



ROCKINGHAM COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.



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The RockingHAMmer News

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Most of you probably already know about how hard hit Western North Carolina was from Hurricane Helene. It is good to see people coming together, helping their neighbors, and sending supplies into the area to help those affected.

If you want to monitor the Auxcom nets you can find them at 40m 7.232 80m 3990 or 3993. There is another group of Hams using the Mount Mitchell repeater at 145.90 to pass traffic as well. If you can't hear that repeater, you can stream it here <https://www.broadcastify.com/webPlayer/43107>

These nets not only have lots of info about what is going on, but they are also examples of very well-run nets and how useful our hobbies can be in a disaster.

The ARRL has sent this out via email

Relaying from [Jimmy Levan](#):

** Please respond only if in or near (within 100 miles from Asheville, NC) the effected areas and have some Net Control experience. Thank You !!

AB4SL Scott Lewis has asked this to be sent out.

Amateur Radio Operator Volunteers Needed

This from Doug N3LTV:

For the hurricane Helene aftermath, we are looking for HF General or above licensed operators to assist with an HF voice traffic net between the NC State Emergency Operations Center and all of the Western Region NC County Emergency operation centers. We need operators that can call a net and pass voice traffic over HF. You may also contact us on 7.2p be providing a very needed service right now and your help will be very much appreciated.

Email D3L2W3@gmail.com

73!
Mike WA3RFE

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***The content headings are now hyperlinks to the specific content.
You can click on the title above and you can jump to that section without scrolling.

CLUB NEWS & MEETING MINUTES

Minutes

There were no minutes for September; it was a social meeting.

HAM BOOTCAMP – GETTING STARTED WITH HAM RADIO

With so many new hams getting licensed and or upgraded, the link below can serve as a great resource to supplement what was learned in preparation for the exam. [An electronic Elmer if you will](#). There are many areas not covered on the exam that contribute to learning and practicing good on-air techniques and courtesy. <https://www.n1fd.org/ham-bootcamp/>

VE TESTING SESSION NEWS

ATTENTION FCC, VE CHANGES

If you or someone you know is looking to take their ham radio test, the FCC will no longer accept SSN on the 605s. It must be an FRN from now on. You can obtain an FRN without having a call.**

Here's the link to [HamStudy.com](#) so students can sign up and register when they arrive for testing.

You can email veteam@n4iv.org anytime with any questions about testing.

**** 2024 Membership Drive ****

It is time for all members to renew their membership for 2024. At only \$25, RCARC membership is a bargain, and your renewal is CRITICAL to maintaining the activities and club repeater. We have been averaging about 35 paid memberships the last couple years, and many active hams just forget to renew, which 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 at the top of the newsletter today. Thanks!

Please direct any membership questions to KF4LIK, Michael Mosser: kf4likmichael@yahoo.com

Please consider **renewing** your membership AND sharing the membership application with non-member local hams. Membership is open to all licensed amateurs. Dues are \$25 annually. To join, fill out the application below or speak with any of our members or officers for more information. Here's the link to the membership application: **Membership Application**

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

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

EVENTS

Breakfast

HENRY POLLOCK MEMORIAL BREAKFAST and RCARC BREAKFAST will be held on **WEDNESDAY'S at 7:00 am at the Sanitary restaurant**, in Reidsville.

RCARC Meeting

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

Club Socials

Once each quarter a social event will replace our monthly meeting, normally held on that 3rd Tuesday. The months of MARCH, SEPTEMBER, and DECEMBER, the SECOND Saturday from 6:00 to 7:30 pm (Location to be announced) prior to the social.

For the month of JUNE, that social will be held in conjunction with Field-Day.

UPCOMING HAMFESTS

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

10/12/2024 - Rock Hill Hamfest, ARRL South Carolina Section Convention

Location: Rock Hill, SC

Type: ARRL Convention

Sponsor: York County Amateur Radio Society

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

Learn More

Maysville Park

10/13/2024 - Maysville Hamfest

Location: Maysville, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Maysville Hamfest Association

Website: <http://maysvillehamfest.org>

Learn More

Johnston Amateur Radio Society

11/17/2024 - 35 Annual JARSfest 2024

Location: Benson, NC

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Sponsor: Johnston Amateur Radio Society

Website: <https://jars.net>



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

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

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

146.745 T107.2 K1GG/R Roanoke/Poor Mtn

147.225 T100.0 KF4YLM/R Lewisburg, WV

145.130 T103.5 N4VL/R Galax/Mt. Airy

145.410 T103.5 N4VL/R Roanoke/Poor Mtn

444.600 T103.5 N4VL/R Pulaski

147.420 T103.5 N4VL/L (simplex) Big Walker Mtn / Wythe Co.



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

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

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

All stations listed for travel (in MHz):

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

RCARC CLUB NETS

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

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

You can now check-in via **EchoLink**, just search for **W4AYO-R** in your EchoLink app.

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

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

Please put your radio in fixed C4FM "VW" Mode

AREA NETS

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|------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| • Sunday 8:00pm | Sherrills Ford, NC | 50.150, no tone |
| • Sunday 8:30pm | Southern Alamance Net | 146.670, no tone |
| • Sunday 9:00pm | Greensboro News & Info Net | 145.150, 100 Hz |
| • Sunday 9:00pm | Southeastern D-Star Weather Net | REF002A |
| • Sunday 9:30pm | Central NC Traffic Net | 146.820, no tone |
| • Monday 8:00pm | Randolph County Net | 147.255, 82.5 Hz |
| • Monday 9:00pm | Lynchburg, VA | 50.400, no tone |
| • Tuesday 8:00pm | Sandlappers, Lexington, SC | 50.250, no tone |
| • Tuesday 8:00pm | Burlington ARES Net | 146.670, no tone |
| • Tuesday 8:30pm | Triad Skywarn Net | 147.255, 82.5 Hz |

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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| • Tuesday 9:00pm
442.86250 | N.C. D-Star Net (W4GSO) | REF054C or |
| • 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

HAMS RESPOND TO 2ND HURRICANE IN SOUTHERN US

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: As Newsline went to production, our top story was still developing: Hurricane Milton was rampaging through much of Florida in the US. As Randy Sly W4XJ tells us, hams were prepared for the worst when it came.

RANDY: While emergency communications were still continuing in the wake of Hurricane Helene's impact on the Southeastern United States, hams in Florida had to begin their own activation for Hurricane Milton on Wednesday, October 9th. In addition to the Hurricane Watch Net on 20 and 40 meters, the Statewide Amateur Radio Network, or SARNet, was busy handling traffic from the state's Emergency Operations Center. SARNet is a network of linked UHF repeaters run out of the EOC covering most of the state of Florida.

Approaching the state's western coast south of Tampa with Category 3 winds, Milton was already producing a number of tornadic supercells in southern Florida before making landfall, causing the storm's first deaths. More than 3 million were without power as the hurricane moved out to sea on Thursday morning.

As with North Carolina's Mount Mitchell repeater during Hurricane Helene, SARNet was linked to Broadcastify, allowing individuals from around the world a front-row seat as amateurs passed emergency traffic. Unfortunately, in addition to hearing a professionally-run net, listeners also witnessed malicious interference on the repeaters, which could have

endangered clear communications. With handheld radios so easy to obtain nowadays, it is hard to know whether the interruptions came from licensed hams or not.

This is Randy Sly, W4XJ

(SARNet, BROADCASTIFY)

VOICE OF AMERICA GETTING NEW HQ

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: The parent agency of Voice of America is preparing for relocation to new headquarters in Washington, D.C., leaving the historic Wilbur J. Cohen Federal Building that VOA has called home since 1954.

Beginning this year, the US Agency for Global Media will begin moving VOA and its four other international broadcast entities: Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, Radio Free Asia, Middle East Broadcasting Networks and the Office of Cuba Broadcasting. The relocation to 1875 Pennsylvania Avenue NorthWest is being called a financially sound move. The media agency said that it will save taxpayers more than \$150-million over the lease's 15-year lifetime.

WORLD OF DX

In the World of DX, there will be an earth-moon-earth event based in Dwingeloo, The Netherlands, during the Boy Scouts of America Jamboree On The Air activation on October 18th and 19th, It will be hosted by the Dwingeloo Radio Telescope. Be listening for Scout stations on 432.050 MHz on both days, between 17:00 UTC and 22:30 UTC. You can also monitor the audio via CAMRAS WebSDR.

Listen for Sam, 7K1EAS, on the air as JR6/7K1EAS from Yonaguni Island, IOTA Number AS-024, starting on the 13th of October through to the 17th. He will be using FT8/FT4 and SSB on 40, 10 and occasionally 6 metres. QSL via the bureau.

Volker, DL1WH, will be active holiday style as PA/DL1WH/p from Ameland Island, IOTA Number EU-038 from the 12th of October through to the 26th. Volker will be using CW and some SSB. See QRZ.com for QSL details.

There is still time to work Francesco, IKØFUX, who is operating holiday style as 8Q7UX from the Maldives, IOTA Number AS-013. He is on the air through the 14th of October, using CW primarily and some FT8. See QRZ.com for QSL details.

Listen for Harold, DF2WO, whose 12-day operation from Rwanda begins on the 10th of October. He is using the callsign 9X2AW, using CW, FT4 and SSB on 80-10 metres.

You may also hear in him on 6m. He will focus on stations in Asia. Harold may also be heard via the QO-100 satellite. See QRZ.com for QSL details.

A BEAST OF AN EVENT FOR "SASQUATCH AWARENESS"

STEPHEN/ANCHOR: We end this report with a reminder that it's October - the same month as Halloween - and things are about to get a little - well OK, a lot - hairy. Ralph Squillace explains.

RALPH: You may no longer believe in Santa Claus, the Easter Bunny or even the Tooth Fairy but do you believe in Sasquatch? The sizable simian of popular American folklore has a sizable following -- and when he puts his foot down, he leaves his mark. Bigfoot - that hair-covered mythical presence reportedly sighted in Western states of the US - does everything in a big way. So the Radio Club of Tacoma in Washington state is taking its cue from him by devoting six days to mark National Sasquatch Awareness Day - October 16th through to the 21st.

Whether you call the beast Sasquatch or Bigfoot, you can celebrate Awareness Day by chasing this legendary creature of the woods. Listen for W7 callsigns with suffixes that spell "BIGFOOT," starting with W7B, W7I, W7G and so on. Sasquatch Spotters will be posting his whereabouts on CW, phone, FT8/FT4, RTTY and PSK on the HF bands.

Just remember before you get on the air: put your best - and possibly your biggest - foot forward.

This is Ralph Squillace KK6ITB.