



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

February, 2006

Volume 5, Number 2

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Club Medical News Update

We have had a number medical events take place that have affected our club members and their families in the past few months.

Jim Voss, W8SST is recovering from quadruple bypass surgery and is looking forward to some cardiac rehabilitation and returning to work in the coming weeks.

June Hayward (NS8T's XYL) continues her recovery from a mild stroke event a couple of months ago and is doing fine. Arnie, NS8T, recently spent a day or so in the Coldwater Hospital with some ailments that were thought to be heart related, but further testing has not proven that to be the case.

Bill, WD8MGF recently joined the "stent club" after an angioplasty procedure at Borgess in Kalamazoo. He is back home resting and doing well as of this writing.

Mike Jepson, KC8VFI has recently been to Borgess for a tune up and oil change and Warren, W8WU spent time in the Coldwater hospital.

Your editor had his turn at Borgess last May as well.

If anyone has any doubts now about the need for us to interest more young folks in amateur radio, just reread the words above!



Area Hamfests

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

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Emergency Coordinator:

Jim Voss, W8SST
517-278-4636
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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.

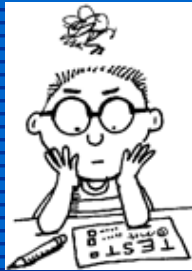
Non-hams are welcome to become associate members at the same rates as above. Associate members enjoy all member benefits except voting and holding office. You may want to consider adding your spouse or children to the club roster as a way to boost club membership, participation, and funding.

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.

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.



VE Test Session Schedule

Feb 11

Sponsor: Eaton County ARC
Time: 12 Noon (Walk-ins ok)
Contact: John Dewey
(517)543-0398
Email: DETTA@IA4U.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Eaton Cty Sheriff's
Dept-EOC
1250 Independence Blvd
Charlotte, MI 48813

Feb 18

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

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

Mar 4

Sponsor: Branch County ARC
Time: 9 AM (Walk-ins ok)
Contact: Larry Camp
(517)278-0406
Email: wb8r@arrl.net
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: Branch County 911
Center
141 E. Chicago Rd (Nr Airport)
Coldwater, MI 49036

Name That Ham



Can anyone tell us who this ham is? Email your best guess to wb8r@arrl.net and we will publish the answer and acknowledge the correct guesser next month.

KC8PMG Returns from Bangladesh

Mike Murray, KC8PMG recently returned from his trip to Bangladesh. We are looking forward to hearing about his trip when we next see him at one of our meetings.

February Meeting Announcement

The February meeting of the BCARC will be held February 21 in the Training Room of the 911 Center near the airport just west of Coldwater at 7:00 PM.

Our guest speaker will be Dale Williams, WA8EFK from Dundee, MI. Dale is the Michigan ARRL Section Manager and he will fill us in on the status of the efforts to revise the Michigan statute concerning the possession of radio equipment in a vehicle that is capable of receiving public service communications. It is currently legal for hams to have this capability in their car or truck, but there is a potential issue if someone other than you has your vehicle with said radio equipment present. Dale will also update us on other happenings in amateur radio and the ARRL in Michigan. You won't want to miss this one! See you there.

Mar 11

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

Mar 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
If no answer, call 419-654-4044

Apr 13

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

Apr 15

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
If no answer, call 419-654-4044



Tech Class Pictures



With a wave of the hand it will
all go away...



Skywarn Training Scheduled for March

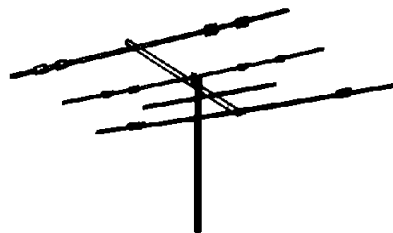
For your planning purposes, the National Weather Service Meteorologists will be on hand for our March 21 meeting to provide our annual Skywarn weather training. Make your plans now to attend. More information to be published in the March issue of Branch Signals.



Technician Class Update

We have 13 active students in our Tech class that meets on Saturday mornings. We have now completed 5 of 8 classes and we are homing in on the VE testing session that will be held on March 4 in the Training Room of the 911 Center.

As a reminder, the VE session is open to all who would like to take a shot at upgrading their license class. We will be prepared to test for all license classes, including CW testing. The location is close and the timing is soon, so make your plans now. Testing fees are \$14.00 and correct change is requested.



DX on the Bands

(info courtesy of ARRL DX Bulletins)

PETER ONE ISLAND, 3Y. As a reminder, the VE session is open to all who would like to The 3Y0X team expects to be QRV after February 6.

AZERBAIJAN, 4J. Serge, 4J5A is usually QRV on 160 meters CW between 0200 and 0300z.



Bruce explains a point



Attentive hams-to-be

January Meeting Pics



WB8ZSK receives a Fox Hunt Certificate



Various Members



KC8PWB receives Certificate

MAURITANIA, 5T. Jean, 5T0JL is normally QRV using CW on 80 meters after 0400z. QSL via ON8RA.

SENEGAL, 6W. David, G4WFQ is QRV as G4WFQ/6W until February 16 from Somone. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters, including the newer bands, using CW and RTTY, with some SSB. He will also be active in the upcoming CQ WW RTTY contest. QSL via G3SWH.

MALAWI, 7Q. Cato, 7Q7PF is normally QRV using SSB on 20, 15 and 10 meters, and various digital modes on 40 to 6 meters. QSL direct.

CHILE, CE. Operators CE6TBN and CE6NE will be QRV as CE5S from Santa Maria Island, IOTA SA-070, from February 7 to 10. Activity will be on 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters using SSB with some CW. QSL via CE6NE.

GERMANY, DA. DL2KUF and DL7BA will be QRV February 4 and 5 from the Darsser Ort Lighthouse, ARLHS FED-070, on the Baltic coast. Activity is on all HF bands. QSL via operators' instructions.

MARQUESAS ISLANDS, FO. Eli, HA9RE is QRV as FO/HA9G from Nuku Hiva, IOTA OC-027, until February 18. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB and RTTY. QSL via HA8IB.

CROZET ISLAND, FT5W. Gildas, TU5KG has obtained the callsign FT5WL and will soon be active. QSL via F4EFI.

ANTARCTICA. IK5DHM is QRV as IK5DHM/ANT from the Mario Zucchelli Station until the end of February. QSL via IK5VLO.

ITALY, I. Special event station II1TPG is QRV until March 31 during the IX Paralympic Winter Games. QSL via IZ1CCE.

JAPAN, JA. Special event station 8N3Y is active until February 28 in celebration of the ARISS contact with the Yoneda-nishi Elementary School in Takasago. QSL via bureau.

ARUBA, P4. Andy, K2LE is QRV as P40LE until March 1. He intends to take part in several contests during this time. QSL

to home call.

BRAZIL, PY. Joska, HA9RT will be QRV as HA9RT/PT7 from Fortaleza from February 6 to 20. Activity will be on 40 to 10 meters using mostly CW. QSL via operator's instructions.

MOUNT ATHOS, SV/A. Monk Apollo, SV2ASP/A has been QRV on 17 meters around 1430z.

SAN MARINO, T7. Members of two radio groups are QRV as T70COTA and T70A until February 5 in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the conclusion of the collaboration between the Regal Italian Government and the San Marino Republic. Activity is on all HF bands. QSL T70COTA via IZ8DDG and T70A direct.

ANTARCTICA. Special event station EM10KY is QRV until February 12 from the Academic Vernadsky base in celebration of its 10th anniversary. QSL via IK1QFM.

BELIZE, V3. Gerd, DJ4KW and Gisela, DK9GG are QRV as V31YN/p and V31GW/p, respectively, from Southwater Caye, IOTA NA-180, until February 8. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and RTTY. QSL to home calls.



Dan Romanchik, KB6NU, Guest Speaker



Dan, KC8RFY receives his certificate



Dan, KB6NU



January Meeting Attendees

