



THE RICHMOND HAM

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January 2021

THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RARC Meeting Virtually Happening !

Our monthly meeting on Friday January, 8th, 2021, 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: Jan. 8th, 2021 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/j88518058584>
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZwoduGoqzMvEtBdpM3wG1LJ7Ro1ZcdB0qf1/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/88518058584>

Ken Leidner, WV0L

This Month's Program:

Delicious HamPi

Many hams around here are using the \$40 Raspberry Pi computer for logging, station control, and digital modes. Most hams are familiar with Windows. PiOS (aka Raspian) is very different. Loading software, connecting, etc. is new and different with a Pi.

HamPi takes away much of the worry of getting the Pi computer going with ham gear. It's no tougher – maybe easier – than installing Ham Radio Deluxe or N1MM on a Windows computer. Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, will show you HamPi with its 80+ amateur radio apps. He will show you what the logger and digital mode screens look like and how you “load” HamPi onto a MicroSD card to put in your Pi. He will then tell you about the Raspberry Pi, where to get it, what you really need to really get it going, and where to buy it.

Meeting Minutes December 11, 2020

The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:00 on December 11th, 2020 on Zoom by President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ).

Members Present

Check-ins on Zoom

Last month's Minutes – Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU) motioned to approve, Tom Flippin (KD4CMK) seconded. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

1) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the Treasurer's Report. We had an ending balance of \$15428.19. The Report was approved unanimously by voice vote.

2) Ken presented 6 new membership applications: Edward Rike (No Call), Edward Springel (KO4GZB), Deborah Howard (KO4JGW), Jason Chan (KO4JFM), David R. Cooper, Jr. (KO4JWV), and Gary Liljegren (W4GAL). Motion to accept by Tom Flippin (KD4CMK) and second by Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU).

Accepted unanimously by voice vote.

RICHMOND THE HAM January 2021

3) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave a progress report on proposed By-Laws changes with comments by Win Grant (W4WIN). President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) took the opportunity to express the Club's heartfelt thanks to Win for his hard work on behalf of RARC.

4) Acquisitions: President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) met with the family of past member Byron Marty (WB4MHY)(SK) and accepted the donation of his QSL card collection (5 large binders), Logbooks and notes, They also wish to sell his equipment, members can contact John for particulars.

Committee Reports

1) Bruce (W4BRU) reported on the License School. Testing resulted in 7 Extras (2 local and 5 spread from Connecticut to Florida),

2) Dr. Joe Palsa (K3WRY) reported :

- a. ARRL has a new Webmaster and is redesigning the ARRL website to make it more informative and more user-friendly.
- b. RATS has put their original FM repeater back in place DMR repeater has been removed.

Show and Tell

President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) showed a \$10 camera and web-server that Ken Zutavern (K4ZUT) told him about.

Adjournment at 07:28

Program

Ken Zutavern (K4ZUT) resented an overview of current Maker's Group activities

The next general meeting: January 8, 2021 via ZOOM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

David F. Robinson

From The Prez

Greetings everyone,

One more day to go! As I sit here writing my article for the first newsletter of 2021, I can only hope that the new year will bring some order and resolution to what has been the craziest time I can remember in my 74 years on this earth. If I had to find one good thing to take away from this past year, it would be that our club has held together despite not being able to hold our meetings in person and our other functions such Field Day and our planned flea market. Being high risk myself, and therefore hanging

close to home for the last ten months, it's given me an opportunity to improve my skills as a ham operator, and to make some much needed improvements to my station.

We are in a wonderful hobby when it comes to situations like we have seen, because it's the ideal way to talk with people all over the world, while maintaining ultimate social distancing.

Thanks to all of our members who hung in there, adapting to Zoom meetings, classes on line, and still keeping this friendly group alive and whole. Let's hope that 2021 will bring us renewed enthusiasm to get out from under this terrible pandemic, and once again be able to meet in person and enjoy face-to-face QSOs.

73 and Happy New Year,

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 January testing session will be on the 9th at 10: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.

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|------------------|---------|---------|-------------|
| 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!

FCC Reduces Proposed Amateur Radio Application Fee to \$35

The FCC has agreed with ARRL and other commenters that its proposed \$50 fee for certain amateur radio applications was "too high to

account for the minimal staff involvement in these applications." In a Report and Order (R&O), released on December 29, the FCC scaled back to \$35 the fee for a new license application, a special temporary authority (STA) request, a rule waiver request, a license renewal application, and a vanity call sign application. All fees are per application. There will be no fee for administrative updates, such as a change of mailing or email address.

The R&O can be found online in PDF format at, <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-184A1.pdf> .

RARC ELMER PROGRAM

Over the last few years, our license school and volunteer examiner programs have added many new hams to the ranks. When asked about the services they receive from the club, many new hams say that they need some further help in order to set up a station and to feel comfortable in communicating on the air.

To this end, it has been suggested that we place more emphasis on helping newly licensed hams gain the confidence and technical help that they need to get started. Suggestions have centered around the need for a formal Elmering program. In order to fulfill that need, we would need a committee of volunteers who would be willing to help, on an as-needed basis, one or two new hams per Elmer. This would involve possibly a few Zoom sessions, and perhaps answering an occasional question. To assist new hams, and minimize the need for help by the Elmers, we will be designing a kit of material that will be issued to anyone who obtains a technician license through our programs. It will include items such as a script that could be followed when attempting to use repeaters, a chart of allowable frequencies and modes, an explanation of how to program a VHF/UHF radio, and most importantly a membership application to the RARC.

Along with the kits, we would like to establish a pool of persons who would be willing to assist these new hams while they are getting started. Any member who would be interested in helping in this way, please contact Bruce McAlister, W4BRU.

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: 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

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.

Contact John DeMajo, K5HTZ (jdemajo@demajo.net) if interested.

Thought For The Day
Never argue with a doctor; he has inside information.

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



"On FT8, no one knows you're a dog."