

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

Regular Meeting Notes June 18, 2022

Venue: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Leesburg

- Call To Order at 8:00 am.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Jim N4FAF reported that the minutes from the March meeting can be accessed via the club web site.
- John W0MPM was absent, so Mike N4PDY reported that the bank account balance was \$11,768.15 on June 1.
- The club is still in need of a lead for the Education Committee. Providing education for current and prospective club members is an important part of the club mission. The Education Committee lead is responsible for organizing license training classes and publicizing their availability. The club is moving toward hybrid classes consisting of a mix of in-person and online instruction. There were no volunteers from the members present.
- There were no updates for the club support of the Reston Bike Club Century ride or the Oktoberfest event in Purcellville.
- Bryan K1NSA provided some information about the upcoming Field Day event. Signs must be provided that indicate that an exercise is in progress and not an emergency situation at the hospital. Insect repellant is recommended. If repellant containing DEET is used, care must be used to remove the repellant from the hands prior to operating a radio.
- The monthly presentation material was prepared by several club members. The presentations share the common theme of stealthy antennas used in neighborhoods where there are restrictions on visible antennas. Mag Loop antennas in a room, on a porch or on the ceiling can be used. Note that the direction of maximum signal strength is in the plane of the antenna. Downspouts and gutters can be used as an antenna. A 9-to-1 un-un is used between the radio coax and the gutter is used to help match the impedance. An earth ground must be provided. It can be provided using a ground rod. A strong external tuner is required to match the radio to the gutter antenna. A Spider Beam 40 foot fiberglass pole can be used to support the center of a wire dipole. With this product, the final segment of the pole should not be used to keep the top rigid enough. Reference materials for this subject include a book titled **The Short Vertical Antenna and Ground Radial**.
- It was pointed out that Dragon OS is a package based on Linux that includes many useful software tools for using software defined radio.

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- The International Space Station (ISS) is known to be active on its designated repeater frequency.
- The next club meeting is scheduled for July 16 at the Lutheran Church in Leesburg.
- The meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.

- Attendance

K1NSA	Bryan
N4PDY	Mike
N4FAF	Jim
K4FWD	Frank
K3WD	Bill
N4PD	Paul
K9TRE	Tareck
KR9D	Rick
W4PMP	Chris
KJ4NXG	Bob
N4RAF	Steve
KT9W	Chris
KI2H	Harry
KF4TJI	Denny
KF4TJJ	Carol
KE4S	Dave
W5ODJ	John
KO4NYX	Wendy
KD4HAX	Joe
WA4KBM	Kevin