

Barry R. Kauffman

After more than 39 years, he's still married to Annette, which by the way was a benefit gained from working at the Blues. His son, Jeff, is married to the fantastic Amy and now living in Houston, Texas. His wonderful daughter, Jackie, recently earned her PhD in psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and is now doing her post-doc at the University of Michigan. He currently drives two days a week for Meals on Wheels for Commerce Township. This involves delivering hot lunches and emergency food packages to 14 clients. Part of the responsibility is to check up on the health and welfare of the client and report any concerns regarding health and social issues.

He was the past president and current treasurer of his synagogue men's club. He is also the chair of the social action committee, which involves developing community relations in the Detroit metropolitan area.

He served three weeks in Israel, with the Israeli army (IDF) as a non-combatant soldier working in the area of food distribution. Their responsibility was to determine food ration needs based on troop location and military mission and to coordinate food distribution to those locations.

For Oakland County, he is currently the Deputy Emergency Coordinator for the Oakland County Amateur Radio Public Corp. This Oakland County support group works under the direction of the County Emergency Management and Preparedness Department. His responsibilities are to coordinate, with Oakland County Emergency Management, emergency radio communications through the deployment of 197 member amateur radio operators and to assist local, federal and state civil emergency preparedness agencies during periods of civil or natural disasters. To assist in these events he was trained in emergency management, community disaster, biological and weapons of mass destruction, and weather awareness. Two major events with which he assisted were coordinating the electrical grid failure where it was necessary to use amateur radio operators at hospitals, public safety agencies, and county government agencies to enable a communications link between their activities and Oakland County Emergency Management and Preparedness, state and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) so as to determine their needs. The second event was the infamous 911 twin towers tragedy where he served in rumor control for federal, state and local agencies by assigning amateur radio operators to those locations based in Oakland County. On the fun side, he coordinated two Woodward Dream Cruise programs where 75 amateur radio operators linked Ferndale, Royal Oak, Birmingham and the Oakland County sheriff patrols for safety, health and welfare as well as walking the parade route to communicate for the same needs.

At last discussion, his next big adventure was a three-week (or longer) camping trip out west with Annette in their new trailer.

