

HARMONICS



THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
December 2008 -Issue 271



Silent Key

KG4UQU, Tom Neill

Tom wasn't with us as a ham for a very long time. I wish we had records of when each of us joined so I could tell just how long he was a ham.

One thing I can attest to is his faithfulness in checking in on the 2 meter net. He was almost always there. Unfortunately, with the demise of that net and

my 2 meter inactivity, I didn't know of Tom's illness.

He signed off from his home on November 14, 2008. He was 82 having been born on April 24, 1926 in Spencer. He graduated from Spencer high school, entered the navy, and participated in the Iwo Jima and Okinawa campaigns.

During his life he worked for Taylor Mfg., the Town of Spencer, Power Curbers, as special deputy for the Sheriff's Dept., as town alderman, and volunteer fireman.

The club has sent the usual donation in his memory to the Hospice and Palliative Care Center.

73 Tom, I'll always remember how you signed in to the nets with your call. I'm sure others will also.

Minutes: November 10

The RARS met at 7:00 PM at the Ruffy-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**; Larry Wright, **N4QY**; Nelson Large, **W4FQV**; Perry Brown, **KG4JKC**; Holland Bost, **K4AGO**, 310 Deer Haven Dr. China Grove, NC 28023, 704-857-2736, budngaye@netzero.com, a new member.

Minutes of October 13, 2008 were in November's Harmonics and with no one opposed to the minutes of the last meeting, the minutes were approved.

Holland Bost had his \$5 for dues, we took him in. Ralph is going to up grade the Roster again and email it to everyone.

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Treasurers report given by Ralph Brown – Beginning Balance \$3888.98, expenses \$6.39, Donation \$12.00, Balance of \$3894.59 with \$3535.21 being The WD4KJZ Fund.

Ralph has a few shirts left. (2 L, 2 XL)

QSL Card are where they were last month Tommy has not had time to get all the corrections made yet. Too many projects going on at home.

The “Jamboree on the Air” with Boy Scouts was canceled.

Tommie Wood said he has not worked on the incorporation but he has done a little research on the non-profit. He doesn't know if the non-profit is going to be worth the effort we will have to put in to get the non-profit status, we don't have any income anyway. With the corporation we would have to file a tax return every year to show we didn't make any money, other than that it would be a lot easier than non-profit. Since we don't have much income I don't think we have to worry too much, if we can just get incorporated, to protect everybody in case something did happen at field day or hamfest or other activity. If we ever get to the point that we think that we need liability insurance there's an answer. Tommie's youngest son is an insurance underwriter and he tells him that the thing to do is to get an umbrella policy like for a million dollars for a year. It isn't that expensive, like \$250 or \$300 a year and when you have an event, like when we wanted to go to Dunn's MT. and they wouldn't let us on without the million dollar policy, instead of a million dollar policy just pay \$50 dollars and add the county on as an insurer.

New business – Called Debbie Suggs – the Christmas party will be the regular meeting night, December 8th, at 6:00 PM \$9 per person - 2 meats, 3 vegetables and desert.

Tommie said we need to appoint a Nominating committee for officers for next year. Tommie then appointed Wayne Ashworth as Chairman with Ralph Brown, and Frank Waring to be the nominating committee.

Tommie said he would volunteer to be President again if they wanted, but he would need a vice be-

**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

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

Party!!

Don't forget, Monday night it starts at 6:00 PM with food.

No gifts or such this year, though there may be surprises. We've reserved for 25 people but if you haven't given an RSVP yet, you probably will be welcomed anyway.

**I sure hope someone other than N4QY wins the project prize!
REMEMBER; Straight Key Night - Jan.**

cause he would not be here at all meeting this next year.

Any thoughts for a Christmas program. Like Clarence Beaver's slides or Dick Jones with his guitar and songs?

We voted for the Ham of the year. Larry Wright counted the votes and gave it to Jim Morris to take to Statesville and get the plaques done and ready for the Christmas party. Tommie will call Billy Stewart to have him bring his back so Jim can have a copy to go by.

We will have the Club Home Building Contest – at the Christmas Party – Select 3 Judges.

As everyone knows, we brought up before the use of the club call's N4UH or W4EXU that you have to get it approved ahead of time. Tommie listed it on the eQSL. It is an on line service you can exchange QSL card on the Internet rather send them out with postage.

As a program for the January meeting, Tommie thinks he will have the PSK31 ready to set up a station so everyone can see it.

Field day points were discussed and what we could do better and what we did wrong!

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

Nona Morris, KA4NHL, Secretary

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Club calls logged.

Here is the procedure for use of the club calls . The Rowan Amateur Radio Society is now registered with eQSL.com under both club calls, W4EXU and N4UH. Any member using the club calls for an event should keep a log on a logging program of their choice as long as the log can be saved in ADIF format. After the event, the ADIF file should be sent to Tommie, N4YZ, who will enter the information in the club's main log and upload to eQSL.com. If a member uses the club call(s) at an event and uses paper logs, it will be the responsibility of the using

member to enter the paper logs into the club computer so that the needed ADIF file can be saved.

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Financial Report: as of Dec. 1

Income:

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| Brought forward | \$3894.59 |
| Dues | 30.00 |
| Refreshment donations | 6.00 |
| Total | .\$3930.59 |

Expenses:

| | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Refreshments | \$11.72 |
| Plaques | 45.44 |
| Total | \$57.16 |

Balance \$3873

McGinnis (WD4KJZ) Fund \$3535.21

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2009 Test Schedule

Good Morning All,

Thank each of you for another great year 2008 of exams. It is great that all of the exam sessions always run so smooth !! Below is the proposed test dates for 2009. If anyone needs anything changed just let me know. If there are no conflicts Grey can post them on the W4VEC web site (which by the way looks and loads great after Grey worked his magic on it). Remember lunch after the Concord test session on Jan 3, 2009 after the testing is done.

Thank you once again and I am so proud to be a member of a great VE Team. Happy Holidays !!!

Billy WA4PVI
Co-Chairman W4VEC

- Concord Jan 3, 2009
- Salisbury March 21, 2009
- Concord May 2, 2009
- Salisbury July 11, 2009 Hamfest
- Concord Sept 12, 2009
- Salisbury Nov 14, 2009

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Ham Happenings

Coming Hamfest:

January 10, 2009 - Winston Salem FirstFest at Summit School Parking lot, 2100 Reynolda Road. www.w4nc.com

Thanks to NBARC newsletter, Vol 31, No 12, Al Parker, W8UT editor for the reminder.

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HomeBrew and Kit Projects:

Feeling overwhelmed by your homebrew project? Consider this...

ENIAC was the first general-purpose electronic computer and it contained

17,468 vacuum tubes, 7,200 crystal diodes, 1,500 relays, 70,000 resistors,

10,000 capacitors and around 5 million hand-soldered joints. It was roughly

8.5 feet by 3 feet by 80 feet, weighed 30 tons and consumed 150 kW of power!

(Source: Wikipedia <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ENIAC>)

Bring yours to the Christmas party for judging.

Three awards, \$50 for First, \$25 for Second, \$10 for Third .

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CQ Buys WorldRadio

A big change is coming to the Ham Radio publishing scene. This as one popular magazine absorbs another. CQ Communications, Inc. has acquired WorldRadio magazine.

Since its inception in July of 1971, WorldRadio has been the only Ham Radio magazine published West of the Continental Divide. It's a monthly publication with a primary focus on the human side of Ham Radio.

So why has WorldRadio been sold? WorldRadio publisher Armond Noble, N6WR, says that at the age of 74 it's simply time for him to retire. And why

sell to CQ? In a press release N6WR said simply that he wanted to be sure that WorldRadio found a good home, and that its readers would continue to be served by what he termed as an independent voice in Amateur Radio. At this time WorldRadio continues to be published, but only as an online magazine with Editor Nancy Kott, WZ8C, continuing in that position. Current WorldRadio subscribers will also have their subscriptions transferred to CQ magazine. Readers will be notified of details as plans are finalized.

—*Amateur Radio Newslite, Report 1631, Nov. 14, 2008*

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Season's Joke

Q. What was your most interesting holiday QSO?

A. It was Christmas Eve 2004. I was in a 20 Meter USB QSO with a UA9 station in Siberia. In the background, I overheard his XYL remark, "Rudy, it's starting to snow!"

To which he said, "You're wrong, my Dear Svetlana. That's just rain."

Next she persisted with: "But it is pure white and falling ever so gently."

"Listen," he roared, "Rudolph the Red knows rain, Dear!"

From Dec. 2008 WorldRadio

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Most difficult Language

For those who speak English and are struggling with it, here is some fun words.

- We polish the Polish furniture.
- He could lead if he would get the lead out.
- A farm can produce produce.
- The dump was so full it had to refuse refuse.
- The soldier decided to desert in the desert.
- The present is a good time to present the present.
- The dove dove into the bushes.
- I did not object to the object.
- The insurance for the invalid was invalid.
- The bandage was wound around the wound.