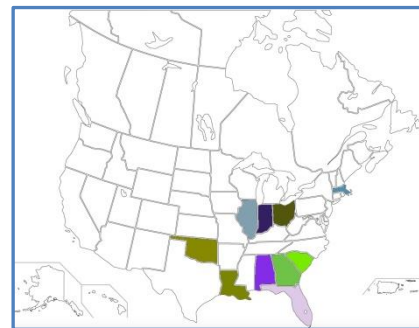
Version 1.7 www.n3fjp.com

Total Contacts = 14 (KM4RE was one of these on 40M)

Total States and Provinces Worked = 10

Total Countries Worked = 0

**Total Number of Clubs Worked: 1 clubs X 2
multipliers each = 2**



Total Number of Schools Worked: 13 schools X 5 multipliers each = 65

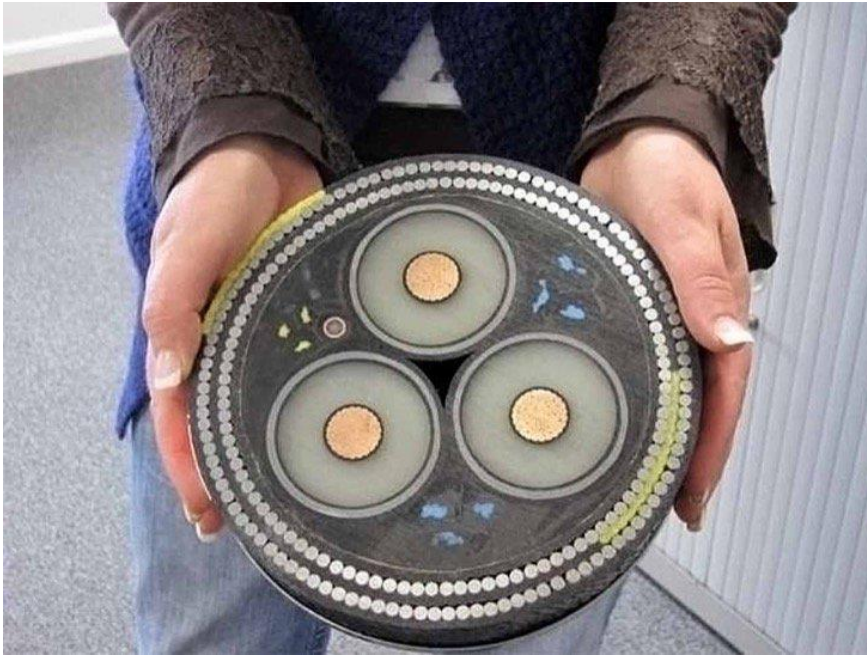
Total Multipliers = 77

Total QSO Points = 14

Total Score = 1,078

Also, I had 2 hours of operating time last Sunday to make 19 North Carolina QSO Party contacts on 40M for a total of 361 points.

WHAT IS THIS?



WHO IS THIS?

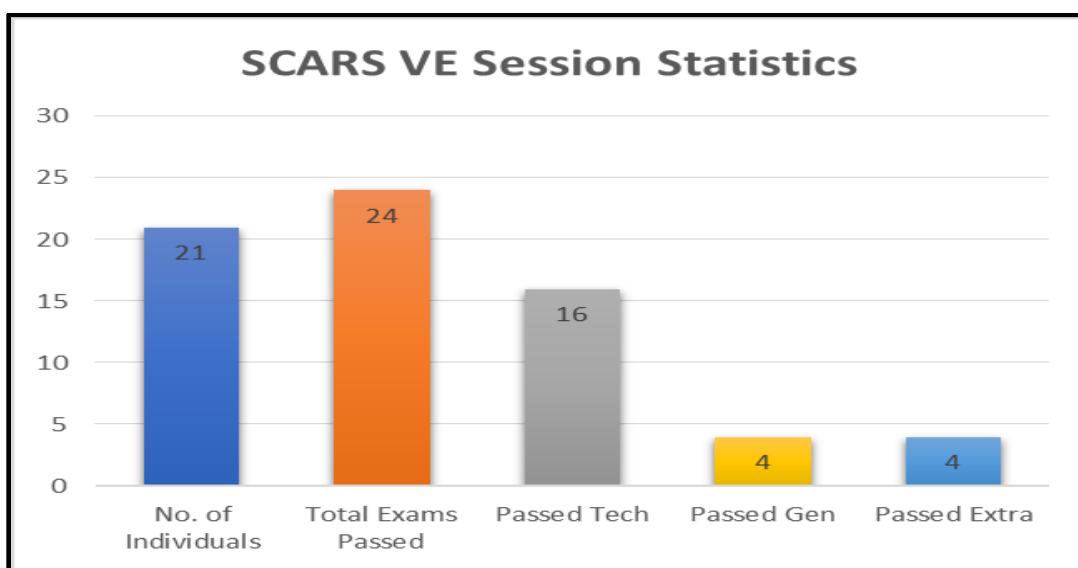


SCARS V.E. ACTIVITIES

| Call | Date | Session Time | Name | City | State | Class |
|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|-------|------------------|
| KM4YHM | 6-Oct-2016 | 19:00 | Eric Bryson | Marietta | GA | Tech |
| KM4YHN | 6-Oct-2016 | 19:00 | Houston Davidson | Austell | GA | Tech |
| KM4PEB | 9-Nov-2016 | 14:00 | Brian Bowie | Rockmart | GA | Extra |
| KM4ZAD | 10-Nov-2016 | 19:00 | Joseph Smarkusky | Kennesaw | GA | Tech |
| KM4ZAE | 10-Nov-2016 | 19:00 | John Thomas | Roswell | GA | Tech |
| KM4ZAF | 10-Nov-2016 | 19:00 | Robert Marorato | Atlanta | GA | Tech |
| KM4ZAG | 10-Nov-2016 | 19:00 | Jared Baker | Marietta | GA | Tech |
| KM4ZAH | 10-Nov-2016 | 19:00 | Wesley Bussey | Atlanta | GA | Tech |
| KM4ZAI | 10-Nov-2016 | 19:00 | Wesley Carlton | Atlanta | GA | Tech |
| KW4ZJ | 10-Nov-2016 | 19:00 | Chris Paul | Rome | GA | Tech, Gen, Extra |
| K4BTA | 10-Nov-2016 | 19:00 | Luis Velazquez | Marietta | GA | Extra |
| KM4ZMW | 30-Nov-2016 | 14:00 | Richard Bowhall | Dallas | GA | Tech |
| KM4VTE | 1-Dec-2016 | 19:00 | Tommy LeBoeuf | Dallas | GA | Gen |
| KM4ZOU | 1-Dec-2016 | 19:00 | Robert Mciver | Atlanta | GA | Tech |
| KM4ZOV/K1SSL | 1-Dec-2016 | 19:00 | Sherwin Lee | Acworth | GA | Tech |
| KF4UOS | 12-Jan-2017 | 19:00 | Michael Blackwell | Douglasville | GA | Extra |
| KM4ZMW | 12-Jan-2017 | 19:00 | Richard Bowhall | Dallas | GA | Gen |
| KM4AXY | 12-Jan-2017 | 19:00 | Daniel Ramaswami | Milton | GA | Gen |
| KN4AHC | 12-Jan-2017 | 19:00 | Bernard Poulin | Smyrna | GA | Tech |
| KN4AHD | 12-Jan-2017 | 19:00 | Michael Frailey | Marietta | GA | Tech |
| KN4AHE | 12-Jan-2017 | 19:00 | William Muscarella | Atlanta | GA | Tech |
| KN4AZK | 2-Feb-2017 | 19:00 | Donald J. Hicks | Smyrna | GA | Tech |

SCARS V.E. ACTIVITIES

| No. of Individuals | Total Exams Passed | Passed Tech | Passed Gen | Passed Extra |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| 21 | 24 | 16 | 4 | 4 |
| No. of Individuals | Total Exams Passed | Passed Tech | Passed Gen | Passed Extra |
| 21 | 24 | 16 | 4 | 4 |



K4ELI and the VE Team will be testing at 7pm at Burnt Hickory Baptist Church, Due West Road, Powder Springs on the following dates:

| | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <i>May 4</i> | <i>July 6</i> | <i>September 7</i> | <i>November 2</i> |
| <i>June 1</i> | <i>August 3</i> | <i>October 5</i> | <i>December 7</i> |

All classes of licenses will be available.

BRING:

- Original and copy of existing license.
- Copy of FRN # if you have a GMRS license or some other license.
- \$15 cash----exact change
- Photo ID

See the ARRL web site for more details.

Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

2017 Calendar

** Don't forget "BABJ" [Breakfast At Bolangles] every Thursday morning at 9am. **

| | January | February | March | April | May | June | July | August | September | October | November | December |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|--|---|--|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| Meeting 1st Tuesday Date/Time: | 01-03-2017 7pm | 02-07-2017 7pm | 03-07-2017 7pm | 04-04-2017 7pm | 05-02-2017 7pm | 06-06-2017 7pm | 07-11-25016 7pm | 08-01-2017 7pm | 09-05-2017 7pm | 10-03-2017 7pm | 11-07-2017 7pm | 12-05-2017 7pm |
| Meeting Location | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg | Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg |
| Meeting Activity | Ham Radio Q&A & Demo (Ask a ? of an old timer) | Russell Elem. Space Team (KM4RE) | Digital Ham Radio D-Star/PSK (WB3ILX) | Severe Weather Presentation (K4DMF) | Solar Eclipse by a Guest Speaker (K4DMF) | Field Day Primer & Planning (Volunteer Planner Needed) | Mystery Guest Speaker/Topic | Cheap Antenna Construction | 3rd Annual AM Radio DX Contest or ??? | White Elephant Night ***** Club Officers Nominations | Your Suggestion Here ***** Club Officers Voting | Holiday Dinner ***** Election Results |
| Additional Activities | TBD | TBD | Saturday Breakfast (Proposed) | GA QSO Party | Family Night Dinner (TBA) | Field Day GOTA | TBD | TBD | Club Fall Picnic (Location TBD) | Jamboree On The Air (TBD) | TBD | TBD |
| Hamfest Schedule | Lawrenceville TechFest | Dalton, GA | Birmingham, AL Elijay | Mobile, AL Calhoun | Dayton, OH | Atlanta, GA | Cullman, AL | Huntsville, AL | Dallas SEDEC DX | La Grange, GA Chattanooga Rome, GA | Lawrenceville Montgomery, AL | |

This calendar is "Subject to change" based on suggestions received from the membership. Submit your suggestions now!

v1.3.17

W4RSC

Paulding County, GA - EM73 - ITU Zone: 8

Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
PO Box 1873
Hiram, GA 30141

www.silvercometars.com



| STATION | Confirming QSO | | | | Pse QSL <input type="checkbox"/> Tnx QSL <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
|---------|----------------|-------|------|-----|---|-----|------|
| | DAY | MONTH | YEAR | UTC | MHz | RST | MODE |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

SILVER COMET AMATEUR
RADIO SOCIETY, INC.

CONTACT US:

Yahoo Group Request:
SilvercometARS

www.silvercometars.com

146.955 (-) (77hz)

Contact: *Club President*
John Reynolds, W4TXA

Email:
JREYNOLDS411@comcast.net

SILVERCOMET ARS, INC.
PO BOX 1873
HIRAM, GEORGIA 30141