



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



President
Tim Walker
WD4GXD

Vice-President
Roger Joyner
W4AYO

Treasurer
Paul Patterson
N4CE

Secretary
Jamey Nixon
K4RVJ

The RockingHAMmer News

Post Office Box 2264, Reidsville, North Carolina, 27323

June 2020

Vol. 18 No. 6

www.n4iv.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings;

Thanks to all who “attended” the May club meeting via radio and by virtual meeting. Special thanks to Bill (N8KSG) for his presentation of the ins and outs of the club's 147.345 repeater site. Our next club business meeting is scheduled for July 21st. Please take note of the club's participation in ARRL Field Day on June 27 and 28, 2020 at Jim Smith's (N3UZ) facility, 660 Butter Road, Wentworth. Thanks to Mike (WA3RFE), Paul (N4CE) and Jim for making these preparations. The club social this month will be the Field Day activity. Lastly, we were all shocked to learn of the passing of our friend George (WA4LTY). George was an active ham and an over-all great person. We're already conscious of his absence in our lives and on the air.

73s Tim (WD4GXD)

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

| PAGE | CONTENT |
|-------|---|
| 1 - 2 | President's Corner |
| 2 - 3 | Club News & Meeting Minutes |
| 4 | Events |
| 5 | Skywarn, NOAA / NWS |
| 6 | Net Information |
| 7 - 9 | General Amateur Radio News |
| | |

***The content headings are now hyperlinks to the specific content.
You can click on the title above and you can jump to that section without scrolling.

CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

Minutes from RCARC May 19, meeting

Due to COVID-19 virus most regular club events have been affected.

The May meeting was held on 147.345, and Google meet, as a “virtual meeting” Bill, N8KSG had the program (a comprehensive look at our 147.345 repeater) which included the location, and newly installed antenna and feed-line, pictures of all equipment, and described their functions.

On the air introductions 9 with 4 others joining latter.

Old Business:

Field-day will be held at Jim’s Garage (N3UZ) on Butter Road, if you have equipment or antennas please contact Mike WA3RFE.

The 146.850 repeater is still down, Patrick N2CPR will check the problem.

Bill N8KSG got permission to use the tower site internet for our Wires-X.

Paul, N4CE got this year’s officers up-dated for Non-Profit.

New Business:

Our Social/Meeting for June 13 (will depend on the virus restrictions)

Jim, N3UZ is waiting on word from W5YI for remote V E testing, also looking at doing a test session under present restrictions.



Field Day June 27th and 28th

We are planning on holding this year's Field Day at Jim N3UZ's Barn. Thanks Jim! Set up will start at 9:am on the 27th.

Paul N4CE is bring the CW station, and ill bring a digital Station. Terry KI4KPM is also bringing a HF rig we can use for voice.

I only have a 20M vertical and Terry has a 10m antenna. if anyone has and multi-band antennas, radios, coax we can use please let me know.

Thanks & 73

Mike WA3RFE



June Grass Mowers Convention at the 147.345 repeater site. Shown are Mike "Have Blade Will Travel" (WA3RFE), Paul (N4CE) and Tim (WD4GXD)

**** 2020 Membership Drive ****

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2020. 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 May 6, 2020. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign

| | | | |
|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| N4JRA | N1YBH | KF4KPM | N8KSG |
| KK4IFG | N2ECS | N4RFX | N3UZ* |
| W4SH | KE4WSF | K4RVJ | N3WKW |
| W4SIX | WD4MKU | WA4RDX | KN4BBA |
| WA4LTY | WA43RFE | N4CE | W3EBM |
| KJ4ANA | KF4LIK | KI4PRU | WD4GXD |
| W4AYO | | | |

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

07/11/2020 - Firecracker Hamfest

Location: Salisbury, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Rowan Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.rowanars.com>

07/18/2020 - 47th Annual Cary Mid-Summer SWAPFEST

Location: Cary, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cary Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://caryarc.org>

07/18/2020 - 47th Annual Cary Mid-Summer SWAPFEST

Location: Cary, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cary Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://caryarc.org>

07/25/2020 - ~~CANCELED~~ - WCARS Hamfest

Location: Waynesville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.wcars.org/wcarshamfest.htm>

Learn More

Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds

08/02/2020 - ~~CANCELED~~ - 70th Annual Berryville Hamfest

Location: Berryville, VA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://www.svarc.us/hamfest>

Learn More

Cumberland County Shrine Club

08/08/2020 - 22nd Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Swapfest

Location: Fayetteville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.cfarsnc.org>

Learn More

New Baptist Church

08/08/2020 - Tri-State Amateur Radio Association's 58th Annual Hamfest

Location: Huntington, WV

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Tri-State Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Website: <http://www.qsl.net/W8VA>

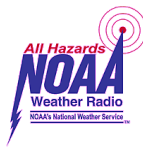


Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: skywarn.org.

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

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

OTHER AMATEUR RADIO NEWS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

BREAKING NEWS: HUNTSVILLE HAMFEST CANCELLED

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: We begin this week with breaking news. The Huntsville Hamfest, originally scheduled for August 22nd and 23rd in Alabama, has been cancelled, with organizers citing concerns over large public gatherings during the COVID-19 pandemic. Chairman Mark Brown N4BCD issued a statement on Thursday, June 4th, saying: "With deep sadness the Board has voted to cancel Huntsville Hamfest 2020. We make this decision for the safety of our visitors, vendors, and volunteers. We will be back and hope to see you back at "The World's Friendliest Hamfest"TM on August 21 and 22, 2021." Details about refunds are posted on the hamfest's Facebook page.

HISTORIC SPACE LAUNCH FROM U.S. SOIL

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: Our next story takes us to Florida's Kennedy Space Center, as U.S. astronauts lifted off for the first time from the launchpad there in nearly a decade. One of them is a ham. Andy Morrison K9AWM has that report.

ANDY: A new chapter in history turned for the world on Saturday, May 30th, when two NASA astronauts returned to space from American soil. For the ham radio community, it was a particular point of pride that one of the astronauts was Bob Behnken KE5GGX who joined fellow crew member Doug Hurley in the launch toward low-Earth orbit in what was the first commercially built and operated spacecraft. The Dragon crew capsule produced by Elon Musk's SpaceX company is designed to deliver people instead of just cargo to the International Space Station.

The two astronauts are now part of the Expedition 63 crew aboard the ISS, which has as its commander another ham radio operator: NASA astronaut Chris Cassidy KF5KDR.

For Amateur Radio Newslines, I'm Andy Morrison K9AWM.

TEMPORARY WAIVERS GRANTED FOR FIELD DAY HOME STATIONS

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: Temporary rule waivers adopted in late May have kept ARRL Field Day on the amateur radio calendar this year despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The need for quarantine and social distancing forced many clubs to drop their plans to participate in one of the year's biggest and most anticipated events on June 27th and 28th. The two waivers being put in place will allow Class D stations - known as "home stations" - to receive credit for contact with other Class D stations, something previously not allowed. Under the second waiver, hams operating in any class have the option to include their club or group's name when they submit their results. Without such a waiver, Field Day rules would only permit club names to be included in results for Class A and Class F stations.