



*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

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President's Corner

Greetings to all here in September! We just held our third social gathering of the year, and it was great to see all those who joined in at El Parral in Eden for a good dinner and fellowship. Peggy KJ4ANA has already made the reservation for our Christmas Party to be held at El Parral on December 12th, so please mark your calendar and join in the fun.

It looks promising that we will finally be able to get internet connectivity at the Madison repeater site soon. The tentative installation date is Thursday September 24th, but this hasn't been confirmed yet by a field technician. While it should be easy to get internet in the building, I am sure it will take a little bit of time and effort to get the repeater connected and configured as there will be a "Learning curve" involved with the Yaesu Wires-X system that has to be figured out, but we are on the path for sure. Remember that at present Yaesu has not issued a firmware patch that will allow passing of digital voice/data. However, we can still take advantage Wires-X connectivity with analog audio for the time being. As Hams are known to do, users groups are showing some folks out there that are finding ways to pass digital voice over their DR-1x systems. These types of solutions involve custom modifications to their repeaters, and I am not sure this is a good path for us to follow as it does involve a good deal of tinkering and hacking of the system. Hopefully Yaesu's firmware is not too far off, but I have not heard anything definite at this point.

Many of you replied to my email offering your support for the internet access for 147.345, and I thank you for that. I currently have 10 months of services covered, but we still have two more months that present an opportunity for someone to help share in the cost of adding internet service. If you would like to help, please email me directly at bswag@yahoo.com, and I thank you for your help.

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We continue to investigate other options for locating the 146.85 repeater in a better location. Paul and Jamey reported that an individual suggested a business in the Williamsburg area (about 8 miles east of Reidsville) might be open to hosting us, and we are just now beginning to check follow up on this lead. Elevations are decent in that area, so putting a repeater in such a location could present very good coverage for the eastern side of Rockingham County, Caswell County, and across the border into Virginia. We are trying to make contact with the tower owner, and hopefully we will have something to report at the October meeting.

The October and November meeting will both be very important as we begin to make plans for next year and hold elections for club officers. If you would like to serve yourself, or you think of one who would be a good candidate, please consider making a nomination. If it is for another person though, please have a conversation with them to make sure they are willing to serve. All positions last year were unopposed, so it would be nice to have enough interest to have a real election.

Please remember that this is a month with a social gathering, so there is no meeting on Tuesday 9/15. If you show up at the Red Cross building you won't find the usual fun going on! We will be back for our next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 20th at 7 pm. It is always good to see each of you, so be sure to mark it on your calendar. I hope that each of you can make it to the meeting!

73's, Bill, N8KSG

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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.

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 on Tuesday, October the 13th, 2015.

W4DXCC/SEDCO Convention

The SouthEastern DX and Contesting Organization (SEDCO) will be sponsoring an ARRL Convention on Friday the 25th and Saturday the 26th of September, 2015. Website: <http://www.W4DXCC.com>. Talk-In: None. Public Contact: Layfield Lamb, W4NL, 3134 Allen Drive Maryville, TN 37803. Phone: 865-898-2279. Email: w4nl@roslynn.net

Rock Hill (SC) Hamfest

On October the 3rd, 2015, the York County Amateur Radio Society will sponsor an ARRL Hamfest at New Kirk Baptist Church located on 175 Museum Road, Rock Hill, SC 29730. Website: <http://www.rockhillhamfest.com>. Talk-In: 147.030 Negative (PL 88) Public Contact: Brent Case, K4BSC, 2409 Sweetbriar Lane Rock Hill, SC 29732. Phone: 803-230-5305. Email: k4bsc@arrl.net

Georgia Section Convention (Stone Mountain Hamfest)

On November the 7th and 8th, 2015 the Alford Memorial Radio Club will sponsor an ARRL Convention at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds, 2405 Sugarloaf Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA 30042. Website: <http://www.stonemountainhamfest.com>. Talk-In: 146.76 (PL 107.2). Public Contact: Chris Balch, KS4MM, 948 Boulevard SE, Atlanta, GA 30312. Phone: 855-786-8643. Email: hamfest@stonemountainhamfest.com

JARSFest 2015

The Johnston Amateur Radio Society will sponsor an ARRL Hamfest on November the 11th, 2015. The location will be the Benson American Legion on 605 North Wall Street, Benson, NC 27504. Website: <http://www.jars.net>. Talk-In: 147.270 +.600. Public Contact: Michael Callam, KD4MC, PO Box 302, Benson, NC 27504. Phone: 919-934-9623. Email: jarsmember@yahoo.com

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. Effective September 1, 2015 the Rockingham County VE Testing will be conducted on a "Pre-registration Only" basis. The pre-registration must be received by the Monday prior to the scheduled test date. Applicants should call Dal Williams, W4YQY at 336-627-7076 for pre-registration info and details. The next sessions are on Saturday 9/26/2015 and Saturday 11/28/2015.



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/>

AUXCOMM's main responsibility is to support the **Rockingham County Emergency Management** during times of Severe Weather, Disaster, or Emergency situations. ARES has a broader responsibility to support the community as a whole.



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 . For current weather forecasts on the inter-net, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: weather.gov . Your weather forecast on a mobile device: mobile.weather.gov or cell.weather.gov

Dial-A-Forecast is 919-515-8209 (option 2) for the Greensboro, Winston, Salem, and High Point area. The New River Valley, Roanoke, and Lynchburg, Virginia's area number is 540-552-0497.

AREA NETS

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. Check-ins will be taken in analog (FM) mode. Please make it a priority to check into our net.

Thursday 8:15PM RCARC-DIGITAL 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone

Until the AUXCOMM/ARES net is reactivated, digital stations are invited each Thursday to participate in a round table group rag-chew session. This is not a formal net, with a net control station. Any and all stations are invited to this digital group.

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, 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	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

Ham News Articles

BOYS SCOUTS ARE PREPARED

Radio amateurs can take a lesson from the Boy Scouts and prepare now for this event next month: The worldwide Boy Scouts Jamboree On The Air/Jamboree On the Internet is taking place during the weekend of October 16 through 18th. The call sign of K2BSA will be in use in nearly every call district in the U.S. for this year's Jamboree, Scouting's 58th such event.

The Jamboree is the world's largest scouting event. According to the World Scout Bureau, more than 1 million Scouts were involved last year, reaching 157 countries, operating from 11,500 stations. Nearly 20,000 amateurs worldwide also participated, giving their support, the bureau said.

While there are no merit badges for hams who register early for this year's Jamboree, it's recommended. Hams are asked to contact their local Scout councils to either work with an established special station, or set one up using your own shack.

From ARNEWSLINE

THE REAL THING: ERIKA'S STORM OF DAMAGE

The cleanup continues in Dominica, where Tropical Storm Erika was bearing down in late August. Part of that recovery work has included setting up emergency telecommunications equipment, deployed recently by the International Telecommunication Union. Satellite phones, solar chargers, laptops, and Broadband Global Area Networks are being used to help coordinate relief efforts and keep communication lines open while communities count their losses from flooding and landslides. Shortly after Erika subsided, the government declared nine disaster areas in the Caribbean island.

Kelver Darroux, Minister of Information, Science, Telecommunications and Technology, expressed his gratitude publicly, saying: QUOTE "Communication is vital in the aftermath of any disaster. The emergency telecommunication equipment we have received from ITU brings us a step closer in our recovery process."ENDQUOTE

Brahima Sanou, director of the ITU's telecommunications development bureau, added: QUOTE "After a natural disaster, not a single life should be lost because of the break down in telecommunication services. The emergency communication equipment sent by ITU will provide vital links to coordinate relief and rescue efforts in Dominica."ENDQUOTE

ITU Press Release

Belews Triathlon Photos

Ham participants were: Tim Key, W4ADC; Tamara Mansfield, KM4ENF; Paul Patterson, N4CE; Ralph Newcomb, N4RFX; Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE; Tim Walker, WD4GXD; and Furman Lanier, WD4MKU. Thanks to Tim Walker for the photos.

