



# East River Amateur Radio Club

## W8MOP

### Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2012

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Location: Ryan's Steakhouse 535 Commerce Drive Bluefield, VA.

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The October ERARC meeting was opened at 700pm by Doug Ritchey W8D, ERARC President. There were 14 members and guests in attendance.

**Secretary's Report:** Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes from the September meeting.

**Treasurer's Report:** Roger Stefancic KC8LGR ERARC Treasurer gave his report: He paid a phone bill in the amount of \$19.90.

**ROGER IS NOW ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR. IT'S STILL \$15 PER AMATEUR AND \$1 PER ADDITIONAL AMATEUR AT THE SAME MAILING ADDRESS. PLEASE RENEW! SEND TO: P.O. BOX 1362, BLUEFIELD, WV 24701.** There are now 52 members that have renewed so far.

**ERARC ARRL VE Test Session:** Gary Kadar said that the next ARRL VE test session would be on November 10 at 9am at Mercer County 911 Center.

**September VHF Contest:** Gary Kadar reported on the September 8 ARRL VHF contest that he and Roger Stefancic worked at "The Overlook" on East River Mtn. Roger used a homemade 6M dipole and Gary used his newly-homemade tower trailer and multi element 2M beam. They only worked 6 6M contacts and 5 2M contacts. The weather was great for the first hour and then a strong front moved in, soaking the area.

**Radio For Sale:** Harold Hodges N8NCP has a Kenwood 2M all-mode radio for sale. It is a model TS-700S digital with built-in power supply and tone board. He would like to get \$150.00 for the unit [handdhodges@frontiernet.net](mailto:handdhodges@frontiernet.net)

**Repeater Report:** Don Anderson WD8OOR said that the 145.49, the 442.45 and the 53.37 repeaters are off the air for the time being. Jay Belt K8CTI climbed the 120' tower and removed the antennas for inspection and repair and replaced the feed lines with new hardline cable. Don said that the fiberglass on the '49 mast was flaking and coming off and that they are going to paint it with epoxy paint to seal it up and give it new life. They hope to have help this Saturday to re-install the antennas and get the repeaters back on the air. Don said that he's had some people tell him that they can hear the 147.06 but cannot get into it. There is no PL tone but BE SURE TO SET YOUR RADIO TO A MINUS OFFSET FOR THIS REPEATER. Most radios automatically set the offset to a positive offset, this one is different. He also said that he and others would like to keep all of the machines open (i.e. no PL tones) so that anyone can use them without worrying about a tone. The SERA has assigned tones to each of the five repeaters if they are needed but we hope to keep them all "open" and not use tones unless interference

gets so bad that we must use them. (The 444.45 is still listed as being operated by the ERARC but is off of the air as of now) Don and Jay received a round of applause for all of the hard work that they put in to keep the repeaters in working order.

Stephen Rector KA8QHC said that the Club he was a member in with in upper WV had a neat repeater function that they would use from time to time. When someone was using a radio without a tone board, etc. they would press the "zero" button three times and the tone on the repeater would cut off for 6-8 minutes then cut back on.

George Leedy KJ4BXS asked about the new West Virginia law concerning handless communication devices. The answer was that two-way radio communications were not included in that law AND that we are licensed by the US government and are excluded from such laws.

**ERARC Elections:** Doug again said that he was not seeking the elected office of President this fall. Don Anderson placed David Cox's N4DBC name in consideration for the office. David was at this meeting but declined the office due to his current employment status and the possibility of having to move. Doug asked those in attendance of anyone's desire for the office of President. No takers but Stephen Rector finally agreed to take the office for the upcoming year. Discussion. A vote was taken. Stephen will take over the Presidential duties on November 1. Bill Sowers K8WBS will continue to be the Vice President, Roger Stefancic will continue at Treasurer and Hooger will stay in the Secretary position.

The meeting was over by 0742pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary.

Check out a radio-active site at: [W8MOP](#) The East River Amateur Radio Club. We'll be glad that you did! and the ERARC Facebook pages [EAST-RIVER-AMATEUR-RADIO-CLUB](#) on [Facebook](#).

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