



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

President Trey Belton - W4SH	Vice-President Mike Mansfield - WA3RFE	Treasurer Pat Patterson - N4SLP	Secretary Peggy Brewer - KJ4ANA
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The RockingHAMmer News

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March 2010

President's Corner

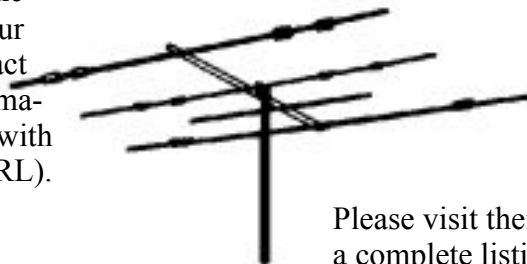
It was good to see such a large turnout at our last club meeting. We had a great time and Tim, WD4GXD presented a very interesting program on causes of interference and eliminating noise in our mobile radios. Also, the club voted to go ahead with a Winlink Station at the Red Cross and also a digipeter for APRS at the RCRA Berrymore site. Mike will be meeting with the Red Cross next week to discuss using an internet connection there to complete the Winlink Station. And our thanks also to the RCRA for sharing the Berrymore site with us. I hope some of you can help with the outside maintenance this summer as part of our rent.

I haven't been on the air as much lately due to working a lot of overtime and also due to not currently having a vehicle with a mobile radio installed. I hope to have that corrected soon.

My thanks again for the work each of you do for the club to help make it stronger. The addition of the Winlink and APRS Stations will show the surrounding area hams that our club is serious about Amateur Radio.

W4SH - Trey

ARRL AFFILIATED Help the club and be a part of the largest Amateur Radio organization in the world! Contact Dal Williams, W4YQY for more information. The RCARC is an affiliated club with the Amateur Radio Relay League (ARRL).



Please visit their website www.arrl.org to get a complete listing of the benefits available to the club and its members. Consider joining or renewing your ARRL membership through the club since a portion of your payment will be received by the club.



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; "Watches or Warnings" require net activation. The 146.85 and 147.345 repeaters will be programmed to state; "SEVER 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 County
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 per day. NOAA weather radios the best way to receive warnings from the National Weather Service. It's best to have a battery back up, 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 <http://www.weather.gov/nwr/>



Upcoming Events

RCARC meeting:

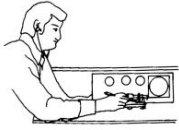
The Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the American Red Cross building located at 3692 NC Hwy 14, south of Eden. The meeting starts at 7:00pm and everyone is welcome. Any changes in date and/or time will be announced at the club meeting prior to the change and on the scheduled Monday night RCARC 2 meter net. **Next meeting is March 16th.**

Social:

RCARC Social - The club decided that in 2010 we would have a social/picnic about four times per year. Please listen to the Monday night net and/or this newsletter for the next scheduled club social.

Thursday breakfast

We've been having a great group of members attend the breakfast crowd at Chaney's in Reidsville. We'd love for you to join us each Thursday between 7:00 - 7:30am.



Local/Area Nets



Monday 7:30pm Southside net 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 and 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

The RCARC net is held weekly. We will use the 147.345 MHz 103.5 tone machine should the 146.850 machine be unavailable.

Please make it a priority to check into the net. The club net is conducted each week to provide **net business** and **announcements** for members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio Club. **JAMEY K4RVJ AND MKE KD4CSJ ARE LOOKING TO FILL EMPTY NCS SLOTS.**

Tuesday 8:00pm 440 rag-chew net 443.975MHZ no tone

This net meets each Tuesday night except the third Tuesday of the month which is the regularly scheduled RCARC club meeting. (Not RCARC affiliated)

Thursday 8pm 10 Meter rag-chew net 28.450 usb

This net meets each Thursday night. J.R. and Jamey have been hosting this net. If you have 10 meter access, stop by and say hi to the gang (Not RCARC affiliated).

Other Area Nets

Sunday - 8:30pm....	Southern Alamance Net.....	146.670 no tone
Sunday - 9:00pm....	Greensboro News & Information Net....	145.150 100tone
Sunday - 9:30pm....	Central N.C. Traffic Net.....	146.820 no tone
Monday - 8:00pm....	Randolph County Net.....	147.255 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.....	146.985 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

Other Area Nets, continued

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 1sb

HAMFESTS ! HAMFESTS ! HAMFESTS ! HAMFESTS !

Don't miss out on the upcoming Charlotte and Raleigh ham-fests. Both are always well attended and one heck of a lot of fun.

Hamfest	Date	Info
Charlotte Hamfest http://www.W4BFB.org/hamfest	13-14 Mar	Concord, NC Cabarrus Arena & Events Center 4751 Highway 49 North
RARSFest www.rars.org/hamfest	April 3	Exposition Center State Fairgrounds Raleigh, NC

CQ

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

CQ

Rockingham County VE Testing



The regularly scheduled VEC testing is held on each odd numbered month. The exams are given at the Eden branch of the Rockingham County Library located 598 South Pierce Street in Eden, NC. Registration begins at 9:00am with testing starting at 9:30am. **Be sure and read what you need to bring and fee on our website link:**

<http://www.rcarc.com/vesched.html> --The next VE test session is scheduled to be held Saturday, March 27th.

COMMUTE BUNCH

On the 147.345 repeater, Monday through Friday, mobiles get together and ragchew on the way to work, also the Thursday morning breakfast group join 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. Usually you can find this group on the air from 6:30 to 7:30 am.

Recent Upgrades

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

The Callans va. family, they went to the frost-fest and came back with 3 Extras
Bill KJ4ADN, Susan KJ4AMW, Josia KJ4AMU
And 1 General Deanna KJ4AUW

[ed: Thanks Jamey for passing this on.]



MS Bike Ride

If you want to contact Dan Page

(Dan.Page@synosys.com)

to let him know you and Pat will help with MS Bike Ride
for 2010 at Grove Winery, Gibsonville on Saturday May
22, 2010.

Thanks, Peggy, KJ4ANA

Disaster Prep Tips

As we start a new decade, let's review some of the basics of Amateur Radio disaster preparedness. The following are tips from John Covington, W4CC, of Dallas, North Carolina.

Think about how you might best be able to help during a disaster. Some of us are good at installing antennas and equipment, others of us are better at operating on the air. Not everyone is suited to doing every job. Sometimes just having helping hands, spare equipment or supplies can be helpful even if you cannot operate the radios yourself. Generators need fuel, operators need coffee, and stations need to be set up. Figure out where you best fit in. Decide how you can help out if you stay home: Can you deploy at a shelter or EOC for a few hours? Operate from home?

Have an Amateur Radio ready-kit to supplement your personal ready kit. Some items to include:

- *Portable radio, antenna and power supply or batteries (2 sets)
 - *Headset or earphones (you may be operating in a noisy area)
 - *Any cables you could possibly need
 - *Pencils and Paper
 - *Clipboard (firm writing surface, you may not have one otherwise)
 - *Radiogram forms (helpful but not absolutely required)
 - *Operating aids (pink card, Field Resources Manual, list of ARRL numbered radiograms, and anything appropriate for your local area)
 - *Small tools (multi-tip screwdriver, multitools, etc.)
 - *ARES® Identification Card, if appropriate
 - *Important phone numbers and frequencies
 - *Map of the area
 - *Flashlight
 - *Poncho - very small to store, only around \$2 and can be useful when you least expect
- If carried in lieu of a personal ready kit, a few other items may be helpful:
(continued)

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*For a short deployment, a bottle of water plus some crackers or something to eat requiring no preparation could make things much more bearable for you

*Medicine

*Toilet paper - small packets from MRE kits are very handy and don't take up much room

*Moist towelettes

Here are a few other suggestions from your editor based on his perspective as a Registered Nurse:

*Know CPR.

*Know the location of the Automated External Defibrillator (AED), and how to use it.

*Know the signs/symptoms of a heart attack and stroke.

STATE ARES MEETING -- APRIL 24

The preliminary date for our next state ARES meeting is April 24 in Raleigh.

Our Section Emergency Coordinator, Bernie Nobles, WA4MOK, and his staff are

working on an interesting and informative agenda, so mark your calendar!

RCARC TAILGATE

George - WN4LTY and Lamarr - WB4VVY have been busy getting the word out on the upcoming May 8th tailgate. Please talk it up on nets and with other area hams. George passed out tickets to be sold at the club meeting. Get in touch with George or Lamarr if you need tickets or to hand over money from ticket sales.

The site will be at the Calvary Baptist Church in the Wentworth area (same as last year).

Please look at the club minutes for additional information.

About the Newsletter:

This newsletter is published monthly by and for the members of the Rockingham County Amateur Radio club, and friends. An email of the newsletter is available by letting the editor know in advance. Please let the editor know of your change of address! Your suggestions, articles and questions are always welcomed.

Paul Patterson (N4CE) 336-548-2027, n4ce@rcarc.com

RCARC MINUTES FEBRUARY 16,2010

-MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY PRESIDENT, TREY,W4SH. TIME :700 P.M.

-MINUTES READ BY VICE PRESIDENT, MIKE,WA3FRE MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2010.

MEMBERS PRESENT: 20, GUEST PRESENT: 5 - SUSANNAH BENNETT,KJ4AMW JOSIDA BENNETT,KJ4AMV SHERRIE BENNETT,KJ4ADQ
BILL BENNETT,KJ4ADN TERRY MOSSER,KF4KPM

CORRECTIONS: KAY MILEY CALL K4ADA. PAT CANNOT BE ON ADUIT COMMITTEE ,SHE IS TREASUER OF CLUB.

- TREASUER REPORT: PAT,N4SLP, BEGINNING BAL. \$3,152.92, DUES \$225.00,TOTAL INCOME \$225.00

EXPENSES: AMERICAN RED CROSS HAITI \$50.00,NEW BALANCE:\$3,327.92, ALL ACCOUNTS:CAPITAL \$1,061.03

GENERAL \$3,327.92, TOTAL CASH: \$4,388.95, LIABILITIES;\$00.00, EQUITY:\$4,388.95, TOTAL \$4,388.95

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

-TECHINICAL:TREY,W4SH, NOTHING TO REPORT.

-ARES: DAL,W4YQY,NOTHING TO REPORT.

-HISTORIAN : PAUL, N4CE, NOTHING TO REPORT.

-PUBLICITY: PAT,N4SLP, AD TO PUT IN GREENBORO RECORD & NEWS PAPER EACH MONTH.

-HAM SWAP FEST - HEADED BY GEORGE,WN4LTY, LaMARR, WB4VVY. WILL BE TAILGATE FEST. CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
7860 N.C. HWY 87, REIDSVILLE,N.C. 27320. MAY 8,2010, 8 TO 12, TICKET: \$3.00 ADVANCE \$5.00 AT GATE, SIT UP PARKING LOT \$5.00
SHELTER WITH ELECTRICTY \$10.00, SNACKS & DRINKS WILL BE SOLD. NEW 2 METER MOBLE RADIO AS PRIZE,DO HAVE TO BE PRE-
SENT TO WIN. ALL CLUBS MEMBERS WE NEED YOUR HELP. - SET UP TABLES, TALK IN, SELL TICKETS, PARKING SET UP
CLEAN UP AFTERWARD

FLYER ON RCARC WEB-SITE. COME ON LOTS OF FUN. THANKS TO GEORGE AND LaMARR FOR WORK ON TAILGATE FEST.

OLD BUINESS:

- RUSS,NC4CN, MAKING UP PACKAGE FOR NEW CLUB MEMBERS. LOTS OF INFORMATION ABOUT CLUB AND RADIO TALK.

VOTED AND APPROVED BY CLUB MEMBERS. RUSS,NC4CN WILL MAKE UP 12 PACKAGES AND CLUB WILL PAY RUSS,NC4CN, FOR INK
AND PAPER.. THANKS TO RUSS .

-PAT DOES NOT HAVE BUDGET READY YET,BUT WILL HAVE IT LATER. THANKS ,PAT,N4SLP. PAY YOUR DUES TO PAT,N4SLP.

COME AND JOIN OUR CLUB OR COME TO MEETING TO MEET ALL OUR CLUB MEMBERS . YOU WILL BE GLAD THAT YOU CAME.

NEW BUINESS:

- LaMARR SAYS LAST BUS TRIP TO DAYTONA, DRIVER IS GOING TO RETIRE. SO IF YOU WANT TO GO CONTACT LaMARR NESSE FOR
INFORMATION.

-VOTED AND PASSED BY CLUB MEMBERS TO PAY ELECTRIC BILL FOR BARRYMORE REPEATER,\$18 TO 20 A MONTH.

-VOTES AND PASSED BY CLUB MEMBER TO DO WINLINK AT THE RED CROSS CENTER IF THEY AGREE.

-WINLINK STATION

1.PC.AND MONITOR,WA4FRE WILL DONATE. 2.NETWORK CABLE. W4SH WILL DONATE. 3.RJ45 CONNECTORS. WA3FRE WILL DONATE

4.NETWORK SWITCH. COST, AROUND \$20. 5.NEW BATTERY FOR POWER SUPPLY. COST \$80.? 6.TNC KPC-3 PLUS \$200.

7. CABLE DOR RADIO IC-OPC-478 PORGRAM CABLE \$45. 8.SERIAL CABLE FOR TNC TO PC CONNECTION. NC4CN ,RUSS TO DONATE.

9. TNC POWER SUPPLY, NC4CN,RUSS TO DONATE. COST \$345. PLUS TAX AND SHIPPING.

-APRS DIGITPEATER

LOCATE AT BARRYMORE SITE. ANTENNA AND FEED LINE ALREADY IN PLACE. 1. PC AND MONITOR ,MIKE WA3RFE WILL DONATE.

2. TNC KPC-3PLUS \$200. 3. KENWOOD TM-271 A RADIO \$150 OR ICOM IC-2200H \$170. 4.ASTRON 35 AMP POWER SUPPLY \$170

5. DATA CABLE FOR RADIO \$18. 6. SERIAL CABLE FOR TNC TO PC CONNECTION. NC4CN,RUSS TO DONATE.

7. TNC POWER SUPPLY,\$15. 8. APC UPS FOR POWER \$60. COST \$613 PLUS TAX AND SHIPPING

TOTAL FOR BOTH \$958 PLUS TAX AND SHIPPING.

VOTED AND PASSED \$500.FOR WINLIK.

VOTED AND PASSED \$\$1000. APRS DIGITPEATER

TOTAL OF \$1500.00

SET UP BY MIKE,WA3FRE AND RALPH,N4RFY AT RED CROSS BUILDING WHEN THEY GIVE US PERMISSION TO DO SO.

WE MUST GET INSURANCE ON WINKLINK AND APRS DIGITPEATER.

-PLEASE SEND OFF YOUR LETTERS TO CONGRESSMAN AND US.HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO GET HR 2160 BILL PASSED.WE
NEED ALL HAM TO SEND IN LETTERS FOR TO GET BILL PASSED.

-GEARS & CHEERS BIKE RIDE, MAY 22,2010 TO BENEFIT MS. WE NEED ALL HAM OPERATERS WE CAN GET,PLEASE HELP .

CONTACT DAN.PAGE @synosy.com. NEED TO SIGN UP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. GOOD FOOD AT GROVE WINERY AFTER RACE.

YOU WILL ENJOY AND MET A LOT OF NEW PEOPLE . SO COME JOIN IN THE FUN,YOU WILL BE GLAD YOU DID.

THANKS, COME ON ALL CLUB MEMBERS.

-PROGRAM: TIM,WD4GXD, CAUSES OF NOISE IN RADIOS.

GOOD PROGRAM TIM,WD4GXD. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION CONTACT TIM,WD4GXD BE GLAD TO ANSWER ANY QUESTION YOU
HAVE.

MEETING ADJOURN:8:50P.M.

RESPECIFULY SUMMITTED: PEGGY BREWER,KJ4ANA
SECRETARY OF RCARC