

Hey, folks! I'm running for Alexandria Radio Club president for 2025. I served as president in 2016 and 2017, vice president in 2015, secretary in 2014, and treasurer in 2023 and 2024. I hope to get a few things accomplished in 2025:

1. Operate the club as a bottom up organization rather than a top down organization. I see current club operations as led by a small group of members with most everybody else just going along or breaking off to do their own things.
2. Try to rebuild relationships with former and current longtime members. There have been grumblings about treatment of some members plus leadership pursued paths regarding recent club activities and programs (tax preparation expenses, program selection, committee chair changes, etc.)
3. See if we can go to a January 1st to December 31st membership year. That does require a bylaws modification, though (section 4.03), plus those who have paid ahead will need to be accommodated (prorating of currently paid dues, likely).
4. Transparency with club meetings and activities. No surprise activities or commitments without a chance for club members to offer input and consent (501c3 proposal and the proposed 70th anniversary party with a VIP). And any board meetings, if they were to be held, would be open to all members for observation.
5. See if we can have HF operating activities during the warmer months of the year. Ideally, within Alexandria city limits. Quite a few of us live in apartments and condominiums, which limit us to compromise HF antennas at best.
6. Have an annual contest to encourage repeater usage, especially our less frequently used repeaters. Top scorers gets a plaque/certificate/club trinket of some sort.
7. Since PayPal charges fees to accept electronic payments, adjust the online payment portal option to accommodate those fees so that the club still gets their \$25. For example, the club right now gets \$23.64 from each PayPal renewal of \$25.
8. Try for 501(c)7 status. For hobby clubs such as ours, it would be a better fit for our purposes (in my opinion) than a 501(c)3 status, which requires onerous and meticulous documentation to remain in the good graces of tax agencies
9. Add some membership length requirements for club officers and board members (2 full years, with 3 for vice president and 4 for president). That way, prospective officers and board members will have a better sense of club happenings and will be more invested in maintaining a healthy club.

Ultimately, this is your club. If you have any items you want to pursue or not pursue, please bring them up with the club for discussion and possible inclusion into club operations.