



# 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

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

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings;

The club's Reidsville repeater has been migrated to the 70 centimeter amateur band! The specifics are: frequency 442.475 MHz, (transmit) offset + 5 MHz, CTCSS tone 103.5 Hz. The repeater is open for use to all licensed amateurs. The club's technical committee intends to improve performance and coverage area with some fine tuning adjustments in the future. The technical committee decided to initiate the frequency change immediately (without delaying the project until we acquired all the hardware they envisioned) since access to the hospital facility is increasing doubtful as safety concerns escalate and facilities ratchet up shut-down measures. In the interim period we can use and evaluate the performance of the repeater as is. The good news is that we have apparently succeeded in eliminating the paging transmitter interference so disruptive when the the repeater was configured for the two meter amateur radio band.

Elsewhere, there is no club business meeting in September. Instead we will meet for the annual "picnic" at Jim and Lynns "barn", 660 Butter Road in the Wentworth area on September 19th (a Sunday) at 5 PM. Bring your own beverage and lawn chair. On the menu is pulled pork, brisket and other delectable eatables. Please reserved your place at the table by contacting Jim (N3UZ) in advance with the number in your party. You may contact Jim over-the-air (N3UZ), at the Wednesday morning breakfasts, on the Monday evening 2 meter net or via email at [n3uzjim@gmail.com](mailto:n3uzjim@gmail.com). Thanks so very much to Jim and Lynn for accommodating us at their home for this event.

Charlie, KO4OTI, is chair of the officer nominations committee. Charlie welcomes your suggestions for consideration of nominees for all four club offices. You may contact Charlie over-the-air (KO4OTI) or via email him at [pastork@hotmail.com](mailto:pastork@hotmail.com) with your nominations for the committee's evaluation. Committee nominations will be presented at the October business meeting with voting to occur in November.

73s Tim (WD4GXD)

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

## CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

### Minutes of August 2021 Meeting

The meeting was opened at 1900 by Tim,WD4GXD, and introductions were made.

Paul ,N4CE, presented the program on “ Parks ON THE AIR” an another activity that hams can participate in.

The regular meeting was opened and the Minutes from July were read by Furman,WD4MKU, then the Treasure report was given by Paul,N4CE.

#### Under New Business:

Cables for the duplexers at 147.345 and the Annie Penn site are to be replaced when they arrive. A plan to switch the repeater on Annie Penn Hospital to 442.475 Mhz,was discussed and it was decided to try as soon as possible due to possible problems getting into the site with Covid cases increasing .

The September social was decided to be held Sept. 19 at Jim,N3UZ's location, 660 Butter Road, Wentworth, NC. A sign up sheet was passed around.

Roger, W4AYO, is interested in putting up a permanent echo link for the 147.345 repeater at his location.

A proposal was brought up to honor Walt Williams a SK that helped many people become hams and was very active in Ham radio in Rockingham County. Contact Butch, WA4RDX, with suggestions. Another proposal was to see about broadcasting our monthly meetings on Zoom, Face Book or other types of virial meeting.

A request, by Tim WD4GXD, was made for volunteers to be part of the nominating committee for 2022 club officers. Charlie, KO4KIT volunteered to be Chairman. Please let Charlie know if you are interested in one of the officer positions.

Meeting was closed at 1943.  
Furman Lanier, WD4MKU

## VE Team News

The RCARC VE Test team conducted a test session on August 21, 2021. There were two unlicensed applicants that came to take their exams.

- Jessica Byerly passed her Technician exam and is KO4SWH.

- Cory Lytle passed his Technician and then the General. His call is KO4SWI

The VE team had 5 members conducting the session: Jim N3UZ, Lynn N3WKW, Bob KN4BBA, Jamey K4RVJ, and Paul N4CE.

Congratulations to our new area amateur radio operators!



**Cory Lytle, KO4SWI**



**Jessica Byerly,**

## 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.](https://www.n1fd.org/ham-bootcamp/) 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.\*\*

You can email [veteam@n4iv.org](mailto:veteam@n4iv.org) anytime with any questions about testing.

**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

800-669-9594

<http://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp>

**\*\*\*\* 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 2021. Your continued support is appreciated!

<b>Members as of March, 2021. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign</b>					
N4JRA	KO4JRX	KO4HMB	WB4VVY	N4CE	KJ4WRE
KK4IFG	KB4WNT	WD4MKU	N4RFX	KO4HLZ	K4SWS
W4SH	KE4WSF	WA3RFE	K4RVJ	KI4PRU	KB4SHP
W4SIX	KO4KWD	KN4YFA	W4JLN	N8KSG	KN4BBA
KJ4ANA	KN4ODM	KF4KPM	WA4RDX	KK1TLS	WD4GXD
WF4I	W4AYO	KI4TFA*	KK4KFG	N3UZ	KN4NBH
N1YBH	KO4OTI	KF4LIK	KJ4CIW	N3WKW	WK4O
<b>Honorary members:</b>					
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](#)**

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

**It looks like we are getting back to in person Hamfests again. Time to go out and look for a bargain and just have a good time.**

### **09/18/2021 - Clingman Hamfest**

Location: Ronda, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Clingman Hamfest

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

Robinhood Road Baptist Church

### **10/16/2021 - W4NC FallFest**

Location: Winston-Salem, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Forsyth Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://W4NC.com>

American Legion Building  
HAMFEST/CONVENTION

**11/21/2021 - JARSFEST**

Location: Benson, NC  
Sponsor: Johnston Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <https://www.jars.net/jarsfest-2021/>  
Cabarrus Arena & Event Center - Gold Hall

03/11/2022 - 03/12/2022

**Charlotte Hamfest**

Location: Concord, NC  
Type: ARRL Hamfest  
Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society  
Website: <http://www.charlottehamfest.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](http://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](http://nws.noaa.gov/nwr) . For current weather forecasts on the internet, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: [weather.gov](http://weather.gov) . Weather forecast on a mobile device: [mobile.weather.gov](http://mobile.weather.gov) or [cell.weather.gov](http://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

### **US HAMS ACTIVATE THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL**

**DON/ANCHOR:** America's Appalachian Trail has always captured hikers' imaginations and next month it will be capturing hundreds and hundreds of miles of radio signals. Jim Damron N8TMW has that report.

**JIM:** In the United States, the 2,190-mile-long Appalachian Trail will present 2,190 miles of possibilities for SOTA and POTA activators on Saturday, October 2nd. SOTA enthusiasts are already registering to activate summits that are within a short distance on the trail and hams will be calling between 1200 UTC and 2100 UTC throughout the day. If you're an avid hiker as well as a SOTA or POTA activator, you have time to add your name and your summit or park of choice to the list by sending an email to A T ontheair at gmail dot com (ATontheair@gmail.com). SOTA activators may also post an alert on SOTAWatch. This event is being held on the same day as the W7A s2s 10-point madness so it's recommended that SOTA chasers stand by and defer to summits calling other summits.

### **BBC INTERVIEWS DEVELOPER OF WORLD'S FIRST MICROSATELLITE**

**DON/ANCHOR:** If you're a satellite enthusiast, you owe a bit of thanks to one notable homebrewer, tinkerer and distinguished professor in the UK. Jeremy Boot G4NJH tells us about a recent BBC interview with him.

**JEREMY:** With an imagination fueled by NASA's Apollo missions a decade earlier, Martin Sweeting G3YJO went on to launch a new era in space himself: the age of microsattellites, which began as a homebrew project built partly at home and partly on the University of Surrey campus. That first, very basic microsattellite - UOSat-1, the granddaddy of all that would come later - was eventually launched by NASA in 1981. Martin, an amateur radio operator since his student years, recalls in a new interview with the BBC what it was like being the creator of the first microsattellite in a pre-internet era. More than amateur radio communications tools, today's microsattellites aid the world in navigation, scientific research, weather and environmental monitoring. As satellite mega-constellations now revolutionize communications yet further, Martin, a Distinguished Professor of Space Engineering at the university, also makes a plea to clean the skies of the hazard of space junk. The BBC posted the half-hour interview on its website. For Amateur Radio Newsline, I'm Jeremy Boot G4NJH.