



THE RICHMOND HAM

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September 2014

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, September 12th 2014, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

PROGRAM: Using Chirp to “program” your radios

So you have two or more mobile transceivers and hand-helds. You notice that even if they're the same brand, you have to use a different computer app to enter the frequencies in each of them! And if you're running MacOS or Linux, you may simply be out of luck. To the rescue is a free, open-source app named Chirp. Bruce MacAlister will demonstrate it and show you how you can download, install and use in on Windows, Mac and Linux computers.

Bruce MacAlister, known to the FCC and his ham friends as W4BRU, has been a ham since 1995. A retired engineer, he fills his time as an instructor for the RARC radio school, a volunteer at the Science Museum of Virginia, and editor of his church newsletter. He is a past president of the RARC.

Coming Events:

September Meeting, September 12th, 7:00 PM.

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

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

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

The Central Virginia 6 Meter SSB Net
Tailgate Fest: Sept 27th.

RARC exhibit at RVA Maker Fest
September 27 at the Science Museum

Richmond is having its first “maker” festival. Called the RVA Maker Fest, the Richmond Amateur Radio Club will be one of the exhibitors. Led by maker, ham and former club secretary Rob Thomas, KC4NYK, and former club president Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, it is in part an experiment to see what kinds of things we want to do for our one-hundredth anniversary in 2016. It is sponsored by the hundredth anniversary committee headed by Tom Flippin, KD4CMK. Come to the Science Museum of Virginia between 10am and 5pm on Saturday September 27 and see what the “maker” movement is all about and the RARC exhibit.

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.

August 2012 RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Aug 8, 2014

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Presiding Officers: Dr Joe Palsa, K3WRY, President; Davis Robinson, KJ4LHP, Vice President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer; Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary; and Win Grant, WA4SSG; board member.

Dr Palsa opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the RARC meeting and introduced officers and board members.

There was one license upgrade. Joe Palsa announced that there is a sick ham who would like to sale a Force 12 C3 beam and a Cushcraft vertical. Please contact Dr Palsa, K3WRY for details.

Richard Arnold, gave the treasurer report for the month of July.

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, reported about the fall classes that will start Sept 9 and registration is on Tuesday Sept 2 at the church. Classes planned are tech, general and extra. Also, electronics for hams and CW (morse code) classes will be offered. Joe Palsa said that Mike Hackett, AC5PT is looking for help on the MS Bike ride on Sept 6 & 7. The bike ride goes to Williamsburg and back.

Joe Palsa spoke on ARES and Chesterfield County CERT training on how ham radio and CERT's will work together.

Minutes were approved for the month of July.

Members were asked to go on ARRL website and support (house bill) HR4969, which allows antennas for hams without all the restrictions of HOA's.

Thanks you to Lisa Kieffer, KD0RXH for providing refreshments.

The meeting was adjourned. Afterwards Dr Palsa gave a presentation.

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 awaits 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.

This month's hamsites include two that are based here in Virginia. The first is by one of our own club members, John DeMajo, K5HTZ. Find yourself a comfortable chair, a cup of your favorite and be prepared for a great experience. The Museum of Yesterday website, <http://www.museumofyesterday.org/> will keep you busy and fascinated for hours. Of special interest to Hams is the section devoted to the Antique Wireless Equipment Collection, <http://www.museumofyesterday.org/museum/index.htm>. Don't let this one slip by! Congratulations John!

My second offering this month is a personal favorite that I've been visiting for quite a while. <http://soldersmoke.blogspot.com/>. Hosted by Bill Meara, N2CQR it features a wide range of topics but primarily focuses on the trials and tribulations of homebrew radio. If you like to or want to build your own, Bill's blogspot and podcasts, <http://www.soldersmoke.com/> are for you. The author of three books, Bill's last effort "Us and Them" is a great read and highly recommended. His second book, "SolderSmoke - Global Adventures in Wireless Electronics" will keep a smile on a Hams face for a long time. Check them out!

Got a favorite of your own? Let me know.
Thanks, Armand.
armand.hamel@comcast.net

Survivor Day V

It seems the message is this: Be Prepared. On Saturday, September 27, 2014, join public safety partners from across the Central Virginia region in Survivor Day ...an event where you and your family can learn how to live safely through natural disasters and other emergencies. Do you know what you need to survive at home without power for at least 72 hours? Or what to take with you if you had to leave in a hurry? Emergency and Community Response professionals will show you how to prepare for these threatening situations. Plus, they'll arm you with a free Survivor Starter Kit. You will learn about:

- Food & Water Safety
- Household Safety
- First Aid & Hygiene
- Planning & Documents

Fraud/Home Security/Identity Protection
It happens Saturday, September 27th at eleven Central Virginia locations.
Presented by the [Central Virginia Emergency Management Alliance](http://www.centralvirginiaemergencymanagementalliance.com).
<http://www.survivorday.com/>

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

HR4969 What Is It? How Can You Help?

If enacted, HR 4969 would direct the FCC to extend the reasonable accommodation protections to those amateurs who are living in deed-restricted communities. Known as "CC&Rs" (covenants, conditions and restrictions) are the prohibitions and limitations placed on properties by builders or home-owner associations (HOAs) which prevent licensed Amateurs from erecting even modest antennas.

HR 4969 would not give Amateurs "carte blanche" to do whatever they wished. It would require HOAs and other private land use regulations to extend reasonable accommodation to Amateurs wishing to erect antennas.

The first step in the process is to garner support among members of the US House of Representatives. Each ARRL member needs to contact their member of the US House to state their support for HR 4969 and to ask their Representative to please sign on as a co-sponsor for the bill. If you have an existing relationship with your Congressperson, try to arrange a meeting with them (usually at their district offices) to express your support for HR 4969.

For full details on how you can help, sample letters and the how and why to use the ARRL for delivering letters to your representative, visit this ARRL website, <http://www.arrl.org/hr-4969>.

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 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

For Sale

I am moving and have the following items for sale for \$1,000 cash; everything you need to be in business on 6M and 2M FM, currently in operation. Tower is being pulled down on September 4. Will deliver in Virginia for cost of fuel.

- (1) One 50' tri-leg AM tower (4' sections) with base
- (2) One 5-element 6M beam, almost new
- (3) One 2-M vertical (FM) antenna
- (4) Mounted rotator (newly overhauled) Alliance/Dual-speed Controlled; calibrate dial, lighted (manual included)

Also for sale:

Almost new ship-to-shore transceiver with vertical antenna and 1,000 channels (special weather channel) - \$200

Yaesu 2-meter FM Transceiver (FT-2500M) with operating manual - \$25

Call Floyd Callihan K4ROG (703) 659-1461



USED MILITARY ALUMINUM ANTENNA MAST SET CW-124/ GRA-4: TOTAL OF 8 ALUMINUM POLES. EACH POLE IS 66" LONG. THE OUTSIDE DIAMETER IS APPROX. 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

Middle age is when broadness of the mind and narrowness of the waist change places.

73 de:

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Maylon Pearman	KG4RPQ	SECRETARY		
Richard Arnold	WA4FEH	TREASURER		
