



AMATEUR RADIO SERVING THE PUBLIC

CMRA Newsletter

P.O. Box 283 Columbia, MO 65205

July 1989

President George Hessenbruch III, NØIMS
Vice-President Doug Turner, NØIKD
Recording Secretary Dale Huffington, AEØS
Treasurer Earl Felten, KAØIBS
Corresponding Secretary Jesse Bowen, WMØY
Board Member-at-Large Charlie Turner, WAØR

WDØDVG
Repeater
146.16/.76
Antenna atop
Paquin Towers
at 1023 ft. ASL

Meeting Minutes

The June meeting was held on the 13th, with George, NØIMS, presiding. We had what may have been the highest attendance at a regular meeting so far this year. Twenty-one new members have joined since the first of the year and several old members have returned recently, filling the meetings and making them even more rewarding than before. Welcome new members as well as "old" ones! (A roster of CMRA members is being prepared for distribution at a meeting-Ed.)

Several topics of discussion during the meeting are subjects of separate articles this month, so what follows is mostly an outline of the business meeting.

New members Six membership applications were voted on and approved. Welcome to new members:

Donald Elderbrook, KAØBOM; Gene Imbler, NØKGX; Willis Peery, KBØCZF; Mike Smith, NØIFE; James Taylor, KEØVD; and Ralph Turner, N5AMR.

Four membership applications were received and will be voted on at the July meeting: Mike Baker (call pending); Scott Herin, KBØEJY/KT; Jim Lawler (call pending); and Bob Pringle, WØDYZ. Mike, Jim, and Scott all obtained licenses or upgraded at the Hamfest VE exam session; congratulations!

Reports Jim, KA9HJP, reported on the damage suffered by the repeater during the storm of June 12. Ben, KØPCK, described the results of the Hamfest in terms of both club finances and the reactions of attendees. Ben also reported the results of preliminary negotiations to obtain the same site for next year. John, NDØN, summarized the results of the VE exam sessions held during the Hamfest.

Change in Dues Structure The changes in the bylaws relating to club dues, described in last month's newsletter, were approved. To summarize, dues will

rise to \$15 next year, family memberships will be \$20, and a new Sponsor class of membership for businesses or other organizations will be created. No new life memberships will be offered.

Plans NØIMS lined up volunteers to test emergency communications at Boone Hospital on June 17th. NDØN described the CMRA plans for Field Day.

Donation Mac, K4CHS, related that L&B Electronics, in Eldon, donated a Transitrapp to the club and he requested we express our thanks to them.

Program After the business meeting, members were invited to the club station to become familiar with its location, equipment, and capabilities.

Repeater Takes Hit

The WDØDVG repeater was knocked off the air near the beginning of the thunderstorm on June 12. Initial inspection by K4CHS and KA9HJP revealed that a probable power surge caused serious damage to the controller. The repeater was returned to the air the next day minus the amenities such as autopatch, courtesy tone, and voice IDs. The controller was returned to the manufacturer for repair. KA9HJP reported on CMEN June 28 that the controller is back but is still missing one chip that was out of stock. The controller should be back in service by the week of July 3, but the amount of reprogramming that will be required is not yet known.

Hamfest a Success

Now for the good news. The Columbia Hamfest, held June 10 at the Midway Expo Center, was a success by several measures. Financially, the Hamfest did well enough to cover the club's expenses plus produce a net income about three times that of last year. The income produced will go a long way toward replac-

nishing our club treasury which had been severely taxed over the past year by Hamfest expenses, general operating expenses, and special equipment purchases.

Attendance was strong and both the commercial exhibitor areas and the flea market spaces were well filled. Thanks are due the CMRA members who contributed many hours of their time selling tickets, parking cars, negotiating space assignments with flea marketers, providing talk-in information, and making PA announcements. The CMRA also owes a sincere expression of thanks to the Hamfest committee: NØFPI, KØPCK, AEØS, KBØCDS, and KAØIBS.

The feedback from out-of-town visitors was quite positive. This bodes well for the word-of-mouth advertising we might expect for next year's Hamfest. The location at the Midway Expo Center had several advantages, and once again the weather cooperated.

KØPCK discussed at the June meeting the tentative negotiations he has already started for next year. The club voted to try for a May 13, 1990 date for Columbia Hamfest '90 at the same location.

Hamfest VE Exam Session

NDØN, VE exam coordinator, reports that 23 people took ARRL/VEC license exams during the Hamfest exam session. Of the 41 written and code exam elements administered, 27 elements were passed, for a success rate (con. page 2)

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Exams (con.)

of 67%, right at the national average. At least one element was passed by 18 of the people testing. The session produced 16 upgrades or new licenses: 2 Extra Class, 2 Advanced, 1 General, 8 Tech, and 3 Novice. Participating VEs were NØBEF, WMØH, AEØS, WMØY, and WNØZ. A special thanks to Ann, WBØTEG, who helped with the many piles of paperwork.

ARRL Field Day 1989

Although not as many people participated in the CMRA Field Day this year, last year's effort was exceeded in several ways: there were more QSOs, more feet of wire in the air, more local media publicity, and the weather was more reasonable.

Like last year, two separate stations were run, both totally battery powered. A QRP (5W output) CW station was operated in class 1A as NDØN. Using a full-wavelength vertical loop and a folded dipole with vertical reflector, 358 contacts were made, for a score with bonus points of 4180. This is about 50 QSOs and 600 points higher than last year.

The SSB station also operated 1A under the call WAØR. It used an all-band dipole fed with ladder line and 100W output to make 321 QSOs.

CMRA received publicity for Field Day from KMIZ television on the Saturday 10 o'clock news as well as announcements or news items on radio stations KBIA and KFRU. The Columbia Tribune ran a summary of the planned Field Day activities on the Thursday before the event.

Major organizers of Field Day this year were NDØN, NØIKD, and KAØIBS. Others operating or logging were KBØCDS, KBØEJY, NØFPI, WBØGFV, WMØH, WBØLDJ, KAØNBM, WAØR, AEØS, WMØY, and Jim Lawler. Dinner Saturday evening was expertly grilled by KAØIBS. WBØTEG provided breakfast Sunday morning, saving the crew that lasted through the night. Visitors to the Field Day site at Rock Bridge State Park included NUØT and KA9HJP. *(If any participants have been omitted, please notify me for inclusion in a later issue-Ed.)*

Central Missouri Emergency Net

The Central Missouri Emergency Net (CMEN) had a busy June. Altogether there were seven sessions, 133 check-ins, and one piece of traffic handled. Included in this total are two sessions called in response to severe weather in the area.

On June 12, severe lightening and thunderstorms moved into the Columbia area from the north. A funnel cloud was reported to the National Weather service by a spotter and a Tornado Warning was issued. A power surge knocked the WDØDVG repeater off the air but operation shifted smoothly to the K4CHS .61 machine and CMEN was activated. The net was called by WBØTEG and 25 hams checked in. CMEN monitored the track of the heavy rains and lightening through the area. Fortunately, only relatively minor damage resulted from the lightening.

CMEN was again activated the evening of June 26 in response to a line of rapidly

moving thunderstorms that caused power losses in areas north of Columbia and flooding in the Centralia area. The net was directed by KØPCK and there were 26 check-ins.

CMEN meets for practice every Wednesday evening at 9:00 local time on the WDØDVG repeater. All area hams are invited to check in for handling traffic or for announcements relating to local amateur radio activities. Net manager is Ben, KØPCK.

Missouri Section Manager

Ben Smith, KØPCK, is ending his term as ARRL Missouri Section Manager. Ben deserves hearty congratulations for his fine job as SM, a sentiment echoed by many around the state. Ben's successor is Bill McGrannahan, KØORB, of Kansas City. His address is 4826 Jarboe St., Kansas City, MO 64112. Congratulations to Bill on his election as SM.

July Meeting

The July meeting of the CMRA will be on Tuesday, July 11, at 7:00 pm in the Community Meeting Room at the Boone Electric Cooperative, 1413 Range Line St. Following the business meeting, the 29 minute ARRL production *Oscar and the Ham* will be presented (subject to availability).

Reminder: If you are a club member and have yet to pay your 1989 dues, you are not supporting club activities such as this newsletter. You may pay dues at meetings or by mail to the club address.

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