



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



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The RockingHAMmer News

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings;

The club is making great strides migrating the 146.85 repeater to 70 cm band having acquired a 440 MHz duplexer and retuned it to the correct repeater frequency pair. We are making preparations to install the new duplexer, reprogram the Yaesu repeater and replace the antenna coax. Listen to the Monday evening net (147.345 repeater, 8:30 PM) for the grand announcement.

Our next regular business/club meeting is scheduled for 7 PM on August 17th at the Salvation Army Community Center, 708 Barnes Street, Reidsville. The program planned is a look at the Parks On The Air program.

Jim, N3UZ, has scheduled another VE test session for Saturday, August 21st. Registration begins at 9 AM. Details on the VE testing are available on our website (www.n4iv.org).

Our club is tentatively planning an autumn picnic sometime in September instead of a public restaurant location. Details are in the works. We really enjoyed the picnic last year.....remember?

Thanks to Jim (N3UZ), Mike (WA3RFE), Paul (N4CE) and Bob (KN4BBA) for the spectacular mowing of the 147.345 repeater site on July 24th. Total time: less than 45 minutes! Having all the help really made the task easier for everyone.

73s Tim (WD4GXD)

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***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

The July 20th RCARC meeting was opened at 1900 by President Tim Walker, WD4GXD, and introductions were made. The program was presented by Josh Nozzi, W4JLN, on tracking and fixing stray RFI in his house. This was an interesting program on his search methods and resolutions to fix the problems.

The meeting continued with the reading of the previous meeting minutes and the treasurer's report. A short report on Field Day. Then Bill, N8KSG, showed the new 440 MHz duplexer the club purchased to enable the changing of the repeater on Annie Penn Hospital from 146.85 MHz to 442.475 MHz. A plan for the grass mowing at the 147.345 MHz repeater site was scheduled for July 24th at 0800 weather permitting. Jamie, K4RVJ gave an update on the change for the Wednesday July 21st breakfast.

Jim Smith, N3UZ, announced the next VE session for August 21st at his QTH, 660 Butter Road, Wentworth, NC starting at 0900.

The meeting closed at 1940.

Furman WD4MKU



Hams took grass matters into their own hands July 24th at the 147.345 repeater site.
Thanks Jim (N3UZ), Mike (WA3RFE), Paul (N4CE) and Bob (KN4BBA).

HAM BOOTCAMP – GETTING STARTED WITH HAM RADIO

With so many new hams getting licensed and or upgraded, the link below can serve as a great resource to supplement what was learned in preparation for the exam. An electronic Elmer if you will. There are many areas not covered on the exam that contribute to learning and practicing good on-air techniques and courtesy.

<https://www.n1fd.org/ham-bootcamp/>

VE TESTING SESSION NEWS

**** Please note:**

*****ATTENTION FCC, VE CHANGES*****

If you or someone you know is looking to take their ham radio test, the FCC will no longer accept SSN on the 605s. It must be an FRN from now on. You can obtain an FRN without having a call.**

You can email veteam@n4iv.org anytime with any questions about testing.

Note From Jim, N3UZ

This is the latest information that we have:

Schedule of Application Fees of the Commission's Rules

The final rule change was published in the Federal

Register: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/03/19/2021-03042/schedule-of-application-fees-of-the-commissions-rules>

Even though the rule has been published in the Federal Register and has an effective date of April 19, the Amateur Radio fees "will not take effect until the requisite notice has been provided to Congress, and the FCC's information technology systems and internal procedures have been updated" which will most likely be in the summer.

Thank you
 Tracy Dye
 W5YI VEC Manager
 800-669-9594
<http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>

****** 2021 Membership Drive ******

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2021. 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 2021. Your continued support is appreciated!

Members as of March, 2021. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign					
N4JRA	KO4JRX	KO4HMB	WB4VVY	N4CE	KJ4WRE
KK4IFG	KB4WNT	WD4MKU	N4RFX	KO4HLZ	KB4SHP
W4SH	KE4WSF	WA3RFE	K4RVJ	KI4PRU	KN4BBA
W4SIX	KO4KWD	KN4YFA	W4JLN	N8KSG	WD4GXD
KJ4ANA	KN4ODM	KF4KPM	WA4RDX	KK1TLS	KN4NBH
WF4I	W4AYO	KI4TFA*	KK4KFG	N3UZ	WK4O
N1YBH	KO4OTI	KF4LIK	KJ4CIW	N3WKW	
Honorary members:					
W4WBP					
WB4JYC					

Please consider **renewing** your membership AND 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

Breakfast

HENRY POLLOCK MEMORIAL BREAKFAST and RCARC BREAKFAST will be held on **WEDNESDAY'S at 7:00 am at the Sanitary restaurant**, in Reidsville.

RCARC Meeting

Due to COVID-19 restrictions RCARC meetings normally held the 3rd Tuesday at 7 pm, at the Salvation Army 708 Barnes street in Reidsville. An ALTERNATE location will be announced prior to each meeting, while restrictions exist.

Club Socials

Once each quarter a social event will replace our monthly meeting, normally held on that 3rd Tuesday. The months of MARCH, SEPTEMBER, and DECEMBER, the SECOND Saturday from 6:00 to 7:30 pm (Location to be announced) prior to the social.

For the month of JUNE, that social will be held in conjunction with Field-Day.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

It looks like we are getting back to in person Hamfests again. Time to go out and look for a bargain and just have a good time.

09/03/2021 - 09/05/2021

Shelby Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina Section Convention

Location: Shelby, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org>

Robinhood Road Baptist Church

10/16/2021 - W4NC FallFest

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

UK ACTS TO PREVENT SATELLITE CONSTELLATION INTERFERENCE

DON/ANCHOR: Our top story this week looks at signal interference. No one wants it, of course, especially communications systems with thousands of satellites in the sky. Jeremy Boot G4NJH picks up the story from here.

JEREMY: Ofcom, the UK's communications regulator, has plans to mandate low-earth orbit satellite broadband systems such as OneWeb and SpaceX's Starlink, to engage in frequency coordination in

order to avoid blocking one another's signals. Ofcom has said it will amend the companies' satellite licenses to ensure such coordination happens. They are particularly concerned about interference posing an obstacle when the market opens to additional satellite network companies. The regulator said satellites in non-geostationary orbits have a greater risk of interference with their uplink and downlink transmissions because as they move across the sky, competing satellites can end up in the same antenna direction at the same time, compromising communication with user terminals on earth.

The website, arstechnica.com, revealed the development, noting that Ofcom has issued a more detailed report outlining its concerns. Ofcom identified such constellations as SpaceX, already in beta service, and the proposed Kuiper (Ky-PURR) constellation from Amazon. Ofcom's report also identifies OneWeb, owned by Bharti Global and the UK government which is in its initial phase.

For Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jeremy Boot G4NJH.

HAM RADIO OUTLET OPENING FLORIDA STORE

JIM/ANCHOR; Ham Radio Outlet, the nationwide amateur radio retailer in the US, has announced that its ongoing expansion plans will include a store in the state of Florida. The new store will join 12 already open in such states as California in the West, where the company is based, to Delaware in the East, Arizona and Texas in the South, New Hampshire in the North. The company's announcement on social media set off a wave of speculation about the new location, especially on Instagram where the company wrote, "We're not telling yet! We're open to suggestions." The closest Ham Radio Outlet to Florida is in Atlanta, Georgia. The company, which calls itself the world's largest supplier of amateur radio equipment, is also known for shipping internationally.

(HAM RADIO OUTLET)

JIM/ANCHOR: In other business news, the Dayton Daily News reports that Sandy Mendelson, founder of the legendary Ohio electronics retail store, Mendelson's Liquidation outlet, died on July 3rd at age 77. The downtown Dayton location, which was for decades a magnet for local and visiting hams especially during Hamvention, closed its doors in late 2019. Its eight-story building was sold to a Columbus, Ohio developer.

(DAYTON DAILY NEWS)

SPECIAL EVENT STATION HONORS AMERICAN COMEDIAN 'RED' SKELTON

JIM/ANCHOR: There's little doubt that although he never held an amateur radio license, the late American comedian Red Skelton was quite a ham. Fans of his TV, stage and film antics will attest to that. Andy Morrison K9AWM tells us about a special event that recently honored this Indiana native.

ANDY: Getting on the air to mark the 108th birthday of the late Red Skelton, special event station K9R exceeded its organizers' expectations. Operators called QRZ for nearly two weeks to end on Sunday July 18th, and by the latest count before Newsline's deadline, the log was fast approaching more than 700 QSOs, both DX and domestic. The QRZ page was getting 400 hits per day.

Organizer Mark Steven Williams K9GX said this first-time activation was designed to coincide with a

festival being held by the Red Skelton Museum of American Comedy in the comedian's hometown of Vincennes, Indiana. The museum is showcasing an exhibit called "Airwave Anniversaries," spotlighting broadcast high points of his career. Mark said that when he spoke to the museum's director Ann Pratt about a possible activation, they both agreed the exhibit and festival paired naturally with the special event.

Ultimately, the ham bands themselves also hosted a kind of exhibit: one of memories. Listen to this personal memory from a very enthusiastic YL:

K2R organizers said that while waiting to receive their QSL cards, hams who made contact are invited to upload pictures of themselves and their shacks to the Facebook page of the Red Skelton Museum of American Comedy.

For Amateur Radio Newslines, I'm Andy Morrison K9AWM—proud to be one of the K9R operators.

(MARK STEVEN WILLIAMS K9GX)