



ARC-SHORTS

The Newsletter of the Alexandria Radio Club
May 2025

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President's Corner

Sean (K4KBK)

Happy Armed Forces Day! This year is cranking by very fast and in a couple of weeks we'll be celebrating Memorial Day! I do hope that you've all had an opportunity to get outside in this great weather and get on the air.

Recently, a few of us had an opportunity to support the **"Take Your Child to Work Day"** from Ground Zero (Center Courtyard) at the Pentagon. There were multiple HF stations set up and we were able to demonstrate HF communications and allow some of the older children to actually get on the air. They were both impressed and amazed. It was a great day and a good time was had by all. On May 17, we will again be joining the **Arlington ARC** for the monthly joint **"Day in the Park/Parks on the Air (POTA)"** event at the Columbia Island Marina. The event starts around 8 so come on down and learn a little, operate a little, and talk a ton!

ARC will be participating in the **Alexandria's Commemoration of D-Day** on 01 June from 1-4 PM at Market Square. There will be an official ceremony along with live 1940s music, WW2 Reenactors, Children's Activities, Static Displays, and Food—all free for the whole family! May we never forget the Greatest Generation and take time to honor their heroic actions near our sister city of Caen, France. Our lead for this event is **Jan Maas, KB2LRX**. Please contact him if you have questions or would like to help represent the Club in this popular event.

Plans are moving forward to conduct our annual **Field Day event at Chinquapin Park on 28 /29 June**. Over the next few weeks, we'll be putting together the operator line-up and making the final plans for security, logistics, and public relations. Please let us know if you have ideas for features or activities you'd like to see us include in this year's event.

We understand that the **Sterling Park ARC** is in the last stages of finishing the final calculations on the results of the **VA QSO Party**. Hopefully we'll fare at least as well as we did last year and get one of the coveted plaques awarded to our own **Jack Parker, W4JJ**.

The net control team continues to expand net sessions across our fleet of repeaters. On 29 April, **Bryan Pettigrew, WD4ADF**, conducted a 70-cm net with 14 participants and with great success. This net was in addition to the 220 MHz net that was run earlier in the month. Thank you to Bryan and his committee for exercising our infrastructure, conducting training, and answering many member questions along the way. Now, we're on to a 10-meter net! Let us know if you need help getting set up or want to pre-flight your gear before the scheduled event. Let's rattle those airwaves!

Lastly, **Dayton Hamvention** is occurring in just over a week (May 16-18). For those of you that are lucky enough to be going, take plenty of pictures to share with us less fortunate mortals. Given market conditions and the new post-tariff environment, I anticipate there will be some awesome deals to be had out there.

All for now!

73,

Sean

K4KBK

Member News

ARC Repeater Aids MVARC's Cub Scout Event

The Mount Vernon Amateur Radio Club (MVARC) provided an amateur radio demonstration for Cub Scouts in Troop 888 on Saturday, May 2 at the Coast Guard Station, Alexandria

Immediately prior to the event, MVARC's 2-meter repeater developed an issue with its power supply, which caused weak signal and an intermittent audio hum. The MVARC lead for the event and Club Vice-President made a request to the Alexandria Radio Club for use of our repeater to support the event from 1300-1500 on Saturday. The request was supported and the amateur radio demonstration was the hit of the day for the Cub Scout troop of approximately 75 scouts, with many actually getting on the radio with other hams both locally and nationally. The scouts enjoyed over two hours of managed voice contacts and learned some amateur radio basics on a gorgeous spring day.



As this scout event was part of a weekend overnight activity, there were also many parents in attendance who, after observing the demonstration of both HF and VHF/UHF radios, besieged the presenters with questions about how to get licensed, what type of equipment should they get and how much will it cost them to get on the air. Maybe we'll have some future members coming out of that group.

Supporting MVARC for this event continues to demonstrate the long-standing relationship between the two clubs. ARC uses the MVARC repeater to support parades and other public service events in Old Town Alexandria.

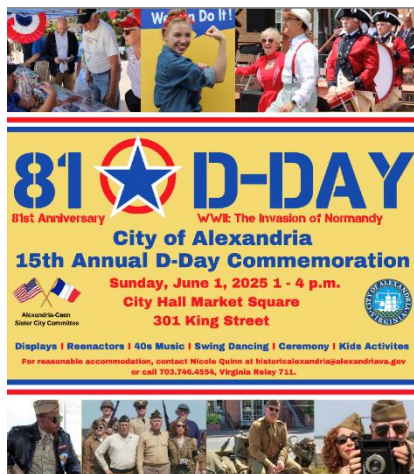
Six Earn New Tech Licenses at ARC Test Session

ARC Volunteer Examiners administered FCC licensing exams to candidates on May 6. Six candidates passed the Technician test and are now ready to go the air. Many of them had attended the license class ARC held on Tuesday nights beginning in March.



Pictured at table in back are VEs Gary Sussums-KC5QCN, John Czap-KE2HO, and Richard Morani-KW4UJ. Bob Crumley-KO4ZIK and Jan Maas-KB2LRX also served as VEs.

Activities and Events



SAVE THE DATE: The Alexandria Radio Club will demonstrate radio techniques at Alexandria's annual D-Day Commemoration, Sunday, June 1, 1300-1600. Join us at our table in Market Square.

Hamfests:

- **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:

- **May 17-18, Arkansas QSO Party.**
<https://www.arkqp.com>
- **June 7-8, Kentucky QSO Party.**
<https://www.kyqsoparty.org>
- **June 7-8, ARRL Int'l Digital Contest.**
<https://www.arrl.org/arrl-digital-contest>
- **June 14-16, ARRL June VHF Contest.**
<https://www.arrl.org/june-vhf>
- **June 21, ARRL Kids Day.** <https://www.arrl.org/kids-day>
(Selected from ARRL Contests Calendar
<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>)

Special Events:

- **May 10, Jamestown Special Event, K4RC,**
Williamsburg, VA, Williamsburg Area Amateur Radio Club. <https://www.k4rc.net/events/special-event-stations>
- **May 24, 1500Z-2000Z, Living History Cruise of SS John W. Brown: WW2 Liberty Cargo Ship, K8JWB,**
Baltimore, MD, <https://www.ssjohnwbrown.org>
- **June 1-6, W2W D-Day Commemoration, W2W,** Hunt Valley Radio Club at the National Electronics Museum, Hunt Valley, MD. <https://ww-2.us>

- **June 7-8, Museum Ships Weekend, K3SAV**, Port of Baltimore, MD, Nuclear Ship Savannah ARC.

<https://qrz.com/db/k3sav>

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

Next Meeting

**Friday, May 9, 1900 hours, at the Alexandria Police Department
Emergency Operations Center Community Room, 3600 Wheeler Avenue.**

Last Meeting

Date: April 11, 2025

Time: 1900 hours

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

1. For the April 11th meeting of the Alexandria Amateur Radio Club, 29 people were in attendance with 21 people in-person and 8 people participating in the online zoom meeting.
2. **Sean Gallagher, K4KBK**, summarized the topics discussed at the March 2025 board meeting, which included changing the club financial institution to the local Burke and Herbert bank with many branch locations and longer duration office hours than employee-based credit unions.
3. **Richard Morani, KW4UJ**, discussed the treasurer's report with a total account balance of near \$13,817 with an upcoming payment of a cellular data bill for almost \$47.
4. **Sean Gallagher, K4KBK**, mentioned that approximately eleven members now have expired memberships without current membership dues payment. Club membership retention lead, **Bob Crumley, KO4ZIK**, will make contact with all delinquent members.

5. **Jan Maas, KB2LRX**, discussed the City of Alexandria commemoration of the D-Day invasion with the French city of Caen, along with public release activities for Field Day.
6. **Sean Gallagher, K4KBK**, introduced a new emergency communications committee chair, **Stefano Fonda, K4IEW**.
7. **Richard Morani, KW4UJ**, discussed the education and testing report with the statement that the next testing session scheduled for May 6th. In addition, approximately fifty percent of the people who originally start any class finish the curriculum and pass the exam.
8. **Sean Gallagher, K4KBK**, discussed that current club trailer project is the replacement of cabinets and shelves as designed by **Joe Porcelli, KT3I**. Sean had previously completed replacement of the trailer's existing 12-year-old batteries and conducted a spring cleaning and reorganization in preparation for the 2025 parade season.
9. **Richard Morani, KW4UJ**, will insert a new link for club hats and shirts on the website as soon as it is available from **Louis Mingo, KO4QVB**, lead for club clothing items. The link will direct the member to an external site which will allow ordering and payment for club hats and shirts.
10. **Bryan Pettigrew, WD4ADF**, will soon be holding a new net controller class with date and time TBD. A special net will be held at 19:30 on 4/15/2025 on the club 1.25 meter repeater.
11. **Sandy Kenyon, KQ4DNE**, and **Bob Crumley, KO4ZIK**, discussed club preparations for Field Day 2025. A field day coordinator and additional volunteers are still being recruited. The reservation for the city park has been confirmed. **William Wilson, KM4CLK**, is revising the menu and is taking suggestions.
12. **Sean Gallagher, K4KBK**, mentioned that the activities calendar is now on the website.
13. **Sean Gallagher, K4KBK**, discussed that D-Star and DMR operations are now on the top of the Elmer workshop topics requests.

14. **Ian Keith, N8IK**, stated that since the DMR repeater was using a Yagi instead of a vertical antenna, the operating area was restricted and not allowing many local area club members to use the repeater.
15. **Sean Gallagher, K4KBK**, mentioned that the Virginia QSO Party results will be released after April 15th.
16. **Sandy Kenyon, KQ4DNE**, has accepted the position of club membership recruiting coordinator.
17. Upcoming events include:
- a) **Special radio net** on 4/15/2025 at 19:30 hours on the club 1.25 meter repeater
 - b) **Next club license exam session** is on 5/6/2025
 - c) **Frequency Measuring Test** on 4/18/2025. Please see April 2025 QST on page 78.
 - d) **Hamvention** from May 16th to May 18th in Xenia, Ohio

Please refer all comments and questions on this report to:

Jack York

Secretary, Alexandria Radio Club

x3unix1@cox.net

Recorded Attendance, March 14, 2025 (21 in person, 8 remotely)

Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign	Name	Call Sign
Sean	K4KBK	Stefano	K4IEW	Jack P	W4JJ
Bob	KO4ZIK	Larry	KQ4SBC	Gary N	KC7TNU
Richard	KW4UJ	Aaron	K6HLC	Pete	N2KFA
Jack Y	KE7VOU	Bryan	WD4ADF	Austin	KQ4ZCO
Sandy	KQ4DNE	John M	KE4JEM	Erik	KI4BXU
Jan	KB2LRX	Mike	KQ4WOI	Don	KI4D
Gary S	KC5QCN	Ed	KQ4YGT	Jason	WA6MPR
Wilson	KM4KLK	Steven	KR4CCT	Skip	KO2THF
Jay	KV3W	Clayton	KI5YFN		
Ian	N8IK	Louis	KO4QVB		
Ted	W9TCE				

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