

HARMONICS



THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
JULY 2008 -Issue 266



JULY MEETING

The July meeting will be the traditional Hotdog supper starting at 6:00 PM at the Shelter behind the center.

June meeting

The RARS met at 7:00 PM at the Rufty-Homes Senior Center

The meeting started at 7 PM. Present were: Tommie Wood, N4YZ; Patti Sibert, KI4GUN; Derwood Puckett, KAPXU; Ralph Mowery, KU4PT; Hugh Deadwyler, N3MJC; Ralph Brown, WB4AQK; Jim Morris, KA4MPP; Bob Rector, K4REO; Nelson Large, W4FQV; Luke Hamaty, KK4LH; Larry Wright, N4QY; Wayne Ashworth, W4HG; Clarence-Beaver, K4SHU; Ken Clifton, KJ4HF; and Nona Morris, KA4NHL.

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Minutes of April 14, 2008 were read. Tommy Wood made the motion to accept the minutes. It was seconded by Wayne Ashworth, W4HG,. The motion passed.

Clarence Beaver, K4SHU, questioned the decision not to purchase the insurance to obtain Dunn Mt Park for Field Day based upon the fact that there seems to be ample funds in the treasury.

Ralph Brown, WB4AQK gave the Answer that most of the funds in the treasury are those in the WD4KJZ account. There was some question as to whether those funds should be used for insurance since the use of the funds is "to advance the stature of Amateur radio in Rowan County, through such avenues as publicity, teaching, training, and purchase of materials for these activities." (This quote is from the recommendations adopted by the club in the September 1996 meeting.)

Field Day Saturday, June 28th and Sunday, June 29th Gary Hathaway, KQ1E, and Tommie Wood, N4YZ are doing Supper Saturday night June 28th. They need a head account and any extras will be appreciated. Bring any one you want but let them know.

Friday June 27th – Sling Shot Afternoon – Billy Steward, WA4PVI; Tommie Wood, N4YZ; and Ralph Brown, WB4AQK at the site of the Field Day.

Patti Sibert, KI4GUN ask that everyone be awakened for breakfast on Sunday morning, June 29th so as not to miss Ralph's pancakes.

Breakfast Saturday, June 28th at 8:00
AM Omega Restaurant on Lincoln Rd.

Derwood Puckett, **K4PXU** and Tommy Wood, **N4YZ** were to go to Butch Edge's, **W4WEE** barn to collect the ham equipment and store in Derwood's barn. Derwood's truck is broke down. Again, Patti Sibert, **KI4GUN** came to the rescue and volunteered Wade Sibert, **KC4NBW**, and her self to get and store the equipment until Field day. Gary Hathaway has radios for Field Day and Hamfest.

Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK**, reported on the Firecracker Hamfest to be Saturday, July 12, 2008 Butch Edge, **W4WEE** will not be able to help at the Hamfest.

Patti Sibert, **KI4GUN**, graciously agreed to look after the hotdogs and drinks in the kitchen. Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK** will take care of getting the ingredients. Patti made a motion for us to sell Ham Biscuits for breakfast, we already have free Coffee. Clarence Beaver, **K4SHU** seconded the motion. The motion passed

It was discussed the best thing to do about the "Rig" Ben Dowell, **WB4FSD** donated for the Hamfest. Derwood Puckett, **K4PXU** made a motion - you have to be present to receive the transceiver. Wayne Ashworth, **W4HG** made a motion to ship the Grand prize. The motion to ship passed with all in favor.

Patti Sibert, **KI4GUN** suggested something for signs, tags, Club shirts. The motion was made by Clarence Beaver, **K4SHU** to buy shirts for those who worked at the Firecracker Hamfest. The motion was seconded by Wayne Ashworth. The motion passed. The Club will buy white Golf Shirts monogrammed for the club workers at the Hamfest. The club treasurer, was instructed to get the shirts. Many suggestions were made as to color, type, availability to members not working the 'fest. etc. Everyone agreed upon a golf shirt with a collar. Material more substantial than the typical tee shirt and make the wearer stand out from the crowd. Color white, a colored shirt would be extremely hot. The design: On the back will be the club name, printed large enough so as to make anyone wearing it immediately recognizable and worker, member, former member,

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

2008 Officers

President - Tommie Wood, **N4YZ**, 704-637-0024
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Vice-Pres. -

Secretary - Nona Morris, **KA4NHL**, 704-278-4960
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Treasurer - Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK**, 704-636-5902
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Harmonics, the club newsletter is published mostly monthly. Submit articles, complaints, corrections, or comments to the club Editor. Material may be reprinted provided proper credit is given.

Editor - Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK**

On the web

www.RowanARS.org

Favorite FD pastimes



want to be member or what ever. The front left breast will have an enlarged depiction of the club patch. Prices are before taxes. A worker might get his golf shirt for working and buy another tee or sweat in addition.

Satellite Sam – needs two people for the day to help set up, sell, breakdown. He will pay \$75 to each. Set up Friday afternoon 2- 3 o'clock.

Ralph Brown, WB4AQK, Treasurers report:

As of 06/04/08

Brought Forward \$3360.79

Income:

Dues	\$55.00
Donation	13.00
HF tickets	<u>8.00</u>
Total	\$76.00

Expenses:

Refreshments	\$12.79
FD site	<u>84.00</u>
Total	\$96.79

Balance \$3340.00

McGinnis Fund **\$2961.36**

Patti Sibert, **KI4GUN** told us Janet Smith's, **KI4CKS**, brother had died. Secretary to sent Sympathy card from the Club.

The motion was made by Patti Sibert, **KI4GUN** to adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Larry Wright, **N4QY**. The motion passed.

Nona Morris, **KA4NHL**, Secretary



Ham Happenings

Riley's farewell

As he gets ready to leave his position as FCC Special Counsel for Amateur Radio enforcement, Riley Hollingsworth has a few words of wisdom that we all need to take to heart. They were part of his address at the recent Dayton Hamvention, and they really are a must listen for every United States Radio Amateur:

Hollingsworth: “The overall compliance is outstanding in the Amateur Radio Service, but never let the Commission get by again with handing you 10 to 12 years of neglect. “ You have to stay vigilant. Even though the bands may sound better you have to stay vigilant to protect your service and to be part of the solution, not the problem. “And operate as if the whole world was listening, because generally it is.”

Hollingsworth adds that the last thing that Ham Radio needs is any sort of in-fighting. He indicates it's very important that all of us stick together and work out our differences as mature individuals for the betterment of all licensees. We at Amateur Radio Newslines, totally agree.

—Amateur Radio Newslines,
Report 1608, June 6, 2008

Charlotte HF Moves

Charlotte hamfest moves from John Covington

Tonight at the Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society's (W4BFB) June meeting, it was officially announced that the Charlotte Hamfest is moving for 2009 ! Like our friends in Shelby, we have also grown tired of the limitations of our venue, the Merchandise Mart, on things that we couldnt control and saw no income from, especially the high parking fees and food and concession pricing. I am happy to announce that for 2009 the Charlotte Hamfest will be held at the Cabarrus Arena off Highway 49, just North of Harrisburg, NC. Its just minutes away from North Carolinas most visited tourist destination, Concord Mills Mall.

Everyone will enjoy the excellent facilities, Cabarrus Arena is only six years old, and very well maintained. Since the weather in March is so iffy, it can be cold, wet, warm, or even blizzard conditions, the hamfest will be all indoors.

We listened to all the feedback we have received from our surveys and parking and food prices were at the top of everyones list.

The biggest change will be FREE PARKING !!

Shelby's New Place

The Shelby Hamfest is holding onto its name, but for at least five years the amateur radio event will have a new home at Biggerstaff Park in Gaston County, North Carolina.

The Shelby Amateur Radio Club had already booked Biggerstaff Park, off U.S. 321 for the event this August. This, after failing to reach an agreement with those who run its longtime home Cleveland County Fairgrounds in Shelby. Now, the club approved a commitment with Gaston County to hold Hamfest there for five years. Not only that, but Hamfest organizer Robbie Hamrick said Gaston County could become a permanent home for the event.

In a statement, Hamrick said that the hamfest will be there at least five years and probably longer. He says that Biggerstaff Park is a beautiful place that has room for the hamfest to grow. The Shelby Hamfest has been a Cleveland County tradition for the past 50 years, but an un-reconcilable dispute between the local fairgrounds commission and the Shelby club lead to what will likely be a permanent move several miles to a new location in a different county.

—Amateur Radio Newsline,
Report 1608, June 6, 2008

What good is Xmtr Hunting?

When residents of a Philadelphia suburb complained to an area television station about how their remote car door entry devices wouldn't work in the parking lot of a local department store, an investigative reporter for NBC-10 (WCAU) called everyone she could to help her discover why. No one knew anything -- until she called on some local ham radio operators.

"Many people lock and unlock a car by remote and don't even give it a second thought unless it doesn't work," said NBC10 reporter Lu Ann Cahn.

"The mystery problem repeatedly occurs outside the Kohl's store in Royersford. When I went into Kohl's [to ask about this], they told me they had no idea [about this]."

Cahn said that shoppers told her that this has been going on for more than a year, and that some shoppers don't realize they might have to manually lock their doors: "One woman reported her laptop was stolen from her car after she thought she had locked it."

Shoppers theorized that it was the local power plant causing the interference, but Cahn said that officials at the plant said it wasn't them. Others thought that cellular telephone towers might be the culprit, but there are no cell towers in the area. "Police tell us that they can't figure it out either," Cahn said.

So after calling numerous places to help her out with this mystery, Cahn happened upon Reggie Leister, N3KAS, and Bob Rex, K3DBD, of the Pottstown Area Amateur Radio Club. Rex is Vice President of the club and Leister is the club's Public Information Officer (PIO). And as hams do, they were quick to volunteer to help out.

Leister and Rex accompanied Cahn to the parking lot in question. Rex built an antenna out of aluminum tubing and hooked it up to a spectrum analyzer. "Somewhere in the vicinity of this parking lot," Leister said, "there is a big source of radiation, some sort of signal." When Leister aimed the antenna in the direction of the Kohl's store, he hit pay dirt. "There are actually two signals there. It looks like [they're] coming from the building," Rex said when he read the analyzer.

Leister and Rex moved in closer to the building and pinpointed that one signal was coming from one set of doors, while the other signal emitted from another set of doors. Rex, an engineer, said that the thing that bothers him about this is that the signals "are running constantly." When Cahn approached Kohl's management with their findings, she was told that "they will look into it."

"The FCC licenses radio signals and these ham radio operators say the fact that some signal is interfering with remote locks isn't good," Cahn said in her report.

Three days after Leister and Rex located the source of the interference, remote car door lockers worked again. "Kohl's will only say that they're working on it,"