

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on April 1, 2019 at Bellacino's in Princeton, WV <http://www.erarc.com> local emergency HF freq: 3.860+-5. Skywarn® local simplex freq: 146.53. Our backup meeting location is at the Princeton, WV. Burger King.

The meeting was opened at 700pm by Matt Morris KC8LGS, ERARC President. There were 20 members and guests in attendance. He welcomed all; especially: Chris Quesenberry KB8YRJ and Jack Asbury KF8OK, both from Princeton, WV. David Sexton AB8D expressed condolences to David Garrett's KA4TXY SK family.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes of the March 4, 2018 meeting and they were approved. He handed out copies of our "to do list" to each member. No one voiced any changes to this list.

Bruce Puckett KJ4YTR gave the Treasurer's report. He paid a power bill for the 145.49 site in the amount of \$12.43, paid \$60 for our mailbox rental and deposited \$30 in dues.

Don Anderson gave the repeater report. He notes that the 6M repeater is off of the mountain and on the workbench for repair. There was a lot of weather related damage to the repeater building that includes two holes punched into the roof by falling ice. The radials on the 6M machine have been broken off and are in need of repair also. Don said that the roof has been temporarily fixed and that we need to make a trip to that Windmill Gap site and put cool-seal on the roof and possibly install an ice bridge. It was mentioned that the antenna to the linked radio system between 145.49 and 147.06 was broken and has been replaced. Jay Belt K8CTI added that the 146.955 WZ8E repeater should be back on the air this week. PL 100.

Roger Stefancic KC8LGR: The Monday 730pm Skywarn Practice Net is still on hold for the time being.

Charles Priest KN4OOH, Mercer Co. WV ARRL Emergency Coordinator, went to the Charleston Hamfest and spoke to Michael Maxson W8SI WV Section Emergency Coordinator as well as others with the WV ARRL. He only has one more FEMA online course to take and he will be done with the mandatory training.

He is asking that those interested in helping with the local ARES group to send him your name, call sign, email address and phone number. charlestpriest@gmail.com He now has 9 Hams on his call-up list.

Charles also said that the Club is more than welcomed to attend Bluefield College's Appalachian Festival on April 13 and show the public what Amateur Radio is about.

Keith Jennings AD8L would like to meet **NEXT MONDAY AT 7PM at Bellacino's** with anyone that may need some Elmering. This impromptu meeting is open to anyone

that may have questions related to Amateur radio and/or those who may also give input. The last meeting had 8 people to show up and good information was discussed. The next ARRL VE test session will be on May 11.

Matt confirmed that our annual Field Day operation will be at Glenwood Park on June 22-23 at one of the large shelters. <http://www.arrl.org/field-day> He said that he would like to procure a large banner for the Club that could be hung (and at similar events) along the road at the site. He got a quote from Venture Printing in Bluefield, Va. A 4' x 10' banner would be around \$208. Don Anderson suggested that we check with David Lester N8VFR at Monogram Magic / Swiftnet Integration <https://gomonogram.com/> and see if he could place a competitive bid. <https://swiftnet.us/>

Matt turned the floor over to David Sexton AB8D who gave a brief explanation of DMR. It was well received. Thanks to David for the time and effort in this presentation which can be found at: <http://www.miklor.com/DMR/ppt/DMR-BasicTutorial.pdf> and more at: <http://www.miklor.com/K3NXU/> <http://www.miklor.com/> **David would like to try a DMR net on Monday at 0730pm on local Bluefield talk group 9.**

The meeting was over at 0808pm.
Submitted by Hooger Fisher W4OF, ERARC Secretary. ERARC P.O. Box 1362
Bluefield, WV 24701

“To Do” / ‘wants’ or ‘needs’ list. Items mentioned:

- (1) A new HF antenna for our use, We now have 5 HF rigs
- (2) New repeater site to replace 145.49 We will have to move this summer per Jay Belt
- (3) “Welcome” booklet for new members Greg Dominguez AF8GD working on this
- (4) New ERARC QSL card for The Club Keith Jennings came up with a possibility.
- (5) Increase the height on the G5RV HF antenna at the 911 Center.
- (6) Possible auction/sale on excessive equipment at the 911 Center.
- (7) Fix the 145.49 receive/transmit problems.

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.)

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<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/>