



*Rockingham County  
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*



**N4IV**

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N8KSG

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# *The RockingHAMmer News*

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

**March 2018**

**Vol. 16 No. 3**

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

## **President's Corner**

Greetings everyone! Yes, Spring is right around the corner, but old man winter had to give us one more small blast this week! It felt lonely Tuesday morning when I didn't find any of the regular breakfast group on the air when I left for work. Fortunately, I was soon joined by the regular members of the commute group since the snow we got on Monday wasn't quite enough to shut down operations at our places of employment.

I really enjoyed our social last Saturday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. We had an excellent turnout with 23 members and guests present for our quarterly dinner at El Parral in Eden. As usual, the food was good and the company was even better.

Hamfest season has arrived and is going into high gear. With Charlotte just behind, we have Raleigh in early April, Catawba Valley (Morganton) in late April, our RCARC Swapfest in early May, then Winston-Salem in June. If you need supplies or just want to meet other hams, now is the time!

Please remember, that Roger, W4AYO, our club VP and organizer of the programs we enjoy at our meetings is in need of folks to provide topics for upcoming months. Consider doing a presentation on an operating or technical topic and email him at [rdjoyner@joyner.ws](mailto:rdjoyner@joyner.ws) to help out. The club works for you, but the club also needs you to work!

Remember that with the social held on March 10<sup>th</sup>, there is no club meeting on Tuesday the 20<sup>th</sup> this month. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be on Tuesday April 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7 p.m., Salvation Army Building, 708 Barnes St. in Reidsville. As always, I hope to see a great turnout for the meeting!

73,  
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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 April 17th, 2018 meeting will be 7pm at the Salvation Army facility on 708 Barnes Street in Reidsville, NC.

#### **North Carolina State Convention (Raleigh Hamfest)**

On March 31st, 2018, the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society will sponsor a hamfest/convention at the Jim Graham Building located at 1025 Blue Ridge Road, Raleigh, NC 27601  
Website: <http://rars.org/hamfest> Talk-In: 146.640 (no PL tone) Public Contact: Chuck Littlewood, K4HF, 8311 Hampshire Place, Apt. 103 Raleigh, NC 27613 Phone: 919-872-6555  
Email: [k4hf@arrl.net](mailto:k4hf@arrl.net)

#### **Rockingham County ARC Swapfest**

On May the 12th, 2018 the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club will be sponsoring an ARRL Hamfest at Community Baptist Church located on 509 Triangle Road, Reidsville, NC 27320. Website: <http://n4iv.org> Talk-In: 147.345 (PL -103.5) Public Contact: Roger Joyner, W4AYO 14947 NC Highway 87 North Eden, NC 27288 Phone: 336-549-1222 Email: [rdjoyner@joyner.ws](mailto:rdjoyner@joyner.ws)



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). 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) . 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 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

## **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC HIGHLIGHTS YL'S SPACE RECORD**

Space is the ultimate DX, and one astronaut with a special claim to fame in the sky just got her own cover story here on Earth. Even though she no longer has an active ham radio license, research biochemist Peggy Whitson has something that's perhaps just as good - a national record. The March edition of National Geographic magazine celebrates the International Space Station astronaut who last April surpassed the record for spending the cumulative time in space. In April 2017, she beat astronaut Jeff Williams' record of 534 days. Peggy also has the distinction of being the first woman to serve twice as commander of the ISS.

The Iowa native, who turned 58 on February 9th, had been a Technician class operator with the call sign KC5ZTD (until its expiration) which the FCC website lists as 2007. She remains, however, the longest-serving American in space -- and that record is expected to last quite some time.

*(NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC)*

## **WORLD OF DX**

In the World of DX, Dom, M1KTA, is operating as C6AKT from Eleuthera Island between the 8th and 17th of March. He is operating mainly QRP using CW on 80/40/20/15/10 meters. He expects to participate in the Commonwealth Contest on March 10th and 11th. Visit his QRZ page for his contest schedule. QSL via his call sign M1KTA, direct, by the Bureau, ClubLog's OQRS or LoTW.

Listen for Hardy/DL3KWF and YL Rosel/DL3KWR operating as CT9/DL3KWF and CT9/DL3KWR respectively from Madeira between the 8th of March and the 5th of April. They expect to spend the most time on 30/17/12 meters and will be using CW. You can also try listening for them on 60 meters. QSL via home call signs, direct, by the Bureau (also via E-mail request), eQSL or LoTW.

Later this month, be listening for Hartwig, DL7BC, who will arrive in French Guiana around the 12th of March. He will be active as FY/DL7BC/p after that and most likely will return home on the 26th of March. Listen for him as TO2BC during the BARTG HF RTTY contest on March 17-18th and the CQWW WPX SSB on March 24th and 25th. Outside the contests, his call sign will remain FY/DL7BC/p on 40 through 10 meters. QSL via his home callsign, direct, by the Bureau, Club's OQRS or LoTW.

*(OHIO PENN DX)*

## **ARRL Invites Nominations for Six Awards**

ARRL invites nominations for awards that recognize educational and technological pursuits in Amateur Radio. Nominations are also open for the League's premier award to honor a young licensee — the Hiram Percy Maxim Award.

- The Hiram Percy Maxim Award recognizes a radio amateur and ARRL member under age 21 whose accomplishments and contributions are of the most exemplary nature within the framework of Amateur Radio activities. Nominations for this award need to be made through the nominator's ARRL Section Manager, who will forward the nomination to ARRL Headquarters by March 31, 2018.

- The ARRL Herb S. Brier Instructor of the Year Award honors an ARRL volunteer Amateur Radio instructor or an ARRL professional classroom teacher who uses creative instructional approaches and reflects the highest values of the Amateur Radio community. The award highlights quality of, and commitment to, licensing instruction. Nominations are due by March 15, 2018.
- The ARRL Microwave Development Award pays tribute to a radio amateur or group of radio amateurs who contribute to the development of the Amateur Radio microwave bands. The nomination deadline is March 31, 2018.
- The ARRL Technical Service Award recognizes a radio amateur or group of radio amateurs who provide Amateur Radio technical assistance or training to others. The nomination deadline is March 31, 2018.
- The ARRL Technical Innovation Award is granted to a radio amateur or group of radio amateurs who develop and apply new technical ideas or techniques in Amateur Radio. The nomination deadline is March 31, 2018.
- The Knight Distinguished Service Award was established to recognize exceptionally notable contributions by a Section Manager to the health and vitality of the ARRL. The nomination deadline is April 30, 2018.

The ARRL Board of Directors selects recipients for these awards. Winners are typically announced following the Board's July meeting. [More information](#) about these awards is available on the ARRL website, or by contacting [Steve Ewald, WV1X](#), telephone (860) 594-0265, at ARRL Headquarters.

*(ARRL Website)*

### **National Hurricane Conference in Late March to Include Amateur Radio Session**

The annual [National Hurricane Conference](#) is set for March 26 – 29, in Orlando, Florida. The theme this year is “Improving Hurricane Preparedness.” Some 1,500 attendees are expected. The Amateur Radio session will take place on Tuesday, March 27, at 10:30 AM. Presenters will address various aspects of the Amateur Radio response to hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness Manager Mike Corey, KI1U, will discuss ARRL's unprecedented mission to Puerto Rico to support the American Red Cross in the wake of Hurricane Maria, considered to be the worst natural disaster of all time for Dominica and Puerto Rico.

A National Hurricane Center representative will discuss the importance of Amateur Radio surface reports to the hurricane forecasting process. Other presentation topics will cover the operations of several groups during the 2017 hurricane season, including WX4NHC, the National Hurricane Center Amateur Radio station; the Hurricane Watch Net; the VoIP Hurricane Net; the Canadian Hurricane Centre; the Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network (SATERN), and best practices in SKYWARN activations.

The Amateur Radio session is typically open to hams, free of charge.

[\(ARES E-Letter\)](#)