

Athens Country Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of the meeting of October 21, 2008

In Attendance: John Biddle W8PG
Gary Bruce KD8FRN
Jim Crouse KC8OVB
John McCutcheon N8XWO
Drew McDaniel W8MHV
Eric McFadden WD8RIF
John Thomas KC8JWZ

Following the 7:00pm social gathering, the meeting was called to order at 7:37 pm by President Drew McDaniel, W8MHV.

The minutes of the September, 2008 meeting were accepted as distributed.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by treasurer Jim Crouse, KC8OVB. Jim reported that no bill for hamfest use of the Rec Center has been received yet. Drew McDaniel reported that he has been trying to reach the new director of the Rec Center but hasn't been successful. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Old Business

Media Submission to ARRL

John McCutcheon, N8XWO, reported that he has received a confirmation postcard from the ARRL for the Dennis Powell Athens News article he had sent them.

Repeater

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that he recently visited the repeater site to measure the size of the repeater and controller and to look at alternative heating solutions. Eric made a motion that he be given permission to purchase a clamp-light, heat-bulb, and thermostat and build a heater for the repeater and controller. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim Crouse reported that beginning about noon on Saturday, October 18 a continuous tone signal on the repeater input frequency. The repeater timed-out but Jim could still hear the signal at his house for about an hour. When the signal went away, the repeater came back up.

Digipeater

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, reported that Bill Warthman, WD8LWC, checked the IC-2200 with a spectrum analyzer and gave the transmitter a clean bill of health. Jim has not yet gotten the rig back to Ted Jacobson, W8KVK.

New Business

Pennsylvania QSO Party

John McCutcheon, N8XWO, reported on the club's recent participation in the PA QSO Party contest.

CQ Worldwide Contest, Phone -- October 25-26

John Biddle, W8PG, announced the upcoming CQ Worldwide Phone contest. The contest starts 0000 GMT on Saturday, October 25 and ends at 2400 GMT Sunday October 26. Athens is in CQ Zone 4, so the usual exchange is "59 04". Complete rules can be found here:
http://www.cqww.com/2008_rules_cqww.pdf

Election of Officers for 2009

Jim Crouse and Eric McFadden opened and counted the ballots. Fifteen ballots were received. Two ballots had Ted Jacobson as write-in candidate for the Packet Node Trustee/Webmaster position. One ballot had Greg Weinfurtner, NS80, as write-in candidate for the Vice-President position. One ballot suggested a new position "Contest Coordinator" and nominated John McCutcheon for that position.

Each of the candidates received at least one vote. Those with write-in competitors earned enough votes to prevail. The nominated slate of officers was elected. The results were accepted unanimously.

President:	Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
Vice President:	John McCutcheon, N8XWO
Treasurer:	Jim Crouse, KC8OVB
Secretary:	Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Newsletter Editor:	Jim Crouse, KC8OVB
Repeater Trustee:	Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Packet Node Trustee/Webmaster:	Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ

Regarding the position of "Contest Coordinator", John McCutcheon stated that he is already acting in that role and has identified himself on contest club-entries as "Vice-President/Contest Coordinator".

ACARA Bylaws

Jim Crouse made a motion that President Drew McDaniel appoint a blue-ribbon committee to look at the ACARA Bylaws and revise them as necessary. The motion passed unanimously.

Leonard Award

Eric McFadden made a motion that the ACARA submit Athens News columnist Dennis Powell to the ARRL for consideration for the Leonard Award for his recent columns on shortwave

listening and amateur radio. The motion passed unanimously.
Eric agreed to put together the submission packet.
Submission deadline is December 8, 2008.

Program

Drew McDaniel presented a PowerPoint presentation authored by Walt Grube, WD8MNE, on "Grounding". Walt is that rare thing: a soils engineer who also thoroughly understands electricity.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 pm by president Drew McDaniel.

Respectfully submitted, Eric McFadden, Secretary.