



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VV	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

January 2012

Vol. 10 No. 1

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

Wow, 2012 is already here. I sincerely hope each of you had a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year. I think I'm still trying to forget all the snow I saw in New Mexico at Christmas time, hi hi.

It's winter and cold outside so now is the season to enjoy ham radio. The bands have been hot!! The upper bands have been open almost every day. 2013 is supposed to be the peak of the sunspot cycle so take advantage of the conditions and stay "radio active".

I know we all hope our repeater woes are past us. We'll be getting the 147.345 machine packed up and sent off to Henry soon. Looks like the efforts on the 146.85 machine have paid off and it seems stable.

I look forward to working and socializing with each of you this year as we undertake our fun swapfest, field day, various public service events, and VE test sessions. So bring on 2012!!

73

Paul N4CE

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- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA
- p.3 Events & editor's note
- p.4 Area Nets
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About the Newsletter : This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham Co. Amateur Radio Club. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, W4SIX, Bill, your editor



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Va. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor, and make reports to the net control on 147.03 repeater. When; "Watchers or Warnings" require net activation. The 146.85 and 147.345 repeaters will be programmed to state; "SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS". The 147.03 repeater is one of several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county.

Skywarn criteria for hail

The reporting procedure is as follows : Report hail with a diameter greater than or equal to ½ inch (always report largest hail size and never refer to hail size as marble size.)

Skywarn criteria for tornado

The reporting procedure is as follows : Report a tornado when you spot rotating wall clouds or a funnel.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS
CHANNELS FREQUENCIES

162.400	WXL42	WINSTON SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
162.475	WXL60	BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM CO.
162.550	WXL58	RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL NC

A Nation-wide network of radio stations broadcasts continuous weather information from nearby NWS offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the National Weather Service. It's best to have a battery backup and SAME (Specific Area Message Encoder) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham County. Complete information at NOAA's website www.weather.gov/nwr/

Skywarn criteria : Flash flood & rain > than 1" per hour. Wind gust > or = to 50MPH - note - down live tree limbs 1 - 2" in diameter or larger indicate winds > than 55MPH. Report weather related damage, injuries or loss of life.

UPCOMING EVENT FOR 2012

Announcing Frostfest 2012!

Sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society, Frostfest is one of the Mid-Atlantic's largest hamfests.

Mark Saturday, February 4, 2012, from 8:30AM (8:00AM if you pre-purchase your tickets) until 3:30PM on your calendar. You won't want to miss this event!

Frostfest features manufacturer's representatives from major equipment makers, new equipment vendors, 300 tables of indoor flea market sales, VE Testing, DXCC Card Checking, and forums and meetings, including the ARRL Virginia State Convention.

Get all the details at www.frostfest.com, purchase tickets and tables, and find all the info you need to thoroughly enjoy Frostfest 2012.

We'll be at the Richmond Raceway Complex which is easy to find from all major routes into Richmond.

EVENTS

RCARC MONTHLY MEETING

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2 meter net. **Next meeting is February 21, 2012.**

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, every weekday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work. Also, the Thursday morning breakfast group joins in making more fun for the group. Some base stations join the commute bunch to wish them a good day at work and just to say good morning. Try us between 6:30am and 7:30am. We welcome all newcomers.

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, Farmer's Table, Scales Street, Reidsville.

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Chaney's, Freeway Drive, Reidsville

SATURDAY - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden

COME EAT!!!!

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link :

www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. **NEXT TEST SESSION - JANUARY 28, 2011.**

THANKS FROM BILL

As editor of RCARC's newsletter I would like to extend a 'thank you' to everyone who sent articles and pictures this past year. I was able to use most of your submissions and regret that I could not use all of them.

Bill Scott



AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net 146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2 meter net 146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 rag-chew net 443.975MHz no tone

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.)

OTHER AREA NETS

Sunday 8:00pm	Sherrills Ford, NC	50.150 no tone
Sunday 8:30pm	Southern Alamance Net	146.670 no tone
Sunday 9:00pm	Greensboro News & Info Net	145.150 100 tone
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820 no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255 no tone
Monday 9:00pm	Lynchburg, VA	50.400 no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Sandlappers, Lexington, SC	50.250 no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Burlington ARES Net	146.670 no tone
Tuesday 8:30pm	Triad Skywarn Net	147.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100 tone
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200 no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone

Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

PHOTO GALLERY

RUSS'S ANTENNA RAISING



Minutes for December 20, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its December 2011 meeting on December 20, 2011 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 22 persons present.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- The 85 repeater has been online and running well. The 345 repeater is next on the schedule to be torn down and sent to Henry. Mike and Trey Belton (W4SH) will do this on the 22nd depending on weather and mud at the site. The 850 repeater needs to be winterized, George Brewer (WN4LTY) will try to get by on the 21st. Dal Williams (W4YQY) advised leaving fan running.

ARES/Skywarn- Rockingham County to hold Table Top exercise in February. Net schedule is in place for Thursday nights at 8:30pm on the 345 repeater and will move to 850 when 345 is taken down.

Publicity- Paul Patterson (N4CE) has submitted article.

Swapfest- Date is May 12th at the usual location. Ad is sent in to Sera Journal.

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

Audit- Russ (NC4CN) and Tim (WD4GXD) have compared their findings and everything looks good. Russ suggested that more details be documented on checks, who the check was written to and what the checks were for. This will make it easier on future budget committees.

Budget- Paul and Peggy (KJ4ANA) are basing the 2012 budget on the dues from 38 members. Dal said that he will continue to pay the cost of website in lieu of dues. Club concurred with this. **Red Cross Antenna** has been rigged, but has not been checked this month.

New Business

Red Cross building has been re-keyed. A key will need to be signed out the day of the club meetings and returned.

Sera giveaway- George held drawing. Winners were Cam McIntire (KU4VY) and Bill Scott (W4SIX)

2012 dues are due. Payment should be made to the Treasurer and an application form has been requested of all members to help keep the website current.

Thanks to Peggy for organizing the Christmas Social, to Bob for the music, and to Russ for his gifts to everyone.

Program

"Tropospheric Ducting" presented by Cam McIntire (KU4VY)

Conclusion

Mike told the club that he had been honored to serve as President for 2011 and regrets that his schedule would not allow him to serve a second term. He knows Paul will do a great job.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51pm. At this time the 2012 officers (Paul, Cam, Ambra, and Berry) assume office.

Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III



THE YEAR IN PICTURES

Breakfast at Chaney's



April's Social at the Sirloin House



MS Walk



Swapfest



Gears & Cheers



Field Day



October Stew Social



December Holiday Social at Sirloin House





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President's Corner

I hope everyone is enjoying the good band openings and DX to be found! Of course we get solar flares and CME as well as we get closer to the sunspot cycle maximum. If you didn't catch it, there was a significant solar storm in January. In fact the Greensboro Astronomy club even elected to have an observing session to see if anyone could see the Northern Lights (nope, could not see them).

If you are like me you are gearing up for another fun season of Hamfests. It looks like the RCARC will be well represented at Frost Fest 2012. Don't forget Charlotte's hamfest is just a couple months away and that two-day event is always worth heading out for.

Cam will be doing the February meeting since I'll be out of the country during that week. I am planning on visiting one of the large Hong Kong ham clubs if my schedule permits and someone is available for me to meet with. If so, I'll bring back a story and pics.

Thanks to Peggy for getting a Social scheduled for the month of February. It is always great to see the folks and enjoy some great food. Hope to see you there!

73 Paul Patterson N4CE

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You can use either of the following URL's to access your complete weather forecast on a mobile device:

- HTTP** enabled wireless devices: mobile.weather.gov
- WAP** enabled wireless devices: cell.weather.gov

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

Frostfest 2012!

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The 8th Annual RCARC Swapfest will be Saturday, May 12, 2012

RCARC will host its 8th Annual RCARC Swapfest this year on May 12, 2012 from 8:00AM to 12:00 Noon. The Swapfest will once again be held in the Wentworth area at the Calvary Baptist Church located at 7860 NC 87, Reidsville, N.C. 27320

For more information on Ticket Sales, Vendor Info, Prizes, etc, please see our Flyer which may be downloaded or printed at: <http://rcarc.com/swap12.pdf>

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BREAKFASTS

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Chaney's, Freeway Drive, Reidsville
SATURDAY - 8:00am, Sirlion House, Eden

RCARC February Social

An RCARC social is scheduled for **6:00PM, February 11, 2012**, at the Sirlion House located in Eden, N.C.

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd-numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at: 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at: 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link:

<http://rcarc.com/vesched.html> (including the fee).

NEXT TEST SESSION - **March 30, 2012**

Go to <http://rcarc.com/events2012.html> for 2012 events.

AREA NETS

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7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club

Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its January 2012 meeting on January 17, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 18 persons present.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- 345 repeater is next to be taken down for maintenance. Mike (WA3RFE) and Trey (W4SH) need to schedule may be in March. Crew has looked at 345 but we don't have results yet. George (WN4LTY) put blocks on vents on 85 repeater, left one open with fan running.

ARES/Skywarn- Rockingham County to hold Table Top exercise in February but Mike will be unable to make it.

Publicity- Peggy asked if club wanted to a February Social. The club agreed on a date of Feb 11th.

Swapfest- Have sent application for ARRL sanction, but we have not heard back from it yet. We are listed on website however. We will be promoting the swapfests at club tables in upcoming hamfests. Prizes will be the same as last year.

Historian- Paul is sending pictures to Dal for website

Old Business

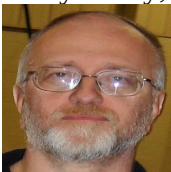
None discussed

New Business

Bill Scott (W4SIX) will no longer be able to serve as newsletter editor. We will need a new editor. The club thanks Bill for the excellent job he has done with the newsletter during 2011/

Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III



IRC - INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE COUPONS Available VIA Internet

Thanks goes to Dal, W4YQY for finding this out. It is now possible to order IRCs directly from USPS.COM. No longer do we need to fight the local post office to carry these. You can order them online and have them delivered to your home within a few days!!

Go to USPS.COM.

- 1) Click on the Shop menu item
- 2) Click on Get Mailing and Shipping supplies
- 3) Click on International

You will see IRC's as an item you can include in your shopping card and purchase.

The screenshot shows the USPS.COM website interface. At the top left is the USPS logo. A search bar is located at the top right. Below the logo is a navigation bar with options: Quick Tools, Ship a Package, Send Mail, Manage Your Mail, Shop, and Business Solutions. A secondary navigation bar includes links for Promotions, FAQ, About Stamp Collecting, Philatelic Catalog, and Favorites. A banner for 'Ship at Flat Rates with Prepaid Forever Postage' is visible. The main content area is titled 'Home :: Get Mailing & Shipping Supplies :: International'. On the left is a sidebar menu with categories: Shop USPS, Buy Stamps, Get Mailing & Shipping Supplies (circled in red), International (circled in red), Boxes, Cards & Stationery, Envelopes, Mailing & Shipping Supplies, Buy Custom Postage, Buy Gifts & Fun Stuff, Buy Collectibles, and New Items. The main product grid displays four items: Global Express Guaranteed (GXG) Shipping Kit for \$0.00, Global Express Guaranteed Legal Envelope, Commercial Invoice PS Form 6182 for \$0.00, and International Reply Coupon for \$2.20 (circled in red). Each item has a 'Buy' button with a shopping cart icon.

73 Paul N4CE



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The RockingHAMmer News

March 2012

Vol. 10 No. 3

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

The snow this last weekend should be a reminder to everyone that bad weather can strike at any time and be sure to have that HT charged, and your station ready for severe weather.

If you didn't make it to the 2012 Frostfest, you missed one heck of a fine hamfest. RCARC was well represented at the hamfest! It seems like this hamfest is at a time when people have recovered from Christmas shopping or perhaps a promise of a tax refund, because it appeared to me that people were in a buying mood.

Also, it was great to see the great turnout at the February 11th social at the Sirloin house. Thanks to Peggy for setting this up. I believe her official count was 20 persons. It seemed like everyone had a great time in spite of the cold evening.

73

Paul N4CE

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- HTTP enabled wireless devices: mobile.weather.gov
- WAP enabled wireless devices: cell.weather.gov

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

March 8, 2012; Thursday; Skywarn Weather Spotter Training Class:

The National Weather Service will be in Rockingham County on Thursday March 8th, 2012 at the Rockingham County Emergency Operations Center Building at 150 NC Highway 65 in Reidsville at 6:30 PM to conduct a free storm spotting and weather safety presentation. For questions please call Rockingham County Emergency Management at 336-634-3017.

2012 Charlotte Hamfest and Roanoke Division Convention

The 2012 Charlotte Hamfest will be at the Cabarras Arena & Events Center located at 4751 Hwy 49 North, Concord, N.C., on March 10th from 8:30am to 5pm and March 11th from 9am to 1pm. Talk-in will be provided on 146.655MHz (-600kHz) no tone with backup on 146.94 (-600kHz) 118.8 Hz CTCSS tone. For more information, go to: <http://www.w4bfb.org/hamfest.html>

THE ONLY RIDE WHERE WINING IS ALLOWED

Grove Winery will once again host the Gears and Cheers Ride on May 5, 2012. The Central NC Chapter of the National MS Society is continuing the great tradition set by volunteer ride directors, Elizabeth Page and Alan Karpinski. Keeping with tradition, the ride will continue to raise funds for the National MS Society's programs, services, research, and advocacy initiatives. For more information, go to www.gearsandcheers.org.

The 8th Annual RCARC Swapfest

RCARC will host its 8th Annual RCARC Swapfest this year on May 12, 2012 from 8:00AM to 12:00 Noon. The Swapfest will once again be held in the Wentworth area at the Calvary Baptist Church located at 7860 NC 87, Reidsville, N.C. 27320.

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Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100tone
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Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone

Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Meeting Minutes
February 21 , 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its February 2012 meeting on February 21, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 20 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Vice-President Cam McIntire (KU4VY) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- Substantial discussion on what to do with the 345 repeater after being advised by Henry that repairing it is not a reasonable option. The club accepted Dal's (W4YQY) recommendation that we accept a package offered by Henry which will consist of a GE Mastr II Tx/Rx Station Chassis with a 100w PA unit and a 30amp GE Mastr power supply which will be all rack mountable. This will also include using our ComSpec Tone Board and taking the Crystals out of the present ICOMs and installing them in ICOMs for the new machine and all tuning. This will also include a new ICS Basic Controller wired/tested and/installed.

ARES/Skywarn-Skywarn class on March 8th at 6:30, open to the public. State ARES meeting coming up.

Publicity- Nothing to report

Swapfest- Will be held on May 12th. Will promote at club tables at Charlotte and Raleigh hamfests..

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

Mike Mosser is our new newsletter editor and is off to a good start.

New Business

Ambra expressed a concern about the sanitation grade observed at the Sirloin House at the social on the 11th. While alternate locations such as Santana's and the new Mayflower in Reidsville were mentioned, Dal informed the club that the grade was back up to a 95.5.

Gears and Cheers coming up on May 5th. Will not need as many SAG vehicles this year due to the elimination of one of the routes.

Program

"Overcurrent Protection" presented by Tim Walker (WD4GXD)

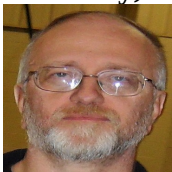
Conclusion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm..

Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club



Frostfest Pictures



February 2012 Social



8th ANNUAL Rockingham County Swapfest

Sponsored By:



*Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club Inc.
N4IV*

Saturday, May 12, 2012

8:00AM to 12 noon

Located in the Wentworth area at the parking lot of
Calvary Baptist Church, 7860 NC Hwy 87, Reidsville, NC, 27320
(at the intersection of NC Hwy 87 and Sandy Cross Rd.)

Talk In: 146.850mhz pl-103.5 N4IV Repeater

* Tailgating Spaces and limited Outdoor Shelter Spaces (with
electricity) available * Snacks and Drinks will be sold *
A new 2 meter mobile radio will be given away (you do not
have to be present to win) *

Admission: \$4.00 in advance \$5.00 at the gate
Tailgate: \$5.00 Under shelter with electricity: \$10.00

Advance Ticket Sales Available!
(Enclose SASE with Payment made to RCARC before May 1, 2012)

RCARC Swapfest
c/o George Brewer, WN4LTY
5190 NC Hwy 700
Eden, NC 27288

Visit our website for up-to-date information at
www.rcarc.com



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

April 2012

Vol. 10 No. 4

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

I hope everyone made it through the last series of storms that have hit the NC and VA area the last few weeks. It is best to have a portable antenna that can be used inside during weather. This is also an excellent time to set up a box of emergency equipment including radios, flashlights, antennas and batteries. It never hurts to be prepared!

The club has been asked to provide assistance to the MS walk on April 14th and Gears & Cheers on May 5th. If you help out let Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE, know.

I for one am looking forward to the Raleigh hamfest and of course our own RCARC hamfest in May! It will be here before you know it. Please keep that date clear to help out, if at all possible.

Hopefully by the time you get this newsletter we will have put the NEW 147.345 repeater on the air. The repeater has arrived.

73 Paul Patterson
N4CE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS :

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA Weather
- p.3 Events
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 March Minutes
- p.6 The '345 Repeater Photos
- p.7 Articles

About the Newsletter : This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, KF4LIK, Michael, your editor



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Virginia. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports to the net control on the 147.03 repeater. When watches and warnings require net activation, the 146.85 and the 147.345 repeater will be programmed to state "Severe weather alert". The 147.03 repeater is one of the several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county. For more and current information on Skywarn, see the Home of the WX4RNK SKYWARN Team at: <http://www.wx4rnk.org> See the website <http://www.wx4rnk.org/guide.html> , for a guide to reporting weather.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS

CHANNELS-FREQUENCIES

- 162.400** MHz WXL42 WINSTON-SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
- 162.475** MHz WXL60 BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM COUNTY
- 162.550** MHz WXL58 RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL N.C.

All stations listed for travel (in MHz):

162.400	162.425	162.450	162.475	162.500	162.525	162.550
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A nation-wide network of radio stations broadcast continuous weather information from nearby National Weather Service (NWS) offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the NWS. It is best to have a battery back-up and Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham county. Complete information is at NOAA's website: www.weather.gov/nwr/ .

For current weather forecasts on the inter-net, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: <http://www.weather.gov/> .
 You can use either of the following URL's to access your complete weather forecast on a mobile device:

- HTTP** enabled wireless devices: mobile.weather.gov
- WAP** enabled wireless devices: cell.weather.gov

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society - RARSFest

The 40th Annual RARSFest will be held on Saturday April 7, 2012 at the Jim Graham Building - NC State Fairgrounds, 1025 Blue Ridge Rd, Raleigh NC 27607, Latitude: 35.7936 Longitude: -78.71175. More information can be found on the inter-net: <http://rars.org/hamfest/>. Talk-in: 146.64 MHz.

RCARC Saturday Social

The RCARC will have a Family Social on Saturday, April 14, 2012 at The Sirloin House located on Hwy 14 in Eden, NC. We will meet there at 6:00PM. All members are invited to attend and bring their family or guest.

THE ONLY RIDE WHERE WINING IS ALLOWED

Grove Winery will once again host the Gears and Cheers Ride on May 5, 2012. The Central NC Chapter of the National MS Society is continuing the great tradition set by volunteer ride directors, Elizabeth Page and Alan Karpinski. Keeping with tradition, the ride will continue to raise funds for the National MS Society's programs, services, research, and advocacy initiatives. For more information, go to www.gearsandcheers.org.

The 8th Annual RCARC Swapfest

RCARC will host its 8th Annual RCARC Swapfest this year on May 12, 2012 from 8:00AM to 12:00 Noon. The Swapfest will once again be held in the Wentworth area at the Calvary Baptist Church located at 7860 NC 87, Reidsville, N.C. 27320.

RCARC MONTHLY MEETING

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2-meter net. The next meeting is: **April 17, 2012.**

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, The Farmer's Table, Reidsville
THURSDAY - 7:00am, Chaney's, Freeway Drive, Reidsville
SATURDAY - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd-numbered month at the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library located at: 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. For more info: <http://rcarc.com/vesched.html> (including the fee).
NEXT TEST SESSION: **May 26, 2012**

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2-meter net 146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter net 146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz, 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 Rag-chew Net 443.975MHz no tone

The Tuesday Night 440 Net is held every Tuesday night with the exception of the third Tuesday which is when the RCARC Meets, courtesy of the Rockingham County Repeater Association.

OTHER AREA NETS

Sunday 8:00pm	Sherrills Ford, NC	50.150 no tone
Sunday 8:30pm	Southern Alamance Net	146.670 no tone
Sunday 9:00pm	Greensboro News & Info Net	45.150 100 tone
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820 no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255 no tone
Monday 9:00pm	Lynchburg, VA	50.400 no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Sandlappers, Lexington, SC	50.250 no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Burlington ARES Net	146.670 no tone
Tuesday 8:30pm	Triad Skywarn Net	147.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100tone
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200 no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone

Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Meeting Minutes
March 20, 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its March 2012 meeting on March 20, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 19 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted. Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- We had to order one new crystal for receiver side of the repeater which we expect the first of the following week. Noise in the 85 repeater was discussed and steps to take to isolate the problem and resolve it if possible. We will turn off ARS and Winlink to eliminate those as potential problems and possibly relocate to the Berrymore site to see if it is a problem with the environment at the current location. The old 85 repeater is back for sale on Ebay. Dal believes it is interference of some type and not the repeater itself. ARES/Skywarn-Dal was contacted by Blacksburg for updated information. He gave them his own and Jamey's information as contacts and information on the repeaters. The day of the club meeting was the 14th anniversary of the tornado that hit Stoneville which demonstrated that these kind of emergencies can and do happen close to home..

Publicity- Nothing to report

Swapfest- Will be held on May 12th. We are promoting at club tables at hamfests and club members are requested to promote the swapfest and sell tickets.

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

No old business discussed..

New Business

Gears and Cheers coming up on May 5th. Will need ten radio operators to volunteer. MS Walk is on April 14th. Field Day is June 23 and 24th this year and we need to start getting organized and prepared including appointing a Field Day Chairperson. LaMarr will not be able to attend so alternate plans for breakfast on Sunday morning need to be made. Paul plans to talk to Angie who served as Chair last year to see if she is interested in and able to do it again. We also need to determine and reserve location. Tim reported that FEMA has put together an emergency supply list and will send anyone 500 of them at no charge. Peggy asked if we want a social for April and the club does. Many of the club's members may be involved in Easter activities on the 7th so the decision was made to move to the following weekend that will work better for everyone while at the same time not interfering with schedule of the club members who have Easter on the 15th.

Program

"Mosley Beam Antennas" presented by Jamey Nixon (K4RVJ)

Conclusion.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03pm..

Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club



The 147.345 Repeater is back on the air!

If you haven't taken a listen, please check out the new '345 repeater. All reports so far show it is doing great with excellent audio.

Dal W4YQY, Ferman WD4MKU, and myself pulled installed the brand new repeater, new power supply and controller on March 27. I've included some pictures that show the installation. We literally had to gut all that was in the cabinet including the shelving to mount rack the new system.

The first picture shows the gutted empty equipment enclosure.

The second picture shows us slipping in the duplexers to the back of the cabinet.

The third picture is the massive power supply that is now rack mounted.

The fourth picture shows the new repeater installed above the power supply.

The fifth picture is looking at the back of the repeater.

The sixth one shows the small black controller mounted on top of the repeater.

Big thanks to W4YQY, WD4MKU for assisting in the effort. From start to end, it took about 2 ½ hours.

73 Paul N4CE.



Illustration 1: Gutted Empty Equipment Enclosure



Illustration 2: Duplexers



Illustration 3: Power Supply



Illustration 4: New Repeater above Power Supply

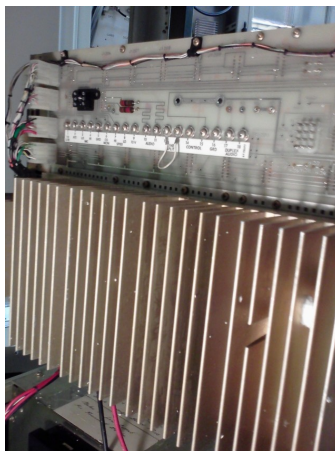


Illustration 5: Back of Repeater



Illustration 6: Controller above Repeater

Charlotte Hamfest

The RCARC had good representation at this year's March 10th Charlotte Hamfest. George - WN4LTY, had a club table and was assisted by club members. Tom – KB5SYK also had a table. I couldn't tell that attendance was down, but missing were major vendors such as Kenwood and ICOM. Only Yaesu showed up this year as a major ham radio manufacturer. All said it was a good time and it looked like many hams were buying new and used equipment. I tried to capture some pictures with my cell phone but it was low enough lighting indoors that my pictures did not come out.

Paul Patterson
N4CE

March VEC Test Session

The RCARC VEC test team held their latest test session on Saturday, March 31st. We had two applicants (a father and son) who passed their Technician class tests. Congratulations to Roy Allen and son Jamey Allen.

VEC's in attendance: Dal-W4YQY (session mgr), Jamey- K4RVJ, Tim-WD4GXD, Paul- N4CE and George- WN4LTY.

73
Paul N4CE





Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

May 2012

Vol. 10 No. 5

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

What can I say, the month of May is full of RCARC activities! A big thanks to Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE for coordinating the Gears and Cheers bike-a-thon. It was a lot of fun and the organizers appreciated our efforts.

Hope everyone had a great time at the 2012 RCARC Swapfest. I know I did. Jamey came through with his sun dance and kept the rain away again. Be sure and let George, WN4LTY and Lamaar, WB4VVY know how much you appreciate their work to make this happen. It seemed like a steady stream of people attending and people leaving with smiles on their faces.

Don't forget June means Field Day. More on this in the weeks to follow but please mark your calendar for the weekend of June 23 & 24th. Angie, KJ4WRE is our FD coordinator so please offer her your assistance.

73

Paul N4CE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS :

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA Weather
- p.3 Events
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 April Minutes
- p.6 Photos
- p.7 W4SIX Silent Key Sell

About the Newsletter : *This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club. Computer/inter-net users should be able to click on the website links that are usually underlined. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month.*

73, KF4LIK, Michael, your editor



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Virginia. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports to the net control on the 147.03 repeater. The 147.03 repeater is one of the several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county. The Skywarn website is: <http://www.skywarn.org> . For a guide to reporting weather, see the website <http://www.wx4rnk.org/guide.html> .



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS

CHANNELS-FREQUENCIES-S.A.M.E. Codes

162.400 MHz WXL42 WINSTON-SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
Rockingham County, N.C. SAME code: 037157

162.475 MHz WXL60 BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM COUNTY
Rockingham County, N.C. SAME code: 037157

162.550 MHz WXL58 RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL N.C.

All stations listed for travel (in MHz):

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A nation-wide network of radio stations broadcast continuous weather information from nearby National Weather Service (NWS) offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the NWS. It is best to have a battery back-up and Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham county,N.C. (037157). Other SAME numbers can be found at: nws.noaa.gov/nwr/indexnw.htm . Complete information is at NOAA's website: weather.gov/nwr or nws.noaa.gov/nwr . For current weather forecasts on the inter-net, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: weather.gov . You can use either of the following URL's to access your complete weather forecast on a mobile device:

HTTP enabled wireless devices: mobile.weather.gov

WAP enabled wireless devices: cell.weather.gov

UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

RCARC MONTHLY MEETING

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2-meter net. The next meeting is: **May 15, 2012.**

Dayton Hamfest

The Dayton Amateur Radio Association is sponsoring the Dayton Hamvention on May 18-20, 2012, at the Hara Arena, located at 1001 Shiloh Springs Road, Dayton, OH 45415. "Talk-In" on the DARA Repeater 146.94 (-) PL 123.0, alternate 146.64 (-) PL 123.0. The website, hamvention.org, has more information.

The RFMD Amateur Radio Club Freegate 2012

A free tailgate swapfest with no admission fee, and no space rental is being held on Saturday, May 19, 2012, from 8:00 AM – 11:30 AM (rain or shine) at the RFMD Headquarters-back parking lot (only) located at 7628 Thorndike Road, Greensboro, N.C. 27409. For more information, go to www.kd4rf.org. Talk-in is 145.250 MHz PL 88.5 Hz.

DurHAMfest

The 38th DurHAMfest is Saturday, May the 26th, 2012, at 8 AM -2 PM at Little River Community Complex, located at 8307 North Roxboro Road (US 501N), Bahama, N.C. For more information, go to dfma.org. Talk-in is on the 147.225 repeater.

The Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest 2012

Forsyth Amateur Radio Club of Winston Salem, N.C. is hosting a hamfest at Summit School in Winston Salem, NC, Saturday, June 9, 2012 - 7AM - Noon, Summit School Athletic Center, 2100 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem, N.C.. Talk-In 146.64 (100Hz) – alt. 145.47, (107.2Hz). Website: <http://www.w4nc.com/events.htm>.

Firecracker Hamfest

The 27th Annual Firecracker Hamfest is going to be on July 7th, 2012, at the Salisbury Civic Center, located at 315 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Salisbury, N.C. from 8 AM – 3 PM. Talk-in is 145.41 (N4UH) tone 136.5, with back-up as 146.52. VE testing by W4VEC 10 AM. Their web page is www.rowanars.org. Contact: Ralph Brown, WB4AQK, 704-636-5902

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY – 7:00am, The Farmer's Table, Reidsville

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

SATURDAY following the RCARC club meeting - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd-numbered month at the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library located at: 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. For more info: <http://rcarc.com/vesched.html> (including the fee).

NEXT TEST SESSION: **May 26, 2012**

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2-meter net 146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter net 146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz, 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 Rag-chew Net 443.975MHz no tone

The Tuesday Night 440 Net is held every Tuesday night with the exception of the third Tuesday which is when the RCARC Meets, courtesy of the Rockingham County Repeater Association.

OTHER AREA NETS

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Tuesday 8:00pm	Sandlappers, Lexington, SC	50.250 no tone
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Daily Nets

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2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club

Unofficial Meeting Minutes

April 17, 2012

The Secretary would like to thank Paul Patterson for taking notes at the April meeting and Ambra Janney for reading the minutes after an illness prevented me from making the meeting.

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its April 2012 meeting on April 17, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 20 persons present.

Meeting was called to order at 7:08pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted with a requested rewording of one item and an acronym correction.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- Dal mentioned the 345 repeater is back on the air. The club discussed the 146.85 repeater situation which is currently at the Berrymore site. Old 85 site will no longer work due to a paging antennas that was placed very near ours. We will need to look for a new site for this repeater. Also, appears that a blown power supply on 85 has thrown some voltage up in the repeater. Will check with Henry once we know what might have happened with power supply. In addition, Dal reported that he has sold the Mejorie repeater and presented the treasurer with a check from the sale. The old 345 controller has been sold. Dal will deliver controller to the man at Dayton hamfest and pick up the check.

ARES/Skywarn-Dal mentioned that we need to keep our radios on during storms (with indoor antenna).

Publicity- Nothing to report

Swapfest- Lamaar reported that flyers will go out this week for the swapfest. We will setup at 6am at Calvary Baptist Church. George read off swapfest assignments. Please see George or Lamaar if you have any questions.

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

Tim (WD4GXD) gave a report on the recent MS walk. All went well and no injuries were reported.

Field Day – Angie (KJ4WRE) has agreed to be our Field Day chairperson again this year. The club had two locations to vote on for Field Day, Lake Reidsville or the Red Cross bldg. Paul gave an update he had with Robbie from the Red Cross and also Lake Reidsville. A written vote was taken and the Red Cross will be the Field Day site for 2012.

New Business

The Saturday morning breakfast in Eden was brought up as there has been low attendance. It was asked if it should be discontinued. A Motion was made by Peggy (KJ4ANA) to have the breakfast every 3rd Saturday of the month. Charlie Boswell amended the motion to state the breakfast would be the Saturday following the RCARC club meeting. Motion passed.

Paul mentioned that the Patrick Henry Amateur Radio Assoc. was conducting a Technician and General class test in May. Those interested can register at K4MVA.COM

Program

“Cognitive Radios AKA "smart radios"” presented by Paul Patterson (N4CE)

Conclusion

Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm..

Respectfully Submitted

Paul Patterson N4CE, President

via

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary

Gears and Cheers 2012 Photos



RCARC Swap Fest 2012 Photos



W4SIX Silent Key Sell

Bill would like to share his equipment with fellow hams. So help his cause and buy something to remember him. The prices are per his request. Thanks, His wife, Rebecca wscott30@triad.rr.com

Antennae & masts

- 2 - 440 MHZ Yagi @\$30.00 ea
- 2 - 2 MTR Yagi @ \$40.00 ea
- 1- vertical antenna assuming 10 -40 \$65.00
- 1 - loop antenna \$32.00
- 3 - masts various heights and 1 telescope (\$50.00) other 2 (\$25.00)
- 1 - Texas tower tilt-over \$1000

Radios

Yaesu VX- 7R handheld \$200

Other - speakers; tuners; microphones; etc.

MFJ - 906 6 meter antenna tuner \$40

MFJ - 864 SWR/watt meter \$50

MFJ - 921 144/220 MHZ Dual band VHF antenna tuner \$40

MFJ - 1279 \$60

MFJ - 464 \$100

T-200 Dummy Load \$40

CO -A X various lengths

Various headphones @\$1.00 ea

Model 425 lowpass RF Filter \$5

Archer 2-way cable amplifier \$5

Ameco High-pass Filter 75 ohms \$5

Books

ARRL Extra Class License Manual 2000 \$5

Thanks, His wife, Rebecca



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

June 2012

Vol. 10 No. 6

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

Summer weather means thunderstorms. Be sure and remember to ground/disconnect your antennas. Now would be a good time to replace your batteries in your weather radios and charge up emergency batteries you may need in case of severe storms or outages.

A small group of RCARC hams made the trip to the Dayton hamfest this year. If you have never attended it is well worth the trip and expense. Needs to be on everyone's bucket list, hi hi.

By the time you read this, the 146.085 repeater should be undergoing repairs. Hopefully Henry finds it is a minor issue. In the meantime, the 147.345 is up and running. Several of the club members have conducting tests on this repeater to determine the issue with poor reception. We are attempting to determine if the problem lies in the antenna/feedline, desensing in the duplexers or actual repeater problem. More on that as it progresses.

I'm sure a major topic at this month's club meeting will be Field day. Don't forget it will be held this year at the Red Cross building on highway 14. Angie, KJ4WRE, is again our field day chairperson. Be sure to ask her how you can help out in the event. It is always a fun and learning experience. We'll, of course, incorporate the summer social as a cookout during Field day; so, bring an appetite!

73, Paul N4CE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS :

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA Weather
- p.3 Events
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 May Minutes
- p.6 Photos
- p.7 W4SIX Silent Key Sell

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73, KF4LIK, Michael, your editor



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Virginia. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports to the net control on the 147.03 repeater. The 147.03 repeater is one of the several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county. The Skywarn website is: <http://www.skywarn.org> . For a guide to reporting weather, see the website <http://www.wx4rnk.org/guide.html> .



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162.400 MHz WXL42 WINSTON-SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
Rockingham County, N.C. SAME code: 037157

162.475 MHz WXL60 BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM COUNTY
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162.550 MHz WXL58 RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL N.C.

All stations listed for travel (in MHz):

162.400	162.425	162.450	162.475	162.500	162.525	162.550
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HTTP enabled wireless devices: mobile.weather.gov

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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

ARRL Field Day 2012

The N4IV call-sign will be on-the-air, active, again for the ARRL Field Day 2012 to be held on June 23 & 24 (Saturday & Sunday) calling "CQ Field Day, CQ Field Day". This year we will be operating under a Class F station located at the EOC at the American Red Cross building located on Hwy 14. For more details, please contact our Field Day Coordinator, Angie, KJ4WRE at kj4wre@rcarc.com

Firecracker Hamfest

The 27th Annual Firecracker Hamfest is going to be on July 7th, 2012, at the Salisbury Civic Center, located at 315 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., Salisbury, N.C. from 8 AM - 3 PM. Talk-in is 145.41 (N4UH) tone 136.5, with back-up as 146.52. VE testing by W4VEC 10 AM. Their web page is www.rowanars.org. Contact: Ralph Brown, WB4AQK, 704-636-5902

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, The Farmer's Table, Reidsville

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

SATURDAY following the RCARC club meeting - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd-numbered month at the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library located at: 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. For more info: <http://rcarc.com/vesched.html> (including the fee).

NEXT TEST SESSION: **July 28, 2012**

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2-meter net 146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter net 146.850MHz 103.5 tone

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Tuesday 8:00PM 440 Rag-chew Net 443.975MHz no tone

The Tuesday Night 440 Net is held every Tuesday night with the exception of the third Tuesday which is when the RCARC Meets, courtesy of the Rockingham County Repeater Association.

OTHER AREA NETS

Sunday 8:00pm	Sherrills Ford, NC	50.150 no tone
Sunday 8:30pm	Southern Alamance Net	146.670 no tone
Sunday 9:00pm	Greensboro News & Info Net	45.150 100 tone
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820 no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255 no tone
Monday 9:00pm	Lynchburg, VA	50.400 no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Sandlappers, Lexington, SC	50.250 no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Burlington ARES Net	146.670 no tone
Tuesday 8:30pm	Triad Skywarn Net	147.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100tone
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200 no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone

Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Unofficial Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its May 2012 meeting on May 15, 2011 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 16 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted. Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- Dal reported that the 85 repeater is being sent to Henry. It appears that the problem is in the receiver. Will ship to Henry after the Dayton Hamfest due to Henry's schedule. Paul reported that the 345 repeater ran a while then blew fuse and went out shortly after swapfest. Will replace with proper fuse as soon as possible. Furman mentioned an opportunity to go on the old 911 tower in Wentworth and Tim said we have another option on an 80 ft tower in Ruffin. Access to the sites in case of repeater issues and maintenance will be a factor in evaluating these potential; sites.

ARES/Skywarn- None.

Publicity- Eden's Own Journal has good article about swapfest.

Swapfest- Swapfest was held on May 12th from 8:00am-12:00pm at the Calvary Baptist Church. Thanks to all who helped out. We got lucky again on the weather. We sold 125 tickets which was up from 101 last year. Next year, we need to be sure to have more people there at 6am to setup. Motion was made and passed to donate to Calvary Baptist.

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

Tim reported that Gears and Cheers was very successful and that in spite of some challenges went very well.

New Business

Field Day is June 23-24 at the Red Cross building. Peggy will be doing the breakfast on Sunday morning. We will have hot dogs on Saturday evening.

Jamey mentioned the need for a clarification and a consistent policy on sending flowers as far as to whom the flowers are sent and the amount to be spent.

Jamey indicated that we still need net controls for the Monday night net.

Question about the club membership certificates were raised. Paul asked Berry to check to be sure the certificates were there and to see about issuing them to new members as this has not been done in the last few years. Berry will investigate.

Program

"Satellite Antennas" presented by Tim Walker (WD5GXD).
Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm

Respectfully Submitted
Berry Miley, WB4III
Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club

Dayton Hamfest 2012 Photos



W4SIX Silent Key Sell

Antennae & masts

1 - Texas tower tilt-over **\$1000**

Radios

KG-UVD1P hand held \$90

Mics

1 ICOM

1 Kenwood

Other - speakers; tuners; microphones; etc.

MFJ - 906 6 meter antenna tuner **\$40**

MFJ - 921 144/220 MHZ Dual band VHF antenna tuner **\$40**

MFJ - 1279 **\$60**

MFJ - 464 **\$100**

T-200 Dummy Load **\$40**

CO -A X various lengths

Various headphones @\$**1.00 ea**

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Ameco High-pass Filter 75 ohms **\$5**

Books

HF Digital Handbook 2007-2010 **\$5**

ARRL Extra Class License Manual 2000 **\$5**



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

July 2012

Vol. 10 No. 7

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

I certainly hope everyone had a wonderful time at Field Day this year. I know I did. Considering how hot it has been, being inside sure was nice! The club members once again proved that we can set up quickly and effectively in a new location. A big thanks goes to Angie, KJ4WRE for all her work as 2012 Field Day coordinator. Please let Angie know how much you appreciated her efforts! I'll miss someone so instead I will simply say thanks to all the rest of you who brought equipment, food, etc. to make this event possible. In case you hadn't heard the club surpassed our total QSO count from last year in all three categories (phone, digital & cw).

On a different topic, our club's repeater issues continue. Furman and I went to the 147.345 site and took that repeater out of service to be repaired. We put the 146.850 in service at that same location. All worked well for about 15 minutes then the repeater started to hang. We had to take it offline as well. We are doing some basic tests to determine if the problem is in the controller or repeater. More on this later.

73's
Paul N4CE

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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

Annual Cary, NC Mid-Summer Swapfest

The 2012 Cary Midsummer Swapfest is on Saturday, July 21, 2012, located at Harold Ritter Park, 301 Lochmere, West Lochmere Drive, Cary, NC 27518. Talk-in will be 146.28/88. For further information, contact: n4nc@arrl.net . Website: <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc/swapfest.html>

2012 Annual Western Carolina Hamfest

On Saturday, July 28, 2012, the Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society will host the 2012 Annual Western Carolina Hamfest at the Haywood County Fairgrounds located at 758 Crabtree Road, Waynesville, N.C. (Latitude: 35.533414 / Longitude: -82.960174). Gates open at 6:00 AM, Doors open at 8:00 AM. Talk-In on WCARS repeater (W4MOE, 146.910 minus, 91.5 tone, Asheville), HCARC (N4DTR, 147.390 plus, 94.8 tone, Lake Junaluska). Website: <http://wcars.org/hamfest.html>

14th Annual Cape Fear ARS Swapfest

The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society will sponsor the 14th Annual CFARS Swapfest in Fayetteville, N.C., August the 4th, 2012. at the Methodist University / Reeves Auditorium located at 5400 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, N.C. 28301. Talk-In: 146.910 (PL 100). Information from: <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests/14th-annual-cape-fear-ars-swapfest>

Roanoke Hamfest 2012

The Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club is holding their annual Ham Fest and Flea Market at William Byrd High School located at 2902 E. Washington Avenue, Vinton, VA 24179, on August 4th, 2012 from 8am to about 1pm. Talk-in: 146.985 (- 600) T=107.2. Website: <http://www.w4ca.com/>

62nd Annual Berryville Hamfest

The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club presents the 62nd Annual Berryville Hamfest and Computer Show Sunday, August 5, 2012 at the Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds in Berryville, Virginia. Always the first Sunday in August. GPS Coordinates: N39-09-53 W77-59-59. Talk-in on 146.82- Call W4RKC. Website: <http://www.shenvalarc.org/hamfest>

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, The Farmer's Table, Reidsville

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

SATURDAY following the RCARC club meeting - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd-numbered month at the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library located at: 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. For more info: <http://rcarc.com/vesched.html> (including the fee).

NEXT TEST SESSION: **July 28, 2012**

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2-meter net 146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter net 146.850MHz 103.5 tone

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Tuesday 8:00PM 440 Rag-chew Net 443.975MHz no tone

The Tuesday Night 440 Net is held every Tuesday night with the exception of the third Tuesday which is when the RCARC Meets, courtesy of the Rockingham County Repeater Association.

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Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.985 107.5Hz
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100 Hz
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Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
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2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 Hz
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Unofficial Meeting Minutes
June 19, 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its June 2012 meeting on June 19, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 14 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted. Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- The 85 repeater is back on the air. We need to form a work detail to mow grass at Berrymore site. Volunteers who wish to serve on this work detail should see Dal. Paul reported that several trips have been made to the 345 repeater site for testing to see if problems are in the repeater or the duplexer. Furman elaborated on the testing that was done. Information gathered from the testing is being sent to Henry. We could possibly put the 85 repeater on the 345 site if the antenna will allow it. ARES/Skywarn- Nothing to report.

Publicity- Cam reported that Peggy's mother had passed away. Paul talked about the article in the News and Record about Field Day.

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

Historian- Nothing to report.

Old Business

Furman went to the old 911 site. It appears that in 2004 or 2005 the tower took a bad lightning strike. There is a question as to whether the bad line is still there. Site would require work before being usable for the repeater and we would not be able to have a key. Dal suggested exploring the cost further before a decision is made.

Field Day will be on June 23-24. Peggy will not be there due to the passing of her mother. Paul will cook hot dogs on Saturday evening. Will start setup around 7:30 on Saturday morning. Club members are encouraged to invite public officials to stop by as this will help our score. A biscuit run will be made on Sunday morning rather than a cooked breakfast

Flower policy- The club adopted a temporary policy ... until the original policy can be located or a new permanent policy passed.

New Business

Program

"Tracing a Transmitter in the Reidsville Area" presented by Tim Walker (WD5GXD).

Meeting adjourned at 8:37pm

Respectfully Submitted
Berry Miley, WB4III
Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club

Field Day 2012





Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

August 2012

Vol. 10 No. 8

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President's Corner

I hope members have noticed that our 147.345 repeater is back on the air. Fonville Radio had a fast turn-around on the repair and then Furman, Dal, Russ and myself put it back in service in July. All indications are that is working fine and hearing great! We are still checking into tower-climbing costs for the 146.850 machine at the old 911 center. I received quotes back from two services which is higher than our club may want to absorb but also have a couple of feelers out. More at the club meeting.

The summer conditions have been fair to good. I have heard quite a few members talking about nice DX contacts on the upper bands 15 - 6 meters. Next year is predicted to be the height of the current solar cycle so get in all you can, while you can!

Hope to see everyone at either our breakfasts or upcoming club meeting.

73
Paul N4CE

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UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2012

Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest

The Forsyth Amateur Radio Club will be hosting the Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest on October the 13th, 2012 at the Summit School Athletic Center located at 2100 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem, N.C. Website: <http://www.w4nc.com/events.htm> Talk-In: 146.64 (PL 100) & Alt 145.47 (PL 107). Public Contact: Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO, 8812 Merry Hill Court Lewisville, NC 27023. Phone: 336-245-5740. E-mail: hamfest@w4nc.com

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NEXT TEST SESSION: **September 29, 2012**

RCARC VE Test Session

The VE team conducted FCC amateur radio exams on July 28th, 2012 at the Eden public library. We had two successful candidates. Charles (Eddie) Maness from Brown Summit upgraded from Tech to general. Eddie's call is KJ4FWT. Johnny Raines from Danville passed his Technician license and is now KK4KSA. Congratulations to both!

VE test team was Dal - W4YQY, Jamey - K4RVJ, Russ - NC4CN, Trey - W4SH and Paul - N4CE.

73 Paul N4CE



Eddie - KJ4FWT



Johnny - KK4KSA

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Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200 no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone

Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 Hz
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Unofficial Meeting Minutes
July 17, 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its July 2012 meeting on July 17, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 17 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted. Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- We have problems with sensitivity in the 345 repeater. We are going to try to have repeater repaired at place in Greensboro rather than ship to Kentucky to save on shipping cost incurred due to the weight of the equipment. We should be hearing back from them in about a week. No repeaters currently working. The 85 was tried at the 345 site and Furman told us of the results of that test. We do have someone who will donate feedline and connectors to put repeater at the old 911 site. The question was brought up if the digipeater was still on the air, it will need to be powered back up.
ARES/Skywarn- Paul Mike and Dal; met and started pulling equipment to relocate to the old 911 center. The goal is to establish a hot EOC center but this is probably about 2 ½ years out. Dal encouraged everyone interested in ARES to get certified. You must be certified with FEMA and registered with state to participate in ARES drills or activities. We are going to relaunch ARES nets and meetings.
Publicity- Nothing to report
Swapfest- Nothing to report.
Historian- Nothing to report.

Old Business

Field Day was held on June 23-24 and went well. We beat last years results plus received bonus points for testing generator, media publicity holding event in public place, and forwarding messages. We were visited by people from the Salvation Army, the Red Cross, and Emergency Management.

Flower policy- Berry located the previous policy on flowers, leading to a motion to quash the temporary policy adopted at the June meeting. Jamey mentioned that he liked the temporary policy better.

Cam and Bob were named to a committee to formalize policies and procedures including a permanent flower policy and discretionary spending by the club President.

New Business

Russ has a lot with room for a small building and is willing to lease spot to club including power and an air compressor for possible use as a station or storage.

Program

“New 60 Meter Privileges” presented by Tim Walker (WD5GXD).

Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm

Respectfully Submitted
Berry Miley, WB4III
Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

September 2012

Vol. 10 No. 9

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

Summer is officially gone and school buses are back. That means it won't be long until cooler weather and possibly situations where you might be without power. It's not too early to make sure you are prepared for this winter!

Fall also means it is time to organize a nominating committee for the up-coming 2012 year. Please give serious thought to volunteering for a club office. Don't wait for a committee member to ask you, reach out to them.

It was nice to see a number of RCARC members at the recent Shelby hamfest. There are still a few more to attend before the end of the year. I'm thinking Beachfest 2012 (Myrtle Beach) will be on my hamfest calendar.

Finally fall should usher in the next club social. I'm sure Peggy has some great ideas and look forward to the club meeting to hear about it.

Hope to see everyone at the September meeting.

73, Paul N4CE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS :

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA Weather
- p.3 Events, etc.
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 August Minutes

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73, KF4LIK, Michael, your editor



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RCARC Meeting

The RCARC meets the 3rd Tuesday night of every month at the Red Cross Building located between Reidsville and Eden on Hwy 14 at 7:00PM. The next meeting will be on September the 18th, 2012. Everyone is invited to join us. For more information on the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club, please contact N4IV@rcarc.com

Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest

The Forsyth Amateur Radio Club will be hosting the Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest on October the 13th, 2012 at the Summit School Athletic Center located at 2100 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem, N.C. **Website:** <http://www.w4nc.com/events.htm> **Talk-In:** 146.64 (PL 100) & Alt 145.47 (PL 107). **Public Contact:** Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO, 8812 Merry Hill Court Lewisville, NC 27023. Phone: 336-245-5740. **E-mail:** hamfest@w4nc.com

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BREAKFASTS

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THURSDAY - 7:00am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

SATURDAY following the RCARC club meeting - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden

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NEXT TEST SESSION: **September 29, 2012**

Club Assets

During last week's RCARC meeting, we established a need to locate all club assets. Cam, KU4VY, is compiling the Equipment Log. If you have any club assets, please e-mail a list to KU4VY@arrl.net. He needs: Identification of item, Model # if applicable, Serial # if applicable, Location (club member's call).

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2-meter net 146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter net 146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use **147.345 MHz, 103.5 tone** if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 Rag-chew Net 443.975MHz no tone

The Tuesday Night 440 Net is held every Tuesday night with the exception of the third Tuesday which is when the RCARC Meets, courtesy of the Rockingham County Repeater Association.

OTHER AREA NETS

Sunday 8:00pm	Sherrills Ford, NC	50.150, no tone
Sunday 8:30pm	Southern Alamance Net	146.670, no tone
Sunday 9:00pm	Greensboro News & Info Net	45.150, 100 Hz
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820, no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255, no tone
Monday 9:00pm	Lynchburg, VA	50.400, no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Sandlappers, Lexington, SC	50.250, no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Burlington ARES Net	146.670, no tone
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Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200, no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150, no tone
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Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
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2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 Hz
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Unofficial Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its August 2012 meeting on August 21, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 21 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions and welcoming some new hams who had just received their license.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted with one correction concerning the presenter of July's program (apologies to Cam).

Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- the 345 repeater is back on the air. A concern about the signal was expressed but Paul reported that he had been able to work the repeater that day without a problem, Putting the 85 repeater at the old 911 site is still under evaluation. We have received quotes ...to climb tower . However these climbers can only do this on a weekend and we will need person from the county there when we work. This still does not include the cost of repairing the 85 repeater itself. George reported that the FT2900 radio on the APRS repeater was off and will not power up. Power supply has been removed form the building.

ARES/Skywarn- Nothing to report.

Publicity- Nothing to report

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

Historian- Nothing to report.

Old Business

The policy and procedures committee made it first report and discussions on several polices were made. The Flower policy proposed led to discussion and concern about the financial impact that several deaths of club members and family could have in a particularly tragic year. After much consideration a motion was made and passed to repeal the flower policy entirely. The next policy proposed was to allow the President discretionary spending ...between meetings. The policy was passed but amended to require the advice and consent of the board of directors. Finally a club asset policy was proposed and passed. This included the appointment of an Inventory Coordinator and an alternate. Cam and Furman will fill these roles. Dal mentioned that there are other polices that need to be reviewed and clarified so the committee has its work cut out for them over the coming months.

Additional extensive discussion on the situation with the 85 repeater and the costs involved in restoring it to operation. Russ offered to match up to 250.00 any funds the club raises towards this goal. The club decided to table the discussion until after the end of the year and Russ added that his offer still stands. Concerns were raised about how to pay for this expense and the fact that our accounts are lower due to earlier repairs on equipment. Options that could be looked at are fund raisers, increased dues, an assessment, and going to a single repeater. The matter will be picked up at the January meeting as it stands now.

New Business

Russ mentioned that he would like to see the club put together a toolkit for member use.

Program

"Amateur Satellites" presented by Furman Lanier (WD4MKU).

Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

October 2012

Vol. 10 No. 10

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

October is a busy month. There are several public service events the club/ARES are participating in. They are always fun to take part in and a good way to improve your skills for emergency type communications.

Also, don't forget to mark October 20th down as the club's fall cook-out. See Peggy, KJ4ANA for details. The club still has hotdogs, chili and such left over from Field Day. Club members are asked to bring either some covered dish, desert or drinks. It will be at Lake Lamar from 12- 3pm. Hope to see all members there. Be sure and bring your family!. Jamey will do his usual sun-dance to make sure it is a sunny day.

Finally, the nominating committee is busy looking to fill club officer positions for the 2013 year. Please consider serving for the club.

73 Paul N4CE

p.s. The beams work great!!

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NEXT TEST SESSION: November 24, 2012

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2-meter net 146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

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Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Unofficial Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its September 2012 meeting on September 18, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 19 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted. Treasurer's Report was read by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- Paul reported experiencing noise in the repeater but has only noticed it twice. Mike (WA3RFE) has experienced it also. We do not believe it is the transmitter and could possibly be interference from the Wilmington area.

ARES/Skywarn- We helped out with an exercise on September 15. The only excitement was a woman collapsing near Paul, who was able to get the medical treatment she needed. There will be a weather related drill on October 6, but we do not know will be able to participate. Dal stressed the need for Rockingham County Hams to get serious about ARES. We need people to get their certifications and he asked what we can we do to help people accomplish that. The ARES net and meetings are going to be restarted.

Publicity- .Nothing to report

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

Historian- Paul created video of 2012's Field Day that was presented at the August meeting. .

Inventory- Cam (KU4VY) gave a report of the items submitted to him to date. Any member possessing club equipment needs to report the type and location of the equipment to the committee.

Old Business

Social- Club elected to have a Fall Cookout, as we still have hotdog leftovers from Field Day. Mike is checking to be sure that Lake Lamarr will be available on the tentative date chosen of 10/20 between 12-3pm. The club also voted to keep date of 11/3 that Peggy (KJ4ANA) had already reserved for an indoor social.

Cam introduced the policy on Presidential spending between meetings as reworded during the August meeting. Policy was approved.

New Business

Mike Lewis reported that we do not have a date yet for Ride to Rock

Nominating committee was formed to choose candidates for the 2013 slate of Club officers. Committee will consist of Tim Walker and Bob King. Committee will present ballot at October meeting.

Program

"Delta Loop Antennas" presented by Tim Walker (WD5GXD).

Post-Program Items

State Electronics has donated antenna equipment to club which members may purchase to contribute.

Dal proposed that we add a swapmeet page to website to assist those wishing to sell or buy equipment.

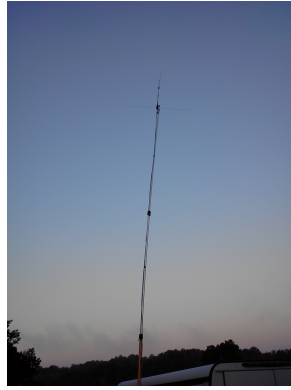
Meeting adjourned at 7:54pm

Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club

Belews Lake International Triathlon 2012 Photos





Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

November 2012

Vol. 10 No. 11

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

It has been two great months for socials. We started with the RCARC fall picnic on October the 20th. Jamey must have done an outstanding sun-dance because you couldn't ask for a better day. No one left hungry either. I think we had more food than people but that just meant more to eat. Our second social was this past Saturday, November the 3rd at the Sirloin House in Eden. Again, I ate way too much but had a great time talking to each of you that made it.

November will be a busy month. All members are encouraged to attend the club meeting on the 20th as we will be having election of officers for the 2013 year. We will also need to form a budget committee and audit committee. Please give this some thought and consider helping out on one of these.

73,
Paul Patterson, N4CE

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Grand Strand Amateur Radio Club presents the 16th annual BeachFest 2012 on Saturday, November 10, 2012, 8 AM until 2 PM, located at Academy of Hope (formerly) Old Pee Dee School, 3521 Juniper Bay Road, Conway, S.C. 29527. Latitude N33 50.302 (+33° 50' 18.46") Longitude W079 07.655 (-79° 7' 40.17") **Talk-in:** 145.110 PL 85.4 Hz **Contact:** Edward Jordan, KF4ECK {843 458 3856} or Jim Wood, KF4CJE {843 340 1132} **Website:** <http://w4gs.org/>

JARS Fest 2012

The Johnston Amateur Radio Society will be hosting the JARS Fest 2012 on November the 18th, 2012 at the Benson American Legion Building located at on 605 North Wall Street, Benson, NC 27504. **Talk-In:** 147.270+ **Public Contact:** Michael Callam, KD4UJC, 1916B Strickland's Crossroads Road, Four Oaks, NC 27524. Phone: 919-934-9623 **Website:** <http://www.jars.net> **Email:** jarsmember@yahoo.com

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, The Farmer's Table, Reidsville

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

SATURDAY following the RCARC club meeting - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd-numbered month at the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library located at: 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. For more info: <http://rcarc.com/vesched.html> (including the fee).
NEXT TEST SESSION: November 24, 2012

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2-meter net 146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter net 146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use **147.345 MHz, 103.5 tone** if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

OTHER AREA NETS

Sunday 8:00pm	Sherrills Ford, NC	50.150, no tone
Sunday 8:30pm	Southern Alamance Net	146.670, no tone
Sunday 9:00pm	Greensboro News & Info Net	45.150, 100 Hz
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820, no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255, no tone
Monday 9:00pm	Lynchburg, VA	50.400, no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Sandlappers, Lexington, SC	50.250, no tone
Tuesday 8:00pm	Burlington ARES Net	146.670, no tone
Tuesday 8:30pm	Triad Skywarn Net	147.255, no tone
Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.985, 107.5Hz
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470, 100 Hz
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250, 88.5 Hz
Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200, no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150, no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200, no tone

Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 Hz
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Unofficial Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2012

NOTE: Prior to the regular club meeting, the Executive Committee held a brief meeting.

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its October 2012 meeting on October 16, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 20 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted. Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- We have had some noise in the 345 repeater caused by moisture due to rain resulting in crackles in the signal. The '85 repeater had a bad chip in the radio but is now repaired. We found out that the Rockingham County School Board has taken out a repeater and has an antenna on the old 911 site. Paul has made an inquiry as to whether at least the antenna could be donated to the club, Dal suggested that we need to start getting insurance on the club equipment in service.

ARES/Skywarn- Nothing to report.

Publicity- We have a social scheduled for November 3rd at 6pm at the Sirloin House.

Swapfest- George confirmed that the club still wants to do swapfest, he will see if we can secure the normal location.

Historian- Nothing to report.

Inventory- Mike's equipment added to database.

Old Business

Social on November 3rd at 6pm at Sirloin House.

Mike Lewis thanked all who participated in the Ride to Rock and reported that it was a successful event. Ridership was down this year with only riders on the 60 and 40 mile runs.

The nominating committee made its report and the following ballot of officers were nominated to serve in 2013:

President- Paul Patterson

Vice President- Dal Williams and Furman Lanier

Treasurer- George Brewer, Michael Mosser, and Tim Walker

Secretary- Tom Cox

Board of Directors- Mike Lewis and Peggy Brewer

Berry will create ballots and also brought up that we need to have a mechanism in place in the event of tie votes.

Cookout to be held Oct 20th at Lake Lamar at 12pm.

Radio for APRS not repairable. George proposed selling for parts.

New Business

None.

Program

"What is ARISS" presented by Trey Belton (W4SH).

Meeting adjourned at 7:49pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club

Ride the Rock 2012 Photos





Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson, N4CE	Vice-President Cam McIntire, KU4VY	Treasurer Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC	Secretary Berry Miley, WB4III
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The RockingHAMmer News

December 2012

Vol. 10 No. 12

www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

The 2012 year is just about gone. I want to thank each of you for your support to the club and it's 2012 officers. I know that you will give our 2013 officers the same help and support.

This year saw a bad repeater year but ended up with one back on the air (147.345) since July. Let's hope we are able to find a home for the repaired 146.85 machine this coming year! Come to the meeting on December 18th to learn more.

It has been great seeing all of you at our recent socials. The food has been great and so has your company. Thanks Peggy and Dal for setting up the near year-end socials.

Most of all, I hope all of you have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Be safe as you head out for holiday travel and come back fired-up for a 2013 RCARC year!

Paul N4CE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS :

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA Weather
- p.3 Events
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 November 2012 Minutes
- p.6 BeachFest

About the Newsletter : *This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club. Computer/inter-net users should be able to click on the website links that are usually underlined. Please advise me of any change of address or mail preference. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month.*
73, KF4LIK, Michael, your editor



Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: <http://www.skywarn.org> . For a guide to reporting weather, see the website <http://www.wx4rnk.org/guide.html> .



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS

CHANNELS-FREQUENCIES-S.A.M.E. Codes

162.400 MHz WXL42 WINSTON-SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
Rockingham County, N.C. SAME code: 037157

162.475 MHz WXL60 BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM COUNTY
Rockingham County, N.C. SAME code: 037157

162.550 MHz WXL58 RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL N.C.

All stations listed for travel (in MHz):

162.400	162.425	162.450	162.475	162.500	162.525	162.550
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A nation-wide network of radio stations broadcast continuous weather information from nearby National Weather Service (NWS) offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the NWS. It is best to have a battery back-up and Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham county, N.C. (037157). Other SAME numbers can be found at: nws.noaa.gov/nwr/indexnw.htm . Complete information is at NOAA's website: weather.gov/nwr or nws.noaa.gov/nwr . For current weather forecasts on the inter-net, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: weather.gov . You can use either of the following URLs to access your complete weather forecast on a mobile device:

HTTP enabled wireless devices: mobile.weather.gov

WAP enabled wireless devices: cell.weather.gov

UPCOMING EVENTS

RCARC Meeting

The RCARC meets the 3rd Tuesday night of every month at the Red Cross Building located between Reidsville and Eden on Hwy 14 at 7:00PM. The next meeting will be on December the 18th, 2012. Everyone is invited to join us. For more information on the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club, please contact N4IV@rcarc.com

RCARC Christmas Social

The RCARC Christmas Social will be held on Saturday, December 8, 2012 at 6:00PM at Santana's Restaurant located at 436 East Stadium Drive in Eden, N.C. This is located in the former Meadows Greens Country Club across from Central Elementary School. Come out and enjoy our year-end gathering. Menu consists of both American and Mexican foods.

BREAKFASTS

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Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club
Unofficial Meeting Minutes
November 20, 2012

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its November 2012 meeting on November 20, 2012 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 20 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted. Treasurer's Report was read by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- Communication mix-up at the School Board had person there think we wanted the entire tower. Paul corrected and we are still waiting to hear back. The person with the 55ft tower in Ruffin is still open to discussing options with us and more discussion will take place after breakfast on Tuesday. The 345 repeater is OK except for the moisture problem. George sold the APRS radio for parts. ARES/Skywarn- Mike Mansfield is working to get ARES nets going again on a monthly or weekly basis. Publicity- Nothing to report. Swapfest- We have lost our location for the swapfest and need to secure a new location fast if we are going to have swapfest and have adequate time to promote it. Red Cross building is not really an option. Need to secure location before ad goes in February publication. Several club members had ideas and would check into them. Historian- Nothing to report. Inventory- Nothing to report.

Old Business

The club thanks Peggy for her work in arranging the November Social. Do we want a December/Christmas Social? Peggy will check options for dates at Sirloin House and Santana's

New Business

The club held elections for Officers for 2013. The 2013 Club Officers are:
President –Paul Patterson
Vice-President- Furman Lanier
Treasurer- George Brewer
Secretary- Tom Cox
Seat on Board of Directors- Mike Lewis
The Officers-Elect will take office at the end of the December meeting.
VE Test session on Saturday November 24, 2012. Breakfast at Sirloin House will be held on the same day at 8am.
No breakfast on Thursday November 22 due to Thanksgiving Holiday.

Program

“Tape Measure Antennas” presented by Tim Walker (WD4GXD).
Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm

Respectfully Submitted
Berry Miley, WB4III
Secretary, Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club

BEACHFEST is Back!

Yes, the Myrtle Beach Beachfest is back and was attended by Russ NC4CN and myself (Paul) N4CE, from the RCARC. The November 10th hamfest was held at a new site, a school, but looked like a decent crowd attended. I've included some pictures of the inside and outside area. Russ and I figured it was about our swapfest size. [Beachfest] seemed well managed and people were buying. I'll have to check it out again next year.

Paul N4CE

