



THE RICHMOND HAM

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September 2013

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, September 13th 2013, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

PROGRAM: Group build of an Anderson Power Pole polarity tester with Armand Hamel WA1UQO.

Coming Events:

August Meeting, September 13th, 7:00 PM.

VE Testing Session, September 14th, 2013 9:am at the Bon Air United Methodist Church.

Public Service:

The annual Step Out To Fight Diabetes walkathon is being held on Saturday, October 12, 2013 at St Mary's Hospital.

Please mark your calendar and contact Roy Schultz, KI4MCX.

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

Armand moved to Virginia after retiring from the electric utility industry after 27 years as a foreman and maintenance planner in the Instrumentation and Controls department. His interest in Amateur Radio goes back to the early sixties when he discovered an AM/Shortwave chassis that had been pulled from an old phono/console set from the 40's. No CW or SSB, but lots of 40M AM. Easily listened to the Green Mountain net on most nights.

First licensed as WN1UQO in 1975, then WA1UQO in 1976. At this time his radio interests are in small homebrew projects, operating QRP and D-Star. Currently Armand is acting as the net control for the RARC D-star net and as editor of the RARC newsletter.

From the Prez

The 2013 RARC Annual Banquet will be held on Friday, November 8. While that's two months away, I wanted to encourage everyone

to make a reservation early and plan to attend. The board of directors decided to try something a little different this year.

First, we have a new venue with plenty of room for everyone. I know that in the past we have been rather cramped at the prior venue, so we set out to find a site with sufficient room, and Pete, AA4PF, has found just such a place. The banquet will be at the King's Korner restaurant at the Chesterfield County Airport. We will have a private room with a buffet set up just for us.

Second, rather than paying for whatever you order, the board of directors voted to charge a flat \$15 for each person with everyone responsible for paying for any drinks you order from the bar. We have given the restaurant a guarantee, so this simplifies our arrangement with the restaurant, and results in a very affordable price for our members. But we need everyone to make a reservation and pay the \$15 per person cost in advance of the banquet. Reservation forms will be available at the next two Club meetings and mailed out (email to those who receive the newsletter by email) as well.

Most importantly, we have Harry Dannels, W2HD, lined up to be our guest speaker. Harry has an amateur radio biography that few can claim. He was president of the ARRL from 1972-82. He was named President Emeritus of ARRL in 1984. In 2010, Harry was named President Emeritus of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, an association he also served as president from 1989-94. In 2002, Harry was inducted into the *CQ Magazine* Amateur Radio Hall of Fame. And these are just a few of Harry's radio affiliations and accomplishments.

Harry lives in Charlottesville where he is still active in ham radio. In fact, the way I learned that Harry had located to Virginia, was a couple of years ago when I was near Charlottesville one evening and I heard the callsign, W2HD, on one of the Charlottesville repeaters. A few months ago, I took a long shot and invited Harry to be our speaker, not knowing if he would be able to join us in

Richmond. I had a delightful landline QSO with him, and I know he will be an entertaining and informative speaker. Harry will be joined by Bob Patterson, K4DU, the president of the Albemarle Amateur Radio Club.

I'm looking forward to a great evening on November 8.

73, Win

August Meeting Notes

Meeting Date: August 9, 2013

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Presiding Offices: Win Grant, WA4SSG, President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer; and Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary

Win opened the meeting by welcoming guests John Farrell, Robin Jackson, KK4RES; Doug Arnold and Woody Gentry, W4CZV.

Richard Arnold, WA4FEH; gave the Treasurer's report for July. He received two new membership applications for Tim Farrell; KJ4NPO and Tim Johnston (TJ), K4TFJ. The club voted in both. Welcome to the club!

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU gave a report on the school. Only Tech and General classes will be offered due to other demands on our instructors. Registration will be Sept 2nd. Electronics for hams will be taught on Thursday nights starting Sept 12th.

Joe Palsa, W3WRY, reported on ARES. Chesterfield County will presenting Survival Day Workshop on Sept 21st. (For more info go to www.survivorday.com). ARES will be at the workshop to represent the use of Amateur Radio in emergencies.

Win announced the Annual Banquet will be held on Nov 8th. The fee for the dinner will be \$15.00 each in advance. Information will be in the Sept and Oct newsletters. The guest speaker will be W2HD, Harry Dannals. He was President Emeritus of ARRL and President Emeritus of Quarter Century Wireless Association.

David Thomas, WD3O; of the nominating committee said that the Club needs to fill positions of President, Vice President and two Directors. Please contact the nominating committee. David Thomas, WD3O; Marshall Ervine, N4XBP; and Ron Chase, KD4XA are the three members of the committee.

The Board met on Monday night, August 5th, and voted to take advantage of a 50 percent off sale by ICOM. The purchase would

be for a D-star controller (spare), duplexer and antenna for the 1.2 Ghz band. Jim Bates has given the club money to pay for a 1.2Ghz voice module. There is a spot for an antenna on the building where the repeater is located.

At next month's meeting there will be a program by Armand Hamel WA1UQO, members will build a project that they can take home.

The meeting was adjourned and Jim Bates was the speaker. He gave a presentation on how D-star works.

Highlights of August 2013 RARC Board Meeting

On August 5, 2013, the RARC board of directors held its quarterly meeting. Highlights of the meeting were:

- The board discussed plans for the annual banquet and approved charging a flat \$15 per person to be paid to the Club in advance with each person being responsible for paying for drinks directly to the restaurant.
- The nominating committee announced that it was meeting on August 6.
- The board agreed to offer for sale a Hy-Gain HF Yagi antenna, 2 meter transceiver and other items recently donated to the Club. Proceeds will go to the Club treasury.
- The board voted to accept a generous donation from a member for the purchase of a 23 cm (1.2 GHz) RF module for the D Star repeater and to spend up to \$2,500 of Club funds for a backup D Star controller and a duplexer and antenna for the 23 cm module. The impetus for purchasing the backup controller and deploying the 23 cm module at this time is a one time promotion by Icom which is offering D Star repeater components to clubs at half price through December. Other items associated with the 23 cm module are being donated as well.
- The board discussed plans for the 100th anniversary of the Club in 2016. Some members have agreed to serve on a committee to propose ways to celebrate this event, but the committee still needs a chairperson.

D Star Repeater Changes

The Repeater Committee recently decided to make a small change to our linking schedule. For the past two years, we have linked our UHF module daily to Reflector 25B, the reflector which all of the northern Virginia and Maryland repeaters link to. This essentially creates a wide area repeater that covers much of Virginia and Maryland. We set the link to connect on weekdays between 7am and 7pm.

- In recognition of the fact that our UHF module has better coverage than our VHF module, we have decided to switch our weekday link to Reflector 25B to our VHF module, and encourage local QSOs on our UHF module. Anyone is welcome to create a link or take down a link. If you terminate the link to Reflector 25B between 7 am and 7pm on weekdays, after about 15 minutes of no activity, the VHF repeater will automatically relink to Reflector 25B.
- Our Wednesday night RARC D Star net at 8:00 pm will continue to be on the VHF machine.
- The various other nets (Sunday night at 9:00 pm for the Southeast Weather Net; Tuesday night at 9:00 pm for the North Carolina D Star Net) will now be available on the VHF module. The repeater will automatically link to the appropriate reflector at the assigned time, so to participate, you only need to listen to our VHF module.
- Our application to SERA for a 23 cm frequency has been approved. In a couple of months, we will bring online a D Star repeater with an output of 1284.000 MHz, - 20 MHZ. The RF deck and duplexer have been ordered.

RARC VE News

September's Testing session will be on the 14th 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 VHF 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.

Refreshment Schedule

We currently have the following commitments for upcoming meeting refreshments. With the banquet in November and holiday party in December, please consider taking a month in 2014. If just ten members would take one month, we will have next year covered.

September – Grayle Hunley
October - Dave Thomas

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.

This Month's program Topic

This month's meeting topic will be a build session to demonstrate the ease of assembling Anderson Power pole connectors and the fabrication of a polarity tester. If you're interested in building one, (15 minutes and three solder connections) bring along your favorite soldering iron. All parts and solder will be provided.

Remember The Chili ??

Remember Grayle Hunley's fabulous chili from last year? This year he will be providing us with another treat for our taste buds in September. Come to the meeting hungry.

Mark your calendars!

What: BSA - Jamboree on the Air (JOTA)
When: October 19th from 08:00 - 16:00
Where: Richmond International Raceway (RIC)
Who? - You! That's who!
Links:
ARRL - <http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>
Scouting - <http://www.scouting.org/JOTA.aspx>
The Heart of Virginia Council is holding their "Council Wide" 100th Anniversary on the

weekend of October 18 - 20. The Scouting event, Jamboree on the Air, is also held that weekend. That means that approximately 5,000 scouts and their families will be camping and participating in all kinds of Scouting events over the weekend.

I need your help! If you'd like to talk with scouts about Amateur Radio, Operate a station, or just help with setup/take-down - I'd appreciate hearing from you! The tentative plan is to set up a station on Saturday morning and run through the mid afternoon.

If you are interested in helping - in ANY way - please contact Jim Bates (KJ4WLH) at jl Bates4@gmail.com and (804) 592-1068. Thank you!

Fall RARC Radio School Classes

This is a different semester for the club's classes. We usually have 7 to 15 students for the Technician class. This time we have 3. We typically have 3 to 10 students for General. We had none! Because our two Tech instructors had competing classes and jobs on Tuesday nights, Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, is skipping Extra to teach Tech. For the first time in several years we are teaching the Electronics for Hams elective course. Tray Murphy, N4PAT, is teaching it assisted by Randy Sweeney, N4WDR. They have 7 students.

Electronics for Hams is based on the course designed by W4BRU and Ron Cox, KD4XA, with help from Ray Roberts, W4MYI (SK), Mel Ford, W4AHC, and Mike Owns, K4RKO.



RARC Banquet Reservation

Reservations for the RARC annual banquet will be sent out electronically in pdf. form along with the newsletter. Those receiving a printed copy of the newsletter will receive a copy also with their letter. The form will also be available on the club website and some printed copies will be available at the September meeting.



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

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 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

There are those who make things happen,
those who watch things happen,
and those who wonder what happened.

73 de:

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