

## MCC March 29, 2009 Minutes

The Spring MCC meeting took place on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 2 PM in the shelter house at Tuscora Park in New Philadelphia. Founder and Chair Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance after a round of introductions. After which, everyone was invited to partake of the cold cut sandwiches, potato salad, chips, vegetables and dip, cake, cookies, donuts, and assorted beverages provided by the TUSCO ARC.

After the meal, Chair Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, read the November 22 meeting minutes which was hosted by the Zanesville ARC. After which, each club/county was given the opportunity to share what activities and accomplishments their organization had over the last four months, and what activities and events they have planned for the next four months.

TUSCO President Gary Green, K8WFN, passed out pictures and discussed the new TUSCO ARC emergency van, ATV setup, and the three new Dell Laptop computers. Green also noted that a D-Star repeater will be going into place soon, and the frequencies are 449-8250 Input/444-8250 Output. Green also gave details on the activities for Kids Day on June 20-21 as well as Field Day, both will be held in Gnadenhutzen.

Bud Russell, K8GBH, reported on the Eastern Ohio Amateur Wireless Association (EOAWA) (Belmont County) activities such as SKYWARN and NIMS compliant courses required by the EMA. Bud gave a report on an EMA exercise held last June in Martin's Ferry using ATV from their emergency van to the EOC.

Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, reported on the Cambridge Amateur Radio Association's many activities since the November 2008 meeting: 1) Organized and provided communications for Cambridge's Christmas Parade on Saturday of Thanksgiving Weekend; 2) Held annual Holiday Awards Banquet—Russ Ellis, N8MWK, and his wife Mary Jane Rhodes-Ellis, KD8EIR, were co-Ham of the Year Recipients for 2008; Evelyn Barton, KA8NZS, received a Special Achievement Award; 3) Held canned food drive for Grace Pantry; 4) Held election of officers in February for 2009; 5) Participated in several cram courses--Co-taught Technician Course with TUSCO ARC, February 21; Taught Technician Course, January 10; Taught General Course, March 7; 6) Siren Testing Drill Net on March 25; 7) Had two programs—January-Lyn Alfman, N8IMW, Power-Point on CARA 2008 Year in Review; February-Bruce Homer, N8JMK, DVD of Cambridge Christmas Parade 2008; 8) Managed an informational booth at Swing into Spring with Citizens Corp, for Citizens Corp, CERT, and CARA—CARA donated weather radio prize; and 9) 6 CARA members attended the ARES Conference.

Lyn also reported on CARA's activities planned for the next 5 months: 1) Co-Manage an ARES with MCARES (Muskingum County ARES) on April 4, CARA is donating a weather radio prize; 2) Perform at least 2 Adopt-A-Highway Clean ups; 3) Hold a Fox Hunt in May; 4) Hold Special Event Station, K8R, during Relay For Life activities in Byesville on June 20; 5) Participate in Field Day Exercises; 6) Park cars/trucks at Deerassic Classic as fundraiser and public service to them; and 7) Hold CARA's 2nd Annual Hamfest & Computer Show—August 23

On a sad note, CARA lost three former ham members—Ray Howard, K8BD; Walt Brown, N3DZP; and Ray Dillon, AA8BX in the last four months.

Lyn Alfman also gave a synopsis of the activities for the Zanesville Amateur Radio Club (ZARC), W8ZZV: 1) Hosted November 22 MCC meeting; 2) Held election of officers for 2009; and 3) had 2 programs—Lyn Alfman, N8IMW—"Go Bags" & Harry Bell, WA8BNS- MARS.

Lyn Alfman also reported on the newly organized MCARES ( Muskingum County ARES) group: 1) Held organizational meeting in February; 2)Had two training sessions—Lyn, N8IMW, & Sonny, W8FHF on "Preparing Go Bags"; and Harry Bell, WA8BNS, on requirements for becoming MARS radio operators.

Sonny Alfman gave a brief report on the Muskingum Valley Amateur Radio Club: 1) Held annual Holiday Awards Banquet; 2) Had 3 programs; and 3) Started talking upgrades before the November 2009 Sweepstakes.

Under Old Business, the nomination and election of the Multi-County Coalition of East Central Radio Operators' Chairperson took place at the meeting. Sonny Alfman, W8FHF, was unanimously re-elected as Chair for 2009.

Under New Business, Gary Green suggested the MCC members could build an antenna such as 6 meters. Ben Pfeiffer requested that Sonny Alfman, and John Demuth, K8CQA, do a demonstration on antenna building. It was noted that the next TUSCO meeting on April 16 would be held at the EMA and would have a demonstration of D-Star.

CARA will host the next MCC meeting as a cookout/covered dish event at the Cambridge City Park on Sunday, July 26 at 2 PM in the new pavilion #4 near the covered bridge. CARA will supply the hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, and condiments. Attendees are requested to bring a covered dish to share and their beverages.

The meeting was adjourned, and a social hour ensued.