

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on February 2, 2015 at Ryan's steakhouse in Bluefield, VA. <http://www.erarc.com> local emergency HF freq: 3.860+-5. Backup meeting location at Burger King, Bluefield, Va. The meeting was opened at 7pm by Bill Sowers K8WBS, ERARC Vice President. It is 19 degrees outside and Harold Hodges N8NCP, ERARC President is "iced" in. There were 12 members and guests in attendance. All were welcomed. We met out in the common area of the restaurant due to a group in the regular meeting room.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the January minutes. There were no corrections or additions.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR, ERARC Treasurer, gave his report. He paid a phone bill in the amount of \$23.33 and sent \$30.00 to The Wounded Warrior Project in remembrance of Bob Frazier WB8NRK. A check for \$25.00 was sent to the WV Secretary of State office for our business license and he re-upped our 501-c-3 status with the IRS. He made one deposit of \$70.00. We now have 63 members compared to 72 at this time last year.

Brian McGlothlin KM4HDL, from Bluefield, Va., was recognized. He and his father KM4HDM (not present tonight) were recently licensed. They tested out in Bristol on the Thursday after the January meeting.

Bill asked Don Anderson WD8OOR for an update on the new 145.49 repeater and controller. He said that he is still working on it as it is still a challenge and still hopes to have it on the air soon. He said that the technical support is superior and 'the guy' will stay on the phone with him for as long as it takes.

John Riddle N8RIG and Jay Belt K8CTI are still working out details on getting the 6M N8RIG machine's antenna system back online.

**Gary Kadar N8GK said that the next ERARC VE test session will be on February 14, 2015 at 9am at the Mercer County 911 Center.**

George Leedy KJ4BXS asked if we had heard anything from Derrick Ruble, the Tazewell County 911 Director. Hooger had talked to him a month ago at Food City and Derrick mentioned that he and other 911 employees would try to make it to (this) February meeting. George would like for the Club to keep in contact with him and Tazewell 911 for future collaborations.

Don Anderson asked if anyone had attempted to participate in the ARRL January VHF contest.

<http://www.arrl.org/january-vhf> Gary Kadar and Roger Stefancic did listen at their homes but didn't hear much going on. Gary did hear and copy a beacon in the Wise, Va. area.

Gary said that he and John Riddle were "HF challenged" due to the high noise levels in their home locations. He asked the membership to think about the possibility of coming up with an "ERARC-member's only" remote HF station somewhere that could be used by the membership. There was a lot of discussion. If you have a suitable location, internet, etc. etc. and would consider allowing the Club to use your facilities, please email Hooger at [w4of@hotmail.com](mailto:w4of@hotmail.com) . Thanks!

Bill said that he switched to Suddenlink from his phone company and went from 6 mps to 15 mps AND then it went up further since then. "Amazing", he says.

The meeting was over by 0735pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary.

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