



# Branch Signals

Newsletter of the Branch County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Vol. IV Number 1 January 2005

An ARRL Affiliated Club Since 1961



The BCARC Officers and Members of the Board of Directors would like to wish all who read this our best wishes for a safe, healthy and happy 2005.

## 2005 Meeting Programs

### January

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, MI ARRL Affiliated Club Coordinator will be with us to discuss the importance of voluntary service on behalf of the ARRL and the various appointments that are available.

### February

Liars Club

### March

Annual Skywarn Training presented by the meteorologists from the NWS office in North Webster.

### April

TBD

### May

TBD

### June

Foxhunt

### July

TBD

### August

Coffee, Cookies, and Conversation

### September

TBD

### October

TBD

### November

Annual Business Meeting and Election of Officers.

### December

Annual Christmas Dinner and Gift Exchange



## It's That Time Again!

January is here and that means that Club Dues are due again.

The annual club dues are \$15.00 per year with family and student memberships available.

Please see Bill, KB8VWI to pay your dues or if you have questions.

## WD8KAF Club Repeaters

147.300 + 100 Hz PL  
(Changing soon to 94.8 Hz)

443.300 + 123 Hz PL



### Club Website:

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



### Meeting Notice

January 18 at 7:00 pm  
at the 911 Center





## BCARC SSC Status Renewed by ARRL

Our club recently received an email from the ARRL informing us that our status as a Special Service Club has been renewed for another 2 years. Exerpts from this letter are included below:

*We are pleased to report that the Branch County ARC, Inc. has been officially renewed as a Special Service Club. The next renewal for the club will be in two years.*

*Through the work of its members, this club is recognized for its continued efforts on behalf of Amateur Radio and services to its community.*

*Congratulations, and thanks for your good work! If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.*

'73

Margie Bourgoin, KB1DCO

The BCARC was first recognized as a Special Service Club in February, 1997 and has been an ARRL affiliated club since 1961.



## 2005 Club Contacts

### Officers

#### **President:**

Larry Camp, WB8R  
278-0406 [wb8r@arrl.net](mailto:wb8r@arrl.net)

#### **Secy/Treasurer:**

Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI  
639-4390  
[wkubiak@wmconnect.com](mailto:wkubiak@wmconnect.com)

### Board of Directors

Jim Voss, W8SST  
278-4636

[w8sst@arrl.net](mailto:w8sst@arrl.net)

Arnie Hayward, NS8T  
278-8507 [ns8t@arrl.net](mailto:ns8t@arrl.net)

Steve Williams, N8CTI  
369-7194  
[shadowman405@charter.net](mailto:shadowman405@charter.net)



## VE Test Session Schedule

Information courtesy of [www.arrl.org](http://www.arrl.org)

#### **January 13**

**Sponsor:** Goshen ARC  
**Time:** 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** Paul Corey  
(574) 262-4414  
**Email:** [paul.cory.b@bayer.com](mailto:paul.cory.b@bayer.com)  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Greencroft Retirement Center Homan Building  
Greencroft Blvd  
Greencroft Retirement Center

#### **January 15**

**Sponsor:** Cascades ARS  
**Time:** 10:00AM  
(Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** Richard H. McGuire  
(517) 782-1430  
**Email:** [dickki8c@juno.com](mailto:dickki8c@juno.com)  
**VEC:** W5YI VEC  
**Location:** Jackson Library, 244 W Michigan, Downstairs Auditorium, Jackson, MI 49204

#### **February 19**

**Sponsor:** Cascades ARS  
**Time:** 10:00AM  
(Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** Richard H. McGuire  
(517) 782-1430  
**Email:** [dickki8c@juno.com](mailto:dickki8c@juno.com)  
**VEC:** W5YI VEC  
**Location:** Jackson Library, 244 W Michigan, Downstairs Auditorium, Jackson, MI 49204

#### **February 19**

**Sponsor:** Fulton County Radio Club  
**Time:** 10:00AM (No walk-ins)  
**Contact:** Howard W. Fuller  
(419) 825-5443  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Archbold Police Dept  
405 E Lutz Rd, Archbold, OH  
43502 Pre-registration preferred  
Leave message on machine

#### **March 12**

**Sponsor:** Cascades ARS  
**Time:** 10:00AM  
(Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** Richard H. McGuire  
(517) 782-1430  
**Email:** [dickki8c@juno.com](mailto:dickki8c@juno.com)  
**VEC:** W5YI VEC  
**Location:** Jackson Library, 244 W Michigan, Downstairs Auditorium, Jackson, MI 49204

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## 2004 Club Meeting Statistics

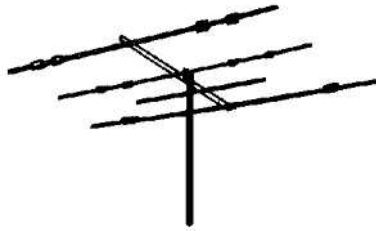
Our club held 12 meetings in 2004 and there were a total of 277 members and guests in attendance. This is compared to 276 attending in 2003. The average attendance was 23.1 in 2004.

The meeting with the largest attendance was January, 2004 and the program that evening was a presentation by the Kalamazoo "Lost team". 30 members and guests attended that meeting. In 2003, the largest attendance at a meeting was the May gathering where 29 enjoyed the presentation by the Ft. Wayne DX Association.

In 2004 the meeting with the most guests present (9) was the Skywarn training session in March. In 2003, it was the club auction in October with 10 guests present.

By the way, in 2002 there were a total of 267 persons that attended our meetings.

There will be no perfect attendance award for 2004 because no eligible members had 100% attendance this year. (Officers and Board Members are not considered eligible for this award.)



## DX on the Bands

Information courtesy of ARRL

### MAURITANIA, 5T.

Yves, F6GDC, Pierre, F6CQX and Eric, F5SSM are QRVs as 5T5DY until January 9. In addition to being active on

Nouakchott, they also plan to operate from Atar, Tergit and Banc d'Arguin islands. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB, with some CW. QSL via F6GDC.

### PAKISTAN, AP.

Ijaz, AP2IA has been QRV using RTTY on 20 meters around 1300z. QSL direct.

### HUNGARY, HA.

Look for special event station HA200CVM to be QRV during January 2005 to dedicate the remembrance of poet Csokonai Vitez Mihaly. QSL via HA0NAR.

### DJIBOUTI, J2.

J20FH has been QRV on 30 meters around 1920 to 2130z. QSL via F5PRU.

### BELGIUM, ON.

In celebration of the 175th anniversary of the kingdom of Belgium, and its 25th year as a federal state, during 2005 all Belgium amateurs may use the OO prefix in lieu of the regular ON prefix. Club station ON4UBA will be active as OO175B for regular contacts, but will not be used in HF contests. QSL via operators' instructions.

### ARUBA, P4.

Ed, W0YK will be QRV as P40X from January 3 to 11. He will be

active using CW on the low HF bands and newer bands. He will also use RTTY, which includes being an entry in the upcoming ARRL RTTY Roundup. QSL to home call.

### POLAND, SP.

Look for SQ75FMU to be QRV from January 1 to 20, and then from February 15 to March 15 to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Polish Amateur Radio Union, or PZK. QSL via SQ9FMU.

### EGYPT, SU.

Mike, SU9NC has been QRV on 80 meters around 0430z and then 40 meters around 0520z. QSL via OM2SA.

### TURKEY, TA.

Berkin, TA3J will be QRV as TA3J/60 from January 1 to March 1 from Antalya. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters, including the newer bands, 2 meters and 70 centimeters, using all modes. QSL direct via TA3YJ.

### TURKS AND CAICOS, VP5.

Saul, WA1UKN will be QRV as VP5/WA1UKN from Grand Turk Island, and then North Caicos, from January 4 to the 28. Activity will be on 40, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL to home call.

## Random Thoughts

Lewis' Law: No matter how long or hard you shop for an item, after you've bought it, it will be on sale somewhere cheaper. If nobody uses it, there's a reason. You get the most of what you need the least.

The Airplane Law: When the plane you are on is late, the plane you want to transfer to is on time.

Etorre's Observation: The other line moves faster.

O'Brien's Variation: If you change lines, the one you just left will start to move faster than the one you are now in.