



1954-2024 — 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



# ARC-SHORTS

The Newsletter of the Alexandria Radio Club  
February 2024

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At Winter Field Day (l-r): Derek (KQ4NAI), Sean (K4KBK), Don (KI4D), Mason (KO4ROV), Bob (KO4ZIK), Erik (KI4BXU), Gary (KC5QCN), and Alex (KO4ZMC). Story below.

## President's Corner

Sean (K4KBK)

Well, according to Punxsutawny Phil, we're in for an early spring, which is great news for most of us. We've had our snow, the water tables are up, and now it's time to get back outside with all that new radio gear you've been assembling and get on the air.

We completed our **Winter Field Day** on 27/28 January at Station 210 on Eisenhower Ave. While we only operated for 11 of the 24 hours in the event, we achieved nearly 1,000 QSOs, and the bulk of those were brought in by Alex and Marshall Lammers. It was a great event with much inventiveness, some excellent discussion and a few laughs. We even had a surprise visit from our

own Don Lewis checking in to see how we were doing. He wasn't able to stay long but the assembled group was very pleased to see him in person and to brief him on the setup and progress of the event.

Next up on the calendar is our communications support to the **George Washington Parade** in Old Town Alexandria on the 19th of February. We have a list of radio operators that have signed up to work this event but we can always use more. The operators will be working with each of the parade division marshals in updating the order of march and communicating those changes to the trailer. Once the changes are made in the trailer to the master spreadsheet, the updated order of march will be printed and delivered to the reviewing stand officials division by division. After the parade, we will rendezvous at Glory Days for some late afternoon sustenance. It will be a great fun-filled day. If you'd like to get in on the action, please contact our GW Parade lead, Heath Wells ([heath.wells.esq@gmail.com](mailto:heath.wells.esq@gmail.com)) to sign up. Further details on times and meet up locations, etc. will be forthcoming this week.

I've added a few committee blocks to the organization chart and have challenged some of those chairs to enhance their offerings and broaden their scope to create more opportunities for members to engage. I won't go into more detail here as I risk stealing someone else's thunder for the thought and planning that is already taken place. Interesting to note that most good ideas don't come from the wheel house, they come from the crew. Keep up the good work.

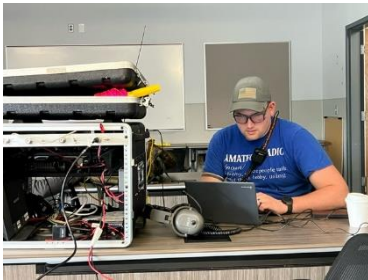
Last and perhaps most importantly, this is a members Club and as such the Club needs all members to engage with whatever ideas, activities, and contributions they can make. Need assistance in bringing something forward? Just ask. Your Committee Chairs, Board, and Officers will do their very best to support you on your ideas. We have an enormous amount of talent in this club and I'm very proud to be a member in your midst.

73, **Sean K4KBK**

## Member News

### Winter Field Day

Members of the Alexandria Radio Club took part in Winter Field Day, Saturday, January 27th, and Sunday, January 28th. After setting up at Alexandria Fire Station 210, 5255 Eisenhower Ave., ARC was on the air from 1400-1800 Saturday, and from 0700-1400 Sunday. The team logged almost 1,000 QSOs.



Clockwise from above: Mason (KO4ROV); Paul (KQ4LJS), Mason, Joe (KD2HZG); Paul, Micha (KE8ZHC), Joe (KT3I), Mike (WA8AHZ-Vienna Wireless Society and ARRL VA Section Affiliated Club Coordinator); Marshall (KQ4NJB), Alex (KO4ZMC), Sean (K4KBK); Joe and Mason.



## **George Washington Birthday Parade**

**February 19, 2024**

As we have for many years, members of the Club will provide communication among parade units and along the route in Old Town Alexandria. Details will be announced at our next meeting. To join the team, please contact Heath Wells

([heath.wells.esq@gmail.com](mailto:heath.wells.esq@gmail.com)).

## **Nomination Period Still Open for Club Vice President, Board Member**

From Sandy Kenyon: Since Don Lewis, KI4D, has stepped down from the office of the President, and Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, has assumed the duties of the President in accordance with the club's by-laws, the office of Vice President is now open.

We are asking for nominations for Vice President to be voted on at the next general membership meeting, on February 9. Current Board of Directors member Bob Crumley has accepted a nomination for VP. That also means that, if elected, he would be vacating his position on the board, so we are accepting nominations to fill his position for the remainder of the term, December 31, 2024.

Please email any nominations for VP or the Board of Director position to myself, Sandy Kenyon, KQ4NE, askenyon4@[gmail.com](mailto:askenyon4@gmail.com) and Gary Sessums, KC5QCN, kc5qcn@[arri.net](mailto:arri.net).

73, **Sandy** KQ4DNE

## **Activities and Events**

### **Our Next Licensing Classes**

Classes (for Technician and General) are scheduled to begin Tuesday, March 5, and end with the test on May 7. If you know someone who wishes to become an amateur radio operator, have them contact us at [training@w4hfh.org](mailto:training@w4hfh.org).

## **Vienna Winterfest, March 10**

Bob Crumley (KO4ZIK) reports:

Vienna Wireless is hosting their annual **Winterfest** at Oakton High School on Sunday March 10th, at 0800. The high school is located at 2900 Sutton Road in Vienna.

**ARC has reserved three tables for the event.** If anyone has any items that you would like to sell, please let me know so we can make proper arrangements to get them over to the site, and other arrangements if you're not going to be attending the event.

Also, we would like to get a **good inventory of club gear** that members currently have in their shacks/homes. With that info, the club can make a decision on either keeping the items or disposing of them via the Winterfest event, as a means of make some money on items we no longer have a need for.

If you don't have any items that you would like to sell, the Winterfest is usually a good time to get some needed items, such as cables/coax, connectors, antennas, etc., to either continue building out your shack or making a go-kit/portable set-up. A good list of vendors and events is located at the following site:

<https://viennawireless.net/wp/winterfest-key-info/>

Thanks. 73,  
**Bob KO4ZIK**

***Virginia QSO Party  
March 16-17***

Mark your calendars for this statewide event. Gordon Miller (NQ4K), will give a special presentation about the party at our February meeting.

***Contests:***

- Feb. 12-16, ARRL School Club Roundup, [www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup](http://www.arrl.org/school-club-roundup)
- Feb. 17-18, International DX Contest, [www.arrl.org/arrl-dx](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx)
- Feb. 24-25, South Carolina QSO Party, [www.scqso.com](http://www.scqso.com)
- Feb. 24-25, North American QSO Party, [www.ncjweb.com](http://www.ncjweb.com)
- Feb. 25-26, North Carolina QSO Party, [www.ncqsoparty.org/rules](http://www.ncqsoparty.org/rules)
- Mar. 2-3, ARRL International DX Contest, [www.arrl.org/arrl-dx](http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx)
- Mar. 9-10, South America 10m Contest, [sa10m.com.ar](http://sa10m.com.ar)
- **Mar. 16-17, All Virginia QSO Party,**  
[http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party](http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party)

(Selected from ARRL Contest Calendar [www.arrl.org/contest-calendar](http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar))

## *Special Events:*

- Feb. 19-29, Dry Tortugas & Florida Keys 2024 (rare grid, POTA, IOTA), contact [mollyandfriends6@gmail.com](mailto:mollyandfriends6@gmail.com)
  - Feb. 22, Battleship Iowa 81st Anniversary Celebration on the Air, [www.biara.org](http://www.biara.org)
  - Mar. 8, International Women's Day YL POTA Party, [www.ylrl.net](http://www.ylrl.net)
  - Mar. 9, Commemorating Launching of the USS Midway on 20MAR45, [www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw](http://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw)
- (Selected from ARRL Special Event Page [www.arrl.org/special-event-stations](http://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations))

## **ARES – Rick, N4ASX**

The first item is the **George Washington Birthday Parade**. We have been supporting this for many, many years. The GW parade is on February 19th (President's Day), which is a Monday. What we do is assist the organizers with getting the units in order and providing eyes and ears on the course. We will need about 15 operators and a few AREDN or Packet operators to send the changes from the Trailer (if it's at the start of the parade). I will not be able to support so the club leadership will need a lead for this. But this is a great opportunity to practice your operations. I need to support the Civil Air Patrol Cadets who are working the parade as parade marshals.

Another item is the **NEED for a NEW ARES Emergency Coordinator**. After 20 years and the last few years of trying to find a replacement, I have submitted my resignation effective April 30th as EC. If you have the time and have IS100, IS200, IS700, and IS800 they may qualify. I will try to remain active but with 4 months out of the area per year, we need someone who can be here year-round.

I encourage all who want to support the city and the state in an emergency. I encourage you to think about taking the job.

73, **Rick** N4ASX

## **Next Meeting**

Will be held at 7 p.m., Friday, February 9, at the Alexandria Police Department Community Room, 3600 Wheeler Avenue. Highlights: **Winter Field Day** report; **Special Election**; **Parade plans**. A special presentation about the upcoming Virginia QSO party, March 16-17, by **Gordon Miller**, NQ4K.



## **Last Meeting**

### **Minutes – Carol (KN4LLL) [Reprinted from January 2024 ARC-SHORTS]**

**Date:** January 12, 2024  
**Time:** 1900 hours  
**Location:** Zoom and In-Person at APD Community Room, Wheeler Lane

#### **Presentation:**

- No guest presentation

#### **Reports—**

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

- No report — December holiday party was held in lieu of business meeting.

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

- Current Balance = \$\$13,465.11

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

- Don, KI4D, announced his resignation as ARC President due to health concerns.
- Sean, K4KBK, will act as President for the remainder of the term.

##### **Membership: Joe KO4QQX/Bob KO4ZIK**

- No report

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

- No report

##### **Repeaters: Ian N8IK**

- Ian, N8IK, reported that the internet bill has been cut in half with move to FirstNet with more robust capability at the hospital

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

- Firmware updates are published quarterly

##### **Education/Training: Richard KW4UJ**

- Richard, KW4UJ, reported that planning is in progress for the Spring 2024 Licensing Class
- Need to confirm that there will be enough instructors available before scheduling the class

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

- Modification plans are in the works
- Expect modifications to be done between the February parade and June field days

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

- Richard, KW4UJ, reported that the web site has been updated with new Officer information
  - Always seeking new content
- Jan, KB2LRX, will share ideas for future marketing at the next meeting

##### **Net Control – Bryan WD4ADF**

- Seeking net controllers for Jan 25 and Feb 1, including backups
- A net controller training will be scheduled

**Old Business**

- None

**New Business – Sean K4KBK**

- An election will be held to fill the Vice-President position that is vacant due to Sean moving into the President position; send nominations to Gary, KC5QCN or Sandy, KQ4DNE
- George Washington Birthday Parade is scheduled for February 19; Heath Wells, WE3B, is POC
- Upcoming Events:
  - Winter Field Day – January 27-28
  - GW Parade – February 19
  - St Patrick’s Day Parade – March 2
  - Winterfest (Oakton HS) – March 10
  - VA QSO Party – March 16-17

**Adjournment: 1945 hours**

**Attendance (25)**

	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign
Gary	KC5QCN	Ted	W9TCE	William	KM4KLLK
Jim	W4YUE	Chris	KO4QVC	James	KQ5T
Andy	KI4THF	Louis	KO4QUB	Richard	KW4UJ
Sandy	KQ4DNE	Bryan	WD4ADF	Don	KI4D
Carol	KN4LLL	Joe	KD2HZG	Bob	KO4ZIK
Jay	KV3W	Bjorn	KC3A00	Jan	KB2LRX
Ian	N8IK	Derek	KQ4NAI	Gary	KC7TNU
Erik	KI4BXU	Sean	K4KBK	Peter	N2KFA
Scott	KM4RDR				

<b>PLEASE USE OUR REPEATERS</b>
<b>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.</b>

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>



## **Club Leadership**

### **Elected Officers for 2024 \* †**

Sean Gallagher, K4K BK—President  
*Vacant*—Vice President  
Carol Myers, KN4LLL—Secretary  
Erik Misavage, KI4BXU—Treasurer

### **Elected Board of Directors, At Large\***

Bob Crumley, KO4ZIK  
Sandy Kenyon, KQ4DNE  
Joseph A. Porcelli, KT3I

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

† Don Lewis, KI4D, was elected President in November, 2023, but resigned for health reasons on Jan. 12, 2024, at which time Sean Gallagher assumed the Presidency. The office of Vice President will be filled by a special election.

### **Committee Chairmen**

Jan Maas, KB2LRX—Public Information Officer (PIO)

Gary Sessums, KC5QCN—Club Metro Area Liaison

### **Past Presidents/Life Members**

Rich Adamy, KA4GFY (Life Member)  
Rick Bunn, N4ASX (Life Member)  
Marshall DeBerry, KI4MWP (Life Member)  
Ted Einersen, W9TCE  
Harry Jones, N4CWP (Life Member)

Ian Keith, N8IK  
Tom Kirby, KJ4FUU  
Don Lewis, KI4D  
Richard Morani, KW4UJ  
Jim Stone, W4YUE  
Larry Walker, K4LDW  
Monica Wilson, KC2IAY

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)  
<mailto:secretary@[w4hfh.org](mailto:secretary@w4hfh.org)> secretary@[w4hfh.org](mailto:secretary@w4hfh.org)  
<mailto:board@[w4hfh.org](mailto:board@w4hfh.org)> board@[w4hfh.org](mailto:board@w4hfh.org)  
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<mailto:leadership@[w4hfh.org](mailto:leadership@w4hfh.org)> leadership@[w4hfh.org](mailto:leadership@w4hfh.org)

ARC-SHORTS compiled by Jan A. Maas (KB2LRX) – ARC Public Information Officer