



MACON COUNTY ARC NEWSLETTER

JULY 2016

Dale Bagley KØKY Editor

**THE NEXT MACON COUNTY ARC AND MACON AREA REPEATER COUNCIL MEETING
WILL BE AT THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUILDING NEXT TO BEN
FRANKLIN ON THURSDAY JULY 28TH AT 7:00 P.M.**

ARRL FIELD DAY ENTRY SUBMITTED

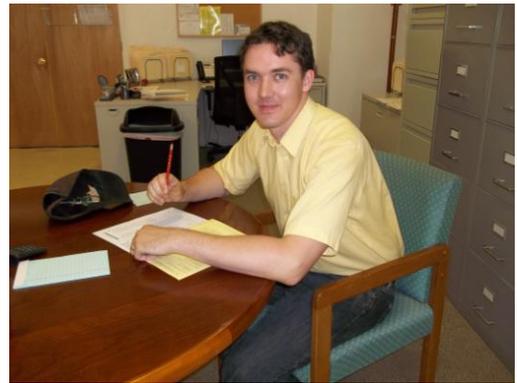


The 2017 ARRL Field Day Entry has been sent into the ARRL HQ. This year even with all the problems, we had a score of 2,548 points. The number of QSO Points were 761 for CW, 22 for Digital, and 201 for Phone. We had a power multiplier of 2. That resulted in QSO points of 1968. The remainder of our points came from the bonus points available to our operation. What the ARRL calculates may be a little different, because it always is for some reason. If you want to look NØPR's score up on the ARRL Website when it is posted 2 or 3 months from now you need to look under 3A Commercial Power.

MACON REPEATER ISSUES

When we attempted to switch on the CTCSS tones, we got some interesting results. First issue was when I looked at my 2 meter station in my shack all the memories were gone and I had to reprogram just minutes before the Macon County ARES Net. I forgot to put in the 156.7 hz sub-audible tones and I did key the repeater and transmitted a carrier, but I didn't have any audio. I talked to Larry Ballew, ABØH and he said he would call the net. I quickly put in the tones and when I could I checked into the MRCARC ARES net. This time the Audio was present. Several others had similar problems with having their tones enabled. Scott Bigham NØDBM and Larry are going to work on the repeater on July 7th or 8th. More to come.

LICENSE UPGRADE UPDATE



Mark Taylor, KEØJPP, taking his Technician's Exam at the June 12, 2016 Volunteer Exam. The Call was issued June 17th and runs to June 17th 2026. We are looking forward to seeing Mark on the air and upgrading to General real soon. Way to go Mark!

NEW NØPR WEBSITE ON THE WEB

Scott Bigham, NØDBM, has taken on the job of Webmaster for the Macon County ARC Website. The new link is www.maconcountymissouriarc.org We really appreciate Scott becoming such an active member of the MRCARC.



We all owe a really big THANKS to Kerry Haley, AAØV, for all the years of service he has put in as the Webmaster and the great job he did. Without Kerry on the job there would not have been an active Macon NØPR website or the NEMO ARC Website. Kerry made it possible for folks to learn about the activities of Amateur Radio in the Macon and Kirksville Area without being a member of the club.

NØPR REPEATER UPGRADE



GE Mastr III VHF Repeater. (stock photo)

Scott Bigham, NØDBM, Vice-Pres of the Macon County Repeater Council reports that The Missouri State Highway Patrol has many GE Mastr III VHF repeaters that they've taken out of service and are just setting in storage. Through his contacts at the Patrol Radio Shop (where he used to work), has offered to fix one up, along with duplexer for the Macon Club to use at our discretion for as long as we like.

These are programmable units and equipped with a 100 PA. They can be programmed from 100 watts down to around 10 watts. Scott has the software and all he needs to do is find a laptop with a COM port and DOS or get a flash drive and boot up from it to DOS, which should not be a problem.

Right off the bat, it would transmit on 146.805 PL 156.7 Hz and receive -600 kHz, with PL 156.7 Hz. The Highway Patrol radio ship can fix it to ID at certain intervals and every 10 minutes when the repeater is active. The only issue that he can think of, that the new repeater wouldn't have is a DTMF decoder so someone could remotely "kill" the repeater if it stuck on.

The patrol Radio Club, KMØHP has put these units at Holliday, Linn and Poplar Bluff and they have been performing very well.

One other issue he is working on is the power level of the Repeater. Scott spoke with Thad Huff, KCØAQQ, is in the process of doing a final programming and alignment of the repeater and duplexer. Thad is going to set it for about 85 watts

which, with our antenna system and duplexer, will yield approximately 160 watts. Once he has competed setting up the NØPR Repeater it will be ready for installation. The Patrol will bring it up and we'll get it installed. We're also going to add some additional grounding to the equipment in addition to the grounding kits on the hardline. Scott and the Macon Repeater Techs can tweak any setting after we get it on the air and have the opportunity to use it for a while. We are looking forward to getting the new unit and using our current Repeater as a back-up system. Thanks to Scott for all his efforts.

ITEMS OF INTEREST



WD6BG

KMØMVR

Ralph Howard, WD6BGN and Mike Morgan, KMØMVR, had a successful day at the Zerobeaters Hamfest in Washington, MO. Dale Bagley, KØKY and Larry Ballew, ABØHP, spent some quality time visiting with our old friends at the Hamfest and looking for an Alpha Delta Center Connector for Jesse Jones, KDØETU.



GARY, WØGOM

LARRY, ABØHP