



*Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.*



N4IV

**President
Bill Schwiegeraht
N8KSG**

**Vice-President
Roger Joyner
W4AYO**

**Treasurer
Paul Patterson
N4CE**

**Secretary
Trey Belton
W4SH**

The RockingHAMmer News

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President's Corner

Hello RCARC Members,

Well, how quickly does time fly. This will be the last newsletter written by me, and I'm sure that may be a welcome change to a few out there! In all honesty, for the first few years, writing the monthly message was generally an easy, simple thing to do. But as many of you have heard me say, for the last two years, it has been harder to come up with something meaningful each month, and I have come to view the writing of the President's Message as the most difficult task that I have as the RCARC President.

I will assure you, though I may serve in alternate capacity, I will certainly remain an active and engaged member of the club. I've said since the beginning, the RCARC and its path forward will be determined by the members and where they want to take the club, and that will be just as true going forward as ever. It will be critical to ensure that path forward by giving our full support to the team of officers as we transition.

Effective January 1st, the RCARC Officers will be...

- Tim Walker – President
- Roger Joyner – Vice President
- Secretary – Jamey Nixon
- Treasurer – Paul Patterson

These fine gentlemen were elected at the November meeting and will take their positions soon. Please be prepared to give your full support by your presence, your talents, and your service. I'd also like to thank the general membership for turning out well for the November meeting. We easily had a quorum which gave the ability to hold an election in the first place!

As I look back, I think about all things we've accomplished together over the last 5 years.

- Our agreement with iHeart Communications was solidified and formalized after concern over long-term viability of our position on the tower. We continue to have a strong advocate in Fred Pace, Site Engineer for iHeart.
- RCARC was one of the first clubs to take advantage of Yaesu System Fusion repeaters, upgrading both of our machines.
- 147.345 is still the only Wires-X System Fusion machine in the area.
- RCARC is now a 501c3 tax-exempt non-profit.
- After years of slow decline in performance with no hope to afford a repair, 147.345 appeared to be headed for a long, slow death. RCARC members got behind a fundraising plan, and in a little over one year, we exceeded our goal and have a healthy capital fund still in place.
- A new antenna and feedline were installed on the Lowe Rd site (147.345) and will serve the club well for many years.
- With the loss of the Red Cross facility for a meeting space, a new relationship has been formed with The Salvation Army. The new chapter leader seems very eager to have us meeting at their facility.
- The 166.85 machine was moved to Annie Penn Hospital. While its footprint is small in comparison to 147.345, it has made a significant improvement over the former location at The Red Cross.
- RCARC membership has grown to over 40 paid members!
- After a long hiatus, VE testing has returned to Rockingham County.

All of these things have been made possible by each of you. Your time, talents, and financial support have positioned the club for continued progress well into the future! Take time to thank yourselves and each other as we head into the year 2020. I am excited to see what comes next!

Remember to **mark your calendar for the club social on December 14th at Ruby Tuesday in Eden.** The event begins at 6pm. There will be no regular club meeting on the 3rd Tuesday as the social takes its place. Our next club meeting will be in the new year on Tuesday, January 21st at 7 pm. As customary, we will meet at the Salvation Army building at 708 Barnes St.

73, Bill, N8KSG

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You can click on the title above and you can jump to that section without scrolling.

CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

11-19-19

RCARC Minutes

Bill N8KSG called the meeting to order at 7pm
Trey W4SH read the minutes. Approved
Paul N4CE read the Treasury Report. Approved

Committee Reports:

ARES/Skywarn:
No report

Publicity:

The next social is December 14th at Ruby Tuesday in Eden from 6-8pm

Swapfest:

Paul N4CE asked the members about any interest in having a Swapfest again next year. The Club members that were present decided to have one in 2020 and again using a donation as the entry fee. Unless there is an issue, it will be held at the same location as this year.

Historian:

No report

Equipment:

Bill N8KSG passed around the current club inventory list and asked for any corrections to be noted.

Technical:

No issues with either repeater have been reported in the last month.

Bill N8KSG mentioned that if the club wanted to keep the internet at the 147.345 site for WiresX, the members would need to decide if the Club wanted to pay for it or not next year. The current cost is \$45 a month. This will be discussed further at the January meeting.

Old Business

VE Test session on November 16th went well with one examinee upgrading. The VE Team hopes to continue this at least once per quarter.

Since a quorum was present, the members voted to accept the nominations for Club Officers presented at the October meeting.

The Club Officers for 2020 are as follows:

Tim Walker, WD4GXD President
Roger Joyner W4AYO Vice President

Jamey Nixon K4RVJ Secretary
Paul Patterson N4CE Treasurer

New Business

Furman WD4MKU and Roger W4AYO volunteered to be on the Audit Committee for the Club's finances

Program

Paul N4CE gave a program on Slow Scan TV

Motion to Adjourn

Made by Jamey K4RVJ at 7:50pm

****** 2019 Membership Drive ******

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2019. At only \$25, RCARC membership is a bargain, and your renewal is CRITICAL to maintaining the activities and club repeater. We have been averaging about 35 paid memberships the last couple years, and many active hams just simply forget to renew, and this creates a strain on predicting how our needs will be met. Please bring a check to the January meeting to renew, or better yet - put your renewal in the mail to the PO box listed at the top of the newsletter today. Thanks!

Thanks to the following Amateurs who have renewed their RCARC membership for 2019. Your continued support is appreciated!

Received as of August 19, 2019. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign

N4JRA	N1YBH	K2CPR	N8KSG
KK4IFG	N2ECS	KF4LIK*	N3UZ
W4SH	KE4WSF	KF4KPM*	KJ4WRE
N4ZZC*	KN4ODM*	WB4VVY	KN4BBA
W4SIX	W4AYO	N4RFX	KK4KFG
WA4LTY	WD4MKU	K4RVJ	W3EBM*
KJ4ANA	KN4PUN	WA4RDX	WD4GXD
WF4I	KJ4FWT	N4CE	KN4NBH
N4SOI	WA43RFE*	KG4CRJ	KX4IQ
KF4HX	KN4AWV	KI4PRU	AF4TZ

Honorary Members: W4WBP WB4JYC

This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club. Computer / internet 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 1st Tuesday of each month.

73, The Editor (n4rfx.1@gmail.com)

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 usually meets on the 3rd Tuesday night of the month. The January 15th, 2019 meeting will be 7 p.m. at the Salvation Army facility at 708 Barnes Street in Reidsville, NC.

Club Socials

RCARC holds a social once per quarter. For 2019 we will gather at Ruby Tuesday in Eden at 6:00 p.m., enjoying dinner together after a few brief announcements. Planned dates for 2010 are March 9, June 8, Sept. 14, December 14, all being Saturdays. Please remember that there is no regular 3rd Tuesday club meeting during the month.

Upcoming Hamfests



Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: skywarn.org.

Blacksburg SKYWARN conducts a weekly net one Wednesday evenings at 9pm on 146.745 as well as numerous other linked repeaters in SW VA, Northern NC and SE WV. The net is available on Echolink via KF4YLM-R. All stations, regardless of prior SKYWARN training or experience, are welcome. The net provides SKYWARN spotters with information on training events, spotting tools, and severe weather potentials in the Blacksburg County Warning Area.

The full list of FM repeaters on which this net runs is:

146.745 T107.2 K1GG/R Roanoke/Poor Mtn
147.225 T100.0 KF4YLM/R Lewisburg, WV
145.130 T103.5 N4VL/R Galax/Mt. Airy
145.410 T103.5 N4VL/R Roanoke/Poor Mtn
444.600 T103.5 N4VL/R Pulaski
147.420 T103.5 N4VL/L (simplex) Big Walker Mtn / Wythe Co.



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

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 internet, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: weather.gov . Weather forecast on a mobile device: mobile.weather.gov or cell.weather.gov

RCARC Club Nets

Monday 8:00 PM RCARC System Fusion Ragchew, 147.345 MHz, C4FM mode
This is a weekly informal net conducted in Yaesu C4FM digital mode to promote its use.
Please put your radio in fixed C4FM "VW" Mode.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter FM 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 8:00 PM RCARC System Fusion Ragchew, 147.345 MHz, C4FM mode
This is a weekly informal net conducted in Yaesu C4FM digital mode to promote its use. **Please put your radio in fixed C4FM "VW" Mode.**

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 442.86250 N.C. D-Star Net (W4GSO) REF054C or
- 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
- 7:30pm Piedmont Triad Traffic Net 145.250, 88.5 Hz

Other Amateur Radio News That May be of Interest

FCC EXPLORES REMOVING HAMS' ACCESS TO 3.4 GHz

JIM/ANCHOR: Our top story this week comes from Washington, D.C. The FCC is looking to make more of the spectrum available for next generation wireless networks by removing non-federal allocations, including amateur radio access, between 3.3 GHz and 3.55 GHz. The federal agencies issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, or NPRM, on November 21st, announcing its intentions.

The FCC is looking for comment about amateur use of that part of the spectrum. Noting that 3.40-3.41 GHz is used for amateur satellite transmitting and receiving, the agency is also looking for input on whether satellites can operate instead on other amateur satellite bands.

(FCC.GOV)

SATELLITE OPERATIONS 'SET SAIL' ON THE QUEEN MARY

JIM/ANCHOR: Ham Radio Day is also Satellite Radio Day on the Queen Mary, as we hear from Neil Rapp WB9VPG.

NEIL: The vastness of space and the depth of the planet's blue waters converge on the 14th of December as satellite communications plays a part in a Ham Radio Day aboard the legendary Queen Mary. The on-air event will include satellite operations from the Sports Deck of the ocean liner, which is at the Port of Long Beach in California. Hams in the area who wish to visit the ship can take part as guest operators. Bring a copy of your amateur license and get on board for free that day.

The Queen Mary is at the Port of Long Beach in California, which is grid DM03vs (DEE EM ZERO THREE vee ess).

The event is being hosted by the Associated Radio Amateurs of Long Beach. The day's activities will also include displays of the ship's vintage maritime radio equipment, and demonstrations of satellite ham radio that will include contacts made using satellites in orbit. Visitors will also see how ham radio "go kits" work.

If you can't get there but are successful in making contact with operators on that day, you can receive a QSL card. For information, visit the QRZ.Com page of W6RO.

For Amateur Radio Newslines I'm Neil Rapp WB9VPG