

ST. MARY'S COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION

Minutes of Zoom meeting on 8/25/22

Members present:

Walt W3GYT, Neil AC3CU, Rob N2OMC, Rachael KF7AWC, Chris KB2SKP, Brad KC3RWE, Rick W3OST, Jim KB1YZ, Pete WA3UMY, Dan KD3CQ

Rob opened the meeting at 19:30 local time. He said that there wasn't speaker as he was unable to find one. The only announcements were, the membership dues are being collected now. You have to be a paid up member to vote in the upcoming elections. The other announcement was the upcoming elections, with the office of president, treasurer, and secretary available to be filled. So far no one has put in their name. The NWS is trying to restart the skywarn net, in southern Maryland. They need someone to be the sub-coordinator in the area. Anyone interested contact Rob and he will pass your name to the NWS. There is going to be an exercise in Calvert, that will involve St. Mary's, concerning the nuclear power plant. They are looking for amateur operators from St. Mary's to be involved in message traffic and other related operations. Anyone interested, please contact Rob, and he will pass your name along.

Dan Hatcher give us an update on the tailgate fest. The tailgate fest has been scheduled for October 8, to start at 8:00 AM and go until 1:00 PM. There have been 8 tables reserved and 10 tables left. The tailgate fest will take place in the main fire hall, not the same place as last years. We are trying to get a food truck for the morning, as of the meeting, that is still pending. The October QST has a listing for the clubs tailgate fest. There will be drawings for door prizes. The ARRL is sending 3 door prizes for us to give away. Rob is also going to check a couple of contacts he has and see if we can get more.

Chris updated us on the echolink node that he has been working on. He has it mounted on a board for ease of using it in the field or in the trailer. A discussion was held concerning additions to the trailer for use in the field if needed.

A discussion was held concerning some future projects. Jim brought up a possible project concerning satellite activation and building a faraday cage for equipment. Pete brought out that, proper grounding and bonding would take care of most lightning and other types of surges. He explained that the Museum suffered a loss of power, due to

a close lightning strike, that took out multiple pieces of equipment as well as a 250A breaker. If there had been good grounding, a common power source for all the buildings, this would not have happened. He said the museum is looking to install fiber optic cabling between buildings and this would take care of lightning issues. Pete said that a grounding and bonding would be a good topic for a zoom meeting.

Rob closed the meeting at 2100.