

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

In Attendance:

John Biddle	W8PG
Gary Carter	KD8MSR
Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
Bob Curtis	KD8FRQ
Carl Denbow	N8VZ
Kirk Groeneveld	KC8JRV
Linsey Groeneveld	KD8KNA
John McCutcheon	N8XWO
Eric McFadden	WD8RIF
Roy Plant	KD8PKV
John Thomas	KC8JWZ
Pete Wickman	KD8MZA

Following the social gathering at 1900, the meeting was called to order by President Eric McFadden WD8RIF at 1938.

Door prizes in the form of two radio bags were awarded to N8XWO and KC8JRV.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Jim Crouse KC8OVB distributed the monthly financial report. The club is solvent for the foreseeable future, with unencumbered funds standing at \$887.65 The report was accepted as distributed.

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the meeting of 20 March, 2012 were distributed by Secretary Pete Wickman. The minutes were accepted as distributed.

**Old Business**

ACARA 145.450 Repeater

The repeater seems to be working well, and is apparently able to reach Lancaster now. No additional work regarding the new antenna is currently anticipated.

440Mhz Repeater

No new information is available at this time.

### ACARA Hamfest 2012- 29 April 2012

Preparations for the Hamfest continue. A sign-up sheet for volunteers was passed around at the meeting and many positions were filled. N8VZ has the ticket drum and will deliver it to the Hamfest, although it needs to have some loose wires trimmed.

KC8OVB reported receiving the announcement postcards. Approximately 500 have been mailed out so far, and fliers with complementary tickets have been sent to approximately 50 clubs. Material has also been sent to Universal Radio and R&L Electronics.

The method of making announcements during the event was discussed, with the conclusion that they would be made this year with an outdoor loudspeaker and with simplex radio broadcasts.

Three vendors have reserved tables so far, and a walkthrough of the facility is scheduled for 1600 Wednesday, 25 April.

Setup will begin on the 29<sup>th</sup> at 0600. The Red Cross will once again be providing concessions, Constantine has declined to join them. The main prize drawing will occur at 1200, with prizes to include cash awards and an HT generously donated by Drew McDaniel W8MHV. Updates will be added to the webpage if DXCC card checkers will be in attendance.

### Athens Marathon, 1 April 2012

The club successfully deployed in support of the 2012 Athens Marathon. 28 communicators were present, and although the new marathon committee had some teething problems, the event was well organized. WD8RIF and KC8OVB will attend the follow-up meeting for the event, and were asked to discuss aid station placement and the system for collecting injured runners. Event control KC8OVB thanked all participants for their efforts.

### MS Walk, 21 April 2012

N8SUZ is organizing this event. The event will start at 1000, volunteers should arrive at the Athens Community Center by 0900.

### Bicycle Race, Lake Hope, Sunday, 6 May 2012

The club will be supporting this event, and N8SUZ is organizing the effort. The event is multiple bike races in a loop around the lake, and is expected to run from approximately 1200 to 1700. N8SUZ has contacted the Vinton County club to inquire after use of their repeater, but the event may be run simplex.

### Field Day 23-4 June, 2012

The ACARA Field Day event will be held at the Athens County Fairground. The nature of the event was briefly discussed, and an appeal made for new club members to attend. We still don't know if Constantine will cater the event.

### New Business

#### Disposition of old Repeater Antenna/ Feedline

WD8RIF, KD8OVB, and K8WJW tested the old feedline and found a short at 140ft from either end. It was decided to try to sell it "as is" at the Hamfest, failing which we should be able to sell it for the copper.

The old repeater antenna is still at the repeater site. It should be removed and tested for functionality.

#### Club Picnic 19 June

The club will attempt to reserve the site off Dairy Lane with attendees arriving at 1700 and the meal to start at 1800. The club will once again provide meat and buns, everyone should bring their own service and beverages as well as a dish to share.

#### Fellowship for Amateur Radio Presentation

KD8KNA presented a number of scholarship opportunities available through the Fellowship for Amateur Radio (FAR). KD8KNA has been accepted to Ohio University, and after detailing her academic goals and years of participation in club requested that members of the club who were affiliated with other organizations such as the Quarter Century Club, 10-10, etc. provide recommendations in support of her scholarship application. A number of recommendations were provided, and all wished KD8KNA success in her efforts.

Anyone who would like to submit a recommendation can send it direct to Dave Prestel to consider as part of the application process. It should reference **Linsey Groeneveld KD8KNA** and be received by May 15th.

1. **Email (preferred):**  
[dave.prestel@gmail.com](mailto:dave.prestel@gmail.com)  
**Fax:**  
(410) 981-5146
2. **Mail:**  
F.A.R. Scholarship Committee  
P.O. BOX 911  
Columbia, MD 21044

The complete instructions can be found on the first pages of the [2012-2013 FAR scholarship application](#). After you download the application, **read the instructions**. Typed answers are preferable to handwritten.

**Program**

“The Sinking of the Titanic” was presented by KD8FRQ.

Meeting adjourned 2121 by President Eric McFadden.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Secretary Pete Wickman.