

# Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

## Regular Meeting Minutes June 15, 2024

Venue: Leesburg Lutheran Church

Meeting called to order at 8:30 AM.

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Steve N4RAF led a talk on the subject of the club Field Day event. Steve is the lead organizer and coordinator of the event. It was noted that the forecast for temperatures on Saturday and Sunday is the upper 90s. With these high temperatures, we will consider setting up the radios in the community room at the Sheriff's station. This change would require longer cable runs to the antennas and the addition of protection for the cables where they are run across the parking lot.

Alternative operating plans were discussed to compensate for the excessive heat. It was agreed that the plan as written will be used. Periodic assessments of the conditions will be made to determine if the event should be terminated. Chilled water and electrolyte drinks will be available, but all participants should bring their own accessories to cope with the heat.

Setup of the radios and antennas will start Saturday morning at 0700 local time. All participating members should carry an HT for coordination and communication. The primary simplex frequency will be 445.955. Operators should also monitor the WA4TXE repeater. Tactical callsigns will be used to identify the positions in the Field Day site. See the operation plan for details.

Mosquito repellent and sunscreen should be used. It was noted that DEET must be cleaned from hands before operating any equipment. DEET will attack the plastic of the controls. Radio operators should bring their own headphones. Caution should be used if Lithium batteries are present since they can be sensitive to excessive heat.

- Kevin WA4KBM reported that the club request for grant money from the ARRL to fund the purchase of APRS trackers has been approved. One condition of the grant is that a report must be sent to the ARRL to describe the positive community impact of the new equipment. At the time of this meeting, the check for the grant money has not been received.
- The Treasurer Tareck K9TRE reported that the club checking account balance is \$10,940.41.
- The meeting adjourned at 9:50.
- The next club meeting is scheduled for July 20.
- Attendance

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N4RAF	Steve
W4PMP	Chris
KE4S	Dave
K4FW	Jim
KD4BK	Barry
KQ4MHT	Jim
K9TRE	Tareck
KI4AD	Evan
N4PD	Paul
W0MPM	John
KO4ANI	Mike
KD4HAX	Joe
WA4TXE	David
WA4KBM	Kevin
N4FAF	Jim