



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. INC.



President
Tim Walker
WD4GXD

Vice-President
Roger Joyner
W4AYO

Treasurer
Paul Patterson
N4CE

Secretary
Furman Lanier
WD4MKU

The RockingHAMmer News

Post Office Box 2264, Reidsville, North Carolina, 27323

April 2021

Vol. 19 No. 4

www.n4iv.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings;

Please plan to attend the club meeting on April 20, 2021 at 7 PM this month. We plan to meet at the Salvation Army Community Center, 708 Barnes Street, Reidsville. Please abide by the protective measures for in-person gatherings. We plan to begin preparations for June Field Day that will, hopefully, include some time for in-person social visits as well as a generous opportunity for over-the-air hamming. The program presentation planned this month is on the topic of effective, budget antennas for the new HF operator. Jim, N3UZ (VE Testing Coordinator), plans to offer another VE Test Session in May so hit the exam practice websites and prepare. And a special thanks to all the participants and volunteer in the VE program!

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

Due to the Guide Line on gathering inside due to Covid-19 our March Social was canceled and there was no meeting.

For another bit of news for those missing hamfest/swapfest: There is a Saturday swapfest in Raleigh once a month weather. Information can be gotten at QRZ.com by looking at AB4OZ's webpage for date and time. The next one will be on 17 April weather permitting.

Furman WD4MKU

HAM BOOTCAMP – GETTING STARTED WITH HAM RADIO

With so many new hams getting licensed and or upgraded, the link below can serve as a great resource to supplement what was learned in preparation for the exam. An electronic Elmer if you will. There are many areas not covered on the exam that contribute to learning and practicing good on-air techniques and courtesy.

<https://www.n1fd.org/ham-bootcamp/>

VE TESTING SESSION NEWS

**** Please note:**

*****ATTENTION FCC, VE CHANGES*****

If you or someone you know is looking to take their ham radio test, the FCC will no longer accept SSN on the 605s. It must be an FRN from now on. You can obtain an FRN without having a call.**

Note From Jim, N3UZ

This is the latest information that we have:

Schedule of Application Fees of the Commission's Rules

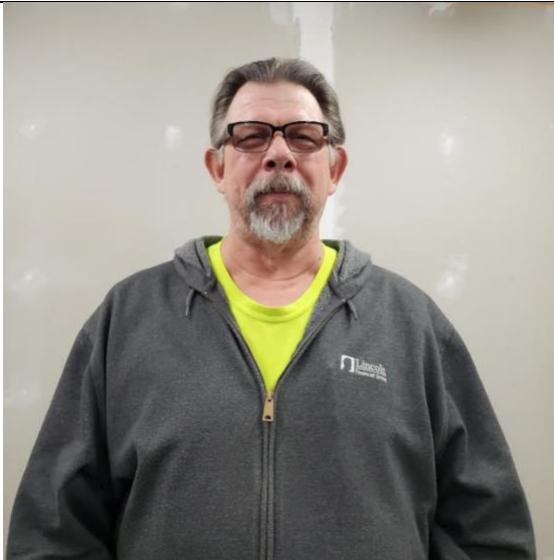
The final rule change was published in the Federal

Register: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2021/03/19/2021-03042/schedule-of-application-fees-of-the-commissions-rules>

Even though the rule has been published in the Federal Register and has an effective date of April 19, the Amateur Radio fees "will not take effect until the requisite notice has been provided to Congress, and the FCC's information technology systems and internal procedures have been updated" **which will most likely be in the summer.**

Thank you
Tracy Dye
W5YI VEC Manager

March 2021 VE Session Examinees



Charles Kahn, KO4OTI
Earned Technician License



Nathaniel Kuster, KO4OTJ
Earned Technician License



Dave Koppel, KO4HMB
Upgraded to General



Todd Huffines, KO4KWD
Upgraded to General

**** 2021 Membership Drive ****

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2021. 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 2020. Your continued support is appreciated!

Members as of April, 2021. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign					
N4JRA	KO4JRX	KN4YFA	KO4HLZ	KB4SHP	
KK4IFG	N2ECS	KF4LIK	KI4PRU	KN4BBA	
W4SH	KE4WSF	WB4VYV	N8KSG	WD4GXD	
W4SIX	KO4KWD	K4RVJ	KK1TLS	KN4NBH	
KJ4ANA	W4AYO	W4JLN	N3UZ	WK4O	
WF4I	KO4HMB	KJ4CIW	N3WKW	N4RFX	
N1YBH	WD4MKU	N4CE	KJ4WRE		
Honorary members:					
W4WBP					
WB4JYC					

Please consider **renewing** your membership AND 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**](#)

[Huge Equipment Sale](#) – New Hams, this is a great opportunity to get that shack set-up. From Dal Williams, W4YQY

This is a moving sale of all equipment of W4YQY located in Eden. Everything must be sold by May 10, 2021. All items must be picked up at home QTH. No delivery. No shipping. Call Dal at 336-932-5414. Best to email or text me the number you will be calling from due to the high number of spam calls, I usually will not answer and just let it go to voicemail. More odds and ends may be added. A lot of these items comes with original boxes and manuals. Specs of all items may be found online and has more details than I could answer

- 1- MFJ-986 antenna tuner \$150.00
- 2- Yaesu YS-2000 Peak reading wattmeter \$100.00
- 3- Heil IC headset & boom mic for Icoms \$100.00
- 4- Complete Station with the followings items: Icom 7800, Icom PW-1 amp, SteppIR DB-18 beam with SDA controller, HP 20" external monitor, Heil mic boom, Heil dual element GM5 mic, Heil foot switch, HyGain Tail Twister rotor w/controller, Rohn tower w/steel mast approx 50' height, Hazer w/thrust bearing \$10,000.00
- 5- Yaesu G800-SA rotor and controller \$225.00

- 6- Icom IC-756 Pro II w/ matching Icom power supply, Heil dual element Goldline GM4 mic, Heil mic boom, Heil foot switch \$1000.00
- 7- Ameratron AL-800H amp w/811 tubes \$700.00
- 8- Heil Icm mic for Icoms \$75.00
- 9- SteppIR CrankIR verticle w/80m option (perfect for portable operating, FD, camping, etc) with carry case and Tripod mount. Used once \$550.00
- 10- Signal Link USB 8 pin DIN interface (new) \$75.00
- 11- MFJ-269 antenna analyzer with Dip coil and MFJ case \$275.00
- 12- Ameratron RCS-8v remote antenna switch \$40.00
- 13- Baofeng UV-5 dualband HT \$30.00
- 14- Tilt-over single pole tower approx 50' (homemade) \$150.00
- 15- Heil Pro Set Plus headset w/dual element mic, Heil travel case \$120.00

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

Breakfast

HENRY POLLOCK MEMORIAL BREAKFAST and RCARC BREAKFAST will be held on WEDNESDAY'S at 7:00 am at the Sanitary restaurant, in Reidsville.

RCARC Meeting

Due to COVID-19 restrictions RCARC meetings normally held the 3rd Tuesday at 7 pm, at the Salvation Army 708 Barnes street in Reidsville. An ALTERNATE location will be announced prior to each meeting, while restrictions exist.

Club Socials

Once each quarter a social event will replace our monthly meeting, normally held on that 3rd Tuesday. The months of MARCH, SEPTEMBER, and DECEMBER, the SECOND Saturday from 6:00 to 7:30 pm (Location to be announced) prior to the social. For the month of JUNE, that social will be held in conjunction with Field-Day.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

Editor's Note: Regretfully, most all Hamfests and Conventions for the rest of 2021 have been cancelled within 250 miles of Rockingham County. These are the few that are still happening.

04/24/2021 - Online - ARRL Virginia Section Convention 2021

Location: Vienna , VA

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Vienna Wireless Society

Website: <https://viennawireless.net/wp/events/>

Athens Community Center

05/21/2021 - 05/23/2021

Online - Dayton Hamvention, An ARRL Sanctioned Specialty Convention

Location: Xenia, OH

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Dayton Amateur Radio Association

Website: <http://hamvention.org>

Howard County Fair Grounds

05/30/2021 - MFMA Hamfest

Location: West Friendship, MD

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Maryland F. M. Association, Inc

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

Field Across for Signal Hill Park

06/12/2021 - Ole Virginia Hams Tailgate

Location: Manassas Park, VA

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Ole Virginia Hams ARC

Website: <http://w4ovh.net>

Kerbela Temple

06/19/2021 - Knoxville Hamfest and Electronics Convention, ARRL Tennessee State Convention

Location: Knoxville, TN

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Radio Amateur Club of Knoxville

Website: <http://WWW.W4BBB.ORG>

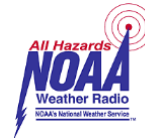


Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: skywarn.org.

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 |

2021 World Amateur Radio Day is April 18



What: 2021 World Amateur Radio Day

Who: All amateur radio operators worldwide

When: Sunday, April 18, 2021 at 0000 UTC until Monday, April 19, 2021 at 0000 UTC

Where: A global event covering all regions of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)

Why: World Amateur Radio Day, held on April 18 each year, is celebrated worldwide by radio amateurs and their national associations which are organized as member-societies of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). It was on this day in 1925 that the IARU was formed in Paris. American Radio Relay League (ARRL) Co-Founder Hiram Percy Maxim was its first president.

Amateur radio experimenters were the first to discover that the short-wave spectrum could support long-distance radio signal propagation. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, amateur radio was “in grave danger of being pushed aside,” the IARU’s history has noted. Amateur Radio pioneers met in Paris in 1925 and created the IARU to promote the interests of amateur radio worldwide and to protect and enhance its spectrum privileges. Today, the IARU is a federation consisting of more than 160 national amateur radio organizations in as many countries and separate territories. The International Secretariat of the IARU is ARRL, the national association for amateur radio® in the United States.

On World Amateur Radio Day, all radio amateurs are invited to take to the airwaves to enjoy our global friendship with other amateurs, and to show our skills and capabilities to the public.

IARU has chosen “*Amateur Radio: Home but Never Alone*” as the theme for World Amateur Radio Day, Sunday, April 18, 2021. The theme acknowledges that during our physical distancing to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus, amateur radio stands out as welcome respite for its variety of activities and opportunities – even helping overcome online fatigue and social isolation. The amateur radio community has organized “wellness nets” to keep amateurs in touch and check on those who may be higher risk or elderly, “stay safe” special event stations across the globe, and has encouraged generally higher levels of on air activity.

For its part, ARRL has accelerated new opportunities for its members to connect and learn through the ARRL [Learning Network](#) webinar series, and temporary rule changes to popular on-air events to encourage greater individual and at-home participation. Over the last year, many ARRL-affiliated radio clubs and in-person ham radio events moved their activities online. These efforts have all ensured that radio amateurs remain active and involved throughout our common pursuit of skill, service, and discovery in radio communications and radio technology.

How: World Amateur Radio Day is not a contest but rather an opportunity to “talk” about the value of amateur radio to the public and our fellow amateur colleagues. It is also a great opportunity to talk about your radio club and amateur radio in local media as a lead-up to ARRL Field Day (held each year during the fourth full weekend in June) and another ham radio related activity in your community – such as volunteers who serve in local emergency communication readiness including the ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service®.

Here are just a few ways to participate in, and promote, World Amateur Radio Day:

- Get a station on the air! Create your own personal “event” to talk about amateur radio to others, including family and friends.
- Find out more about World Amateur Radio Day by checking the IARU website and other Resources listed below.
- Create and hold a special net or on-air event on World Amateur Radio Day to raise the level of attention for the celebration, and to encourage other hams to talk about our hobby. Consider creating and offering a commemorative certificate for contacting your special activation. It can be an electronic one as these are cost effective.
- **ARRL Rookie Roundup** SSB is Sunday, April 18, 2021 from 1800 to 2359 UTC. The contest is aimed at hams licensed for three years or less. Use the opportunity to wish participants "Happy World Amateur Radio Day 2021" on the air.
- Get the word out! If you are an ARRL Public Information Coordinator, Public Information Officer, or responsible for radio club publicity, send a press release and conduct some public relations outreach to highlight the day and/or events. Use the IARU theme for 2021 to create a relevant, powerful, and contemporary message. Talk about all of the activities radio amateurs have continued to support during the pandemic, and how amateur radio serves our communities. Find recent examples of amateur radio in-the-news at www.arrl.org/media-hits.
- Promote your personal World Amateur Radio Day activity(ies) on social media platforms like Twitter and Facebook by using the hashtag **#WorldAmateurRadioDay**. Make sure you send it to various clubs, reflectors, and media.

Join us in celebrating World Amateur Radio Day and all the ways amateur radio brings us together!

Resources

ARRL, the national association for Amateur Radio

<http://www.arrl.org/world-amateur-radio-day> (this page)

IARU

<https://www.iaru.org/on-the-air/world-amateur-radio-day>

IARU Region 2: The Americas

<https://www.iaru-r2.org/en/on-the-air/world-amateur-radio-day/>

Article: “**Why World Amateur Radio Day is key to highlight crucial service,**” ITU News Magazine (No. 1, 2021)

<https://www.itu.int/en/myitu/Publications/2021/02/02/15/24/ITU-News-Magazine-No-1-2021>