



# Branch Signals

The Official Newsletter of the Branch County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.  
Founded in 1960. An ARRL Affiliated Club since 1961

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

Club Repeaters: 2M 147.300 100 Hz 440 443.00 123 Hz

May, 2005

Volume 4, Number 5

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## WA8EFK Speaks to BCARC

Dale Williams, WA8EFK, Michigan ARRL Section Manager was our guest speaker for the April meeting of the BCARC. Dale spoke before a small but distinguished crowd, informing us on the most recent happenings in the ARRL and amateur radio. Many thanks to Dale for his service to the hams of Michigan and to amateur radio.

## MAY BCARC Meeting Announcement

The BCARC will meet at 7 PM on May 17 in the basement training room of the 911 Center in Coldwater.

The topic for the meeting will be Field Day. We will be showing video and slide presentations of Field Days past and will be discussing plans for this year's event which will be held on June 25 and 26.



2004 Field Day

We will discuss how many stations to put on the air and determine what equipment we will need to do it. A great deal of fun was had last year and we look forward to the 2005 version. Make plans to participate!

## Michigan QSO Party Pics



## June is Fox Hunting Month!

Our old fox, Amie NS8T, has some new tricks up his sleeve for our annual foxhunt which will take place on June 21, 2005. Now is the time to form your hunting team and drag out the fox hunting equipment and dust it off and install some fresh batteries and replace any suspect parts where necessary.

This year's event will operate in a manner similar to the past two years in that we will meet at the 911 Center parking lot to acquire the fox signal and take off from there. There will be a time limit and the first 3 teams to find the fox within that time limit will win a handsome prize.

Last year's hunt was more difficult than the 2003 hunt and the 2005 version promises to be more difficult than the 2004 hunt. Make your plans now!



## 2005 Club Dues are Due

2005 Club dues are now due and payable. We are currently carrying 31 paid members. If you are not sure if you have paid your 2005 dues, please contact Bill, KB8VWI and he can tell you if your dues are current. 2005 dues are \$15.00 and family members can join for \$3.00 each. Student members that do not qualify for family membership can join for \$7.50.

## Michigan QSO Party Notes

We had a great time at this year's Michigan QSO Party. We opened up the Club Station at the 911 Center and dusted off the club's TS-480 HF rig, strung our 80M dipole, hooked up the tribander and hit the airwaves! We didn't work a whole lot of stations (28), but we did work some good DX. France, Israel, Yugoslavia, Italy went into our log. Our primary focus was to get our young club members on the HF bands and both Andrew, KD8AGZ and Michael, KC8ZLB were up to the challenge! We were able to provide Branch County as a somewhat rare multiplier to a number of stations working the contest.

The members that came by to join in the fun were N8CTI, WD8MGF, KD8AGZ, WB8ZSK, W8SST, NS8T, KC8RYF, WB8R, and KC8ZLB. Thanks for your participation.

Look for the final score and standings in a future issue.

## 2005 Club Contacts

### President:

Larry Camp, WB8R  
517-278-0406  
wb8r@arrl.net

### Secretary/Treasurer:

Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI  
517-639-4390  
wkubiak@wmconnect.com

### Board of Directors:

Jim Voss, W8SST  
517-278-4636  
w8sst@arrl.net

Arnie Hayward, N8ST  
517-278-8507  
ns8t@arrl.net

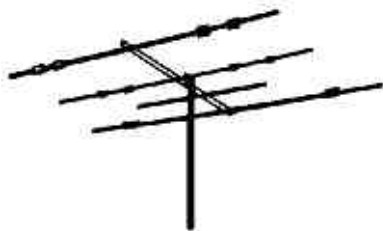
Steve Williams, N8CTI  
517-369-7194  
shadowman405@charter.net

### Emergency Coordinator:

Jim Voss, W8SST  
517-278-4636  
w8sst@arrl.net

## Area Hamfests

May 7 Cadillac, MI  
May 20-22 Dayton, OH  
June 4 Hudsonville, MI  
June 5 Chelsea, MI  
June 19 Monroe, MI



*(info courtesy of ARRL)*

## DX on the Bands

### **ALGERIA, 7X**

A group of amateurs will be QRV as 7V2SI from the Sandja Islands, a new IOTA, from May 1 to 5. Activity will be on all HF bands and modes, including the V/UHF bands and possibly ATV. QSL via operators' instructions.

### **GHANA, 9G**

Sigi is QRV as 9G5SP and has been active on 15 meters from around 1100 to 1200z. QSL via DL7DF.

### **UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, A6**

Abdullah, A61Q has been QRV on 6 meters around 0700 to 1800z at various times. QSL via EA7FTR.

### **CHINA, BY**

Fan, BA1RB/2 will be QRV from Ju Hua Island, IOTA AS-151, from May 1 to 4. QSL via EA7FTR.

### **TURKMENISTAN, EZ**

Members of club station EZ7V in Turkmenabat are QRV as EZ60V until May 15 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II. QSL via RW6HS.

### **FRANCE, F**

Special event station TM380 is QRV until May 9 to celebrate the take-off of Airbus A380. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters, including 30 meters, using CW and SSB, and possibly the active satellites as well. QSL via F5GNY.

### **ECUADOR, HC**

Rick, NE8Z is QRV from various locations as HC1MD/HC1, HC6 and HC7, from Mt. Pichincha, Banos and Sierrazul, respectively, until May 11. QSL via K8LJG.

### **BULGARIA, LZ**

Special event station LZ8IARU is active until December 31 on all bands to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the International Amateur Radio Union. QSL via LZ1BJ.

### **SEYCHELLES, S7**

Guenter, DL2AWG will be QRV as S79GG from April 30 to May 14. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using SSB, RTTY and PSK. QSL to home call. Meanwhile, Frederic, HB9CQK is QRV as S79QK until May 8. Activity is on 20, 17, 15, 12 and 10 meters. He intends to activate the Denis and Alphonse Islands, IOTA AF-024 and AF-033, respectively. QSL to home call.



## VE Test Session Schedule

### May 14

**Sponsor:** Cascades ARS  
**Time:** 10:00AM (Walk-ins ok)  
**Contact:** Richard H McGuire  
(517)782-1430  
**VEC:** W5YI VEC  
**Location:** Jackson District  
Library  
244 West Michigan  
Downstairs Auditorium  
Jackson, MI 49204

### May 21

**Sponsor:** Fulton County radio  
Club  
**Time:** 10:00AM (Walk-ins ok)  
**Contact:** Howard W Fuller  
(419)825-5443  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Archbold Police  
Department, 405 E Lutz RD  
Pre-Registration Preferred  
Leave message on machine  
Archbold, OH 43502

### June 11

**Sponsor:** Eaton County ARC  
**Time:** 12 Noon (Walk-ins  
allowed)  
**Contact:** John A Dewey  
(517)543-0398  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Eaton County  
Sheriff's Dept-EOC  
1250 Independence Blvd  
Charlotte, MI 48813

### June 18

**Sponsor:** Fulton County radio  
Club  
**Time:** 10:00AM (Walk-ins ok)  
**Contact:** Howard W Fuller  
(419)825-5443  
**VEC:** ARRL/VEC  
**Location:** Archbold Police  
Department 405 E Lutz RD  
Pre-Registration Preferred  
Leave message on machine  
Archbold, OH 43502

### **SUDAN, ST**

Fernando is QRV as ST2BF. He is active only on 20, 15 and 10 meters. QSL via W3HNK.

### **MOUNT ATHOS, SV/A**

Monk Apollo, SV2ASP/A has been QRV on the DX net on 14251 kHz between 2100 and 2200z. QSL direct.

### **INDIA, VU**

Bob, W3YY is in Bangalore until May 5. He may be QRV from the QTH of Miku, VU2WAP. This is not a DXpedition, and his operating time may be limited to the availability of the station. QSL via operator's instructions.

### **ALBANIA, ZA**

Alfredo, IK7JWX will be QRV as ZA2/IK7JWX/p from the Fier and Cape Durrës Lighthouse, from May 1 to 4. Activity will be on all HF bands, including the newer bands, using SSB, RTTY and PSK31. QSL to home call.

### **NIUE, ZK2**

Aki, JA1KAJ is QRV as ZK2QQ until May 8. He has usually been active on 40 meters from 1745 to 1900z. QSL to home call.



## BCARC Web Page has new Webmaster

Our club's website has a new webmaster. Steve, N8CTI has taken over the daily care and feeding of our web page. Many thanks go to Jon Voss, K8SST who was responsible for the web site design and the upkeep necessary to make sure it looks great all the time. Jon is a busy young man who is off to bigger and better things. Likewise, a tip of the hat to Steve for accepting the challenge of taking care of the website for us.

If there are any things that you would like to see added to (or deleted from) the website, please contact Steve.

## Jon Voss, K8SST Scores Well in National Competition

In January Jon competed in the Regional Workplace Skills Assessment Program. (This whole thing is administered by the Business Professionals of America of which Jon is a member). At the Regional competition in Grand Rapids he received a 1st place in PC Servicing, 1st in MS Network Administration, a 5th in Business Spelling and a 7th in Information Technology Concepts. Then in March at the State competition in Grand Rapids he received a 1st place in PC Servicing, a 1st in MS Network Administration and a 1st in Information Technology Concepts. Jon was the first student to score three firsts in state competition in his field. In April at the National Finals in Anaheim, CA, he scored 3rd in MS Network Administration. He also earned the Information Technology Senior of the year at BACC.

Congratulations go to Jon and to his proud parents, Jim (W8SST) and Peggy (N8GTH) Voss.



## July 14

Sponsor: Goshen ARC  
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)

Contact: Paul F Corey  
(574)262-4414  
VEC: ARRL/VEC  
Location: Greencroft Retirement Center, Homan Building  
Greencroft Blvd  
Goshen, IN 46525

## July 16

**Sponsor:** Fulton County radio Club

**Time:** 10:00AM (Walk-ins allowed)

**Contact:** Howard W Fuller  
(419)825-5443

**VEC:** ARRL/VEC

**Location:** Archbold Police Department, 405 E Lutz RD  
Pre-Registration Preferred  
Leave message on machine  
Archbold, OH 43502

## July 16

**Sponsor:** Cascades ARS

**Time:** 10:00AM (Walk-ins ok)

**Contact:** Richard H McGuire  
(517)782-1430

**VEC:** W5YI VEC

**Location:** Jackson District Library

244 West Michigan  
Jackson, MI 49204



## Arrow Club Sponsors Bus Trip to Dayton

We have received the following information from the Ann Arbor radio club:

The ARROW Communication Association once again is proud to sponsor a motor coach trip to the 2005 Dayton Hamvention. Started two years ago this club activity has grown in size and reputation with hams across Michigan. We have been host to over 100 hams for this event. Last year, we sold out, and based on early reservations, we should sell out again in 2005.

Join us Saturday, May 21, 2005 when we leave from Ann Arbor at 4:30 am with arrival in Dayton approximately 8:00 am. On board, you can stretch out, relax, and enjoy a continental breakfast and coffee as the coach takes you directly to the door of the country's largest amateur radio convention!

We arrive at Dayton early enough so that you will have a full day to visit exhibits, see what's new from major manufacturers, attend seminars, take license tests, and visit one of the largest outdoor swap meets in the U.S. When Hamvention closes at 5 pm, return to the entrance with your purchases, and our bus will pick you up for the ride back home. No standing in lines waiting for a shuttle bus or fighting traffic. Just sit back and enjoy the ride.

### **Got stuff to sell? We can help!**

Got stuff that you want to get rid of? We can help. We will have booth space in the flea market, and if you buy a bus ticket, you can sell your stuff at our booth, The cost of a booth alone is \$70.00, far more than the cost of the ticket that makes the ARROW trip more of a value for you.

### **For our out of town guests**

If your QTH is too far away to drive in so early in the morning (we leave at 4:30 am), we have made arrangements with several hotels in Ann Arbor for special rates for our guests. Call or email us and we will be happy to provide you with details and rates.

Tickets for this year's trip are \$55.00 for non-members and \$45.00 for ARROW members. This does not include your admission to the Hamvention. We suggest that you purchase your Hamvention ticket in advance so you can start to enjoy the day without waiting in line for your ticket.

When you add it all up, taking the bus with the ARROW is the most economical and relaxing way to attend Dayton. ... For more information on this year's trip and comments from our satisfied guests, go to the ARROW website at [www.w8pgw.org](http://www.w8pgw.org) and click on the Dayton 2005 link. You can also call Dan Romanchik, KB6NU at 734-930-6564.

This sounds like a great way to make the journey to Dayton! (ed.)