



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Paul Patterson - N4CE	Vice-President Furman Lanier - WD4MKU	Treasurer George Brewer - WN4LTY	Secretary Tom Cox - KB5SYK
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The RockingHAMmer News

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www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

We sure have had our share of rain this summer so far. But Jamey must have done his sun dance because Field Day 2013 went off without a hitch! Thanks to everyone who brought their equipment, radios and of course covered dishes for the Saturday night social. Early indications are that we scored very close to where we were last year. The conditions were fair and actually good on Sunday when 6 meters opened up some.

Summertime always means storms so Field Day was great practice for any potential event that may occur.

I hope each you had a safe and wonderful July 4th. Hope to see some of you at the Salisbury hamfest.

73
Paul
N4CE

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About the Newsletter : *This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club. Computer/inter-net 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 2nd Tuesday of each month.*

73, KF4LIK, Michael, your editor



Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: <http://www.skywarn.org> . For a guide to reporting weather, see the website <http://www.wx4rnk.org/guide.html> .



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

162.550 MHz WXL58 RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL N.C.

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). Other SAME numbers can be found at: nws.noaa.gov/nwr/indexnw.htm or by calling: 1-888-NWS-SAME (1-888-697-7263). Complete information is at NOAA's website: weather.gov/nwr or nws.noaa.gov/nwr For current weather forecasts on the inter-net, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: weather.gov . You can use either of the following URLs to access your complete weather forecast on a mobile device:

HTTP enabled wireless devices: mobile.weather.gov

WAP enabled wireless devices: cell.weather.gov

UPCOMING EVENTS

RCARC Meeting

The RCARC meets the 3rd Tuesday night of every month at the Red Cross Building located between Reidsville and Eden on Hwy 14 at 7:00PM. The next meeting will be on the 16th of July, 2013. For more information on the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club, please contact N4IV@rcarc.com

Mid-Summer Swapfest

The Cary ARC will sponsor the Mid-Summer Swapfest on July the 20th, 2013 at the Town of Cary, Harold Ritter Park, located at 301 West Lochmere Drive, Cary, NC 27511 **Website:** <http://www.qsl.net/n4nc> . **Talk-In:** 146.88 -0.6 (no PL tone). **Public Contact:** Herb Lacey , W3HL, 1022 Medlin Drive Cary, NC 27511. **Phone:** 919-467-9608. **E-mail:** infoman@bellsouth.net

15th Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Swapfest

The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society will be sponsoring an ARRL Hamfest on August the 3rd, 2013 at the Cumberland County Shrine Club located at 7040 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC 28301 **Website:** <http://www.cfarsnc.org> . **Sponsor:** Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society. **Talk-In:** 146.910 (PL 100) **Public Contact:** David Cowart , KR4OE, 637 East Raynor Drive Fayetteville, NC 28311. **Phone:** 910-624-1394. **Email:** kr4oe@nc.rr.com

Roanoke Hamfest

On August the 3rd, 2013, the Roanoke Valley ARC will be sponsoring an ARRL Hamfest at the William Byrd High School located at 2902 East Washington Avenue, Vinton, VA 24179. **Website:** <http://www.w4ca.com> **Talk-In:** 146.985- (PL 107.2) **Public Contact:** Phillip Roark, K4WFO, 405 Yorkshire Street Salem, VA 24153. **Phone:** 540-387-4487. **E-mail:** k4wfo@arrl.net

North Carolina Section Convention (Shelby Hamfest)

The Shelby Amateur Radio Club will sponsor the an ARRL Hamfest (Shelby Hamfest) on August the 31st and September the 1st at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds located at 1751 East Marion Street, Shelby, NC 28150. **Website:** <http://www.shelbyhamfest.org> . **Talk-In:** 146.880 - . **Public Contact:** Todd Vickery , WA4TV, 906 Manor Drive Kings Mountain, NC 28086. **Phone:** 980-295-5151. **Email:** wa4tv@arrl.net

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, The Farmer's Table, Reidsville

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd-numbered month at the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library located at: 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. For more info: <http://rcarc.com/vesched.html> (including the fee). The next VEC testing will be on the 27th of July, 2013.

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2-meter net 146.700 MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter net 146.850 MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use **147.345 MHz, 103.5 tone** if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

OTHER 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	45.150, 100 Hz
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820, no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255, no tone
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, no tone
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, no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200, no tone

Daily Nets

5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
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

Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club Meeting Minutes June 18, 2013

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club held its monthly meeting on June 18, 2013 at the Red Cross building on Highway 14. There were 20 people in attendance. Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Paul Patterson (N4CE) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Tom Cox (KB5SYK) and was accepted. Treasurer's report was not available.

Committee Reports

Technical - Still waiting on 911 Center.

ARES/Skywarn - A report was given on OXCOM class that was attended by Furman Lanier (WD4MKU) and Grant Brown (N8ICS) and was reviewed and presented by Furman and Grant on how important ARES can be in time of disaster or when communications are needed. Need more people to sign up for ARES and get ICS certified.

Publicity - Field Day advertisement was submitted to the Reidsville and Eden Papers.

Swapfest - Matt Weatherford (KK4NTM) has volunteered to take over as Swapfest Chairman.

Historian -N/A

Inventory/Equipment - Undated

Old Business

Field Day will be June 22 & 23 and will operate as a 3F station SSB, CW and Digital and will operate the same as last year we will meet about 7:30 in the parking lot here at the Red Cross. If you have any questions see Paul. We will have the Social at 6:00 PM at the Field Day site.

New Business

Salisbury Swapfest July 6 and Cary Swapfest will be the following Weekend.

Program

"QSL 101" presented by Paul Patterson (N4CE)

Meeting Adjourned at 7:50 PM

Submitted By:

Tom Cox (KB5SYK)

Secretary, RCARC

After Fifty

HAM radio

Operator has enjoyed hobby for 36 years

By JANE LEIBSCHER
Special to the News & Record

Henry Morrison Pollock is a warm, personable, fascinating man. The 65-year-old minister of Reidsville's First United Methodist Church is full of interesting tales he eloquently delivers from the pulpit and out of church as well.

His interests are many, but one of his favorites is being a HAM or amateur radio operator. For those not familiar with HAM radio, it is a complex intricate hobby. Its members are both very enthusiastic and knowledgeable.

Henry Pollock is one of these individuals. He can sit for hours explaining the different categories of HAM radio operation and its rules and regulations. There are so many aspects — all of which Pollock knows in detail.

All operators must be licensed by the FCC. Novice is the beginning level at which most all HAM operators begin. The top level is Extra Class. This is the level at which Pollock operates.

Every HAM radio operator has a set of call letters. K-4UUM are Pollock's letters, as can be seen on his license plate. Often people make up amusing words for their call letters. For years Pollock's K-4UUM stood for "Ugly Uncle Mike" until one day a friend termed him "Unusually Ugly Minister."

Pollock served in the army for 20 years. This enabled him to



Jane Liebscher / Special to the News & Record

HAMMING IT UP: Henry M. Pollock operates a HAM radio at the top level of Extra Class

become licensed in many parts of the world and gain some exciting experiences. He was first licensed in November 1957.

"One of my goals was to see how many call letters I could get from around the world," says Pollock, who then begins reciting all his different letters. DL-4TZ-Germany, DL-5MU-Munich, HS-IMP-Thailand, WB-4IBG (I Been Good)-Second station USA, K-4UUM-Home station USA, HL-9VR-Korea, KL-7HNW-Alaska.

What do people talk about on the radio? Well, according to Pollock, it usually has to do with radio equipment, operations and

oftentimes the weather. "We're supposed to veer away from any controversial subject matter. Profanity is prohibited, and courtesy is very important. You can have your license taken away from you if you don't follow the rules and regulations," says Pollock.

Through his "radio travels" Pollock has made some interesting friends. One of his closest friends through HAM radio is WA-4LZD or "Little Zipper Dipper." WA-4LZD is the originator of the now famous hollerin contest in Spivey's Corner.

For three years in Germany Pollock communicated with an

English HAM. And when he and his wife, Jean, visited England, his HAM friend hosted them in his home near London for three days.

Pollock has communicated with some real celebrities too. He talked with former Sen. Barry Goldwater. Unfortunately Pollock never got to talk with fellow HAM, Arthur Godfrey, before Godfrey passed away.

But once he communicated with a man who was flying a plane over Kansas. They identified one another by their handles. Henry signed off and decided to look up "Curt's" call letters in the HAM directory to find out who he was. Much to Henry's surprise he discovered he had been talking to four-star Gen. Curtis Lamay.

Right now Pollock's communication is not quite as worldly. He is a member of the "Possum Trot Net," a large HAM group with more than 2,200 members. Every Monday through Friday morning from 6:10 — 7:10 a.m. he checks in with fellow operators from across the area. They say hi and pass messages to one another. On Saturdays "they take a bath and on Sundays they go to Sunday School like all good possums do," adds Pollock with a chuckle.

A fellow HAM enthusiast, Howie Silver, KB-2BBG, allowed his equipment to be photographed. Pollock's home base

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HAM

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is in the process of being dismantled because he and his wife will soon be moving to their new home on Beaver Lodge Lake upon Pollock's retirement in June.

Howie Silver, a HAM operator since 1986, has a system in his home that looks something like a CIA covert operations center. Radios, computers, monitors, printers and maps fill an entire room in the former New Yorker's home. It's obvious he shares Henry Pollock's passion for the HAM hobby as he talks about the different aspects.

Treasurer of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club, the "Rockinghammers" and editor of the club newsletter, Silver has book after book of postcards call QSLs from around the world from people he has communicated with. When a connection is made these cards are sent from both parties to verify the conversation. Outside his home stands a tower with different antennae and wires that enable him to conduct his sophisticated operations.

HAM radio is not a hobby for everyone; but, if like Pollock and Silver you have a technical mind and the gift of gab, this may be your calling. Right now a "no-code" class is taught at the Red Cross Center on Highway 14. For more information about becoming a HAM, contact the president of the "Rockinghammers," Frank Divinie, KB-4IHD, at 342-3116.

Courtesy of the Advertising Supplement to the News & Record, Friday, January 28, 1994.