



ARC-SHORTS

The Newsletter of the Alexandria Radio Club
June 2023

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Relaxing during Hamvention: (l.-r., back row) **Ian** (N8IK), **Gary** (KC5QNC), **Rich** (KA4GFY), **Bob** (KO4ZIK), **Ted** (W9TCE), (front) **Richard** (KW4UJ), **Carol** (KN4LLL), **Jay** (KV3W). Others attending were **Jason** (WA6MPR) and **Eugene** (N4JEE).

Get On the Air on Field Day

Band captains are ready, but could use the support of club members throughout the event.

Come and take a turn at doing what you love.

Early bird? Night owl? You're welcome any time.

Field Day will be held at Chinquapin Park, 3210 King Street, Alexandria. It begins at 2 pm, Saturday, June 24, and runs 'round the clock to 2 pm, Sunday, June 25.

Member News

Welcome New Members

Bob Clancy (KQ4ILQ) and **Christina Tally** (KQ4FXE)

Congratulations New Tech

Luciano Bogleione, son of **Luciano Bogleione** (KB1TZN), passed the Technician exam on June 4 (call sign coming). Good work.

Net Control Class

The latest Net Control Class graduates are **Joe Izaguirre** (KO4QQX) and **Sandy Kenyon** (KQ4DNE). Congratulations! Graduates are already leading “2-meter Excitement” on Thursday nights. Class leader **Bryan Pettigrew** (WD4ADF) will announce a new class soon.

President’s Corner

Don (KI4D)



We are now less than three weeks away from Field Day 2023, our biggest club event of the year. **Bob Crumley**, KO4ZIK, our Field Day Chair has been working with the Field Day committee behind the scene planning for a very successful event. ARRL Field Day is the weekend of June 24-25th. This year, the event will be held at Chinquapin Park in Alexandria. Bob has requested the assistance of club members with setting up Field Day, please help out if you can. Bob will provide the completed Field Day Plan at the monthly meeting on June 9th.

On Sunday, June 4th, **Jan**, KB2LRX, **Carol**, KN4LLL, and I represented Alexandria Radio Club at the 79th annual Alexandria D-Day commemoration hosted by the Alexandria-Caen Sister City Committee. Our goal was to advance the presence of Alexandria Radio Club and ham radio within the city. City Councilman **R. Kirk McPike** stopped by our display and upon learning about our Field Day 2023 event said he would put it on his calendar. A true highlight was the attendance by club member **Luciano Bogleione**, KB1TZN, and his 10-year-old son. **Luci** had just passed his FCC Tech Class Exam earlier in the day. (Photo, right, shows father and son displaying Luci’s Certificate of Successful Completion.)



A number of visitors to our display were not aware that amateur radio existed or in some cases still existed given the Internet. Others recalled emotional stories of their parents or grandparents who were active in amateur radio long ago. Still others wanted to know more about the purpose of Field Day and may attend our Field Day event this year. The event was well attended and included formalities such as the singing of the American and French (in

French) anthems as well as City of Alexandria presentations to the City of Caen, France. Along with City officials and special guests, there were WWII Reenactors, D-Day displays, and music by a 1940s Jazz Band and Swing band, and the U.S. Army Fife and Drum Corps.



Pictured left: **Jan**, KB2LRX, and **Carol**, KN4LLL, hosted at the Club booth at Alexandria's D-Day Commemoration, June 4. Right: City Councilman **R. Kirk McPike** drops by.

In late May the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) announced “We recently signed a new MOA with ARRL — establishing our partnership with licensed, voluntary amateur radio operators to support response (and) recovery efforts. We’re honored to work side-by-side to meet the needs of millions in the wake of disasters.” Former FEMA Administrator and ARRL member **Craig Fugate**, KK4INZ, led the agency when the previous MOA with ARRL was signed in 2014. Fugate said the agreement underscores the importance of ham radio. “By incorporating amateur radio into their emergency plans, FEMA ensures that they have access to a network of trained operators who can establish and maintain communication links when traditional infrastructure fails. This collaboration between FEMA and Amateur Radio Operators allows for more robust and resilient emergency communication capabilities, ultimately contributing to effective disaster response and recovery,” said Fugate. The Honorable Craig Fugate is a member of Alexandria Radio Club.

We would like to welcome two new members to Alexandria Radio Club. Welcome aboard to **Christina Tally**, KQ4FXE, and **Robert (Bob) Clancy**, KQ4ILQ. Christina is looking forward to Field Day and Bob is interested in antennas and has joined the NVIS Antenna Working Group.

The June 9th meeting of the Alexandria Radio Club will feature **Bob Crumley**, KO4ZIK, Field Day 2023 Chair, who will provide the comprehensive Field Day 2023 briefing to club members.

Club meetings now have a timewise standardized format. The objective will be to keep discussions on track so that everything is covered in the time allowed. See figure1. Since time is a premium, it is requested that committee updates be concise so that we can accommodate the entire program in the timeframe allowed.

Meeting Component	Estimated Time Duration (Min)	Time
Opening	5-10	7:00-7:10 p.m.
Featured Presentation w/questions	50	7:10-8:00 p.m.
Club Business	30	8:00- 8:30 p.m.
Ham Work Shop	30+	8:30 p.m. - Until

1Membership Meeting Format

The NVIS Antenna Working Group has been working on selection of which antennas should be NVIS field-tested. The June club meeting Ham workshop will feature a DIY session/discussion on NVIS antennas. The session will be led by **Ryan Stinebiser**, KO4EBY, and **Don Lewis**, KI4D.

If you have an idea for a “how-to” presentation or discussion for the monthly club Ham workshop, please send me a note and we will try to work it in.

Don Lewis (KI4D)

Next Meeting

Will be held at 7 pm, Friday, June 9, at the Alexandria Police Department Emergency Operations Center Community Room, 3600 Wheeler Avenue. See **President’s Corner** for details.

Last Meeting

Minutes – Carol (KN4LLL)

Date: May 12, 2023

Time: 1900 hours

Location: Zoom and In-Person at APD Community Room, Wheeler Lane

Presentation:

- Topic: Limited Space Antennas
- Presenter: Tom Schiller, N6BT

Reports:

Secretary: Carol KN4LLL – April 2023 Minutes briefed.

Treasurer: Erik KI4BXV – Current Balance = \$13,187.04.

President: Don KI4D

- Recognized a record number of members will be attending 2023 Hamvention in Dayton OH
- NVIS working group has selected antennas to purchase; urged members to join the group.

Membership: Joe KO4QQX – No membership numbers reported.

ARES/RACES: Rick N4ASX

- April 25th exercise efforts focused on passing message traffic from Fire Station 203; Ian N8IK led the group effort as Rick was out of town.

Repeaters: Ian N8IK

- DSTAR repeaters are working but at 20 years old, the club needs to think about replacing them when the new hospital is built.
- Will be putting up a GMRS repeater.
- Try out the 33 cm repeater.

AREDN Project: Joe IT3I

- Briefed that new security patch installed; new hardware and devices are available.

Education/Training: Richard KW4UJ

- Spring class concluded on 9 May with license exam.
- 7 out of 9 participants earned licenses.

Trailer: Sean K4KBK

- Planning for HF Antenna installation

Webmaster/PIO: Richard KW4UJ/Ian N8IK/Jan KB2LRX

- Adding Field Day content to the webpage.
- Sending out Field Day flyers and posting to social media; need to keep posting through Field Day to earn points.

Net Control: Bryan WD4ADF

- 18 May: KQ4CMA/KI4D
- 25 May: KI4D/ WD4ADF
- 01 Jun: N8IK/KQ4DNE
- 08 Jun: WD4ADF/N8IK
- Net control slots to be filled via email

Old Business

- Field Day Planning briefed by Bob KO4ZIK = band captains, gear, park map of station setup
 - Need generators and tarps

New Business – Don KI4D

- Hamvention is May 19-21 in Dayton, Ohio.

ADJOURNMENT: 2050 hours

Ham Workshop: Don KI4D

- **Topic:** NVIS at work during the VA QSO Party

Attendance (31)

Name	Call Sign
Don	KI4D
Sean	K4KBK
Erik	KI4BXU
Carol	KN4LLL
Ian	N8IK
Richard	KW4UJ
Rick	N4ASX
Rich	KA4GFY
Ted	W9TCE
Jan	KB2LRX
Bjorn	KC3A00
Gary	KC5QCN
Sandy	KQ4DNE
William	KM4KLG
Bryan	WD4ADF
Jay	KV3W
Ryan	KO4EBY
Luciano	KB1TZN
Alex	KO4ZMC
Peter	N2KFA
Joe	KT3I
Robert	KO4ZIK
Brian Stevenson	KE4WGI
Aaron Wurm	
Ed	W4EDF
Gary	KC7TNU
Nikki	WRWU532
Latasha Moore	
Steve	KM4WVP
Ted	N4JOG
Tom	N6BT



Tom Schiller (N6BT) gave a fascinating and richly detailed talk to the club about limited space antennas. Visit his website: **n6bt.com**

ARES

Rick (N4ASX)

This has been a quiet month for ARES. We have had a great number of members get **GMRS licenses** and this will help when working with non-amateur folks when we need to and it also a great opportunity for families to get involved without having your family members become amateur radio operators.

Regarding CERT, the GMRS usage will allow us not to have our repeaters tied up with local traffic during a disaster.

Hurricane season is once again here and while we don't have the danger of a major hurricane, it's good to be prepared and have your equipment ready.

73, **Rick**, N4ASX

Activities and Events

Rich (KA4GFY)

Hamfests –

The Baltimore Amateur Radio Club's Father's Day Hamfest at Arcadia will be held on June 18 in Upperco, MD. The location is the Arcadia Fire Company grounds, 16020 Carnival Avenue in Upperco. Talk-in is on the 146.670 (-) MHz repeater (PL 107.2 Hz). Here is the link: <https://w3ft.com/hamfest/>

The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club's 72nd annual Berryville hamfest takes place on August 6, 2023 at the Clark County Ruritan Fairgrounds. The fairgrounds are located at 890 West Main Street in Berryville, VA (it's right off of Route 7). No mention of talk-in, but it's usually on the SVARC's 146.820 (-) MHz repeater (PL 146.2 Hz). Here is the link to the hamfest info: <https://berryvillehamfest.com/>

Training – Our latest class concluded on May 9 with 9 people taking exams and 7 walking out with new licenses. Here are our new licensees:

Nicholas Ezrre	KQ4IMV	Tech
Matthew Ezrre	KQ4INF	Tech
Robert Clancy	KQ4ILQ	General
Patrick Greenfield	KQ4IMJ	Tech
Kevin Harriford	KQ4IPS	Tech
Scott Diaz	KQ4IMI	Tech
James McClure	KC3WCH	Tech

Contests –

- June 10 through 12 – ARRL June VHF Contest. Exchange is 4-character grid square.
- June 17 and 18 – West Virginia QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- June 24 and 25 – ARRL Field Day. Exchange is number of transmitters, class and section.
- July 1 – RAC Canada Day Contest. Exchange is RST and serial number.
- July 8 and 9 – IARU HF World Championship. Exchange is RST and ITU zone. We are in zone 8.
- July 15 and 16 – North American QSO Party RTTY. Exchange is name and state.

Every Sunday evening at 8 PM local time, the K1USN Radio Club sponsors the "Slow Speed Contest." The exchange is similar to a QSO. See the rules here:

<http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>.

Every Tuesday at 0000 UTC (7 pm EDT Monday for us) is the Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest. Exchange is RS and age group (OM, YL, Youth YL or Youth). Here are the rules: <https://wwsac.com/rules.html>

Don't forget, be sure to send in your log within seven days after the contest ends for all ARRL sponsored contests. ARRL now uses a web application for contest log submissions. Here is the link: <http://contest-log-submission.arrl.org/> Be sure to convert your file to Cabrillo format before submitting. Most logging programs support the Cabrillo format.

REMEMBER to support the CLUB's score for contests by providing Ian, N8IK, your info (Name, Call sign and Grid Square location) and submit your scores for the contests you play in. If the contest asks for a club affiliation, the Alexandria Radio Club is on the list of contest clubs. Contesting is one way we show that we are using our frequency allocations.

Contests may not be your thing, but contests are a great way to show outside interests we do use our valuable spectrum. By showing we use our spectrum, other services will have a hard time proving that we don't use our spectrum and it's up for re-allocation to someone else.

Contests can also be a great way to become introduced to HF communications. While it can be intense, pick the contest and jump in. Most contests have a limited exchange so it is usually easy to get what the other station needs.

Repeaters

Rich (KA4GFY)

PLEASE USE OUR REPEATERS

Club Repeaters: 147.315 (PL 107.2), 444.6 (PL107.2), 224.82 (PL107.2), 53.13 (PL107.2) 927.6 (-25Mhz, PL107.2), and 1282.600 (PL 107.2), DSTAR 145.38Mhz, 442.060, and 1284. DMR IS UP AND RUNNING 442.4125 +5Mhz Color Code 1.

The new Motorola Quantar repeater and newer antenna have been online since early December. We continue to get good reports from users reporting they have coverage where they did not before. As you drive around, keep checking the repeater to see where you can access it. We are doing some site work for a remote receiver for the 147.315 repeater. Once that comes online, we will let everybody know.

The DSTAR repeaters continue to see a lot of activity. We have been linking the 2-meter repeater to Reflector 062C for Virginia and Maryland communications, the 70 cm repeater to Reflector 030C for long-range communications and the 23 cm voice repeater to reflector 001C, the world-wide reflector. If you want to link to another reflector, be sure to unlink the repeater first and then link to the reflector of your choice. All we ask is you unlink the reflector you were listening on when you are finished.

The Alexandria Radio Club has one of the only 23 cm analog repeaters in the area. Give it a try on your IC-9700, G-7, ID-1, or if you still have one, a T-81. It works quite well. We even tried the 23 cm repeater after one net and it worked quite well. If you have an ICOM 9700, be sure to join in.

We also have one of the few 33 cm analog repeaters in the area. It has good coverage and can be accessed with a handheld in many of the same places as our 70 cm repeater. If you have an Alinco G-29, Motorola GTX, or a Kenwood TK-981, give it a try. If you are curious about 33 cm, check out kw902.com. This is the go-to website on everything about Kenwood 33 cm equipment. There is an active group of 33 cm enthusiasts in the Richmond area and they usually have equipment to sell at the Richmond Frostfest, so this will be a good place to look.

At the Dayton Hamvention, ICOM announced a promotion only for clubs with DSTAR repeaters. ICOM will rebate the club \$500 for each repeater they buy before September 30, 2023, which brings the cost down to around \$1,300. We need to think about replacing our DSTAR repeaters. They will be 20 years old when we move them to the new hospital location in 2027. We would need one each for 2 meters, 70 cm and 23 cm digital voice. The new ICOM repeaters will run both DSTAR and analog FM. We should also look at another one for our 23 cm analog voice repeater, which is already 30 years old. There are many club members with ICOM 9700s that do 23 cm FM and DSTAR. By buying now, we essentially get the 4th repeater free with the ICOM rebate.

As I mentioned on a recent net, the Alexandria Radio Club's GMRS repeater is on the air. The frequency is 462.625 with a PL tone of 123.0 Hz. The primary purpose of the GMRS repeater is for Alexandria Radio Club and ARES to interface with Alexandria CERT. It gives CERT a way to communicate around the city and surrounding area. Check it out as you drive around. It should have similar coverage to our 70 cm repeater. Do not use your amateur radio callsign on GMRS, you need a separate GMRS license to use it. N8IK is collecting GMRS callsigns and the list is growing daily. There are no club callsigns for GMRS like in amateur radio.

Ian, N8IK, runs the Wednesday night DSTAR net on the 145.380 MHz repeater at 8 pm. The Wednesday night net is starting to pick up some momentum. We link the repeater to Reflector 62B at net time so members and former members outside the local area can join in. Some time ago, I asked the folks who maintain the lists of DSTAR reflectors to create a Virginia perma-link reflector. Many other states have them. Be sure to put Reflector 62B in your DSTAR programming.

As always, ham it up and get on the air.

73, **Rich**, KA4GFY

Alexandria Radio Club mailing list

Home: <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/alexandriaradioclub>

Help: <http://mailman.qth.net/mmfaq.htm>

Post: <mailto:AlexandriaRadioClub@mailman.qth.net>

This list hosted by: <http://www.qsl.net>

Please help support this email list: <http://www.qsl.net/donate.html>

An “Alexandria Radio Club Current Membership” Google Group has been established for internal club discussions by “active” club members. This is a private group established to promote internal club member communications among members of Alexandria Radio Club who are current with their club dues, and are therefore entitled to full membership privileges and benefits.

Invitations to join this list have been sent to “active” members, based on those current with 2023 club dues as reflected with the Club Treasurer. If you have paid club dues for 2022 and have not received an invitation to the Google Group, please send a note to Don Lewis KI4D so that the situation can be corrected soonest. A few email addresses have bounced.

Club Leadership

Elected Officers for 2023*

Don Lewis, KI4D—President
Sean Gallagher, K4KBK—Vice President
Carol Myers, KN4LLL—Secretary
Erik Misavage, KI4BXU—Treasurer

Elected Board of Directors, At Large*

Ian Keith, N8IK
Bob Crumley, KO4ZIK
Jason Palmer, WA6MPR

* Voting members of the leadership group are the elected officers and elected directors.

Committee Chairmen

Joe Izaguirre, KO4QQX—Membership
Jan Maas, KB2LRX—Public Information
Officer (PIO)
Gary Sessums, KC5QCN—Club Metro
Area Liaison

Rich Adamy, KA4GFY (Lifetime
Member)
Rick Bunn, N4ASX (Lifetime Member)
Jim Stone, W4YUE
Marshall DeBerry, KI4MWP (Lifetime
Member)
Tom Kirby, KJ4FUU
Larry Walker, K4LDW
Monica Wilson, KC2IAY
Richard Morani, KW4UJ
Ted Einersen, W9TCE

Advisory Group of Past Presidents & Officers

Harry Jones, N4CWP (Lifetime Member)

Club Leadership Group members may be contacted using the following email addresses:

<mailto:president@w4hfh.org> president@w4hfh.org
<mailto:vice-president@w4hfh.org> vice-president@w4hfh.org
<mailto:treasurer@w4hfh.org> treasurer@w4hfh.org
<mailto:secretary@w4hfh.org> secretary@w4hfh.org
<mailto:board@w4hfh.org> board@w4hfh.org
<mailto:directors@w4hfh.org> directors@w4hfh.org
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