

Founding of the Warrensburg Area Amateur Radio Club, Incorporated

On September 18th 1990, nine Amateur Radio operators gathered together at the Central Missouri State University Technology building to form an Amateur Radio Club. Interest had been around several years after the Warrensburg Club had folded and new interest in a club with changes in the Amateur Radio structure gained more interest. On that night this small group decided that a Ham Radio Club would be a benefit to the area for ham radio operators and the local community. The following personnel were the start of what would later be the Warrensburg Area Amateur Radio Club, Incorporated. Clarke Homoly, WØRPC; Randy Coker, NØHZS; Larry Vandivier, WB9YDL; Mike Crum, N4RWV; Floyd Bauer, WBØLHZ; Katie Pautz, WAØRVT; Ralph Barnhart, NØFMM; John Price, WØGHV; and Tim Antwiler, KBØAAA. We decided to have our meetings on the first Saturday of each month. Clarke recommended that our next meeting be at the picnic area at Lions Lake. It would be a gathering for a swap fest and picnic. Several new hams in the area joined us and became an important factor in advancing the club. This picnic became our first event in the local area.

Our next meeting would be at Country Kitchen Restaurant. We found the group was too large for this establishment. We contacted the University Inn where they provided us with a suitable place to meet. At the December meeting the club was officially established. A board of three officers was appointed and would head up the all-important task of writing the Constitution and By-Laws. This required many hours of research by Keith Haye (WEØG) and Larry Vandivier (WB9YDL). The constitution, based on extractions from three other amateur radio clubs, was written and approved. This would be the heart of the club and vital to the clubs existence. We would use Robert's Rules of Order to govern club meetings and activities.

Over the next few months the membership would approve the club name. We would retain the old club name but be a totally new organization. Ham's from all over the area had been waiting for this club to form. We found that starting a club from scratch was a lot more work than we first believed. We would need a bank account for our treasury. First, though, we needed to be a non-profit organization. This meant registering with the state and federal governments so that we would not have to deal with taxes. Only after we had a tax number could we open a bank account. Then we opened a Post Office box, P.O. Box 1364, Warrensburg, Missouri 64093. Now all our correspondence with members and others could be achieved. We decided to start up a 9:30 Monday evening net that the old club use to have. Katie Pautz (WAØRVT) and Floyd Bauer (WBØLHZ) became our first net control operators. It didn't take long for the news of the net to take effect. We started averaging around 10 to 13 checkin's each Monday night.

Next we needed a club logo. We set out with a June deadline to review ideas. At the June meeting a design by Larry Vandivier was approved. We decided to have an ID card printed for our membership to recognize them as members in good standing. Due to the time we used in designing the card we felt that it was to late to issue during 1991. The cards were printed and will be in use for the 1992 membership. We decided to charge dues of \$12.00 a year for full membership and \$18.00 for family membership. All hams in the family membership would be entitled to full membership privileges.

In closing the Warrensburg Area Amateur Radio Club, Incorporated is founded on a strong willed Amateur Radio Community, dedicated to continued improvement and education in the community and the Amateur Radio Service.

Best of 73's