



# THE RICHMOND HAM

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

---

---

December 2015

---

---

**The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** will meet Friday, December 11th 2015, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

### Coming Events:

December Meeting, December 11th, 7:00 PM.

**VE Testing Session**, January 9th, 2016 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](mailto:wa4feh@gmail.com) or phone 743-3899.

**PROGRAM:** There will be a short business meeting followed by our annual holiday social. Please bring your favorite holiday finger foods or snacks to share.

## November Meeting Notes

### November 2015 RARC Annual Banquet

Meeting Date: November 20, 2015  
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM  
Meeting Location: Beulah Methodist Church  
Presiding Officers: David Robinson, KJ4LHP, President; Ken Leidner, WV0L Vice President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer and Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Armand Hamel, WA1UQO; and Registered Agent for SCC, Marshall Ervine, N4XMP.  
John Hickman, N3KJ, presented a banner to the Club to acknowledge RARC as a special service club by the ARRL.

Win Grant did the honors of installation of officers and directors for 2016.

President: David Robinson, KJ4LHP  
Vice President: Kenneth Leidner, WV0L  
Secretary: Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ  
Treasure: Richard Arnold, WA4FEH

### Directors:

Tim Farrell, KJ4NPB  
Julian Bailey, KV4VP  
Alan Johnson, WA3J

Registered Agent: Marshall Ervine, N4XBP  
W4ZA Trustee: A.C.McNeer, K4YEF  
W4FJ Trustee: Mike Owens, K4RKO

Maylon Pearman, gave the school report in the absent of Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU. He reported that the spring 2015 session had 21 students in Tech, General and Extra license classes. The fall 2015 had 41 students in Tech, General, Extra license prep and the Electronics for Hams class. Also, the Radio School was highlighted in the winter issue of "Radio Waves" the ARRL newsletter for teachers.

Tom Flippin, KD4CMK, announced that the club would be setting up a station at the Railroad Museum to honor Samuel Morse in April 2016. If you know CW and can help, please let him know. In the spring 2016, the club will be operating a station with the cooperation of the Virginia Science Museum to contact the International Space Station.

A resolution was made and passed to thank those who provided and served our banquet dinner. A motion was made and the meeting was adjourned.

## From The Prez

Here it is December and how many of you have or are hard at work putting together a Go-Kit for the RARC contest and Frostfest? That's right, it's a twofer, you can enter the GO-Kit competition at Frostfest and then bring your Kit to the RARC meeting the following

Friday for another contest! You still have time, so get moving!

Thanks to John Hickman N3KJ for donating the ARRL Special Service Club banner to RARC at our annual banquet.

I want thank Bob Eshleman, W4DR, and his wife Rosalie, N4CFL, for being our guests at the RARC Banquet and giving us a great presentation of his DX'pedition to Syria. His pictures were more poignant because of the knowledge that many of the ancient sites he visited and photographed have been destroyed recently by zealots who want to eradicate everything that doesn't fit their beliefs.

There is, however, this bit of bright news: Dom 3Z9DX has written permission to operate amateur radio from a VERY wanted DXCC entity, North Korea (P5). Plans call for a solo operation on 10, 15, and 20 meters for 5 days in January or February. Check the internet for further news on his progress.

Don't forget that the date for the ISS contact at the Science Museum is getting closer. There is still a lot to be done and plenty of opportunity for anyone interested to lend a hand. If you want to help, contact Bruce W4BRU or Tom KD4CMK to volunteer.

Be sure not to forget our December meeting for a night of food and fellowship. Bring your favorite food and an empty stomach. I'm looking forward to seeing you there!

73 de KJ4LHP  
**David**

**RARC VE News**

The January 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/](http://www.rarclub.net/) or contact Allan, WA3J, at 804-399-8724, or [wa3j@arrl.net](mailto: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 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](http://www.rarclub.net).

---

---

**2016 Refreshment Schedule**

The refreshment schedule for 2016 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.

---

---

**Heathkit Is Back!!!?**

Rumors, rumors.... Is it true this time? Well it seems so! This from their webpage <https://shop.heathkit.com/shop> . Here's a quick summary of what we've quietly been doing at Heathkit during the past year:

We assembled a terrific team of very talented, hard-working, inventive people. We acquired another company and merged its management, products, assets, and operations gracefully into Heath Company. We ensured we own every last bit of Heathkit intellectual property, to bring you all the [manuals](#), books, vintage designs, and classic logos you love, unencumbered and in perpetuity. We built a company division and acquired a line of [vintage add-on designs](#) to sustain the vintage products so important to many Insiders. We developed and integrated

our [eBay site](#), so you can buy or bid on auctioned items. We authored and published a [helpful Android software app](#) on Heathkit's GooglePlay site, with more apps to come.

That's a lot, but there's more. We've designed and developed a wide range of entirely new kit products. We authored the manuals for these kits, complete with the beautiful line art you rely on, preserving and respecting our iconic historic Heathkit style. We developed many new inventions and filed patents on them. We relocated Heathkit, and set up a [factory, and a warehouse, and offices, in Santa Cruz, California](#), near Silicon Valley. We built the back office infrastructure, vendor and supply chain relationships, systems, procedures, operations methods, and well-thought-out corporate structure that a manufacturing company needs to support its customers, to allow us to scale instantly the day we resume major kit sales. All this effort enables us to introduce a fleet of new kits and helps ensure Heathkit can grow, prosper, and continue to bring you great new products for a very long time.





**The SWAP SHOP**

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at [wa1uqo@arrl.net](mailto: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.***

**Thought For The Day**

The old believe everything, the middle- aged suspect everything, the young know everything.

**73 de:**

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