

July 2009

Had a great turn out for a summer meeting and thanks to all that came out for the meeting. I'm not sure of the count but I would say over 25 folks. We had a visitor and a new club member to join us. Jim KB9APC from around the Vienna area had joined the club at FD and he drives a semi rig for Alliant Foods on No. 10th st and he came by to see us. And many of you may remember Gordon K8EFW, from Michigan. He's down here to spend the summer and came with Dave WB5YYA. So glad to have both of them in attendance and plan on seeing them more

- Had a good report on FD, our new antenna setup seems to work very well and all that operated said it had almost no interference while on the same band (cw and SSB) BUT the big concern is that this configuration leaves the three stations spread far apart and we cannot have 1 or 2 people watching these three stations with high \$\$ radio equipment laying around. PLUS I know it was hot and I heard there was ample help on setup but we are going to have to have night time operators!! Plain and simple. If we are going to participate as a club we have to have more folks there. We have some time to discuss this more but if there is not the commitment of 24 hour manning, we may just pull back and do a 1 station at someone's house..... we will discuss this more later. One other not on FD, since the antennas worked without the interference we have had in the past, we are cancelling the ICE filters that have been ordered for 9 months. Saves us some \$\$\$

- The audio boxes were not completely built but there were a lot of design flaws and WAY MORE wiring than anticipated so they will be finished but the rush is off the build team for at 11 months ☺
- Everyone needs to look at the ARRL website and read about HR 2160.. this is a bill that is picking up a few more co-sponsors and what it does is to lay the ground work with a study on what effects CCR's and other restrictions have on ham radio plus other items. There is a sample letter that you can fill out and following the instructions send it to the ARRL consultants so they can take it to your representative.. takes just about 3 minutes and your done
- Last two notes,
 - the club was given a FT-1000MP when Bob Beadles W4KN became a SK and left his radio estate to the club. This is a really great rig to have on a desk but it is not a rig that we can justify keeping due to the size and complexity. We have for some time have had the hope that we would be in a club station in the near future and as it looks like now, I would not bank on it. The property the McCracken DES was believed to obtain now has been covered in all types of changes and policy changes and lets just say that we do not need to plan on club station right now and this FT-1000MP is not going to be used as we had hoped. With LOTS of thought and discussion, we have found a buyer that is willing to pay a fair price of \$900.00 so we voted to sell it and then we can look at buying a radio that will be easier to use by all operators for events like FD. Something smaller, lighter and less than 150 knobs!!

- Second item was just to clarify a concern. The McCracken county has offered to loan out 4 generators, but the county judge made them available at field day and I believe that he intended them to go to ARES and was just making the gesture to ham radio group that was there (the club). After a letter from me was read and clarifying the concern, it was unanimous that the intent that everyone was in agreement was the generators was for ARES and there was positive discussion on how the club would still have use of these generators if needed

Lots of stuff, good stuff was discussed, we missed you if you were not there.. oh yeah we talked about you too since you were not there!!!!

See ya next month

McCracken ARES meeting this Thursday at 7:00pm at the WKN building

73

KO4XJ

John Hudson

President

Paducah Amateur Radio Association