



ARC-SHORTS

The Newsletter of the Alexandria Radio Club
December 2025

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An ARRL Affiliated Club

President's Corner

Sean (K4KBK)

Fellow Members and Radio Enthusiasts, we've arrived at the end of another successful year in the Alexandria Radio Club. This will be my last newsletter column as your Club President so I wanted to take this opportunity to let you know what a pleasure and a privilege it has been to be your President for the past two years. While we were not able to accomplish all we had set out to do, we did make some important gains.

One of my two primary focus areas was to create opportunities for trained, licensed and equipped amateur radio operators to use their equipment and get on the air. We supported City events such as the George Washington and St.

Patrick's Day Parades Order of March details, the D-Day remembrance, and National Night Out, as well as providing communications support for the Marine Corps Marathon. We also participated in Tons of Trucks—a large scale social outing setup to display the City's fleet of large equipment, which also served as a meet and greet with City Public Safety Officials. We also created opportunities to provide direct support for Office of Emergency Management exercises and real-world events as required. We made some unplanned in-roads with the DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency while planning and supporting communications watch for the January Inauguration and State of the Union speech. An amateur radio relationship with DC HSEMA is important if ARC wants to participate in national special security events (NSSE), as DC HSEMA is the lead for federal events in DC and they now welcome the professional support they receive from their closest neighbor south of the river. All these events are in addition to the regular annual events we service under the ARRL banner, such as Winter Field Day and Field Day.

My other primary focus area was to extend and strengthen the ARC relationship with the City of Alexandria. I believe we have achieved this goal, as we are soon to be named as a Charter Member to one of the more critical City Commissions, the Citizens Corps Council (CCC). This council, overseen directly by two members of City Council, supports the enhancement of City preparedness and the coordination of volunteer engagement in response to any disaster impacting the City or its residents. We join other recognized groups as a part of the CCC, including the American Red Cross, Virginia Dept. of Health/Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), the Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations, and Volunteer Alexandria, the City's volunteer management element. The CCC is facilitated by the City's Office of Emergency Management, who is our sponsor for all City resources and requests. Our primary task in this mission is to develop and assist in training and exercising communications capabilities and facilitate operational deployments between disparate volunteer organizations servicing the City who are not licensed as amateur radio operators. In 2025, ARC, as a part of CCC, was invited by the Office of Emergency Management to attend the reading of the Proclamation supporting Emergency Preparedness Month in the City Council chambers with the Mayor and the City Manager present. This was a great public relations moment for the Alexandria Radio Club.

From a regional amateur radio perspective, we were also able to increase our participation in joint events with the Arlington Amateur Radio club while working POTA/Day in the Park events and we provided support to the Boy

Scouts Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) event as well. Perhaps next year we can add some joint engagements with the Mount Vernon Club.

I anticipate that we will finally achieve our tax free/donor friendly status next year and one of the immediate benefits of that reclassification is the ability to secure both Enterprise Office software and substantial Cloud storage at no cost from Google and/or Microsoft. This will enable ARC to establish its records, member applications, contracts and other critical documents in an indexed secure digital environment. No more lost or damaged paper records in boxes in member basements, garages and storage units!

Now to the most important component of the Alexandria Radio Club: YOU, our members. Without active, engaged, creative, thinking and dedicated members, none of the above activities or events would be possible. So, to all of you that have contributed your time, expertise, talent, or otherwise supported Club activities, I would like to extend a heartfelt Thank You! You are the lifeblood of a Club that keeps on getting better and better. As we get set to enter our 72nd year of operation, I would ask that you continue to participate in our activities or maybe step up and engage if you haven't in the past. Please support our new officers in their mission to shepherd the club forward and support the Committee Chairs in their focus areas. If you have some ideas about activities or events that you would like to see the Club become active in, please bring them to a membership meeting or submit them to the Committee Chairs or the Club leadership to see how your ideas can be accommodated.

I hope to see many of you at the Christmas Party at Aldo's on Friday. I should be a great affair! I've already got my Secret Santa gift ready to go!

Sincerely and respectfully,

73, Sean, K4KBK

Alexandria Radio Club Date Book

Coming Events

Friday, December 12: Christmas Party, Aldo's Italian Kitchen, 2850 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria. **NOTE TIME: 1800-2100 hours.**

Member News

New Club Officers Elected for 2026

At the November meeting, members in attendance elected club officers and filled one director's position for 2026.

- President: Aaron Kahn, K6HLC
- Vice President: Skip Dronen, KO2THF
- Secretary: Mike Joyce, KQ4WOI
- Treasurer: Richard Morani, KW4UJ
- Director: Sean Gallagher, K4KBK

Sandy Kenyon, KQ4DNE, and Joseph A. Porcelli, KT3I, continue as Directors.



New club officers for 2026: (from left) Aaron Kahn, President; Sean Gallagher, Director; Richard Morani, Treasurer; Skip Dronen, Vice President; Mike Joyce, Secretary.

PLEASE USE OUR REPEATERS

Club Repeaters: 147.315+ (PL 107.2), 444.6+ (PL107.2), 224.82- (PL107.2), 53.130- (PL107.2) 927.600 (-25Mhz, PL107.2), and 1282.600- (PL 107.2), DSTAR 145.380Mhz, 442.060+, and 1284.600-; DMR 442.4125 +5Mhz Color Code 1.

ARES

Joe Kalfa (KD2HZG)

Hello there!

ARES is excited to announce that we will be doing a special presentation during the January meeting. The presentation will be on Communication Interoperability, specifically focused on voice. We will highlight the Interoperability Continuum and what that means for us as ARES members. There will be a heavy focus on [AllStarLink](#), what it is, and how we can leverage it. As a bonus we will have a live demonstration for folks to hopefully wrap their head around the concept.



Some topics we will discuss.

- Echolink App access to the repeaters and what it means to increase accessibility.
- Commercial radio interoperability systems and how ICS/NIMS Communications Units leverage them. [Sytech RIOS](#)
- ARES's role in providing interoperability capabilities from the tactical level all the way up through advocating for shared standards-based systems.
- SIP, IAX, and RTP
- Integrating multiple technologies and activities into a packaged capability that demonstrates the level of expertise amateur radio operators can offer municipalities.
- Using AllStarLink to enhance your ARES skillset.

73, Joe, KD2HZG

Activities and Events

Contests/QSO Parties:

- **Dec. 13, International Naval Contest.**
<https://www.marinefreunde.com/eng/inc.html>
- **Dec. 29, YOTA Contest.** <https://yotacontest.mrasz.org/>
(Selected from ARRL Contests Calendar <http://www.arrl.org/contest-calendar>)

Special Events:

- **Dec. 1-11, 1300-2200Z, Pearl Harbor Day Commemoration, W2W.**
Amateur Radio Club of the National Electronics Museum (ARCNEM),
Hunt Valley, MD. <http://www.ww-2.us>
- **Dec. 13, 1700Z-2359Z, Pearl Harbor Day Remembrance, NI6IW.** San
Diego, CA, USS Midway Museum Ship. 14.320, 7.250, 14.070 PSK31
DSTAR on Papa System Repeaters. <https://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw>
- **Dec. 13, 1430Z-2200Z, Ike's Atoms for Peace Anniversary, K3S.** Port of
Baltimore, MD. Nuclear Ship Savannah Amateur Radio Club.
<https://www.qrz.com/db/K3S>
- **Jan 1, 0000Z-2359Z, ARRL Straight Key Night.**
<https://www.arrl.org/straight-key-night>
- **Jan. 10, 1700Z-2359Z, Operation Desert Storm, NI6IW.** San Diego, CA,
USS Midway Museum Ship. <https://www.qrz.com/db/ni6iw>
(Selected from ARRL Special Events Calendar <https://www.arrl.org/special-event-stations>)

Next Meeting/Christmas Party

Friday, December 12, **1800 hours**, Aldo's Italian Kitchen, 2850 Eisenhower Ave., Alexandria, VA 22314.

Last Meeting

Date: November 14, 2025

Time: 1900 hours

Location: Community Room at the Alexandria Police Headquarters
Building, 3600 Wheeler Avenue

1. For the November 14th meeting of the Alexandria Amateur Radio Club, 31 people were in attendance, with 29 people in-person with 2 people participating in the online zoom meeting.
2. The meeting began with the election committee directed by Gary Sessums, KC5QCN, calling for any final nominations for open positions in the Club. Hearing no nominations, Gary and Sandy Kenyon, KQ4DNE, began handing out ballots for 2026 leadership election. The election ballot for 2026 included the open positions for president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer and one directors position created by a resignation. The only contested position was for the president position between Aaron Kahn, K6HLC, and Erik Misavage, KI4BXU. All other positions were uncontested including Skip Dronen, KO2THF, for vice president, Michael Joyce, KQ4WOI, for secretary, Richard Morani, KW4UJ, for treasurer and Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, for board of directors. For the president's office, Aaron Kahn, K6HLC, received 20 votes while Erik Misavage, KI4BXU, received 8 votes. Aaron Kahn, K6HLC is the 2026 club president. A total of 28 ballots were distributed for the election at the meeting.
3. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, discussed edits to be made to the October meeting minutes. Jack York, KE7VOU, gave the post office box key to the incoming secretary, Michael Joyce, KQ4WOI.
4. Richard Morani, KW4UJ, gave the treasurer's report with a total balance of around \$12,000 for all accounts with total charges of around \$1,600 for October.
5. Jan Maas, KB2LRX, stated that due to a listserver gremlin, not all club - members received the October 2025 ARC-SHORTS newsletter on the first transmission but the document was retransmitted to all and was received by all. Jan also mentioned the club member participation in the Scouting Jamboree event on the 18th of October and the support for the Marine Corps Marathon.

6. Ian Keith, N8IK, stated all club repeaters are working.
7. Sandy Kenyon, KQ4DNE, mentioned that people interested in participating in ARES and other emergency communications activities can take required ICS classes online at the FEMA website. Jan Maas, KB2LRX, and Stefano Fonda, K4IEW, mentioned emergency communications articles in the October ARC-SHORTS.
8. Richard Morani, KW4UJ, stated that the fall license class was cancelled due to poor enrollment. Gary Sessums, KC5QCN, discussed the need for more volunteer examiners for VE sessions. Gary Sessums also made the recommendation for a different approach to getting candidates through a training session and license exam over the course of two weekends versus following the established 9-week Zoom-based course with an in-person final exam. Historically, attrition rates have been high for the 9-week training class due to changes in people's schedules, shifting priorities, etc.
9. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, mentioned that the trailer will be cleaned for the next event in 2026, the February President's Day Parade in Alexandria.
10. Richard Morani, KW4UJ, discussed plans to add a new membership application form on the club's website that will be connected to the club membership database. Plans also include the addition of a members-only section to the website.
11. Jan Maas, KB2LRX, stated that the club's social media websites are operational, including Discord and Face Book. Michael Joyce, KQ4WOI, the incoming secretary, has been adding events to the club's Discord server website.
12. Brian Pettigrew, WD4ADF, discussed recent net control operator classes and the lack of volunteers for weekly club repeater nets. Special event nets on bands such as 70cm, 1.25 meters, and 10 meters will need more volunteers. In November and December, fewer nets are scheduled on Wednesdays (D-Star) and Thursdays (2 meters) because of the holidays.
13. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, stated the need for a new Field Day director for 2026.
14. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, discussed the old business item of the approval of the club's application for tax exempt 501.c.3 status with the IRS and the modification of the articles of incorporation with the state of Virginia.

15. Under New Business, Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, briefed the establishment of a new member rotation program which will allow more of the club members to engage as liaisons with external organizations. The first two assignments will establish Austin Klob, KQ4ZCO, as our new Registered Agent for the Virginia State Corporation Commission replacing Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, and establish Skip Dronen, KO2THF, as the Club's Trustee to the FCC replacing Rich Adamy, KA4GFY. The changes will be effective in December of 2025 with an initial rotation period of 2 years.
16. Sean Gallagher, K4KBK, discussed the club's upcoming holiday dinner on December 12th at Aldo's Italian Kitchen located at 2850 Eisenhower Ave in Alexandria, VA 22314.
17. Louis Mingo, KO4QVB, discussed some of the issues encountered with the new vendor for club merchandise. It was decided that the new vendor had made too many errors in customer orders to be viable. Discussions have already begun with another vendor, Gold Medal Ideas, that many club members may already be familiar with if they have attended any of the big Ham Festivals including the one in Berryville, VA. More details will follow on this after the holidays.

Please refer all comments and questions on this report to:

Jack York

Secretary, Alexandria Radio Club

x3unix1@cox.net

Recorded Attendance, November 14, 2025 (29 in person, 2 remotely)

Sean-KB2KBK
Jack Y-KE7VOU
Richard-KW4UJ
Sandy-KQ4DNE
Jan-KB2LRX
Ted-W9TCE
Jay-KV3W
Stex-K4IEW

Don-KI4D
Gary S-KC5QCN
Aaron-K6HLC
Ed-KQ4YGT
Skip-KO2THF
John-KE4JEM
Larry-KQ4SBC
Austin-KQ4ZCO

Wilson-KM4KLK
Ryan-KO4EBY
Jack P-W4JJ
Andrew-KI4THF
Mike-KQ4WOI
Erik-KI4BXU
Bryan-WD4ADF
Louie-KO4QVB

Gary N-KC7TNU
Evan-KQ4UPW
Tim-KO4VFP
Jay G-KD3GBT
Jacklyn-no call
Ian-N8IK
Björn-KC3AOO

Alexandria Radio Club mailing list

Home: <http://mailman.qth.net/mailman/listinfo/alexandriaradioclub>

Help: <http://mailman.qth.net/mmfaq.htm>

Post: mailto: AlexandriaRadioClub@[mailman.qth.net](mailto:AlexandriaRadioClub@mailman.qth.net)

This list hosted by: <http://www.qsl.net>. Please help support this email list:

<http://www.qsl.net/donate.html>

Club Leadership

Elected Officers for 2025 *

Sean Gallagher, K4KBK—President

Bob Crumley, KO4ZIK

—Vice President

Jack York, KE7VOU—Secretary

Richard Morani, KW4UJ—Treasurer

Elected Board of Directors, At Large*

Sandy Kenyon, KQ4DNE

Joseph A. Porcelli, KT3I

Björn Jernuld—KC3AOO

* Voting members of the leadership group are the elected officers and elected directors.

Committee Chairmen

Jan Maas, KB2LRX—Public Information Officer (PIO)

Gary Sessums, KC5QCN—Club Metro Area Liaison

Club Leadership Group members may be contacted using the following email addresses:

<mailto:president@w4hfh.org> president@w4hfh.org

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ARC-SHORTS compiled by Jan A. Maas (KB2LRX) – ARC Public Information Officer