



ARC-SHORTS

The Newsletter of the Alexandria Radio Club

April 2025

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



President's Corner

Sean (K4KBK)

Greetings and Salutations!

Well, the weather is breaking, so I hope you have had an opportunity to get out and get on the air. **On March 22nd, the ARC joined the AARC at the Columbia Island Marina for the pre-season shake down of the "Day in the Park / Parks on the Air (POTA)" event.** It was a great session in outstanding weather, with more onsite rag chewing / coffee drinking than making QSOs, but all had a great time. For photos of this event, see the photos tab at the bottom of W4WVP.org webpage. Highly recommend this seasonal monthly event, especially for those just getting started in HF operations or POTA. There is even a live Winlink station setup on station!

Looking forward, we still need a lead or leads to manage our annual **Field Day plan**. We have Chinguapin Park reserved so it's really just reviewing last year's plans and adjusting as desired. Not hard, just needs someone's focus between now and June 28. **Bob-KO4ZIK**, our Vice President, and **Sandy-KQ4DNE**,

one of our Directors, have all the data from 2023 & 2024 and are willing to assist. Ready to accept the challenge? Send me an email and we'll get you set up.

Hoping to hear soon about the results of the **VA QSO** party and what the distro of the plaques and certificates was. I know it's only been a few weeks so we might have to wait awhile.

I need to recognize one of our unsung heroes here. **Joe Porcelli-KT3I handled a power amp issue at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for the Club.** The duty power amp for the radio suite at the EOC failed, so while we were able to swap out the bad power supply with an onsite backup power supply, we still needed to diagnose and repair the original unit. Joe took on the task and discovered that the meters in the power supply had failed, so he replaced the meters with upgraded units that had LED lights instead of incandescent lights, calibrated the meters and returned the unit to service. Joe is also in the process of building out professional-looking shelves to help organize our radios and attached mics as well as hide the rat's nest of power and antenna cables that are bunched up on the back of the table. Can't wait to have this completed, as it's been an issue for a long while. Thanks Joe!

Another highlight for this month is the **220 net that our Net Control Committee Chair, Bryan-WD4ADF, is running on 15 Apr at 2000 hours—the "Tax Day Net."** Dust off those 220 radios and let's join Bryan on the net for an enjoyable and educational time. As a by-product of this drill, we are trying to get a sense of the depth of the 220-transceiver population in the club and whether to pursue putting up a 220 antenna at the EOC. Come one, Come all! Bring your friends! Let's make some noise!

Lastly, don't forget the **Ole Virginia Hams Radio club is holding their Ham Radio Tail Gate Party on 07 June from 0700-1300 at the Signal Hill Park in Manassas Park.** General admission is \$8 and vehicle access / tailgate sales fee is \$20 per vehicle. Weed out those shacks, basements and garages and bring your stuff to swap/sell in Manassas!

All for now! 73, **Sean, K4KBK**

Member News

ARC Active in Virginia QSO Party

Jack Parker-W4JJ served as the lead ARC representative for the Virginia QSO Party, held 15 and 16 March. He reports that at least four club members participated in addition to himself:

Bob Crumley-KO4ZIK, Jason Palma-WA6MPR, Erik Misvage-KI4BXU, Jan Maas-KB2LRX.

- **Jack's activity took him far afield and into some interesting weather, as he reports here:**

I operated as a single mobile operator. I began my operations close to home at the Chinquapin Park next to Alexandria City high school and worked my way down to the upper middle and western portion of the state over the two contest days. My route was filled with some beautiful sites of the countryside such as those seen in Madison, Page, Spotsylvania, and Orange counties to highlight a few. The bands were very noisy a good portion of the contest and especially the last couple of hours on Sunday with the thunderstorms coming though. Just as the contest ended and I began my journey home from Frederick County, a larger than marble size hailstorm pounded my truck. However, my Chevy seemed to make it through with no hail damage! Otherwise, the weather was mildly cool and pleasant for the contest.

Here's my operating summary:

Total Contacts = 888

Total Points = 112,332

Operated from 21 counties

Contacted 77 Counties/Cities

Total = 35 states and Provinces (13 Canada)

Contacts made on 7 different bands

Miles traveled: 340



W4JJ's set up, under looming skies.

- **Bob Crumley-KO4ZIK reports: I was able to get 100 contacts and completed 75 of the 133 counties/independent cities. Rough score around 2000**

[Editor's Note: We hope to have the full club results in a later edition.]

Activities and Events

Hamfests:

- **April 12, 8 AM TO 11:30 AM: Greene County ARC, Thawfest III, Madison High School, 68 Mountaineer Lane, Madison, VA 22727. <https://gcvarc.net/thawfest-flyer>**
- **June 7, 7 AM to 1PM: Ole Virginia Hams ARC, Ham Radio Tail Gate Party, 9300 Signal View Dr., Manassas Park, VA. <https://www.w4ovh.net>**

Contests/QSO Parties:

- **April 19-20, Nebraska QSO Party. <https://nebraskaqsoparty.com>**
- **April 19-20, Michigan QSO Party. <https://miqp.org>**
- **April 19-20, Ontario QSO Party. <https://www.va3cco.com>**
- **April 20, Quebec QSO Party. <https://quebecqsoparty.org>**
- **April 26-27, Florida QSO Party. <https://floridaqsoparty.org>**
- **May 3-4, Indiana QSO Party. <http://hdxcc.org/inqp>**
- **May 3-5, Delaware QSO Party. <https://www.fsarc.org>**
- **May 3-4, New England QSO Party. <https://neqp.org/rules>**

(Selected from ARRL Contests Calendar
<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>)

Special Events:

- **April 26-May 6, DXpedition to St. George Island, FL, K4D, k5ten@aol.com**
- **April 26, International Marconi Day-Official Station, K3S, Port of Baltimore, Nuclear Ship Savannah Amateur Radio Club. <https://qrz.com/db/k3s>.**
- **May 10, Jamestown Special Event, K4RC, Williamsburg, VA, Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club. <https://www.k4rc.net/events/special-event-stations>**

(Selected from ARRL Special Events Calendar <https://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>)

Next Meeting

Friday, April 11, 1900 hours, at the Alexandria Police Department Emergency Operations Center Community Room, 3600 Wheeler Avenue.

Last Meeting

Date: March 14, 2025

Time: 1900 hours

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

Highlights of the meeting included:

- A moment of silence observed for Silent Key Charles Watson-K4NMO.
- Treasurer Richard Morani-KW4UJ reported a treasury balance of \$14,013.54.
- ARES: EC Joe Kalfa-KD2HZG led a discussion of ARES training and standards.

- Training Class: Richard Morani-KW4UJ reported that our online licensing course had begun, with 16 students taking part. Class runs Tuesdays, from March 11 through April 29, with FCC exam session on May 6.
- Net Control: Bryan Pettigrew-WD4ADF asked for volunteers to serve as Net Controllers for April, and reported interest in a possible 220 net.
- Field Day: Will be held June 28-29, in Chinquapin Park. Sean Gallagher-K4KBK is seeking a volunteer to serve as team leader.

Recorded Attendance, March 14, 2025 (24 in person, 2 remotely)

Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign
Sean	K4KBK	John M	KE4JEM	John C	KE2HO
Bob	KO4ZIK	Stefano	K4IEW	Mike	KQ4WOI
Richard	KW4UJ	Joe P	KT3I	Jack P	W4JJ
Ted	W9TCE	Sandy	KQ4DNE	Gary N	KC7TNU
Jan	KB2LRX	Scott	W6GOU		
Gary S	KC5QCN	Aaron	K6HLC		
Wilson	KM4KLLK	Bryan	WD4ADF		
Chris	KJ5BES	Pete	N2KFA		
Jay	KV3W	Joe K	KD2HZG		
Ian	N8IK	Austin	KQ4ZCO		
Larry	KQ4SBC	Bill	KQ4ZMS		

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, K4KBK—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—KC3AOO

* 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