



# THE RICHMOND HAM

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April 2025

## THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RARC Meeting in person!

Our monthly meeting is on Friday April 11th, 2025, 7:00PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road. This month's meeting will be in-person and also on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88518058584>

### QR Code for Zoom Link



**April Program:** Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU will give a talk on Mentoring New Hams

## Richmond Amateur Radio Club (RARC) Monthly Meeting Minutes Friday, March 14, 2025

### Business Meeting

Call to order  
President Darrell Basinger WW4F called the meeting to order at 19:00 ET (23:00 UTC).

Recognize Visitors  
RARC welcomed the following visitor to our meeting:

John Bowen KQ4LYW.

President Darrell welcomed in-person & Zoom attendees to introduce themselves.

Approval of past meeting minutes.  
Dave Robinson KJ4LHP moved.  
Bruce MacAlister W4BRU seconded.  
February meeting minutes unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report  
Treasurer Ken Leidner WV0L presented

February 2025 Checking Account balance was \$18,681.67.

### New Member Applications

Treasurer Ken asked for a motion to approve the following new members:  
John Bowen KQ4LYW, Extra Class License.

Sarah Buchanan KQ4YLB, Technician Class License.

Elden Liu N8EVR, Extra Class License.  
Mark Warthan KJ4JPS, Technician Class License.

Tom Flippin KD4CMK moved.

Dave Robinson KJ4LHP seconded.

Four new members unanimously approved.

Welcome to our newest members!

School Update & Elmer Corps (Bruce MacAlister W4BRU, Head).

Bruce shared that license classes are going well. One seminar was cancelled due to lack of attendance, and the DMR seminar needs more people to meet the minimum. The Contesting Seminar is approaching the registration deadline. The Remote Station Seminar has begun.

### D-Star Repeater - status

Win Grant W4WIN shared that the updated D-Star server is not working and is being worked on between him and Jim Bates K8OI. In the interim, it has been swapped with the old D-Star server.

### Remote Station - status

Bruce MacAlister shared everything is going smoothly, and a recent power glitch was fixed.

### RARC Net Status / Activity

The New Hams Net at 7:00 PM ET on the MRA Repeater (145.43 MHz FM, -600 KHz uplink offset, 74.4 Hz CTCSS uplink tone) was highlighted. The MRA Repeater is currently experiencing technical issues which is interfering with this net.

### RARC Group Activities

No RARC group activity updates.

### Local Club Activities / Announcements

Jim Rubin W4PKR asked for volunteers for the Monument Ave 10k on Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup> from about 0600 to 1430. Anyone is helpful regardless of experience.  
President Darrell shared on Saturday June 7<sup>th</sup> 7 AM from 1 PM the Old Virginia Hams Amateur Radio is having their Ham Radio Group Tailgate Party in Manassas.  
President Darrell also shared that the Central Virginia 6 Meter Group Tailgate will be on Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup> at Hatcher Memorial Baptist Church from 8 AM to Noon.  
Dave Robinson KJ4LHP said that on March 22<sup>nd</sup> the 6 Meter Group is having a breakfast at the Golden Corral on Gaskins Rd.  
Steve Boles W4SB gave a reminder about the Virginia QSO Party.

Club Publicity – updates  
No updates.

Old Business  
None.

New Business  
None.

#### Announcements

Dave Thomas WD3O asked for help on behalf of the Metropolitan Repeater Association (MRA) board. The 145.43 repeater has a dielectric failure and needs a certified climber to fix it. The MRA does not have the funds. Any donations as well as membership applications/renewals are greatly appreciated.  
President Darrell gave a reminder about the recent FCC directive to reduce regulations and the potential impact on the Ham Radio community.

Motion to conclude business meeting.  
Dave Robinson KJ4LHP moved.

Business Meeting closed at 19:29 ET (23:29 UTC).

#### Meeting Program

Alan Swinger K9MBQ gave a program on Ham Radio estate planning and administration.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Jackson KR4CE, Secretary

## From The Prez

According to the ARRL bulletin issued in March 2025, “the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a Public Notice titled “In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete,” seeking input from the public on FCC rules that may be outdated, unnecessary, or in need of modification. This inquiry is part of the FCC’s ongoing effort to alleviate regulatory burdens across various services, including the Amateur Radio Service”.

Many of us, as well as the ARRL, are concerned that this action may potentially open opportunities for larger commercial organizations to use their influence during the FCC review to seek portions of the amateur radio frequency spectrum.

Many of you who are ARRL members may have already replied to the ARRL’s request for comment on this matter. Additionally, all of us can voice our concerns about the potential risk associated with this action to our congressmen in Washington, making sure our concerns are known. We must remain vigilant in order to protect the amateur radio frequency spectrum for the future.

73, Darrell / WW4F

## RARC VE News

We have two different groups that provide testing. 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 May 10<sup>th</sup> 2025 at 10:am**

**Chesterfield Library Bon Air Branch  
9103 Rattlesnake Rd  
North Chesterfield, 23235**

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

KC4TS Cats Vet (Cats Volunteer Examination Team) offers VE Testing Sessions that cost \$15.00 on the 1st Saturday of every month. Currently all

## THE RICHMOND HAM April 2025

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).

### QR Code to RARC Website



### 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) on Tuesday nights at 9pm, 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 097B. 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 097B 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
<b>Wednesday</b>	7:00 pm	28.475	USB
	8:00 pm	147.255	D-Star Rptr
<b>Thursday</b>	7:00 pm	52.525	FM

### MRA

#### Interested in information or support of the Metropolitan Repeater Association (MRA)?

The sole business of the MRA is to own, operate and maintain the **145.430** and **224.42** repeaters.

For information please visit our website at <https://sites.google.com/view/kg4mra/>



### 50.215Mhz @ 8:00am daily Central VA Six Meter Group Tailgate

Will be held on April 12 and September 13, 2025; 8:00 am to Noon. The fenced rear parking lot of Hatcher Memorial Baptist Church, 2300 Dumbarton Road, Henrico, VA. Located on Clarke Street, between Hermitage Road and Wilson Avenue, directly behind the church building.

### 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! Everyone has a story to share. Your first rig, your first contact, your most memorable QSO? How about a description of your shack with a picture? Old to the hobby - New to the hobby, there are lots of interesting stories out there to share. Consider writing and article for the newsletter. Any topic, any length any format, all will be welcomed. Any questions, send me an email at [wa1uqo@gmail.com](mailto:wa1uqo@gmail.com) or call @ 508-838-8353

## Notable YL Amateurs

It's impossible to talk about notable female hams without acknowledging the work of Clara Reger, who received her call sign in 1933 at age thirty-five. Reger had a long career as an operator, and managed disaster communications after WWII. Known for her exceptional Morse code skills, Reger spent much of her life teaching others how to become operators. She also received the Edison Award for teaching a fourteen-year-old boy without arms to send Morse code with his feet.

But Reger is also known for her signature salutation, which she created especially for women communicating with other women—the salutation '33,' which meant love sealed with friendship. Reger knew that to hear another girl's voice on the other end was rare and special. What a gift, to find kinship with women, through the radio, across the ocean, across the globe!

YL 33 is considered sacred by female hams, and there's a poem dedicated to Reger's accomplishments and passion for radio communications. You can read it in full on the Young Ladies Radio League's website, but here's a passage:

- *There's no real definition  
But its meaning is known well.  
It's how a YL says good evening  
To another friend YL.*



## The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at [wa1uqo@gmail.com](mailto:wa1uqo@gmail.com), 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.**

### **For Sale:**

Harvey Wells TBS-50C - functional transmitter, excellent condition - collectors, this is a nice display unit from W4DR (this is a later obtained duplicate of his original) - \$150

THE RICHMOND HAM April 2025

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Icom IC-756Pro w/mic, PowerPoles on power cable - New lower price: \$600  
Tektronix 465B w/ 1 probe - \$150  
Dentron MT3000A Antenna Tuner - One meter missing face cover, cabinet scratched on all sides and top - asking \$150  
MFJ Versa Tuner V MFJ-989C - needs some minor repair - only \$100  
Drake MN2700 Antenna tuner - \$300  
Murch UT-2000A - works great - paint flaking off - \$150  
Yaesu FT-736R transceiver w/mic 2m&70cm all mode with built in power supply - \$400  
TYT TH-9000D 2m mobile 60w - \$90  
Tailtwister T2XR - rotator only, no control head, new in box, bought for a spare - \$800  
Astron RS-20A 20A Power Supply - \$95  
Astron RS-50M 50A Power Supply - \$225  
TrippLite PR-40A 40A Power Supply - \$120  
Opto Electronics Handi Frequency Counter Model 3000 - \$150  
Diamond DPK-4NM-N mag base w/ MA9-5N antenna 900 MHz - \$50  
RigExpert USB Transceiver Interface Standard w/cables for Icom - \$80  
Realistic 300 Channel Pro 2004 - \$40  
250' nylon 3/8 (tower) rope w/ ratchet pulley - \$50  
Most of this is from K4DET estate. New items have been added at <https://c-v-c-c.us/> Look for the K4DET Estate+  
Contact: Ronnie Bolton, WU4G 804-651-3504 or [wu4g@comcast.net](mailto:wu4g@comcast.net)

**Wanted:**

SWR Meter good for HF and 1Kw. Contact Jon Bennett at [motexa@verizon.net](mailto:motexa@verizon.net)

***Thought For The Day***

*“Misers are no fun to live with, but they make great ancestors.” —Tom Snyder*

<b>Darrell Basinger</b>	<b>WW4F</b>	<b>President</b>	<b>(804) 219-8167</b>	<a href="mailto:president@rarclub.net">president@rarclub.net</a>
<b>Lauren Ware</b>	<b>W4LEW</b>	<b>Vice President</b>	<b>(804) 513-4950</b>	<a href="mailto:vicepresident@rarclub.net">vicepresident@rarclub.net</a>
<b>Will Jackson</b>	<b>KR4CE</b>	<b>Secretary</b>		
<b>Ken Leidner</b>	<b>WV0L</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>		

**100 Years Ago**

