

CMRA

Club Meeting Minutes: April 10, 2012

Again no formal business meeting was held this month, but the meeting opened at 7:02 by Daniel, N0UTW, with 27 in attendance.

Cave Radio

This meeting featured a very interesting presentation on “Cave Radio” put on by Bill Schaper, WB0MHU, and John Kessler, KC9JLI.

John and Bill demonstrated radio techniques that are instrumental in correlating a surface location to a specific location in a cave system. They mentioned that this ability has been employed successfully to relocate an entrance to a cave (Carroll Cave near the Lake of the Ozarks, I believe) and to pinpoint a cave (Nescatunga Cave in Oklahoma) in the proposed route of a highway under construction. In the latter instance, it was determined that the cave was approximately 12 feet below grade of the proposed construction and that this depth was only composed of shale, a particularly weak material. The highway route was adjusted accordingly.

The Club was shown two separate radio systems, both using loop antennas, to assist in locating positions via triangulation techniques. Both systems operated on VERY low frequencies, 65 Khz and 873.9 hz. I believe both systems also employed Amplitude Modulation.

For more information, we were given the following URL's to follow:

<http://radiolocation.tripod.com>

<http://www.caves.org>

After the presentation concluded, the following topics were mentioned:

Field Day is approaching (during the fourth full weekend in June) and the CMRA Field Day will be held at Rock Bridge State Park. There is no official FD Chairperson yet, so if you would like to throw your hat in the ring, feel free.

Speaking of missing Chairpersons, the annual Club Auction is also in need of Chair. Unlike Field Day, which almost runs itself once we have a time and place, without someone stepping up and taking the reins of the Auction we won't be able to hold one. The Club is deeply in debt to all who have assisted with the Auction in the past, so why not add your name to the list?

Don, N0UBC, mentioned that the check-ins for the weekly Wednesday night nets (9:00PM CST) are a little lighter than usual, so your participation is encouraged. Also, we could use a few more Net Control Operators, so if you would like to get some experience running a net, get in touch with Don.

The Club's website is online and nearly complete. John, KC0HSB, has put in a lot of effort in this endeavor, as well as Don, KM0R, and others.

On a final note, Jake, KD0IRU, mentioned that the College Park Christian Academy will be hosting a 5K race on April 29th, starting at 9 AM and that a few more amateur radio operators are needed. If you can help, get in contact with Jake.

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jim Lawler / WY0B
CMRA Recording Secretary