



# THE RICHMOND HAM

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June 2022

## THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RARC Meeting Virtually Happening and in person!

Our monthly meeting on Friday June 10th, 2022, 7:00PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road, and also 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: June 10th, 2022 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/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/u/kbj882gslc>

Ken Leidner , WV0L

## This Month's Program:

To be determined.

### **Richmond Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes May 13th, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Richmond Amateur Radio Club was called to order at 19:04 on May 13th, 2022 on Zoom and in-person by President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) with a Quorum present online. Agenda was displayed on screen.

#### **Members Present:**

Check-ins on Zoom and in-person at the Church.

**Last month's Minutes** – Approved unanimously.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

1) Ken Leidner, (WV0L) gave the Treasurer's Report. We had an ending balance of \$19,122.76. There was no deposit this month because, as of the meeting date, PayPal has not deposited to our Bank account. The Report was approved unanimously by voice vote.

2) 3 new membership applications: Matt Ford (KF5JRP) General; Dennis Petrocelli (KO4UOQ) Technician; Angela Vogel (KO4ICV) Technician – Approved unanimously.

3) President John DeMajo, (K5HTZ) announced that RARC has been awarded a \$1000 Educational grant from ARRL. We have funded the New Ham Workshop with some of this grant and hope to fund more at Frost Fest. President John is exploring other Grants for the education of Hams.

4) Bruce MacAlister (W4BRU) reported:

a) Classes are finished.  
b) New Ham Workshop on April 30<sup>th</sup> at the Richmond Railroad Museum, 14 registered and 10 attended.

c) Thinking about doing more with HF for New Hams at Field Day. Future plan is to roll all this together at Frost Fest next year. RATS needs volunteers. If we want a Frost Fest, we will need to step up and help.

5) Mike Friedman (KC3JFR) reported on a new Simplex Group in the area.

6) RARC Builder's Group will meet at Ken Zutavern's, (K4ZUT) on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.

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7) Special Olympics will be held on June 10th and 11<sup>th</sup>. Darren Faulkner KG4INW) contacted John. He still needs help at the event. If anyone can help please contact Darren to volunteer.

### Program

Tonight's presentation is by Rob Thomas and the Pulse Oximeter he and President John have been working on. Adjournment at 19:41.

The next general meeting: June 10th, 2022 at 19:00.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

David F. Robinson,(KJ4LHP), Secretary

## From The Prez

The Prez has been dealing with health issues this month and has asked to just let the membership know that all is well with club business.

## RARC VE News

We have two different groups that provide testing.

1. One is free, but only offers testing sessions on the second Saturday of odd months except June (Field Day) replaces July. The next session will be on Saturday June 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm at Laurel Park - 10301 Hungary Spring Rd, Glen Allen.

2. The other one cost \$15.00, but offers testing sessions on the 1st Saturday of every month.

1. RARC offers Free VE Testing Sessions on the second Saturday of odd months except June (Field Day) replaces July. Currently all testing starts at 10:00 AM and is at: Chesterfield Library Bon Air Branch 9103 Rattlesnake Rd North Chesterfield, VA 23235.

Pre-registration Required. Walk-ins Accepted. Pre-Registration required for Techs and for special needs applicants. 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)

2. KC4TS Cats Vet (Cats Volunteer Examination Team) offers VE Testing Sessions that cost \$15.00 on the 1st Saturday of every month. Currently all testing starts at 10:00 AM and is at: Gospel Light Church 2109 Anderson Hey Powhatan VA.

Check-in is between 10am and 12pm and we stay as long as needed to finish all the exams. Walk-in candidates are welcome! You just need a valid ID, an individual FCC FRN, and the testing fee of \$15 which goes directly to the ARRL (cash or check made payable to "ARRL VEC"). We can provide pencils and a very simple calculator or you can bring your own. See <http://kc4ts.org/> for more information.

## 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.

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 1284.0000 (-20). In addition to our Wednesday local D Star net (below), we link Module C (VHF) to REF 062A for the National Capital Region D Star Net on Wednesday nights at 9pm. On Tuesday nights at 9pm, we link Module C (VHF) to REF 054C for the North Carolina D Star Net.

The RARC D Star Net meets on Wednesday nights at 8:00pm and is accessible on our three D Star modules, all of which will be linked together via REF 062D. So if you are in RF range of the repeater, you can join the net on any of the three RF modules and be heard by everyone.

If you participate in the net via DVAP, DV Dongle or a Hotspot (such as Pi Star), you should link your device to REF 062D rather than to any of our modules which will allow you to be heard by everyone.

Any questions, contact Win - W4WIN at [wingrant@gmail.com](mailto:wingrant@gmail.com)

<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!

**New printable repeater list, simplex frequency list on RARClub.net**

**Repeater list**

Based on repeater conversations amongst hams, webmaster Ken Leidner, WV0L, put together a repeater list on the website that you see in Figure 1. You access by clicking the repeater tab near the top of the display. It's in PDF form so you can click on it, save it as a PDF, and print it.

As he explains in the website posting (rarclub.net/category/news-and-events/), he found the geographic center of the club members' QTHs, made a 51-mile radius, and then used Repeaterbook (www.repeaterbook.com/index.php/en-us/) to get the list of repeaters in that area. They are listed in alphabetical order by Location.

**Simplex frequency list**

Michael Friedman, W4MAF, has led a group doing SOTA and POTA using VHF FM simplex frequencies. He shared his list of simplex frequencies (Figure 2) and their suggested use in the area. We posted them on the club website at

rarclub.net/commonly-vhf-simplex-frequencies-area/. I have put them in Chirp and loaded them in one of my radios. I'm finding that on scanning there is quite a bit of simplex traffic in the RVA!

Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU

The RARC D Star net meets Wednesday nights at 8:00pm when all three modules are linked to Reflector 062D. Please join us, and in the meantime, enjoy the areas only D Star repeaters.

See our [W4FJ - D Star Gateway Information](#) and [repeater code of conduct and guidelines](#).

**Repeater Listing**

This list of repeaters is from [https://www.repeaterbook.com/repeaters/index.php?country\\_code=US&state\\_id=51](https://www.repeaterbook.com/repeaters/index.php?country_code=US&state_id=51) (Virginia's repeaters). It contains repeaters that are within 51 miles of the center of all of RARC's members in the state of Virginia. A point that is about 1.9 miles due north of where Huguenot Rd (147) crosses Chippenham parkway (150). (see picture after the list. The list is in sequence by distance for the center point.

Output Freq	Offset	Uplink Tone	Location	County	Call	Mode
444.6125	-		Beaverdam	Hanover	W4AFC	DMR
147.06	-	74.4	Beaverdam Ashland Berry Farm	Hanover	KD4RJN	YSF/analogue
443.5875	-		Bon Air WCVE Tower	Chesterfield	W4RAT	DMR
147.36	-	127.3	Chester	Chesterfield	K44CBB	Analog
145.31	-	127.3	Chester Carver Middle School	Chesterfield	KD4KWP	Analog
444.35	-	74.4	Columbia	Goochland	W4AFC	Analog
444.325	-		Farmville Leigh Mountain	Prince Edward	N4HRS	DMR
146.955	-	136.5	Farmville Water Tower	Cumberland	WR4CV	Analog
443.3	-	136.5	Farmville Water Tower	Cumberland	WR4CV	Analog
147.015	-	79.7	Fredericksburg Chancellor Landfill	Spotsylvania	K4TS	Analog
443.85	-	79.7	Fredericksburg Chancellor Landfill	Spotsylvania	K4TS	YSF/analogue
147.27	-	203.5	Goochland	Goochland	WB4KLI	Analog
444.65	-	203.5	Gum Springs	Goochland	WB4KLI	Analog

Fig1

**Commonly use VHF simplex frequencies in the area**

May 19, 2022 W4BRU

Michael Friedman, W4MAF, has been leading a group defining and publishing common **simplex** VHF simplex frequencies used in the Richmond area. Examples are the favorite SOTA and POTA frequencies and those that are meeting places for geographic areas.

146.520	National Simplex Calling	
146.490	Richmond Simplex General Use	Working Frequency and Range Testing
146.580	Adventure Frequency (SOTA/POTA) and Richmond Simplex General Use	Working Frequency
146.445	Active local ragchew "hangout" frequency	Richmond City, West End, Chester, whole metro area
146.505	Active local ragchew "hangout" frequency	Richmond City, Chester, Chesterfield, Henrico and other areas
146.535	Active local ragchew "hangout" frequency	"CATS" (Catastrophic Amateur Tactical Squad) simplex frequency

Fig2



## Some New Rules Going into Effect this Year for ARRL Field Day

02/09/2022

After taking a few detours over the past couple of years due to the COVID-19 pandemic, [ARRL Field Day](#) rules are being updated on a permanent basis starting this summer. ARRL conducted a Field Day community survey with invitations propagated far and wide, and direct emails sent to more than 15,000 individuals and ARRL-affiliated clubs. After sorting through, reviewing, and discussing the survey results, the ARRL Programs and Services Committee recommended a number of rule changes for ARRL Field Day, which will take place this year over the June 25 – 26 weekend.

Starting this year, the maximum PEP output for a transmitter used by anyone submitting a Field Day log will be 100 W. The power multiplier of 2 will remain in place, and the high-power category will be removed from the rules. Until this year, the maximum low-power limit had been 150 W for most ARRL-sponsored operating events. The power multiplier will remain at 5 for QRP participants running a maximum of 5 W or less. As previously announced, 100 W is now the low-power category limit for all ARRL and IARU HF Contests, effective January 1, 2022.

A couple of changes instituted initially as accommodations for the COVID-19 pandemic will remain. Class D (Home) stations will continue to be able to earn points for contacts with other Class D stations. The club aggregate scoring change initiated in 2020 as a temporary measure will become part of the permanent rules. In the aggregate scoring plan, the scores of individual stations are combined under the score of a single club.

Another change, involving Rule 7.3.2 Media Publicity, has been modified. Rules to date have offered 100 bonus points for attempting to obtain publicity and demonstrating same. With the ease of posting via Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and various other media websites, Field Day participants will now be required to obtain publicity, not just try to do so. Any combination of bona fide media hits would qualify for the bonus points. For example, posting the details of your upcoming or ongoing Field Day activity, or your Field Day results, on a club or news media site, on Facebook, or via Twitter and Instagram would meet the bonus criteria. Photos and videos are encouraged as part of media posts.

ARRL

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## 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.**

**Estate Sale!** I have a long list of Ham equipment I am going to sell either locally, on QRZ or eBay. Hams can email me at [n4nqy@arrl.net](mailto:n4nqy@arrl.net) for a spreadsheet of what's for sale. Included is HF equipment, VHF and UHF mobile radios and handheld radios (both analog and DMR) and various accessories. JB Edmonds, N4NQY.

**Test equipment, misc. Electronics:** An acquaintance of Scott, AE4TC is trying to clean up his dad's collection of avionics, electronics, test equipment, racks, transceivers, receivers, surplus etc. This is Mr Sternheimer's collection, he owned the A&N stores here in Richmond. There's several rooms full of equipment. Some new stuff still in the box. There's ham equipment, meters, cable, and so on. He is looking to get rid of this stuff and looking for people who can appreciate it. Please contact him directly, his name is Zach. [zastarri@comcast.net](mailto:zastarri@comcast.net)

### For Sale:

1. Ameritron AL-80A linear amplifier. Very good condition. Bought 3 years ago (used) and I never used it. Made full power when I got it. \$500. IF interested, call Dennis, KG4UT, cell (804) 709-5717.
2. MFJ Kilowatt dummy load. Bought new, never used. \$75. If interested, call Dennis, KG4UPT, cell (804) 709-5717.
3. Boonton Model 250-A Impedance Bridge. Very Good condition. I replaced filter caps. This reads the parallel combination of resistance and reactance over the range of 500 KHz to 250 MHz. I bought this for a project I was working on, and it did fine, but no longer have a need for it. \$75. If interested, call Dennis, KG4UPT, cell (804) 709-5717.

### ANTENNA ROTATOR FOR SALE:

THIS IS A YAESU G-800SA. IT IS BRAND NEW NEVER REMOVED FROM THE BOX. NEVER HOOKED UP OR USED. SOLD AS IS. COMES WITH A GC-038 BRACKET AND 125 FEET OF NEW 8-CONDUCTOR ROTOR CABLE. PRICE: \$ 550.00. Contact JERRY WILLIAMS, KJ4IT. 804-730-0221.

## Thought For The Day

***The happiest people don't have the best of everything; they just make the best of everything they have.***

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		

**In days of old  
when hams we bold  
and BALUNs weren't invented  
We adjusted our C  
and fiddled with L  
and reflected power was prevented**

**Ham Radio Club Takes Over RR Museum  
Ned Krack, Museum Host**

The Richmond Amateur Radio Club used the Museum's freight room for their event on April 30th. We welcomed more than a dozen of their members and guests who had a great time "dotting and dashing" for our other guests that day. Thanks to Charles Curley for capturing the action in the accompanying photos.



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**Just in time for Field Day!!**

