

## ECARC – 10/21/2014 Meeting Minutes

Rolf, KG0KM called the meeting to order about 6:45 PM at the Saving Grace Facilities in the Eau Claire East Ridge Center. 15 members and guests attended. Everyone introduced themselves.

Ron, KC9PKO read the corrected Minutes from the previous meeting. Motion made and seconded to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Ron, W9RLL provided a detailed Treasurer's report. Club Equipment Insurance has been renewed. Motion was made and seconded to approve the financial report as read. Motion passed unanimously.

### DISCUSSION:

Dave, KB9SGY brought in a DVD from the Minnesota Camp Courage he attended. Rolf will review it. We might be seeing part of the DVD as a program at upcoming meetings.

Jason, KC9RIJ attended the Colby Swap meet and gave us a brief update. The Colby meet is about the same size as the CVARC Hallie Swap meet. The weather was good and there was decent attendance. Jason reported that it was successful for him. He bought and sold some items while he was there.

Ron, W9RLL let us know the funeral details for his wife Kelly. She will be interred in the Veterans Cemetery in Spooner Wisconsin at 1:00 PM on Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup>.

Rolf, KG0KM presided at the funeral for Jim Linstedt and reported that it was very well attended.

Bill Kraft, K9NY spoke to the group. Bill is the new Emergency Communication (EM COMM) Coordinator for Eau Claire County. He is in the process of organizing a group of people who are interested in participating in ARES/RACES activities. He noted that the group's first Simulated Emergency Test (SET) took place on October 4<sup>th</sup>. The test went well for a first time effort with 18 contacts. Bill thanked all of those who participated. He plans to meet again soon with the group for additional training. He will contact those who expressed an interest by email.

There was an informal program discussing some new hand held radios that are now available and quite inexpensive (Chinese manufacture). They seem to work pretty well. Dave, KB9WPC had a couple of examples for us to see. He and Rolf told us about some of the quirks that they noticed and also some of the features. The AVOFENG - Model 82 that was seen is provided with a charger, antennae and 38 megawatt (milliamp?) battery. They are available on Amazon, Ebay and other online retailers for as little as \$30 and up. As always buyer beware!!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

**Central Standard Time resumes at 2:00 AM November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**Club Christmas Party** is being held this year on Thursday December 16<sup>th</sup>. It is being held in the Saving Grace Facility. Get the date in your calendars. More details are to come. It is always a good time.

**Eau Claire County Warning Siren testing** continues all year long in and around Eau Claire. Dave, KB9WPC noted that the County had planned to self monitor the sirens in Eau Claire with a new feedback system. This is not working as well as they had hoped, so there is a need for the club to continue to monitor sirens in Eau Claire as we had done in the past. We also are encouraged to witness the testing of the Sirens in Altoona, Fall Creek, Fairchild and Augusta. Dave was in Fairchild for the October 6th siren test and reported it did not function. It appears that it is new and still had not got the antennae installed yet.

Next siren test will take place at 11:00 AM on Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Check in with Dave, KB9WPC beginning at 10:45 AM. The net will be on the 146.910 repeater. Please consider witnessing a siren. Some siren locations that have not been reported on recently are Riverview Drive, Carson Park and Mt. Simon. Thanks to all of you who have helped in the past.

**Next Ham Examination in Eau Claire** is scheduled to be on October 18th, 2014. **This is a rescheduled Date.** Jon, KE9KW has informed the ARRL regarding the date change. If you know someone who is planning to write one of the tests in October, make sure they know of this change. Exam will be held at the L.E. Phillips Senior Center at 9:00AM. As always, walk-in's are welcome! \$15 for each test. Volunteer Examiner is Jon Case, KE9KW. More details are on the ECARC website. You can also use the ECARC website to find question pools and many other exam related information.

Jon also wanted us to let you know that he could use someone as a "back up" in case he (and Diane) can't make it to an exam session for some reason. Contact him if you might be available.

**The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL)** is being celebrated in 2014. As a part of the Centennial Celebration, a QSO Party began January 1<sup>st</sup>. W1AW Portable 9 is continuing to operate in each state at least twice during the remainder of the year. The ECARC website has more information. Paul W0AIH and Mark KB9S will continue to be very active with this event.

Treats were available for everyone. Thanks Dave & Rolf

Meeting was adjourned about 7:25 PM.

**Next scheduled meeting** will be November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 at the East Ridge Center. Meeting will begin at 6:30 PM. Enter at the north entrance and look for signs when you enter the lobby. Meeting room is ahead on the left.

No program details were discussed but we do plan to talk about:

2014 Christmas party details

2015 Equipment Auction (1<sup>st</sup> Saturday in March)

2015 SkyWarn weather seminar (April).

Emergency Communication details.

Hope you can join us.....Ron, KC9PKO