



THE RICHMOND HAM

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

FEBRUARY 2016

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, February 12th 2016, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

Coming Events:

February Meeting, February 12th, 7:00 PM.
RARC School Registration, March 1st, 7:pm at the Bon Air United Methodist Church
Winterfest Hamfest, March 20th, by the Vienna Wireless Society -

<http://viennawireless.net/wp/events/winterfest/>

VA QSO Party, March 19th- 20th

Raleigh Hamfest, April 2nd

<http://www.rars.org/rarsfest/>

Samuel Morse Birthday Event, April 16th at the Richmond Railroad Museum

VE Testing Session, March 12th, 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 or phone 743-3899.

PROGRAM: To be announced

January 2016 RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 8, 2016

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

Presiding Officers: 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,

N4XBP, Director: Dr. Joe Palsa, K3WRY. VE coordinator; Allan Johnson, WA3J. In the absence of President, David Robinson; Ken Leidner led the Pledge of Allegiance. Introductions were made by members and guests.

Tom Flippin, KD4CMK, reported on the purchase of a new ICOM 7100 transceiver for the clubs' upcoming ISS contact with the VA Science Museum. This was approved by the Board at the December meeting. The ICOM 7100 had a large discount of \$500 dollars by HRO dealer.

Tom also talked about the Samuel Morse event coming up at the National Railway Historical Society Museum on Hull Street in south Richmond. He asked for help from members for all of these events. He listed the plans for the ISS contact scheduled this summer. There will be two stations setup with internet remotes to a hangar at the airport from the Science Museum.

The minutes from the December meeting were approved.

Richard Arnold gave the Treasures' report for December. The big expense for the month was the new Icom 7100. He announced one application for membership from Michael Calkins, KA2CUF. It was approved by all, welcome to the Club!

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, announced the school class schedule for the spring 2016. Registration will be on Tuesday, March 1 at 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM at the church. Classes will be Tech, General and CW. Also, antenna modeling will be taught on a Saturday morning. Please check RARClub.com for latest updates and sign up forms.

Bruce discussed the special event stations. The plan is to have volunteers work from home as special event stations using the Clubs' call sign W4ZA. Anyone can operate as long as they have a general class or higher license. Richard Arnold spoke of operating a special event station for the Virginia QSO Party.

Allan Johnson, WA3J, gave the schedule for testing 2016. The Extra Class exam question pool will change July 1. Testing will be on the odd months at the church and at Field Day. Dr. Joe Palsa, K3WRY, the ARRL section manager of Virginia reported on activities. Tim Farrell, KJ4NPB, reminded us about the FrostFest event on February 6th. The meeting was adjourned.

From The Prez

Just settling down at home after an excellent day at Frostfest. Great attendance again this year, lots of folks shopping around for that elusive last little part (or large part, whichever the case may be). Old friends renewed and new friends met, experiences exchanged and plans made. Yes, a Hamfest is a many-splendored thing!

We set up the RARC booth again this year and, once again, our worst problem was lack of volunteers to man the booth. A few worked very hard to represent us. We owe them our thanks for a job well done.

We had lots of visitors, hopefully gained some students and some prospective members. We even had some past members who were considering rejoining RARC. One interesting ham we met was Bob Chapman (W9JOP), the first Ham to achieve WAS using a Tuna Tin radio. He worked for four years to accomplish this with a QRPP radio. Mr. Chapman was 71 in 2004 when he got his award. He was at Frostfest today to have a nametag made for his 60 year old daughter, who had passed her Technician exam. We talked at length about his life and accomplishments. By my calculation, he must be 83 now, and he made the drive here from Bealeton, Virginia just to have a nametag made as a gift for his daughter. You could tell that he was really proud of her.

On another note, the Virginia QSO Party will be held weekend of 19-20 March 2016. We are sponsoring the Single Operator Novice/Tech/Rookie plaque. We are planning to setup a Bonus station for the Virginia QSO Party at Glen Strickland's house. We will operate under the Club's call sign. The certificate for the 2016 Virginia QSO Party celebrates the 100th anniversary of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club. Mark the date on your calendars and let's get on the air!

73 de KJ4LHP

David

RARC VE News

The March Testing session will be on the 12th 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 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.

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.

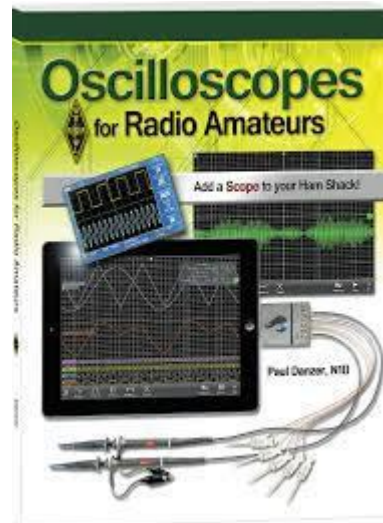
Quarter Century Wireless Association Honors ARRL President Emeritus Harry Dannals, W2HD

The Quarter Century Wireless Association ([QCWA](#)) has honored ARRL President Emeritus Harry Dannals, W2HD, for his 70 years as a radio amateur. QCWA Chapter 155 in Charlottesville, Virginia — where Dannals lives — hosted a celebratory luncheon for Dannals on February 3. Dannals also is a QCWA President Emeritus.

Dannals served as ARRL President from 1972 to 1982, and as President of the QCWA from 1989 to 1994 — the only person to have been president of both organizations. Now in his late 80s, Dannals is the oldest living former ARRL President.

In a letter, QCWA President Ken Oelke, VE6AFO, commended Dannals' contributions to Amateur Radio. Luncheon attendees also included QCWA Past President John Johnston, W3BE, and ARRL Past President Kay Craigie, N3KN. Both commented on Dannals' devoted service to the ARRL and the QCWA. Craigie said that Dannals has set an example of "cheerfulness and enthusiasm, and friendliness to all hams, whether they qualify for QCWA twice over or are so new that they haven't memorized their call signs yet." Craigie said the luncheon was a complete surprise to Dannals.

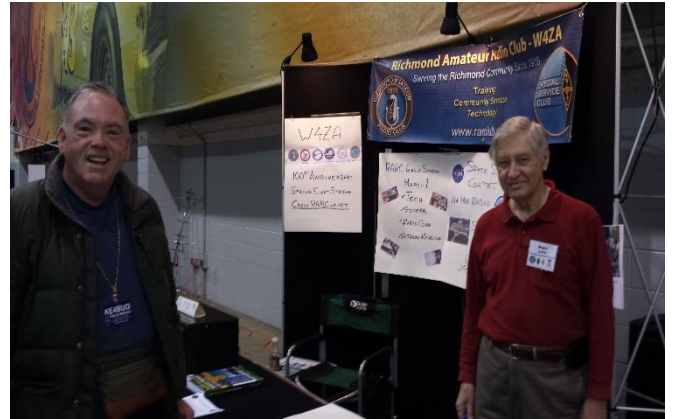
ARRL Website



A good read on oscilloscopes

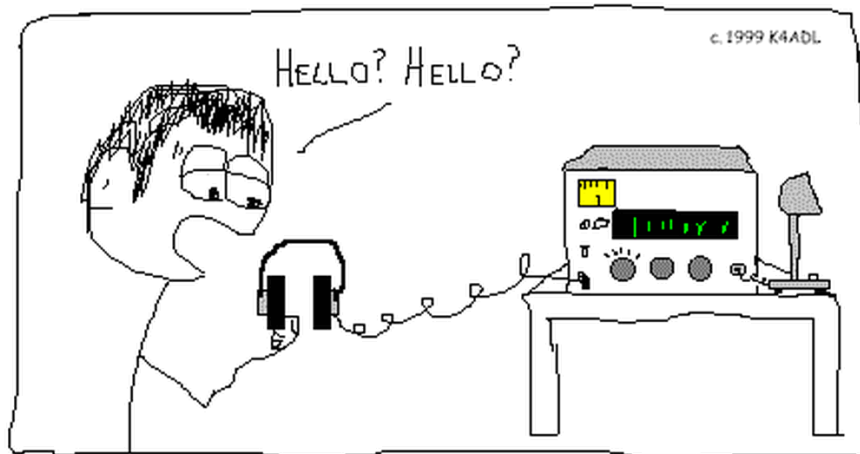
I was trained as an electronics technician in the Navy. I worked as a technician for two years on a repair ship. I never used an oscilloscope! I worked on radars and 'scopes of that day didn't have the bandwidth to deal with radar frequencies. The Navy had (of course) other custom equipment for that. So how to use an oscilloscope is something I've been learning as a ham. I bought a used Tektronics 'scope for \$125. Now I've found a useful book to learn to use it better, "Oscilloscopes for Radio Amateurs" from ARRL. Like most ARRL authors Paul Danzer, N1II, writes well. It's loaded with pictures and drawings. You learn about how 'scopes work and specific uses for a ham. It's available from ARRL and from Amazon for around \$25 in paper and \$10 for the Kindle version. I gave it to myself as a birthday present. You can give it to yourself for any reason. It's not a hot novel but it's a good read.

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU



FrostFest 2016

If you missed it, I'm sorry because this year's event was a great one. Great weather, great turnout and great stuff. Thanks to the RATS organization and volunteers for a super time and wonderful opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones. Here are a few pictures of what you missed.



THE TRANSITION FROM SHORT-WAVE-LISTENER TO HAM OPERATOR WAS SOMEWHAT DIFFICULT FOR EDMUND.

Have something to sell??

Now that FrostFest has come and gone, do you have equipment that didn't sell? Or, do you have something you bought that you're having second thoughts about? Something you promised to get out of the garage or attic and never quite got around to getting to a hamfest? Maybe you just need a little more Ham spending money for that next rig or project? As an RARC club member you can list those surplus goodies in the Newsletter. Costs you nothing and you never know who might be looking for that prized piece of radio history for their collection. Spring WILL be here soon and it's a good time to make a little more room for that equipment you're planning to get at the next tailgate. Send an email to WA1UQQ@arrl.net or call me at 804-454-0564.
Armand

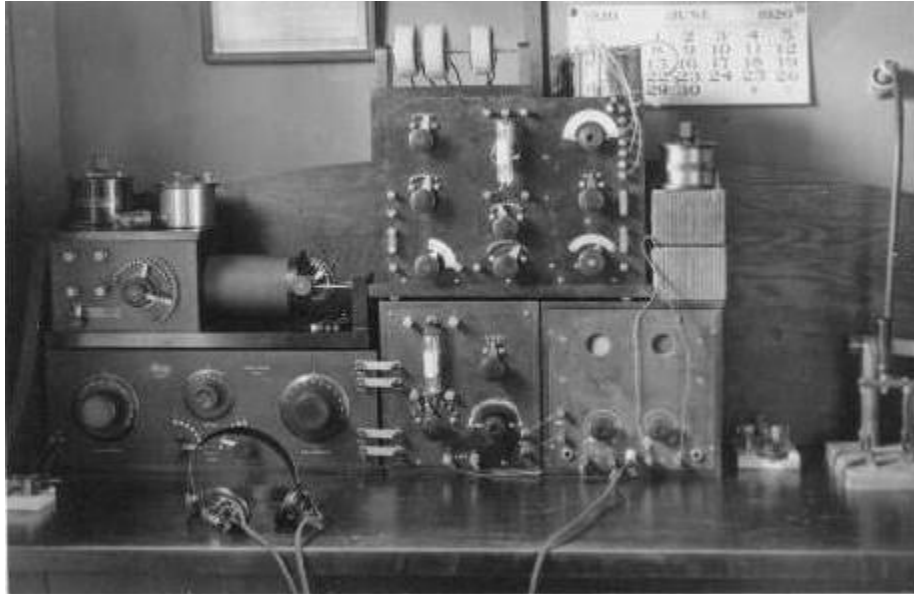


The SWAP SHOP

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.***

Thought For The Day

You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you're down there.



73 de:

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		
