



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



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WA3RFE

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The RockingHAMmer News

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

That time already? OK, here we go....

Its June, and you know what that means, FIELD DAY on June 24th and 25th at Jim N3UZ's barn on Butter road. Set up will be at 8am on the 24th and we plan on setting up 3 stations. Once for CW, one for Data, and one for phone.

No meeting this month, and the Social will be held the evening of the 24th at Jims N3UZ's home. Thanks so much for hosting again this year Jim, and I look forward to seeing everyone there

Mike WA3RFE

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

CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

Minutes

RCARC May 16, 2023 Meeting
Salvation Army 704 Barnes St Reidsville, NC

Members Present 12

James Bonesteel, N4ZZC, Brad Jeffries, KN4ODM, Roger Joyner W4AYO, Charles Kahn, KO4OTI, Firman Lanier WD4MKU, Mike Mansfield WA3RFE, Jamie Nixon, K4RVJ, Robert Pike, KK4KTA, Jim Smith N3UZ, John Swinney KB4SH, Bob Thibodeau KN4BBA, Tim Walker WD4GXD

Guests 1

Edith Lanier

Meeting called to order by President Mike Mansfield at 1915
Program by Brad Jeffries KN4ODM on the K&L Microwave Filters, based out of MD. These are High Dynamic Range Tunable Filters that consist of a 5 stage LC ladder filter. For Ham applications, these are useful for filtering out blocking signals. The club has one on the 440 repeater to block out the paging system. These are useful for helping restore receiver sensitivity.

Secretary's report for April read and accepted.

Treasurers Report:

Checking

Opening Balance \$3690.44

Membership Dues \$55.00

Ending Balance \$3745.44

Petty Cash

Opening Balance \$18.

Ending Balance \$18.50

Tech Committee: None

Old Business:

Field day and June Social will be at Jim Smith N3UZ's QTH 6-24 and 6-25. Setup will begin at 0800.

VE Testing is still in limbo. Jim still working out details for administering tests and submission of results in the new system.

Repeater site has been mowed. Need someone to go out and weed wack around the building.

New Business: None

Meeting adjourned at 1950

Bob Thibodeau KN4BBA



Tim, WD4GXD, participated in the June ARRL VHF Contest to test his home-made VHF and UHF antennas at the Rocky Knob Overlook, Blue Ridge Parkway.

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 anytime with any questions about testing.

****** 2023 Membership Drive ******

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2023. 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 2023. Your continued support is appreciated!

The following members have paid their membership dues for 2023. Paid up for two years (2023-2024)**

K4RVJ	KN4NBH	W4JLN	K4BYX	KK4KTA
KB4SHP	KN4YFA	W4SH	WA4RDX	KO4OTI
KB4WNT	KO4UZO	WA3RFE	KF4KPM	
KF4LIK	N1YBH	WB4VVY	N3UZ	
KI4PRU	N4CE	WD4GXD	KJ4WRE	
KJ4CIW	N8KSG	WD4MKU	N4RFX**	
KN4BBA	W4AYO	WA4WGY	KN4ODM	

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)

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

The monthly meeting is at the Salvation Army Community Center, 708 Barnes Street, Reidsville. The meeting begins around 7:15 PM.

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

Time to go out and look for a bargain and just have a good time.

07/15/2023 - 50th Annual Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest

Location: Cary, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cary ARC

Website: <http://caryarc.org/> Website: <http://caryarc.org/>



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 8:30PM 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 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

"RECORD" ATTENDANCE AT HAMVENTION 2023

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: Meanwhile, Hamvention organizers are calling this year's crowd a "record attendance" since the move to Xenia. Just a handful of weeks after Hamvention, the tally shows 33,861 people were at the Greene County Fairgrounds in Ohio, a total number topping last year's by more than 2,000. Hamvention's media chair, James Gifford, KD8APT, released the numbers, saying that the total surpasses the previous attendance record at the fairgrounds, set before the pandemic, at 32,472. Hamvention will be held again next year on May 17th, 18th and 19th. Save the dates!

NEW MOMENTUM TO KEEP AM BROADCAST RADIO IN US CARS

STEPHEN: The struggle to keep AM broadcast radio in cars in the US continues. Kent Peterson KCØDGY has an update.

KENT: The move to retain AM broadcast service in vehicles sold in the US gained even more momentum recently as state broadcasting associations passed a resolution of support that underscored AM's role in carrying emergency messages from the federal government during a national crisis; its ability to carry other messages during extreme weather events and AM's robust nature among underrepresented communities, such as minorities and individuals who do not speak English. The association represents all 50 of the US states as well as Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico and it supports the AM Radio for Every Vehicle Act, a bipartisan bill passed recently in Congress.

Although many manufacturers of electric cars claim RF interference to be an issue between AM broadcast radio and the vehicles' electronic systems, Ford Motor Company recently reversed its decision to do away with the service in its Ford and Lincoln vehicles.

In a related move the National Association of Farm Broadcasting has also launched a website advocating for the retention of AM service, reiterating the importance AM has in rural communities.

This is Kent Peterson KCØDGY.

HAM RADIO CELEBRATES THE LEWIS & CLARK TRAIL

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: If you've always wanted to combine amateur radio with a journey on a trail, but you're not the outdoorsy type, here's your chance. Patrick Clark K8TAC tells us how.

PATRICK: You don't need to do one single bit of hiking along the historic Lewis and Clark trail in the United States to make some interesting radio contacts there anyway. The 4900-mile trail covers the

route taken by Meriwether Lewis and William Clark, the 19th century expeditioners who traveled into the new western territory of the still-growing United States.

To honor the explorers, ham radio clubs in 16 states along the path of that trail are on the air, and will remain active through to the 18th of June, using CW, SSB, FM and FT8 with the hope of helping chasers contact a club in each of the 16 states. The special event is in its second year and is organized by the Clark County Amateur Radio Club. Stations contacting all of the states will receive an Expedition Partner certificate. Stations working 1 through 15 states may request a Trail Companion certificate. Chasers need not submit logs; activating stations are keeping track of each of the contacts.

All requests for certificates are due by the 31st of August.

For details visit the event website at [lctota dot org \(lctota.org\)](http://lctota.org)

This is Patrick Clark K8TAC.

KICKER: SETTING A RECORD THAT IS OUT OF THIS WORLD

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: Hams in the space programs of five nations have helped set a record that's, well, out of this world. Paul Braun WD9GCO brings us our final story of the week.

PAUL: Let's face it, some people are just out of this world. One of them is Rayyanah Barnawi, 7Z1RB. The amateur radio operator is the first Saudi woman to go into space, was a member of the Axiom-2 mission to the ISS which departed on May 21st and returned 8 days later using the Crew-Dragon spaceship "Freedom." Two of the three team members were also hams. Before they splashed down near Panama City on May 30th, the mission specialist and her crew helped set what is being called a new record for the number of people to be in Earth orbit at the same time.

That's a total of 17. On May 30th, before the Axiom-2 splashdown, crews from five different nations were up there circling our planet. That included the three members of China's Shenzhou 16 mission, which launched on May 29th for the Tiangong space station. That crew joined the three Shenzhou 15 mission members who were already up there since last November.

Greeting Rayyanah on the ISS was the Expedition 69 crew with seven members from different countries including Emirati astronaut Sultan Al Neyadi, KI5VTV.

In this busy travel season for some down here on Earth, it's good to know there are some people up above who take the notion of a getaway even more seriously.

This is Paul Braun WD9GCO.

(AMSAT NEWS SERVICE, SPACE.COM)

If you would like to LISTEN to the latest edition of Amateur Radio Newslines Report here's the link:
<https://groups.io/g/ARNewsline/attachment/1272/0/news.mp3>