



# ARC-SHORTS

The Newsletter of the Alexandria Radio Club  
March 2025

- ▶ **President's Corner**
- ▶ **ARES**
- ▶ **Member News**
- ▶ **Activities and Events**
- ▶ **Next Meeting**
- ▶ **Last Meeting**
- ▶ **Club Leadership**



**Gimme shelter. Alexandria's Emergency Management Coordinator, Marc Barbieri (2d from r.) joined an ARC crew to warm up in our trailer during the rainy George Washington Parade. Pictured (from left) Richard Morani, KW4UJ, Dan Phillips, Gary Sessums, KC5QCN. More parade photos below.**

## President's Corner

Sean (K4KBK)

**W**elcome to Daylight Savings Time!

We're nearly through the first quarter of 2025 and it's been a very active period for the Alexandria Radio Club. We've supported the Alexandria EOC for the Inauguration ceremony, ran a Winter Field Day event, managed Order of March for two parades, supported the DC EOC for the Joint Address to Congress, participated in the WinterFest 2025 event both as vendors and VEs for the exam session and rounded things out by teaching a Radio 101:

FRS, GMRS & Ham class to the Alexandria Teen CERT group at the Alexandria EOC. Whew! Time for a break! Thanks to all the volunteer members who made the successful completion of the above tasks possible! You did the Club very proud!

Moving forward, we plan to do a little ARC administrative housekeeping, getting our records, finances, and processes in better order to help streamline the work that must be done. If members have any ideas that they would like to see considered, please bring them forward.

Our next large-scale event on the calendar is **Field Day on 28 & 29 June**. We got our application for Chinquapin Park approved by the City last week so now we are looking for 1 or 2 individuals to lead the planning and execution of the event. **Wilson, KM4KLLK**, is working up a new menu focusing on healthy and nutritious offerings and minimizing or eliminating some of the food types that were not as popular in past years. It would be great if we could get a couple of volunteers to stand up for Field Day before we have to go on a “talent search” to support the event! Our previous Field Day Chairs can provide the baseline for planning, radio band arrangement, logistics, security, etc.

Lastly, don't forget that this weekend is the **VA QSO Party**. You don't have to collect a massive number of contacts or spend endless hours in the chair. Look at the stats from last year's results and pick a category that doesn't have much competition and you'll probably get a plaque. Everyone that participates gets a certificate. If you have questions, contact **W4JJ Jack Parker**, who is the club lead for the VA QSO Party. Good luck to all.

73,

**Sean, K4KBBK**

## ARES

**Joe Kalfa (KD2HZG)**

**W**e've been making progress growing our ranks but we still need YOU! If you haven't reached out and introduced yourself and you want to make a difference by utilizing your ham radio skills, we'd love to chat.



WinterFest was a great time and I was able to get some face-time with some of our members as well as some of the other regional ECs. I believe there is still interest in developing a regional taskbook and there have been discussions around that, but we are definitely looking for input.

Our HF Digital net is constantly evolving, we are considering moving to a monthly format, that is, a week-long. This would allow members to “relay” traffic into the ARES net from our two weekly VHF/UHF nets on repeaters, even if they don't have HF capabilities. This is an attempt to really bridge the two and emphasize the importance of having operators capable of doing both HF and VHF/UHF communications. If you have any thoughts on this please reach out, I'll be addressing this in a separate email.

**Joe, KD2HZG**

## March 15 and 16: Virginia QSO Party

**Gordon Miller, NQ4K**, Coordinator of the Virginia QSO Party, addressed the last meeting of the Alexandria Radio club and encouraged members to activate in the Party, on the weekend of 15-16 March. Gordon reviewed the contact results from former years and noted that ARC members had a strong record of regular participation.

**Jack Parker, W4JJ**, is the Club Coordinator for the 2025 Party and sent this information to ARC members:

### Schedule:

**Day 1: Saturday, 15 March, 1400 UTC through Sunday, 0400 UTC (\*1000 - 2400 hours EDST)**

**Day 2: Sunday, 16 March, 1200 UTC - 2400 UTC (\*0800 - 2000 hours EDST)**

**\*Daylight Savings Time will be in effect.**

**Here's the website link to the latest information where you can find a presentation, rules, list of planned awards and categories, logging recommendations, and much more.**

[https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA\\_QSO\\_Party/2025\\_VQP/2025\\_VQP\\_Main.html](https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2025_VQP/2025_VQP_Main.html)

## Member News



At our last meeting, **Gary Sessums, KC5QCN**, described the portable homemade emergency Winlink transceiver that he built. It's a board-mounted system for VHF communications on 145.630 Mhz with a mini windows PC.

## Activities and Events

### It Rained on Washington's Parade



The Alexandria Radio Club made its traditional contribution to the City's annual George Washington Parade, using our communication skills to report last-minute changes to the order of march. The February 15 event in Old Town Alexandria went on as usual despite chilly and rainy conditions. ARC members were joined by hams from other local clubs, and we thank the Mount Vernon Club for use of the K4US repeater.

**Before the start, Aaron Kahn, K6HLC, shielded Sue Johnson, chair of the George Washington Parade, with Dr. Ben Diore-Walker, the Alexandria Town Crier.**

### But 'Twas a Great Day for the Irish



Spring-like weather graced Alexandria's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 1. And, once again, the Alexandria Radio Club provided communication support, monitoring the order of march and reporting changes.

**Todd Jenkins, KQ5T (left), and Alex Lammers, KO4ZMC (right), joined parade marshals and Police Chief Tarrick McGuire, before the start of the Ballyshaners St. Patrick's Day Parade.**

## More Parade Photos

### George Washington Parade



**Top. The crew gathers at our trailers. Bottom: Sue Johnson, parade chair, pairs hams with parade marshals.**

#### **Parade Operators & Assistants**

Aaron Kahn-K6HLC  
Tim Gifford-KO4VFP  
Mike Tyner-KB3DQI  
Skip Dronen-KO2THF  
Bjorn Jermudd-KC3A00  
Lynda Race-KO4OZR  
Chris Stephens-KJ5BES  
Richard Strait-AC8AL  
Austin Klob-KQ4ZCO  
William Wilson-KM4KLLK  
Wade Duvall-KK1ZZ  
Lukas Hoska-WA3UEA  
Xavier Quinn-KO4OZR  
Tim Gifford -KO4VFP  
Todd Jenkins-KQ5T  
Sean Gallagher-K4KKBK  
Gary Sessums-KC5QCN  
Karen Strait-KD8DHJ  
Richard Morani-KW4UJ  
Dan Phillips

## More Parade Photos

### St. Patrick's Day Parade



#### **Parade Operators & Assistants**

Alex Lammers-KO4ZMC  
Todd Jenkins-KQ5T  
Tim Gifford-KO4VFP  
Mike Tyner-KB3DQI  
Andrew Davnie-Eastman-KI4THF  
Sandy Kenyon-KQ4DNE  
Sean Gallagher-K4KBK  
William Wilson-KM4KLLK  
Sue Gallagher  
Dan Phillips

**Top: Ballyshaners personnel join ARC members at our trailer before the start.  
Bottom: Maggie Hayes, parade chair, organizes marshals with ham operators.**



Hot washes at Glory Days made a happy end to both events.



## Next Meeting

**Friday, March 14, 1900 hours, at the Alexandria Police Department  
Emergency Operations Center Community Room, 3600 Wheeler Avenue.**

## Last Meeting

**Date: February 14, 2025**

**Time: 1900 hours**

**Location: Alexandria Police Department Emergency Operations Center  
Community Room, 3600 Wheeler Avenue**

1. For the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Alexandria Amateur Radio Club, 21 people were in attendance with 16 people in-person and 5 people participating in the online zoom meeting.
2. Gordon Miller, NQ4K, of the Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club began the meeting with a presentation on the results of the 2024 VA QSO Party and the rules for the 2025 VA QSO Party taking place in March.
3. Gary Sessums, KC5QCN, gave a short presentation on a portable homemade emergency Winlink transceiver board mounted system for vhf communications on 145.630 Mhz with a mini windows PC.
4. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, gave a short summary of the club's participation in the presidential inauguration activities on January 20<sup>th</sup>.
5. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, gave a short summary of the club's activities during winter Field Day on January 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

6. Club Secretary, Jack York, KE7VOU, gave a short summary of the January 2025 club meeting minutes. Additional details on the meeting minutes are available in the ArcShorts.
7. In the treasurer's report from Richard Morani, KW4UJ, the total balance of all accounts is \$14,036 with January 2025 expenses paid on items such as cellular data. January 2025 income was received from items such as 50-50 proceeds.
8. Richard Morani, KW4UJ, reported that the club has 15 members with delinquent dues in January 2025.
9. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, reported the change in club's financial institution from the State Department Credit Union to the Burke and Herbert Bank because of the larger number of local area branches and longer office hours.
10. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, discussed the club's recruitment table and exam session scheduled for the Winter Fest on March 9<sup>th</sup>.
11. Jan Maas, KB2LRX, gave a summary of the most recently published ArcShorts, the club monthly newsletter, which included notice of upcoming radio contest events. He also passed out a book on the history of the development of SSB mode and complementary copies of the February QST, which featured a photo of club members from last year's George Washington Parade (p. 20).
12. Joe K., KD2HZG, club's Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) coordinator discussed recent discussions with local area emergency communications coordinators. ARES is a vital part of the local area communications plans in the state of Virginia. Additional ARES club members are still being solicited.
13. Richard Morani, KW4UJ, discussed upcoming spring 2025 technician level radio license class. Instructors are still needed for this upcoming class that will begin on the first Tuesday in March. Ian Keith, N8IK, is doing the class enrollment.
14. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, reported that the SLA batteries had been replaced in the club's trailer along with cleaning and test of the printer in preparation for the George Washington's Birthday Parade in Alexandria, VA on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
15. Richard Morani, KW4UJ, reported no problems with operation of the club's website and Robert Crumley, KO4ZIK, is searching for vendors to provide additional website services.
16. Bryan Pettigrew, WD4ADF, is recruiting NCO's for club's weekly radio nets on Wednesday and Thursday evenings and will be scheduling a NCO class in March or April.
17. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, is recruiting club member to direct Field Day 2025 activities. Bill Wilson, KM4KLL, will again be organizing the provision of

food for the event in June. The application for the city park permit to use the rotunda space needs to be submitted by the end of February.

18. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, reported that the topic of the first Elmer workshop will be antenna building during April.

19. Jack Parker, W4JJ, will be the club's coordinator for the Virginia QSO Party.

20. Upcoming events include:

- a) George Washington Birthday Parade in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia on February 15<sup>th</sup>.
- b) St. Patrick's Day Parade in Old Town Alexandria, Virginia on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- c) Winterfest Hamfest held by Vienna Wireless on March 9<sup>th</sup> at Oakton High School, 2900 Sutton Road, Vienna, Virginia, 22181.
- d) Virginia QSO Party on March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>.
- e) Technician license exam class begins on March 4<sup>th</sup>.
- f) Antenna building Elmer workshop will occur in April.

Please refer all comments and questions on this report to:

Jack York

Secretary, Alexandria Radio Club

x3unix1@cox.net

**Recorded Attendance, February 14, 2025 (16 in person, 5 remotely)**

Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign
Sean	K4KBK	Ed	KQ4YGT	Don	KI4D
Jack Y	KE4VOU	Cory	AC1AZ	Joe K	KD2HZG
Richard	KW4UJ	Andrew	KI4THF	Björn	KC3A00
Ted	W9TCE	Joe S	KR4AHM	Gary N	KC7TNU
Jan	KB2LRX	John	KE2HO	PJ	KQ4IMJ
Gary S	KC5QCN				
Wilson	KM4KLLK				
Chris	KJ5BES				
Skip	KO2THF				
Larry	KQ4SBC				
Jack P	W4JJ				

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 2025 \***

Sean Gallagher, K4K BK—President

Bob Crumley, KO4ZIK

—Vice President

Jack York, KE7VOU—Secretary

Richard Morani, KW4UJ—Treasurer

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

Sandy Kenyon, KQ4DNE

Joseph A. Porcelli, KT3I

Björn Jernuld—KC3A OO

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

## **Committee Chairmen**

Jan Maas, KB2LRX—Public Information  
Officer (PIO)

Gary Sessums, KC5QCN—Club Metro  
Area Liaison

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

<mailto:leadership@w4hfh.org> leadership@w4hfh.org

<mailto:pio@w4hfh.org> pio@w4hfh.org

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