



### A Tip of The Hat

Kudos go out this month to Ed Trombley, our program presenter at the October meeting. All attending agreed that his was one of the most outstanding programs seen in many months. Thanks, Ed, for taking time to provide a great program!

### Upcoming Ham Exams

30-Jan-2010  
**Sponsor:** FULTON CTY RADIO CLUB  
**Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** DAVID L NELSON (419)923-6603  
**Email:** [KA8KDS@EMBARQMAIL.COM](mailto:KA8KDS@EMBARQMAIL.COM)  
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)  
**Location:** ARCHBOLD POLICE DEPARTMENT 405 E LUTZ RD IN THE BASEMENT ARCHBOLD, OH 43502

13-Feb-2010  
**Sponsor:** EATON COUNTY ARC  
**Time:** 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** JOHN A DEWEY (517)645-2378  
**Email:** [DETTA@IA4U.NET](mailto:DETTA@IA4U.NET)  
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)  
**Location:** EATON CTY SHERIFF'S DEPT-EOC 1025 INDEPENDENCE BLVD CHARLOTTE, MI 48813

27-Feb-2010  
**Sponsor:** FULTON CTY RADIO CLUB  
**Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** DAVID L NELSON (419)923-6603  
**Email:** [KA8KDS@EMBARQMAIL.COM](mailto:KA8KDS@EMBARQMAIL.COM)  
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)  
**Location:** ARCHBOLD POLICE DEPARTMENT 405 E LUTZ RD IN THE BASEMENT ARCHBOLD, OH 43502

27-Mar-2010  
**Sponsor:** FULTON CTY RADIO CLUB  
**Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** DAVID L NELSON (419)923-6603  
**Email:** [KA8KDS@EMBARQMAIL.COM](mailto:KA8KDS@EMBARQMAIL.COM)  
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)  
**Location:** ARCHBOLD POLICE DEPARTMENT 405 E LUTZ RD IN THE BASEMENT ARCHBOLD, OH 43502

10-Apr-2010  
**Sponsor:** EATON COUNTY ARC  
**Time:** 12 NOON (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** JOHN A DEWEY (517)645-2378  
**Email:** [DETTA@IA4U.NET](mailto:DETTA@IA4U.NET)  
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)  
**Location:** EATON CTY SHERIFF'S DEPT-EOC 1025 INDEPENDENCE BLVD CHARLOTTE, MI 48813

24-Apr-2010  
**Sponsor:** FULTON CTY RADIO CLUB  
**Time:** 9:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)  
**Contact:** DAVID L NELSON (419)923-6603  
**Email:** [KA8KDS@EMBARQMAIL.COM](mailto:KA8KDS@EMBARQMAIL.COM)  
**VEC:** [ARRL/VEC](http://ARRL/VEC)  
**Location:** ARCHBOLD POLICE DEPARTMENT 405 E LUTZ RD IN THE BASEMENT ARCHBOLD, OH 43502



### Flashback Quiz

In what year did the club attain new heights with their Field Day antennas? (see photo to left)

How high did we go with that tri-bander and who was responsible for helping us go to that height?

Send answers to the editor at [wvoss@charter.net](mailto:wvoss@charter.net) and qualify for a callout in the next newsletter, not to mention my undying gratitude!

# Branch Signals



An ARRL Affiliated Club Since 1961



### Your 2010 Club Officers

**PRESIDENT**  
 Arnie Hayward, NS8T  
 517.278.8507  
[ns8t@arrl.net](mailto:ns8t@arrl.net)

**SECRETARY/TREASURER**  
 Bill Kubiak, KB8VWI  
 517.639.4390  
[bkubiak@cbpu.com](mailto:bkubiak@cbpu.com)

### BOARD MEMBERS

Jim King, KC8UGV  
 517.227.4321  
[finnigan2580@gmail.com](mailto:finnigan2580@gmail.com)

Bill Slade, WD8MGF  
 517.238.2112  
[wn.slade@charter.net](mailto:wn.slade@charter.net)

Jim Voss, WV0SS  
 517.278.4636  
[wvoss@charter.net](mailto:wvoss@charter.net)

### EMERGENCY COORDINATOR

Larry Camp, WB8R  
 517.278.0406  
[wb8r@arrl.net](mailto:wb8r@arrl.net)



The Fox Has Left The Building!

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### Ed Trombley Presents Outstanding Program!

Sometimes the grass *is* greener in your own back yard! The first time I walked into Ed Trombley's office at Munn Reese, Inc. next door to the 911 Center, I knew there had to be a great program awaiting us. Practically every available surface in Ed's workspace, be it vertical or horizontal, is filled with an eclectic mix of radio memorabilia. From oversized finals from an AM transmitter to antiquated test gear to a classic WOWO studio microphone, a guy could spend hours investigating the great "stuff" accumulated there.

I had asked several times previously if someone might be available from Munn-Reese to give a program to our Club, maybe just an overview of what the company does. This time I hit the jackpot!

Ed gave the rather small crowd at the October meeting one of the best programs this amateur has seen in recent memory. He narrated a Powerpoint presentation detailing a number of the installations that Munn-Reese has been involved with in recent

years. From TV, to FM to AM, they do it all, taking a station from an idea to a properly working transmitter and all the steps in between. Ed brought a couple of 'show and tells' along with the highlight being a coaxial connector made for 8" hardline. It's all one person can do to carry it! By the way, Ed holds a current Amateur License, N8DCC and has been invited to join us at our next meeting. This was one program not to miss!



Ed Trombley



## Upcoming Hamfests

February 21, 2010  
Livonia Swap and Shop  
Civic Park Senior Center  
[www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm](http://www.livoniaarc.com/Swap.htm)

March 20, 2010  
Michigan Crossroads  
Marshall Activities Center  
[www.w8df.com/hamfest.html](http://www.w8df.com/hamfest.html)

April 3, 2010  
Lowell Hamfest  
Lowell High School  
[www.argyl.org](http://www.argyl.org)

April 17, 2010  
Milford Swap and Shop  
Milford High School  
[www.qsl.net/w8ydk](http://www.qsl.net/w8ydk)

April 18, 2010  
N. Central Indiana Hamfest  
Miami County Fairgrounds  
[www.nci-hamfest.net](http://www.nci-hamfest.net)

June 20, 2010  
Monroe Hamfest  
Monroe Cty. Fairgrounds  
[www.mcrca.org](http://www.mcrca.org)

November 13/14, 2010  
Indiana State Convention  
Fort Wayne Hamfest  
Allen County War Memorial Coliseum  
[www.fortwaynehamfest.com](http://www.fortwaynehamfest.com)



## EmmComm Corner

This month's notes from Branch County's Emergency Coordinator, Larry Camp, WB8R.

Here we are at the end of the year already. And what a quiet year it has been. I certainly hope that we don't go to the opposite end of the spectrum next year.

Looking back at 2009, it really was a pretty good year.

Our relationship with Emergency Management continued to move forward on positive notes.

We became the custodians of a fairly large quantity of ham equipment that will be used in the Dispatch Center, Coldwater Police/Fire Departments and in the Communication Trailer.

The Comm Trailer has had some work done on the inside to add work surfaces in the radio room and in the main section of the trailer. The water tank that was located up front (radio room) has been relocated under the couch to get it out of the way. A small work surface was installed between the entrance door and the radio room door. This can be used as a dedicated location for the weather station. The AC power system has been upgraded to provide what we are going to need to operate the trailer. In addition to some ham gear to be installed, there will be a bunch of public service radio and computer gear installed. There is a 10 Kw generator that will provide the power when out in the field and away from

electrical service.

There is still a lot of work to be done with antenna supports to design, build and install, coax to run and radios and power supplies to install. It is just too darn cold to work outside, so this project is going to wait until spring unless we can come up with a warm place to park it while we work.

What will this trailer be used for, you ask? As easy as it would be to think that this trailer is there for our exclusive use, we must remember that it is an Emergency Management vehicle and its primary purpose is to be available for any type of emergency or non-emergency use that requires any communication coordination capability. There are any number of situations that come to mind: spills, accidents, incidents, crime scenes, weather related activities and the list goes on and on. Wherever its presence can provide shelter, warmth or cool, hot coffee, a restroom, meeting space or just a place for the people working a situation to get off their feet for a few minutes, it will be a much appreciated asset.

At any of these situations, the RACES group may be called upon to move the trailer where it needs to go, set up antennas and get the mother ship into

operation. In exchange for our support and assistance, we will have the opportunity to exercise a secondary use of the trailer and that will be to take it to public places such as the Strawberry Festival, Relay for Life, Applefest and of course Field Day and other events. This will allow us to showcase both Emergency Management and Amateur Radio. I think this is a pretty good trade.

We also had an opportunity to track and recover an object from near space when we were asked to find the payload of a weather balloon that was launched at Ft. Custer near Battle Creek. What a time that was. For the first time we had to find a transmitter that was hiding at 50,000 feet for a while and came down wherever the winds took it. I have to say that with a bit of luck but a bunch of skill, we were able to locate the tiny payload 40 odd miles from the launch area and 3 hours and 41 minutes after launch. We are ready to do it again!

And I said it was a quiet year. It was a great year! From my family to yours, we wish you the very best in 2010. See you soon.  
73,

Larry Camp, WB8R  
Emergency Coordinator/RACES Officer  
Branch County Amateur Radio Club, Inc  
[wb8r@arrl.net](mailto:wb8r@arrl.net)

## From The Desk of the President

Hi All,

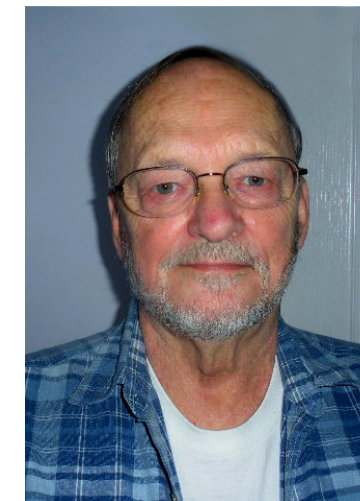
We are starting the year of our club's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. What a thrill to be President during this celebration. I have belonged to our club for 20 years, and I'm glad I decided to run, and was elected President. I am really looking forward to this coming year. The past year was a successful year for the club. Not only did we accomplish a lot, but we had fun doing it. One of the biggest programs we tackled was, monitoring the siren tests. We successfully did that for the year of 2009. Storm watching is another one of our programs. We really were not needed much this past storm season, but we were there just in case. Some of us feel we could do more for the public. Once Emergency

Management gets the trailer ready, I'm sure we will have that opportunity. Another project is, purchasing a new 2 meter repeater. We are about a quarter of the way to completing the funding of that project. When the major part of raising funds for this starts, we will need a little help from you. The board members are working hard to make the meetings interesting for the club members, and friends. If you have any ideas for a program, or an activity, don't hesitate to tell a board member. We'll check into it, that idea. And don't forget to bring a friend to a meeting when you can. This coming year looks to be a busy one for us. There are a few plans that are being carried over from last year, and then there is always something new coming around

the corner. So, of course, we will need volunteers to help. Believe it or not, its fun and it doesn't take much of your time. The best thing of volunteering is, you only have to volunteer for things that interest you, not every activity that is undertaken. Give it a try once; you'll see what I mean.

Thank you for your support.

Arnie, NS8T



Arnie Hayward

## CLUBMEETING NOTICE

The January meeting of the Branch County Amateur Radio Club will be held on Tuesday, the 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the basement meeting room of the Branch County Communications Center (911). The program is to be announced.

## BOARD MEETING INVITATION

Got an idea? Got a gripe? Got nothing to do the first Tuesday night of the month? Club members are always welcome to attend the monthly board meeting at 7:30 pm at Bob Evans in Coldwater.

## Website Monthly Pick

<http://www.qrz.com/db/w9evt>  
Just in case you didn't happen to get this link from one of our local hams, it's worth your while to take a look at the ham shack of George Ulm, W9EVT. If you think you've seen the ultimate in a shack – guess again! I hope he posts photos of his antennas next and possibly a copy of his utility bill. Thanks to Larry, WB8R, for tipping us off to this great site. (Don't forget to clean up the drool on your keyboard!)