

# Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

## Regular Meeting Minutes June 17, 2023

Venue: Leesburg Lutheran Church

Meeting called to order at 8:35 AM.

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Three visitors were recognized. W3OW Bruce, KO4JCM Melissa and KM4UBX Mike.
- Gary N7BRW presented material that describes his life as a radio Subject Matter Expert (SME). Gary has lived in many foreign countries as a member of US radio listening operations. He showed pictures of an array of vertical antennas arranged in a circle. The array is used for direction finding of the source of an RF signal. The station in the Philippines had three concentric rings of antennas. The inner ring was made up of rotatable antennas. The next ring was verticals. The outer ring was rhombics. Antennas were connected to high power transmitters using hardline coax that is pressurized with nitrogen to prevent arcing of the high power signals.

The transmitters were rated as 10 kw power. The power was generated in several stages, each with a successively higher power driver. Some antennas were constructed using helical polarization. This polarization compensates for possible cross polarization. Helical polarization is useful for satellite communications when the satellite may be tumbling to present a constantly changing polarization. The helically polarized antenna has a reduction in gain compared to linear antenna elements.

- Presentations for the July and August club meetings are scheduled. Club members who have presentations are encouraged to contact Steve KS1G to schedule their presentation.
- Club volunteers are needed to support the Reston Century bike ride in August. An overall lead for the project is also needed. Contact club leadership to volunteer. A signup web page will be available soon.
- Volunteers are needed for the club support of the Oktoberfest event in late September. The event will be in Lovettsville.
- It was noted that the 6m and 220HMz nets are active again.
- Tareck K9TRE reported the balance of the club checking account as \$10,938.53.
- Steve KS1G reminded the club that the 13 colonies event is coming up in early July. Several club members will support the Virginia stations. It will be possible to log a clean sweep of the stations using satellite contacts.
- The next club meeting is scheduled for July 15.

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- The meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM.

- Attendance

N4TGA	Merc
KS1G	Steve
KJ4BXA	Lloyd
W3OW	Bruce
K9TRE	Tareck
KE4S	Dave
W4PMP	Chris
K4FWD	Frank
N4RAF	Steve
K4FW	Jim
W0MPM	John
N4PD	Paul
KM4URX	Mike
KO4JCM	Melissa
K2BFY	Henry
KM4CG	Doug
WA4TXE	Dave
WA4KBM	Kevin
N4FAF	Jim