

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on September 5, 2016 at Burger King restaurant, Bluefield, Va. (The Valley Country Restaurant is closed for the holiday). <http://www.erarc.com> local emergency HF freq: 3.860+-5. Backup meeting location at Burger King, Bluefield, Va. The meeting was opened at 0701pm by Harold Hodges N8NCP, ERARC President. There were 13 members/ guests in attendance. Harold welcomed all to the meeting especially David Garrett KA4TXY, Bluefield resident, but lives in Florida mostly.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes of the August meeting. There were no changes made and they were approved.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR, ERARC Treasurer, gave his report. He made a \$31.00 deposit. He paid K2 Towers \$1 for rent for tower space for the next year at the Bluefield Virginia East River Mountain location. He also purchased two thumb drives to transfer all of the ERARC information that he has to give to the incoming Treasurer. \*\*\*DUES ARE NOW BEING ACCEPTED. \$15 PER MEMBER AND ADDITONAL \$1 FOR MEMBERS AT THE SAME MAILING ADDRESS\*\*\* THERE ARE TWO MORE SAMS CLUBS SLOTS (THRU THE CLUB) AVAILABLE IF ANY MEMBER IS INTERESTED.

Harold asked that we conduct elections for the upcoming year. George Leedy KJ4BXS was not in attendance tonight but had expressed interest in the Treasurer's office. Harold made a motion, seconded by Gary Kadar N8GK to accept George as the new Treasurer. A vote was taken. The motion passed. Harold made a motion, seconded by Gary Kadar N8GK to accept Keith Jennings NO8P as the new President. A vote was taken. The motion passed. Harold said that Bill Sowers K8WBS was not in attendance tonight and that he didn't express any intent on not keeping his Vice President position so he said that Bill can keep his position.

Harold asked for a report on the tower at the Boy Scout Camp. Hooger thanked Don Anderson WD8OOR, Keith Jennings and Roger Stefancic for making 4 trips to the camp and getting the project underway. They first went to Princeton to Bill Sowers home to get the tower and move it to the Camp. The next trips involved digging out the hole from 30x30x30 inches to 40x40x40 inches, building a form, placing reinforcement steel and then helping with placement of 2 cubic yards of concrete into the hole. Chandler Concrete from Rocky Gap donated the concrete. Hooger has a thank-you letter ready to send to them. Roger said that it will take about three more trips to the Camp to take the form off of the base, paint parts of the tower, replace one of the cables and install the tower itself. It will be ready for use

during the 2016 BSA Jamboree-On-The-Air October 14-16.  
<http://www.scouting.org/jota.aspx> The ERARC has agreed to help Ed Evans WV8ED in putting on this event. We will be using K2BSA/8 for this event.

Jay Belt K8CTI was asked about the Magic Jack internet phone system for the repeater(s). He said that this device will require a much better internet connection before it can be installed and used. It was mentioned that the DMR system is not working as well as it is due to this problem also. He had acquired new cabling for the upgrade and needs to find time to finish it. He was asked about Cruz Soto KE8BRP linking the 147.33 PL 100hz repeater in McDowell County to the 147.06 PL 103.5. Cruz is still working on this project.

Harold asked about the band-pass filters that we were looking into for Field Day. Don Anderson said that they are band-specific only, are for receive only and cost about \$125 apiece. Discussion. Don suggested that we use a band for digital for an hour, then that band for voice the next hour. Problem solved he said.

Keith Jennings showed us his setup that he used at the Mercer County Fair for HF. He suggested watching YouTube video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E56wIlpfZgA> (@ 4:40 minutes) for the MFJ-935b tuner and antenna and video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qie3ynllJ3c> for the Alpha EZ military antenna. Keith explained how each worked and how impressed he was with their functionality.

Gary Kadar mentioned that the August 13 ARRL VE test session produced two new Technicians. He also said introduced Bruce Puckett KJ4YTR as a new VE examiner. Gary mentioned that the ARRL September VHF contest was this weekend. See:

<http://www.arrl.org/september-vhf>

The meeting was over at 0733pm.

Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary.

ERARC

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