



THE RICHMOND HAM

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October 2015

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, October 9th 2015, 7:00 PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

Coming Events:

October Meeting, October 9th, 7:00 PM.

VE Testing Session, November 14th, 2015 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 determined.

SEPTEMBER 2015 RARC MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: September 11, 2015
Meeting Time: 7:00 PM
Presiding Officers: David Robinson, KJ4LHP, President; Ken Leidner, WV0L Vice President; Richard Arnold, WA4FEH, Treasurer and Maylon Pearman, KG4RPQ, Secretary. Director: George Golding, W3PPY, Newsletter Editor, Armand Hamel, WA1UQO; and VE coordinator; Allan Johnson, WA3J.

David opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. He then welcomed guests and had everyone introduced themselves.

David announced the sad news of the passing of Buck Vaughan, KR4NL; Trey Murphy, N4PAT; and another local ham Rick Cook Jr, AB4U.

Minutes for the August meeting were approved.

Richard Arnold gave the Treasurers report for August. He reported one new membership application from James Mundy, KE4GVO. He was approved. Welcome to the Club! Tom Flippin, KD4CMK, reported for the nominating committee. All the current officers had agreed to serve another year if elected. Two new board members were nominated, Julian Bailey, KV4VP and Allan Johnson, WA3J. Anyone wishing to nominate someone for office please feel free, but get their permission first. In the absence of Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, David read the latest updates for the school and Maker Fest. RARC was accepted into the Maker Fest at the Science Museum on October 3. It will be an all day affair. David reported that the school was doing well. There are 8 in the Electronics for hams, 9 in Extra class, 12 in General class and 11 in Tech class.

There was no news on public service events. Tom Flippin updated us on the news about the progress on the International Space Station contact scheduled for next year along with the participation of the Science Museum. There will be two ground stations setup for the contact. He also reported that the Old Dominion Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society is having a celebration of Samuel Morse next spring and RARC will participate with a CW station. Work on your code!

Alan Johnson our VE coordinator said license testing was Saturday, September 12 at the Church. He said that as of September 3 the FCC no longer charges a fee for the vanity call signs.

Upcoming events for September are RATS meeting on the 18th at 7:30 PM.

RARC classes start on the 15th at 7:00 PM at the Church.

6 Meter SSB Net, Tailgate Fest on the 26th at 8:00 AM to noon.

The meeting was adjourned and afterward Jim Bates, K8OI, gave a presentation on remote station operations.

From The Prez

Saturday night, and another RVA Makerfest is history. The weather disaster that wasn't actually worked in our favor. A Science Museum employee observed: "We're the only game in town, all the other events have cancelled!" I don't know the attendance numbers, but at midday, there was hardly a single parking space to be had. We had lots of visitors at the RARC display, and gained some prospective members and potential licensees. Thanks to Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU), Rob Thomas (KC4NYK), Tom Flippin (KD4CMK), Armand Hamel (WA1UQO), Ken Zutavern (K4ZUT), Ken Leidner (WV0I), David Bailey (KM4LPK), Greg Miller (KI4UFS), Judi LeHuquet (KM4MGO), Bill Catogni (KM4MGP), Buddy Hall (KM4JCP) and everyone "behind the scenes" who helped make this happen. It's gratifying to see so many people who are not Hams with such a genuine interest – sometimes even fascination in Amateur Radio.

I want to take this opportunity to challenge you. Some of you are so involved in Amateur Radio that your plate is too full to add another thing – if that is you, I salute you! If you feel as if you don't have enough expertise or experience to Elmer others, you are fooling yourself. Many people think they have nothing to offer unless they are an expert – don't you believe it! A new ham may indeed ask you a question that you do not have an answer for—that is just an opportunity for you both to learn something new! The inexperienced ham is not looking for someone who is perfect, just *available*.

Ours is a hobby which is more caught than taught—which is why sharing what we do, why we do it, and how we do it really requires the "personal touch". We need to give back to others regardless of age or experience, and even to go beyond this with giving back to the community.

We have a huge reservoir of young people who do not even know what AM radio is, much less shortwave or amateur radio. Many of them can find a lifelong hobby and maybe the impetus to pursue Electrical Engineering or related work as a career, if only they have willing Elmers to advise them.

73 de KJ4LHP

RARC VE News

The November 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/ or contact Allan, WA3J, at 804-399-8724, or wa3j@arri.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.

2015 Refreshment Schedule

The refreshment schedule for 2015 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.

Getting rid of old electronics parts and devices responsibly

Most of us have old electronics parts we really want to get rid of. There are two opportunities in October to get rid of them without messing up a landfill. The website is: <http://cvwma.com/events/list/>.

The City of Richmond's Clean City Commission and Stormwater Utility will be hosting recycle event on Saturday, October 17 from 10 am – 2 pm at 1710 Robin Hood Road at N. Blvd. (Field

across from Arthur Ashe Center). The event will include electronics recycling collection. In addition, this event will offer document shredding, up to five (5) boxes, Pesticides & Herbicides Collection (provided by City of Richmond Department of Public Utilities) and collection/drop off of your old green recycling bins...

Henrico County Electronics Recycling

Henrico County Solid Waste Division is hosting an electronics recycling collection event on Saturday, October 24 from 10 am -1 pm at the Twin Hickory Library, 5001 Twin Hickory Road, Glen Allen There is a \$10 fee for the disposal of TVs. Payable by cash or check. CVWMA is using eWaste Tech System as the collection vendor for this event. Bring unwanted electronics such as: Computer systems (hard drive, CPU, monitor) Computer accessories (cables, wires, keyboards, mice, speakers, printers etc.)

Ham radio and the 2015 MakerFest

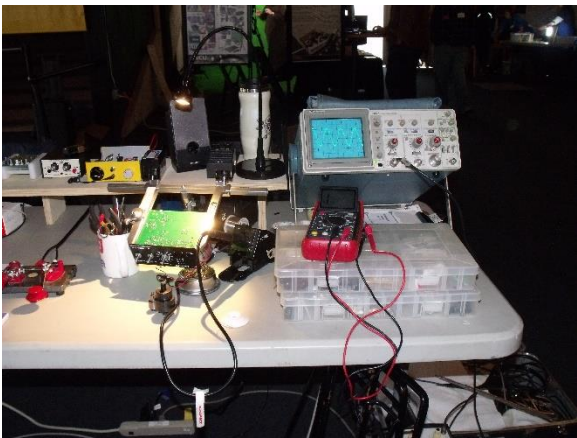
At the first RVA MakerFest in 2014 4,500 people came through the Science Museum with quite a few dropping by the RARC table and learning about Ham Radio. For 2015 there was rain and the threat of a hurricane. Most events in Richmond were cancelled. Not the RVA MakerFest. As a result over 8,000 people showed up and hundreds came by the RARC table.

The RARC table had Rob Thomas' Raspberry Pi computer receivers on the left, Armand Hamel's home-built QRPP transceivers in the center, and Bruce MacAlister's soldering station, oscilloscope and construction tools on the right. We hung a 20-meter dipole outside and the RARC banner from the ceiling. It was an opportunity to let people see that ham radio is alive relevant and innovative using the latest digital signal processing in computers, digital modes and lots of unexpected uses.

It was a very busy day with plenty of RARC volunteers staffing it, answering questions and inviting visitors to our meetings and our school.



Armand, Rob & Ken attempting antenna installation.



Tools of the trade.





Thanks to Bruce MacAlister W4BRU

The SWAP SHOP

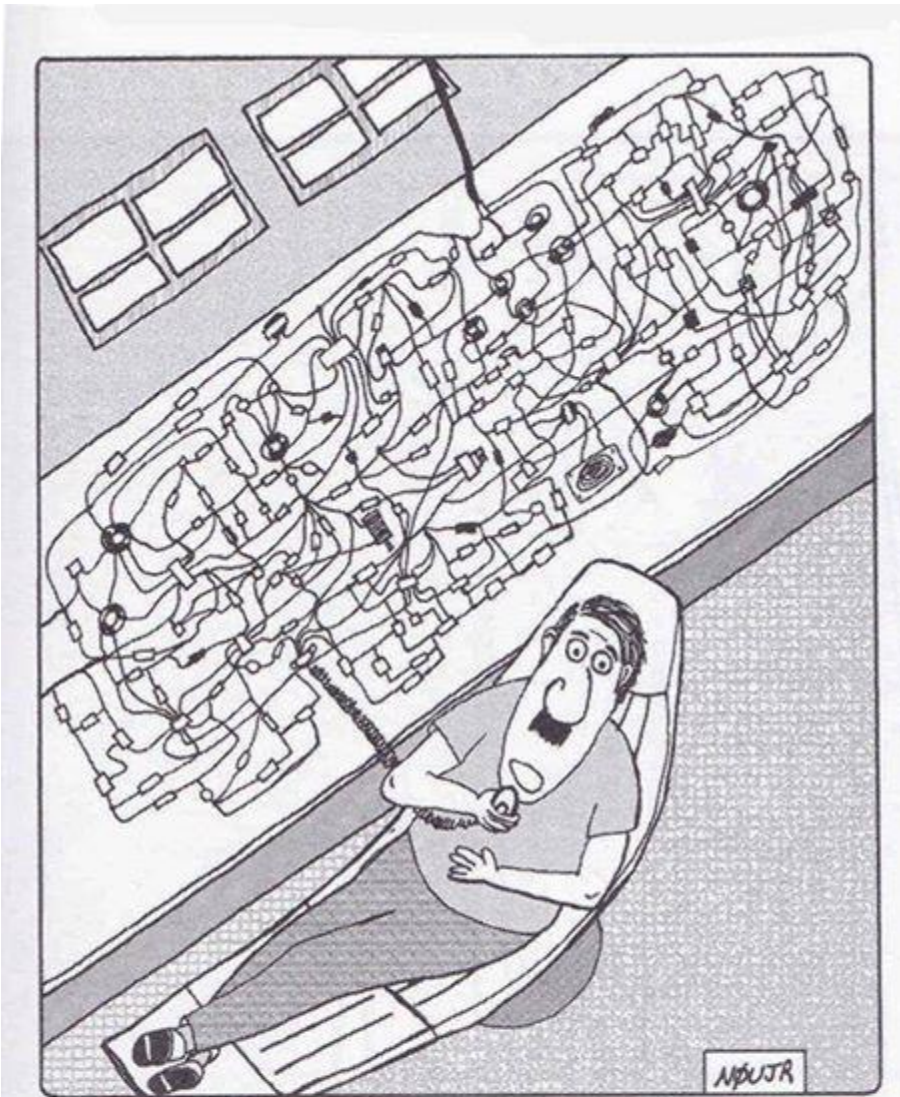
Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at wa1uqo@arrl.net, or call me at 804-454-0564. The Swap Shop is presented in the newsletter as a benefit to our members. RARC takes no responsibility for items sold or traded in this newsletter. The ad will appear three times unless extended. Interested parties will contact you directly. ***You must be an RARC member to place an ad.***

Thought For The Day

Cole's Axiom: The sum of intelligence on the planet is a constant. The population is growing.

73 de:

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Kenneth Leidner	WV0L	VICE- PRESIDENT	(804) 790- 0008	kleidner@earthlink.net
Maylon Pearman	KG4RPQ	SECRETARY		
Richard Arnold	WA4FEH	TREASURER		



"I'm using a homebuilt QRP transceiver that I soldered together one weekend on the benchtop. I suppose I should transfer it into a chassis sometime--it was a real pain on the last mountaintop DXpedition."