



THE RICHMOND HAM

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June 2025

THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RARC Meeting in person!

Our monthly meeting is on Friday June 13th, 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



June Program: Will be by Darrell Basinger, WW4F on the Practical Application of the FCC RF survey on Amateur installations.

Richmond Amateur Radio Club (RARC) Monthly Meeting Minutes

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Friday, May 9, 2025

Business Meeting

- Call to order
- President Darrell Basinger WW4F called the meeting to order at 19:02 ET (23:02 UTC)
- President Darrell welcomed in-person & Zoom attendees to introduce themselves.
- Recognize Visitors
 - RARC welcomed the following visitors to our meeting:
 - Bill Rhodenhises
- Approval of past meeting minutes
 - Bruce MacAlister W4BRU moved
 - Tom Flippin KD4CMK seconded
 - April meeting minutes unanimously approved
- Treasurer's Report
 - Treasurer Ken Leidner WV0L presented

April 2025 Checking Account balance was \$16,147.22

New Member Applications

Treasurer Ken asked for a motion to approve the following new member:
Nora Pozzi KQ4YLE, General Class License

Tom Flippin KD4CMK moved
Lauren Ware W4LEW seconded
Welcome Nora!

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

Bruce shared that classes are now complete and thanked our instructors. Dennis Farmer KD4CMK volunteered to mentor new hams.

D-Star Repeater – status

Technical difficulties prevented an update.

Remote Station – status

Bruce shared that church internet problems are causing issues for remote reboots.

RARC Net Status / Activity

President Darrell highlighted several nets:
DDXG (Dominion DX Group) Net on the 2nd Thursday of the Month (40 M 7.258, 7:30 PM ET)
80 M Monday Night Net (3.858, 8:00 PM ET)
40 M Morning Net | Mon – Fri (7.238, 8:00 AM ET)

RARC Group Activities

No RARC group activity updates

Local Club Activities / Announcements

Old Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club tailgate will be on June 7th in Manassas. 6 M Net tailgate will be on September 13th from 8:00 AM to Noon ET at Hatcher Memorial Baptist Church. Special Olympics Event is on June 6th and 7th. Organizer Darren Faulkner KG4INW is looking for more operators. Summer Field Day is coming up on June 28th and 29th, hosted by RATS. The Metropolitan Repeater Association (MRA) thanked RARC for last month's

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donation and will start the feedline repair soon.

Old Business

none

New Business

none

Announcements

Rob Thomas KC4NYK shared that RARC will be attending the Collegiate School Make Fair to engage younger hams.

President Darrell inquired about programs on LOTW and other logging programs. Vice President Lauren Ware W4LEW and other members proposed a collaboration of various logging program users for future presentations and seminars.

Show and tell

Alex Sahhar KN4QGQ shared a Mark Antenna Co microwave dish and is looking for microwave band equipment.

Motion to conclude business meeting

Alex Sahhar KN4QGQ moved

Lauren Ware W4LEW seconded

Business Meeting closed at 19:30 ET (23:30 UTC).

Meeting Program

Brian Justin WA1ZMS gave a presentation about operating on amateur bands above 24GHz.

Respectfully submitted,

Will Jackson KR4CE, Secretary

From The Prez

The ARRL filed comments with the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) in response to its request for input on reducing or eliminating unnecessary regulatory requirements.

The ARRL details nine separate recommendations that it says "would promote and protect the art, science, and enjoyment of amateur radio, and enhance the development of the next generation of radio amateurs."

Here's a brief summary of the regulatory changes proposed by the ARRL in its letter:

- Delete the LF and VHF/UHF symbol (baud) rate and bandwidth limitations
- Modernized 80/75-meter sub-band divisions
- Delete amplifier drive limitations
- Delete and replace obsolete digital code limitations
- Implement changes to third-party rules adopted internationally at WRC-03

- Update and modernize entry-level technician class license privileges
- Remove non-current personal information in amateur ULS records
- Delete obsolete identification requirements for special call signs
- Delete obsolete paper license replacement provisions

The ARRL's filing was in response to a Public Notice issued by the FCC, titled "In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete," seeking public input on FCC rules that pose an unnecessary regulatory burden on affected parties. In its Public Notice, the FCC says that its current efforts align with the Trump Administration's Executive Orders to "unleash prosperity through deregulation."

The ARRL's filing with the FCC on reducing regulatory burdens is available at https://www.arrl.org/files/file/Advocacy/ARRL%2025-133%20Comments%2004_11_2025.pdf.

The ARRL article about its comments on deregulation is available at <https://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-files-comments-responding-to-fcc-request-for-input>.

And the FCC's Public Notice, "In Re: Delete, Delete, Delete," is available at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-25-219A1.pdf>.

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 June 28th 2025** at 12:pm

Laurel Park

**10301 Hungary Spring Rd.
Glenn Allen 23060**

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

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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 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 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.

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

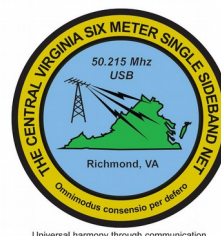
Sunday	7:00 pm	50.135	USB
Wednesday	7:00 pm	28.475	USB
	8:00 pm	147.255	D-Star Rptr
Thursday	7:00 pm	52.525	FM

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

Collegiate School Maker Faire!

Rob Thomas, Adam Humphrey, Lauren Ware and Will Jackson represented the RARC at the Collegiate School Maker Faire. With Rob's permission, the following is an after-action report sharing the team's insight and experience engaging with the school's leadership, parents and youth during the event.

Saturday, May 10th, at the Collegiate School Maker Faire which we were invited to was both challenging and inspiring. All the normal physical facility constraints, equipment quirks and propagation conditions that we encounter everywhere taught us new ways of navigating such difficulties and still deliver our intended message, with cheer and optimism. And it was evident to others. The staff there were gracious and went out of their way to make sure we had everything we needed to succeed.

Three Important Things That we Took From the Day

1. The leadership at the school made it a point to come by and tell us how excited and grateful they were that we were there. All expressed interest in having the vision of Ham Radio that we presented there - hands on exploration - become part of their STEAM programs. I think we all agree that education is in great need of such support and despite the visible investment in sports there is an equally obvious lack of funding in the area of STEM/STEAM activities despite the hype that it gets in the media. Educators in general are struggling to keep up with the basic knowledge of the technology that we take for granted and that we engage with every day as a form of play. They need our support to have the tools to participate in that play and build on it. And we should take it as our mission to make that happen!

2. Almost every one of the parents stopping by to chat with us asked if we were going to be part of the school's curriculum, or extracurricular activities, offer workshops or weekends of outside learning. Further they told us how important they thought it was to provide their children an alternative to social media driven content. They were both surprised and now curious about a hobby that, while being quite bleeding edge and state of the art, stretches back to validate 100-year-old technology, consisting of simple concepts and parts, offering a unique platform that their children can use explore and learn. To learn the science, math and art that we call Ham Radio.

3. The parents were as interested in what we presented, in many cases more than the kids. It seems to stem from the fact that they all have a connection from the past to that friend, neighbor or relative that was a Ham and with memories of what a good person they were. The fact that their kids don't have such, was not lost on them and it was clear that those connections are in danger of expiration. So, in that context - WE - are the representatives of that connection and have some incumbent duty to drive that forward. One of those parents who stopped by just so happened to be a former student of mine from the General Class that I taught at RARC and where as a reward for them all achieving 80% on their tests half way through the semester, I ordered the Ten-Tec regenerative receiver kits and taught them how to solder. An activity that she described then as "a life altering experience". After having been away for a while, she said was so glad that we were there and still around and now fully intends to get reconnected with the hobby that gave her such insight. My hope is to replicate and build on that experience.

Takeaways we can act on:

The four of us all agreed that we need to build a cohesive display and one that incorporates all of the things we want to demo without relying on:

1. internet access
solution - iPhone hotspot
2. band conditions or propagation
solution - demos or simulations that are locally resident on a laptop or RPi
3. mains power access
solution - POTA-like setups, battery powered RPi's and demos
4. finding and making contacts with another ham
solutions - one or two remote stations on site
local scheds with volunteers standing by and
reporting propagation and clearest bands
range of available (HF, VHF, UHF) bands and modes

And we need to have one or more giveaways in the form of:

1. links to information
Soldersmoke and other Podcasts and YouTu.be(s)
2. some "playable" gismo - such as

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- a. a Code practice oscillator kit
 - b. crystal radio kit
 - d. sticker or coaster with RARC logo and a QR code to the links above
3. publications
- a. Our brochure
 - b. copy of "Soldersmoke" or "CW Way of Life"
 - c. printouts of XTal Set Society etc.

I will circle back around to you all at Collegiate and would love to discuss how we might join in any planning where the programs for the following school year are established. And even though it's a long timeframe, it will allow us to have everything ready in a concise format to present and then immediately deliver.

Rob Thomas, KC4NYK





Field Day is only a few weekends away! Make your plans and get your equipment ready.





The Annual 13 Colonies Special Event

GB13COL

TM13COL

WM3PEN

NY - K2A

VA - K2B

DE - K2E

MA - K2H

NH - K2K

RI - K2C

MD - K2F

NJ - K2I

SC - K2L

CT - K2D

GA - K2G

NC - K2J

PA - K2M

**2025 Event Dates / July 1 (9AM Eastern) to July 7 (Midnight Eastern)
(July 1, 2025-1300 UTC to July 8, 2025-0400 UTC)**

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:

Icom IC-756Pro desktop transceiver w/mic, PowerPoles on power cable - \$525

Icom IC-7300 desktop transceiver w/mic, power cable - \$775

Yaesu FT-736R desktop transceiver w/mic - 2m&70cm all mode with built in power supply - \$375

TYT TH-9000D 2m mobile 60w - \$90

TYT DMR Handheld HT MD-380 5W 400-480mHz w/charging stand - \$65

Murch UT-2000A Antenna tuner - works great \$140

Astron RS-20A - 20A Power Supply - \$90

TrippLite PR-40A - 40A Power Supply - \$100

Opto Electronics Handi Frequency Counter Model 3000 - \$130

RigExpert USB Transceiver Digital Interface Standard w/cables for Icom - \$75

Harvey Wells TBS-50C transmitter, excellent condition but no power supply - collectors this is a nice display unit from W4DR - \$140

Heathkit Dummy Load can with oil - \$25

Contact: Ronnie Bolton, WU4G 804-651-3504 or wu4g@comcast.net

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

Thought For The Day

Do not worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older it will avoid you.

Darrell Basinger	WW4F	President	(804) 219-8167 president@rarclub.net
Lauren Ware	W4LEW	Vice President	(804) 513-4950 vicepresident@rarclub.net
Will Jackson	KR4CE	Secretary	
Ken Leidner	WV0L	Treasurer	

Remembering Peter Martin K2VIZ



Peter Martin K2VIZ passed away on Friday, May 9.

Peter was passionate about the value of ham radio digital communications in public service and emergency response. Over 20 years ago, he and Jay Silvio N9WMU (SK) built VA-APRS, later known as APRS.RATS.NET, the largest single-operator APRS network in the state with over a dozen sites on the air. He designed and deployed the Richmond area's first AREDN backbone, capable of moving ham radio data across town at broadband speeds. And we all know Peter was a vocal advocate for DMR technology. He operated three repeaters on the DMRVA network and a homebrew DMR+AREDN comms trailer, and recently was dabbling in DMR data, trying to find the best way for voice and data services to work together in the public service environment.

Peter served several terms on the club Board of Directors and was the brains behind the IT back-end of RATS and Frostfest for many years. He recently started Vertical Resource Corporation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit established to obtain and provide tower access and other resources for ham radio organizations engaged in public service and emergency response.

Peter is survived by his wife, Melodie (KF4ZGF) and son Chad (KJ4SEM). Our thoughts are with them during this difficult time.

