

The President's Corner

Welcome to March and a packed month it will be not only for the Club but finally the new GigaParts Retail Store is opening March 23rd. Expect a soft opening before hand but TBD with final construction still happening. We need some Presentations for Friday nights but don't miss March 8th presented by Steve Werner AG4W on TJ9MD DXpedition. Was a great one at the DX Club Meeting not long ago and I am sure everyone in attendance will enjoy too.

If you are interested in giving a Presentation anytime this year let Billy or myself know. Even if you are new to this hobby we would love to learn from you too!! For sure we will have one on APRS, Packet Radio and as always I will showcase new products being introduced to the market.

Though it is in June we do have the annual ARRL Field Day event on June 22-23 and will be again at the USSRC as always. Our FD Chairman Tom Cash WS4M has already made contact with leadership and we will do the obligation to get the field for the weekend before the weekend. Stay tuned for what Special Event we do for the Space and Rocket Center and will have fun either way with whatever it may be.

Elections are coming soon for HARC Officers, if you are interested in stepping up and leading this fine active club into the future be ready when nominations start in April. Not speaking for current Officers but think about it and be part of the future of Huntsville Amateur Radio Club.

Lastly, I am looking for some help in building a new Club website. It is hosted by GigaParts so we have that handled but if you are good at building a website please lend a hand for a new website with easy access to VOX / Email Reflector / Pictures and much more.

Steve KI4KWR,
HARC President



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Meeting Minutes by Craig KD4IYD

HARC Meeting February 2, 2024

The meeting began at 7:31 PM. Steve KI4KWR welcomed 40 members, 15 members on zoom and 3 visitors. Then made several announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next week's program is to be announced later.
- On February 10, starting at 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM will be the Rocket City Weather Fest at the SWIRL building at UAH. The guest speaker will be James Spann.
- The Giga Parts grand opening will be during the first quarter of the year. More information will be handed out later.
- Giga Parts Ham Radio Day will take place on April 20 at the new store.
- The weekly Wednesday lunch will take place at 11:00 AM at the New China Buffet on Jordan Lane.

Upcoming Activities:

- ARRL School Club Roundup February 12- 16
- ARRL International DX (CW) February 17- 18

The Huntsville Amateur Radio Club®

Club Officers & Info

Steve Molo	KI4KWR	President	president@harc.net
Billy Gold	KM4BGF	Vice President	KM4BGF@gmail.com
Craig Reinhart	KD4IYD	Secretary	clreinhardt41@gmail.com
Lisa Shier	N3WQL	Treasurer	treasurer@harc.net
John Morgan	N4CNY	Officer at-large	morganjohn@juno.com
Mark Brown	N4BCD	Officer at-large	mark.n4bcd@yahoo.com
Tim Huffaker	KM4ESU	Officer at-large	thuffaker1@gmail.com

Meeting location: Online via Zoom. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6588519706?pwd=Z2VxVGJ0SCsvN2NTSFJ5TE5BVklRdz09>

Meeting time: Every Friday, 7:30 PM (except on major holidays)

Mailing address: HARC, PO Box 2196, Huntsville, AL 35804

Visitors welcome at all meetings.

Club website: www.harc.net

Club callsign: K4BFT (<http://www.qrz.com/db/K4BFT>)

Mail reflector signup: follow the link below the HARC logo on the home page

Meeting Minutes—continued

- ARRL International DX(Phone) March 2- 3
- Upcoming Ham fest Birmingham (March 15- 16).

Old Business:

- Winter Field day went fine but was wet. They had four antennas and four stations on the air using 1 kW generator. The only problem It had was having the CW and phone stations next to each other.
- ASCTE ARISS went well. The only problem they had was a shorting out of the audio cable which was fixed. During the meeting, they showed a short video on how it all took place.

New Business:

- There was the introduction of a short list of programs that will take place during 2024.
- A door prize was awarded to Don KZ4DJC.

The business meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Program: How To initiate a POTA Activation presented by Jerry K04JVB

HARC Meeting February 9, 2024

The meeting began at 7:31 PM. Billy KM4BGF welcomed 22 members, 11 members on zoom. Then made several announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next week's program will be a Radio Programming Night presented by the HAYLARKS.
- On February 10, starting at 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM will be the Rocket City Weather Fest at the SWIRL building at UAH. The guest speaker will be James Spann.
- The Giga Parts grand opening will take place towards the end of March. Hopefully
- Giga Parts Ham Radio Day will take place on April 20 at the new store. Let Steve or Billy know if you are interested in a parking swap meet during Ham Radio Day.

Meeting Minutes—continued

- The weekly Wednesday lunch will take place at 11:00 AM at the New China Buffet on Jordan Lane.

- There is a need for presentations for 2024. If you have something you want to share or are yourself willing to give a presentation. Please let Billy or Steve know.

Upcoming Activities:

- ARRL School Club Roundup February 12- 16
- ARRL International DX (CW) February 17- 18
- ARRL International DX(Phone) March 2- 3
- Upcoming Ham fest Birmingham (March 15- 16).

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Lisa W4WQL presented the treasurers report for the month of January to the club. The proposal was made and seconded to accept the treasurers report. The vote was unanimous

- The club has 2 new applicants for membership. They are: Miguel KQ40JG and RB KQ40JU. The club approved their memberships unanimously.

The business meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Program: Hamcation Sneak Peak.

HARC Meeting February 16, 2024

The meeting began at 7:31 PM. Steve KI4KWR welcomed 35 members, 12 members on zoom, and 5 visitors. Then made several announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next week's program will be a report on ARRISS activities at the ASCTE school by Tim N8DEU.
 - The Giga Parts GRAND OPENING will take place in late March.
 - Giga Parts Ham Radio Day will take place on April 20 at the new store. Let Steve or Billy know if you are interested in a parking swap meet during Ham Radio Day.
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Meeting Minutes—continued

- The weekly Wednesday lunch will take place at 11:00 AM at the New China Buffet on Jordan Lane.
- Saturday, February 17 will be a work day at SIGNALS from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.
- There was an overview and stories about Hamcation by Steve and Mark.

Upcoming Activities:

- ARRL International DX(Phone) March 2- 3
- Dalton Hamfest (February 24)
- Upcoming Ham fest Birmingham (March 15- 16).
- Cullman Hamfest (June 13).

Old Business: None

New Business:

- A motion was made and seconded to accept some radio books from a donor to either give to SIGNALS, auction them off, or let the members procure them. The motion passed unanimously.
- There was also a donation of Old Radio Equipment that the club turned down. But Signals expressed interest in the equipment. So, the information for collecting said equipment was handed over to signals.
- The club has 2 new applicants for membership. They are: John N4NPG and Byron KQ4NPA. The club approved their memberships unanimously.
- . KM4ESU gave a report on the Club's Generators. It was revealed that they would be either rehabbed or sold if they are functional.
- It was announced that Senate Bill S.3690 has been introduced to the Senate to Eliminate Private Land Use Restrictions on Amateur Radio.

The business meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Program: Radio Programming Night. Hosted by the HAYLARKS.

Photo by Dick W1TV



Meeting Minutes—continued

HARC Meeting February 23, 2024

The meeting began at 7:31 PM. Steve KI4KWR welcomed 28 members, 13 members on zoom. Then made several announcements.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Next week's program will be INTELLITRON Products presented by Steve KI4KWR.
- Giga Parts GRAND Opening at the new store will take place in late March.
- Giga Parts. HAM Radio Days will be April 20. If you are interested in a swap meet or to put a station on the air during Ham Radio Day contact Steve or Billy.
- The weekly Wednesday lunch will take place at 11:00 AM at the New China Buffet on Jordan Lane.

Upcoming Activities:

- ARRL International DX(Phone) March 2- 3
- Upcoming Ham fest Birmingham (March 15- 16).
- Cullman Hamfest (July 13).

Old Business:

- KM4ESU is still working on the club generators. It is slow but is in progress.

New Business: None

The business meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.

Program: Report on the ARISS activities at the ASCTE school presented by Tim N8DEU.

HAYLARC Happenings—by Lisa N3WQL



HAYLARC held its Anniversary Dinner on February 15. We honored our two remaining charter members, Lynda Bartlow, WB4TJE (left) and Jan Sturbois, WA4RIV (right). The two of them have been active in the many activities of the club and have been officers many times. HAYLARC President Mari Allen KQ4HNK (center) presented the flowers and plaques.



Three HAYLARCs attended the Hamfest in Dalton, GA on February 24 -- Lisa Shier, N3WQL, Lynda Bartlow, WB4TJE, and Rita Apted, KQ4HYA.

HAYLARC Happenings—continued



HAYLARC president Mari Allen, KQ4HNK, gets a QSL card had delivered by Laurence McDade, WA4AAK, while doing POTA at Monte Sano State Park with Mark Wilson, KQ4EFB.

HAYLARC is looking forward to a tutorial on using the K4MIE shack at the Signals Museum and doing a POTA activation in the next few months, as well as our monthly social lunches. We invite all YLs to join us for these activities or our monthly business meetings on Zoom.

Seeing and Being Seen– by Mark N4BCD

On Friday February 23 I waited until near the end of Tim N8DEU's interesting ARISS program before setting out for an overnight stay in Dalton GA for their hamfest. It was great to see and talk to vendors, many of whom were in Orlando a short two weeks before. Naturally they have more time to chat at a smaller event and all reported very good sales. This is notable because these early hamfests are a barometer for events later in the year—including Dayton Hamvention and Huntsville Hamfest.

Dalton's Flea Market was well attended too.

Had an extended chat with the folks from North Fulton Amateur Radio League, many of whom are also members of the Southeastern DX Club. It was bittersweet to see and reminisce about the recent passing of Bob Allphin K4UEE with Wes Lamboley W3WL and Greg Marco W6IZT. Between the 3 of them, they've been the NADXC Banquet Speaker 11 times in the last 25 years.



Here's an interesting kit the North Fulton club has available. It's a code oscillator based on the popular 555 timer chip and it's cheap, only \$10 including the batteries.



General Announcements

For those who are interested in learning CW but need some Elmering, Laura K4CNY has created a GroupMe group that you can use to ask questions and arrange with Elmers for on-the-air practice.

If you are interested in Elmering, we can always use your help!

To join, click here: https://groupme.com/join_group/70112276/7m2J4Tpk

Interested in local POTA activations? Connect here.

<https://groups.io/g/harc-pota/messages>

You can request a subscribe here, or write me here for an invite.

robert.ehresman@gmail.com

Time flies. Days turn to years, years into decades. It's a lot easier to renew your FCC license before it expires. That goes for your XYL too. Ask me how I know.

Handy Bookmarks:

What contests are this weekend? <https://www.contestcalendar.com/contestcal.html>

What DXpeditions are active? <https://dxnews.com/calendar/>

What are the solar conditions? <https://www.qrz.com/>

Huntsville Amateur Radio Club <http://harc.net>

North Alabama DX Club <http://nadxc.org>

Huntsville Area YL Amateur Radio Club <https://haylarc.wordpress.com/>

Madison Co ARES/RACES <https://madisoncountyaalema.gov/amateur-radio/>

North Alabama Repeater Association <http://n4hsv.net/>

Marshall Space Flight Center Amateur Radio Club <https://www.nn4sa.org/>

For Sale

Program and Project Managers

Madison Co Emergency Coordinator	Tim Holland KK5H
Field Day Chairperson	Tom Cash WS4M
Public Information Officer	Open
K4BFT Club Station Trustee	Laura Morgan K4CNY
Picnic/Food Coordinator	Warren K4MMW & Karen Alford
Training/Education Coordinator	John Morgan N4CNY
VOX Publisher	Mark Brown N4BCD
Program Coordinators	Jessica Molo KN4JJA, Chuck Lewis N4NM, Solomon Bolden KW4GY
Webmaster	Steve Molo KI4KWR
Repeater Program Announcer	Kelley Johns W4VPZ

Important Exam Info (updated Feb 2023)

The next Huntsville testing session is conducted the first Saturday of the month unless that weekend contains a holiday. If it does, the second Saturday will be the test date. Please check the HARC.NET website or www.cavechamexam.com to confirm. The testing location is at The Madison County Fire Training Academy Building, 300 Shields Rd, Huntsville, AL 35811

The exam sessions starts at 9:00 AM. Please plan to arrive between 8:30 and 9:00 AM. New

FCC Requirement Effective 19 April 2022

The FCC released a Public Notice on March 23, 2022, stated the amateur radio application fees, including those associated with Form 605 application became effective on April 19, 2022. The Federal Communications Commission's authority to impose and collect fees is mandated by Congress.

The new \$35 application fee will apply only to new, renewal, and modification applications that request a new vanity call sign. The fee will be per application. Administrative updates, such as a change of name, mailing or email address, and modification applications to upgrade an amateur radio licensee's operator class, will be exempt from fees.

Applicants will pay the local Huntsville CAVEC exam session fee (Adults - \$10 and any-one in student status - \$5) to the CAVEC VE team as usual. You can go ahead and fill out and print The NCVEC 605 (fill-able) Application at this link: NCVEC 605 Application. You only need to fill it out through the signature and date block. The testing team will handle the rest of the form. We will also have blank NCVEC 605 forms available at the testing session as needed. As a reminder, all applicants are required to provide an email address for licensees on all applications.

The new payment process is as follows:

- 1) When the FCC receives the examination information from the VEC, it will email a link with payment instructions to each qualifying candidate.
- 2) The candidate will have 10 calendar days, from the date of the application file number being issued to pay. If you have any issues with NOT receiving and email payment link within 2-3 days after testing, please contact CAVEC @ cavec.org@gmail.com.
- 3) After the fee is paid, and the FCC has processed an application, examinees will receive a second email from the FCC with a link to their official license or, in very rare instances, an explanation for why the application was dismissed or denied. The link will be valid for 30 days.

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