



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



President
Tim Walker
WD4GXD

Vice-President
Roger Joyner
W4AYO

Treasurer
Paul Patterson
N4CE

Secretary
Jamey Nixon
K4RVJ

The RockingHAMmer News

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings;

Here are some upcoming events to schedule on your calendar.

August 18: Regular club meeting to be held at the (N3UZ (Jim) "barn", 660 Butter Road, Wentworth, 7 PM. Program (just in the midst of lightning season): Lightning Arrestors; how they work, how to test and the consequences of failing to use or replace arrestors.

September 12: VE Test Session (9 AM - 1 PM) at Jim's "barn", no appointment necessary.

September 12: Maker Faire (10 AM at Jim's "barn"). This time purchase your choice of an electronic kit in advance and we'll supply the Elmers and tools. Be sure to notify me (Tim) by September 1st that you wish to participate. Here is a list of some electronic kit vendors accessible via internet:

jameco.com
vakits.com
electronickits.com
qrpkits.com
rainbowkits.com

You can test for the next license level then construct your kit afterwards. Invite some interested young people (non-hams welcome too) to join this Maker Faire.

73s Tim (WD4GXD)

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You can click on the title above and you can jump to that section without scrolling.

CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2020 Maker Faire



Taylor and James Thomas explore kit building



Terry (KF4KPM) continues his project



It Works!



Success feels good!



"Grass chewers enjoy another July mowing adventure at the repeater site. Sorry you missed it. Look at how happy they are!"

Meeting Minutes

Minutes July, 2020 RCARC

1. Membership renewals are below our past few years, please check to make sure yours is up-to-date. (suggest we insert a renewal form with newsletter)

2. We have a need for net control stations for our Monday analog net, and Thursday digital net. Please consider volunteering to help out. Furman WD4MKU, volunteered for the 2nd analog Monday net. Positions are open for others to become net controls.
3. The July 21st meeting was held at Jim's place (N3UZ), 660 Butter road.
4. The Thursday Breakfast group has been meeting at Sanitary restaurant for the past several weeks, please join if you feel comfortable in doing so.
5. The Tuesday breakfast group is still pending the opening of the Farmers table.
6. A crew (Tim WD4GXD, and Mike WA3RFE) took care of the mowing at the 147.345 site Saturday July the 11th.
7. Bill N8Ksg, was approved by the club as Trustee of N4IV call sign, along with maintaining our repeaters with SERA.
8. September 12th is scheduled for our next V E test session at Jim's place on 660 Butter road, followed by our next Maker Fare (on kit building) That evening at 6:00 pm our social/meeting is scheduled, pending COVID-19 status at Ruby Tuesday.
9. Our 146.85 repeater, located at Annie Hospital is not performing normally, we are not able to check for problems, because of their COIVD-19 restrictions.

****** 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 July 7, 2020. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign

N4JRA	N1YBH	KF4KPM	N8KSG
KK4IFG	N2ECS	N4RFX	N3UZ*
W4SH	KE4WSF	K4RVJ	N3WKW
W4SIX	WD4MKU	WA4RDX	KN4BBA
WA4LTY	WA43RFE	N4CE	W3EBM
KJ4ANA	KF4LIK	KI4PRU	WD4GXD
W4AYO	KN4ODM	KJ4WRE	WF4I

Honorary Members: W4WBP WB4JYC

Please consider **renewing** your membership OR sharing the membership application with non-member local hams. Membership is open to all licensed amateurs. Dues are \$25 annually. To join, fill out the application below or speak with any of our members or officers for more information. Here's the link to the membership application: **Membership Application**

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 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

09/04/2020 - 09/06/2020

Shelby Hamfest -- **CANCELED**

Location: Shelby, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

09/12/2020 - The Annual Blue Ridge ARS Hamfest

Location: Spartanburg, SC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Blue Ridge Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://BRARS.CC>

Madison County Fairgrounds

09/19/2020

Richmond Hamfest -- **CANCELED**

Location: Richmond, KY

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: CKARS

Website: <https://www.ckars.org/hamfest>

Learn More

Sevier County Fairgrounds

09/19/2020 - Sevier County Amateur Radio Society

Location: Sevierville , TN

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Sevier County Amateur Radio Society & 470 Amateur Radio Group

Website: <http://seviercountyars.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

U.S. ASTRONAUTS RETURN TO EARTH

NEIL/ANCHOR: The historic flight by two U.S. astronauts, one of them an amateur radio operator, has come to an end. Let's hear more from Skeeter Nash N5ASH.

SKEETER: Two months ago they made history and on Sunday, August 2nd, they made a splash.

NASA's Doug Hurley and Bob Behnken KE5GGX, the first astronauts to fly a SpaceX Dragon commercial spacecraft, returned to Earth from the International Space Station, finishing their mission with a splashdown in the Gulf of Mexico off Pensacola on the coast of Florida.

The mission will be remembered for its notable firsts: The splashdown, the first for a manned capsule after a break of 45 years, also marked the first use of the Gulf as a landing site for a U.S. space crew. Bob and Doug had already achieved notoriety for being the first crew on a privately owned commercial spaceflight. The May 30 launch from Kennedy Space Center was also the first for American astronauts since the Shuttle's retirement in 2011.

There is still one more "first" yet to happen - and this one is a family first: Bob's astronaut wife Megan McArthur, has been chosen to be the pilot of the same SpaceX Dragon next spring. Three amateur radio operators will be on board with her.

For Amateur Radio Newline I'm Skeeter Nash N5ASH.

(WASHINGTON POST, NASA)

HE'S LICENSED FOR A LIFELONG LOVE OF RADIO

NEIL/ANCHOR: The youthful love of amateur radio grows up and matures but for many of us it doesn't

go away - at any age. Ralph Squillace KK6ITF tells us about one very special new licensee whose love dates back to World War II.

RALPH: The first time Bryan Knight got his amateur radio license he was 11 years old. The world was living under the shadow of World War II when Bryan, who was growing up in the UK, became the proud holder of a "G3" call sign.

Now a retired aerospace engineer, Bryan just got a new call sign again - this time after testing with the Bledsoe County Amateur Radio Club in Tennessee, where he lives. On July 11th, he earned his General Class ticket at age 93.

The Bledsoe County Club was celebrating its first anniversary when Bryan stopped by Field Day in June. His fate was sealed: in July, he sat for his exam.

Now he's back on the air as KO4FHG. It's not his first U.S. call sign. A veteran of the Royal Air Force, he moved to the U.S. and after gaining citizenship, got his license as a young man. But - as he told Newsline recently -- life happens and licenses lapse.

Well, no more: KO4FHG is back to ragchewing on the local repeaters and is getting ready to return to HF. He's also polishing his CW.

Andrew Albertson KN4CTG, club trustee and a founding member, told Newsline: "This is what we got into it for, to promote the hobby and bring back some of the life into the hobby."

At 93 years of age, Bryan couldn't agree more about great new beginnings.

For Amateur Radio Newsline I'm Ralph Squillace KK6ITB