

# Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

## Regular Meeting Notes February 19, 2022

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 January meeting can be accessed via the club web site.
- John W0MPM reported that the balance in the club bank account is \$11,445.65. He suggested that the amount of money in the account is excessive. He suggested that all members of the club should find appropriate ways to spend the money.
- It was announced that Kurt KI4FWB has volunteered to organize club support for the Lovettsville Oktoberfest event in the Fall.
- It was announced that Jim N4FAF has volunteered to organize club support for the Reston Bicycle club century ride in August.
- Jim N4FAF presented material related to QSLing and Ham Radio. QSL cards have been exchanged to confirm radio contacts since the early days of amateur radio. Cards are still used today, and they are required for some awards. The QSL Bureau makes exchanging cards with foreign operators less expensive. The process of exchanging cards through the bureau is very slow. In the USA, the bureau is managed by the ARRL.

It is required to be a member of the ARRL to use the outgoing service. Outgoing cards are shipped every 90 days to a foreign bureau. Then the cards must be sorted at the foreign bureau and remailed to the operator in the foreign country. Cards can be mailed directly to the foreign bureau to save the wait in the USA.

The incoming bureau is also run by the ARRL. It is not required to be a member of the ARRL to use the incoming service. Incoming cards are sorted by call area (0-9). Within the call area, volunteers sort the incoming cards and remail them to the local operators.

An alternative to cards is electronic QSLs. The most well known is the Logbook of the World, run by the ARRL. Additionally, there is eSQL and QRZ logbook.

- Joe KD4HAX reported that the K4HTA repeater (147.30) will be off the air for a short time in the near future when it changes location.
- It was noted with sadness that Bob Bruninga WB4APR has passed. Bob developed the protocol for the APRS service.
- The next club meeting is scheduled for March 12.

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- The meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.
- Attendance

KT9N	Chris
KD4BK	Barry
K4AIU	Doug
KE4S	Dave
N4FAF	Jim
KD4HAX	Joe
W0MPM	John
WB2UNA	John
WA4KBM	Kevin
N4PDY	Mike
KS1G	Steve
KN4HOZ	Steve
K9TRE	Tareck
KK4RNV	Val
K4WD	Bill
KM4GC	Doug
Guest	Seth