



## THE RICHMOND HAM

Published Monthly by the Richmond Amateur Radio Club

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OCTOBER 2021

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

Our monthly meeting on Friday October 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: October 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?j=88518058584>  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join?j=88518058584&pwd=1234567890>  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/join?j=88518058584&pwd=1234567890>

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:

This month's presentation: by Kenny Silverman, K2KW, "Understanding Vertical Antenna Performance ". It covers the performance, design and location of vertical antennas over land and saltwater and is a compilation of 20 years of installing hundreds of vertical antennas and being the leader of Team Vertical, a contest expedition group which has set some 20 world records on CW using vertical antennas by the beach.

### Richmond Amateur Radio Club

#### Meeting Minutes September 10, 2021

The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:04 on September 10th, 2021 on Zoom by President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) with a Quorum present online.

**Members Present:** Check-ins on Zoom

**Last month's Minutes** – Motion to approve and seconded. Approved unanimously.

#### Treasurer's Report

1) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the Treasurer's Report. We had an ending balance of \$16,404.72 The Report was approved unanimously by voice vote.

2) 1 new membership application: Kenny Silverman, (K2KW) Extra. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

3)Nominations: Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the report of the nominating committee and a short description of the duties of the officers:

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)

4)Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU) reported on needs for the upcoming Hopewell Middle School ARISS contact: Hams with QTH in Hopewell, Dinwiddie, or Prince George; Dual Band HTs

## THE RICHMOND HAM OCTOBER 2021

that can be loaned for a month or two; Code practice Oscillators; SRD receivers; DMR HTs, UHF or dual band; small 2m yagis or supplies to build them. Anyone who can help, contact Bruce at W4BRU@ARRL.NET

5)Ken Leidner, (WV0L) will post on the Club website a list of members who need to pay 2022 dues .

6)Allan Johnson, (WA3J) reported that License testing will be Sept 10<sup>th</sup> at Bon Air Library, special session at James River State Park on Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, last test session of 2021 will be November 13<sup>th</sup> at Bon Air Library.

### **Adjournment at 07:40 Program**

This evenings presentation was by J.B.Edmonds, (N4NQY) on Pi-Star Hotspots

The next general meeting: October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 via ZOOM

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

David F. Robinson,(KJ4LHP), Secretary

### **From The Prez**

We are still trying to arrange for in-person meetings. I am not able to confirm a date yet, but everything will hinge on how the Covid situation works out as cold weather comes. Our club has managed to hold together with the Zoom meetings, and I want to thank everyone for participating in that. The support that our peers in this hobby, even with the limitations that the Covid pandemic has caused, far transcends our ability to meet in person. I also want to remind everyone that the Builders' Group is still meeting monthly in Ken Zutavern's (W4ZUT)garage. Thanks to Ken for allowing those who have been vaccinated to have an opportunity to get together in person.

The club's current project with Woodson G. Carter middle school is in full swing. We will be given opportunities this coming month to actually teach the students about ham radio, in preparation for the ISS contact next spring. This is an exciting outreach by RARC members to bring the excitement of our hobby to a whole new generation of 6th graders.

Finally, we are looking for presentations for our upcoming meetings. If you have something, or know someone who would like to present an informational segment at one of our monthly meetings, please let me know so that we can select a date for your program.

Thanks and 73,

John DeMajo

### **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 on the 13<sup>th</sup> 10:AM at Chesterfield Library Bon Air Branch 9103 Rattlesnake Rd, North Chesterfield.

Pre-registration Required.

Walk-ins Accepted.

Pre-Registration required for Techs and for special needs applicants. Also anyone taking the Tech exam needs a FRN from the FCC (Google obtaining a FCC FRN) and bring that info to the session.

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 \$22.00

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.

## THE RICHMOND HAM OCTOBER 2021

<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.

### **RARC Elections**

As required by the By-Laws, the Election of RARC Officers for 2021 - 2022 will be held at the regular October meeting. Nominations of the Nomination Committee are published in the September edition of the Club Newsletter with any additional nominations from the membership accepted at the October meeting.

Instillation of new Officers is then conducted at the regular November meeting.

This year the Nominating Committee has endorsed the following to serve for the 2022 term:

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

Mac McNeer, K4YEF, Chair, Nominating Committee



### **JOTA 2021 October 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>**

#### **What is JOTA?**

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country, they usually think of attending a World Jamboree. But few people realize that each year more than a million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual [Jamboree-on-the-Air](#) (JOTA). During the 2014 event, worldwide Scouting participation included 1.1 million Boy Scouts and 200,000 Girl Guides/Girls Scouts, for a total participation of over 1.3 million--the largest Scouting event in the world.



Modern technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without leaving home. JOTA is an annual event in which Boy and Girl Scouts and Guides from all over the world speak to each other by means of Amateur (ham) Radio. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared via radio waves. Since 1958 when the first Jamboree-on-the-Air was held, millions of Scouts have met each other through this event. Many contacts made during JOTA have resulted in pen pals and links between Scout troops that have lasted many years. With no restrictions on age or on the number of participants, and at little or no expense, JOTA allows Scouts to contact each other by ham radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed amateur radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses and have their own stations, but the majority participate in JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs. Some operators use television or computer-linked communications.

As a licensed amateur radio operator, you must, of course, comply with FCC regulations regarding frequencies, power, quality of signal, etc. Third-party traffic is approved by the FCC. Therefore, Scouts can talk with other Scouts when both stations are licensed by the FCC. When the station you are in contact with is outside U.S. jurisdiction, a third-party agreement must exist between the U.S. and that country's telecommunications authority. If an agreement exists, then Scouts in the U.S. may talk directly to the Scouts in that country. If not, then the licensed ham radio operator must talk for the Scouts. The full list of countries with a designation of which countries have third-party agreements with the U.S. is at this link: [www.arrl.org/third-party-operating-agreements](http://www.arrl.org/third-party-operating-agreements).



## License Fees Likely on Hold Until 2022

The \$35 fee for new and upgraded amateur radio license applications that the FCC announced earlier this year likely will not take effect until early next year. According to the ARRL, FCC staff recently told a meeting of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs) that work still needs to be done to prepare the Universal Licensing System to process fee collection from hams, and that it probably will not be ready to go live until early 2022.

The \$35 fee will apply to all applications for new or modified licenses (such as upgrades or changes in non- vanity calls), as well as renewals and vanity call applications. This will apply to both individual and club licenses. There will be *no* fee charged for administrative updates, which include changes of name, mailing address or e-mail address, or cancellation.

Once the system is functional, the League says, the new fees will *not* be collected by Volunteer Examiner (VE) teams, although they will still collect current exam fees. Once a license application subject to the fees reaches the FCC, the Commission will email the licensee/candidate a link through which the fee may be paid via the FCC Pay Fees system. The applicant will then have ten days in which to make the payment. Once the payment is received and the application is processed, the FCC will e-mail the applicant a second link which will provide access for 30 days to view, download or print their official license. After the 30-day period, hams will be able to access their license documents (as they can now) by logging into their FCC ULS account.



### 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.***

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.

For Sale: Yaesu 857 with LDG YT-100 Autotuner. \$700.00 Contact David Robinson at (804) 833-3351 or [thedarbinian@comcast.net](mailto:thedarbinian@comcast.net).

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

***Friends are people who know you really well and like you anyway.***

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		

