

MCC

The Zanesville Amateur Radio Club (ZARC) played host to the Multi-County Coalition of East Central Ohio Amateur Radio Operators (MCC) on Sunday, November 23, 2008, at 2 PM in the Muskingum County Emergency Operations Center in Zanesville.

The following amateurs were in attendance: (1) Representing Tuscarawas County: John, N8TRL, and Carolyn, KB8UJA, Poland; (2) Representing Athens and Guernsey Counties: Russ Ellis, N8MWK; (3) Representing Guernsey County: Mary Jane Rhodes-Ellis, KD8EIR; Bruce Homer, N8JMK, Assistant Emergency Coordinator; Dick Wayt, WD8SDH, Assistant Emergency Coordinator; (4) Representing Guernsey and Muskingum Counties: Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, and Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, District 9 Emergency Coordinator; (5) Representing Muskingum County: Matt Murphy, KC8BEW, Emergency coordinator; Dwight Bonifield, W8TJT, Assistant Emergency Coordinator; and Joe Paul, ZARC President. After a round of introductions, the ten attendees representing four counties enjoyed snacks and beverages while they socialized.

At approximately 2:45 PM, Chair Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, called the meeting to order and read the minutes from the July 27, 2008 meeting. Each member county/club was given an opportunity to share its activities since the last MCC meeting. He noted that attendance was down due to a scheduling conflict with the Zanesville South Business Association's Christmas Parade and other holiday events in other counties.

Chair Alfman discussed the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association's (CARA) activities since July meeting. CARA members: (1) Participated in a tabletop exercise at the Guernsey County Emergency Operations Center in conjunction with the Health Department during a pandemic influenza outbreak during a freak blizzard and flooding conditions. CARA provided all radio and telephone communications with logs and message handling for the EMA; (2) Manned information booths five times at the Farmers' Market and the Paul Bunyan Show in conjunction with the Guernsey County/Cambridge Visitors and Convention Bureau promoting all non-profit organizations in the county under the banner of Crossroads of Culture; (3) Activated several local counties for the Ohio QSO Party and activated several state parks during the Ohio State Parks OTA Contest; (4) Members attended the Ohio Section Conference and a DX banquet in German Village; (5) Parked cars at Deerassic Classic and held a Hamfest and Computer Show as fundraisers; (6) Helped with Jamboree OTA; (7) Performed 2 Adopt-A-Highway cleanup sessions; (8) Held the annual picnic; and (9) Celebrating 95th birthday of club with display case at Crossroads Library and article in *The Daily Jeffersonian*.

CARA's future plans for next trimester include: (1) Lining up and providing communications for and placing float in the Christmas Parade on November 29; (2) Launching new web site on December 4; (3) Holding its Annual Holiday Carry-In Awards Banquet on December 13; (4) Teaching Tech Cram Class in January; (5) Teaching General Cram Class in February; and (5) Holding its 2nd Annual CARA Hamfest and Computer Show, August 23, 2009, at the Pritchard Laughlin Civic Center.

ZARC member Lyn Alfman discussed their activities since the July meeting. ZARC members: (1) Placed auxiliary HF, VHF, and Packet radio stations in the Washington Township Fire House. They will be available for members to operate once they are completely up and running; (2) Participated in Jamboree OTA; (3) Attended the Ohio Section Conference; (4) Held elections for 2009: President is Joe Paul, KA8UXT; Vice President is Dwight Bonifield, W8TJT; Treasurer is Don Wahl, KA8BOV; MCC representatives are Dwight Bonifield, W8TJT, and Earl Paazig, N8KBR; the Secretary's position is open at this time.

Muskingum Valley Ham Radio Club (N8HR) member Dwight Bonifield stated that the club did not participate in the November sweepstakes this year due to Everett Jackson's mother being gravely ill. They usually use Jackson's facilities for the contest. N8HR member and Muskingum County EC Matt Murphy, KC8BEW, noted that a 2-meter repeater is being placed at the Muskingum Valley Scout Reservation and a 440 repeater is being placed on the air in Zanesville. Murphy also discussed plans for the scout reservation for the national celebration in 2010 concerning the 100th birthday of the Boy Scouts. EC Murphy also discussed his progress on the Muskingum County ARES Emergency Communications Plan.

Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, discussed the Field Day scores and ranking of the member clubs. Operating under the 2A classifications, the Coshocton County Amateur Radio Association placed 8th in the state; the Zanesville Amateur Radio Club placed 10th in the state; and the TUSCO Amateur Radio Club placed 11th in the state. Operating under the 3A classification, the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association placed 4th in the state.

There was no Old Business. Under New Business, the nominations for MCC Chair were postponed until the next meeting. The election of the MCC Chair will take place at the next meeting, which will be held on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 2 PM in the shelter house at Tuscora Park in New Philadelphia.

Following the adjournment of the meeting, the attendees were given a Turkey Quiz. Russ Ellis and Joe Paul were the winners. Sonny Alfman won the 50/50 drawing. The two alternate prizes were won by Mary-Jane Rhodes Ellis and Dick Wayt.