

Minutes of the meeting of January 18, 2011 (as amended)

In Attendance:	John Biddle	W8PG
	Greg Broadhurst	KC8JWY
	Gary Carter	KD8MSR
	Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
	Bob Curtis	KD8FRQ
	Evan Dickinson	K8ELD
	John McCutcheon	N8XWO
	Drew McDaniel	W8MHV
	Eric McFadden	WD8RIF
	Rich Post	KB8TAD
	John Thomas	KC8JWZ
	Pete Wickman	KD8MZA

Following the social gathering at 7:00pm the meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.

The minutes of the November 18, 2010 meeting were distributed by co-secretary Eric McFadden who reported that he had discovered an error in the hamfest date in the previously published version. The amended minutes were accepted.

The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented by Treasurer Jim Crouse, KC8OVB. The annual dues are due, some 26 members having renewed so far. Book sales for ham class are not recorded in summary. Jim reported that Gary Bruce, KD8FRN, passed away; Jim sent flowers in the club's name and represented the club at the visiting hours.

Old Business

10 meter contest & NC8V Memorial Trophy

Eric McFadden reported that Walt Jones, WT8E, was the winner of the NC8V Memorial Trophy. Eric displayed the updated trophy he will be delivering to Walt.

Repeater Report

Eric McFadden reported that he and his son Miles, KD8KNC, installed the back-up battery at the repeater site. Eric also reported that the cabinet heater appears to be working well. (Amendment: added word "son" in first sentence.)

Ham Licensing Class

John McCutcheon, N8XWO, reported that three students are enrolled and classes are moving forward. All members are invited to attend the classes which meet at 7pm Mondays at Athens High School.

Athens Hamfest – May 1, 2011, at the Athens Community Center

Eric McFadden reported that the executive committee changed the date of the hamfest after realizing that the date chosen at the November meeting is Easter this year. The committee decided that Sunday, May 1, was the best available option.

Eric reported that the venue has been reserved and the cost to the club is the usual \$300. Eric reported that event has been registered with the ARRL.

Eric reported that Allen Sellers, KB8JLG, of the Lancaster group had suggested via email that the club might want to consider having the LAUREL VEC group administer VE testing at the hamfest because the LAUREL VEC doesn't charge for the exams. After discussion, it was clear that because the club is an ARRL affiliated organization and the hamfest is an ARRL sanctioned event, the membership is more comfortable with testing administered by an ARRL VEC group. Eric will contact Allen Sellers to verify that his group is still willing to provide the testing.

New Business

Athens Marathon 2011 – Sunday, April 3

Jim Crouse announced that the Athens Marathon is scheduled for April 3. He reported that leadership of the organizing group is in transition although this shouldn't have much of an impact on the communications services the club provides. Jim encouraged participation by club members. Jim hopes to be able schedule two shifts at the longer aid stations and to double-up operators at aid stations to allow mentoring of newly-licensed hams.

Bobcat Marathon

Jim Crouse reminded the club of the Strouds Run State Park marathon event to be held in the spring. He asked if interest exists to provide radio coverage. General interest was indicated, and Jim will follow up to get more information.

Midwinter Potluck – February 12, 2011

John McCutcheon reminded the membership of the upcoming Midwinter Potluck. The date of Saturday, February 12 was chosen. Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, will reserve the Red Cross Center for the event. John McCutcheon will provide 16mm movie entertainment. Members are to meet at the Red Cross Center (100 S. May St., Athens) at 5:30pm. Members are asked to bring a dish to share and their own beverages and table service.

“Freeze Your B___ Off” (FYBO) Wintertime QRP Field Day -- February 5, 2011

Eric McFadden mentioned the upcoming QRP Amateur Radio Club International “FYBO” event and asked if there was interest in the club in participating. Eric will provide more information via email as plans solidify. Learn more about “FYBO”:

<http://www.azscqrptions.com/fybo2009rules.html>

Program

Eric McFadden showed two World War 2 military straight keys he recently restored. The J-37 was very likely used by the USAAF; the J-41-A was a landline-telegraph key.

Rich Post, KB8TAD, showed his Vietnam-era CIA/Special-Forces AN/GRC-109 radio set. This set was an evolution of the older RS-1 that was introduced in the late 1940s. The AN/GRC-109 consists of the R-1004 receiver, T-784 transmitter, and PP-2685 and PP-2684 power supplies.

Eric McFadden used the T-784 transmitter and PP-2685 power supply successfully during Straight Key Night 2011. Learn more about Rich’s AN/GRC-109:

<http://www.ohio.edu/people/postr/bapix/GRC109.htm>

The meeting adjourned at 9:15pm by President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.

Respectfully submitted, Drew McDaniel, so-secretary; edited and posted by Eric McFadden, co-secretary