



Minutes of the
Sedalia – Pettis Amateur Radio Klub
Sedalia, Mo

Meeting: October 7, 2023
Program: VarAC from WE3MAY
Meeting leader: Bret, W0VK
Meeting Location: Pettis County EMA 1511 N Ohio, Sedalia MO

40 total in attendance; 38 members; 11 VE; 17 ARRL; 2 guests
(Sign in sheet maintained in separate file)

OPENING: Raffle today netted \$116. Several available items so there were 5 drawings.
Bret, W0VK – Club President started meeting at 8:43am with the Pledge of allegiance. Membership now at 80.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Secretary: Harry, K0TV Club Secretary presented summary of last month’s meeting minutes. Printed copies were available at the meeting and had previously been posted on the club website. Richard, KE0QYA moved to accept minutes, a 2nd was received, PASSED.

Treasurer: John, N0XG presented the report. Net currently is \$7,201.66. Paul KD0ETL moved to accept the report. There was a 2nd. PASSED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

TESTING: Testing would be available after the meeting. Did not appear to be any candidates today.

TRAILER: Ready to deploy. Will be parked same spot as last year for SPARKFEST. Planned renovations to start following the SPARKFEST.

TRAINING: Daren, KD0OPS reported there was interest in a Technician class by approximately 6 students. This may begin 1st of the year.

REPEATERS: 2M, 6M, 220, DMR, Fusion: All repeaters reported to be in service. Steve, KE0CYW reported that the 2M repeater has had the backup/regular repeaters swapped to isolate noise source. Problem appears to be in the regular repeater so the backup is now in the primary role. Duane, KB9TQJ reported the Cross Timbers repeater project is still going. 147.300 will stay. 70cm is awaiting frequency allocation. Location to be Cross Timbers water tower. The 220 will be located on the water tower in Preston. There was discussion of creating a fixed APRS beacon for the SPARKFEST.

NETS: Richard, KE0QYA took volunteers for monthly NCS. 75M is still experiencing poor band conditions. Other nets not seeing much activity but is expected to increase as we get into colder months.

EMCOMM – Siren test followed by a practice weather net was conducted by Harry, K0TV last Wednesday with 8 check ins. Paul, KD0ETL reported that FEMA had conducted a national system test.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – Dennis, KY0P reported on public media. FB and website are OK. Connie, WA0QCJ reported on the newsletter. Renda, KB0UVW won the whosit baby picture contest. The Chris Cross word find puzzle will continue for another month. The Sparklers displayed the table covering they will be using at SPARKFEST.

WRECKING CREW –Dennis, KY0P need work done on a roof. Ryan, KF0HYP needs help with a mast on house. These are the current outstanding projects for the crew.

HEALTH & WELLNESS – Discussion about members requiring assistance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Windsor POTA: Lori, KF0IHX reported on the event. Breakfast served, 6 active stations, 18 contacts. Highlight was from Russ, K6HU who ended up going to a nearby hardware store, getting parts, measuring, cutting, assembling, and tuning an antenna. And then getting on the air. It was an entertaining, memorable, and educational experience for all. Chris, KC0TKS proposed an 'alternate antenna' event for the future where non-traditional items are used as antennas.

NEW BUSINESS:

LIFE MEMBER – Doc, W3MEB, after discussion with others, moved that Don, KF0ARQ be rewarded for his active contributions to the club with recognition of a Spark Club Life Membership. There was a 2nd. Motion PASS overwhelmingly with only a single descending vote.

CERT TEAM – Marcia, KF0HYQ announced that she is working on a CERT team qualification training project. One of the elements will be an amateur radio license class. She is seeking interest in helping with the project.

SPARKFEST – Richard, KE0QYA working from a SPARKFEST Planner, led a lengthy pre-event discussion check list. Time table, job assignments, costs, prices, and resource needs were finalized. A show of hands was taken for setup volunteers and move in helpers.

Oct 12 Setup 6:00 pm

Oct 13 Early move-in 3:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Oct 14 SPARKFEST Open 6 am for move-in; 8:00 am open; NOON done; 2:00 pm lock doors and cleanup.

WRAPUP:

Lori, KF0IHX inquired about the club doing an SET. There was a short discussion, but no decision. A POTA event was suggested for November. Tentatively it will be at the shelter house on the Katy trail at Clarendon Rd. Date and details will be published to the members. A permit will be needed because it is a state park.

Elections – Nominations for next year's club officers will be taken at the November meeting.

Steve, KE0CYW offered a 20' tapered mast available for pickup at his shop.

Mike, KE0UHO has 2 Midland VHF radios at the meeting. Free to take.

Next meeting November 4 at 8:30am at EMA.

Grace, KE0MER moved to adjourn the meeting. A 2nd was received. PASSED
Meeting closed at 10:34 am.

Brian, WE3MAY conducted a presentation following the meeting on VarAC. The chat application that uses the VARA modem.

These minutes submitted by
Harry Burford, K0TV
SPARK Secretary