

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of February 5, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, February 5, 2024, at 1830 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 27 members and 2 guests present. Guests were Arthur Myracle and Donna Goodson.

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 \$20,334.05. She deposited \$100 in membership fees, leaving a balance of \$20,434.05.

Old Business

There was no ARES report this month.

Larry Rickman, KDØLBL, read a report from OEM Director Sam Herndon. He reports the new building is moving along well. Contractors should be hanging sheetrock this week, and they will continue to pour the parking lot. He is hoping that the communications tower is installed around the end of February or early March.

New Business

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reported that the Collinsville Winterfest was well attended: 12 of our club members showed for the event. The next hamfest will be held at Cave City, Kentucky, on March 2, followed by the Lewis and Clark club hamfest in Godfrey, Illinois, on March 23; the Memphis Freefest in Bartlett, Tennessee, on April 6; and the River Hills club hamfest in Perryville, Missouri, on April 20.

Ernie also announced that he had made copies of Patty's Top Secret List of Ham Radio Events and would give a copy to anyone who would like one. The list shows the dates for many different events, including IOTAs (Islands on the Air), DXCC entities, state QSO parties, and ARRL contests. He noted that the Missouri QSO party will be coming up soon.

Ernie will also be doing field strength and power testing for HT antennas after the meeting.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, brought up the subject of holding a special event at the Stars and Stripes Museum, but due to a lack of interest, the potential SES was temporarily placed on the shelf. He also mentioned the possibility of holding a special event at the Missouri National Veterans Memorial to be held in conjunction with the Perryville River Hills club.

Larry announced that we will be having a Field Day – along with a potluck, of course! – on June 29. We will also hold spring and fall fox hunts. Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, suggested that we combine a fox hunt with Field Day. We could rent a park shelter for the day, have a field radio on site for those who wish to make contacts, and have a fox hunt on foot in the park. It was agreed that this would be a good plan.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, announced that a weather-spotter training session will be held on Monday, March 18, at 6 p.m. at the Jackson Civic Center. Registration is required: www.weather.gov/pah/spottertraining.

He also announced that the first amateur radio station on the moon, licensed as JS1YMG, has been transmitting on 437.41 MHz since January 19 and will transmit in Morse code for about 14 days.

Larry read a report from the National Weather Service. Beginning February 12, the KPAH WSR-88D radar operated by NOAA's National Weather Service in Paducah, Kentucky, will be down for approximately two weeks for an important upgrade.

Neil LaVanchy, ACØUT, reported that he and his son Micah, N4MJL, have been learning Morse code and are now working POTA and SOTA in CW. He is interested in working with others who want to learn Morse code using the G4FON Koch Method. A free download of the Koch software can be found at <https://www.g4fon.net/CW%20Trainer2.php#Download>. Neil recalled the story of an elderly gentleman who could not speak due to a stroke but could communicate with his nurses using Morse code.

Patty Chiles, ACØCU, announced that she will mail notifications for 2024 dues this month.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, announced that our next club meeting will be held on Monday, March 4, 2024.

The February meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1907.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SEMOARC