

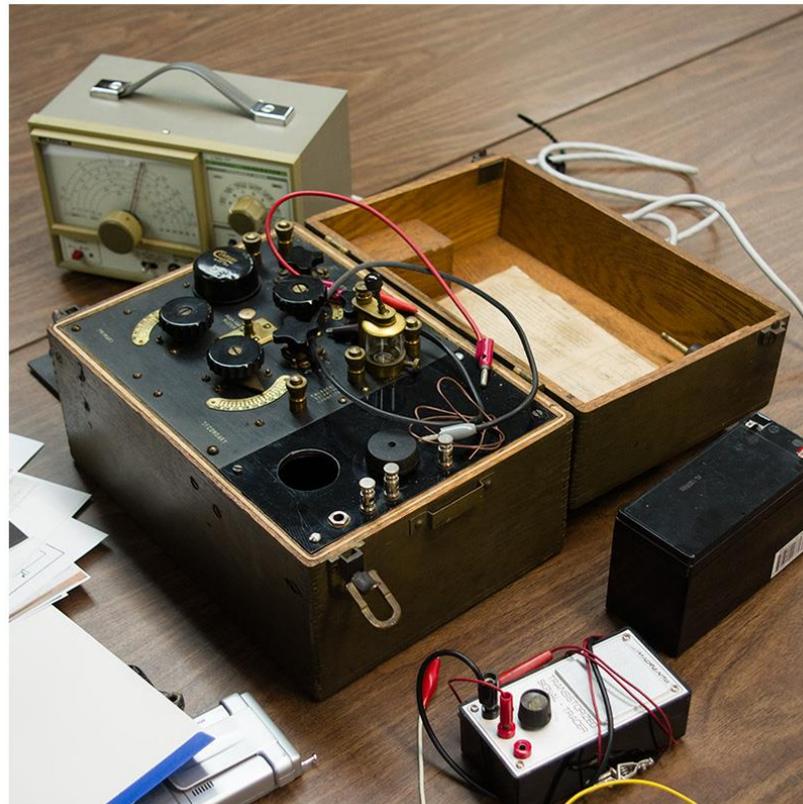
**Program:**

Rich Post, KB8TAD, made a presentation on the WWI radio system SCR-54A and demonstrated the double-tuned cat's-whisker-style crystal radio receiver from that system, the BC-14A.

Rich explained that the SCR-54A system had been developed to allow real-time airplane-based artillery-control and observation of activity at the front. The pilot of the airplane, or an observer in a two-seat craft, would transmit reports in Morse Code using a BC-15A multi-gap quenched-spark transmitter. Radio operators on the ground, sitting beneath a 150'-long Inverted-L antenna, would receive the reports using the BC-14A receiver. There being no receiver on the airplane, the communication was strictly "one-way".

Rich further explained that then-Captain Edwin Howard Armstrong, who was already responsible for the invention of the regenerative receiver, was involved in the development of the BC-14A receiver. (Major Armstrong would later go on to develop the superheterodyne receiver and frequency modulation.)

(Read more about the SCR-54: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/SCR-54>.)



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***Attendance:***

Michael Baxla, KE8ICP  
John Biddle, W8PG  
Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ  
Carl Denbow, N8VZ  
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV  
Eric McFadden, WD8RIF  
Robert Moore, KC8KSM  
Rich Post, KB8TAD  
Paul Schulz, WD8SCV  
Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ

***Corrections/Additions to Minutes:***

The minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting were distributed. Bob Moore, KC8KSM, made a motion to accept the minutes. Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

***Treasurer's Report:***

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that he sold the remaining significant items from the estates of John "Andy" Andracki, KB8ER, and Mike Brown, AB8NA, at the Mansfield Mid\*Winter Hamfest on Sunday, February 17. He gave the \$260 in proceeds to the Treasurer. Eric displayed the remaining estate items—mostly some books and manuals—on a table for interested members to take.

Eric mentioned that the club should consider selling its ICOM IC-701 station at the Athens Hamfest and asked Drew McDaniel if he could test the transceiver before the hamfest; Drew agreed to test the transceiver.

Treasurer Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, presented the Treasurer's Report. His report showed the club has \$4,613.02 in unencumbered funds; this amount includes a \$100 donation from Team Athens Cycling Club, the group that organizes the annual Lake Hope Bicycle Race that is supported by the ACARA. The amount also includes annual dues received from 14 members but does not include the \$260 earned through sales of estate equipment at the Mansfield Mid\*Winter Hamfest. Drew accepted dues from several member present.

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, made a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. John Biddle, W8PG, seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Old Business**

## VHF Repeater

VHF Repeater Trustee Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that other than some audio distortion on extremely cold days, the repeater continues to operate as expected. He further reported that he has not yet attempted to contact J&M Wireless for a climber to move the repeater from the ATC tower to the County 9-1-1 tower.

## UHF Repeater

UHF Repeater Trustee Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported no change with the status of the UHF repeater.

## VHF DMR Repeater

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported that his plans to build a VHF DMR repeater remain underway.

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

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported that one student continues to attend the class. A second student, who was previously licensed, is probably studying at home. It is hoped that the father/son pair of students who attended only the first few classes are also studying at home. The President asked Jeff to contact the father and son to ask if they need help and to remind them of the March 11 test session.

Jeff reminded all members that testing for all license levels will be available at the March 11 test session.

*Winter Field Day – January 26-27, 2019*

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that five ACARA members participated in the Winter Field Day event at the Red Cross of Southeastern Ohio on the Saturday of the event. Josh Cash, KE8EAS, and Eric McFadden operated CW. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, operated SSB. A total of 61 QSOs were made on 20, 40, and 80 meters for a score of 2,610 points which includes a 1,500 point bonus for operating in a remote location. Bob Moore, KC8KSM, and Miles McFadden, KD8KNC, visited the operation but did not operate. Eric has submitted the club's entry to the event organizers.

*ACARA February Potluck – Saturday, February 16, 2019*

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the potluck was well attended and all attendees seemed to have a good time. Entertainment included a screening of the 1935 Ub Iwerks animated short film "Sinbad the Sailor" on 16mm film, courtesy of John McCutcheon, N8XWO, and the 1960 Twilight Zone episode "The Mighty Casey" on DVD, courtesy of Eric McFadden. "The Mighty Casey" had been requested by Carl Denbow, N8VZ, following last year's potluck.

*Attendees:*

John Biddle, W8PG  
Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ  
Carl Denbow, N8VZ  
Jane Denbow  
Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV  
Sheila Groeneveld  
John McCutcheon, N8XWO  
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV  
Eric McFadden, WD8RIF  
Miles McFadden, KD8KNC  
Bob Moore, KC8KSM  
Esther Moore  
Edie Post  
Rich Post, KB8TAD  
Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ (amended)

*(Amended: Bob Curtis added to list of attendees.)*

### Club Construction Project

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reminded the membership he will be offering a folding copper j-pole 2-meter antenna construction session in late March. He estimates the cost of parts and consumables for this project will be around \$50 for each antenna. Interested members should contact Jeff or Eric McFadden.

### *Iron Furnace Trail Run* – Saturday, April 6, 2019

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

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reminded the membership of the *Iron Furnace Trail Run* which will be on April 6 and asked for volunteers to work the event.

Members should watch for an email from Jeff about this event.

### *Athens Marathon* 2019 – Sunday, April 14, 2019

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

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reminded the membership of the *Athens Marathon* which will be on Sunday, April 14 and asked for volunteers to work the event.

Members should watch for an email from Jeff about this event.

### *Tour of Athens Gravel Bicycle Tour* – Saturday, April 20, 2019

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reminded the membership that Team Athens Cycling Club has asked the ACARA to provide communications support at their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual *Tour of Athens Gravel Bicycle Tour*, an organized bicycle tour of the gravel roads north of Chauncey. The tour features a 50-mile loop and a 30-mile loop. Jeff will drive the course to determine how many operators would be needed and at what locations.

Members should watch for an email from Jeff about this event.

## Athens Hamfest – Sunday, April 28, 2019

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that he has submitted the application for the Athens Convention and Visitors Bureau Tourism Grant.

Eric reported that he has confirmed that Universal Radio will provide door prizes.

Eric reported that he has emailed DX Engineering to ask about door prizes but no reply yet been received.

Eric reported that he has received a \$10 Gift Certificate door prize from RF Adapter Guy.

Eric reported that Mastrant (<https://www.mastrant.com/>) will be sending gift certificate door prizes.

Carl Denbow, N8VZ, volunteered to contact MFJ and R&L Electronics for door prizes.

Carl Denbow, confirmed that he will again coordinate table sales.

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported that the VE session has been listed on the ARRL website and that the Masons will be providing the food concession.

Eric McFadden and Drew McDaniel will work together to generate the postcard mailing labels with consultation of Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, if necessary. Jeff Slattery confirmed that he will handle the email announcements.

*Lake Hope Bicycle Race – Sunday, June 2, 2019*

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the event has a new date: Sunday, June 2, 2019.

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, asked for volunteers to work the event.

Members should watch for an email from Jeff about this event.

*Bobcat Trail Marathon – Saturday, November 9, 2019*

<https://www.westernreserveracing.com/events/bobcat-trail-marathon/>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reminded the membership of the *Bobcat Trail Marathon* which will be on Saturday, November 9, 2019.

All Athens Special Event Station

Carl Denbow, N8VZ, stated that he should be able to provide an update on this project at the March ACARA meeting.

**New Business**

*Buckeye Trail Marathon – Saturday, October 5, 2019*

<https://www.buckeyetrail.org/run4blue.php>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, announced that the *Buckeye Trail Marathon* will be on Saturday, October 5, 2019.

Following a motion by Carl Denbow, N8VZ, and a second by Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Respectively submitted by President and Secretary Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.