



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



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WD4GXD

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The RockingHAMmer News

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Greetings;

With 2020 Field Day now in the history books, I trust everyone found ample enjoyment from the activity. Our special thanks are extended to Jim, N3UZ, for the space he provided for the event. Our next scheduled club meeting is set for July 21, 2020 at 7 PM with a change in venue from our regular meeting location. We will meet at Jim's (N3UZ) "barn", 660 Butter Road, Wentworth. Bring a lawn chair as, weather permitting, we will meet "on the lawn". The program presentation this month will be on the topic of log periodic antennas. We have a substantial amount of business to conduct at this meeting including appointment of a club repeater licensee trustee, designation of a SERA Journal contact, reclaiming and storage of club physical assets (equipment) and assigning an additional net control operator. Of course you'll get an up-to-date briefing on VE Testing, a review of several meeting minutes and a club treasurer's report. See you in the shade!

73s Tim (WD4GXD)

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You can click on the title above and you can jump to that section without scrolling.

CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Minutes

1. George Brewer (WA4LTY) became a silent key, June 2, 2020
2. Our social/meeting for June will be held during Field-day, and the foreseeable future.
3. Maker/fare was held June 13th at Jim's N3UZ 660 butter road at 4pm.
4. A crew (Paul, Tim, Mike/3) mowed the 345 site Saturday June 6th.
5. A tower available to the club was purchased by Bill N8KSG.
6. George was the clubs trustee for (N4IV), Bill N8KSG has agreed to be the trustee, pending club approval.
7. V E testing will be held June 27th at 9am, also field-day preparation, at 660 Butter road.

Photos from VE Testing and Field Day 2020 Saturday, June 27, 2020



JP Sabine, KO4BZB
Raleigh, NC
Upgraded from Technician to
General



Rob Mantz, KA5NNW
Efland, NC
Upgraded to Amateur Extra



Ron Carter, K2RGC
Saxapahaw, NC
Upgraded to Amateur Extra



Gavin Shute, KJ4GKS
Wake Forest, NC
Upgraded to Amateur Extra



Ray Wallace, KO4EYY
Stokesdale, NC
Earned Technician License



Garry Raynor, KO4EYZ
Ridgeway, VA
Earned Technician License

Not Pictured;

Kevin Fiscus, KO4EVS	Greensboro, NC	Earned Technician License
Doug Burroughs, KO4EZA	Summerfield, NC	Earned Technician License



**** 2020 Membership Drive ****

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2020. At only \$25, RCARC membership is a bargain, and your renewal is **CRITICAL** to maintaining the activities and club repeater. We have been averaging about 35 paid memberships the last couple years, and many active hams just simply forget to renew, and this creates a strain on predicting how our needs will be met. Please bring a check to the January meeting to renew, or better yet - put your renewal in the mail to the PO box listed at the top of the newsletter today. Thanks!

Thanks to the following Amateurs who have renewed their RCARC membership for 2019. Your continued support is appreciated!

Received as of July 7, 2020. Family memberships * are listed by the primary call sign

N4JRA	N1YBH	KF4KPM	N8KSG
KK4IFG	N2ECS	N4RFX	N3UZ*
W4SH	KE4WSF	K4RVJ	N3WKW
W4SIX	WD4MKU	WA4RDX	KN4BBA
WA4LTY	WA43RFE	N4CE	W3EBM
KJ4ANA	KF4LIK	KI4PRU	WD4GXD
W4AYO	KN4ODM	KJ4WRE	

Honorary Members: W4WBP WB4JYC

This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club. Computer / internet users should be able to click on the website links that are usually underlined. Please advise me of any change of address or mail preference. Please have all articles to me by the 1st Tuesday of each month.

73, The Editor (n4rfx.1@gmail.com)

EVENTS

Breakfasts

- Henry Pollock Memorial Breakfast - Tuesday – 7:00 am, The Farmer's Table, Reidsville
- Thursday – 7:00 am, Sanitary Cafe, Reidsville.

RCARC Meeting

The RCARC usually meets on the 3rd Tuesday night of the month. The January 15th, 2019 meeting will be 7 p.m. at the Salvation Army facility at 708 Barnes Street in Reidsville, NC.

Club Socials

RCARC holds a social once per quarter. For 2019 we will gather at Ruby Tuesday in Eden at 6:00 p.m., enjoying dinner together after a few brief announcements. Planned dates for 2019 are March 9, June 8, Sept. 14, December 14, all being Saturdays. Please remember that there is no regular 3rd Tuesday club meeting during the month.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

07/11/2020 - Firecracker Hamfest

Location: Salisbury, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Rowan Amateur Radio Society

Website: <http://www.rowanars.com>

07/18/2020 - 47th Annual Cary Mid-Summer SWAPFEST

Location: Cary, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Cary Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://caryarc.org>

07/18/2020 - 47th Annual Cary Mid-Summer SWAPFEST

Location: Cary, NC
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Cary Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://caryarc.org>

07/25/2020 - CANCELED - WCARS Hamfest

Location: Waynesville, NC
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://www.wcars.org/wcarshamfest.htm>
Learn More
Clarke County Ruritan Fairgrounds

08/02/2020 - CANCELED - 70th Annual Berryville Hamfest

Location: Berryville, VA
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: The Shenandoah Valley Amateur Radio Club
Website: <http://www.svarc.us/hamfest>
Learn More
Cumberland County Shrine Club

08/08/2020 - 22nd Annual Cape Fear Amateur Radio Swapfest

Location: Fayetteville, NC
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://www.cfarsnc.org>
Learn More
New Baptist Church

08/08/2020 - Tri-State Amateur Radio Association's 58th Annual Hamfest

Location: Huntington, WV
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Tri-State Amateur Radio Association, Inc.
Website: <http://www.qsl.net/W8VA>



Skywarn Weather Spotters (and all amateur radio operators) encountering severe weather, are encouraged to monitor and make reports. The Skywarn website is: skywarn.org.

Blacksburg SKYWARN conducts a weekly net one Wednesday evenings at 9pm on 146.745 as well as numerous other linked repeaters in SW VA, Northern NC and SE WV. The net is available on Echolink via KF4YLM-R. All stations, regardless of prior SKYWARN training or experience, are welcome. The net provides SKYWARN spotters with information on training events, spotting tools, and severe weather potentials in the Blacksburg County Warning Area.

The full list of FM repeaters on which this net runs is:

146.745 T107.2 K1GG/R Roanoke/Poor Mtn
 147.225 T100.0 KF4YLM/R Lewisburg, WV
 145.130 T103.5 N4VL/R Galax/Mt. Airy
 145.410 T103.5 N4VL/R Roanoke/Poor Mtn
 444.600 T103.5 N4VL/R Pulaski
 147.420 T103.5 N4VL/L (simplex) Big Walker Mtn / Wythe Co.



NOAA WEATHER RADIO BANDS - CHANNELS-FREQUENCIES - S.A.M.E.

Codes

162.400 MHz WXL42 WINSTON-SALEM NWS PIEDMONT AREA
 Rockingham County, N.C. SAME code: 037157

162.475 MHz WXL60 BLACKSBURG NWS ROCKINGHAM COUNTY
 Rockingham County, N.C. SAME code: 037157

All stations listed for travel (in MHz):

162.400	162.425	162.450	162.475	162.500	162.525	162.550
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A nation-wide network of radio stations broadcast continuous weather information from nearby National Weather Service (NWS) offices. You can get weather 24 hours a day. NOAA weather radios are the best way to receive warnings from the NWS. It is best to have a battery back-up and Specific Area Message Encoder (SAME) that will alert you when a watch or warning is issued for Rockingham County, N.C. (037157). Complete information is at NOAA's website: [nws.noaa.gov/nwr](https://www.nws.noaa.gov/nwr). For current weather forecasts on the internet, go to NOAA's National Weather Service website: [weather.gov](https://www.weather.gov). Weather forecast on a mobile device: mobile.weather.gov or cell.weather.gov

RCARC CLUB NETS

Monday 8:00 PM RCARC System Fusion Ragchew, 147.345 MHz, C4FM mode

This is a weekly informal net conducted in Yaesu C4FM digital mode to promote its use.

Please put your radio in fixed C4FM "VW" Mode.

Monday 8:30PM RCARC 2-meter FM net 147.345 MHz 103.5

This club net is a weekly meeting for announcements, business, and comments. Check-ins will be taken in analog (FM) mode. Please make it a priority to check into our net.

Thursday 8:00 PM RCARC System Fusion Ragchew, 147.345 MHz, C4FM mode

This is a weekly informal net conducted in Yaesu C4FM digital mode to promote its use. Please put your radio in fixed C4FM “VW” Mode.

AREA NETS

- | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| • Sunday 8:00pm | Sherrills Ford, NC | 50.150, no tone |
| • Sunday 8:30pm | Southern Alamance Net | 146.670, no tone |
| • Sunday 9:00pm | Greensboro News & Info Net | 145.150, 100 Hz |
| • Sunday 9:00pm | Southeastern D-Star Weather Net | REF002A |
| • Sunday 9:30pm | Central NC Traffic Net | 146.820, no tone |
| • Monday 8:00pm | Randolph County Net | 147.255, 82.5 Hz |
| • Monday 9:00pm | Lynchburg, VA | 50.400, no tone |
| • Tuesday 8:00pm | Sandlappers, Lexington, SC | 50.250, no tone |
| • Tuesday 8:00pm | Burlington ARES Net | 146.670, no tone |
| • Tuesday 8:30pm | Triad Skywarn Net | 147.255, 82.5 Hz |
| • Tuesday 9:00pm | N.C. D-Star Net (W4GSO) | REF054C or |
| 442.86250 | | |
| • Wednesday 8:00pm | Roanoke Amateur Club Net | 146.985, 107.5Hz |
| • Wednesday 8:30pm | Forsyth County ARES Net | 145.470, 100 Hz |
| • Wednesday 8:45pm | Greensboro Amateur Society Net | 145.250, 88.5 Hz |
| • Thursday 8:00pm | Pink Hill, NC | 50.200, no tone |
| • Thursday 9:00pm | Guilford County ARES Net | 145.150, 100 Hz |
| • Saturday 8:00am | Wake Forest, NC | 50.200, no tone |

Daily Nets

- | | | |
|----------|------------------------------|------------------|
| • 5:30am | Possum Trot Net | 147.225, 82.5 Hz |
| • 8:00am | Richmond 6 Meter Net | 50.215, no tone |
| • 2:30pm | Vag-A-Bon Net | 145.470, 100 Hz |
| • 7:30pm | Tarheel Emergency Net (ARES) | 3.923 LSB |
| • 7:30pm | Piedmont Triad Traffic Net | 145.250, 88.5 Hz |

OTHER AMATEUR RADIO NEWS THAT MAY BE OF INTEREST

RESEARCHERS FIND POWER IN TROPICAL HUMIDITY

PAUL/ANCHOR: Summer has arrived in many parts of the world but before you curse the humidity that often accompanies the season, think of what that water vapor might be able to do for your operating power with your radio. Graham Kemp VK4BB reports on some promising research going on in Israel.

GRAHAM: What happens when water molecules interact with metal surfaces? The result is nothing short of electric! So say researchers at Tel Aviv University who've just completed a study into how the atmosphere's water vapor might just provide a renewable energy source. SOTA enthusiasts and other portable radio operators, are you listening?

The study from the university's Porter School of the Environment and Earth Sciences, published recently in Nature Scientific Reports, pursued the evolution of electricity in thunderstorms noting how it morphs from vapor to droplets to ice and eventually spurs formation of the electricity we know as lightning. The researchers used a small low-voltage battery to determine voltage buildup between two discrete metal surfaces and found that when the environmental humidity dropped below 60 percent so did the voltage.

With humidity able to charge surfaces to as high as 1 volt, researcher Colin Price says he believes this process could eventually help develop batteries that could be recharged using water vapor in the air - provided the humidity is a very tropical 60 percent or higher.

For Amateur Radio Newslane, I'm Graham Kemp VK4BB.

VIRTUAL HAM EXPO SET FOR AUGUST

NEIL/ANCHOR: It's time to pack your virtual suitcase and prepare for a virtual journey that will take you to the first QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo this summer. The venue may be virtual but the hams and the expertise and support they are offering are very real. The QSO Today podcast, hosted by Eric Guth 4Z1UG, has already lined up such well-known speakers as Glen Johnson W0GJ, to discuss DXpeditions, Ward Silver N0AX, to talk about grounding and bonding and John Portune W6NBC to explain building slot antennas in an HOA environment.

This free 48-hour event on August 8th and 9th is a first for the popular QSO Today podcast Eric hosts weekly. The virtual platform allows attendees to interact with exhibitors via chat, video and audio and, true to the ham expo experience, it will also feature an exhibit hall with booths as well as an auditorium for speakers.

Although the expo will be live for 48 hours during the 8th and 9th, it will also be accessible for another 30 days as an on-demand event.

For additional details visit qsoodayhamexpo.com - and then make sure your smartphones, tablets and laptops will be charged up as you are likely to be there for some time.