



THE RICHMOND HAM

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

July 2015

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, July 10th 2015, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

Coming Events:

July Meeting, July 10th, 7:00 PM.

VE Testing Session, July 11th, 2015
9am 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.

PROGRAM to be determined

June 2015 RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 12, 2015

Meeting Time; 7:00 PM

Presiding Officers: David Robinson, KJ4LHP, President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer and Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary.
Directors: Dr. Joe Palsa, K3WRY. Newsletter Editor, Armand Hamel, WA1UQO and VE coordinator: Allan Johnson, WA3J.

David Robinson opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, with a new American flag donated by John Hinkman, KJ4YKK and presented by Austin Thomas, N4CVA.

Everyone introduced themselves and there were two new licenses.

Minutes from the May meeting were approved. Richard Arnold gave the May treasurer's report. He reported three new membership applications from Bob Bowis, WB4KLJ, Extra; Charles Shanes, KM4KOZ, General and Matthew Anderson, KI4JSL, Extra. All were approved. Welcome to the club.

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, reported on the club's effort to make a contact with the ISS

(International Space Station) along with the Science Museum of Va.

Roy Schultz, KI4MCX reported on the public service events. He said they were providing communications for the Special Olympics that Friday and on Saturday.

Tom Flippin, KD4CMK, reported that the Old Dominion Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society is celebrating its 100 years anniversary. The club will have a special event station and they will have a morse code station like the old railroad stations used. Help is needed with setup and operation. Please check with Tom Flippin.

Field Day plans at Laurel Park, Jun 27 & 28 were discussed.

Allan Johnson, WA3J, gave the results of the VE testing. Testing was being given after the meeting because the general exam test pool is changing after June 30. Testing was also scheduled for the Field Day event. Next testing will be July 11, 9:00 am at the Bon Air United Methodist Church. See the club's website for more info at <http://rarclub.net>.

Dr. Joe Palsa reported on Survivor Day to be held on Saturday, June 13. ARES would be present at Chesterfield event to give out information and applications for joining. He spoke on ARES and his new job as ARRL section manager for VA. Also reported that the Navy MARS is closing down.

Motions were made to except the Flag for the club's use and to say the Pledge of Allegiance at each meeting. Motions were passed.

The meeting was adjourned and a program on the Virginia Defense Force by Jim Stanley, KM4BID followed.

From The Prez

Field Day 2015 is history now. We had a good time with RATS and DDXG at Laurel Park (in between the raindrops), also, Allan and the VE team put on a testing session there that had

12 passing out of 13 tested. Field Day also gave us the chance to gather and inventory the equipment for the ISS contact next summer.

I had the privilege to present the VA QSO Party Plaque that RARC sponsored, to Jacqueline, KM4IML at the Manassas Hamfest. The award was for Single Operator Novice/Tech/Rookie. Jacqueline is only 13, and had a score of 74,876. I was impressed by her enthusiasm for Amateur Radio. Children like this are the future of Amateur Radio and we need to do all we can to encourage them.

Something else I want to remind everyone of is to check the ARRL Website and send in the letters to our Senators and Representatives in support of the Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015. This is important legislation that will require the FCC to bring Homeowners Association regulations and deed restrictions in line with state and local zoning laws and ordinances, and subject to PRB-1. I know this is early, but we are working on the November dinner meeting. More details and a firm date will be announced soon.

One last thing, don't forget the 100th Anniversary of the Hull Street Station on July 18th, from 1-5 pm. We have been invited to send Morse code messages for the public at the event. We need the help of some of you who can send code there. If you want to learn more about the event, go online at <http://richmondrailroadmuseum.org> . I hope to see you there!

73 de KJ4LHP
David R.



Jacqueline, KM4IML and her brother, Spencer, K4IMP in LEX getting four quick contacts on 2m, 220, 440, and 900 before going to bed. They traveled 800 miles with their dad, Ben, N3FQ, two nights in hotels, set up expedition

in five locations, and did the "county jiggle" over 20+ county lines!

RARC VE News

The July Testing session will be on the 11th 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 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

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.

2015 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!

If you completed the June Radio Run, please let me know by July 30th - I will confirm EVERY e-mail receipt that I receive! If you don't see your name on the "Winner's List", please let me know immediately!!!

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!

73 de K8OI

Jim Bates mailto:jlbbates4@gmail.com

The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 Introduced in the US Senate

A companion Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 bill has been introduced in the US Senate.

Mississippi Republican Sen [Roger Wicker](#) introduced [S. 1685](#) on June 25, with Connecticut Democratic Sen [Richard Blumenthal](#) as the initial cosponsor. The Senate bill joins an identical measure in the US House, [H.R. 1301](#), which was introduced in March by Illinois Republican Rep [Adam Kinzinger](#). Both measures would direct the FCC to extend its rules relating to reasonable accommodation of Amateur Service communications to private land-use restrictions. "Introduction of the Senate bill is a huge step toward achieving fairness for amateurs affected by private land-use regulation," said ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN. "For them and for the future of Amateur Radio, I thank everyone who contributed to making this progress. Now let's finish the job!" Wicker said the bill he introduced with Blumenthal's cosponsorship would allow for transparency and equality in the regulatory process. He said in a June 29 [media release](#) that the legislation would ensure that Amateur Radio operators are able to continue to provide "critical communications support at no cost to taxpayers." This would be particularly beneficial in Mississippi and other rural states," Wicker said. "During Hurricane Katrina, Mississippians learned firsthand the value of Amateur Radio, and its ability to provide information that could save lives in times of natural disasters." According to Wicker, the measure "ensures increased access to, and availability of, critical resources and communication tools" to first responders. Added Blumenthal, "We have seen the effectiveness of these systems, and the need to provide these emergency response systems to Americans, regardless of where you live, is evident." Wicker pointed out that private land-use restrictions prevent many hams from installing functional outdoor antennas. "This bill would call on FCC to apply the reasonable accommodation policy evenly to all types of residential land-use regulations and offer Amateur Radio operators the ability to negotiate with subdivisions that now have restrictions that preclude Amateur Radio antennas completely," he said. "This could be accomplished without taking any jurisdiction away from homeowners associations and would protect neighborhood aesthetics." S. 1685 has been referred to the US Senate [Committee on Commerce, Science, and](#)

[Transportation](#), chaired by Sen John Thune (R-SD). The House version of The Amateur Radio Parity Act of 2015 had attracted support from [83 cosponsors](#), as of July 1.

ARRL Newsletter

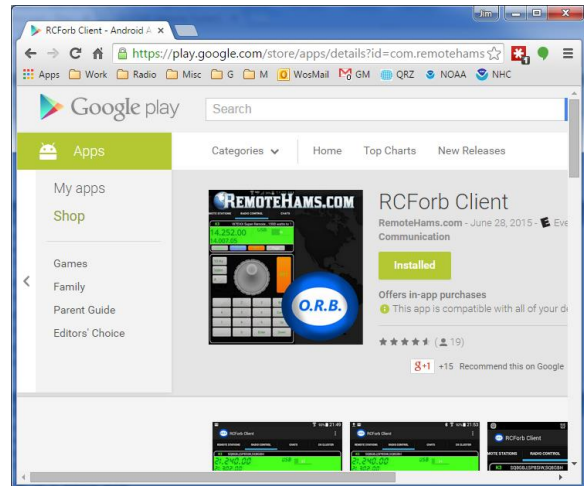
Remote Operations – v2015 Style

A few years ago I wrote a few articles describing my desire to set up and run a remote base at my QTH. All my antennas all terminate in the 9'x11' shack in my back yard – AND – since all my radio gear works “best” out there, I continue to try and find ways to set up my gear for “ease of use!”

The guys at RemoteHams.com have developed a server/client model of FREE (that’s right, FREE!) programs that allow you to connect your Windows based computer to the RemoteHams “network” of remote stations. There is no charge to register your callsign, no charge to download and install the client software, and if you wanted to – no charge to download and install the server software which allows YOU to set up your own remote station!

I’ve recently installed network connectivity to the shack, an entirely different story for a different day, which is allowing me to review all the prior attempts for “optimal” remote operations. While evaluating the Remote Rigs hardware solution, with an Elecraft K3/0-mini in mind, I “stumbled” onto the RemoteHams.com site. It seems the guys at Elecraft are “sponsoring” the efforts of this organization – which helped me understand quite a bit of how the RemoteHams.com software was designed, configured, and intended to be installed and used. It’s very slick...

I have set up the RemoteHams.com server software on a laptop in my shack connected to an Icom IC-7100 rig. The IC-7100 is connected to a 20m dipole and a 2m/70cm vertical. The IC-7100 will work all modes on 20m/10m/2m/70cm! I have a couple of other rigs and antennas that will be in the “testing” pool shortly. The IMPORTANT part is that I’ve enabled the RemoteHams.com software to ALLOW others to use the rig! That’s right, YOU can use it if you’d like – for FREE!



I plan on running the server site for at least a month, most likely several months as I work out the kinks and understand the user management, logging, remote administration, and other sundry issues. I have installed both the Windows client (free) and the Android client (\$9.99) and used them both satisfactorily. The RemoteHams.com software is VERY Internet bandwidth friendly – I seem to track a use of about 3.25Kbps – which is almost NOTHING!

I am looking for input – positive AND negative – about how this solution works. I would love to be able to create a presentation for a group looking to host a dedicated, always available remote station for use by member who may be unable to run their own HF setups. We’re all moving towards less mobility, I’m just trying to be one step (or shuffle) ahead!

I would love to have you use my RemoteHams.com station – please considering signing up and connecting! If you need

assistance, please send me an e-mail and I'll get back with you ASAP.

Go to <http://www.remotehams.com> and give it a try!

73 de K8OI
Jim Bates

Field Day 2015!!

If you missed Field Day this year, here are a few pics. More in future newsletters as space allows.



The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at wa1ugo@arri.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 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

In order to keep a true perspective of one's importance, everyone should have a dog that will worship him and a cat that will ignore him.

David Robinson	KJ4LHP	PRESIDENT	(804) 226-4295	thedarbinian@comcast.net
Kenneth Leidner	WV0L	VICE-PRESIDENT	(804) 790-0008	kleidner@earthlink.net
Maylon Pearman	KG4RPQ	SECRETARY		
Richard Arnold	WA4FEH	TREASURER		