

St. Mary's County Amateur Radio Association

Amateur Radio Emergency Service

6/17/24 2300Z

Members present: KB2SKP-Chris, AC3CU-Neil, W3OST-Rick, KB1YZ-Jim, KC3WBR-Robert, KC3UYF-Tracey, AC3FE-John

Chris opened the net at 2300Z and asked for any formal traffic for the net, there was none. He then asked if there were any announcements for the net, and there were none. Chris then went over some of the requirements for operating remotely or portable. He went over a few of the antenna configurations that are possible. Since, most portable operations use small types of radio units, that have low power. He cautioned that if you use a higher power, the closeness of the antenna to your being could be harmful. He suggested raising the antenna higher or moving it further away from you.

Neil doesn't have a lot going on presently. I am not operating portable yet, but have been listening to all of the suggestions and recommendations that have been offered. I am going to try and make the field day, at least for a little while.

Rick plans on attending field day. He is going to help Pete get the trailer to Sotterly. He is going to start looking at the grounding of his radio.

Jim is looking for a way to support a vertical antenna in the field. He has a camera tripod and is thinking that maybe he can make some type of mount for the top of the tripod to mount the antenna on it. He also has a diamond antenna that is a window mount and was wondering if it could be used as an emergency antenna. Chris hasn't seen one of these types of antennas for 2M, but it should work fairly well. He thinks that you should be able to make something that would attach to the tripod and be able to mount the antenna to it.

Rob has seen the YouTube videos that Chris recommended. He liked the idea of putting a nail or steel peg in the ground for a ground point. He is thinking that he needs to get the antenna higher or away from him.

Tracey has been preparing for field day. He has started on making his man-pack. He constructed an antenna out of 1/4-inch copper pipe. He is looking for any ideas as to what to bring to field day. Chris said that he only has to bring himself and a notebook to possibly take notes. He can also bring his antenna and they could see what it will do.

John is still weak, but he is on a HT. He is looking forward to field

day. Chris said to bring his radio and they would see what the problem is.
Chris closed the net2332Z.