

Minutes of March 18, 2014 Meeting

In Attendance:

John Biddle W8PG
Eric McFadden WD8RIF
Bob Curtis KD8FRQ
Don Carter KA8PJQ
Robert Moore KC8KSM
Jim Crouse KC8OVB
Jeff Slattery N8SUZ
Jan Slattery KD8PUJ
Andy Young KD8WVX
Greg Weinfurtner NS80
Gary Hudson KD8IMS

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

Program

N8SUZ – Amateur TV Station demonstration looking at it as a tool to use in emergency responses

Corrections/additions of Minutes

There were no additions or corrections to the minutes. John Thomas made a motion to accept the minutes. Greg Weinfurtner seconded the motion.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, distributed the financial report. The club currently has \$1419.20 in unencumbered funds. Bob Moore made a motion to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded by John Biddle.

Old Business

VHF Repeater: N8SUZ – Kenwood TKR-750, 16 channel VHF, 10-50 watt repeater costs \$1150; Vertex Standard VXR-70000 cost \$1190 looking to replace the RF deck.

UHF Repeater: N8SUZ – Officially coordinated/trustee changed with OARC.

February Potluck – We will do it again next year.

Club Construction / Education Project:W8MHV / N8VZ

Thanks to Carl for ordering the 18 kits. We will set a date after April 1st to construct the multiband receiver. One might want to read over the directions and check the parts list to be sure all parts were included before this date.

License Class –Considered a success with 3 candidates tested at the test session and for a total of 7 who tested. Everyone passed element 2 with one

additionally passing element 3 for General. A test session is set for next Monday, March 24th at 7:00 at the Red Cross chapter house. Thanks to Drew, John, Jeff, Eric and Bob for instructing the class. Thanks also to John, Jim, Eric and Jeff for the testing session. A thought....are we interested in scheduling a General license class at a different time of the year?? Jim will check the roster for those members who have only Technician licenses.

MS-Walk – Saturday, April 12, 2014

A change in the location plus a possibility of also running a 5 mile walk this year. The route is going out the E. State bike path with the turn around at Lowe's/Arby's. The 5 mile walk would go out past the old gas company to Holzer Clinic. Jeff is in contact with both the town coordinator and the state coordinator concerning these changes. One or two more operators would really be helpful. Contact Jeff N8SUZ if you are willing to help.

Athens Marathon – Sunday, April 13, 2014 N8SUZ –

Most of the stations are pretty well covered. Greg will take Monk Run for John. Eric turned in the list of shirt sizes. Jeff will keep us posted.....

Donation Request – Athens Marathon Committee

WD8RIF sent a letter to the Athens Marathon Committee (Lisa Simons) asking that ACARA be considered for a donation. WD8RIF spoke with Lisa Simons at the March 12 Marathon Committee Meeting. She stated emphatically our club's support of the Marathon is vital and the Committee would be happy to provide ACARA with a donation to help the club maintain the repeater system. Members discussed ideas of possible upgrades: RF deck for 2 meter repeater, insulating the building, doing something to upgrade the APRS system with another AIO, Jim mentioned an HT unit that could be used for public service or a portable repeater for emergency use. John Biddle made a motion which was seconded by Bob Curtis to have the Executive Committee meet and make a decision and send a letter to the Marathon Committee.

ACARA Hamfest – Sunday, April 27, 2014 (Easter is April 20) WD8RIF

Admission cost: \$5. N8VZ handling table reservations
Indoor table cost: \$8 at least one week prior; \$10 the last week and at gate.
Jackson, Ohio Hamfest is the day before Athens Hamfest. Door prizes: WD8RIF confirmed availability of prizes from Universal Radio; N8VZ confirmed availability of prizes from MFJ; KC8OVB confirmed availability of prizes from R&L. N8SUZ confirmed the Masons will provide food to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project. He will be coordinating the VE session at 10 AM Set-up begins at 6:00 AM. A sign-up sheet was sent around for jobs for the hamfest. President Eric McFadden stated that EVERY member is expected to work at the Hamfest. Jim worked on getting lists of AARL members....he hopes to go to email notification next year since he is sending out approximately 450 postcards this year to attendees of the past 3 years.

New Business

Lake Hope Bicycle Race- Sunday, March 30, 2014 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
N8SUZ believes he has enough coverage for this event. Operators report the location of the pack using the Vinton Co. repeater.

Field Day – June 28-29, 2014 (24 hours)
downloaded Field Day Packet from ARRL; no rule changes from 2013
W8MHV reserved use of the Kiwanis Shelter at the Athens County Fairgrounds through Paula Carpenter. The fire department demolition derby is the weekend prior. WD8RIF has reserved use of Third Sun Solar demonstration trailer and has emailed Dan Pfeiffer about the 9-1-1 mobile tower. N8SUZ has already heard back from Dan and we are set to use the tower and the low power AM station to promote the event along Union Street.

ACARA Club Station Greg NS80 brought up the idea of an official ACARA Club Station which we would lease for \$1.00/yr for 10 years and use as a meeting space, a place to hold classes, and have a radio station. Greg will talk to Nancy (John Cornwell's daughter-in-law) about some property across from John's house. Anybody have any ideas of a piece of property we might use?

Door Prize Jim KC8OVB donated a door prize which was won by Bob Moore.....a 2014 ARRL Calendar!

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jan Slattery, Secretary