

LARG Radio News – de K4LRG



Loudoun Amateur Radio Group, P.O. Box 1004, Purcellville, VA 20134

Contacts:

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Training	Meg Gentges (AI4UX)	(703) 759-2218

MEETING LOCATION: The May 19, 2007 LARG meeting will be at 8:30 a.m. in the Leesburg Holy Trinity Lutheran Church at 605 West Market Street. The church is located at the intersection of Market Street and Catoctin Circle on the west side of town. It is just east of the bypass. From the Bypass, take the Leesburg exit at the west end of town and the church is on the right just past the stoplight. Please enter through the door on the east side of the building where you will see both steps and a ramp by the door.

May Meeting Plans – Tom, WB3AKD, will give us a ‘debrief’ of the Dulles exercise that was held on May 5. John, W4AU, and Paul, N4PD, will give a short presentation on “Contesting 101”. They will cover various aspects of HF operating in contests, state QSO parties, or Field Day. The presentation will focus on tactics and hints to make amateur radio contesting more fun and more rewarding for the “average” ham. Many of the topics to be discussed will have direct application to the LARG Field Day operations this year.

After our regular meeting, those interested will travel to the site of this year’s Field Day operation at Banshee Reeks Park to look over changes that have been made there and to finalize the locations for our stations and antennas.

Contesting News – The results of the Virginia QSO Party will be officially announced at the Manasses Hamfest, which will be held on June 3. We will probably try to organize a convoy from Loudoun County to the hamfest leaving early Sunday morning.

Club News – Field Day is coming soon!

If you haven’t already signed up to operate, please take a look at:

http://www.k4lrg.org/Field_Day/2007/Operating_Schedule_2007.html

and pick your operating time and station. Send email to Jeff, KE5APC, (ke5apc@arrl.net), with your choices of times and stations. We will be operating 5 HF stations plus a VHF station again, so plenty of opportunity to operate exists, especially in the wee hours of Sunday morning. It’s probably a good idea to pick only 2 hours of contiguous operating time at any one station when you sign up. Jump to another station if you want to operate for more than two hours without a break. Don’t wait until Field Day weekend to pick your spot; the good ones may be all taken by then!

Ongoing On-the-air Events (local times shown)

Every Sunday 8:00 p.m.	Club Radio Net, 145.310 MHz duplex
Every Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Club CW Net, 3545 kHz
Every Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Club SSB Net, 3762.5 kHz
Every Weekday Morning & Evening	Club Commuter Net, 147.480 MHz
Third Saturday of every Month 8:30 a.m.	Club Meeting

Loudoun Amateur Radio Group

Meeting Minutes for April 21, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Putman, KE4S, at 8:46 am with 39 members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

New members, those who have been away for awhile, and visitors were recognized, including: John Ives, KI4TXP; Vic Carter, KB9WXV; Sean Sheedy, AI4ID; and Craig Brown, N4FSC, the original owner/builder of the 145.310 repeater.

The Secretary's minutes were accepted as published.

The Treasurer's report was received and accepted.

Committee Reports

Training – We still need a training committee chairman for this year. Dave mentioned that we received a phone call from a mother looking for training for her son.

Contests – The Virginia QSO party had a lot of participation from L.A.R.G. members. The Florida QSO party is next weekend.

Interference – John Unger, W4AU, mentioned that they have been experiencing some interference on 147.480 in the Hamilton area. Also the intentional interference on 147.300 was discussed. Seemingly, the operator had been found.

Emergency/Public Service and Balloon Committees – Tom, WB3AKD, reminded everyone of the upcoming Dulles Drill. An "All-Hands" meeting for operators participating will take place at the Cascades Library at 7:00pm on April 30. More operators are still needed for the event.

Also, April 26, Loudoun Emergency Management will participate in the Vertex 2007 Hurricane Exercise and operators will be needed at the EOC. Help with antennas that morning would also be appreciated.

Field Day 2007 – Chairman Jeff Slusher gave the following update:

- Banshee Reeks is again our site for FD07. A site visit is planned for May 19 after the club meeting.
- Station captains have begun recruiting operators and slots are beginning to fill up.
- There is plenty of room for everyone to be involved.

Conversation led to more discussion about youth involvement in Field Day as well as Amateur Radio in general. Meg, AI4UX, is going to be investigating possible Scout classes for merit badges, etc.

New Business

Dave, KE4S, announced that the May meeting will be on contesting. This will help prepare the club for the upcoming Field Day. Discussion was given to the possibility of taping the program for those who will be at Dayton that weekend.

Program

The April program was "Show and Tell." Henry, K2BFY, shared several "tin kits" which he had homebrewed using Altoids tins and similar enclosures. Sean, AI4ID, gave the club an update on Tiny Trac 4, which he has been working on with the developer. Gary, AI4IN, demonstrated software defined radios.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:06am.

Respectfully submitted, Randy Sly