

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of July 3, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, July 3, 2023, at 1832 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 24 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 \$20,340.83. She deposited \$15 for sales of patches, leaving a balance of \$20,355.83.

Old Business

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported 8 hours for ARES in June. Three man hours were spent on the 146.685 and 440.820 repeaters, and the remaining 5 man hours were spent tracking the source of the interference on the 146.685 repeater. The interference problem has stopped; Barry had been looking for an amp but may not need to get one since there is no longer any interference on the repeater.

Barry performed the normal tests on the 440.200 and 146.685 repeaters, and both were operating normally. He ran the generator for 20 minutes, and the fuel level was at 63%. The UPS ran fine, and there were no repeater issues.

Barry contacted the Missouri Repeater Association, and they had assigned our frequency correctly. They contacted the Illinois Repeater Association, which doesn't normally share with the Missouri Association, to address the interference problem. Illinois has stopped printing grid coordinates due to stolen repeaters.

Barry has also contacted the ham radio clubs across the river to discuss mutual cooperation with Skywarn activity.

Larry Rickman, KDØLBL, read a report from OEM Director Mark Winkler. The earth leveling continues at the new OEM facility location. The work can be seen along the east side of I-55 right before the Main/LaSalle exit as one is heading north. Mark is retiring on July 11 and will officially turn over the directorship to Sam Herndon on July 12.

New Business

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, noted that the next hamfest will be at Washington, Missouri, on July 16 from 7 a.m. to noon.

Ernie commented on a couple of operating aids and offered handouts for both. One is a propagation site that is very helpful: <https://hf.dxview.org/perspective/FN31lm>. [Once you have the site up, you will need to change the FN31 grid square to your own (EM57) to see how the propagation is in your location.] Ernie also offered an amateur radio resource list to those who wanted it, as well as his Worked All States (WAS) checklist.

Ernie also reminded everyone that the 13 Colonies Special Event will continue until Friday, July 7.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, asked everyone to consider ideas for anything that could lead to younger membership or enhanced monthly meetings. If anyone has any tech/safety questions, mention it during the meeting or let Larry know.

Several members mentioned that they had a great time at the Field Day social, and the food was all great as well. Many thanks to Larry, KDØLBL, and Debbie Rickman, KDØLBM, for allowing our club to use their facility for the social.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, asked if anyone had issues on the HF bands concerning noise interference. Several mentioned potential interference causes such as LEDs, power strips, wall warts, transformers, and treadmills. Larry posed the question of whether we could address any interference problems if it should occur, because it could cause a major problem with Skywarn or other emergency systems.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, noted that QST magazine had a product review regarding RF interference-finding equipment that we might consider buying. He suggested that everyone read the article and think about investing ~\$400 for the equipment, which could be used by the club membership. Stan Sides, KØQMV, noted that the equipment should cover both groups – that of direction finding and of RF noise interference. We will revisit the subject at the August meeting and discuss it at that time.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, thanked everyone for checking into the Skywarn nets these past few days.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, announced that our next club meeting will be held on Monday, August 7.

The July meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1914.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SEMOARC