

St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association
3/27/2023 7:30P.M.

Attendee's: N3AK-Jon, WA3UMY-Pete, W3YGT-Walt, KB1YZ-Jim, AK4DT-Turq, W4NRG-Chris, KC3PFF-Shawn, N5TB-Tony, K3WJX-Chuck, KD3CQ-Dan

This was an in-person meeting starting at 1900 held in the Technology Hall of the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum.

Starting with Field Day discussion, Pete mentioned that we have been able to confirm Historic Sotterley again this year as the location for Field Day. This was the same location used last year that worked very well for the club. Amenities include restrooms, kitchen, large indoors area to spread out radios and is airconditioned. Outside offers a large field to set up antennas. It was decided to operate as 3A with a GOTA station and Tony is hoping to be able to do some Satellite work there as well. Many of the roles have been assigned but we are still looking for help in some areas. See schedule below for Field Day Meeting times. Pete also mentioned that some radio clubs are abandoning their POBox. With that SMCARA has just renewed ours we have almost a year to think about what we want to do as a club. Someone asked if the museum could be used as the SMCARA Club address where needed, and Pete took action to investigate that option.

Jon discusses the club's incorporation of the internet platform called Groups.io. The club has set up a groups.io page for the club and can be found by going to smcara.groups.io. This is a paid tier that offers extra things like calendar, file storage and much more. There are already videos and pictures posted for viewing. The plan is to replace the reflector with this platform. Also, all members are encouraged to use this as a primary communication platform for the club and all of St. Mary's amateur radio community.

Shawn requested there be Step-by-Step instructions created to assist people with getting started with Groups.io and [SMCARA.groups.io](https://smcara.groups.io).

Dan said that he would not be able to be the October Hamfest coordinator this year, so we need to have someone volunteer to fill the role. Dan said that he would be able to advise the coordinator if needed.

Someone asked if the club would be starting up classes anytime soon. This would be great to do if someone has the time and is willing to do so. Instructors needed.

Field Day meetings/prep

Weeks	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun	Month
10	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Apr
9	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Apr
8	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	Apr
7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	May
6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	May
5	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	May
4	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	May
3	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	May/Jun
2	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Jun
1	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Jun
0	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Jun

27 April – Club Meeting

7 May – Working Party (following Breakfast With Hams)

11 May – Zoom Meeting

25 May – Club Meeting

4 June – Working Party (following Breakfast With Hams)

15 June – Zoom Meeting