

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of May 7, 2012

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, May 7, 2012, at 1900 by President Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, with 25 members present and 2 visitors.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Secretary Karen Brewington, KDØJMO, and were approved as read.

Treasurer Judy Bradley, KCØWXS, reported that last month's balance was \$2,733.89. Judy deposited \$50.00 in dues and paid \$64.00 the club post office box and \$248.34 to Tom Keene for parts to raise the 146.820 another 100 feet, giving us a new balance of \$2,471.55. The treasurer's report was approved as read.

Old Business

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reported that the Fox Hunt held on April 28th was a good time for all involved. 17 people made up 8 teams and several teams were able to find the "fox". The winning team was Phil Nash, ACØIB and Jody Rouse, KDØLDE. They were each given a trophy that they are able to keep. Kudos to all who found the "fox". It was suggested that we may be able to do it again either later in the summer or early in the fall.

Dennis Ponsness, WBØWAO, reported that we can purchase lightning arrestors for about \$50 each. He found some Alpha Delta Polyfasers that have a "fuse". He suggested that we get 1 for the Scopus repeater and 2 for the 146.685 repeater. This would be installed at the feed line with ground wires. Motion to get the 3 polyfasers for \$50 each and 2 spar cartridges for \$15 each was made by Dan Russell, KDØIXM, and seconded by Klause Mueller, KDØNAV. Motion approved.

Joe Lorberg, WAØZNI, reported that the repeaters are working as good as can be expected. The 146.685 may need to tone down a little and a newer computer that could reboot if the power goes off may be needed. It was also brought up that the controller may need replacing, as there is a chance that it could fail. The cost could be anywhere between \$200 to \$1200 or more. Joe will look into this and see what we could get to improve the repeater controller.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reported that the "tower man" will be available to come out to work on the Scopus tower this Saturday, May 12th. He will raise the antenna and replace the antenna, hardline and jumper cable. Ernie asked for volunteers to help and Dennis Ponsness, WBØWAO, Phil Nash, ACØIB, and Mike McCrate, KDØGUH, said they would be available. They will meet at Scopus at 9am. The "tower man" will do the work for \$300. Mike, Dennis and Phil will coordinate getting the hardline ready. Barry Doyle, ACØWL, and Jodie Rouse, KDØLDE, might also be able to help if needed.

Mike McCrate, KDØGUH, reported on the LLC progress. Barry Doyle's, ACØWL, brother-in-law has given his comments and those will be incorporated into the document. Mike will have this ready for signature by next month.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that Stars and Stripes will be on June 1st. The participation certificate is ready. This year, we will not be able to get into the museum after hours to use the restrooms as there were items taken from the museum last year. We will need a port-a-potty which Barry is working on. A motion was made by Phil Nash, ACØIB, and seconded by Penny Wheeler, KDØGXZ, to pay for the port-a-potty out of club funds at a cost of about \$25. Motion approved.

All in all, everything is a go for this year's event. EOC Coordinator Dick Knaup, KDØBSP, will have the EOC van for us to use along with a generator. Those that will be setting up on Friday will be Ernie Chile, WØRMS, Barry Doyle, ACØWL, Phil Nash, ACØIB, and possibly Klause Mueller, KDØNAV. Penny Wheeler, KDØGXZ, Karen Brewington, KDØJMO, and grandson, Dionte Reeds, and Patty Chiles, ACØCU, are planning on working the radios Friday evening and Linda Nash, KDØGUM, Judy Bradley, KCØWXS, Phil Nash, ACØIB, and Ernie Chiles, WØRMS will be there on Saturday to work and for the take down. We need at least 10 operators in all. We will be using HF, 10, 15, 20 and 40 meters. Operators will have scripts to read and log sheets to fill out. Those making 20 or more contacts will get a certificate.

Directions to Stars and Stripes: Take Highway 25 south to Bloomfield. The museum is on the right hand side before the cemetery.

There will be a potluck supper at about 7pm on Friday evening and on Saturday, there will be a swap meet usually at about 9 or 10 am for those with items to swap. We will probably close down transmissions between midnight Friday and 6am Saturday and full breakdown will be at about noon on Saturday. Campers are welcome.

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that from this last Technicians Class 4 students took the exam and all passed and 2 of those also took the General Class exam and passed. Congratulations to those new Hams!

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported on Skywarn and stated that there has not been much activity this month but that we are approaching the peak time for severe weather so be prepared.

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reported that Barry Doyle, ACØWL, is now our newest VE. Congratulations, Barry!

Phil Nash, ACØIB, reported that the April ARES meeting had to change their meeting place at the last minute due to a conflict in scheduling and ended up at the Jackson Park. But they had a good meeting anyway.

EOC Coordinator Dick Knaup, KDØBSP, reported that there will be a State Wide Drill on October 17th and a “Table top” drill in September at Three Rivers in Poplar Bluff. This will be a Terrorist attack simulation with full roll play. He will need a couple people to help with this.

He also reported that on April 30th and May 1st there was a problem with someone messing with the EOC frequencies. Tom Keene, WX9N, used his directional equipment to locate the source and they let it be known that any further activity of this manner will result in prosecution. This would involve contacting the FCC if it happens again.

Field Day will be on June 23 to 24 at Klause Park beginning at 1 pm on the 23rd. We will have use of the entire park this year and Mr. Purcell has given the okay for setting up a tent to rest in but not actually “camp” in. EOC Coordinator Dick Knaup, KDØBSP, will have the EOC van for us to use. The Special Events group will need to organize this including radios, antennas and other supplies needed. There is usually a potluck on Saturday night.

We will be pushing for points again this year. Last year our club made it in the ARRL magazine. Barry suggested that we purchase “Do Not Cross” tape to make our area safer.

We had 2 visitors this evening: Scott Fornkohl from the K-9 Search and Rescue Team and Martin Lingle, NØML, who is looking into becoming a member.

New Business

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, and Ron Doughty, KØMAJ have taken radios out to the Missouri Veterans Home to work with veterans. The Veterans Home is thinking of getting a ham station for those living there as there are many interested in it. Ron has stated that he will make a \$500 donation for them to get a station. Barry Doyle, ACØWL, may conduct a class out there next fall. If you are interested in donating, let Ernie or Ron know. Jodie Rouse, KDØLDE, stated that the Environmental Care should be involved and she will work on this to see what can be done to get a station out there. All agreed this is something that we want to support.

Jodie Rouse, KDØLDE, asked if the hams would like to help with the Girl Scouts Day Camp and provide a hands-on demonstration on Wednesday, July 11th. The day camp will go from 6:30 to 8 pm at the Jackson City Park. Jodie is hoping to have a “treasure hunt/fox hunt” for the girls to participate in. They will need hand held devices and directional equipment. We had about 5 volunteer to help with this event.

The March meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 2019.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Brewington, KDØJMO, Secretary, SEMO ARC