Loudoun Amateur Radio Group
Regular Meeting Notes May 16, 2020

Venue: Due to the ongoing national health crisis, the meeting was held virtually using Google Meeting.

- 8:00-8:35 The Google Meeting connection was active for informal discussions.

- Pledge of Allegiance

- President welcome and meeting overview.

    Doug K4AIU presented an overview of the meeting.

- Steve KN4HOZ presented the Treasurer's report.

    Beginning balance was $7,961.41
    There was an income in the amount of $25 during the past month
    Expenses $25 to the Virginia State Corporation Commission
    Ending balance: $7,961.41

- Dave KE4S reported that he is now in possession of one of the PO Box keys. Paul N4PD has the second key.

- The club has no volunteer to lead a club event during Field Day in June. Small multi operator teams are encouraged. The club will provide assistance if requested. It was noted that the Potomac Valley Radio Club set up a group CW station last year at the VFW. It is not known if the grounds of the VFW are available this year.

- John W5ODJ reported that the 13 Colonies event will be held during the week that includes July 4. Operators to support the event are being recruited. Contact John if you have an HF station that is adequate to operate during the event.

- Chris KT9N will be hosting virtual Monday lunch sessions via Zoom. Each session is scheduled from 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM local time.

- Volunteers are requested to represent the club as a Public Information Officer. A meeting using Zoom will be held on May 26 for appointed PIOs. Training for the position will be provided.

- On May 19 a Virginia Commonwealth Roundtable will be held using Zoom. Details and a link to the event will be distributed using the club email reflector.

- Paulson KG4TIH presented information about his system to remotely control an HF radio located in Staunton, VA. The link provides control using Internet Protocol from Sterling, VA. PfSense manages the internet connection on each end of the link. A Raspberry Pi controls power to the radio by controlling the state of relays in the power lines to the radio. The Pi also samples several temperature sensors and saves the values to a file

system. Python code on the Pi is used. It was noted that the coax for between the radio and the antenna runs close to the Internet connection. Occasional interference on the Internet connection is seen when the transmitter is active. The connection is implemented using TCP over IP. UDP was used, but there were considerable corruptions of the data packets over the link. Paulson uses a lot of JS8 Call when operating the radio.

- Marc Goldberg volunteered to be the PIO representative for the club.

- Jim N4FAF reported that the minutes from the March meeting are posted to the web site. The minutes were accepted by the members present.

- The club will subscribe to Google Apps using its status as a non profit organization. Goggle meet will be used as the application for all virtual activities of the club.

- Doug requested that all ideas for presentations during upcoming club meetings should be communicated to him. Some ideas for thought were Digital mode operation and construction of Go Boxes.

- The next meeting will be held June 20. The meeting will likely be virtual because the Lutheran Church will probably not be open for the meeting. Watch the club email reflector for updates.

- It was noted that the RF Connection is open in Maryland for pickup of needed parts.

- The meeting adjourned at 9:25 AM.

- Attendance

Jim	K4FW
Steve	N1ESD
Dave	KE4S
Marc	W4PSO
Doug	KM4GC
Collins	AB3KC
John	W5ODJ
Paulson	KG4TIH
Dwight	N2ALA
Chris	W4PMP

Kevin	AK2M
Bill	K3WD
Denny	KF4TJI
Carol	KF4TJJ
Frank	K4FWD
Barry	KD4BK
Paul	N4PD
Roy	AD7FW
Doug	K4AIU
Mike	N4PDY
Steve	KN4HOZ
Jim	N4FAF