

Program

Andy Young, KD8WVX, talked on his two National Parks on the Air (NPOTA) Activations. He talked about his Buddipole Antenna as well. He and Eric went online to show tables of “Chasers” and “Activators” to demonstrate where Andy currently ranked nationally. We were all encouraged to get involved, but cautioned to bring brochures for the rangers in charge so that they would understand and cooperate with any activation.

Attendance

Eric McFadden, Chair	WD8RIF
John Biddle	W8PG
Robert Moore	KC8KSM
Jim Crouse	KC8OVB
John Thomas	KC8JWZ
Gary Carter	KD8MSR
Bob Curtis	KD8FRQ
Andy Young	KD8WVX
Carl J. Denbow	N8VZ
Jeff Slattery	N8SUZ

Corrections/additions of Minutes

There were no corrections to the minutes of 2/16/16. Carl Denbow, N8VZ moved to accept them John Biddle, W8PG, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report

Jim Crouse, KC8OVB gave the Treasurer's Report. Bills to be paid are for the Repeater autopatch and copies of hand outs. The figure for receivables from the VE Change and fees was orally corrected to \$71. Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, moved to approve the revised report. John Thomas, KC8JWZ, seconded the motion. It was approved.

Old Business

VHF Repeater

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF – has researched control options for a Yaesu repeater and feels using the existing CAT controller is the best option; the best way to use an external controller is with the addition of an Arcom ADR Interface: “The ADR Interface allows the connection of an external repeater controller to the Yaesu DR-1x Fusion Repeater while still retaining the automatic mode selection capability of the repeater as well as preventing conflict between the DR1x and your external controller.” The complete plug-and-play configuration is \$175. Reference: (<http://www.arcomcontrollers.com/index.php/adr-interface>)

He further stated the DR-1X provides power-output settings of 5, 20, and 50 watts. Contrary to initial advertisements, the DR-1X cannot provide 100% duty-cycle at 50-watt output. If we want our current 35-watt output, we’ll need to continue using our Vocom commercial-grade amplifier which is configured for 8-watt input. We might be able to adjust the amplifier to provide 35-watt output from a 5-watt input.

Eric asked for a motion that he be allowed to purchase an ADR interface. Jeff made a motion that we order the ADR interface. Carl Denbow, N8VZ, seconded the motion. It passed.

UHF Repeater

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ has ordered an Arcom repeater controller, which can control three radios, for his GOBA repeater. He will use his system to experiment. He has ordered it with a Yaesu ADR interface. Reference: <http://www.arcomcontrollers.com/>

Club Construction / Education Spring Project .

Drew McDaniel, W8MHV who is in charge of the project was absent. It will be held Saturday, May 7, from noon to 5:00 PM. Jim Crouse, KC8OVB will reserve space at the Red Cross Chapter house for participants to wind their own trap coils. Those interested should tell Drew so he can order enough materials.

License Class

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported that two people attended on a regular basis, and a third came when his schedule allowed. The result of the exam was

that two students got Amateur Extra licenses, and one got a Technician license.

Athens Marathon – Sunday, April 10; 8am – 3pm

The Chair attended the 1st three Marathon Planning Meetings (2016-02-04, 2016-02-25, 2016-03-10).

There will be a single SAG coordinator, and new staff at the turn around. Nurses and medical students are supposed to be at every aid station. The Press Box at the Finish Line might not have commercial power available. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, will send out an email to recruit/confirm workers for the event.

Athens Hamfest – Sunday, April 24

Eric, WD8RIF, has asked Universal Radio for door prizes. He announced that we were awarded \$250 from ACCVB (The Athens County Convention & Visitors Bureau).

A discussion followed on publicity. Jeff, Slattery N8SUZ, said he has used the service “Vertical Response” to send mass emails and that it should work for the hamfest emails. The service allows up to 1000 emails to be sent for free. Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, will send postcards to those recipients for whom we have no email addresses. An executive committee consisting of Jim Crouse, KC8OVB, Carl Denbow, N8VZ, and Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, will work on it.

ARRL Field Day – June 25-26, 2016

Eric, WD8RIF asked Third Sun Solar for use of their Solar Demonstration Trailer; he is awaiting confirmation. He also asked Dan Pfeiffer via email about use of the mobile crank-up tower; again, he is awaiting a reply. This year we can use the brick building on the hill as well as the Kiwanis shelter. This will give us more room to set up different stations.

February Potluck – Saturday, February 20 at the Red Cross Chapterhouse.

The Chair announced there was good attendance; the Disney short provided by John McCutcheon, N8XWO, and the Twilight Zone episode provided by Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, were well received.

Thunderbunny 50K – Saturday, May 14, 2016

The Chair asked: will the club be able to support this? It will be through Stroud's Run, and there will be 5K and 13K runs as well. After some discussion, it was decided to decline. The club would be stretched too thin to provide enough operators.

Lake Hope Bicycle Race – Sunday, May 15, 9am – 5pm

Jeff Slattery N8SUZ said it would need a net control and a minimum of four additional operators; seven operators is preferred.
Eric, WD8RIF made the point that this is Dayton Hamvention weekend; He and Jeff will *not* be able to participate in ACARA support of this race. Jeff will try to get recruits by email.

New Business

Iron Furnace Trail Run – Saturday, April 2 9am – 1pm

Jeff, N8SUZ said he needs four operators plus a net control. He will send out an email about it.

Adjournment

John Thomas, KC8JWZ, moved that the meeting be adjourned. Andy Young, KD8WVX, seconded it. All agreed.

Meeting adjourned: 9:20 pm

Respectfully Submitted:
Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ
