



THE RICHMOND HAM

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May 2025

THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RARC Meeting in person!

Our monthly meeting is on Friday May 9th, 2025, 7:00PM, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

This months meeting will be in-person and also on Zoom.

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

QR Code for Zoom Link



May Program: Will be by Brian Justin, WA1ZMS "Operating on amateur bands above 24GHz"

Richmond Amateur Radio Club (RARC) Monthly Meeting Minutes Friday, April 11, 2025

Business Meeting

Call to order:

President Darrell Basinger WW4F called the meeting to order at 19:03 ET (23:03 UTC).

Recognize Visitors:

RARC welcomed the following visitors to our meeting: Nora Pozzi KQ4YLE & Jane Thomas KM4NNP.

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

Approval of past meeting minutes:

Tom Flippin KD4CMK moved, Michael Miller KN4VA seconded.

March meeting minutes unanimously approved

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer Ken Leidner WV0L presented.

March 2025 Checking Account balance was \$18,409.14.

New Member Applications:

Treasurer Ken asked for a motion to approve the following new members:

Lynne Davidson KQ4YLD, Technician Class License, Ricky Eaton AB4FJ, Extra Class License, Robert Gottschalk JR K4ADV, Extra Class License and Jen Alline Thomas KM4NNP, Technician Class License.

Bruce MacAlister W4BRU moved, Tom Flippin KD4CMK seconded.

Welcome to our four newest members!

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

Bruce shared the General class just took their class. Tech is wrapping up soon. Extra is the longest and still running.

D-STAR Repeater – status

Win Grant, W4WIN shared that we successfully replaced the Gateway. He also reminded us you can use the repeater in analog mode without a D-STAR radio. The Repeater will be used for the Monument Avenue 10k on Saturday April 12th.

Remote Station – status

Bruce MacAlister W4BRU said the remote station is working well.

RARC Net Status / Activity

President Darrell reminded us to check the RARC website for the net calendar. The Dominion DX Group (DDXG) is starting a new net the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM ET (40 m - 7.258 LSB) to promote DXing. Additionally, Tom Flippin discussed the 40 m morning net at 8:00 AM ET at 7.234 LSB Monday - Friday.

RARC Group Activities

Dave Stevens WB4DES, General Class Instructor, shared that the class just took their test. Congratulations to the new Generals!

Local Club Activities / Announcements

Central Virginia Contest Club (W4MYA) no update.

Richmond Area Telecommunications Club (W4RAT) no update

Dominion DX Group (K4VAC) no update

Central Virginia 6 Meter SSB Net

Tailgate is Saturday April 11th, at Hatcher Memorial Baptist Church.

Old Business None

New Business

President Darrell asked for a membership motion to donate the RARC Board ("Board") approved amount of \$2,000 to the Metropolitan Repeater Association (MRA) to assist in repairs of the 145.43 Repeater. He informed the membership why the Board recommended supporting this donation. Duane Brankley KK4JNN moved, Bill Catogni N4WLC seconded. \$2,000 MRA Donation unanimously approved.

President Darrell invited members (especially new hams) to join RATS for Summer Field Day (June 28th – 29th) at Laurel Park in Glen Allen.

President Darrell discussed the possibility of members purchasing RARC nametags that Rob Thomas KC4NYK designed. Members expressed interest.

Dave Stevens volunteered to bring a station and coax to lead a meeting for new hams to make contacts on the club's 20 m roof antenna.

Announcements

Rob Thomas said the V-Band CW Practice Net is still around and has been taking a break because of Easter.

Joe Hudert KJ4JPW is looking for advice on DX shortwave listening at his QTH.

Any new calls/upgrades to announce?

Nora Pozzi KQ4YLE earned her General. Congratulations Nora!

Show and tell

Rick Waller K4OHM shared a 32' mast to mount a portable wire antenna.

Motion to conclude business meeting

Tom Flippin KD4CMK moved, Duane Brankley KK4JNN seconded

Business Meeting closed at 19:44 ET (23:44 UTC).

Meeting Program

Bruce MacAlister W4BRU gave a program on mentoring new hams.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Jackson KR4CE, Secretary

From The Prez

In 2024, legislative efforts were introduced focused on protecting amateur radio operators from overly restrictive land use rules, particularly those imposed by homeowner associations (HOAs). The most prominent initiative was the Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act, introduced in both the House and Senate, aiming to limit the ability of HOAs to prevent or restrict amateur radio antenna installations.

S.3690 (Senate):

This bill, introduced by Senators Wicker and Blumenthal, would amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit the application of certain private land use restrictions to amateur station antennas. Specifically, it aims to prevent HOAs from banning, restricting, or requiring excessive approval processes for amateur radio antennas.

H.R.4006 (House):

This is the House companion bill to S.3690, also reflecting the Congressional campaign efforts by ARRL (Amateur Radio Relay League).

Key Provisions:

The legislation aims to ensure that amateur radio operators can continue to play a vital role in emergency preparedness by providing reliable communication when other systems fail.

Focus on HOAs:

The legislation primarily targets HOAs, which can often impose restrictions that hinder amateur radio operators from installing necessary antennas.

Endorsement:

The Amateur Radio Emergency Preparedness Act has been endorsed by the ARRL and Ham Radio Community.

What can we do?

Contact our representatives in Washington seeking their support of the bills in both the Senate and House.

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 10th 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,

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www.rarclub.net or contact Allan, WA3J, at 804-399-8724, or 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 testing starts at 10:00 AM and is at: Gospel Light Church 2109 Anderson Hwy 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.

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

Sunday	7:00 pm	50.135	USB
Wednesday	7:00 pm	28.475	USB
	8:00 pm	147.255	D-Star Rptr
Thursday	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 cost. 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 an article for the newsletter. Any topic, any length any format, all will be welcomed. Any questions, send me an email at wa1uqo@gmail.com or call @ 508-838-8353

Informational DXing Net

By Will Jackson KR4CE

The Dominion DX Group (DDXG) warmly invites you to join our informational net and spread the word about DXing! We meet the 2nd Thursday of every month at 7:30 PM ET on 40m at 7.258, LSB. While there is local interest in contesting, we have noticed that there is not a lot of chatting about only DXing and the surrounding activities (logging, DXCC, DXpeditions, etc.) We want you to come hang out with us and share your DX experience or learn about the fun. I personally have found the goal of working all countries is humbling, eye-opening, and adds structure to our hobby. It's also fascinating. Whether you're a master DXer or have no idea what (or where) in the world I'm talking about, DDXG yearns to have you on our net and join in the adventure of this exciting corner of our hobby.



Filing deadline has passed, still worth reading!

ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio® filed comments [PDF] with the Federal Communications Commission in response to its request for public input on alleviating unnecessary regulatory burdens by deleting or modifying rules, *In the Matter of Delete, Delete, Delete*. Implementing ARRL's suggestions would promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and enhance the development of the next generation of radio amateurs.

In response to ARRL's request, over 200 members submitted suggestions that were reviewed when considering what rules should be deleted or modified. ARRL will continue to engage with members and advocate for the Amateur Radio Service.

In its filing, ARRL asked the FCC to delete or amend the following rules:

Delete the LF and VHF/UHF Symbol (Baud) Rate and Bandwidth Limitations

ARRL supports the deletion of these restrictions as proposed by the Commission in late 2023. Doing so would enhance Amateur experimentation with digital technologies.

Update and Modernize Entry Level Technician Class License Privileges

ARRL reiterated its earlier proposal for extending additional limited privileges for Technician class operators. Adopting its proposal would provide new licensees an introductory window to HF data and phone communications that are at the core of the Amateur Radio experience and serve to incentivize the next generation of technical leaders just as Novice CW HF privileges did for earlier generations of operators.

Modernize 80/75 Meter Subband Divisions

ARRL requested action on an earlier proposal that would make more efficient and intense use of the 80/75 meter band. Changes in technology and modes since band usage was last addressed have resulted in overcrowding in one band segment that would be alleviated by adoption of ARRL's proposal.

Delete and Replace Obsolete Digital Code Limitations

ARRL also asked the FCC remove provisions that refer to digital codes that today are obsolete and permit Radio Amateurs to experiment freely with new digital codes, so long as such codes are publicly documented and decodable over the air.

Implement Changes to Third Party Rules Adopted Internationally at WRC-03

Although the United States fully supported changes to the ITU Radio Regulations in 2003 that removed a treaty requirement for third-party messages, there is no record of this change having been considered and the FCC's rules were never conformed to the new provision. Being the only nation known to continue to require a formal treaty for such purposes has resulted in no new such treaties for since the treaty changed more than two decades ago. Thus ARRL asked the FCC to Implement rules that are consistent with those internationally agreed to align with the rest of the world.

Delete Amplifier Drive Limitation

ARRL requested that the Commission act favorably on a pending proposal to remove limits HF amplifier gain that add to Amateur equipment cost and impede use of new efficient amplifier technology.

Remove Non-current Personal Information in Amateur ULS records

ARRL requested that the FCC complete a rule making in which it proposed that only current licensee

information to be visible in the public (ULS) database. Right now, if an amateur changes their address to a Post Office Box to shield their home address, the previous address remains visible. ARRL advocates for protecting the privacy of radio amateurs.

Delete Obsolete Identification Requirement for Special Call Signs

Users of special event call signs are required to identify with the FCC-issued responsible call sign at least once each hour. This can be confusing, especially on data and CW modes. ARRL proposed reliance on the web-based database that clearly identifies each special event call sign and authorized period of use.

Delete Obsolete Paper License Replacement Provision

The FCC no longer mails physical copies of amateur radio licenses, so ARRL suggested deleting the rule

that provides for sending paper replacements as obsolete.

The [FCC notice](#) [PDF] generated a lot of interest among radio amateurs, with hundreds of Amateurs submitting comments directly to the FCC as well as responding to ARRL's request for suggestions.

The FCC deadline for filing reply comments is April 28, 2025.

It is hoped that the Commission will incorporate worthy suggestions in a future Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) later this year. At that time there will be a new opportunity for public comment on the specific rules that the Commission proposes to delete or modify.

ARRL Member Bulletin for April 14, 2025

The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at 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

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

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Kenwood TS-2000- All mode multi-band all mode HF/50/144/440MHz w/ 100W output (HF/50/144MHz and 50W output 440MHz), Tuned/Aligned by United Radio 12/2021, Original MC-43S Mic, MC-52DM DTMF Mic, SP-23 External Speaker, ARCP-2000 Control Software, Power Cord, Original Manual and Schematic, Printed Manual for 3-ring binder, Diamond MX-72N duplexer, MFJ-822 300 watt UHF/VHF SWR/Wattmeter. \$800 OBO Contact Dan Bryant - N4DOB - 804-347-6037 - danbryant02@gmail.com

Heathkit Mohawk RX-1 - Receives AM/SSB/CW, 10-160m - \$250, Mfg 1958-1964, Contact Dan Bryant - N4DOB - 804-347-6037 - danbryant02@gmail.com

MFJ -1279 Deluxe Multimode Sound Card Interface for 8-Pin Round Mic, Have unit and software CD - Contact Dan Bryant - N4DOB - 804-347-6037 - danbryant02@gmail.com

Wanted:

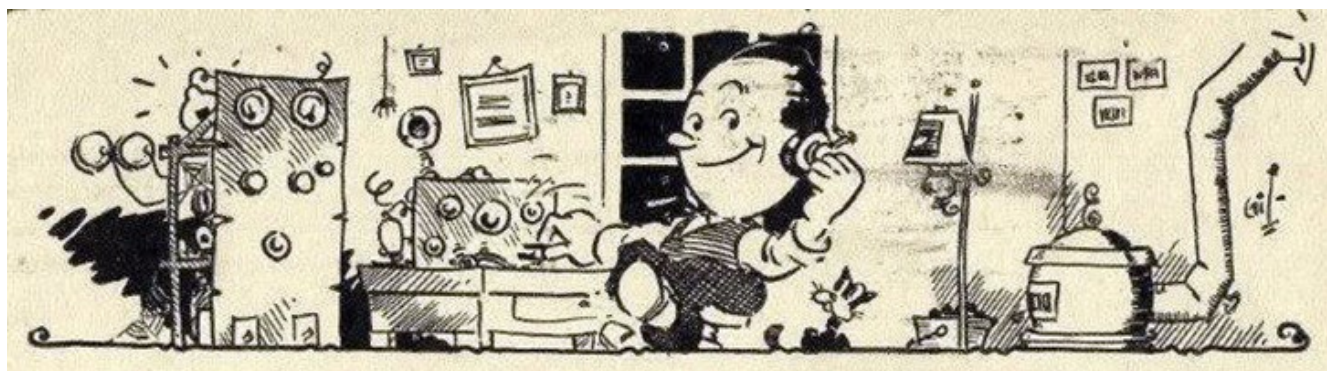
SWR Meter good for HF and 1Kw. Contact Jon Bennett at motexa@verizon.net

Thought For The Day

"Tact is the ability to describe others as they see themselves."

Abraham Lincoln

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Will Jackson	KR4CE	Secretary		
Ken Leidner	WV0L	Treasurer		



100 Years Ago

