

Program:

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, made a presentation on the *Parks on the Air* program (<https://parksontheair.com/>).

Attendance:

Josh Cash, KE8EAS
Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ
Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Paul Schulz, WD8SCV
Robert Moore, KC8KSM
John Thomas, KC8JWZ

Corrections/Additions to Minutes:

The minutes of the November 20, 2018 meeting were distributed. Josh Cash, KE8EAS, made a motion to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded by Bob Moore, KC8KSM. The motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer, Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, was absent from the meeting due to an illness and no Treasurer's Report was presented.

President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that he received an email from Todd Acheson, Treasurer of Team Athens Cycling Club, stating that the Team Athens will be making a donation to the club in recognition of the support the ACARA has given Team Athens' annual Lake Hope Bicycle Club event.

Eric reminded the membership that membership dues for 2019 are now being accepted.

Old Business

VHF Repeater

VHF Repeater Trustee Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that on November 25, he discovered the repeater phone line was dead. He called Frontier for service on the 28th. The line was repaired on the 29th.

Eric reported that he tried to arrange a tower-climb with the climber the club has previously used, George Fitz. George declined to do the work this time, stating he does not carry enough insurance to satisfy the requirements of American Tower (ATC).

Eric emailed ATC and was eventually able to get a list of ATC-approved climbers. The only Athens-based climber in the list is Intelliwave. Eric engaged in an email conversation with Chris Cooper at Intelliwave, explaining that we would like the work be finished prior to the Athens Marathon. Mr. Cooper stated Intelliwave wouldn't be able to meet that deadline due to other commitments. Mr. Cooper suggested ACARA contact J&M Wireless in Circleville. Eric has not yet tried to contact J&M.

UHF Repeater

There was no report on the UHF repeater.

VHF DMR Repeater

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that the frequency 146.625 MHz formerly used on a K8TUT Athens-area repeater has been successfully coordinated by Jeff through the Ohio Area Repeater Council (OARC) for use on the ACARA's VHF DMR repeater.

Results: *Ohio State Parks on the Air 2018*

<http://ospota.org/>

The President reported that results from the 2018 *Ohio State Parks on the Air* event have been posted (<http://ospota.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/2018-OSPOTA-Results-Finals-1Dec2018.pdf>).

The ACARA's activation of Strouds Run State Park placed 2nd out of four entries in "multi-op, single radio, low power, in a park" class with 2,405 points.

Thanks go to everyone who braved the cold, wind, and rain to participate: Josh Cash, KE8EAS; Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ; John McCutcheon, N8XWO; Drew McDaniel, W8MHV; Eric McFadden, WD8RIF; Miles McFadden, KD8KNC; Bob Moore, KC8KSM; Steve Norris, AD8BD; Andy Young, KD8WVX; and Taylor Young.

Eric also reported that Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, activated Jackson Lake State Park using his own callsign; Jeff did not submit an OSPOTA log and is not listed in the results.

ACARA Holiday Dinner – Tuesday, December 18

The President reported that the ACARA's annual Holiday Dinner at Lui Lui was well attended and well received.

Attendees:

John Biddle, W8PG
Josh Cash, KE8EAS
Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, and Kathy Curtis
Carl Denbow, N8VZ, and Jane Denbow
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Rich Post, KB8TAB, and Edie Post
Brynn Riordan, KD8JDH
Robert Riordan, KA4VNK
Rob Rose, KE8JDA
Robin Rose, KE8JDB
Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ

NC8V Memorial Trophy

The President reported that at the ACARA's annual Holiday Dinner the NC8V Memorial Trophy was awarded to Josh Cash, KE8EAS, for achieving 197 QSOs and 40,492 points in the 2018 *ARRL 10-Meter Contest*. New ACARA member Jeramy Duncan, KC8QDQ, took second place with 59 QSOs and 2,728 points. Also submitting scores were Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, with 25 QSOs and 900 points and Carl Denbow, N8VZ, with 15 QSOs and 270 points.

ACARA Technician License Class – Mondays, January 8 – March 11

The President reported that the first session was attended by only one student, Joe Weber. The second session was attended by four students: Joe Weber, Curt Cable, Elijah Cable, and Bob Betz.

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that the VE testing session is to be at 7pm on March 11.

New Business

Winter Field Day 2019 – January 26-27, 2019

<https://www.winterfieldday.com/>

The President reported that Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, has agreed to lead the ACARA's *Winter Field Day* effort in the newly built radio station at the Red Cross of Southeastern Ohio.

Winter Field Day starts at 2pm on Saturday the 26th and runs for 24 hours. The Red Cross has an 11am Saturday meeting scheduled but this meeting should be over well before the 2pm start of *Winter Field Day*. Jeff will not be able to help set up or participate until after the 2pm Ohio University basketball game has ended due to his need to work as an EMT at the game.

The assembled members were unable to pick a window in which to operate. The President will ask Jeff to email the membership to determine what the best time is for participation in the event.

ACARA February Potluck – Saturday, February 16, 2019

The President reminded the membership of the upcoming ACARA February Potluck which will be on Saturday, February 16, 2019 at the Red Cross of Southeastern Ohio, 100 South May Ave., Athens. Members and their guests will gather at 5pm and will eat at 5:30pm. They are to bring their own serving-ware, beverage, and a dish to share. John McCutcheon, N8XWO, will bring a 16mm projector and will screen a short film. Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, will screen one or two especially selected episodes of Twilight Zone.

Club Construction Project

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that he is thinking of leading a group-build of a collapsible copper J-Pole 2m/70cm antenna sometime in March. He estimates the cost to each builder would be around \$50 for materials for each antenna. Those interested in participating should contact Jeff Slattery or Eric McFadden.

Iron Furnace Trail Run 2019 – Saturday April 6, 2019

<https://www.ironfurnacetrailrun.com/>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that 2019 running of the *Iron Furnace Trail Run* will be 9am until about 2pm on Saturday, April 6, 2019.

Watch for emails from Jeff as the event date draws nearer.

Athens Marathon 2019 – Sunday, April 14, 2019

<http://www.athensohiomarathon.com/>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that the 2019 running of the *Athens Marathon* will be 8am until 3pm on Sunday, April 14, 2019.

Watch for emails from Jeff as the event date draws nearer.

Tour of Athens Gravel – Saturday, April 20, 2019

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that Team Ohio Cycling Club has requested ACARA support for the 2nd annual *Tour of Athens Gravel*, an organized bicycle tour on the “Bailey”-named gravel roads north of Chauncey. The tour will feature a 30 mile loop and a 50 mile loop for the riders to choose from. Last year the ride started at 10 AM. Jeff speculates that ACARA support would end around 1 PM. Team Athens is asking for communications support due to poor cell coverage in the area. Jeff will need to check repeater coverage in the area, but is thinking a simplex-net would be needed to support this event. Jeff pointed out that if the ACARA were to decide to support this event, the ACARA would have three public service events and the Athens Hamfest in the month of April.

Watch for emails from Jeff about this event.

Athens Hamfest 2019 – Sunday, April 28, 2019

The President reported that he is expecting the application form for the Athens County Convention and Visitors Bureau (ACCVB) tourism grant will be available soon. Once it is available, he will apply for the grant.

Lake Hope Bicycle Race 2019 – Sunday, May 26, 2019

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that the date for the *Lake Hope Bicycle Race* has been confirmed. The event will run from 10am to 5pm on Sunday, May 26, 2019.

Bobcat Trail Marathon 2019 – Saturday, November 9, 2019

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported via email that the date for the *Bobcat Trail Marathon* has been confirmed. The event will be held on Saturday, November 9, 2019.

Following a motion by Josh Cash, KE8EAS, and a second by Bob Moore, KC8KSM, the meeting at adjourned at 8:50pm.

Respectively submitted by President and Secretary Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.