



# ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



**President**  
Tim Walker  
WD4GXD

**Vice-President**  
Roger Joyner  
W4AYO

**Treasurer**  
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N4CE

**Secretary**  
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K4RVJ

## *The RockingHAMmer News*

Post Office Box 2264, Reidsville, North Carolina, 27323

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[www.n4iv.org](http://www.n4iv.org)

### President's Corner

Greetings;

Thanks to all who participated in the Maker Faire on March 14<sup>th</sup> where participants completed the initial phase of introduction to circuit board soldering training included in AmeriKit's "Learn To Solder Electronic Educational Kit". Our April 24<sup>th</sup> club meeting will NOT convene at the Salvation Army Community center this month. In its place, we are tentatively planning to conduct a "virtual meeting" on the 147.345 repeater (as only hams can do) on that same evening. So check into the Monday Evening RCARC Net to keep posted on club activities. More details on future events will be announced on the net. Stay well and use the curtailment in travel and social interaction to maintain proper social distance via ham radio!.

73s Tim (WD4GXD)

Hams-at-work, (highlights of the Maker Faire)



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### CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

#### Meeting Minutes

#### \*\*\*\* 2020 Membership Drive \*\*\*\*

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2020. 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 August 19, 2019. Family memberships \* are listed by the primary call sign

N4JRA	N1YBH	K2CPR	N8KSG
KK4IFG	N2ECS	KF4LIK*	N3UZ
W4SH	KE4WSF	KF4KPM*	KJ4WRE
N4ZZC*	KN4ODM*	WB4VVY	KN4BBA
W4SIX	W4AYO	N4RFX	KK4KFG
WA4LTY	WD4MKU	K4RVJ	W3EBM*
KJ4ANA	KN4PUN	WA4RDX	WD4GXD
WF4I	KJ4FWT	N4CE	KN4NBH
N4SOI	WA43RFE*	KG4CRJ	KX4IQ
KF4HX	KN4AWV	KI4PRU	AF4TZ

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.
- CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.**

#### 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 2010 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

16th Annual  
Rockingham County  
Swapfest

**Saturday, May 9, 2020**  
**8:00 AM to 12 Noon**  
**\*\*\*LOCATION SAME AS LAST YEAR\*\*\***

**Community Baptist Church**  
 509 Triangle Rd, Reidsville, NC 27320  
*Talk In:*  
**N4IV Repeater**  
 147.345 Mhz/pl-103.5



**AN ARRL  
SANCTIONED  
EVENT**

**For vendor  
table  
reservations or  
questions  
contact:**

RCARC Swapfest  
c/o Paul Patterson  
125 Woodstone Dr  
Stoneville, NC  
27048  
336-548-2027

Or

RCARC Swapfest  
c/o Roger D. Joyner  
14947 NC Hwy 87 N  
Eden, NC 27288  
336-549-1222

SPONSORED BY:

Rockingham  
County



**CANCELLED**  
*In response to Covid-19 concerns*

• Tailgating & spaces (w/ Snacks

for

limited indoor electricity) available & drinks will be sold

• There will be a drawing a 2 Meter Radio & door prizes (ticket purchase required—you do to have to be present to win)

**FREE—General Admission & Tailgate—FREE**

04/25/2020 | Catawba Valley Hamfest

Location: Morganton, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

**CANCELLED**

Sponsor: McDowell Amateur Radio Association  
Website: <http://cvhamfest.com>

05/15/2020 | **Dayton Hamvention 2020**  
May 15 - 17 **CANCELLED**  
Green County Fair Grounds and Expo Center  
Xenia, OH  
Get Hamvention Alerts – text: Hamvention to 888777



Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: [skywarn.org](http://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](http://nws.noaa.gov/nwr). For current weather forecasts on the internet, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: [weather.gov](http://weather.gov). Weather forecast on a mobile device: [mobile.weather.gov](http://mobile.weather.gov) or [cell.weather.gov](http://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**

#### **'VIRTUAL TESTING' DAWNS FOR LICENSES AMID PANDEMIC**

JIM/ANCHOR: We begin this week with another story of triumph for amateur radio ingenuity: If taking your license exam seems like a remote possibility right now, you should know that - well - it is! With the approval of the FCC, the first Technician class license exam during the pandemic lockdown took place in the United States on March 26 -- remotely. It was conducted online in a "virtual" test environment. Ralph Squillace KK6ITB gives us the details.

RALPH: Joseph Talbot of Nevada is now known as KJ7NNU, all because he took and passed his Technician class license exam on the 26th of March. The test was given with the support of the W5YI Volunteer Examiner Coordinator in Arlington, Texas. It took place in a remote online environment where everyone was online - even the proctor who oversaw the test via videoconferencing software. Joseph, who had held a license before, learned one day later that he had qualified to become a Technician once again. WA6VPS reported on Twitter that the trial run was being considered a success and opened up the possibility of others taking tests during this period of lockdown from the global pandemic. He noted that remote testing has been permitted since 2014. In fact, the Anchorage Amateur Radio Club's Volunteer Examiners in Alaska have been conducting exams like this but until now a proctor still had to be physically present.

Marcel Stieber AI6MS, a Volunteer Examiner who lives in California, posted on Twitter on March 28 that the KJ7NNU test-run gives other hams hope. He wrote [quote]: "Stay tuned. We hope to have a scalable solution available for broader use soon." [endquote]

For Amateur Radio Newslines I'm Ralph Squillace KK6ITB.

#### **MARKING WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY, EVEN WITHOUT HF**

JIM/ANCHOR: Now more than ever it's important to celebrate amateur radio. Stephen Kinford N8WB shares two ways to do it even if you don't have access to HF.

STEPHEN: Get ready for World Amateur Radio Day, which marks the 95th year since the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union. There will be plenty of action for hams who use EchoLink or IRLP as their main modes. This year is the fifth year an international group of hams will be operating in a 12-hour net taking place on the EchoLink/VOIP system starting at 1600 UTC on April 18th on the DoDropIn Conference Server, Node 355800. The special event coordinator John DeRycke (Duh-Rye-Key) W2JLD said there will be a special event QSL card along with a certificate marking the net's fifth year of operation. Nine control operators around the world will be helping make so this happen.

Elsewhere, be listening for the special event call W7W on the World conference server IRLP 9251. Tom Harrington AF7J told Newsline in an email that hams will be calling QRZ starting at 1600 UTC. Check-ins will also be possible on IRLP Node 9109 or Allstar 43609 and through repeaters linked to those nodes. Commemorative certificates can be emailed upon request. Paper QSLs can be requested through AA7WB along with a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

For Amateur Radio Newsline I'm Stephen Kinford N8WB.