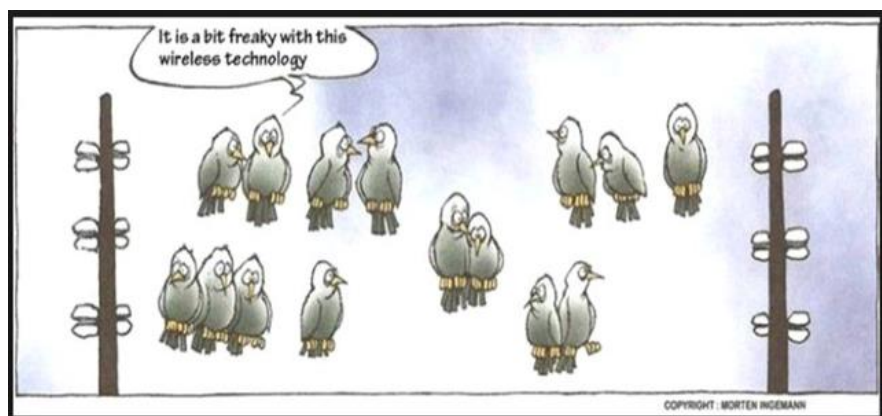




### *The Oct 5th Club Meeting Will Be Virtual!*

Please join us on ZOOM at 7pm for the September club meeting.



*The chamber has closed our meeting facility due to the increase in COVID-19. Face-to-Face meetings have been canceled until further notice.*

<https://zoom.us/j/97552899499?pwd=Y0NiWjhrVG45dEpPUlppK0xicWlFdz09>.

### In This Issue

- The Usual Stuff
- Mark Your Calendar
- It's Hear ????
- SCARS Elections
- SCARS POTA Contest
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- MIA ???
- The 1 Watt Game
- Repeater Status
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## **W4RSC "Radio Silver Comet"**

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



## **Editor's Notes:**



**Newsletter Editor Wanted!** Copies of past SKYWAVE newsletters can be found at the club website <http://www.silvercometars.com/newsletter.php>. Please submit your articles prior to the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month to [K4CGA.GA@gmail.com](mailto:K4CGA.GA@gmail.com)

**Chuck DuVall, K4CGA – Editor**

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



Please join us on the 146.955 (- 77Hz) repeater at 7:00pm and on Zoom. Check the SCARS Groups.IO calendar for meeting and Zoom link information.

It's fun and informative. Suggestions for Topics of Discussion are always solicited. You don't have to dress up and you can bring your dinner because it's very informal and Troy K4JDA does a great job as the moderator.

## **SCARS Media:**

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

**Groups.IO:** <https://silvercometars.groups.io/g/main>

**Facebook:** <https://en-gb.facebook.com/groups/2360561620926754/>

**QRZ:** <https://www.qrz.com/db/W4RSC/>

**Info:** [Info@silvercometars.com](mailto:Info@silvercometars.com) or [Silvercometars@gmail.com](mailto:Silvercometars@gmail.com)

Send SCARS website corrections, comments, or suggestions to Troy (K4JDA) at [troy.davis@hotmail.com](mailto:troy.davis@hotmail.com)

## **SCARS Community Food Drive!**

**Helping Hands**, our local community Food Bank in Dallas, needs your help! Please bring any non-perishable items to our next meeting. We will deliver it to them the following day.



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

## **Mark your Calendar!**

***Check the individual websites for latest status!***

Oct. 01 - 31 – SCARS AM Band DX Contest  
Oct. 01 - 31 – SCARS 1<sup>st</sup> Parks On The Air Contest  
Oct. 05 – SCARS Virtual Club Meeting  
Oct. 08 - 09 – NOARC Swap Meet Crestview, FL  
Oct. 08 - 09 – ARRL Convention & HF, Melbourne, FL  
Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> – Stone Mountain Hamfest



## **Silver Comet ARS Club Elections**



Don't forget, SCARS elections will be held during the month of November and your vote is very important.

Please participate in the nomination process too. Throw your hat into the ring or nominate a person you think would best represent the values of our club and your interest in ham radio.

Thanks to the hard work last year by your Secretary, James KM4IKO, online voting will be used again this year as it was proven to be secure, simple, fast and successful.

***This is your club and your vote will help guide the club into the future.***

## **It's Here! What do you Hear?**

What's here? It's the SCARS 7<sup>th</sup> Annual AM Broadcast Band DX Contest starts 0001-UTC on 01 October 2021 and ends 2359-UTC on 31 October 2021.



Why is it so important to participate in this year's event? Your points are added to your score earned in the SCARS POTA contest described elsewhere in this issue. And, you don't have to wear a mask while participating.

For more information, view the rules on our website: [www.silvercometars.com](http://www.silvercometars.com)

# **SCARS 1<sup>st</sup> POTA Contest - October 1-31, 2021**



**What is POTA?** POTA (Parks On The Air), is a 501(c)3 RadioSport program that encourages communications to and portable operations from state, provincial, nationally and internationally managed public lands. POTA has a large set of references and a short set of rules.

## **To get started**

Creating an account is fast and easy. POTA stores no passwords, we authenticate against accounts you already have. Select the Dashboard/Login link at [parksontheair.com](http://parksontheair.com) [info@parksontheair.com](mailto:info@parksontheair.com) if you need assistance.

## **Activators**

How do you activate a POTA reference? Make 10 QSOs on one UTC day while inside the boundaries of the park on any band your privileges allow including WARC bands. Utilize any simplex mode including satellite. No terrestrial repeaters allowed. POTA recommends operating in the General bands but has no specific calling frequencies. There is no specific exchange beyond call sign, although the traditional RST is usually given along with QTH. If you prefer, you do not have to call CQ POTA or announce you are at a park.

## **Hunters**

- Create an account at [parksontheair.com](http://parksontheair.com)
- Make the QSO & post a fresh spot if warranted
- No log submission is necessary
- Check your dashboard for stats at [parksontheair.com](http://parksontheair.com)



# **SCARS 1<sup>st</sup> POTA Contest (continued)**

## **Scoring**

Your score will be a total of:

1. Number of Hunter contacts (verified on the POTA website) made with ANY POTA activator PLUS
2. Number of contacts made as a park activator multiplied by the number of parks activated

Example: Chuck has 42 contacts as a hunter in the months of October, and activates 2 parks with the required 10 contacts at each. Chuck will have  $42 + (2 \times 10) = 62$  points. Scores are on the honor system ... this is just for fun, folks! We will have an online way of everyone putting in their scores.

## **BONUS AWARD**

The **SCARStoberfest** award will go to the operator with the highest total POTA score plus SCARS AM Broadcast DX score!

## **HAVE FUN!!!**

More info will be presented at the club meeting on October 5<sup>th</sup>. - **Troy - K4JDA**

## **New ARRL Georgia Section Manager**



Jim Millsap, K9APD, will become the new ARRL Georgia Section Manager (SM) on Friday, October 1. Jim has been an ARRL Emergency Coordinator and District Emergency Coordinator and also served as the ARRL Southeastern Division Vice Director from 2012 to 2014.

Congratulations Jim from the Silver Comet ARS and we look forward to working with you in the coming years.



# **Fall Is Here, Winter Is Coming!**



Fall is a great time of year to perform regular maintenance on your outdoor antenna equipment. The temperatures are usually pleasant, humidity may be more comfortable, the scenery is beautiful and it is easier to talk someone into helping you.

Identifying and fixing potential problems will minimize the chance that your equipment might fail or perform poorly when needed the most, for instance, a disaster or very inclement weather. If you are a contester or DX hunter, you don't want to be troubleshooting during a heavy rain or snow storm. The effort now is well worth it.

Here are a few tips and suggestions to get you started:

**Check your foliage! Trim those branches. Remove those trees.** Remember, we live in Georgia which is known for its trees, especially pine trees which have a habit of snapping in high winds. We are also subject to high winds caused by tornados and tropical storms.

**Check your guy lines and antenna support ropes.** Sometimes we get an unusual amount of rain in our area. That tends to soften the ground which may loosen guy anchors and tree roots. Certain materials used to support antennas may also stretch and cause your antenna to sway and cause stress on other hardware or feed lines.

**Check your feedlines and connectors.** Many feedlines and connectors are exposed directly to Sun, Heat and Moisture as well as mechanical stress from movement. Make sure your coax is not cracked, or dinged. Inspect your connectors for moisture, corrosion and physical integrity. Be sure your connections are properly sealed and protected.

**Inspect ground connections: ground rods, radials, surge arresters.** Insure they are clean and not damaged. Check the surge arresters to make sure they are still within specifications.

**Check towers and antenna mounts.** Check for physical damage, corrosion and tightness of the hardware. Inspect your climbing hardware for safety issues. Remember, your antenna system is of no use if you're injured or become an SK.

Prepare now and you can stay warm and have fun later.

***Your Editor – Chuck K4CGA***



## Missing in Action



<input type="checkbox"/> Orange County N.Y. Grid FN21				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Monmouth County N.J. Grid FN20				
CQ zone 5 • ITU zone 8				
Confirming QSO With: <b>K4LDC</b>				
Date	UTC	MHZ	Two-Way	RST
9-20-19	2307	7.230	LSB	59
QSL Manager KC2PJH KC2PJH@arrl.net		TNX for QSO - 73		

Remarks: *[Signature]*

I received this QSL card in the mail today in one of my “enclosed stamped return QSL envelopes” (neat card!)

Envelope shows it was post marked on 09/25/2021.

I thought the QSO date on the reverse side might have been in error (09-20-19) given the envelope post mark, but I checked my log and sure enough... contact was back in 2019.

I remember talking with Peter during their special event like it was yesterday... Time flies when we’re getting old... I mean having fun! <grin>

73, - **Larry(K4LDC)**

## Like CW? Play The 1 Watt Game!



- I. OBJECTIVE: A short QRPP CW game on the 20 meter band. All radio amateurs and SWL's are cordially invited.
- II. DATE: Saturday 16 October 2021 from 0900 to 1200 UTC.
- III. BAND: 20 meter band only. 14.060 MHz +- 10 kHz.
- IV. POWER: maximum 1 watt.
- V. OPERATION: Only CW (A1A).

Sounds easy and fun!

For more info: <https://silvercometars.groups.io/g/main/topics>

**Thanks to Lee - WB4QOJ**

## **SCARS 440 D-STAR Repeater Is Back!**

Thanks to members Neal-KC4YCM and Dan-W4DT0, the 440 WD4PCA DStar repeater has been returned to service and is up and running on Macland Rd. next to the WB4QOJ 146.955 repeater. Initial reports indicate fantastic coverage in our local area with HT and base stations operating on low power.

Dan is working on establishing a remote Gateway to connect the repeater to the internet in the very near future as time permits.

Please give it try....

Call: WD4PCA

Downlink: 440.57500

Uplink: 445.57500

Offset: +5mHz No Tone

*Lee WB4QOJ*

## **146.955 Repeater Improved Signal!**

Again, thanks to members Neal-KC4YCM and Lee-WB4QOJ, improvements have been made to the 146.955 WB4QOJ repeater located on Macland Road in Dallas.

The original repeater, a GE Master III, has been repaired, aligned, tested and reinstalled replacing the temporary Kenwood repeater.

The Master III seems to be working very well at this time. Thanks Neal.





# **Silver Comet ARS YouTube Channel**



Did you know our club has a YouTube channel?

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

On our Channel, you will find videos of:

- Past club meetings and presentations
- Demonstrations of new software or hardware
- Equipment setup instructions
- SCARS Social Events
- SCARS Special Events
- SCARS PCARES Training

## **Interesting Links**

**EMCOMM support and JS8call**

<http://oh8stn.org/blog/2019/05/25/js8call-messaging-and-nvis-communications/>

**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](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>

**Decoding Digital RF transmissions from across the spectrum**

<http://www.kd0cq.com/2013/07/sorcerer-decoder-download/>

**Shortwave Central**

<http://mt-shortwave.blogspot.com/>

## **Breakfast @.....YOUR HOUSE! BYOFAD!**

**Please join us on the 146.955 repeater and on "ZOOM" on Thursdays @ 8:30am. In person gatherings are canceled until further notice due to Covid-19 safety concerns! For "ZOOM" information, check the SCARS Groups.IO calendar.**

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), but due to the increase in Covid-19 concerns and the substantial decrease in service from lack of staff at McDonalds, the majority of attendees have agreed to suspend our breakfast gathering temporarily.

*BYOFAD.. Bring Your Own Food And Drinks! And NO COMPLAINING!*

**Come Join Us!**

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



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

# **Contest & Special Events**

## 2021 ARRL Contest Dates

<b>January 2021</b> <b>1</b> <a href="#"><u>Straight Key Night</u></a> <b>2</b> <a href="#"><u>Kids Day</u></a> <b>2-3</b> <a href="#"><u>RTTY Roundup</u></a> <b>16-18</b> <a href="#"><u>January VHF</u></a>	<b>February 2021</b> <b>8-12</b> <a href="#"><u>School Club Roundup</u></a> <b>20-21</b> <a href="#"><u>International DX - CW</u></a>
<b>March 2021</b> <b>6-7</b> <a href="#"><u>International DX- Phone</u></a>	<b>April 2021</b> <b>18</b> <a href="#"><u>Rookie Roundup - Phone</u></a>
<b>June 2021</b> <b>12-14</b> <a href="#"><u>June VHF</u></a> <b>19</b> <a href="#"><u>Kids Day</u></a> <b>26-27</b> <a href="#"><u>Field Day</u></a>	<b>July 2021</b> <b>10-11</b> <a href="#"><u>IARU HF World Championship</u></a>
<b>August 2021</b> <b>7-8</b> <a href="#"><u>222 MHz and Up Distance Contest</u></a> <b>21-22</b> <a href="#"><u>10 GHz &amp; Up - Round 1</u></a> <b>22</b> <a href="#"><u>Rookie Roundup - RTTY</u></a>	<b>September 2021</b> <b>11-13</b> <a href="#"><u>September VHF</u></a> <b>18-19</b> <a href="#"><u>10 GHz &amp; Up - Round 2</u></a>
<b>October 2021</b> <b>18-22</b> <a href="#"><u>School Club Roundup</u></a> <b>23-24</b> <a href="#"><u>EME - 2.3 GHz &amp; Up</u></a> -	<b>November 2021</b> <b>6-8</b> <a href="#"><u>Nov. Sweepstakes - CW</u></a> <b>20-22</b> <a href="#"><u>Nov. Sweepstakes - Phone</u></a> <b>20-21</b> <a href="#"><u>EME - 50 to 1296 MHz</u></a>
<b>December 2021</b> <b>3-5</b> <a href="#"><u>160 Meter</u></a> <b>11-12</b> <a href="#"><u>10 Meter</u></a> <b>19</b> <a href="#"><u>Rookie Roundup-CW</u></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 Amateur Radio Licensing Schedule.**

## **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.

**No walk-ins. Register or call ahead.** See sign at Front Desk for Room #.

### **2021 Schedule**

**The Governor's directives in effect at that time will be adhered to.**

Oct 07 \* Nov 04 \* Dec 02

For more information, contact Steve Walls, K4ELI: [swalls46@att.net](mailto:swalls46@att.net) (404)697-9840

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

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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

### **2021 Schedule**

**Due to Covid-19 concerns and restrictions, contact John W4TXA**  
[w4txa.john@gmail.com](mailto:w4txa.john@gmail.com) **for test session schedule information.**

Oct 12 \* Nov 09 \* Dec 14

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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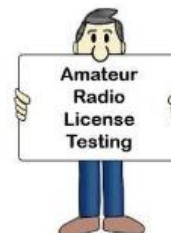
### **BRING:**

- 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>



# Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

## 2021 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>	01-05-2021 7pm	02-02-2021 7pm	03-02-2021 7pm	04-06-2021 7pm	05-04-2021 7pm	06-01-2021 7pm
<b>Meeting Location</b>	"On The Air" 146.955- 77Hz & "Zoom"	"On The Air" 146.955- 77Hz & "Zoom"	"On The Air" 146.955- 77Hz & "Zoom"	"On The Air" 146.955- 77Hz & "Zoom"	Paulding Chamber Of Commerce	Paulding Chamber Of Commerce
<b>Meeting Activity</b>	Contest Station (K3UR) Owner DX Engr.	Toroids & Baluns (N4XL)	Which Ant. Is Best (K4ELI)	Weather (K4DMF)	Last Man Standing WB4QDX	Field Day Prep (FD Team)
<b>Additional Activities</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	GA QSOP	TBD	Field Day
<b>Hamfest &amp; Conventions</b>	TBD Lawrenceville TechFest	TBD Dalton, GA Orlando, FL (HamCation)	TBD Birmingham Ellijay, GA	TBD Mobile, AL Calhoun, GA	TBD Dayton, OH	TBD Atlanta, GA

This calendar is "Subject to change". Submit change request to K4ELI Steve

V2021.05

# Silver Comet Amateur Radio Society

## 2021 Calendar

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

	July	August	September	October	November	December
<b>Meeting 1st Tuesday Date/Time:</b>	07-06-2021 7:30pm	08-03-2021 7pm	09-07-2021 7pm	10-05-2021 7pm	11-02-2021 7pm	12-07-2021 7pm
<b>Meeting Location</b>	Paulding Chamber Of Commerce	Paulding Chamber Of Commerce	"ZOOM"	"ZOOM"	Who Knows	Good Question
<b>Meeting Activity</b>	Baluns or Propagation (K4ELI)	POTA, SOTA, ISS	Bob Heil Video AM DX Contest	POTA (K4ELI)	Power Supplies (K4ELI)	SO2R Advanced (SMW)
<b>Additional Activities</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	Club Elections	Christmas Party TBD
<b>Hamfest &amp; Conventions</b>	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

This calendar is "Subject to change". Submit change request to K4ELI Steve

V2021.10



# 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@groups.io](mailto:SilvercometARS@groups.io)

Repeater:

146.955 (-) (77hz)

Contact: Club President  
Dan Ozment, W4DTO

Email: [dan@ozment.net](mailto:dan@ozment.net)

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SILVERCOMET ARS, INC.  
PO BOX 1873  
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