



AMATEUR RADIO SERVING THE PUBLIC

CMRA Newsletter

P.O. Box 283 Columbia, MO 65205

December 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

President George Hessenbruch, NØIMS, presided over the November meeting. Following the business meeting, John Turner, NDØN, gave an informative presentation on chasing DX and getting those rare QSLs.

Liability insurance The club's liability insurance premium is due this time of year and approval was given to pay it. Although a significant expense, it was pointed out that our premium for an entire year is much less than would be required for special coverage of our Hamfest, which our policy also covers.

Repeater report Our new antenna has arrived and has been installed. It is a Cell Wave Stationmaster with 5.8 dB gain over a 1/4 wavelength vertical and a 1.9 MHz bandwidth. The old antenna was a Phelps-Dodge (forerunner of Cell Wave) Super Stationmaster and had 4.8 dB gain and a bandwidth of 4 MHz. Our new receiver is ready for installation, and Mac McKenzie, K4CHS, plans to install it soon. He will also have the cavities checked for damage and tuned. George noted that the grounding system installed by Mac when the repeater was moved probably saved the repeater from even worse damage. Thanks are due the many who have helped with the repeater and antenna, including K4CHS, NUØT, KA9HJP, NØLBA, KSØI, KBØDUH, and KFØGE.

Hamfest update ARRL approval has been received for our Hamfest on May 12, 1990, at the Midway Expo Center. Ben Smith, KØPCK, reported that a mailing for distributors is planned for December and a general mailing to amateurs will be made in early April.

Nominating committee The nominating committee for next year's officers was elected. The Nominating Committee will consist of George (NØIMS), Jess Lyons (WXØK), Mac (K4CHS), John Turner (NDØN), and Jesse Bowen (WMØY). Contact one of these members if you would like to serve as a club officer during 1990. Nominations for officers will also be accepted from the floor at the Jan. meeting. The positions to be filled are: President (presides over meetings and represents the club to the community); Vice-President (arranges programs and refreshments at meetings); Recording Secretary (records and types club minutes); Treasurer (handles club finances); Corresponding Secretary (writes the club newsletter); and a Member-at-Large (member of the Executive Board, along with the other officers).

Farewell, KA9HJP! Jim Jewell is leaving the Columbia area to reside in Spiro, OK. Mac expressed his appreciation to Jim for his many contributions to the club. Jim served as the Technical Committee Chairman in recent years, and is a former club President. CUL es 73!

Magnetic signs CMRA customized magnetic signs to fit on car doors are now available. These signs are 19" X 8" and are fully magnetic. They say "Amateur Radio Communications" in 1 1/2 inch letters, and have 4 inch CMRA and ARES logos. They also have room for further personalization with your call sign using vinyl adhesive letters. The signs are available for \$12 each from Jesse, WMØY.

New member A membership application was received last month from Gordon Johnston, KBØDBX, of Warrenton. He was unanimously voted to membership. Welcome to the club, Gordon!

New calls and licenses New calls around town include KFØGE (Earl Felten, ex-KAØIBS) and WYØB (Jim Lawler, ex-NØKVO). At the ARRL/VEC exam session following the Nov. meeting, Brian Bowman, WDØHBG, upgraded to Advanced class. Congratulations!

Generator Safety

Many amateurs have emergency power of some type available. The recent disasters related to Hurricane Hugo and the Northern California earthquake included injuries and fatalities related to back-up power systems. Thanks to Don, NUØT, for collecting the following information that we should keep in mind. -JB

When Hurricane Hugo struck Puerto Rico, thousands of people escaped injury because of timely warnings and evacuation. However, about 85% of the island was without power because of utility damage. The hazards of working with downed power lines were unfortunately demonstrated by six fatal electrocutions. At least two of the fatalities resulted from "feed-back" current from portable emergency generators connected to equipment that was still on the utility lines. Whenever a portable generator is used, the energized circuits must be isolated from the commercial mains to protect unsuspecting utility workers. If isolation is impractical, run adequately-rated extension cords

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directly to the equipment being supplied with power.

During the aftermath of the October California earthquake, at one person died of carbon monoxide poisoning from an emergency generator.

Both of these incidents point out the necessity of safety awareness during portable generator use, especially when seldom-used equipment is employed.

Field Day Results

The 1989 Field Day results were in the Nov. *QST*. The CMRA CW/QRP station, NDØN, made quite a respectable showing. Of 26 stations in the 1A-Battery class, we placed 8th. When combined with all 1A stations, we were 18th out of 241. It's not too early to start thinking about next year's effort, so plan

to join the CMRA Field Day team as operator, logger, or supporter for the CW or phone station. There's still plenty of time to get that fist or voice in shape for Field Day 1990, the last weekend in June.

December Meeting

In keeping with the CMRA tradition, the December meeting will be a holiday celebration for club members and their families. We will meet for dinner at the Golden Corral restaurant at 7:00 pm on Dec. 12. No reservations are needed. All are welcome. Hope to see you there, and Happy Holidays!

CMEN Report

CMEN held five practice sessions in Nov. The Central Missouri Emergency

Net meets for practice each Wed. at 9 pm on 146.16/.76. Net manager is Ben Smith, KØPCK. All hams are welcome.

VEC Exams

Because of the Holiday celebration, CMRA will not sponsor ARRL/VEC exams in December. However, exams are planned for all written and code elements following the Jan. 9 club meeting at the Boone Electric Coop. For more information, contact John, NDØN, at 657-2391.

Tower Worker Needed

Ken Hegstad, KØUD, needs to have some tower work done. He will pay or negotiate in exchange for equipment he wants to remove from the tower. Contact Ken at 445-7197.

Central Missouri Radio Association

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