

Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N41V

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield - WA3RFE Cam McIntire - KU4VY Berry Miley - WB4III Ambra Janney - KJ4Y OU

Vol. 9 No. 1 www.rcarc.com January 2011

President's Corner

Here we are at the start of another new year already. Hopefully everyone had a Merry Christmas and their new year is off to a great start.

I am happy to say it looks like another exciting year for us. George and Lamarr have already started working on putting together this year's swap-fest. I am betting we will be asked to help out with the MS walk, Gears & Cheers, and Ride Rock bike rides. Let's not forget the VE team who puts together the ARES net and participates in some drills.

I am excited to be the RCARC club president this year and I am looking forward to working with all of you. Trey left some big shoes to fill (as did all of the outgoing officers) but we are up for the challenge.

Thanks to each one of you for making the club the success that it is.

73's

Mike 3 WA3RFE

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p.5 December secretary minutes

p.6 For sale items & FYI

From the editor: Any and all submissions are welcome.

Bill Scott w4six 73



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Va. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor, and make reports to the net control on 147.03 repeater. When; "Watchers or Warnings" require net activation. The 146.85 and 147.345 repeaters will be programmed to state; "SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS". The 147.03 repeater is one of several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS

CHANNELS FREQUENCIES

162.400	WXL42	WINSTON SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
162.475	WXL60	BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM CO.
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EVENTS

RCARC MONTHLY MEETING

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00PM and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2 meter net. **Next meeting is January 18, 2011**.

JANUARY'S SOCIAL

RCARC had it's January Social at the Sirloin House in Eden January 8, 2011, with 23 attendees. Everyone enjoyed the food, the fun, and many conversations. See pictures on page 4. More later.

THURSDAY'S BREAKFAST

Gathering between 7:10AM and 7:30AM every Thursday at Chaney's in Reidsville. Come join the conversations and food. Last one to arrive......PAYS! Ha! Ha!

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our members check into this net who are up in Virginia. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2 meter net

146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 rag-chew net

443.975MHz no tone

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.)

Sunday 8:30pm	Southern Alamance Net	146.670 no tone
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Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
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Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Daily Nets		
5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, every weekday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work. Also, the Thursday morning breakfast group joins in making more fun for the group. Some base stations join the commute bunch to wish them a good day at work and just to say good morning. Try us between 6:30am and 7:30am.

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link: www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. NEXT TEST SESSION - JANUARY 29, 2011.

January social at the Sirloin House







MINUTES OF DECEMBER 21, 2010

PLACE: RED CROSS BUILDING, HWY. 14, REIDSVILLE, N.C. TIME: 7:00PM.

MEETING CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT, TREY, W4SH.

MINUTES OF MEETING NOVEMBER 16, READ BY VICE PRESIDENT, MIKE, WA3RFE. VOTED AND

PASSED AS READ.

MEMBERS PRESENT: 18 NO GUEST PRESENT

TREASURER'S REPORT READ BY PRESIDENT, TREY, W4SH: 11-17-2010 THROUGH 12-21-2010

BEGINNING BALANCE \$2.168.75 BALANCE SHEET

INCOME: DUES 125.00 1-17-2010 THROUGH 12-21-2010

TOTAL INCOME 125.00 ALL ACCOUNTS

EXPENSES: JAMEY NIXON 70.00 ASSETS:

FLOWERS FOR PHIL SMITH CASH & BANK ACCOUNT

NEW BALANCE: \$2,223.71 CAPITAL ACCOUNT \$1,111.03 GENERAL ACCOUNT \$2,223.71 LIABILITIES & EQUITY: TOTAL CASH & BANK ACCOUNTS: \$3,334.74

LIABILITIES: \$0.00 TOTAL ASSETS: \$3,334.74

EQUITY \$3,334.74

TOTAL LIBILTIES & EQUITY: \$3,334.74

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TECHINAL REPORT BY TREY, W4SH

THE WIND IS CAUSES TROUBLE ON 85 MACHINE. MIKE, WA3RFE SAID APRS REPEATER DOWN, RHE HARD DRIVE DISK CRASHED HOPE IT WILL BE BACK UP SOON.

ARES: MIKE, WA3RFE

MEETING WITH JOHNNY BOLTEN, BE A BIG DRILL IN APRIL WITH HOSPITAL. SOME SHELTER MIKE, WA3RFE TO BE OPEN ALSO. NEED ALL MEMBERS TO GET NEMS COURES DONE AND SENT COPIES TO MIKE, WA3RFE IS THE CORRNATORER FOR ARES DIRIST 9 PLUS ALSO YOU WILL NEED TO ON CLUB WEB SITE GET APPLICATION & FILL OUT AND SEND TO MIKE MANSFIELD, WA3RFE. JAMEY NIXON HAS GOT 3 COURSES DONE. WE NEED SKYWEARNING PERSONS TO SIGN UP, ALSO. HISTORIAN: PAUL PATTERSON NOTHING TO REPORT

PUBLICITY: PAT PATTERSON, N4SLP PASSED AWAY NOVEMBER 26,2010.

WE NEED SOMEONE TO TAKE OVER THIS PROGRAM. YOU MAY LET CLUB IN JANUARY MEETING IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE POSITION.

OLD BUSINESS:

RUSS IS ALSO ON BUDGET COMMITTEE.

PASS OUT INTVORY FORMS. PLEASE FILL OUT AND RETURN AT JANUARY MEETING SO WE WILL KNOW WHO HAS WHAT CLUB EQUIPMENT .

PAUL HAS DONATED PAT DUES TO CLUB, SO PLEASE THANK PAUL FOR THIS DEED.

WE ARE SORRY FOR PASSING OF PAT PATTERSON, N4SLP OUR TREASUER AND CLUB MEMBER. SHE DID A LOT FOR CLUB. WE WILL MISS HER.

JAMEY WILL GIVE THE BUDGET REPORT NEXT MONTH.

WE HAD OUR CHRISTMAS DINNER AT SIRLION HOUSE DEC.4,2010. HAD A GREAT TIME. YOU MISS A GOOD TIME WITH ALL OUR MEMBERS AND GREAT FOOD.

HAVING A SOCIAL ON JANUARY 8,2011, AT THE SIRLION HOUSE IN EDEN AT 6. BE GLAD FOR EVERYONE TO JOIN US EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT A CLUB MEMBER BUT YOU CAN BE A CLUB MEMBER. WE MEET ON 3rd TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT RED CROSS BUILDING IN REIDSVILLE . WELCOME ALL NEW OFFICERS FOR 2011.

THANKS TO ALL 2010 OFFICERS FOR GREAT JOB DONE FOR LAST TWO YEARS.

NEW BUSINESS:

SOCIAL AT SIRLION HOUSE JANUARY 8, 2011 AT 6.

PLEASE PAY YOUR CLUB DUES. THEY ARE DUE BY JANUARY 31.2011.

WE ALL NEED TO E-MAIL OUR SELVES ONCE A MONTH SO YOU STAY ON CLUB WEB-SITE. ALL THIS WORK ON WEB-SITE IS DONE BY DAL,W4YQY, WHICH IS A LOT OF WORK . WE THANK YOU FOR ALL UP-DATES YOU DO FOR THE CLUB.

DAL, W4YQY WOULD LIKE ANYONE IN CLUB TO SEND HIM PICTURES OF YOUR SELF AND HAM SHACK TO BE PUT ON WEB-SIDE AND WRITE UP BY YOU.

HAD A DRAWING OF TWO MEMBERS PRESENT TO GET SERA REPEATER JOUNRIAL FOR FREE FOR ONE YEAR BILL SCOTT, W4SIX, AND CAM McINTIRE, KU4VY WERE OUR WINNERS.

SWAPT-FEST: GEORGE, WN4LTY, SAID WE HAVE PERMISSION TO USE CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH AGAIN THIS YEAR FOR OUR HAM FEST ON MAY 14, 2011. ADVANCE TICKETS WILL BE \$4.00. TICKETS AT GATE \$5.00

TIME 8 A.M TO 12 P.M. LaMARR NEESE ,WB4VVY, ALSO HELPS GEORGE,WN4LTY, TO ORGANIZE THE FEST. THANK YOU BOTH FOR JOB WELL DONE. GEORGE ALSO SENDS AD TO BE PUT IN SERA ABOUT SWAP-FEST.

PROGRAM: ANGIE,KJ4WRE, WITH HELP OF TIM,WD4GXD, BUILD A DIPOLE ANTENNA FOR HER RADIO AT HOME. TIM SAID SHE LIKES TO BUILD THINGS, SHE DID GREAT JOB, NOW ALL NEED TO BE DONE IS TO PUT COAX CABLE ON AND HOOK IT UP, NEED TO BE PAINTED. NOW, WE ALL NEED TO GO TO HER HOUSE AND SEE HOW GOOD IT LOOKS UP.

MEETING ADJOURN: 7:40 P.M. BY JAMEY NIXION, LET'S ALL EAT.

THANKS TO ALL CLUB MEMBERS FOR BRINGING SNACKS FOR OUR LAST MEETING OF THE YEAR. HOPE EVERYONE HAS A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY: PEGGY BREWER, KJ4ANA SECRETARY OF RCARC

ITEMS FOR SALE

(PHIL'S ESTATE)

PYRAMID POWER SUPPLY	PS-52KX	\$ 150
ASTRON POWER SUPPLY	RS-35A	100
KENWOOD HF $+ 6M TX/RX$	TS-570S	900
KENWOOD HF TRANSEIVER	TS-440S	400
KENWOOD SPEAKER	SP-23	45
KENWOOD DESK MIC	MC-80	75
ICOM 2M FM TRANSCEIVER	IC-V8000	125
ICOM 2M/440 DUALBAND TXCVR	IC-2720H	250
RADIO SHACK HANDHELD SCAN	NER	50
HEIL GOLDLINE MIC AND STAND	GOLDLINE	75
MFJ ANTENNA TUNER	MFJ-949C	70
DIAMOND SWR/PWR METER	SX-200	45
HF +6M+2M VERTICAL ANTENNA	MFJ-1798	75
ROHN TOWER (40FT,3SECT+ TOP)	ROHN	75
6M BEAM ANTENNA		20
HAMMARLUND RECEIVER	HQ-110A	50
DRAKE SSB TRANSCEIVER	TR3	50
PARA DYNAMICS POWER METER	PDC-700	40
RADIO SHACK SPEAKER		10
DIAMOND SWR METER	SX40C	25
MFJ DC OUTLET STRIP	MRJ-1118	50

Contact George Brewer, WN4LTY at wn4lty@rcarc.com or 336.635.1261

FYI: WX Conditions What is Black Ice?

A WX term not frequently heard in this area is "black ice". This refers to a thin layer of glazed ice covering asphalt roads making them appear clear instead of dangerously slippery. This icy condition was responsible for hundreds of auto "fender benders" in the triad area during the numerous snow and ice storms. PLEASE DRIVE CAREFULLY!



Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



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Vol. 9 No. 2

www.rcarc.com

February 2011

President's Corner

I hope everyone is taking the opportunity to hide in their shacks from this rough winter and get a lot of hamming done. The good news is that hamfest season is here. Frostfest was great and well represented by our club. Charlotte hamfest is 3-14 & 3-15, and Raleigh, 4-23. Save your pennies and get ready to gear up.

Looks like the Hen Net on Tuesday's at 7:00pm on the 147.345 is off to a great start. I think this will be a fun net and will hopefully get some YL's on the air and kick up more interest in our club.

ARES interest is still on the increase. I mentioned that we have a Yahoo Group setup for our section at the club meeting but failed to let you know where it is. The group can be found at http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ncaressection9. You don't have to be an ARES member to join a group. There are ARES documents and web links and event dates posted on this site. I also post severe weather updates from the Guilford and Rockingham counties' Emergency Coordinators. Unfortunately, I seem to be doing a lot of the postings this winter.

73's and Happy HAMming,

Mike, WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS: p.1 President's Corner

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p.3 Area Nets p.4 Pictures

p.5 January secretary minutes

p.6 Hamfests & FYI & Winter Field Day

p.7 Surprise!

From the editor: All submissions are welcome. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, W4SIX, Bill



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Tuesday 7:00PM 2 meter HEN net NEW!! 147.345MHz 103.5 tone

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Thursday Breakfast Attendees

MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its January 2011 meeting on January 18, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 18 members and 1 guest present.

Meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

- Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted with one correction.
- Budget report was presented by Jamey (K4RVJ) representing the budget committee which consisted of Jamey, Russ Harrison (NC4CN), and Margie Rouge (KI4PRU). Items not budgeted included: Office Supplies, Postage, Flowers, and Repeater maintenance and upgrades. Budget was accepted but club agreed that revisiting the budget may be required when inventory lists are in and compiled.
- Berry reported that the annual audit is complete and the clubs books are on their way to Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) via Trey Belton (W4SH)

Committe Reports

- Technical- Mike Mansfield reported that the APRS repeater is back up. Problems with the 146.850 repeater
 were discussed and as Mike lives nearby he will check connections and perhaps try a 20 watt power supply
 loaned by Dal Williams (W4YQY). Lamar Neese (WB4VVY) reported static on the 147.345 repeater in the
 mornings. Dal will check into this.
- ARES/Skywarn- Jamey is the newest ARES member. We are also awaiting a quote to open a Rockingham County Emergency Command Center. Dal recommended that the club try to locate radios that are missing and look into the status of a van that had a club radio installed. Mike Mansfield has set up a Yahoo group for ARES Section 9. You do not have to be an ARES member to participate in the Yahoo group but you must have your certifications and be in the state database to participate in an emergency situation. Dal reemphasized that as people complete their certifications they need to also be in the state database.
- Publicity- The club still needs someone to fill this role. Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) and Angie Stallings (KJ4WRE) will work together as our club publicity persons. Paul Patterson (N4CE) reports that our newspaper ads are still active and Mike Lewis (KD4CSJ) informed the club that the 6 meter groups still listed our swapfest as of the last issue.
- Swapfest- Lamarr and George Brewer (WN4LTY) report that swapfest will be promoted at club table at Frostfest and the hamfests in Charlotte and Raleigh. Dal reminded us that the flyer can be downloaded form the website. Swapfest will be on May 14th.
- Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

- Social held on January 8th went well and the club expressed appreciation to Peggy for organizing it. Club agreed that we should hold socials on a quarterly basis while keeping away from hamfest weekends. Looking to hold the next social on April 2nd.
- Members were advised to make list of any club equipment in their possession and send to Mike Mansfield.

New Business

- The women of the Club will be starting their own net called Hen net. This net will be on the 147.345 repeater and begin on February 1st.
- The club has two checking accounts, do we need both? Dal reported that one is specifically an equipment fund.
- Website is now up on new server. Email will be setup for everyone who has submitted their current club application. Email must be used at least once a month to stay active.
- Club agreed that financial information should no longer be included in meeting minutes that are published in the newsletter and on the website.
- Dal suggested that old officers work with the new to facilitate a smooth transition and make sure all is in
 order. This will make life easier on the new officers and insure nothing slips through the cracks in the
 transition process.
- Jamey indicated that new net control operators are needed for the Monday night and Tuesday Night nets.

Program

"Why Contest" presented by Vice President Cam McIntire (KU4VY).

February's program is scheduled to be presented by Paul Patterson.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16pm

Respectfully Submitted Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club

AREA HAMFESTS

CHARLOTTE HAMFEST CHARLOTTE, NC MARCH 14, 15

www.w4bfb.org

RARSFEST RALEIGH, NC APRIL 23

www.rars.org

RCARC SWAPFEST REIDSVILLE, NC MAY 14

www.rcarc.com

DAYTON HAMVENTION DAYTON, OHIO MAY 20 - 22

www.hamvention.org



FYI CONGRATUALTIONS to ANGIE STALLINGS

Angie is now a general class licensed operator!

Winter Field Day

Dal hosted the FD at his Cabin on 1/29/11 starting at noon that Saturday and ending at noon on Sunday. Dal, Paul, Jamie, and Tim all helped make contacts, eat the food, and have fun. Two stations were set up after some snacking. They experimented with one portable antenna while racking up contacts on the main radio. After every 3 contacts they celebrated with more snacks homebrew venison stew, lil smokies in BBQ sauce, pork BBQ, chips and dip, and MORE!!!!!

Even though the contacts were few the food and fellowship were abundant. With food gone and bands fading all quit around 8 on Saturday night.

NATO/ARES COMMON Q SIGNALS

& RACES

PHONETIC ALPHABETS ? = QUESTION . = ANSWER

A - ALPHA QRN - TROUBLED BY STATIC

B-BRAVO

C - CHARLIE QRM - INTERFERENCE ON FREQUENCY

D - DELTA

E - ECHO QRP - I AM RUNNING LOW POWER

F - FOXTROT

G - GOLF QRS - SEND MORE SLOWLY (...wpm)

H - HOTEL

I - INDIA QRT - I AM STOP SENDING

J - JULIET

K - KILO QRZ ? -WHO'S CALLING QRZ . = ROGER! OK

L - LIMA

M - MIKE

N - NOVEMBER Phonetics are helpful when copying

O - OSCAR callsigns during voice transmissions.

P - PAPA

Q - QUEBEC

R - ROMEO Q-signals may be helpful with cw

S - SIERRAT or voice transmissions.

T - TANGO

U - UNIFORM

V - VICTOR

W - WHISKEY

X - X-RAY

Y - YANKEE

Z - ZULU



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N4IV

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Vol. 9 No. 3

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March 2011

President's Corner

Busy, Busy, Busy! We have lots of Ham events coming up so save your pennies and warm up your radios.

Charlotte Hamfest was this past weekend. Raleigh's RARSFEST is April 23rd and our Swapfest is May 14th.

We have been asked to help out with the MS walk on April 9th and to help with Gears ad Cheers on May 21st. Let me know if you can help with either of these.

The Greensboro club has just started an Extra Class course that is held on Sunday evenings from 4:00 to 6:00pm on the 150 machine. It will be a good opportunity to upgrade or to just brush up on your knowledge.

I enjoyed the antenna party Angie threw. She has her HF and UHF/VHF antennas up, so she will be burning up the airwaves now. I was really hoping we would not get the di-pole up so we would have to come back for more chili, but it was not to be. Angie and Tim completed that task and got the di-pole in the air.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the next Club meeting.

73's

Mike, WA3RFE

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VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link: www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. NEXT TEST SESSION - MARCH 26, 2011.

APRIL SOCIAL

April's social is being held on Saturday, April 2, at the Sirloin House in Eden at 6:00pm. Yum, Yum!!

AREA HAMFESTS

RARSFEST RALEIGH, NC APRIL 23

WWW.rars.org

RCARC SWAPFEST REIDSVILLE, NC MAY 14

www.rcarc.com

DAYTON HAMVENTION DAYTON, OHIO MAY 20 - 22

www.hamvention.org

W-S CLASSIC HAMFEST WINSTON SALEM, NC JUNE 11

www.Classic2011.w4nc.org

NASA Seeks Amateur Radio Operators' Aid to Listen for Nanosatellite's Beacon Signal

On Wednesday, January 19 at 1630 UTC, engineers at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama confirmed that the NanoSail-D nanosatellite ejected from Fast Affordable Scientific and Technology Satellite (FASTSAT). According to NASA, the ejection event occurred spontaneously and when engineers at Marshall identified and analyzed onboard FASTSAT telemetry; the ejection of NanoSail-D also has been confirmed by ground-based satellite tracking assets.

NASA is asking radio amateurs to listen on 437.270 MHz for the signal and verify NanoSail-D is operating. Hams should send information to the NanoSail-D dashboard via the web at, **www.nanosaild.engr.scu.edu/dashboard.htm** NASA said that the NanoSail-D science team is hopeful the nanosatellite is healthy and can complete its solar sail mission. "This is great news for our team," said Dean Alhorn, NanoSail-D principal investigator and aerospace engineer at the Marshall Center. "We're anxious to hear the beacon which tells us that NanoSail-D is healthy and operating as planned. The science team is hopeful to see that NanoSail-D is operational and will be able to unfurl its solar sail." As of Thursday, January 20, the NanoSail-D dashboard is reporting that beacon data has been received, but NASA still wants amateurs to track and report the signals.

On December 6, 2010, NASA triggered the planned ejection of NanoSail-D from FASTSAT. At that time, the team confirmed that the door successfully opened and data indicated a successful ejection. Upon further analysis, however, the team found no evidence of NanoSail-D in low-Earth orbit (LEO), leading them to believe NanoSail-D remained inside FASTSAT. The FASTSAT mission has continued to operate as planned with the five other scientific experiments operating nominally.

"We knew that the door opened and it was possible that NanoSail-D could eject on its own," said FASTSAT Project Manager Mark Boudreaux. What a pleasant surprise we had Wednesday morning when our flight operations team confirmed that NanoSail-D is now a free flyer."

If the deployment is successful, NASA said that NanoSail-D will stay in LEO between 70 and 120 days, depending on atmospheric conditions. NanoSail-D is designed to demonstrate deployment of a compact solar sail boom system that could lead to further development of this alternative solar sail propulsion technology and FASTSAT's ability to eject a nanosatellite from a micro-satellite -- while avoiding re-contact with the FASTSAT satellite bus.

Submitted by Paul Patterson, N4CE

If interested in listening for the Nanosatellite's beacon contact Paul by e-mail at N4CE@RCARC.COM.

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2 meter net

146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 7:00PM 2 meter HEN net

NEW!!

147.345MHz 103.5 tone

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.) This new net is mainly used by YL's.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 rag-chew net

443.975MHz no tone

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.)

OTHER	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 tone
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820 no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255 no tone
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 no tone
Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100 tone
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200 no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone
	Daily Nets	
5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb



Who's ham shack is this?
(See answer on last page.)



2011 Frostfest Attendees



Angie's antenna party!

Minutes for February 15, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its February 2011 meeting on February 15, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 21 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and were accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical- Power Supply and power cable</u> were swapped out on 146.850 repeater. Operation has been good since. The radios at the Red Cross building, whose location were brought up at the last meeting, have been subsequently located. Dal Williams (W4YQY) advised that we need to inventory this equipment. Radio Station crew will be going up the tower for 94.5 where the 147.345 repeater is located. It was suggested that they could replace connector and do a visual inspection and perhaps also take photographs to get an idea of the condition of equipment. We will need to commit funds to have work done on the top of the tower. We should be thinking about what kind of offer to make in order to minimize repeater downtime.

ARES/Skywarn- Skywarn weather spotter class will be held on April 18 at 7pm. Guilford County is holding exercises on February 26. Bring HT for traffic passing practice. Mike and Tim (WD4GXD) plan to attend. Also mentioned were the Gears and Cheers Bike-a-thon on May 21 and the MS walk on April 9 both of which will need the participation of amateur radio operators who are comfortable operating in a net type communications situation. An ARES Area 9 net is being studied. Dal also relayed an incident of an amateur operator transmitting on Sheriff's Department Frequencies. The club was reminded that transmissions should be on amateur frequencies and those allowed to the operator's license class unless it is a genuine emergency as defined by FCC regulations.

Publicity- Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) and Angie Stallings (KJ4WRE) are formulating ideas on publicity. Ad is still in paper.

<u>Swapfest</u>- Lamarr Neese (WB4VVY) and George Brewer (WN4LTY) reported that a vendor from past swapfests has expressed interest and intents to participate. Swapfest will be promoted in SERA and in the April or May QST. Swapfest will be on May 14th.

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

The next Social will be held on April 2. The club thanks Peggy for taking the lead on organizing our socials.

Members were advised to make a list of any club equipment in their possession and bring to next meeting.

Peggy and Angie report that Hennet is going well. New participants encouraged and welcome.

New Business

Field Day is coming up on June 25 and 26. Mike Lewis (KD4CSJ) is verifying that we can hold at same location as last year which is Shelter One at Lake Reidsville. Angie is taking the lead on organization of the Field Day assisted by Paul Patterson (N4CE) and Trey Belton (W4SH) Vice President Cam McIntire (KU4VY) called for volunteers for program presentations.

Program

"Refilling Printer Ink Cartridges" presented by Paul Patterson.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club

RCARC Members Checklist N4IV 146.850MHZ 103.5HZ

	CALLSIGN		DATE	DATE		
#	Prefix	Suffix	NAME	QTH	ANN	OUT
	Al4	DR	DUKE	MAYODAN, NC		
	K4	ADA	KAY	EDEN, NC		
	K4	RPK	BOB	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	K4	RVJ	JAMEY	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	K4	UUM	HENRY	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	KD4	CSJ	MIKE #4	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	KE4	WSF	TOMMY	EDEN, NC		
	KF4	KPM	TERRY	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	KI4	PMM	DEWEY	CASCADE, VA		
	KI4	PRU	MARGIE	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	KJ4	ANA	PEGGY	RINGGOLD, VA		
	KJ4	SEN	CHRIS	LEXINGTON, NC		
	KJ4	WRE	ANGIE	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	KJ4	YOC	AMBRA	STONEVILLE, NC		
	N4	ZZC	JIM B.	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	KU4	VY	CAM	DANVILLE, VA		
	N4	CE	PAUL	STONEVILLE, NC		
	N8	KSG	BILL	SUMMERFIELD, NC		
	NC4	CN	RUSS	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	W4	SH	TREY	STONEVILLE, NC		
	W4	SIX	BILL	MONROETON, NC		
	W4	WBP	BRYANT	CASCADE, VA		
	W4	YQY	DAL	EDEN, NC		
	WA3	RFE	MIKE #3	REIDSVILLE, NC		
	WB4	Ш	BERRY	EDEN, NC		
	WB4	VVY	LAMARR	GREENSBORO,NC		
	WD4	GXD	TIM	RUFFIN, NC		
	WN4	LTY	GEORGE	EDEN, NC		

Answer to picture quiz: Dal's ham shack - his cabin.



Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club. Inc.



N4IV

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Mikey, WB4III

Vol. 9 No. 4

www.rcarc.com

April 2011

President's Corner

Spring has Sprung! You would have never known it during the cold dreary weather on the morning of the MS Walk. Despite the cool damp weather things went pretty well. During that event we had our first Bicycle SAG. Thanks to Angie for patrolling the route on her bike and for everyone else that helped out.

The 85 repeater is up, using the Majorie repeater and no controller. There are no beep tones or station ID, so when using it please make sure to ID and state that you are using the N4IV repeater. There is a Morse Code ID only controller on order that should arrive this week.

The GE radio came back with a clean bill of health from the radio man, and the Cat 1000 controller checked out okay from the manufacturer. Put the two of them together and the repeater will still not work. Tim has fresh setup schematics and the repeater on his test bench for troubleshooting. Thanks & 73's

Mike WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA & Events
- p.3 VEC test & Hamfests & YL comments
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 Picture Gallery
- p.6 March secretary minutes
- p.7 Cross Reference & Pictures

About the Newsletter: This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham Co. Amateur Radio Club. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, W4SIX, Bill, your editor



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Va. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor, and make reports to the net control on 147.03 repeater. When; "Watchers or Warnings" require net activation. The 146.85 and 147.345 repeaters will be programmed to state; "SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS". The 147.03 repeater is one of several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS

CHANNELS FREQUENCIES

162.400	WXL42	WINSTON SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
162.475	WXL60	BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM CO.
162.550	WXL58	RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL NC

A Nation-wide network of radio stations broadcasts continuous weather information from nearby NWS offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the National Weather Service. It's best to have a battery backup and SAME (Specific Area Message Encoder) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham County. Complete information at NOAA's website www.weather.gov/nwr/

EVENTS

RCARC MONTHLY MEETING

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2 meter net. **Next meeting is May 17, 2011**.

THURSDAY'S BREAKFAST

Gathering between 7:00am and 7:15am every Thursday at Chaney's on Freeway Drive in Reidsville. Come join the conversations, food, subtle jokes, and bragging. Last to arrive PAYS! Hi! Hi!

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, every weekday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work. Also, the Thursday morning breakfast group joins in making more fun for the group. Some base stations join the commute bunch to wish them a good day at work and just to say good morning. Try us between 6:30am and 7:30am. We welcome all newcomers.

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link: www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. NEXT TEST SESSION - MAY 28, 2011.

GEARS AND CHEERS

The Gears & Cheers Ride, a charity bike ride for MS, will be held at the Grove Winery in Gibsonville on May 21st. Club members may volunteer to help at water stations and to help riders in need of assistance. Contact Mike, WA3RFE, if interested. Check for details at GearsAndCheers.org website. Have fun.

AREA HAMFESTS

RARSFEST RALEIGH, NC APRIL 23

www.rars.org

RCARC SWAPFEST REIDSVILLE, NC MAY 14

www.rcarc.com

DAYTON HAMVENTION DAYTON, OHIO MAY 20 - 22

www.hamvention.org

W-S CLASSIC HAMFEST WINSTON SALEM, NC JUNE 11

www.Classic2011.w4nc.org

HAMMING - What is it? The YL opinion

Being the wife of an avid Ham operator is not the easiest wifely job! First a YL must know "what is a Ham?" and "what is a YL?" Well, according to my intuition a Ham is a person who enjoys playing with electronics, or whatchamacallits to us uneducated persons; coax or wire to the ordinary person; masts, or poles to the everyday person; radios, or that 'thing with the dials' to a kid, and other important items known as stuff to us YL's. Then the Ham person plays with all of these components over and over again never tiring like a child with a favorite toy. The Ham configures these 'things' into various arrays changing them periodically - every other week - and enjoys the challenge of getting it right. When the components are all finally correct a signal from the air is heard! Eureka! The Ham has succeeded in hearing another Ham who has accomplished the same feat. Then they repeat as often as possible. Nirvana has been accomplished. However, the Ham must now reverse all of his hard work and try another combination of all of his stuff to see if he can do it again. That is what a Ham is. He does also relish in the joy of comrodere of all Hams in the world at accomplishing these feats of mastering electronics and airwaves. Congratulations! You can now talk to anyone free of charge when the band is open. (I can talk to my friends free of charge by phone anytime. But that's just me.)

Now as to what a YL is. That's easy. A YL is slang for all of us 'young ladies', no matter if we're 60 years old, who endure and enjoy our Ham husbands. We enjoy them because they call us young no matter what age we are. Doesn't that show the creativity of Hams? And the love for their 'sport ' so much that they butter up us wives. And it works!

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

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146.850MHz 103.5 tone

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Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100 tone
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
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Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone
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2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb





Minutes for March 15, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its March 2011 meeting on March 15, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 21 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

The club welcomed its newest member and General Class license holder Tom Cox (KB5SYK). Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Treasurer's Report was read by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical- Power</u> supply swapped out on 850 repeater, power supply had bad voltage regulator. A new one has been ordered but has not arrived yet. GE Radio was sent to guy in Kentucky. The radio was examined and looks good with no problems. Cost \$45.00.

ARES/Skywarn- Skywarn Class to be held on April 18th. Mike and Tim Walker (WD4GXD) went to exercise in Greensboro. Both recommended that if we have the chance to participate that we should. Dal Williams (W4YQY) informed the club that those who need help on FEMA certification can take advantage of a class on March 26th at 9:00am at the Greensboro Fire Department #13. A \$5.00 donation is requested and those interested should let Dal know. Publicity- Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) and Angie Stallings (KJ4WRE) are planning several items in this area.

<u>Swapfest</u>- Lamarr Neese (WB4VVY) sending out flyers in mid-April. Several vendors are already committed to attend. Swapfest will be on May 14th.

<u>Historian</u>- There are more pictures up on the picture website. We need a link to it from the main RCARC website

Old Business

Mike Mansfield is putting a list together of <u>club equipment</u>, location, and who is in possession of it. Additional information should be submitted to Mike to keep list current.

Gears and Cheers will be on May 21st. We're in need of about five more radio operators.

Club has been requested to help with MS Walk at Penn House on April 9th

<u>Red Cross radios</u> are all accounted for. They would like to come to a future club meeting to talk to the club about installing radios in Red Cross vehicles.

George Brewer (WN4LTY) has posted club's <u>Field Day</u> information on ARRL website. Angie is listed as the contact person.

Spring Social is on April 2 at 6pm at the Sirloin house in Eden.

New Business

Jamey Nixon (K4RVJ) advised that we still need more <u>net control operators</u> for the Monday and Tuesday night nets. See Jamey if interested.

Dal asked if we have <u>updated insurance</u> on radio equipment in use. With Spring and Summer coming with the likelihood of frequent electrical storms the club felt it was a good idea to check into this.

Program

"Inexpensive VHF/UHF Antennas" presented by Tim Walker (WD4GXD).

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club

CROSS REFERENCES/NUMBERS

	English_	Spanish	<u>French</u>	German	<u>Japanese</u>
0	zero	cero	zero	null	rei
1	one	uno	un	eins	ichi
2	two	dos	deux	zwei	ni
3	three	tres	trois	drei	san
4	four	cuatro	quatre	vier	shi
5	five	cinco	cinq	funf	go
6	six	seis	six	sechs	roku
7	seven	siete	sept	sieben	shichi
8	eight	ocho	huit	acht	hachi
9	nine	nueve	neuf	neun	kyuu
10	ten	diez	dix	zehn	juu
12	twelve	doce	douze	zwolf	juuni
40	forty	cuarenta	quarante	vierzig	yonjuu
	YES	SI	OUI	JA	HAI
	NO	NO	NON	NEIN	IIE

Charlotte Hamfest

Berry and Kay Dal, George, Dewey





Who's up the tree? Angie

Who's our patriot? Mike #4

Thanks to the following for helping with the MS Walk: Mike, Mike, Angie, Peggy, Russ, Jamey, Jim, Tim.

Details and pictures will be in the May issue.

Pictures from April's social will also be in the May issue.



Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N41V

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Mikey, WB4III

May 2011 Vol. 9 No. 5 www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

It's time for our annual swap-fest Saturday at 8:00 at Calvary Baptist Church. If you can come out early, 6:00am, please do so to help us setup. Unfortunately 146.850 is down again so the 147.030 will be the talk-in frequency. Spread the word about the change.

Speaking of 85, we are still being haunted by the repeater ghost. The GE master radio refuses to work with the controller. The Maggiorie Radio will work with the controller, however, the Maggorie has proven itself unreliable as it will get a lot of static in it after a few minutes of use. Tim has put together a good report of all his findings and we have sent the report to the GE master expert to see what he recommends.

Another event coming is the Gears and Cheers bike ride on 5-21. We can still use a couple more HAMs to help out, so if you can, please let me know.

On June 11th there will be a Winlink training class at the Red cross on Highway 14 starting at 10:00. Dave Potter, W4RPI, will give a lecture on Winlink. After the lecture there will be 3 winlink stations setup for some hands-on experience. Due to the interest in this class we might have to have 2 hands-on sessions to accommodate everyone - one before lunch, one after lunch. If you are interested in the class please let me know so I can put you on the roster.

Don't forget our ARES net on Thursday nights 8:30 pm on 147.345 machine. You do not need to be a member of ARES to check in. We are putting together a new option for those of you who are interested in ARES but have not completed the FEMA classes. Friends of ARES will be those of you who would like to help out with events such as the MS walk and biker rides, take part in some training classes, etc. The only thing the Friends of ARES members will not be able to do is participate in any official ARES drills, or in case of an event, be able to work with any ARES served Agency, such as the Red Cross. If you are interested in becoming a Friends of ARES member please let Dal, W4YQY, or I know and we will be happy to put you on the roster. Thanks & 73's Mike WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

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- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA & Events
- p.3 VEC test & Hamfests & Photos
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 Picture Gallery
- p.6 April secretary minutes
- p.7 Autobiography
- p.8 Autobiography continued
- p.9 Antenna raising & Tim's photo



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The Gears & Cheers Ride, a charity bike ride for MS, will be held at the Grove Winery in Gibsonville on May 21st. Club members may volunteer to help at water stations and to help riders in need of assistance. Contact Mike, WA3RFE, if interested. Check for details at GearsAndCheers.org website. Have fun.

AREA HAMFESTS

DAYTON HAMVENTION www.hamvention.org W-S CLASSIC HAMFEST www.Classic2011.w4nc.org DAYTON, OHIO MAY 20 - 22

WINSTON SALEM, NC JUNE 11

MS WALK PHOTOS





AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2 meter net

146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 7:00PM 2 meter HEN net

147.345MHz 103.5 tone

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.) This new net is mainly used by YL's.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 rag-chew net

443.975MHz no tone

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OTHER 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 tone
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820 no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255 no tone
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 no tone
Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100 tone
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200 no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone
	Daily Nets	
5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

PHOTO GALLERY

April's Social





More MS Walk





Minutes for April 19, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its April 2011 meeting on April 19, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 17 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical</u>- Concerning the 146.850 repeater, nothing is wrong with the controller or the radio but they will not work together. Working to get the 850 repeater back on the air soon.

<u>ARES/Skywarn</u>- There is an ARES net on Thursdays at 8:30pm on the 147.345 repeater. There has been interest expressed in having a Winlink class involving RCARC and other groups in the area. Jamey Nixon (K4RVJ) and Mike Lewis (KD4CSJ) are the new assistants for Skywarn. <u>Publicity</u>- Items still in development.

<u>Swapfest</u>- Swapfest will be on May 14th from 8:00am-12:00pm at the Calvary Baptist Church, the same location as last year. We will need club members at 6:00am to move tables and help get setup. George Brewer is taking care of getting ads on QST. ARRL gift certificates will be given away. We need to put an ad in the local newspapers. Tickets will be \$5.00 Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

Gears and Cheers will be on May 21st.

Bill Larsen is talking to Dal Williams (W4YQY) about installing radios in Red Cross vehicles. Mike Mansfield reported that MS Walk went well.

Field Day- We have food covered. Antennas to be setup need to be checked out. Also we will need drop cords, tools, soldering irons, and generators. Lamarr Neese (W4VVY) will fix breakfast on Sunday morning.

New Business

Auction to be held on April 30th in Roanoke.

The club also discussed ways to protect the repeaters from electrical surges.

Program

"International Beacon Project" presented by Cam McIntire (KUY4VY).

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm

Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III

Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club"

WB4III





W4SIX

About the Newsletter: This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham Co. Amateur Radio Club. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, W4SIX, Bill, your editor

W4YQY On The Air For 60+ Years....."IT'S A FAMILY TRADITION"

HAMS have heard the callsign W4YQY on the air for years, however they may not realize that it has been heard over the airwaves for 60+ years! For those who know me, they know that I have not yet reached my 60th birthday, others might think it's a vanity callsign. Now for the history behind W4YQY.

The call W4YQY was first issued back in the late 40's to my father, Clyde Williams (sk) in Leaksville, NC now known as Eden, NC. Seeing as how this was before I was born, one may say that I was assigned to W4YQY rather than W4YQY being assigned to me. Being born into ham radio was just a part of my DNA. It has been said that my very first words as a child was 'CQ'!







The first picture shows W4YQY sometime in the era of 1949. The setup is what later became our dinning room and desk is actually a drop leaf table. At the time I think this room was probably a dual use room between 'shack' and den. A little after this, the radios had to be moved out to its own room which is actually the first 'shack' I can recall.

The next 2 photos are dated November 1954 which was a small room about 6 foot by 12 foot built between the garage and breezeway porch. I can still recall the aroma of that room to this day! The smell of burning solder, along with blown resistors and capacitors, glowing tubes and hot transformers. Most of the equipment of that day was homebrew and of course large and weighed a ton but the old-timers can remember, had that very distinct aroma about them.

As coming along into the world of Amateur Radio, I was introduced to the CB radio as a lot of us were, only I may have been at a little younger age that most. I remember sitting and talking for hours to several around the area who didn't mind taking up a little (or lot) of time with a child. That first CB rig is just as clear as a bell in my mind today. It was a Heathkit Twoer also known as a 'lunchbox' with its single channel transmit with the crystal plugging into the front of the radio, a VFO receiver that had be so carefully dialed in to receive the other station, and the Push-To-Talk lever on the front of the radio. As time went on the station of W4YQY changed many times throughout the years. At some point on in the mid-60s that old shack was demolished along with the breezeway and become a new den or family room with a large L-shaped desk built in where that old shack had once been located.

Now back to the W4YQY callsign. At that time span that W4YQY was issued, the FCC allowed a station to hold two different callsigns and Dad also had the call W4BJF. At some point around 1980 the FCC rules had changed and a person could only hold one call so when dad went to renew, they only renewed W4BJF and W4YQY was not heard on the air again for years. I remember Dad making phone call after call and writing letter after letter in attempts to regain the W4YQY call but finally just give up. Now keep in mind that this all occurred before the Vanity program was introduced and he just never proceeded in applying for it. Dad would carry the W4BJF call until the time he went Silent Key in 1998. I have always received kind comments from friends and fellow hams, that Dad was a gentleman and well respected.

As I had mentioned, I got my actual start on the radio on the 11 meter bands in the very late 50s and stayed with CB up until 1969 when I got tired of all of the junk on there. I finally took my Technician Test sometime in late 69 and finally got my License in the mail in January 1970 as WA4FVX. After all the years of Dads encouragement, nagging, and prodding, I did it! After a number of periods of on the air and then off the air and then finally upgrading to General with periods of on and off the air, I finally slowed down in life to find more time to spend on the air. While doing some research one day I saw that the W4YQY had never been re-issued so I applied for it as a family member of the callsign and it was granted to me. Finally W4YQY back in the family! Not long after this I finally took the plunge and upgraded to Extra Class. Sure do wish Dad could have been around for that day.

Ahh...you must wonder what happened to the W4BJF callsign. Along back in 2002 I had moved back to Eden from Florida and got active with a number of the local hams in the area. Many I had known for years but a lot of new ones around here as well. Several years went by a small group of formed the Rockingham Co Repeater Association and put up the 147.030MHz repeater. Seeing as how we were an Association, we applied for a Club Callsign and was issued KI 4CGV. Right after this, I was doing some searching around again and found that W4BJF had never been re-issued so here I go again in applying for another Vanity call. So today I feel very lucky to have both of Dads previous call signs back on the air and in the area.

Now we fast forward to today in 2011. W4BJF is still on the air as the Rockingham Co Repeater Association on 147.030MHz and 443.975MHz Repeaters. W4YQY is still on the air and probably more today than ever. Of course the station setup has changed 10 fold over the years but that same excitement that the once 5 year old kid had back in the fifties still lingers on today. Surely with 9 Grandchildren today I will be able to find at least one of them that I can nag into ham radio so one day they will be able to carry on W4YQY!





W4YQY today looking for another 60+ years on the air. 73 Dal, W4YQY

ANTENNA PARTY APRIL 14,2011

After the Thursday Breakfast 4 of my Ham friends came by 233 Penn Lake Drive and removed 3 antennas (10/15/20 Mosley 3 element beam) (6 meter 3 element beam) & (11 element 2 meter beam) along with the tilt over device. Some of these antennas will be used at my new location, next door, 235 Penn Lake Drive.

These 4, W4YQY, Dal, KD4CSJ, Mike, NC4CN, Russ, plus WN4LTY, George got my tower base installed, a couple of years ago, (a tilt over tower).

These feats were accomplished while I sat under a shade tree eating a moon pie, and drinking a R C cola. THANK GOD! For Ham Friends! Submitted by Jamey K4RVJ



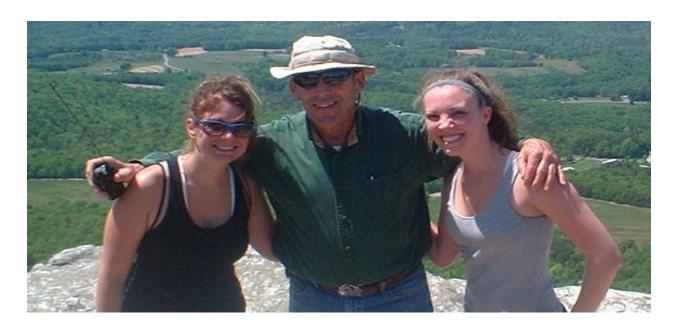








TIM'S HIKE TO MOORE'S KNOB





Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Mikey, WB4III

June 2011 Vol. 9 No. 6 www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

CQ, CQ, CQ. N4IV calling CQ. Figured I'd go ahead and start getting us warmed up for field day. Only a couple of weeks left and it will be here. You don't want to miss this year. Dal is going to be cooking Barbeque for the meal on Saturday night. Guess we better plan on working Digital and CW after that meal is served. Can't work phone with our mouths full. If we don't make a lot of contacts at least we won't go hungry.

146.850 is back on the air! Thanks to Tim WD4GXD and all his hard work. Hopefully all the bugs and demons have been exercised out of it. Their were multiple issues going on. Every time one would get resolved, another would show up.

Bob Heil from Heil Sound is putting on a new podcast called Ham Nation. A podcast is a show that is produced and usually downloaded and listened to on an Ipod. Ham Nation is also a video program that can be watched by going to http://twit.tv/hn. Episode 2 is a must watch. It talks about how HAM radio was used to help after the horrible tornado in Joplin.

I am happy to say the Winlink class was a success. We had a total of 10 participants that took part in the 2 sessions. At least 4 counties, and possibility more, where represented by the participants. I would like to thank Dave W4RPI for all his hard work and for bringing down his equipment and putting on the class.

I hope everyone has a great month and makes lots of contacts! Thanks & 73's
Mike WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

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p.2 Skywarn, NOAA & Events

p.3 VEC test & Hamfests & Photo

p.4 Area Nets

p.5 Picture Gallery - Swapfest

p.6 May secretary minutes

p.7 Gears & Cheers Photos

About the Newsletter: This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham Co. Amateur Radio Club. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, W4SIX, Bill, your editor



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Va. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor. and make reports to the net control on 147.03 repeater. When; "Watchers or Warnings" require net activation. The 146.85 and 147.345 repeaters will be programmed to state; "SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS". The 147.03 repeater is one of several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS

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162.400	WXL42	WINSTON SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
162.475	WXL60	BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM CO.
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A Nation-wide network of radio stations broadcasts continuous weather information from nearby NWS offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the National Weather Service. It's best to have a battery backup and SAME (Specific Area Message Encoder) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham County. Complete information at NOAA's website www.weather.gov/nwr/

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THURSDAY'S BREAKFAST

Gathering between 7:00am and 7:15am every Thursday at Chaney's on Freeway Drive in Reidsville. Come join the conversations, food, subtle jokes, and bragging. Last to arrive PAYS! Hi! Hi!

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, every weekday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work. Also, the Thursday morning breakfast group joins in making more fun for the group. Some base stations join the commute bunch to wish them a good day at work and just to say good morning. Try us between 6:30am and 7:30am. We welcome all newcomers.

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link: www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. NEXT TEST SESSION - JULY 30, 2011.

GEARS AND CHEERS REPORT

The Gears & Cheers Ride, a charity bike ride for MS, was held at the Grove Winery in Gibsonville on May 21st. Handling messages for this ride may sound dull but there was some excitement. First, some riders got off course and had to be redirected. Second, one rider had chest pains. We called the doctor and EMS. Third, 3 riders were bitten by dogs requiring intervention by the sheriff for the dog owners while the riders were transported to the winery for first aid. Lastly, we had to switch frequencies due to interference. All in all, it was a successful day. Thanks to everyone who helped. See you next year.

FIELD DAY

Field Day is almost here. This year's Field Day will be held on June 25th and 26th, Saturday and Sunday, at Reidsville Lake shelter #1. Come on out and join the fun! Field Day will be the main topic of next month's newsletter. See if you make the news?!

DAYTON HAMVENTION

Dayton is the Granddaddy of all hamfest and again this year the event did not disappoint those who made the trip to Ohio. A small group from our area made the journey by bus or by car pooling. Money saved on travel was surely applied to purchases made at this hamfest.

Repeated THANKS to all who helped with Jamey's antenna raising.



AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

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Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
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Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
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Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
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8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

PHOTO GALLERY SWAPFEST













A good time was had by all. I heard only positive comments. It was a nice day to eyeball QSO with HAMS from previous years' swapfest. It was not a big money maker but good times are priceless. Special thanks to Lamarr and George for arranging the event and donating their time.

Minutes for May 17, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its May 2011 meeting on May 17, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 23 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical</u>- Reprogrammed controller still will not work with GE repeater. Power supply did have a bad component but is now functional. Controller and radio were both sent back to Henry on 5/16/11. There will be no cost if it is the squelch board.

<u>ARES/Skywarn</u>- Friends of ARES group is up, you can sign up even if you do not have your FEMA certifications yet. Winlink Class will be held on 6/11/11 at 10 am. There will be a one hour lecture and then hands on with portable workstations.

<u>Publicity-</u> Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) met with Lisa Doss of Eden's Own Journal and gave her several articles on the club and its activities. We're covered for June and July. New article ideas welcome for future issues.

<u>Swapfest</u>- Swapfest was held on May 14th from 8:00am-12:00pm at the Calvary Baptist Church. Thanks to all who helped out. We got lucky on the weather. We sold 101 tickets which was down from last year and that is likely due to uncertainty about the weather. We sold 125 tickets in 2010 and 175 in 2009.

Treasurer's report was read by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

<u>Historian</u>- Nothing to report

Old Business

<u>Field Day</u> preparation is underway. We have 2 cases of drinks left over from Swapfest. Angie (KJ4WRE) is going to talk to Terry about the use of his generator. Ideally we should have at least two in case of a mechanical failure of one of them.

<u>Insurance</u>- Dal (W4YQY) and Jamey (K4RVJ) suggested holding off and see what equipment we have and get repeated situation resolved, then decide what equipment we want to insure before committing to a policy.

<u>Club</u> decided to purchase power conditioners for both repeaters. We can purchase from State Electronics in Danville, VA, for a cost of \$44.31 each plus 5% sales tax.

Gears and Cheers will be on May 21st. We could still use a few more radio operators.

New Business

Program

"Computer Viruses and Malware" presented by Berry Miley (WB4III).

Meeting adjourned at 8:12pm Respectfully Submitted Berry Miley, WB4III,Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club



GEARS & CHEERS PHOTOS



DON'T FORGET FIELD DAY!!!!!!!

JUNE 25 & 26



Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Mikey, WB4III

The Rocking Hallmer News

July 2011

Vol. 9 No. 7

www.rcarc.com

Special Field Day Edition

President's Corner

I hope everyone had a great 4th and is staying cool now that the weather has really set in. I am so thankful that we had such good weather for field day.

Speaking of Field Day, it was a great success. That was the best field day I ever had, and it looks like we have scored the most points we ever have. The food was great. Dal fixed the best goat barbeque I ever had. However, it's the only goat barbeque I ever had. (despite what Dal says, I don't think it was goat.) I hate that I overslept and missed out on Lamarr's breakfast. It must have been good, there was nothing left but the dry toast.

I would like to thank everyone that participated and helped out. Angie and Paul did a great job getting things organized. Peggy, Lamarr, Dal, (and his goat) and everyone else that provided food. We did not go hungry, that's for sure. Last, but not least, thanks to everyone that brought out equipment, helped setup, and tear down. Field Day was a team effort and the way the club can pull and work together makes me proud to be a member of RCARC.

Thanks & 73's

Mike WA3RFE

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p.4 Area Nets

p.5 Picture Gallery - Field Dayp.6 June secretary minutes

p.7 - 11 Field Day Photos

PHOTO CREDITS: Thank you for submitting pictures for the newsletter - Terry, KF4KPM, Paul, N4CE, Mike L., KD4CSJ, and others.

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Skywarn criteria for hail

The reporting procedure is as follows:

Report hail with a diameter greater than or equal to ½ inch (always report largest hail size and never refer to hail size as marble size.)*



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*SKYWARN

Jamey, K4RVJ, has updated the criteria for reporting hail. The reason to report hail by diameter and not by reference to marbles is that marbles come in different sizes. Sometimes golf - ball or baseball size hail is used as a reference. Thanks to Jamey for this update as shown on the previous page under SKYWARN.

FIELD DAY

This year's Field Day was held on June 25th and 26th, Saturday and Sunday, at Reidsville Lake shelter #1. A big thanks to all the club members and guests for making Field Day 2011 a success!! Thanks to Dal, W4YQY and Phyllis for donating and preparing an excellent BBQ supper. Also, to Peggy for seeing to it we were all fed and hydrated and to Lamarr for cooking up another fine Sunday breakfast. And of course a big thanks to all of you who took time out of your weekend to bring out radios, antennas and equipment needed.

A big salute and thanks to Moses Cone for bringing out their communication mobile unit headed up by Luis. I think we all agree Rockingham County and surrounding area will be better served in case of disasters when we work together.

I think most of you will agree this year's field day was a very pleasant one. The weather and band conditions had a lot to do with that, plus we got started a couple of hours earlier.

The club made 673 contacts which equate to 1176 QSO points. Double that for our power class for 2352 claimed points.

Our bonus points are:

200 Emergency power 100 Media

100 Public location100 Message to SM100 Public information table100 Satelite contact100 (handled 10 received messages)100 W1AW bulletin100 Site visted by an elected offical50 Web submission!

1,050 bonus points plus our 2352 claimed points = **3402 Score**! Great job everyone!!

Submitted by Paul



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This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.)

OTHER AREA NETS

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Sunday 8:00pm	Sherrills Ford, NC	50.150 no tone
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5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
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2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

PHOTO GALLERY FIELD DAY



Angie up in the air again!

George goes up!



How many Hams does it take to raise a G5RV?

Minutes for June 21, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its June 2011 meeting on June 21, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 24 persons present. Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Treasurer's report was read by Berry and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical</u>- The 145.850 repeater is up and working with replacement controller. Squelch board was also replaced. Russ Harrison (NC4CN) reported some interference but that it could be location specific. There were also reports of another repeater coming through. Tim Walker (WD4GXD) replaced power conditioners at both repeater sites. The one at the 147.345 site had already taken a hit as Tim showed us the old one. The club needs to visit the condition of these units at least annually.

<u>ARES/Skywarn</u>- Winlink class was held on 6/18/11. ARES database undergoing a cleanup. If you have not completed all four FEMA certifications you will not get invitation to be included in the database.

<u>Publicity</u>- Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) reports article published in the Eden's Own Journal. There was also an article published in the Rockingham Edition of the News and Record.

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

<u>Field Day-</u> Date is June 25 and 26th at Lake Reidsville Shelter 1. Angie Stallings (KJ4WRE) informed the group that setup will begin at 7:30am She will bring biscuits for those who are there to help. Dal Williams (W4YQY) will cook and serve BBQ on Saturday evening and Lamarr Neese (WB4VVY) will cook breakfast on Sunday morning. Paul Patterson (N4CE) advised the group that a message will be going out on Friday night that will be worth 50-100 points if copied correctly.

<u>Insurance</u>- Dal (W4YQY), Jamey Nixon (K4RVJ), Paul,. James and Russ will serve as committee to determine what equipment we have in service and what we need to insure. And make proposal to the club for coverage.

<u>Gears and Cheers</u> was held on May 21st. It went well and was eventful including lost riders, dog bites, and a heart attack..

New Business

Hamfest in Salisbury, NC on Saturday July 9th.

We've been invited to participate in the Rowan County Field Day, but cannot due to our own. Cam McIntire advised the group that we will have guest speaker for next month's program. As this presentation will last anywhere from 45 minutes to an hour, he suggested having the program first and then the regular business afterwards.

Program

"RF Safety Issues" presented by Tim Walker (WD4GXD).

Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm

Respectfully Submitted

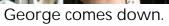
Berry Miley, WB4III, Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club

KJ4WRE) is going to talk to Terry about the use of his generator. Ideally we should have at least Respectfully Submitted

Berry Miley, WB4III, Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club

MORE FIELD DAY PHOTOS!







"This old 3 element 6M beam still works."



"There's no end to this coax!"



"Jamie, gave me this."



Furman seeking satelite signal.

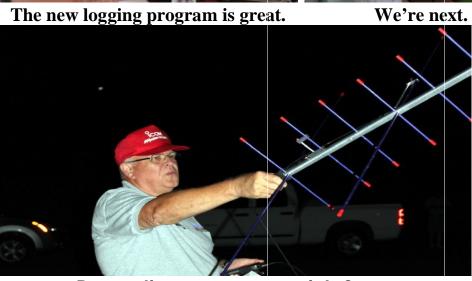


Everyone ready?





The new logging program is great.



Do satelites come out at night?



Everyone takes a turn.







The whole family joins in.











Social hour just before contest time.









2011 FIELD DAY WAS DEFINITELY A SUCCESS.



Rockingham Country Amaleur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Miley, WB4III

The Rocking Hallmer News

August 2011 Vol. 9 No. 8 www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

Mike 3 has been on vacation and unable to submit a message. He will return next month. Thank you for your patience.

Thanks & 73's

Bill W4SIX, editor

Mike, WA3RFE



NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA & Events
- p.3 Events & Articles
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 Photo Gallery & Special Event
- p.6 July secretary minutes
- p.7 W1AW Station photos

About the Newsletter: This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham Co. Amateur Radio Club. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, W4SIX, Bill, your editor

Bill, W4SIX





Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Va. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor, and make reports to the net control on 147.03 repeater. When; "Watchers or Warnings" require net activation. The 146.85 and 147.345 repeaters will be programmed to state; "SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS". The 147.03 repeater is one of several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county.

Skywarn criteria for hail

The reporting procedure is as follows:

Report hail with a diameter greater than or equal to ½ inch (always report largest hail size and never refer to hail size as marble size.)*

Skywarn criteria for tornado

The reporting procedure is as follows: Report a tornado when you spot rotating wall clouds or a funnel.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS

CHANNELS FREQUENCIES

162.400	WXL42	WINSTON SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
162.475	WXL60	BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM CO.
162.550	WXL58	RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL NC

A Nation-wide network of radio stations broadcasts continuous weather information from nearby NWS offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the National Weather Service. It's best to have a battery backup and SAME (Specific Area Message Encoder) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham County. Complete information at NOAA's website www.weather.gov/nwr/

EVENTS

RCARC MONTHLY MEETING

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2 meter net. **Next meeting is September20, 2011**.

THURSDAY'S BREAKFAST

Gathering between 7:00am every Thursday at Chaney's on Freeway Drive in Reidsville. Come join the conversations, food, subtle jokes, and bragging. Last to arrive PAYS! Hi! Hi!

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, every weekday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work. Also, the Thursday morning breakfast group joins in making more fun for the group. Some base stations join the commute bunch to wish them a good day at work and just to say good morning. Try us between 6:30am and 7:30am. We welcome all newcomers.

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link: www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. NEXT TEST SESSION - SEPTEMBER 24, 2011.

AUGUST SOCIAL

RCARC held it's August social at the Sirloin House in Eden o Saturday, August 6. Twenty-nine guest enjoyed various dinners over lively conversations. Thanks to Peggy for making these arrangements. We'll gather again in October for Dal's stew. Details will be provided in next month's newsletter. Hopefully you can all come join the fun!

July 30th 2011 VEC TEST SESSION

The VEC test team conducted the July testing at the Eden Library on July 30th. Dal, W4YQY, was session manager. VEC team included Jamey-K4RVJ, Trey-W4SH, Russ-NC4CN, and Paul-N4CE. We had two applicants pass their exams. Both were for the Extra class License. Congratulations to Angie-KJ4WRE and Mark Matthews-KJ4ZEE!!!

Visit to ARRL Headquarters W1AW

Some of you may know that I made a car trip to Connecticut. This was in conjunction with the 3905 Century Club net's annual eyeball meeting. If you are not familiar with the 3905 Century Club, it's web page is 3905ccn.com. It is a worked all states, DX and awards net similar to the OMISS net.

This year's eyeball was within 45 minutes of the ARRL headquarters in Newington. It was quite the caravan of ham mobiles heading from Enfield to Newington that Friday morning in mid-July. A good number of the members are HF mobile equipped so you can imagine the looks we got from passing motorist.

I've included some pictures from the tour we took. About eight of us mentioned we wanted to operate the W1AW memorial station. Even though no one came back to my several CW CQ's it was still a moment in ham radio that I will remember the rest of my life.

Submitted by Paul N4CE

Pictures on page 7



AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2 meter net

146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 7:00PM 2 meter HEN net

147.345MHz 103.5 tone

NOTE: Suspended until fall

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.) This new net is mainly used by YL's.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 rag-chew net

443.975MHz no tone

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PHOTO GALLERY

From Roanoke Hamfest - Tommy and Doug



SPECIAL EVENT

September 16, 2011 thru September 18, 2011 - Celebrating the 31st annual Plano Balloon Festival, members of the Plano Amateur Radio Klub (PARK) and area amateur radio operators will be QRV as K5B during the festival. Frequencies plus or minus QRM: 7.255, 14.255, 21.355 and on the club repeater, WD5ERD on 147.180 + PL 107.2 and via Echolink at K5PRK. QSL with SASE to K5PRK.

For more information go to WWW.K5PRK.NET

Submitted by Tim, WD4GXD and Eddie Durham

Minutes for July 19, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its July 2011 meeting on July 19, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 21 persons present and one guest speaker.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Program was Moonbounce by guest speaker Marc Franco (N2UO)

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical</u>- Henry was contacted about the 147.345 repeater and he is willing to check it out. Is interested in buying CAT controller. Dal Williams (W4YQY) reported that no decision has been made as far as insuring equipment until we know what will actually be in service. Motion to sell CAT controller and Majorie repeater and to check into Ebay as an option. Repaired power supply going back into service and loaner is being returned to Furman.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

<u>ARES/Skywarn</u>- Our thanks for the hospital unit brought to Field Day. They are interested in combining groups in hospitals to work in plans for drills. Mike is looking for ideas for training. Mike and Dal brought up the idea of having regular ARES meetings and the need to get newsletters out so that we know what other counties in Area 9 are doing. Area 9 website is under construction.

Publicity- Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) requested articles and article ideas.

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

<u>Field Day-</u> We set club record with over 3400 points, the best the club has done.

Insurance- Discussion tabled for now.

New Business

Discussed October picnic and possible social in August. Dal suggested a stew for our October social and club will shoot for October 8th at 1pm. Peggy will schedule room at Sirloin House for social on August 6th.

Dal suggested gathering a list of all hams in the county to solicit for possible new members. Motion was made to proceed with this as a membership drive and Robert (K4RVK) mentioned a possible bulk rate to reduce postage.

Program

"Moonbounce" presented by Marc Franco (N2UO).

Meeting adjourned at 8:54pm

Respectfully Submitted

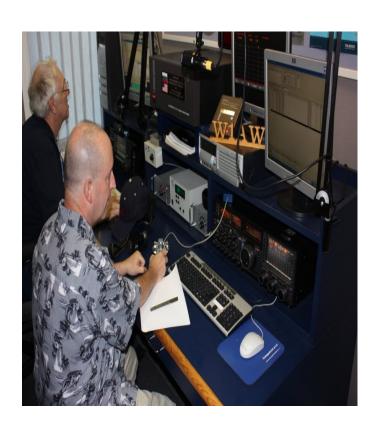
Berry Miley, WB4III, Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club







Paul at W1AW Memorial Station in Newington, CT





Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Mikey, WB4III

September 2011 Vol. 9 No. 9 www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

Where did summer go? Fall is here and I am welcome the cooler temperatures. Fall also means its time for the Ride the Rock bike ride (October 15th) and the Club Picnic October 8th at Lake LeMar.

There is a ARES drill coming up on Oct 1st. For more info or sign up to participate please go to **Error! Bookmark not defined.**. You will need to have all your certifications to participate, but if you do not, and just want to observe to see what ARES is all about, just let me know.

The ARES team had their fist meeting at the County Emergency Operations Center. We learned that if the County where to lose its Viper System, they would need Communications setup at the EOC, 5 main fire stations and up possibly 2 shelters. Unfortunately our ARES team does not have the staff to be able to meet this possible need. Other possible uses for the ARES team, would be to help with damage assessment, and storm spotting. If you have any interest, or know of any hams that are not members of the club that would like to join ARES please let me know.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone for all the thoughts, prayers, kind words, and support after the loss of my father. My family and I are very grateful.

Thanks & 73's Mike, WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

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p.2 Skywarn, NOAA & Events

p.3 Events & Article "ITV" not "TVI"

p.4 Area Nets

p.5 Photo Gallery

p.6 August minutes

p.7 - 9 Irene's photos

About the Newsletter: This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham Co. Amateur Radio Club. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, W4SIX, Bill, your editor

Bill, W4SIX



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Va. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor. and make reports to the net control on 147.03 repeater. When; "Watchers or Warnings" require net activation. The 146.85 and 147.345 repeaters will be programmed to state; "SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS". The 147.03 repeater is one of several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county.

Skywarn criteria for hail

The reporting procedure is as follows:

Report hail with a diameter greater than or equal to ½ inch (always report largest hail size and never refer to hail size as marble size.)*

Skywarn criteria for tornado

The reporting procedure is as follows: Report a tornado when you spot rotating wall clouds or a funnel.



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CHANNELS FREQUENCIES

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Skywarn criteria: Flash flood & rain > than 1" per hour. Wind gust > or = to 50MPH - note - down live tree limbs 1 - 2" in diameter or larger indicate winds > than 55MPH. Report weather related damage, injuries or loss of life.

EVENTS

RCARC MONTHLY MEETING

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2 meter net. **Next meeting is October 18, 2011**.

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, every weekday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work. Also, the Thursday morning breakfast group joins in making more fun for the group. Some base stations join the commute bunch to wish them a good day at work and just to say good morning. Try us between 6:30am and 7:30am. We welcome all newcomers.

TUESDAY'S BREAKFAST

Gathering at 7:00am on Tuesday at the Farmer's Table on Scales Street in Reidsville. Come eat.

THURSDAY'S BREAKFAST

Gathering around 7:00am every Thursday at Chaney's on Freeway Drive in Reidsville. Come join the conversations, food, subtle jokes, and bragging. Last to arrive PAYS! Hi! Hi!

SATURDAY'S BREAKFAST

A new Saturday morning breakfast social opportunity is being held at 8:00am at the Sirloin House in Eden. This special breakfast buffet gathering will accommodate our working members. Come join us. We will continue this breakfast if members are able to attend. Our first breakfast was August 20th and it was a success.

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link: www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. NEXT TEST SESSION - SEPTEMBER 24, 2011.

OCTOBER SOCIAL

RCARC will have a brunswick stew social on October 8 at the shelter at Lake Lamarr at Mike 3's around 4:00. Each member can get his helping for \$13. Freezer containers will be available. Hopefully you can all come join the fun!

RED CROSS RADIO RALLY

On September 10, 2011, the RCARC was planning to hold a radio rally at the Red Cross building in Eden. **It was canceled.** Future plans will be announced here.

"ITV" not "TVI"

A few nights ago I ran into an interference problem with my ICOM transceiver. I was monitoring weak USB signals on the 50 MHZ band. A constant S3 background was preventing me from solid copy on a couple of stations in GA. My listening was interrupted by my XYL reminding me that we were going to watch a program on the "one eyed" monster. One hour later, after the TV program, I returned to the ham shack. My XYL is somewhat of a fanatic about turning off lights and appliances when not in use so the TV was turned off. I was checking the S meter again and the radio noise level had dropped from S3 to S1 which made it possible to work one of the stations previously covered by noise. I switched the offending TV on and off to confirm the noise source. The background noise was eliminated by separating the TV and the transceiver AC wiring. I also added an additional copper ground rod. The transceiver ground circuit was modified to make ground wires shorter. I also physically separated the AC input wiring to the TV and the radio. I didn't keep good notes but the changes took care of my "ITV" problem. ("ITV" is "Interference from TV")

Submitted by Bill Scott, W4SIX

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2 meter net

146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 7:00PM 2 meter HEN net

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NOTE: Suspended until fall

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PHOTO GALLERY











Jeannette's Pier, Nags Head

Trees over power lines

Minutes for August 16, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its August 2011 meeting on August 16, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 24 persons present and one guest representative from the Red Cross.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical</u>- Power Supply is out on the 146.850 repeater again. It was replaced with power supply belonging to Russ Harrison (NC4CN). Previously repaired power supply has failed again but it and the one from 850 worked when tested offsite. Mike and Tim Walker (WD4GXD) discussed putting line fuses between the power supplies to see if fuses will blow instead of power supply itself. We also need to contact Henry about 345 repeater and his interest in buying the CAT controller.

<u>ARES/Skywarn</u>- Representative from Red Cross updated the club on recent changes within the organization. He wants to also get involved in getting radios working again. Mike suggested having a Red Cross Radio Rally on September 10th around 10am to get radios working. Dal Williams (W4YQY) informed the group that the ARRL has come out with a new Emergency Communications Course which he encouraged everyone to take. Unsure of cost at this time.

Publicity- Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) requested articles and article ideas.

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

<u>Historian</u>- Nothing to report

Old Business

Recruitment letter has been written by Mike Mansfield and we also have the envelopes and lists which were distributed to a committee of club members for preparation and mailing. It will include information on ARES and also the VE team testing sessions for those whose license has expired.

August social went well and was well attended. Our next social will be a stew at Lake Lamarr on October 8th. Dal will be cooking stew and has calculated that each paid member of the club needs to contribute \$13.00 to cover costs. Depending on turnout there may be stew for members to take home.

New Business

There are two weekly breakfasts in Reidsville each week. Can one of them be moved to Eden or on Saturday to allow those to attend who normally cannot? After a discussion it was decided that instead of changing either established breakfast that we would experiment with the idea of an additional breakfast on Saturday at the Sirloin House. First one was scheduled on August 20th and then based on turnout and interest the club will decide whether to continue it and how often.

Program

"OSL Cards" presented by Paul Patterson (N4CE).

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

Respectfully Submitted by Berry Miley, WB4III, Secretary, Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club



First EARTHQUAKES EARTHQUAKES EARTHQUAKES

and then a *HURRICANE*. What will we do?



Kill Devil Hill



Kill Devil Hill



Nags Head



Rodanthe, NC



Nags Head

MORE HURRICAN IRENE PHOTOS

Route 12 is broken in 5 places on Hatteras The ARES, Amateur Radio Emergency Service, has been busy as of late due to earthquake activity, hurricane and flooding, followed by associated tornado warnings. North Carolina and even Rockingham County has experienced these weather phenomena. The earthquake originating in Virginia shook us here in Reidsville for just a bit but sent warnings throughout the county. After that surprise Hurricane Irene hit the Outer Banks causing widespread power outages and flooding. ARES aided in communications among rescue groups ranging from South Carolina through Vermont. Without their assistance rescue efforts would have been delayed. Thanks to all who helped!

Damaged water tower in Cary, NC



Ocean City pier, Maryland



What's left of a 1903 cottage, Nags Head, NC





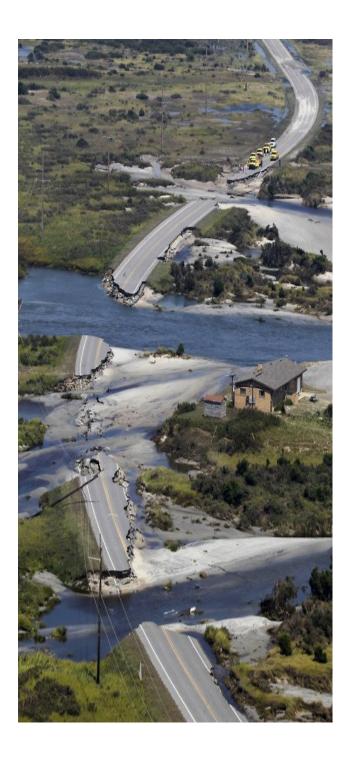
Windham, NY

Route 100 in Vermont





Route 12 was broken in 5 places on Hatteras Island, NC. About 2,500 people were stuck on Hatteras Island, NC. $\,$



SEE SHOCKING NEWSLETTER





Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Miley, WB4III

October 2011 Vol. 9 No. 10 www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

I hope everyone had a good time at the Club picnic the year. The weather was perfect, and I think Dal's Goat Stew is even better than his Goat barbeque! A big thanks to everyone who got up early and came out to help. A very big thank you to Dal.

Good news! the 146.850 repeater is back on the air! I am hopeful that we have finely replaced all the bad parts. I would like to thank my XYL Sue for all the work she has done on packing up and shipping the 85 off to be repaired. Thank You!!

The ARES team participated in Operation Wildfire earlier this month. Grant N8ICS, Furman WD4MKU, and myself WA3RFE operated from the County EOC, the same building as the 911 center. Tim WD4GXD and Bill from the Red Cross (Sorry Bill I can't remember your call) provided assistance in a simulated wildfire drill that was hosted by Glen Sage and the crew up in VA. for more info and pictures check out the webpage at www.w4ghs.org/Wild-Fire.html

I hope everyone has a good month and finds some time to work a little DX.

Thanks & 73's

Mike, WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA & Hurricane names
- p.3 Events
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 Photo Gallery
- p.6 September minutes
- p.7 Madison Heritage Festival Event

About the Newsletter: This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham Co. Amateur Radio Club. Please advise me of any change of address. Please have all articles to me by the 2nd Tuesday of each month. 73, W4SIX, Bill, your editor



Rockingham County is a member of the National Weather Service in Blacksburg, Va. Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor, and make reports to the net control on 147.03 repeater. When; "Watchers or Warnings" require net activation. The 146.85 and 147.345 repeaters will be programmed to state; "SEVERE WEATHER ALERTS". The 147.03 repeater is one of several the Blacksburg office will activate when severe weather requires gathering weather reports from our county.

Skywarn criteria for hail

The reporting procedure is as follows:

Report hail with a diameter greater than or equal to ½ inch (always report largest hail size and never refer to hail size as marble size.)*

Skywarn criteria for tornado

The reporting procedure is as follows: Report a tornado when you spot rotating wall clouds or a funnel.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS

CHANNELS FREQUENCIES

162.400	WXL42	WINSTON SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
162.475	WXL60	BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM CO.
162.550	WXL58	RALEIGH NWS PIEDMONT & CENTRAL NC

A Nation-wide network of radio stations broadcasts continuous weather information from nearby NWS offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the National Weather Service. It's best to have a battery backup and SAME (Specific Area Message Encoder) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham County. Complete information at NOAA's website www.weather.gov/nwr/

Skywarn criteria: Flash flood & rain > than 1" per hour. Wind gust > or = to 50MPH - note - down live tree limbs 1 - 2" in diameter or larger indicate winds > than 55MPH. Report weather related damage, injuries or loss of life.

HURRICANE NAMES FOR 2011

Since 1953 Atlantic tropical storms have been named from a list created by the National Hurricane Center and now maintained and updated by the World Meteorological Organization. The lists featured only women's names until 1979 when men's and women's names were alternated. Six list are used in rotation. If all the names in a season's list have been used later storms are named for Greek letters, in alphabetical order. A storm is given a name once its winds reach 40 mph. Because hurricanes often occur at the same time officials assign short, distinctive names to the storms to avoid confusion among weather stations, coastal bases, and ships at sea. Below is the list of names for 2011.

Major hurricane names are retired by the National Hurricane Center.

Arlene	Bret	Cindy	Don	Emily	
Franklin	Gert	Harvey	Irene	Jose	
Katie	Lee	Maria	Nate	Ophelia	
Phillipe	Rina	Sean	Tammy	Vince	Whitney

EVENTS

RCARC MONTHLY MEETING

The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2 meter net. **Next meeting is November 15, 2011**.

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, every weekday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work. Also, the Thursday morning breakfast group joins in making more fun for the group. Some base stations join the commute bunch to wish them a good day at work and just to say good morning. Try us between 6:30am and 7:30am. We welcome all newcomers.

TUESDAY'S BREAKFAST

Gathering at 7:00am on Tuesday at the Farmer's Table on Scales Street in Reidsville. Come eat.

THURSDAY'S BREAKFAST

Gathering around 7:00am every Thursday at Chaney's on Freeway Drive in Reidsville. Come join the conversations, food, subtle jokes, and bragging. Last to arrive PAYS! Hi! Hi!

SATURDAY'S BREAKFAST

A new Saturday morning breakfast social opportunity is being held at 8:00am at the Sirloin House in Eden. This special breakfast buffet gathering will accommodate our working members. Come join us. We will continue this breakfast if members are able to attend. Our first breakfast was August 20th and it was a success.

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link: www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. NEXT TEST SESSION - NOVEMBER 26, 2011.

OCTOBER SOCIAL

RCARC had a stew social on October 8 at the shelter at Lake Lamarr at Mike 3's around 4:00. After much help with cutting and peeling and de-boning Dal mixed his secret recipe and simmered the stew to perfection. Each member ate his share of the good stew and desserts! Then we all got to take some home for later. Thanks to all of the cooks. (Pictures on page 5)

RIDE THE ROCK

On October 15, 2011, the RCARC participated in the Ride the Rock. Details will be in next month's newsletter. Mike Lewis is coordinating this event. Hopefully we will have pictures to share.

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2 meter net

146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 7:00PM 2 meter HEN net

147.345MHz 103.5 tone

NOTE: Suspended until fall

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.) This new net is mainly used by YL's.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 rag-chew net

443.975MHz no tone

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Sunday 9:00pm	Greensboro News & Info Net	145.150 100 tone
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820 no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255 no tone
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 no tone
Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100 tone
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200 no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone
	Daily Nets	
5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

PHOTO GALLERY
October 8th Stew Social. Food and fellowship for everyone! THANKS!









More pictures? Check next month.

Minutes for September 20, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its September 2011 meeting on September 20, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 23 persons present.

Meeting was called to order at 7:01pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical</u>- 146.850 repeater still offline, the inline fuses inserted blew this time as opposed to power supply. Sent back to Henry who feels repeater took a power hit and it also could be an accumulated problem that has developed over time. Can repair the repeater in exchange for the CAT controller. Mike has also purchased a power supply at the Shelby hamfest and spoke to some about Marjorie repeater but not anything on EBay as of now.

<u>ARES/Skywarn</u>- Red Cross Radio Rally back on but as yet unscheduled. Date of November 5th at 10am was suggested. Drill was held on October 1st with southern Virginia group simulating a fire emergency. Dal (W4YQY) stressed the FEMA certifications which are required to participate in drills.

Publicity- Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) requested articles and article ideas.

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

<u>Historian</u>- Nothing to report

Old Business

Recruitment letter has been sent out and has received a couple of responses including attendance at meeting.

Our next social will be a stew at Lake Lamarr on October 8th, with mealtime set for 4pm. Dal will be cooking stew and has calculated that each paid member of the club needs to contribute \$13.00 to cover costs. Depending on turnout there may be stew for members to take home. Need 1 person at 5:30am and additional people at 6am to help prepare stew.

Saturday breakfast at Sirloin House in Eden now being held each Saturday at 8am.

New Business

Mike Lewis (KD4CSJ) informed the club that the Ride to Rock will be on October 15th at 9am. Those participating need to be there by 8:30am to get setup

Ambra and Tim Walker (WD4GXD) participated in the bike ride at Tanglewood which went well.

Nominating committee for the 2012 club officers will consist of Tim, Jamey Nixon (K4RVJ) and Bob King (K4RPK).

Paul Patterson (N4CE) has setup an event call sign to coincide with the Madison Heritage festival on October 1st.

Dal requested bios for the club webpage. He also suggested those interested in upgrading their license to get together and form a class with each student teaching a chapter.

Program

"9/11 Dispatcher recordings and their relevance to our emergency drills" presented by Dal Williams (W4YQY).

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm. Respectfully Submitted, Berry Miller, WB4III, Secretary, RCARC

K4M Special Event Station



What started off as an experiment in what it takes to get a special event call, turned into getting the call and a fun weekend of operating.

For those that may not know, one can request a special event call sign for an upcoming event by going to the 1 X 1 call sign web site and put in a reservation for a call and date.

In this case it was for the 6th annual Madison Heritage Festival that was held on October 1st. The obtained K4M call was granted to the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Education Club (N4SLP) for the time period of October 1st - 2nd.

There were three of us: George WN4LTY, Tom KB5SYK and myself N4CE that participated from our home QTH. Under the K4M call we contacted over 300 stations, 30 of which were DX. This was done on the 10 - 40 meter bands.

It was a lot of fun and a neat way to promote Rockingham county to the world. There were times on 20 meters that there were stations 30 deep trying to work the K4M call. Submitted by Paul Patterson



Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N41V

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Mikey, WB4III

November 2011 Vol. 9 No. 11 www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

Happy Thanksgiving! Yes, the holiday season is upon us already. Glad I got my Christmas Island contact in. Not sure if that helps score points with Santa for some ham gear in the stocking or not.

Mark your calenders for the Christmas Social on Saturday, December 3, 2011, at The Sirloin House on Hwy 14 in Eden, NC. We will be located in the private dining room from 6:00PM till 9:00PM.

I am happy to announce that 146.850 has been on the air for more than 2 full weeks! Looks like the upping the fuse to a 20 amp one and swapping out the fuse holder for a blade type fuse did the trick. Thanks Dal, Trey, Paul, and anyone I am missing for making that change.

I hope everyone has a great month and we'll see you at the meeting on the 15th.

Thanks & 73's Mike, WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

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p.2 Skywarn, NOAA

p.3 Events

p.4 Area Nets

p.5 Photo Gallery

p.6 October minutes

p.7 Minutes continued + mystery question

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UPCOMING EVENT FOR 2012

Announcing Frostfest 2012!

Sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society, Frostfest is one of the Mid-Atlantic's largest hamfests.

Mark February 4, 2012 on your calendar, you won't want to miss this event!

Frostfest features manufacturer's representatives from major equipment makers, new equipment vendors, 300 tables of indoor flea market sales, VE Testing, DXCC Card Checking, and forums and meetings, including the ARRL Virginia State Convention.

Get all the details at **www.frostfest.com**, purchase tickets and tables, and find all the info you need to thoroughly enjoy Frostfest 2012.

We'll be at the Richmond Raceway Complex which is easy to find from all major routes into Richmond.

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BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, Farmer's Table, Scales Street, Reidsville. THURSDAY - 7:00am, Chaney's, Freeway Drive, Reidsville SATURDAY - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden COME EAT!!!!

VEC TESTING

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OCTOBER SOCIAL

(Pictures on page 5)

RIDE THE ROCK

On October 15, 2011, the RCARC participated in the Ride the Rock. Angie, Bryant, Furman, Mike 3, Mike L, Paul, Peggy, Russ, Tim, and Trey each helped at rest stations or in coordinating first aid, meals, and dog watch. One dog bite occurred it was minor. Below are some of the radio helpers.







JARSFEST 2011

Sunday, November 20, from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the American Legion Complex on Highway 301N, Benson, NC. For more info call: (919) 894-3352 or (919) 820-3498 or E-mail: blambert1@mindspring.com

HOLIDAY SOCIAL

As Mike mentioned in his President's Corner the Christmas Social will be on Saturday, December 3, 2011, at The Sirloin House on Hwy 14 in Eden, NC, from 6 to 9pm or until we all leave.

AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

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7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

PHOTO GALLERY

October 8th Stew Social continued from last month!













Minutes for October 18, 2011

The Secretary would like to thank Paul Patterson (N4CE) for taking the notes for this meeting in my absence.

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its October 2011 meeting on October 18, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 21 persons present.

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Paul Patterson (N4CE) and accepted.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical</u>- Mike reported the 85 repeater was put back in service but blew the in-line fuse. He mentioned that Henry was suspicious of the in-line fuse holder. Mike will contact Henry about fuse amperage and type.

<u>ARES/Skywarn</u>- Dal Williams (W4YQY) reported that Furman Lanier (WD4MKU) has been named ARES coordinator for Caswell County. People interested in ARES need to complete their FEMA certification. Mike stated that Paul has been appointed AEC Administrator for Rockingham County.

Publicity- Nothing to report.

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

<u>Historian</u>- Nothing to report

Old Business

Mike Lewis (KD4CSJ) gave a report on the Oct 15th Ride The Rock. Mike reported that things went well and coordinator was pleased with the club's assistance. A dog bite to one of the riders was the only reported incident. Mike will be picking up T-shirts for those that participated

K4M Special Event Station results were given by Paul. Over 300 stations were contacted on Oct 1 - 2 for the Madison Heritage Festival. Paul passed out QSL cards for members to have.

Fall Stew Social - Dal reported that all went well at the lake Lamarr social and everyone seemed to have a great time. Members had plenty of Stew to take home afterwards. Thanks to Dal for heading this up and being master chef. Thanks also to those that helped prepare the stew that morning and those that attended.

Paul Patterson asked if Dewey or any other members had carried through on the Extra class study group. Dal stated so far it has only been discussed but nothing currently in progress from either Dewey or from the club.

New Business

Jamey Nixon (K4RVJ) read the slate of officers for 2012 prepared by the nominating Committee. The 2012 slate of officers presented were: President - Paul Patterson N4CE, Vice President - Cam McIntire KU4VY, Treasurer - Ambra Janney KJ4YOC, and Secretary - Berry Miley WB4III. The Past President seat on the board of directors will go to Mike Mansfield WA3RFE and Bob King K4RPK is nominated to the open two year term. Thanks to the nominating committee (Jamey, Tim, and Bob). Jamey reminded club members that before the election of officers, nominations can be made from the floor.

Tom KB5SYK has started a calendar for 2012 events. Get in touch with Tom if you know RCARC & ham specific dates that should be included.

Dal (W4YQY) informed the club that the VE team had noticed that the Tech License manual in the Eden library was out of date. The VE team will renew the Library's QST as well as donate three Tech License manuals to the Library system (Eden, Reidsville, & Stoneville/Madison/Mayodan). (Continued page 7)

The scheduled Nov 5th Radio Rally will need to be rescheduled as there are several conflicts. Bill (W4UI) asked if the radios were licensed or a license for all radios. Dal stated that there was license for the Red Cross that incorporated all the mobile radios.

Dal advised the club that once the 146.85 repeater was considered stable (stable being defined as repeater up until next club meeting), that the 147.345 repeater should be sent back to Henry for analysis/repair.

Tim Walker (WD4GXD) commented that one leg of Red Cross's G5RV antenna had come down. Tim secured it temporarily but it needs to be re-tied.

Program

"A Video from Bell Labs on VSWR and Follow up Q&A" presented by Tim Walker (WD4GXD).

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm

Respectfully Submitted, Paul Patterson N4CE, Acting Secretary

Via

Berry Miley, WB4III, Secretary



Berry



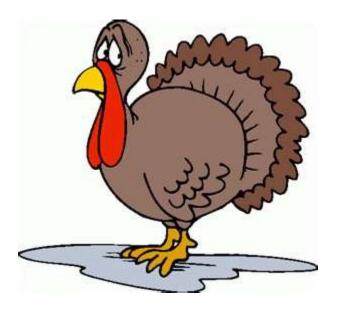
Paul

WHERE IS TIM?



Hint: Look at page 2.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING





Rockingham Country Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Vice-President Treasurer Secretary
Mike Mansfield, WA3RFE Cam McIntire, KU4VY Ambra Janney, KJ4YOC Berry Mikey, WB4III

December 2011 Vol. 9 No. 12 www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

Here we are at the end of another year, and the end as my term as President of RCARC. Its been a great year and I want thank everyone for all they do for making this club what it is.

Thanks to Bill and Rebecca for doing the newsletters and keeping a fire lit under me to get these president's corners done on time. Angie and Paul for putting together our best Field Day yet. Peggy for all the work she puts in being our Social Director. George and Lemar for putting together the Swapfest. All the officers for performing the duty of their office and everyone that helped by volunteering their time and energy in Gears & Cheers, MS Walk, and Ride the Rock.

I was honored to serve this great club as President. I believe I got more out of the experience that I put in. My only regret is that my current schedule would not allow me the time to serve 2 consecutive terms. I hope to have the opportunity to serve as President again down the road. That said, I know Paul is going to do a great job next year as President and I am looking forward to the new year.

Thanks and 73!

Mike WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS:

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p.3 Events & Social Photos

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The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy. 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in the date or time will be announced on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2 meter net. **Next meeting is January 17, 2011**.

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, every weekday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work. Also, the Thursday morning breakfast group joins in making more fun for the group. Some base stations join the commute bunch to wish them a good day at work and just to say good morning. Try us between 6:30am and 7:30am. We welcome all newcomers.

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, Farmer's Table, Scales Street, Reidsville. THURSDAY - 7:00am, Chaney's, Freeway Drive, Reidsville SATURDAY - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden COME EAT!!!!

VEC TESTING

The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on the last Saturday of each odd numbered month. Go to the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library at 598 S. Pierce St., Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9am, testing starts at 9:30am. Be sure to read what is needed from our website link: www.rcarc.com/vesched.html. including the fee. NEXT TEST SESSION - JANUARY 28, 2011.

HOLIDAY SOCIAL, December 3rd Courteous of Paul Patterson















AREA NETS

Monday 8:00PM Southside 2 meter net

146.700MHz 107.2 tone

The Virginia Southside net meeting is held each week. Quite a few of our Virginia members check into this net. The repeater should be accessible to most of us. It is used to provide net business and for announcements. Let's support our neighbors up north.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2 meter net

146.850MHz 103.5 tone

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. We will use 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone if the 146.850 is unavailable. Please make it a priority to check into our net. Jamey, K4RVJ, and Mike, KD4CSJ, are looking to fill empty NCS slots. Thanks for your help.

Tuesday 8:00PM 440 rag-chew net

443.975MHz no tone

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of each month due to the regular scheduled RCARC club meeting. (NOT RCARC affiliated.)

OTHER AREA NETS

	0 11111111111111111	
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 tone
Sunday 9:30pm	Central NC Traffic Net	146.820 no tone
Monday 8:00pm	Randolph County Net	147.255 no tone
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 no tone
Wednesday 8:00pm	Roanoke Amateur Club Net	146.255 no tone
Wednesday 8:30pm	Forsyth County ARES Net	145.470 100 tone
Wednesday 8:45pm	Greensboro Amateur Society Net	145.250 88.5 tone
Thursday 8:00pm	Pink Hill, NC	50.200 no tone
Thursday 9:00pm	Guilford County ARES Net	145.150 no tone
Saturday 8:00am	Wake Forest, NC	50.200 no tone
	Daily Nets	
5:30am	Possum Trot Net	147.225 no tone
8:00am	Richmond 6 Meter Net	50.215 no tone
2:30pm	Vag-A-Bon Net	145.470 100 tone
7:30pm	Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES)	3.923 lsb

PHOTO GALLERY CHRISTMAS SOCIAL





















Minutes for November 15, 2011

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its November 2011 meeting on November 15, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 19 persons present.

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Secretary Berry Miley (WB4III) and accepted.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

<u>Technical</u>- The .850 repeater has been online for a month. Fuse was upped to 20 Amp and repeater has been operational since. The .345 repeater is next on the schedule to be torn down and sent to Henry but club decided to wait until after the first of the year due to the holidays and to give the 85 repeater additional time to prove stability.

ARES/Skywarn- Area 10 is offering ICS classes. Bill Hurd is the newest member of the ARES group.

<u>Publicity</u>- Peggy Brewer (KJ4ANA) reported that article published in Eden's Own Journal. Paul Patterson (N4CE) has an article on the K4M event to submit.

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

<u>Historian</u>- Paul is trying to get pictures transferred to Dal Williams (W4YQY) for website. Score for Field Day published in QST of 3394. That places us 14th in NC and 4th for NC on 2A. In the Roanoke division we placed 41st and 11th in 2A

Old Business

Tim Walker (WD4GXD) commented that one leg of Red Cross's G5RV antenna still needs tying off.

New Business

Jamey Nixon (K4RVJ) reminded the club the time to appoint an Audit Committee and a Budget committee was upon us. The Audit Committee will be Russ Harrison (NC4CN) and Tim. The Budget Committee will be Peggy, Paul, and will consult with George Brewer (WN4LTY) about involvement.

The Christmas Social will be on Saturday December 3rd at 6pm at the Sirloin House in Eden. Elections for Officers for the 2012 year were held. No further nominations were made from the floor. Russ moved that the slate presented by the nominating committee be elected by acclamation and motion was carried. The 2012 slate of officers are: President - Paul Patterson N4CE, Vice President - Cam McIntire KU4VY, Treasurer - Ambra Janney KJ4YOC, and Secretary - Berry Miley WB4III. The Past President seat on the board of directors will go to Mike Mansfield WA3RFE and Bob King K4RPK was elected to the open two year term. Thanks to the nominating committee (Jamey, Tim, and Bob) for their service this year.

Program

"RF Filters" presented by Tim Walker (WD4GXD).

Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm

Respectfully Submitted



Berry Miley, WB4III

Benson Hamfest







MERRY CHRISTMAS

