



ARC-SHORTS

The Newsletter of the Alexandria Radio Club
July 2025

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Ian, N8IK, worked all night at Field Day, June 28-29. More photos below.

President's Corner

Sean (K4KBK)

Greetings and Salutations to all and a Happy 249th Birthday to America. We've officially entered the second half of the 2025 ARC year and given the heat we've been experiencing, I guess we better check all those insulators, cowlings, rubber plugs and caps on the outside antennas this fall.

I would like to congratulate Joe, KT3I, and his band of merry operators, facilitators, cook, and public relations chief on successful completion of the 2025 Field Day event. We managed to dodge the potential bad weather and the

heat wasn't as brutal as Field Day 2024. Unfortunately, I was not able to participate as much this year as in previous years as I had the task to build the picture presentation for my mother's funeral service which was scheduled for 01 July. She passed on June 20th but that gave me enough time to fly back to accomplish my Field Day assignments and fly back to Boston on the 30th for the funeral the following day! June was a challenging month for sure!

On a lighter note, in the upcoming July general membership meeting we will be receiving a brief from our **EMCOM Division Chief, Stex Fonda, K4IEW**, on the educational path to success for Emergency Communications. This presentation contains information for both new operators and seasoned vets who want to perform at the top of their game. The brief consolidates various training sources and methods to enroll in training and provides a suggested sequence for all the training courses. Even if you aren't currently involved with EMCOM, it's a great opportunity to learn what those EMCOM guys do and how they interoperate with Emergency Managers on a higher level both locally and regionally. Stex put a great deal of work into pulling this information together and assembling it all in one place. This presentation will become the basis for the **ARC EMCOM Task Book** to guide and certify training completion for all ARC members.

Looking forward, ARC will be supporting **National Night Out** in Del Ray on Tuesday, 05 August and yes, I will make certain that we have our usual spot adjacent to the Dairy Godmother Ice Cream Cart. We'll need 3-5 members to demonstrate equipment and talk amateur radio with the general public and City Officials from PD, FD, Sheriff's Dept, EM, City Manager, the City Council, and the Mayor's office. We'll stand up two tables with banners and setup up multiple HTs and Mobile units to work on FM, DMR, and DSTAR, and will probably demonstrate WINLINK as well. Let us know if you are interested in supporting the Club in this annual public safety community event.

ARC will also be teaming with City Emergency Management for the **Tons of Trucks** event. For this event, we will be bringing the trailer to the event at Chinquapin Park on Saturday, 20 September. I anticipate we'll need one operator inside the trailer and three more outside the trailer demoing amateur radio, answering questions from the public and soliciting new members. As we haven't participated in this event before, we'll be looking for four or more good men or women to help us show off the Club. As to what we will demo, what we will bring (perhaps a couple coolers of 8oz waters and some lollipops for the kids), we are completely open to suggestions on how best to support this event.

Well, that's about all the time we have for this month's column. Now it's time to go off and build the general membership meeting brief. Look forward to see you all in person at the General Membership Meeting on Friday night, July 11th!

K4KBK

At our June meeting, we got an overview of the different federal and local organizations that are responsible for communications in the event of local or regional emergencies (right). It was an opportunity to reiterate the vital role of amateur radio in emergency communications.

Ham radio operators play an absolutely crucial role in emergency communications, volunteering to respond to failures in traditional systems. During disasters such as hurricanes, earthquakes, or widespread power outages, cell towers can become overloaded or damaged, and Internet access can be lost entirely. This is where the unique capabilities of amateur radio come into play. Amateur radio operators use a variety of frequencies and modes, from shortwave to very high frequencies (VHF) and ultra-high frequencies (UHF), allowing them to establish communications links over long distances or locally, even without relying on external power grids.

Their importance comes from several key factors. First, their equipment is often self-powered and rugged, able to operate for long periods on batteries or generators. Second, they are skilled communicators, trained in message management, network operations, and the accurate and efficient transmission of vital information. This volunteer expertise is invaluable in coordinating relief efforts, reporting damage assessments, and facilitating communication between affected communities and emergency services. Amateur radio operators often



work with organizations such as the Red Cross, emergency management agencies, and local governments, providing a critical layer of redundant communication. Their dedication and willingness to serve, without compensation, make them an indispensable asset in any large-scale emergency response. They truly embody the spirit of public service, filling communication gaps when it is needed most.

We intend to renew this commitment by expanding our volunteer pool and conducting periodic exercises of increasing difficulty. The recent Field Day at the end of June was a demonstration of how many operators of the Alexandria Radio Club are able to set up field radio stations and operate in close coordination with each other to manage multiple operations on different bands operating continuously for several hours. Here we are.

73

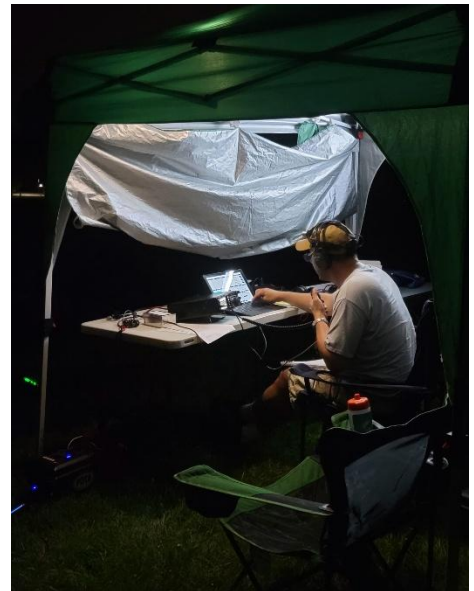
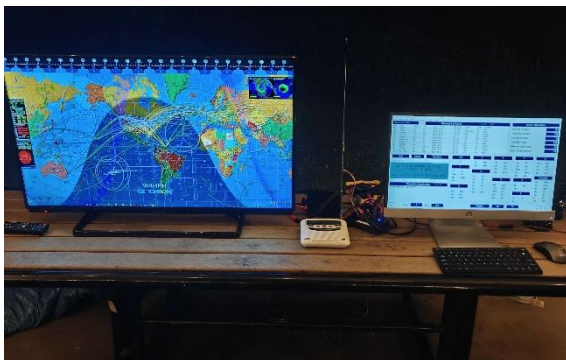
Stefano “Stex” Fonda - K4IEW

Member News

Field Day 2025

The Alexandria Radio Club’s Field Day is in the books. ARC operated in Chinquapin Park on June 28-29 as a Class 4A. We had four HF stations (40-meter CW, 40-meter phone, 20 -meter, and 15-meter; plus a VHF-satellite station.)

Pictures here show night operation.



In addition, our set-up included a display organized by Joe Kalfa, KD2HZG. showing small, portable antennas suitable for emergency work. (Right.)



Jason Palma, WA6MPR, set up solar panels.



Left: Joe Porcelli, KT3I, explained satellite operation to a young visitor and her father, while Larry Corcoran, KQ4SBC, observes. Right: Wilson, KM4KLK, provided great food, as usual. Below: Some curious visitors also dropped in. (More photos at <https://www.facebook.com/w4hfh/#>)



Activities and Events

Hamfests:

- **August 3: Shenandoah Valley ARC, Berryville Hamfest, ARRL Roanoke Division Convention**, Clark County Ruritan Fairgrounds, 890 West Main Street, Berryville, VA. <https://www.berryvillehamfest.com>
(Selected from ARRL Hamfests calendar <https://www.arrl.org/hamfests-and-conventions-calendar>)

Contests/QSO Parties:

- **July 19-20, North American QSO Party, RTTY.**
<https://ncjweb.com>
- **July 26-27, Alabama QSO Party.**
<https://alabamacontestgroup.org>
- **August 2-3, North American QSO Party, CW.**
<https://ncjweb.com>
- **August 9-10, Maryland-DC QSO Party.**
<https://www.w3vpr.org>
(Selected from ARRL Contests Calendar
<http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>)

Special Events:

- **July 18-21, W3A Commemoration of Apollo 11 Live TV from the Moon that Allowed the World to See Mankind's First Steps on the Lunar Surface.** Hunt Valley, MD. Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEM). <https://ww-2.us/>
- **July 19, NS Savannah Launch Anniversary, K3S.** Port of Baltimore, MD, Nuclear Ship Savannah Amateur Radio Club. <https://www.qrz.com/db/K3S>

- **August 9, US Coast Guard Birthday, NI6IW.** San Diego, CA, USS Midway Museum Ship.

<https://www.qrz.com/db/NI6IW>

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

Next Meeting

Friday, July 11, 1900 hours, at the Community Room at the Alexandria Police Headquarters Building, 3600 Wheeler Avenue.

Last Meeting

Date: June 13, 2025

Time: 1900 hours

Location: Community Room at the Alexandria Police Headquarters Building, 3600 Wheeler Avenue

Recorded Attendance, June 13, 2025 (21 in person, 2 remotely)

Sean-KB2KBK
Bob-KO4ZIK
Richard-KW4UJ
Jack Y-KE7VOU
Jan-KB2LRX
Gary S-KC4QCN

Jay-KV3W
Ian-N8IK
Ted E-W9TCE
Larry-KQ4SBC
Aaron-K6HLC
Stex-K4IEW

John-KE4JEM
Jack P-W4JJ
Mike-KQ4WOI
Joe K-KD2HZG
Skip-KO3THF
Tom-NH7XJ

Chris-KJ5BES
Steven-KR4CCT
Wesley-KR4EEW
Gary N-KC7TNU
Ted R-N4JOG

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

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