

Minutes of the Bluefield, WV's East River Amateur Radio Club held on November 2, 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 Matt Morris KC8GLS ERARC President at 703pm. He welcomed all 12 members present as well as 5 online via ZOOM.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes from the October 5th meeting. They were approved.

Mike Clemons KM4UCR gave the Treasurer's report. He paid APCO \$12.75 and deposited \$105 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.)

Repeater report: Jay Belt K8CTI that 'they're working', as Don Anderson would say. He mentioned that Nelson Linkous WZ8E has the 145.25 (PL 100.0) back on the air and welcomes usage of it. He also said that Nelson is in the process of adding a DMR repeater on the air @ 443.625. Chris Hatcher KC8AFH programmed the unit.

Skywarn: Net every Monday (except the first) of each month on 145.49 at 0730pm.

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 that the next ARES net will be on November 14th at 0730pm on the 147.06 repeater. He had a small group of checkins for the last net but had a nice number during the Simulated Emergency Test on October 17th during the BSA Virtual Jamboree On The Air and Camporee.

Volunteer Examiner report: Keith Jennings. The next test session will be on November 14, 9am at the 704 Bland St. location.

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 *last week*. (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. They 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.

AND: 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.

After discussion, the ELMER CLASS will now be held on Saturday at 1pm at 704 Bland St. 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:

CHRISTMAS DINNER: We are on the book for 6pm, December 7, 2020 at La Fiesta in Bluefield, Va. After discussion, it was decided that Hooger will send out a poll email to see how many people would indeed plan on coming with the Chinese flu in mind. Ginny Fisher KF4YBU asks that the email poll be answered ASAP due to logistical challenges. Thanks.

New business: none.

The meeting was over at 0733pm.

<<<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 80M repair/replacement at the 911 Center

(3) APRS back on the air

(4) Echolink back on the air

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.)***