

HARMONICS



THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
June 2009 -Issue 277



May Minutes

Rowan Amateur Society N4UH – W4EXU
May 11, 2009

The RARS met Monday, May 11, 2009 at 7:00 PM at Rufty- Homes Senior Center. Present: Tommy Wood, **N4YZ**; Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK**; Bud Bost, **K4AGO**; Carolyn Stewart, **WA4LPN**; Billy Stewart, **WA4PVT**; Ralph Mowery, **KU4PT**; Jim Earnhardt, **K4JME**; Frank Waring, **AF4D**; Wayne Ashworth, **W4HG**; Jim Morris, **KA4MPP**; Nona Morris, **KA4NHL**; Larry Wright, **N4QY**; Tony Stitt, **N4AEI**; Dick Smith, **KI4HNX**; Richard Wallace, **K4PM**; Terence Wallace, Assoc.; Nelson D. Large, **W4FQV**; Gary Hattaway, **KQ1E**.

Billy Stewart, WA4PVT, made the motion to accept the April 13, 2009 minutes. Ralph Brown, WB4AQK seconded. The motion passed.

Ralph Brown, WB4AQK gave the financial report. Spent \$99.61 for FD site, refreshments, envelopes, and ink. Had \$11.75 donated for meeting refreshments. Balance is \$3472.46.

Larry Wright, N4QY, gave a report on the Ham Radio Books and materials that need upgrading at the Library. It will be looked into up grading and asking the Library about getting the old books back, replacing them with up grades.

Tommie Wood, N4YZ said the Tax ID # is back and he gave Ralph Brown, WB4AQK the papers to fill out for the non-profit ID.

Tommie Wood, N4YZ paid for one day for Field Day, because we will only be there for one day.

There was something about hot dogs and Terence Wallace and hot dogs at the hamfest. Due to forgetting to turn on the tape recorder – information was lost.

Ralph Brown, WB4AQK reported there are 300 plus Hams in Rowan Co.

New business - Billy Stewart, WA4PVI talked about W4VEC Organization. He can now give “one by one” calls for clubs and individuals.

Wayne Ashworth W4HG discussed a projector for use during presentations and etc. Dick Smith made the motion for someone to look into acquiring one. Was seconded by Nona Morris. The motion passed. Tommie Wood, N4YZ and Ralph Brown, WB4AQK were to try to meet with the Computer Club at their meeting on Thursdays at 10 AM to check on their projector. Neither was able to make it.

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Someone (Gary, KQ1E?) mentioned knowing of a possible source that would not be so expensive for the club to obtain one that could be used and kept at the Center.

Wayne Ashworth, W4HG gave the program on "Log Book of the World" recommending some good programs on the internet. DX Base - N3 program - EQSL he thinks is simpler than LOTW. LOTW is only complicated in that you have to apply, then after recognition supply other info before you can get your log in code.

Ralph Brown, WB4AQK will have the program for June 8, 2009 meeting on "All You Ever Need to Know about Fox Hunting".

Bud Bost, K4AGO will have the Christmas program.

Frank Waring, AF4D made the motion to adjourn. Bud Bost, K4AGO made the second. The motion passed

Nona Morris, KA4NHL, Secretary

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Logging Follow Up

The following was sent out on the RARSnet yahoo group by Wayne, W4HG. I'm putting a copy here for those who don't get or read those messages. editor

At the club meeting this week on logging programs there were a couple of questions about good logging programs that are out there. For a complete list, I suggest looking at the reviews on eHAM <<http://www.eham.net/reviews/products/27>>.

Among the free programs these seem to be the most popular:

WinLog32: <http://www.winlog32.co.uk>

Logger32: <http://www.logger32.net> - Great full-featured program, but a steep learning curve

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. - Wayne Ashworth, W4HG, 704-633-9330
w4hg@arrl.net

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

Program June 8

If you read the minutes, you've seen that the program will be presented by yours truly, the editor. And it is about Foxhunting.

I don't expect a large crowd 'cause no one is really interested in getting out and locating a hidden transmitter unless they are one of those weirdos who enjoy running through the woods combining something called "orientteering" and "RDF", what ever they are.

But we do need someone to volunteer for the July program or Wayne will start pointing at you.

Ham Radio Deluxe Logbook: <http://hrd.ham-radio.ch>
DXLab: <http://www.dxlabsuite.com>

Among the most popular of the logging programs that have a charge are:

- Writelog <http://www.writelog.com> \$75
- DXBase <http://www.dibase.com> \$99
- DX4Win <http://www.dx4win.com> \$89.95
- ProLog2K <http://www.prolog2k.com> \$50
- Win-EQF <http://www.eqf-software.com> \$59.95

All these programs will output in ADIF/Cabrillo format for submitting logs to ARRL for Logbook of the World (LoTW)

73, Wayne, W4HG

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Financial Report

May 1 to May 31

Brought Forward: \$3472.46

Income:

- Dues 5.00
- Refreshment donations 16.25

Total : \$3493.71

Expenses:

- Refreshments \$ 7.46
- Flyer postage 629.83
- Flyers & tickets 590.76

Total: \$1228.05

Balance: \$2265.66

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MAY NC SECTION NEWS

TARHEEL NET WEB PAGE

Tarheel Net Manager Mark Cantrell, KD4IMA, and our web manager Susan Langley-Jones, WA4AKB have created a new web page for the Tarheel Emergency Net. The page has important information about our state ARES net, which is held nightly at 7:30pm local time on 3.923MHz. Check-

ins are always welcome and Mark is also looking for help from folks willing to serve as a regular or back-up net control operator. Contact Mark at kd4ima@arrl.net.

KB4C AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT - From Tommy Queen, K4BNP, Area 14 DEC

We are seeking nominations for the 2009 KB4C Award. The award is named in honor of Miriam Smith, KB4C, who became a silent key in July 1995. Miriam was well known in western North Carolina for her strong commitment to emergency and public service communications. She held an extra class license, received the A-1 Operators Award and was ARES Emergency Coordinator/RACES Radio Officer for Buncombe County in the 1970's. Miriam was responsible for the earliest draft of the Buncombe County Emergency Response Plan. She was someone willing to do whatever was asked to help our community. The award will be selected from nominations submitted by hams in Areas 14 and 15 (the western North Carolina counties, old area F). The selection will be named by a panel appointed by the Area 14 DEC. The criteria for this recognition include active, licensed radio amateurs within Area 14 or 15 who have demonstrated a long term commitment to emergency and public service communications through ARES/RACES. The recipient does not have to belong to any specific group. They must simply demonstrate an active commitment to the job we are asked to do. The award will be presented at the WCARS Hamfest on July 25th, 2009. Please submit your nominations for this award in writing to k4bnp@aol.com. Nominations must be received no later than July 1, 2009.

ARRL SEEKS SUPPORT FOR HR2160

After the North Carolina PRB-1 Antenna Bill passed in 2007, I heard from many of you who were concerned that the state bill did not address deed restrictions and covenants. Such restrictions are private contracts between individual citizens and it's unlikely we could convince our state legislature to interfere. So while our state PRB-1 bill does require city and county governments to make reasonable accommodations for our antennas, those of us who live in restricted neighborhoods are still at the mercy of "architectural review committees". But the "Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Act of 2009" offers hope for addressing this issue. If passed by both houses of the US congress and

signed by the President, this bill would require the Secretary of Homeland Security to "undertake a study on the uses and capabiity of Amateur Radio communications in emergencies and disaster relief..". The study would require DHS to "make recommendation whether [the Telecommunications Act of 1996] should be modified to prevent unreasonable private land use restrictions that impair the ability of an amateur radio operator [to install] effective outdoor antennas and support structures at

reasonable heights and dimensions for the purpose in residential areas." This bill offers the hope of extending PRB-1 type protection to radio

amateurs living in restricted subdivisions. I encourage you to contact your congressional representative and ask them to support this bill. Special arrangements have been made by ARRL for devliery of letters to congress, so check out the information on how to do this on www.arrl.org.

FIELD DAY: JUNE 27-28, 2009

This year's ARRL Field Day is only weeks away! Be sure to post your site info on the Field Day locator at

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/announcements/fd/locator.php>. There are currently 23 operations listed in North Carolina. I will be visiting stations in the central portion of the state this year and look forward to seeing you. Our section public information coordinator, Bill Morine, N2COP, has applied for our proclamation from the governor and I'll send an announcement when our request has been approved.

APRS "GOLDEN PACKET" EVENT IN NC

I'm a big fan of Bob Bruningar, WA4APR's "Automatic Packet Reporting System" and if you ever wonder where I am, look for N4IB-9 on www.findu.com. Bob is organizing an event on the weekend of July 25-26 that will attempt to communicate along the Appalachian Trail using APRS. The purpose of the event is to field enough amateur radio emergency communications teams on mountain peaks in the eastern US to be able to communicate packets and APRS messages from one end of the Appalacian Trial to the other. Normally considered a 2,000 mile hike, the RF path is around 1,200 miles and Bob hopes to do it in 14 hops. Bob will need help with this in western North Carolina, so if you're interested see his website: www.aprs.org.

After more than 10 years as Charlotte Area Skywarn EC, Greg Sellars, WB4HRR, has decided to retire. Thanks to Greg for his many years of support! Kelly Cook, KG4YTR, will be taking the reins as the new CASN EC. Kelly has been serving as assistant Skywarn EC. Good luck to Kelly in his new role!

MEDIA HITS

Bill Heybrook, WA2EDN, appeared on WCNC-TV showing off his home weather station.

The Shelby Amateur Radio Club was featured in a recent article in the Shelby Star. Members of the SARC were pictured installing a VHF/UHF antenna at the county EOC.

An article about the Hampstead Swapmeet appeared in the Wilmington Star-News. The event was sponsored by the Azalea Coast ARC.

The Downeast Hamfest in Kinston was covered in www.enctoday.com.

Anarticle about a new tower for the state VIPER system appeared in www.mountaintimes.com. The article mentioned that "Ham radio operators, who are a vital part of the county's emergency response system, have also added their support to the program".

UPCOMING EVENTS

- June 13: Winston-Salem Classic Hamfest
- June 23-24: State Emergency Management Drill
- June 25: Western Carolina Hamfest, Waynesville
- June 27 & 28: ARRL Field Day
- July 11: Salisbury Hamfest
- July 18: Cary Swapfest
- July 25 & 26: APRS Golden Packet Event, Western NC



Website Change

Check it out! Herb has added some interesting items and we may be able to do away with the old RARSnet. Sign in and it is suggested for your user-name that you use your call.