



THE RICHMOND HAM

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April 2019

THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, April 12th 2019, 7:00PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

Coming Events:

RARC VE Testing Session. May 11th. 2019.
Raleigh Hamfest, April 20th
Manassas Hamfest, June 15th
Field Day, June 22-23rd

This Month's Program:

Rob Thomas, KC4NYK will be giving a talk on beginning Ham Radio. As Rob Says, "As a result of my experience at the MakerFest this year and due to the influx of not only new members but a considerable number of those being new to ham radio as well, I thought it would be good to do a presentation I would title "getting started with ham radio - the minimalist approach". This would consist of outlining - by demonstrating, all the things one can do with very little, very inexpensive and yes - even no - equipment".

March Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2019

The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:00 on March 8th, 2019 at the Bon Air United Methodist Church by President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ).

Members Present

All present signed RARC Log Book

Last month's Minutes – Motion to accept by Bruce MacAlister, Second by Tom Flippin, carried.

Treasurer's Report

Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the Treasurer's Report, with an ending balance of \$9276.55. The Report was approved unanimously. Ken stated that a second set of Ham books are at the Henrico Public Library. Ken also presented 2 prospective members: Brian Davis (KJ4KVH) and John Maloon (KN4SKF). Motion to accept by Tom Flippin was approved unanimously.

Committee Reports

Tech Committee:

Bruce MacAlister, (W4BRU) and Tom Flippin (KD4CMK) reported on License School: 6 Tech, 9 General, and 7 Extra

Testing:

Bruce MacAlister, (W4BRU) reminded members that VEC testing will take place on March 9th at 9am.

License School:

Bruce MacAlister, (W4BRU) reported on License School: 6 Tech, 9 General, and 7 Extra

Makers:

RARC makers group meets Tuesday at Ken Zutavern's, (K4ZUT) house from 2-4 pm

New Business and Announcements

Powhatan Radio Club has put a repeater on line that does analog and System Fusion. They are working on a group purchase of System Fusion radios from Yaesu.

Show and Tell

Rob Thomas brought a dual power supply kit from Amazon, soldering station with burn resistant silicone lead- \$69 from Amazon, and a QCX 20 meter transceiver

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by vote. Bruce MacAlister, (W4BRU) gave a presentation on Digital modes using Raspberry PI

The next general meeting will be at 19:00 on April 12th, 2019 at Bon Air United Methodist Church.

Minutes respectfully submitted by: David F. Robinson ,(KJ4LHP),

From The Prez

From time to time, some of our "old timers" are faced with the prospect of down sizing as their life situations change. In many cases, seasoned hams have lifetime collections of equipment, technical literature, parts and other property which could be of use to the RARC and its members. Unfortunately, our own arrangements for space are limited. While we greatly appreciate the use of the facilities at Bon Air Methodist Church which allow us to hold our meetings, classes and exams, space limitations there have placed us in a position of having to sometimes turn down donations that could be of use to, and very much appreciated by our members. I know that at least one of our members has given up space in his home to house a large book and technical journal collection that was donated to the club, and I am reluctantly housing much of the club's hundred years of historical records in an unused bathroom of my home. We also have radios and test equipment that are stored in various locations. These situations are not ideal for a number of reasons, as things can get lost or destroyed when they are not in a central location.

Dream with me for a moment... wouldn't it be wonderful if we were able to obtain a "club house" for our organization where our members could meet at will in a facility with ample storage for donated equipment, and where we could have a club station accessible to all of our members. In addition, having a place to display equipment related to the history of our hobby, a mini-museum and technical library if you will, would be a great asset, and a way to better educate the public about ham radio. Private collections are great, but as the people in the hobby reach their golden years or pass on, much of our history will be lost if the relics of our past end up in landfills. In the last year, at least three downsizing hams have approached us with offers of gifts that would have been of use to the club and the members, so I suspect this will be a challenge we will face going forward. We are all aware that the club is not in the financial position to acquire real estate, so I ask our members to put forward any suggestions or ideas that would allow us to accept and preserve donations of worthwhile equipment and technical literature that are offered to us.

John DeMajo - K5HTZ

RARC VE News

FCC EXAMS EVERY OTHER MONTH

RARC offers VE Testing Sessions on the second Saturday of odd months except June to cover Field Day instead of July: Bon Air United Methodist Church, 9 AM.

The May testing session will be on the 11th at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 9 AM.

If you have questions about a session, please see our website, www.rarclub.net or contact Allan, WA3J, at 804-399-8724, or ve@rarclub.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.

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 \$20.00

Lots of information about the Club and our activities is available on our website, 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 062D rather than to any of our modules. Since the W4FJ stack will all be linked to Ref 062D, anyone linked to that reflector will be connected to the net.

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 Rptr
	8:15 pm	145.730	Packet

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.

Show and Tell!

If you have an item, idea, latest and greatest, or whatever gizmo; please bring it to the RARC meeting. We have a table (usually) set up near the front where you can place your item and share/discuss it with others as they arrive. We also have a section of the agenda set aside for members to discuss their "Show and Tell" item(s). No need to be tentative; we are INTERESTED in what you are doing, how you are doing it and, in true Ham fashion, how much it costs!

So Now What?



ARRL is launching a new bi-weekly podcast geared to those who are just getting started on their Amateur Radio adventure. Whether you're new to the hobby or looking to get back on the air after an absence, we know that you've got lots of questions.

So does podcast co-host Michelle Patnode, W3MVP, ARRL communications content producer.

Fortunately, she's got co-host Joe Garcia, NJ1Q, W1AW station manager and ARRL Lab member, to help her learn more about this hobby.

Join Michelle and Joe as they explore the topics that every newcomer to amateur radio needs to know.

You can subscribe to the podcast in Apple iTunes or on Stitcher (sign in or use as a guest). If you are using an RSS client, the feed URL is:

feeds.blubrry.com/feeds/arrlnowwhat.xml.

ARRL

Zeke, KJ4ASG SK

William (Zeke) Zeanon, KJ4ASG, a past president of RARC is now a SK. Zeke passed away on November 12th from complications of COPD.



Tech Tip

Do you have suction cup mounts that lose their holding power over time? In our plastic cars, magnetic mounts are not feasible, and suction mounts are used for everything from radio control heads, to GPS units to cellphone holders. If the suction device no longer holds, try using a heat gun on the rubber membrane to rejuvenate the material. I set the heat gun at about 450 degrees and treated my mounts for about 45 seconds, moving the heat gun slowly, but constantly. In every case so far, this restored the rubber membrane to its original holding power.

Win Grant - W4WIN



Finding local noise with the spectrum display – panadapter

It happened by accident. I was tuning my IC-7300 that has a spectrum display. I opened the lid on my Thinkpad laptop and all of a sudden there was noise all across the display. I unplugged the laptop power supply and the noise went away. On the MRA repeater I told Jon Bennett, NQ4A, what I was seeing. He said he had a spare genuine power supply for a Thinkpad I could have. I hooked it up. No QRM; no noise, nothing, nada.

Seeing a large part of the band makes the difference. It shows me that it's broad spectrum noise not isolated to one frequency. I'm going around the radio room shutting things off and looking at the spectrum display on various bands. Next I'll go next door and start turning off my neighbor's stuff.

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU

Harold Beverage

Harold Henry Beverage was born in North Haven, ME., in 1893. As a teenager he built a home-made wireless set through which he picked up signals from the Carpathia, the ship that rescued the Titanic survivors. At that time he had already developed a lifelong interest in radio technologies. Within a few years of the Titanic disaster, in 1915, he graduated from the University of Maine.

Upon graduation, Beverage went to work for [General Electric Company](#) the following year as a radio-laboratory assistant. During the First World War, he worked on radio transmission technologies for naval applications, and on adaptations for voice transmission. He studied the effects of extremely long antenna wires through a variety of experiments in 1919. In 1920 he was placed in charge of developing receivers for transoceanic communications at the [Radio Corporation of America \(RCA\)](#). This work led to what is still referred to as the "Beverage Antenna". And in 1921, he received his first patent, for the wave antenna which would become a standard for long-wave receiving. As his career progressed, his work extended to ultra-short wave equipment as well.

When [RCA](#) created RCA Communications in 1929, Beverage became chief research engineer. By 1940 he had risen to vice president of research and development. He retired in 1958 from that position and as director of radio research but continued to work in communications as a consultant.

Beverage was recognized throughout his career. In 1923, when he was just 30 years old, he received a Morris Liebmann Memorial Prize from the IRE for his contributions to the development of transoceanic

radio. In 1937 he became [IRE president](#). In 1938, the Radio Institute of America presented him with its Armstrong Medal for his work in the development of aerial systems. The Beverage antenna, the citation said, was "the precursor of wave antennas of all types." Beverage was awarded the [IRE Medal of Honor](#) in 1945, "In recognition of his achievements in radio research and invention, of his practical applications of engineering developments that greatly extended and increased the efficiency of domestic and world-wide radio communications and of his devotion to the affairs of the Institute of Radio Engineers." In awarding him its Lamme Gold Medal in 1957 the [American Institute of Electrical Engineers](#) cited him "for his pioneering and outstanding achievements in the conception and application of principles basic to progress in national and worldwide radio communications."



The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at wa1uqo@arrl.net, or call me at 508-838-8353. 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

Two (2) surplus type '30 (thirty) thermionic triode valves.
Matched pair preferred.
Will buy or trade.

Contact Alexander Sahhar at 804-560-3449 agsahhar@gmail.com

A donation of an older 2 meter rig (base or mobile, it doesn't matter) that doesn't do the CTCSS (PL) tones. I want to try creating my own tone generator to make these old radios work with the local repeaters. If successful, I will share the schematics and code with the group. The radio needs to be in working condition. Thank you. Please call Dan (w4erf) 540-872-5946 or email chronobot2001@gmail.com

For Sale: Kenwood TS430s, PS430 power supply and AT250 antenna tuner for sale \$950 plus shipping in US. It passed all the tests, USB, LSB, CW & AM on the Ham bands. Bought new in the box, 1984. call Bruce Haynes at brucehaynes@comcast.net

For Sale:

ICOM 756 pro2. Excellent condition. Box, Manual DC Cable, Microphone and laminated quick reference chart. includes external digital interface \$600.00

HEATH SB200 HF Linear Amplifier. Will run on 117VAC. Presently jumpered for 220 VAC. Manual and a spare set of Final tubes. New power supply, new fan motor. Very clean. \$300.00

MFJ Voice Keyer. Great for contesting. 5 memory channel recording storage. Remote control for triggering messages for transmission. Model MFJ-434B \$100.00

Contact NQ4A, Jon at 804-241-6555

Thought For The Day!

The way some people find fault, you'd think there was some kind of reward.

John DeMajo	K5HTZ	President	(504) 858-7689	jdemajo@demajo.net
Allan Johnson	WA3J	Vice President	(804) 318-6951	wa3j@arrl.net
Dave Robinson	KJ4LHP	Secretary		
Ken Leidner	WV0L	Treasurer		



"One day, son, all of these perfectly good A.C. adapters, which have long outlived the products they were originally designed for, will be yours."

Thanks David, KJ4LJP