



THE RICHMOND HAM

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April 2021

THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RARC Meeting Virtually Happening !

Our monthly meeting on Friday April, 9th, 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: April. 9th, 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-GYj4WfTwmFxFYj7d_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/u/kbj882gslc>

Ken Leidner , WV0L

This Month's Program:

Mike Friedman, W4MAF will be talking about his SOTA (Summits on the Air) activities.

Richmond Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes

March 12 , 2021

The board meeting of the RARC was convened at 1830 with a quorum present. Board ratified motion to move to electronic dues at \$22 for electronic payment, cash or check payments will be discounted to \$20. The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:04 on March 12 th, 2021 on Zoom by President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) with a Quorum present online.

Members Present: Check-ins on Zoom
Last month's Minutes - Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:

- 1) 1 new membership application: Daniel L Freye (K4DLF) - Approved unanimously.
- 2) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the Treasurer's Report. We had an ending balance of \$16359.03. The Report was approved unanimously by voice vote.
- 3) President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) reported That the Club is now in possession of a Yaesu FT1000MT MK5, from the estate of Haywood Houtz (AI4DW)(SK). Radio is new, in box and has been checked, is for sale by the club, contact Ken Leidner, (WV0L).
- 4) Silent Key Ceremony for Haywood Houtz (AI4DW)(SK) was conducted.
- 5) RARC School: Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU) We have enough applicants for Tech and General Classes. We only had 1 student for Extra Class, so we won't be teaching Extra class this semester. Bruce plans to do a 2 night class (March 16th and 30th) on using the RARC Remote Station.
- 6) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave a demonstration on the use of the new RARC online Membership Application, Renewal,

Class/Seminar sign up and credit card payment forms. President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) expressed the Club's thanks and appreciation for the work they have done on the new RARC website. Judi Lehuquet (N4JDI) said she had received compliments from others on how good-looking and informative the new RARC website is.

7) President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) reported that RARC is planning "An Evening with Bob Heil" presentation by Bob Heil (K9EID) and plans to invite other clubs to participate.

8) Allan Johnson, WA3J announced VEC testing on March 13th at Bon Air Library. He also reminded us that, beginning June 1st, the FCC will not use the US Mail to communicate with Licensee's any longer. It will be the Licensee's responsibility to provide a current e-mail address to the FCC at all times.

9) Judi Lehuquet (N4JDI) informed us that they "took one for the team" on the way to a testing session. Car totaled by a deer, Driver and passengers are fine, car and deer not so good, and they didn't even get the deer.

Adjournment at 07:38

Program: Tonight's presentation is by Gordon Miller (NQ4K) on the upcoming VA QSO Party. It is viewable on the RARC Youtube channel.

The next general meeting: April 9, 2021 via ZOOM

Minutes respectfully submitted by: David F. Robinson, (KJ4LHP), Secretary

**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 May testing session will be on the 15th 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 \$22.00

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!

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.

Mark Your Calendar!

The Central Virginia Six Meter SSB Net will be holding its Spring Tailgate fest on April 10th. The location will be at the Scottish Rite Temple at 4204 Hermitage Rd. as usual. Sellers must provide their own tables if required. Set up starts at 7:am and there is no cost to participate. If you miss this one you've missed the best!

Lets get Ready!
2021 ARRL Field Day is June 26-27



Celebrate World Amateur Radio Day 2021 on April 18

Sunday, April 18, is World Amateur Radio Day ([WARD](#)). This year marks the 96th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union ([IARU](#)), founded at the 1925 International Radiotelegraph Conference in Paris. ARRL cofounder and first president, Hiram Percy Maxim, 1AW, was there, and today, ARRL is the International Secretariat of the IARU.

IARU has chosen "Amateur Radio: Home but Never Alone" as the theme for WARD 2021. The theme acknowledges that during our physical distancing to reduce the spread of COVID-19, amateur radio stands out as a welcome respite for its variety of activities and opportunities.

Amateur radio experimenters were the first to discover that the HF spectrum was not the wasteland experts of that time considered it to be, but a resource that could support worldwide communication. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, amateur radio was "in grave danger of being pushed aside," IARU history has noted, prompting the founding of the IARU. At the 1927 International Radiotelegraph Convention, amateur

radio gained allocations still recognized today — 160, 80, 40, 20, and 10 meters. Over the years, the IARU has worked to give all radio amateurs new bands at 136 kHz, 472 kHz, 5 MHz, 10 MHz, 18 MHz, 24 MHz, and 50 MHz, and a regional European allocation at 70 MHz, and IARU defends those allocations.

The 25 countries that formed the IARU in 1925 have grown to include more than 160 member-societies in three regions. IARU Region 1 includes Europe, Africa, the Middle East, and North Asia. Region 2 covers the Americas, and Region 3 is comprised of Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific island nations, and most of Asia. The International Telecommunication Union ([ITU](#)) has recognized the IARU as representing the interests of amateur radio.

On World Amateur Radio Day, all radio amateurs are invited to take to the airwaves to share global goodwill with other amateurs. ARRL encourages members to promote the value of amateur radio to family and friends, and in their communities.

ARRL

Who was Eunice Randall ??

Eunice Randall, challenged gender stereotypes and became the first female radio engineer in the US, the first female to hold an amateur radio license, and the first female announcer at WGI, an independent Boston Station, when it began broadcasting in 1922. Born in 1898, before women could vote, Eunice was raised on a farm in Mattapoisett MA.

At some point, Eunice became fascinated by the science of ham radio. Her first station, which she built herself, went by her initials "ER" - it was a time when you used your own call sign since radio was still not regulated.

Eunice impressed regional director of the ARRL, Irv Vermilya, W1ZE of New Bedford. He quickly became her mentor. In 1917, career options for women were few in those days, but she decided to leave the family farm and attended The Massachusetts Normal school in Boston, where she studied art and drafting. She later became the first female draftsman at the American Radio and Research Corp.

While in Boston she sought work, and found that the AMRAD factory, a company that made receivers for amateur radio fans, was hiring. Many of the men were off fighting in World War 1, and her skills with technical drawings were welcomed. It was highly unusual for women to work in technical professions. Eunice was not typical of her generation; not only was she an experienced ham radio operator but she now wanted to work with the men building radio receivers.

Her drafting skills were very precise and she wasn't afraid to learn new jobs.

AMRAD operated a radio station, 1XE (later known as WGI); it was one of the first in the United States, and many of the AMRAD staff also worked on the air. In the late 1900s all programs were live, and the announcers did a little of everything—they not only played phonograph records, introduced the performers, and read the news; if a guest did not show up, they were expected to entertain.

Fortunately, Eunice was an experienced vocalist; in addition to announcing, her other duties included reading radio bed-time stories to the children in the audience, and if the equipment broke, she did basic repairs. Eunice was very popular with her listeners, during her nearly five years of announcing, she received many fan letters.

In the years following women would find company in the home-makers' shows of the 1920s and '30s and would find inspiration listening the League of Women's Voters. Through it all, Eunice made her mark by doing the same job as her male colleagues.

In her book 'Invisible Stars' author Donna Halper writes "Eunice climbed a 306-foot radio tower because she was a self taught radio engineer at a time when that meant you had to know Morse code, you had to be able to fix and build transmission equipment, and you had to be able to fix them. It was so inspiring to me that she had the strength."

When AMRAD went bankrupt in 1925, Eunice returned to doing technical drawings, becoming the first female draftsman to work for the New England Power Association, but she continued to love broadcasting, especially ham radio. Her call letters were W1MPP and along with her mentor, Irving Vermilya of WNBH in New Bedford, she participated in many conventions. She set up a ham radio network for blind people, and was known for mentoring young amateurs.

1948, she married Ken Thompson, with whom she had worked at AMRAD many years earlier. A year later she took top honors for code-sending by foot, rather than by hand at the National Hamfest.

She continued her work as an engineer and held memberships in many amateur radio organizations, including the Boiled Owl Club. On her 40th anniversary of being a licensed radio operator, she earned her way into the Old, Old Timers Radio Club. She and her husband lived in Boston most of their lives, taking weekend trips to Mattapoisett. They eventually moved to Maine. Eunice passed away in 1982.



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.**

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

Good advice is something a man gives when he is too old to set a bad example.

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

Another Date for your calendar! May 20th Contest Univerity!

That magical weekend in May approaching. With no Hamvention this year, due to continuing Coronavirus restrictions, we have been developing several activities to keep Hams busy and engaged in the hobby.

Hamvention is a proud sponsor along with Icom and DxEngineering. Plan on attending this amazing free event!

Several Icom radios will be given away during the all-day event. You must be registered on Zoom and present online at the time of the drawing to win the radios.

Please check <https://contestuniversity.com> for updates. Free registration will be available after April 20th.

