

LARG Radio News – de K4LRG



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

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MEETING LOCATION: The August 20, 2005, 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.

August Meeting Plans –Tom, **WB3AKD**, will help us finalize the plans for our annual participation in the Reston Bike Club's Century Ride, which will take place on Sunday, August 28. If you haven't been part of this event in the past, you should plan to take part this year. There are many roles and responsibilities for amateur radio, ranging from bicycle mobile to Base Station operations to Sag Wagon radio person. The communications that we will utilize for this event are much more sophisticated than we normally use for something like Leesburg First Night, and include: VHF/UHF cross-band repeaters, "normal" VHF/UHF FM, HF SSB on 75 and 40 meters, and APRS on 2-meters.

Club News – LARG sends its best wishes to Ray, **K4AJA**, on the occasion of his 80th Birthday; Happy Birthday, Ray, and we hope you enjoy many more! Gary, **NC4S**, recently assembled his new SteppIR multi-band beam and can't wait to get it up in the air. John, **W4AU**, has reassembled his KT-34A beam and also has to get it back up on his tower. It's difficult to get excited about all this outside work when the temperatures don't drop below 90, though... Rumor has it that Temp, **W4HZV**, a founding member of LARG who has been wandering about the county side in his RV for the past few years, may show up in the area sometime in August or September.

July 2005 Club Meeting Minutes

LARG Club Meeting Minutes July 16, 2005: The meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by President **Carol – KF4TJJ**, who then lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance with 32 people in attendance.

Visitors and new members **Warren - AG4EQ** and **David - KI4JSA** were recognized and welcomed by the club.

The June 2005 minutes were read by Secretary **David – K4ARP** and approved.

The Treasurer's report was read by **Gary – NC4S** and approved as presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Balloon Committee: Tom – WB4AKD No July launch. **Denny: KF4TJI** is working on the ATV payload and Tom is working on the instrument payload. Tom is looking for a new supplier for the balloon envelope, or looking into the possibility of the club making their own. Next possible balloon launch would be this fall. Tom also tabled the idea of having a Fox Hunt after the August meeting. It would be fun and improve balloon retrieval skills.

Training: Denny: KF4TJI reported that Technician Class is now up to 4 students. There will be another technician class this fall on Friday evenings starting September 16th through November 18th with students already enrolled. Denny would like to thank the club members that have supported the training and **Merc – N4TGA** for arranging the training room. A General Class is in the planning stages for next spring.

Emergency Services / Public Services: Tom – WB4AKD reminded everyone to listen to the NVTN / Skywarn repeaters a few days before and during any major weather events, such as hurricanes, for EOC traffic. During actual or impending emergencies, monitor 145.31 MHz N4FSC Repeater near Dulles for ARES OPS/ADMIN 146.70 MHz WA4TXE Repeater Leesburg ARES OPS 147.48 Simplex ARES OPS 3947 MHz Old Dominion Emergency Net /ARES OPS

Reston Bike Ride August 28th. Planning is underway with Net Control to be located at **Gary – NC4S's** house, 6 rest stops, 3 Red Cross SAGs, Patrol Bikes on the W & OD Trail and Ham SAGs at the end of the day. There will be a staging area in Leesburg at the Raflo Park to ferry riders back to the Reston Town Center. The operations plan and routes are posted on www.k4larg.org. APRS for the event is being coordinated by **Dave – KE4S** who plans on installing three temporary Digi's to help provide coverage for the route and requests all SAGs & Bikes to have APRS Trackers if possible. Biker Steve Green would like to borrow a tracker if anyone has a spare.

Tom – WB4AKD has asked that Loudoun County be included for the ARES VA Veterans Patch for participants in the 911 Pentagon and/or Hurricane Isabel events.

David – K4ARP read the letter received from Congressman Wolf in response to the clubs letter to him supporting H.R. 691.

Field Day 2005 - June 25 & 26: Boyd – N5CTI (Field Day Captain) declared the event a success. Banshee Reeks was once again a great site. Special thanks went out to **Charlie – K4LJH** (Food Captain) for the great food; and to **Jacob – K4STK, Dominic – KI4BCR** and all the VHF/UHF operators for their great efforts and high score. **Gary – NC4S** reviewed the club's overall past scores for field day and noted that the number of 5A entries was declining.

FAR: Bill – WF1L and Dick – W2YE had nothing to report, as it is to FAR to drive to go to the meetings. Please support AutoCall by subscribing.

Club Web Site: Norm – AI2C is working on organizing a link on the ARRL web site to give us a national audience. A round of applause rose from the members in recognition to the great job that Norm does on the club's web site. **David – K4ARP** asked if it was possible to put up a Virtual Trophy page on the club web site to display all the awards to the club and its members. On that note, **Larry – K3HE** mentioned that the Rust Library has a glass show case that can be used for a public club display.

Interference Committee: Mark – W3ZI brought up an ARRL letter to the FCC reconsidering BPL after a report from the UK. **Boyd – N5CI** also noted that all BPL technologies are not bad and that the ARRL does support some of them.

Carol – KF4TJJ once again thanked **Randy – W4XJ** and **David – K4ARP** for their work on the Loudoun Amateur Radio Week proclamation and noted that there were some more copies of the certificate available if anyone else would like one.

Contest Committee: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

Venture Crew: **BA** and **Bill** – **K8SYH** were not in attendance.

NEW BUSINESS

Carol – **KF4TJJ** led a discussion on the club's constitution to allow for amendments. It appears that the wording in the constitution would only allow for amendments during the January meeting when there is a majority of members physically present to vote. Having more flexibility in making amendments would make it easier to change by-laws, membership categories, etc.... Carol suggested that the club form a Amendment Committee to look into this matter, which **Bill - W2YE** then volunteered to chair.

Carol – **KF4TJJ** thanked all the members who have been hosting Net Control for the Sunday Night On Air Meetings. See Carol to sign up for future dates.

Larry – **K3HE** led a discussion on the starting time for the Sunday Night On Air Meetings. A motion was made and passed to extent the start time of the net to 8:30pm (2030hrs) until the switch from EDT to EST this fall.

Upcoming events: BRATS July 24th, various area hamfests, Reston Bike Ride August 28th and the Red Cross Ride for the Red October 1st.

Don – **KU4WE** is having a moving sale. **Denny** – **KF4TGI** brought in some of Don's equipment for members to view and provided a list of other equipment available for purchase. Proceeds will be donated to the club.

Gary – **NC4S** had the entire 2001 year of QST magazines to give away.

August 20th meeting: There will be another event at the church at 11:00am and the club will need to have the room available by that time.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45am.

David T. Mullins – K4ARP, Secretary LARG

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, 3697 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