



*Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*



N4IV

President Bill Schwiegeraht - N8KSG **Vice-President** Tim Walker - WD4GXD **Treasurer** Michael Mosser - KF4LIK **Secretary** Trey Belton - W4SH

The RockingHAMmer News

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www.n4iv.org

President's Corner

Greetings RCARC friends! Well, there were not too many showers this April except for the last week, so I am hoping those May flowers will survive into the summer. I am trying to get my note done early for two reasons – first, I often hold up Michael from getting the newsletter out in a timely fashion, and second, I am travelling in early May and won't be back in town until the night before the SwapFest! April was a busy month for RCARC. Starting off with a bang, we had two groups out the first weekend of the month supporting community events. First, there was the Belews Lake Triathlon. Tim Key (W4ADC), Tim Walker (WD4GXD), Terry Mosser (KF4KPM), Paul Patterson (N4CE), and yours truly (N8KSG) provided communications in support of this highly popular event. The morning was cool, but the wind proved to be the main problem for the organizers. In fact, it was so windy that the organizers had to cancel the swimming leg of the event due to rather large white caps on the water that would have made it impossible for the participants to keep from being swamped! An additional lap (2.5k) was added before the bicycle ride to make up for the swim portion. Despite the high wind and chilly temperatures, over 200 participants made for a great event, and we look forward to the next time! The second event of the day was the MS Walk in Reidsville. Mike (WA3RFE), Tamara (KM4ENF), and Peggy (KJ4ANA) supported this even and braved the same cutting, windy conditions. Since I wasn't at this event I don't have much to say, but I believe Mike reported that turnout was a little light probably due to the wind, but it was successful none the less! Remember to plan for the morning of Saturday May 14 for our annual RCARC SwapFest. We will be once again holding it at the Reidsville Community Baptist Church – same place as last year. Your help is needed in any capacity to ensure we pull off a great event for the ham community! Contact Paul, N4CE or Roger, W4AYO to see how you can help out. Our club meeting this month is Tuesday May 17th at 7 p.m. The location as usual, is at the Red Cross Building on NC14, between Eden and Reidsville. With SwapFest behind us by the time the meeting rolls around, it would be nice to take a break but very quickly Field Day will be upon us. Your help is crucial to the success of Field Day, so please make the meeting so Terry & Michael - our co-coordinators - can begin nailing down the arrangements!

Bill, N8KSG

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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.

Events

BREAKFASTS

HENRY POLLOCK MEMORIAL BREAKFAST

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

THURSDAY - 7:00 am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

RCARC Meeting

The RCARC usually meets the 3rd Tuesday night of the month at the Red Cross Building located between Reidsville and Eden on Highway 14 at 7:00PM. The next meeting will be on Tuesday May the 17th at 7pm. The June meeting will be a social during Field Day.

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. Effective September 1, 2015 the Rockingham County VE Testing will be conducted on a "Preregistration Only" basis. The preregistration must be received by the Monday prior to the scheduled test date. Applicants should call Dal Williams, W4YQY at 336-627-7076 for preregistration info and details.

12th Annual Rockingham County Swapfest

On Saturday the 14th of May 2016 the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club will sponsor an ARRL hamfest at the Community Baptist Church located on 509 Triangle Road, Reidsville, NC 27320.

Website: <http://N4IV.org> **Talk-In:** 147.345 (PL 103.5) **Public Contact:** James Patterson , N4CE
125 Woodstone Drive, Stoneville, NC 27048 Phone: 336-548-2027 **Email:** jppattersonjr@gmail.com

Freigate 2016

On Saturday the 21st of May 2016, 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM, a free tailgate swapfest hosted by Qorvo Amateur Radio Club will be at the back parking lot of Qorvo (formerly known as RFMD) located on 7628 Thorndike Road, Greensboro, NC. Check KD4RF.org for updates. E-mail: info@kd4rf.org
Talk-in: 145.250MHz, PL 88.5Hz

Gears and Cheers Event

Ham participants included:

Callsign	Name	MS contact	Assignment	Location	Notes
1 KM4EFX	Billy Blanchard			Winery / Grove	
3 KJ4ANA	Peggy Brewer		RS-3	Lowes Methodist	
5 N4CE	Paul Patterson		RS-2	Farmers Market.	
6 W4ADC	Tim Key		RS-1	Fair View Baptist	
7 WD4MKU	Furman Lanier		RS-4	Oak Grove Baptist	
8 W4BIK	Dan Page		SAG1	Sweep	
9 AF4TZ	Bob Wiggins		SAG2		
10 WD4GXD	Tim Walker		SAG5		
11 KB4QQJ	Randy Drake		SAG3		
12 KF4KPM	Terry Mosser		RS-3		
14 K4RVJ	Jamey Nixon				Net Control

Thanks to Tim (WD4GXD) for the photos.



Tim Walker (WD4GXD), Tim Key (W4ADC), Bob (AF4TZ)



Paul (N4CE)



Peggy (KJ4ANA), Terry (KF4KPM)



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> .



Rockingham County AUXCOMM/ARES website: <http://www.rc-aa.org/>

AUXCOMM's main responsibility is to support the **Rockingham County Emergency Management** during times of Severe Weather, Disaster, or Emergency situations. ARES has a broader responsibility to support the community as a whole.



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). Complete information is at NOAA's website: nws.noaa.gov/nwr . For current weather forecasts on the inter-net, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: weather.gov . Your weather forecast on a mobile device: mobile.weather.gov or cell.weather.gov

Dial-A-Forecast is 919-515-8209 (option 2) for the Greensboro, Winston, Salem, and High Point area. The New River Valley, Roanoke, and Lynchburg, Virginia's area number is 540-552-0497.

AREA NETS

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter net 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. Check-ins will be taken in analog (FM) mode. Please make it a priority to check into our net.

Thursday 8:15PM RCARC - DIGITAL 147.345 MHz YSF C4FM

Digital stations are invited each Thursday to participate in a round table group rag-chew session. This is not a formal net with a net control station. Any and all stations are invited to this digital group with the Yaesu System Fusion in the C4FM digital mode.

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 Hz
Sunday 9:00pm	Southeastern D-Star Weather Net	REF002A
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820, no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255, 82.5 Hz
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, 82.5 Hz
Tuesday 9:00pm	N.C. D-Star Net (W4GSO)	REF054C 442.86250
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, 100 Hz
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200, no tone

Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225, 82.5 Hz
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

Ham Articles

THREE HAMS RECEIVE BSA COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION ("SQUARE KNOT") / ARRL AMATEUR RADIO SERVICE TO SCOUTING AWARD

During the last month, three amateur radio operator-Scout leaders have received the BSA Community Organization ("Square Knot") / ARRL Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award. Michael C. Saviak III, KE4LJV of Mount Olive received his award on March 31st during the monthly meeting of the Wayne County Amateur Radio Association. On April 18th, Harry W. ("Wayne") Helms, N4HWH of Concord and Jeffrey K. Parker, WA1WXL of Kannapolis received their awards during the monthly meeting of the Cabarrus Amateur Radio Society. The BSA Community Service ("Square Knot") / ARRL Amateur Radio Service to Scouting Award recognizes Scout leaders making important contributions by providing Scouts with memorable and valuable experiences in amateur radio. Congratulations to Michael C. Saviak III, KE4LJV, Harry W. ("Wayne") Helms, N4HWH, and Jeffrey K. Parker, WA1WXL for receiving your much deserved awards; and, thanks to those individuals that provided the nomination information. For further information on this Award, see

<http://www.arrl.org/news/boyscouts-recognize-arrl-amateur-radio-service-to-scouting-award>

and

<http://www.arrl.org/news/arrl-recognizing-amateur-radio-service-to-scouting-award-winners-with-certificate>

ARRL website

ON THATS A MENOTE, recognition needs to be made of the efforts of George, WA4LTY, for his work with the Boy Scouts. With both of his son's older and out of the QTH nest, George still invests time in youth by coaching scouts on radio technology so they can earn the Radio Merit Badge! I recently had the privilege of helping George by completing a QSO with one of his young scouts, the final activity he needed to complete the requirements. Thanks to George for your work with BSA!

N8KSG

BREAKING NEWS: MORE SPECULATION ON HAMVENTION SITE

Just as Amateur Radio Newsline's deadline approached, a new published report has again revived speculation about the future of the financially troubled Hara Arena, where Dayton Hamvention, the world's largest gathering of amateur radio operators, will be held in a few weeks. The arena has been the host site for Hamvention since 1964. According to a Wednesday, April 27 report in the Dayton Daily News, the arena is among three venues being scouted as a possible new location for the Montgomery County Fair, which is held in late summer. John Friedline, president of the fair's board, was quoted as saying that the city and county will seek proposals to relocate the fair and redevelop its former fairground location on South Main Street. This news is the latest in a series of recent reports that have questioned Hara Arena's future. It was not clear what impact, if any, the possible selection of Hara Arena as a county fairground could have on the struggling arena's bookings in the future. Mayor Mary McDonald told the Dayton Daily News she would not comment. Amateur Radio Newsline will continue to follow this story. Meanwhile, Dayton Hamvention 2016 will be opening on May 20.

(Amateur Radio Newsline)

KICKER: AMONG MONKS, THE SPIRIT OF HAM RADIO

Considered one of the most sacred places on Earth for Orthodox Christians, Mount Athos in northern Greece is home to some 20 monasteries. It is also home, as it turns out, to two very busy ham radio operators: Monk Apollo, SV2ASP/A, who since 1988 enjoyed the distinction of being the only radio amateur in the community of sacred collectives. Last year, however, the brotherhood of radio amateurs grew to two when he gained a new colleague: Monk Iakovos, SV2RSG. Monk Iakovos resides in a different monastery but the two hams share the same mountain community.

In the past, Monk Apollo's busy operating schedule has included working with noted DXer Zorro, JH1AJT, on Mount Athos. He has also worked Expedition 5 commander Valery Korzun, RZ3FK, on 2 meters and ultimately enjoyed an eyeball QSO with the Russian cosmonaut on his visit to Mount Athos. In 1998, the monk became a member of the ARRL's DX Century Club and a year later got his Worked All States award - among his achievements.

As for Monk Iakovos, it's only been a few months since he received his license from the Ministry of Telecommunication, but he has already been heard on 40 meters SSB, and elsewhere operating CW. He runs his rig, an IC-735, into a vertical antenna.

Now, in the peaceful quiet of a landscape where other monks study, read and pray from sacred manuscripts, there are two hams who are also hard at work, copying Code. You can also find them working digital modes and logging contacts on SSB. After all, when your monastery is also your shack, that's a blessing in itself.

(Amateur Radio Newsline)

UPCOMING HAMFESTS AND CONVENTIONS –

May 28: 42nd Annual DurHamFest, Durham FM Association (DFMA), Durham, NC (new location), <http://dfma.org>

June 11: Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest, Forsyth Amateur Radio Club, Winston-Salem, NC, http://www.w4nc.com/ws_classic_hamfest_2016.htm

July 9: 31st Annual Firecracker Hamfest, Rowan Amateur Radio Society, Salisbury, NC, <http://www.rowanars.org/firecracker-hamfest>

July 16: Mid-Summer SWAPFEST, Cary Amateur Radio Club, Cary, NC, <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc>

July 30: WCARS Hamfest, Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Waynesville, NC, <http://wcars.org>

August 13: 18th Annual Cape Fear ARS Swapfest, Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, Fayetteville, NC, <http://www.cfarsnc.org/>

September 2-4: 60th Annual Shelby Hamfest/ARRL NC State Convention, Shelby Amateur Radio Club, Shelby, NC, <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

(source: ARRL website)

04-19-16

RCARC Minutes

Meeting called to order by Bill N8KSG at 7pm
Treasury Report read by Michael KF4LIK. Motion made to approve and seconded
Meeting minutes read by Trey W4SH. Motion made to approve and seconded

Committee Reports:

ARES/Skywarn:

Both the Belews Triathlon and the MS Walk in Reidsville were successful. Gears and Cheers will be May 7th.

Publicity:

Peggy KJ4ANA, will have the Club's Swapfest added to the local papers.

Swapfest:

The RCARC Swapfest will be May 14th. Paul passed a signup sheet around for each member to select what job they can help with the day of the Swapfest, Paul also asked that each member be at the church by 6:30am. Several vendors have committed to attend this year.

Historian:

Nothing to report

Equipment:

The Club's Equipment list was passed around for each member present to review. 2 antennas were sold and have been removed from the list. The 2 coffee makers are still missing.

Technical:

Bill N8KSG, hopes to do a repeater firmware update sometime in the next few weeks to the 147.345 Fusion machine.

Field Day

Paul N4CE, said the test of MFJ noise cancelling device, purchased for Field Day at the Red Cross, seemed to be successful. A demonstration will be done at the next club meeting to decide if more of the devices are needed or not.

Old Business

Covered in the other sections

New Business

Madison UMC Mayodan is having a Health and Safety Fair on May 14th and is asking for the club to participate. Patrick K2CPR, suggested that GARA may have someone interested in attending since the Club will be at the Swapfest that day.

Jamey K4RVJ, purchased the club's 2M/440 tuner for \$80.

Jamey K4RVJ, mentioned that Wayne Blackwell's wife would like the club to assist in removing his old antennas from her residence.

Program

Bill N8KSG, gave an informative presentation on the Yaesu's System Fusion.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made at 8:23pm