



Rockingham County  
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Furman Lanier-WD4MKU	Vice-President Matt Weatherford-WK4O	Treasurer George Brewer-WN4LTY	Secretary Tom Cox-KB5SYK
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# The RockingHAMmer News

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[www.n4iv.org](http://www.n4iv.org)

## President's Corner

Hi all,

We have just finished this year's swap-fest and it appears to have been a good one. We had good weather and I feel like we had a good crowd. We will have the numbers, I hope, by this month's club meeting. I want to especially thank Matt, WK4O, for his leadership with our swap-fest. Of course he could not have done this without the help of the club members who helped with ticket selling, parking, moving tables, selling refreshments and all of the unmentioned things that made the swap-fest a success. We had 3 prizes donated by the ARRL, 2 more donated by two of our vendors as well as the 2-meter radio from DBJ Radio & Electronics in Jamestown. This just shows what a club can do when everyone works together. We did have a guest from the ARRL, Karl Bowman W4CHX, the new NC Section Manager, who talked to several people while he was there. He expressed his thanks for our having him take part in our swap-fest.

I guess that our next big event will be Field day the 28th and 29th of June. It was voted on in April's meeting to go again at the Red Cross building. Be thinking about what you want from you experience at Field Day and what you can contribute to make it a success. I hope to see everyone at the May club meeting.

73, Furman, WD4MKU

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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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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> .



**Rockingham County AUXCOMM/ARES** website: <http://www.rc-aa.org/>



### 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](http://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](http://weather.gov/nwr) or [nws.noaa.gov/nwr](http://nws.noaa.gov/nwr) For current weather forecasts on the inter-net, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: [weather.gov](http://weather.gov) . You can use the following URLs to access your weather forecast on a mobile device: [mobile.weather.gov](http://mobile.weather.gov) or [cell.weather.gov](http://cell.weather.gov) .

**Dial-A-Forecast** is 919-515-8209, option 2 for Greensboro, Winston, Salem, and High Point.

## 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 Tuesday, May the 20th, 2014.

### BREAKFASTS

HENRY POLLOCK MEMORIAL BREAKFAST

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

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

### FreeGate 2014

On May the 17th, 2014, the RFMD Amateur Radio Club will be hosting a free hamfest at the RFMD Headquarters (Rear Parking Lot) located at 7628 Thorndike Road, Greensboro, NC 27401. **Website:** <http://kd4rf.org> . **Talk-In:** 145.25 -600 (PL 88.5) W4GG. **Email:** [info@kd4rf.org](mailto:info@kd4rf.org)

### DurHamFest

On May the 24th, 2014, The Durham FM Association will be hosting a hamfest at the Little River Community Complex located on 8307 North Roxboro Road, Bahama, NC 27503. **Website:** <http://dfma.org> . **Talk-In:** 147.225 . **Public Contact:** Paul Van Doren, KE4OXN, 5309 Falkirk Drive, Durham, NC 27712. Phone: 919-605-3467. **Email:** [elivand@aol.com](mailto:elivand@aol.com)

### Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest

On June 7th, 2014, the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club will be hosting a hamfest at the Summit School located on 2100 Reynolda Road, Winston-Salem, NC. **Website:** <http://www.w4nc.com> . **Talk-In:** 146.64 (PL 100) & 144.47 (PL 100). **Public Contact:** Henry Heidtmann, W2DZO, 8812 Merry Hill Court, Lewisville, NC 27023. Phone: 336-245-5740. **Email:** [hamfest@w4nc.com](mailto:hamfest@w4nc.com) .

### Manassas Hamfest

On June the 8th, 2014, the Ole Virginia Hams Amateur Radio Club will be hosting a hamfest at the Prince William County Fairgrounds located on 10624 Dumfries Road, Manassas, VA 20108. **Website:** <http://www.manassashamfest.org> . **Talk-In:** 146.97- ; 442.200+; D-Star 442.5125+ . **Public Contact:** Terry Erlacher , KC4DV, 10855 Felicia Court Manassas, VA 20110. Phone: 571-292-1490. **Email:** [kc4dv@arrrl.net](mailto:kc4dv@arrrl.net)

### 29th Annual Firecracker Hamfest

The Rowan Amateur Radio Society will be hosting a hamfest on July 12th, 2014, at the Salisbury Civic Center located on 315 South Martin Luther King Avenue, Salisbury, NC 28144. **Website:** <http://www.rowanars.org> . **Talk-In:** 144.810/145.410 (PL 136.5). **Public Contact:** Ralph Brown, WB4AQK, 1621 Emerald Street Salisbury, NC 28144. Phone: 704-636-5902. **Email:** [rkbrown5902@bellsouth.net](mailto:rkbrown5902@bellsouth.net)

### 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. The next VEC testing will be on the 31st of May, 2014.

## 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.

**Thursday 8:30PM Rockingham Co. AUXCOMM/ARES Net  
147.345 MHz 103.5**

Bored with just checking into a net? Join us! Actual Training Every Net.

## 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 Isb

## Belews Creek Triathlon Photos

Amateur radio participants of the Belews Creek Triathlon were Grant (N8ICS) Net Control, Laura, Furman (WD4MKU), Casey (KK4YFD), Terry (KF4KPM). Not pictured were Paul (N4CE) and Tim (WD4GXD)



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## N4IV Repeater

The new location of the 146.85 repeater is at the Red Cross near Reidsville, N.C. The white antenna on the right (pictured below) is currently being used. More work is needed to improve the repeater system.



*Reidsville Red Cross Antenna Tower*

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## 2014 Raleigh (RARSfest) Hamfest

If you didn't make it to the Raleigh hamfest, you missed a good time. I got there about 8:30am and the place was already 'Rockin'. The weather wasn't great but it didn't seem to damper people's spirits from buying new and used items. Of the major vendors, Flex radio, DBJ, Tarhell and KJI Electronics were just some. Plenty of used equipment in the flea market as well. They have a better than normal selection of food items as well. The food court was my first stop when I got there. I went not really needing anything but ended up buying close to \$200.00 in odds-n-ends. I've included a couple of pictures. Hope to see everyone at our 2014 RCARC swapfest!!

73  
Paul Patterson N4CE



## RARSfest continued



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## Gears and Cheers 2014

Thank you all so much for your help at Gears and Cheers 2014!

The ride had 442 participants, and raised over \$20,000. We had no cyclist injuries, but were able to respond to riders for various reasons. Some were not quite up to the distance they chose, some had mechanical issues, and one rider with asthma. Because of you, we were able to respond to all of these people quickly. At the end of the day, our goal is to raise money to help people with MS, and to get everyone home safely. We did that with your help!

If you are interested in helping with another cycling event for MS in Clemmons, NC, please let Mike Mansfield know. Almost 2000 participants will ride two days in the Bike MS: Tour to Tanglewood on September 27 & 28. I also plan this ride, and the Forsyth County Amateur Radio Club manages radio communications for the event. So save the date, and I'll make sure the leader reaches out to your group!

Lastly, some of you met Preston Cox at the event this year. He will be planning Gears and Cheers in 2015, and would love your help! He has ridden in Gears and Cheers for several years, and he helped plan the event this year. He also shadowed me throughout the morning, so he learned how valuable you all are to the success of the event. As we make this transition, I will give him all of my plans and notes. I will not be leaving the event, but will be joining the riders on a bicycle, as I did 2007-2010. I'll also offer a hand whenever necessary.

Thank you again for your help at Gears and Cheers. We really are making a difference for people who live with MS!

Derrick Huff

Senior Development Manager - Bike MS



# RCARC Swapfest 2014 Photos



The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club Unofficial Meeting Minutes  
April 15th, 2014

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its April meeting on April 15, 2014 at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 15 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Furman Lanier (WD4MKU) followed by introductions. Minutes were read by Secretary Tom Cox (KB5SYK), and accepted. Treasurer's report was given by President Furman Lanier (WD4MKU) in the absence of Treasurer George Brewer (WN4LTY).

#### Committee Reports

Technical –Tim (WD4MKU) stopped by 345 repeater site found one lock combination didn't match he will call about it. The 85 repeater is up and running such as it is will need to put new antenna up.

It was also noted that tone squelch will not work on this installation.

ARES/Skywarn – Belews Creek event went well with the exception of the FRS communication and another party was using the same freq. Also, volunteers are needed for the Gears and Cheers event on May 3rd. Please contact Mike (WA3RFE) or Grant (N8ICS) if you can help.

Publicity – N/A

Swapfest – Sign-up sheet for work assignments passed around, if anyone knows someone that wants to volunteer they should contact Matt (WK4O).

Historian –N/A

Inventory/Equipment–N/A

Old Business – Bill (N8KSG) is checking on equipment list for insurance. The debit card has been obtained. Technical committee to look into a repeater for replacing 85 repeater.

New Business – FreeGate will be May 17 in Greensboro.

Jamey gave an update on Russ and contact information. It was brought up about having a quarterly social meeting in lieu of the Tuesday meeting and was approved for the second Saturday from 6:00 to 9:00 PM to start in September.

Membership committee sending out letters to past members to rejoin RCARC. Start thinking about field day on June 28 & 29, Red Cross selected for the location.

Club dues should be paid to George (WN4LTY).

Program “Conversational CW” presented by Paul Patterson

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm

Respectfully Submitted

Tom Cox (KB5SYK) Secretary, RCARC