



# THE RICHMOND HAM

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September 2020

## THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RARC Meeting Virtually Happening !

Our monthly meeting on Friday September, 11th, 2020, will be a virtual one. The Zoom meeting will start at 7:00pm.

Upon joining the meeting you will be muted. You may exchange greetings with members through the chat feature (keyboard).

Cell phone and tablet users please use Landscape orientation for better imaging.

### Kenneth Leidner is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: RARC Monthly Meeting - Virtual  
Time: Sept. 11, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every month on the Second Fri.

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Monthly:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/join/jZwoduGoqzMvEtBdpM3wG1LJ7Ro1ZcdB0qf1/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGgqzoiGtGdtRGDRpw-GYj4WfTwmFxyj7d\\_mA\\_IUDd0My\\_cYdBNY4h8FPqA](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/jZwoduGoqzMvEtBdpM3wG1LJ7Ro1ZcdB0qf1/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGgqzoiGtGdtRGDRpw-GYj4WfTwmFxyj7d_mA_IUDd0My_cYdBNY4h8FPqA)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88518058584>

Meeting ID: 885 1805 8584

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,88518058584# US

(Germantown)

+13126266799,,88518058584# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown, MD)

Meeting ID: 885 1805 8584

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kbj882gslc>

Ken Leidner , WV0L

## This Month's Program:

### Rig control, logging, and digital modes with a Raspberry Pi

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, will attempt a live demonstration of rig control with a \$35 hand-sized Raspberry Pi computer from his station. He'll have a few slides on hand in case the live demo goes ... well you know how live demos can go. Since some of the computer setup info came from KX4QC, Bruce will attempt to get him to participate.

The station is an IC-7300 with an AT-100 connected by USB to a Raspberry Pi 3B with the Buster version on PiOS.

## Richmond Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes August 14, 2020

The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:00 on August 14th, 2020 on Zoom by President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ).

### Members Present

Roll called on air by Tom Flippen (KD4CMK)

Last month's Minutes – Approved unanimously.

### Treasurer's Report

1) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the Treasurer's Report. We had an ending balance of \$12910. The Report was approved unanimously.

2) Ken presented new membership applications: Jack Kazebeer II (KO4FJM), and Joseph Edmonds, Jr. (N4NQY), both were accepted unanimously

### Committee Reports

1) Ken (WV0L) reported on the License School for Bruce (W4BRU). Significant number of out-of-state students.

2) Two RARC members became Silent Key: Joe Troutman (N4EHD) and Dennis Richardson (KD4YSN)

3) ARRL License Testing on September 19<sup>th</sup> at Fighting Creek Park, Powhatan, VA. Information on ARRL website.

### President's Report

1) President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) presented ideas for online elections. Bylaws are being reviewed as to permissible voting methods.

2) There will be no Club Station at Field Day of the Past this year. The event has been canceled due to COVID, also, the property has been sold and there will be no more events held there.

### Show and Tell

President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) brought a portable 2 meter transceiver, circa 1938-40. Radio is an all tube rig made by Abbott Industries

### Adjournment at 07:25

### Program

Alex Sahhar (KN4QGO) gave a great presentation on the history of radio equipment in the early days of the technology.

The next general meeting: September 11, 2020 via ZOOM

David F. Robinson, (KJ4LHP), Secretary

### From The Prez

As we finalize plans for the Fall license classes, I would like to thank Bruce McAlister and all of the instructors who have been working behind the scenes to get everything ready for the start of our first virtual license school. Offering the classes on line has had an unexpected benefit in that we have several applicants from out-of-state who will be joining us this time.

Ken Leidner and I have been working hard to organize the storage of our donated items. We have managed to find new homes for several items, which has benefited the club to the tune of several hundred dollars. Instead of auctioning, we are simply asking members to make offers if they see something they want. All proceeds benefit the club 100%. We recently received a large donation of vacuum tubes. I am in the process of testing each tube and individually boxing them, so if you, or anyone you know, needs tubes for a vintage piece of equipment, check with us to see if we have what you need. Since it is our understanding that FrostFest has been canceled for 2021, you may still find that item that you need by checking our available donated items.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the September meeting.

73

John DeMajo K5HTZ

### Fall Class schedule and registration form

The fall class schedule & registration form are posted at <https://rarclub.net/license/class-schedules/>.

### 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 at 9:am at the Fire Station, 1825 Huguenot Trail Powhatan, VA 23139

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 [ve@rarclub.net](mailto: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. All meetings will be virtual until the pandemic situation is resolved.

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](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 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.

## RICHMOND THE HAM September 2020

|                  |         |         |             |
|------------------|---------|---------|-------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | 7:00 pm | 50.135  | USB         |
|                  | 7:30 pm | 52.525  | FM          |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | 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!

## Elections for Club Officers for 2020 - 2021

Elections for Club Officers for 2020 - 2021 will be held at the October meeting. By-Laws provide for a Nominating Committee to endorse a slate to be presented to the membership. The Rules also provide for nominations from the membership at the same October meeting. The election is then held and the elected Officers serve for a one year term and installed at the November meeting.

Committee endorsements for the coming year, 2020 - 2021 are as follows:

President: John DeMajo, K5HTZ  
Vice Present: Allan Johnson, WA3J  
Secretary: David Robinson, KJ4LHP  
Treasurer: Ken Leidner, WV0L  
Director: Robin Jones, KM4TWQ  
Director: Joey Hairfield, WJ3H

Questions may be directed to our current President or to Mac McNeer, K4YEF, Chair, Nominating Committee.

## FCC Proposes to Reinstate Amateur Radio Service Fees

08/28/2020 From ARRL website

**[UPDATED 2020-09-01 @1845 UTC]** Amateur radio licensees would pay a \$50 fee for each amateur radio license application if the FCC adopts rules it

proposed this week. Included in the FCC's fee proposal are applications for new licenses, renewal and upgrades to existing licenses, and vanity call sign requests. Excluded are applications for administrative updates, such as changes of address, and annual regulatory fees.

The FCC proposal is contained in a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* in MD Docket 20-270, which was adopted to implement portions of the "Repack Airwaves Yielding Better Access for Users of Modern Services Act" of 2018 — the so-called "[Ray Baum's Act](#)."

The Act requires that the FCC switch from a Congressionally-mandated fee structure to a cost-based system of assessment. In its *NPRM*, the FCC proposed application fees for a broad range of services that use the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS), including the Amateur Radio Service that had been excluded by an earlier statute. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees.

"[A]pplications for personal licenses are mostly automated and do not have individualized staff costs for data input or review," the FCC said in its *NPRM*. "For these automated processes — new/major modifications, renewal, and minor modifications — we propose a nominal application fee of \$50 due to automating the processes, routine ULS maintenance, and limited instances where staff input is required."

The same \$50 fee would apply to all Amateur Service applications, including those for vanity call signs. "Although there is currently no fee for vanity call signs in the Amateur Radio Service, we find that such applications impose similar costs in aggregate on Commission resources as new applications and therefore propose a \$50 fee," the FCC said.

The FCC is not proposing to charge for administrative updates, such as mailing address changes for amateur applications, and amateur radio will remain exempt from annual regulatory fees. "For administrative updates [and] modifications, which also are highly automated, we find that it is in the public interest to encourage licensees to update their [own] information without a charge," the FCC said.

The FCC also proposes to assess a \$50 fee for individuals who want a printed copy of their license. "The Commission has proposed to eliminate these services — but to the extent the Commission does not do so, we propose a fee of \$50 to cover the costs of these services," the FCC said.

The Ray Baum's Act does not exempt filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service. The FCC dropped assessment of fees for vanity call signs several years ago.

ARRL is reviewing the matter and intends to file comments in opposition.

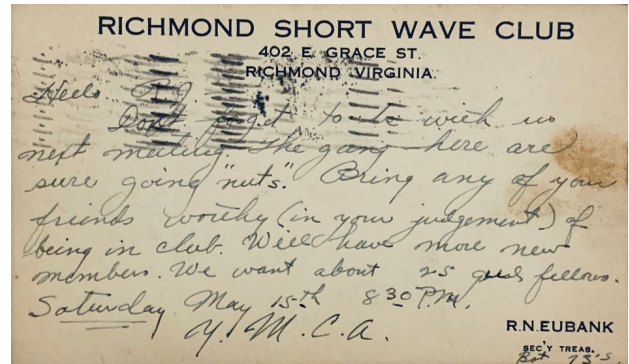
Deadlines for comments and reply comments will be determined once the *NPRM* appears in the *Federal Register*. Interested parties may file comments by using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (**ECFS**), posting to MD Docket No. 20-270. This docket is already open to accept comments, even though deadlines have not yet been set.

### Steve Kemp, KX4EF, to the rescue

After hurricane Maria, a deadly Category 5 hurricane, devastated Dominica, St Croix, and Puerto Rico in September 2017, RARC member Steve Kemp, KX4EF, headed to Puerto Rico to provide relief in his role as an IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) volunteer. That he had a ham radio license added to his usefulness.

Steve is one of the leaders of the IEEE MOVE emergency relief activities. He had much to do with the emergency response truck that heads off to emergencies. Mostly the truck and Steve have been responding to severe storms. With both radio and electrical skills, the IEEE volunteers can really help. There is a good article about MOVE and Steve's activities in

<https://move.ieeeusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/MOVEJune2020.pdf>



### A Little Local Radio History ?

This post card recently came to John's , K5HTZ's attention. Does anyone know of Mr. Eubank, or have a story to add to this for an article?

The card has a date of 1926.

**I am so ashamed.  
Ebay says that 55%  
of my purchase  
history has been for  
electronics. What did  
I waste the other  
45% on?**

## The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at [wa1uqo@arrl.net](mailto: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:** sub-miniature electron tubes military surplus of the types JAN-CK6418 and JAN-CK6206 or equivalent pentodes with 1.25 vdc filament voltage rating. Will buy or trade.  
Contact Alex Sahhar KN4QGQ at [agsahhar@gmail.com](mailto:agsahhar@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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

The Richmond Amateur Radio Club has a set of original complete years of QST from 1925, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930 and 1931, available for sale in ARRL binders, for \$25 per year. We also have a 20Mhz oscilloscope for sale . Proceeds of sales go directly into the RARC club treasury. These old issues of QST are priceless for anyone interested in the history of ham radio and are being offered for year below what QSTs are selling for on EBAY. The club also has a 100 year collection of QST for a reasonable offer. Contact John DeMajo, K5HTZ ([jdemajo@demajo.net](mailto:jdemajo@demajo.net)) if interested.

### ***Thought For The Day***

***Problems that go away by themselves, come back by themselves.***

|               |        |                |                |  |
|---------------|--------|----------------|----------------|--|
| John DeMajo   | K5HTZ  | President      | (504) 858-7689 | <a href="mailto:jdemajo@demajo.net">jdemajo@demajo.net</a> |
| Allan Johnson | WA3J   | Vice President | (804) 318-6951 | <a href="mailto:wa3j@arrl.net">wa3j@arrl.net</a>           |
| Dave Robinson | KJ4LHP | Secretary      |                |  |
| Ken Leidner   | WV0L   | Treasurer      |                |  |

The HOA is  
getting suspicious



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