

Branch County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

October 21st, 2008

www.branchcountyarc.com

*The October meeting of the Branch County Amateur Radio Club was held in the training room at the Coldwater 911 Center. 22 members and guests were present. Dan Sprow, President of the BCARC called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

*The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. This was followed by introductions around the room.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI, gave this month's financial report.

A motion was made to accept the financial report as read. The motion was approved.

MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made to accept the September meeting minutes as published. The motion was approved by the majority.

EMERGENCY COORDINATORS REPORT:

*In Larry's absence, Andrew Glenn gave the EC report and here are the highlights:

*September 20th, was Applefest. Nice sunny day. Had a great time.

The participants had a good opportunity to explain and demonstrate the hobby.

*There were 20 participants in this years S.E.T. exercise, with the majority on emergency power.

A few glitches and situations arose which demonstrated where the focus must be shifted in later exercises.

Multiple simulated repeater failures were experienced and the group had to rely on the backup simplex frequencies.

*Skywarn training is already set for 2009. The date will be March 17th with an agenda similar to last year. Location TBD.

*We are now in the fall severe weather season and the IWX Staff has reminded us that since the year 2001, every tornado related death has occurred in October and November.

*The local emergency services have received 110 weather radios, some of which have already been distributed to places where people gather, such as nursing homes, theaters, etc. There are more to be placed when appropriate areas are identified.

*The RACES group is in the discussion stages with the local authorities concerning our providing functional verification of the testing of the severe weather sirens on the first Saturday of each month. This will allow the Public Safety personnel who normally perform these tasks to concentrate on other important issues.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:

*Arnie Hayward informed the group that Gene Miller KC8PWB, had suffered a stroke and was currently in the Coldwater hospital.

*Arnie produced a nicely framed photo of Bud Sissem, K8TZI, to hang in the Club station. He obtained the photo from Bud's daughter and Peggy Voss was kind enough to place it in a nice frame.

REPEATER REPORT:

*Arnie had nothing new to report.

*Mike Jepson told the group that the 440 repeater was still operating on reduced power.

BOARD MEETING:

Due to everyone's busy schedule, there was no October board meeting.

The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 4th.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim King would like to see the formation of committees to handle some of the various activities such as field day, Applefest. Also a recruitment committee and a public relations committee. Dan asked that Jim email this information to him so that he can bring it before the board.

Jim also wondered if the Club Station equipment could be made available for the upcoming QSO party to be held in 2009. The group was basically told that this is the reason we have the equipment and barring any disasters going on which would fill the 911

center with "officials" then this could certainly happen.

UPGRADES – NEW CALLS – NEW HAMS:

Nothing new for the month.

NEW EQUIPMENT:

Nothing new for the month

DX:

Bill Slade worked a couple of stations in Italy. One was in Naples and the further north. Mike Jepson talked to a fellow on a cruise ship in the Bahamas, and had another contact in Colombia, South America.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

November will be the annual Club elections.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

To be announced.

PROGRAM OF THE EVENING:

Dale Williams will give one of his fine presentations concerning Ham radio in the schools.

OTHER:

The winner of the 50/50 raffle was Jim King. Jim and the Club split \$14.00. There were also 5 tickets to the Fort Wayne Hamfest that were raffled off These were given away with 3 in the first group and 2 in the second. Mike Jepson won 3 tickets and Bill Kubiak won 2.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI