



THE RICHMOND HAM

Published Monthly by the Richmond Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 35279, Richmond, Virginia 23235

May 2015

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, May 8th 2015, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

Coming Events:

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

VE Testing Session, May 9th, 2015
9:am at the Bon Air United Methodist Church.

Public Service:

March of Dimes March for Babies, May 17, 2015. Info contact Roy Schultz,

royschultz@hotmail.com

MS Bike Ride, June 6th & 7th, contact Mike Hackett, mhack61@yahoo.com

Special Olympics VA, June 12th & 13th, contact Brad Price, KI4BWJ@KI4BWJ.ORG

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.

PROGRAM: Robert Orndorff, W4BNO, will give a presentation that identifies various things you might see on electrical poles, as well as a brief overview of how the grid works.

Getting to know this month's speaker

A short Bio from Robert:

I became a ham in 2001, and quickly got my General and Extra after attending a Field Day event. I have been moderately active since I got licensed. I am a casual DXer and I play in a few contests throughout the year. I really enjoy the technical side of the hobby. I enjoy building and modeling antennas and using amateur radio as a way to learn. I have built a few kits, like the Elecraft K1 and a HW-8 many years ago. Setting up a portable QRP station

and making a few contacts is a lot of fun for me as well.

I have worked at Dominion since 1984. I started in the warehouse while going to school, and then became a field relay technician. I had that job for 11 years and I have worked in the Transmission Fault Analysis department since 1997. I am a IEEE member and also on the Board at RATS. Some other hobbies include programming, electronics, photography, and occasionally playing the piano.

April 2015 RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: April 10, 2015

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Presiding Officers: David Robinson, KJ4LHP, President; Ken Leidner, WV0L, Vice President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer and Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary.

Directors: Tim Farrell, KJ4NPB; George Golding, W3PPY; Buck Vaughan, KR4NL and Newsletter Editor Armand Hamel, WA1UQO.

David Robinson opened the meeting with introductions of all members and guests.

The minutes were approved for the March meeting.

Richard Arnold gave the Treasure's report. He received one new application for membership which was approved. Welcome to the club Walter Flannagan, (no call yet)!

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, reported on how the school was progressing. He also reported that Pat Wilson's group was no longer testing for licenses. Their group was testing on even months.

Tom Flippin, KD4CMK, discussed the "100 Years of Amateur Radio in Richmond" plans with the Science Museum of Va. Plans call for setting up a ham station at the museum to contact the International Space Station as part of their education for youth's program. He asked for help to work with youths at the Science Museum. The Club hopes to operate

under the call sign W4R on special events during the 2016 year.

David discussed plans for Field Day. We will be working with other Richmond area clubs again this year.

Tom Flippin also announced that they started an 80 meter net on 3835-3843 on Monday nights at 8:00 pm. If weather and conditions are favorable.

Matthew Kimball, K4MTK, talked about Special Olympics on June 12 & 13. If you can help please sign up at www.HAMVASO.net.

David announced the 6 Meter tailgate fest will be on May 2 at 8:00 to 12:00pm at the Scottish Rite Temple.

The ARRL is looking into changes on the HF band plans. See their website for the plans and updates.

The meeting was adjourned and Bruce MacAlister continued part-two of his discussion on Software Defined Radio.

From The Prez

Here it is, May, already, and Field Day is coming up fast. Rats has Laurel Park reserved again and the plan is to operate four stations again this year. Plans are still being finalized, and it promises to be a great weekend. Plan to come and spend some time operating, eating, and generally shooting the breeze with people who have the same interests as you.

The Va. Legislature has passed House Joint Resolution 819, commemorating Richmond Amateur Radio Club for 100 years of service. Thanks to Delegate Jennifer L. McClellan for sponsoring the resolution.

Planning for the Century of Amateur Radio celebration is on track, and we hope to include ISS contact with students at the Science Museum of Virginia. Dayton is coming up, and some of our members have made plans to go. Here's wishing them all a safe trip and lots of bargains to bring back.

I will close with an interesting bit of misinformation, thanks to Bruce for pointing it out. All I will say is do a Google Maps search on Richmond Amateur Club and you will learn where Google says the club's headquarters is located – and we all know Google is infallible, HI, HI.

73 de KJ4LHP
David R.

RARC VE News

The May Testing session will be on the 9th 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@arrrl.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 OTHER 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/>.

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

This month's offerings are two Amateur Radio news related sites. The first is Amateur Radio Newsline. <http://www.arnewsline.org/>. A weekly amateur news report that is available in both an audio and printed version. Usually lasting between 25 and 30 minutes. A short video edition is also available. For those of you who might want a more up to the minute update, Ham Radio Daily, <http://www.hamradiodaily.com/>, is worth considering. Lots to look at on this one, but be careful. It's slightly addictive. Got a favorite of your own? Let me know. Thanks, Armand. armand.hamel@comcast.net

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!!

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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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.



QRP Anyone?

For those of us who like to take a small QRP transceiver along when we travel, the question of what is the best antenna to take along is an important consideration. If you are ever travelling in the Tucson area, a small side trip to the Titan Missile Museum is worth the trip. In addition, the Green Valley Amateur Radio Club makes an antenna available there that at least looks like it should be fun to use.

I'm familiar with discone antennas for VHF and UHF use, but this is the first that is for HF use. Unfortunately, no radios made the trip with me this time. But the combination of a 5W transceiver and this antenna certainly makes you wonder. Ahhh, Maybe next time!

Armand WA1UQO



New Bands?

Amateur Radio is poised to gain access to two new bands! The FCC has allocated a new LF band, 135.7 to 137.8 kHz, to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis. Allocation of the 2.1 kHz segment, known as 2200 meters, was in accordance with the Final Acts of the 2007 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-07). The Commission also has proposed a new secondary 630 meter MF allocation at 472 to 479 kHz to Amateur Radio, implementing decisions made at WRC-12. No Amateur Radio operation will be permitted in either band until the FCC determines, on the basis of comments, the specific Part 97 rules it must frame to permit operation in the new bands. Amateur Radio would share both allocations with unlicensed Part 15 power line carrier (PLC) systems operated by utilities to control the power grid, as well as with other users. In addition, the FCC has raised the secondary Amateur Service allocation at 1900 to 2000 kHz to primary, while providing for continued use by currently unlicensed commercial fishing vessels of radio buoys on the "open sea."

From the ARRL Bulletin

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.**

For Free!!!

30 ft. Rohn tower – yours for the taking! Also QST Magazines 2003 to 2014. Call Harry Miller, 804-749-4770.

For Sale:

Heil Proset 6 with Heil Footswitch new condition with original boxes and manuals, about 6 months old. \$100. 1944 RAL7 Navy Receiver with matching 6 volt P/S – both in good working condition - \$150. Contact Kris Proctor, KK4SIJ , (804)306-4789

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:

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.

Thought For The Day

A train station is where the train stops. A bus station is where the bus stops. On my desk, I have a work station...

73 de:

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