

Branch County Amateur Radio Club
Meeting Minutes
September 15th, 2009
www.branchcountyarc.com

The September meeting of the Branch County Amateur Radio Club was held in the training room at the Coldwater 911 Center. 10 members and guests were present. Due to the absence of Andrew Glenn, Club President, Larry Camp volunteered to take on the evening's duties as master of ceremonies.

The meeting was started with the pledge of allegiance.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of Tom Twite, K8CHS. Tom was a valued member of the Club and his presence will be missed.

Tom's wife, Joan sent a nice thank-you note to the Club which was read to the group.

MEETING MINUTES:

A copy of the June minutes (last available edition) was made available for all to examine.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI, gave the financial report. The report was accepted as read.

REPEATER REPORT:

Arnie reported that the 2 meter repeater had been performing nicely until an incident a few days ago prompted Arnie, Larry and Jim, (KC8UGV) to visit the repeater site and were able to do a hard reset on the system which brought it back to its senses.

As we have come to expect, the 440 repeater just keeps on a tickin'.

EMERGENCY COORDINATORS REPORT:

Larry stated that this is the deadest summer in a long long time. No complaints were heard. There was some weather concern several weeks ago but as it turned out, the situation just went away.

Larry and Tim Miner are still trying to get their schedules to mesh so they can have a planning session concerning the emergency communication trailer.

October 3rd is the Simulated Emergency Test (SET). This is the first Saturday of the month which happens to coincide with the siren testing, so perhaps that will be worked into the scenario.

A balloon launch is scheduled for Saturday, September 26th. This will happen in the Kalamazoo area. Arnie was wondering in which direction they would launch the balloon. It will be transmitting on the frequency of 445.975.

OLD BUSINESS:

Last month (August) was the collaborative foxhunt. 16 hunters from 4 counties participated. Once again, the fox prevailed and remained unfound. Afterwards, the group met at the local Dairy Queen to rehash and fabricate the events as they unfolded.

Arnie Hayward (the fox) was awarded a certificate honoring him as the very first member of the LOYAL ROYAL ORDER OF THE SKUNK, due to his ability to skunk the foxhunters.

NEW BUSINESS:

At this time the Club has approximately \$310 in the “box” to put towards a new repeater. It is estimated that a new repeater will cost in the neighborhood of \$1500. A number of ideas are being looked at to stimulate the size of the “box” along with the contents of such. One such idea being bandied about is the possibility of another Club raffle. Many details will have to be worked out prior to this happening. The Marshall hamfest seems to be our best opportunity for ticket sales, and that is still about 6 months away.

Some preliminary talk is going on to commemorate the 50 year anniversary of the Club’s existence.

Bruce Wilson will be the “Big Daddy” at this years Applefest in downtown Coldwater. Bruce is bringing batteries, antennas, and who knows what else to make the event “happen”.

The Club has decided to hold this year’s Christmas dinner at the Coldwater soccer complex located by the prison. Jim Voss was to attempt to procure the building for the night of our choosing. The cost is \$50 plus a \$100 refundable deposit.

50/50 RAFFLE:

Justin Lopshire was the lucky ticket holder of this months 50/50 raffle. There was \$14 in the can which was split between Justin and the Club. Justin generously donated \$3 of his winnings to the Club.

UPGRADES – NEW CALLS – NEW HAMS:

Nothing at this time.

NEW EQUIPMENT:

See UPGRADES.

DX:

See Upgrades.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

October - Liars Club

November - Club elections.

December - Annual Christmas gathering.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

SET, Balloon launch, Liars Club, Club elections, Christmas get together.

PROGRAM OF THE EVENING:

Conversation, but no cardboard cookies.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI