

Athens County Amateur Radio Association
Minutes of the meeting of 17 January, 2012

*Amended

In Attendance:

John Biddle	W8PG
Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
Bob Curtis	KD8FRQ
Drew McDaniel	W8MHV
Eric McFadden	WD8RIF
Rich Post	KB8TAD
John Thomas	KC8JWZ
Pete Wickman	KD8MZA

Following the social gathering at 1900, the meeting was called to order by President Eric McFadden WD8RIF at 1936.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Jim Crouse KC8OVB distributed the financial report. The club is solvent for the foreseeable future, with unencumbered funds standing at \$1350.60. The Treasurer thanked everyone who generously donated to help replace the repeater, and reminded everyone that membership renewals were due for those who had not renewed already. The report was accepted as distributed.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the meeting of 15 November, 2012 were distributed by President Eric McFadden WD8RIF. The minutes were accepted as distributed.

Old Business

ACARA 145.450 Repeater

Jim Crouse reported that the new antenna, feedline, and associated parts were ordered on 16 December, with delivery of the antenna expected on 18 January. Eric McFadden will take delivery, and undertake to store it until installation. Jim Crouse also reported that the Logan ARC recommended a local climber they had used in the past for tower installation, but it was decided that as another climber had already been approached and had provided us with technical assistance, he should be retained.

440Mhz Repeater

Jeff Slattery N8SUZ received a letter dated 17 October transferring control of the repeater to us. The letter has been filed in the archives. Jeff Slattery has agreed to act as trustee for the new repeater, and the club needs to notify the area Repeater Council, obtain control codes, and inventory the station equipment for insurance purposes.

VE Testing at SCARF Hamfest

Jeff Slattery led the VE group at the 2012 SCARF Hamfest. Twelve candidates tested, and ten achieved new licenses or upgrades.

Mike Cunningham, KD8PUI earned General

Pete Wickman, KD8MZA earned Extra

Thanks to Jeff for organizing the testing.

ACARA Hamfest 2012- 29 April 2012

Application for ARRL sanction was submitted on 09-11-2011 and approved 10-11-2012. Space has been reserved at the Athens Community Center in Gymnasium B and the Conference Room for \$300. The club decided to invite Third Sun Solar to provide their demonstration trailer as the technology is impressive and relevant. Admission cost will remain at \$5. The club will solicit volunteers to coordinate sales tables. N8SUZ will organize the testing session, and contact SCARF for additional VE's. Testing will remain at 10am. W8MHV generously offered to donate a Woxun HT as a door prize. A discussion followed regarding increasing prices to purchase better door prizes in future years.

Athens Tower Ordinance

The ordinance is now with the City Council, and as of 7 January the amateur radio exemption remains in place. As the ordinance will be a new Title in the Athens City Code, it is not clear at this time whether a more formal adoption procedure including a public comment period will be necessary. In any event, we must remain vigilant regarding discussion of the measure at future meetings. The ACARA would like to thank Jim Crouse, Carl Denbow, Ted Jacobson, John McCutcheson, Jeff Slattery, and Eric McFadden for the time they invested on this issue.

EZ Hang Slingshot Donations

John Biddle W8PG donated \$50 to the ACARA to order the [EZ Hang Slingshot](#). Additional generous donations were made by WD8RIF, KC8OVB, and W8MHV covered the balance of needed funds, and the order for the kit will be placed.

ARRL 10m Contest 10-11 December 2011 0000-2359z

The ACARA multi-op effort was cancelled due to lack of interest.

President Eric McFadden thanks Pete Wickman for attempting to organize a club effort.
NC8V Memorial Trophy

Four logs received:

KD8MZA	210 QSO's 30,240pts
W8PG	125 QSO's 2500pts
N8VZ	60 QSO's 3600pts
WD8RIF	17 QSO's (score not reported)

New Business

Athens Marathon, 1 April 2012

Lisa Simmons contacted President McFadden, who confirmed our participation for this year. The first organizational meeting was held on 5 January at the Community Center. The club will solicit volunteers to organize operator assignments.

MS Walk, 21 April 2012

The ACARA has been asked to participate again this year. Previous volunteers should have been emailed a waiver, and if they wish to participate again should return it as instructed with "Amateur Radio Operator" in the field marked, "Volunteer Job Requested." The APRS and map display were appreciated last year and should be repeated. Ted Jacobson wishes to use the Red Cross Ham Club Station to digipeate APRS to the I-Gate.

Midwinter Potluck- 6pm Saturday, 11 February

The ACARA will hold its annual potluck dinner, asking attendees to bring a dish to share and their own table service. The club wishes to thank Jim Crouse for arranging the use of the Red Cross building for the event.

Bicycle Race, Lake Hope, Sunday, 6 May 2012

Katsu Tanda contacted President McFadden to request ACARA communications support for a bicycle race at Lake Hope on the above listed date. No further details have been received at this point.

Field Day 23-4 June, 2012

Scott Warner confirmed availability of the 911 trailer-mounted crank-up mast. The club is soliciting proposals for an operating site, all suggestions are welcome. We will again ask Third Sun Solar for the use of their demonstration trailer, which worked so well last year.

Program

Before the Meeting

K9LTN stacked SteppIR array

Navy Straight Key

After the Meeting

Drew McDaniel recounted building his 6-band QRP rig

Video: WG0AT 10m Contest station with goats Peanut and Rooster

Video: ARRL's "The DIY Magic of Amateur Radio"

Meeting adjourned 2119 by President Eric McFadden.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Pete Wickman.