

Minutes of the Bluefield, WV's East River Amateur Radio Club held on December 7, 2020 at 704 Bland St., Bluefield, WV room 523.

<http://www.erarc.com>

Local emergency HF freq: 3.860+-5. Skywarn / ARES local simplex freq: 146.53. We meet on the first Monday of each month at 7pm. Our backup meeting location is at the Princeton, WV. Burger King. President Matt Morris KC8LGS, VP. Keith Jennings AD8L, Treasurer Mike Clemons KM4UCR, Secretary George "Hooger" Fisher III W4OF, Webmaster David Lester N8VFR

The meeting was opened by Keith Jennings AD8L, ERARC Vice President, at 704pm. He welcomed all 8 other members present as well as 5 online via ZOOM. He said that we'd normally be having our Christmas dinner/meeting tonight. It was mentioned that today is Pearl Harbor Day. Keith asked for a moment of silence for the passing of Anne Rhinehart KA8ZGY SK, former ARRL WV Section Manager and current WV Asst. SM.

Gary Kadar N8GK read the minutes from the November 5th meeting and they were approved.

Mike Clemons KM4UCR gave the Treasurer's report. He paid APCO \$12.32 and deposited \$107 in dues.

(Don Anderson WD8OOR is still taking care of his wife Connie KB8NMB who is still very ill. Don is having his own health issues now according to Jim Perdue KC8NG. Please keep Connie, Don and John Riddle N8RIG in your thoughts and prayers. Our condolences to Gary Kadar and family for the passing of his mother Patricia Kadar recently.)

Repeater report: Jay Belt K8CTI said that the 'new' WZ8E DMR repeater is on the air @ 443.625. Dave Sexton, et. al. are using it for the Tuesday 0730PM DMR net. The ERARC DMR is having some sort of problem. There was discussion on lack of activity on the repeaters, etc.

Skywarn: Net every Monday (except the first) of each month on 145.49 at 0730pm but is **on hold** until the first of the year.

~~DMR: Net every Tuesday at 0730pm on local Bluefield talk group 9 on the 444.45 repeater.~~

ARES report: Charles Priest KN4OOH, Mercer County, WV EC, said the monthly net will be **on hold** until January. Discussion about using Winlink. He reported on checkins to the net and commented on low participation. ~~Monthly net is on the third Thursday at 0730pm on 147.06.~~

Volunteer Examiner report: Keith Jennings. The November 14 ERARC ARRL VE testing session produced a Technician to General and a Technician to Extra Amateur. This is the third Tech to Extra that Keith is aware of for the Club's testing record.

NOTE: The FCC now requires that ALL persons coming to test session MUST have an FRN number before we can test them. This became effective on *October 20, 2020*. One can go online to <https://www.fcc.gov/rofrn> and click on FRN number registration to get their number, there is no charge for this and it only takes a few minutes. Persons set up a password and answer a few quick questions. The FCC is doing this because they are no longer going to use a person's Social Security Number for ID purposes. **THE FCC IS ALSO REQUIRING A VALID EMAIL WHEN APPLYING FOR NEW OR UPGRADE LICENSES.** When testing: A COPY of your Amateur license and/or CSCE (if applicable) is a **MUST**, and a photo identification is also a **MUST**. **PLEASE** bring exact change for the \$15 fee. We usually run out of change d/t most people bringing 20 dollar bills, thanks. \$15 CASH or CHECK..... NO PLASTIC.

The ELMER CLASS was held on Saturday December 5, 2020. Several people attended. For future classes, please let Keith Jennings know if you plan to attend. It would be easier for him to plan. 304-887-5767 . gkj1953@frontiernet.net.

Old business: It was mentioned that we need a 75M dipole at the 911 Center instead of using the G5RV antenna that is there now.

New business: none.

The meeting was over at 0737pm.

<<<We are currently accepting dues for the upcoming year. \$15 per Ham and \$1 additional for each Ham at the same address. >>>

The 'to do' list:

- (1) Possible auction/sale on excess equipment at the 911 Center
- (2) HF antenna for 74M repair/replacement at the 911 Center
- (3) APRS back on the air
- (4) Echolink back on the air

Minutes taken by Gary Kadar and submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary. ERARC [P.O. Box 1362 Bluefield, WV 24701](#)

*Repeated information here: "Charles Priest KN4OOH was asked about the REMIND DOT COM program. He said that as a music professor, he uses <http://www.remind.com> for notifying his students of changes in meeting times, locations, etc. He said that we can use this free service for Club members to be notified of just about anything. **(To partake in this service, text " @w8mop " to 81010. The system will text you back and asks your name. You can use your name or callsign or both. The system will then text you back and the rest is easy to follow. Your phone number WILL NOT be displayed anywhere.)***

SHOP AT AMAZON? HELP THE ERARC @: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/55-0632875> 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/>