

UAARC Club Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2026

Attendance:

18 members (including 2 officers) and 3 visitors

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by John Keith (W5BWC), who opened with visitor introductions and a standing roll call.

Announcements & Reports

- **John Keith** announced a club POTA activation scheduled for Saturday, April 18 at Atlanta State Park.
 - **John Keith** reported that George Wood (K6GMW) is still seeking volunteers to provide equipment and supplies for Field Day. Members are encouraged to check their email and contact George with available resources.
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Secretary/Treasurer Report

Presented by William Collier (KG5SVM):

- Total membership: 38
 - 37 full members
 - 1 associate member
- ARRL affiliation: 22 members (meeting the 50% threshold for ARRL affiliation)

Financials:

- General Fund Balance: \$2,536.70
- Unpaid Liabilities: \$643.00
- 501(c)(3) Fund Balance: \$155.00

Administrative Updates:

- 2025 federal taxes have been filed
- 2026 first-quarter state taxes have been filed

Additional Announcements

- **JoAnn Keith** (KA5AZK) noted that there are still open slots on the meeting refreshment sign-up sheet and encouraged members to participate.
- **John Keith** announced that the club has received its 70cm frequency pair and approval to proceed with repeater site construction following the required 10-day monitoring period.
 - Special thanks were extended to Ray Cook (KE5VJH) for deploying an SDR monitor at 150 feet on Simpson Mountain.
 - Jerry Ritchie (WA5OKO) retuned the duplexer to the new frequency pair.
 - James Stull (KB9VQQ) will complete repeater programming following the meeting.
 - The 70cm repeater will primarily support digital data modes.
 - As a related note, Rob Walker reported that Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation has experienced minimal interference since transitioning to the 460 MHz band.
- **John Keith** announced completion of an antenna installation at the Gilmer Nursing Care facility, which will serve as a secondary ARES station.
- **John Keith** reported that George Klutts is now a Silent Key. His widow has requested that, in lieu of flowers, potted plants be sent to her residence. No memorial service is planned.
- **John Keith** shared that W5YI Group is offering a youth program covering FCC registration and testing fees for those pursuing a Technician license.
- **John Keith** reported meeting with the county AgriLife Extension agent and 4-H leadership to plan a six-week fall course introducing middle school students to amateur radio as a STEM subject, with a potential Technician licensing class.
- **John Keith** and **JoAnn Keith** delivered a presentation on amateur radio and ARES to the Harmony Fire Department and also met with the Ore City Fire Chief.
- **John Keith** announced receipt of two anonymous donations totaling \$1,100. Funds have been partially used for the Gilmer Nursing Care ARES station and will also support the 70cm repeater project.

- **John Keith** announced that ballots for proposed amendments to the club constitution and bylaws are now available. Members may submit ballots to any officer; votes will be counted at the next meeting on May 11.
 - **Rob Walker**, CEO of Upshur Rural Electric Cooperative Corporation, delivered a presentation on the current status of the electrical grid and upcoming changes.
 - **JoAnn Keith** reminded members that the Field Day meal sign-up sheet is available.
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Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by John Keith. Refreshments were provided by Larry Pollard (W5ADI).