

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on May 2, 2016 at Valley Country Restaurant in Green Valley, WV. <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 Harold Hodges N8NCP, ERARC President. There were 14 members/ guests in attendance. One guest, (JC) John Charles Chernauskas Jr., traveled from Union, WV tonight as he is interested in getting into Amateur Radio. Harold welcomed all to the meeting.

Gary Kadar N8GK read the minutes of the April meeting. (Hooger present but with laryngitis) There were no changes made and they were approved. He also mentioned that we have two free entry tickets to the Butler, PA Breezeshooter's Hamfest and Computer Show on June 5. No takers. See: <http://www.breezeshooters.org>.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR, ERARC Treasurer, gave his report. He paid \$190.30 for equipment insurance. Harold said that he and Don Anderson WD8OOR, Jay Belt, K8CTI, Roger Stefancic and Keith Jennings NO8P went to the 442.45 repeater site and set the antenna upright as it was at a 45 degree angle to the tower. They also put a new connector on another antenna. They both work fine now. There was discussion of noise getting into the 145.49 and 147.06 machines. Some of it sounds like paging and Keith said that when he used his VFO to tune above and below our frequencies, could hear a dispatcher talking to fire services. Jay will look into this.

Sam's Club memberships (\$45) expire on May 18. Renewals can be made at thir service desk or at any checkout. THERE ARE TWO MORE SAMS CLUBS SLOTS AVAILABLE IF ANY MEMBER IS INTERESTED.

Keith Jennings handed out some wooden nickels with 'ERARC' on one side and of the two types of these, one has the Morse Code alpha/numericals and the other has a phrase on it concerning Morse Code. He then began to talk about the book signing on May 24, 2016 at Hearthside Books on Union Street at 7pm. We have been invited to attend this event and give out information on Amateur Radio. The book, "Contact Sport "is written by J.K. George, originally from Princeton, WV. It is a story about Amateur Radio. The book is available at Amazon for around \$28 but Hearthside will sell it to a Ham for around \$26. Mr. George will also have a book signing at the Princeton Library the next day also. On another note, Keith held up a really nice 10 x 4 banner that he had made up for the Club. See pictures on ERARC FB pages also.

Harold said that on this past Saturday, he and Phillip Grover N8SFO, WV Section Manager hammed it up at the Bluestone River Scenic National Park. This is to help the ARRL celebrate the 100 years of the National Park System. They made 105 contacts and had a great time. That park's ARRL designation is WRØ2. see: <http://www.arrl.org/NPOTA>

Don Anderson gave a repeater report: He says that except for the paging noise, etc. the machines are all doing well. Harold said that he gets very good reports on coverage with the 442.45 especially. Don asked if the Club was going to setup a table or booth at the May 26 air and car show to showcase Amateur Radio. Discussion. We will table this for now.

Gary Kadar N8GK said that there will be an ARRL VE test session at the 911 Center on May 14, 2016 at 9am. Harold said that the new Extra question pool takes effect on July 1.

David Brewster KC8GIT said that Cruz Soto KE8BRP from Welch is requesting that the Club think about linking the 147.33 to the ERARC 147.06 to improve communications in McDowell County. Discussion. Don Anderson and

Jay Belt will look into this and report back. George Leedy KJ4BXX made a motion, seconded by Bill Sowers K8WBS to go ahead with this endeavor if possible. A vote was taken, the motion passed.

Reminder about Field Day on June 25-26. See: <http://www.arrl.org/field-day>

The meeting was over by 730pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary.

ERARC

P.O. Box 1362

Bluefield, WV 24701

Check out a radio-active site at: <http://www.erarc.com> , The East River Amateur Radio Club. We'll be glad that you did!>

<https://www.facebook.com/w8mop>. and/or:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/296680905352/>