



THE RICHMOND HAM

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July 2013

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, July 12th 2013, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

PROGRAM: HF Digital mode demonstration by Wray Dudley, AB4SF and Jim Bates, KJ4WLH.

Coming Events:

July Meeting, July 12, 7:00 PM.

VE Testing Session, July 13th, 2013 9:am at the Bon Air United Methodist Church.

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 speakers

Wray Dudley, AB4SF, has been licensed since 1964 when WN4VXR went on the air. From 1971-1974, Wray was an Electronics Technician (Radar) on the Coast Guard Cutter Ingham. He ran hundreds of phone patches for the crew of the Ingham, including some through WA4SSG. For over 30 years, Wray has maintained the weather radar and computers and transmitters at WWBT-TV. Wray is an avid RTTY contester and DXer with a great deal of experience in HF digital modes.

Jim Bates, KJ4WLH, is an IT professional by day and the gateway administrator for the W4FJ D Star repeater by night. Jim does a bit of international travel for work and often takes his D Star HT with him so he can stay in touch with Club members from exotic locations. Jim's ham interests focus on VHF and UHF, but he also operates HF digital modes.

Join Wray and Jim as they present a live demonstration of PSK 31, JT 65 and possibly some other modes using free software and familiar HF transceivers.

From the Prez

This month I have a number of odds and ends to convey. First, a big thank you to those who participated in Field Day. Robert Orndorff, W4BNO, and the RATS team did a great job of organizing and setting up the stations. My thanks to the RARC members who participated. Robert tells me there were at least 25 people in attendance most of Saturday. And thanks also to Allan Johnson, WA3J, and his helpers who conducted VE testing at Field Day.

We have some excellent programs lined up for the next few months. As you will see in this newsletter, our July program by Wray Dudley, AB4SF, and Jim Bates, KJ4WLH, will be a live demonstration of HF digital modes. Joe Palsa introduced this topic last month, and at the next meeting you will see some of the most popular of these modes in action.

I received an email recently from a member who lamented the lack of activity on our area FM repeaters and the difficulty of making HF contacts with compromise antennas. HF digital modes work amazingly well with simple antennas and minimal power. If that's your situation, the July program will show you how a modest HF station can work DX on digital modes surprisingly well. I know because I worked a number of DX contacts using PSK 31 with a dipole and low power for years.

In August, Jim Bates will present a program on D Star. I know this mode is not everyone's cup of tea (it happens to be mine), but there are some interesting things you may not know about D Star. Icom has actually reduced prices on some of their D Star radios, maybe not enough to get you over the price barrier, but at least the prices have moved in the right direction.

In September, Armand Hamel, WA1UQO, will present a program where everyone can actually build something that you will take home with you after the meeting. The prototype has been produced, and I think

you will enjoy not only the experience, but also the finished product.

I have appointed a nominating committee to propose a slate of officers and directors for next year. I know that Ron Chase, Marshall Ervine and Dave Thomas would welcome your suggestions.

I have also appointed a D Star Repeater Committee currently consisting of Mike Owens, K4RKO, Jim Bates, KJ4WLH, Wray Dudley, AF4SF, Allan Johnson, WA3J and myself. The immediate task is to move the D Star repeater gear and gateway to a new rack cabinet that was donated to the Club some years ago. We also plan to replace the Heliac to the antennas when the weather cools off. Down the road, we will be looking at integrating some commercial radio gear in place of the Icom RF decks to improve receiver performance. This has been done successfully by a number of D Star repeater operators around the world with dramatic improvements in receive performance.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting on July 12.

73, Win

June Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: June 14,, 2013

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Presiding Officers: Win Grant, WA4SSG President; Pete Fundinger, AA4PF, Vice President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer; Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, substitute secretary owing to Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary.

Win opened the meeting.

Guest: Kris F. Ongchangio, KV4LSL

The May minutes were approved without change by voice vote.

The May Treasurer report was given by Richard Arnold, WA4FEH.

Membership was voted for David M Nance, W4SSE, from Roanoke who visits from time to time.

On upgrades, Ray Burd, N4AIX, got his Extra.

Joe Palsa, K3WRY , reported on Chesterfield ARES

Marshall Ervine, N4XBP, and Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, reported on Special Olympics. The

outside events got rained out so much less ham traffic.

Win announced the new banquet location in 2013 with plenty of room at the Chesterfield county airport.

Win pointed out that Rob Thomas, KC4NYK, designed a new club logo and banner that reflects our 1916 start.

Win reminded the club that RARC is working Field Day with RATS. Allen will offer license exams at Field Day.

At Mananas hamfest Win presented the RARC-sponsored plaque for the Va QSO party.

Grayle Hunley, KF4USV, spoke about providing rides for bringing those who can't drive themselves to a meeting.

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, announced Scout Jamboree frequencies are posted on RARC website.

Win distributed numbers for a raffle of items he and others picked up at Dayton Hamvention© such as branded mouse pads, caps and bags.

Meeting was adjourned for the program at 7:37pm.

Joe Palsa, presented the program on HF digital modes.

RARC VE News

July's Testing session will be on the 13th at the Bon Air United Methodist Church at 9:00am. 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 804-201-1898 has information on his website <http://w4pw.org>.

Nets

RARC has the first and only D-STAR digital repeater in the area. 147.255 (+) and 443.7125 (+). In addition to our Wednesday local D Star net (below), we link the D Star VHF module for the National Capital Region D Star Net on Wednesday nights at 9pm. On Tuesday nights at 9pm, we link our UHF module to the North Carolina D Star Net, and on Sunday nights at 9pm to the South Eastern D Star Weather Net.

The Club sponsors several local 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!

Refreshment Schedule

We currently have the following commitments for upcoming meeting refreshments. Wouldn't your name sure look great on the list?

March - Bruce MacAlister

April - Pete Fundinger

May - Marshall Ervine

June

July

August

September - Grayle Hunley

October - Dave Thomas

Save the Date

The RARC Annual Banquet will be held on Friday, November 8, 2013. We have secured a new venue this year that will have plenty of space for everyone. Details to follow.

Do you have a 2 meter J-Pole that needs a home?

The Boy Scouts have a need for a donated 2-meter J-Pole antenna for the July 2013 National Scout Jamboree. The crew for the electricity-electronics merit badge booth wants to be connected to the scout VHF net to show the scouts. They have the transceiver but not the antenna.

Contact Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, 353-4269

Help A Club Member

Grayle Hunley, KF4USV, is looking for volunteers to help give rides for older members to club meetings. He has members listed by zip codes to find those nearest to you. Contact Grayle if you can help. 730-0455 Also, members or prospective members needing transportation to the RARC meetings: Please contact Pete Fundinger at 804-639-5573 to arrange a ride for you. Pete will do his best to find someone near you or someone who can pick you up on their way to the meeting.

RARC June Radio Run!

IF you have made at least 1 (one) contact on each and every day of the month of June, please contact Jim Bates with the following information:

1. Call Sign (required)
2. Name (optional)
3. E-Mail Address and/or Telephone Number (optional)
4. If you kept track of your contacts, the # of contacts you made during the month of June, 2013 (optional)

If you have questions, comments, or concerns please contact Jim Bates or RARC.

Contact Information (e-mail is preferred)

Jim Bates

KJ4WLH

(804) 592-1068

jl Bates4@gmail.com

I respond to every e-mail. If you don't receive a response to your e-mail back within 24 hours, please double check the e-mail address and resend your e-mail or CALL ME :)

2013 Scout Jamboree The 2013 Scout Jamboree from July 15 to 24 will have a substantial ham radio station running HF, VHF, and D-Star. It could be fun for club members to work it. The URL in the attached note gives you the info especially listening frequencies. There's a QSL card for the event. Ham radio gets a real boost in the Boy Scouts because one of the professional staffers is an avid ham. Here is a link to amateur radio at the Jamboree <http://www.k2bsa.net/jamboree-live/>.

Thanks Bruce , W4BRU

Field Day!!!

If you weren't there, Here's what you missed!



The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at wa1uqo@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 ad.**

Wanted to Buy: Power supply 13.8V @ 20 amps - Contact Herb Johansen KI4HWS @ 379-9530

Wanted: Elmer to assist with the set-up of an ICOM V8000 transceiver. Contact Herb Johansen KI4HWS @ 379-9530

For Sale: President HR 2600 Mobile Multi-Mode 10 Meter Transceiver. Good condition. Output power – CW 25 Watts; USB/LSB 25 Watts PEP; AM/FM 10 Watts. Includes microphone, power cord, and manual. Checked out on the RARC 10 M net with good audio report. Price \$100. Proceeds go to RARC. Contact Marshall Ervine at (804) 320-8629; marshe73@verizon.net

Icom IC-V80 2 Meter HT. Good condition. Output power 0.5/2.5/5.5 Watts. Includes battery, drop-in charger, manual, and software with USB programming cable. Checked out on local ARES net with good audio report. Price \$50. Proceeds go to RARC. Contact Marshall Ervine at (804) 320-8629; marshe73@verizon.net

FOR SALE: I still have the following equipment for sale. Prices are listed but make your best offer. Terms of sale are cash and equipment is sold as is. Call if you have any questions. Please cut and paste the url's given for items in your browser for more detailed information. Contact Jerry Williams KJ4IT at 804-357-2190 both voice and text. My e-mail is kj4it.jw@gmail.com .

HF RADIO

Yaesu FT-817 5-watt QRP HF/VHF/UHF All Mode Transceiver and a **LDG Z-11** QRP HF Auto Tuner <http://www.ldgelectronics.com/c/252/products/7/30/3> . Transceiver and tuner checked ok. Comes with factory user guide, "Nifty User Guide", dc power cables and a hand microphone. **PRICE: \$550.00**

MOBILES, PORTABLES and SCANNERS:

ICOM IC-37A 220 MHz Transceiver: Is in fair condition, powers up but needs work. Comes with a HM-23 DTMF mic and the owners manual but missing the brackets. **PRICE: \$20.00**

YAESU FT-33R 220 Mhz Handheld: Powers up seems to work but may need work. Have the wall wart charging transformer and a copied user manual. **PRICE: \$20.00**

Radio Shack PRO-2045 Scanner s/n 65001512 . The Radio Shack PRO-2045 200-Channel Weather Alert Home Scanner. (NOTE: This is not a trunked or Project 25 receiver.) Preliminary spec overview is at this link http://support.radioshack.com/support_electronics/doc33/33681.htm and a complete download of the owners manual is at this link http://support.radioshack.com/productinfo/DocumentResults.asp?sku_id=20-418&Name=Radio%20Scanners&Reuse=N **PRICE: \$75.00**

ANTENNAS and RELATED ACCESSORIES

Ameritron Model RCS-8V Remote Antenna Switch: Unit is brand new in the box – never used. HF thru VHF. **PRICE: \$135**

SWAN Electronics SWR Power Meter Model WMM-200. Frequency range 50 -150 MHz. Power rating 200 watts. Have the original manual. The unit is in its original box and looks like new. **PRICE: \$ 50.00**

MFJ-260C 300-watt dry dummy load. NEW IN BOX. **PRICE: \$30.00**

MFJ-1661 Manual Screwdriver Antenna in like new condition although it will require a base mount. <http://www.mfjenterprises.com/Product.php?productid=MFJ-1661> **PRICE: \$40.00**

MFJ-1910 33' Black fiberglass telescoping mast . **PRICE: \$40.00**
<http://www.mfjenterprises.com/Product.php?productid=MFJ-1910>

AN/GRA-4 40' Guyed Antenna Mast (Military) –The mast set appears to complete with all sections, guys and guy ropes. Please refer to the following link http://www.ontariosurplus.com/pdf/tm11_2651.pdf which is an example for setting up three AN/GRA-4 sets. Masts are in good condition (not bent). **PRICE: \$225.00**

Tripod Supported Military Style Fiberglass Mast approx 31' tall self-supporting similar to those at www.goverticalusa.com . Comes with two guy rings all in a rubberized tote bag. In very good condition. Picture available on request. **PRICE: \$110.00**

Computer Accessories

1-LOT of Tigertronics Inc. Signalink Sound Card Radio Interface Model SL-1 Revision-C; a Tiger Trak Model TM-1+ Programmable Tracking Module; and a **TinyTrak 3 Plus**. Have the factory manuals but no software (readily available on the internet).
LOT PRICE: \$50.00

Thought For The Day

Half of being smart, is knowing what you're dumb at.

73 de:

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Richard Arnold	WA4FEH	TREASURER		
