



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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www.rcarc.com

President's Corner

Happy Thanksgiving! Yes, the holiday season is upon us already. Glad I got my Christmas Island contact in. Not sure if that helps score points with Santa for some ham gear in the stocking or not.

Mark your calenders for the Christmas Social [on Saturday, December 3, 2011, at The Sirloin House on Hwy 14 in Eden, NC. We will be located in the private dining room from 6:00PM till 9:00PM.](#)

I am happy to announce that 146.850 has been on the air for more than 2 full weeks! Looks like the upping the fuse to a 20 amp one and swapping out the fuse holder for a blade type fuse did the trick. Thanks Dal, Trey, Paul, and anyone I am missing for making that change.

I hope everyone has a great month and we'll see you at the meeting on the 15th.

Thanks & 73's
Mike, WA3RFE

NEWSLETTER CONTENTS :

- p.1 President's Corner
- p.2 Skywarn, NOAA
- p.3 Events
- p.4 Area Nets
- p.5 Photo Gallery
- p.6 October minutes
- p.7 Minutes continued + mystery question

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



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.



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/

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.

UPCOMING EVENT FOR 2012

Announcing Frostfest 2012!

Sponsored by the Richmond Amateur Telecommunications Society, Frostfest is one of the Mid-Atlantic's largest hamfests.

Mark February 4, 2012 on your calendar, you won't want to miss this event!

Frostfest features manufacturer's representatives from major equipment makers, new equipment vendors, 300 tables of indoor flea market sales, VE Testing, DXCC Card Checking, and forums and meetings, including the ARRL Virginia State Convention.

Get all the details at www.frostfest.com, purchase tickets and tables, and find all the info you need to thoroughly enjoy Frostfest 2012.

We'll be at the Richmond Raceway Complex which is easy to find from all major routes into Richmond.

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 December 20, 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.

BREAKFASTS

TUESDAY - 7:00am, Farmer's Table, Scales Street, Reidsville.

THURSDAY - 7:00am, Chaney's, Freeway Drive, Reidsville

SATURDAY - 8:00am, Sirloin House, Eden

COME EAT!!!!

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

(Pictures on page 5)

RIDE THE ROCK

On October 15, 2011, the RCARC participated in the Ride the Rock. Angie, Bryant, Furman, Mike 3, Mike L, Paul, Peggy, Russ, Tim, and Trey each helped at rest stations or in coordinating first aid, meals, and dog watch. One dog bite occurred it was minor. Below are some of the radio helpers.



JARSFEST 2011

Sunday, November 20, from 8:00am to 4:00pm at the American Legion Complex on Highway 301N , Benson, NC. For more info call : (919) 894-3352 or (919) 820-3498 or E-mail : blambert1@mindspring.com

HOLIDAY SOCIAL

As Mike mentioned in his President's Corner the Christmas Social will be on Saturday, December 3, 2011, at The Sirloin House on Hwy 14 in Eden, NC, from 6 to 9pm or until we all leave.

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 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.)

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 continued from last month!



Minutes for October 18, 2011

The Secretary would like to thank Paul Patterson (N4CE) for taking the notes for this meeting in my absence.

The Rockingham Amateur Radio Club held its October 2011 meeting on October 18, 2011, at the Red Cross Building on Highway 14 between Eden and Reidsville. There were 21 persons present.

Meeting was called to order by President Mike Mansfield (WA3RFE) followed by introductions.

Minutes were read by Paul Patterson (N4CE) and accepted.

Treasurer's report given by Treasurer Ambra Janney (KJ4YOC) and accepted.

Committee Reports

Technical- Mike reported the 85 repeater was put back in service but blew the in-line fuse. He mentioned that Henry was suspicious of the in-line fuse holder. Mike will contact Henry about fuse amperage and type.

ARES/Skywarn- Dal Williams (W4YQY) reported that Furman Lanier (WD4MKU) has been named ARES coordinator for Caswell County. People interested in ARES need to complete their FEMA certification. Mike stated that Paul has been appointed AEC Administrator for Rockingham County.

Publicity- Nothing to report.

Swapfest- Nothing to report.

Historian- Nothing to report

Old Business

Mike Lewis (KD4CSJ) gave a report on the Oct 15th Ride The Rock. Mike reported that things went well and coordinator was pleased with the club's assistance. A dog bite to one of the riders was the only reported incident. Mike will be picking up T-shirts for those that participated

K4M Special Event Station results were given by Paul. Over 300 stations were contacted on Oct 1 - 2 for the Madison Heritage Festival. Paul passed out QSL cards for members to have.

Fall Stew Social - Dal reported that all went well at the lake Lamarr social and everyone seemed to have a great time. Members had plenty of Stew to take home afterwards. Thanks to Dal for heading this up and being master chef. Thanks also to those that helped prepare the stew that morning and those that attended.

Paul Patterson asked if Dewey or any other members had carried through on the Extra class study group. Dal stated so far it has only been discussed but nothing currently in progress from either Dewey or from the club.

New Business

Jamey Nixon (K4RVJ) read the slate of officers for 2012 prepared by the nominating Committee. The 2012 slate of officers presented were: President - Paul Patterson N4CE, Vice President - Cam McIntire KU4VY, Treasurer - Ambra Janney KJ4YOC, and Secretary - Berry Miley WB4III. The Past President seat on the board of directors will go to Mike Mansfield WA3RFE and Bob King K4RPK is nominated to the open two year term. Thanks to the nominating committee (Jamey, Tim, and Bob). Jamey reminded club members that before the election of officers, nominations can be made from the floor.

Tom KB5SYK has started a calendar for 2012 events. Get in touch with Tom if you know RCARC & ham specific dates that should be included.

Dal (W4YQY) informed the club that the VE team had noticed that the Tech License manual in the Eden library was out of date. The VE team will renew the Library's QST as well as donate three Tech License manuals to the Library system (Eden, Reidsville, & Stoneville/Madison/Mayodan). (Continued page 7)

The scheduled Nov 5th Radio Rally will need to be rescheduled as there are several conflicts. Bill (W4UI) asked if the radios were licensed or a license for all radios. Dal stated that there was license for the Red Cross that incorporated all the mobile radios.

Dal advised the club that once the 146.85 repeater was considered stable (stable being defined as repeater up until next club meeting), that the 147.345 repeater should be sent back to Henry for analysis/repair.

Tim Walker (WD4GXD) commented that one leg of Red Cross's G5RV antenna had come down. Tim secured it temporarily but it needs to be re-tied.

Program

“A Video from Bell Labs on VSWR and Follow up Q&A” presented by Tim Walker (WD4GXD).

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm

Respectfully Submitted, Paul Patterson N4CE, Acting Secretary

Via

Berry Miley, WB4III, Secretary



Berry



Paul

WHERE IS TIM?



Hint : Look at page 2.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

