



Ham Radio

in the 21st Century



We Do That!
...with Amateur Radio



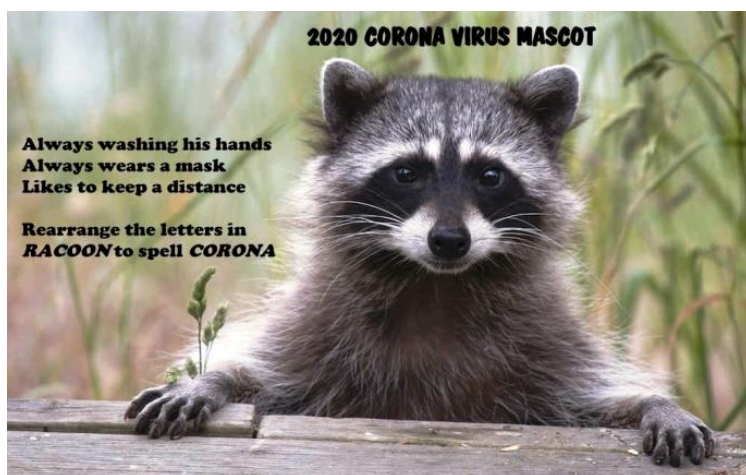


W4RSC "RADIO SILVER COMET"
ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB

SILVERCOMET SKYWAVE

Silver Comet ARS, INC NEWS
PO BOX 1873 Hiram Ga. 30141 501 (C) (3) Not for Profit
June 2020 Vol 7 Number 6

June 2nd Club Meeting Will Be Held On-The-Air!



Join this month's club meeting on the 146.955 (- 77Hz) repeater at 7pm. Check your email for additional information.

In This Issue

- The Usual Stuff
- Mark Your Calendar
- Field Day is Here
- SCARS BoD Report
- Under Construction
- SCARS Survey Summary
- Ham Radio Q-Signals
- Quarantine Time Filler
- SwissLog – Its Free
- Patron Saint of Ham Radio
- Interesting Links
- Weekly Breakfast Info
- Answers
- SCARS Website Update
- Contest Stuff
- VE Schedules
- Activity Calendar

Out of abundance of caution, and in the interest of protecting the well-being of our members and visitors, the leaders of the Silver Comet ARS have cancelled this month's physical gathering at the Chamber building.

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!



COVID-19 has resulted in an unusually high demand for food products from our local Metro food banks. If you can afford to do so, please consider making a monetary or food contribution to the food bank of your choice since we have temporarily suspended our physical gatherings.

Your donations will be greatly appreciated by the recipients and you will feel better. PLEASE HELP ! It all adds up.

Mark your Calendar!



Check For Event Cancellations Due To COVID-19
Dayton Hamvention QSO Party

<https://wwrof.org/hamvention-qso-party/>

For more Hamfest schedules:

<http://www.mcminnarc.com/festcalendar.html>

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html>

http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_hamfest_events.html

It's Here! Field Day 2020



ARRL 2020 Field Day is always held every year on the 4th full weekend in June. This year it will be held on June 27 & 28.

The Silver Comet ARS Field Day activities scheduled to take place at the Ben Hill Strickland Park in Hiram has been cancelled.

Due to COVID-19 safety concerns and the Governor's current orders in effect, the Field Day committee made the decision that year's activities are cancelled.

Dave K4BBH has accepted the committee's invitation to operate under the club's call sign W4RSC at his home superstation. Club members are encouraged to participate and operate from their home stations using their own call sign and submit their activity results. *Be sure to download N3FJP Field Day Log Version 6.3 for this year's activities.*

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 Meter HF bands, as well as all bands 50 MHz and above using all modes including digital.

Although Field Day is not a contest, it remains the most popular ham radio "on-the-air" event and is held annually in the US and Canada since 1933.

For FD 2020, the ARRL has issued a temporary rule waiver (*see below*) that allows participants from any FD Class (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-rules#class>) to optionally include a single club name with their submitted results following Field Day.

1. For Field Day 2020 only, Class D stations may work all other Field Day stations, including other Class D stations, for points.
2. Field Day rule 4.6 (<http://www.arrl.org/field-day-rules#classd>) defines Class D stations as "Home stations," including stations operating from permanent or licensed station locations using commercial power. Class D stations ordinarily may only count contacts made with Class A, B, C, E, and F Field Day stations, but the temporary rule waiver for 2020 allows Class D stations to count contacts with other Class D stations for QSO credit.
3. In addition, for 2020 only, an aggregate club score will be published, which will be the sum of all individual entries indicating a specific club (similar to the aggregate score totals used in ARRL affiliated club competitions).

SCARS Board Of Directors Report

Current Situation

On May 12, 2020 Governor Kemp extended the Public Health State of Emergency through June 12, 2020. The order to shelter in place for higher risk people (including those 65 years or older and those with lung disease, severe asthma, and severe heart disease among other things) remains in effect.

The governor's order has allowed for some businesses and organizations to begin to "open up" and return to normal. However, the order lists a number of steps that must be followed in order for those organizations to open. In addition to distancing requirements the 22 steps we would need to follow include temperature and health checks of anyone attending our meetings. Governor Kemp's May 12th executive order is attached, and it contains all of the steps required to reopen.

In addition to missing the opportunity to meet with each other socially, to conduct the business of the club face to face, and to learn from presentations that have been planned, we have a growing list of future hams who would like to take their first test or upgrade their licenses.

While we can't meet physically, we have found ways to use apps like Zoom to have virtual face-to-face meetings. Zoom nets have been added to our Monday SCARS net, the Thursday ARES net and a Zoom net is taking the place of the Thursday morning breakfast meeting. Thanks to those who have mastered Zoom and set up the virtual meetings.

Recommendation

Because many of our members are in the target population that is considered to be at a higher risk, because of the work required to implement the 22 steps outlined in the Governor's Executive Order, and because of the potential liability exposure the club would face if someone were to become infected at a meeting, the committee appointed by the SCARS board recommends that we continue as we are now - not holding public meetings and not sponsoring test sessions - and re-evaluate once the Public Health State of Emergency expires on June 12.

We also discussed and would like to encourage our Zoom experts to set up and run a virtual club meeting to take the place of the June club meeting. Our thoughts on that meeting include the following:

- Allow ample time (30 minutes before the formal meeting starts) for everyone to join and work through audio issues while allowing "social time"
- Allow for a very short (15 minutes or less) business meeting
- Provide a 30 to 45 minute presentation by someone on a topic of interest to the club

We will take another look at the situation again in mid-June and update our recommendation.

Board Of Directors:

Larry K4LDC, Steve K4ELI, Cheri K4TXA, James KM4IKO, Chuck K4CGA

Under Construction - Wow!

Here is another fine example of club members helping each other. Pictured are Corey KN4ULL and Tommy K4VTE assisting Bobby KD4ISM erect his tower and install his antennas. Bobby claims the project is not yet finished. It looks pretty good to me. What else is next? WOW! Congrats Bobby.



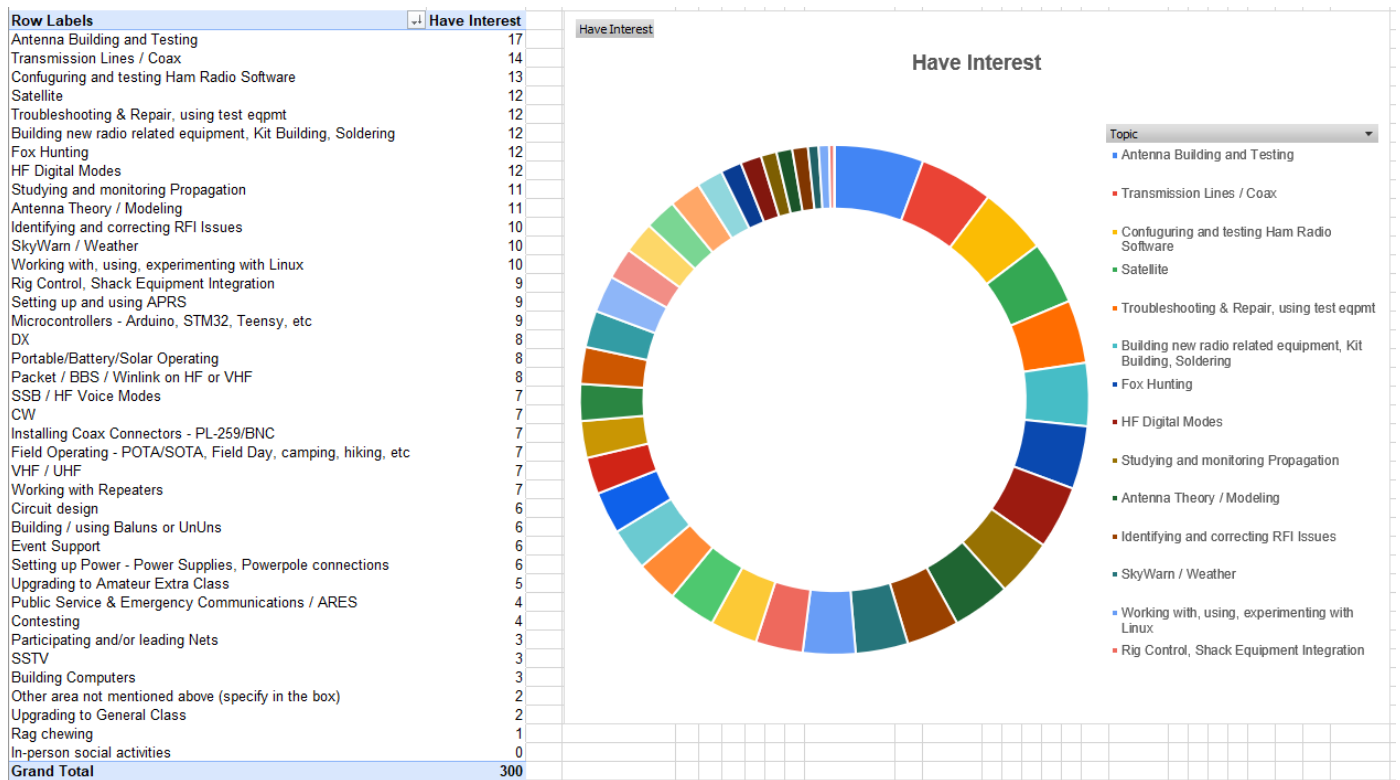
K4VTE Tommy & KD4ISM Bobby



Corey KN4ULL on tower



SCARS Survey Summary



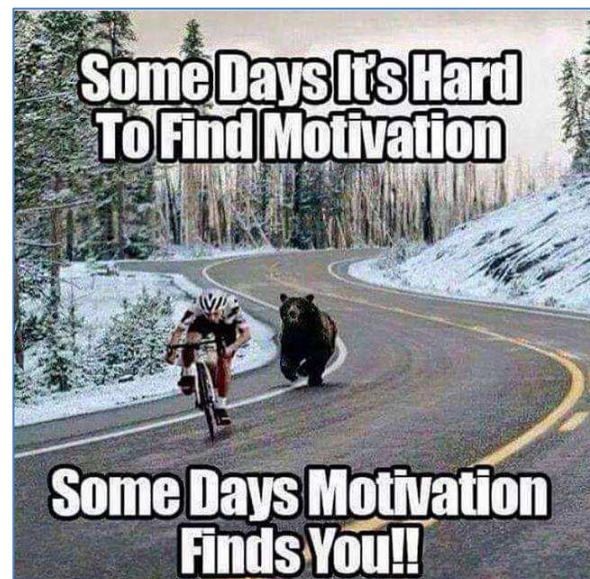
Troy Davis - K4JDA

In 20 years when kids ask about the
2020 toilet paper shortage,

I'm telling them we had to drag our
butt's across the lawn.

In the snow.

Uphill. Both ways.




Ham Radio Q-Signals modified for Covid-19

QLD: I am locked down.
QUA: I am quarantined.
QPD: I am in the middle of a pandemic.
QTP: I have toilet paper. Want to trade for a new car?
QFC: I am flattening the curve.
QHG: I need a hug.
QSH: I am sheltering in place.
QHS: I have hand sanitizer. Want to trade for two new cars?
QSD: I am observing social distancing.
QCV: I hate Coronavirus.
QVC: I want to buy cheap gaudy crap sold off the TV by failed models
QBE: As in Q-bert. "I'm so bored I've restored an Atari."
QDD: I'm so bored I'll play Dungeons & Dragons with you on the radio if you have a D20.
QME: I saw a meme I really liked but I can't describe it in Morse.
QLO: Just got laid off
QED: Thus it has been demonstrated
QFL: I've been furloughed and hope this crap ends soon!
QCB: Move to 11 meters!

Quarantine Time Filler

Stuck at home? Tired of mowing the grass, pulling weeds, painting or watching TV? Well, we have a solution for you. Get your Ham Radio License or UPGRADE !!!

 recommends you use this time to study and get RadioActive.
The software that knows you™

Learn more about digital modes, radio direction finding (fox hunting), grayline propagation, sporadic E, receiver overload & hundreds of topics that will be useful throughout your ham radio "career".

HamTestOnline advises the Extra question pool is changing effective July 1, 2020. The new Extra question pool is available now on their website.

Skywave is not sponsored by and does not endorse HamTestOnline. Many of our members however have used this company's products with favorable results.

For more information: [https:// /www.hamradiolicenseexam.com/](https://www.hamradiolicenseexam.com/)

New Logging Software – SWISSLOG - It's Free!

SWISSLOG



*Logging software for the most demanding radio amateur!
WSJT-X, JS8Call, MixW, FLDIGI logging, LoTW / eQSL full synch and much more!*

- Entering QSOs
- Logbook handling
- Statistics
- Realtime logging
- LoTW/eQSL synchronization
- Membership panel
- Update awards/users list
- Digital modes interfaces
- CW interfaces
- Transceiver control
- Rotor control
- Callbook / QSL Manager
- DX-Cluster / Band Maps
- Schedules and DX Alerts
- Sound announcements
- World Map and Propagation
- Customization
- Other features

Fully documented & Supported, available FAQ's & Forums

For more information and download: <http://www.swisslogforwindows.com/>

Thanks to Lee - WB4QOJ

Patron Saint of Ham Radio? Who knew?

Father Maximilian Kolbe was a Franciscan Priest who founded Niepokalanow (City of Mary), a large monastery in Poland dedicated to communications. Fr. Kolbe was a Ph.D. level philosopher and an insightful theologian. In addition to his print operations, he built a religious short-wave radio station in 1938 with the call sign of SP3RN.

Maximilian Kolbe was canonized by Pope John Paul II on 10 October 1982. He is considered the patron saint of the addicted and of amateur radio operators.

You can check out the Saint Maximilian Kolbe Radio Net:

at 7238 +/- kHz Saturdays at 1200Z

at 14341 kHz Sundays at 2200Z

and at 3814 kHz Sundays at 2400Z

For more information: <http://www.saintmaxnet.org/>

Thanks to Robert KN4RTJ

Interesting Links to visit!

New World Map & SDR Console Version 3

<https://www.sdr-radio.com>

Microsoft is bringing Linux GUI apps to Windows 10 – The Verge

<https://www.theverge.com/2020/5/19/21263377/microsoft-windows-10-linux-gui-apps-gpu-acceleration-wsl-features>

Titanic Telegraph - OK to retrieve

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/may/19/titanic-judge-approves-plan-retrieve-telegraph-broadcast-distress-signals?fbclid=IwAR1AMEnG6JMH0cb0-Hobhttp0qtVX4IHigr7hCjX12xEALklkEOZswz-Lyh4>

fldigi 4.1.13 posted

<https://www.machamradio.com/blog/2020/05/28/fldigi-v4-1-13-now-available/>

[D-RATS] new beta 20200529 - 0.3.9 - beta 3

<https://github.com/maurizioandreotti/D-Rats/releases/tag/0.3.9-beta-3>

Need a laugh. Check out K4ELI's daughter's short film.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-X8-R8r0ziw&feature=youtu.be>

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>

Breakfast @.....

**Join us on the 146.955 repeater and on "ZOOM" on Thursdays @ 8:30am.
In person gatherings are cancelled until further notice due to Covid-19 safety concerns!**

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

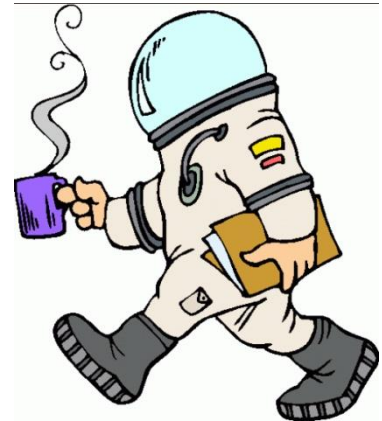
We normally meet at the  McDonalds in Hiram (in front of WalMart).

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

Members of other clubs, visitors, spouses and friends are welcomed.

Come Join Us!

**Thursday Mornings
We Gather Around 8:30 +/-
Until the last one leaves!
Even on the Repeater or ZOOM!**



Answers!



Can you name all the McD characters in this picture?

Left to Right back row:

- Birdy the Early Bird
- Professor (holding the McNugget Buddies)
- Ronald McDonald (with the Happy Meal Gang)
- Grimace
- Hamburglar
- Captain Crook

Front Row in colors and fuzzy:

- The Fry Kids

What Characters are missing from this picture? Tune in next month to find out.

Who is "**James..the healer**"? Well that would be KM4IKO James Akey. Seem like James can fix most any computer problem just by answering the phone. Doesn't even have to say much. Don't belived it? Just ask K4ELI Steve.

Recent SCARS Website Updates:



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

- No Updates this month

The SCARS webmaster (K4LDC) is retiring and is looking for someone with webpage experience to take over this prestigious post. This is your chance to contribute to the club by providing new and fresh inspiration to our ham radio internet community.

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	

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:

2020 Schedule

Due to Covid-19 concerns and restrictions, the June 4th session is Cancelled.

Jul 9 Aug 6 Sep 3 Oct 1 Nov 5 Dec 3

Contact Steve K4ELI or visit ARRL website for special session info.

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:

2020 Schedule

Due to Covid-19 concerns and restrictions, the June 9th session is Cancelled.

Contact John W4TXA or visit ARRL website for special session info.

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

2020 Calendar

** 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	Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg	Paulding Chamber of Commerce Bldg	"On The Air" 146.955– 77Hz Roll Call	"On The Air" 146.955– 77Hz Roll Call	"On The Air" 146.955– 77Hz & Zoom
Meeting Activity	Ham Radio Estate Planning (Steve K4ELI)	Ham Tower Engineering (Corey – KN4ULL)	6m Operation & Antennas (Mike – K4PI)	Weather (Postponed)	Spark Gap Transmitter (Postponed)	Field Day Prep Field Day Team
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 K4ELI Steve

V2020.06

Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

2020 Calendar

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

	July	August	September	October	November	December
Meeting 1st Tuesday Date/Time:	07-07-2020 7pm	08-04-2020 7pm	09-01-2020 7pm	10-06-2020 7pm	11-03-2020 7pm	12-01-2020 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	VE Recognition Night	"Last Man Standing" TV (John – WD4QDX)	Grits Bike Ride	TBA	PWR Supplies Dummy Loads Testing	TBA
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 K4ELI Steve

V2020.02

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