

Branch County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2010

The first meeting of the BCARC for the new year was called to order at 7:00 PM by the club's new President, Arnie Hayward, NS8T. There were 19 members and guests present and those present introduced themselves.

The minutes of the November meeting were offered to anyone who desired to read them prior to the vote to accept the minutes as written.

Treasurer's Report

- The treasurer's Report was offered by President Hayward in the absence of Treasurer Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI. Bill reported a balance of \$800.10 with debits of \$150 deposit for use of the AYSO Soccer facility for our Christmas Party. We were forced to cancel the 2009 Christmas gathering due to lack of participation. This deposit has been returned to the club but has not yet been added back into our account. We did pay the caterer \$94.92 for food that was already prepared for us at the point of cancellation. To preserve our relationship with the caterer, we chose to pay a cancellation fee of \$50 which is part of the \$94.92. We paid \$10 dues to the Michigan Repeater Council. There were total debits of \$254.92 and we recorded income of \$51 from club dues and a \$5 donation (50/50 drawing) for total additions of \$56.00. We have \$251.68 in our General fund and \$39.50 in the memorial fund and \$310.00 in our repeater fund for a total of \$601.18 plus \$150 from hall rental yet to be added back to the totals. The actual total is \$751.18.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report as presented was offered by Jim Voss, and was seconded by Jim King. Motion passed.

Emergency Coordinator's Report

- EC/RO Larry, WB8R offered an activity report. There is a summary of 2009 activity in newsletter. There was a brief discussion of the new Emergency Management communication trailer and the status as we work towards completion of the unit. There was discussion of the opportunities to use the comm trailer to focus attention on Emergency Management and our partnership with them. Skywarn training this spring for our Branch County will most likely be conducted by K8BPD while NWS training will be offered in Hillsdale County. NWS is alternating years for each county. It was pointed out that participation in ARES/RACES is not dependent upon being a member of the BCARC.

Repeater Report

- Arnie, NS8T gave a report on the club's two repeaters. We discussed some intermod that we have been experiencing and we feel that it is related to the local AM radio station. It seems to come and go, thus making diagnosis and correction very difficult.

Website Report

- Jim King, KC8UGV gave a report of his efforts as webmaster for the club's web site. Jim detailed the useful information on the site concerning upcoming activities, past activities, documentation of meetings and other interesting information such as propagation information. Jim is still in the learning process and is interested in any and all comments.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Fund Raising Raffle

- Our repeater fund consists of donations which need to be repaid to those donors. We plan to have a fundraising raffle and plan to give away \$500 in cash. We will need \$2,000 in sales to generate the \$1500 that we will need for the repeater. Our timing is to have the raffle ready to go for the Marshall Hamfest in March. We may have tickets available by the February Club meeting. Club members will be asked to go out and sell the tickets to friends and family.

Club 50th Anniversary

- Our club was formed 50 yrs ago. We would like to have a celebration of that event. We envision a special event station with a special 1x1 call sign such as W50. We may offer a special certificate for working our station. We are also considering a sit down dinner at a local restaurant possibly with slides or pictures and memorabilia. Timing to be summer or maybe fall. We need to form a committee and discuss with club members to determine what we want to do.

One Day Technician Class:

- We have been asked to put on another one day Tech class. We are looking at early April or early May depending on schedules of instructors and Volunteer Examiners.

Upgrades: None

New Equipment: None

DX:

- There were reports of 2M openings. An old member of our club, Orville Otis, K8IU (CW only op) chose to challenge himself to do DXCC in 30 days using 100 watts on SSB. Orville reported working 130 countries in 30 days with 56 confirmed.

A motion was made by KC8UGV to accept the previous meeting minutes was seconded by WB8R. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Motion made to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 pm and was approved by unanimous vote of the members present.

Program

- The program for the meeting was presented by Richard Rowe, W8RCR, a local ham who is a drag racer and has had great success with his Propane powered 1970 Chevelle. He has been able to get the Chevelle to cover a standing start ¼ mile in 10 seconds. This is fast, folks!

Cookies and coffee was enjoyed by all.

Respectfully submitted by Larry Camp, WB8R

In the absence of Secretary/Treasurer Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI