



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



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The RockingHAMmer News

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and your new year is off to a good start. With the new year is time to submit your \$25 club dues. They can be paid in person at our next meeting at the Salvation Army on 1-17. That should be a fun event watching me trying to run the meeting for the first time. If you can't make it to the meeting, you can always mail them to RCARC, PO Box 2264 Reidsville NC 27320. I look forward to the new year and serving as your President and hope to see you at the meeting on 1-17.

Thanks. Mike WA3RFE

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***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

Minutes

No minutes since the December meeting was a social.

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 anytime with any questions about testing.

**** 2023 Membership Drive ****

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2023. 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 2023. Your continued support is appreciated!

Paid Membership as of 29 Dec 2022. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign.

Paid up for two years (2022-2023)**

KJ4ANA	K4BYX	KF4KPM	K4RVJ	KI4PRU	K4SWS
KK4IFG	KB4WNT	KK4JSX	KF4LIK	KJ4CIW	KB4SHP
KO4SWH	KM4UHU	KN4NBH	KI4TFA*	KK4KFG	KJ4WRE
N4JRA	KN4BBA	KN4ODM	KO4OTI	KO4HLZ	KK1TLS
N4ZZC	KO4JRX	KN4YFA	N4RFX	KO4UHO	KK4KTA
W4SH	KO4KWD	KO4HMB	W4JLN	N4CE	N3UZ
W4SIX	KO4UZO	W4AYO	WB4VVY	WA4RDX	N3WKW
WD4GXD	KX4CHB	WA3RFE	WK4O	WA4WGY	N8KSG
WF4I	N1YBH	WD4MKU	WA3RFE		

Honorary members:					
W4WBP					

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

The monthly meeting is at the Salvation Army Community Center, 708 Barnes Street, Reidsville. The meeting begins around 7:15 PM.

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

Time to go out and look for a bargain and just have a good time.

03/10/2023 - 03/11/2023
2023 Charlotte Hamfest
 Location: Concord, NC
 Type: ARRL Hamfest
 Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society
 Website: <https://charlottehamfest.org>
 Jim Graham Building

04/08/2023 - Raleigh Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina State Convention

Location: Raleigh, NC
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc.
Website: <https://www.rarsfest.org>
Robinhood Road Baptist Church

04/15/2023 - Winston-Salem Springfest

Location: Winston-Salem, NC
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Forsyth Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://W4NC.com>
Ritter Park

07/15/2023 - 50th Annual Cary Mid-Summer Swapfest

Location: Cary, NC
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Cary ARC



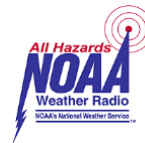
Website: <http://caryarc.org> / Website:
<http://caryarc.org/>

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
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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](https://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr). For current weather forecasts on the internet, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: [weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov). Weather forecast on a mobile device: mobile.weather.gov or cell.weather.gov

RCARC CLUB NETS

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 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

OHIO HAMS EXEMPT FROM DISTRACTED-DRIVER LAW

PAUL/ANCHOR: Amateur radio operators are getting a break in Ohio under a new law restricting the use of handheld electronic devices by drivers. Jack Parker W8ISH has those details.

JACK: Under a new law taking effect in Ohio, if you are holding a cellphone or similar device in your hands while operating a motor vehicle, that is sufficient reason for you to be stopped by the police: It is considered a primary offense.

Hams, however, needn't worry. The distracted-driving law exempts radio amateurs as well as utility workers and first-responders, such as police.

Penalties are increasing for those drivers found to be engaged in so-called distracted driving but with the new law, the next six months will provide a grace period. Drivers who are not eligible for the exemption will only be issued warnings while the state launches a public-education campaign about the change in enforcement.

With this law, Ohio joins the ranks of other states where exemptions were granted for amateur radio use while driving, including Indiana, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Washington state.

WORLD OF DX

In the World of DX, be listening for VI10SOTA (VEE EYE TEN SOTA) which is on the air in Australia to celebrate the 10th year of Summits on the Air in the VK1 region. The station will be active through to the end of the year and any amateur with an Australian licence who is activating a VK1 SOTA peak may use it.

Logs of all activators will be found under each activator's log in their account.

Be listening for Harald, DF2WO, using the call sign D44TWO from Sao Tiago (AF-005), Cape Verde until the 21st of January. He is on 160 through 6 metres, using FT8 with some SSB and CW. He is also using the QO-100 satellite. QSL via MØOXO's OQRS.

Listen for Darren, VK4MAP, who is working holiday style as FW/VK4MAP from Wallis & Futuna in the South Pacific through the first half of January. Listen for him on 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres where he will be operating SSB. QSL direct to his home call.

The special call sign DB100RDF is on the air to mark 100 years of broadcasting in Germany. This commemorates the fact that the first official radio entertainment in Germany went on the air on the 29th of October, 1923. QSL direct to DO2PZ or via the bureau.

You can hear the special call sign EG1NMP from the 7th to the 10th of January. The station is on the air to remember the wreck of the Monte Palomares, a Spanish freighter that sank in the North Atlantic on the 10th of January, 1966. QSL only via LoTW and eQSL.

PROPOSAL WOULD ELIMINATE FCC'S SYMBOL RATE LIMITS

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: A proposal called the Amateur Radio Communications Improvement Act hopes to overhaul rules affecting data transmissions. Kent Peterson KCØDGY brings us that report.

KENT: Saying that federal regulations need to keep pace with advances in amateur radio technology, a United States lawmaker has proposed updating rules governing data transmissions over the amateur bands. The proposed Amateur Radio Communications Improvement Act would eliminate the current symbol rate limits set by the FCC. The lawmaker, Debbie Lesko, an Arizona Republican, writes on her website that regulation of symbol rates has become outdated because newer technology permits the spectrum to handle greater amounts of data. The proposed update of the FCC rules removes the symbol rate limit and sets a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit, which is already in place for amateurs using 60 meters.

The ARRL previously pressed the FCC to remove HF symbol rate limits claiming that, among other things, it was an obstacle to experimentation. Although the FCC has previously questioned the need for any bandwidth limit at all, the ARRL has said there is a need for such limits because digital protocols could be developed that have excessively wide bandwidths. The ARRL issued a statement saying the league hoped the FCC would remove the restriction on its own without waiting for the bill to be passed.

With lawmakers in Washington DC concluding the 117th Congress, there was no further action taken on the bill.

If you would like to LISTEN to the latest edition of Amateur Radio Newslines Report here's the link:

<https://groups.io/g/ARNewsline/attachment/1250/0/news.mp3>