

Athens Country Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of the meeting of April 17, 2007

In Attendance:	John Biddle	W8PG
	Gary Bruce	KD8FRN
	Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
	Bob Curtis	KD8FRQ
	Carl Denbow	N8VZ
	John Husey	N8GNV
	Drew McDaniel	W8MHV
	Eric McFadden	WD8RIF
	Miles McFadden	
	Richard Perry	WB8SYW
	Sharon Perry	WB8TEP
	John Thomas	KC8JWZ

Following the 7:00pm social gathering and the presentation of a short video on the Northern California DX Foundation, the meeting was called to order 7:40pm by president Drew McDaniel, W8MHV.

The minutes of the February, 2007 meeting were accepted as amended; the minutes of the March, 2007 meeting were accepted as distributed.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented by treasurer Jim Crouse, KC8OVB.

Old Business

Athens Marathon

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, reported that the Athens Marathon went well despite the wet weather and thanked all members who helped at the event. Jim also passed on thanks from the Marathon committee.

License Class

Neither John McCutchen, N8XWO, nor Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, were present to discuss the recent license class.

John Hursey, N8GNV, reported that he is working with the clubs in Meigs and Jackson Counties to put together a Technician and General class to be held in September.

Athens Hamfest: April 29, 2007

Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, asked Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, if the Red Cross is planning to provide food at the hamfest. Jim confirmed that the Red Cross will be

selling food at the event.

Drew reported that a walk-through of the Recreation Center needs to happen next week but that he will be unable to coordinate this. Carl Denbow, N8VZ, volunteered to contact Rich Campateli at the Recreation Center to schedule a walk-through the afternoon of Wednesday, April 25 and to schedule a room for the testing session.

Drew asked who has the ticket tumbler. Carl Denbow has it and will bring it to the event.

Drew asked if the club should again offer \$5 "hamfest special" memberships. A short discussion ensued and it was decided that the club will offer the \$5 memberships. Jim Crouse has the special forms for this and will bring them to the event.

Drew reported that he had 1000 new tickets printed.

Drew reported that the Lancaster club will be running the testing session at the hamfest. Drew has sent free tickets to the Lancaster club. He reported that the ARRL web site had listed the test session to be at 10am but that the postcards and flyers for the hamfest listed the test session to be at 9am. Drew confirmed with the Lancaster group that they prefer the earlier time and worked with the ARRL to correct the listing on the web site.

Drew reported that he will reserve the orange cones from the city street department and that John McCutcheon, N8XWO, will pick them up for the event.

Drew asked about prizes. Carl Denbow reported that he has received free subscriptions to World Radio magazine. Jim Crouse reported that R&L will be sending something but that MFJ hasn't yet responded to his request. Drew stated that he still has MFJ coffee mugs from last year. Carl reported that the Coalton Hamfest had prizes donated by Universal Radio. Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, will contact Universal and ask for prizes; he will also offer them free table-space if they wish to set up at the to the event.

Drew reported that the ARRL hand-outs have not yet arrived. Jim Crouse stated that the color frequency allocation charts would be nice to have available. Eric McFadden stated that these are available as a PDF download from the ARRL website (<http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/regulations/bands.html>) and, if necessary, the club might consider printing them for the event.

Drew asked for other door prize ideas. Someone suggested that restaurant chains might give gift certificates. Carl

Denbow will contact Appleby's. Gary Bruce, KD8FRN, suggested that financial institutions give savings bonds to be used as door prizes. Drew will contact the OU credit union. Sharon Perry, WB8TEP, suggested that Staples and Radio Shack might provide prizes. Drew will contact them.

Drew asked about the traditional dollar-coin prizes for the radio call-in drawings. Carl Denbow suggested the new George Washington dollar coin be used for this. Jim Crouse will get fifteen of these.

Drew asked about the \$100-bill "big prize". There was some discussion and it was decided to again offer a \$100 bill as the grand prize and two \$50 bills as the second and third prizes.

Drew stated that a PA system is needed for the hamfest. Eric McFadden reported that last year he had coordinated with Ron Chapman, Sr. and was willing to do so again this year.

Drew sent around a sign-up sheet for hamfest staffing.

Jim Crouse reported that Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, has done a database analysis of where hamfest attendees come from. Jim passed around a print-out of the report.

#### New Business

(There was no new business.)

#### Programs

Eric McFadden mentioned the "K0S Strange Antenna Challenge" and passed around the 139-page Field Manual which is available as a free download from the K0S web site:

<http://www.radiomonkey.org/n0ew/k0s/>

(Note: in the URL above, it's n-zero-ew and k-zero-s.)

Eric said that the manual would be an excellent resource for new hams whether or not they are interested in "strange antennas".

Eric McFadden passed around a brochure describing the recently-announced Hilberling PT-8000 HF/VHF transceiver. He mentioned that one version of this rig will feature 600-watt output and that there will also be 100-watt and QRP versions available. The 600-watt version is expected to be offered for € 9,353.

<http://www.hilberling-usa.com/>

The main program was a video about the A52A DXpedition to Bhutan, the first-ever DXpedition to that country.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm by president Drew McDaniel.

Respectfully submitted, Eric McFadden, Secretary.