

Newsletter
December
2010

Kingston Amateur Radio Club 2010 Executive



Kingston Amateur News

President: Steve Cutway, VE3KC
pres at ve3kbr.com

Vice-Pres: Chip Chapman, VA3KGB
vicepres at ve3kbr.com

Treasurer: Doug Richards, VE3FFR
treas at ve3kbr.com

Secretary: David Sellick, VE3DZE
sec at ve3kbr.com

Past-Pres: Les Lindstrom, VE3KFS
pastpres at ve3kbr.com

2010 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:
Two Metre Net Manager:
VE3KC Steve Cutway
netmanager at ve3kbr.com

Newsletter Editor:
VA3PCI Assaf Shool
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Repeater Committee:
VE3KFS, Les Lindstrom (Chair)
rptr at ve3kbr.com

VA3GST, John Snasdell-Taylor
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VA3KGB, Chip Chapman
va3kgb at rac.ca

VE3JCQ, John Wood
john686 at sympatico.ca

VE3MNE, Don Gilroy
dgilroy at cogeco.ca

P. O. Box 1402 Kingston Ontario K7L 5C6

<http://www.ve3kbr.com>

VE3KAR Clarendon Stn
147.090 (+) MHz

VE3KER Kingston
packet node
145.010 MHz simplex



VE3KBR Kingston
146.940(-) MHz
151.4Hz Tone

VE3UEL Hartington
APRS node
144.390 MHz

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I'd like to again welcome Assaf VA3PCI as our newsletter editor. Remember, this is your newsletter. You all do something related to amateur radio. Share it. Tell the rest of us about it. Send articles, pictures, cartoons, jokes (about amateur Radio), whatever, to news@ve3kbr.com.

Thanks to the 20 people who made the effort to attend the November meeting and who enjoyed Assaf's demo of the new Uniden Home Patrol scanner and the free software he writes for 11 Uniden scanner models. You can download the software from:

<http://www.scannow.org>

Thanks also to Terry VA3KLG for selling the 50/50 tickets at the meeting. He has the magic touch.

December means it's time to renew your KARC membership for 2011. Dues are the same as 2010, \$20.00. You can pay at the December meeting, anywhere you see an executive member, or complete the fillable online membership form, print it and send it with a cheque to the address on the newsletter title page. Thanks for your continuing support of KARC.

The December meeting will be our AGM so it's time to think about who you want to lead the Club in 2011. Elections for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will take place. Our bylaws permit one person to hold the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. Let's have real elections this year instead of the acclamations that have become common in recent years. We need new leaders with new ideas. Also, we will be presenting Joan Clarke a certificate for her long service as Newsletter Editor (2006-10). Joan and Roy VE3VJF will be joining us for dinner before the meeting as the Club's guests.

Thanks to Terry VA3TRM and his team for organizing another successful KARC breakfast and hamfest. Thanks to Terry VA3KLG and his daughter for making sure that people donated to the Museum and for selling door prize and 50/50 draw tickets. Terry has obviously passed his magic touch on to her as she sold \$246.00 worth of 50/50 tickets and \$67.00 worth of door prize tickets, which allowed the Club to realize \$190.00. And thanks to everyone who attended. I don't know how many 'fleas' were sold (my tablemate was very pleased with his success) but I do know that there was a lot of eyeballing going on -- one of, if not the main reason for hamfests. Terry tells me that the Museum has invited us back next year so mark your calendars for Saturday, Nov. 12, 2011.

And speaking of Terry VA3TRM, he will be receiving a commendation from the Minister of Veterans Affairs for the work he does on behalf of veterans. The award ceremony will take place Monday, Nov. 29th at the National Art Centre in Ottawa. Congratulations Terry! Very well deserved.

As anyone who monitors 2 meters knows, VE3KBR went off the air Oct. 30th due to an equipment failure. As I understand it, KARC owns two Midland mobile transceivers that together with the CAT-250 controller and antenna multicouplers make up our repeater at the Glentel site on McAdoo's Lane. Last July, the power amplifier in the radio that had been in service for several years failed. Don VE3MNE quickly replaced it with the other radio. That radio failed irreparably October 30th due to overheating. As Don put it, "the radio is fried!" He obtained a driver transistor for the power amplifier in the radio that he took out last July and he put this radio back in service on Friday, Nov. 19th. How long it will operate is anybody's guess but it's safe to say that it isn't a case of "if" it will fail but "when". At our November meeting, your executive discussed the situation and we believe that the most sensible course of action is to buy a new, modern commercial repeater that will give us years of unattended, reliable and trouble-free service. With help from Don VE3MNE and Les VE3KFS, we have identified the Kenwood TK-R750 repeater as the best choice for our needs. Don has had experience with it and it comes highly recommended from radio friends and acquaintances of Les and from other clubs who own it. We

are obtaining quotes and hope to be able to make a purchase recommendation at the December meeting. It looks like it will cost around \$3,000.00! As you'll see from the Treasurer's Report elsewhere in the newsletter, we can afford it. To read more about the TK-R750, visit:

<http://www.repeater-builder.com/kenwood/kenwood-index.html>

<http://www.comm-spec.com/radio/200139/Kenwood-TKR-750-850-VHF-UHF-FM-Repeater-Base-Units>

or Google it.

Now that you've picked yourself up off the floor, I look forward to seeing everyone at the Dec. 1st meeting. Until our next QSO on the air, at the next meeting or in the next newsletter, 73s and good DX.

Steve VE3KC

FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to start off by thanking Phil VE3HST and Les VE3KFS for submitting their articles. The newsletter provides pertinent information such as the net control schedule and financial statements, but what really draws people in to read the newsletter and give it value is the "human factor", that is the personal articles and statements we try to include in each issue. These not only serve to make the newsletter more interesting but valuable as well, providing something rewardful to the reader that isn't available on TV, radio or other places on the internet. By virtue, they not only make the newsletter more valuable, but KARC as well.

We are looking for amateur-radio related articles, such as:

- Experiences you've had in HAM radio
- Equipment you have or owned
- What motivated you to get your license or keeps you motivated
- Tell us about your home or mobile station (pictures would be a nice bonus)
- Ideas and opinions about amateur radio
- Etc, etc.

You don't need to be a newspaper editor to submit an article. Anyone who can write an email can write an article, and if you can submit associated pictures or graphics to go along with your article it makes it even better. If we can get every single member to submit one article per year, we would have a very rich newsletter. If you would like to contribute, you can e-mail your article to news@ve3kbr.com.

"Hams Like to Keep Things"
By Phil VE3HST

I was going through some of my old log books recently and came across a couple of things that illustrate that hams rarely through anything out. The first one dates from October 1970. I was a cadet at the Royal Military College where I was very active operating VE3RMC. We had a five-band dipole fed in the centre by a single coax. It was fairly high up on an old tower over the swimming pool that was in the centre of one of the barrack blocks. Although the dipole worked well, I really wanted to have a beam for 20-15-10 meters. So I drove up to Battersea and bought a brand new Mosley Classic 33 tribander from Harold MacFarlane. Harold hasn't changed any over the years but I suspect he has a new telephone number. In 1970, his phone number was Inverary 40 ring 14. We put that CL-33 up on the RMC tower. Band conditions were excellent in 1970 and we worked DX all over the world. When I went to Moosejaw, Saskatchewan for pilot training, I took the beam and put it on a 10 foot tower in between two parts of the apartment building. I'll discuss that location for the antenna in a separate article. I took the CL-33 to Petawawa and mounted it on a nice new 40 foot VE Sales (Toronto) tower. It had to go into storage when we moved to Germany, and resurfaced in Greenwood, Nova Scotia. I built two additional sections to the tower out of heavy well piping, and put the CL-33 at 60 feet with 2 x 11 element 2m beams at 70 feet on a pipe. From there the driven element of the beam re-appeared in Dayton, Ohio on a TV tower, and again as a driven element dipole in Colorado Springs. The next stop was Ottawa where again it was only a dipole. Finally we made it to Harrowsmith where the big tower went back up and the CL-33 was back at 60 feet. The 2 x 11 element were again at 70 ft where one of them took a direct hit by lightning. The 2m driven element was simply vaporized, but no damage to the CL-33. It then withstood a very heavy weight that bowed all three elements quite a bit, but it survived the Ice Storm with no damage. When we moved to The Netherlands, the CL-33 found a new home, and the tower a different new home, in the Kingston area. Six years later when we returned, I got the tower back, and I am using it now with a different CL-33 which works just as well and is just as strong. So I kept the original CL-33 for a long time, and I still have the tower from 1972. But that is not what this article is about. It is about the receipt I got from Harold for the CL-33. It shows that I paid \$225.00 for the beam in 1970, tax included. It is worth noting that there was no HST on the bill. The beam was worth every cent I paid for it, and it probably is still worth \$225 today. Thank you Harold.

... Phil VE3HST



HAROLD MACFARLANE
ALL CANADIAN COLOUR
SOLID STATE STEREO ANTENNA INSULATIONS
HOOVER G.E. & LEONARD APPLIANCES

R.R. # 2 BATTERSEA, ONT. — PHONE INVERARY 40-R-14

PHONE NO.	DATE	2829
NAME		Phil Sommers
ADDRESS		Tort Chouplain RMC
MAKE	MODEL	SERIAL NO.
QTY.	MATERIAL	AMOUNT
1	Classic Mosley antenna	
	Tax Included	
	Post	
CASH	CHEQUE	CHARGE
		PARTS
AGREEMENT		MOSE.
<small>For value received, the undersigned jointly and severally promise to pay to the Dealer, or order, the unpaid balance shown on this invoice according to the agreed terms. Title to said Chattel, described hereon by model, make and serial number, is hereby retained, or transferred to Dealer until Customer has paid in cash all amounts owing said Dealer. Customer shall not misuse, secrete, sell, encumber, remove or otherwise dispose of or lose possession of said Chattel. There is no outstanding lien, mortgage, or other encumbrance against said Chattel. Should Customer fail to pay its indebtedness when due, or breach this contract, the entire unpaid balance shall at once become due and payable, and Dealer may without notice or demand, by process of law, or otherwise, take possession of said Chattel wherever located and retain all monies paid thereon for use of said Chattel. This Agreement may be assigned.</small>		SUB. TOTAL
		TAX
		SERVICE CALL
		LABOUR
		TOTAL
I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE AGREEMENT AND AGREE TO ITS TERMS.		225.00
Value Received		INVOICE
<small>GUARANTEE: All Materials Used Are Of First Quality And Carry Standard Guarantee.</small>		



“CFARS – ALIVE AND WELL!”

By Les VE3KFS/CIW650

CFARS activity continues to expand and as they say “Times they are a changing”. The network has moved from the very active “phone patching days” to a support to other government departments approach. To that end, CFARS is actively engaged with Public Safety Canada, Transport Canada, and RCMP and of course the Military, which remains the number one customer that CFARS operations support.

As the requirement for phone patches waned it was determined that a “new direction” was needed to challenge the network and remain current with the times. To that end CFARS operations now include a Digital network that covers the country with gateways on both coasts as well as the prairies. CFARS management has also looked at how the US MARS network supports the US government and with DND approval CFARS now works closely with the US Army MARS in cross border operations on both voice and the digital network.

As technology changes so to must the scope of CFARS operations and the joint efforts with the US Army MARS network has proven very successful. This evaluation was conducted on a trial basis and it is envisioned that this initiative will be recognized by both countries as a value added and cost effective capability that boasts fully trained and efficient operations to provide communications support in the event of disasters that have been all too frequent lately.

For information on the CFARS, visit the website at <http://www.cfars.ca> which provides details on operations as well as locations of stations active on the network. If so inclined there is also an application form available for those qualified amateurs that would like to become members.

Les/VE3KFS/CIW650

AGENDA

KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

December 1, 2010

At Smitty's Restaurant, back room

7:00 p.m.

1. Members introduce themselves
2. Additions to the agenda
3. Minutes of the November 2010 meeting - errors/omissions/approval (David VE3DZE)
4. Treasurer's report (Doug VE3FFR)
5. Business arising from the Minutes
6. New business:
 - (a) Presentation to Joan Clarke (Steve VE3KC)
 - (b) Other items
7. Reports:
 - (a) President (Steve VE3KC)
 - (b) Repeaters (Les VE3KFS)
 - (c) RAC (Rob VE3RPF)
 - (d) Net Manager (Steve VE3KC)
 - (e) Web page (Chip VA3KGB)
 - (f) KARC Newsletter (Assaf VA3PCI)
 - (g) Fleamarket - Nov. 13, 2010 (Terry VA3TRM)
 - (h) 'Hearts and Flowers'
 - (i) Other reports
8. 2011 Executive elections
9. Date of next meeting - Jan. 5, 2011.
10. 50/50 draw
11. Adjournment

KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC
HELD ON
Wednesday 3 Nov 2010
At Smitty's Restaurant
Princess Street, Kingston Ontario

The Kingston Amateur Radio Club meeting was called to order by our president Steve VE3KC at 7:00 PM.

1. The members present introduced themselves. There were 19 members in attendance.

2. Minutes: our president asked for approval of the Oct. meeting minutes as published in the newsletter. The motion was moved by Roy VE3VJF and seconded by Fred VE3FBG and was passed.

3. October Treasurer's Report: The report was read by Doug VE3FFR. We had a closing balance of \$6368.40. Doug VE3FFR Moved, seconded by TerryVA3KLG, that the Treasurer's Report be adopted as read. Motion carried.

4. Old Business: there was no old business.

5. New Business:

a) Steve advised, thanks to Chip, that the Signallers Club of Canada blog reported Oct. 28th that Terry Murphy VA3TRM will be receiving a commendation from the Minister of Veteran Affairs for his services to veterans at a ceremony in Ottawa later in November. Congratulations, Terry.

b) Steve reported that the cost of KARC insurance will likely increase in the new year because RAC will be changing its insurance carrier. RAC is currently conducting a survey to determine the insurance needs of affiliated clubs. Once we have an idea of the new cost, we will be comparing RAC and local insurance premiums.

c) Sunday Brunches; there was some discussion about resurrecting Sunday brunches. Stay tuned for more news on this activity.

d) Assaf VA3PCI made a motion for the club to buy two copies of the RAC Ham Radio study guide to be made available to younger people interested in becoming Amateur Radio Operators.

Chip VA3KGB seconded the motion. After discussion and with the movers' approval the motion was amended to purchase two copies and donate one to the Kingston Frontenac Public Library and the other copy to be used for course material. The motion passed. Rob VE3RPF expressed willingness to coordinate a course if there is enough people interested in one.

e) David VE3DZE advised that FCARES will be hosting a marine radio certification course to obtain the marine radio license on November the 24th at 1900 hours at 33 Elmwood St. (buzz code 45). An 18 dollar administration fee is charged by the Canadian Power Squadron who administers the license. Anyone interested in attending should contact Bill VE3CLQ or Ron VE3GO.

6. Reports:

a) **President:** See the report in the newsletter.

b) **Repeaters:** Les VE3KFS reported the KBR repeater is down and that Don VE3MNE has the radios and is working on repairing the problems. Our other repeater VE3KAR is working fine. Also, the CFARES simplex IRLP node is running well. It was suggested that Club members should check to see if they can reach the VE3KAR repeater so if there is a repeater failure during a net we could switch to that machine. Also it would be good to have a list of those able to access VE3KAR.

c) **RAC:** Rob VE3RPF gave a report on the latest RAC correspondence, bulletins and continuing discussions to transform RAC.

RAC bulletins have been sent out via the free list and are on the RAC website for every one to read and respond to RAC to help them improve. One item suggested was to improve the RAC study guide.

d) **Net Manager:** Steve thanked the controllers who kept the net alive in October. Check-ins ranged from

10 to 13 with nets lasting 31 to 39 minutes. He thanked those who contributed trivia, a popular segment of the net. We are always looking for net controllers, the script is on the web site. But the most important thing is that you check into the net, Tuesday evenings at 7:30 PM because without you, it's pretty lonely.

e) KARC Newsletter: Assaf VA3PCI was congratulated for a job well done on the newsletter. Articles for the December newsletter should be sent to news@ve3kbr.com by Nov. 24th, a week before the December meeting.

f) WebPage: Chip VA3KGB reported that the website is working well.

g) JOTA: Mike VE3TD reported that the JOTA event was a great success. (Seems they ate very well but not at KARC expense.) The FCARES wilderness JOTA was also a success with the scouts talking to other scouts north and south of the border.

h) Flea market: The Flea market will be held Nov 13th 2010 at the Military Communications and Electronics Museum. It's being coordinated by Terry VA3TRM. Setup at 7 AM, Breakfast at the Garrison Golf and Curling Club at 7:30 and doors open to the public at 8:30. Those wanting tables should contact Terry at his new email address va3trm@cogeco.ca If you are going for breakfast Terry needs confirmation via email by Nov. 10th. Hopefully the repeater will be up and running for the talk-in to the event.

7. Date of the next meeting is December 1st, 2010. Election time once again. We will also be honoring Joan Clark for her work as past newsletter editor.

8. Adjournment: Les VE3KFS, seconded by John VA3GST, moved to adjourn. Motion carried.

9. 50/50 draw: \$16 worth of tickets was sold. Bill VE3NFU won \$8.00.

The meeting was followed by an informative presentation by Assaf VA3PCI during which he showed two Uniden radio scanners and described and demonstrated the software he's written to program Uniden scanners. His software is available at <http://www.scannow.org>.

David Sellick VE3DZE

Secretary

Kingston Amateur Radio Club Inc.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Kingston Amateur Radio Club
Financial Statement
Nov 2010

Income

Membership	120.00
50/50 Draw	8.00
50/50 Draw (Flea market)	123.00
Donations	67.00
Flea Market Float	200.00

Total Income	518.00
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Expenses

Flea Market Float	200.00
50/50 Draw (Tickets purchased)	12.45
Total Expenses	212.45

Overall Total	305.55
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Bank Balance	
As of Nov 30, 2010	\$ 6,673.95

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

November 30	VA3PCI Assaf
December 7	VE3SIQ George
December 14	VE3TD Mike
December 21	VE3VJF Roy
December 28	VE3CAK John

NET CONTROL SCRIPT

Revised Apr. 19, 2010

[Before you start the net, please turn off the repeater identifier by issuing the key sequence '300' on your touchtone keypad. If you don't have a touchtone keypad, ask someone else to issue the key sequence for you.]

Good evening. This is [callsign], net control station for the Kingston Amateur Radio Club's Tuesday night Net. My name is ----.

The Kingston Amateur Radio Club Tuesday Night Net is an informal net that meets at 1930 hours every Tuesday evening on the Kingston repeater, VE3KBR, 146.940 MHz, with a 151.4 Hz tone required on the input, 146.340 MHz. We welcome participation by all amateurs.

Before continuing, is there any emergency or priority traffic? Please call now.

The purpose of the net is to take check-ins; to inform you of KARC activities; to provide news from other radio clubs and news of interest to Radio Amateurs. Information about KARC may be found on the web site (www.ve3kbr.com) or by contacting any of our club executive members.

I will take check-ins giving priority to mobiles, portables and stations checking in via EchoLink or IRLP. When checking in, please give your call sign phonetically, your name and location, and indicate whether you have any traffic or announcements for the Net.

Are there any stations using EchoLink or IRLP wishing to check in? Please call now.

Are there any mobiles wishing to check in? Please call now.

Are there any portables wishing to check in? Please call now.

Are there any base stations wishing to check in? Please call now.

Trivia Time

Here's tonight's trivia question(s).

Swap Shop

Are there any items for the swap shop?

Closing

Are there any additional check-ins or announcements before I end the Net?

That concludes this evening's Kingston Amateur Radio Club Tuesday Night Net. Thank you for participating. We had [number] check-ins this evening. 73. This is [callsign] returning the repeater to normal amateur use.

[Please remember to turn on the identifier again after the net by issuing the key sequence '301' on your touchtone keypad. If you don't have a touchtone keypad, ask someone else to issue the key sequence for you.]