

Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of October 7, 2024

The monthly meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was called to order on Monday, October 7, 2024, at 1830 by President Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, with 19 members and 2 guests present. Guests were Mia Pohlman and Herb Tate, AA9GC.

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 \$20,390.74 She deposited \$28 for one membership and one club patch, and she wrote one check in the amount of \$2284.28 to Kirk Barks, WTØU, as reimbursement for our repeater control package, leaving a balance of \$18,134.46.

Old Business

There was no report from the EOC.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, read the ARES report from Barry Doyle, ACØWL. Two ARES nets were held in September, totaling 7 man hours, and there were no Skywarn nets. Repeater maintenance on the 146.685 repeater totaled 11.5 man hours, for a grand total of 18.5 man hours reported for ARES.

Barry performed maintenance on the 146.685 repeater. The UPS dropped to 73 minutes of power during the 3-minute key down test. The UPS will shut off when the battery is exhausted, and then the deep cycle battery will take over for approximately 2 days. Barry ran the generator for 43 minutes; the fuel level was at 87% which will allow the generator to run for about 18 days.

New Business

Ernie Chiles, WØRMS, reported on our September 21 fox hunt at the Jackson City Park. We had 9 hunters and 5 support personnel, and everyone had a great time and enjoyed the great desserts. The first fox was found in only 30 minutes; the winning team was Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, Larry Rickman, KDØLBL, Art Myracle, KFØOYW, Trey Chiles, KDØLMK, and Dawn Brown. Our next fox hunt will be held next spring unless there is any interest in a winter fox hunt.

Ernie also announced that the next hamfest is at Collinsville, Illinois, on January 18, 2025.

Patty Chiles, ACØCU, reported that testing should be able to continue into 2025 without having to do online-only testing. She has verified her call sign as VEC; at this time, it doesn't appear that anyone but the VEC has to do the same. She will be able to continue using paper test booklets, but she is awaiting a response from the ARRL to clarify whether they have to be printed from their website since she already has all the booklets in stock.

Kirk Barks, WTØU, reported that he has received our new Kenwood repeater control package and has it set up on his workbench on a dummy load. It is set on a 25W continuous duty cycle – 45W is available – to allow the batteries to last longer. He has been programming messages and announcements. There is still one part en route, and when it arrives it will quickly be put on line.

Kirk has also volunteered to do a Chirp demonstration at our November meeting. Chirp is a tool for programming radios and can be downloaded on your computer.

Larry Mohundro, KEØTGI, asked if club members would be interested in holding more of these demonstrations at our meetings, and the general consensus was an enthusiastic Yes.

Russell Goss, KD9FAL, announced that Southeast Missouri State University is holding their homecoming parade on Saturday, October 26. Volunteers are needed at Capaha Park from 6:30 to 11 a.m. to help park floats and get them organized for the parade. Any help would be appreciated.

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

The October meeting of the Southeast Missouri Amateur Radio Club was adjourned at 1912.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Chiles, ACØCU
Secretary, SEMOARC