

Minutes of the Bluefield, WV's East River Amateur Radio Club meeting held on January 4, 2021 via ZOOMonline meeting. <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 KC8LGS, ERARC President at 702pm. He welcomed the 12 members/guests online via ZOOM. He asked Keith Jennings AD8L to announce that Trancy Belcher KA8CFR, George Scott N4QQM and L.A. Farmer's (KB8OOK) daughter had all passed away in the past few weeks. He asked for a moment of silence.

Hooger Fisher W4OF read the minutes from the December 7th meeting and they were approved.

Mike Clemons KM4UCR gave the Treasurer's report. He paid APCO \$10.82, deposited \$32 in dues and \$57.07 from Amazon Smile. Matt asked that we as Club members advertise the Amazon Smile program to benefit our Club. (See: <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/55-0632875>) He also asked that we publicize this information on Facebook, other social media and our website.

(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 said that as far as he knows, they're working but the ERARC 444.45 DMR is having some sort of problem with its antenna or feedline. Jaiden Borich N4NFP is still looking for a new site for his 440 repeater AND that he's added and tested Echolink on it.

Skywarn: Roger Stefancic KC8LGR reports that the net is held every Monday (except the first) of each month on the 145.49 repeater at 0730pm. He hopes to start the net back next week, hopes to change things up somewhat and would like volunteers to be net controllers for each weekly net.

DMR: David Sexton AB8D: Net is every Tuesday at 0730pm on the WZ8E 443.625 DMR repeater on the 1354 WV statewide talk group. He is using <http://www.netlogger.org> software and encourages others to use it for free.

ARES report for Charles Priest KN4OOH, Mercer County, WV EC, The next monthly net will be on January 21. This net is on the third Thursday at 0730pm on 147.06.

Volunteer Examiner report: Keith Jennings. The ERARC ARRL VE team tests quarterly on the second Saturday at 9am at 704 Bland St., Room 523, Bluefield, WV. The next testing will be on February 13, 2021 as the Covid pandemic allows. Keith said that he had called the ARRL VEC and asked if the \$15 testing fee is included with the proposed \$35 licensing fee that we're hearing about. They had no answer as of this time. Mike Clemons said that the proposed \$35 fee *is* a proposal and that there will be a 30 to 60 day Notice of Proposed Rule Making period when it comes up.

New business: Jaiden Borich asked if the Club's repeaters could be linked up for our local nets. There was some discussion and we'll look into the suggestion. The meeting was over at 0730pm.

<<<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 75M 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](mailto:ERARC@w8mop.com)
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*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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