



Branch Signals

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

www.branchcountyarc.com

Club Repeaters: 2M 147.300+ 100 Hz 440 443.300+ 123 Hz

January, 2006

Volume 5, Number 1

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The Officers and members of the Board of Directors of the BCARC wish all who read these words our best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe new year. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at the various club functions in the coming year.

BCARC Election Held at December Meeting

Our annual business meeting in November was unusual in that a quorum was not present due to weather and other considerations. This is the first time in your editor's memory of nearly 30 years with the club that this has happened. According to our Constitution and By-Laws we were forced to postpone the annual election of Officers and members of the Board of Directors until the next meeting. Hence, we held the election right after dinner at our Christmas meeting.

I am happy to report that in spite of a stumble in November that we do indeed have leadership for 2006! The following individuals were willing to step forward and volunteer their services for the new year:

President: Larry Camp, WB8R, **Sec'y/Treasurer:** Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI, **Board of Directors:** Arnie Hayward, NS8T (2 yr. term), Bill Slade, WD8MGF (1 yr. term). Steve Williams, N8CTI will complete his term at the end of 2006.

Area Hamfests

Jan 14 Flint, MI
Jan 15 Hazel Park, MI
Feb 11 Traverse City
Feb 12 Mansfield, OH
Feb 25 La Porte, IN
Mar 18 Marshall, MI
Mar 19 Toledo, OH
Mar 25 Michigan City, IN
Apr 8 Milford, MI
May 6 Cadillac, MI

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:

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

Arnie Hayward, N8ST

517-278-8507
ns8t@arrl.net

Bill Slade, WD8MGF

517-238-2112
nslade@cbpu.com

Jim Voss, W8SST is the previous Board member who chose to concentrate on his duties as Emergency Coordinator. Jim will be included in all board activities in an advisory capacity as EC. I would like to thank Jim for all of his efforts on behalf of the club in his years as an Officer and Board member. I would like to also thank all of the Officers and members of the Board for their service to the club and would particularly like to welcome Bill Slade to the Board. *Congratulations to all!*



2006 Club Dues now Payable

Your club dues for 2006 and now due and payable. The cost is \$15.00 per year for individual membership. For those with multiple hams in their families, the cost for each additional member is \$3.00 per year. For students who are hams and do not otherwise qualify for family membership, we offer a special rate of \$7.50 per year.

Non-hams are welcome to become associate members at the same rates as above. Associate members enjoy all member benefits except voting and holding office. You may want to consider adding your spouse or children to the club roster as a way to boost club membership, participation, and funding.

Please remember that your club maintains two repeaters for the use of all hams in the area and maintains and operates a club station at the County EOC complete with a current HF/6M rig, VHF rigs, computers and digital data controller. We have been fortunate in that we have received many donations of equipment and other necessary items, but these donations only go so far.

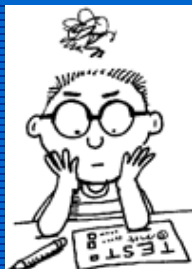
Just as at your home station, things wear out and need to be replaced in order to keep things operating. Your club sponsors licensing classes and conducts licensing examinations. Your club provides coffee and cookies at each meeting, and occasionally donates funds to worthwhile radio related efforts (with club approval). Your club often provides soft drinks and snacks at operating events such as Field Day. Any prizes or awards that are given to members throughout the year for various things are also funded by your club. Your club offers free full membership to all area new hams for the year in which they are first licensed.

Emergency Coordinator:

Jim Voss, W8SST

517-278-4636

w8sst@arri.net



[VE Test Session Schedule](#)

Jan 12

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

Jan 21

Sponsor: Fulton County R. C.

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

Feb 18

Sponsor: Fulton County R. C.

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

Mar 4

Sponsor: Branch County ARC

Time: 9 AM (Walk-ins ok)

Contact: Larry Camp

All of these activities cost money and your club relies on its members to help fund these activities. Without a healthy bank account, your club is limited on what we can do for our members, amateur radio, and our community each year.

Please make sure your dues are paid for 2006.



Dec. Dinner Gift Exchange Recap

The December meeting of the BCARC was held December 6 in the meeting room of the Free Methodist Church in Coldwater. A great dinner was enjoyed by 24 members and guests. The cost for the meal was only \$10.00 per person and you would be hard pressed to find a meal in a sit-down restaurant that would come close to the quality and price of the meal offered at our meeting. Thanks go to Jim Voss for doing the legwork for the 2005 dinner.

Our annual Gift Exchange was a popular activity at the Christmas meeting. The gifts were very nice and there was plenty of 'gift grabbing' that adds excitement to the exchange. All in all, everyone who brought a gift went home with a useful item to add to their collection of 'stuff' in their shacks. Thanks to all who participated in the dinner and gift exchange.



2005 Christmas Meeting Attendees

(517)278-0406

Email: wb8r@arrl.net

VEC: ARRL/VEC

Location: Branch County 911

Center

141 E. Chicago Rd (Nr Airport)

Coldwater, MI 49036

Feb 18

Sponsor: Fulton County R. C.

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



W8SST on the Prowl



NS8T looking 'em over



Ray, WD8IBY picks one!



Ed, WA8HMG with his ever-present smile



NS8T gets some (much needed) help from WB8R



Technician Class Update

We are happy to announce that we have 13 individuals signed up and ready to start our latest Technician Licensing Class on January 7! Of special import is the fact that three of the 13 are teenagers. Another update to follow next issue.



Jon, K8SST with his selection



Jim, W8SST checking out Ray's choice



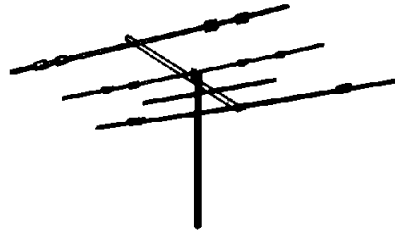
Bill, WD8MGF showing off his gift



Bill Shaw opens one up



Arnie opening a package



DX on the Bands

(info courtesy of ARRL DX Bulletins)

JAMAICA, 6Y. Kan, AB2RF will be QRV as 6Y5/AB2RF from January 2 to 4. Activity will be on the low bands using mostly digital modes. QSL to home call.

CROATIA, 9A. Members of the Amateur Radio Club Koprivnica will be QRV using special anniversary call 9A650C during all of 2006 to celebrate 650 years of the town of Koprivnica. QSL via 9A7K.

ZAMBIA, 9J. Brian, 9J2BO has been QRV on 80 meters just before 0400z. QSL via G3TEV.

NEPAL, 9N. Pop, 9N7JO has been QRV on 40 meters around 1300z. QSL via operator's instructions.

TONGA, A3. Paul, A35RK has been QRV on 12 meters between 2130 and 2300z. QSL via W7TSQ.

SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS. Sang, DS4NMJ will be QRV as DT8A from the King Sejong Station on King George Island, IOTA AN-010, from January 1 to December 31, 2006. Activity will be on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via operator's instructions.

BELARUS, EU. Georg, EU1AB has been QRV on 160 meters between 0150 to 0300z. QSL to home call.

REUNION ISLAND, FR. Jules, FR1AN has been QRV on 10 meters around 1400z, 12 meters around 1600z and 15 meters around 1700z. QSL via N5FTR.

ARGENTINA, LU. Special callsign LR3DX is QRV until January 6 to celebrate the 100 years of the Recalada Lighthouse at Bahia Blanca. QSL via operators' instructions.

ALAND ISLANDS, OH0. Look for OH0/IZ0FKE to be QRV from the Alandia Club Station to January 4. QSL via IZ0FMA.

SEYCHELLES, S7. Ken, S79NC has been QRV on 40 meters



WB8R looking over Bill's shoulder



Bill, KB8VWI opens his prize



Ed, WA8HMG tries to figure what he has received!



Who says our parties are boring?

around 2200z. QSL via 9V1NC.

EGYPT, SU. Greiss, SU1GS is QRV from Cairo and has been active on 40 meters around 2100z. QSL to home call.

GREECE, SV. Special callsign SY2EEC has been active on 40, 20, 17 and 15 using SSB. QSL via SV2KBB.

ICELAND, TF. Ari, TF3ARI continues to be QRV on 60 meters after 1130z. QSL direct to home call.

FALKLAND ISLANDS, VP8. Bob, VP8LP has been QRV on 20 meters using SSB around 0700 to 1000z and 2300 to 0200z. QSL to home call.

CHAGOS ISLAND, VQ9. Larry, VQ9LA has been active on 12 meters around 1200z, 40 meters around 1300 to 1500z, and then on 160 meters around 2300z. QSL via operator's instructions.

ST. HELENA, ZD7. Peter, ZD7FT has been active on 40 meters around 2200z, 15 meters around 2100z and 20 meters around 0700z. QSL direct to home call.

