

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

Regular Meeting Notes July 16, 2022

Venue: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Leesburg

- Call To Order at 8:35 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 \$10,900 on July 1. Significant expenses were paid for the club Field Day event.
- Steve KS1G reported on the club Field Day event. The members of the club met at the Landsdown campus of iNOVA hospital. The stations included 2 HF stations, one VHF/UHF satellite station and one GOTA station. The weather was very hot with no rain. Lots of water was consumed. No significant heat-related problems were indicated during the event. An interesting antenna was used for HF station 2. It is a military surplus station that is intended to mount on the deck of a submarine to allow HF communications while on the surface. The antenna reportedly uses the hull of the sub for a ground plane and is coupled to the salt water through the hull.

Power during the event was provided by an extremely quiet generator provided by Kevin AK2M. The generator is a dual fuel unit running on gasoline or propane. One 20 lb propane bottle was used during the event. Note that using propane removes the requirement to cool the generator when refueling.

Internet space weather websites indicated that a significant CME event occurred during the Field Day operations. The CME caused the noise floor of the HF bands to increase significantly. For this reason, much of the HF operation was performed using the FT8 digital protocol.

The Virginia Defense Force was present during the event. They deployed one of their communications trailers. The GOTA station operated from the trailer. Also, a local Boy Scout troop was present on Saturday afternoon. A class was presented to aid the scouts to earn their radio merit badge. Many of the scouts used the GOTA station.

Wendy KD4NYX was recognized for coordinating the food and drinks. No one was hungry unless by choice. Bryan K1NSA was recognized for overall coordination of the event. No significant gaps in group preparation were reported.

- Dave KE4S reported that he had a clean sweep of the 13 Colonies state stations. Several club members were operators for the Virginia station.
- Four or five speakers are needed for presentations during the club meetings for the remaining months of 2022.

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group
Regular Meeting Notes July 16, 2022

- The meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.

- Attendance

K9RD	Rick
KE4S	Dave
WA4KBM	Kevin
KS1G	Steve
KT9N	Chris
K4FW	Jim
K4FWD	Frank
KJ4NXG	Bob
KD4BK	Barry
N4PD	Paul
N4PDY	Mike
N4FAF	Jim