

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group
Regular Meeting Notes October 19, 2019

Venue: Leesburg Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

- 8:30-8:45 Coffee, meet and greet
- Pledge of Allegiance
- President welcome and meeting overview.

Elections of club officers will be held in January. The President announced that he will not seek reelection.

The club Holiday Party is scheduled for December 7, 2019 at the Hamilton Emergency Center.

The new dues structure will be effective in January. One adult will be \$25. Additional members of the same household will be \$5. Student or youth membership will be \$10 if not otherwise affiliated with a family. The new dues structure was previously approved by the membership.

- Attendance
 - 23 club members signed the sign in roster
 - 3 club officers were present. The Treasurer was absent.
- The minutes from the September meeting were accepted as written.
- The Treasurer's report was reviewed by the President. It was noted that one outstanding check associated with the 501(c)-3 application has not been cashed. The application is still being processed.
- Kurt KI4FWB reviewed the Oktoberfest event. 12 club members were present at the event. It was noted that the club provided a radio to the police officer that was present at the event. The remote parking lot in Brunswick MD did not have radio coverage due to the much lower elevation at that site. If this is to be remedied, we will also require a procedure for contacting authorities in Maryland if an event occurs that requires their services.
- Steve KS1G reported on the ISS contact event. It still does not have a firm date, but October 29th is probable. It is likely that the local Fire Department will provide a ladder truck to assist with raising the antenna components to the school roof. This will probably happen on Tuesday afternoon. Other opportunities for members to participate will be on Wednesday. Emails will be sent to the club reflector to provide details. Paulson KG4TIH indicated that the event will be streamed live to the Internet. The URL for the streaming will be provided via the email reflector.

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- Gump KC5CG presented information about the communications equipment used during the Apollo missions. The radio link used the Unified S Band system for the link between the earth and the spacecraft. VHF frequencies were used between the astronauts and the Lunar Module. Ground stations included various stationary stations around the world with ships and aircraft to fill the gaps and provide redundancy. The NASA document number X55492 is available on line where many details are recorded. Additional information is available various places on line for those interested. The June 1972 issue of QST includes an article about 2 ham operators who monitored the live communications traffic during the missions. The crews of several missions left several Apollo Lunar Surface Experiment Packages (ALSEPs) that use a radio link to provide experimental results back to earth.
- Steve N1ESD reminded the members present that the ARES group will meet at the Loudoun EOC at 7:00 Tuesday evening, October 22.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:30