

The October ERARC meeting was opened at 700pm by Doug Ritchey WG8D, ERARC President. There were 15 members and guests in attendance. Doug had a handout for those in attendance which included: "MISSION STATEMENT: 'To promote fellowship between amateur radio operators, radio enthusiasts and the general public. To bring new people into the hobby by informing, teaching, and examining for license. To promote cooperation with outside clubs and associations to our mutual benefit and the overall good of amateur radio. To have fun with all things radio.'" Doug welcomed all and mentioned that Harold Hodges N8NCP would give an informative talk on the National Traffic System at the next meeting. Check out: <http://www.arrl.org/nts> for more information on NTS and radiograms. <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-radiogram-form> .

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes from the September meeting. There were no additions, corrections or deletions noted.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR gave the treasurer's report. He had paid a phone bill for \$18.66, \$30.00 to Princeton Floral and had taken in some dues renewals before the meeting. He collected 10 more paid memberships tonight. He now has received around 58 renewals so far and there were 98 paid memberships as of the end of last fiscal year. ERARC dues are now being accepted for the 2011-2012 year. They are still \$15.00 per Amateur with an additional \$1.00 for each Ham at the same mailing address. Mail to: ERARC, P.O. Box 1362, Bluefield, WV 24701.

Don Anderson WD8OOR reported that the 147.06 is getting a 'new' CAT 250 controller and 'new' radio, hopefully before the next meeting. The controller will allow linking capability. <http://www.catauto.com/cat250.html> He said that reports are not good for the 145.49 into McDowell and northern Mercer counties. The antenna/feed line systems need to be checked and/or replaced. THERE MAY BE A WORK DETAIL GOING TO THE 145.49 SITE THIS SATURDAY. MORE INFORMATION DURING THE SATURDAY MORNING BREAKFAST AT THE GREEN VALLEY RESTAURANT (STARTS AT 0800am). ((IF I find out before then, I'll send out an email/w4of))

Doug asked Dave Garrett KA4TXY how Echolink was working for him while he was back in the area from Florida. He said that it's working very well.

Roger Stefancic said that the FCC was in Princeton recently "busting high-power CBers" in the area. Doug mentioned that it's bear hunting season and that we need to monitor the 2M frequencies for illegal transmissions and possibly triangulating the signals from the surrounding areas in order to locate them.

We need to vote for new officers at the next meeting. Please step up and take an office if you would like to serve the Club.

Gary Kadar N8GK mentioned the ARRL September VHF contest (<http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf-qso-party>) that he and Roger Stefancic participated in on Oneida Peak in the Springville, Va. area. He thanked Jay Belt K8CTI and Sibley Communications for the use of their facility on the mountain. They were on the mountain from around 1230 to 730pm and made 4-6M and 10-2M contacts. Gary also mentioned that he's in the process of signing up with the ARRL Logbook of the World <http://www.arrl.org/logbook-of-the-world> and is going through all of the necessary steps they require in order to register with the program.

FOR SALE: Larson KG 2/70CXPL glass mount dual band (2m/440) antenna. Purchased in 1998 at the Bluefield Hamfest for \$75.00. They are found on the internet now for \$140.00. Contact Richard French KD4ARU at dynafrench@comcast.net if you're interested. This unit has never been used. <http://www.universal-radio.com/catalog/hamantm/larsenkg.html> .

Stephen Rector KA8QHC asked about Jamboree On The Air. It was reported that Lonnie Underwood KI4EED was going to represent the Club for JOTA at Boy Scout Camp Roland on October 15 during the annual Cub Scout Fun Day there. See: <http://www.arrl.org/jamboree-on-the-air-jota>

The Mobile Radio contest was held in Ryan's parking lot. We looked over several of the installations and it was determined that Jay Belt's mobile radio farm was the 'best' on the lot.

The inside meeting was over at 740pm and the mobile contest was over at 0815pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary.

1) TO DO LIST: Antenna for the Bluefield, Va. Rescue Squad (ongoing per Lonnie)