

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on February 4, 2013; Ryan's Steakhouse Bluefield, VA.
<http://www.erarc.com>

The meeting was opened at 700pm by Bill Sowers K8WBS, ERARC Vice President. There were 15 members in attendance. He welcomed all to the meeting.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the January minutes. No changes were noted by the membership.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR ERARC Treasurer gave his report. He paid a phone bill in the amount of \$20.82, paid The State of West Virginia \$25.00 for renewal of our business license and was able to renew our 501©3 not-for-profit status with the State. He deposited monies from renewals and donations.

There was no repeater report as Don Anderson WD8OOR was not present. Someone did say that '49 was off the air and also that the weather receiver radio was back on.

No old business.

New business: Gary Kadar N8GK mentioned that the ERARC ARRL VE team will be giving Amateur Radio exams this coming Saturday at 9am in Green Valley.

Harold Hodges said that the 33rd annual Oak Hill Hamfest (on Saturday, February 16th <http://www.parawv.com/>) is coming up and invited the membership to attend. He says that it is a good Hamfest and everyone seems to have a good time there. This used to be the "Fayetteville Hamfest".

Being no further business, Bill introduced Gary Kadar and he gave an informative presentation on "Software Defined Radio" as was published in the January edition of QST magazine. This is a radio receiver that is connected to some sort of antenna and computer and allows one to hear local transmissions (basically all-mode) from 64 to 1100 and 1250 to 1700MHz. The future is bright for this 'new' technology as it is just really evolving. Gary's setup cost him less than \$35 and was impressive. Go to http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Software-defined_radio for more information. The hardware brings in the signal and the software processes the signal in digital form.

This brought on a discussion of "applications" for I-phone and android phones such as:

The W V V A weather application was given a good rating by several of the members . John Riddle N8RIG said that their weather application is "better than the Weather Channel" when it comes to radar, etc.
<http://www.wvva.com/weather>

"Yo window" <http://yowindow.com/> reported as a "really neat" weather/desktop/PC application.

<http://flightaware.com/> was mentioned as was <http://www.wv511.org> for real-time webcams, accident notifications, weather conditions, etc. in West Virginia.

Brian Leedy KI4URO is looking for an ICOM 7400+ series HF radio so that he can remote-base this rig from his hotel room to his home via internet while he is traveling for business. See:
<http://www.g4nvh.net/sitebuildercontent/sitebuilderfiles/remotestationoperation.pdf> for some (evidently older) basic information.

The meeting was over by 7:37pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary.