



AMATEUR RADIO SERVING THE PUBLIC

# THE CMRA **SQUELCH TALE**

Newsletter of the Central Missouri Radio Association (a Not-for-profit Missouri Corporation), PO Box 283, Columbia, MO 65205

September 1991

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**Corresponding Secretary**  
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**Member-at-Large**

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Jim Lawler, WYØB  
Bill Turner, KFØKC  
Brian Thomas, NØLXP  
Doug Turner, NØIKD  
Scott Herin, NØKYW

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## Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Dale Huffington, AEØS. There were 34 members and guests in attendance.

**New Call Signs** Introductions showed that several new licenses have been received: Lori Burnett is NØOSJ, Charles Cheek is NØOSS, Joe Muscato is KBØJIQ, and Tom Taylor is NØOUT.

**Treasurer's Report** Doug Turner, NØIKD, delivered the Treasurer's report. Major bills paid last month included the club's equipment insurance, purchased through the ARRL. In addition, \$2500 was placed in a short-term CD.

**Club station** Dan Nicholson, NØFPE, reported that the club station HF antenna was assembled after cleaning with the help of about a dozen club members. With NØIKD's assistance, use of the Fire Department ladder truck was arranged to install the antenna on the tower at the Red Cross building on Saturday, August 17, at 2:00 pm.

**Bikathon** Wayland "Mac" McKenzie, K4CHS, announced that Dan Solomon, NØEIR, contacted him about the St. Louis MS150 Bikathon. They may need help for their event on September 8.

**Hamfest 1992** Mac has also agreed to act as the Hamfest Chairman for the 1992 Columbia Hamfest. Several members of the Hamfest Committee appointed by President Dale Huffington met in July and decided to contact the appropriate officials about the possibility of holding the Hamfest at the Hearnes Center. The response was favorable, and a contract is currently being negotiated. A date has not yet been set. Mac related details about the arrangement being worked out. The response of the club seemed positive, with many advantages of such a move identified and few disadvantages evident. Mac made a motion that we move the Hamfest

to the Hearnes Center. After discussion, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

**Membership** Applications received last month were voted on and all were accepted. New members are: Mel Casteel, WAØJSG; Perry Ogletree, NØNMC; Thomas Taylor, NØOUT; and Dan Kriesel, NØNMA. Membership applications were received at the meeting from: Donna Swartz, KBØJGK, of Columbia; Gary LaForce, of Hallsville; and Charles Cheek, NØOSS, of Rocheport.

**Program** After the business meeting was then adjourned, refreshments were available. The evening's program was led by Jim Lawler, WYØB, and Dan Nicholson, NØFPE. The topic was the operation of contests from the club station after the HF antenna is installed. It was proposed that the North American SSB Sprint, scheduled for September 14, be used as a shake-down run to assess interest in the operation of contests by club members.

## ARRL Offers "Tech Plus" Database to FCC

Responding to a problem identified at this year's national conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (VECs), the ARRL has offered to maintain a database of Technician licensees who have passed a Morse code examination. The FCC is not maintaining a file of such information at this time, but does want VECs to report the names and call signs of "Technician Plus CSCE Class" operators who possess a Certificate of Successful Completion of Examination (CSCE) for a Morse code element.

Unlike Technicians who have passed only a written examination, these licensees have Novice HF privileges, including SSB

use on 10 meters.

To solve the problem of funding the Technician Plus database, ARRL has offered to maintain the database on its own computer at no cost to participating VECs, forwarding the information to the FCC as required. ARRL already has a copy of the FCC amateur licensee database on its computer, and receives periodic updates. (*The ARRL Letter*)

## CMEN

The Central Missouri Radio Association meets every Wednesday evening at 2100 local time to practice emergency net procedures, handle traffic, and make announcements to area hams. For further information, contact Net Manager Ann Guptill, WBØTEG.

## VE Report

After a one month lay-off because of summer vacations, VEC exams will be available after the September club meeting. Check with John Turner, NDØN, for details.

## September Meeting

The September meeting will be at 7 pm on **Tuesday, Sept. 10** at the Boone Electric Coop, 1413 Range Line St., in the community meeting room on the north side of the building.

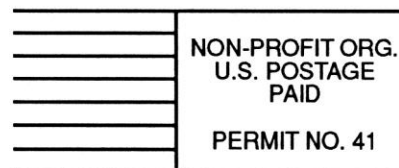
### STAFF

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The CMRA **SQUELCH TALE** is published monthly by the Central Missouri Radio Association. To be put on the mailing list or to submit informational, editorial, or technical articles, contact the editor at 1915 Blue Ridge, Columbia, MO 65202 (474-7674). Equipment ads by individuals can be accepted if space is available.

# Central Missouri Radio Association

P.O. Box 283, Columbia, Missouri 65205



## President's Corner

*Dale Huffington, AEØS*

Judging by the lively expressions and vigorous gestures I could see as I looked around after the last meeting, people were enjoying the chance to "talk ham radio" with others as enthusiastic as themselves about the world of "QSOs" and "QRM" and "DX".

This chance to share our enthusiasm and experiences with other hams is one of the major reasons for our club to exist. It is the "human side" of why we get together, and why we also will spend time and money to practice emergency communication procedures, experiment with antennas, and listen to Morse code until we hear dits and dahs coming from rusty hinges and squeaky fan belts. All of these activities are worth doing, but they are

more enjoyable when they can be shared. This fellowship is what brings others to us. They need to share in the fountain of youth that makes our eyes sparkle as we discuss how to hool up a new piece of equipment or describe the funny things that happened when we demonstrated ham radio to a group of grade school children. Share the fountain with the newcomers; bring these folks into your conversations at the club meetings and greet them on the repeater. Make them welcome! A warm hello, a question about their station, where they are from, and an invitation to join the club's activities are all that is needed. Each of us should make a point to welcome newcomers at meetings and on the repeater. This new person might just be the one who can run a string of contacts on Field Day, figure out what's wrong with your rig, organize a Hamfest, help with

exams, or tell the funniest story at our dinner meeting in December. Each of us has something unique to contribute.

Reaching out is what ham radio is all about. Whether it is calling "CQ" and talking with a stranger half a continent away, being an "Elmer" to someone just beginning, or drawing a newcomer into our activities, it's all sharing the magic of ham radio.

