



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



President
Tim Walker
WD4GXD

Vice-President
Roger Joyner
W4AYO

Treasurer
Jim Clark
N1YBH

Secretary
Furman Lanier
WD4MKU

The RockingHAMmer News

Post Office Box 2264, Reidsville, North Carolina, 27323

February 2022

Vol. 20 No. 2

www.n4iv.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings;

Our next business meeting on February 15, 2022, weather permitting, at the Salvation Army Community Center, 708 Barnes Street, Reidsville. **We will be unable to enter until approximately 7:15 PM to provide time for another group to exit the building.** You may assemble and wait in the parking area, if you wish, until we're given clearance to enter the facility.

There are twenty club members that faithfully paid their 2022 club membership dues before February 1st. Thank you "twenty" for submitting your annual dues early. You will compete in a drawing at our meeting for the \$20 gift card for you prompt dues payment! The \$25 annual club dues may be paid at the meeting or by mailing your payment (payable to RCARC) to RCARC, PO Box 2264, Reidsville, NC 27323.

Roger, W4AYO, plans to present the program this month that was aborted from the November meeting and canceled in February because of inclement weather. Thank you for continuing to support our club with your dues, presence at meetings and participation at club activities.

Tim Walker
WD4GXD
2022 president

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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

Minutes

No minutes, meeting cancelled.

Club News

Digital Mobile Radio (DMR) TGIF Network Talk Group

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, Gary Benson (WA4WGY) and I (N4RFX) have been working to set-up a Talk Group just for the club for use by those of you that have DMR radios and hotspots. As well as for those of you that are interested in learning about and getting into DMR. Gary, obtained the **TGIF Talk Group 345** for us and it's available for your use now. As stated, it's on the TGIF network via a DMR radio and a hotspot. The TGIF network was chosen because it's currently difficult to get a Brandmeister TG. Brandmeister and TGIF are the most popular networks for DMR, there are several other networks as well.

At the April club meeting I will be doing a brief overview of what Digital Mobile Radio is and some ways to use it locally. I hope that if you are interested in DMR you can attend.

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.

**** 2022 Membership Drive ****

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2022. 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!

RCARC Membership Roster 2022

Members as of December, 2021. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|--------|--------------|---------------|--------|-------------------|
| N4JRA | N1YBH | KN4ODM | KO4OTI | WA4RDX | N8KSG | Honorary members: |
| KK4IFG | KM4UHU | KO4HMB | KI4TFA* | KK4KFG | KK1TLS | W4WBP |
| W4SH | KO4JRX | WD4MKU | KF4LIK | KJ4CIW | N3UZ | |
| W4SIX | KB4WNT | WA3RFE | WB4VYV | N4CE | N3WKW | |
| KJ4ANA | K4BYX | KN4YFA | N4RFX | KO4HLZ | KJ4WRE | |
| WF4I | KO4KWD | KF4KPM | K4RVJ | KI4PRU | K4SWS | |
| KO4SWH | KO4UZO | W4AYO | W4JLN | KO4UHO | KB4SHP | |
| N4ZZC | WD4GXD | KN4BBA | KN4NBH | WK4O | | |

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.

03/11/2022 - 03/12/2022

Charlotte Hamfest

Location: Concord, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

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

04/16/2022 - Raleigh Hamfest, ARRL Roanoke Division Convention

Location: Raleigh, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Website: <https://www.rarsfest.org>

09/02/2022 - 09/04/2022

Shelby Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina Section Convention

Location: Shelby, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://Shelbyhamfest.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 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|

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.
 You can now check-in via **EchoLink**, just search for **W4AYO-R** in your EchoLink app.

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
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

AMATEURS CLAIM NEW QSO DISTANCE RECORDS USING SATELLITES

DON/ANCHOR: Some new long-distance records are being claimed for contacts using amateur radio satellites. Congratulations to Juan Felipe A65GC and Jerome F4DXV for their QSO on HO-113 made on the 13th of January between the United Arab Emirates and France. Their contact at 1952 UTC reportedly spanned a distance of 5,298 km, or nearly 3,300 miles. Jerome F4DXV also reported a contact with Sergei ES4RM which would be a new record for AO-109. That contact between Estonia and France on the 22nd of December last year, they believe covered 2,445 km, or 1,500 miles, setting a new record for that satellite. Their contacts were reported on the AMSAT News Service. Well done!

(AMSAT NEWS SERVICE)

SPECIAL EVENT MARKS 90 YEARS OF AUSTRALIAN BROADCASTING CORP

DON/ANCHOR: Australian amateurs are paying tribute to nine decades of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. They're doing it by - what else? - getting on the air. Jim Meachen ZL2BHF has those details.

JIM: Just weeks after hams in the UK began operating with a special callsign marking the 100th anniversary of the British Broadcasting Corporation, similar on-the-air festivities are taking place Down Under: Ham radio operators in Australia are using the callsign VK9ØABC to mark the 90-year anniversary of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation. It's a nod to that memorable moment when the nation's airwaves came alive on the 23rd of November in 1923 with Australia's first licensed public radio broadcast, which featured the St. Andrews Choir. All amateur radio operators throughout Australia will be eligible to use the callsign but must apply for it first through an email to info at vk 90 abc dot net. (info@k90abc.net) According to the callsign's QRZ page, there will be no QSLs sent direct or by the bureau. Contacts are to be confirmed via LoTW and eQSL with logs uploaded once a month.

For Amateur Radio Newslines, I'm Jim Meachen ZL2BHF.

(VK90ABC.NET)

SPECIAL EVENT STATION BEING HELD AT LINCOLN HISTORIC SITE

DON/ANCHOR: Another special event, this one in the US, marks the life of an American president, as we hear from Skeeter Nash N5ASH.

SKEETER: There's a lot of history in the logs of the log cabin in Lerna, Illinois, home of the Lincoln Log Cabin State Historic Site. The cabin was home to Thomas Lincoln and Sarah Bush Lincoln, father and stepmother of Abraham Lincoln, the lawyer who was to become the 16th president of the United States. The National Trail Amateur Radio Club is marking Lincoln's February birthday by putting two callsigns on the air between February 7th and 13th. Be listening for K9L, which will be used by members operating from their home QTH; and W9L which will be used at the historic site itself. There will be commemorative QSL cards for successful contacts on all bands in all modes. The 86-acre historic site is no stranger to important moments in history and this amateur radio event expects to be one of them. To learn more about how to get in the log - the radio log, in this case - visit the QRZ page for either call sign.

For Amateur Radio Newslines I'm Skeeter Nash N5ASH.

(NATIONAL TRAIL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB)