



# ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



**President**  
Tim Walker  
WD4GXD

**Vice-President**  
Roger Joyner  
W4AYO

**Treasurer**  
Jim Clark  
N1YBH

**Secretary**  
Furman Lanier  
WD4MKU

## The RockingHAMmer News

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### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings Amateurs and all "Ships at Sea";

A de-sense filter has been installed on the 70 cm repeater duplexer to extend its receive range. Please use the repeater (442.475 MHz, + 5 MHz offset) and let us know how it is performing from your location. If you've not yet submitted your \$25 annual club dues, please mail payment (payable to RCARC) to RCARC, PO Box 2264, Reidsville, NC 27323. The club is seeking a coordinator for the annual ARRL Field Day event on June 25-26. Thank you for continuing to support our club with your dues, presence at meetings and participation at club activities.

Tim Walker  
WD4GXD  
2022 president

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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

Minutes For February 15, Meeting

The meeting opened at 7:20 pm with introductions by everyone.

The program was presented by Roger, W4AYO, on hand made vacuum tubes.

The business meeting followed with the reading and corrections to the November 16, 2021 meeting minutes and the treasury report was presented by Tim, WD4GXD, due to the illness of Jim, N1YBH.

New business report: The 100-Watt Amplifier for the 147.345 MHz repeater is back from the shop and is awaiting for suitable weather to be installed at the repeater site. Tim, WD4GXD, is waiting for an opportunity to gain access to the 442.475 MHz repeater to install a filter to help resolve the de-sense problem.

The drawing for the early membership renewal award was drawn by Teri Overby and won by Tim, WD4GXD.

Old Business: The 2021 Audit and Budget reports were deferred until the April meeting. Several items from the estate of Mike Gilbert, NX4Z, were made available for club members to take home.

Terry, KF4KPM volunteered to plan the club for March 2022 and date and time will be announced.

There will be no VE session in February.

Meeting closed at 8:00 pm.

### Club News

## 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.

**\*\*\*\* 2022 Membership Drive \*\*\*\***

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2022. 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>Membership as of 16 Feb 2022.</b>					
N4JRA	N1YBH	KN4ODM	KO4OTI	WA4RDX	N8KSG
KK4IFG	KM4UHU	KO4HMB	KI4TFA*	KK4KFG	KK1TLS
W4SH	KO4JRX	WD4MKU	KF4LIK	KJ4CIW	N3UZ
W4SIX	KB4WNT	WA3RFE	WB4VVY	N4CE	N3WKW
WF4I	K4BYX	KN4YFA	N4RFX	KO4HLZ	KJ4WRE
KO4SWH	KO4KWD	KF4KPM	K4RVJ	KI4PRU	K4SWS
N4ZZC	KO4UZO	W4AYO	W4JLN	KO4UHO	KB4SHP
WD4GXD	KN4BBA	KN4NBH	WK4O	WA4WGY	KK4KTA
<b>Honorary members:</b>					
W4WBP					
Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign					

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](mailto: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

#### 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.**

03/11/2022 - 03/12/2022

### **Charlotte Hamfest**

Location: Concord, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

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

04/16/2022 - Raleigh Hamfest, ARRL Roanoke Division Convention

Location: Raleigh, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.

Website: <https://www.rarsfest.org>

09/02/2022 - 09/04/2022

Shelby Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina Section Convention

Location: Shelby, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club

Website: <http://Shelbyhamfest.com>



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.

You can now check-in via **EchoLink**, just search for **W4AYO-R** in your EchoLink app.

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  
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

### UKRAINE BANS AMATEUR RADIO AS PART OF STATE OF EMERGENCY

NEIL/ANCHOR: A decree by Ukrainian officials imposing a state of emergency, including a ban on amateur radio operation, took effect on Thursday, February 24th. Officials had announced the previous day that they would do so in anticipation of a Russian military invasion. The decree can last as long as 30 days, with an option to be extended.

The International Amateur Radio Union was monitoring the events. Greg Mossop, GØDUB, IARU Region 1's emergency communications coordinator, told Newsline in an email [quote] "The events in

Ukraine are obviously fast moving and although there were early reports of telecommunications failures it appears these may have been due to the volume of calls on the networks. Webcams in the area are functioning and people do seem to be able to make calls. Sadly, the Ukrainian National Society has reported that a ban on the operation of amateur stations in Ukraine has been put in place for 30 days commencing February 24th. IARU Region 1 and its member societies are monitoring the situation closely but remind all amateur radio operators they must follow their national laws and regulations." [endquote]

The US news website Politico quoted Oleksiy Danilov, Secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council, describing the actions as [quote] "preventive measures to keep calm in the country." [endquote]

The declaration is not in effect in the political subdivisions of eastern Donetsk and Luhansk, which have been occupied by Russian-backed separatists since 2014.

(GREG MOSSOP, GØDUB; IARU REGION 1; POLITICO)

### **PENNSYLVANIA HAM CHARGED WITH FALSE INFORMATION, BOMB THREATS**

NEIL/ANCHOR: In the United States, a ham faces serious criminal charges for on-the-air activities. Sel Embee KB3TZD has that story.

SEL: An amateur radio operator in Erie, Pennsylvania has been charged with transmitting false weather emergencies on the radio and making bomb threats, according to published reports.

The Erie Times-News identified the ham as Richard L. Wagner, whose call sign is listed as N3BWG on QRZ.COM. The newspaper said that Erie County detectives charged him with reporting bogus weather emergencies while on the air and with making threats against other hams who told him to stop. The news report said that a criminal complaint was filed on Monday, February 14th, alleging that between the 19th of December and February 13th, he went on air with threats to bomb public buildings, including the city police station and the county courthouse.

There were no details about any involvement in the case by the US Federal Communications Commission.

A preliminary hearing is scheduled for March 3rd.

(ERIE NEWS-TIMES)