



*Rockingham County  
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*



**N4IV**

**President** Bill Schwiegeraht - N8KSG    **Vice-President** Tim Walker - WD4GXD    **Treasurer** Michael Mosser - KF4LIK    **Secretary** Trey Belton - W4SH

# *The RockingHAMmer News*

**Post Office Box 2264, Reidsville, North Carolina 27323**

**March 2015**

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

## **President's Corner**

Well, hello to all! Here we are already in March – it seems like 2015 is really moving fast, doesn't it? I hope that it has been good for each of you so far, and particularly that you have had a lot of opportunity to do some ham radio, and maybe even a project or two!

This past week, a few of our members participated in Weather Spotter training at the Rockingham County Emergency Management Center. Unfortunately, I had prior commitments, but I hear the turnout was very strong. For those who were not able to make it, but are interested in becoming a spotter (or refreshing their spotter certification), you do have the opportunity to do the training online at [https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training\\_course.php?id=23](https://www.meted.ucar.edu/training_course.php?id=23). Once you have completed the training, you can follow the National Weather Service Directions to complete the rest of the requirements to become an official spotter. This information is on the Blacksburg NWS Skywarn page at <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/rnk/Skywarn/>. Note that depending on your county of residence, you may have to register through a different NWS office, as I had to since I live in Guilford County (Raleigh office).

How many of you have heard of HR1301? Do you know what this is? A bill has been introduced in the US House of Representatives that if eventually signed into law, will direct the FCC to extend the "reasonable accommodation" rules of PRB-1 to communities that are currently covered by Restrictive Covenants. Knowing most of you reasonably well, I don't think this does much for most of our members, but perhaps there are some in such communities. The ARRL is backing this plan, and they are seeking your support in pushing this forward, so I encourage each of you to consider this regardless of whether you support or disagree, and if this concerns you, let your input be heard by contacting your local representatives. In theory, I do think one should be able to do with their property what they want, but those who chose to purchase a home in an area with covenants know full well what they are agreeing to. This is exactly why I, and I suspect many of you, refuse to purchase property in such areas. While I don't have a tower in my yard now, I may in the future, and I don't that ability restricted. However, I acknowledge the right of others to live as they wish as well, and if you sign the agreement, well... So how do you feel about HR1301 – let your elected officials know!

I tell you, I am getting very excited for April and May, and not just because the weather will be nicer!

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We have the RARSfest coming up in Raleigh the first weekend in April, and my wife & I are planning on making a day in our state capital (no, not the “almost” state capital)! While I rummage for gold at the ham fest, my wife will be hunting treasures at the big flea market, which is also on the state fairgrounds property. Afterwards, we will likely find a nice restaurant to relax. It’s always a good time over in Raleigh, and I hope to see a few of you there. Of course, May 9th we have our SwapFest to look forward too, and the arrangements are proceeding along nicely, so pray for great weather! I am also looking forward to returning to Dayton this year, and between one of these I still hope to find a new Yaesu FTM400 System Fusion mobile, so I can join the others taking advantage of that technology on our new repeaters!

Well, that is about all I have this time around. I hope to catch each of you on the air soon! 73’s for now,

Bill, N8KSG

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### **Possible Activation of North Korea?**

In the last week I have been seeing announcements about 3Z9DX gaining permission to operate from the most wanted DX entity – North Korea! A trip is planned sometime in the January – February 2016 time frame, but all details are yet to be worked out at this point. The word is that 3Z9DX has been given a permit to operate, but it looks likely that only 3Z9DX will be allowed to operate, and there will be strict limits and government supervision the entire time. So though this won’t amount to a full scale DXpedition with many stations, modes, and bands covered, at least some activity is better than none! Check out <http://www.dx-world.net/activation-of-north-korea/> for more information, and stay tuned to your favorite DX news sites!

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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). Complete information is at NOAA's website: [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 the Greensboro, Winston, Salem, and High Point area.

## Events

### RCARC Meeting

The RCARC usually meets the 3rd Tuesday night of the month at the Red Cross Building located between Reidsville and Eden on Highway 14 at 7:00PM. Quarterly meeting/socials will be announced. The next meeting will be a social on Saturday, March the 14th, 2015, at the El Parral located at 734 South Van Buren Rd, Eden, NC 27288. The following meeting will be on Tuesday, April 21st, 2015.

### Winterfest

**The Vienna Wireless Society will sponsor an ARRL Hamfest on March the 22nd, 2015, at Northern Virginia Community College located at 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, VA 22003. Website:** <http://viennawireless.org>. **Talk-In:** 146.91 **Public Contact:** Doug Reece, AK4AO, 3630 Camelot Drive Annandale, VA 22003. Phone: 703-203-3247. **Email:** [dougreece@yahoo.com](mailto:dougreece@yahoo.com)

### 25th Annual Down East Hamfest

On March the 28th, 2015, the Down East Hamfest Association, Inc. will sponsor an ARRL Hamfest at the Lenoir Community College Gymnasium, 231 Highway 58 South (Please use Hwy 58 entrance) Kinston, NC 28501. **Talk-In:** 146.085 / 146.685 (PL 82.5). **Public Contact:** Byron Highland, K4BMH, PO Box 1778 Kinston, NC 28503. Phone: 252-347-1498. **Email:** [bhighland@nc.rr.com](mailto:bhighland@nc.rr.com)

### North Carolina State Convention (43rd Annual RARSFest)

On April the 4th, 2015, the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society will sponsor an ARRL Convention at the North Carolina State Fairgrounds - Jim Graham Building, 1025 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27601. **Website:** <http://www.rars.org/rarsfest> **Talk-In:** 146.04 / 146.64 (no PL tone). **Public Contact:** Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, 2005 Quail Ridge Road Raleigh, NC 27609. Phone: 919-872-6555. **Email:** [k4hf@arrl.net](mailto:k4hf@arrl.net)

### Rockingham County ARC Swapfest

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club will host a hamfest on May the 9th, 2015 at the Community Baptist Church, located at 509 Triangle Road, Reidsville, NC 27320. **Website:** <http://www.n4iv.org>. **Talk-In:** 147.345 (PL 103.5) **Public Contact:** Matt Weatherford, WK4O, PO Box 2264 Reidsville, NC 27323. Phone: 434-203-7143. **Email:** [wk4o@arrl.net](mailto:wk4o@arrl.net)

### FreeGate 2015

The Qorvo (Formerly RFMD) Amateur Radio Club presents a free tailgate swapfest. No admission fee. Saturday, May 16th 2015 from 8:00AM to 11:00AM (Rain or Shine) Qorvo (formerly RFMD) Headquarters – BACK parking lot ONLY please. 7628 Thorndike Road, Greensboro, NC 27409. Talk-in frequency - 145.250MHz PL 88.5Hz. Email: [info@kd4rf.org](mailto:info@kd4rf.org). Website: [www.kd4rf.org](http://www.kd4rf.org).

## BREAKFASTS

HENRY POLLOCK MEMORIAL BREAKFAST

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

THURSDAY – 7:00 am, 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. The next VEC testing will be on the 28th of March, 2015.

## 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      147.345 MHz 103.5 tone**

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. Please make it a priority to check into our net.

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

The Rockingham County AUXCOMM/ARES Training 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	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, 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
Tuesday 9:00pm	N.C. D-Star Net (W4GSO) REF054C	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
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