

# ARC-SHORTS

September 2017

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 1284.600 ALL AR UP AND RUNNING – HAM IT UP! Get on the air!

## **NEXT CLUB MEETING**

Our next meeting is September 8th at 7PM at the Police Dispatch Center at 3600-Wheeler Ave. Just off of Duke St on the south side half a block west of Quaker Lane. Dinner at Atlantis Restaurant at about 5:30 prior to the meeting. Our planned meeting could not make it this month and I am trying to get a replacement.

## **MEETING MINUTES.**

Our August 11<sup>th</sup> program could not make the meeting do to a death in the family. We hope that we can get Howard WD5DBC to attend later (maybe October). Our president, Erik provided a nice program on antennas supports and Don provided some additional inputs based on his ARES work.

DMR Repeater. We are still awaiting a repeater frequency assignment from T-MARC. Rich will be the first to get the word and will share it on the net.

## **President's Corner**

Hello, all. Hope your past month has been enjoyable. I was stuck at work for the eclipse QSO party on Monday the 21st, so I could not participate. Don't worry, as the next eclipse to hit the continental US will be 6 1/2 years from now, on Monday, April 8th, 2024. If you don't mind making a road trip to Ohio, Western New York, southern Indiana, or northern New England, you can catch another total eclipse.

With the end of the year coming, it is time to start thinking about new club officers. I am ineligible to run for club president again because of term limits. Perhaps one or more of you could step up and try one of the four club officer positions - president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. There is plenty of documentation available to help you out with any questions you might have.

73 DE KI4BXU

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Erik Misavage, KI4BXU

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## **Future Programs**

September 8<sup>th</sup> - Marine Corps Marathon (tent)

October 13<sup>th</sup> - City EMS (tent)

November 10 - Elections

December 8<sup>th</sup> – Annual Christmas / Holiday Party

Possible programs:, Contesting HF/VHF, AMSAT, AMRAD, RF Interference (power company), Logging programs, Dayton follow up, Marine Corps Marathon.

Let me know what you want to hear about. HELP!!!! If you have an idea for a program, please let Rick know and he will try to find someone to provide the program. If you know someone you would like to have present a program, let me know Rick, N4ASX

## **Hamfests –**

We are heading to end of hamfest season in our area, but there a couple of hamfests close by.

Don't forget the Virginia Beach Hamfest (also known as the Virginia Section Convention) is September 9, 2017. You leave Alexandria at 6 AM and be there when the doors open at 9 AM. The location is the Virginia Beach Convention Center, 1000 19<sup>th</sup> Street, which is right off I-264 close to the waterfront. Talk-in on the 146.970 repeater (-) with a 141.3 Hz PL tone.

This year's CARAFest is on Sunday, October 1 at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, MD. From our area, take I95 North to MD Route 32 West. Follow 32 West to Route 144. Take 144 West to Fairground Road on the right. It's sponsored by the Columbia Amateur Radio Association. Talk-in is on the CARA repeater, 147.390 (+) with a 156.7 Hz PL tone.

## **Training -**

Our next class is scheduled to start October 3 and end December 5, 2017. If you know somebody who has always wanted to get their ham radio license, let them know. The cost is still \$50 and includes the book, test fee and class materials.

## **Contests -**

September 9 to 11 – ARRL September VHF Contest. Exchange is 4 charter grid square. For most of us, it's FM18.

September 9 – Ohio State Parks on the Air. Exchange is your state.

September 10 – North American Sprint – CW. Exchange is other station's call, your call, serial number, your name and state.

September 16 and 17 – Iowa QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.

September 16 and 17 – Washington State Salmon Run. Exchange is RST and state.

September 16 and 17 – New Hampshire QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.

September 16 and 17 – New Jersey QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.

September 16 – North American Sprint – RTTY. Exchange is other station's call, your call, serial number, your name and state.

September 23 and 24 – CQ Worldwide DX Contest – RTTY. Exchange is RST, CQ zone and state. We are in CQ zone 5.

September 23 and 24 – Maine QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.

September 23 and 24 – Texas QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.

October 1 – North American Sprint – SSB. Exchange is other station's call, your call, serial number, your name and state.

October 7 and 8 – California QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and state.

October 14 and 15 – Arizona QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and state.

October 14 and 15 – Pennsylvania QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and ARRL section.

### **Repeaters –**

We have had many questions on the status of our DMR repeater. As of press time, TMARC is running their software to look for a possible spot to fit us in somewhere. Looking through the TMARC directory on line doesn't really tell the whole story. What may appear to be an open frequency may not be. Every repeater ties up two frequencies, so what may appear to be open may be the input of a repeater somewhere. So, there are not a lot of pairs available.

I will send an email to the club reflector and in ARC Shorts with the particulars once we hear from TMARC. Also, I am sure N8IK will update the “club” codeplug with the new frequency.

Be sure to use the club repeaters and log those contacts with other club members for the year-long club QSO Party. Each band and mode counts as a separate contact.

The club repeaters are all up and running. Make 2017 the year you try a new band or mode.

As always, ham it up and get on the air.

73,

Rich, KA4GFY

### **WORKED ALL ALEXANDRIA RADIO CLUB MEMBERS VHF/UHF CONTEST**

Our club has MORE repeaters than just about any other general interest radio club. Look at the banner at the start. BUT, if you listen to the repeaters they are so quiet you wonder if they are working. Rich, KA4GFY and I (N4ASX) came up with an idea. Lots of folks played with the ARRL's National Parks On the Air. This was a yearlong contest so there was no rush. So we think a contest that gets folks in the work each other and others over a year would be fun.

To make the contest fair, we will have classes for each type of operator: 2 Meter HT only, Dual Band (2/440) only, 2 Meter Mobile/Base only, Dual Band Mobile/Base only, All bands. Points are awarded for working club members who have been (within the last two years) or are club members. You can work club members on each repeater, on simplex on each VHF/UHF band and work them on any mode (D-Star, Packet, PSK-31, CW, SSB, AM, etc.) So, you can work a member many times but only once per band using the same mode. We will go from June 10<sup>th</sup> 2017 to June 10<sup>th</sup> 2018. We encourage the use of LOTW, but you can use any logging program or paper. For those who are not members they too can participate but points are awarded for working Alexandria Radio Club members. A club member will get a point for non-members they work on our repeaters.

Hope your keeping your logs up to date. This contest is open to all.

73 Rick N4ASX

### **Social Events**

Monday Night Burgers – There is a group that gets together at 6:15 PM on Mondays at a local burger joint. Mark up on the 147.315 repeater and join them for the fun. Mark up on the repeater about 6PM and join the group. The location does change! IF you have a good spot, you might make a suggestion.