

net, on Sundays. Armand Hamel (WA1UQO) does a D-Star net Wednesdays at 20:00. Tom Flippin (KD4CMK) does an 80 meter net on Mondays at 20:00.

3) Ken Zutavern (K4ZUT) told the Club that the RARC Builder's Group meeting will be moved to the RARC Zoom account beginning Oct 13. Those wishing to be on the Builder's Group email list should send an email to K4ZUT.Ham@gmail.com.

4) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) reported that the amendment to the Code of Virginia prohibiting use of handheld communication devices in motor vehicles has been passed, and includes an exemption for Amateur Radio and Citizen's Band Radio, thanks to Win Grant (WA4SSG).

President's Report:

1) President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) thanked Win Grant (WA4SSG) for his work on the aforementioned Bill and for other Pro-Bono legal work he has done for the Club including a form for items donated to the Club giving the Board sole discretion in use or disposal of donated equipment.

Elections:

1) President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) presiding:
Nominating committee recommendations are -
President-

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

2) Vote was called for the presented slate of Officers by President John DeMajo (K5HTZ). Slate of Officers presented by the Nominating Committee was elected unanimously.

Tom Ebbert, KG4BIZ has agreed to remain on as the president's appointed board member.

Adjournment at 07:28

Program:

Robert Orndorff (W4BNO) gave a great presentation on Solar Numbers and Amateur Radio Propagation
The next general meeting:

November 13, 2020 via ZOOM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

David F. Robinson, (KJ4LHP), Secretary

From The Prez

Greetings,

As we begin another official year for the Richmond Amateur Radio Club, I want to thank everyone for allowing me, and the other officers and directors, to serve you for another term. I know many of you were disappointed that we could not hold our annual banquet this year, and that we have not been able to meet in person since the start of this pandemic, but

thanks to everyone, we have been able to hold our group together and to still meet via Zoom. Hopefully the new year will bring us a cure and vaccine, and things can go back to normal for everyone.

I would like to remind everyone that the FCC is taking public comment on the proposal to charge a \$50 fee for amateur license issues and renewals. Anyone wishing to make their concerns known now has an opportunity to go to the ARRL website and voice those concerns to the FCC.

This month marks the completion of our first virtual license school semester. I think we have been pretty fortunate in how things have gone, and I would like to thank all of the people who worked to perfect the manner in which we have to teach now that we are not in classrooms with our students. Our first testing session will be conducted on November 14th, so I want to wish all of our students good luck on their tests, and to thank the instructors who have agreed to keep the school going despite the restrictions Covid-19 has placed on us.

As we begin the new year, we are looking for ideas and programs. If you have any suggestions, whether it be for something that improves what the club can offer our members, or if you have an educational program that you would like to share, please feel free to contact me and we will see if we can implement it.

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 November testing session will be at 9:am. At the Chesterfield Library Bon Air Branch
9103 Rattlesnake Rd
North Chesterfield

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. 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.

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!

ARRL Urges Members to Join in Strongly Opposing FCC's Application Fees Proposal

ARRL will file comments in firm opposition to an FCC proposal to impose a \$50 fee on amateur radio license and application fees. With the November 16 comment deadline fast approaching, ARRL urges members to add their voices to ARRL's by filing opposition comments of their own. The FCC *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* MD Docket 20-270 appeared in the October 15 edition of *The Federal Register* and sets deadlines of November 16 to comment and November 30 to post reply comments, which are comments on comments already filed. ARRL has prepared a *Guide to Filing Comments with the FCC* which includes tips for preparing comments and step-by-step filing instructions. File comments on MD Docket 20-270 using the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

Under the proposal, amateur radio licensees would pay a \$50 fee for each amateur radio application for new licenses, license renewals, upgrades to existing licenses, and vanity call sign requests. The FCC also has proposed a \$50 fee to obtain a printed copy of a license. Excluded are applications for administrative updates, such as changes of address, and annual regulatory fees. Amateur Service licensees have been exempt from application fees for several years.

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. The 2018 statute excludes the Amateur Service from annual regulatory fees, but not from application fees. The FCC proposal affects all FCC services and does not single out amateur radio.

ARRL is encouraging members to file comments that stress amateur radio's contributions to the country and communities. ARRL's *Guide to Filing Comments* includes "talking points" that may be helpful in preparing comments. These stress amateur radio's role in volunteering communication support during disasters and emergencies, and inspiring students to pursue education and careers in engineering, radio technology, and communications.

As the FCC explained in its *NPRM*, Congress, through the Ray Baum's Act, is compelling regulatory agencies such as the FCC to recover from applicants the costs involved in filing and handling applications.

In its *NPRM* the FCC encouraged licensees to update their own information online without charge. Many, if not most, Amateur Service applications may be handled via the largely automated Universal License Service (ULS). The Ray Baum's Act does not exempt filing fees in the Amateur Radio Service, and the FCC stopped assessing fees for vanity call signs several years ago.

ARRL website

Solar Cycle 25 is Here!!

It's been a while since the Solar Flux Index has been 92 and a Sun Spot number of 37!!

Winter is coming. Get your HF antennas up and get on the air!

| Solar-Terrestrial Data | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 08 Nov 2020 1540 GMT | | | |
| SFI: | 92 | SN: | 37 |
| A-Index: | 7 | | |
| K-Index: | 1 | | |
| X-Ray: | B1.6 | | |
| 304A: | 104.5 | @ SEM | |
| Calculated Conditions | | | |
| Band | Day | Night | |
| 80n-40n: | Fair | Good | |
| 30n-20n: | Good | Good | |
| 17n-15n: | Fair | Fair | |
| 12n-10n: | Poor | Poor | |
| Sig Noise | Lvl: | S0-S1 | |
| Condition | K-In | A-In | |
| Quiet | 0-2 | 0-7 | |
| Unsettled | 3 | 8-15 | |
| Active | 4 | 16-29 | |
| Minor storm | 5 | 30-49 | |
| Major storm | 6 | 50-99 | |
| Severe storm | 7-9 | >100 | |
| SFI | A-In | K-In | Prop Opng |
| >180 | <8 | <3 | E-W open |
| >180 | <8 | >3 | N-S open |
| >250 | >30 | >3 | Aurora |
| http://www.n0nbh.com | | | |
| Copyright Paul L Herrman 2010 | | | |

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: 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

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

RICHMOND THE HAM November 2020

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.

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 way 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) if interested.

Thought For The Day

Do not worry if others do not understand you. Instead worry if you do not understand others.

| | | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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 | | |

Daddy, tell us again how you survived the big Coronavirus pandemic of 2020.

I'm a HAM Radio operator. I just yammered away on the radio while avoiding people. Like usual.

Daddy's a freaking legend...