

Athens Country Amateur Radio Association

Minutes of the meeting of November 18, 2008 -- revised

In Attendance: John Biddle W8PG
Jim Crouse KC8OVB
Bob Curtis KD8FRQ
Carl Denbow N8VZ
Evan Dickenson K8ELD
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 7:30 pm by President Drew McDaniel, W8MHV.

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

The Treasurer's Report was presented by treasurer Jim Crouse, KC8OVB. Jim reported that the bill for last year's rental of the Rec Center has been received and paid.

Old Business

ACARA Hamfest -- April 26, 2009

Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, reported that he has reserved the use of the Recreation Center. We're renting half of the gymnasium, a room, and the large multi-purpose room.

Drew reported that now that the Rec Center has been reserved he will file the event with the ARRL.

Drew asked if flyers are needed by end of this year. The first hamfest is the Sunday Creek ARF (Nelsonville) event in mid-January. Drew said he will have flyers ready by the December Holiday Dinner.

Drew reported that he will apply for the Tourism Grant.

Carl Denbow, N8VZ, will contact World Radio and/or CQ Magazine for door prizes.

ARRL Leonard Award

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that he has sent the package to the ARRL nominating Athens News columnist Dennis Powell for the ARRL Leonard Award.

Repeater

Eric McFadden reported that he has twice heard the repeater transmit the power-on message; he speculated that the repeater site lost power and/or tests of the emergency back-up generator were taking place.

Eric reported that he has not yet purchased any equipment to heat the repeater rack.

Digipeater

Jim Crouse, KC80VB, reported that he returned the digipeater two-meter transceiver to Ted Jacobson, W8KVK.

New Business

Field Day 2008 Results

Eric McFadden presented a report on the ACARA's Field Day 2008 effort. Eight ACARA members participated and 300 contacts were made using CW and SSB for a total score of 1,942 points. This score placed the ACARA at 47th out of 140 class 1A entries, which comes to 47th percentile. He noted that the group at the 46th position made over twice as many contacts but made only two points more so two additional CW contacts or three additional SSB contacts would have given the ACARA 46th place.

Looking at class 1A within Ohio, the ACARA placed 5th out of 11 entries. The 4th-place entry within Ohio made over three times as many contacts and had a score over twice that of the ACARA.

Looking at all entries, regardless of class, within Ohio, the ACARA placed 55th out of 115.

Eric reminded the assembled membership that severe weather on Field Day weekend kept the team off the air for several hours.

Eric's report is available at
http://home.frognet.net/~mcfadden/wd8rif/FD2008_Results.htm

Annual Questionnaire

John McCutcheon, N8XWO, distributed the results of the annual questionnaire. He noted that for the first time Field/Portable Operation topped the list of activities the membership is participating in.

The Questionnaire results in PDF format can found here:

pdf

[http://home.frognet.net/~mcfadden/wd8rif/text/acara/survey2008results.](http://home.frognet.net/~mcfadden/wd8rif/text/acara/survey2008results)

ARRL 10-meter Contest

John McCutcheon reported that the ARRL 10-meter contest is Saturday, December 13 through Sunday, December 14, 2008 (0000Z - 2359Z). John explained that the ACARA will again do a club-entry. Individual participants are to send their logs directly to the ARRL and to notify John that they have done so. John will then send the ARRL a list of ACARA competitors. John reminded the membership that the ACARA member with the highest score will be presented with the rotating trophy at the Holiday Dinner.

The rules for the ARRL 10-meter Contest can be found on the ARRL website, here:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/10-meters.html>

ARRL 160-meter Contest

Eric McFadden reported that the ARRL 160-meter contest is Friday, December 5 through Sunday, December 7 (2200Z - 1600Z).

The rules for the ARRL 160-meter Contest can be found on the ARRL website, here:

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/2008/160-meters.html>

Ohio University Amateur Radio Club

Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, asked if there's still interest in rejuvenating the OU Amateur Radio Club, and if there is, who does he contact about the old equipment. Drew said that Bob should contact Greg Weinfurtner, NS80.

Bob suggested that the time to reach out to the students is in January as they are returning to campus. He and Drew will collaborate on this effort.

Athens County Emergency Operations Plan

Jim Crouse reported that he has been given the Communications Annex of the Athens County Emergency Operations Plan and explained that the club president needs to sign it if the club membership is willing to remain part of the Plan. He added that the club has routinely chosen to part of the Plan in the past.

There was discussion. Eric McFadden made a motion that Drew McDaniel sign the Annex; Carl Denbow, N8VZ, seconded the motion. The vote to accept the motion passed unanimously. Drew signed the Annex and returned it Jim.

Holiday Dinner -- December 16, 2008

Drew asked about date and location for upcoming Holiday Dinner. It was decided that the holiday dinner will be on December 16, the traditional 3rd Tuesday of the month at Lui Lui. The club will again provide hors d'ouvres, which will be served at 5:30pm.

Program

Rich Post, KB8TAD, showed and demonstrated his beautifully restored Hallicrafters SX-25 "Super Defiant" communications receiver. Photos and a description can be seen here:

<http://oak.cats.ohiou.edu/~postr/bapix/SX25.htm>

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm by president Drew McDaniel.

Respectfully submitted, Eric McFadden, Secretary.