

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on September 1, 2014; Ryan's Steakhouse @ Bluefield, VA. <http://www.erarc.com> local emergency HF freq: 3.860+-5

The meeting was opened at 700pm by Harold Hodges N8NCP, ERARC President. There were 18 members and guests in attendance. All were welcomed especially visitor Michael Akers KB8WVU. Dave Garrett KA4TXY and his wife Gail were recognized also.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the August minutes. The minutes were approved.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR, ERARC Treasurer, gave his report. He paid a phone bill in the amount of \$22.00 and deposited \$52.00 in membership renewals. We donated \$30.00 to the (Bluefield, Virginia) First United Methodist Church in memory of Betty Hash, the wife of Randall Hash WB4BBF, who passed away two weeks ago. **DUES ARE BEING ACCEPTED NOW, THANKS.** They are still \$15.00 per year and only \$1.00 per additional member at the same mailing address. There are still two Sam's Club memberships through the ERARC if any member is interested. It's \$45 per year.

Harold mentioned that Bob Frazier WB8NRK evidently had some serious heart trouble a week or so ago, fell, and injured himself. He is in Princeton Community Hospital recovering.

In old business, the subject of purchasing a new repeater and controller came up. Don Anderson WD8OOR was not present and Jay Belt K8CTI offered information to questions. He said that the repeater and controller would be around \$1300. Gary Kadar N8GK asked if the antenna and feed lines were OK and Jay said that they were in good shape, that the repeater/controller combination was what was giving us trouble. John Riddle N8RIG asked if the 442.45 machine was coming back online in the near future. Jay said that it should be back on the mountain by the next meeting. John said that the 6M antenna needed to be replaced and that he had one. His old 6M antenna lasted around 10 years before failing during the last winter. There is some sort of trouble mounting it to the current antenna structure. Jay suggested that we get a ground plane 6M antenna and mount it on a pole above the building at the site. John said that a ground plane 6M antenna would be around 54 inches tall. Jay said that such a 6M antenna would do just as well as it being on the tower. Don Anderson showed up fashionably late and gave his report on the possible purchase of a new repeater/controller/rack mount combination to replace the current 145.49- machine. He said that the total would be somewhat

less than \$1500. Discussion. George Leedy KJ4BXS made a motion, seconded by Doug Ritchey WG8D to get Don to order a new repeater/controller/rack-mount combination as he had mentioned. A vote was taken, the motion passed. There were no dissenting votes voiced. Gary Kadar N8GK gave a report on the August 9th ARRL VE test session at the 911 Center. There were two upgrades to Extra and there was one Technician attempt. This 12 year old Technician candidate will be back. He is determined to get his license. Gary reminds us of the upcoming VHF contest on September 13-15. <http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf> .

Harold read information from a flyer concerning the October 11-12 (Mercer County, WV) Airport Fall Festival, Skydiving and Chili Cook-off. See <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mercer-County-Airport/621279687893188> as well as <http://www.skydivewv.com> for more information. Call 304-327-5308 to register.

George Leedy asked if we would advertise locally, the ERARC meeting time and dates. Hooger will email the BDT and Harold will email the Trading Journal.

Harold reiterated that it was sad to hear about Betty Hash's passing. We hope that the family is coping.

The meeting was over by 733pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary.

ERARC

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