

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on November 5, 2018 at Bellacino's in Princeton, WV <http://www.erarc.com> local emergency HF freq: 3.860+-5. Skywarn® local simplex freq: 146.53. Our backup meeting location is at the Princeton, WV. Burger King.

The meeting was opened at 708pm by Matt Morris KC8LGS ERARC President. There were 15 members in attendance. He welcomed all, especially Wayne McBride KC8EHD, member and Summers Co. WV ARRL EC.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes of the October 1, 2018 meeting and they were approved. He also handed out copies of our "to do list" to each member.

Bruce Puckett KJ4YTR gave the Treasurer's report. He paid a power bill for the 145.49 site in the amount of \$28.93 and deposited \$51.00 in dues and donations. (Don Anderson WD800R gave Bruce an invoice for shipping one of the Kenwood TS-2000s back to California for warranty work. This is the second time that this HF rig has been returned for repair. We tried to use it at JOTA in October and the receive did not work.)

Don Anderson and Jay Belt K8CTI gave their repeater report. "They are working," Don said. Jay agreed. They are going to investigate as to why the 145.49 repeater is working only intermittently. The problem is most likely in the antenna / feed line systems.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR said that the Monday 730pm Skywarn Practice Net is on hold for the time being. He said that Keith Jennings AD8L, Charles Priest KN4OOH, L.A. Farmer KB8OOK, Steve O'dell N8SNR and himself directed traffic for an Oakvale School function on October 27. The beneficiaries were very pleased and grateful to the ERARC and those members for the great job that was done. Keith said that Roger had pre-planned the event and it went off without a hitch. Matt thanked those that participated.

Matt had no Mercer Co. ARRL Emergency Coordinator's report. He hopes that someone will take over the Mercer Co. EC position as his workload has changed and he really doesn't have the time to dedicate to it.

Steve O'dell was not present, therefore no ARES report.

Gary Kadar N8GK said that the ERARC VE team will give ARRL Amateur Radio tests this coming Saturday at 9am at the Mercer County 911 Center. David Sexton AB8D and Keith Jennings will hold the session and Gary will monitor. Gary plans on retiring from this position after his 15 years of dedicated service to the Amateur Radio Community. Thank you Gary!

Hooger gave a report on the October 20, 2018 Jamboree On The Air event held at BSA Camp Roland. Harold Hodges N8NCP, David Sexton, Roger Stefancic and Hooger went to the Camp the afternoon before and repaired the

tri-band HF antenna. Joining on Saturday were Charlie Hampton KE8IHN, Charles Priest and Randall Hash WB4BBF. The local Scouting District members appreciated all that the Club and the members did for the Scouts. There were several contacts made during the 6 hours or so that we were on the air. Thanks to all that helped. Bruce showed a QSL card from KD4OAM John O'Donnell from Oakfield, NY. He worked us during JOTA.

Hooger mentioned that the December ERARC meeting will also be our Christmas dinner and that we need to find a place to meet and eat. Discussion. Matt will check with Compestre and Ryan's. Hooger will check with La Fiesta in Bluefield, Va. When we come up with a site, Hooger will email all members with the information.

Charles Priest KN4OOH was asked about the REMIND DOT COM program. He said that as a music professor, he uses <http://www.remind.com> for notifying his students of changes in meeting times, locations, etc. He said that we can use this free service for Club members to be notified of just about anything. **(To partake in this service, text " @w8mop "to 81010.** The system will text you back and asks your name. You can use your name or callsign or both. The system will then text you back and the rest is easy to follow. Your phone number WILL NOT be displayed anywhere.) Hooger suggested that the Club officers and Charles have access to sending out text messaging.

Hooger asked that we recognize Wayne McBride again and thanked him for his donation of an antenna rotor and control box. This is the second such set that he has donated to the Club. We do appreciate it!

The meeting was over at 0748pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary. ERARC P.O. Box 1362 Bluefield, WV 24701

“To Do” / ‘wants’ or ‘needs’ list. Items mentioned:

- (1) A new HF antenna for our use, We now have 5 HF rigs
- (2) New repeater site to replace 145.49 We will have to move next summer per Jay Belt
- (3) Glenwood park for Field Day 2019 Matt Morris checking
- (4) Update membership roster on website Bruce is formulating a new roster
- (5) “Welcome” booklet for new members Greg working on this
- (6) ERARC QSL card for anyone taking VE testing Gary Kadar mentioned “cheap QSL” site on internet
- (7) Increase the height on the G5RV HF antenna at the 911 Center.
- (8) Possible auction/sale on excessive equipment at the 911 Center.
- (9) Fix the 145.49 receive/transmit problems.