

ARC-SHORTS

September 2022

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 Meeting

Our next ZOOM meeting will be Friday Sept 9th at 7PM. Our program will be Howard Cunningham, WD5DBC who will talk to us about amateur radio support of the Marine Corps Marathon. (see more info further in the newsletter) A ZOOM meeting invite will be sent out soon. See the President's Corner for details on the next meeting. This meeting will be both IN PERSON and via ZOOM.

Last Meeting

Date: August 12, 2022

Time: 1900 hours

Location: Hybrid Meeting: Via Zoom & In-Person at APD Community Room, Wheeler Lane

Presentation

- Topic: Sound Card Digital Modes
- Presenter: Barry K3EUI

Reports

Secretary: Carol KN4LL

- Briefed July 8, 2022 meeting minutes

Treasurer: Don KI4D

- Current Balance = \$10,698.18

Membership: Richard KW4UJ

- 95 paid; 9 Lifetime; Total of 104 members

Projects: Rick N4ASX/Don KI4D

- ARES/RACES: Rick briefed he is in contact with the hospital and that a second hospital is to be built; expecting a fall drill and is putting together a handout; announced he is ending his EC position in September after 15 years
- History Project: Don briefed he is experimenting with Prizm software for online storage

Repeaters: Rich KA4GFY/Ian N8IK

- Rich: All repeaters are up and running; no issues reported; working on a replacement for 2 meter
- Ian: AREDN Project – nothing new to report

Education/Training: Rich KA4GFY

- Technician and General license classes will begin Tuesday, October 4th and finish on Tuesday, December 6th via Zoom

Trailer: Rich KA4GFY

- New battery charger procured with a power receptacle from Amazon; roof to be painted in the fall

Webmaster: Richard KW4UJ

- Site updated with WordPress version 6.0.1; security updated

Old Business

- N/A

New Business

- Contest Season Reminders
 - ARC is a Contest Club
 - Report ARC as your club to contribute to Club scores; be sure to do at least 3 or 4 contacts
 - Ian will send an email soliciting call signs & grid squares of members within a 35 radius

Net Control

- 18 Aug: N8IK
- 25 Aug: KA4GFY
- 1 Sep: N4ASX
- 9 Sep: KI4BXU

Announcements

- Next month's meeting will be a hybrid in-person/online

ADJOURNMENT: 2030 hours

Attendance (26)

Name	Call Sign	Position
Richard	KW4UJ	President

Sean	K4KBK	Vice President
Don	KI4D	Treasurer
Rich	KA4GFY	Training Coordinator
Carol	KN4LLL	Secretary
Ian	N8IK	Director – via Zoom
Jay	KV3W	
Ted	W9TCE	
Gary	KC5QCN	
Bryan	WD4ADF	
William	KM4KLK	
Louis	KO4QVB	
Jack	KE7VOU	
Ryan	KO4EBY	
Ben	WA1PBR	
Rick	N4ASX	
Bob	KO4ZIK	Via Zoom
Scott	KM4RDR	Via Zoom
Corey	KN4YZY	Via Zoom
Barry	K3EUI	Via Zoom-Presenter
Brian	KE4WGI	Via Zoom
Cameron	AK7CM	Via Zoom
Erik	KI4BXU	Via Zoom
Moe	W3MOE	Via Zoom
Jeff	KQ4CMA	Via Zoom
Todd	KO4IJH	Via Zoom

Presidents Corner

Richard, KW4UJ

ARES

I had a long talk with Jack Smith KELWT, who is our Virginia Section Manager. He is working hard to get ARES back on it's feet after years of problems.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has been working to reorganize its emergency response structure and we heard about this a few years ago. Various localities (like Alexandria) will request state help from one of the new DISTRICTS. We are in District 7 now. ARES has been restructured to reflect this change. The expectation is that localities (Alexandria, Fairfax, Arlington, etc.) if they need help in a disaster, they will NOT go directly to Richmond but to a District Emergency Manager or management office and like ARES would get support at the Districted level. If the disaster is statewide, then the districts would go to the State.

We have been asking for a while for drills to include the STATE EOC, but my guess is that we will now have to communicate with whomever provides communications at the district level. As

we are being or have been reorganized to mirror the states structure, I expect that our DEC will be in charge of liaison with the District Emergency Manager.

Jack Smith, is working on many changes to make this happen and for the system to be more responsive.

As for ALEXANDRIA ARES:

Always looking for new volunteers. If you would like to volunteer let me know and I will send out the FSD98 form, so I know who to call, how to call and what capability you have. I only ask that you do train and make yourself available for various training opportunities.

I will also send out the ARES TASK BOOK. There are three levels

ARES Level I – New member

ARES Level II - Deployable. – This means you have completed sufficient training to understand the incident command operation and structure.

ARES Level III – Management / Leadership level.

You do not need to send the EC a copy of your Task Book, but as you complete items in the task book send the EC an e-mail with a copy of a certificate (if needed) and the EC will keep track of progress for Alexandria ARES volunteers.

Word from Alexandria Hospital is that they will have a drill in the near future and we will be asked to participate. (keep you go kits ready and batteries charged!)

The biggest event each year is the Marine Corps Marathon. October 30th. If you can volunteer, you need to sign up on TWO websites. One is the AMATEUR RADIO volunteer site and one is the MCM's website. Lots of e-mails with particulars on how to do this.

MARINE CORPS MARATHON (Howard WD5DBC – Leadership Chair)

Registration for Ham Radio Support of the 47th Marine Corps Marathon (MCM) is now open. The MCM is the largest regular amateur radio public service/emergency communications event in the Washington, D.C. area. This year's Marathon is on October 30.

Those of you who have joined us in the past know how much fun it is. If you haven't helped out in the past, or haven't done a large public service event before, the MCM is the perfect introduction as there is a large amount of assistance with documentation, instruction and other help for the inexperienced (or even experienced) ham. The planning, documentation and techniques are also used for other large events such as inaugurations and "Marches on Washington". This is an excellent event to get started with the unique challenges of ham radio support for large events in the National Capital region.

You must sign up to help out. The signup process has two parts: you must sign up through the ham signup site so we know what your capabilities are, and through the Marine Corps Marathon volunteer site to be an official MCM volunteer. While you can sign up in either order (ham first, MCM second or MCM first and ham second), the easiest way is to go to <https://www.mcmham.org> and start there. If

you've volunteered with us before, you can go to login and enter your call sign and password and all of your previous entries are saved. You only need to change entries which have changed in the last year.

If you are new, go to sign up and start the process. Please be as accurate as you can in all entries as we will assign you based on what capabilities you tell us you have. In either case, click on the "Please make sure to click this link and sign-up on the Marine Corps website, otherwise YOU WILL NOT BE FULLY REGISTERED and won't be allowed to volunteer." link to be taken to the Marine Corps Marathon site to complete your registration. (Ignore any instructions about passwords). Make sure you register as a Ham Radio Operator and complete the questions at the bottom of the page. You will get an email from the MCM if you have successfully registered.

We look forward to having you join us in support of the Marathon.

Any questions may be directed to me at wd5dbc@arrl.net

73,

Howard WD5DBC

for the MCM Ham Leadership Team

Activities and Events - Rich KA4GFY

Hamfests –

The Hagerstown Tailgate Fest is September 17 at the Maugansville Brethran Bible Church, 17904 Binley Avenue, in Maugansville, MD. It's sponsored by the Antietam Radio Association. Here is the link to the flyer: <https://w3cwc.org/images/2022-ARA-TailgateFest.pdf>

The Columbia Amateur Radio Association's CARAFest will be October 2 at the Howard County Fairgrounds. Here is the link to CARA's hamfest page: <https://www.carafest.org/>

The Hollywood, MD TailgateFest takes place on October 8 at the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department. It's sponsored by the Saint Mary's County Amateur Radio Association. Here is the link: <http://k3hki.org/>

Training –

Our next Technician and General classes are scheduled to start about October 4 and end December 6, 2022. Some of our visitors at Field Day expressed interest in becoming hams themselves and I have been receiving a few inquiries about our next

class. If you know of anyone who has always wanted to become a ham, but hasn't known how, send them our way. If you are a Technician looking to upgrade or know a Technician looking to upgrade, let us know. We have been teaching both classes via Zoom and it is working very well.

We will also be holding an Extra class study group at the same time as the Technician and General classes. N4ASX has offered to hold the study group at his QTH. The study group will be limited to 5 club members who have held their General license for at least 6 months.

Please contact me at ka4gfy@arrl.net or training@w4hfh.org for information and to sign up.

Contests –

- September 10 - Ohio State parks on the Air. Exchange is state.
- September 10 and 11 – Alabama QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 17 and 18 – Iowa QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 17 and 18 – Texas QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 17 – Wisconsin Parks on the Air. Exchange is state.
- September 17 and 18 – New Jersey QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 17 and 18 – New Hampshire QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- September 24 and 25 – Maine QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 1 and 2 – Collegiate QSO Party. Exchange is state and RST.
- October 1 and 2- California QSO Party. Exchange is serial number and state.
- October 8 and 9 – Nevada QSO Party. Exchange is RST and ARRL section.
- October 8 and 9 – Arizona QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 8 and 9. Pennsylvania QSO Party. Exchange is RST and ARRL section.
- October 8 and 9 – South Dakota QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.
- October 15 and 16. New York QSO Party. Exchange is RST and state.

Every Sunday evening at 8 PM local time, the K1USN Radio Club sponsors the “Slow Speed “Contest.” The exchange is similar to a QSO. See the rules here: <http://www.k1usn.com/sst.html>.

Every Tuesday at 0000 (8 PM EDT Monday for us) is the Worldwide Sideband Activity Contest. Exchange is RS and age group (OM, YL, Youth YL or Youth). Here are the rules: <https://wwsac.com/rules.html>

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.

Speaking of state QSO parties, there is now a state QSO party challenge. You can start accumulating multipliers by submitting a log in any state or provincial QSO party to 3830scores.com QSOParty Groups.io.forum and State QSOParty.com.

Repeaters –

The club repeaters are all up and running. The DSTAR repeaters are seeing a lot of activity. We have been linking the 2-meter repeater to Reflector 062C for Virginia and Maryland communications, and the 70cm Reflector 030C, for long-range communications and the 23cm voice repeater to Reflector 025B, the Northern Virginia local reflector or 001C, the world-wide reflector. If you want to link to another reflector, be sure to unlink the repeater first and then link to the reflector of your choice. All we ask is you unlink the reflector you were listening on when you are finished.

The DMR side is working normally with access to the DMR servers. If you are new to DMR, DMRVA has codeplugs for some of the more common DMR radios on their website. Their website is <http://www.dmrva.org/> DMRVA

In other DMRVA news, the first VHF repeater in the DMRVA system is now on the air in Fredericksburg. The frequency is 145.300 MHz. It uses the DMRVA standard talkgroup lineup and color code 1 for access.

The Alexandria Radio Club has one of the only 23 cm analog repeaters in the area. Give it a try on your IC-9700, G-7 or ID-1.

We have resumed (semi-regularly) the follow-on net on one of the other repeaters after the Thursday net on the 2-meter analog repeater.

Ian, N8IK, has started a Wednesday night DSTAR net on the 145.380 MHz repeater at 8 PM. The Wednesday night net is starting to pick up some momentum. We link the repeater to Reflector 62B at net time so members and former members outside the local area can join in. Some time ago, I asked the folks who maintain the lists of DSTAR reflectors to create a Virginia perma-link reflector. Many other states have them. Be sure to put Reflector 62B in your DSTAR programming.

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

73, Rich, KA4GFY