



THE RICHMOND HAM

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January 2020

THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, January 10th 2019, 7:00PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

Coming Events:

RARC VE testing session January 11th

This Month's Program:

A demonstration and construction of loop antennas by John De Majo, K5HTZ and Ken Zutavern, K4ZUT

Richmond Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes December 13, 2019

The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:06 on December 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 – Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

1) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the Treasurer's Report. We had an ending balance of \$12305.64. The Report was approved unanimously.

2) Ken presented new membership applications: Lindsey Billings (KD9O1T), (Craig Billings KD9OFU), Blaize Adderly (KN4ZTE), Melanie Carriveau (KN4ZSY), Mark Robinson (KN4ZTT), Stephen Raine (KN4ZSZ), Joeseeph Degrace (KN4URY), Paul Vitale (KN4ZTV), Jamie Dail (KM4PDT), Larry Tadlock (K4CW), Nicholas Mohr (KN4ZTC), Jason Miller (KN4ZTB), Sean Schaeffer (KN4ZTA), Steven Irons (KN4ZSN), Vikram Pakanati (KO4ABD), and Leif Andersson (KN4ABE) Motion to accept by Tom Flippin (KD4CMK) and second by David Robinson (KJ4LHP), passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

1) Website: Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU) reported that RARCLUB.net has been moved to another server.

2) Win Grant (W4WIN) brought new City of Richmond law prohibiting texting while driving to our attention. \$150 1st offense, \$250 2nd offense. City Council members will be contacted in an effort to educate them on the difference between Ham Radio and cell phones.

3) Show and Tell: John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) brought a classic radio kit and am radio and loop antenna from ebay.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by David Robinson (KJ4LHP) and seconded by Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU). Meeting was adjourned by voice vote.

Program

Potluck snacks and Rag Chew

The next general meeting will be held at 19:00 on January 10th, 2020 at Bon Air United Methodist Church.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

David F. Robinson ,(KJ4LHP),

From The Prez

Happy New Year everyone. As we begin a new decade, it will be interesting to see what technical developments come our way. As the FCC scrambles to accommodate the 5G network construction, there are sure to be new attempts to grab frequencies that are assigned to us. Cell phone demands have already resulted in a major restructuring of the commercial television frequencies, and our bands are becoming more valuable to the commercial interests as time goes on. It's important, therefore, that we all support ARRL in their lobbying efforts to keep our frequency allocations sacred.

I am hoping to make 2020 a year of outreach by our organization. I plan to start contacting school boards this month with the intention of possibly guest lecturing with middle and high school

students to promote ham radio. I am looking forward to our continued work with the Scouts as well.

In our own house, it is important that we schedule interesting educational programs at our monthly meetings. This year, we have a planned transmitter tour at WCVE tentatively scheduled for our June meeting. The January program will be a talk on building loop antennae. We still are much in need of programs for the other months. If you have a favorite subject and would like to share it with others, please consider presenting at a meeting. Others do want to hear of your experiences and technical expertise, so don't be shy. Contact me if you would like to schedule a date for your presentation.

Finally, things are getting critical when it comes to space for the club to store donations. This past year, we were fortunate to receive donations of equipment, components and the beginnings of a major technical library. As many of our members age, the club will probably be offered more of these donations as people downsize or move on to silent key status. The RARC is now out of space in our storage locker at the church, and members are being forced to store property, intended for the club, at their homes. Even if the idea of a permanent club house is off in the future, we are still in need of a place to store the books, radios and other property that has been gifted to us. If you can help in any way to provide safe accessible storage, please let's discuss. The preservation of our club's history, and the history of ham radio in Virginia, rests with us.

73

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.

The January 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!

Virginia QSO Party !

Never too early to plan ahead. The Virginia QSO Party will be on the weekend of March 21-22. Details can be found here, https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2020_VQP/2020_VQP_Main.html



Winter Field Day is Just Ahead



Field Day is not just for summertime anymore. Winter Field Day, sponsored by the Winter Field Day Association ([WFDA](#)), will take place over the January 28-29 weekend, and it can be a terrific time to prep for ARRL Field Day in June. The annual event's stated purpose is to encourage emergency operating preparedness in the winter, but it's also an excuse to get out of the house and enjoy the great outdoors. According to the WFDA, getting ready for emergency communication in a winter environment is just as important as the preparations and practice that take place each June during ARRL Field Day, and — let's face it — it's not cold and snowy everywhere during the winter months. Your local climate could be quite the opposite.

"Don't let those winter doldrums keep you locked up in the house," the WFDA says. "Get out and play some radio!" The WFDA said it believes that maintaining operating skills should not be limited to fair-weather scenarios.

The event, which got its start in 2007, is not restricted to North America. All Amateur Radio operators around the world are invited to participate, and there are three entry categories — indoor, outdoor, and home. The [rules](#) are similar to those for ARRL Field Day. Operation will take place on all HF bands except 12, 17, 30, and 60 meters, as well as on VHF, UHF, and satellite. The event runs 24 hours. US and Canadian stations exchange call sign, operating category, and ARRL or RAC section.

The WFDA encourages both group and solo operation, and if you're not up for an outdoor winter adventure involving Amateur Radio, you can operate from the comfort of your shack. As the WFDA says on its [Facebook page](#), "The object is winter fun!"

If Santa didn't bring enough radio gear, Frostfest is the next-best-thing! Frostfest will be held on Saturday, February 1st, 2020 at the Richmond Raceway Complex.

www.frostfest.com is the place to find all the information about this great hamfest!

Forum schedule includes presentations by:

AREDN / Amateur Radio Emergency Digital Network
Rich Moseson - Editorial Director at CQ Magazine (Live via Skype)

Dr. Tamitha Skov - "Space Weather Woman" (Live via Skype)

Many of your favorite vendors are already committed, and there will be more to come. Get a table or two and sell your excess equipment.

Check out all the details at www.frostfest.com

Discounted Group Rate: DoubleTree - Richmond Airport, \$99/night. [Hotel Reservation Link](#) Pre-Show "Meet & Greet" will be held in the hotel restaurant/lobby, Friday @ 7:30pm. - Details to follow on Facebook

p.s. - If you're interested in AREDN or busy experimenting, bring 5ghz and 2.4ghz gear to the show. A temporary AREDN node will be active at Frostfest and linked to the Metro-Richmond AREDN network.

The Secret Wireless War – 1939 to 1945

There are many reasons why having lots of licensed amateur operators is good for a society. This is an unusual one I found in the book my wife gave me for my birthday:

“From the 1920s the government was asked to provide more [receiver] sets and [Morse code] operators, as it was realized that in the event of another war, this service would be vital...”

“At the beginning of World War II, the Americans were asked to supply us with [receiving] sets. In 1937 they had 80,000 short wave amateurs which created a demand for good quality receivers and allowed us to tap into this source on lease-lend.”

The author is not a good writer so it's tough going unless, like me, you are fascinated by the code-breaking of WWII.

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 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

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

Rumors are carried by haters, spread by fools, and accepted by idiots.

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Dave Robinson	KJ4LHP	Secretary		
Ken Leidner	WV0L	Treasurer		

