



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

Post Office Box 2264, Reidsville, North Carolina, 27323

November 2020

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings;

This month, November, our club will conduct a regular business meeting on November 17, 2020, 7 PM at Jim's (N3UZ) "barn" at 660 Butter Road in Wentworth. Items on the business agenda for November are voting for 2021 club officers along with selecting committees for 2020 audit and 2021 budget committees. Thanks to Bob (KN4BBA) and Jim (N3UZ) for "paying the rent" at the 147.345 repeater site last month! Please notify Jamie (K4RVJ) or Peggy (KJ4ANA) by November 18th if you plan to attend the December 12th social dinner at Fursty's Pizza, Freeway Drive, Reidsville as the restaurant needs the number to plan for our group. VE testing is scheduled for November 21st, 9 AM – 1 PM at Jim's "barn". As always, tune in to the Monday evening net on 147.345 repeater for any last minute changes. See you at the meeting.

73s Tim (WD4GXD)

NOTICE OF OFFICER ELECTIONS

Election of RCARC officers will take place at the November 17, 2020 meeting. The following candidates have been submitted by the Nominations Committee:

President: Tim Walker (WD4GXD)
Vice President: Roger Joyner (W4AYO)
Secretary: Furman Lanier (WD4MKU)
Treasurer: Paul Patterson (N4CE)

The floor will be open for additional candidate nominations prior to the official vote.

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

CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

October, 2020

1. The October meeting was held at N3UZ QTH, 10 present
2. Paul, N4CE had the program on his portable HF station and operation in Arizona.
3. Paul, N4CE covered the RCARC treasure report/activities.
4. Jim, N3UZ stated the next W5YI V E test date is set for Nov. 21, 9am at his QTH.
5. Nominations for 2021, for Secretary (Furman, WD4MKU) others will serve if confirmed.
6. The last mowing at the 147.345 site is scheduled for Saturday Oct. 24th.
7. Peggy is in the process of setting up our December 12th social at Fursty's 1409 Freeway drive in Reidsville, we have 15 planning to attend, if you are interested and have not let Peggy know please do so soon as possible.
8. Furman WD4MKU, stated club repeaters are schedule for up-dated co-ordination info.

**** 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 November 8, 2020. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign

N4JRA	WF4I	WA3RFE*	WA4ROX	KN4BBA
KK4IFG	N1YBH	K2CPR	N4CE	KK4KFG
W4SH	N2ECS	KF4LIK	KI4PRU	W3EBM
N4ZZC*	KE4WSF	KF4KPM*	N8KSG	WD4GXD
W4SIX	KN4ODM	WB4VVY	N3UZ	KN4NBH
WA4LTY	W4AYO	N4RFX	N3WKW	
KJ4ANA	WD4MKU	K4RVJ	KJ4WRE	

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
 - *NOTE: The Farmer's Table has re-opened*
- 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

Editor's Note: Regretfully, most all Hamfests and Conventions for the rest of 2020 have been cancelled within 250 miles of Rockingham County.



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

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|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| • 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

USE OUR DISCONE ANTENNA

Ham Radio Operators, you can now transmit and listen on the discone antenna at the Titan Missile Museum.

When the Titan II became operational in 1963, its communication system included a large, broadband discone antenna that is still standing today.

Built by Collins Radio Company, the antenna is 80 feet tall and has a large crown, enabling it to radiate signals over a wide range of frequencies.

If you're an amateur radio operator, you can use the antenna free of charge when the museum is open.



Lesko Introduces Resolution to Recognize Amateur Radio Operators

Washington, October 29, 2020 | Rachel Harris

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Congresswoman Debbie Lesko (AZ-08) introduced a resolution to designate April 18, 2021, as National Amateur Radio Operators Day to recognize the important contributions of amateur radio operators to our nation.

“It is my honor to introduce this legislation to honor the important contributions of amateur radio operators in Arizona and across our nation,” said Congresswoman Lesko. “Amateur radio operators are critical in times of crisis and our communities are safer thanks to their dedication to sharing important information with the public.

Lesko was approached to introduce this resolution by a young amateur radio operator, Raymond, from Peoria, Arizona.

"I started Long Distance Responders so I can help prepare the community for emergencies with amateur

radio,” said Raymond. “There might be a price for a radio, but the ability and knowledge to help someone is truly priceless.”

Amateur radio has served an important purpose throughout our nation’s history. In times of crisis and natural disasters, amateur radio is often used as a means of emergency communication when phone service has been impacted. World Amateur Radio is celebrated annually on April 18th and this resolution recognizes this important community with a national day in the United States in 2021. To celebrate the introduction of the resolution, Lesko hosted a virtual event with the Sun City Grand HAMS and other amateur radio operators in the West Valley.

RESEARCHERS DEVELOP 'GAME-CHANGING' SOLAR PANEL

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: If you enjoy operating portable with the help of a solar panel or two, you might find this report particularly promising. Jeremy Boot G4NJH shares the news.

JEREMY: Researchers are calling the work of scientists at the University of York a potential "game-changer" in the world of solar panels. By putting a checkerboard design on the panel's face, the researchers have upgraded its ability to absorb light by 125 percent. According to a report posted on the website GoodNewsNetwork.org, the panel could possibly be developed to absorb far more solar energy than today's panels.

Replacing the traditional flat panel surface with a checkerboard design is said to increase the diffraction rate and thus the likelihood that more light can be absorbed. The research team believes this could also result in panels that are thinner, lighter and more flexible.

The team's findings were published recently in the Journal Optica.

For Amateur Radio Newslines I'm Jeremy Boot G4NJH.

(GOODNEWSNETWORK.ORG)