

The meeting was called to order at 7:14 pm by president Eric McFadden, WD8RIF.

Presentation

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, introduced the club's new ICOM IC-7610 HF+6m transceiver, SP-41 speaker, and SM-50 desk microphone.

Attendance

Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ
Carl Denbow, N8VZ
Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV (via Zoom)
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Tony Peric, KE8VFA
Rich Post, KB8TAD (via Zoom)
Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ (via Zoom)
John Thomas, KC8JWZ

Corrections/Additions to Minutes

Copies of the April minutes were distributed and were also made available online for those members participating remotely.

A motion to accept the April minutes as published was made by Drew McDaniel, W8MHV. The motion was seconded by Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ. The motion passed without dissent.

Treasurer's Report

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that ACARA has received a \$150 donation from Southeast Ohio Trail Runners (SEOTR) in appreciation for ACARA's support of the Iron Furnace Trail Run.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Drew McDaniel, W8MHV.

Drew reported on his research into interest-bearing accounts available in the area, the selection by the Executive Committee of the five-month Certificate of Deposit (CD) at Atomic Credit Union, and his deposit of \$20,000 into that account.

The club treasury holds \$2,735.86 in unencumbered funds. The *Jim Crouse Memorial Fund* holds \$6,259.41. The CD holds \$20,000.

Drew reported on the recent Athens Hamfest. Total income was \$1,819. Total expenses were \$635.60. Net profit was \$1,183.40.

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Carl Denbow, N8VZ. The motion was seconded by Tony Peric, KE8VFA. The motion passed without dissent.

The Treasurer's Report is available online in PDF format at http://www.ac-ara.org/?page_id=37.

Old Business

Report: Athens Hamfest

Event Date: Sunday, April 30, 2023

Event Location: Athens Community Center

Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, reported that we had 214 paid attendees; total income of \$1,819; and net profit of \$1,183.40.

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, thanked the twenty volunteers who helped make the Athens Hamfest a success:

Gary Carter, KD8MSR
Mike Cooper, KC8WMY
Bob Curtis, KD8FRQ
Carl Denbow, N8VZ
Curt Duncan, KC8QDP
Constantine Faller, KC8JXA
Scott Green, KD8KZG
Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV
Lance Groeneveld, KD8KMZ
Drew McDaniel, W8MHV
Eric McFadden, WD8RIF
Miles McFadden, KD8KNC
Rob Rose, KE8JDA
Robin Rose, KE8JDB
Paul Schulz, WD8SCV
Brian Shapiro, KC8ZUF
Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ
John Thomas, KC8JWZ
Bob Weber, KE8WW
Joe Weber, KE8LRZ

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the VE session produced three new Technician Class licensees, one upgrade from Technician Class to General Class, and one upgrade from General Class to Extra Class.

Old Business (continued)

Athens Marathon Committee Donation

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reminded the membership that in April ACARA received a \$30,000 donation from the outgoing Athens Marathon Committee and that at the April meeting, members voted to place the bulk of this money into an interest-bearing account.

Eric reported that Treasurer Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, had researched the options and presented his findings to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee directed the Treasurer to deposit \$20,000 into a five-month CD at Atomic Credit Union that pays 3.92% APR.

Eric reported that he will form the planning committee that will discuss ways to spend the donation in time for the committee to meet during the summer.

Andy Riley, W8VKJ (SK) Estate

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reminded the membership that Marjorie Morrison, the daughter of Andy Riley, W8VKJ, had donated her late father's radio equipment to ACARA with no restrictions on the disposition of the equipment. The Executive Committee decided to offer the equipment first to club members at no charge and to dispose of any remaining equipment at the Athens Hamfest for donations.

A Swan 350B went to Drew McDaniel, W8MHV.

A Swan 500 + power supply went to Carl Denbow, N8VZ.

A Gonset G-50 went to Rich Post, KB8TAD.

A Heathkit HW-202 + mic + power supply went to Gary Carter, KD8MSR.

A selection of citizen's band transceivers, antennas, and accessories went to Constantine Faller, KC8JXA, for his Broadwell Hill Neighborhood Communications System project.

Other small items went to several other ACARA members.

Offering the remaining pieces at the Athens Hamfest for donations generated \$159 in cash for the club treasury.

Eric will send a thank you card to Ms. Morrison for her donation on behalf of ACARA.

Old Business (continued)

VHF Repeater

VHF Repeater Trustee Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the VHF repeater is working well. Following the realignment of the cavities on April 11, he has not noticed any issue with desense.

UHF Repeater

UHF Repeater Trustee Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported that the UHF repeater continues to work as well as it has been working.

ACARA Nets

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the ACARA's weekly and monthly nets continue to do well. He reminded members of the current net schedule:

- 2m FM Net, Mondays, 7pm, 145.15 MHz
- 70cm FM Net, Mondays, immediately following the 2m net, 442.100 MHz
- 10m SSB Ragchew Net, Tuesdays, 5pm, 28.375 MHz
- 6m AM Net, Sundays, 5pm, 50.4 MHz – since 2003
- 2m System Fusion Net, Thursdays, 5pm, 145.15 MHz
- 70cm System Fusion Net, Thursdays, immediately following the 2m System Fusion net, 442.100 MHz
- 2m FM Simplex Net, first Thursday, 7pm, 146.400 MHz

Eric extended thanks to all those serving as net-control and to all those participating in the club nets.

Old Business (continued)

Jim Crouse Memorial Radio Station

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that as directed by the vote at the April Meeting, Treasurer Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, purchased for the Jim Crouse Memorial Radio Station an ICOM IC-7610 HF+6m transceiver, an SP-41 external speaker, and an SM-50 desk microphone from R&L Electronics. These arrived in due course and were handed off to Eric, who verified proper operation and began to learn how to operate the equipment.

Eric reported that while picking up the new equipment, he delivered to Drew the club's Elecraft K3 for Drew to look over. Eric explained there's an intermittent issue that seems to be related to the internal automatic antenna tuner and there might also be an issue with the receiver's gain-distribution. At the time, Drew suggested that the club should consider sending the K3 to Elecraft for service. Carl Denbow, N8VZ, made a motion that the club should send the K3 to Elecraft for service. The motion was seconded by Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ. The motion passed without dissent.

Club Building Projects

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that the build of the copper j-pole antenna to be led by Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, and the build of the Mighty Woof copper 2m dipole to be led by Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV, will take place simultaneously at the Red Cross of Southeastern Ohio at 1pm on Sunday, May 21, 2023.

The build of the two-band HF dipole to be led by Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, will take place later in the summer.

Fox Hunt

Kirk Groeneveld, KC8JRV, reported that a Hocking County foxhunt took place on Saturday, May 13, and that no Athens County amateurs participated. Kirk was the fox for this hunt and he was found in sixty-one minutes by the winning hunter.

Old Business (continued)

Operating Event: ARRL Field Day 2023

Event Date: June 24-25, 2023

ARRL Field Day Website: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported that he has spoken with Josh Clegg of the Athens County 9-1-1 Center and the 50' mobile crank-up tower had not at that time been repaired, but Jeff was assured by Mr. Clegg that the tower will be repaired by Field Day.

Jeff reported that Athens Mayor Steve Patterson will attend Field Day to make the annual Proclamation. Jeff further reported that Athens County Commissioner Larry Eliason will be placing Athens County's Proclamation onto the Commission's agenda.

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, recommended the club consider using the club's new ICOM IC-7610 HF+6m transceiver for the Field Day SSB/CW station.

Field Day Captain Paul Schulz, WD8SCV, was not in attendance, so no other Field Day items were discussed.

Upcoming Public Service Event: Athens Gravel Challenge

Event Date: Saturday, August 5, 2023

Event Sponsor: Team Athens Cycling / Todd Acheson

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reminded members that ACARA will be providing communications support to the Athens Gravel on Saturday, August 5, 2023.

Watch for emails from Jeff as the date of the event nears.

Upcoming Public Service Event: Run Baileys

Event Dates: August 12-13, 2023

Event Sponsor: Southeast Ohio Trail Runners / Michael Owen

Event Website: <https://www.seotrents.com/runbaileysdetails>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reminded members that ACARA will be providing communications support to the Run Baileys event will be on Saturday and Sunday, August 12 and 13, 2023.

Watch for emails from Jeff as the date of the event nears.

New Business

EmComm Document

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that Nick Arnold, KD8FKB, has printed the emergency communications document that he; Ted Jacobson, W8KVK; and others have developed. The document was made available for meeting participants to take and it will be sent via mail to members when renewal notices are sent out by the Membership Coordinator. The document is available online in PDF format at <https://w8kvk.com/SimplexNetSOG/Emergency-Radio-Monitoring-Times-and-Frequencies.pdf>.

Nick had asked via email what is the best mechanism for distributing this document to neighboring counties for coordination purposes. Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, said this would best be done through ARES channels and he will see that this is accomplished.

Google for Nonprofits

Eric McFadden, WD8RIF, reported that due to efforts by Ted Jacobson, W8KVK, and Rob Jacobson, KB9AFT, as part of the Athens Marathon APRS project, a few years ago ACARA received a Google for Nonprofits account, which Ted subsequently administered and kept active. Ted had asked Eric via email if he could transfer administration of the Google for Nonprofits account to Eric. Eric said “yes” and provided Ted with the necessary information. As of the meeting date, the process of transferring the account had not yet been finalized.

Eric explained that Google for Nonprofits includes tools which ACARA might find useful, including “Google Workspaces for Nonprofits” which provides Gmail, Docs, Calendar, Drive, and Meet; “Google Ad Grants”; “YouTube Nonprofit Program”; and “Google Earth and Maps”.

Public Service Event: Run 4 Blue Blazes Half Marathon

Event Date: Saturday, October 7, 2023

Event Sponsor: [Buckeye Trail Association](#) (BTA)

Event website: <https://www.buckeyetrail.org/blueblazefest.php>

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported that ACARA has been asked to provide communications support to the Run 4 Blue Blazes Half Marathon on Saturday, October 7, 2023

Watch for emails from Jeff as the date of the event approaches.

New Business (continued)

Public Service Event: Bobcat Trail Marathon

Event Sponsor: Western Reserve Racing / Joe Jurczyk

Event Date: Saturday, November 11, 2023

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

Jeff Slattery, N8SUZ, reported ACARA has been asked to provide communications support to the Bobcat Trail Marathon and Half Marathon on Saturday, November 11, 2023.

Watch for emails from Jeff as the date of the event approaches.

Following a motion to adjourn by Drew McDaniel, W8MHV, and a second by Carl Denbow, N8VZ, the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted by President and Secretary Eric McFadden, WD8RIF