



Reelfoot Amateur Radio Club

Western Tennessee • Western Kentucky • Southeastern Missouri

EmComm • Amateur Training • Public Service • License Testing • Special Events

501c4 Non-Profit Organization



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Christmas RARC Gathering 2012

December 7, 2012

Location:

First State Bank Conference Room, Martin, TN

The Community Room of the First State Bank in Martin, TN was once again the site of the Reelfoot Amateur Radio Club's annual Christmas Holiday Gathering. Rene Kimsey of Kimsey Catering provided the banquet food of poppy seed chicken and pork chops as the entrees.

Attendance:

We had an excellent turnout on a brisk night for the annual festivities - Brandon KJ4FTN and his friend Erica Clayton; Glenn N4MJ, RARC President and XYL Linda and granddaughter Elizabeth; Bob K9IL, RARC Vice-President and XYL Rose W9DHD with his father Bob, Sr., W4YAD; Jamie WB4YDL, RARC Secretary-Treasurer with daughter Caitlin and XYL June; Gladys KJ4EKN; Marv KK4MAC; Michael AK4VU and friend Peggy Hall; Michael Snow KJ4KH; Art WA4EQO and Tracy; Ray N4SLY and Dolly KN4SLY; Todd KK4JTM and XYL Trina from Water Valley, KY; Ottis K5BSE and XYL Rhelda N5BSE; Noel KJ4UNX and XYL Laura; Phillip N4PWG; John K1XN and Charles N4PPD from Paris, TN.



Todd KK4JTM & Trina with John K1XN and Charles N4PPD

Door Prizes:

As has been traditional during this festive

occasion, artisans Bob K9IL and Rose W9DHD provided several of their Christmas creations ranging from a horse drawn carriage and reindeer drawn sleigh, and baskets of ornaments to a wooden biplane and a tower and beam antenna model. As usual, they were very well received and will be treasured items in the winner's home during the Christmas season.

The Meeting:

There was no formal business at this meeting, as is the tradition. The selections provided by Kimsey

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Some of the beautiful door prizes

Reelfoot Amateur Radio Club beginning early in the year with the 5th annual Ides of March Hamfest. This year we were honored to have on hand the newly elected Tennessee Section Manager Keith Miller N9GDK and ARRL Delta Division Director David Norris K5UZ and Vice-Director Glen Clayton W4BDB, as well as new Section Emergency Coordinator Pat Lane W4OQG. Also another first at the hamfest, was a forum given by tower pro, Don Daso, K4ZA, on tower and antenna construction. Don is author of *Antenna Towers for Radio Amateurs* sold by the ARRL and was in town at the time of the hamfest for some tower work.

The annual ARRL Field Day operation was a lower keyed affair than in previous years (we dropped to class 2A) and the sun did not cooperate.

However, we all had fun. We also had a VE

session where visitors Gene KB4EMV and Charles KDØROA from Dixon, MO took and passed their exams. Hopefully, this next year will see more participation and take the fun to a higher level.

Several club members had an active and productive year in ham radio. Rose W9DHD attained the DXCC award and Jamie WB4YDL attained the Diamond DXCC 75th Anniversary Award and the DXCC Challenge Award. Michael AK4VU upgraded to Extra Class and Todd KK5JTM upgraded to General Class license. Also Jamie WB4YDL and Bob K9IL received certificates in the 2011 CQ World Wide RTTY Contest and the 2011 ARRL International DX Contest - CW, respectively.

The Reelfoot Amateur Radio Club's monthly meetings during the year 2012 were filled with interesting topics such as a multi-part tag-team presentation with Glenn N4MJ and Jamie WB4YDL doing the show. Also the year was very active with DXpeditions including



Glenn N4MJ, um... excited !

those to Yemen and Malpelo Island and the videos proved very entertaining.

Soapbox :

John K1XN:

I really enjoyed the Christmas dinner. Since I do not get to attend many meetings, it was great to see

Katering, pork chops and poppy seed chicken, were enjoyed by all, and the desserts were terrific. The year 2012 was a very active one for



Brandon KJ4FTN and Erica

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and chat with the club members. The food was very good and the facilities were wonderful.



Todd KK4JTM and Trina

group of folks.

Noel KJ4UNX:

Laura and I had a great time Friday night. The food was great as was the facilities. But the Fellowship with our ham family is always the best part of the evening. It was good to see Bob's dad and talk to him again. It's a good thing all the Hams bring YL's / XYL's or else this would be one ugly party HI HI.

Epilogue :

The next regular scheduled RARC meeting will be on January 24, 2013 at the Obion County Public Library in Union City, TN. The Net Control Station and Refreshment assignments will be posted soon. Until next time ...



Caitlin and Dad, Jamie WB4YDL

I am hoping to come to the January meeting as the Hamfest is

my favorite club event. Being unable to do much work, I do promote the Hamfest in an effort to get as many people to attend as possible. The club does an excellent job of having activities for members, like field day. Some contests might find their way into the club activities in the future.

Club members are also very charitable. A few years back I asked the club for help in getting Christmas for a needy family that learned about. The club responded with funds that paid this woman's electric bill, bought warm coats and clothes for her kids and food for Christmas and New Years. That was a great year.

RARC is made up of a very nice



Tracy and Art WA4AQO

Have a Very Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and Good DX!

