



# THE RICHMOND HAM

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

Our monthly meeting on Friday February, 12th, 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](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:

**Coax Baluns** by John Portune.

John Portune, W6NBC, is an ARRL member and frequent contributor to QST. He has been licensed for 54 years and has held an Amateur Extra-class license since 1972. John has a BS in physics and also holds an FCC Commercial General Radiotelephone Operator license and an FCC Radiotelegraph license. He retired as a broadcast television engineer and technical instructor at KNBC in Burbank and then from Sony Electronics in San Jose California.

## Richmond Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes January 8, 2021

The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:00 on January 8th, 2021 on Zoom by President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) with a Quorum present online.

### 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 \$15866.19. The Report was approved unanimously by voice vote.

2) No new membership applications

3) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) previewed our new website, which is live now.

4) Ken Z no Builder's group this month

5) Bruce (W4BRU) working on mentoring program for new Hams. John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) announced that a package is being put together with useful info for new Hams.

### Show and Tell

Ken Zutavern has a RTTY decoder

**Adjournment at 07:28**

**Program:**

Bruce (W4BRU) gave a presentation on Ham-PI. The .pdf file will be posted on the RARC site

The next general meeting: February 12, 2021 via ZOOM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

David F. Robinson  
KJ4LHP, Secretary

**From The Prez**

Not a lot to report this month. Winter is upon us and hopefully everyone has been using the season to spend some time in the shack making contacts. We are approaching the spring, which hopefully will mean more contests, activities, and eyeball QSOs now that the vaccine is out there and hopefully soon available to those who want and need it. Maybe sometime soon, we can resume our in-person meetings. In the mean time, everyone please stay well.

73  
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 March testing session will be on the 13th 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](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.

<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!

### 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.

## QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo

**Coming to your desktop, laptop, and tablet:  
March 12th, 2021 1800 PST for 48 Hours  
and "on-demand" until April 12, 2021**

Whether you're a ham that doesn't want to travel because of Covid or just live too far from a hamvention, the QSO Today Expo offers the opportunity to learn from many great speakers, meet with exhibitors to see the latest technology, and engage with fellow hams without leaving your home ham shack. And save thousands of dollars since you don't have to worry about travel, food, and lodging! Early Bird Tickets are just \$10 (to help cover the cost of this event, \$12.50 at the "door") and include entry for the Live 2 day period as well as the 30 day on-demand period).

Listen to and engage with 60+ internationally recognized ham radio luminaries that have committed to lead Expo sessions. [For the list of speakers and speaker topic, click here.](#)

Take part in Live virtual kit building workshops. Kits will be available for purchase and delivered to you in time for the Expo so you can participate and build from the convenience of your home.

Walk through our virtual exhibit hall filled with popular amateur radio suppliers. Watch new product demos and interact directly with booth staff. At this Expo we'll introduce new video technology to enable a better experience when engaging with exhibitors.

Prior to the Expo, take advantage of our new speaker calendar technology to download speaker times in your local time zones to Google and Outlook calendars. This way you'll have a complete schedule of what sessions you want to participate in.

Return over the next 30 days to listen to speakers you missed during the Live period, explore, and re-engage exhibitor offerings.



To register for the Expo the website to visit is, <https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/>

## The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at [wa1ugo@arrl.net](mailto: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](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 way below what QSTs are selling for on EBAY.  
Contact John DeMajo, K5HTZ ([jdemajo@demajo.net](mailto:jdemajo@demajo.net)) if interested.

**Thought For The Day**  
**Age is a very high price to pay for maturity.**

John DeMajo	K5HTZ	President	(504) 858-7689	<a href="mailto:jdemajo@demajo.net">jdemajo@demajo.net</a>
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Dave Robinson	KJ4LHP	Secretary		
Ken Leidner	WV0L	Treasurer		

