



Branch Signals

An ARRL Affiliated Club since 1961



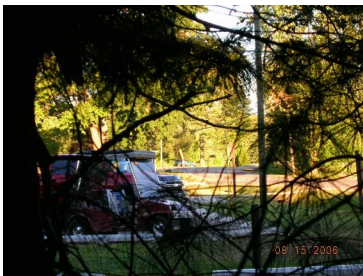
September, 2006
Volume 5 Issue 9

*The Official Newsletter of the Branch County Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Club Repeaters: 2M 147.300 + 100 Hz 440 443.300 + 123 Hz*

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**Harold "Bud" Sissem
Memorial Station
official dedication Sep.
19 at 7:00 pm**



Fox Cam Views



The Hounds Caught the Fox!

On August 15, the BCARC came together for our second Fox Hunt of the year. This hunt was collaborative in that teams worked together rather than competing against each other.

Once again Arnie, NS8T was the fox and he did his usual great job. He hid the transmitter (a 3 ½ x 2 ½ x 1 ½ inch Yaesu FT530 dual band HT using 12v power from a small battery pack buried in the weeds) in a small tree with a dual band antenna. The small black HT was used in a cross band repeat mode and used external power to replace the battery pack. The radio was set for ½ watt output.

Arnie was hidden nearby in the trees watching the hunters swarm over the area. The Fox was found in his hiding spot, but it took a few more minutes for the hunters to locate the transmitter.

Jan Hayden, KD8CYW gets the honors for the hunt as he was the first to locate the transmitter. The elapsed time for the hunt was 65 minutes.

The after-action review was held at the local Dairy Queen where all enjoyed some ice cream treats.

2006 Technician Licensing Class

The BCARC's fall Technician Licensing Class gets underway soon. The Organizational meeting has already been held and we have several students enrolled. We are anticipating more students as a result of the upcoming Applefest/Amateur Awareness Week activities that will take place on Saturday, Sep 16. More information about Applefest can be found elsewhere in this issue.

If you know of anyone who would like to get their Technician license, now is the time to encourage them to contact one of our instructors to reserve a place in the class.

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Tech Class

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The class schedule is as follows:

- Sep. 19 Distribute books and first assignment
- Sep. 30 Class begins (9:00 am to noon)
- Nov. 4 Class ends
- Nov. 11 Testing Session (10:00 am, Walk-ins welcome)

The classes will be held in the basement training room of the 911 Communication Center on US 12 near the airport west of Coldwater. Classes run from 9:00 am to noon.

More information can be obtained by contacting one of these instructors:

Larry, WB8R	278-0406	<u>wb8r@arrl.net</u>
Jim W8SST	278-4636	<u>w8sst@arrl.net</u>
Bruce, WB8ZSK	741-8137	<u>susiew22@yahoo.com</u>
Steve, N8CTI	369-7194	<u>shadowman405@chartermi.net</u>
Bill, WD8MGF	238-2112	<u>nslade@cbpu.com</u>

Applefest/Amateur Radio Awareness Day

The 2006 Amateur Radio Awareness Day which coincides with the annual Coldwater Applefest will be held on September 16 in downtown Coldwater.

In 2005 our spot was located in front of the old Kerr Hardware building at the west end of the downtown area. This year we will be in a new spot in the SW corner of the 4-Corners park at the corner of Chicago and Division streets. We will have trees for shade and will be able to put our dipole in those trees.

We will make a major push to recruit students for our upcoming licensing class and hope to create significant interest in the class and ham radio in general. Please stop by and say hello.



WB8ZSK workin' the crowd!



Youngsters try out Morse Code



Boy Scouts Jamboree On The Air

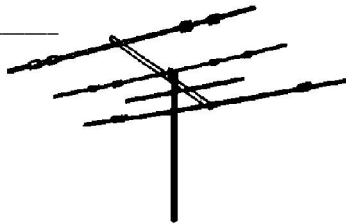
The Boy Scout's Jamboree on the Air or JOTA will happen the weekend of October 21 and 22. The local scouts will gather at Tip-Up Island in Quincy. The BCARC will be setting up an HF and VHF station so the scouts can talk with other scouts around the state and country. Jan Hayden KD8CYW has more detailed information. Jan can be reached at 639-4488.

More details will be forthcoming as plans and times firm up. Please set some time available during that weekend and plan to join us. Remember that the youth of today is the ham radio of the future!

Short Takes

Patsy Sharp, widow of Harold Sharp, K8ZGO has a few things that belonged to Harold for sale: GE 6 band portable radio (1976), Sanyo Cassette Deck (1978), Pioneer SX201 Stereo Receiver, Miscellaneous electronic parts. Call Patsy at 279-7823.

We have 2 tickets to the Kazoo Hamfest for 50/50 raffle at September meeting.



DX on the Bands

MONACO, 3A.

Patrice, F5RBB, will be active as 3A/F5RBB from September 2 to 10. Activity will be on 40, 20, 15 and 10 meter SSB. QSL via his home callsign.

ISLE OF MAN, MD0.

Operators DF1LON and DL1ECG will be active as MD0LON and MD0ECG, respectively, from September 7 to 11. Activity will be on all HF bands, CW and SSB. QSL via their home callsigns.

TANZANIA, 5H.

K1JD will begin an African Safari on September 9 and hopes to be QRV as 5H2JD in his spare time. Most likely this will be in the late afternoons his time, mostly around 14025, 10120 and 7025 kHz.

GUINEA, 3X.

3XD2Z was heard on 7030 kHz on CW listening up. Meanwhile, 3XM6JR was working RTTY first on 14083 kHz at 1000Z and then on 18103 kHz at 1130Z. QSL both via UA6JR.

Club Notes

At the Sep. meeting we will be officially dedicating our club radio station as the Harold "Bud" Sissemer, K8TZI Memorial Station. We are hopeful that members of Bud's family will be able to be present.

In October, we will be treated to a slide presentation of KC8PMG's trip to Bangladesh last January. Mike Murray will be our tour guide.

Hamfest Schedule

Sep 17 Adrian, MI

Sep 17 Owosso, MI

Sep 24 Cleveland, OH

Oct 8 Kalamazoo, MI

Oct 8 Crown Pt, IN

Oct 21 Holland, MI

Oct 29 Sterling Hts, MI

Nov 18/19 Ft. Wayne

Dec 16 Lowell MI

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DENMARK, OZ.

NX1S will sign /OZ from Roemoe Island from September 9 to 16, primarily on 20 and 40 meters. QSL via DL4OK, bureau is ok.

BOTSWANA, A2.

A22VB continues to show up on 3503 kHz between 0100 and 0330Z. QSL via UA4WHX.

KYRGYZSTAN, EX.

EX15ID delighted prefix hunters on RTTY on 14085 kHz around 1630Z. QSL via EX8AB.

DJIBOUTI, J2.

Jean-Claude, J28JA was QRV on 18080 kHz around 1300Z. QSL via F5JFU.

SVALBARD, JW.

JW5E was in search of Japan on 14203 kHz at 1300Z. QSL via LA5NM.

LEBANON, OD.

Look for Hani, OD5TE on 14290 kHz between 1600 and 1700Z. QSL via K3IRV.

NAMIBIA, V5.

V550 was logged on 75 meter SSB around 2200Z. QSL via DJ4LK.

HONG KONG, VR2.

Look for VR2VAC and VR2XMT on 20 meter SSB between 1130 and 1300Z. Also, watch for VR2AJ, VR2MX and VR2UW on 20 meters CW.

BPL Is Coming Close to Home

BPL is making yet another venture into Michigan. International Broadband Electric Communications, Inc. (IBEC) posted a public notice in July that it intends to apply for loans under the Rural Broadband Access Loan and Loan Guarantee Program administered by the Rural Electric Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture. They propose to offer service in the following Michigan counties: Berrien, Cass, *Kalamazoo*, Lenawee, Monroe, *St. Joseph* and Van Buren. *More details to follow as they develop.*

Comments courtesy of Michigan ARRL Section website and WA8EFK.

Exam Schedules

Sep 16

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

Sep 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

Oct 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

Oct 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

Oct 21

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