



THE RICHMOND HAM

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October 2019

THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, October 11th 2019, 7:00PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

Coming Events:

RARC VE testing session November 9th
Radio Makers Fest, Saturday November 9th

This Month's Program:

Rick Waller, KA4OHM will present an "Introduction to HF operating".

Richmond Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2019

The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:00 on September 13th, 2019 at 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 John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) seconded by Ken Leidner (WV0L), approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the Treasurer's Report. We had an ending balance of \$10,310.10. The Report was approved unanimously. New member: Henry Johnson (AF7UP)

Committee Reports

1) ARRL/ARES Dr. Joe Palsa (K3WRY):VHF Contest this weekend; ARRL moving forward with ARES Connect, which is starting to work pretty well; Contest calendar is posted on ARRL website; Hurricane season is not over yet, be prepared for severe weather.

2) VEC: Allan Johnson(WA3J) Sept 14th VE testing using Laurel – no charge for tests.

3) License School: Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU) 13 students:7 Extra and 6 Tech. No General Class this semester- only one potential student.

New Business and Announcements

1)Mac Lyle (KR4PC) Station being set up at Boy Scout Camp Brady Saunders, he needs assistance on September 29th to set up a permanent station for Boy Scout use.

2)A Radio Maker Fest is being planned at the Southern Railway Museum on the 2nd weekend in November.

3) Judy LeHuquet (N4JDI) Ham event Oct 26th 5pm at Mission BBQ Midlothian followed by Miniature Golf and Haunted Blood lake, both at Midlothian Sports Complex.

4)John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) has made Radios, Antennas and other gear available to set up an Amateur Radio exhibit at Field Day of the Past on September 20-22 and needs volunteers.

5) Ken Zutavern (K4ZUT) Builders Group is working on a group project: a regenerative receiver

6) Show and Tell: John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) presented a display of microphones from early radio history along with descriptions and history.

7) Mac McNeer gave an update on the nominating committee. Elections will take place at the October Meeting.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned by voice vote.

Program

Curtis Holsopple (K9CH) gave an excellent presentation, "A Walk Down Memory Lane" a talk on his lifetime and experiences in the communications and Ham Radio fields.

The next general meeting will be at 19:00 on October 11th, 2019 at Bon Air United Methodist Church.

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

From The Prez

I want to thank all those who volunteered to operate at Field Day Of The Past. It was a little warm, but we were seen by lots of people, many of whom were interested and took ARRL literature with them. It was good to hear also that the Goochland Boy Scout station is about to go on the air. As we approach our last meeting before the banquet, I want to thank everyone who helped make this a good year for the club.

John, 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.

The September testing session will be on the 14th 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!

Pat Wilson, W4PW SK

Milton Patrick Wilson, "Pat" 74, of Richmond, passed away on Sunday, September 15, 2019. He was interim superintendent of DCE schools for the Commonwealth of Virginia from 1998 to 2012 and was involved in radio for over 30 years for WRVA, WTID, WRNL and WINA.

RARC ANNUAL BANQUET

Please join us for the RARC Annual Banquet / installation of officers meeting. As always, spouses and non-members are welcome. The Banquet serves as the November meeting on Friday, November 8, 2019 at 7:00 PM, so don't make a mistake and head to our regular meeting location in November. Come to the Chesterfield County Airport.

This year we will meet at the location which proved to be a hit last year, Kings Korner restaurant at the Chesterfield County airport. We have reserved the banquet room on the lower level. The cost is \$20.00 per person and includes a buffet of BBQ Pork, BBQ Chicken, coleslaw, baked beans, desert and coffee, iced tea or water. A cash bar will be provided.

We have a special speaker this year, Dr. Marcella Fierro. Marcella is the XYL of RARC member Dr. Bob Fierro, KG4ZIK. She is a forensic pathologist and served for many years as the Chief Medical Examiner for the Commonwealth of Virginia.

K4TBS Station Update

Sunday 9/29/19 was the major build date for the radio station at Camp T. Brady Saunders. The station is nearly complete and ready for operation, only needing a few small items that I have on the way and should be able to wrap up in next 2-3 weeks.

I was down with a stomach bug on build day but I am grateful to have awesome volunteers who (literally) did all the heavy lifting on Sunday. I want to put out a special thanks to all of them: Patrick Markley, Chip Free, John Rawls, Doug Dompkowski, Paul Cuomo, Mike Petty and Ranger Dean Thurston. Also a big thanks to Ranger Pat Dillon, Brian Judy (manufactured the brackets) and the RARC for their generous donation of equipment.

The station active equipment is a 10-80 Hustler 5BTV vertical on a Kenwood TS940S HF radio and an Arrow J-pole on a Kenwood TMV71A dual-bander. All the furniture was donated.

I have an extra special Cub Scout shout-out to Paul Cuomo who put together the Radio Scouting displays. I'm still looking for any radio scouting memorabilia to add to this museum display, so if you have something you'd like to see there, let me know.

We had a metal fatigue failure on our antenna mast but were able to make a quick substitution to a section of 20' black pipe. We were able to test the 2M/70cm rig. The HF rig needs a little time, but should be ready by end of October.

I will post one more update after we apply the finishing touches. Anyone wanting to come out and operate on it the day we go wrap up, let me know.

Scout On!

Mac Lyle, KR4PC



Radio Maker and Operating Session November 9

Sign up to show ham radio to the public. It's at the Railroad Historical Society Station on Saturday, November 9th.

Get free admission to the museum if you sign up to set up and/or spend two hours working on one of the exhibits or stations, and/or take-down.

We'll have a CW station at the Station-Manager-Dispatcher desk (with the bay window.) We'll have an SSB station in the caboose behind the station. We'll have an SDR receiver and a projected spectrum display at the front of the baggage-freight room. We'll have tables of kits assembled and unassembled in the main part of the baggage-freight room. We'll have a demo of kit building. We'll have various test gear and tools.

The museum is just south of the 14th Street (aka Mayo) bridge.

To be a part of it, sign up on the clipboard at the October club meeting. Or send a note to Bruce MacAlister at W4BRU@ARRL.NET.

O yes, there's also an impressive HO-scale model railroad and lots of railroad "stuff" to see at the museum.



NWS SKYWARN Classes

A National Weather Service Basic SKYWARN Weather Spotter class has been scheduled here in Chesterfield on November 7, 2019 from 6p.m. – 9 p.m. Advanced registration is required. You can register here:

<https://www.weather.gov/akq/SKYWARN>

There is also an online Advanced SKYWARN class on November 15 at 1 p.m. if you have already completed the Basic SKYWARN program. You can register for that class using the same link above.

Gear needed for Radio Makers Fest

Saturday November 9th we hams are gathering for a radio maker or builder exhibition for the public at the Railroad History Museum on Hull street just south of the Mayo (14th street) bridge. We need stuff:

CW demo station at dispatcher's desk

- A small HF rig, key, and power supply to squeeze onto the dispatcher's desk to demo CW.
- One HF vertical antenna, preferably for 40m and 20m. We'll be doing CW with it.
- A laptop that can convert CW and display the text for the visitors. It also needs a speaker so folk can hear the CW. fldigi would do it but there might be something better.
- An interface between the CW transceiver and the computer to get the CW.

SSB demo station in the caboose

- An HF rig and power supply for the SSB station in the caboose, 100-watts preferred.
- Two 20- to 30-foot insulated poles (usually they're fiberglass push-up) that we can anchor against fence posts and hang an antenna on.
- An HF antenna for the SSB station. Given propagation, it should cover 40m, 20m, and maybe 10m. We have about 100-feet of clear space for it that we will put up poles for. Endfed Zepp, OCFD, or a dipole would all work.
- An HF tuner for the SSB station just in case.

Receive station with spectrum display in freight area

- An HF and VHF SDR receiver for the freight area demonstration.
- A receiver loop antenna for the SDR. It will be used inside.
- A computer with SDR software and a spectrum display. It needs a VGA output so it can be displayed with an existing projector.

Builder-maker displays on table in freight area

(This is what we usually display at the RVA MakerFest at the science museum. That festival will not happen in 2019.)

- Built, partially build, and bag-of-parts kits to show what we make and how we make it.
- Poster of pictures and ham count got lots of reads (W4BRU)
- Ham bands poster
- RARC banner
- Promotional ARRL handouts
- RARC "business" cards.
- Selection of *QST* and *CQ* mags to read
- Soldering gear: iron, hand-tools, meters, maybe a 'scope
- A robot or K4ZUT at a table putting together a kit.

If you've got any of this and will loan it, write (w4bru@arrl.net) or call (804-353-4269) Bruce MacAlister to volunteer the gear.

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 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

Wanted: one (1) Arduino UNO main board. Will buy or trade.

Contact Alex Sahhar KN4QGQ at 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

Cushcraft A4S 20-15-10 Beam Antenna

<https://www.cushcraftamateur.com/Product.php?productid=A-4S>. A4S is the true, high performance tribander for 2-15-10. Precisely tuned high-power traps, carefully selected element lengths, and proper spacing combine to make the A4S the preferred antenna for your HF work! This is the premium antenna with all the features that you want. High gain, low SWR, and wide bandwidth keep the contacts coming in. All U-bolts, clamps and hardware are stainless steel. A4S has pinned boom sections and formed aluminum brackets to keep elements straight in all conditions. Our solid construction keeps the A4S on the tower! The antenna is only 2-years old and is ready for immediate pick up at my QTH. I am asking \$450.00 . Please contact me at 804-730-0221 or e-mail me at kj4it.jw@gmail.com 73, Jerry KJ4IT

ANTENNA TUNER, 3 KW, 1.8-30 MHZ, ROLLER, METER, ANT

<https://www.mfjenterprises.com/Product.php?productid=MFJ-986>.

MFJs innovative Differential-T Tuner uses a differential capacitor that makes tuning easier than ever. It gives minimum SWR at only one setting. Broadband coverage ends constant re-tuning. The MFJ-986 is a rugged roller inductor antenna tuner that handles 3KW PEP SSB amplifier input power (1500 Watts PEP SSB output power). It tunes 1.8 - 30 MHz continuously, including MARS and WARC bands. MFJs exclusive AirCore Roller Inductor gives absolute minimum SWR -- something tapped inductors just cant do. 3-digit turns counter plus a spinner knob gives precise inductance control so you can quickly retune your frequency. A lighted peak and average reading Cross-Needle meter shows SWR, forward and reflected power at a single glance! The antenna tuner is ready for immediate pick up at my QTH. I am asking \$200.00 . Please contact me at 804-730-0221 or e-mail me at kj4it.jw@gmail.com 73, Jerry KJ4IT

2225 Tektronix Analog Oscilloscope: The Model 2225 is a 50 MHz analog oscilloscope from Tektronix. Measure voltage or current signals over time in an electronic circuit or component to display amplitude, frequency and rise times, etc. Applications include troubleshooting, production test, and design. This scope comes with an operating manual, and 10:1 Scope Probe. I am asking \$275.00 . Please contact me at 804-730-0221 or e-mail me at kj4it.jw@gmail.com 73, Jerry KJ4IT

I am selling a GE MVS 40w 2 meter radio with APRS cable mod, Garmin marine GPS, TinyTrak3 interface module and home built MVS programmer / tinytrak programmer. This is a complete functioning system; just connect to an antenna, plug it into a cigarette lighter and it's on the air. It is currently programmed with my call sign; I could tell you how to reprogram it with yours. \$150. Call John Harlow @ 804 464 8248.

Thought For The Day

Today is the oldest you've ever been, and the youngest you will ever be again.

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		

Builders group winding toroids!

