

REMARKS BY DON LEWIS, KI4D, PRESIDENT, ALEXANDRIA RADIO CLUB
AT THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VIENNA WIRELESS SOCIETY DINNER EVENT
OCTOBER 21, 2023

Dean, thanks for the warm welcome to the Alexandria Radio club to participate in this special occasion, and thanks to Mike Aimone for working the details in the background.

On behalf of the Alexandria Radio Club please accept our hearty Congratulations for this, your 60th Anniversary.

I especially wanted to be here to introduce Jim and Becky Wilson. Their lives have personified dedication to ham radio, as you will see. Becky has enthusiastically supported Jim's ham radio aspirations throughout their long marriage while she taught high school history for 31 years.

Jim Wilson (K4BAV), is the son of Lynn Wilson (K4DHB), who while president of Alexandria Radio Club helped to organize VWS. Both Jim and Lynn are Life Members of Alexandria Radio Club.

As a history researcher for Alexandria Radio Club, the one thing that caught my attention more than any other about the club's early years was the dedication of Jim's father to ham radio. I believe this dedication led Lynn to wanting to see ham radio flourish in Vienna 60 years ago in the best spirit of the hobby; without a sense of competition or rejection of Alexandria Radio Club. If Lynn were here tonight, I think he say how proud he is of Vienna Wireless Society, the largest ham radio club in Northern Virginia. Jim Wilson once told me "Dad was my hero and role model."

I have seen the same selfless devotion to ham radio in Jim that I saw in his father. In addition to being a Life Member Alexandria Radio Club, Jim is currently a member of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club in the Charlottesville, VA area; and Jim's son, Matt, (KD4MCW) is also a ham.

Jim is also the longtime editor of Dots and Dashes, the journal of the Morse Telegraph Club, an international fraternal organization for retired telegraphers. The club is the World's leading authority on telegraphy history. It has assisted authors, documentary film producers, playwrights, and even major Hollywood directors needing advice or technical assistance. For example, the Club played a significant role in Spielberg's "Lincoln" and the recent Disney "Lone Ranger" movies.

As a side note and as a bookmark for next year, I would like invite everyone here to help Alexandria Radio Club celebrate its 70th Anniversary in 2024.

Ladies and gentlemen, please join me in giving a warm welcome to Jim Wison, our guest speaker.