



Rockingham County
Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



N4IV

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

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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

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



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 March 15, 2011.**

THURSDAY’S BREAKFAST

Gathering between 7:10am and 7:30am every Thursday at Chaney’s on Freeway Drive in Reidsville. Come join the conversations, food, subtle jokes, and bragging. Last to arrive PAYS! Ha! Ha!

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 - MARCH 26, 2011.

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 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. The first net was held February 1st.

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
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
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 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



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)

Committee 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 from 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 www.w4bfb.org	CHARLOTTE, NC	MARCH 14, 15
RARSFEST www.rars.org	RALEIGH, NC	APRIL 23
RCARC SWAPFEST www.rcarc.com	REIDSVILLE, NC	MAY 14
DAYTON HAMVENTION www.hamvention.org	DAYTON, OHIO	MAY 20 - 22



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
& RACES
PHONETIC ALPHABETS

A - ALPHA
B - BRAVO
C - CHARLIE
D - DELTA
E - ECHO
F - FOXTROT
G - GOLF
H - HOTEL
I - INDIA
J - JULIET
K - KILO
L - LIMA
M - MIKE
N - NOVEMBER
O - OSCAR
P - PAPA
Q - QUEBEC
R - ROMEO
S - SIERRA
T - TANGO
U - UNIFORM
V - VICTOR
W - WHISKEY
X - X-RAY
Y - YANKEE
Z - ZULU

COMMON Q SIGNALS

? = QUESTION . = ANSWER

QRN - TROUBLED BY STATIC
QRM - INTERFERENCE ON FREQUENCY
QRP - I AM RUNNING LOW POWER
QRS - SEND MORE SLOWLY (...wpm)
QRT - I AM STOP SENDING
QRZ ? -WHO'S CALLING QRZ . = ROGER! OK

**Phonetics are helpful when copying
callsigns during voice transmissions.**

**Q-signals may be helpful with cw
or voice transmissions.**