

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group
Regular Meeting Notes November 16, 2019

Venue: Leesburg Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

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

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

KOZR's second tower is up and the antenna is mounted. The tower is a Rohn 45 guyed tower with a two element antenna for 40 meters at 90 feet. Jeff recounted some issues he encountered during the tower installation. The most significant issue was an unmarked buried 7200 volt power line.

- Attendance
 - o 20 club members signed the sign in roster
 - o 1 guest signed the roster – Brent Anderson KN4QHY
 - o 4 club officers were present.
- Dave KE4S announced that officers will be elected soon. Members interested in consideration for an officer position should contact a member of the Board or a current officer. There are currently no candidates for the President or Vice President position.
- The minutes from the October meeting were accepted as written.
- The Treasurer's report was presented by Steve KN4HOZ. The current bank balance is \$5,562.57. The processing of the application for non-profit status for the club is complete. The club is now a public charity. There was a suggestion to investigate donations in kind such as space on a tower for a club antenna for example. A fair value would be placed on these donations so the donor would receive tax credit.
- Steve KS1G reported on the ISS contact event at Farmwell Station Middle school. Several members were recognized for their participation including Jeff KOZR, Paulson KG4TIH and Dave KE4S. Steve reported that more than 2000 applications for a contact are submitted by public schools each year. The proposal is submitted approximately six months ahead of the contact day. When an organization is chosen for a contact, a mentor and education coordinator are assigned to help make the event successful. The audio/visual aspect of the project was more complex than the radio. Significant effort was spent designing the interfaces to the Internet and school audio system. The result was an excellent quality presentation to those listening as well as to the ISS. It was noted that salesforce.com contributed significant labor hours to the project. The

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Ashburn file station provided the use of a bucket truck to raise the antenna and other heavy items to the roof. Several points during the project were noted for learning opportunities. The ISS scheduled an emergency EVA that affected the contact date. The school wireless hearing aided transmitter interfered with the ISS signal and had to be disabled. The antenna aiming software malfunctioned, but Steve solved the problem quickly. It is estimated that 2400 kids in Loudoun county schools heard the live stream of the event. The event is captured in a video posted on YouTube.com. Search for Farmwell ISS Contact.

- Steve N1ESD reported that an ARES Simulated Emergency Test (SET) will be held in January. Additional participants are requested. See the web site ldnares.org for details.
- Chaz KK4TNO reported that the Virginia Defense Force (VDF) has a ham club. See the web site vdf.virginia.gov for details about the VDF.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:55