

SMARCalling



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Issue 7

Southwest Missouri Amateur Radio Club <http://www.smarc.org>

P.O. Box 11363 Springfield, MO 65808 PH: 417-886-4152

Field Day Was a Great Success, Thanks to You!

Next Meeting
Monday, the
15th at 7 PM, at
the American
Red Cross 1835
E. Chestnut Exp.
Just East of
Glenstone

*Hope to see you
there!*

Our Thanks go to
Reddy Ice for their
donation of ice and
equipment!
We appreciate their
support of our
Emergency
Communication
Skills & Liaisons

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Visitors Always
Welcome!

Hello everyone,

Field Day 2002 was largely a great success. Good food and good fun were present in abundance – this is a strong foundation upon which to build a successful field day event. I wish to thank everyone that came out to help set up and operate, and bring support items, such as the sweets (oh my, the sweets were a thing of beauty)! Thank you all!

Our greatest disappointment was the failure of Senator Bentley to show. We have received no word as to why she was unable to be present. Senator Kit Bond sent us a letter, which was read. He acknowledged we are an important asset to our community.

Carolyn Farrar, k0okn, the Greene County ARES American Red Cross liaison, came out to present us with the Mayor's Special Proclamation declaring the week of June 17-23 as Amateur Radio Week in the city of Springfield. She did a great job and I greatly appreciate her taking the time, on short notice, to be with us. Thank you Carolyn!

Scott Emerson, of the American Red Cross Disaster Services in Springfield, wrote us a great letter which sung the praises of the support hams have shown in the past when disaster strikes. He recognized our important role and let it be known we are truly appreciated.

We also received good TV coverage. Angie Weidinger of KOLR-10 did a wonderful cover story for us. She presented quite a few important points in her piece and set us up in a very good light. This should have been well received by the general public. Items covered were the importance we hams serve in ensuring critical communications continue during disasters, noting the positive impact hams provide in relying accurate weather reports to the National Weather Service, as well as noting this was the first International Field Day. I can't thank her enough! Her stories were aired on both Fox News and KOLR-10 Saturday. Sunday KY3 aired their piece. They too did a good job. Our ability to provide health and welfare messages was emphasized, and quite well. Thank you, thank you!

Steve Shafer was our local star. He did a great job of providing a positive role model for others his age. He was well spoken and photogenic. He was also featured with his father, Lee, as an adorable father-son team. That is hard to beat! As our youngest ham present Steve was a shoe-in for a primary spot in the program. Both the Shafer's made a great impression for our ham community. Please congratulate them when you see them. Thanks guys, great job!

-- 73's Erik Weaver, n0ew (n0ew@arrl.net, 869-4947)

SMARC Net Worth Report – For June 2002

Not available at the time this went to press. Full report available at the meeting.

SMARC Meeting Minutes for June 20th 2002...

Members & Visitors Present:

WØKRB, BAREMORE, KEN;
W2RRX, HAVEL, JERRY;
KCØKBL, RIFFLE, LANCE;
NØEHW, SMITH, TIM;
NØMBW, CHAMBERS, BILL;

AKØC, CRANE, SKIP;
WØODY, MOORE, WOODIE;
WØTLS, SHAFER, LEE;
KØJBP, BOYLE, PATRICK
(there were others but not everyone signed in with Lee)

WBØONM, HARMON, WILLIAM;
NØEW, WEAVER, ERIK;
KCØEPD, SMITH, LORA;
KØGL; HIGINBOTHAM, DICK;

May minutes:

May minutes were approved.

June Minutes:

Erik Weaver, n0ew, gave the Field Day 2002 presentation. We ran through a number of final details and made assignments as required. The high lights that stand out are:

1. The pavilion at Lake Springfield is NOT going to also be used by the St. James River Assembly. They realized father's day was the previous weekend and changed their plans accordingly.
2. Erik met with Ern DeCamp, obtained the keys and the last-minute instructions. For future reference these were mainly: (a) lock the gate at all times once security has locked up for the evenings, it needs to be locked when they make their evening rounds; (b) no alcohol; (c) no vehicles parked on the grass – move towing units to the pavement once the towed unit is dropped; (c) notify the police of our presence; (d) report any drunk or disorderly activity to the proper authorities, and be level-headed about this, we are not there to function as police; (e) share the pavilion if others are on site; (f) be nice to the public; (g) return the key the following week.
3. At the request of Bill Besore, our primary CW operator, the main call will be n0ew. The GOTA station will use the club call, w0ebe.
4. Press kits have been dropped off, fax'd, email'd, etc. We've done what we can, the rest is up to the press and the vulgarities of daily events. If a plane crashes at the airport, expect no press, if it is a slow news day we stand a good chance of getting coverage.
5. Senator Roseann Bentley has agreed to come and present us with a Missouri Senate Resolution.
6. Erik spoke with one of the security sergeants and they will open the gate early for us at 5:15 am. Everyone on the "gate storming" battle group has been informed of this change.
7. Good coverage has been generated on the various repeaters. Both Erik and Lora have heard a number of times other people speaking of the Senator's presence. This show cases the importance of obtaining a digital voice recorder for our repeater. It is the single best advertising medium we have to reach fellow hams. We should vigorously pursue this goal.

Woodie, w0ody, brought in several radios to sell. He has gotten a new rig and is looking to part with these, now excess, radios. Contact him for details.

NEXT MONTH

Chris Smith, kc0gox, has agreed to give us a neat presentation for July. He'll inform us of a number of the aspects of solar power, batteries, and charging methods for gel-cell batteries. This should be very interesting. Thanks Chris, this is good stuff!

3.963 Every Sunday at 6:15 PM the Missouri Emergency Service Net meets.

Please join us!

As my work schedule allows I will accept 2-Meter relays on the 146.91 (-) PL 162.2 repeater. Listen to this frequency on Sunday evenings prior to the Missouri Traffic net (5:45 pm) and the MESN.

Erik, n0ew

Hello Everyone, Erik here.

My infamous quote for Field day 2002 is "bugs are bad, m'kay." For some inexplicable reason all I seemed to talk about were the negative affect creepy-crawlers have on our ability to effectively communicate ;-). Too much sun, or too little booze, I guess.

Seriously, it was a marvelous field day. We had the 80-foot crane and a glorious 10-15-20 Meter Beam atop its perch. Wow! It made the evening news too. What a great shot! We had both the SMARC antenna trailers deployed with beams radiating the atmosphere. A 40-M loop was suspended from the crane and another loop for 160-M was deployed. In addition we had a 10-80M vertical, packet beam, 2-M vertical for APRS, and two 2-M talk-in antennas. Interestingly, the cheapo 300-ohm j-pole out-performed the \$100 vertical, but we used the \$100 vertical as it was prettier than the goofy fishing pole / j-pole combo. (Although I thought the bright pink string more than made up for the rag-tag nature of the beast, but that was only one man's opinion ;-). The difference was made up by cranking up the power. What the heck, if you gots the power you gots to use it! (That is what the FCC says, right?!)

We also had a 80-M NVIS (Near Vertical Incident Skywave) antenna deployed which we used to good effect in contacting both the noon Missouri Emergency Services Net and the Saturday evening Missouri Traffic Net. I understand we used it for other contacts as well. The GOTA station was well served by the combination of this NVIS antenna and the 10-80M vertical. This was a great idea the ARRL came up with and I hope they do it again next year. We, however, need to do a much better job in making the general public aware we exist and they can get on the air at field day, via the GOTA station.

(This should be a continuing topic for discussion at our meetings – devising ways in which we can interact with the public and raise awareness of our interesting avocation.)

Bill Besore, k0wb, did a great job in bringing all the CW equipment, including the trailer again. Tim Smith, n0ehw, did a great job in orchestrating the antenna deployments. He had lotsa helpful hands and I know he greatly appreciates each and every one of you, as do I. Dennis Chambers, n0udz, set up our networked computer logging LAN. A few minutes late, but we got it up and running without too much trouble. It was good he brought UPS's as well. There were times the generators needed a little massaging and we ran on back-up battery power for those minutes. Speaking of generators Mike, n0nqw, and Skip, ak0c, brought out the big diesel gen-sets again and they hummed along the entire time. It was a sweet sound – far better than those creepy crickets!

6-Meters was cooking at times and dead at others. All in all, however, it was a good success. We've already received a number of QSL cards where people are seeking confirmation of new grid squares in their continuing search to blanket the planet with 6-M.

Thank you all, and please, come out next year, and bring a few friends! – 73's!

Greene County ARES meets the 4th Wednesday of each month, 7 PM, at the Brentwood Library (just east of Glenstone & Seminole; 2214 South Brentwood, in the community room). Questions should be directed to Ken Baremore, Greene County ARES EC (w0krb@arrl.net). It's rewarding.

2002 Board Members ...

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Note: All board members may be reached by email at: ["theircall"@smarc.org](mailto:theircall@smarc.org) , except for Louise Buck.

Public Welcome!

**Bring a friend or just
drop by to see what
we are all up to these
days! Hope to see
you at the next
meeting!**

SMARCalling is a monthly newsletter published by and for the Southwest Missouri Amateur Radio Club, Inc. All submissions for publication must be received by the last day of the previous month. SMARCalling reserves the right to edit all submissions for spelling and, when necessary, length. All comments on SMARCalling may be made to editor@smarc.org or by direct mail.

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