



*Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*



N4IV

President
Bill Schwiegeraht
N8KSG

Vice-President
Roger Joyner
W4AYO

Treasurer
Michael Mosser
KF4LIK

Secretary
Trey Belton
W4SH

The RockingHAMmer News

Post Office Box 2264, Reidsville, North Carolina 27323

November 2017

Vol. 15 No. 11

www.n4iv.org

President's Corner

Greetings RCARC members, one and all! Well, I can hardly believe it, but here we go again. Another holiday season is about to begin and I don't even know what happened to the summer or fall! I hear from the breakfast group that the farther you go, the faster time flies by, and I'm beginning to understand. I mowed my lawn this past weekend for what I hope will be the last time until March, so we'll see how that works out for me.

Remember that this month is nominations and election time for our club. At this point the current slate of officers has agreed to take another turn, but we have no additional nominees. If you or anyone you know of is interested in serving in any capacity, you are encouraged to bring that to the meeting on Tuesday. We need the participation, and recall that several officers are beginning their fourth term, and this is the limit we can do in a row per our bylaws. New blood will be needed next November for sure.

Most of you may know this, but we are now an IRS 501c3 registered tax-exempt charity, so those who have made pledges to the repeater repair fund can now claim their donation as an itemized deduction. If you can benefit from additional itemized deductions, I encourage you to do so. There is no sense in letting the government keep it!

Here is a simple reminder to sign on and support the Amateur Radio Parity Act, if you haven't done so already;

<https://arrrl.rallycongress.net/ctas/urge-us-senate-to-support-amateur-radio-parity-act>.

Be sure to attend the club meeting on Tuesday, November 21 at 7 pm at the Salvation Army building at 708 Barnes Street in Reidsville. Last month I discussed the fun many are having with the FT8 digital mode on HF. This month's topic will be on that mode and presented by Paul, N4CE, so be sure to catch it. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you there!

73,
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 meets the 3rd Tuesday night of the month. The November 21st meeting will be 7pm at The Salvation Army facility on 708 Barnes Street in Reidsville, NC.

JARSFest 2017

On November the 19th, The Johnston Amateur Radio Society will sponsor an ARRL Hamfest at the Benson American Legion Post 109, 605 North Wall Street, Benson, NC 27504. Website: <http://www.jars.net> Talk-In: 147.270+ (primary) & 146.970- (secondary) Public Contact: Michael Callam , KD4MC, 1916B Strickland's Crossroads Road Four Oaks, NC 27524 Phone: 919-934-9623 Email: jarsmember@yahoo.com



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). 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 Triad area including Greensboro, Winston, Salem, and High Point. The Virginia area number is 540-552-0497.

AREA NETS

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

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

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.

In Memory of RCARC Silent Key (Things I Remember, K4RVJ)

Russell Harrison

Russ, NC4CN, S K , 6-14-16, He was a very generous person, making donations to the RATTs, and RCARC clubs. Always working to improve his station and license class, he also served as our club president and always wanted to be involve with club activities. He loved his twin daughters Tracy & Stacy, and his grandchildren. His last statement to me was that he considered the club his friends and loved each of us.

2018 Club Officers

We are approaching the time of year to nominate a slate of officers for the coming year. If you would like to be a candidate for one of the following positions, (President) (Vice President) (Treasurer) or (Secretary) please contact Peggy KJ4ANA, Paul N4CE, Jamey K4RVJ or any present club officer.

COMMEMORATING A DOOMED GREAT LAKES FREIGHTER

Two special event stations have been marking a Great Lakes tragedy that happened 42 years ago. It's a tragedy that still captures the American imagination: the sinking of the Edmund Fitzgerald 42 years ago in the storm-tossed waters of Lake Superior. The entire 29-person crew was lost on November 10th 1975 shortly after the Great Lakes freighter passed the Split Rock Lighthouse. Minnesota's Stillwater Amateur Radio Association kept the HF bands busy November 3rd, 4th and 5th as operators made contacts from Split Rock Lighthouse State Park during a Special Event Station that it has organized for 13 years.

Hams who missed making contact with W0JH get to try again, though. Special Event Station W8F is also commemorating the sinking. In Michigan, the Livonia Amateur Radio Club's station goes on the air on Sunday, November 12th at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum on Belle Island in Detroit. Even if you're not able to work W8F on that Sunday, stay tuned to the HF bands anyway. Members of the club are operating from their own QTHs and keeping the Special Event Station going right through the 20th of November.

(STILLWATER ARA; LIVONIA ARC)

MORSE CODE TO THE RESCUE

Now here's a twist on the saying: "When all else fails, there's amateur radio." This version says: "When all else fails, there's Morse Code."

A yacht sailing off the coast of Cornwall recently was observed as being on a collision course with the Dales rocks which are submerged at high tide and not visible. The rocks posed a definite risk for grounding. A watchkeeper at the National Coastwatch Institute at Bass Point, however, could not reach the crew. They did not have an Automatic Identification System beacon and could not be reached on VHF radio to be warned of the danger ahead. The watchkeeper turned to an old relic - an Aldis lamp, which emits pulsing light, and he flashed the crew a Morse Code message - the letter "U" - which warns of danger. The craft had come within 10 boat lengths of the rocks when it was seen to respond by changing its course to head south where it resumed its journey to Falmouth Bass Point NCI station manager Peter Clements was quoted in news reports afterward as saying that such flashing lamps are more commonly seen these days in vintage movies about the Second World War. But in this case, an old wartime tool turned out to take on a hero's role in peacetime too.

(CORNWALL LIVE)

WORLD OF DX

Nuri, TA3X will be active as TC630MECCA from Izmir, Turkey from the first of November to the 14th of January 2018. He will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 160 to 10 metres. QSL via TA3X, direct or bureau.

Rob N7QT is leading a team of 9 radio operators from Mellish Reef in Australia as VK9MA through the 16th of November. The team will be active from Heralds-Beacon Islet, the only permanent land in the reef on all the HF bands, using SSB, CW and RTTY. The operators ask all amateurs to please note that they are always going to be working split. Send QSLs to N7QT.

Get ready! November the 18th sees the next annual Europe to North America SOTA Summit to Summit event where SOTA activators will be out on both continents trying to make contacts. Look for stations to be spotted on the SOTA Cluster at SOTAWATCH dot ORG between around 12 and 1500 UTC on the 18th. And, give the activators a call, they appreciate all calls. We are hoping for better propagation conditions for this weekend where both SSB and CW stations will be heading up some hills and mountains for the event.

(OHIO PENN DX)

10-17-17

RCARC Minutes

Bill N8KSG called the meeting to order at 7:02pm
August meeting notes read by Trey, W4SH. Minutes approved
Treasury Report was read by Michael, KF4LIK. Budget approved

Committee Reports:

ARES/Skywarn: Nothing to report

Publicity: 22 people attended the social on September 9th at the El Parral restaurant. The next Club Social will be at El Parral in Eden on Dec 9th from 6pm to 8pm

Swapfest: Nothing to report

Historian: Nothing to report

Equipment: The updated list was passed round with no changes needed.

Technical: Bill N8KSG reconnected Wires X and moved the PC to a different cabinet. This move was done to help isolate the controller from the DSL modem which will hopefully reduce or eliminate the digital noise present on the transmitted signal.

Bill tentatively scheduled the first Saturday in November to mow the 147.345 repeater site for the last time this year.

Bill mentioned the possibility of using a remote connection from his home to provide the internet link for the WiresX, which would eliminate the monthly DSL fee.

Old Business

All current officers have agreed to remain in their current positions for the next year.

Bill suggested to order antenna materials now and have them ready when the rest of the money is available to complete the work on the antenna project for 147.345.

New Business

Jamie K4RVJ suggested more than one person be in control of the clubs website and remove the ARES net info. Suggestion was made to either add calendar info or to either remove the calendar completely from the website

Michael KF4LIK agreed to help keep the Club Website updated,

Program

Tim WD4GXD gave a presentation on How to Waterproof Coax Connections.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion to adjourn made at 8:18pm and seconded.

Submitted by Trey Belton W4SH