

HARMONICS



THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
November 2008 -Issue 270



NOTICE !

DUES DUE

Many of you are paid up for multiple years. I will try to have an up to the minute roster by the November meeting.

Silent Key

Alpheus "Stake" Stakey - K4WC

ALPHEUS HENRY STAKELY, "Al" or "Stake" to his many friends, died at age 89 at The Gardens of Taylor Glen, Concord, NC on Sunday October 19, 2008. Mr. Stakey was born on July 1, 1919 in Atlanta, Georgia, Alpheus was a meteorologist, working briefly for the US Weather Bureau then for 24 years with Eastern Air Lines at the Atlanta airport. During the Korean War Alpheus served as a US Navy Reserve Lieutenant. A Navy Reserve friend who was also a television producer told Alpheus he wanted someone to do a weather show for broadcast with the

local TV news. Still working for the airline, Alpheus created and appeared in the television show "All About The Weather", broadcast on the old WLTV, later WLW-A TV from 1952-1958. While assisting his television sponsor Gordy Tire Company get a business radio system on the air, Alpheus found out about radio common carrier. He began Atlanta Radio Contact, Inc. in 1957 which provided interconnected radiotelephone service to the public and subsequently grew through mergers into one of the largest cellular telephone services in the US. Failing to find a local attorney who understood his business, Alpheus was advised by a lawyer friend to go to law school. For three years Alpheus and May attended night classes at Atlanta Law School, earning their Bachelor of Laws degrees in 1966.

After retiring from his business he moved to Mt. Pleasant, NC where he and May continued their US Coast Guard Auxiliary service on Lake Norman, NC.

As ham radio operator "K4WC", Alpheus received a 70 Year Certificate of Recognition from the American Radio Relay League.

Stakey was not a club member but many knew him.

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November SS

Anyone working the November Sweepstakes? CW is over (Nov.1-3), but phone comes up on Nov. 15-17, 2100 UTC Saturday to 0300 UTC Monday.

If 3 or more are we can get club recognition provided the entry is clearly indicates the club name in the Cabrillo file header. If 3 or more members are

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interested in having a club score recognized I'll give info and do necessary notification to ARRL.

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Minutes: October 13

The RARS met at 7:00 PM at the Rufty-Homes Senior Center. Present: Tommie Wood, **N4YZ**; Ralph Mowery, **KU4PT**; Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK**; Wayne Ashworth, **W4HG**; Nona Morris, **KA4NHL**; Jim Morris, **KA4MPP**; Frank Waring, **AF4D**; Butch Edge, **W4WEE**; Richard Beck, **KQ4BAV**; Ann Pinson, Guest; Richard Wallace, **K4PM**; Terence Wallace, Assoc.; Bob Rector, **K4REO**; Larry Wright, **N4QY**; Gary Hattaway, **KQIE**; Derwood Puckett, **K4PXU**; Bill Gardner, **KB1KGX**, Visitor.

Minutes of September 8, 2008 were in October's Harmonics and with no one objecting to anything, minutes were approved. Asked if everyone got their copy (email or mail). Rick Wallace said he did not get his email copy. Ralph Brown will check on it. If anyone isn't getting the Harmonics let Ralph know. Can also go on our web site (www.roanars.org) and get it.

Old Business – Wayne Ashworth drafted the letter to the Henry Elwell children and sent it to Tommie Wood. Tommie signed it and mailed it off. He got a reply from Henry's Daughter in Raleigh. Suggested Frank Waring make a copy to put it with the N4UH license.

Treasurers report given by Ralph Brown – Is on the front page of the Harmonics. We have \$3888.98 Balance with \$3535.21 being The WD4KJZ Fund.

Ralph has a few shirts left.

Passed copies of QSL Card around (Tommie Wood and Wayne Ashworth submitted cards) so everyone could see and give their option on the looks. Suggestions: Change the copy of the United States to the State of North Carolina and Name and Address of the Rowan Amateur Radio Society on the back where the small Rowan Amateur Radio Society emblem was repeated. Take the stars and stripes off the letters. Ralph Brown suggested having above or in the QSO line for operator and call, instead of sending a log to Frank Waring when they use the

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 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave S.

2008 Officers

President - Tommie Wood, N4YZ, 704-637-0024
woodt@earthlink.net
Vice-Pres. -

Secretary - Nona Morris, KA4NHL, 704-278-4960
[morrisonona@aol.com](mailto:morrisnona@aol.com)

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

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

November 10 meeting

Don't forget ... 1100 UTC (7:00 PM local)
At Rufty Holmes Senior Center.

Don't know ABT program.

Christmas Planning etc needed.

card. On the back of the card above the address "In Memory of our friend Uncle Henry" Henry Elwell, Jr.

Has any one checked into the Tar Hill emergency net? Ralph said he got a letter from them to check in during the simulated hurricane. In October there is going to be a State wide Emergency Net.

New Business – This week end (the 3rd week end in October) we have "Jamboree on the Air" with Boy Scouts. Derwood Puckett did some checking on that. Derwood said it was going to be set up at the New Camp Ground at Eagle Point, down Bringle Ferry Rd. left on Black Road, Two miles from Tamarack Marina. 100 scouts or more from Rowan Co, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Set up on Saturday evening 12 to 5 or so. Maybe we will get some PR out of this. Billie Stewart, Tommie Wood, Derwood Puckett, Gary Hattaway, and any one who can go. Tommie will have Derwood set up to go. Derwood has a generator. If you can't find it, Gary will talk you in on 145.41.

Tommie Wood said beginning in 2010 all seniors graduating will have to have a senior project, write a paper on a subject and come before a committee before you get your diploma. Suggest we as a group set up a technician license course and have one session to see if we can get some more people involved in Amateur Radio. Do not have to do it now but in the next year. Tommie will contact the school system on who is responsible for this. We would have to limit the number of people.

Our free lawyer has not worked out on doing the incorporation. It can be done on line for \$38 dollars. Tommie Wood said he would go on line and get the package. Ralph has filled out the federal form for Janet Smith and it was a bear. We all agreed for Tommie Wood to do what he could. He has looked up some information about it on the internet.

We have a guest, Bill Gardner, 38 Old Farm Rd. West, Salisbury, NC 28147-8834, 704-633-0853, Code71B@yahoo.com. He is from Danbury, Connecticut, and is with Republic Foil.

We watched the DVD – A52A Bhutan 2000 DX expedition Video in the Himalayans.

Tommie Wood said with no further business, the meeting was dismissed.

Nona Morris, KA4NHL, Secretary
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2008 ARRL Field Day

Here is how we ranked in score with other NC clubs with three (3) transmitters. Again, thanks for all who participated this year. Now we have a goal to beat for 2009.

- Entries 1 to 8 of 8 listed
Call Score Category QSOs Power Mult GOTA
Call Section Participants
- | Club | Score | Category | QSOs | Power | Mult | GOTA |
|---------|-------|----------|-------|---------|------|------------------|
| 1 N4PY | 8,804 | 3A | 2,319 | 2 NC | 7 NC | Contesters |
| 2 W4YK | 4,006 | 3A | 798 | 2 NC | 42 | Blue Ridge ARC |
| 3 W4EXU | 3,782 | 3A | 914 | 2 NC | 18 | Rowan ARS |
| 4 W4FD | 3,546 | 3A | 768 | 2 W4YSB | NC | 41 Ashe Co ARC |
| 5 NA4GC | 3,452 | 3A | 859 | 2 AJ4DV | NC | 30 Guilford ARES |
| 6 N4GAS | 3,052 | 3A | 656 | 2 NC | 26 | Gaston Co ARS |
| 7 W4EWN | 1,764 | 3A | 251 | 2 K4DJW | NC | 12 New Bern ARC |
| 8 NC4ZO | 1,426 | 3A | 188 | 2 AE4SI | NC | 47 Randolph ARC |

Tommie - N4YZ
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FCC AMENDS WE2XRH EXPERIMENTAL LICENSE

In response to the October 20 ARRL Petition for Modification or Cancellation of Experimental Authorization (Petition) concerning an experimental license issued to Digital Aurora Radio Technologies (DART) station WE2XRH, the FCC today issued an amended license that redefines one of the station's frequency ranges to eliminate conflict with the Amateur Radio Service. This revision addresses ARRL's

concern that the original 7.10 to 7.60 MHz range would cause unacceptable interference to Amateur Radio operations in the 40 meter band. The amended license narrows the range to 7.30 to 7.60 MHz and gives as the reason for the change, "operation in the band 7.1-7.3 MHz will cause harmful interference to Amateur Radio Service licensees."

"We are delighted that the FCC acted so promptly to correct this error and are pleased that the matter has been resolved," said ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ.

WE2XRH will be testing a proposed domestic broadcast service using a 20 kHz bandwidth digital emission at a transmitter output power of 100 kW and an ERP of 660 kW within a radius of 1500 kilometers of Delta Junction, Alaska. According to the amended license, the transmissions will take place in the frequency ranges 4.4 to 5.1 MHz, 7.3 to 7.6 MHz and 9.25 to 9.95 MHz.

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Mobiley Duck

A Pocket Mag-Mount for your Rubber Duckie

By bill Pace KB8ZM

This simple, ultra-compact mag-mount will fit in your pocket. It offers a vast improvement over using a hand-held inside a vehicle, yet it's small enough to take along when you travel by air.

To make one, you need the following:

- A Radio Shack magnetic mike holder, p/n 21-1130
- a chassis-mount BNC female connector with a ground lug
- 6-8 feet of RG-174/U coaxial cable
- A BNC male connector with RG-174 adaptor.

Assembly:

Fasten the chassis-mount connector inside the cradle of the mike holder, using two nuts. You may need to widen the gap between the cradle and the base of the mike holder, to accommodate the sub-chassis portion of the BNC connector.

Strip and dress one end of the coax and solder it to the connector -- center conductor to pin, and braid

to lug. Keep lead-lengths short --they are exaggerated in the sketch and the lug really points left.

Seal the solder connections and the exposed end of the coax, and provide strain relief for the cable. This can be done with a few drops of epoxy, or by filling the cavity between the cradle and base with GE RTV silicone rubber sealant. Actually, I filled the cavity with epoxy ("body plastic") because of its greater density. Finally, install the male BNC on the free end of the coax.

To use your mag-mount, simply remove the duck antenna from the HT and put it on the mount. Then put the antenna on the roof of the vehicle, as you would any mag-mount, and route the cable inside to your HT.

RG-174/U is just 100 mils in diameter and is very flexible. You can close a door on it without harm. It is lossy at VHF, but with such a short length that isn't significant here. (10 feet has less than 1 dB loss at 144 MHz)

I didn't invent this little gem; it was described in literature several years ago. But the one I built has become one of my favorite ham accessories. Knowing you'll feel the same about yours, I encourage you to make one yourself.

