

Athens Country Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of the meeting of November 20, 2007

In Attendance:	John Biddle	W8PG
	Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
	Bob Curtis	KD8FRQ
	Constantine Faller	KC8JXA
	John McCutcheon	N8XWO
	Drew McDaniel	W8MHV
	Eric McFadden	WD8RIF
	Rich Post	KB8TAD
	John Thomas	KC8JWZ

Following the 7:00pm social gathering, the meeting was called to order at 7:35pm by president Drew McDaniel, W8MHV.

The minutes of the October, 2007 meeting were accepted as distributed.

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

Old Business

Repeater

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported on the repairs to the repeater building. Brian Cornwell and his son replaced the rotted flooring and rusted door, and installed a storm door to prevent a recurrence of the water-damage.

Eric reported that Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, had been contacted by Athens City Police Chief Rick Mayer concerning the repeater site electric bill. The City pays for the electricity used by the ACARA equipment (2m FM repeater and two packet digipeaters), the 911 facility, and the police department equipment in the ACARA building. Eric will contact Mayer and assure him that the ACARA hasn't dramatically increased electricity usage.

Packet

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, reported for Ted Jacobson that the replacement TNC has arrived and is in service. Jim also reported that the club's ICOM IC-2100 2m transceiver will no longer transmit. He explained that Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, wished to attempt a repair but that Ted feels it is wise to replace this aged transceiver with a new IC-2200 which is available now for about \$140 after a \$20 manufacturer rebate. John Biddle, W8PG, made a motion to purchase the new transceiver. Rich Post, KB8TAD, seconded them motion. The vote to purchase the new transceiver passed unanimously. Jim will purchase the new transceiver from either R&L or Universal depending

on price.

Eric McFadden reported for Ted Jacobson that the APRS digipeater is now on-site and in operation. The station is not yet using the Motorola transceiver; Ted wants to verify that the commercial-band rig has been realigned for use in the amateur 2m band.

Hamfest -- April 27, 2008

Drew McDaniel reported that he has registered the hamfest with the ARRL and that he will apply for the tourism grant.

Jim Crouse asked to be allowed to purchase a new Hamcall CD for approximately \$40. Eric McFadden made a motion that Jim be allowed to do so. John McCutcheon, N8XWO, seconded the motion. The vote passed unanimously.

Radio Class

Drew McDaniel asked if there is news about an upcoming license class. John McCutcheon reported that no plans have been made yet but that he and Jeff Slattery will meet to plan a class for 2008.

New Business

ACARA Questionnaire

John McCutcheon distributed the results of the the questionnaire. He reported that he received responses from twelve members.

During his report, the assembled members discussed one comment in particular, this being the suggestion that the club put together a lending library of resource books or maintain a bibliography of reference materials. For the former, it was suggested that the club could buy reference materials, both new and used, and donate them to the public library. However, no further action was taken on this suggestion. For the latter, Drew McDaniel suggested the club build a list of reference materials individual members own and are willing to loan to other members. As an example, he said he has numerous books from the 1940s with much information on vacuum-tube equipment that others might find useful. Eric McFadden volunteered to build a web page with this information. He will soon send an email to members asking for titles each is willing to make available.

ARRL 10m Contest -- 0000Z December 8, 2008

John McCutcheon distributed the rules for the upcoming ARRL 10m Contest and explained that once again the club would like to submit a club entry. Members who

participate in the event need to submit their own entry to the ARRL but need to tell John they have done so and need to include in their entry that they competed as part of the "Athens County ARA" club.

#### Field Day

John McCutcheon reported that the November, 2007 QST magazine contained the results of the 2007 ARRL Field Day. The ACARA placed 35th out of 191 Class 1A entries.

#### Holiday Dinner

Drew McDaniel asked what date and location the members would like for the annual Holiday Dinner, explaining that he will be unable to attend until after the 18th. The assembled members decided on Thursday, December 20 at Lui Lui's. Drew will attempt to reserve Lui Lui's for that date. Jim Crouse will include an announcement for the Dinner in the next newsletter. As in previous years, the club will buy appetizers and a punch bowl and members will purchase their own dinners from a menu. Members are encouraged to arrive at 5:30pm for appetizers. Dinner will begin at 6pm.

#### Program

Jim Crouse provided a short video by ICOM about the K3LR contest "Super Station".

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58pm by President Drew McDaniel.

Respectfully submitted, Eric McFadden, Secretary.