

HARMONICS



THE VOICE OF THE ROWAN AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY
October 2019 - Issue 396



RARS ATTENDANCE 9/9/2019

- | | |
|------------|--------------------|
| 1. W4HG | WAYNE ASHWORTH |
| 2. WB4AQK | RALPH BROWN |
| 3. KM4STA | AARON CAMERON |
| 4. KJ4HF | KEN CLIFTON |
| 5. KJ4TGS | STANTON CROSS |
| 6. W4CZJ | MICHAEL CULBRETH |
| 7. W4JNG | NEAL GOODMAN |
| 8. W4PID | DICK HATTAWAY |
| 9. KB2AZG | ANDY KAUFMAN |
| 10. KM4CBI | WILLIAM MC CUBBINS |
| 11. KU4PT | RALPH MOWERY |
| 12. AJ4UX | RICHARD PASHALL |
| 13. K4PXU | DERWOOD PUCKET |
| 14. KN4WAY | JOE SHORE |
| 15. W4DCS | DOUG SPRIGGS |
| 16. KB0ZNS | JAMES STANTON |
| 17. KK4ZPG | GLENN STEBE |
| 18. KN4FWS | ALEX TRAYLOR |
| 19. AF4D | FRANK WARING |
| 20. N4YZ | TOMMIE WOOD |
| 21. W4YF | JIM WINTERS |

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[Archive Pictures scattered throughout publication](#)

RARS MEETING MINUTES 9/9/2019

1. Meeting started
2. Minutes voted on and approved
3. Treasurers report read , voted on and approved
4. Visitor came to our meeting. Assistant Cub Master Phil, from scout pack 306, came with scouts. Phil wanted to find out more about our radio club. Also asked if we could help in any way with getting an amateur radio station for JOTA (Jamboree On The Air) setup at Scout Barnhardt ,for OCT 21st.
5. WB4AQK Ralph Brown is feeling better after his operation and Rehab. Ralph felt good enough to come to a meeting. Welcome Back Ralph !
6. Another surprise, Happy Birthday TO W4PID Dick Hattaway ! Dick was greeted with a signed card from all attending members.
7. We announced we were looking for volunteers to set up a special event station at the Autumn Jubilee @Dan Nicholas park Oct 5-6.
8. Our program was led by W4DCS Doug Spriggs , and gave us the run down on his Home Brew 80meter AM Pulsewith modulated amplifier.

Club Secretary
Andy Kaufman
KB2AZG

Press release from Asheville Radio Museum

A lot has been going on lately at the Asheville Radio Museum that will be of interest to your members. Please have a look at the attachment to this email and you'll see what I mean.

I hope you will make this information available to your club. If you like, please feel free to forward this attachment with your next club newsletter.

Or.... we have a link to the attachment near the top of our home page at www.avlradiomuseum.org. It looks like this:

Want to See What's New? [Click Here!](#)

Many thanks in advance for helping to support our all volunteer museum.

73,
Stuart Smolkin WA5EYI (Curator)



Picture from the club archive....

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

2019 Officers

- President - Mark Scott, K4MV
- Vice President - Dick Hattaway, W4PID
- Secretary - Andy Kaufman, KB2AZG
- Treasurer - Neal Goodman, W4JNG

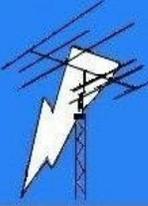
Harmonics, the club newsletter, is published mostly monthly. Submit articles, complaints, corrections, or comments to the club Editor. Material may be reprinted provided proper credit is given.

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

Next Months Program

This months program will be 'IARU Beacons'

W4VEC



Volunteer Examiner Coordinator

Below is the New callsign class for the Salisbury W4VEC Test Session.

73,
Billy WA4PVI
Co-Chairman W4VEC

PAUL RICHARDS GENERAL KN4YFP

Thank You for testing with the W4VEC
Rowan-Cabarrus VE Team !!

The next Testing Session will be:
Saturday November 16, 2019 at 9:30am

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>

CONGRATULATIONS!!

By Wayne Ashworth

Dr. Janet Spriggs, the wife of Doug Spriggs, W4DCS, has been inaugurated as the seventh president of Forsyth Technical Community College. The ceremony took place on the 19th of September at the Stevens Center in downtown Winston-Salem.

Janet, the former Chief Operating Officer at Rowan-Cabarrus Community College has been in her new position for several months now and she and Doug are moved into their new QTH. Doug is back on the air with a wire and his rig, but station improvements will be coming as the resettlement continues. Their presence in Salisbury will be missed, but they are close by so frequent visits are certainly in order.

A native of Yanceyville, Janet and Doug have five children. She grew up on a tobacco farm and has been in the Community College system for 22 years, starting at Carteret Community College in Morehead City. Our congratulations to the Spriggs on this new adventure.



HAPPENINGS IN THE AMATEUR COMMUNITY

A couple of names common to amateur radio builders and twickers are going to be closing. **Fry's Electronics** stores soon to close, seeing same fate as Toys'R'Us? Sources tell us that Fry's Electronics brick and mortar stores are in trouble and could close within one year By Rob Squires from Aug 19, 2019 @ 16:18 CDT Since 1985, Fry's Electronics, a brick and mortar Silicon Valley headquartered electronics chain, was the go-to place for DIY system builders. The stores founded by John Fry were modeled like grocery retailing, but to sell computer and electronics supplies. Fry's Electronics, like most brick and mortar stores these days is having a tough time due to fierce online retailer competition. It seems that they may be closer than ever to facing the fate of other brick and mortar retail chains, like Toys"R"Us, K-Mart, and Sears.

Read more: <https://www.tweaktown.com/news/67191/frys-electronics-stores-soon-close-seeing-same-fate-toysrus/index.html>

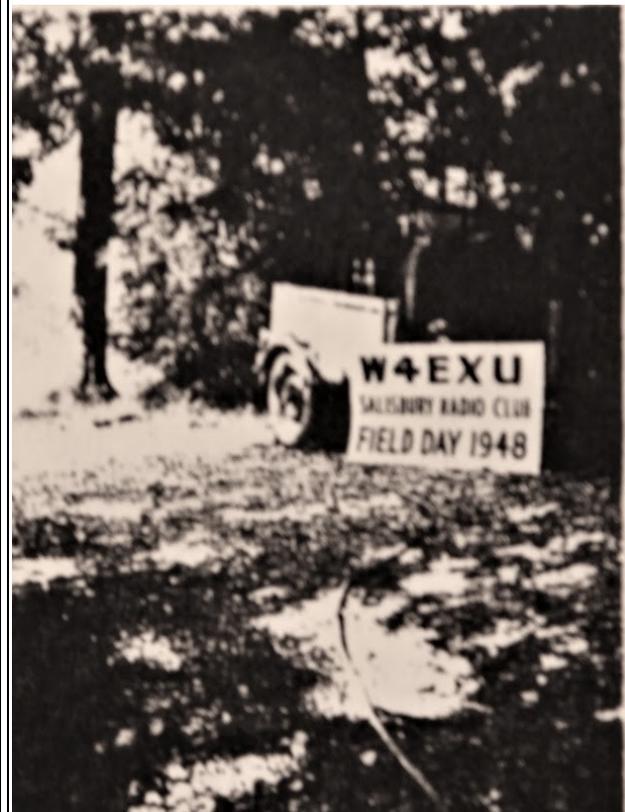
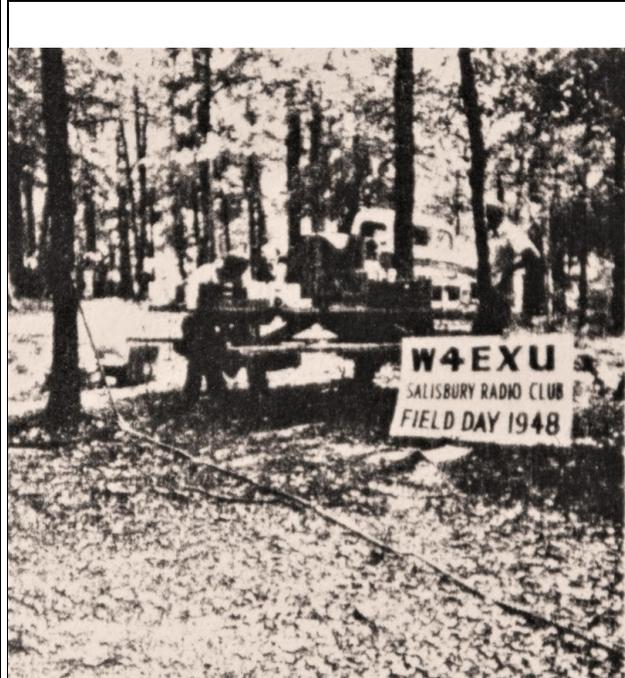
Computer Automation Technology, Inc.

Since 1989, Computer Automation Technology has provided quality repeater controllers and accessories to the amateur radio community. Due to changes in the economy, Ron and Al have decided to close the business effective October 31, 2019.

We would like to thank our many devoted patrons who contributed to our success over the past 30 years. Ron plans to maintain the telephone product support line (954-978-6171) to assist our loyal customers with their concerns.

Best regards,

Ron WB4UFA Al W4MGK



Presidents Corner

Continuing my theme of discussing information for new or inexperienced Hams, I thought I'd mention some resources you might not be familiar with that I have come across over the years. Of course, you may be familiar with material the ARRL has for new Hams. One place on their website you might want to go to is <http://www.arrl.org/on-the-air> where you can find all sorts of information associated with on-the-air activities and other topics. The ARRL has committed to providing more information for new Hams over time, so it will be interesting to see how this evolves.

When I first got licensed in 1976 I did not have a mentor nor did I belong to a club. A lot of what I learned was by subscribing to Amateur Radio dedicated magazines. At that time there were a lot more Ham Radio magazines than are found today, although there are now many Amateur Radio specific websites and blogs providing information that were not available back then. One magazine I subscribed to was Ham Radio Horizons, a magazine dedicated to the new Ham. While a lot has changed since HRH was published, a lot has remained the same. You may find it of some interest to look at some of these issues, which can be found for free at <https://archive.org/details/hamradiohorizons>.

In addition to QST, published by the ARRL, another magazine that has been around for a long time is CQ. They have a good magazine, something I have subscribed to for many years, but they also offer some "free" stuff to new Hams. Just go to https://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_offer_new_ham.html to find out more. Among other things, they offer a free copy of their magazine, hoping to sell you a subscription (of course), but it is worth seeing what they offer. What they also offer free, in addition to a copy of the magazine, are three DVD's containing information of interest to new Hams. I have not seen these DVD's but would expect something from CQ to be worthwhile, particularly at the price.

There are Amateur Radio podcasts you might find of interest, many of which were reviewed at a previous club meeting. There are also a number of Amateur Radio blogs out there, although I've never read any of them so I don't have any recommendations. Perhaps

there are some members of RARS who might have recommendations. To find some of these blogs you might Google 'amateur radio blog' and then check out some that appear. Having said all that, one blog that appears to be quite popular can be found at <https://www.kb6nu.com/>.

I hope you found some of this of value and I look forward to seeing you on-the-air and at our next meeting.

73,
Mark
K4MV



DX Operations for October, 2019

Although I'd love to write a DX column for the newsletter, it turns out that the news is basically very stale by the time you get it. 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://dxheat.com/dxc/>

By the time you read this, I will have just finished celebrating my 60th consecutive year as a licensed ham. I have had loads of fun with ham radio over those years, experimenting with all kinds of different ham activities. I just got back from visiting the site of a famous DXpedition, which will be the subject matter of next month's blurb here. Look for that article, as it will have some fun twists and turns in it as a result of 60 years in the hobby.

Up this month for your DX pleasure is a country I have wanted to work for most of those 60 years, Pitcairn Island. When it first got on my radar, it was because of VR6TC, a descendent of the Bounty mutiny crew. As a kid, I thought that was the coolest thing to work Tom, but I never had the chance to do it. So be on the lookout, as it's a huge operation, and they *will* have a great signal from a very rare location. The expedition is from Oct 18 to the end of the month, all bands, all modes, 8 stations at 1KW each. The call will be VP6R.

Also on the calendar this month is the expedition to San Andres & Providencia using the call 5K0K. This will also be a big operation, with 9 ops and all modes/bands. Although not nearly as rare as VP6, it's not an easy entity to pick up, as there is only one active ham there to the best of my knowledge (but he is very active HI) .. Oct 15 to the end of the month for this one. Get it early, so you will have time to concentrate on Pitcairn.

Last but certainly not least, T30GC will be on with a good crew from Western Kiribati. This is an all bands/most modes (no FT8 by my info) from a fairly easy to work yet remote country. The time to look for these guys is in the late afternoon/early evening. I don't understand all that exists in propagation, but this part of the world seems to be easy to reach from the Piedmont during the early evening. VP6R will fall into the same timeframe. 5K0K will be in at all kinds of hours, depending on what frequency you are using. They are located just north of Columbia and east of Nicaragua. They should be easy on 10, 12, 15, and 17 in the mid afternoon. They should be good on 40 and lower at night and on 20 about anytime HI.

There are many more expeditions on the horizon, including some that are not well publicized. Take a look at the NG3K link above, as it has all the good data in it for some fun DX operations. I'm going back to try to work 7P8AO on 20 M. I never got them the first time they were in Lesotho. 73 DE W4PID



Scattered pictures from the clubs archive.



That's all folks, more next month