



AMATEUR RADIO SERVING THE PUBLIC

# CMRA Newsletter

P.O. Box 283 Columbia, MO 65205

June 1990

**President** Jesse Bowen, WMØY  
**Vice-President** Mike Harmon, WBØLDJ  
**Recording Secretary** Roger Young, NØJZC  
**Corresponding Secretary** Dale Huffington, AEØS  
**Treasurer** Earl Felten, KFØGE  
**Board Member-at-Large** Don Blendin, NUØT

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

## May Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 P.M. by President Jesse Bowen, WMØY, who read the minutes of the April meeting. Treasurer Earl Felten, KFØGE, reported on the past two months. Both reports were approved as read.

**Repeater** Mike Baker, NØLBA, reported the talking S-meter is temporarily disconnected during repairs on the intermittent with the digit "9".

## Hamfest Results

The hamfest committee, led by Ben Smith, KPØCK, with Don Campbell, KBØCDS and his team handling the flea market and Earl Felten, KFØGE, and his team handling admission and parking, moved a large crowd smoothly. The experience gained last year was evident, with exhibitors and attendees commenting on improvements in ease of set-up, interesting items offered for sale, and quick problem solving. The club is to be congratulated on the high level of participation by the members. Ben spoke particularly of the enthusiasm and interest shown by club members working at the hamfest.

**Field Day Reminder** John Turner, NDØN, noted it will be on June 23 and 24 at the Rockbridge State Park site used last year. CMRA is planning a Saturday afternoon picnic for members, family and friends. Check with the committee at the June meeting for final word.

**Public Service** Doug Turner, NØIKD, with WYØB, KFØKC, NØBA, KFØGE, and NDØN provided communications for the Annual Tryathletes Bike Race on April 28th.

**Membership** Charles W. Mitchell, Jr. and Jack Crutchfield, KBØFQC, were unanimously elected to membership in the Central Missouri Radio Association.

## VE Session

Following the May meeting there was a VE session conducted by John, NDØN, Jesse, WMØY, Jesse Lyons, WXØK, and Dewey Bennet, WMØH. Seven people took tests, eight elements were taken and four were passed. Upgrades were as follows: Mary Horn, KBØECV-general, Milton Prather, KBØECV-advanced; Terry Huskey, -novice. Congratulations!

At the Hamfest there was a VE session conducted by John, NDØN, Jesse, WMØY, Jesse Lyons, WXØK, Dewey Bennet, WMØH, Don Blendin, NUØT, Sam Fischer, NZØF, George Henley, WA7GSN, and Dale Huffington, AEØS. Approximately 30 people took test elements, with normal passing rates. Upgrades from Extra class through novice were successfully completed. A full listing of elements taken and upgrades received will be included in next month's newsletter.

**Vec Exams** The CMRA will offer ARRL/VEC exams for all written elements following the June meeting at the Boone Electric Coop. If you have questions about study materials or how to get started, call John Turner, NDØN (657-2391) or Jesse Bowen, WMØY (474-7674).

## President's Corner

Though we often feel otherwise, use of the radio frequencies allotted to Amateur Radio is a privilege and not a right. How we use, or abuse, the privilege is a factor in how we are perceived by the general public as well as by the FCC. Some of the operating procedures we hear on HF or the repeater might be classified as

merely "sloppy" and not actual abuse. But good operating procedures have been developed over the years in response to the need for fast and accurate communications and respect for other hams. This is one way we distinguish ourselves from untrained operators such as many of those found on Citizens Band frequencies.

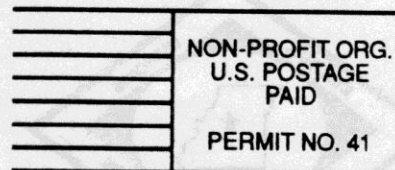
As amateur radio operators, we seek to portray ourselves as trained, professional-level communicators. For this reason, use of CB phrases and "10" signals should be completely avoided. We should also resist unnecessary or imprecise phrases such as "for ID", "destinated", or "on the side", and terms like "73s" or "seventy-thirds" instead of just "73".

An important function of our club is to help educate newcomers by nurturing and directing their enthusiasm. Education, like our hobby, is a two-way process. Experienced and capable operators must be willing to offer encouragement and feedback. On the other hand, those new to amateur radio must be willing to accept advice and suggestions. Since a large part of Amateur Radio is learned on the air and can't be found in a license manual, it is clear that a license grants access so that education can continue.

We occasionally run across more serious infractions that cross over the line into illegal operation. The FCC, by its actions, has indicated that Amateur Radio must help police itself or face consequences in the way of sanctions or restrictive rulings. The repeater trustee and our club, as sponsors of the CMRA repeater, also have a legal responsibility to insure that all repeater operation obeys FCC regulations. This is why obscene or profane language of any kind

**Central Missouri  
Radio Association**

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and all business communications are absolutely prohibited on our repeater. As a club, our self-policing activities can take the form of correction and education when violations of regulations or good operating practice occur. If we don't act as a club and an amateur radio community to direct the course of Amateur Radio, the FCC will. The results will probably satisfy few of us.

**Earthquake Preparedness**

Jesse Barnhart, NØLCW, attended an Earthquake Preparedness Seminar hosted by Monsanto in St. Louis.

A sampling of the information he passed on: The largest evacuation in U.S. history was near Dayton, Ohio, when a tanker overturned. 50,000 people were affected, with 15,000 needing housing. Officials from local, county, and state law enforcement agencies, EPA, and others were involved, all using different frequencies with no coordination. 250 amateur radio operators from 20 different clubs came in and provided coordinated communications for 99 hours. Roger Volk, KØGOB, presented the section on using amateur radio for emergency communication. He recommended that planners get hams involved. Jesse, NØLCW, quoted from one publication,

**Critical Times:** "Most geologists feel that there is enough energy currently stored in the New Madrid seismic area to produce an earthquake of at least 7.4. There are 200 measurable earthquakes per year in the central U.S.

Other comments dealt with simple, practical ways to deal with breakage, and how to meet communications needs. A hospital had no internal or external phones so hams brought in a generator and handhelds to provide internal, floor-to-floor communication as well as outside access.

Jesse, NØLCW, or George Hessenbruch, NØIMS, emergency communications coordinator for the club have more information and can direct you to publications from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA).

The CMRA Newsletter is published monthly by the Central Missouri Radio Association. To be included in the mailing list or to submit informational, editorial, or technical articles, contact Dale Huffington, AEØS, at 2709 Cimarron Drive, Columbia MO 65203 (875-6170). Equipment ads by individuals can be included on a space-available basis.

**CMEN Report** In May, the Central Missouri Emergency Net held 6 sessions with 103 check-ins. The net meets every Wednesday at 9 pm on 146.16/76 to handle traffic and practice. Net manager is Ben Smith, KØPCK. All hams are welcome.

**June Meeting**

The next club meeting will be on June 12 at 7:00 in the Community Meeting Room of the Boone County Electric Cooperative, 1413 Rangeline Road. The program will be on traffic handling - voice, cw, and packet. John Turner, NDØN, and Ann Guptill, WBØTEG will present the program.