



The Prez Sez

As I write this, I am reminiscing over the past year, some good memories, and some not so good. Over this past year, we have lost a couple of friends... comrades... but, none the less, friends.

Our club has been gaining respect in our community for various help that we have proffered, both in the area of radio communications and in our local food drives. Over the past year several of us have had medical issues and surgeries. Some minor and some major. Some of us have been most fortunate to have this level of modern medicine at hand. The most and greatest happiness of this past year has been the growing friendship and camaraderie of our club. Our Christmas dinner was one of the best ever... 32 friends sat down and celebrated Christmas and a birthday. Earlier we got together for a fall picnic. Again, 36 people sat down (trying to stay out of the rain) and enjoyed each other's camaraderie. I am so proud to lead this band of _ _ _ _ _ , I can only hope that 2020 can be better.

John Reynolds _ _ _ _ _

President: The Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

In This Issue

- The Usual Stuff
- Dues-R-Due
- Recap: Dec. Pgm
- Jan. Pgm: Estate Plan
- TechFest 2020
- 2019 Christmas Dinner
- Club Activity Changes
- KX3 Macros
- Trivia or Not
- SKCC 14th Anniversary
- Shack Grounding
- APRS Info
- Breakfast Info
- Interesting Links
- SCARS Website Updates
- VE Schedules
- More Stuff & Calendar

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 25th of the month.

Chuck K4CGA, Editor

Monday – “SCARS Night Out” Net!

Check-in begins at 7:30PM. It's fun and informative. On the 1st Monday of each month, a new technical subject will be introduced for discussion. Suggestions for Topics of discussion are always solicited. You don't have to dress up, it's very informal.

SCARS Community Food Drive!



*Our December food drive was **Marvelous*** and a lot of Paulding County residents had some good food for their Holiday meals. Even though we succeeded and beat November's total, W4TXA John declined to be kissed.

Let's make 2020 another great year and feed more folks. Please bring an item or two to our monthly meetings. These items are delivered to **Helping Hands**, a Paulding County Food Bank located in Dallas.

Your donations are greatly appreciated by the recipients.

\$\$\$\$...Dues-R-Due...\$\$\$\$

Welcome to the New Year and it is time to pay your dues for 2020. As authorized by the Board of Directors, dues have been increased to \$20. You can pay our treasurer, Dave K4DMF, by check, cash or credit card at the meetings or at breakfast or use our Pay-Pal online access at the SCARS website.

Mark your Calendar!



Jan. 1st – New Years Day
Jan. 18th – TechFest
Feb. 7th-9th – Orlando HamCation 2020
Feb. 22nd – Dalton Hamfest

Recap: December Program – Real Drones!



Wow! If you missed our December program, you missed a great presentation by AJ4FJ Greg Roper, Chief UAS Pilot for Phoenix Air. Greg brought a \$28K Unmanned Aerial System, commonly referred to as a “Drone”, for “Show & Tell” and gave an interesting presentation on how and why UAS’s are used.

Do you know the difference between a Drone and a UAS? Well, Greg explained that a Drone carries missiles and a UAS does not. Greg also stated that what he has learned in his ham radio career has helped him in developing radio and control systems for his UAS program.



Thank you to our Program Committee, K4ELI Steve & K4LDC Larry for bringing us another great program.



Resistance is futile... or was that capacitance?

– Larry K4LDC

January's Program - Estate Planning by K4ELI

It has been nearly a year since K4ELI-Steve has presented this very informative program on a subject that is extremely important to all amateurs, especially many of our club members. What is Estate Planning as applicable to ham radio you may ask?

Estate planning is the process of arranging for the disposal of an amateur's radio equipment in the event of incapacitation or death.

This year has been a sad year for our club members with the passing of Rick K4ZMW and Lloyd W1LBC. Again, the issue of equipment disposal arises for their families and emphasizes the importance of Steve's presentation.

Please attend this very important program and bring your significant other if you would like.

Lawrenceville 2020 TechFest



What is a TechFest?
An exhibition of the "Tech"nical aspects of Amateur Radio. And, it's FREE!

Exhibits, Forums, Testing, Free Stuff, Raffles, Door Prizes Food, Fun, Free!

When:

Saturday, January 18th, 2020

Public: 9:00am – 2:00pm

Exhibitors: Set up 7:30am – 9:00am

Final Prize Drawing: 2:00pm

Where:

Gwinnett Medical Resource Center

665 Duluth Highway (GA-120)

Lawrenceville, GA 30046



For more information: <http://www.techfest.info/>

Club 2019 Family Christmas Dinner!



If you did not attend, you missed one great party. This year's dinner was held at Rodney's BBQ in New Hope on a cold and dreary night but we had good attendance, good food and good fellowship. Unknown to me, I was the entertainment. Cheri K4TXA and John W4TXA planned one great surprise 75th birthday party for me. Boy, you folks can sure keep a secret! I want to thank everyone for your thoughtfulness and the many fine cards and useful (???) items received. Especially the

coloring books and the Victoria Secret tote bag (story later). For those of you that missed all the laughter at my expense, but I thoroughly enjoyed, here are some pictures for you enjoyment.



K4ZMW
(SK)



W4TXA & K4TXA



N4DET & WIFE & K0CZR



K4SHW & WIFE &
K4LDC



KN4CQJ, K4ELI &
WIFE



KM4VTE & WIFE



KC4YCM & WIFE



Joyce & Michelle Bowhall
Family of K4ZMW (SK)



K4CGA & KA4JMV



KM4IKO & WIFE



Kira
Reynolds



K4CGA's Birthday Cake

Not Pictured: K4DMF & WIFE
Additional pictures and videos on:

Club Activity Changes for 2020!



K4BBH Dave Walk has decided to step down from Net Control of the “SCARS Night Out” net on Mondays. Dave was instrumental in setting up the Monday night net and becoming it’s first and only Net Control. It is a grueling job week after week, but Dave managed to grow interest and check-in numbers over the past year.

Dave has also decided to relinquish his position as Chairman of the Special Events & Activities Committee. He has been responsible for planning and executing some of the club’s most successful events including the Commemoration of the Crash of Flight 242 in New Hope and the Celebration of the Completion of the Silver Comet Trail. The club thanks you for your hard work and dedication to make these events successful.

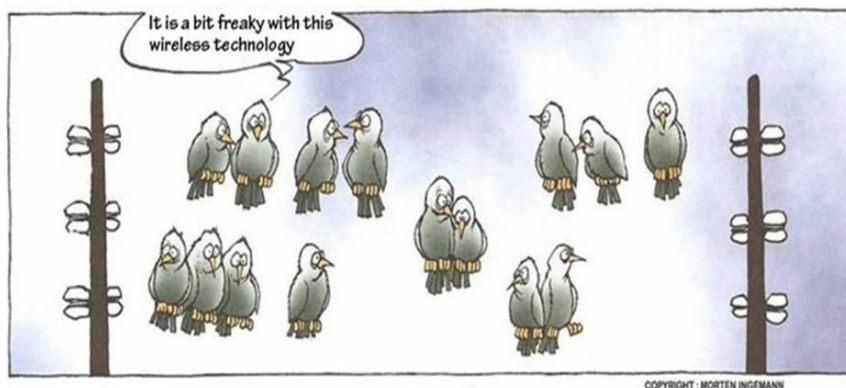
K4JDA Troy will assume Net Control for the “SCARS Night Out” net on Mondays and KN4RTJ Robert will assume the position of Chairman of the Special Events & Activities Committee. Good luck gentlemen and thank you for your support.

Using Macros with the KX3

Macros in the KX3 are incredibly useful. Macros can be used to switch between using a headset, a microphone and speaker, or a microphone and earphones. They can also be used for setting presets for voice equalization, compression, and many other things.

Once you have created your macros, activating them is as easy as pressing a PF key.

For more information: <http://jandmf.com/index.php/2020/01/02/kx3-macros/>



Trivia or Not!



So last weekend my wife suggested that I forget ham radio and we go fishing and camping. I agreed.

So as we were loading the RV, she asked, "What's that thing?" I told her it was a fish finder.



That "fish finder" is an obvious ploy!
This is how we "find" fish in Georgia!

Neale N4MNW

WANTED
GOOD WOMAN WHO
CAN COOK, CLEAN,
AND CLIMB A TOWER.
MUST HAVE COMPLETE
HAM RADIO STATION.
SEND PHOTO OF
RADIO STATION

Trivia or Not!



WB4Q0J Waiting for the next sunspot cycle



From the Maritime Radio Facebook page of Norwegian manufacturer Elektrisk Bureau (EB Oslo).

It consists of the main transmitter EB 1500 (far right), which was able to transmit all types of transmissions on mediumwave and shortwave. The exciter is installed in the middle control panel at the top. A 400 watts transmitter EB 400 is available as an emergency transmitter, which still provides 200 watts when operated from the 24 volts emergency battery. An alarm sign touch probe (Type 5-AN-5) is built into the emergency transmitter. Two National HRO-500s are installed as main and emergency receivers, which have a reception range of 5 kHz to 30 MHz. The auto-alarm is in the left stack in the middle is a 5-AL-5 from EB. In the center of the picture between the Exciter and the left HRO-500 is the control panel for the selection of the transmit and receive antennas, the distribution of the LF and probe lines. This control panel is also equipped with a gateway for radio calls to the on-board telephone network

Straight Key Century Club 14th Anniversary



The **Straight Key Century Club (SKCC)** is the fastest growing group of mechanical-key CW operators in the world. First organized in January 2006, our club has grown rapidly to include thousands of licensed amateur-radio operators from all corners of the globe.

More Info: <https://skccgroup.com/>

Shack Grounding Example!

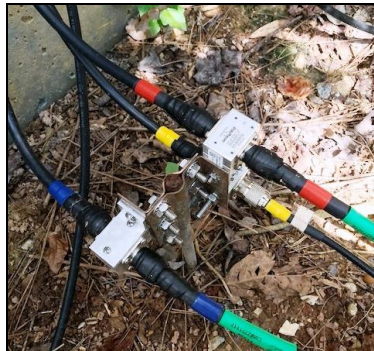
K4LDC Larry has provided an excellent example of how to ground your radio shack and keep your cables neat.

“I used a type LB conduit box for my outside feed through. Only needed to drill a ~2.5” diameter hole for the feed through. Currently I have 5 RG8/U size cables running through it with room for more. With the water tight cover off, it’s easy to critter proof the box with steel wool.

My exterior ground is.....8’ ground rod with surge protectors all tied to the main ground. I recommend using color coded tape or some other equivalent to help keep them properly connected (inside and out).

My shack is in the basement so I had to run the cables up and over the entrance with PVC conduit to get them to the utility closet located on the back side of my radios. The cables connect to the antenna switches that are grounded together as well. I also use BNC connectors on my radio(s) antenna connections for quick and easy disconnect during storms (ultimate lightning protection).

Even though the power supply has an AC ground plug, I run an extra ground from the radio ground stud (if it has one) to the PS ground stud. Also, I ground the shack PC case to the radio ground stud. This has solved a lot of USB RFI problems for me.” - *Larry*



APRS – What is it?

Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRS) is an amateur radio-based system for real time digital communications of information of immediate value in the local area. Data can include Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates, weather station telemetry, text messages, announcements, queries, and other telemetry.

APRS data can be displayed on a map, which can show stations, objects, tracks of moving objects, weather stations, search and rescue data, and direction finding data.

APRS data is typically transmitted on a single shared frequency (depending on country) to be repeated locally by area relay stations (digipeater) for widespread local consumption. In addition, all such data are typically ingested into the APRS Internet System (APRS-IS) via an Internet-connected receiver (IGate) and distributed globally for ubiquitous and immediate access.

Data shared via radio or Internet are collected by all users and can be combined with external map data to build a shared live view.

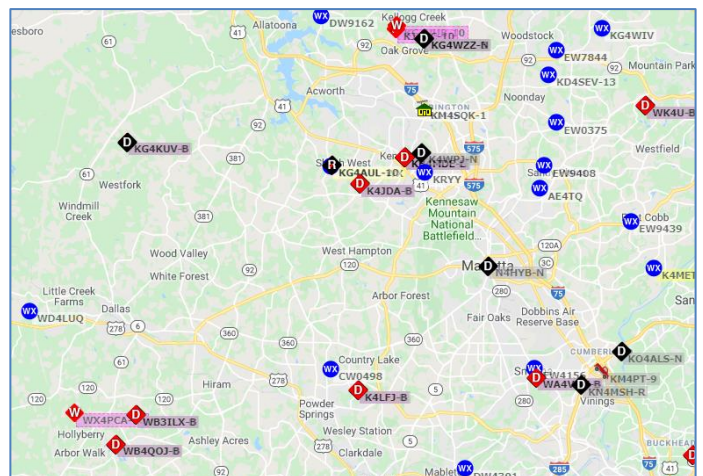
APRS has been developed since the late 1980s by Bob Bruninga, call WB4APR, currently a senior research engineer at the United States Naval Academy. He still maintains the main APRS Web site. -*Wikipedia*
For more information:

<http://www.aprs.org/>

<http://www.arrl.org/aprs-mode>

https://www.tapr.org/aprs_information.html

<https://aprs.fi/#!lat=33.8992&lng=-84.8572>



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!**



Good morning my loves...JOY.

***If I don't remember it,
It didn't happen!***

Interesting Links to visit!

Multipsk 4.42 Test version 1 - DMR

http://f6cte.free.fr/MULTIPSK_4_42_test_version_1.zip

Active Shooter Preparedness

<https://www.dhs.gov/cisa/options-consideration-active-shooter-preparedness-video>

fldigi 4.1.08.51 alpha test posted

<http://www.w1hki.com/alpha/fldigi/>

Common Mode Chokes

<http://k9yc.com/2018Cookbook.pdf>

SSTV on ISS

<https://r4uab.ru/diplom-iss-sstv/>

ARRL Clubs - SILVER COMET AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY, INC.

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

Silver Comet ARS YouTube Channel

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>



Recent SCARS Website Updates:



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

- NO UPDATES

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

2020 ARRL Contest Dates

January 2020 1 Straight Key Night 4 Kids Day 4-5 RTTY Roundup 18-20 January VHF	February 2020 10-14 School Club Roundup 15-16 International DX – CW
March 2020 7-8 International DX- Phone	April 2020 19 Rookie Roundup – Phone
June 2020 13-15 June VHF 20 Kids Day 27-28 Field Day	July 2020 11-12 IARU HF World Championship
August 2020 1-2 222 MHz and Up Distance Contest 15-16 10 GHz & Up – Round 1 16 Rookie Roundup – RTTY	September 2020 12-14 September VHF 19-20 10 GHz & Up - Round 2 12-13 EME - 2.3 GHz & Up
October 2020 19-23 School Club Roundup 10-11 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz -	November 2020 7-9 Nov. Sweepstakes – CW 21-23 Nov. Sweepstakes – Phone 28-29 EME - 50 to 1296 MHz
December 2020 4-6 160 Meter 12-13 10 Meter 20 Rookie Roundup-CW	<div> <p>Check your emails for additional contest and special event activities</p> </div>

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

Dec 5

2020 Schedule

Jan 9 Feb 6 Mar 5 Apr 2 May 7 Jun 4
Jul 9 Aug 6 Sep 3 Oct 1 Nov 5 Dec 3

Please check the ARRL website for changes or corrections.

For more information, contact Steve Walls, K4ELI: swalls46@att.net

All classes of license exams will be available.

.....

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

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

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

	<i>July</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>September</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>December</i>
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 ****

	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>
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	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 Estate Planning	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA
Additional Activities	TBA	TBA	TBA	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						
V2020.01						



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:
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