



*Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*



N4IV

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The RockingHAMmer News

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President's Corner

Greetings to all! I hope each of you had a wonderful 4th of July holiday with family and friends, celebrating another anniversary of the birth of our great nation. With vacation over the last week of June, we were pretty worn out here at the QTH and used the time to get caught up on things around the house.

After 50-some years, I finally made my first trip to Washington D.C., and I must say it is an amazing place to visit. Most of us ham people are at least a little bit techie, so Smithsonian Air & Space museum was right up my alley. Seriously, I could have spent days in there looking at all the displays, and it was really interesting to see the radio technology reflected in many of the exhibits. I will add though, I have never walked so much in my entire life!

I mentioned it last month, but I want to remind everyone that our July meeting will be at our new location. Please join in at The Salvation Army Community Center, 708 Barnes Street in Reidsville at our normal time of 7 pm. This will be our first opportunity to meet in the new location, and I really would like to see a great turn out to show them how appreciative we are of their offer to host us. I know Tim Walker, WD4GXD, has been working on another great presentation for our tech topic, so you won't want to miss that!

Next, I'd like to ask you to attend for another very important meeting. In preparation for filing as a 501c3 tax exempt organization with the IRS, we need to make a few changes to our Articles of Incorporation, albeit relatively minor updates. We need to have a quorum to hold a valid vote, so I need some bodies in the building to do that! I summarized the necessary updates last month, but here it is again so you'll recall. The IRS specifically requires that we have wording that says we will not engage in any for-profit endeavors and that any club assets will only be used for exempt purposes should our organization ever liquidate. There are a couple other minor wording corrections that I've found going through, so I will cover those along with it. Once done, these changes must be filed with the NC Secretary of State before we file with the IRS hand.

147.345 Repeater Update:

We received two additional pledges for the repeater repair fund since last month! Thanks to Furman, WD4MKU for a pledge, and Paul, N4CE for selling unneeded equipment at the Firecracker Hamfest that brought in another \$140! Both efforts are very much appreciated!

Folks, we still have a ways to go to be fully prepared before making arrangements to get the work done. This is a load that needs to be shared amongst all of our members to keep things moving – I can't keep asking the same people to handle more of the load for the rest of us to reap the enjoyment. As I said last month, I personally ask each one of you to make a pledge no matter how large or how small! Please think about how you can participate – not every donation has to be huge - even \$25 helps. The fact is we still do not have enough funding to get the repeater working well - and it will continue to get worse unless we do something about it. That is a responsibility we all share. We still have to raise about \$1000 more, so if you are not listed, please email me at president@n4iv.org to make your pledge. I would like to recognize the following individuals for making their pledges:

Furman Lanier
Bob Wiggins
Jim Clark

George Brewer
Jamey Nixon
Paul Patterson

Trey Belton
Bill Bennett
Bill Schwiegeraht

Tim Walker
Mike Mansfield

& 73 to all and we'll see you Tuesday night!
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

Breakfasts

Henry Pollock Memorial Breakfast - Tuesday – 7:00 am, The Farmer's Table, Reidsville
Thursday – 7:00 am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville

RCARC Meeting

The RCARC meets the 3rd Tuesday night of the month. The July meeting will be 7pm at The Salvation Army facility on 708 Barnes Street in Reidsville, NC.

W4CA Roanoke Hamfest

On Saturday, August the 5th, the Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club will sponsor an ARRL Hamfest at the Vinton Moose Lodge located at 2127 East Washington Avenue in Vinton, VA 24179. Website: <http://w4ca.com> Sponsor: Roanoke Valley Amateur Radio Club Talk-In: 146.985 -600 (PL 107.2) Public Contact: Nancy Wood, KG4ETP 1434 Brooks Avenue Roanoke, VA 24014 Phone: 540-330-7101 Email: woodest2003@cox.net

19th Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Swapfest

The Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society will sponsor an ARRL Hamfest on Saturday, August the 12th at the Cumberland County Shrine Club located on 7040 Ramsey Street in Fayetteville, NC 28301. Website: <http://www.cfarsnc.org> Talk-In: 146.91 (PL 100) Public Contact: David Cowart, KR4OE 637 E. Raynor Drive Fayetteville, NC 28311. Phone: 910-624-1394 Email: kr4oe@nc.rr.com

FreeGate 2017

Qorvo Amateur Radio Club presents a free tailgate swapfest! No admission fee and no space rental! A paved parking lot and indoor toilets will be provided. You provide everything else: tables, canopies, power, drinks, food and merchandise. September 23, 2017 starting 8:00 AM at the Qorvo Headquarters (formerly RFMD) back parking lot only, 7628 Thorndike Rd. Greensboro, NC 27409. This is not a rain or shine event. Check back in the event of inclement weather. Website is <http://kd4rf.org/> . Talk-in is 145.250MHz, PL 88.5Hz. For more information, contact info@kd4rf.org .



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 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|

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 Triad area including Greensboro, Winston, Salem, and High Point. The Virginia area number is 540-552-0497.

AREA NETS

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter 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.

Thursday 8:15PM RCARC - DIGITAL 147.345 MHz YSF C4FM

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 with the Yaesu System Fusion in the C4FM digital mode.

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 |

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 "Preregistration Only" basis. The preregistration must be received by the Monday prior to the scheduled test date. Applicants should call Dal Williams, W4YQY at 336-627-7076 for preregistration info and details.

In Memory of RCARC Silent Key (Things I Remember, K4RVJ)

William Scott

Bill, W4SIX, S K, 4-25-12, "A 6-meter man" Bill had several health issues that prevented him from his participation with many club activities. His wife supported him by bringing him to the weekly breakfast and club events. He loved to be around other club members.

Radio Equipment Sale

1. Wilson Electronics Corp., Model SY-3, 3 Element Tri band Antenna (10, 15, 20M).
2. WEC, Model SY-1, 5 Element Tri band Antenna (10, 15, 20M)
3. Crushcraft, Model AV-4 Vertical HF Antenna (40 through 10M)
4. Crushcraft, Model A28-4, 10M, 4 Element Beam
5. Hy-gain, Model 14AVO/WB-5, 40, 20, 15, 10M Trap Vertical

Please contact Sharon Marshall of 520 S. Woodberry Ave. Danville, Va. 434-793-0772.

RCARC Field Day 2017

If you didn't make it out to this year's field day, you missed a fun and productive event. The club set up at the American Red Cross and operated class "2F" during the Field day weekend. Our club was active on phone and CW making over 300 contacts. We didn't have a cook-out social, but a group did meet at the Golden Corral in Reidsville. Here are some pics from our Field Day.

Paul, N4CE



Thanks to Paul, N4CE and Tim, WD4GXD for the pictures.

SETTING THE STAGE FOR NEW ZEALAND SATELLITE

New Zealand has more than just the America's Cup to be proud of: the nation has its own first satellite, KiwiSAT, and it's just about ready for prime time. Well, it does need a few more team members to see the project through. Awaiting its launch after a series of setbacks, the satellite known as KiwiSAT has delivered a message to the New Zealand amateur community: Take me to your leader. The amateur radio satellite is at its staging point, ready to transport a payload of big hopes and dreams for New Zealand's ham community as the nation's first satellite. The on-again, off-again project has suffered from a variety of obstacles over the years but AMSAT-ZL is hoping to get it into orbit at last. Organizers have been collecting names of KiwiSAT members and other amateurs who have stepped forward to serve as launch coordinator or part of the support team working with the coordinator. There is already an engineering team prepared to move forward so the priority for now has been to conduct environmental testing of KiwiSAT and then tend to the details of launch timing, coordination and funding. The project has also been in search of a new leader of the engineering team who can take up the reins from Fred Kennedy ZL1BYP, who has stepped down due to medical issues.

(NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION OF RADIO TRANSMITTERS)

MUSEUM-QUALITY QSOs IN TENNESSEE

Youngsters in Oak Ridge, Tennessee who got on the air for ARRL Kids Day had QSOs that were true museum-quality contacts. That's because the kids, who ranged in age from 4 to 11, were operating from inside the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge. Every third Sunday afternoon of the month, the Oak Ridge Amateur Radio Club hosts its amateur radio outreach day for the kids and in June that happened to coincide with ARRL's Kids Day on June 18. The youngsters learned - and transmitted - their names in Morse code, learned a little bit of radio science and then keyed their mics and got on the air.

The event took place in the museum's Discovery Lab - a great place for kids to discover the magic of radio. Jim Bogard KY4L, said the museum and the amateur radio club have a longstanding relationship with one another and recently signed a memorandum of understanding that may eventually lead to a permanent amateur radio exhibit at the museum. Jim said the concept would include an operating amateur radio station as well as equipment used during World War II when Oak Ridge was founded during the Manhattan Project.

Meanwhile, he said the museum and the ham club are looking forward to the next Amateur Radio Outreach day for youngsters, which will be Sunday July 16th.

(OAK RIDGE TODAY NEWSPAPER)

HURRICANE SEASON COMES STORMING IN

June the first marks the official start of the 2017 Hurricane Season which continues through November the 30th. In an average season, based on data from 1981 to 2010, twelve named tropical cyclones should be expected, with six of these reaching hurricane intensity and three developing into major hurricanes. The outlook is a general guide to the overall activity during the upcoming hurricane season. It is not a seasonal hurricane landfall forecast nor does it predict levels of activity for any particular location. The official NOAA 2017 Hurricane Season Outlook indicates a 45 percent probability of an above-normal season. The outlook calls for between 11 and 17 named storms. This already includes pre-season Tropical Storm Arlene which occurred in April. Of these named storms, between five and nine could reach hurricane intensity, with between two and four of these becoming a major hurricane. FEMA is encouraging residents and businesses to prepare by understanding the risks, planning for the entire family and downloading the FEMA app. The app contains important information on what to do before and after a hurricane. The app also allows users to receive weather alerts from NOAA's National Weather Service including life-saving safety tips. To learn more, go to www.hurricanes.gov.

(AMATEUR NEWS WEEKLY)

WORLD OF DX

In the World of DX, it's time to celebrate offshore broadcasting with special event station GB5RC, which will be on the air August third through seventh marking the long and colorful history of Radio Caroline. Be listening as seven operators from the Martello Tower Group call QRZ aboard the Ross Revenge which is moored in the River Blackwater near Bradwell-on-Sea in Essex. The special event station is also encouraging Short Wave Listening. Operations will be primarily on 80m, 40m and 20m and the hams are also hoping for operation on 17m, 15m, 12m and 10m if conditions favor it.

Texas amateur John W5JON is operating on the Caribbean island of St. Kitts and calling as V47JA until the 5th of August. Listen for him on the HF bands, 160 meters to 6 meters on single sideband and also listen for him during the IOTA contest at the end of July. Send QSLs to his home call sign.

Be listening for Pierre VE3KTB who will be using the call sign VY0ERC through the 22nd of July as he operates from Ellesmere Island where the Eureka Amateur Radio Club has a station. In addition to a contact, working Pierre will count as NA-008 for the IOTA award. Pierre's QSL manager is M0OXO.

(RADIO CAROLINE, IRISH RADIO TRANSMITTERS SOCIETY)