



THE RICHMOND HAM

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November 2014

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, November 14th 2014, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

PROGRAM: Peter Martin, K2VIZ will give a presentation on his Field Day Go-Kit.

Coming Events:

November Meeting, November 14th, 7:00 PM.

VE Testing Session, November 8th, 2014 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.

October 2014 RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Oct 10, 2014
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM
Presiding Officers: President, Dr Joe Palsa, K3WRY ; David Robinson, KJ4LHP, Vice President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH; Treasurer; Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary. Board members, Marshall Ervine, N4XBP; Austin Thomas, N4CVA; and Win Grant, WA4SSG. Guest were asked to introduce themselves. The September minutes were approved. Richard Arnold read the treasurer's report for the month of September. He received two applications for membership from Richard Waller, KA4OHM and one other. Amateur exams will be on Saturday the 8th of November at the church. Jim Bates reported on the nets. There is a CW net starting on Wednesday nights at 8:30 PM on 50135 Mhz.

Joe Palsa reported on Survivor Day at the Chesterfield County complex. The ARES group had a table setup to give out info on joining and becoming hams.

Joe Palsa and Tom Flippin KD4CMK, reported the need for volunteers to help man radios in emergencies. There is a shortage of operators in any long term emergency. Please contact Dr. Joe Palsa K3WRY if you are interested in helping.

The FrostFest was announced and volunteers are needed. The date is Saturday, February 7. Joe called on the nominating committee to meet and confirm their nominations, so the club took a 10 minute break while they met. Nominating committee was made up of Buck Vaughan, KR4NL; Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU; and Mac Mcneer, K4YEF.

After the break Buck Vaughan announced the results as follows.

Club Officers:

David Robinson, KJ4LHP	President
Kenneth Leidner, KK4UKA	Vice President
Richard Arnold, WA4FEH	Treasurer
Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ	Secretary

Board Members:

Tim Farrell, KJ4NPB	Director
George Golding, W3PPY	Director
Marshall Ervine, N4XBP	Registered Agent for SCC

(The third Director to be appointed by the new president.)

The nominations were closed and voted on. All approved the nominations.

There was no other business so the meeting was adjourned.

The speaker for October canceled so Dr. Palsa gave a talk on EMP effects to our electric grid.

From The Prez

The banquet for November 2014 is canceled this year due to unfortunate timing circumstances that showed up at the last minute. We regret this, however the club will have its regular meeting on November 14th at Bon Air Methodist Church where the newly elected officers will be installed. We look forward to seeing you there.

RARC VE News

The November Testing session will be on the 8th 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@arri.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
Regular Membership \$20.0

Lots of information about the Club and our activities is available on our website, www.rarclub.net.

2015 Refreshment Schedule

The refreshment schedule for 2015 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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Grand Chili Cook Off

Come to the Grand Chili Cook Off presented by Grayle Hunley, KF4USV – At the January meeting with a reunion of all that will come. There will be a grand prize given for the best chili that melts in your mouth. Also there will be a great door prize at the Richmond Amateur Radio Club January meeting.

So let's start the new year off with the most exciting meeting ever. Come with new ideas and share them at the January meeting. Bring a friend to show what the Richmond Amateur Radio Club is all about!!

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.

Two to consider this month are, <http://icqpodcast.com> and <http://www.qrparci.org>. The ICQ Amateur/Ham Radio Podcast is a free weekly radio talk style podcast for amateur/ham radio operators by amateur/ham radio operators. This podcast originates in the U.K. and has an international perspective to it. Isn't that what Ham Radio is all about? It is done by a father and son team and after listening to a few episodes you feel like you know them personally. The second

will appeal to those interested in QRP. A great site for all things QRP and membership in the QRPARCI club includes a subscription to QRP Quarterly, a neat magazine for those interested in building QRP equipment. Got a favorite of your own? Let me know.

Thanks, Armand.

armand.hamel@comcast.net

CW - A new opportunity!

Interested in putting those rusty CW skills to use? Never learned CW but think you're ready to jump in? Do high speed CW QSO's cause your ears to melt into your brain? Here's a way to stop all those problems: Join the CW Slow Ragchew Net. The purpose of the group is to help new CW folks gain confidence, help old-timers get back in the groove, and plain 'ol ragchew with the "original" digital mode!

Details:

What: CW Slow Ragchew Net

When: Wednesday nights at 8:30pm (usually lasts about 30 minutes)

Where: 50.135

Who: Contact Jim Bates (K8OI) or Armand Hamel (WA1UQO) for details

Marconi – The Irish Inventor of Wireless

Win Grant – WA4SSG

On a recent trip to Ireland, I thought our guide was pulling my leg when he told our group that Guglielmo Marconi was actually an Irishman. The guide even pointed to a place in the distance where he said Marconi's company had previously operated a very extensive radio station that handled transatlantic message traffic. So when I returned home, I set out to see if this was true, because it seemed like every famous person and every great invention was a product of Ireland, at least according to the Irish.

I can confirm that Marconi indeed had an Irish connection. Although Marconi's father was an Italian nobleman and he spent his early years in Italy, his mother, Annie Jameson, was Irish, and her family founded the whiskey distillers, Jameson & Sons. Marconi's first wife was Beatrice O'Brien, the daughter of Lord Inchiquin who owned Dromoland Castle in County Clare.

As a young person, Marconi had an interest in electricity and took an interest in the work of Heinrich Hertz who is credited with explaining

the concept of electromagnetic radiation. Hertz died in 1894 before his theories had been developed into practical applications. At age twenty, Marconi began his first radio experiments with the help of his butler Mignani. By 1895, Marconi had developed a transmitter, receiver and antenna capable of communicating 1.5 miles, but the concept of wireless communication had been proved.

Finding little interest from the Italians in developing his technology, Marconi and his mother traveled to England when he was 21 years old where there was keen interest by the British Post Office and others in his radio apparatus. In 1897, Marconi transmitted Morse code a distance of 3.7 miles, and later that year, he made the first wireless communication over open sea, the Bristol Channel.

By 1901, Marconi had established wireless communication 2,200 miles between Newfoundland and Cornwall England. Though details are lacking, the frequency was supposedly around 850 kHz.

In 1907, Marconi's company, The Wireless Telegraph and Signal Company, later known as the Marconi Company, set up radio stations at Crookhaven, Ballybunion and Clifden Ireland. The Clifden station in County Galway employed over 250 people and was considered the most modern radio station in the world. The Ballybunion station was used in 1919 for the first voice transmission across the Atlantic. Both of these stations were damaged beyond repair during the Irish civil war in 1922, and Marconi turned his attention from messaging to broadcasting at that time and began supplying transmitters to the BBC.

Marconi and Karl Braun shared the 1909 Nobel Prize in Physics in recognition of their work in wireless telegraphy. In his acceptance speech, Marconi stated that he never studied physics or "electrotechnics" in a regular manner, but as a boy he was deeply interested in those subjects and read the scientific works of the time, including the works of Hertz. His mother had persuaded Professor Augusto Righi of Bologna University to take young Marconi on as a lab assistant.

Perhaps the key to Marconi's success was his experimentation where he built devices to test the theories he had studied, and thereby created practical applications which are the very foundation of so many of the technologies we enjoy today. In many ways, Marconi the

Irishman could probably be considered the first radio amateur.

(From various Internet sources, including a book by Michael Sexton, *Marconi: the Irish Connection*, 2005.)

Photo below of a Connemara pony in County Galway Ireland in the general area of the former Marconi Company radio station at Clifden.



Got a fun Picture to share?



Submitted by Jon Bennett, NQ4A

Thanks Jon!

The SWAP SHOP

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

For Sale

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, 804-357-2190, e-mail kj4it.jw@gmail.com.

Christmas is coming, now is the time to stock on those special goodies for the ham shack.

All of this equipment is from the estate of a SK. All funds go to the family.

1. MFJ-259B antenna analyzer: \$150.00
2. MFJ 949 300 watt antenna tuner: \$50.00
3. Ameritron AL-80A Linear amp. WITH 2 spare 3-500Z tubes: \$800.00
4. Heathkit 1410 electronic keyer: \$50.00
5. Heathkit HM-102 power/watt meter (200w/2000w): \$30.00
6. Heathkit HD-16 code oscillator: \$25.00
7. Heathkit CANTENNA 1 Gal dummy load with oil: \$25.00
8. Hy-Gain HAM IV antenna rotor with controller (New inbox): \$550.00
9. Autek QE-1A SSB/AM/CW filter: \$50.00
10. Swan WM-6200 SWR/power meter (20/200 watts) \$30.00
11. ROBYN SWR/POWER meter, 100/1000 watt scales: \$30.00
12. Time Wave DSP-599xp
13. A&M 10 meter ½ Square antenna: \$25.00 (good attic antenna / never been up)
14. Radio Works "G5RV" 10 – 80 meters: \$50.00 (never been up)

Contact Richard Arnold WA4FEH at 743-3899 or wa4feh@gmail.com

For Sale

FOR SALE: ICOM 706MKIIG HF-VHF-UHF All mode Transceiver.

(One owner - Non Smoker) Included is the cable to remote locate the control head away from the radio chassis. 100W HF, 50 watt VHF and a little less on 440. Included is the original Box, Operating Manual, Quick Reference Chart. Condition is good. All modes and features functional. \$599 OBO

Email NQ4A@Verizon.net

FOR SALE: Tarheel Model 400 Screwdriver mobile antenna.

(One owner - Non Smoker) 160 meters through 10 meters. 400 Watt Rating. Quick disconnect to easily remove the whip antenna off the unit. Color Black. Multiple 2inch x 2inch trailer hitch mounts come with it.

Condition: Good. \$200.00 OBO

email: NQ4A@Verizon.net

FOR SALE: Tarheel Serial Antenna Tuner that will allow the ICOM 706 tranceiver to connect and tune the tarheel screw driver antenna at the touch of a button on the front of the icom 706.

(One owner - Non Smoker)

Condition: Good. Fully functional. \$150 OBO email: nq4a@verizon.net

For sale:

mono band HF mobile whip antennas.

1 for 40 meters

1 for 20 meters

Like new. Consist of wound loading coil and whip antenna.

Make an offer.

Contact: NQ4A@verizon.net

For sale:

Ameritron surge protector

For 220 VAC. MODEL Number ICP-240.. Normally used with linear amplifiers. \$75.00 OBO

CONTACT nq4a@verizon.net

For sale:

Drake TV-1000 low pass filter. 52 ohm in and out. A few age spots but in good condition.

Make offer.

Contact NQ4A@verizon.net

Thought For The Day

Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.

73 de:

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David Robinson	KJ4LHP	VICE- PRESIDENT	(804) 226- 4295	thedarbinian@comcast.net
Maylon Pearman	KG4RPQ	SECRETARY		
Richard Arnold	WA4FEH	TREASURER		
