

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of December 2, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, December 2, 2024, at 1830 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 17 members present.

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

Treasurer Judy Bradley, KCØWXS, reported a beginning balance of \$18,134.46. She wrote one check in the amount of \$180 to the Jackson Civic Center for the 2025 room rental for our club meetings, and a second check in the amount of \$21.68 to Larry Mohundro for reimbursement for membership cards. She deposited \$153 for 7 memberships and 1 club patch, leaving a balance of \$18,085.78.

Old Business

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that three weekly nets were held in November, totaling 5.75 hours, and repeater maintenance on the 146.685 repeater totaled 20.5 hours – most of which was for installation of the new repeater – for a grand total of 26.25 man hours reported for ARES. There were no Skywarn nets. He performed maintenance on the 146.685 repeater. He ran the generator for 42 minutes, and the fuel level remained at 87%. The generator did not start right away and Barry finally got it to start after several attempts. He contacted David Obergoenner and learned that there is an issue with the generator when the temperature drops below 40°. Barry later texted David during the meeting and learned that KRCU General Manager Dan Woods is having a Generac dealer come in to check the generator on a cold day next week and hopefully find a solution to the problem.

Barry reported that the new 146.685 repeater and controller were installed on November 2. Present with Barry were Kirk Barks, WTØU, Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, and Larry Rickman, KDØLBL. Signal reports are showing better audio quality and better coverage, but the deep cycle battery is temporarily out of commission as the lead acid battery does not put out enough voltage to keep the repeater happy. It is recommended that we move to a lithium ion battery that could stay up for 15.5 hours key down; this would translate to several days of use before the battery would run down.

Another issue was that the time clock card in the controller appeared to lose its time settings. Kirk removed the card from the controller and reinstalled it; a suspected bad connection appears to have been the problem, because it is working properly now.

On November 17 Barry went south on I-55 to test the repeater's range. He could not reach the repeater at the New Madrid County High School, but he picked it back up at mile marker 45.2. He plans to test from points north and west as time allows.

Barry also announced that he has removed the Yaesu repeater from the Missouri Repeater Council list.

New Business

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, announced that we have renewed our 2025 reservations at the Jackson Civic Center. Every meeting will be held on the first Monday of the month with the exception of September; that meeting will be held on Monday, September 8.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reported that the next hamfest is at Collinsville, Illinois, on January 18, 2025. He will have flyers for the event at the January meeting.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, thanked Kirk Barks, WTØU, for his CHIRP presentation. Kirk said that he has a spectrum analyzer, and if anyone is interested, s/he can bring a radio for testing. Larry said that he would like to have an EchoLink presentation at a future meeting. Stan Sides, KØQMV, Russell Goss, KD9FAL, and Bob Stone, KEØYJG, all volunteered to help with the presentation to be announced at a later date.

Larry announced that there will be no nets on Christmas Eve or Christmas day. For December 26 through January 1, 2025, whether nets will be held or not will be up to the net controls. Larry thanked all the net controls for their service. In addition to Larry, the net controls are Bill Brown, KEØJDD, Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, Barry Doyle, ACØWL, and Larry Rickman, KDØLBL.

Larry also thanked Judy Bradley, KCØWXS, for her service, as she will be stepping down from the office of Club Treasurer. Karen Brewington, KDØJMO, has agreed to be a nominee for the position. Ed Myers, ADØWN, announced that our SEMOARC outdated web system needs to be upgraded, and at some point he would like to have someone else take over the web management. Russell Goss, KD9FAL, volunteered to help with the upgrade.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, moved that we retain the present slate of officers, with the addition of Karen Brewington as Treasurer, and elect them by acclamation for 2025. Barry Doyle, ACØWL, seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The 2025 officers are:

President	Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI
1 st Vice President	Larry Rickman, KDØLBL
2 nd Vice President	Ed Myers, ADØWN
Treasurer	Karen Brewington, KDØJMO
Secretary	Patty Chiles, ACØCU

Ed Myers, ADØWN, reminded everyone of our Christmas party at BG's Deli in Cape Girardeau, to be held on Saturday, December 7, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you would like to be a part of the gift exchange – under \$10 – please mark the tag with Male, Female, or Either. This year, tables will be broken up into 3 tables rather than one long one.

Ed also mentioned a Twelve Days of Christmas special event that begins on December 14 and ends on December 25. There are twelve 1x1 stations and two bonus stations to find, and a certificate will be available.

Kirk Barks, WTØU, mentioned that Microsoft has changed the parameters for Windows 11, and we need to watch for eligible upgrades to our computers. Check settings, go to Update, and look for eligibility.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, mentioned that rare DX entities should work split frequency, and we hunters need to use proper procedures to pick through a pileup. After the entity calls CQ, we should give our call sign only one time, then stop – and listen to see if our call sign has been chosen.

Russell Goss, KD9FAL, announced that a Boy Scout event will once again be held on Saturday, January 4, to help Scouts earn a ham radio merit badge. There will be morning and afternoon sessions, with 2 hours of lecture followed by 1 hour of contacts; volunteers will be needed to make those contacts. Russell will follow up with us when he has more details.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, announced that our next club meeting will be held on Monday, January 6, 2025.

The December meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1939.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SEMOARC