

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of February 6, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, February 6, 2023, at 1830 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 19 members and 2 guests, Trey Chiles and Mike Ratliff.

Judy Bradley, KCØWXS, read the minutes of the last meeting for Secretary Patty Chiles, ACØCU, and they were approved as read.

Treasurer Judy Bradley, KCØWXS, reported a beginning balance of \$20,172.69. She deposited \$250 in fees for 8 memberships, one of which was a family membership; 1 membership for 2024; and a \$50 contribution; leaving a balance of \$20,422.69.

Old Business

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, noted that there were no Skywarn events in January. The repeaters are working fine, and the generator is running better; it has 690 gallons of fuel, which is about 15 days' worth of fuel. There was a power failure at the 146.685 repeater but it's at full power now and working better than ever.

Barry plans to run simplex testing on the ARES net, so make sure to have your instruction manual ready and near your radio. The start of severe weather events is coming up in March; there is an average of one emergency during the month of March. The 146.685 repeater will be the primary repeater for Skywarn, and then we will hop over to 146.820 to run simplex testing.

Barry noted that there is an international phone contest on March 4 – 5. Barry's beam antenna is pointed north and he contacted someone in Antarctica, 8200 miles away. He said the next couple of years will be the peak of the solar cycle.

There was no report from OEM Director Mark Winkler. Dick Knaup, KDØBSP, reported that a main heavy cable came in damaged and had to be sent back. He also said that the new vehicle will be nice once it is done.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, announced that Patty Chiles, ACØCU, plans to send out notices to those who have not paid their 2023 dues.

T.J. Vandeven, WØTJV, gave an update on the personalized club patches. The company will send a picture of the patch for approval, and the club would buy and then sell the patches to members. There was discussion about the size of the patches: a 4" patch would be of better quality, but a 3" patch would be more versatile. A 3" patch will cost \$2.17 each. Ed Myers, ADØWN, moved that the club buy 100 patches, and Dick Knaup, KDØBSP, seconded the motion. The motion carried. T.J. will check on what is best, a fabric or a plastic backing.

Russell Goss, KD9FAL, reported on the Boy Scout merit badge event; there were about 500 people in attendance. He had 18 kids in 2 class periods. He followed the program for the ham radio badge and then the kids worked the radios. Russell thanked the club members who helped the kids make their contacts so they could all get their radio merit badges. Midsummer will be the next Boy Scout merit badge event.

New Business

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, noted that in October 2020 the club voted to allow honorary membership to Southeast Missouri State University students. After asking if we want to extend this to area high school students as well, Klaus Mueller, WØLKE, moved that we allow honorary membership to high school students who have a radio license; T.J. Vandeven, WØTJV, seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Ed Myers, ADØWN, said the Winterfest at Collinsville, Illinois, was very interesting, and he had a good time. He said the new CEO of ARRL was in attendance. Upcoming hamfests include Hoxie, Arkansas, on February 17; Cave City, Kentucky, on March 4; Memphis Freefest on April 8; Louisville, Kentucky, on March 11; and Carterville, Illinois, in August. The Kirkwood hamfest will not occur this year. Another upcoming event is the Earthquake Seminar in Portageville, Missouri, on March 16.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, announced that in the March meeting we will discuss Field Day 2023, as well as 2023 fox hunting dates. Our next meeting will be on Monday, March 6.

The February meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1918.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Brewington, KDØJMO
Acting Secretary, SEMOARC