

Athens Country Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of the meeting of April 18, 2006 (as corrected)

In Attendance: John Biddle W8PG
Jim Crouse KC8OVB
Carl Denbow N8VZ
John McCutcheon N8XWO
Drew McDaniel W8MHV
Eric McFadden WD8RIF
Richard Perry WB8SYW
Sharron Perry WB8TEP
John Thomas KC8JWZ

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Drew McDaniel (W8MHV).

The minutes of the March meeting were accepted as distributed.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by KC8OVB. He reported that club now has forty-four (44) paid members with four new members resulting from the licensing class. The report was accepted as presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

Licensing Class

N8XWO reported that seven people took the test and that all four of those from the class who tested earned their licenses.

W8MHV complimented N8XWO and N8SUZ for the successful class. N8XWO thanked W8MHV for his help in teaching the class.

Athens Marathon

KC8OVB reported that the ACARA participation in the Athens Marathon went well. He thanked all those who participated. He announced that the Marathon Committee is already considering dates for the 2007 event; they are looking at April 1 and April 15. Neither of these dates will conflict with the 2007 ACARA Hamfest which will be on April 29.

WD8RIF said that both W8KVK and KC8OVB had suggested that the utility of the APRS component of the ACARA participation be reconsidered. He said that W8KVK had brought up again the porting of the APRS data to the internet to allow easier use of the data by event organizers and the public. W8MHV directed that the club should implement this for next year.

ACARA Hamfest: 8am to 1pm Sunday April 30

W8MHV reported that the Lancaster club will be running the testing session. Tests start at 11am.

W8MHV invites everyone interested to take part in a 1pm Tuesday April 25 "walk-through" of the Recreation Center venue.

W8MHV has arranged for the club to borrow 45 traffic cones; N8XWO will pick these up on the 28th.

N8XWO said that the PA system owned by N8HEK works significantly better than the one he owns. WD8RIF volunteered to contact N8HEK and if the PA system is available he will bring it to the event.

N8XWO will bring the equipment necessary for the mobile check-in net. KC8JWZ will man the station.

W8MHV passed around a duty roster.

W8MHV confirmed that vendors will be allowed to begin setting up at 6am.

KC8OVB confirmed that the Red Cross will be providing food for the event. He added that the Red Cross is soliciting for baked goods to sell at the event.

KC8OVB thanked all those who helped in preparing the 1100 (corrected--had been "1500") postcards for mailing. He also thanked W8KVK for his help with the address database.

KC8OVB reported that MFJ will again be sending items to be used as door prizes. N8VZ reported that at this point it appears that World Radio may not be sending free subscription coupons to be given out as door prizes. KC8OVB will bring the one \$100 bill, the two \$50 bills, and the numerous \$1 coins.

N8VZ asked if he should post an announcement about the event on QRZ.com. W8MHV agreed that he should.

Field Day: June 24-25

W8MHV reported that the Fair Board has approved the use of the fairgrounds for the combined ACARA Field Day and "Athens Own" Sunday Market.

W8MHV brought up the question of shelters for the operating location. He asked WD8RIF if the club could use KC8MAJ's EZ-Up tent. WD8RIF said he would ask. W8MHV asked W8PG about the use of the Kiwanis building. W8PG said that the Fair Board controls use of the building. W8MHV will contact KC8JXA about this.

The March visit to The Museum of Radio & Technology

For the March, 2006 meeting, the ACARA went to The Museum of Radio & Technology in Huntington, West Virginia.

KC8OVB said that he found the trip to be very worthwhile. He felt, however, that it would have been better to have both the regularly-scheduled March meeting and the field trip to the museum.

KC8OVB made a motion that the club make a \$100 donation to The Museum of Radio & Technology. After some discussion the motion passed unanimously. KC8OVB will send the donation to the museum.

NEW BUSINESS:

"Saturday Morning Breakfast Group"

W8MHV reported that the "Saturday Morning Breakfast Group" is changing venue. The group will now begin meeting at 10am at Ponderosa. W8MHV encouraged everyone interested to participate. WB8TEP mentioned that Ponderosa replaces the breakfast buffet with the lunch buffet at 11am.

May Meeting "Visit a 'Shack"

KC8OVB reminded the membership that the May meeting will occur at the hamshack of a member. W8MHV said that NC8V had volunteered to host the meeting at his hamshack. W8MHV will confirm this with NC8V.

June Picnic

KC8OVB asked about the June Picnic. The third Tuesday of June is the 20th and this date was chosen for the picnic. After some discussion, the South Side Park (at the intersection of Dairy Lane and South Park Drive) was chosen as the venue. KC8OVB will attempt to reserve the facility. In the event of the South Side Park being unavailable, W8MHV offered his house as the back-up venue.

W8MHV reminded the membership that the club will again provide meat, buns, and condiments. Members are asked to bring their own tableware, beverages, and a covered dish to share. Picnickers should arrive at 5:30.

PROGRAM:

W8MHV has planned to screen a film about "Lighthouse Operations" but was unable to due to equipment difficulties.

KC8OVB distributed various hand-outs provided by W8WG.

W8PG demonstrated his "That was Easy" button and N8XWO demonstrated his homebrew "No It Wasn't" button.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46pm by President Drew McDaniel.

Respectfully submitted, Eric McFadden, Secretary.