



# 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

May 2022

Vol. 20 No. 5

www.n4iv.org

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings,

Our club meeting this month is scheduled for May 17<sup>th</sup> at 708 Barnes Street, Reidsville in the Salvation Army Community Building at 7:15 PM (note the time!). Bill, N8KSG, is preparing an Introduction to Oscilloscopes presentation for the meeting. The annual ARRL Field Day event is scheduled for June 25-26. No one has volunteered to coordinate the club's participation in the event this year, but several hams have threatened to "take some stuff to the 660 Butter Road location" and have some fun anyway. So, it looks to be a "free for all" Field Day this year. Come and join us if you dare!

Tim Walker  
WD4GXD  
2022 president

### NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

PAGE	CONTENT
1 - 2	<a href="#">President's Corner</a>
2 - 3	<a href="#">Club News &amp; Meeting Minutes</a>
3 - 4	<a href="#">VE News</a>
4	<a href="#">Events</a>
5	<a href="#">Skywarn, NOAA / NWS</a>
6	<a href="#">Net Information</a>
7 - 9	<a href="#">General Amateur Radio News</a>

\*\*\*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

Minutes for April 19, 2022 Meeting

The meeting opened at 7:15 with introductions of those in attendance.

The program was presented by Ralph, N4RFX, on DMR mode of communication. Topics included how to get started, procedures to get your DMR ID number, and a demonstration with contacts.

The minutes from February Meeting were read by Furman, WD4MKU.

The Treasure report was presented by Jim, N1YBH.

Jim, N3UZ, announced the new fees for HAM licenses were in effect.

The 2022 Budget was presented and approved.

A need for someone to head up the Club Field Day activities is needed. The site has been volunteered by Jim, N3UZ.

Roger, W4AYO, is looking for program presenters for future club meetings.

The meeting closed at 8:10

Furman Lanier  
WD4MKU

## 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.](https://www.n1fd.org/ham-bootcamp/) 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](mailto: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 2022. Your continued support is appreciated!

Membership as of 29 Apr 2022. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign. Paid up for two years (2022-2023)**					
KJ4ANA	K4BYX	KF4KPM	K4RVJ	KI4PRU	K4SW5
KK4IFG	KB4WNT	KN4NBH	KF4LIK	KJ4CIW	KB4SHP
KO4SWH	KM4UHU	KN4ODM	KI4TFA*	KK4KFG	KJ4WRE
N4JRA	KN4BBA	KN4YFA	KO4OTI	KO4HLZ	KK1TLS
N4ZZC	KO4JRX	KO4HMB	N4RFX	KO4UHO	KK4KTA
W4SH	KO4KWD	W4AYO	W4JLN	N4CE	N3UZ
W4SIX	KO4UZO	WA3RFE	WB4VYV**	WA4RDX	N3WKW
WD4GXD	KX4CHB	WD4MKU	WK4O	WA4WGY	N8KSG
WF4I	N1YBH				
Honorary members:					
W4WBP					

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](mailto: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

### 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.**

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](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

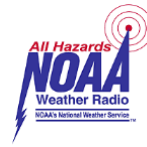
147.225 T100.0 KF4YLM/R Lewisburg, WV

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
---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------	---------

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 8:30PM      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

### **HAM RADIO ASSISTS IN HUMAN-TRAFFICKING RESCUE**

PAUL/ANCHOR: We begin this week with a harrowing tale of abduction that ended with amateur radio assistance. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, human trafficking is on the rise in South Asia. In India, one woman was rescued from that fate thanks to amateur radio. Jim Meachen ZL2BHF brings us that story.

JIM: Amateur radio operators in West Bengal, India, helped police locate and rescue a woman who told them she had been abducted and tortured as part of a human trafficking operation. News accounts in The Times of India and The Hindu newspaper both reported that the woman, who is in her 20s and from Bangladesh, had arrived for a visit in Kolkata when she was forcibly taken to a train station for transport. The news reports did not say how she found her way to a telephone but said that she contacted her brother, an amateur radio operator in Bangladesh. Members of the West Bengal Radio Club then received a call from the woman's family. Ambarish Nag Biswas, VU2JFA of the radio club, said that police in Pendurthi (pen-DOOR-Tee) in Andhra Pradesh state were called. Other hams, including those with the National Institute of Amateur Radio, aided the search for her. A member of the Dolphin Amateur Radio Repeater Club, who was not identified in news reports, told The Hindu newspaper that the woman was soon located and following her rescue May 2nd through a window, police took a man and woman into custody. Ambarish Nag Biswas said another ham, Sai Likhit, VU3EFN accompanied the young woman to the police station.

### **THROUGH MUSIC AND MUSINGS, A RADIO DOCUMENTARY ABOUT HAMS**

PAUL/ANCHOR: Finally, we end with a story about hams reflecting on being hams. It's the sum and substance of a new radio documentary that made its premiere at an arts festival in the UK. Jeremy Boot

G4NJH brings us the details.

JEREMY: Radio celebrates radio in a half-hour audio documentary that made its debut last month at an arts festival in Dublin. It is a mixture of interviews with amateurs based in Ireland, actual on-air contacts made by the hams and - because this was for an arts festival - there is also music by the Ficino String Quartet, an ensemble also based in Ireland. Dublin's Five Lamps Arts Festival presented the half-hour programme, "Ham," as a broadcast on Dublin Digital Radio in early April. The documentary is the creation of Craig Cox, a composer and an active contributor to the city's experimental music community. All those musical notes are complemented by an array of technical notes provided in interviews with Annard Brower, EI4IQB; Ana Cañizares Bejarano, EI5IXB; Tony Breathnach, EI5EM; and Joe Guilf, EI2JZ. The hams talk about moonbounce, signal reports, bandwidth and the music inherent in the dits and dahs of Morse Code.

Though the Five Lamps Festival is a community-based event traditionally focusing on local arts, culture and theatre, the addition of the drama and culture of amateur radio transported the celebration across continents, if only for a few moments.

For Amateur Radio Newslines I'm Jeremy Boot G4NJH.

PAUL/ANCHOR: The documentary can be heard now on demand on SoundCloud. See the text version of this week's Newslines script for the link.

(FIVE LAMPS FESTIVAL, SOUNDCLOUD)

If you would like to listen to this edition of Amateur Radio Newslines Report here's the link:  
<https://groups.io/g/ARNewslines/attachment/1217/0/news.mp3>