

Minutes -- ACARA March 16, 2004

Attendance:	Emily Bain	KC8YAE
	John Biddle	W8PG
	Mike Brown	AB8NA
	John Cornwell	NC8V
	Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
	Royce Holliday	KC8THI
	Rodney Holley	KA8NDC
	Scott Jarvis	KC8ZBS/AE
	John McCutcheon	N8XWO
	Drew McDaniel	W8MHV
	Eric McFadden	WD8RIF
	Richard Perry	WB8SYZ
	John Thomas	KC8JWZ

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by President Drew McDaniel, W8MHV.

The minutes of the February meeting were accepted as published.

Treasurer Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, presented the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as distributed.

Old Business:

License Class

N8XWO reported that at the March 15 testing session six people tested and five passed. He thanked N8SUZ, W8MHV, and NC8V for their help in presenting the class.

N8XWO suggested that next year a different day than Monday should be considered for the class, explaining that Monday holidays are disruptive.

Athens Marathon

KC8OVB reported that he attended a marathon planning meeting and that preparations for the event are on track. The marathon is on Sunday, April 4 and starts at 9am. He reminded the members that this day is Palm Sunday and day of the time-change.

KC8OVB announced that WD8RIF plans to operate bicycle-mobile for the event and let him describe his plans. WD8RIF will be riding with the full-marathon leaders and will provide leader location throughout the race. He suggested that next year, should this year's bicycle-operation go well, the club might try to deploy a bicycle-mobile APRS station for the event.

KC8OVB passed around a sign-up sheet for station assignments. He reminded the members that workers will receive t-shirts and asked that volunteers indicate their shirt size on the sign-up sheet.

W8PG suggested that in addition to the usual items (wet weather gear, water, food) operators bring a whiteboard or poster board to use to pass messages to individual runners. N8XWO said he has had success in the past with writing notes to runners on a sheet of paper and asking the other volunteers at the station (scouts, etc.) to watch for the runner and pass the note on.

KC8OVB will mail maps and instructions to volunteers and that this information will also appear on the website.

Athens Hamfest

The hamfest is April 25. W8MHV reported that he has proofed the reminder cards and that they look good. They are to be printed on the 18th. W8MHV passed around the duty roster and asked for volunteers to sign up.

KC8OVB reported that he sent out flyers and free tickets to several dozen clubs in the region and received a thank-you response from one.

Field Day

N8XWO reported that he and several other members have been discussing the relative merits of the various locations and he is recommending "Rancho Cornwell" for the event. The club will again be operating in a two-transmitter class, and N8XWO suggested that rather than placing both stations in the caboose one should be set up in the barn. He verified the W8MHV and WD8RIF have band-pass filters.

NC8V volunteered that the club should choose the location it thinks is best--he will not be upset if a location other than his hilltop were to be chosen.

New Business:

NC8V Cayman Islands "DXpedition"

NC8V reported on his operation last week in the Cayman Islands. He explained that band conditions were very poor: whereas in years past he has worked 3000 QSOs from the same location this year he worked only 390. Twenty meters was the only productive band.

Program:

WD8RIF showed the 1942 film "Voice of Victory" which described the development and deployment of the Hallicrafters BC-610 military transmitter and the BC-399 station.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55pm by W8MHV

Respectively submitted, William McFadden, Secretary