

LARG Radio News – de K4LRG



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

Contacts:

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Training	Steve Reed (KW4H)	(703) 404-8398

MEETING LOCATION: The February 16, 2008 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.

January Meeting – We had election of officers for 2008 at the January meeting. Our new President is Bill, **K8SYH**, and Vice President is Rick, **AI1V**. As you can be seen in the ‘masthead’ above, both Jeff, **KE5APC**, and Randy, **K4XJ**, have graciously agreed to continue as Treasurer and Secretary in 2008. I’m sure that club will prosper in 2008 under the lead of these officers.

Contesting News – The ARRL DX CW contest will be the weekend of the next LARG club meeting, February 16, 17. This contest is an excellent one to work DX with your CW skills. The DX stations can work only US/Canadian stations, so we are the ‘rare’ ones for all those DX operators! The exchange for US stations is simply a signal report (599) and your state; the DX stations send a report and the power they are running. Be prepared to copy power levels like, “KW”, and “cut” numbers like “NN” for 99 from the DX stations.

It’s not too early to be thinking about the 2008 Virginia QSO Party, which takes place the weekend of March 15-16. You can read the complete rules at: http://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2008_VQP_Rules.html. We will be having more information about this important club operating event as we get closer to the QSO Party.

Club News – Coincident with the January LARG Meeting on Saturday January 19 and continuing on January 20 was the “Boot Camp” Technician license class ably organized by Steve, **KW4H**. Many LARG members took part in this two-day marathon session, which was attended by over 50 students. At the VEC testing session, which took place the following weekend, 33 folks passed various elements of the FCC license test, including two new Extra Class licensees. Congratulations to all involved. For those students or others who missed the testing session on January 26, another session will be held at the Red Cross HQ in Leesburg on Sunday, February 3, at 2:00 p.m.

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 November 17, 2007

The meeting was called to order by President Dave Putman, KE4S, at 8:45am with 34 members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The Treasurer's Report and Minutes were approved.

Committee Reports

Contests – John, W4AU reminded the club that the Sideband Sweepstakes begins today at 4pm. He indicated that this is a good contest for beginners as well as a great way to gain states toward WAS.

Holiday Party – Meg, AI4UX, reported that all is ready for the Holiday Party at Tuscarora Mill on December 4.

Training – Meg indicated that due to an increasingly busy schedule she must resign her position as Training Chairman. Dave asked for any volunteers to take on this responsibility, with no response at this time.

Emergency/Public Service and Balloon Committees – Tom, WB3AKD, reported that planning for the First Night Leesburg is underway.

Jay Greeley, KI4UTB, indicated that the work of L.A.R.G. and Tom, in particular, with the Virginia Defense Force, has been covered at a meeting in Chicago.

Northern Virginia Magazine has contacted Dave, KE4S, about the club. He gave them around four and a half pages of material. Look for a story about L.A.R.G. in the January issue.

Balloon: Tom stated that he is currently working on payloads for a future balloon launch.

Interference – Paul, N4PD, stated there was no report other than the tropo interference on the Dulles repeater. It was recommended that the PL tone be activated in order to diminish the possibility.

Old Business

Road Trip Report – Gary, NC4S, reported on the road trip, with a convoy of trailers, the previous Saturday to John Massie, W4YWF's QTH. They emptied his backyard and small basement, bringing back towers, antennas, and other equipment.

Banners – Jay, KI4TXP, gave a banner report concerning the purchase of L.A.R.G. banners to be used at Field Day and other events. The recommendation was to purchase eight banners. Jay, KI4UTB moved that the club set aside funds not to exceed \$1500 for the purchase of eight banners. The motion was seconded by Gary NC4S and carried.

Additional discussion was given to the idea of including our website URL on the banner. A motion was made by Paul, N4PD, and seconded by Tom, WB3AKD, to include the URL. The motion carried.

Field Day 2007 – Jeff, KE5APC, reviewed Field Day results as reported in QST magazine. L.A.R.G. placed #33 overall in the country, #3 in our class nationwide, #2 in VA overall, and #1 in Virginia for our class. Congratulations on another great year!

New Business

License Class – Steve, KW4H, reported that he is planning a one-day boot camp style technician class at the VFW Hall. He will be using heavy multi-media and questions in a game-show format to make the learning more fun. More information will be forthcoming.

Steve indicated that he would be willing to volunteer as our new Training Committee Chairman. Thank you, Steve!

Program

Today was “show and tell” at L.A.R.G.

Allon Stern, KE4FYL, demonstrated cable rolling using a forward and reverse coiling technique.
John Unger, W4AU, showed off his “tennis ball cannon” that can be used to launch antenna line.

Additional New Business

Nominating Committee – The nominating committee for selecting a slate of officers for 2008 is Paul, N4PD; John, W4AU; and Dave, KE4S.

Training Opportunity – Grant, KB3EMT, reported on a training opportunity at Blue Ridge Middle School. A teacher, Don, KE4CUC, has added Ham Radio as a part of the tech lab. He is using materials from the ARRL for classes.

Bill, W3EMH, announced that there will be a short meeting for members of the Dulles Amateur Radio Group immediately following this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10am.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Sly, W4XJ
Secretary