

The Prez Sez

Last week I, along with several other Silver Comet members, joined The North Fulton group and several from the W4IBM club members and participated in the Halloween Hikes. It

was such a pleasure being able to help this function with communications and seeing all of the young children having such a good time.

Now onto more pressing matters. Next week we will be having our monthly meeting (Tuesday - November 5th). This is one of our more important meetings.

Among other items to mention... we will be voting on next year's Officers and Board Member. As I have mentioned before, so far we have 8 nominees: For President: Chuck DuVall; For Vice-President: Tommy LeBoeuf & Dave Walk; For Secretary: John Reynolds; For Treasurer: Dave Fuller; For Board Member (voting for only one): Dan Ozment & Steve Walls & Bill Hood.

In This Issue

- The Usual Stuff
- Club Elections
- November's Program
- Recap: Fall Picnic
- Recap: October Program
- Recap: AM DX Contest
- CQ WW DX Contest
- SCARS OTA Reunion
- IBM Grant \$\$\$
- New Era Transceiver
- HOA Friendly Antenna
- Decoding WeFax
- Lightning & Storms
- Interesting Links
- Breakfast Info
- Morse Code?
- SCARS Website Updates
- More Stuff & Calendar

This year we are **VERY** fortunate to have these people step forward to offer their time and skills. Please choose carefully.

W4RSC "Radio Siver Comet" The Silver Comet ARS Inc. a 501 (c) (3) Not for Profit Organization









The Prez Sez (continued)

We will also be announcing the winner of the AM DX contest. Another (sad, very sad) duty will be to discuss the memorial for Rick Bowhall (sk)... and don't forget our Thanksgiving FOOD DRIVE. Chuck DuVall and I take these food stuffs over to The Helping Hands food depot. Let's see if we can fill my pick-up truck with this badly needed food.

John Reynolds - W4TXA, President - The Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

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 25th of the month.

Chuck K4CGA, Editor

<u> Monday – "SCARS Night Out" Net!</u>

Check-in begins at 7:30PM. A new dimension has been added to our Monday night net. Once a month (1st 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

SCARS Community Food Drive!



recipients.

Please Bring Food! Thanksgiving is almost here and we hope you enjoy your holiday meal. Please help those less

fortunate to enjoy a least one good meal. Please 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

Mark your Calendar!



Nov. 2nd & 3rd - Lawrenceville Hamfest

Nov. 3rd - Change to Daylight Savings Time

Nov. 5th - Club Meeting, Elections

Nov. 8, 9 & 10 - SCARS On-The-Air Reunion

Nov. 9th - Ham Jam, ARES SET

Nov. 11th - Veterans Days (Our club has many)

Nov. 28th - Thanksgiving

Don't Forget - 2020 Club Officer Elections!

This is a reminder that the 2020 Silver Comet ARS elections will be conducted at our 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 a club member you feel is qualified to lead your club into the future, please submit their name at that time.



<u>November Program - Club Log & DXCC by ND4V</u>



Our November 5th program will feature Mike Weathers, ND4V, who will bring us up to date on "Club Log", a free web-based analytical tool which complements LoTW. It is generally focused more on reporting and understanding DX operating patterns, expedition logs, log search services and most-wanted contacts.

In addition, Mike will cover DXCC QSL card checking and verification for certificate application. Don't miss this interesting presentation.

Recap: SCARS Fall Family Picnic - October 13



Although it rained, this year's Fall Family Picnic was a great success with the largest gathering in years. Again, K4TXA- Cheri, exceled in organizing this event and preparing lots of food. Along with the side dishes brought by the attendees, there was so much food we ran out of seating. Our hats go off to KM4IKO-James, our Master Chef, who skillfully and professionally prepared the dogs and burgers.

Thank you to all who attended this year's event and to those who brought your favorite side dishes. We hope you enjoyed yourselves, stuffed yourselves and did not get too wet. Please plan to attend our event next year and maybe next year we will have better weather.

Finally, thanks go out to our President, W4TXA-John for finding and reserving a great place to hold this event and safely lighting the grill.



















Recap: Adventures in DXing

Our October program featured a presentation on DXing by Dr. Jeff Cantor K1ZN, author of the book "Adventures in DXing".

Jeff covered "The ABC's of DXing" that included How's and Why's DXers do what they do, basics on a station, logging and awards and a Q&A session. It was a very interesting presentation and gathered a lot of attention. Thanks Jeff for a great presentation.



Recap: SCARS Annual AM Broadcast Band DX Contest

The SCARS 5th Annual AM Broadcast Band DX Contest is OVER!

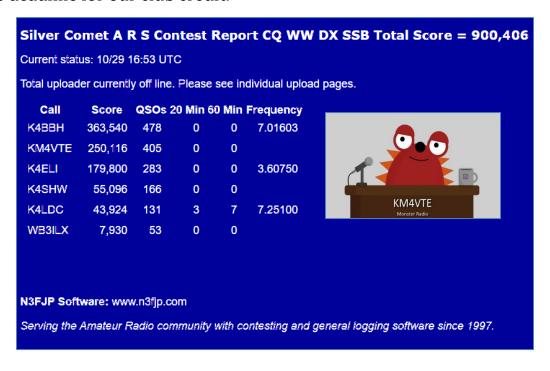
By the time you receive this newsletter, this "just for fun" month long club contest will be over. No more late nights and static. Please bring your mounds of paper logs to the November meeting and turn them in for verification.

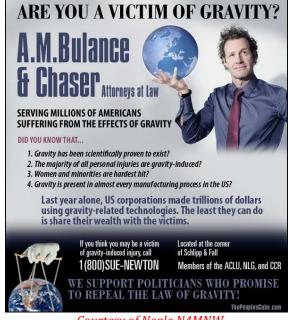
To those that participated, thank you for enjoying all the fun. To those that did not participate, don't be left out. There is always next year. Congratulations to the winner of this year's contest whomever that may be, for all your hard work and patience!



<u> 2019 CQ WW DX SSB Contest!</u>

Well, the 2019 CQ World Wide SSB DX contest is over and some very nice scores have been posted considering the crappy band conditions in general. Of course Dave K4BBH lead the pack with his Super-Duper Station but our newest contest monster, Tommy KM4VTE, was hot on his tail with his Super Station. Congratulations to all of this year's participants for your dedication and fine work. Please don't forget to submit your logs before the deadline for our club credit.









Courtesy of Editor

1st Annual SCARS On-The-Air Reunion - 2019!

PLEASE JOIN US on the air for the 1st Annual SCARS Reunion.

The SCARS 2019 Reunion will be in three two-hour sessions with the goal of working as many SCARS Members and Non-Members as possible on as many bands and modes as possible.

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 intro to basic contesting and expose the rest of the ham radio world to the activities of the Silver Comet ARS.

Participation Eligibility

SCARS Members (current and past) and Non-Members are welcome to participate. Non-Members can work SCARS Members for points and earn an award certificate (TBD).

Times and Dates

There are 3 operating sessions throughout the weekend:

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



Suggested Frequencies

- Suggested CW frequencies (+ or -): 1825, 3550, 7050, 14050, 21050 and 28050 kHz.
- Suggested SSB frequencies (+ or -): 1850, 3850, 7250, 14250, 21350 and 28350 kHz.
 - Try to emphasize SSB Activity on the ODD UTC hours for those using multiple modes.
- $\bullet \quad \text{Suggested Digital FT8: standard accepted frequencies for 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 \& 10 meters.}\\$
- Suggested 2 Meter FM frequencies: 146.52 Simplex & 146.955 -600 with 77Hz tone

Switching between bands and modes is HIGHLY ENCOURAGED due to current band conditions.

1st Annual SCARS On-The-Air Reunion (continued)

Scoring

Points

- 3 points for each SSB QSO with a SCARS member. Each SCARS member may be worked once per band/mode combination.
- 1 point for each SSB QSO with a non-SCARS member. Each non-member may be worked once per band/mode combination.
- 5 points for each CW QSO with a SCARS member. Each SCARS member may be worked once per band/mode combination.
- 2 points for each CW QSO with a non-SCARS member. Each non-member may be worked once per band/mode combination.
- 3 points for each FT8 QSO with a SCARS member. Each SCARS member may be worked once per band/mode combination.
- 1 point for each FT8 QSO with a non-SCARS member. Each non-member may be worked once per band/mode combination.
- 3 points for each 2 meter FM QSO with a SCARS member. Each SCARS member may be worked once on 2 meters.
- 1 point for each 2 meter FM QSO with a non-SCARS member. Each non-member may be worked once on 2 meters.

If an FT8 station does not send its grid square, then it cannot be counted for credit!

<u>Power Multiplier</u>

High Power	over 150w	x 1
Low Power	over 5w, under 150w	x 2
QRP	under 5w	x 3

Final Score is QSO Points x multipliers x power multiplier.

1st Annual SCARS On-The-Air Reunion (continued)

Spotting

Spotting of SCARS members is highly encouraged. Please mention "SCARS Reunion" in the comment area.

Self-spotting is encouraged! The on-the-air activity with non-members is an excellent opportunity to explain a little about SCARS as a contesting club to non-members, and point them to the SCARS website if they want more information about contesting or our club.

Calling CQ

• On CW: "CQ SCARS"

• On SSB or FM: "CQ SCARS Reunion"

• On Digital: "SCARS"

Required Exchange

Member:

• On CW: "RST, name, year licensed, year joined SCARS" (EX: 599 Dave 60 11 K)

• On SSB & FM: "RS, name, year licensed, year joined SCARS" (EX: 59, Dave, 1960, 2011 over)

• On FT8: Standard FT8 exchange. Must include grid square.

Non-Member: "RS, name, state (country)"

Optional Description

If asked for an explanation of this special event, please provide the following dialog or something very similar so we remain standardized among club members:

"This is the 1st annual On-The-Air-Reunion of the Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society club members. 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 intro to basic contesting. For event results, QSL & Certificate information please visit www.silvercometars.com"

Logger Support

You can use any general purpose logger for this contest such as N1MM, HRD, or N3FJP or you may use the sample *MS Excel .xls* log found on www.Silvercometars.com. You will have to count up member and non-member QSO's when filling out the score summary form.

1st Annual SCARS On-The-Air Reunion (continued)

Result Submission

Send your log by E-mail in Cabrillo format or in the provided .XLS format to K4CGA.ga@gmail.com within 20 days of the end of the event but not later than 30 November 2019.

Questions

Contact your SCARS Special Events committee members if you have any questions or suggestions.

- K4BBH Dave
- K4CGA Chuck

OSL Cards

All requests for QSL cards should be sent direct or via LoTW to the stations you worked during this event. Please check QRZ.com for that station's QSL preference and instructions.

Awards

- The highest scoring SCARS member will receive a \$25 gift card and a commemorative club certificate acknowledging their accomplishment.
- The 2nd highest scoring SCARS member will receive a \$15 gift card and a commemorative club certificate acknowledging their accomplishment.
- Non-SCARS participants making 10 or more SCARS member contacts will receive a commemorative club certificate upon receipt of your log and \$5 USD. Send your request to the address listed for this event on the Silver Comet ARS website www.silvercometars.com.

Results

Results will be published on the Silver Comet ARS website <u>www.silvercometars.com</u> within 60 days after the end of the Reunion Party.

Comments and Suggestions

Although a lot of effort and time has been invested in putting this contest together, your comments and suggestions are solicited and welcomed. We hope to make the 2020 contest even better.

Please send any comments and suggestions to K4CGA.ga@gmail.com

Thank you for participating and having fun with us!

New Era Transceiver? Vintage Amplifier?

You can make them play together nicely without blowing up either of them. Commonly referred to as a "Soft Keying Circuit", these solid state interface units optically isolate newer transceivers from amplifiers that use older technologies such as high voltage or high current changeover relays. In addition, if you are a CW operator and your amplifier is QSK or break-in capable, this is for you.

There are several versions available off-the-shelf pre-assembled or in DIY Kit form depending on your preference.



The KD9SV Products SV-KR Keying Relays is an off-the-shelf product available from DX Engineering for under \$50. https://www.dxengineering.com/search/brand/kd9sv-products/product-line/kd9sv-products-sv-kr-keying-relays?autoview=SKU&sortby=Default&sortorder=Default



The Keyall HV Kit is a DIY kit that comes in a variety of forms that includes Discreet components or Surface mount components for under \$20. This product is used by your editor, K4CGA http://wb9kzy.com/keyallhv.htm

HOA Friendly Stealth Antenna!



A DX Flagpole Antenna

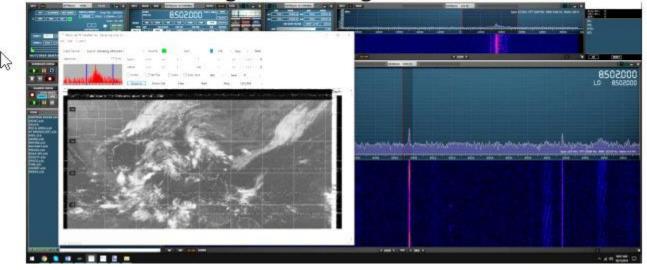
A real flagpole, a real antenna. This DX antenna is a smart stealth design making it HOA Friendly. No radials are necessary. Designed as an Off-Center-Fed vertical dipole for 80-6m, it works well for DX, nets or rag chew. Available in 28ft, 24ft, 20ft, 16ft and 12ft heights.

https://greylineperformance.com/

Basics to decoding WEFAX using an SDRPlay







Now you too can decode satellite weather and see it on your computer.

https://www.sdrplay.com/resources/decoding-wefax.pdf
https://www.sdrplay.com/new-sdrplay-videos-on-decoding-hf-weather-maps-and-sdrunos-memory-panel/

The *SDRplay Applications and Support Catalogue* is your reference point for numerous Application Notes, Application Briefs, How-to Videos and much more!

https://www.sdrplay.com/apps-catalogue/

SCARS receives IBM Grant \$\$\$

Through the hard work and diligence of WB3ILX Ron West, the Silver Comet ARS was the recipient of a \$2000 grant from the IBM Corp. This grant money will help fund our Community Service programs and fund our support of Paulding County ARES. Club President John Reynolds W4TXA is shown presenting the grant check to club Treasurer Dave Fuller K4DMF.



Lightning and Thunderstorms in Real Time!



You hear the thunder, and see the sky light up, but do you have any idea where the lightning is? Now you can see where it is striking without going outside and becoming a target.



http://www.lightningmaps.org/

Interesting Links to visit!

AMSAT Amateur FM Satellite Frequency Summary (New) https://www.amsat.org/fm-satellite-frequency-summary/

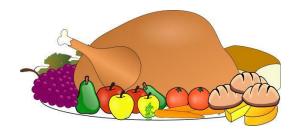
Icom IC-705 HF/VHF/UHF portable SDR transceiver – full details (New) https://qrpblog.com/2019/08/icom-ic-705-hf-vhf-uhf-portable-transceiver-announced/amp/?fbclid=IwAR1T2LIhpH2PLClfC1J-qjJRAQXLeIidOyPtvGoY1A5dtSRkaEMk6Z0DQg4

Silver Comet ARS YouTube Channel
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaL7UG0gkR]xV7lnTj 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-societyinc/type:club

<u>Silvercometars@groups.io</u>/HOME https://groups.io/g/silvercometars



Morse Code?



Your Editor: Chuck K4CGA

I recently rented a 2020 Jeep Trailhawk to make a trip to NW Arkansas because I didn't want to run up the mileage on my personal vehicle.

During the trip, I dropped some change on the floor and decided to wait to retrieve it until after I got there.

After arriving, while looking for all the change, I noticed something strange on the foot rest pad. Hmmm, that looked like Morse Code, so I decided to decipher it. Well, someone at Chrysler Jeep must have been an Amateur. It spelled out ROCKS, RIVERS, SNOW & SAND. Quite interesting.

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!



Recent SCARS Website Updates:



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

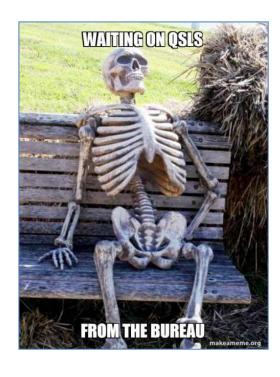
NO CHANGES THIS PAST MONTH.

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

Upcoming Special Events

Please look for K4ELI's weekly 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





Contest & Special Events

2019 ARRL Contest Dates - Ver B - 2 November 2019

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

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://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

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

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

All classes of license exams 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 following web sites for more details:

SCARS http://www.silvercometars.com/about.php#TEST_SESSION

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

Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

2019 Calendar

		20	13 Calcila	ai		
:	** Don't forget	our club breakf	ast every Thurso	lay morning aro	und 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	s "Subject to cha	nge". Submit ch	ange request to	W4TXA John.	
			V2019 09			

Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

2020 Calendar

		20	20 Calend	ar		
** Don't forget our club breakfast every Thursday morning around 8:30am **						
	January	February	March	April	May	June
Meeting 1st Tuesday Date/Time:	01-07-2020 7pm	02-04-2020 7pm	03-03-2020 7pm	04-07-2020 7pm	05-05-2020 7pm	06-02-2020 7pm
Meeting Location	Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg					
Meeting Activity	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА
Additional Activities	ТВА	ТВА	ТВА	GA QSOP	Family Night Dinner	Field Day
Hamfest & Conventions	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





Are you a paid up club member? Do you or an immediate family member own a business? Would you like to place an Ad in our newsletter? Are you willing to make a donation to the Silver Comet ARS treasury? Then read on!

EDITOR: I am considering dedicating some space in our future newsletters for advertisement. Initially, my plans are to limit the Ads as follows:

- Business owned by our club members.
- Business card of the club member if they work for another employer. (example: a Realtor, HVAC)
- Business owned by the club members' immediate family members.

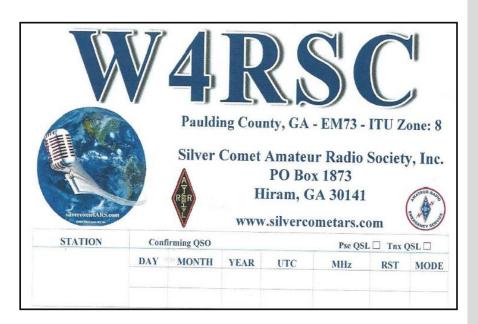
In order to reduce page count, Ads will be limited to standard business card size.

Suggested donation would be a minimum of \$20.00 (deductable) per unique business card per year. We are currently publishing a monthly newsletter (12 issues/year), however that may be subject to change.

If you are interested in participating, please email me a clear printable picture of the business card.

Thank You,

Chuck - K4CGA - Editor



SILVER COMET AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.

CONTACT US:

Groups.io Request:
SilvercometARS
www.silvercometars.com
146.955 (-) (77hz)

Contact: Club President John Reynolds, W4TXA

Email:

w4txa.john@gmail.com

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