

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group
Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2017

Official Agenda and Minutes:

1. 8:30-8:45 Coffee, meet and greet
2. Call to Order - 8:45
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Welcome New Members and Guests
 - JASON, NO CALL JUST YET
 - JIM, KN4AWT
 - JAY, KNCQB
 - GARY, KY4GLH
 - ROY, AD7FW
 - DAVE, KE4OKY
5. Secretary minutes and acceptance
 - Hence forth all meeting minutes will be published and posted on the web site. There will be a section off of the secretary page for all meeting minutes.
 - Availability will be sent to the club member e-mail address
6. Treasurer's Report and acceptance
 - All reports are reported on the club web site and linked off of the Treasurer page.
 - Dues all in - thanks to everyone who are members for 2017
 - Reston bike club check received!
 - Motion to pay mailing expenses expended for mailer to members who had not voted as of last meeting. There was a motion to approve. Approved.
7. Upcoming Events
 - March meeting will be on the 11th which is the second Saturday.
 - VA QSO party March 18-19
 - Vienna Wireless Winterfest is March 19
 - Field Day is June 24-25
 - Reston Bike Ride is August 27
 - Oktoberfest is September 29-30
8. Committee Reports
 - New Committees are being created now. The new commttees, so far, are:
 - Contesting (including field day)
 - Welcoming (Carol is the chair)
 - Holiday party (John Unger, Nicole, Gloria)
 - Education (Rick, Paul, Jeff Crawford)
 - Nets
 - Communications
 - Legal affairs

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- John Unger / Paul Bluehosh - Contesting committee report with details as follows:
 - February 2017:
 - ARRL International DX Contest, CW From 0000Z, Feb 18 to 2400Z, Feb 19
 - CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB from 2200Z, Feb 24 to 2159Z, Feb 26
 - North American QSO Party, RTTY from 1800Z, Feb 24 to 0559Z, Feb 26
 - March 2016:
 - ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB from 0000Z, Mar 4 to 2400Z, Mar 5
 - Virginia QSO Party from 1400Z, Mar 18 to 0200Z, Mar 19 & from 1200Z Mar 19 to 2400Z, Mar 19
 - CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB from 0000Z, Mar 25 to 2400Z, Mar 26
 - GOTA isn't just for Field Day!
 - Get On The Air and "get your feet wet" in a contest.
 - Even if you don't have a "Super Station", you will gain contesting and general operating experience.
 - You don't have to work the whole contest! Even if you are able to only get on for an hour or two, "Just Do It!"
 - Remember: Contests Exercise your Station Equipment, Antennas, and Improve YOUR Operating Skills.
- Mike Lonneke (W4AAW) updated us on the JA (Japan) All Asian contest. His remote station set new North American record and clocked in at second in the World for this contest. Very nice job to all involved! For more information on operating a remote station in a contest like this please reach out to Mike.
- Paul Bluehosh - update on the education committee.
 - Education plan overview
 - There will be two sessions Spring and Fall.
 - Spring will be the Technician class in accelerated format.
 - Fall will be general or extra, depending on demand, for 6-8 weeks of intensive training in a traditional ARRL format.
 - Timeline under consideration for technician program
 - 11 March – Registration Day & Deadline
 - After regular LARG Meeting
 - Register, book orders, payment (book + fees)
 - 1 April – Pick up books
 - 1 April to 5 May – Self-study period ("homework!")
 - 5, 6 & 7 May – Tech Class
 - 13 May – License Testing
 - Student Estimated Costs
 - \$30 -Technician License Manual
 - \$15 - Class Fee - to cover venue, supplies, snacks
 - \$45 Total Due at Registration
 - NOTE : Additional License Exam Fee Collected by Examiners - \$15/ student at Exam Time

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- Needs:
 - Instructors (at least 6-8?)
 - www.arrl.org/license-instructor-qualifications
 - Will require preparation outside of class (home work)
 - Experienced “Elmers” for Student follow-up after Licensed (ideally, 1 Elmer per Student)
 - Live Equipment Demonstrators
 - Audio/Visual Coordinator
 - Registration Assistance as required
 - Snack & Water Coordinator
 - Advertisement Poster Distribution Help
- General / Extra program details:
 - Demand will determine General or Extra (or Technician?)
 - 6-8 Week Course (Traditional Format)
 - Course Begins in Mid to Late September
 - Planning Starts in Late Spring, Early Summer
 - See N4PD, N1RM, or K0ZR after the meeting and volunteer to help out!
- [Next weekend 160 Meter CQ CW Contest
 - Lot of fun if you have the antenna space
- Field day update - Chris Brown
 - Looking for volunteers for station captains.
 - Will send out e-mail to club with more information to let everyone know the areas of need.
 - Look at your calendar in June to see how you can help.

9. Old Business

- K4LRG has been renewed for another 10 years - N4PD
- Renewed ARRL membership - Insurance
- VA QSO Party is March 18-19 so next monthly meeting will be March 11 (Second Saturday).
- Paulson presented an award for photography at Field Day in 2016.
- Rick Denny presented an award for contribution as station 3 caption and antenna work for FD 2016.

10. New Business

- The club received a \$98 check from ARRL for the last round of testing.
- Jay Greeley - report on cost for administration of the last training. Venue: Free (VFW). \$98 was expended to put on the event. Motion to reimburse Jay for expense was approved.
- KJ4PVI, Greg, Presented on ways to increase public exposure and opportunities along with the Masonic Lodge (“The Lodge”)
 - 2017 parade in Purcellville. The Lodge will have float in the parade. Maybe set up a table?

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- Halloween in Leesburg. Maybe set up a table? Setup a station at the lodge in Lovettsville during Oktoberfest.
 - Parade in Herndon
 - ADA Bike Ride - Out of Reston May 13th request ham radio coordination.
 - Suggestion / Discussion on setting publicity and branding - or public service / public events committee. Topher and Nicole will chair this committee. More to come.
11. New constitution & By-Laws Q&A, voting, etc. The official vote was held and the new constitution was passed by a vote of 54 “yes” and 2 “no” out of 72 possible votes.
12. Several door prizes were raffled to members including a Diamond D2000 antenna (50/144/430 MHz)
13. Meeting was Adjourned at February 18, 2017 10:07
14. After the business meeting programs for today:
- Carol and Denny went over the upcoming VAQP in detail.
 - Raspberry Pi discussion with John Unger

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Photos from our meeting today:



Mike Lonneke discussing JA Contest



Members waiting for the meeting to start



Members waiting for the meeting to start



John Unger discussing Raspberry Pi



Denny and Carol on the VA QSO Contest

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ATTENDEES:

There were 33 people who signed the roster this morning:

W5ODJ: John
KD7UIY: Ben
W3CMH: Christopher - previously KC3IJZ
KJ4GYL: Kenneth
KM4VMA: Joel
KE4S: David
KR9D: Richard
KF4TJJ: Carol
KF4TJI: Paul
W4AU: John
KK4RNV: Valeriy
AD7FW: Roy
W4AAW: Michael
KT9N: Arvid
K2BFY: Henry
N3CLE: Nycole
KJ4PVI: Gregory
KM4EKZ: Christopher
K5NOB: Luther
WB8WKU: Eugene
K4FW: James
KY4CMH: Christina
K9CQB: Damon - Previously KM4JNW
NS5G: Daniel
KG4UPR: Bryan
KY4GLH: Gary
KG4TIH: Paulson
KB0ENH: Richard
KE4OKY: David
KI4UTB: Jay
KN4AWT: James
KC5CG: Christopher
N3EV: Gene
Jason checked in without a call