

FEB 1997



AMATEUR RADIO SERVING THE PUBLIC

## THE CMRA SQUELCH TALE

Central Missouri Radio Association  
PO Box 283, Columbia, MO 65205

The CMRA is a not-for-profit Missouri corporation.  
To receive the newsletter or to submit articles,  
contact the editor, Jim Lawler, WY0B, 10130 S.  
Rt. N, Columbia, Mo. 65203. (573)657-9284.

Equipment ads by individuals can be accepted if  
space is available.

Pres. KB0TCR, Robert McMinn  
V. Pres K0GN, Greg Nunn

Treas. KB0PHQ, John Brandt  
Cor.Scty. WY0B, Jim Lawler

Rec.Scty. WM0H, Dewey Bennet

Mem@Large K4CHS, Wayland McKenzie

### Greetings to all !

As of the January meeting, it is my pleasure to put out the CMRA Newsletter. I hope I can pull it off as successfully as my predecessors. This will be my first real chance to play around with word processing and I'm sure it will go much smoother after I have a couple of editions under my belt. Please bear with me, as I try to knock off some of the rough edges. Also, now seems like a fine time to throw in the perennial plea for any submissions from the club for articles to include here. They don't need to be "camera ready," as the spell checker here should be able to work it's magic on your work, as well as mine (hi.)

### February Meeting

The next CMRA meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11, 1997 at 7:00 pm in the Boone Hospital cafeteria. A VE exam session will follow the meeting (provided there are at least 3 VE's present.)

### January Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 by yours truly, WY0B. The treasurers report was given by John, KB0PHQ. There was no news from the Technical, Hamfest, or Ad Hoc Committees. Under Old Business, it was mentioned that Mac, K4CHS, is now

the Trustee for the CMRA repeater, K0SI. Also brought up under O.B., the Club decided to make arrangements for the Club Breakfasts to continue at least 6 more months. (I've since reserved our usual space at Country Kitchens for the entire next year - Ed.) Several items were brought up under New Business. As of January first, club dues are due. The officer elections were held (see below). The club desires to get Greg, K0SI, a key to the club station. The purchase of a new coffee pot and coffee for the Club Station was approved.

Also, I have been contacted by Derek Cohn, WB0TUA, to see if the Club would like to be involved in the up-coming Memorial Day Air Show. Derek has had a tent at the Air Show in the past, where he has held demonstrations of older military gear, with a lot of FB keys on display. What he would like to do, ideally, would be to provide a separate tent for the CMRA and run a hard wire CW pair between the 2 tents. He would like to run American Morse with sounders, but since there is a definite lack of operators with this particular ability, it might be more realistic to plan on our more familiar International Morse with audio tones. We will try to work out more details at a future meeting. There seemed to be a general consensus among the attending members that this would be a Great way to get Amateur Radio out into the public's eye, while at the same time being a good time. We should also be able to operate on HF, as well as other bands. As far as I'm aware, the

only requirement would be that we need to show some tie in between the military and Amateur Radio, which should be a piece of cake thanks to all the fine Op's who have run phone patches for the Troops in times of war, as well as the MARS operations, and the number of skilled communicators and technical people who have joined the military from the Amateur ranks in the past. Also, after the meeting, a VE session was held producing 1 new No Code Tech.

## NEW CMRA OFFICERS

Results of the January elections:

|           |                 |
|-----------|-----------------|
| President | Robert , KB0TCR |
| Vice Pres | Greg , K0GN     |
| Treasurer | John , KB0PHQ   |
| Rec Scty  | Dewey , WM0H    |
| Cor Scty  | Jim , WY0B      |
| Mem@Large | Mac , K4CHS     |

The Club wishes to thank all outgoing officers for a job well done!

## Club Breakfast

The January Club breakfast set a new record. Attendance was a total of one! The attendance has fallen off recently due to the holiday seasons in November and December, and there was a conflict with the St. Charles Hamfest in January. We were up to a good number of regulars (about 20) before November. If you plan on attending, why not call a friend and see if he/she would like to attend. Also, remember that families are welcome. (My kids look forward to the breakfasts as much as I do, and they sometimes remind me it's about that time again -Ed) A good time is had by all!

## Club Dues Due

Just a reminder, the dues for 1997 are due as of January First. So far, dues have been paid by AE0S, Dale; W0VZK, Bill; K0GN, Greg; K0ONL, Earl; WY0B, Jim; KB0TKY, Bonnie; KC7MQB, Ray; N0REF, Al; and KB0PHQ, John. If I've overlooked anyone, let me know. To pay your dues, get with John, KB0PHQ, or send them to CMRA, PO Box 283, Col., Mo., 65203. Dues are \$15 per person or \$20 per family.

## Restructuring

Discussed at the ARRL Board of Directors Meeting, was the possibility of restructuring the Amateur Radio Licenses. Some highlights:

- 1.) Eliminating the Novice License.
- 2.) Creating new Intermediate class  
(Replaces Tech Plus)
- 3.) Expanding HF privileges of Intermediate.  
(Adding phone on 160, 75 & 15M)
- 4.) 10 WPM General cw requirement.  
(With stricter cw testing standards)
- 5.) Expanding phone privs for Generals and above.

The ARRL is inviting comments from it's members. This is far from a "done deal" and is only in the discussion phase, but might be interesting to keep an eye on. If there is interest, I will see about getting the whole scoop in here. Let me know.

## It Seems to Me ...

Are you happy with the club, lately?  
Is the club adding to your enjoyment of Amateur Radio?

A quote from the Club Constitution:

"It is among the purposes of the Association to further the exchange of information between members; to promote radio knowledge, fraternalism, cooperation, and individual operating efficiency; and to so conduct Association programs and activities as to advance the general interest and welfare of Amateur Radio and the community."

Do you think the Club is living up to it's goals? Are you taking an active part to ensure that the CMRA is the best club it can be? What's with all these questions?

I've noticed, as have others, a general decline in the health of the club. Five years ago, we had a very healthy organization. The meetings were well attended, the repeater was a lot more active, we had stronger ties with the City of Columbia and the community, our hamfests were looked forward to, we had a stable location for our meetings, and the list goes on.

What happened?

In my opinion, several things contributed to the decline. Some were beyond the control of the club, such as the remodeling being done at our more traditional meeting location, the need to move the repeater (and the resulting down time of the machine, which I think got people out of the habit of getting on '76 and keeping up with other members on the air), and the ever rising costs of holding the Hamfest at the Hearn Building.

In other areas, however, I think our problems, and the cures, lie with us. Do you make it a point to attend the Club functions (meetings, nets, breakfasts, Field Day,

Monday nights at the Club Station?) Do you do your share of volunteering at the meetings or bring New Business items to the Club? Do you open your doors to newcomers to **OUR** hobby?

What can we do to improve the Club?

How about marking the time and dates of the above functions on your calendar, as a reminder. It doesn't take long, and would go a long way to increasing participation and everyone's enjoyment ("the more, the merrier!") What about making a call or two the night before the meeting and talking a friend into coming with you. Throw your hat into the ring the next time you hear about a club need you could fill. (Any takers for Ham Fest Committee Chairman?) Invite someone over to visit your Shack (after all, we are supposed to be a fraternal organization.) The list goes on. With work and family responsibilities, we are all short of time, but hopefully we can all find a little more time to help out the Club, and Amateur Radio.

Other issues still confuse me, such as division among local hams and personality conflicts. I've never heard of any club that didn't have some amount of internal strife, so maybe that will take care of itself if we do what we can to improve the things we can.

Just my opinion, de WY0B ...

## On the Web

I recently read an interesting article in QST about using Internet-Phone to connect a caller from another area to a station on the local repeater. A flamer wrote a letter in the next issue to complain that there was no benefit to amateur radio in doing such a strange thing. I guess he felt if it touched the

phone lines, it wasn't amateur radio. Well, one thing that comes to my mind is that it would be a great way to get some "Guests" on the repeater. How about a past member who moved away from the area. Wouldn't it be neat to hear Eric, N0Z0Z or ????? frequenting our frequencies again? Or maybe K1ZZ or N6TR or some other "exotic DX" during a special "Repeater Night." There was a simple circuit included with the article. Other than that, both computers would need a good Internet connection, Sound Cards, and the software. The guest wouldn't even need to be a ham, as the local station does require a control operator on duty. Sounds interesting to me, anyway.

73 es CUL ...

de WY0B



Central Missouri Radio Association  
PO Box 283  
Columbia, Mo. 65203

## Dates

### Meetings:

Second Tuesday of the month:

2/11; 3/11; 4/8; 5/13; 6/10; 7/8; 8/12; 9/9;  
10/14; 11/11; 12/9. 7:00 pm

### Breakfasts:

Last Saturday of the month:

2/28; 3/29; 4/26; 5/31; 6/28; 7/26; 8/30;  
9/27; 10/31; 11/29; 12/27. 8:00 am



\*\*\*Support CMRA!!!\*\*\*

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