



THE RICHMOND HAM

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August 2014

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, August 8th 2014, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

PROGRAM: To be determined.

Coming Events:

August Meeting, August 8th, 7:00 PM.

VE Testing Session, September 13th, 2014 9:am at the Bon Air United Methodist Church.

Public Service: Sept 6th, 2014 Bike MS Virginia Mike Hackett – mhack61@yahoo.com.

Sept 13th, 2014 Heart of Virginia Bike Festival ai4vj@flareva.org.

Oct 18th, 2014 Step Out to Fight Diabetes Roy Schultz – ki4mcx@arrl.net

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.

From the Prez

Well, we finally heard from our government concerning the effect of the sunspot magnetic storm that occurred in 2012. Our scientific community has finally crunched all of the numbers and has concluded that the storm came closer to the earth than was reported and if it was ---just slightly closer---we would have had a communications, electrical grid, and satellite catastrophe that the world has never seen before. The losses occurring would have caused incalculable costs and time to restore our electric grid and communications capabilities and would have stretched into years of problems and repairs for our civilization. All of the warning stories we have heard over the years would have become true. Real food for thought for our world's future.

Dr Joe Palsa, K3WRY

July 2014 RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: July 11, 2014

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Presiding Officers; Dr. Joe Palsa, K3WRY, President; David Robinson, KJ4LHP, Vice President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer; and Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary. Dr. Palsa opened by welcoming everyone to the RARC meeting. He introduced the officers and board members.

Guests welcomed were Gene Byer; Jeff Davis, KM4BXX; Peter Martin, K2VIZ; Chad Martin, KJ4SEM.

Richard Arnold gave the treasurer report for the month. No new memberships were reported.

Minutes were approved for the June meeting. Alan Johnson, WA3J reported on Field Day ham testing. 29 test were given at the event. There was a 79% passing rate.

There was ham testing being held at the church on the Saturday, July 12.

Joe Palsa reported on the success of the Field Day Event with all four clubs involved. The plans for next year is to have the same four clubs again with another station position added.

There were no public service reports.

New Business:

Grayle Hunley, KF4USV reported that he will serve his chili at the January meeting again this year. He donated an old QSL card, he found, to the club. It was a piece of history from the Virginia Richmond Amateur Radio Club, "Mother of Presidents" confirming special qso with W200ZA.

Joe Palsa asked for volunteers for refreshments at meetings.

Everyone was reminded about the local and club nets in the area.

The meeting was adjourned. Following the meeting Jim Bates, K8OI with help from Fred Towers, WB4KXS gave a presentation on using digital modes with repeaters.

RARC VE News

The September 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.

Nets

RARC has the first and only D-STAR digital repeater in the area. 147.255 (+ 600), 443.7125 (+ 5) and now 1284.0000 (-20). 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.

Beginning on March 5, 2014, the RARC D Star Net which meets on Wednesday nights at 8:00pm will be accessible on our three D Star modules, all of which will be linked. You can use any of the three frequencies, 2 meters, 70 cm or 23 cm, and you should hear and be heard by everyone. If you participate in the net via DVAP or DV Dongle, you must link your device to Ref 007D rather than to any of our modules. Since the W4FJ stack will all be linked to Ref 007D, anyone linked to that reflector will be connected to the 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.

2014 Refreshment Schedule

The refreshment schedule for 2014 is wide open! Consider signing up for your favorite month. The entire year can be covered by only ten volunteers. Let's see some new contributors!!

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

MRA

Interested in information or support of the **Metropolitan Repeater Association** (MRA)? Call Ed, KG4SNK, at 804-513-1947. The sole business of the MRA is to own, operate, and maintain the 145.430 repeater.

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Grayle's Challenge!

As most of you know Grayle Hunley, KF4USV has often favored us with his culinary prowess for our meeting refreshments. His challenge to YOU is to step up to the plate and give us a taste of YOUR culinary abilities! He's sure many of you have that something special you'd like to share with us. So get your chefs hat on, your recipe books out and get your name on the refreshment list. Culinary celebrity await you!

HAMSITES!

Everyone has a few favorite Ham radio related websites. I have mine that I visit regularly and I'm sure most of you have yours. There are lots of facets to the Ham radio hobby and things can get quite specific in nature and also quite esoteric. Same with the Ham related websites. Many however are pretty general in content and can be appreciated by all. Also there are quite a few that offer really well done audio and video content and I'll list a few of those below. My appeal to YOU is that you let me know if you have any favorites that you think the club members would enjoy knowing about. I'll try to list a few each month as long as there is an interest.

Here are two that most Hams seem to know about. The first is Ham Nation with Bob Heil, Gordon West and George Thomas.

<http://twit.tv/hn> . You can watch the show live every Wednesday night at 9:pm or download the video the following Friday.

Another worthwhile podcast is AmateurLogicTV which is released once a month or so and is available at <http://www.amateurlogic.tv/blog/> .

More next time. Let me know what you think and send me links to any Ham related sites that you like and think the club members would like as well.

Thanks,

Armand armand.hamel@comcast.net

RARC 2014 Radio Run

Thank's to everyone who participated in this year's Radio Run! There were quite a few participants and it continues to grow in Richmond, VA popularity!

Even though it's not June anymore, please feel free to press the PTT on that transceiver and keep the "spirit" of the Radio Run alive throughout the whole year!

If you don't see your name on the "Winner's List", please let me know immediately!!!

73 de K8OI

2014 Radio Run Results

Call Sign	Name	Comments
K8OI	Jim Bates	3rd Year in a Row
KI4HWS	Herb Johansen	
KV4VP	Julian Bailey	
N4MW	Dave Meier	2nd Year in a Row
N4ZRW	Cissy Meier	2nd Year in a Row
W3PPY	George Golding	
W4LEW	Lew Best	3rd Year in a Row
WA3J	Allan Johnson	3rd Year in a Row
WB4KXS	Fred Towers	
WV0L	Kenneth Leidner	

Speaking of Websites!

Thanks to Bruce MacAlister W4BRU for bringing this website to our attention! As Bruce has indicated, "We realize there is a need to engage new amateurs, so another website has been created (and is still being developed) to give newly ticketed amateurs a one stop shop for everything Amateur Radio Related here in the Richmond Metro area.

www.RICHams.com. We are still working on how we get the website to those newly ticketed Amateurs, but this is certainly a starting point. Remember this is a living document, so as new events, clubs, organizations, etc., come about it will get added/updated. We are hopeful this will help the entire Amateur Community come together as a single entity. - feel free to provide your feedback on the site to me directly." W4BRU@arrl.net .

Marine Corps Marathon

Remember Kerry Kingham, WA4BQM that gave our club a talk on the Marine Corps Marathon at the beginning of the year? Well now is the time to register for that event! Marathon Day is Sunday, Oct. 26.

To sign up: Go to mcmham.org

If you were not a volunteer last year, click the appropriate link and begin the signup process.

Check your information to make sure it is all entered correctly.

After entering the information on mcmham.org, you must follow the link and volunteer with the Marathon as a Ham Radio volunteer. Please follow their registration process.

You can update your information at mcmham.org at any time by logging in and updating.

BOTH registrations mcmham.org (ham radio assignment) and Marine Corps Marathon must be completed before you will be assigned to a ham radio position for the Marathon.

Any questions can be directed to Kerry Kingham at wa4bqm@msn.com
73,

Kerry WA4BQM

MS Bike 2014

September will be here before we realize it is August already! This from Mike Hackett, AC5PT.

Ladies and Gentlemen:

MS Bike 2014 is September 6th and 7th and I am hoping each of you can participate again this year. The route and rest stops will be the same as last year and the Richmond end will be using the 146.88 repeater. The Williamsburg side may have to use an alternate repeater but that has not been confirmed. If the Williamsburg team is involved with another event I may need to have additional people so feel free to do some recruiting of your own. Jim and Roy could

you send a request for volunteers to Distric 6 ARES and the RARC respectively and Dr Joe could you do the same with ARCA. I have a fairly solid core from the RATS meeting but with the potential of not getting anyone from the Williamsburg club I would rather have a few spare people to work with from this end.

Thanks,
Mike, AC5PT



Paper, Pencil, Calculators Oh My!

Just when you thought it was time to give those brain cell a rest, it is school time again. Give yourself an early Christmas present this year and upgrade to the next license level! Registration is on Tuesday September 2nd at 7-8:pm at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road. You know you want to and you'll be done before Thanksgiving!

<http://rarclub.net/license/class-schedules/>

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.***

900 MHz Radios and Antennas!!

For Sale: 900 MHz radios and antennas. 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. Microphone, power cord and mounting bracket are included, price \$130. A limited number of mobile and base station antennas are also available. Equipment is provided at cost to promote Richmond area activity. Get yours now and join us on simplex or the 900 MHz repeaters.

Contact Dave Meier, N4MW 804-932-3641 - n4mw@n4mw.com

For Sale the following Items:

Telepost Model LP-Pan 2 to be used on Yaesu Ft-2000, Ft-950, or Elecraft K3.

E-Mu 0204 Audio Interface

IF-2000 interface board (RFSPACE) Uses PowerSDR-IF software. Actual receive for Flex Radio.

All software included.

Call Lew Best W4LEW at 804-740-3890



USED MILITARY ALUMINUM ANTENNA MAST SET CW-124/ GRA-4: TOTAL OF 8 ALUMINUM POLES. EACH POLE IS 66" LONG. THE OUTSIDE DIAMETER IS APPRO. 1.75". The masts are not bent and the case is in good condition. Might be missing a couple of guy stakes or small ropes but other than that the set is in good condition. PRICE: \$135.00 Sold As Is. Picture on request.

RCA TM-867 2-way/base station test set. Appears to be like new. \$50.00 Sold As Is.

Swan Electronics SWR Power Meter (Directional Coupler) Model WMM-200. Rated to 200 watts from 50 – 150 Mhz. Unit is new in the original box with the original instructions. \$150.00 Sold As Is. Picture on request.

Ameritron Model RCS-8V 5-position remote coaxial antenna switch. New in the box with instructions . \$149.00 Sold As Is. Picture on request.

MFJ Enterprises Antenna Analyzer Model MFJ-247. This is the first version of the popular MFJ antenna analyzer series. It covers 1.8 thru 30 Mhz in 5-bands which are 1.8 -2.9 Mhz, 3.2 – 5.3 Mhz; 6.5 – 11 Mhz; 12 – 21 Mhz and 18 -30 Mhz and gives a direct meter readout of the SWR for coaxially fed HF antennas in these frequency ranges. The instrument does not give impedance readings. The operation manual is included. \$50.00 Sold As Is. Picture on request

Items are being sold by Jerry Williams, KJ4IT, 804-730-0221, e-mail kj4it.jw@gmail.com.

Thought For The Day

If you must choose between two evils, pick the one you've never tried before.

73 de:

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