

Minutes of the East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on May 6, 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 Keith Jennings AD8L, ERARC Vice President. There were 21 members and guests in attendance. He welcomed all and especially: Brennan McGraw KC8FIB, Cindy Lester KN4OOG, Bill Lester KN4CQV, Darla Ellison N8QJL, Jason Perdue KN4QMN, Chris Quesenberry KB8YRJ as well as Mike (KM4UCR) Clemon's father Jack. (Keith asked that we keep President Matt Morris's KC8LGS mother in our thoughts and prayers as she's experiencing some medical issues.)

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes of the April 1, 2019 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. He also received two new memberships tonight as well as one renewal.

Keith gave Bruce Puckett's KJ4YTR Treasurer's report. He paid a power bill for the 145.49 site in the amount of \$12.15, paid \$255.60 for ARRL equipment insurance and deposited \$108 in dues, \$35 in donations (from the Appalachian Festival) and \$10.67 from Amazon. Keith mentioned that there were many Amateurs who came by the Festival and it was very much appreciated. There were several serious inquiries about the Club and Amateur Radio.

Don Anderson WD8OOR gave the repeater report. "They're working", he said. Jay Belt K8CTI agreed. Jay went to East River Mt. a couple of weeks ago and reset the '49 after a failure. Keith said that the Monday 730pm Skywarn Practice Net is still on hold for the time being.

Charles Priest KN4OOH, Mercer Co. WV ARRL Emergency Coordinator, said that he has sent in his first monthly report to the ARRL and that he would like to have an exercise on July 27. He would like to meet with ARES members for five minutes or so after this meeting is over.

((He is asking that those interested in helping with the local ARES group send him your name, call sign, email address and phone number. charlestpriest@gmail.com He now has 10 Hams on his call-up list.))

Keith Jennings AD8L would like to meet **NEXT MONDAY AT 7PM at Bellacino's** with anyone that may want some Elmering. This meeting is open to anyone that may have questions related to amateur radio and/or those who may also give input. **The**

next ARRL VE test session will be on May 11 at the Mercer County 911 Center.

DMR: David Sexton AB8D would like to try another DMR net on next Tuesday, May 14, at 0730pm on local Bluefield talk group 9. (Keith has a CS750 DMR handheld for sale..... gkj1953 at frontiernet dot net).

Our annual Field Day operation will be at Glenwood Park on June 22-

23. <http://www.arrl.org/field-day> It was mentioned last meeting that Matt had received a bid on a 4' X 10' banner for the Club that could be used for any of our functions. The quoted price was \$208. Discussion. Hooger made a motion, seconded by George Leedy KJ4BXS to seek and find the best 4' X 10'

banner for the cheapest price. A vote was taken, the motion passed. George said that he would contact Venture Printing and see about options discussed tonight.

Cindy Turner mentioned that there was a Hurricane Awareness event at the Roanoke, Va. airport on Wednesday. <https://www.weather.gov/rnk/2019HAT> she also said that the New River Valley ARC <https://www.n4nrv.org/> is financially supported by a fish dinner by the Mt. Tabor Ruritan in Blacksburg, Va. on the second Saturday May thru September and invited us to attend. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mt-Tabor-Ruritan-Club-Fish-Fry/204029759650247>

The meeting was over at 0750pm.

(Highlights of the ARES meeting: Charles Priest would like all ARES members to sign up at <https://arrl.volunteerhub.com/> He would like to have the group go to all of the EMS, Fire and Police stations in the County and see how propagation is to the 911 Center On July 27.)

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.)

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/>

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The East River Amateur Radio Club VE team will hold an ARRL testing session on Saturday, 11, 2019 at 9am at the Mercer County 911 Center in Green Valley. The Center is between Bluefield and Princeton on U.S. Route 460 on Crumpecker Hill. Turn into the landfill area, bear to the left up the hill onto "Shelter Road". The 911 Center is on the right, just past the Juvenile Detention Center, (look for the razor-wire fences there), and is clearly marked. YOU WILL TURN RIGHT, INTO A GATED/FENCED AREA AT THE CENTER (or park in the graveled lot across from the 911 Center). Be sure to bring any prior documentation: **A COPY of your Amateur license and/or CSCE (if applicable) is a must, and a photo identification is also a must.All tests will be given. Please pass this along to anyone that may need to take a test, THANKS! Talk-in on the 147.06 MINUS 0.600, most radios will put in a PLUS. (encode PL 103.5), 145.49- or 442.45 W8MOP repeaters. \$15 CASH or CHECK.**

(Reminder: The ERARC VE team gives Amateur Radio tests on a quarterly basis at the Mercer Co. 911 Center in Green Valley on the second Saturday at 9am. We test in Feb, May, Aug and Nov. The ERARC has placed the new Technician study manuals in the two Bluefield and the Princeton Libraries for check-out and study use.)