

# HARMONICS

THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY  
May 2006 - Issue 242

## Roster corrections

These are the corrections I have for now. Either no one has looked or Nona did a good job in getting everything up to date, probably the latter. Thanks Nona, **KA4NHL**.

**N1JAC**: dues = 2006

**KF4TVI**; ARRL = Y

**GR1MV**: ARRL = Y

**K4DFI**: tel. = 704-636-7594

**WA4PVI**: email =

[billystewart@earthlink.com](mailto:billystewart@earthlink.com)

**WA4LVN**: email =

[cstewart28146@earthlink.com](mailto:cstewart28146@earthlink.com)

**KN4OR**: zip = 28146

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## Minutes Feb. 13

Meeting started at 7:10 P.M. Janet, **KI4CKS**, read the minutes of last months meeting and the were approved.

The Elkin ham feast will be on February 25<sup>th</sup> at the airport.

VE test session will be March 4<sup>th</sup> at the Rowan Public Library at 9:30 a.m. The next session will be May 6<sup>th</sup> in Concord at Fire Station #7.

Bob, **KG4WAD**, announced training for ARES. February 25 & 26, from 9-5. Incident Command Training will be held at the Rescue Squad on Julian Road. Anyone wanting training will need to pre register. Call Eddie Cress 704-633-5405.

ICS-100 Introduction to Incident Command  
ICS-200 Basic Incident Command

Winter fest Race with the RARS went well.

Ralph, **WB4AQK**, gave a financial report. Bank account has been changed to require two signatures. Account presently has a balance of \$3689.36 of

which \$3468.93 is the McGinnis fund.

RARS call down tree was tested this month and went pretty good. Bob, **KG4WAD**, gave out a new sheet to update and for information.

Need to follow up on the doors ?? At the next meeting with Gary, **W1WBT**.

Ralph reported that it doesn't appear that Sloan park has been paid for the June 25 field day event. After discussion of moving the site to Spencer Train Museum it was decided that we would still have field day at Sloan Park this year if the site was still available. PPR: Ralph Brown

We are still not sure of status of insurance with ARRL. PPR: Janet Smith, **KI4CKS**

Nets for the month of February:  
146.730 Ralph Brown  
145.410 Janet Smith

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## Minutes March 13

Meeting started at 7:09 P.M. Gary, **W1WBT**, was sick and Vice

President Gray Smith, **KI4CKR**, held the meeting.

Minutes of Feb. 6, 2006 meeting were read and approved.

#### Treasurer's Report

Ralph, **WB4AQK**, paid out for flyers and ads in repeater journal.  
\$300.00 flyers  
\$170.00 ads

A Donation of \$50.00 from Rowan Runners and a donation of \$100.00 from the VE team was received.

Civic center rent is \$480.00 with \$200.00 due for the Ham fest in July.

Ralph explained that the McGinnis fund is defined as a fund set to advance amateur radio.

Wade Sibert, **KC4NBW**, motioned to put money in general account so if we wanted to do something as a club, we could get to the money.

Larry Wright, **N4QY**, 2<sup>nd</sup> motion.

Motion was tabled until clarification of the McGinnis fund was reported from Ralph.

Ralph put money in general fund until he gives a report of detailed limitations of McGinnis fund and why.

Full treasurers report not available at time of meeting and Ralph will get it to Patti during the month.

Treasurer's report not available at time of minutes being typed for this months report.

Field Day Committee went and looked at Spencer Train station. There is plenty of room at the train station but no support for an antenna.

Motion to put deposit on Sloan Park for Saturday and Sunday was made by Clarence, **K4SHU**, and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Patti, **KI4GUN**. PPR Janet, **KI4CKS**

Public Relations Committee looked into Sloan Park and Dan Nicholas Park.  
Rates were very similar.

Jamboree on the Air with the Boy Scouts of America. See if we can get in touch with Bruce Ryder, **KS4LJ**, about possibly spending a night at the park with the Boy Scouts. Date: October 15??

Insurance ARRL  
\$1.50 per \$100.00 of Replacement cost  
America National Fire Insurance  
1 ½ % of amount of Replacement cost

Can we get just liability?  
PPR Patti and Janet

Class in May at Michelle Community College for Non profit.

Storage building doors-- carried over to next month

Net Control for this month  
410 - Patti  
730 - Ralph

Red Cross simulation on Feb 25

All frequencies were checked for signals.

#### 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 Rufty-Holmes senior Center at 1120 S. Boundary Street

#### 2006 Officers

President-Gary Hattaway,  
W1WBT, 704-647-9823  
Ghattaway@msn.com

Vice-Pres. - Grey Smith,  
KI4CKR, 704-857-2570  
ki4ckr@ags2.com

Secretary - Patti Stevens,  
KI4GUN, 704-202-1465  
ki4gun@carolina.rr.com

Treasurer - Ralph Brown,  
WB4AQK, 704-636-5902  
rkbrown5902@bellsouth.net

*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

Recommendations are as follows:

Tech committee is asks to follow up at Red Cross Station Check VSWR

Determine if repeater or station has problem.

Improve station to be able to use Mt. Mitchell repeater.

Re-order stations so that local wide coverage are closer to top of list and farther stations are at bottom of list. (China Grove, Mt. Mitchell etc.)

Gray reports on upcoming Hamfests.

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## SM message

The following is the first message I saw from out new Section Manager, **N4IB**, Tim Slay. It was posted on the W4EXU site so many have already seen it. This is mainly for others and as a reminder for all who have already read it.

To: North Carolina ARRL Members

RE: State Antenna Relief Law

Dear North Carolina ARRL Members:

I want to thank John Covington, W4CC, the current North Carolina Section Manager for his willingness to let me address this issue. With his term of office expiring shortly, John thought it would be best for me to begin handling this matter

legal name and full address. Although a bill does not yet exist, I encourage you to begin now in sending letters to committee members asking for their support.

At the end of this email is a draft letter you can use as a model and some FAQs on the impact of such legislation. On behalf of all North Carolina radio amateurs, I appreciate your help in making this a reality, and to have North Carolina hopefully become the 23rd state to adopt a formal amateur radio antenna installation law.

73,  
Tim Slay, N4IB  
NC Section Manager-Elect

SAMPLE LETTER

DATE

NAME AND ADDRESS OF LEGISLATOR

Dear (Senator or Representative) Name:

I/We am/are writing you as one/few of North Carolina's almost 19,000 federally licensed amateur radio operators, and I/we am/are asking for your support of passage of amateur radio antenna consistency bill.

Amateur radio operators were a vital link in emergency communications following Hurricane Katrina. Their efforts were universally praised in both the Congressional and White House reports on lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina. When regular and cellular phones and the internet cease to function, amateur

radio is the only formally organized, fail-safe form of emergency communications that works. While amateur radio operators can be found after a disaster in government offices and public service agencies relaying vital messages, there is one place where they are lacking in residential neighborhoods. Because of increasingly restrictive covenants and restrictions that constrain the erection of effective amateur radio antennas, many operators either cannot operate or give up altogether. This leaves residential areas without any communications, jeopardizing those in need of medical attention or supplies.

The answer is not as simple as to let temporary emergency antennas be erected after a disaster. Effective amateur radio communication requires ongoing training to ensure that equipment is fully functional and that each operator's technique is current in securing the correct parties on the right frequencies.

The solution to ensure that North Carolinians in all 100 counties have access to effective emergency communications is to pass an amateur radio antenna consistency act that brings installation standards throughout the state. Amateur radio is unique in that the license resides with the operator, not the institution where equipment resides.

Amateur radio operators own their own equipment, and by helping the State of North Carolina as professionally trained and licensed unpaid communications volunteers, they save North Carolina taxpayers tens of millions of dollars in communications equipment which the state does not have to purchase. By passing an amateur radio antenna

consistency act, state lawmakers will help discouraged and inactive operators to become active again, and will encourage more North Carolinians to take and pass Federal Communications Commission license exams, thereby adding more equipment that operators will purchase on their own and save the state even more money.

No monies or budget are being requested to pass this legislation and 22 states have already passed similar legislation, the latest being Mississippi. Since all North Carolinians will benefit from more amateur radio operators serving our citizens, I/we urge you to pass amateur radio antenna consistency legislation this session.

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### Antenna Corner

My brother, **AD4DX**, is an avid "fox hunter" in AK and sent me a suggestion for an antenna he uses in the hunts and that would make a pretty good emergency beam for 2 meters. I'm sure some have heard of the "Tape Measure beam."

I've not built one yet, but it looks pretty straight forward and inexpensive.

I thought about putting the directions etc. in this newsletter but they are too long for the space left. If you are interested in seeing it and the directions they can be found at <http://home.att.net/~jleggio/projects/rdf/rdf.htm>

If anyone who doesn't have computer access is interested I have a printed copy and will make you a copy.

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## Ham Happenings

### FCC WRC-03 AMATEUR RULE CHANGES NOW IN EFFECT

*From ARRL Letter Vol 25, No 18*

Several FCC Part 97 Amateur Radio rule revisions to implement changes agreed to at the international level during World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) went into effect May 3 upon their publication in The Federal Register.

The FCC Order <http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs/public/attachmatch/DA-06-79A1.pdf>, released in January, affects §97.111, Authorized transmissions; §97.113, Prohibited transmissions; §97.115, Third party communications, and §97.117, International communications. The FCC has yet to deal with the so-called "Morse code proceeding," WT Docket 05-235, which also stemmed from decisions made at WRC-03. The Commission has proposed deleting the Element 1 5 WPM code test as a requirement to obtain any Amateur Radio license.

### Storm Damage at N4UH's QTH

I just learned from Henry, **N4UH** that the storm that went through here (more North and West of here) did what I'd call severe damage at his place.

It knocked down one Poplar tree and part of another. The radio interest is that that took down two of his antennas. One was his Lazy U that he used on

160 meters and the other was the Lazy H that he used on 80 through 10 meters. These are wire antennas and he said his Rhombic is OK and none of the beams were damaged.

Henry says the good thing is that the big Poplar tree fell away from his house but the bad is that Poplar wood is no good for the fireplace.

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## Local Radio quiz

### Fill in the Blanks

<u>Name</u>	<u>Call</u>
Jack	_____
Buddy	_____
_____	KK4LH
_____	KB4QE
Gary	_____
_____	KU4PT
Dick	_____
_____	K4PM
Tommie	_____

**REMEMBER**

**MAY MEETING AT**

**7:00 MAY 8**

**SAME PLACE**