

St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association
2/23/2023 7:30P.M.

Attendee's: N3AK-Jon, AA3TB-Dan, AC3FE-John, Guest-Mike, K3WJX-Chuck, KBOUCT-John, KB3WYU-Mark, KC3FHU-Brian, KC3PFF-Shawn, KF7AWC-Rachel, N3NO-Gene, N5TB-Tony, NA6RS-Ron, W3GYT-Walt, W3OST-Rick, W4NRG-Chris, W4OKW-Tom, WA3UMY-Pete, WA4EIO-Peter

The meeting started at 1930 and was in-person meeting held in the Technology Hall of the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum. The meeting started off was everybody introducing themselves to include a returning member visiting from South Carolina, Tom Clark.

We discussed the STEM event held at the pax museum on 11 March. The event was very successful and there was a lot of interest at the SMCARA table than previous STEM events. If anybody has ideas for future events, please send emails to n3ak.jon@gmail.com.

It was mentioned that the inventory of club assets will begin soon. We have collected spreadsheets from previous inventories and will begin reaching out to identify/confirm the location of some assets. We will also begin on site inventory at the museum during the next club working party following breakfast with hams.

The next breakfast with Hams will be at IHOP on April 1st at 0800 followed by a club working party starting at 1000 and going until noon. The planned activities will include cleaning up the work bench, working on the trailer and asset inventory. Future working party plans include pulling cables at the museum and fixing cables.

Field day planning. We have nine weekends left before field day. A request has been sent to Sotterley to see if we can get the same accommodations that we had last year. Looking for volunteers to assist with some pre field days preparations. The following is a list of some of the items with people that have volunteered to complete or coordinate.

- Field day rules – Tony
- Update login software – Tony
- Cable checks –
- Pretest Equipment –
- Work trailer –

SMCARA website and other we assets: We have new e-mail addresses have been established for the club officers plus a few special emails. One of the special emails set up is Elmer@K3HKL.org where people can reach out and ask for help on projects. Emails sent to this address will be forwarded to Elmer volunteers. If you would like to be an Elmer volunteer, please send an e-mail to Elmer@K3HKL.org. Also discussed were the plans to set up web-based collaboration tools such as groups.io and slack. The groups.io would be used much like reflector e-mail we have but with a lot more capabilities such as pictures and other file storage and more. We are looking at the first level paid tier to start with. The slack application it's more like a texting application that works on your computer or smartphone. There was suggestion to consider WhatsApp. More information will be coming out soon. A YouTube channel has been set up for the club. The plan is to post recordings from our zoom meetings and other content.

Pete discussed getting new trustees for the club station and club repeater. Tony has volunteered to be the trustee for the club repeater and Brian has volunteered to be the trustee for the club station. More research is needed before we move forward with these positions.

Shawn gave a brief on POTA (Parks On The Air) and answered questions. This topic was also the topic of a recent club meeting on zoom that was recorded and we hope to have this and other recordings posted to YouTube in the near future.

Treasury report: Brad gave a report on the treasury to include the balance of \$3043, recent expenditures of \$166 for post office box renewal, and collected \$70 in dues.

Kit building status: Kit building has temporarily stalled. Need to order supplies before we continue.

The meeting was closed at 2130.