

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on May 7, 2012; Ryan's Steakhouse Bluefield, VA.

<http://www.erarc.com>

The May ERARC meeting was opened at 7pm by Doug Ritchey WG8D, ERARC President. There were 21 members and guests in attendance. Doug had a handout for those in attendance which included: "MISSION STATEMENT: 'To promote fellowship between amateur radio operators, radio enthusiasts and the general public. To bring new people into the hobby by informing, teaching, and examining for license. To promote cooperation with outside clubs and associations to our mutual benefit and the overall good of amateur radio. To have fun with all things radio.'" Doug welcomed all to the meeting and asked Kathleen Tabor KD8RSD to introduce her father Roger Tabor WB3JJT, her mother and her niece.

The subject of Field Day was brought up and discussion ensued. We will hold the ERARC Field Day activities at Boy Scout Camp Roland in Bastian, VA on June 23-24, 2012. We will meet for breakfast on Saturday morning; discuss the event and figure out who is going to the 911 Center to load equipment, who is hauling what, etc. etc. We usually meet at the Camp around 11am or so and proceed to setup before the 2pm start time for Field Day. Bob Hoge N8RIR has graciously agreed to again let us use the 911 Communications trailer as well as the diesel generator. There will be a pot-luck dinner at 6pm on Saturday. Everyone is welcome.

Gary Kadar N8GK announced the quarterly ARRL VE test session for this Saturday at 9am at the Mercer County 911 Center. He may have to work but we have it covered if he cannot attend.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR gave the treasurer's report. He paid a \$19.74 phone bill and said that within the next month will be paying out between \$450 and \$500 for insurance for Club equipment.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes from the April meeting. Gary made a motion to purchase three Technician study books/manuals for the Princeton and both libraries in the two Bluefields. He's heard from people that download the question pool and answers, study them, take the test, and still do not know how the questions relate to actual use, etc. They would like to have additional information to explain what the questions are talking about. Discussion. Don Anderson WD8OOR and Steve O'dell N8SNR both seconded the motion. A vote was taken, the motion passed. Roger will look into the purchase and make it for the Club.

Don Anderson WD8OOR said that the 145.49 is in bad shape and a trip to the mountain is in order to determine if the problem is the radio or the feed line/antenna system. The 147.06 is working well. He needs to make a trip to that site on Windmill Gap to retrieve serial numbers for the insurance company.

Lonnie Underwood KI4EED spoke concerning ARES. He reminds us all to have our ARES equipment ready to use and ready to go. He hopes to have a mock disaster sometime in the near future. He mentioned getting a General Class licensing class together for those wanting to upgrade. If interested, email him at KI4EED@comcast.net .

Gary Kadar said that the Club has lost two members within the past two months: Lee Brooks K8BHG who was the past trustee for the ERARC repeater's licenses and was a life member in the Club and Brian Hall AB8Y from Pineville, WV who died in a vehicle wreck. Roger Coulter KT4HV from Radford, Va. recently passed away too.

The meeting was over by 0745pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC
Secretary.