



THE RICHMOND HAM

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JANUARY 2013

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, January 11, 2013, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

PROGRAM: "Getting started in Ham Radio"
Presented by Joe Palsa K3WRY.

Coming Events:

January Meeting, January 11, 7:00 PM.

VE Testing Session, January 12, 2013 9:am at the Bon Air United Methodist Church

Frostfest will be here before you know it! Feb 2, 2013 is sneaking up. Earlybird tickets are available at www.frostfest.com

Club Members!

If you are not receiving your copy of the Club's monthly newsletter, please contact Richard, WA4FEH, RARC's Treasurer, at wa4feh@gmail.com or phone 743-3899.

Getting to know this month's speaker

Joe Palsa, K3WRY, has quite a diverse background from police officer to Ph.D. For a number of years Joe worked in power and UPS systems for manufacturers who dealt primarily with government customers, including the military. The military work took him all over the world including time spent on Navy ships. Joe has numerous professional and ham affiliations and accomplishments. Of particular note, he is the EC for Chesterfield County and the State government liaison for the Virginia Section of ARRL.

While many of us claim to have a "bench" with a few tools, Joe has a "lab" that looks like the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and some of his test gear is traceable to NIST calibration standards. His ham shack is equally impressive.

From The Prez

As we begin a new year, I'm reminded of something my predecessor, Bruce MacAlister, told me: you can really only do this job for two years at most because you run out of ideas. Ideas are what keeps a club like ours going. Throughout the past few months, some of you have approached me with ideas for projects, speakers and ways to raise money for the Club. I appreciate those ideas, and be assured

that every proposal is considered by the board of directors (for those things that require board approval), and when it's something I can implement, I will try to do so. So keep the suggestions coming.

In October, we distributed a survey seeking information about our members, their interests and special skills. We received some responses, but we could use more input to insure that we have a broad representation of the membership before compiling the results. If you have not completed the survey form, please do so and drop it off at the January meeting. I'll bring some more forms if you don't have the one that was mailed to everyone.

Frostfest is coming on February 2. Jim Bates, KJ4WLH, is coordinating our presence there, and he could use some help. We have a few volunteers, but need more. Please contact Jim directly to assist with this important event. While the Frostfest audience is mostly licensed hams, it's a great outreach tool for our Club. We typically pick up a couple of new members as a result of our participation at this event which probably ranks in the top ten best hamfests in the country.

Grayle Hunley, KF4USV, had a suggestion to increase attendance at Club meetings, and he's doing something about it. He will be providing his homemade chili and Filipino coffee as refreshments at the January meeting. I might just skip dinner before the meeting.

73
Win

D-STAR Note

Our digital repeater usage continues to grow as more members acquire D-STAR radios and install D-STAR hotspots. In addition to our regular Wednesday night net on the VHF D-STAR repeater, we link that repeater to Reflector 025C at 9:00 PM on Wednesdays for the National Capital Region D-STAR net. On Sunday nights at 9:00 pm, we link the UHF repeater to Reflector 002A for the Southeast D-STAR Weather Net. Information on gateway registration and linking is on the Club website at <http://rarclub.net/repeaters/D-STAR/> or contact Jim, KJ4WLH or Win, WA4SSG, for assistance.

RARC VE News

The next VE testing session will be Saturday, January 12th at 9:00am, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church.
 If you have questions about a session, please see our website, www.rarclub.net/ or contact Allan, WA3J, at 804-399-8724, or wa3j@arrl.net.

Club Info...

- RARC meets on the second Friday of each month at 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.
- We offer 10-week license prep classes in September and March with exams following.
- Members provide VE testing sessions on odd-months during the year.

FCC EXAMS EVERY MONTH on the SECOND SATURDAY. For January and all odd-numbered months: Bon Air United Methodist Church, 9 AM. Call coordinator, Allan Johnson, WA3J, 399-8724, or visit <http://www.rarclub.net/>.

For February and all even-numbered months, FCC test sessions are provided by the RAVE group. Coordinator, Pat Wilson, W4PW (932-9424) has information on his website <http://w4pw.org>.

RARC has the first D-STAR digital repeater in the area. 147.255 (+) and 443.7125 (+). We now have the gateway tied into the worldwide D-STAR network.

The Club sponsors several radio nets each week. Join in for the informative discussions and fun.

Sunday	7:00 PM	50.135	USB
	7:30 PM	52.525	FM
Wednesday	7:00 PM	28.475	USB
	8:00 PM	147.255	D-STAR Repeater
	8:15 PM	145.730	Packet

Join the Richmond Amateur Radio Club. You don't have to have a ham license, just have a genuine interest in the hobby.

Annual Dues are:
 80 and over \$0
 Age 12 and under \$5.00

Age 13 to 18 \$10.00
 Regular Membership \$15.00

- Lots of information about the Club and our activities is available on our website, www.rarclub.net. Check it out!

2013 Club Dues Reminder

Club dues are due and payable November 1st of each year. We gladly accept your dues any time in the month of November; however, the longer you wait to send them in the greater the chance your name will not be in the club roster and you will not be receiving the newsletter.

Thanks, Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer

Chili Lovers Get Ready!

Grayle Hunley, KF4USV will be bringing his homemade chili and Filipino coffee to this months meeting! Be prepared to delight your appetite and dazzle your taste buds. Thanks Grayle!

RARC Members, I need your help!

I'm looking for 10 volunteers to help RARC with the FrostFest 2013 event. I need 2 volunteers to help set up the RARC booth on Friday, February 1st from 6:00pm until (you're done or) 8:00pm - whichever comes first. I also need 2 volunteers per shift to represent RARC for 2 hour shifts during the FrostFest event on Saturday, February 2nd:

- 7:30 AM - 10:00 AM
- 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM
- 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM (take down)

I'd really like to have 2 volunteers per time slot, more is better, but please consider being flexible if all the time slots are not filled! We have been given 4 tickets to the FrostFest event - The folks who volunteer for the 7:30 - 10:00 shift and the 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM shifts will receive the free tickets!

Please e-mail or call me for scheduling information! You can see the updated sign up sheet on the web at:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheet/ccc?key=0AoN0dWVWHj-tdDJ0V2pNajZ0dUwyYjKjU1hLZHjQmc>

Thank you - Jim Bates
 mailto:jlbbates4@gmail.com
 (804) 592-1068

Cub Scout Ham Radio Presentation

I need a couple of people to help with the Cub Scout Ham Radio presentation on Monday Jan 14th. I received a call from the Cubmaster, David Conrad, who'd like to have us do a presentation of Ham Radio to his Cub Scout Pack. The Pack is located in the West End and it will probably be around 6 or 7pm and last an hour or so. Please contact me, Jim Bates (KJ4WLH) for information - (804) 592-1068 or jl Bates4@gmail.com

Food For Thought

Owners of electric cars may soon be driving on eggshells, if David Mitlin has anything to say about it.

Mitlin, a professor of chemical and materials engineering at the University of Alberta, in Edmonton, Canada, is working on a way to turn waste eggshell membranes and egg whites into materials for high-performance supercapacitors. Supercapacitors offer high power density, charging and discharging far faster than rechargeable batteries. Unfortunately, they store much less energy. Mitlin thinks the membranes inside eggshells could help crack that problem.

"If you could keep the very nice power of a supercap but extend the energy density even to be that of a mediocre lithium-ion battery, you'd really enable the applications world in the automotive sector and in consumer products," Mitlin told attendees at the Materials Research Society's Fall Meeting in Boston last week.

Supercapacitors are electrochemical devices that store a double layer of charge on activated carbon as electrodes. Mitlin and postdoctoral fellow Zhi Li propose replacing the activated carbon with eggshell membranes from certain industrial chicken farms. These farms provide eggs yolks for the production of medicine and cosmetics but discard the shells.

For cars but also for backup power for ham rigs, emergency response, and being very green.

(Thanks Bruce, W4BRU)

The End of the Public Phone Network A Washington, D.C., committee wants to phase out traditional telephony worldwide, by June 2018

The [134-year-old U.S. public phone network](#) is dying—[a third of all U.S. households are already cellphone-only](#). And it's not just cellular that's killing it. More and more businesses and households are trading their traditional switched telephone service for voice over Internet Protocol, or VoIP, services. That's led to a paradoxical situation, where a huge number of phone calls start out as Internet packets and end as Internet packets, but have to be switched to, and then from, a voice circuit in between.

What remains is to put the Internet protocol in the middle of the network as well. And it's happening. In a 2009 filing with the [U.S. Federal Communications Commission](#), [PDF] AT&T, the largest phone provider in the world, indicated its support for "the transition from the circuit-switched legacy network to broadband and IP-based communications." It went on to say, "That transition is under way already: With each passing day, more and more...services [are] leaving the public switched telephone network and plain-old telephone service as relics of a bygone era." And the company called on the government to give a date certain for the last plain old telephone call.

In June, a Washington, D.C., advisory group, the [Voice Communication Exchange Committee](#), formed and committed itself to a complete transition to the Internet protocol by a date of its own choosing: [June 15, 2018](#). The changeover will provide some enormous benefits to all of us, not least of which is high-definition voice service, similar to the transition from cathode-ray television to HDTV. And it will provide some enormous benefits to the phone companies, including the surprising one of windfall profits from their legacy real estate holdings.

(Thanks Bruce, W4BRU)

CW 100 YEARS OLD?

1912-Edwin Armstrong develops the regenerative receiver and also discovers that the "Audion" (Triode) can oscillate.

1913 Armstrong modifies regenerative circuit to produce continuous waves. CW is born!

The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at wa1ugo@arrl.net, or call me at 804-454-0564. The Swap Shop is presented in the newsletter as a benefit to our members. RARC takes no responsibility for items sold or traded in this newsletter. The ad will appear three times unless extended. Interested parties will contact you directly. ***You must be an RARC member to place an add.***

For Sale: Kenwood TK-981 FM transceivers for 900 MHz, used in good condition, bench checked, 15 watt, preprogrammed for local and national simplex and repeater frequencies. Includes microphone, power cord and mounting bracket. These are being made available at cost to promote local activity, price \$125. Get yours now and join us on simplex or the 900 MHz repeater. Also available, 30 watt capable transceivers for \$145, trade-ins taken. Contact Dave Meier, N4MW, n4mw@msn.com

Alpha Delta brand OCF 7-Band 300 Watt (Buckmaster Antenna) Good condition Buckmaster OCF antenna resold by Alpha Delta. New price \$207 @ <http://hamcall.net/7bandocf.html> My price \$150.00 Contact Jim Bates <mailto:jlbbates4@gmail.com> (804) 592-1068

Thought for the Day

Politeness is making company feel at home, when you wish they were.

73 de:

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Maylon Pearman	KG4RPQ	SECRETARY		
Richard Arnold	WA4FEH	TREASURER		