

HARMONICS



THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
February 2020 - Issue 400



Presidents Corner

By:

Gary Lang K4GHL 2020 President
Rowan Amateur Radio Society
30 Jan 2020

Greetings!!!

Happy New Years! Yet another year has arrived and if you're reading this, Congratulations on being alive and above ground! My name is Gary Lang, Amateur Extra Class operator K4GHL. At the January meeting I was installed as the latest President of the Rowan Amateur Radio Society. For that, Thank You!

I've been licensed since 2008 and joined the Society the same year. Over the past 12 years, I've formerly served as the Emergency Coordinator for ARES for Rowan County, the District Emergency Coordinator for ARES for Area 11, the Vice President of the Society, and was the 2014 RARS Operator of the Year.

The last few years I've been lurking in the shadows, mostly due to working over the road as a truck driver. I did get sort of disillusioned with radio in general for a variety of reasons, but nothing in particular. But I've decided to give it another go to turn a phrase. My promise to you is I will do my best over 2020 to

try and make the Society the best and as interesting as I can, but I'll need your help to do it!

At the January meeting I was impressed to see 25+ people at the meeting! I've seen as few as around 10 or 12, which is kind of sad given the names that appear on the roster. Like me, I realize folks have other commitments and obligations, so it's understandable that attendance tends to wax and wane on occasion.

Groups such as ours are solely dependent upon the participation of its membership, be it involvement in activities, coming up with ideas for activities, monetary contributions, or promoting our group in general. We have some fantastic talent and knowledge lurking in our membership to say the least! Sadly though some of those great folks are getting up there in age, and without us recruiting new folks, the membership rolls will decrease to the point of us not being in existence.

I'd like to ask everyone to offer up some ideas to the Officers as to how we can make things better for the Society. Doesn't have to be anything wild or spectacular, though that would be interesting, just some suggestions of activities or projects you'd like to do or whatever. Slip us a piece of paper, email us, or chat with us in person, I'm just asking

Presidents Corner

(continued)

that you help us make the Society better for you in some way.

We've got repeater equipment on the way (GO TECH TEAM!) so that should solve the problems the 410 has been having as of late. I hope by the February meeting it'll be up, but that's for the Tech Team to determine. Several of us have been working on the Constitution and Bylaws to help define and clarify some things, be looking for that email. The February program looks to be an exciting one, if the technology holds out, so you may not want to miss that!!!

In closing, I'd like to thank each of you for being a part of the Rowan Amateur Radio Society, because without you, we wouldn't exist.

Stay safe, and remember to have fun!
Gary Lang K4GHL
President, Rowan Amateur Radio Society

Next Months Program

We will be receiving a live stream from the Forsyth Amateur Radio Club that will be hosting the curator of the Asheville Radio Museum. Sounds like an interesting program for sure!!!! Hope to see everyone there!

*** de Gary K4GHL President RARS

Also, the Charlotte Hamfest folks will be at the meeting with Pre-Reg. & Extra Prize Tickets and Details.

The Rowan Amateur Radio Society
P. O. Box 1112
Granite Quarry, NC 28072

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 Rowan Rescue Squad's building at 1140 Julian Road, Salisbury, NC 28146

2020 Officers

President - Gary Lang, K4GHL
Vice President - Lloyd Nickerson, KN4EKG
Secretary - Andy Kaufman, KB2AZG
Treasurer - Neal Goodman, W4JNG

2020 Technical Committee

Tommie Wood -
Billy Stewart -
Gary Hattaway -
George Huffman -
Andy Kaufman -

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 - Jim Winters
On the web: www.RowanARS.org



Below are results for the January 18th W4VEC Test Session. Congratulations and You are in the FCC database with Your new Extra class privileges.

William Metcalf WA3GDB -
EXTRA CLASS
James "Skip" Staton KBOZNS -
EXTRA CLASS

Next Testing Session: Saturday, March 21, 2020

Location:
Bostian Heights Fire Department
Community Room
8211 Old Concord Road
Salisbury, NC 28146

To upgrade please bring a copy of your existing license for us to file with your application, the original license, a photo ID, and \$12 testing fee. People looking to get a license for the first time please bring 2 forms of ID (1 should be a photo ID) and the \$12 testing fee.

From the FCC:

The Federal Communications Commission will be changing the way new amateur radio applicants register for a FCC Registration Number (FRN). New applicants, without a FRN, are encourage to first create a FCC User ID and FRN, before taking their examination. Providing the FRN, with your examination application will allow the Volunteer Exam Coordinators or Commercial Operator License Examination Manager to submit your application, with this information. You will be able to use your FRN to use ULS to search the status of your application, with the FCC. To aid in this process, below is a step-by-step video guide that will walk through the steps of creating a FCC User ID and FRN. This is the address to see a tutorial on the process. <http://fcc.gov/rofrn>

SILENT KEY

Ralph Brown received word from Betty Pierce, WA4TDL that **Dick Jones, KB4QE**, Passed during the evening of 1/28/20. A Military Graveside Service will be held on Monday February 10, 2020 at 1:00 PM at the Salisbury National Cemetery (501 Statesville Blvd, Salisbury, NC 28144). Military Honors will be provided by the Rowan County Veterans Honor Guard. More pictures and the obituary web address are on the top of the next page. Thanks goes to Ralph Brown for supplying some of the pictures.





Obituary can be read at: "https://carolinacremation.com/obituary/75131?doing_wp_cron=1580927551.5703890323638916015625"

RARS MINUTES 1/13/2020

- **Meeting opened @ 7pm**
- **Treasurers report read**
- **Treasurers report discussed membership dues, and the repercussion as written in the bylaws. Attending membership voted to table punitive actions until future date .**
- **OLD BUSINESS**
- **Discussion on moving meeting night once again discussed , however no solution or change at this time. Bylaws must be amended to allow such change.**
- **Technical committee presented the findings for repeater replacement , cost and type of repeater. Attending membership voted to go with the technical committee's recommendation , and club to assist monetarily the repeater fund if necessary.**
- **Announcement for a volunteer to fill the vacant seat of president took place and Gary Lang , K4GHL answered the call. motion to vote in Gary passed. GARY LANG -K4GHL IS NOW OUR PRESIDENT. Members thank Gary.**
- **Announcement for a volunteer to fill the vacant seat of vice president. Lloyd Nickerson Kn4ekg answered the call this time. Motion to vote in Lloyd passed. LLOYD NICKERSON - KN4EKG is now our vice president.**
- **NEW BUSINESS.**
- **Charles Gobble- Ko4abt , voted in as a new member.**
- **Brought up to membership and discussion on the floor that our By Laws be re visited. Also brought up that a by law committee be formed to assess options and wording of various sections that might be amended to benefit the club in 2020.**
- **PROGRAM**
- **Aaron- Km4sta , Presenter this evening , and the interesting subject of station remote control. which was very informative.**

**Andy Kaufman
Kb2azg
Secretary**

**RARS ATTENDANCE
1/13/2020**

- NEAL GOODMAN
 - JOE SHORE
 - MARK KELNER
 - GARY LANG
 - LARRY ZIEGLMIER
 - WAYNE ASHWORTH
 - MICHAEL CULBRETH
 - RALPH MOWERY
 - GARY MOSS
 - GARY HATTAWAY
 - LLOYD NICKERSON
 - JIM WINTERS
 - ARNOLD MOSS
 - TOMMIE WOOD
 - J.SKIP STATON
 - LEN DEATON
 - FRANK WARING
 - AARON CAMERON
 - MICHAEL VOGEL
 - ANDY KAUFMAN
 - MARK SCOTT
 - STANTON CROSS
 - CHARLES GOBBLE
 - BILLY STEWART
 - TIM FOSTER
 - DICK HATTAWAY
- W4JNG
 - KN4WAY
 - WG8Y
 - K4GHL
 - KA4NRW
 - W4HG
 - W4CZJ
 - KU4PT
 - KN4JZR
 - KQ1E
 - KN4EKG
 - W4YF
 - AK4AN
 - N4YZ
 - KB0ZNS
 - KB6BKJ
 - AF4D
 - KM4STA
 - KT4N
 - KB2AZG
 - K4MV
 - KJ4GTS
 - KO4ABT
 - WA4PVI
 - K4OIB
 - W4PID



DX Operations for February, 2020

Once again, the bands have been pretty decent over the last few weeks. I know it's not so hot compared to a few years ago, but in this part of the cycle, we really can't complain too much.

I was sure the Congo was going to be totally dead for years after Nando, 9Q6BB left.. but low and behold, another station took up his place and is very effective from that part of the world. 9Q1C will be on for a period thru February or longer, so if you need that entity, search DXHeat for him and sort out his operating schedules. He's been active with a good signal in this area.

I mentioned the Russian Robinson Club's visit to Palestine last month. I think I said they will have a fabulous operation and that they are a determined group. They did have very good success, considering that the authorities took all their antenna gear at the airport, and they were left with what they could scrounge from local markets to be on the air. This group is determined to say the least. If you see that they are going on a trip in the future, you can bet they will be workable, even with the loss of all their antenna gear.

Keep your eyes and ears open for RI0B, especially if you are an island chaser (IOTA) .. He is activating AS-068 in mid march. There is absolutely nothing cooler in propagation to hear his signals wander across the arctic with all the aurora flutter and magnetic interference. It sounds 'otherworldly' to say the least. Monitor DX World (link at bottom) for his activity. (repeat from last month, worthy of the space IMO)

Be on the lookout for HU1DL, active from El Salvador until the 13th of February. They have a great signal on CW and FT-8. I guess they are on SSB too, but I still have not located my microphone.

TI9A and TI9C are going to be active from Cocos Island which represents a new DXCC and IOTA for many. The TI9C operation is first, and it is SSB only, ending around the 9th of this month. TI9A starts slightly later, but will be operational by the time you get this newsletter. These should be a fairly easy IOTA addition, considering their location, and some (like me) will love to add them on the DXCC listing as well. <http://ti9a.info/> and <https://www.qrz.com/lookup/ti9c>

Also, VK9NK continues to be active from Norfolk Island and is very workable by modest stations in our area.. I mis-typed his call last month, sorry.

Other notable activities this month:

5I5TT on IOTA AF-032 and DXCC Tanzania by a well heeled Italian group. See <http://www.i2ysb.com/idt/> for more info. This outfit always puts on a good effort.

C5XW, if you missed the effort by C5FUD, then this is another good shot at The Gambia. It is a holiday effort, and they don't have a website, but they have been active on 20 and 40 SSB. I need that DXCC on Phone, so I guess I am gonna have to search harder for my microphone.

E44CC will be on from Palestine. Lets hope they get their antennas thru customs. See <https://palestine2020.wordpress.com/>

Keep an eye on the NG3K link below.. there will be many smaller expeditions over the next thirty days that are to places not so rare, but if you don't have them they are as good as North Korea to boost your scores.

The DX world of today is a very rapidly changing beast, and impossible to track with a monthly NL. The following links will take you to multiple sources of information concerning DX activities.

<https://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

<https://dx-world.net>

<https://clublog.org/>

<https://dxheat.com/dxc/>

73 DE W4PID

Impact of Digitalization and automation... Lollll



Upcoming Hamfests

Charlotte Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina Section Convention 2020

Start Date: 03/13/2020

End Date: 03/14/2020

Location: Cabarrus Arena/Events Ctr
4751 NC Highway 49 North
Concord, NC 28025

Website: <http://>

www.charlottehamfest.org

Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 146.655 -600kHz, no tone

Public Contact: Tim Slay , N4IB

141 Queens Cove Road Mooresville, NC 28117

Phone: 704-948-7373

Email: info@charlottehamfest.org

Charleston Hamfest, ARRL West Virginia Section Convention

Start/End Date: 03/14/2020

Location: Charleston Coliseum & Convention Center

200 Civic Center Drive

Charleston, WV 25301

Website: <http://>

www.chaswvhamfest.com

Sponsor: Charleston Hamfest Committee

Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 145.35 (PL 91.5)

Public Contact: James Jim Damron , N8TMW

23 Baxter Drive Charleston, WV 25302

Phone: 304-965-5349

Email: n8tmw@arrl.net

Catawba Valley Hamfest

Start/End Date: 04/25/2020

Location: Burke County Fairgrounds
145 Bost Road

Morganton, NC 28655

Website: <http://cvhamfest.com>

Sponsor: McDowell Amateur Radio Association

Type: ARRL Hamfest

Talk-In: 147.150 (PL 94.8)

Public Contact: Michael Fox , KF4Mwx
4895 Karen Court Morganton, NC 28655

Phone: 828-437-2787

Email: kf4mwx@gmail.com

April 25: 23rd Annual Catawba Valley Hamfest, sponsored by McDowell Amateur Radio Association, Burke County Fairgrounds, 145 Bost Road, Morganton, NC 28655. <http://cvhamfest.com> Talk-In: 147.150 MHz (PL94.8). Public

contact: Michael Fox, KF4Mwx, via phone at 828-437-2787 or email at kf4mwx@gmail.com

July 11: 35th Annual 2020 Firecracker Ham-Fest, sponsored by Rowan Amateur Radio Society, Salisbury Civic Center, 315 Martin Luther King Avenue S, Salisbury, NC 28144. <http://www.rowanars.com> Talk-In: 145.41MHz

(PL 136.5). Public contact: Ralph Mowery, KU4PT, via phone at 704-279-4737 or email at ku4pt@arrl.net

July 18: 47th Annual Cary Mid-Summer SWAPFEST, sponsored by Cary Amateur Radio Club, Harold D. Ritter Park, 01 W Lochmere Drive, Cary, NC 27511. <http://caryarc.org> Talk-In: 146.88

MHz, (-600, no tone). Public contact: Jim Williams, W4VCF, via phone at 919-552-1980 or email at w4vcf@arrl.net

July 25: WCARS Hamfest, sponsored by Western Carolina Amateur Radio Society, Haywood County Fairgrounds, 758 Crabtree Road, Waynesville, NC 28785. <http://www.wcars.org/wcarshamfest.htm> Talk-In: none. Public

contact: Ruth Berner, WA4VT, via phone at 828-216-2510 or email at ruthberner@gmail.com

August 8: 22nd Annual Ole Fashioned CFARS SwapFest, sponsored by Cape Fear Amateur Radio Society, Cumberland County Shrine Club, 7040 Ramsey Street (US Hwy 401 N), Fayetteville, NC 28301. <http://www.cfarsnc.org> Talk-In: 146.910 MHz (PL 100). Public

contact: David Cowart, KR4OE, via phone at 910-624-1394 or email at kr4oe@nc.rr.com



"Islands On The Air" would be more fun if WE had a radio too!

HOW TO TELL WHEN THEY GET A MODEL FOR THE PHOTO INSTEAD OF A WORKER.



LIKE WHEN YOU SEE IT, SHARE IT AND TELL PEOPLE YOU'RE BLIND IF YOU CAN'T.

**Items listed on this page must be Amateur Radio related and offered by a club member.
*** No Commercial Ads *****



For Sale: Great QRP rig. TenTec Argonaut 509. Rig has been stored for several years after a complete overhaul and updating by TenTec. I recently dug it out and tested it. Works fine and is a super CW rig. Rig comes with the matching power supply, CW filter, and Crystal calibrator. \$200 for the lot. Rig will work SSB as well, however I do not have the matching microphone. \$200.

Wayne W4HG

If you have an item you would like to sell, just send an email with a picture if possible to : RARS_Harmonics@carolina.rr.com