



THE RICHMOND HAM

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September 2024

THE RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB RARC Meeting in person!

Our monthly meeting is on Friday September 13th, 2024, 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



This months program: Vacation, Holiday, POTA, etc HF Stations.

What HF radio(s) do you take on vacation, a holiday weekend, to the park or island or summit? Bring them or pictures of them to the September meeting. Gene Damon, K4GNE, and Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, are going to bring their on-the-go stations. And they'll demonstrate them.



RARC Meeting Minutes August 9th 2024

Meeting was started at 19:01 by president Rick Waller, KA4OHM.

Minutes approved by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Balance of \$17,261.03.

New Members: Corbet Landis. Welcome to the club Corbet.

Old Business: None

New Business: Club elections coming up. Rick asked for anyone who might like to serve as a club officer.

Ken Leidner, explained about audio (echo) issues with the Owl System. Alternatives might include holding the meeting in a smaller room?

Business Meeting was closed at 19:09 followed by a short discussion of recent propagation conditions.

Bruce Mac Alister, W4BRU, gave an update on school preparations. See the website for times and registration dates.

Remote Station and D-Star repeater both working well.

Show and Tell: Stave Boles, W4SB, displayed and demonstrated a Western Electric sounder.

Meeting closed at 19:23 followed by a presentation about EME, "Moonbounce", by Henry Boze, N4HB.

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 September 14th 2024 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 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/>



Universal harmony through communication

50.215Mhz @ 8:00am daily

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!

Articles Requested!

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.

RARC Needs Officers

The RARC membership will elect officers and directors at the regular meeting on October 11, 2024. A nominating committee consisting of the undersigned will present a slate of prospective candidates to the membership at the September 13 meeting, and members may of course nominate other candidates at that meeting.

The Club bylaws describe the duties of the officers generally and the nominating committee suggests additional qualities for office holders:

- President – Presides at all meetings of the Club and Board of Directors and appoints committees; writes a monthly column for the newsletter. In addition, the president should be someone who has experience working with other hams to execute projects and communicates well with Club members and the public.
- Vice President – Assumes duties of the president in the absence of the president.
- Secretary - Maintains Club records (including taking minutes of Club and

board meetings) and maintains the membership roll of the Club.

- Treasurer - Maintains financial records of the Club, pays the bills, receives monies paid to the Club and generally manages the Club finances.

The membership will also elect two members of the Board of Directors. If you are interested in serving in one of these positions or have questions about the responsibilities, please contact a member of the nominating committee.

Bruce McAllister – W4BRU
Win Grant – W4WIN
Rick Waller – KA4OHM

2024 Marine Corps Marathon (MCM)

Volunteers Needed

On behalf of the MCM Amateur Radio team, I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to those of you who have already signed up as volunteers for one of our nation's premier ham radio volunteering opportunities. Without your dedication, the "People's Marathon," would not be possible. This event is a unique chance for amateur radio operators and clubs to support both the runners and the extraordinary men and women of our nation's Marine Corps while participating in an emcom training opportunity.

To date, we have just over 40 volunteers, which is shy of our target of 150. For reference, the Boston Marathon had 280 amateur radio volunteers this year. Let's show them what can be done when D.C., Virginia, and Maryland rise to the occasion – (quick shout out to our out-of-state volunteers coming from as far away as Canada).

Now, all we need is your support. If you are an operator, we hope you will decide to volunteer on October 27; and think of any friends who can join in. Whether you are a newly-licensed operator or a highly experienced one, runners, para-competitors, and the Marine Corps need you. If you are part of a club's leadership, we hope that you will actively encourage your members to volunteer. Without amateur radio operators, race safety and security are compromised. The Marine Corps tells us regularly that our participation truly makes a difference.

Richard Arnold, WA4FEH - SK



Richard Oscar Arnold, 84, of Chesterfield, VA, went to be with the Lord on August 29, 2024. He is preceded into heaven by his daughter, Kathryn Ann Arnold; parents, Oscar and Bernice Arnold. Richard is survived by his beloved wife of over 59 years, Ann A. Arnold; sons, Charles Wayne Arnold, Michael Richard Arnold (Soussanna), and Christopher Alan Arnold; brother, Donald Arnold (Pat); two grandchildren, and many extended family. A Richmond native, Richard worked for decades as a master electrician and was a proud member of the IBEW Local 666. He dedicated his life to service to his community as a first responder as a Firefighter and later serving as EMS with Ashland, Forest View, and then more than a decade with Manchester Volunteer Rescue and Ettrick Matoaca Volunteer Rescue where he specialized in advanced lifesaving and quick response to cardiac care. Richard volunteered as well for the Special Olympics for both medical and communications assistance. He was an early adopter of HAM radio as WA4FEH and used this interest to provide communications for community events. Richard was a man of deep faith and the church played an important role in both his and Ann's life. Above all he was a loving and devoted husband to Ann and a doting father to his sons.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in his memory to Beulah Global Methodist Church or the Alzheimer's Association.

National Preparedness Month: Have a Go Kit

September is National Preparedness Month, and ARRL is working to help radio amateurs have a plan for family resilience. Many hams enjoy public service as part of their operating. Being ready to activate for a served agency through the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service® (ARES®) involves not only being licensed and trained, but also prepared and equipped.

ARRL Director of Emergency Management Josh Johnston, KE5MHV, suggests that hams and their families have a "go-bag". He says there are a few things to consider: "You need to be able to function while activated, so that means you need a kit for your needs and a kit for your radio needs. If your family is impacted by the situation, they also need to have some gear at the ready."

On the ARRL website, there's an [Emergency Prep Kit Checklist](#). It lists the common items such as food and water for several days, a first aid kit, medications, chargers for your devices and other useful items.

Having a kit for your radio is useful as well. "Go kits will vary based on function and need for the field," said Johnston. "Most kits should include a dual band HT and/or mobile radio with antenna, a power supply and all necessary cables and connectors. Every kit should include note pad or paper of some type as well as pens or pencils. You should have a power source and power cables. If you are working HF then you will need an HF radio and antenna, and if you want digital capabilities, then a computer with software preloaded will be desired."

Other things you may want will include tape and tools, spare batteries, headphones, flashlights of some sort, cell phone chargers, and a multimeter. Other items that won't fit in a bag but may be needed include a generator, a working surface like a small folding table, a chair, and some type of shelter.

ARRL



The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Armand at wa1ugo@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.***

WANTED: ICOM 706 MKII G . Contact Jon Bennett, NQ4A. motexa@verizon.net.

For Sale:

Comet CX-333 tri-band antenna. Used 3 years, still in very good condition and had a low SWR on all bands when decommissioned.

SPECS: Coverage: 2M, 1.25M, 70cm, VSWR: 1.5:1 or less, Max Power: 120 watts, Length: 10' 4", Weight: 3 lbs 8 oz , Connector: SO-239.

Construction: Heavy-duty Fiberglass, 2 sections

Asking \$90. Contact Dave White, W4IIA for information.

804-501-8857

For Sale

Below is a partial list of a SK Estate which Alan Swinger is selling on behalf of the widow. Although the SK's estate is in Hanover, VA, almost all items listed are at Alan's QTH for test and check out. Details and photos are available to anyone who contacts Alan directly at: alan.swinger@gmail.com.

-MFJ 409D Deluxe Keyer & Manual copy - \$85

-HF Go-Bag Complete HF Station: IC-718 & PS w/ MIC & Headphones, MFJ Versa Tuner II, Vibroplex Paddle, etc, w/ Manuals - \$785 OBO (Will consider selling individual pieces)

-Murch UT-2000A Transmatch and manual copy - \$190

-Heath 610 Station Console w/ manual copy - \$135

-400 ft roll of 1/4" steel Cable (Retail \$0.82/ft) - \$180

-Dummy Loads – have 2; oil filled can type - \$50 ea

-Other equipment includes Kenwood TS-830 & VFO 230, Swan 350 & PS, Drake line: TR3, TR4c, TX4s, R4s, RV3s and various AC4 and MS4 power supplies and speakers. These are all in various states of test and check-out but will negotiate if interested.

--500 ft of Anderson 50 ohm Heliac hardline (FSJ4-50) - \$800

and 8 PL-259 connectors (\$5 ea) and tool to mount available (\$40)

More to come later, including some Vintage Heath radios -SB-102, Mohawk, etc

73, Alan Swinger K9MBQ

Charlottesville, VA 22903

434-975-6237 (H); 434-760-0258 (Cell & Text)

Thought For The Day

“What gets us into trouble is not what we don't know. It's what we know for sure that just ain't so.” -Mark Twain

Rick Waller	KA4OHM	President	(804) 971-5815 president@rarclub.net
Darrell Basinger	WW4F	Vice President	(804) 672-7928 vicepresident@rarclub.net
Dave Robinson	KJ4LHP	Secretary	
Ken Leidner	WV0L	Treasurer	

Prepare for your Technician, General, or Amateur Extra exam in a class taught by friendly, licensed, and experienced hams

Registration for the fall is open for all three Amateur Radio test prep classes!



All classes are held at Bon Air United Methodist Church 1645 Buford Rd, Richmond, VA 23235

Click this link for all the important details: <https://rarclub.net/license/class-schedules/>
....or use your smartphone or tablet to scan



License Exam Preparation Classes – Tuition is \$22 per class plus textbook

Technician – 10 Tuesday nights, 6:45 to 8:45pm, September 3 to November 5, register by August 27, 2024

General – 5 Thursday nights, 6:45 to 8:45pm, September 26 to October 24, register by September 20, 2024

Amateur Extra – 6 Tuesday nights, 6:45 to 8:45pm, October 1 to November 5, register by September 24, 2024

Register and pay: <https://rarclub.net/fcc-license-class-registration/>.

T'IS The Season!

