



Minutes of the
Mid-MO Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Jefferson City, MO

Meeting of: February 12, 2009

Called to order by: President Mike Miller (WAØZOG)

In attendance: AF6GT, K9ZTV, KAØDLD, KAØI, KBØQHZ, KC7ARR, KCØLZG, KCØPET, KCØUZA, KDØAJF, KDØBPP, KDØDDY, KDØDSJ, KDØFAS, KIØY, KMØS, NØEAX, NØKSF, NØSS, NØTKN, NØVAU, NMØX, W4RK, WØESE, WA2KBZ, WAØTIC, WAØZOG, WBØAQV, WBØKXP, WBØPZR, WBØS, Matthew Griffin, Stephen Hick

Previous Meeting Minutes (presented & approved):

Secretary-Treasurer's Report:

Current Bank Balance: \$6,916.32

The new MMARC Membership form was introduced. This form will be used to apply for membership or renewal, and also to update information to keep the membership roster up to date. The forms will be available at each meeting and will also be placed on the MMARC website as a fill-in .pdf document. The forms can be mailed to the Secretary-Treasurer or turned in to an officer at a club meeting or event.

A copy of the latest roster list was going to be presented but was forgotten. In lieu of that, an email will be sent to the addresses currently on file reminding those members who may be in arrears with club dues.

Old business

2-meter net report:

Jan 14	KCØLZG	13 (w/ 2 on emergency power)
Jan 21	NØZH	20
Jan 28	NØVAU	9
Feb 4	KBØQHZ	10
Feb 11	KCØPET	14

2-meter net controllers:

Feb 18	WØESE
Feb 25	KAØI
Mar 4	KBØQHZ
Mar 11	NØVAU

2-meter Repeater report: When the weather is warm, the repeater works well. During cold weather, however, that is not the case. There is 20-30dB of receive sensitivity loss. Tom spoke with Tim to find a time to work on the problem, but nothing has been set at this point.

Digipeater report: NØSS made an evaluation which was confirmed by NØKSF. A different radio will be needed either through purchase or donation. If all else fails, NØSS may have something that will work. Discussion of purchasing a new radio followed, but this was not deemed practical should it take another lightning strike. Insurance was also brought up, but the premiums could easily cost more than the radio should a replacement be needed. The best bet is to find a decent used radio inexpensively or through a donation.

Missouri Emergency Packet Network (MEPN): No change. The digital transition has been postponed until June. If Channel 2 decides to continue to convert to digital on February 17th as originally scheduled the interference problems should subside.

Emergency Coordinator's report: KBØQHZ reports that all liaison positions have been filled and there are even extra people available to assist. There may be some exercises coming up in the next few months, but nothing is confirmed at this point.

A Level 1 ARRL Communications class is being discussed to possibly be put on by KCØCZI in the near future depending on his availability.

Antenna improvements at the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) were inquired upon and a discussion followed regarding the current antenna situation. There are several antennas currently installed and also several options for improvement.

CW Class: The No Speed class has now progressed to a Slow Speed class. There is confusion as to who is having more fun: the instructors or the students. New students are still welcome to attend. This class meets after breakfast at 9am.

The Advanced Class is doing well and receiving has been set aside to now concentrate on sending. Many would send with Farnsworth spacing but this is being worked on so that complete words are sent with any spacing between individual words rather than letters. This class meets before breakfast at 6:45am. Both classes meet every Saturday morning at Mel's Country Café.

Department of Health & Human Services (DHSS) Class: The class has been going great and the students are doing well. The test session will take place next week on February 18th and KDØDDY has stated that ALL students will pass the exam!

Storm Spotting Class: Several members attended the Cole County class. NØVAU reminded everyone to register early to be an eSpotter with the National Weather Service online reporting system and not to wait until you are ready to make a report.

Another class will take place in Columbia on February 26th. Osage County will have a class in Linn on March 5th.

NØVAU mentioned that anyone who would like to order Skywarn bumper stickers can contact him to place a combined order. Due to recent budget cuts new stickers are not being made.

Mayor's Run for Reading: Event will be held on Saturday, April 18th from 8am to 10am. The location will be the same as last year starting downtown at the Library. Volunteers are requested for providing communications support for the event.

Training Committee: KMØS is looking to put a committee together to assist the club with upgrading. This committee could also arrange other types of training. W4RK moved that the club approve the proposal to form the committee and NØTKN seconded. Motion carried. The initial committee members will consist of KDØDDY, KCØZLB, KCØPET, and KMØS. The club could furnish a representative (perhaps one of the officers) to sit in on the meetings.

The first training class to be considered is an upgrade class for those wishing to upgrade to General. This would happen around late March or early April.

Program Suggestions for Upcoming Year: WAØZOG called for any ideas for programs that were not mentioned at the last meeting. Some of the additional suggestions included:

Lightning Protection/RF Grounding – To be presented by WA2KBZ

Presentation on Field Day Preparedness / Safety in Field Day Operating

Presentation on Flight of the Bumblebees / Portable QRP Operations

New business

New ham donation: WA2KBZ donated an issue of QST and a copy of HF Radio to the newest ham in our club which went to KDØFAS.

House Bill 26: WBØS passed along information from KØKY's Section News summary regarding the use of cell phones while driving. Currently this bill does not provide an exception for ham radio. KDØDDY offered to add this to the tracking list that her office maintains to positively influence legislators.

Abbreviations in Minutes: KDØFAS suggested that the meeting minutes should explain some of the acronyms that are used to avoid confusion by newer members.

Announcements:

Chili Cook-off: The 9th Annual MMARC Chili Cook-off will be held on February 28, 2009 from 5pm to 9pm at the residence of NØSS and KØRPH. Please contact Tom or Jeri to coordinate what you will be bringing.

Presentation: None

Respectfully submitted: Mark Eberle (KIØY), Secretary-Treasurer.

Visit the MMARC web page at: <http://www.mmccs.com/mmARC>