

Attendance

Eric McFadden	WD8RIF, Chair
John McCutcheon	N8XWO
John Biddle	W8PG
Don Carter	KA8PJQ
Gary Carter	KD8MSR
Robert Moore	KC8KSM
Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
Greg Weinfurtner	NS8O
Bob Curtis	KD8FRQ

Program

John McCutcheon, N8XWO, spoke about “Mitigation of Inverter Generator EMI/RFI” and passed around filters used to minimize it. He played tape of several examples of noise levels with and without filtering.

Corrections/additions of Minutes

The minutes of the March meeting were passed out. John McCutcheon, N8XWO, moved that they be accepted as written. Greg Weinfurtner, NS8O, seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, gave the Treasurer’s Report. We have total unencumbered funds of \$2,441. The Southeastern Ohio Trail Runners, sponsors of the Iron Furnace Trail Run gave ACARA a donation of \$100 in appreciation of our help on the Iron Furnace Trail Run. \$250 was given by the Athens County Convention and Visitors Bureau to help with the upcoming Hamfest. The funds include some payments for tables at that event. There are still some dues outstanding. John McCutcheon, N8XWO, moved that the Treasurers Report be accepted. John Biddle, W8PG seconded the motion. It passed.

OLD BUSINESS

VHF Repeater

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, put in an application for a Yaesu “DR-1X Installation and Upgrade Program” via First Class Mail 3/18/15 It was accepted, and the unit will come in 4 to 8 weeks..

Eric configured the repeater controller to allow use of the autopatch with 10-digit numbers in area codes 740 and 220 (Note: 10 digit dialing is now mandatory in this region).

UHF Repeater

An application for a Yaesu “DR-1X Installation and Upgrade Program” was also submitted via First Class Mail 3/18/15 for this repeater. This unit will also come in 4 to 8 weeks

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ wrote via email that he replaced the 13.8vdc power supply to put this repeater back on the air on March 27.

Lake Hope Bicycle Race – Sunday, March 29, 9am – 5pm

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ reported via email about the Lake Hope Bicycle Race on Sunday March 29, 2015 He reported a total of seven operators for 56 hours on March's ARES Monthly Report. ACARA members participating were, Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, Andy Young, KD8WVX, Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, Mike Cooper, KC8WMY, Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ (net control/coordinator.) Robert Peoples, N8UVM and Scott Green, KD8KZG participated from SCARF.

Iron Furnace Trail Run – Saturday, April 4, 2015, 9am – 1pm

<http://southeasternohiotrailrunners.org/events/iron-furnance-trail-run/>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ reported via email: For the Iron Furnace Trail Run on Saturday, April 4, 2015, we had six operators for a total of 48 hours. ACARA hams were Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ (net control/coordinator), Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV, Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, Miles McFadden, KD8KNC and Bob Moore, KC8KSM.

Athens Marathon – Sunday, April 19, 2015

<http://www.athensmarathon.org/>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ reported via email about the Athens Marathon on Sunday, April 19, 2015. We had a total of 24 operators for a total of 200 hours (including pre-marathon APRS testing and setup). Operators participating were Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ (net control/coordinator), Jan Slattery, KD8PUJ, Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV, Linsey Groeneveld, KD8KNA, Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, Andy Young, KD8WVX, Patrick S. Kelly, KD8ZRP, Vickie McFadden, KC8MAJ, Katie McFadden, KD8KNB, Miles McFadden, KD8KNC, John McCutcheon, N8XWO, John Thomas, KC8JWZ, Jon Bennett, KD8ZRQ, Royce Holliday, KC8THI, Lance Groeneveld, KD8KMZ, Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, Gary Carter, KD8MSR, Robin Kinney, KG6DI, Bob Moore, KC8KSM, Carl Denbow, N8VZ, and Tim Creamer, KD8YBE.

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF and Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ did double duty as APRS bike mobiles and staffing an aid station while Tim Creamer, KD8YBE did the female lead APRS bike mobile for the full marathon.

APRS support and online map position updating were provided by Ted Jacobson, W8KVK and his brother Rob, KB9AFT. Additional digipeaters were set up by N8VZ at the full marathon turnaround and Robin Kinney, KG6DI plus a new shadow digipeater operating from Andy Young, KD8WVX's home QTH.

Club Construction / Education Spring Project

This was tabled, because Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, who has a project in mind, was not present.

Athens Hamfest – Sunday, April 26, 2015

The Jackson (Ohio) Hamfest is Saturday, April 25. This may draw business from us. Nevertheless, Greg Weinfurtner, NS8O, who is going, will take flyers advertising ours to distribute to their customers.

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF finalized worker assignments for those present. The venue walk-through is 4pm Wednesday the 22nd.

As mentioned above, ACARA was awarded \$250.

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ wrote via an email that he will arrange to get the ticket-drum from Jon Bennett. Also, Jeff wrote that VE testing is all

arranged; Administering the tests will be himself, Carl Denbow, N8VZ, Bill Warthman, K8WJW, plus 1 or 2 from SCARF, plus maybe Jason Licht, KG8JL. He reported that the Masonic Lodge will be providing the food concession.

John McCutcheon, N8XWO has completed the paperwork; traffic cones will be available without charge.

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF has door prizes from Universal Radio. There is no HT from UAR this year. Drew McDaniel, W8MHV will donate one instead. Eric McFadden, WD8RIF has gift certificates received from ARRL. Carl Denbow N8VZ wrote via email that he has door prizes from MFJ. Eric has picked up Ron Chapman's PA system.

Admission tickets are green this year. The event goes from 8 AM to 1 PM. Jim (KC8OVB) suggested that next year it should end at noon, because events are mostly over by then.

June Picnic – Tuesday, June 16, 2015

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB has reserved the shelter on Dairy Lane for the picnic. We shall gather at 5:30 PM and eat at 6. This year we should have people email the proposed dish that they will bring.

ARRL Field Day – Saturday – Sunday, June 27-28, 2015

Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, has reserved the Athens County Fairgrounds for our use. Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, has emailed Third Sun Solar asking about use of their solar demonstration trailer, and Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, wrote via email that Dan Pfeiffer has confirmed availability of the 9-1-1 mobile tower. John McCutcheon, N8XWO, will supply an antenna. We are going to find two suitable laptops with software for logging.

New Business

The Chair announced the donation of an Icom IC-701 by William Anderson, Jr., K8WWV, to the club. It is a 1979 era HF rig with a maximum output of 100Watts. Drew McDaniel, W8MHV will check it over.

Summer Fox-Hunt Series?

Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV asked via email if the club is interested in trying fox-hunts again? Plans for an easy-to-build tape measure + PVC yagi are located at: http://theleggios.net/wb2hol/projects/rdf/tape_bm.htm The question is: who will organize it?

US Islands Contest

Greg Weinfurtner, NS8O, is interested in participating in the US Islands Awards Program (See May2015 QST, pp. 73 – 74). The USI is having an activity day May 9 0000z – 2359z to encourage amateur radio operators to participate. Greg is interested in doing it. Anyone who wants to join him should call Greg at 740-243-3300.

Red Cross Chapter House antenna party

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ wrote via email that he will be arranging an antenna party to restore the fallen roof-mounted 2m antenna and to install an HF vertical. This will need the permission of the Red Cross, which has concerns about the roofing warranty.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was proposed by John McCutcheon, N8XWO, and seconded by Greg Weinfurtner, NS8O. It was approved without dissent.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm

Respectfully submitted, Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ