



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



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The RockingHAMmer News

Post Office Box 2264, Reidsville, North Carolina, 27323

April 2023

Vol. 21 No. 4

www.n4iv.org

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy April! Now that spring is here it brings with it the threat of thunderstorms. Time to check all your grounds and remember to unhook your antennas when those storms arrive. Hope to see everyone at the next meeting on 4-18,

73!

Mike WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS

PAGE	CONTENT
1 - 2	President's Corner
2 - 3	Club News & Meeting Minutes
3 - 4	VE News
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

Minutes

No minutes, last month was a social.

This month's presentation at the meeting on 4/18/2023 will be by John Swinney (KB4SHP) on the OpenSpot hot spot device.



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!

The following members have paid their membership dues for 2023

K4RVJ	KN4NBH	W4JLN	K4BYX
KB4SHP	KN4YFA	W4SH	WA4RDX
KB4WNT	KO4UZO	WA3RFE	KF4KPM
KF4LIK	N1YBH	WB4VVY	N3UZ

KI4PRU	N4CE	WD4GXD	KJ4WRE
KJ4CIW	N8KSG	WD4MKU	
KN4BBA	W4AYO	WA4WGY	
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.

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 |

OTHER AMATEUR RADIO NEWS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

North Carolina Science Festival Selects

Asheville Radio Museum as a Host Site

STEM Volunteers to Host Events at Community and School Venues Statewide During April

ASHEVILLE, N.C. – March 21, 2023 – The Asheville Radio Museum is proud to announce that the North Carolina Science Festival chose it as a participating Host Site during their statewide, month-long April event. The festival enables people of all ages to learn about various science disciplines through live demonstrations and talks by specialists in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). Events will occur at multiple venues, including schools, colleges, community centers, and museums. In its 13th consecutive year, the festival is an initiative of the Morehead Planetarium & Science Center at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

The Asheville Radio Museum will teach visitors about the wonders of radio waves and how they enable today's modern conveniences such as cell phones, GPS, wireless home internet, Bluetooth-enabled devices, and much more. Young visitors will enjoy using telegraph "keys" to spell out their names in Morse code. All visitors will marvel at the more than 100 vintage radios and TVs in the museum's collection and can take home a free souvenir vacuum tube.

The museum, located on the A-B Tech campus in room 315 of the Elm classroom building, is open Saturdays from 1-3 p.m. For detailed directions, see avlradiomuseum.org.

"We're honored to have been selected as one of the host sites in this tremendous statewide event," said Asheville Radio Museum's Curator Stuart Smolkin. "Hats off to the festival organizers and A-B Tech's Volunteer Coordinator, Lisa Richman, who encouraged and guided us through the application process. A-B Tech is a great museum supporter and second to none in promoting STEM as a career and lifelong learning."

About The Asheville Radio Museum:

Founded in 2001, the not-for-profit Asheville Radio Museum provides visitors of all ages with a personalized learning experience about radio technology's economic and cultural impact enabling cell phones, GPS, Bluetooth, and more. The museum holds more than 100 vintage amateur and commercial radios from the early to the mid-20th century. Parking and admittance are free at the museum, which is located on the campus of Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. Information on open hours and private tours by appointment is available at avlradiomuseum.org.

About The North Carolina Science Festival:

Founded in 2010, the North Carolina Science Festival is the first statewide science festival in the United States. Through a series of community-based events each April (hosted by schools, colleges, libraries, museums, parks, businesses, and other local organizations), the Festival

celebrates the economic, educational, and cultural impacts of science in North Carolina. It is an initiative of Morehead Planetarium & Science Center at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. For more information, please visit ncscifest.org.

Contacts:

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FORD MOTOR COMPANY ELIMINATES AM RADIO IN 2024 MODELS

JIM/ANCHOR: The death of AM radio has arrived at the Ford Motor Company in Detroit, Michigan. Ford spokesman Wes Sherwood announced that it will not be installing AM radios in any 2024 vehicles, both its gas-powered and electric models. He confirmed the plan to the Detroit Free Press newspaper. He said that Ford will continue to make AM radios available in its commercial vehicles because of contracts the company has. Ford's move comes amidst a push by a number of prominent lawmakers and former officials of the US Federal Emergency Management Agency. Opponents of carmakers' elimination of AM radio say it is an integral part of the nation's emergency notification system.

(DETROIT FREE PRESS)

ARKANSAS HAMS SPRING INTO ACTION DURING TORNADOES

RANDY: Tornado season in the United States is again upon us. In the past week we've had reports of fierce storms that spawned possibly dozens of tornadoes from the South and the Midwest into the Northeast, killing at least 32 people. Deadly storms also hit the central US, including Arkansas and Missouri.

Joshua Carroll, AA5JC, Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator for SKYWARN and ARES for Arkansas, reported that during the March 31st tornado in his state, 112 operators were involved in net activities during storms that brought devastation especially to the western part of Little Rock. "It wasn't just ham radio nets, which included Echolink and All Star," he told AR Newsline. "Our thought was 'use what works.'" His team also collected and sent reports to the National Weather Service that they received through texts, Facebook, Twitter, GMRS, and Winlink.

In talking with the Forecast Office after the event, Joshua was told, "you guys were on fire!" They indicated that three warnings were issued based on these reports. Lives were probably saved. This is another example of ham radio doing what it does best. So, until all else fails, use what works.

If you would like to LISTEN to the latest edition of Amateur Radio Newslines Report here's the link:
<https://groups.io/g/ARNewslines/attachment/1262/0/news.mp3>