

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

Regular Meeting Notes November 20, 2021

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

- 8:00-8:30 The Google Meeting connection was active for informal discussions.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Jim N4FAF reported that the minutes from the October meeting can be accessed via the club web site.
- Steve KN4HOZ club treasurer reported that the beginning balance in the club bank account \$10,104.85. One deposit of \$1000 was made. The final balance for the month of October is \$11,104.85.
- Previous plans to return to in-person meetings are still on hold. The level of Covid infections is being monitored by the club leadership. A decision will be made each month based on the infection level to determine when in-person meetings will resume. Any change in the meeting format will be communicated using the club email reflector and on the club web site.
- The Holiday Party at the QTH of John W5ODJ has been cancelled. John and the LARG leadership agreed that the rate of Covid-19 infections has not been reduced to a low enough level to allow in-person club gatherings. A virtual club meeting will occur on December 18.
- The club has many opportunities for members to volunteer for open positions.
 - The Board of Directors is currently staffed with four members. This is the minimum number allowed in the club constitution. The term of a Director spans three years. It is desired that the Board be staffed by Directors whose terms expired on a staggered basis. Members interested in volunteering for a Director position should send email to leadership@k4lrg.org.
 - The current member serving as Treasurer will vacate the position at the next election. If a new volunteer is not received, the club leadership will reach out to the member pool to staff this critical position.
 - The Education committee needs a lead. This position must be filled before the club can develop license classes and exam sessions.
- The Board of Directors will consider reducing the requirement for a Director to hold an Extra Class license. The requirement will be reduced to a General license.
- Jim N4FAF made some comments about the incoming QSL card bureau. Cards addresses to call signs with two-letter prefixes in call district 4 are processed by the

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Sterling Park Amateur Radio Club (SPARC). Volunteers sort a portion of the received cards based on the first letter after the '4' in the callsign. Openings for card sorters occur occasionally. If you are interested in volunteering to sort cards, send email to secretary@k4lrg.org.

- All club members are encouraged to present at a monthly meeting. Contact the club vice president, Steve KS1G to schedule your presentation for a meeting. There was a suggestion to use multiple short presentations occasionally rather than a single longer presentation during the club meeting.
- Kevin AK2M gave a presentation from the Virginia Defense Force (VDF) post in Warrenton. Kevin is in charge of maintenance and configuration of the Mobile Command Posts. The Command Posts are tandem wheel trailers in which communications gear is installed. Communications are possible on many frequency bands including air band and amateur bands. Encryption is possible on non-amateur bands. Some radios include an implementation of Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) to facilitate establishment of a communication channel with no shared knowledge of frequency and other channel parameters.

The VDF has a web site at VDF.virginia.gov. The group is affiliated with the US Military. It never deploys overseas and members never carry weapons. The group is affiliated with the MARS amateur radio group.

- Daniel W5DJV recently passed his Amateur Extra exam using on-line study and an on-line exam session. Hamtestonline.com was used to study.
- Steve KS1G is working satellite contacts. He only needs Hawaii to achieve a Worked All States using satellites. He also needs two provinces for an All Canada award.
- The next club meeting is scheduled for December 18.
- The meeting adjourned at 9:40 AM.
- Attendance

KT9N	Chris
KE4S	Dave
W5DJV	Daniel
N4FAF	Jim
WB4UNA	John
AK2M	Kevin

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WA4KBM	Kevin
N4TGA	Merc
N4PDY	Mike
KG4TIH	Paulson
KS1G	Steve
KN3HOZ	Steve
KK4RNV	Val
W4PMP	Chris
KG4UPR	Bryan
KO4ROK	Steve
KJ4NXG	Bob
KD4BK	Barry