



# THE RICHMOND HAM

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May 2016

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**The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB** will meet Friday, May 13th 2016, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

### Coming Events:

May Meeting, May 13th, 7:00 PM.

**VE Testing Session**, May 14th, 2016  
9am at the Bon Air United Methodist Church.

**Central Virginia Six Meter Single Sideband Net** Tailgate Fest, May 21<sup>st</sup> at the Scottish Rite Temple parking lot at 4204 Hermitage Road Richmond, VA  
**Virginia Special Olympics**, June 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Manassas Hamfest**, June 19<sup>th</sup> at the Prince William County Fairgrounds.

**Field Day**, June 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

**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:** Win Grant, WA4SSG will be doing a presentation on Mobile VHF/UHF antennas.

### April 2016 RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: April 8, 2016

Meeting Time: 7:00 PM

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

Directors: Julian Bailey, KV4VP; Dr. Joe Palsa, K3WRY; Registered Agent for SCC, Marshall Ervine, N4XBP; Newsletter Editor, Armand Hamel, WA1UQO .

David opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and then introductions of members. Guests were welcomed and introduced. A motion was made and passed to accept minutes of the March meeting.

Richard Arnold gave the Treasurer's report for March. We received and approved three new applications for membership from Ricky West, W4KQB; Rick Thomas, K4WLK; and John King. Welcome to the club.

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU reported on progress of the school classes and the upcoming Maker Fest at the Science Museum this fall.

Tom Flippin, KD4CMK reported on the plans for the Samuel F.B. Morse event at the Railroad Historical Society April 16 on Hull Street Road. The plans called for three stations to be working CW on multi bands from 10am to 5pm. The Old Dominion Chapter of the Railroad Historical Society provided an invitation to celebrate Samuel Morse's birthday with them.

Dr. Joe Palsa, K3WRY reported on ARES activities.

Tom Flippin announced Survivor Day coming up in June 18. Please contact Armand Hamel, WA1UQO if you can help in Chesterfield on that date.

Field Day was discussed. It will be the third weekend in June. More details will follow at the next RARC meeting.

A motion was made and the meeting was adjourned.

Following the meeting Jerry Williams, KJ4IT discussed how to use the Club's call sign W4ZA/100 for the 100 year celebration. See the club's website for details. ([rarclub.net](http://rarclub.net)). Bruce MacAlister and Tom Flippin presented a program about setting up the stations for the upcoming ISS contact from the Science Museum.

**From The Prez**

It's that time of year! Hamfests galore, nice weather to work portable, and more daylight to get the outside chores done and still have time for radio. The 6 meter tailgate will be upon us in no time, and I'm sure you all have long lists of necessities that you just can't do without. If you don't find everything there, there's all the other Hamfests within driving distance. For the adventurous, don't forget Dayton, the Hamfest to beat all Hamfests. I'm already planning for Manassas, in June. In addition to the VA QSO Party awards presentation, there are seminars and demonstrations for whatever your interests are.

I understand we had a fine presence at the Sam Morse Birthday celebration. Sadly, life got in the way and I couldn't be there. Thanks to all the hard working members and friends who helped make it such a success.

It's also not too early to sign up to assist at the Special Olympics on June 11th. There will be 2 GOTA Stations that need volunteers to assist Olympians, their friends and families in getting on the air and maybe kindling an interest in the hobby. While you are making plans, don't forget Field Day, June 25-26. We will be at Laurel Park with RATS again this year. Come for the whole event, or however long you can. We've got an interesting program lined up for the next meeting, so, I hope to see you all there.

73 de KJ4LHP

**David**

**RARC VE News**

The May Testing session will be on the 14th 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.

### W4ZA/100!!

The calendar is open and ready for you to sign up! You know you've always wanted to be that sought after signal from a special event location. Check out the calendar here: <http://rarclub.net/w4za100-special-event-station-calendar-2/>, and make your reservations here: <http://rarclub.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/W4ZA-Special-Event-Station-Reservation-Request-Form-05Feb16.pdf>.

You pick the time, the duration and the mode you like best. What could be better!!

## Richmond Amateur Radio Club (RARC) 5th Annual - June 2016 "Radio Run"

### Purpose:

RARC wants to encourage ALL amateur radio operators to be MORE active on ANY band, frequency, or mode! Even if you are not (yet) a licensed amateur radio operator, you can still participate!

### Rules:

1. You must make at least 1 (one) QSO each day of the month of June
2. You must operate on an Amateur Band/Frequency
3. You must generate RF on an Amateur Band/Frequency at your station
4. If you are NOT a licensed Amateur Radio Operator you must listen to an Amateur Band/Frequency using an RF receiver
5. Not Allowed (QSO does not count)  
DV-Dongle (the blue model)  
IRLP using your phone  
Echolink, etc.

No "radio-reference.com" or internet based radio monitoring sites for listening.

Remember, if you don't generate or receive Amateur Band/Frequency RF, the QSO does not count.

6. We're going to use the honor system for keeping track of all who complete the "Radio Run"! (Be honest – which is a pretty good policy anyway ☺ )
7. IF you have made at least 1 (one) contact on each and every day of the month of June, please contact Jim Bates with the following information:
  - a. Call Sign (required)
  - b. Name (optional)
  - c. E-Mail Address and/or Telephone Number (optional)

d. If you kept track of your contacts, the # of contacts you made during the month of June, 2016 (optional)

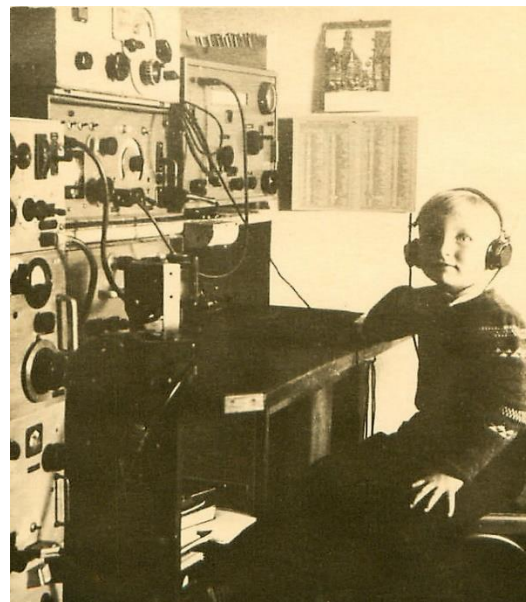
If you have questions, comments, or concerns please contact Jim Bates or RARC.

Contact Information (e-mail is preferred)

Jim Bates (K8OI), (804) 592-1068

[jl Bates4@gmail.com](mailto:jl Bates4@gmail.com)

p.s. I respond to every e-mail. If you don't receive a response to your e-mail back within 24 hours, please double check the e-mail address and resend your e-mail or CALL ME :)



### **Sign up to run a GOTA station at the Special Olympics!**

Every June dozens of hams converge on the fields at the University of Richmond and the outlying swimming and softball venues to provide critical communications for the annual Virginia Summer Special Olympic Games. The athletes, coaches and parents see us do it but they never get on the air. 2016 will be different!

This year we will have a GOTA station or three. Athletes and those supporting them can get on the air with your help. Our aim is to have one or more HF stations and – just in case the Ionosphere is uncooperative – a VHF station or two.

You show the visitors and athletes how to use a ham station as the legal control operator. They get on the air and make an unexpected contact. It is something we hams know all about but should be new and exciting to the GOTA station visitor.

QSL cards are sent to contacts who send us a QSL card. We send the GOTA station visitors your QSL to keep them interested in amateur radio. We'll also be logging the contacts. Sign up at [RVAHams.com/K4VSO](http://RVAHams.com/K4VSO) for an hour or more. Fun for you; fun for them; Good for amateur radio!

[http://www.hamvaso.net/signup\\_form.php](http://www.hamvaso.net/signup_form.php).

### **A Ham radio for makers**

Stephen Cass is a writer for the *IEEE Spectrum* magazine. As you may know, IEEE stands for the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and *Spectrum* is its primary magazine. Stephen is also KB1WNR so he pens some ham radio articles for that magazine usually under "hands-on for geeks." It's nice publicity for ham radio. (Not surprisingly, lots of engineers started out as hams or eventually become hams because, well, we are geeks.)

The March issue of the magazine had an interesting article, "Hands on: A Ham Radio for Makers – the RS-UV3 lets you build your own Arduino- or Raspberry Pi-based radio." In it he tells how to mate the pieces to make an SDR VHF radio. You can read the article at <http://spectrum.ieee.org/geek-life/hands-on/hands-on-a-ham-radio-for-makers>. In nice maker tradition the case is made of wood! If you are a ham radio maker you can make it with or without the wooden case.

Thanks Bruce W4BRU



### **All Code All Day!**

#### **At the Old Dominion Chapter of the Railroad Historical Society station**

We set up three stations and three antennas for three bands for W4ZA/100 special event stations. It was strange. The CW end of the bands were dead. The SSB portion was open but crowded with QSO parties and contests. You couldn't get a phone-voice signal in sideways if you tried. Mostly, though, we were about Morse code to celebrate the birthday of Samuel F B Morse and the code end of the bands were not cooperating. Hams party wherever we are, so we made the best of it.

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU.





K4OSO



KJ4IT & WA1UQO



WA4FEH & KD4CMK



WA1UQO



**The SWAP SHOP**

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at [wa1ugo@arrl.net](mailto: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.***

**Wanted:** HF to 2M transverter, call David Pate N4DFF, @ 804-218-9972.

**For Sale:** Check Ricky's website W4KQB.com. More item in the works!

**Thought For The Day**

Experience is that marvelous thing that enables you recognize a mistake when you make it again.

**73 de:**

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<b>Richard Arnold</b>	<b>WA4FEH</b>	<b>TREASURER</b>		

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