

HARMONICS



THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

September 2009 - Issue 280



August Minutes

August 10, 2009

The RARS met Monday, August 10, 2009 at 6:00 PM at Rufty- Homes Senior Center. Present: Tommy Wood, **N4YZ**, President; Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK**, Treasurer; Bud Bost, **K4AGO**; Ralph Mowery, **KU4PT**; Frank Waring, **AF4D**; Wayne Ashworth, **W4HG**; Jim Morris, **KA4MPP**; Nona Morris, **KA4NHL**, Secretary; Billy Stewart, **WA4PVI**; Carolyn Stewart, **WA4LPN**; Derwood Puckett, **K4PXU**; Clarence Beaver, **K4SHU**; Butch Edge, **W4WEE**; Mike Walker, **KE4MOY**; Dick Smith, **KI4HNX**; Gary H. Lang, **K4GML**; Don Grubb, **WA4BZO**; H.C. Ledbetter, **WB4IDQ**; Bob Rector, **K4REO**, George Huffman, **KC4MXA**.

Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK** gave the up dated Financial Report July 1 thru July 31st

Brought Forward **\$2125.78**

Income:

HF tables/tickets	214.00
HF shirt	13.00
HF Donation	8.00
HF Tickets	1832.00
HF Kitchen	419.75
Dues	20.00
HF Damage refund	<u>100.00</u>

Total \$2606.75

\$4732.59

Expenses:

HF Change	\$350.00
HF Dogs	31.52
HF Cups	56.20
HF Slaw	20.00
HF Rolls	13.31
HF Prizes	40.00
HF Dealer Dinner	<u>123.53</u>

Total **\$644.19**

\$4088.34

McGinnis Fund \$3778.76

Contents

August Minutes	1
Financial Reports	2
September meeting	2
Editorial	3
Congratulations, N4YZ	3
Ham Happenings	4

Skywarn classes, Saturday, August 22, 2009. 10 AM to 2 PM at the Red Cross building. Beginners and Advance classes. Kelly from Skywarn Charlotte, Lee Co. and Metrologies from Spartanburg.

During the Firecracker Hamfest the guy from Shelby came in late and wanted a table. Ralph did not charge them but said we would just swap it out at the Shelby Hamfest. So if you want to use it we need to know to let Shelby know. Shelby Hamfest will be at Dallas, NC, Gaston Co Park, September 5 – 6.

Having no further business we turn to Billy Stewart, **WA4PVI** and his program on the radios in the High Way Patrol cars. Billy is the Supervisor on installing radios and trouble shooting in Highway Patrol cars. Bits and pieces, - 142 low band, Viper System covers State wide, Tuff Books - Laptop computers, the patrol cars have radar in the rear as well as the front. Very interesting information. There is hardly room for the trooper for all the equipment.

Billy Stewart, WA4PVI made the motion to adjourn. Second by Wayne Ashworth, W4HG. The motion passed.

Nona Morris, KA4NHL, Secretary

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Financial Report(s)

August 1 to August 31

Brought Forward \$4088.34

Income:

Refresh. Donation 14.25
Total \$4102.59

Expenses:

Stamps \$26.40
Refreshments 12.79
Total \$39.19

Balance: **\$4063.40**

The following is for those who were not at the August meeting -

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 Ruffy-Holmes senior Center at 1120 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave S.

2009 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
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

September Meeting

This is sure to be at 7:00 PM on September 14 at Ruffy Center.

I'm not sure, but I believe the program will be concerning ARES and will be given by our new EC, Gary Lang, K4GHL

2009 Firecracker Hamfest Report

Income:

Tables/tickets	\$ 393.00
Club shirts	26.00
Tickets(at door)	1832.00
Kitchen	419.75
Donations	50.00
Damage Refund	<u>100.00</u>

Total : **\$2820.75**

Expenses:

Postage(flyers)	\$ 629.83
Printing (flyers \$ tickets)	590.76
Kitchen (food, etc.)	138.94
Rent	500.00
Dealer's dinner	123.53
Misc. (receipt book, etc.)	8.32
Change	350.00
Prizes	40.00
Picnic (celebration)	<u>29.13</u>

Total: **\$2410.51**

Balance **\$ 410.24**

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Editorial

EXCEPT FROM E-MAIL FROM NORM FUSARO, W3IZ, of the ARRL's Membership and Volunteer Programs Department

The Pareto principle, commonly known as the 80-20 rule is a simple expression that 80 percent of the effects come from 20 percent of the causes. As applied in the business world, this would be 80 percent of the sales are driven by 20 percent of the customers. In a club, the percentages may be slightly different, but the fact remains that a small percentage of the membership is responsible for making things happen.

This is not to suggest that 80 percent of the members do not participate, but without a "sparkplug," some things would never get started. These people are the doers. The doers don't take no for an answer and are always willing to take on more responsibili-

ty. But where is the fun in jump-starting a project without someone telling you it would never work?

Of course, it would be much more fun without the negative comments, but that goes against human nature. Ever since man tried to open a coconut with a rock, someone was right beside him offering a thousand excuses why it won't work: "You'll smash your thumb." "The rock will break." "You should invent a wheel and roll it over the coconut." "Let's just eat the bananas." The cynics of the world are an essential part of society -- and of our clubs. They challenge us and make us work harder to prove them wrong. Learn to accept these people but never let them distract you from moving forward.

You only get as much from a club as you put into it. A majority of the club bashers tend to be long time hams with a "been there, done that" attitude, asking what a club has to offer them for them. To borrow from President John F. Kennedy, "ask what you can do for your club." Of course, we took more than we had to offer when we were younger and inexperienced. But over the years, we have gathered knowledge that we can share with the newcomers. Based upon my countless interactions with hams of all levels of experience, the novice has much to offer the old-timer, even if it is just reliving the joy of discovery. The local radio club has something for everybody who is willing to get involved.

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What does this say to you? To me it says "If we are to keep an active club we **all** must be active and contribute."

At last count we had between 35 and 40 members paid up through 2009. Our attendance is averaging 15.333... Though the attendance has slowly increased as the year has passed.

Still the questions comes "What have you done to make the club more enticing to the **300 licensed hams** in Rowan County?" There are a few who are really "Radio Active". Are you one?

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Congratulations, N4YZ

Congratulations to the Pres.

Well the GIC(Great Iditarod Contest) 2009 had many who entered the race, but few who submitted logs etc.

Here are the results:

- 1st Place: N4YZ-----8880 pts.**
- 2nd Place: KB4QQ-----4000 pts.
- 3rd Place: KI4MGA-----1303 pts.
- 4th Place: M5PLY-----17 pts.

GIC-2009 Awards etc will be mailed out in a few weeks.

I'd like to continue this race, but with so little logs returned, this will be the first and last GIC.

Instead GORC will issue an Iditarod Certificate to any ham who makes at least one contact with all nine GIC Countries. There's no time limit for this award and endorsements such as QRP, PSK31 etc will be added to the award. This is a nice certificate printed on photo paper!

Thanks to all who submitted logs etc!

To view this beautiful GORC Iditarod Award go to:

http://www.wa3wsj.org/GORC_Iditroad_Award.html

73,
Ed, WA3WSJ
GORC # 001

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Ham Happenings

BB-55 USS NORTH CAROLINA OPEN FOR GUEST OPERATORS

Licensed radio amateurs visiting the USS North Carolina may schedule a 2-hour appointment to operate from one of the original radio rooms aboard the battleship. A member of the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club will meet you at the battleship ticket window and take you to operate NI4BK. Visiting amateurs can operate 20m SSB or CW. CW operators will need to bring their own key or use the ship's straight key.

Azalea Coast club members will take care of all QSL cards. Appointments are free with regular paid ship admission.

To make an appointment, contact Kim Sincox, Museum Services Director: 910-251-5797 extension 3006 or museum@battleshipnc.com.

Kudos to the Azalea Coast Amateur Radio Club for their outstanding support of Amateur Radio aboard the North Carolina! Volunteers from the club have worked to restore the ship's World War II transmitters. They sponsor several events annually: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, Museum Ships Weekend, and the NC QSO Party. They participate in various ship events such as Hidden Battleship, Battleship Alive and education programs for youth..

During this year's Museum Ships Weekend, NI4BK made 578 contacts!

Vanity Calls cost increase

On August 11, the FCC announced that the cost of an Amateur Radio vanity call sign will increase \$1.10, from \$12.30 to \$13.40.

Now that notice of the increase has been published in the Federal Register, the increase will take effect in 30 days, September 10, 2009.

W1AW to add new digital modes to its transmitting schedule

After a survey of W1AW-listeners, W1AW will begin using two different modes on August 17, 2009.

On August 17, 2009, W1AW will replace its AMTOR and ASCII transmissions with PSK31 and MFSK16, respectively.

RTTY (Baudot) will continue to be the first digital mode used in the transmission schedule.

The frequencies used by W1AW for all its digital transmissions will remain the same.

All regular 6 PM and 9 PM eastern time digital transmissions will begin with RTTY. PSK31 and MFSK16 will be sent as time allows.

The Tuesday and Friday Keplerian data bulletins will be sent using RTTY and PSK31.

The W1AW operating schedule -- complete with times and frequencies -- can be found on the ARRL-Web page at,

<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html#w1awsked>.