

July 16, 2009 Minutes for the Starke County Amateur Radio Club Meeting.

The meeting started with the pledge of allegiance and the introduction of Cindi Clawson from WDNV Television Weather Team. Randy, KC9ISJ arraigned for her to put on a program about weather.

It was very interesting in that she add a lot commentary about how she teaches the kids about weather. A couple of members even mentioned they learned something new tonight.

Old Business:

September 13 at 1:00 p.m. will be the SCARC Picnic at the North Judson Park, Shelter #1. It will be a pitch-in dish type dinner, so bring a new dish to share. Meat will be provided by the club.

The 4 H Fair was going on this week and our trophies were handed out by David, KC9MRS and Joe, KC9NFD. Pictures are on the website.

We are doing a membership drive for ARRL to increase our percentage to 51% so that we qualify for the Special Services Club status.

John, W3ML reported on the repeater. The tower and antenna is up, thanks to Don, WA9KRT and his sons who put the finishing touches on it last Sunday.

A simplex test on the antenna revealed weak signals (5 watts and less) obtained good reports as far away as LaPorte.

The repeater is still in Kouts and will remain there until we are sure the bugs are all worked out and then it will be moved to Knox.

Tony reported the food drive was a success. We donated 358 pounds of food. Those that donated money and said do what you want with it as far as Field Day and Food Drive had their money divided equally between the two events.

Field Day results were reported by Tony as 1918 being the final score. John reported on how the radio was repaired so that it worked for Field Day. A lost connector was not allowing the center pin of the antenna coax to make connection with the radio connector. Once the radio's connector was repaired the radio work fine.

Tony made a comment that we placed 9<sup>th</sup> in the Indiana QSO Party even beating out the Ft. Wayne DX Club. He asked John to talk about the forum at the Indianapolis Hamfest.

John said that the forum was all about the QSO Party and how to score big points. You do this by operating on county lines. That way you can count your contacts as twice the score since you can use both counties on one contact. Also CW plays a big part in the points.

Tony suggested that next year we all worked from our home stations and then add submit it for the club's total as is allowed in the rules.

New Business:

John, W3ML also reported that the Indianapolis Hamfest, despite the rain storms, had a turnout twice the size as the past two years together. There was a huge outdoor flea market until the rains came but only one commercial vendor the Ham Station.

It was defiantly a good Hamfest to attend.

Since Janet was out sick, Tony gave the secretary report and treasurer's report.

Balance as of June 15 was \$501.42

Purchased tuner for 706 = - \$100.00

Food for F.D. = - \$52.36

Flowers for Hugh = - \$26.54

Post Office = - \$7.10

Club Donations = + \$155.00

F.D. Supplies = - \$140.65

Final balance = \$369.82

October 3<sup>rd</sup> is Radioville and Steve said we were set for the same place as last year in front of the Highway Department on Highway 421 just south of the Radioville sign.

Tony said that the Hamfest may cost more than we could make and we are opened for suggestions. John reported before we could rent the building at the fair grounds we would be required to have liability insurance. And the cost of renting it was \$100.00. We thought that was too high for us.

David said that his Technician class would be held at his church starting August 14<sup>th</sup> and lasting six weeks. The testing team will not be available until October to test the class members.

Questions were asked as to when a General or Extra class would be conducted and Tony said he would like to have one during the winter. John asked if CW was going to be taught and Pam said she would like to have it that way as she wants to learn Morse code.

Tony agreed that CW could be taught.

Carrot Top part 2 comes next month. Levi said he is ready to put on part 2 at the next meeting in August.

There were 25 members and guests in attendance tonight.

Motion was made by Pam to adjourn and seconded by Gary.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15.

Submitted by John, W3ML