

The EPARC Key

We're Radio-Active

Volume 2, Number 1

January 1991

EPARC Holds First Meeting of 1991

The ever-expanding membership of EPARC held its first meeting of the new year on January 22, 1991. The meeting convened at approximately 8:20 pm and adjourned at 10:00 pm. Members present were Dave (KF8FL) and Mike (KB8KKT) Hartman, Ken Holdridge (AK2U), Gary (N8MAZ) and Shane (N8MDC) Buckland, Jim Hoffman (KW8I), Fran Kuecker (KB8IDL), and our newest club members, John (N4VJJ) and Connie Sprouse.

Future Meetings

EPARC had originally planned to meet the fourth Tuesday of each month. This evidently presents some confusion when, quarterly, there are five Tuesdays in the month. Ergo, up for discussion and a vote at the next regular club meeting is a motion to move the meetings to the *last Tuesday* of each month. We may be able to program our rigs, but we apparently cannot count to four.

1990 Retrospective

EPARC is still new club and a small one, formed only last August/September by a handful of overworked but dedicated individuals. It's time for a pat on the back. Let's take a look at what we accomplished in 1990.

- At our first meeting, 13 members attended; the club now has 26 members.
- A volunteer examiner (VE) team has been established and their first set of tests were successfully administered (50% of those who took a test passed one) in February. The next VE exam is scheduled for March 23.
- Novice classes began in January with an enrollment of 12 enthusiastic students.
- Information has been obtained on repeater equipment.
- The club has received its ARRL affiliation and has filed for its tax exempt number.
- One of the club members has been appointed as Emergency Coordinator (EC) for Jefferson County.

Key Dates

February 12	First Field Day Technical Meeting at 8:00 pm
February 26	Club Meeting ;8:00 pm; John Kanode is scheduled speaker
March 23	VE Exam; preregistration required; 9:00 am
March 26	Club Meeting; 8:00 pm; Jim Steel is scheduled speaker
April 16	Tentative Field Day Technical Meeting; 8:00 pm
April 30	Tentative Club Meeting; 8:00 pm

- Several of our members participated in two different communications events during the fall, giving the club some extended recognition.
- Preparations are to begin in February for field day.

Field Day Preparations

With the June field day event looming on the horizon, the club members presented a show of hands to indicate whether the club should participate. There was unanimous agreement that we should make a concerted effort to do so. It was also agreed that three special, technical, club meetings should be held, one each in February, April, and June, to prepare for field day. The following items will be needed for field day and are up for discussion at the special meetings:

- A site
- An extra class call sign to "borrow" for the station (WV8E and KW8I were suggested; the call sign should belong to someone who will be participating in field day)
- Wire and coax for the antenna
- Radio equipment.

We do have access to the following:

- A four-element beam antenna

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(Field Day, continued from page 1)

- A generator
- Some RG 215 coax.

Club members concurred that 2 or 3 stations should be set up, one designated for CW and one for phone. We also need to review the rules for field day, which is one of the objectives to be achieved during the three technical meetings. Finally, we all need to encourage our new and novice stations to participate.

Miscellaneous Business

- The **Vienna Hamfest (Winterfest)** is Saturday, February 23. If club members are planning to go, perhaps we can carpool.
- We have a **family within our radio community in some need**. Both parents have been laid off from their jobs; the family had an enormous electric bill in January; and, there are children in the family. Any donations of food or money can be transferred to Fran (KB8IDL) or Dave (KF8FL). Check your club rosters for the telephone numbers.
- One of our new members, **Tom Lufkin (WA4DAX)** was called up to the Persian Gulf around the beginning of the new year. We need to keep him in our thoughts as well as the thousands of others serving over there.
- **John Kanode (N4MM)**, is tentatively scheduled to speak to the club on February 26 about ARRL. This meeting may be moved to the firehouse at the intersection of Routes 11 and 51 in Inwood, and may be a covered dish affair. More details will be forthcoming.
- **Jim Steel (WA8HPD)** is definitely scheduled to address the club on March 26 about emergency preparedness. Jim works for the West Virginia state emergency preparedness office in Charleston. Also in attendance will be **Darrell Penwell**, Jefferson County Emergency Coordinator. He has indicated that he may bring the Berkeley County Emergency Coordinator. They will give us an overview of what the state and county offices do, and how they interact with the amateur radio community.
- The club has spent \$250 on books for the novice course (for which it will be reimbursed) and has \$300 remaining in the budget.
- **Jim (KW8I)** volunteered to bring the "goodies" for the next club meeting.
- **Mark (N3HIG)** donated a Drake 2-meter rig to the club. It needs a little work, but when ready, will be available as a loaner or to meet other needs.

New Members

We would again like to welcome John (N4VJJ) and Connie Sprouse to the club. John and Connie moved to this area from Charlottesville 2 years ago, and now reside in Cherry Grove. John works for the federal government and has generously offered to help in teaching the novice class. Connie adds that John's favorite hobbies are putting up (and then taking down) antennas and collecting grounding rods (hi, hi).

Editorial Information

The Eastern Panhandle Amateur Radio Club, Inc., meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the High's Regional Office in Pikeside, West Virginia (telephone number: 304-263-7185). EPARC was formed with the objective of actively promoting the amateur radio hobby and serving the community. EPARC welcomes all amateur radio operators and supporters of amateur radio to join in its meetings. Annual club dues are \$12.00 per household (\$8.00 per year for associate members). The club's mailing address is EPARC, PO Box 537, Kearneysville, WV 25430). EPARC expresses its gratitude to High's Regional Office for permission to use its headquarters as the club meeting site.

Club Officers

Dave Hartman
Ken Holdridge
Jim Hoffman
Pat Fowler
Fran Kuecker

Dale Birmingham
Darrell Collins

Offices Held

President
Vice President
Treasurer
VE Liaison
Newsletter Coordinator/Club
Historian/Secretary
Special Events Coordinator
Junior Officer