

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of December 5, 2011

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, December 5, 2011, at 1904 by President Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, with 23 members present.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary Patty Chiles, ACØCU, and were approved as read.

Treasurer Irma Frye, NØJPJ, reported that last month's balance was \$1841.01. She made a deposit of \$50, leaving a balance of \$1891.01. The treasurer's report was approved as read.

Old Business

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reminded everyone of the December 10 Christmas party at the Branding Iron in Jackson at 1 p.m. He then reported that Cathy Golightly, KDØIAM, had turned in \$60 in donations to the Wreaths Across America.

Tom Keene, WX9N, reported that the ARES meeting at the home of Judy Bradley, KCØWXS, on November 26, was a very instructive training session on different emergency power sources.

Tom also reported that after he and his son James had put together two repeater antennas, they and Barry Doyle, ACØWL, Dan Russell, KDØIXM, Mike McCrate, KDØGUH, George Sample, KDØGUF, and Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, met the tower climber at his shop and went to the 685 repeater site on December 3 at 10 a.m. The tower climber replaced the hardline and antenna at 160 feet and then replaced the hardline and antenna at 260 feet when the existing hardline proved defective. The climber did not come down from the tower until 7:30 p.m. He has agreed to do the Scopus 820 repeater tower work for the club as well. Johnson Communication has donated some used radio equipment to upgrade the 685 repeater.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, asked the club's opinion on whether or not to raise the Scopus repeater 100 feet; KMHM will charge \$10 a month for the extra height. After some discussion, Dennis Ponsness, WBØWAO, moved that we raise the repeater and Barry Doyle, ACØWL, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Phil Nash, ACØIB, gave a report as VEC. Our club has held 57 test sessions from 2008 to 2012, giving a total of 177 tests. Those tests resulted in 125 new technicians, 32 new generals, and 10 new extras, with 19 failed tests. He gave kudos to Joe Lorberg, WAØZNI, Larry Fluegge, KØRKW, and Mike Niemeier, NØAKR, for staying after the meetings to help with the testing.

Phil then presented Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, with an ARRL Elmer Award.

Mike McCrate, KDØGUH, led a discussion on the benefits and drawbacks of an LLC, a 501C3, and a Subchapter S. Klaus Mueller, KDØNAV, moved that the club become an LLC and Frank Bagbey, WØKAA, seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reminded everyone that annual dues are due. He said that he has mailing labels of every ham in the county, and we might want to send out membership invitations to many of these. Another possibility is to offer associate memberships for those who want to support our repeater but who would have no voting rights.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that he has six new hams out of his technician class.

New Business

Our visitor for the evening was John Duer, KDØQAQ, who joined our club before the meeting.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, announced that Tom had refurbished the two transceivers and that at next month's meeting on January 2, they will be auctioned to the highest bidder. He suggested that everyone bring their ham "junk" to donate to the auction, with the proceeds going to the club.

The December meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1955. The next club meeting will be held on Monday, January 2, at 1900 hours in the Cape Girardeau County office building in Jackson.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SEMO ARC