Events

Chicken Stew! On October 24, 2026 at 12:00 noon the Vagabonds will be having a Chicken Stew! It will be held at Brook Haven Baptist Church Fellowship Building, located at 2615 NC Highway 65 between Germanton and Walnut Cove - the same location as the Vagabond Cookout. Besides home-made chicken stew we'll be having hot dogs with all the fixin's. Feel free to bring your favorite dessert!

Christmas Party/Annual Meeting! The Vagabonds will be having our Annual Meeting/Christmas Party on December 12. Time & Place: 12:00 noon at the Carriage House on 1409 S Stratford Rd. Winston Salem, NC.

QTC ("I have _____ messages for you")

10/10/2026 – we all had a great time at the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club Hamfest! Despite the rain, we met a lot of Vagabonds (24 sign-ins!) and collected $50 in donations. Thanks to everyone who turned out!

Annual Meeting Matters

2026 Annual Meeting Calendar and Announcements:

(per bylaws on vagabondnet.net)

What & **When** is bolded for each **action**.

9/18/2026, the following **officers were nominated**:
Randy, N4TWD (President),
Brent, KN4ACN (Vice President),
Cathy, KM4OCS (Secretary/Treasurer)

By **November 10**, **any member** who is then qualified to vote at a meeting **may nominate** any other qualified member for any office by delivering **written** notice

of the nomination to any officer. These additional nominations will then be publicized on the Vagabonds' website, if any exists, and on the Net. (send email to mailto:vagabondragchewnet@gmail.com to send a written notification to the officers)

November/December, 2026: "A member who wishes to make a non-procedural **motion** at a meeting, on a matter outside the scope of the notice's description of the business to be transacted, may submit the motion in writing to an officer at least **one week prior to the meeting**. The motion will then be publicized on the Vagabonds' website, if any exists, and announced on the Net during the week prior to the meeting"

December, 12, 2026: **Christmas Party/Annual Meeting!** The Vagabonds will be having our Annual Meeting/Christmas Party on December 12. Time & Place: 12:00 noon at the Carriage House on 1409 S Stratford Rd. Winston Salem, NC.

2025 Annual Meeting Minutes (Draft & not yet approved):

The regular annual meeting of the Vagabond Ragchew Net was held Friday, December 5, 2025 at 8:30pm, in the private meeting room at Mi Pueblo Mexican Restaurant on 644 S Stratford Rd, Winston-Salem, NC 27103. The President, Randy Dezarn (N4TWD), presided and the Secretary, Cathy Melvin (KM4OCS), was present. This meeting was announced on nets and on the website per bylaws. This was our first in-person annual meeting and Christmas Party since prior to the pandemic in December, 2019.

13 Vagabonds signed the sign-in sheet (per bylaws Section 4.4, no quorum is necessary for the meeting). 7 other friends and family also attended.

The meeting was called to order at 8:31pm.

The minutes from the previous meeting (December 7, 2024) were read and accepted without objection.

KM4OCS, as Treasurer, read the Treasury report. The report showed a balance on hand of $1319.24. The report was approved without objection. The report is filed with the minutes of this meeting.

Silent Keys were announced by Brent, including #1002 KO4UQK, Harold Finley, #339 KF4OZF Harry Graham, #577 KN4KC, Tim Welborn, #814 KN4HND, Scott McLain, and #427 WB2RFK, Kenneth Weeman.

The President announced the members of the nominating committee: Danny (KE4UQO), Chris (KI4WBZ), Bill (WD4OTY), Bruce (WB4QCM) and the officers who were nominated: President, Randy (N4TWD), Vice President, Brent (KN4ACN), Secretary-Treasurer, Cathy (KM4OCS). There being no other nominees for those offices, all three nominees were elected by acclamation.

The President recognized Fred, NA4P as Net Controller of the Year.

The President reviewed some highlights of the past year on the Net.

The first was that after decades of breakfast at the K&W, we have moved to having breakfast at the Carriage House restaurant, just across Stratford from the K&W. Van Key (KC4WSK) was unofficially recognized as our unofficial Breakfast Chairman, and responsible for our successful transition to Carriage House, as well as re-starting our breakfast tradition after a long pause during and after the pandemic.

The second news for 2025 was the transition from the K4GW 147.315 repeater to the W4NC 145.470 repeater, led by President Randy. Dale (WB9SZL) provided valuable info to help us decide to make this change.

The President also announced that 28 new Vagabonds were pledged in 2025.

There was some discussion of venue and timing of next year's Annual Meeting and Christmas Party, but no movements were made. It was agreed that 7:30pm starting time was too late in the day.

A motion was **carried** regarding the budget for next year's Christmas party at $200, depending on the balance of receipts and disbursements later in 2026.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:56pm.

Misc Announcements

Donate! To help support our repeater & allow us to keep sending certificates to our new Vagabonds, please send a check to Vagabond Ragchew Net, 800 Redwood Ct., Winston Salem, NC 27103. We thank you!

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The Vagabond Ragchew Net is now on Facebook! Vagabonds, friends, and fellow radio wanderers... we've officially planted our flag on Facebook. This new page will be your hub for: • Net updates and reminders • Event announcements • Photos, stories, and Vagabond history • Community news and fellowship. Give us a follow, say hello, and help us spread the word. Whether you're checking in from across the holler or across the world, you're part of the Vagabond family.

Breakfast. The Vagabonds are meeting for breakfast at the Carriage House on 1409 S Stratford Rd. Winston Salem, NC. We are there every Friday, at 8:30 am. You do not need to be a Vagabond or even a Ham to join us! Friends, spouses, strangers, all are welcome! Our call-in frequency is 145.470.

Newsletter - Check out the latest edition of the 'Occasional Newsletter'! It can be found on our website - vagabondnet.net. Click on the Newsletter link on the right side of the page. You can also access older editions of the Newsletter by clicking the Newsletter Archive link.

Net Controllers. We are in need of additional net controllers. If you are interested in taking advantage of this opportunity, email our officers at vagabondragchewnet@gmail.com.

Starting the Net: If no scheduled net controller has begun this net by 2:35 pm on a scheduled net day, any permanent Vagabond may act as net controller by being the first to volunteer, on the air, to do so. Tools needed for this task are available on our website (vagabondnet.net) to any permanent Vagabond.

Members' Health and Welfare. Our thanks to Brent, KN4ACN, for serving as our Personal Information Coordinator. If you have or desire any information regarding Vagabonds as to their welfare or of illness in the family, contact Brent by e-mail (kn4acn@gmail.com), or by phone at (336) 712-7530.

Feedback. If you would like to let us know how we are doing, please email the officers at vagabondragchewnet@gmail.com. We cannot accept complaints on the air due to agreements with our repeater owners.

Testing for Amateur Radio Licenses. There are many opportunities for license testing in our area. If you're planning on taking a license test, please bring the original and a photocopy of your current license (if you have one) and the original of any current Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE), along with three forms of ID (one of which must be a photo ID). Also, remember to bring cash to pay your testing fees. Please check the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club website at w4nc.com for updates.

Other Locations - There are probably other exam sessions near you. The best way to find out about them is to go the arrl.org website and search “exam sessions”.

Newsletter Comments/Questions

If you have any questions or comments about this newsletter, or about the Vagabond Ragchew Net in general, write to our officers at: VagabondRagchewNet@gmail.com. Our officers are: President: Randy Dezarn, N4TWD, Vice President, Brent Goodwin, KN4ACN, Secretary/Treasurer: Cathy Melvin, KM4OCS.