



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. INC.



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The RockingHAMmer News

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings,

This month, October, the club will conduct a regular business meeting on October 20, 2020. We will meet again in Jim's (N3UZ) "barn" at 660 Butter Road in Wentworth at 7 PM (the Salvation Army's Community Center on Barnes Street in Reidsville will remain closed to everyone through the end of December 2020). On the agenda for October is a report from the nominations committee for 2021 club officers and a discussion on our club's wishes for a December social. As always, tune in to the Monday evening net on 147.345 repeater for any last-minute changes. See you at the meeting.

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

No meeting minutes, September 12, 2020 was a social.

Jim has set the next **V E test session** date for **November 21, 9am**, at his QTH.

New licensees from the September 12th Testing Session:

Congratulations to:

- Takeshi Aratake (KO4HLY)
- Phillip Poe (KO4HLZ)
- Chris LaRode (KO4HMH)
- Emily Watson (KO4HMA)
- David Koppel (KO4HMB)

September 12th Social Photos





**** **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 July 7, 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	KN4ODM	KJ4WRE	WF4I

Honorary Members: W4WBP WB4JYC

Please consider **renewing** your membership OR sharing the membership application with non-member local hams. Membership is open to all licensed amateurs. Dues are \$25 annually. To join, fill out the application below or speak with any of our members or officers for more information. Here's the link to the membership application: **[Membership Application](#)**

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
 - *NOTE: The Farmer's Table has re-opened*
- 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 2019 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

10/24/2020 - CARES 2020 Tailgate Hamfest

Location: Gaffney, SC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Carolina Amateur Radio Emergency Services

Editor's Note: Most all Hamfests and Conventions for the rest of 2020 have been cancelled within 250 miles of Rockingham County.

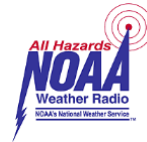


Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: skywarn.org.

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	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

ORLANDO HAMCATION 2021 CANCELLED

JIM/ANCHOR: We begin this week with word that Orlando HamCation has become the latest in a long line of cancelled amateur radio events around the world. The news came in a joint statement from the ARRL and HamCation organizers on the ARRL website and on Twitter on Monday, October 5th. The annual event, which was also to be the ARRL National Convention, has been moved to February 2022. Tickets already purchased can be used for HamCation 2022, can be donated to the Orlando Amateur Radio Club or can be refunded. Meanwhile, the in-person event is being replaced by a variety of webinars, a QSO party and some prize drawings for 2021. The event in central Florida is among the

nation's largest gathering points for hams. Reported attendance for this year was 24,200 over the course of the three days.

FCC REMOVES AMATEUR ACCESS TO 3.4 GHz BAND'S FREQUENCIES

JIM/ANCHOR: In a move that was not unexpected, the U.S. Federal Communications Commission has eliminated amateur radio use on the 3.4 GHz band. Kent Peterson KC0DGY has that report.

KENT: Amateur radio will no longer have use of the frequencies between 3.3 and 3.55 GHz. The FCC has acted to reallocate that portion of the spectrum for use of 5G services. Its action during the meeting on September 30th is part of the broader plan to make more of the spectrum available to commercial users by eliminating secondary user allocations such as ham radio operators. Hams and other users are being relocated to a band between 2.9 and 3.0 GHz on a secondary basis to federal government service operators.

The FCC is now seeking comment on how to sunset amateur use on 3.3 to 3.55 GHz and proceed with the relocation. The agency noted in a press release that its action is another move toward fulfilling a directive from Congress to free up spectrum for commercial and other purposes. The ARRL and AMSAT were among those who had spoken up against the move.

For Amateur Radio Newsline I'm Kent Peterson KC0DGY.

(SOUTHGATE, FCC)

RESEARCHERS CLAIM 'LIMITLESS' LOW-VOLTAGE POWER SOURCE

JIM/ANCHOR: Hams who operate portable, and even those who don't, are always in search of the "perfect" power source. Researchers are too – and Kevin Trotman N5PRE tells us about some findings from scientists in Arkansas.

KEVIN: Physicists at the University of Arkansas have created a circuit that they say can harvest the thermal motion inside graphene – an electrically conductive form of elemental carbon – and turn it into low-voltage electrical current to power sensors or small devices.

They also say the power is clean and limitless. They created the circuit by using two diodes to convert AC into DC. The pulsing DC current performs work on a load resistor.

The researchers claim the diodes have a symbiotic relationship with the graphene and increase the circuit's power. They believe that this project has proven that graphene's thermal motion at room temperature induces an alternating current in a circuit – an achievement that some physicists have said is not possible.

For Amateur Radio Newsline I'm Kevin Trotman N5PRE.

HAMS ON HIGH ALERT DURING SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

JIM/ANCHOR: Hams around the United States were on high alert on Saturday October 3rd and if the situations they faced felt a little unreal, that's because they were: The carefully scripted emergencies were part of a drill for the Simulated Emergency Test of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service. Christian Cudnik K0STH has that story.

CHRISTIAN: From Bedford County, Pennsylvania to Cherokee County, Georgia - and beyond - emergencies suddenly seemed real as first responders and amateur radio operators played it for keeps in the Simulated Emergency Test. The scenario there was a search for missing hikers in the woods.

Lloyd Roach K3QNT, public information officer of the Bedford County Amateur Radio Society, told WTAJ news that it was a chance to polish coordination skills with the area's firefighters, fire chiefs, police and even the search-and-rescue teams.

Hams in Northern Florida responded to a simulation in which excessive heat taxed the power grid, prompting the state to begin rolling blackouts. The focus there was on response to heatstroke patients and individuals with critical needs requiring hospital transport.

In Georgia, the Cherokee ARES group tackled a simulated earthquake rocking the state. Hams in Eau Claire Wisconsin responded to flooding evacuations and illness from polluted water, ARES members in Hawaii deployed EmComm stations for a simulated hurricane, communicating with shelters providing assistance.

In the days following the Simulated Emergency Test, organizers are expected to assess the activity and uncover any weaknesses in procedures and communications to better prepare for the real thing.

For Amateur Radio Newslines, I'm Christian Cudnik K0STH.