

ARC-SHORTS

OCTOBER 2019

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.
: DMR IS UP AND RUNNING 442.4125 +5Mhz Color Code 1.

PLEASE USE OUR REPEATERS.

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Our next meeting is OCTOBER 11th. We meet at 3600 Wheeler Ave in Alexandria at 7PM and the meeting ends, more or less, at 9PM. Many members get together at Atlantis Restaurant in the Bradlee shopping center at 5PM for dinner prior to the meeting. The Bradlee shopping center is on the south side of RT. 7 just east of 395, 3600 Wheeler is off of Duke Street about 1 block west of Quaker Lane. Informal talk in on the 147.315 repeater.

SEPTEMBER MEETING Program

Our program was provided by our own Ed, W4EDF on HF digital operations (this was moved from the August meeting to allow Art W4ART to present the MCM pitch.) Great program Ed!

MCM Set up

There are three race nets, two in DC and one in VA. The race nets connect the mile and half mile operators, food stops, water stops, turn points to NCS. Primary function is to report runners down, or any other issues on the course within their areas. If time permits you can report the passage of the first runners and the passage of the end of the race.

The medical net is tied into an internet server run by the Marine Corps. Data is passed to the server when a runner checks into an AID STATION. This can be done on D-Star 1.2GHz data, 9600 Baud Packet or if you can make the connection via AREDN.

As I said earlier, this is a complex operation. Ham radio Operators need to check in at 3 or 4AM and need to be heading for their assigned points. You can depart the course when the last runner vehicle passes your location. So, you can calculate your departure time by assuming a 15 minute line starting at 8AM. In departing you will need to avoid the active racecourse. YOU DO NOT NEED TO HAVE EXPERIENCE to work this event. There will be a course dress rehearsal in

the Columbus Day weekend, this is mostly for the Aid Stations but it's a good time to find your assigned location. Also, a good time check your radio on the course.

This event NEEDs at least 135 operators. If you can volunteer, PLEASE DO. You get a nice shirt, lunch, and a great place to view 30,000 plus folks running in one BIG (26.2 mile) circle.

Meeting minutes for September 2019 ARC Meeting

Date: 8/9/19

Time: 1900h

Location: Alexandria Police Dispatch Center

The August meeting program was provided by Ed, W4EDF on HF digital operations. Ed covered the use of FLDIGI which is FREE and can be interfaced with a simple interface like the Tigertronics SIGNALINK USB. Ed covered the great variety of modes available.

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2019

I don't have a program for this meeting, but I have suggested that those who have been experimenting with AREDN, bring your AREDN nodes and we can set them up around the room and see if we can make the MESH work.

73 Rick

Hamfests –

The next hamfest in our area is the Mason Dixon Hamfest on October 27 in Upperco, MD. It's sponsored by the Carroll County Amateur Radio Club. Here is the link:

<https://k3pzn.net/hamfest/>

Looking to December, it's the SantaFest in Cheltenham, MD on December 7, 2019. It's sponsored by Prince Georges County ARES and The American Legion. Here is the link: <http://www.pgares.org/>

Training –

Our Fall, 2019 class will start on Tuesday, October 8 and end December 10, 2019. Class is filling up, but if you know someone who is looking for a class to earn their first license or upgrade to General, let them know. Our last class had an impressive 100% pass rate.

Contests –

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- October 5 and 6 – California QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and state.
- October 12 and 13 – Nevada QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and state.
- October 12 and 13 – Pennsylvania QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and ARRL section.
- October 12 and 13 – Arizona QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and state.
- October 12 and 13 – South Dakota QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 14 through 18 – ARRL School Club Roundup. Exchange is RST and class. Most of us will be “1” for single operator. Anyone can participate, not just school clubs.
- October 19 and 20 – New York QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 20 and 21 – Illinois QSO party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 26 and 27 – CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB. Exchange is RS and CQ Zone (we are in zone 5).
- Nov 2 and 3 – ARRL Sweepstakes, CW. Exchange is the other station’s call, serial number, precedence, your call, check (year first licensed) and section.

While it’s not a contest, don’t forget Jamboree on the Air the weekend of October 18 through 20. Boy scouts and girl scouts from all over the world will be on the air.

Don’t forget, be sure to send in your log within 7 days after the contest ends for all ARRL sponsored contests. ARRL now uses a web application for contest log submissions. Here is the link: <http://contest-log-submission.arrl.org/> Be sure to convert your file to Cabrillo format before submitting. Most logging programs support the Cabrillo format.

REMEMBER to support the CLUB’S score for contests by providing Ian N8IK your info (Name, Call sign and Grid Square location) and submit your scores for the contests you play in. If the contest asks for a club affiliation, the Alexandria Radio Club is on the list of contest clubs. Contesting is one way we show that we are using our frequency allocations.

Contests may not be your thing, but contests are a great way to show outside interests we do use our valuable spectrum. By showing we use our spectrum, other services will have a hard time proving that we don’t use our spectrum and it’s up for re-allocation to someone else.

Contests can also be a great way to become introduced to HF communications. While it can be intense, pick the contest and jump in. Most contests have a limited exchange so it is usually easy to get what the other station needs.

State QSO parties are a great introduction to contesting. Most are low-key and the exchange is limited.

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Repeaters –

The club repeaters are all up and running. We will have to resume the follow-on net on one of the other repeaters after the Thursday net on the 2 meter analog repeater.

Through the generosity of one of our repeater gurus, we have obtained a pair of Motorola G1225 Radius mobile radios, cabling and controller to make a mobile repeater for the club trailer. It is programmed with the TMARC Shared Non-protected pair on 442.900 MHz with 107.2 Hz PL both in and out. I will work on installing them before we need the portable repeater for any events. The best part is these radios will run on 12 VDC, making them very compatible with our trailer. I am looking for a UHF antenna to put on a pole so we can set up the repeater at public service events.

I am also looking for a permanent place to install the Motorola MTR-2000 repeater for coverage in Old Town. Once we find a place to put it, I can apply to TMARC for a UHF repeater pair. TMARC has opened up another 1 MHz between 441.000 and 442.000 MHz.

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

73, Rich, KA4GFY

ARES

Short reminder, ANYONE can be an ARES volunteer, Training is primarily the FEMA on-line IS-100,200,700 and 800 classes about 30 minutes each and the ARRL ARES class which is optional. You can volunteer without these classes. Training for members also includes our weekly nets and public service events. If you wish to volunteer send an E-Mail to Rick, N4ASX N4ASX@arrl.net

Marine Corps Marathon – October 27th all day – Howard still needs volunteers. Time is SHORT, If you can support this event, go to www.MARINEMARATON.COM to sign up as a volunteer, SELECT HAM OPERATOR. After you sign up with the Marine Corps,

you need to go to www.MCMHAM.Org to provide details on you car, your needs, gear etc. This is also required for the background check.

73 Rick

N4ASX

ARES emergency coordinator.

Future Programs

2019

October – AREDN show and tell – Demo – BRING YOUR AREDN node and laptop.

November – Club Elections – New President and Vice President.

December - Party

2020

January -

February -

March -

April -

May – Field Day planning and preparation meeting

June –

July –

August –

September –

October –

November – Elections

December - Party

At this time, I do not have programs for next year. YOU DON'T NEED TO PRESENT, just suggest a topic you would like 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

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 suggest it to the group.