

HARMONICS



THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
June 2010 -Issue 289



May Minutes

The RARS met Monday, May 10, 2010 at 7:00 PM at Rufty- Homes Senior Center. Present: Tommie Wood, **N4YZ**; Ralph Brown, **WB4AQK**; Vice President; Frank Waring, **AF4D**; Treasurer; Nona Morris, **KA4NHL**; Secretary; Gary H. Lang, **K4GHL**; Billy Stewart, **WA4PVI**; Carolyn Stewart, **WA4LPN**; Butch Edge, **W4WEE**; Ralph Mowery, **KU4PT**; Rick Jessee, **AJ4WX**; Clarence Beaver, **K4SHU**; Paul Jones, **AJ4WW**; Tim Foster, **KJ4SJZ**; Rick Wallace, **K4PM**; Gary Hattaway, **KQ1E**; Jim Winters, **K4JGW**; Stanton Cross, **KJ4TGS**; Bud Bost, **K4AGO**; George Huffman, **KD4MXA**; Jeff Law, **KD4FMW**; Wayne Ashworth, **W4HG**; John Troutman, **W4DCR**; Mike Litaker, Studying.

The motion was made to approve the minutes by Gary Hattaway, **KQ1E** and seconded by Rick Jessie, **AJ4WX**. The motion passed.

Tommie Wood, **N4YZ** said Wayne Ashworth, **W4HG**, came up with a few mistakes on peoples names and their call signs which had changed, etc. in the Harmonic.

Next old business -Tommie Wood, **N4YZ** said we need to talk about Field Day, The first thing on Field Day is the Antenna party. Tommie has all the digital stuff radio and antenna, we need two more antenna, someone said they would bring 2 G 5 RV antennas.

Friday afternoon between 3 and 5 O'clock antennas will be hung at the site, the M t. Ulla Shelter ... anybody that can attend. They will be hanging the 3 G5RVs.

There will be food again this year but they need to know who was coming.

Tommie said we were going back to 3-A. Last year we did 2-A and the scores on 2-A were extremely high so we will be better off to run 3-A (There are fewer 3-A stations competing) We will run 3 transmitters there will be a sideband, CW, and Digital. We will run on 100 watts. And all three will run at the same time. There will also be a GOTA station where newbies (licensed within the last year) can get lots of experience on HF.

Publicity - Does anyone have any connection with the Salisbury Post.? Gary Lang, **K4GHL** said some one did with the radio station. We need to get

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them to mention the Field Day to get the points. Bring your radios.

The Fox Hunt; The last Fox Hunt, Rick Wallace, **K4PM** won and Gary Lang **K4GHL**, was a close second. Tommie has built 2 transmitters and we can have them as often as you like. They said they like having it after the Saturday morning breakfast. (Breakfast being 2nd Saturday after the monthly meeting at The Checkered Flag Restaurant on South Main St.)

PS. The second hunt, May 22, was haunted by problems with the fox. It was found to be disconnected to its antenna. Without knowing this many were frustrated and frequently blamed their own equipment.

Hamfest; Ralph said he has a whole lot of vacancies to be filled yet and we have received a couple of request for tickets. Ralph hopes to have jobs and etc about the Hamfest posted in the Harmonic. Tommie has the orange fence and Jim has the Posts to put it up. Tommie is going to contact Biscuitville again to see if we can get Ham & Biscuits.

Shirts- t-shirts, Golf shirts, and sweat shirts. If any one, that wants one contact Ralph so he can arrange for the call. If you don't have a shirt and you work the hamfest you will get one from the club. Just call Ralph with size and what kind of shirt you want.

Billy Stewart, **WA4PVI**, said the Technician books and questions we are studying now will change on July 1, 2010. So on June 30, 2010 is the last day to take the test. So if you have been studying to take your test, try to take it before the new question pool will be in affect. They are going to have a special session to take the test Wednesday, June 30th at the YMCA because Rufty Home is closed on Wednesday evenings. Contact Billy Stewart, **WA4PVI** for more information.

Gary Lang, **K4GHL**, request everyone to get on the ARES Net on Wednesday nights, 8:30 PM. 145.410/144.81, 136.5 tone machine (Gary Hattaway repeater).

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.

2010 Officers

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

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

Secretary - Nona Morris, KA4NHL, 704-278-4960
morrisonona@aol.com

Treasurer - Frank Waring, AF4D, 704-857-9792
fwaring@ctc.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

June Program

1. Finalize plans for Field Day.

2. Firecracker appointments and fills.

3. If there is time, look at a western ham-fest.

We need some programs to finish the year. The July meeting is usually a hotdog picnic out back of the Center. Sometimes we come in for a program. At the present I have no program for July thru November. HELP!

Tommie Wood, said we do not have any club cards. Wayne Ashworth, **W4HG**, is looking in to it.

Bud Bost, **K4AGO**, said he has been talking to Cabinet places trying to get them to donate a cabinet for us to store club radios and equipment in. Ralph Brown said Gary Lang would be a good person to write up something and let Tommie look it over, to show the people to try to get a Cabinet. (I'm not sure but I think Bud meant a trailer for emergency communications. Editor)

Tommie Wood, **N4YZ**, said he has finished the fox hunt transmitters now. His next project will be a portable tower. Is there any one who know of an old boat trailer still in good condition, the frame, tires and wheels and such. He needs two 25 ft. sections of tower. Tommie has one and needs two more to make it.

Ralph Brown, talked about the expense of mailing out Hamfest flyers. It cost about \$700 to have all the flyers mailed out. If we ever get the 501 C the cost would be less. Even with this main expense we still clear \$400 to \$500 on the 'fest.

Tommie Wood, **N4YZ**, has the program tonight "Ham Radio Deluxe". Some might know about it but not use it. Its a universal program that controls your radio, does digital modes and satellite too. Tommie has not done any thing on satellite but Frank Waring, **AF4D**, and Ralph Mowery, **KU4PT** do. Discussion brought out that though the logging program in "Ham Radio Deluxe" was good a good general program, the one we use during FD was written by **N3FJP** and is easier to use for FD. There are lots of free logging programs on the internet. HRD is a very interesting and involved program.

Tommie Wood, **N4YZ**, offered Jeff Law, **KD4FMW** for membership in RARS, second by everyone. The motion passed.

Frank Waring, **AF4D**, made the motion to adjourn, seconded by George Huffman, **KD4MXA**. The motion passed.

Nona Morris, **KA4NHL**, Secretary

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Financial Report May 2010

Balance 1 May 2010	\$2549.53
Income:	
Dues	5.00
Refreshment	17.00
Expenses:	
Refreshment	19.43
Balance 31 May	2552.10

Frank, **AF4D**

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Funny Stuff

After Tommie's excellent coverage of a very involved and multi faceted computer program and my online confession of ineptitude with some modern methods of communication, namely Facebook, I received the following from J.C. Ludwig, **K4DIF**.

J.C. , for the newer members , doesn't often attend our meetings, but is what might be called a charter member of the club and keeps a close eye on what we do. I appreciate his efforts to keep me straight.

Any way, he sent me an item that pretty well defines me. Hope you enjoy it. Editor.

Modern Technology

I thought about the 30 year business I ran with 1800 employees, all without a Blackberry that played music, took videos, pictures and communicated with Facebook and Twitter.

I signed up under duress for Twitter and Facebook, so my seven kids, their spouses, 13 grand kids and 2 great grand kids could communicate with me in the modern way. I figured I could handle something as simple as Twitter with only 140 characters of space.

That was before one of my grand kids hooked me up for Tweeter, Tweetree, Twhirl, Twitterfon, Tweetie and Twittererific Tweetdeck, Twitpix and something that sends every message to my cell phone and every other program within the texting world.

My phone was beeping every three minutes with the details of everything except the bowel movements of the entire next generation. I am not ready to live like this. I keep my cell phone in the garage in my golf bag.

The kids bought me a GPS for my last birthday because they say I get lost every now and then going over to the grocery store or library. I keep that in a box under my tool bench with the Blue tooth [it's red] phone I am supposed to use when I drive. I wore it once and was standing in line at Barnes and Noble talking to my wife as everyone in the nearest 50 yards was glaring at me. Seems I have to take my hearing aid out to use it and I got a little loud.

I mean the GPS looked pretty smart on my dash board, but the lady inside was the most annoying, rudest person I had run into in a long time. Every 10 minutes, she would sarcastically say, "Re-calc-ulating" You would think that she could be nicer. It was like she could barely tolerate me. She would let go with a deep sigh and then tell me to make a U-turn at the next light. Then when I would make a right turn instead, it was not good.

When I get really lost now, I call my wife and tell her the name of the cross streets and while she is starting to develop the same tone as Gypsy, the GPS lady, at least she loves me.

To be perfectly frank, I am still trying to learn how to use the cordless phones in our house. We have had them for 4 years, but I still haven't figured out how I can lose three phones all at once and have run around digging under chair cushions and checking bathrooms and the dirty laundry baskets when the phone rings.

The world is just getting too complex for me. They even mess me up every time I go to the grocery store. You would think they could settle on something themselves but this sudden "Paper or

Plastic?" every time I check out just knocks me for a loop. I bought some of those cloth reusable bags to avoid looking confused but I never remember to take them in with me.

Now I toss it back to them. When they ask me, "Paper or Plastic?" I just say, "Doesn't matter to me. I am bi-sacksual." Then it's their turn to stare at me with a blank look.

I was recently asked if I tweet. I answered, No, but I do toot a lot."



Section News

Thanks to Gary, **K4GHL**, for passing on to me the following.

New SEC

Bernie Nobles, **WA4MOK**, has resigned as Section Emergency Coordinator(SEC) and Tom Brown, **N4TAB**, has agreed to serve as his replacement.

Bernie served as SEC since 2003 and indicated he wanted to spend more time with family. During his term ARES made great strides in improving the ICS credentialing of county ECs, streamlining relations with state agencies and upgrading digital EmCOMM applications through Winlink. He provided steady leadership during a time of tremendous technological and organizational change, and we wish him and his wife, Phyllis, well.

Tom has served as Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator (ASEC) for the Central Branch, and has been instrumental in improving Amateur Radio response capability at the state's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Raleigh. A strong proponent of interoperability, Tom will expand integration of Amateur Radio in the state's emergency communications plans.

We appreciate Bernie's accomplishments and we welcome Tom as North Carolina ARES moves towards 21st century EmCOMM solutions.

73, Bill Morine **N2COP, SM**