



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



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The RockingHAMmer News

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Happy June!

Fathers day is coming up, so Happy Father's Day to all the Fathers out there. Hopefully you will get a nice new radio for Fathers Day.

Hard to believe the year is half over. The good news is Field Day is almost here. Hopefully everyone can come out the Jim's N3UZ and partake in the fun on June 22nd and 23rd.

No meeting this month since we will have a social the evening of Field Day.

73!

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

RCARC May 21, 2004, Meeting

Salvation Army 704 Barnes St.

Reidsville NC, 27320

Member's Present 12

Guest: Mrs. Edie Lanier and Mrs. Teri Overby

MEETING CALL TO ORDER BY VICE PRESIDENT ROGER JOYNER AT 1915

John KB4SHP was going to do a program on the open spot 4. But was unable to do so because he was unable to connect to the Wi-Fi due to no password.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike WA3REF, received a request from John Trull N4CNX to use the 147.345 for a traffic net back as a backup repeater in case the primary the primary repeater they use fails. They would like to use it one Thursday a Month from 1930-2000 for practice every one at April meeting though it was a good idea. Mike got Trey Belton to go and check all the connections at 147.345 site. Due to some cutting out problem on the machine. When Trey left all the connections were tight. Roger is still looking for the Trustee paperwork so he can get the Echo-link out of his call sign and into the club's call. Still no insurance quote from AARL for liability insurance.

NEW BUSINESS

Field Day will be June 22, 2024, and Jim's barn 660 Butter Road Reidsville NC 27320. Need sides for the pull pork that will be cooked on site. Jim also advised to bring your own chair or chairs and drinks. V/E Session will also be that day starting at 0900 will be short one VE if anyone else would like to help please contact Jim N3UZ. Members present decided since the club hasn't got insurance yet to go ahead with the quote that Mike WA3RFE has which is from the local Farm Bureau for the liability policy so it can go in affect before field day.

Motion Made by Jim N3UZ and seconded by Bob KN4BBA.

MEETING WAS VOTED AND ADJORNED AT 1950

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

*****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.

****** 2024 Membership Drive ******

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2024. 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 2024. Your continued support is appreciated!

The following members have paid their membership dues for 2024. Paid up for two years (2024-2025)**

KF4LIK	KN4YFA	N1YBH
KI4PRU	KO4OTI	N4CE
KJ4CIW	KX4IQ	N4RFX

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

It's time to go out and look for a bargain and have a good time.

07/13/2024 - Firecracker Hamfest /Salisbury, NC

Location: Salisbury, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Rowan County Amateur Radio Society

Smokey Mountain Event Center (Former Haywood County Fairgrounds)

07/20/2024 - WCARS Hamfest

Location: Waynesville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://wcars-club.org/>

Cumberland County Shrine Club

08/10/2024 - 25th Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society Swapfest

Location: Fayetteville , NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://cfarsnc.org>

Cleveland County Fairgrounds

08/30/2024 - 09/01/2024

68th Annual Shelby Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina State Convention

Location: Shelby, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club (SARC)

Website: <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

Cleveland County Fairgrounds

08/30/2024 - 09/01/2024

68th Annual Shelby Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina State Convention

Location: Shelby, NC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: Shelby Amateur Radio Club (SARC)

Website: <http://shelbyhamfest.org>

Farmers Market Flea Market

09/28/2024 - Lexington Hamfest

Location: Lexington, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: W4PAR The Healing Springs Mountain VHF Society

Website: <http://www.w4par.org>

Jim Graham Building, NC State Fairgrounds



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 . 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 8:30PM 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

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|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| • 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

ACCOUNT OF RECENT NETWORK SHUTDOWN

JIM/ANCHOR:

As phones came back into service at the Connecticut headquarters of the ARRL, the league's communications remained sparse and carefully worded about the apparent cyberattack that disabled its networks, servers and other systems, including Logbook of the World.

Breaking a public silence of not quite one week, the league said on its website that the US Federal Bureau of Investigation and third-party experts had been called in, early on, to help investigate. The league said that managers formed an incident response team.

The league's message, posted on the 4th of June on its website, offered no insights as to whether the source of the network shutdown came from an internal or external attack but said the FBI told them they considered the incident [quote] "unique." [unquote]. The league offered no further explanation. The ARRL has said that no sensitive data, such as credit card numbers, had been exposed and any details about members were already publicly accessible from other sites.

The ARRL's message said that the staff was testing applications and interfaces with an eye toward restoring their proper operation - but did not elaborate further.

The ARRL Contest Portal was to be available on a limited basis, as the dates for International Digital Contest and the June VHF Contest approached.

Membership renewals were also being accepted online and by phone.

(ARRL)

MEGA POTA SWEEPS THE PARKS OF PUERTO RICO

JIM/ANCHOR: Among ham radio outdoor enthusiasts, is anything quite so big as POTA? Try MEGA POTA. In fact, that's what hams in Puerto Rico did late last month - and Andy Morrison K9AWM tells us how things went.

ANDY: The nature of ham radio and the nature of nature itself connected in a very big way last month in the Caribbean as hams in Puerto Rico enjoyed the simultaneous activation of more than 20 parks throughout the island on the same day. One of the organizers, Emilio, WP4KEY, told Amateur Radio Newsline in an email: [quote] "May 26, 2024 has been written in gold letters in the book of amateur radio in the Caribbean because this has been the largest event to be held." [endquote]

It was as much a celebration as an activation. Hams participated from the Amateur Radio Alliance KP4ARA, the Lares Radio Club, KP4NET, and numerous other groups worked stations in South America, Australia, Europe, the US and elsewhere in the world. Emilio told Newsline that this was the second event of its kind but the inaugural MEGA POTA, held on November 16th, 2019, was nowhere near this size.

As Emilio told Newsline: [quote] "Mega POTA offered for activators a unique experience that blends technology with the great outdoors and hunters a unique opportunity to get those sometimes difficult to get clubs and parks including some for the first time as activators." [endquote]
Emilio activated with his wife, Wanda, KP4NYC and his son, Emilio, KP4HBK.

MEGA POTA 2025 is already in the works. Emilio said that next year's activations will include more demonstrations for members of the public stopping by and offer guided tours of the island's cultural and natural attractions. Next year he expects to have even more to celebrate.

This is Andy Morrison K9AWM. (EMILIO ORTIZ JR., WP4KEY)

ACTIVITIES BALLOONING FOR STEM AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

JIM/ANCHOR: Created just this past February, the STEM Amateur Radio Club is already getting in quite a bit of air time -- with balloons. Jack Parker W8ISH catches up with their progress.

JACK: Kids and balloons naturally go together but when the kids - some as young as 9 - are ham radio operators, you can bet that what fires them up more than anything are pico balloons. With Bill Brown, WB8ELK, as her mentor, Vicki Carnes, AD3I, who started the club, guided the youngsters in launching two pico balloons from the Xenia Fairgrounds during Hamvention. They are now preparing for a launch near Andrew Jackson State Park in South Carolina during Field Day using the club callsign, N4TVV-1.

Vicki believes this is amateur radio showcasing some of its more educational moments to young hams. She told Newsline: [quote] "The really awesome thing about pico-ballooning, other than the technical side, is kids learn about World Geography and it sticks with them. I think it stays with them because it's personal. Their balloon's tracking means something to them." [endquote] In short, if they didn't know anything about the Aleutian Islands or the Canary Islands before, they do now because the one surviving balloon - W8BI-12 - had those locations on its very trackable path. It recently completed a circumnavigation of the globe, 8 miles above the planet, and the kids are along for the ride.

If you want to share tracking its 2-metre signal with them, visit aprs.fi – the live APRS map - and in the top right corner, enter the call sign.

This is Jack Parker W8ISH.

(VICKI CARNES, AD3I)

[HTTPS://WWW.ARNEWSLINE.ORG/S/REPORT2432.MP3](https://www.arnewsline.org/s/report2432.mp3)