

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting was held via Zoom teleconference.

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm by President Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.

Program

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, gave a short presentation on the ACARA's effort in the Ohio State Parks on the Air (OSPOTA) field-event. A report and photos can be seen at <http://www.ac-ara.org/?p=1198>.

Attendance

Nick Arnold, KD8FKB
Michael Baxla, KE8ICP
Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ
Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ

Corrections/Additions to Minutes

Due to this being a teleconference-only meeting, no hard-copies of the August Minutes were distributed. Members had been instructed via email to read the August Minutes on-line prior to the meeting.

A motion to accept the August Minutes as published was made by Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ. The motion was seconded by Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ. The motion passed without dissent.

Treasurer's Report

Due to this being a teleconference-only meeting, no hard-copies of the Treasurer's Report were distributed. Prior to the meeting, a PDF of the Treasurer's Report had been distributed via email. (The Treasurer's Report is available in PDF format is available here: http://www.acara.org/minutes/2020/Treasurers_Report_September_2020.pdf)

Treasurer Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, presented the Treasurer's Report. The club treasury holds \$1,579.36 in unencumbered funds. The *Jim Crouse Memorial Fund* holds \$137.34.

Drew additionally reported that the insurance premiums to Mercer are due soon and that he would like to switch from Mercer to the ARRL insurance program.

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, made a motion that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented and that the Treasurer be authorized to switch insurance coverage from Mercer to ARRL. Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV, seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

Old Business

VHF and UHF Repeaters

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the 2m and 70m repeaters continue to work well in both analog FM and System Fusion modes. No progress has yet been made on the possible purchase and deployment of an external controller.

ACARA Nets

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the ACARA's weekly nets are doing well during this time of COVID-19. He reminded members of the dates and times of the nets:

1. 2m FM Net, Mondays, 7pm, 145.15 MHz
2. 70cm FM Net, Mondays, immediately following the 2m net, 442.100 MHz
3. 6m AM Net, Sundays and Wednesdays, 5pm, 50.4 MHz
4. 2m System Fusion Net, Thursday, 5pm, 145.15 MHz
5. 70cm System Fusion Net, Thursday, immediately following the 2m net, 442.100 MHz
6. 2m FM Simplex Net, 7pm, occasional Thursdays as announced

Old Business (continued)

Report: "Ohio State Parks on the Air" – Saturday, September 12, 2020

<http://ospota.org/>

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the club participated in Ohio State Parks on the Air (OSPOTA) event by activating Strouds Run State Park at the Bulldog Shelter.

Using the club's Elecraft K3 and the Field Day 80/40m fan-dipole, the club made 171 QSOs and worked stations at thirty-seven Ohio State Parks for a total calculated score of 6,722 points.

Participants:

Nick Arnold, KD8FKB
Tiffany Arnold
Stephanie Archer
John McCutcheon, N8XWO
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Bob Moore, KC8KSM
Edie Post
Rich Post, KB8TAD
Brynn Riordan, KB8JDH
Robert Riordan, KA4VNK
Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
Bob Weber
Joe Weber, KE8LRZ
Andy Young, KD8WVX

QSOs were made by Bob Weber, KE8LRZ, KA4VNK, KD8FKB, KD8WVX, N8SUZ, and WD8RIF.

Eric also reported that SCARF, who activated Burr Oak Lake State Park in the High Power class, made 391 QSOs and worked stations at forty-two parks, earning a score of 16,422 points.

A full report with photos can be viewed here: <http://www.ac-ara.org/?p=1198>

Old Business (continued)

ACARA Club Building Project – Copper J-Pole Antenna – September 26, 2020

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reminded the membership of the club's group-build of copper j-pole antennas to be held from 1pm to 4pm on Saturday, September 26, 2020 in the parking lot of the Red Cross of Southeastern Ohio. Those interested in building their own copper j-pole antenna should contact Jeff Slattery (digital@ac-ara.org) prior to the event.

ACARA Constitution and Bylaws

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, the Executive Committee has not yet met to re-write the club's Constitution & Bylaws and will not be able to present the re-written documents at the September or October meetings.

Buckeye Trail Marathon / Run for the Blue Blazes – ~~Saturday, October 3, 2020~~

Organizer: Buckeye Trail Association / Herb Hullis

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

<https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Shawnee/RunForBlueBlazes>

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the event website now shows that this event has been canceled.

Bobcat Trail Marathon – ~~Saturday, November 7, 2020~~

Organizer: Western Reserve Racing / Joe Jurczyk

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

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported that this event has been canceled.

New Business

New Officer Nominations

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reminded the assembled members that the ACARA nominates officers for the upcoming year at the September meeting and holds the vote at the October meeting.

The current officers are as follows:

President	Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Vice-President	Josh Cash, KE8EAS
Treasurer	Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
Secretary	Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Newsletter Editor	Josh Cash, KE8EAS
Webmaster	Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
Packet Node Trustee	Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
Repeater Trustee	Eric McFadden, WD8RIF

Given the low turn-out at the September meeting, and the absence of the current vice-president at the meeting, Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV, made a motion that the club postpone nominations until the October meeting and vote at the November meeting. Nick Arnold, KD8FKB, seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissent.

President Eric McFadden will ask Josh Cash, KE8EAS, if he wishes to remain a candidate for Vice-President and will notify the club membership via email prior to the October meeting that nominations will be made at that meeting.

Following a motion by Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, and a second by Drew McDaniel, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Following the adjournment, several members remained on the Zoom call for informal discussion.

Respectfully submitted by President and Secretary Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.