



## The Prez Sez

Here we are at one of the better months of our year... October. While my wife (K4TXA) is getting her witches attire in order, we are quite busy with various fall activities.

Throughout the entire month of October is our annual AM DX Contest. And mark your calendars: October 13th at 5:00 PM is our annual Club Picnic. This year it is being held at the Ben Strickland Park in Hiram, Pavilion #1. This is located at the corner of Oak Street and State Route 92. Please refer to the message on our Groups.IO.

We will need a head count to know how much food to purchase. The Club will provide the meats and our members can bring various side dishes. Please e-mail me at [w4txa.john@gmail.com](mailto:w4txa.john@gmail.com) if you are coming and how many.

John Reynolds - W4TXA

President - The Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

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# W4RSC "Radio Silver Comet"

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



## **Editor's Notes:**



Copies of past SKYWAVE newsletters can be found at the club website <http://www.silvercometars.com/newsletter.php> . Please submit your member bios and articles prior to the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month.

*Chuck K4CGA, Editor*

## **Monday – “SCARS Night Out” Net!**

Check-in begins at 7:30PM. A new dimension has been added to our Monday night net. Once a month (1<sup>st</sup> Monday), we will introduce a new subject for technical discussion. Suggestions for Topics of discussion are solicited. Look forward to hearing from you. It's fun and informative.

For more information or topic suggestions contact Dave K4BBH: [k4bbh@mail.com](mailto:k4bbh@mail.com)

## **SCARS Community Food Drive!**



**How can SCARS help? Bring food!**

Please continue to bring an item or two to our monthly meetings. These items will be delivered in the next couple of days to one or more of the local community food banks and are greatly appreciated by the recipients.



## **Mark your Calendar!**



Oct. (All month) – SCARS AM Band DX Contest  
Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> – SCARS Club Meeting  
Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> – SCARS Fall Family Picnic  
Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> – Columbus Day  
Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> – Chattanooga Hamfest  
Oct. 31<sup>st</sup> - Halloween  
Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> - Stone Mountain Hamfest  
Nov. 8, 9 & 10 - SCARS On-The-Air Reunion

## **K4ZMW Rick Bowhall – Silent Key (09/16/2019)**



9/24/1950 – 9/16/2019.

Secretary Silvercomet ARS 2019

Rick got his license in 2017 and fell in love with ham radio immediately. With a used FT-900 HF rig and a homemade 73ft EFLW, Rick became very active on the air and really enjoyed FT8. Now that he had been bitten by the ham radio bug, he started putting his station together with a FTdx-1200, SB200, Hex Beam and a tower. Rick enjoyed working with the Paulding County ARES and participated in numerous functions.

Rick enjoyed helping others with whatever they needed, from learning FT8 to putting up towers, Rick also became a member of the W4IBM ARC and was elected Treasurer. He volunteered to allow the W4IBM club to put their repeater tower on his property and house the repeater in his garage.

Rick's booming voice and presence will be missed by all. 73's Rick. - Chuck K4CGA

## **Important Reminder: AM Broadcast Band DX Contest!**

**The SCARS 5<sup>th</sup> Annual AM Broadcast Band DX Contest starts  
0001-UTC on 01 October 2019 and ends 2359-UTC on 31 October 2019.**

This contest is a local "just for fun" club contest that lasts for a whole month. That gives everyone a chance to participate. Don't be left out. Prizes such as a paper certificate, used batteries, worn out tubes and a nice trophy custom made, one of a kind trophy (on loan) are awarded.

See this year's rules on our website: [www.silvercometars.com](http://www.silvercometars.com). Additional information will be available at our September meeting and will be posted to [Silvercometars@groups.io](mailto:Silvercometars@groups.io) next month.

## **SCARS Fall Family Picnic – October 13**

Thanks to our president, John W4TXA, we have a picnic location! John has reserved Pavilion 1 at the Ben Strickland Park in Hiram from 4-8pm. Set up and preparation is from 4 - 5pm with service starting at 5pm. This is the same park where we hold Field Day, but Pavilion 1 has electricity and is located next to the tennis courts and restrooms.

The club will provide the hotdogs, burgers, cold water and hot coffee with the attending members providing side dishes (coleslaw, potato salad, beans, chips, ketchup, mustard, onions, lettuces, pickles, desert and etc.), and your favorite non-alcoholic liquid refreshment.

If you plan on attending this annual event, please RSVP with the number in your party to [Silvercometars@groups.io](mailto:Silvercometars@groups.io) poll or to [w4txa.john@gmail.com](mailto:w4txa.john@gmail.com).

Cheri K4TXA has volunteered to organize this annual event. Thank You Cheri.

## **October's Presentation: Adventures in DXing!**

Our October meeting will feature a presentation on DXing by Dr. Jeff Cantor K1ZN, author of the book "*Adventures in DXing*".



Topics that will be covered by Jeff include: What is DXing; Why DXers do what they do; How to DX including basics on a station; Where in terms of frequencies; Good operating practices; Awards tracking and logging and awards programs. Jeff will also have his book available for sale for \$17.95.

## **Worried About Hurricanes & Bad Weather?**

**Plan ahead for disasters! - <https://www.ready.gov>**

***Prepared Not Scared  
Financially Prepared  
Ready Kids***

***Hurricanes  
Storm Surge  
Flooding***

***Make A Plan  
Kid Emergency Tips***



# **SCARS On-The-Air Reunion!**

The **1<sup>st</sup> Annual SCARS ON-THE-AIR Reunion** is currently scheduled to commence on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2019. This club sponsored event with the goal of working as many SCARS Members and Non-Members as possible on as many bands and modes as possible.

There are 3 operating sessions throughout the weekend:

- Friday - (11/8), 8PM-11PM EDT (0000Z-0300Z)
- Saturday - (11/9), 4PM-7PM EDT (2000Z-2300Z)
- Sunday - (11/10), 4PM-7PM EDT (2000Z-2300Z)



The purpose of this event is to promote comradery among club members, both current and past, and to encourage our members to get “On-The-Air”. In addition, this event will provide an introduction to basic contesting practices just for fun, and expose the rest of the ham radio world to the activities of the Silver Comet ARS.

Event instructions, suggested frequencies, rules, and logs are being finalized and will be published in a future addition of the SKYWAVE newsletter, [silvercometars@group.io](mailto:silvercometars@group.io) and on the club website [www.silvercometars.com](http://www.silvercometars.com).

*Please join us **ON-THE-AIR** for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual SCARS OTA Reunion*

## **Don't Forget - 2020 Club Officer Elections!**

**“This is your club!”** and we need your participation to keep it growing and successful.

Advance nominations will remain open until the November meeting and nominations from the floor at the meeting will be accepted at the directions of our current club President.

If you would like to nominate another club member you feel is qualified to lead your club into the future, please submit their name to the nominating committee as soon as possible. The nominating committee is:

Chuck K4CGA: [K4CGA@arrl.net](mailto:K4CGA@arrl.net)

Stan K4SHW: [k4shw@yahoo.com](mailto:k4shw@yahoo.com)

Robert KN4RTJ: [k4shw@yahoo.com](mailto:k4shw@yahoo.com)

James KM4IKO: [km4iko@comcast.net](mailto:km4iko@comcast.net)

# **GRITS Bike Ride 2019**

Labor Day means something different to everybody. A three day weekend to do nothing, go camping, or just stay at home to barbeque and have fun.

For the Silver Comet ARS members that participate in ARES, Labor Day means gathering in Rockmart to support the annual GRITS (Georgia Rails into Trails Society) bike ride.

This year, a record number of 13 Silver Comet ARES members volunteered their time and equipment to provide communications capability for those areas where there is no communications except for ham radio. The use of the W4VO Rome repeater as our primary communications tool is again greatly appreciated by all.

Fortunately, there were zero incidents this year, but we were prepared to respond if necessary and bike ride leaders were kept informed with constant updates.

Each year there are challenges and new lessons to be learned and this year was no different. This event was another example of the team working together to provide service to our communities and gave us an opportunity to set up in the field to be better prepared to deploy in an emergency.

Thanks to all participants (and your families) for your selfless giving of your precious free time in support of our neighbors. You truly make a difference and are a shining example of the generosity and professionalism of our group. I can't wait till next year!

Dave Fuller, EC Paulding ARES (*edited for publication*)



# **2019 CHATTANOOGA HAMFEST**

An ARRL-Sanctioned Hamfest & Convention



Email: [hamfest@w4am.net](mailto:hamfest@w4am.net)  
See You There!

**Hamfest Chattanooga 2019**  
**ARRL Delta Division Convention**  
**Tennessee State D-STAR Convention**  
Friday, Oct. 18 & Saturday, Oct. 19, 2019

Hourly Door Prizes	Grand Prizes
Expanded Forums & Workshops	Indoor & Outdoor Flea Markets
FCC Testing Session	New Vendors & Ones You Know and Love!
Two-Days of Fun & Learning	DX Card Checking
Multi-Booth Discounts Available for Commercial Vendors	

Check Our Website for the Most Up-To-Date Info:  
W4AM.Net or [HAMFESTCHATTANOOGA.NET](http://HAMFESTCHATTANOOGA.NET)  
Camp Jordan Arena, East Ridge, TN – Table & Booth Space Available

<https://w4am.net/hamfest-chattanooga-2019-quick-start-guide/>

# **2019 STONE MOUNTAIN HAMFEST**



# **STONE MOUNTAIN HAMFEST**

*and ARRL*  *State Convention*

## **NOV. 2 - 3, 2019**

*The Largest Hamfest in Georgia!*

**SATURDAY: 8 AM – 4 PM**  
**SUNDAY: 8 AM – 2 PM**

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### **WHERE AND WHEN**

Gwinnett County Fairgrounds  
2405 Sugarloaf Parkway  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045  
855-786-8643

<http://stonemountainhamfest.com/>

# **Magnetic Loop HF Antennas - Safety Warning!**

Magnetic loop HF antennas have all sorts of advantages and work really well for portable operation, but they produce very high levels of (reactive) near field radiation, so even at QRP power levels you must stand well back from the antenna whilst operating.

It is not safe to use them handheld.

In order to remain within the radiation limits set by the International Commission for Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), please see the attached table taken from the article "Safety distances for small HF loop antennas" published in the June 2017 edition of the RSGB RadComm magazine.

In short: if you are feeding the aerial with 10 watts of RF, you need to be at least 2 meters away from the aerial when you transmit.

**TABLE 1: ICNIRP safety distances  
for a 1.0m loop with P = 10 watts.**

Frequency	Occupational safety distance	General Public safety distance
7MHz	2.1m	2.9m
14MHz	2.1m	2.9m
18MHz	1.9m	2.7m
21MHz	1.8m	2.5m
28MHz	1.5m	2.1m

*Courtesy of Lee WB4QOJ*



## **Interesting Links to visit!**

***Silver Comet ARS YouTube Channel***

**[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaL7UG0gkRJxV7lnTj\\_P3IQ/videos](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaL7UG0gkRJxV7lnTj_P3IQ/videos)**

***Silver Comet ARS Website***

**<http://www.silvercometars.com/index.php>**

***Silver Comet ARS – ARRL Clubs***

**<http://www.arrl.org/Groups/view/silver-comet-amateur-radio-society-inc/type:club>**

***Silvercometars@groups.io/HOME***

**<https://groups.io/g/silvercometars>**

***Mapability for Hams –A unique collection of mapping programs***

**<http://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/index.php>**



***Send your name to MARS***

**<https://mars.nasa.gov/participate/send-your-name/mars2020>**



**"SORRY, DEAR. I NEED  
THIS FOR**



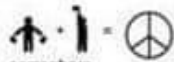
**MY NEW TRAP ANTENNA.**

# phonetic alphabet

<b>A</b> alpha	<b>B</b> bravo	<b>C</b> charlie
<b>D</b> delta	<b>E</b> echo	<b>F</b> foxtrot
<b>G</b> golf	<b>H</b> hotel	<b>I</b> india
<b>J</b> juliett	<b>K</b> kilo	<b>L</b> lima
<b>M</b> mike	<b>N</b> november	<b>O</b> oscar
<b>P</b> papa	<b>Q</b> quebec	<b>R</b> romeo
<b>S</b> sierra	<b>T</b> tango	<b>U</b> uniform
<b>V</b> victor	<b>W</b> whiskey	<b>X</b> xray
<b>Y</b> yankee	<b>Z</b> zulu	

Kourosh Delpak

With this NATO alphabet chart you will no longer use "M as in Mancy" during a support call with your mom, or while defusing a bomb.



semaphore

Pre-electronic flag letter signals for naval communication represented in a circle. The peace sign was created by combining the letters N (Nuclear) and D (Disarmament).



international morse code

The world's first digital code. The length of each letter's code corresponds to the frequency of that letter's usage in Morristown, New Jersey's newspaper in 1837.



international code of signals

These maritime flags are used to visually communicate letters and messages while maintaining radio silence.

OUTSIDE OPEN

OUTSIDE OPEN

OUTSIDE OPEN

Courtesy of Lee WB4QOJ



## **Breakfast @.....**

Have you joined us for casual conversation, informal Q&A, problem solving and occasional humiliation?

We meet at the McDonalds  in Hiram (in front of WalMart).

It has a variety of food, is reasonably quick, has decent prices, and is convenient to the majority of the club members.

Visitors, spouses and friends are welcomed.

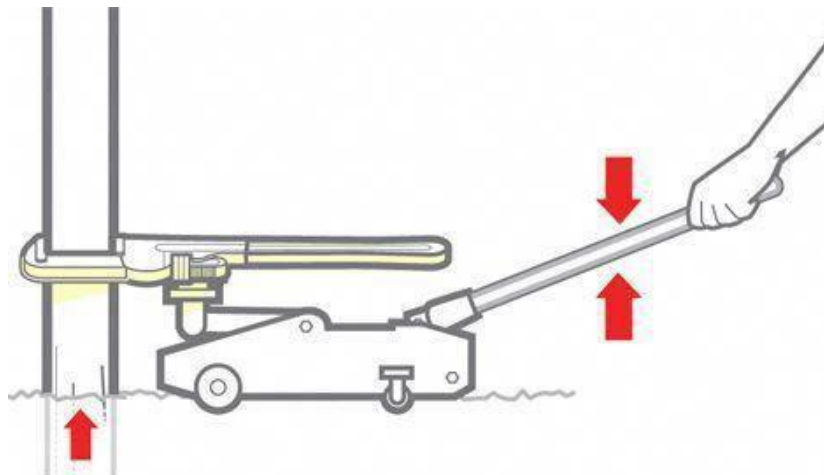
**Come Join Us!**

**Thursday Mornings  
We Gather Around 8:30 +/-  
Until the last one leaves!**



## **Hints & Kinks**

Ground Rod Removal- The Easy Way



## *Recent SCARS Website Updates:*



<http://www.silvercometars.com/index.php>

- [Frequencies & Repeaters](#) page updated with a link to:
  - **VHF/UHF Wilderness Protocol** frequencies/procedures under **FREQUENCIES** section.
- [Contact page](#) updated with new rate for 2020 Membership dues.
  - Pay Membership Dues online with **PayPal**.
- [Home page](#) updated with a link to:
  - Submit PayPal donations to the **Rick Bowhall memorial fund**.
  - Scrolling marquee announcing club picnic date.

Send SCARS website corrections, comments, or suggestions to K4LDC (Larry) at [K4LDC@arrl.net](mailto:K4LDC@arrl.net)

## *Upcoming Special Events*

Please look for K4ELI's email notices regarding contest and special events on the SCARS Group.io reflector or visit the ARRL website at:

[http://www.arrl.org/special\\_events/search/page:2/Date.start:2016-09-14/Date.end:2016-12-31/model:Event](http://www.arrl.org/special_events/search/page:2/Date.start:2016-09-14/Date.end:2016-12-31/model:Event)





# Contest & Special Events

2019 ARRL Contest Dates - Ver B – 2 November 2019

<b>January 2019</b> 1 <a href="#">Straight Key Night</a> 5 <a href="#">Kids Day</a> 5-6 <a href="#">RTTY Roundup</a> 19-21 <a href="#">January VHF</a>	<b>February 2019</b> 11-15 <a href="#">School Club Roundup</a> 16-7 <a href="#">International DX – CW</a>
<b>March 2019</b> 2-3 <a href="#">International DX- Phone</a>	<b>April 2019</b> 14 <a href="#">Rookie Roundup – Phone</a>
<b>June 2019</b> 8-10 <a href="#">June VHF</a> 15 <a href="#">Kids Day</a> 22-23 <a href="#">Field Day</a>	<b>July 2019</b> 13-14 <a href="#">IARU HF World Championship</a>
<b>August 2019</b> 3-4 <a href="#">222 MHz and Up Distance Contest</a> 17-18 <a href="#">10 GHz &amp; Up – Round 1</a> 18 <a href="#">Rookie Roundup – RTTY</a>	<b>September 2019</b> 14-16 <a href="#">September VHF</a> 21-22 <a href="#">10 GHz &amp; Up - Round 2</a> 21-22 <a href="#">EME - 2.3 GHz &amp; Up</a>
<b>October 2019</b> 21-25 <a href="#">School Club Roundup</a> 19-20 <a href="#">EME - 50 to 1296 MHz</a>	<b>November 2019</b> 2-4 <a href="#">Nov. Sweepstakes – CW</a> 16-18 <a href="#">Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone</a> 16-17 <a href="#">EME - 50 to 1296 MHz</a>
<b>December 2019</b> 6-8 <a href="#">160 Meter</a> 14-15 <a href="#">10 Meter</a> 15 <a href="#">Rookie Roundup-CW</a>	

## *Additional Contest Calendars*

<http://www.contestcalendar.com//index.html>

[http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq\\_contests/cq\\_annual\\_contest\\_calendar/cq\\_annual\\_contest\\_calendar.html](http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_contests/cq_annual_contest_calendar/cq_annual_contest_calendar.html)

<http://ncjwecom/>

# SCARS V.E. ACTIVITIES

## SCARS/BHBC Test Session (aka East)

K4ELI and the VE Team will be testing at 7pm at Burnt Hickory Baptist Church, 5145 Due West Road, Powder Springs, on the following dates:

### 2019 Schedule

Jan 10   Feb 7   Mar 14   Apr 4   May 2   Jun 6  
Jul 11   Aug 1   Sep 5   Oct 3   Nov 7   Dec 5

*Please check the ARRL website for changes or corrections.*

For more information, contact Steve Walls, K4ELI: [swalls46@att.net](mailto:swalls46@att.net)

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## SCARS/Paulding CoC Test Session (aka West)

W4TXA and the VE Team will be testing at 6:30pm at the Paulding County Chamber of Commerce, 455 Jimmy Campbell Pkwy (Hwy 278), Dallas, on the following dates:

### 2019 Schedule

Sep 10   Oct 08   Nov 12   Dec 10

### 2020 Schedule

Jan 14   Feb 11   Mar 10   Apr 14   May 12   Jun 09  
Jul 14   Aug 11   Sep 08   Oct 13   Nov 10   Dec 08

For more information, contact John Reynolds, W4TXA: [w4txa.john@gmail.com](mailto:w4txa.john@gmail.com)

**All classes of license exams will be available.**

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### **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 following web sites for more details:

SCARS [http://www.silvercometars.com/about.php#TEST\\_SESSION](http://www.silvercometars.com/about.php#TEST_SESSION)

ARRL <http://www.arrl.org/licensing-education-training>

**NOTE: New Programs – subject to change**

*Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society*

# 2019 Calendar

**\*\* Don't forget our club breakfast every Thursday morning around 8:30am \*\***

	July	August	September	October	November	December
Meeting 1st Tuesday Date/Time:	07-09-2019 7pm	08-06-2019 7pm	09-03-2019 7pm	10-01-2019 7pm	11-05-2019 7pm	12-03-2019 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
Meeting Activity	Remote Operation (W4DTO)	GIS Mapping Program for Amateurs	WinLink Email Basics (K4LDC)	DX (K1ZN)	Club Log DXCC (ND4V)	Drones Phoenix Air (AI4FJ)
Additional Activities	TBD	TBD	Club Fall Picnic (TBD)	AM DX Contest	Club Elections SCARS OTA Reunion	Christmas Dinner
Hamfest & Conventions	Cullman, AL	Huntsville, AL	SEDEC DX	La Grange, GA Chattanooga, TN Rome, GA	Lawrenceville GA Montgomery, AL.	
This calendar is "Subject to change". Submit change request to W4TXA John.						
V2019.09						

*Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society*

# 2020 Calendar

**\*\* Don't forget our club breakfast every Thursday morning around 8:30am \*\***

	January	February	March	April	May	June
<b>Meeting 1st Tuesday Date/Time:</b>	<b>01-07-2020 7pm</b>	<b>02-04-2020 7pm</b>	<b>03-03-2020 7pm</b>	<b>04-07-2020 7pm</b>	<b>05-05-2020 7pm</b>	<b>06-02-2020 7pm</b>
<b>Meeting Location</b>	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
<b>Meeting Activity</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
<b>Additional Activities</b>	TBA	TBA	TBA	GA QSOP	Family Night Dinner	Field Day
<b>Hamfest &amp; Conventions</b>	Lawrenceville TechFest	Dalton, GA  Orlando, FL (HamCation)	Birmingham, AL  Ellijay, GA	Mobile, AL  Calhoun, GA	Dayton, OH	Atlanta, GA
This calendar is "Subject to change". Submit change request to W4TXA John						
V2020.00						

# W4RSC

Paulding County, GA - EM73 - ITU Zone: 8

Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

PO Box 1873

Hiram, GA 30141

[www.silvercometars.com](http://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:**  
Groups.io Request:  
SilvercometARS  
[www.silvercometars.com](http://www.silvercometars.com)  
146.955 (-) (77hz)

Contact: *Club President*  
John Reynolds, W4TXA

Email:  
[w4txa.john@gmail.com](mailto:w4txa.john@gmail.com)

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