

**Subject:** AARC Nominating Questionnaire

**From:** "Anne Arundel Radio Club" <k3bay@w3vpr.org>

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**To:** ae3d@graykitty.net

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What position are you nominated for? President

Year in which you were first licensed? 1965

Tell us a bit about your experiences as a ham: I wanted to be a ham when I was 6 years old, A friend dad was W3WIQ. I got my license 12 years later at 18 when a long time friend, Bob Stone WA3BMH, ran a novice class in his bedroom after school. About 13 of us got licenses. Bob died of cancer on prom night that year. It gave me a great sense of appreciation for those who teach others to become hams. Its probably why I love teaching the Tech Class today. I took part in my first Field Day in 1965 too, from a tree house. Before leaving for Penn State I bought a Heath 20m single bander, eventually upgrading to a Kenwood TS-520S when I moved to Catonsville in 1977. I got my Extra two years later. After another year I found myself commuting from Catonsville to Alexandria VA every day. On that 2 hour drive, the only repeater I could hit the whole way was 147.105. After months of that awful 4 hour daily commute, I moved to Bowie, and joined the AARC, finally meeting all those guy on the repeater. In the early 80s Jerry Herman and I started a Novice Class at the AARC. But after my first wife and I split, I moved around a lot, losing track of the club along the way. I sold my Kenwood and bought a Yeasu 757GX so I could at least work mobile. I did for many years. Finally I bought my Bowie house back from my ex-wife, got a TS-570D and started to set up a ham shack again. A few years later I came back to the AARC and have loved every moment since. Its good to be back.

Have you served on a radio club board before? Yes

Please tell us about your prior expience on a radio club board.: I have served as Secretary of the AARC for the past 2 years.

Have you served other clubs or organizations in a leadership position? Yes

Please tell us about those leadership positions.: For 5 years I was on the Board of Directors of Pine Tree Associates in Crownsville. One of those years I was club President. We had a yearly budged of about 1/2 million dollars, 3 full time employees, and numerous part time workers. During that same time I was regional VP of their parent organization the ESA representing similar clubs all over the eastern seaboard.

What do you beleive are the strengths and weaknesses of the AARC? The AARC's strength is in its diverse, talented and friendly membership. The core group here is a delight to work with. Throw in an actual 'club house' with storage facilities, numerous repeaters, activities and events and you have the makings of one exceptional club. Our biggest weakness is that everyone doesn't see that all the time. We can sometimes miss the forest for the trees. Also at times our leadership can either be too authoritarian or too laissez faire, and at other times we are ready to rush out an do things when planning ahead might be a better course of action.

What skills and abilities do you think you would bring to the Board? I am a planner. I see research and good planning as the way to succeed. I believe that with just a little more planning, both short range and long range we can accomplish more with less. I also have a better understanding of how to use a Parliamentary system effectively than many around me. I see myself as a 'big picture' 'long range' thinker. I see that as a plus for the AARC. I am also loud and well organized, the right kind of guy to chair meetings.

What do you think you could accomplish as an AARC club officer? Let me start this way. I think I can get the Board out in front of things, and avoid problems down the road. Clubs are a lot like jugglers. The idea is to get as many balls in the air as you can without dropping any. The more things we have for people to get involved in, the more they like the AARC. At the top of my list we need to start earlier on everything. We need a complete calendar of events and a Field Day Committee in place in January. We need the Maryland-DC QSO Party done and certificates mailed by December. We need to develop an organizational chart, and start taking jobs that have become too big for one person, and splitting them into two or three. Today we have some members overwhelmed while other are afraid to volunteer for fear they'll be next. We need to start hearing reports from committees regularly instead of rarely. We need to stop just thinking that more free memberships makes the club bigger, and realizing that getting new people socialized into the club is the real mark of success. That means activities, Winter Field Day, Field Day, the Maryland-DC QSO party, bringing back the "fox hunt", kitbuilding, MESH, work parties, picnics, holiday parties, workshops, and making sure the new folks get invited to be part of our public service events instead of feeling like the odd man out. We need the club house open more often. And we need to have solid plans for projects before committing funds and rushing off in three directions at once. My most ambitious plan is to revive the Holly Net. For 40 years we had a Morning Net like no other. We were known for it all over the country. That net brought in more members than we can count, and we just let it die. I can only imagine Ms. Holly Bevin is up there somewhere wishing we'd get it going again. There may not be another Holly, ever. But I bet we can find 10 retired hams who are willing to get up one morning every two weeks at 5:45am and run a net for 2 1/2 hours. Can I accomplish all this? Maybe not. But I don't see throwing up my hands as an option.

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.w3vpr.org/node/504/submission/1254>