



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 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

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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



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

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.

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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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

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

Technical- 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.

ARES/Skywarn- 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.

Historian- 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