

# Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of November 6, 2023

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, November 6, 2023, at 1830 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 24 members and 3 first-time guests, Chris Knowlton, KFØNSO, Joe Killian, KFØNXD, and Jim Cooper, KBØVXW.

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

Patty also read the Treasurer's report for Judy Bradley, KCØWXS. She reported a beginning balance of \$20,350.99. She wrote one check in the amount of \$326.90 to Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, for reimbursement for the noise finder, attenuator, and frequency loops, and she deposited \$75 in membership fees, leaving a balance of \$20,099.09.

## **Old Business**

Barry Doyle, ACØWL, reported that there were four ARES nets in October, totaling 9.5 hours, and there were no Skywarn nets. On Sunday, November 5, he visited the 146.685 repeater site and performed the normal tests on the 440.200 and 146.685 repeaters, both of which were operating normally. He ran the generator for 25 minutes; its fuel level was at 61%, which is equal to about 12 days of run time.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, received no report from OEM Director Sam Herndon.

## **New Business**

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, exhibited the RF noise finder that arrived. He has put it together but has not attempted to operate it yet. A receiver with an S-meter is needed for the noise finder, but he has one that he would be happy to loan to anyone who needs it. We have loops up to 16 MHz, and this will be a useful tool for 80, 40, and 20 meters.

Ernie also reported that the Kirkwood hamfest was an excellent one this year, and there was a good representation from our area at the event: Russell Goss, KD9FAL, Barry Doyle, ACØWL, Ed Myers, ADØWN, Trey Chiles, KDØLMK, Karla Kiefner, KFØNYF, Jim Cooper, KBØVXW, Kirk Barks, NØKBE, Andy Siebert, KFØJGD, and Chris Knowlton, KFØNSO. The first hamfest of 2024 is Winterfest in Collinsville, Illinois, on January 27, which he considers the best one in this part of the country. The three biggest hamfests in the U.S. are the Dayton (Xenia), Ohio; Orlando, Florida; and Huntsville, Alabama hamfests.

Ed Myers, ADØWN, announced a special event being held this week for the Air Force MARS 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There are ten 1x1 contacts, one for each district, and two bonus stations, one at the Pentagon and one at Travis Air Force Base. Anyone interested may find details by looking up W1A on QRZ.com, and a certificate may be requested at the end of the special event.

Ed also mentioned that many new parks have been added to the POTA list. Perry County has three new ones, and there are nine new parks between here and St. Louis.

Ed reminded everyone that our annual Christmas party will be held on Saturday, December 2, at BG's Deli, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. For those who wish to be a part of the gift exchange, remember that it should be below the \$10 range. A vote was taken on whether to go with a short menu that would cost \$15, including drinks, or whether to go with the street menu. The street menu was chosen.

Ballots were passed out to all members to vote for the 2023 Ham of the Year. The recipient will be announced at the Christmas party.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, commented on a new book for POTA activators and hunters. Called *The Parks on the Air Book*, it can be purchased from the ARRL for \$22.95 or for the ARRL Member price of \$19.95.

Larry also noted that no decision has yet been made by the FCC regarding the Shortwave Modernization Coalition's petition to allow data communications on multiple bands within the HF 2 – 25 MHz range with up to 20 KW.

Larry read a notice from the ARRL regarding the FCC's consideration of removing outdated symbol rate restrictions on digital modes, which limits the speed at which we can transmit. The FCC would replace the current HF restrictions with a 2.8 kHz bandwidth limit. These changes are supported by many state emergency management officials. It appears that the FCC still takes amateur radio seriously as part of the emergency communication system; this is a good thing.

Neal LaVanchy, ACØUT, announced that We the People will be meeting at Delmonico's on Tuesday, November 7, at 5 p.m., and SEMOARC will be represented. Neal will give a history of amateur radio; Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, will be talking about SEMOARC and its activities; and Barry Doyle, ACØWL, will be presenting Skywarn and weather-related issues. Neal would be pleased to have as many club members as possible come to the meeting to help answer questions regarding all the various aspects of ham radio.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, reminded everyone that we will hold the 2024 election of officers at the December meeting.

Larry also announced that 2024 dues are due.

Larry reminded everyone that our next club meeting will be held on Monday, December 4.

The November meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1922.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU  
Secretary, SEMOARC