



*Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*



N4IV

**President
Bill Schwiegeraht
N8KSG**

**Vice-President
Roger Joyner
W4AYO**

**Treasurer
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N4CE**

**Secretary
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W4SH**

The RockingHAMmer News

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President's Corner

Greetings from Sandy Ridge on a dreary, rainy Saturday morning! I hope all is well in your neck of the woods and that you are finding plenty of time to enjoy hamming activity.

First, let me take a moment to thank Paul (N4CE) and Roger (W4AYO) for their effort to coordinate another successful RCARC SwapFest. This was our first year trying a new format where admission was not charged, instead soliciting donations, conducting tickets sales for door prizes and a “50/50 Split the Pot drawing”, and these things worked. Along with the club “swap” table, where many of us placed surplus items for sale with proceeds going to the club, we actually did slightly better than last year in terms of overall profit from the event. I really liked the section of the club table for things of nominal value where it was suggested “take what you can use, make a donation for what you think it is worth” – that seemed to entice a lot of takers, and perhaps it put a positive spin that promoted generosity. Even with the threat of rain, which held off until we ended at noon, attendance seemed a little better. Not stellar, but better. And those in attendance seemed to be in a “buying” mode, and our vendors in attendance seemed pleased. Perhaps we have latched on to a new format that will keep small swap fests such as ours around for years to come – time will tell. At least I think we have discovered something worthy of working with, seeing if we can come up with more “advertising” and promotion that will work even better going forward.

This evening is our quarterly social at Ruby Tuesday in Eden, and I’m looking forward to seeing all of you. Likely you will be reading this after the social, but I am looking forward to spending a couple hours with all of you enjoying good conversation. I hope each of you will grab an umbrella and come despite the rain!

Do not forget that since it is social month, there is NOT a regular meeting on the third Tuesday! Please help spread the word to remind all. That means our next club meeting will happen in July on 7/16, so

mark your calendar accordingly. The location will be the Salvation Army Community Center at 708 Barnes Street, Reidsville as usual. I hope to see each of you there!

73, Bill, N8KSG

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

PAGE	CONTENT
1 - 2	President's Corner
2 - 3	Club News & Meeting Minutes
4	Events
5	Skywarn, NOAA / NWS
6	Net Information
7 - 9	General Amateur Radio News

***The content headings are now hyperlinks to the specific content.
You can click on the title above and you can jump to that section without scrolling.

CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

Social Meeting in June

Please Note

Berry Miley's (formerly WB4III) new callsign is K3ELF

****** 2019 Membership Drive ******

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2019. At only \$25, RCARC membership is a bargain, and your renewal is CRITICAL to maintaining the activities and club repeater. We have been averaging about 35 paid memberships the last couple years, and many active hams just simply forget to renew, and this creates a strain on predicting how our needs will be met. Please bring a check to the January meeting to renew, or better yet - put your renewal in the mail to the PO box listed at the top of the newsletter today. Thanks!

Thanks to the following Amateurs who have renewed their RCARC membership for 2019. Your continued support is appreciated!

Received as of May 9, 2019. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign

N4JRA	KK4IFG	W4SH	N4ZZC*
W4SIX	WA4LTY	KJ4ANA	WF4I

KF4AX	N1YBH	N2ECS	KE4WSF
KN4ODM*	W4AYO	WD4MKU	KN4PUN
WA3RFE*	K2CPR	KF4LIK*	KF4KPM*
WB4VVY	K4RVJ	WA4RDX	N4CE
KG4CRJ	KI4PRU	N8KSG	KJ4WRE
W3EBM*	WD4GXD	KN4NBH	KX4IQ
AF4TZ	N4SOI	KJ4FWT	N4RFX

Honorary Members: W4WBP WB4JYC

This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club. Computer / internet 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 1st Tuesday of each month.

73, The Editor (n4rfx.1@gmail.com)

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 on the 3rd Tuesday night of the month. The January 15th, 2019 meeting will be 7 p.m. at the Salvation Army facility at 708 Barnes Street in Reidsville, NC.

Club Socials

RCARC holds a social once per quarter. For 2019 we will gather at Ruby Tuesday in Eden at 6:00 p.m., enjoying dinner together after a few brief announcements. Planned dates for 2019 are March 9, June 8, Sept. 14, December 14, all being Saturdays. Please remember that there is no regular 3rd Tuesday club meeting during the month.

Upcoming Hamfests

JULY

07/06/2019 | 34th Annual Firecracker Hamfest

Location: Salisbury, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Rowan Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.rowanars.com/events>

07/20/2019 | Mid-Summer SWAPFEST

Location: Cary, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cary Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc>

07/27/2019 | WCARS Hamfest 2019

Location: Waynesville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.wcars.org/wcarshamfest.htm>

AUGUST

08/10/2019 | 21st Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Swapfest

Location: Fayetteville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://cfarsnc.org>

08/30/2019 | Shelby Hamfest

Location: Shelby, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

OCTOBER

10/12/2019 | W4NC Fall-Fest

Location: Winston-Salem, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://W4NC.com>

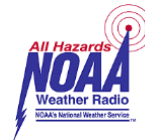


Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: skywarn.org.

Blacksburg SKYWARN conducts a weekly net one Wednesday evenings at 9pm on 146.745 as well as numerous other linked repeaters in SW VA, Northern NC and SE WV. The net is available on Echolink via KF4YLM-R. All stations, regardless of prior SKYWARN training or experience, are welcome. The net provides SKYWARN spotters with information on training events, spotting tools, and severe weather potentials in the Blacksburg County Warning Area.

The full list of FM repeaters on which this net runs is:

- 146.745 T107.2 K1GG/R Roanoke/Poor Mtn
- 147.225 T100.0 KF4YLM/R Lewisburg, WV
- 145.130 T103.5 N4VL/R Galax/Mt. Airy
- 145.410 T103.5 N4VL/R Roanoke/Poor Mtn
- 444.600 T103.5 N4VL/R Pulaski
- 147.420 T103.5 N4VL/L (simplex) Big Walker Mtn / Wythe Co.



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

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 internet, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: weather.gov .
Weather forecast on a mobile device: mobile.weather.gov or cell.weather.gov

RCARC Club Nets

Monday 8:00 PM RCARC System Fusion Ragchew, 147.345 MHz, C4FM mode

This is a weekly informal net conducted in Yaesu C4FM digital mode to promote its use.

Please put your radio in fixed C4FM "VW" Mode.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter FM 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 8:00 PM RCARC System Fusion Ragchew, 147.345 MHz, C4FM mode

This is a weekly informal net conducted in Yaesu C4FM digital mode to promote its use. Please put your radio in fixed C4FM "VW" Mode.

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 or 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
- 7:30pm Piedmont Triad Traffic Net 145.250, 88.5 Hz

Other Amateur Radio News That May be of Interest

TRIVIA

Rockingham County Hams, (W4JF, first field-day call) (WD4FVP, first Club call) (Before forming a club, Hams gathered at Gunn Bros. garage) (first breakfast get together was at Family Diner) (first club owned repeater 220, 224.78) (first county repeater 148.85) (first major Hamfest Liberty Baptist Church) (first editor of Rockinghammer, Howie Silver, KB2BBG) (Notable Reidsville school teacher, N4IV) (Notable Eden school teacher, W4NAP) - Jamey (K4RVJ)

KICKER: THE FIRST HAM IN SPACE DIDN'T HAVE AMATEUR RADIO

PAUL/ANCHOR: With all this talk of space exploration and the United States' Apollo program, we end this report with a space-travel history lesson. Here's Mike Askins KE5CXP.

MIKE: So you think you know the story of the first ham in space? You know his name, his call sign and you take a kind of pride in being part of that same radio fraternity, right? Well....guess again.

On January 31st 1961, a very courageous ham lifted off from Mother Earth aboard a Mercury-Redstone rocket, sent into suborbital flight from which he was later safely recovered following his 16 and a half minutes of weightlessness. He flew 157 miles above the earth.

He was, however, not an American astronaut. Born in Cameroon, he was not even an astronaut - nor was he the kind of ham to eventually lead to QSOs on board the International Space Station. Ham - the letters H A M - stood for Holloman Aero Medical - and this courageous creature was a chimpanzee who despite 18 months of technical training that left him competent for the trip, was nonetheless terrified. He was retired to zoo life where he lived another 22 years until his death in 1983.

A statement on the Save the Chimps website remembers Ham with gratitude. It says: [quote] "His courage and heroism paved the way for Alan Shepard, Jr., the first American in space." [endquote]

For Amateur Radio Newslines I'm Mike Askins KE5CXP.