



# ARC-SHORTS

The Newsletter of the Alexandria Radio Club  
September 2023

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## Member News

### **Alex (KO4ZMC) and Friends at YOTA Camp Contact ARISS**

On July 18, 2023, a weeklong Youth on the Air (YOTA) summer camp at Carleton University in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, hosted an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) radio contact.

The purpose of the camp is to connect young amateur radio operators from North, Central, and South America through amateur radio and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) activities.

The youth talked with astronaut Steve Bowen, KI5BKB, who answered 18 questions. ARISS volunteer Ruth Willet, KM4LAO, orchestrated their activities.

“[The ARISS contact] went so wonderfully -- I’m still on a high! It never, never, never gets old,” said Willet. A reporter for the Radio Amateurs of Canada magazine, *The Canadian Amateur*, came to watch and report on the action.

Watch a [video of the contact on YouTube](#)

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include NASA, the ISS National Lab, ARRL, and AMSAT.

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YOTA campers show excitement upon hearing the ISS contact. (Left to right) **Abby Matsuyoshi**, KK7CFJ; **Ruth Willet**, KM4LAO; **Alex Lammers**, KO4ZMC, and **Tripp Sanders**, K5TRP.

## President’s Corner

### **Don (KI4D)**

During August the devastating wildfire disaster in Hawaii, the Tropical Storm Hillary disaster in California, and the Hurricane Idalia disaster dominated ham radio news with ham radio activations supporting recovery efforts. Fortunately, in this area of the country, we were spared any of those threatening conditions. August was a relatively quiet month for ham radio activities in our area.

Behind the scenes at Alexandria Radio Club, thanks to Discord there was a lot of club activity going on during August. The club Discord channel has over 30 channels for discussions. On any given day, frequent postings to these channels take place, often sharing a great deal of ham radio knowledge as well as very interesting photos. In August **Todd** (KO4IJH) posted on Discord that he and his family visited ARRL Headquarters in Newington, CT. **Jason** (WA6MPR) posted a photo of the latest update to his ham shack.



**Todd (KO4IJH) with Baby Emilia at ARRL HQ**

Hoorah for Discord! And KUDOS to Jason for Discord. As a club member, you can join the fun on the Club Discord channels; just send a note with your call sign to [wa6mpr@gmail.com](mailto:wa6mpr@gmail.com) and request to join.

The **September 8th meeting** of the Alexandria Radio Club will feature the 47th annual Marine Corps Marathon (MCM) briefing by **Scott Larimer** (KN4RP). MCM is scheduled for Sunday, 29 October 2023. The MCM is seeking ham operators as volunteers to support the race as “eyes and ears” on the race course. For most hams, the only requirements are a handheld portable VHF/UHF radio, a sense of service, and the willingness to have fun. To register, visit <https://hamcommunity.com/mcm-register>.



**Jason’s (WA6MPR) Ham Shack in August 2023**

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 figure. 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

The **September meeting Ham Workshop** will feature a “show and tell” about portable (Lifepo4) batteries led by **Ed Ferguson** (W4EDF), **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 p.m., Friday, September 8, 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:** August 11, 2023

**Time:** 1900 hours

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

#### **Presentation:**

- Topic: The Information Technology Disaster Resource Center (ITDRC.org)
- Presenter: Warren Wylupski, KA2BWU

#### **Reports—**

##### **Secretary: Carol KN4LLL**

- No report

##### **Treasurer: Erik KI4BXV**

- Current Balance = \$13,536.39

##### **President: Don KI4D**

- Provided program/project status updates
  - Discord server activity
  - New members
  - NIVIS Antenna Group

##### **Membership: Joe KO4QXX/Bob KO4ZIK**

- No report

##### **ARES/RACES: Rick N4ASX**

- Call to members to consider volunteering for ARES
- Communicating with hospital regarding move to new location; no info to share at this time

##### **Repeaters: Rich KA4GFY**

- DSTAR/DMR is local mode only; not sure what is happening; Ian submitted a ticket with the hospital

##### **AREDN Project: Joe KT3I/Ian N8IK**

- Nothing new to report

##### **Education/Training: Rich KA4GFY**

- Room has been reserved for December 5th exam session
- Next licensing class will start in October

##### **Trailer: Sean K4KBK**

- No report

##### **Webmaster/PIO: Richard KW4UJ/Jan KB2LRX**

- Request for content for the website

### Net Control – Bryan WD4ADF

- Net control slots are filled through September 7th; need backups
- Net Control Training will be scheduled for September or October if enough interest

### Old Business

- Don, KI4D, briefed changes to upcoming activities for August through December

### New Business – Don KI4D

- Discussion regarding Facebook page is not a public-facing page; only members can access it.

### Adjournment: 2010 hours

### Ham Workshop: Todd KO4IJH

- Topic: Weak Signal Propagation Report (WSPR)

### Attendance (30)

Name	Call Sign
Don	KI4D
Carol	KN4LLL
Ian	N8IK
Richard	KW4UJ
Rick	N4ASX
Rich	KA4GFY
Ted	W9TCE

Bob	KO4ZIK
Gary	KC5QCN
Jay	KV3W
William	KM4KLG
Bryan	WD4ADF
Jack	KF7VOU
Ryan	KO4EBY
Doug	

Ed	W4ELU
Alex	KO4ZMC
Todd	KO4IJH
Jim	W4YUE
Erik	KI4BXU
Ted	N4JOG
Scott	KM4RDR
Don	KM4DC

Brian	KE4WGJ
Jason	WA6MPR
Bob	KO4KGC
Timothy	
Louis	KO4QJB
Tom	NH7XJ
Warren	KA2BWU

## ARES

### Rick (N4ASX)

I've got a new point of contact for the hospital move and hope to make progress on planning for the move and ARES comms during drills or real emergencies.

With hurricane season, we who volunteer need to be ready. While we don't get Cat 2 storms, what does come to our area can spin off tornados and rain can cause flooding. Keep your check lists handy and go kits ready.

For those who have not volunteered to support ARES, remember that when we support our community during a disaster we build good will, which helps us keep our frequencies and fight off HOA type restrictions. Additionally, with companies wanting our spectrum we need to be seen as worth preservation.

Lastly, I encourage all volunteers to work on the ARES Task book and send me your updates. We all get older and less able, so need members to be ready to take on more responsibility.

73, **Rick**, N4ASX

## Activities and Events

### **Hamfests –**

The Columbia Amateur Radio Association CARA Fest takes place on Oct 1, 2023 at the Howard County Fairgrounds. The fairgrounds are located at 2210 Fairgrounds Road in West Friendship, MD. Talk-in on the 147.390 MHz (PL 156.7 Hz) repeater. Here is the link: <https://www.columbiaara.org/caraFest>

The Southern Maryland Tailgate Fest takes place October 14 at the Hollywood, MD Volunteer Fire Department. It's sponsored by the Saint Mary's County Amateur Radio Association. Talk-in on the 147.195 (PL 156.7Hz) repeater. Here is the link: <http://k3hki.org/>

The Carroll County, MD, hamfest takes place October 22 at the Door to Virtue Masonic Lodge, located at 46 Monroe Street in Westminster, MD. Talk-in on the 145.410 MHz (114.8 Hz PL) repeater. Here is the link: <https://k3pzn.net/>

### **Training –**

Our next class is scheduled to begin **October 3** and conclude **December 5, 2023**. If you know someone wishing to become an amateur radio operator, have them contact us at [training@w4hfh.org](mailto:training@w4hfh.org).

### **Contests –**

- September 9 and 10 – Alabama QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 9 to 11 – ARRL September VHF Contest. Exchange is 4-character grid square.
- September 10 – North American Sprint, CW. Exchange is the other station's call, your call, serial number, your name, your state.
- September 16 and 17 – ARRL 10 GHz and Up Contest. Exchange is 6-character grid square.
- September 16 and 17 – Iowa QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 16 and 17 – Texas QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 16 and 17 – Washington State Salmon Run. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 16 and 17 – New Jersey QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 16 and 17 – New Hampshire QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 17 – North American Sprint. Exchange is the other station's call, your call, serial number, your name, your state.
- September 23 and 24 - CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY. Exchange is RST + CQ Zone + state.
- September 23 and 24 – Maine QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 7 and 8 – California QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and state.

- October 14 and 15 – Nevada QSO Party. Exchange is RST and ARRL section.
- October 14 and 15 – Arizona QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 14 and 15 – Pennsylvania QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and ARRL section.
- October 14 and 15 – South Dakota QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 16 through 20 – ARRL School Club Roundup. Exchange is RST and class. Most of us will be an individual station.

**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.**

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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 2023 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 Palma, 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](mailto:president@w4hfh.org)> president@[w4hfh.org](mailto:president@w4hfh.org)  
<mailto:vice-president@[w4hfh.org](mailto:vice-president@w4hfh.org)> vice-president@[w4hfh.org](mailto:vice-president@w4hfh.org)  
<mailto:treasurer@[w4hfh.org](mailto:treasurer@w4hfh.org)> treasurer@[w4hfh.org](mailto:treasurer@w4hfh.org)  
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<mailto:board@[w4hfh.org](mailto:board@w4hfh.org)> board@[w4hfh.org](mailto:board@w4hfh.org)  
<mailto:directors@[w4hfh.org](mailto:directors@w4hfh.org)> directors@[w4hfh.org](mailto:directors@w4hfh.org)  
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ARC-SHORTS compiled by Jan A. Maas (KB2LRX) – ARC Public Information Officer