

# **Branch County Amateur Radio Club, Inc**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**April 20th, 2010**

[www.branchcountyarc.com](http://www.branchcountyarc.com)

The April meeting of the Branch County Amateur Radio Club was held in the Training room at the Coldwater 911 Center with 32 members and guests present.

The meeting was called to order by club President Arnie Hayward, NS8T who led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance. All present introduced themselves to the assembled group.

### **Financial Report**

The financial report given by Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI. Bill stated that as of meeting time, there was \$707.12 in the general fund, \$70.50 in the memorial fund, \$433.22 in the repeater fund, and \$25.00 in the tech class fund, for a total of \$1235.84.

The financial report was approved as submitted.

### **EC Report**

EC Larry Camp, WB8R mentioned that we are just now beginning the severe weather season and even though last year was slow and boring, that is what we prefer. All were asked to be vigilant and to be sure to check into any weather nets that might be on the air. Observations from anywhere are most welcome.

Larry, WB8R will be attending the Homeland Security Conference again this year in Grand Rapids.

### **Repeater Report**

The 2 meter repeater is up and running again after experiencing a problem with an IF board. Dale Smith was kind enough to make the necessary repairs and tuning and the repeater is presently putting out about a hundred watts. The 440 repeater still keeps chugging along.

### **Website Report**

Webmaster, Jim King stated that the Yahoo Group is coming along nicely and spitting out automated announcements concerning Club events. Contact Jim if you need help getting signed up.

## **Presidential Comments**

On July 17<sup>th</sup>, the Club will be presenting a special event station in commemoration of 50 years of Club existence. The Club call sign for the event will be W5O. It is planned at this time for the station to be in operation 12 hours, which will be from noon to midnight. So anyone wishing to participate, please mark this on your calendar.

Arnie also reminded the group that there is a breakfast meeting almost every Saturday at Stoagies in Coldwater. Almost any topic is fair game, but of course Amateur Radio is the default.

The Club held a successful Technician Class and Test Session on April 10<sup>th</sup>. There were 4 that passed the Tech, 1 Extra and 1 General.

## **New Business**

Scott Meister, WB2REI mentioned that he had participated in the recent Michigan QSO party. Scott talked about the fun time he had doing this and also about the lack of participation in the area. Scott is in hopes that more people will join in next year and perhaps a little more “advertisement” is in order. Scott made somewhere in the neighborhood of 318 contacts. As it turned out, Branch County was one of the “desirable” counties due to the lack of operators to contact in the county.

## **Upgrades**

Justin Lopshire, KD8JEL upgraded from Tech to General and Steve Hayward, N8LXV recently took and passed his Technician and General tests. If Steve’s call sounds familiar, it is due to the fact that it originally belonged to his father, Arnie Hayward.

This month’s 50/50 raffle was won by Jim King. There was \$17 in the pot which was split down the middle.

## **Club Fund Raising Raffle**

Vickie, AE9YL drew the winning ticket number 232, which was held by none other than the famous Jim Voss. Congratulations Jim. Share the love!!!!

There was a side contest for the person who sold the most raffle tickets. The prize was \$25.00 which was won by Andie Worley. Andie managed to talk 75 people out of five dollar bills Congratulations also go to Andie.

The last but certainly not least order of business was a very informative presentation by Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA. Carl discussed the status of Cycle 24 on sunspots and HF propagation.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI.