



THE RICHMOND HAM

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AUGUST 2010

The RICHMOND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will meet Friday, August 13, 2010, 6:45pm at the Bon Air United Methodist Church, 1645 Buford Road.

PROGRAM: Food, Fun, and Fellowship!

Coming Events:

RARC Annual Picnic, Friday, August 13, 6:45 PM
Radio School Registration, Tuesday, Sept 7, 7:00 PM
Classes begin, Tuesday, Sept 14, 7:00 PM
VE Exams, Saturday, Sept 11, 9:00 AM

RARC Annual Picnic

The annual picnic will be held at our August meeting. There will be no formal program to allow more time for fun and fellowship among the members. This will be a covered dish affair and the club will furnish bread, drinks, paper products and eating utensils.

To facilitate variety of foods, a suggestion is that those members whose last names begin with letters A-E bring meat/meat dishes; F-L bring vegetable dishes; M-P bring fruit/fruit dishes; Q-Z bring desserts. If you have a favorite dish you would like to share and it doesn't fit into the above categories, please feel free to bring it. The picnic will be held at our normal meeting place, 1645 Buford Road, in the Fellowship Hall.

We hope to see you there!

From the Prez:

Some things just keep serving new needs. Take ham radio, for example. For our American society, the issue is how to motivate boys and girls to become our new technicians, engineers, and scientists. As I learned at the recent 2010 Scout Jamboree, ham radio can make a difference. With funds raised by the Richmond section of the IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineer) and led by Richmonder Ralph Russell, there are excellent merit badge-classes for Electricity and Electronics. You can see it at <http://www.emeritbadges.org/>. At the Jamboree merit badge tent was a ham radio

station so that the scouts could see the fun side of electricity and electronics. Lynne Simms of the local IEEE section is extending that to Girl Scouts with the "Girls go Tech" program (<http://www.girlsgotech.org/>).

Here's where you and I can serve. These boys and girls don't have lots of technical people to talk to. You and I can fill that gap. We don't have to quote the formulas for resonance from memory. We need to talk to them about the adventure of pulling a Swedish station out of the ether. We need to talk about how and why a new antenna really made a difference. We need to mention SDR (software defined radio) and how you can see the signals hovering on a band. As a club we should consider ways to provide weekend license classes for kids who have homework on Tuesday nights. What I've seen is that these youngsters are excited by technology. They love to build things. They love to solder. We've got an opportunity to help these young people become our new technology professionals. As hams we have more influence than we realize.

73, Bruce, W4BRU



This is a group photo of some of the volunteers participating in the Electricity and Electronics Merit Badge programs at the 2010 Jamboree

Can you spot our leader in the picture?

Welcome to our new members!

Pete Fundinger, AA4PF; Ping Hodges, KG4IUG;
Andy Hodges, KC4QYG; George A. Herb, KJ4VFH;
Chris Herb, KJ4RQJ; Beverly McNeer, KF4SPU;
Kathleen Beckwith, KI4UWP.

History Bits

When RARC started in 1929, they met at the Central YMCA, downtown. Over the years the meeting places wandered all over town until finally ending up at the Bon Air United Methodist Church in 1995. We had found a home. What a gracious host they have been over the years.

The Richmond Amateur Radio Club held their monthly meeting there for the first time in October 1995. We credit Franklin Gillis, K4RFG, Norman Preston, K4PRO, A.C. McNeer, K4YEF, and Tom Flippin, KD4CMK, all members of Bon Air UMC and RARC, for making the arrangements. The church had everything we needed and then some. In 2004 it was decided to move our Radio School and VE testing sessions from the Old Westhampton School on Patterson Avenue to the church. Kathy Blaska, the church financial business administrator, has worked closely with us on these and other projects and we certainly appreciate her efforts. Kathy's Dad was a ham so I guess she knew what to expect from us.

As Paul Harvey used to say, "And, now you know the rest of the story" on how we got to where we are today.

Ray W4MYI

The Tech Corner

Sorry you haven't heard any updates on our project to move the Club's D-STAR repeater to a better location. It is still at its temporary digs on Main Street. We continue to work diligently to gain approval to relocate the machine.

RARC Radio School

We are happy to announce that we now have instructors for the upcoming license prep classes. Rob, KC4NYK, will teach the Technician class again, Grif, KF4JG, joins us to teach the General class, and Bruce, W4BRU, returns to teach Extra again. We owe these gentlemen a huge vote of thanks for taking on these assignments. They will dedicate a lot of time in the coming months preparing for and teaching these classes. The rewards for their efforts are the unbelievable smiles on their students faces as they receive their CSCE's showing they passed their exams. Thank you Rob, Grif, and Bruce!

Are you planning to get your Tech license or to upgrade to General or Extra? Registration is September 7th and classes begin September 14th. Classes are held on Tuesday nights from 7 to 9 PM. The Club's VE group will provide exams at the end of the classes. Complete information on our license prep classes is available on the club's website www.rarclub.net.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help, please call Ron or Barbara Chase at 320-1627.

RARC VE News

We had a great testing session Saturday, July 9th. From that session we have five new Technicians, three new Generals, and four new Extra Class amateurs. Congratulations to all of you!!

Our next VE testing session will be **Saturday, September 11th, 9:00 AM**, at the Bon Air United Methodist Church. The new Technician Class question pool is now in effect.

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 K4TTM (932-9424) has information on his website <http://pwsite.org/hamtests.htm>.

Remember this?



Ron, KG4QIV, Shelton, KG4ZIL, Anthony, KG4YXP, and Luther, KG4USK, manned the 12 On Your Side phone lines to answer questions about amateur radio and to generate interest in our license prep classes. This was in August, 2004.

RARC Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date 7/9 2010
 Meeting Time 7:00PM Called to Order at 7:00 PM
 Presiding Officer–Bruce MacAlister, W4BRU, President
 Recording Secretary Rob Thomas Call:: KC4NYK

Old Minutes Approved? Y X N ___ Discussion::
 Treasurer’s Report – Approved Y ___ N ___

Old Business Discussion Items::

1. Previous meeting’s minutes approved
2. Treasurer’s Report approved

New Business Discussion Items::

1. Picnic at next meeting, Friday Aug. 13th
2. Visitors Jim Bates and Will Bates
3. New Members Approved – AA4PF, KG4IUG, KC4QYG, KJ4VFH, KJ4RQJ, KF4SPU, KI4UWP

Evening’s Program “Fixin Stuff” Part Deux
 Presenters: Mel Ford, W4AHC and Darrell Bassinger WW4F

Certificates? Y X N ___

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 PM for presentation

Submitted by Rob Thomas Call:: KC4NYK

CLUB NETS:

Sunday	7:00 PM	50.135	USB
	7:30 PM	52.525	FM
Wednesday	7:00 PM	28.475	USB
	8:00 PM	147.255	D-STAR Repeater
	8:15 PM	145.730	Packet

Note: The Wednesday night 10 meter net has moved to 28.475 MHz

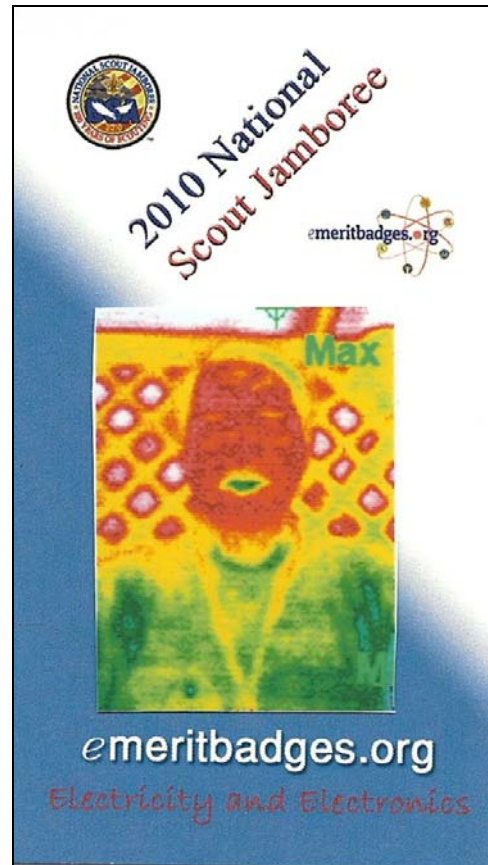
MRA

Interested in information or support of the **Metropolitan Repeater Association**? Call Ed, KG4SNK, at 804-513-1947. The sole business of the MRA is to own, operate, and maintain the 145.430 repeater.

Please note: The contact person has changed for submitting Swap Shop and Expert Needed entries for the newsletter. Send your ad request and problems for the Experts to Barbara, WA4VUO, at wa4vuo@arrl.net.



Bob, N4ICT, Richard, WA4FEH, and Greg, KG4KWW, enjoying operating at this year’s Field Day – K4YEF photo



Can you identify the “object” in this poster?

[Get the answer at the meeting]

EXPERT NEEDED

If you need help with something ham related, send your request to Barbara wa4vuo@arrl.net and we will post it in the next newsletter.

The SWAP SHOP

Club members may list their wares in the newsletter. Send descriptive information to Barbara at wa4vuo@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. 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: Genesis 3020 radio kit for \$130. Only a couple of components have been soldered on and all the components are present and accounted for. Cathy Sebastian, (804) 712-2706 or cathysebastian@comcast.net.

For Sale: 6 meter beam, 5 element. May be mounted horizontally or vertical. \$60. Ham-M Rotator with control unit \$150. This will turn the BIG ones. Barry, WA4NNJ, Day 746-4120 ex 14 (has answering machine), Evening 746-1307

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 you are selling something, try and make it so good that you would rather be the one who bought it than the one who sold it.

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