

HARMONICS

THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
APRIL 2005 -Issue 231


Silent Key

RARS has lost another long time member. Don Beaver, K4ZMG, died on March 24, 2005.


Most of our members will remember him as our “resident” magician and still wonder how that rope still was as long as it started when he had obviously folded and cut it in two at least twice.

Some will also remember him talking about his beloved USS Belleau Wood on which he served during WWII. The crash of a Japanese suicide plane on her deck on October 30, 1944 probably contributed to his death. I was told he had Asbestosis from fighting the fires the crash caused. He received 12 battle stars, a Presidential Unit Citation, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon, Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, and the American Theater Medal during service to the USA.

DONALD G. BEAVER



SALISBURY, NC 1945




Rate / Rank
S1

Service Branch
USNR

Service Dates
4/1944 - 12/1946

Born
9/20/1925
SALISBURY, NC



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Others will remember him as a fine TV repair man working for Lomax Appliance of Spencer for 47Years.

In addition to magic, he was also a ventriloquist, and, wouldn't you know it, his dummy was a sailor.

Don also liked music and collected old country records ... Real old. I have a tape he made for me of records made by “the Skillet Lickers” about 1929. He also played . and built steel gui-

tars and especially liked to refurbish old computers.

As a magician He won the North Carolina gold medal for Senior Talent competition in 2002. He was always ready to volunteer for work at the NC Transportation museum in Spencer. He was always the magician when “Thomas the Tank” visited.

He was a staunch 2 meter operator and was frequently active during fox hunts and other community services. 73s es CUL Don.

Minutes, March 14 Meeting

Members in attendance:

John **N1JAC**
Bob **KG4WAD**
Ralph **WB4AQK**
Grey **KI4CKR**
Janet **KI4CKS**
Marla **KI4GBH**
Christina **KI4FFT**
Wade **KC4NBW**
Patti **KI4GUN**
Derwood **N4PXU**
Nelson **W4FQB**
Frank **AF4D**
Nona **KA4NHL**

Visitors

Eric Schenk **KI4JBH**
Dick Smith **KI4HNX**

Meeting started at 7:15 PM local time.

Ralph, Patti and Wade discussed possible regulations and fees regarding Wade selling donuts at the hamfest. Ralph motioned to allow the officers to determine the percentage of their take that will go to the club from the hamfest. Patti's e-mail is pstephens68@aol.com.

Regarding the repeater antenna repairs/etc, Bob got a flier from a fellow in Charlotte who might be a possibility to assist with the repairs. Wade also offered to refer a couple of gentlemen in the Lexington area who might be able to help. Bob and Grey brought up changing the current feedline to a high-quality half-inch hardline instead of the current coax that is being used. Derwood is going to try to find out what the existing coax is so we can do a loss comparison vs. a good quality hardline.

Bob brought up Severe Weather Awareness week, March 13-19. Folks should be ready for a test deployment that will be happening on Wednesday. Procedures for Red Cross/EOC deployment were copied and handed out.

Bob brought up the bio-terrorism exercise that will be coming up on May 18th or 19th. He posted the information to the RARS group, anyone who would like to attend needs to contact Nina Brow with the Rowan County Health Dept. at 704-797-1891.

Janet brought up we need to schedule a test to make sure the Red Cross station is still operating properly, etc. A schedule will be set at the next meeting to test again.

Frank Thomason, the Director of EOC for Rowan County will be speaking at the next meeting on April 11.

Frank Waring mentioned that the VP of AMSAT lives in Concord, and would be willing to come to a meeting and give a talk/demonstration. Bob Yarborough volunteered to contact him and schedule a visit.

Two new members were voted in. Dick Smith **KI4HNX** and Eric Schenk **KI4JBH** were nominated to be members by Grey Smith. John Cundiff seconded. Vote was unanimous. Both paid their dues.

Bob Yarborough then gave a demonstration of how to set up a portable 25-watt UHF repeater system, using two Motorola radios

The Rowan Amateur Radio Society
P. O. Box 593
Salisbury, NC 28145

The Rowan amateur Radio Society exists to secure for its members the pleasures and benefits of associating with persons commonly interested in amateur radio in any and all its facets. Its purpose is to facilitate the exchange of information, radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency among members. Society programs and activities are intended to advance the general interest and welfare of amateur radio in the general community.

The Society is a nonprofit organization and seeks no payment for services it provides the community's agencies.

Membership

Membership in the Society is open to all applicants who express a willingness to abide by the Society's Constitution and By-laws. Persons may apply at regular meetings and are considered elected when approved by two-thirds of those members present

Meetings

Regular meetings are held on the second Monday night of the month at 7:00 PM at the Ruffy-Holmes senior Center at 1120 S. Boundary Street

2004 Officers

President - Bobby Lewis
WD4IJX, 704-857-1403
rlewiser2000@yahoo.com

Vice-Pres. - Bob Yarborough
KG4WAD, 704-645-8320
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Sec/Treas - John Cundiff
N1JAC, 704-633-0740
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Harmonics, the club newsletter is published monthly, mostly. Submit articles, complaints, corrections, or comments to the club Secretary. Material may be reprinted provided proper credit is given.

Editor - Ralph Brown, WB4AQK

and a small controller and duplexer.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56 PM local time.

April Program

As noted above, the program for April will be presented by Frank Thomason, the EOC for Rowan County. You won't want to miss that. We need as many of you to be there as possible to show him that Amateurs in Rowan are interested and are ready to help out in emergencies.

New Web Page

Have you seen this yet? Herb, KF4TVI, has done a good job of getting it up and running at the new site. If you haven't found it look at www.w4exu.net. I hope I'm not jumping the gun on announcing this 'cause Herb asked me not to a few weeks ago, but he has it going so well that I feel sure it is OK.

From the SM

The following is an excerpt of the monthly newsletter we get from John Covington, W4CC.

Field Day will be here before you know it. This year it will be the weekend of June 25th. We are assembling a web page that will be posted at the beginning of

June 2005 with information regarding Field Day operations. This information will allow radio amateurs visiting your area or without a club to locate Field Day sites to visit and possibly operate as well.

Another event I would like to encourage you to think about is Jamboree On The Air (JOTA). This year it will be on October 15th. JOTA is an exciting opportunity to allow scouts to experience ham radio. North Carolina traditionally has had good JOTA participation, but I would like to see more of it.

Most scouts will never become hams, but they will leave their JOTA experience with a positive impression of ham radio. I believe that will benefit us in the years ahead when these young people serve on planning commissions, homeowners associations and so forth. Besides, it is great fun just to see their enthusiasm!

Upcoming Hamfests: Saturday, April 16 Catawba Valley Hamfest in Morganton;

Sunday April 17 in Raleigh. I plan to be at both and hope to see you there.

Shelby 2005

At the last meeting there was some discussion concerning the problems Shelby was having as to cost of the Fair Grounds for the hamfest. That is cleared up as the following e-mail shows.

From: k4trm

Dear Members,

John, W4JL has asked me to email all on the membership email list and

inform you all that the contract was signed today 3/29/2005 for the 2005

Shelby Hamfest to be held at the Cleveland County Fairgrounds !

2005 prices will be the same as 2004

Somebody's Job

I'll bet you've heard this one before. Maybe I've used it before. If so I won't apologize 'cause it is something thing to keep before all members.

This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and **Everybody** was sure that **Somebody** would do it, but **Nobody** did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was **Everybody's** job.

Everybody thought **Anybody** could do it, but **Nobody** realized that **Everybody** wouldn't do it.

It ended up that **Everybody** blamed **Somebody** when **Nobody** did what **Anybody** could have done.

We have 44 paid up members. We could use **Everybody** doing something, even if it was just checking into the net, (I know , I've missed the last 4 sessions). We have

about 15 Meeting attendees each month. We could have almost **Everybody**. **Anybody** could work an hour during FD. Think what it would be like if **Everybody** (all 44) worked an hour. Divided between two stations that would be 22 hours worked each station. Another way would be to estimate a slow 30 contacts per hour and that comes out to be 1320 contacts ... More than the number of points last year.

New Roster

I've finally got the roster more or less up to date and will have copies at the meeting to hand out so I won't have to mail them. Now **Everybody** be there to get one and tell me how their information is wrong and what the correct info is. Maybe I can get corrections in the next Harmonics.

I need to thank Nona, **KA4NHL** for being such a big help in getting it formatted. It would have been out two months ago if I hadn't been so dumb about computers.

And that reminds me: I've had some problems with my printer and also with the internet. I'll get those of you who don't have an e-mail ADR caught up in a week or so. I know it won't be much good but if you are not one of the 15 at least your can see what they are doing each second Monday night.

Lighten-up Ralph!

OK, Here are some internet jokes. I hope I don't offend any church goers.

You Know Your Church Is A. Red neck Church If...

The finance committee refuses to provide funds for the purchase of a chandelier because none of the members knows how to play one.

People ask (when they learn that Jesus fed the 5000) whether the two fish were bass or catfish, and what bait was used to catch 'em.

When the pastor says, "I'd like to ask Bubba to help take up the offering," five guys and two women stand up.

Opening day of deer season is recognized as a noofficial church holiday.

A member of the church requests to be buried in his 4-wheel-drive truck because "It ain't never been in a hole it couldn't get out of."

The choir is known as the "OK Chorale."

Boone's Farm "Tickle Pink" is the favorite wine for communion.

In a congregation of 500 members, there are only seven last names in the church directory.

Baptism is referred to as "branding."

There is a special fundraiser for a new church septic tank.

Finding and returning lost sheep isn't just a parable.

High notes on the organ set the dogs on the floor to howling.

People think "rapture" is what you get when you lift something too heavy.

The baptismal font is a #2 galvanized washtub.

The choir robes were donated by and embroidered with the logo from Billy Bob's Barbecue.

The collection plates are really hubcaps from a '56 Chevy

Well, that about does it for another month.

Don't forget April 11. With Frank, the EOC being there and the availability of new rosters, (even if you will lose them before they are corrected) there ought to be enough interest for EVERYBODY to be there!

Notice that the VP is really getting some good programs ? ... Finally. Thanks Bob. Just joking.