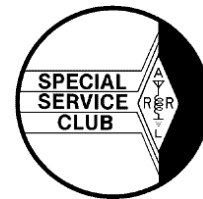




THE RICHMOND HAM

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MAY 2010

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, May 14, 2010, 7:00pm at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

PROGRAM: W. Marshall Denny, AI4CM, will discuss tuned feeders and antenna matching techniques. Bring your questions and a notepad – you'll want to take notes.

We will also have a Silent Auction at the May meeting.

The meeting will be in Room 1101 in the church's gym building. This is the room we meet in when the Fellowship Hall is not available.

Please drop off donations for the yard sale in the Fellowship Hall before heading over to the meeting.

Coming Events:

RARC Yard Sale, Saturday, May 15, 8:00 AM
MS Bike Ride, Saturday and Sunday, May 22/23
Special Olympics, Friday and Saturday, June 11/12
Field Day, Saturday and Sunday, June 26/27
VE Exams, Saturday, July 10, 9:00 AM

Getting to know this month's speaker

W. Marshall Denny, AI4CM, lives in Virginia Beach. He is a software engineer working for the last ten years on military projects over a very wide of domains from Fleet Battle Experiments to sonobuoy. He has also taught computer architecture and parallel processing at university.

Marshall is an Extra class ham. He got his license first in 1991 as a tech plus. He currently runs two horizontal loops cut for 160m and 80m using tuned feeders and a K3. He is a member of the Virginia Beach Radio Club.

He received a BS in Physics in 1991 concurrently with a BS in Computer Science, also finished in 1991, from Old Dominion University. He received a MS in High Performance Computing from ODU in 1994 where he did research with massively parallel single instruction multiple data machines.

He has interest in digital modes, antenna design, and amp design, DX and contesting.

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A tuned feeder is any feed line that is cut to a specific length for impedance transformation. Tuned feeders

are a much under-used method to match antennas to radios in whole or in part. Marshall will show how to do calculations with tuned feeders for matching purposes. These methods are also useful in trimming a balanced feed line to make a transmatch that works easily. He will also report on the results of his experiments with this method using his loops antennas.

From the Prez:

The annual RARC yard sale is important to the club. The extra cash we get there goes to fund the extras we cannot pay for from our \$15 per year dues. It supports Richmond's first D-Star repeater. It has helped us get audio and video equipment. So bring those items you no longer use so the club can sell them at the yard sale. And, bring your money to buy some of the items at the yard sale. You know you will see something you cannot live without!

73, Bruce, W4BRU

Silent Auction

The club has received some donated ham equipment that will be offered for sale to club members during this month's meeting. The sale will be by silent auction (no auctioneer). The items will be available for inspection prior to the meeting, and the auction will close after the setup of general yard sale items which follows the meeting. Bid sheets with a description and minimum bid will be available for each item. If you wish to bid, simply enter your name, call sign, telephone number, and your bid amount on the sheet. Remember that the proceeds from the auction will be used for club activities.

Item 1: YAESU FT-102 XCVR. With operator manual and service manual on CD.
CW/SSB = 1.8 - 25 MHz = 240 watts / 28 through 29.9 MHz = 160 watts. AM all bands 80 watts. SSTV/FM all bands 120 watts. Station has a built in power supply and hand held PTT mic. *Reserve \$200.00.*

Item 2: SWAN 350-C, SSB/CW station, 10 through 80 meters.
All bands, SSB – 520 Watts PEP, 360 Watts CW.
XCVR has SWAN Model 22 dual VFO adapter. PTT desk mic. SWAN model 117-XC power supply/speaker (matching unit). SWAN 410C matching external VFO for split operation. Complete manual for SWAN 350 AND SWAN 350-C. *Reserve \$125.00.*

Item 3: Tri-band HF Yagi Beam. Unknown brand of multi band HF beam, with traps. Beam appears complete. This beam is well marked for re-assembly but with no manual. *Reserve \$50.00.*

History Bits

In 1954 I was hired by the local electrical Joint (management and labor) Apprenticeship Committee to coordinate the on-the-job training and night school related technical instruction for those entering the electrical construction trade. It was a day-and-night job, so my ham radio activities were curtailed. For a long period I gave up Club activities. In 1975 Mac Crush WB4UOI (pres. 1981-82) insisted I accompany him to the club meetings at the Stone House in Forest Hill Park.

For many years we enjoyed the use of that site. Al Martin W4THV (pres. 1971 and 1977) probably arranged for us to meet there. His wife Rosemay was an officer of the garden club whose members volunteered to maintain the meeting space. The RARC paid \$25 annually!

The city's Department of Recreation and Parks informed the club that our fee would be \$25 --- per month! All our arguments were futile. Mrs. Martin arranged for us to appear before Council. She pleaded on behalf of her group and I outlined the value of amateur radio in times of emergency. Both speeches fell on deaf ears.

Our bare-bones budget forced the club to look for another meeting space. In June, 1986 we met at the C & P Telephone Company's Engineering building, 10 North Nansemond Street. Our host was none other than Fred Berger, K4LJF.

Ray W4MYI

The Tech Corner

The Genesis SDR kits arrived from down-under and have been distributed. By now some of the kits are probably close to putting on the air. Thanks to Rob KC4NYK for ordering and distributing the kits as well as helping the newbie kit builders get started.

RARC Radio School

Our next scheduled classes will begin in September. Complete information on our license prep classes is available on the club's website www.rarclub.net. If you have questions, please call Ron or Barbara Chase at 320-1627.

RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date _____4/9_____ 2010

Meeting Time ____7:00PM Called to Order at ____ PM

Presiding Officer – Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, President

Recording Secretary ___Rob Thomas_____Call:: KC4NYK

Old Minutes Approved? Y N Discussion::

Treasurer's Report – Approved

Announcement - VA

New Business Discussion Items::

1. Robert Thomas - Orders will be taken at this meeting and placed the following day. We took 11 orders.
2. Yard Sale Date May 15th
3. Field Day June 26-27
4. Welcomed three new members::
 - Cathy Sebastian KJ4TRD, new Tech License and kit build participant!
 - Vincent A. Huff, KG4GYU (Extra)
 - Michael J. Westfield, N6PFK

Evening's Program

Sheila Blackley, K4WNW, presented "Contesting 101". Sheila spoke about the various contesting tools – DX4Win and N1MM and LoTW being the most prominent, the files that those create that are uploaded to the various databases. She also gave an overview of spotting, when it is allowed and how packet cluster works controlling the radio. It was a tremendously useful presentation with several Dominion DX members in attendance and speaking on their experiences. Our thanks to Dominion DX and Sheila for a great program!

Title President of the Dominion DX Group Club Certificate? Y N

Meeting Adjourned at ____7:28_____ PM for presentation

Submitted by Rob Thomas__ Call:: KC4NYK

RARC VE News

At the May 8, 2010 VE Testing Session ten people passed the Tech test, three the General, and one passed the Extra exam. Congratulations to all.

* * *

Our next VE testing session will be **Saturday, July 10th, 9:00 AM**, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church.

If you have questions about a session, please see our website, www.rarclub.net/ or contact Mac K4YEF at 272-6185.

FCC EXAMS EVERY MONTH on the SECOND SATURDAY.
For January and all odd-numbered months: Bon Air United Methodist Church, 9am. Call coordinator Mac McNeer K4YEF, 272-6185, or visit <http://www.rarclub.net/>.

For February and all even-numbered months, FCC test sessions are provided by the RAVE group. Coordinator Pat Wilson W4PW (932-9424) has information on his website <http://pwsite.org/hamtests.htm>.

Welcome to our new members!

Cathy Sabastian KJ4TRD, Vincent Huff KG4GYU, and Michael Westfield N6PFK.

CLUB NETS:

Sunday	7:00 PM	50.135	USB
	7:30 PM	52.525	FM
Wednesday	7:00 PM	28.470	USB
	8:00 PM	147.255	D-STAR Repeater
	8:15 PM	145.730	Packet

Public Service

2010 March of Dimes – March for Babies

Participants in this year’s event were: Bruce, N1CSP, David KI4MCZ, Fritz KI4HWQ, Marshall N4XBP, Mike AC5PT, Peter KF4VIZ, Roy KI4MCX, Steve KG4PEQ, Thomas KJ4CHS, and Zeke KJ4ASG.

In a strong break with tradition, it did not rain all night the night before the event. The weather was beautiful and warm. The FedEx passenger van was late, but managed to arrive just before things got going. We were supposed to be able to park once again in the VCU parking deck adjacent to Monroe Park. Someone must have slept late because we couldn't get in. Fortunately, we arrived early enough that everyone was able to park on the street within a reasonable distance.

The walk route winds through downtown Richmond, and there were no particular problems this year.

Partially due to the warmer temperatures this year the van did pick up a slight larger number of walkers who were unable to finish this year.

And, although there was the expected water shortage at the relief stations, the van was loaded up with a couple of dozen cases of bottled water at the outset and was able to nip most of the shortages in the bud rather quickly.

While walking back in to Monroe Park from their stations, several of the Volunteers picked up the signs that had been placed along the route for information and encouragement, saving the on site logistics director a lot of time and trouble.

Marshall was happy; he finally got his hot dogs! All in all, it was a beautiful day for the event and things went quite well, so.....NOBODY DROWNED!!

Roy Schultz KI4MCX

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Hams will be providing communications support for the **Multiple Sclerosis Society Bike Ride** on May 22nd & 23rd. The event will take riders from

Richmond to Williamsburg on Saturday where they will spend the night. On Sunday, they will ride back to Richmond. This is a big commitment requiring nearly twenty operators. Any operators that participate in the event will be provided with lunch and can attend the after ride festivities.

Events such as this are always fun and a great way to hone communications skills. If you are interested in participating, please contact George Bean AI4VJ at 804-247-0742 or by email at ai4vj@puwaba.com.

Special Olympics will be held June 11 & 12. You may sign up to help at Joe Lander’s website <http://www.ke4eue.org/> if you are interested in helping with the event.



Field Day 2010 is June 26 and 27

The results of the member survey on Field Day show that a majority of those responding want to go to a park this year. Zeke, KJ4ASG, is heading up the search for a suitable location. More information will be in the June newsletter.

**RARC YARD SALE
Saturday, May 15, 2010
8:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

Bon Air United Methodist Church, Fellowship Hall

Please help make this a great fundraiser for the Club.

Bring donations of clean, usable items of any kind with you to the May 14th Club meeting. Suggestions include: household items, children’s toys, books, (technical books are popular), pet items, computers, kitchen appliances, dishes, electronic items, sports items, decorations, crafts, tools, exercise equipment, plants, DVDs/CDs, jewelry, watches, and furniture. Please price as many of your items as you can. Please note on your electrical/electronic items whether they work.

Donated items that are not sold will be given to a local charity unless they are picked up prior to 1:30 PM the day of the sale.

PLEASE DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL BEFORE HEADING TO THE MEETING IN ROOM 1101 IN THE GYM BUILDING.

EXPERT NEEDED

No one needed an expert this month; however, Bruce W4BRU reports "I got three responses for my request for an NEC or EZNEC expert's help". He says "mission accomplished". Send your request to Ray Roberts w4myi@arrl.net and we will post it in the next newsletter.

The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send your request to Ray at w4myi@arrl.net. 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. **You must be an RARC member to place an ad.**

The Club has a novel arrangement to bring buyers and sellers together--- a "swap shop." Have something to sell or swap? Looking for something related to radio or electronics? Write a brief description and send it in. It will appear in the newsletter three times unless extended. Any interested parties will contact you directly. Questions? Bring them to the meetings.

For Sale: Icom 720A with manuals. \$300.00 or best offer. Ben Richardson, KD4TZQ, 359-9538, kd4tzq@comcast.net.

Join the Richmond Amateur Radio Club

Annual Dues are:

80 and over	\$0
Age 12 and under	\$5.00
Age 13 to 18	\$10.00
Regular Membership	\$15.00

73 de:

Bruce MacAlister	W4BRU	PRESIDENT
Grif Griffiths	KF4JG	VICE-PRESIDENT
Robert Thomas	KC4NYK	SECRETARY
Richard Arnold	WA4FEH	TREASURER

Thought for the Day

*If people who live within their means live longer,
people who live beyond their means have the most fun.*

*** * * Don't forget to bring your donations for the yard sale to the meeting * * ***

VISIT OUR WEBSITE, <http://www.rarclub.net> Much information available!
