

Kingston Amateur News

Apr 2002

P.O. Box 1402 Kingston K7L 5C6

No 134

NEXT CLUB MEETING

Apr 3, 7:00 p.m. (Wednesday)

MEETING PLACE: Smitty's

2376 Princess (next door to Chapters)
Come in early and have supper.

GUEST SPEAKER: TBA



Proudly Affiliated
With RAC



It's a go!

The new Repeater project was voted in

Listen and watch for the upcoming updates
on the weekly net or the Newsletter.

KARC Web page designed and maintained by: VA3KGB, Chip
<http://www.king.igs.net/~karc>

President's Notes

Participation

Spring is here and soon things will begin to happen, with all of this activity that will take place this summer.

A lot of help will be required. Our club is only going to be as strong as to the number of participating members.

Lets make this year, a year of participation by all members.
ve3vjf Roy.

2001 EXECUTIVE OF KARC:

President	VE3VJF Roy Clarke	384-5900	ve3vjf@rac.ca
V/President	VE3BGP Mike Beausoleil	634-0411	ve3bgp@rac.ca
Secretary	VA3HAW Brian Allen	545-0619	va3haw@rac.ca
Treasurer	VA3KDH Kim Hay	353-1189	va3kdh@rac.ca
Past President	VA3AIL Leo Ashley	354-6914	

SWAP NET MANAGER:

VE3KFS, Les Lindstrom 634-4247 ve3kfs@rac.ca
(Please call Les if you have items for sale or wanted)

TWO METRE NET MANAGER:

VE3KFS, Les Lindstrom 634-4247 ve3kfs@rac.ca

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:

VE3BGP, Mike Beausoleil 634-0411 ve3bgp@rac.ca

REPEATER Committee:

VE3KFS, Les Lindstrom	634-4247	ve3kfs@rac.ca
VA3GST John Taylor	353-7623	va3gst@king.igs.net
VA3KGB Chip Chapman	377-1359	va3kgb@rac.ca
VE3JCQ John Wood	549-8915	
VA3AIL Leo Ashley	354-6914	

ARES MEETING

The next regular ARES meeting will be on Monday 15 April 2002 at Kingston West Fire Hall, Woodbine and Bayridge roads at 19:00 hrs. Visitors are always welcome!

Visit our site at: <http://www.qsl.net/kingstonares/index.html>

The ARES web site is maintained by VA3KDH, Kim

MINUTES OF THE KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
HELD ON MARCH 06 2002
HELD AT SMITTY'S

Minutes of the February meeting: It was pointed out that Kim's callsign was incorrect. It should read VA3KDH not VE3KDH as written. Correction was made. A motion was moved by VE3KBN and second by VE3XE to adopt the minutes as read and corrected. CARRIED.

Treasurer's report: VA3KDH reviewed and explained the report, which was printed on the back of the agenda. Moved by VE3FFR and second by VA3KGB that the report be adopted as read. CARRIED.

Old Business:

DARF: A discussion was held on what the Defense of Amateur Radio Fund was and why we need to donate to it. It was moved by VE3NB that the club donate \$500.00 to the fund. Second by VE3KC. CARRIED.

Flea Market: VE3GO has step down from coordinating this event. It was decided that the club would hold an auction instead of a flea market since no one else wanted to step up to the plate.

St.Mary's: The antennas have been taken down and equipment removed, VE3KBN thanked KFS and NFU for their help. Decision on what to do with the equipment is pending. The money from the station is in the St. Mary's account.

Field Day: VE3GLO reported that the event is still pending.

Cubbery: VE3BGP reported that the event is a go and those wanting to help out were requested to speak to Mike after the meeting.

GOTA: VE3BGP reported that the C&E Museum was closed that day and the event did not take place.

Picnic: This will be a joint KARC/ARES event. Les VE3KFS and Kim VA3KDH will be the organizers. More info to follow.

REPEATER PROJECT: The votes were counted and announced. The results were:

Total ballots received: 37
Total number of ballots rejected: 2
Ballots in favor: 26
Ballots against: 9

Motion to go ahead with the project passed.

THE 50/50 draw was won by Eric VE3XE

No new business was discussed.

REPORTS:

RAC: VE3GO was not present. VA3HAW read the RAC report.

VE3KFS: Les gave an update on the number of nodes including some new ones in the UK. All systems are working well. As it happens bulletins on the repeater project will be posted to the e-group.

KARC Newsletter: Again more input is needed.

KARC WEBPAGE: Chip reported that both Yahoo and Bravenet were hit hard and were down. This will disrupt both the e-group and swap pages on the web site.

Mike VE3BGP started a discussion about honorary members and it was decided that the club would no longer continue with this.

A card was received from Drew VE3UIN thanking the club for their support and wishes during the death of his father. A similar email was sent from Rob Mazzdin.

Les VE3KFS announced that the screwdriver antennas are being built and a price will be announced at a later time. A simple explanation of what this antennae is followed.

Brian VA3HAW who is the coordinator for the BARC Field Day extended an invitation to the club to come out and participate in this event.

A motion was made by VE3SH and second by VE3BGP that the meeting be adjourned at 19:50. Carried

Brian Allen
VA3HAW
KARC Secretary

Back in time

The **COHERER** a term coined by Sir Oliver Lodge is a very insensitive detector of radio waves. It was invented by Dr. Branly in 1890, and used until 1904 to operate a morse inker printed dots and dashes on a tape. It could not be used to produce dots and dashes in earphones as it gave only a series of clicks. A bell could replace the morse inker so that code could be copied by ear. The coherer was a glass tube filled with fine metal filings, generally a mixture of silver and nickel, or iron. It was closed at each, with a connection to antenna and ground. On receipt of a radio signal the iron fillings would cohere, or stick

together, completing a circuit to a morse inker or relays. A tapper would strike the coherer after each signal and the fillings would break apart; ready to operate on the next signal. This is probably the detector used by Marconi when he heard the three clicks from across the Atlantic in December 1901.

The **MICROPHONE DETECTOR** was used from 1901 to 1907. These detectors depended upon the rectification between carbon and steel. A steel needle was laid across two-carbon block having sharp upper edges. The fox-hole radio of WW2 used two razor blades set vertically with the carbon "lead" from a pencil across them. The detector was capable of reproducing sound in a pair of high impedance earphones and was more sensitive and stable than the coherer. Sparks transmitter produced a sound like "tearing cloth".

ELECTROLYTIQUE DETECTOR: In 1902 Canadian Professor Reginald Fessenden found that a very fine platinum wire dipped into acid made a detector more sensitive than a microphone detector. It had limited use due to the acid spill caused by ship motion.

The MAGNETIC DETECTOR: was patented in 1901 by Marconi and was used starting about 1904. It was originally invented by Professor Rutherford and other scientists who noted the effect of exposing bundles of weakly magnetized iron wire to radio waves.

Marconi replaced the bundle of wire with continuous slow moving band of insulated iron which was carried by two rotating discs, one driven by clockwork which moved the band at a speed of two or three inches per second. The band passed through a small glass tube on which a winding of 100 turns of fine insulated copper wire connected to the antenna and ground. On top of these windings was another several thousands turn connected to high impedance earphones. Two permanent magnets were located close to the moving band to magnetize it weakly. This was more sensitive than the coherer and was used from 1904 until WW1. The Titanic used this detector and it may be seen at the Museum O Science and technology in Ottawa.

More next month, thanks to Bernard VE3NB .

The Kingston Whig Standard, Friday, June 3, 1949

Experts Do Impossible television Job:
Impossible, theoretically, television reception at Kingston became a reality at the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical engineers School this week.

For two successive nights, a handful of RCEME experimenters have been able to obtain good images, televised from WHEN, Syracuse, using a set supplied by N.A. Hendin of Kingston. Theoretically, television waves will not bend beyond the horizon. According to "the book" reception is

sure only within 30 miles of the sending station. The area 30 to 60 miles from the station is considered a fringe where reception is possible sometimes, under ideal conditions. Yet Syracuse is 105 air miles from Kingston.

Working under a cloak of secrecy because they wished to be first with "TV" in this area, Capt E.C. Ilott, electronics expert who was an amateur radio operator in England, and WO 1 J.D. Brown have spearheaded the project in Barriefield. Capt W.H. Hawkins and Capt W.H. Glover were "in" the secret but the other RCEME men who worked on it did not even know what the project was.

Television will be demonstrated and taught to the current class at the RCEME School now that it has proved successful in this area.

Capt. Ilott's experience as a "ham" operator taught him that range limitations based on theory are sometimes discounted in practice. Seven weeks ago the experimenters began testing signal strengths of TV stations at Rochester and Syracuse. By changing antenna designs rearranging tubes and doing other experimental work, they gradually increased the signal strength of the Syracuse station until they felt they could obtain an image but they had no screen. Their opinion was based on sounds they heard and the action of a meter needle.

Arrangements were made with Mr. Hendin for the loan of a set. The RCEME men's hopes proved well founded. TV reception was possible. The Rochester station however, cannot be received satisfactory although it is closer than Syracuse to Kingston and is separated from Kingston more by water than by land, which would indicate better reception.

NO EXPLANATION for the "miracle" is immediately available. TV is supposed to be capable of transmission and reception only between intervisible points.

Although the RCEME School is on high land, the experimenters are convinced that Kingston and Syracuse are not intervisible. Some form of refraction, or bending of TV waves, due to varying densities of layers of atmosphere, may explain the phenomenon, the experimenters say. The feat is more remarkable because Syracuse sends on a high frequency 133 megacycles, and high frequency signals range is usually shorter than that of signals of lower frequency.

Thanks to VE3XE

If you have any of these you would like to share with others let me know, there is always room in the Newsletter