

Newsletter  
February  
2015

# Kingston Amateur Radio Club

## 2015 Executive

**President: Paul Taenzer, VA3LX**  
pres at ve3kbr.com

**Vice-Pres: Carlyle Crothers, VE3WIO**  
[vicepres@ve3kbr.com](mailto:vicepres@ve3kbr.com)

**Treasurer: Doug Smith, VE3FFR**  
treas at ve3kbr.com

**Secretary: Larissa Reise, VE3KGC**  
sec at ve3kbr.com

**Past-Pres: Assaf Shool, VA3PCI**  
pastpres at ve3kbr.com

**2015 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**  
**Two Metre Net Manager:**  
Larissa Reise, **VE3KGC**  
netmanager at ve3kbr.com

**Newsletter Editor: Assaf Shool, VA3PCI**  
news at ve3kbr.com

168 McMichael Street  
Kingston, Ontario K7M 1N6 Canada  
<http://www.ve3kbr.com>

VE3KAR Clarendon Stn  
147.090 (+) Mhz  
(non operational)

VE3KER Kingston packet  
node  
145.070 MHz simplex



VE3KBR Kingston  
146.940(-) MHz  
151.4Hz Tone  
IRLP 2750

VE3UEL Hartington APRS  
node  
144.390 MHz

Kingston Amateur News

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Many KARC members have had an enjoyable start for the New Year operating with the special event callsign VG3SJAM commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> birthday of Sir John A Macdonald. While I was initially disappointed that we didn't have the opportunity to operate from Bellevue House, I am now grateful for the convenience of operating from my home station. I was also very pleasantly surprised by the great amount of interest in this special event. It was fun to work the pileups and talk about Kingston and Sir John A.

Many thanks to Chip VA3KGB for having the foresight to obtain the special event callsign and for adapting the online logging and QSL printing software for our special event. Thanks to all of you for operating the special event and for putting the KARC 'on the air' to honour Sir John A.

I also like to take the opportunity to thank Les VE3KFS and his team for organizing the ham radio course. At last count there were 40 prospective hams registered in the course! I'd like to wish the students well in their studies and look forward to welcoming them to the "King of the hobbies" and to the Kingston amateur radio community.

While of the community aspects of ham radio may receive less attention than the intrigue and excitement that we all feel with radio communication and exploring new technologies; I find myself frequently reminded of how precious the amateur community is in my experience of the hobby. We are certainly very fortunate in Kingston to have quite a number of long time amateurs who are continuing to mentor newcomers to the hobby and introduce some of us old timers to new technologies that we can enjoy exploring together.

With the successful special event operation drawing to a close at the end of the month, your club officers and I hope many of you, will begin to focus on preparing for the annual ARRL Field Day operation. I look forward to discussing Field Day planning with you during upcoming meetings.

I'd like to close this month's President's message by welcoming Doug Richards VE3FFR as our new club treasurer. Since Larissa, Carlyle and I are all relatively new to the Kingston ham community; we are especially appreciative of Doug's knowledge of the club's history and how 'to get things done'.

vy 73s

de Paul VA3LX

President, Kingston Amateur Radio Club

## MEMBER ARTICLE

### **DX News January 2015**

#### **Navassa Island – K1N - Late January**

There are 340 entities on the DX CC list. Navassa Island is the most wanted entity of all. More DXers need a contact with Navassa Island then with North Korea!

Navassa is a small island 30 miles west of Haiti that is a wildlife preserve administered by the USA Fish and Wildlife Service. Access to the island is severely restricted. The last DXpedition to Navassa was in January 1992!

The K1N team of 15 operators plan to run 8 stations 24x7 for two weeks. The details of whose on the team and the equipment, QST info etc. are on their website:

[www.navassadx.com](http://www.navassadx.com)

From a propagation perspective, this should be an easy one for us, but the pile-ups are going to be huge, so patience and persistence and a bit of luck will be required to get this one in the log.

#### **DX resources I rely on**

Here are a few resources I rely on to keep up to date with what's going on in the DX World.

There are quite a few Internet based news sources that are really useful and free for everyone to use.

The ARRL DX bulletin is published weekly and is a treasure trove:

[www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-dx](http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-bulletins-archive-dx)

Here is a great site that catalogues upcoming DXpeditions and has embedded links to the expedition webpages and even current DX cluster spots when the expedition is operating:

[www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html](http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html)

Finally, the DX World site is updated daily and provides a weekly bulletin full of interesting stories and useful links:

[www.dx-world.net](http://www.dx-world.net)

Please let us all know about other sites and tools you find useful.

Happy DXing

de Paul VA3LX

## SPECIAL EVENT STATION

I thought this might be of interest for February Newsletters, etc. It is the amateur radio special event at the CSS Hunley. I have asked to be able to visit. we will see what comes.

Anyway with history of this vessel and the great qsl card I wish I was at home to work the station, N4H. The website gives times, frequencies etc.

Ron VE3GO.

The website for the Hunley is as follows:

<http://www.tridenthams.org/hunley.htm>

## MEMBER ARTICLE

Recently at the January meeting Steve VE3KC has mentioned that he has a large collection of club archives. His original proposal was for them to be moved to city archives for storage, but it dawned on me that these could be digitized and placed online.

There are also 2 VHS tapes that I would like to digitize and place on Youtube but I don't own a VCR (anybody have one they would be willing to lend??)

Flipping through the archives and taking a cursory glance was a fascinating experience. There are many small treasures to be found. Even the way documentation has evolved over the years was quite interesting. In the 40's and 50's it was all neatly hand written in script. In the 70's, typewriters ruled. In the late 70's and early 1980s, some of the pages are had funny blue/purple ink because of the strange photocopiers of the time. As computers started creeping into the home, some minutes were printed with a 9-pin dot-matrix printer and still have the original tractor holes in them. And they look awful.

There are also many archived newsletters that are well-worth reading. I think it would be interesting to create a special "retro" newsletter in the style of decades past.

Drop me a line if you are interested in taking part of this digitization project at [news@ve3kbr.com](mailto:news@ve3kbr.com). I am looking for volunteers with optical scanners who have some computer operating skills. I will also be bringing one of the boxes with me to the next meeting to divvy out scanning work. A few snippets are below.

Assaf  
VA3PCI



Steve  
Cutway  
VE3GRS

Terry  
Macmillan  
VE3DJV

Bruce  
Allen  
VE3FJF

Harold  
MacFarlane  
VE3BPM

Keith  
Kiell  
SWL.

Jim  
Fawcett  
VE3GQJ

Brian  
Juniper  
VE3CTE

Jim  
Eadie  
VE3DCX

Do you see anybody that you recognize?

From a section titled "The Men Of Radio, 1973"

# Second Annual Flea Market 1986

2nd Annual 1986  
**Kingston  
ARC  
Flea Market**

Not an antenna falls to the ground in Kingston, it seems, but VE3NFU is there with his ever-busy camera. Here's his latest crop of picture recording the doings of the Kingston club.



*This Page:*

*Right, top: Ron VE3IDW, CARF's president, listens attentively to Ray VE3FVI.*

*Middle: "What splendid company there is to be had in Canada!" says Kajetan Adamski SP5MR, here on a business visit to Montreal.*

*Bottom: Gordon VE3CJJ from Napanee, the Hub of the Nation, shakes hands with Ollie VE3LXO, CARF treasurer, who manned the booth with Debbie Norman.*

*Below: Eric VE3XE and Al VE3NFB at the KARC flea market. Photos—VE3NFU*



AMATEUR

Bernie VE3NB

RADIO

CLUB

NEWS

September 1977

EDITORS NOTES Connie and Sherman

The Kingston Amateur Radio Club is back into the swing of things again for another year. - Not that we haven't been active during the summer - not by any means. We've had a good summer with field day, the canoe due, hamfests, picnics and holidays. It will be nice, though, to see each other and get together again at the September meeting.

The meeting will be held Tuesday Sept. 6, 1977 at 8pm at Queen's University, Carruthers Hall, room 102. We will look forward to seeing everyone there.

OPERATION C.C.C. Bernie VE3NB

The K.A.R.C. again provided the communications for the Gataraki Canoe Club. The canoe races were held on Sat. 9 July in the Kingston inner harbour just north of the Lasalle causeway. An enjoyable day was had by all, in spite of sunburn and shipwreck, and our efforts were very much appreciated by the C.C.C. Thanks to the following:

VE3 AN Will  
 VE3 GRS Steve  
 VE3 ICO Connie  
 VE3 ICO Sherman  
 VE3 ICQ Wilf  
 VE3 IWH Lorna  
 VE3 NB Bernie  
 VE3 NF Buster  
 VE3 NK Tom - for loan of TR7200A

PLEASE!!! feel free to drop a note of interest for the paper, an amusing situation, a joke, swap items... anything!! We're desperate.

It was on 21 August 1937 in London Ontario that Ralph Clifford got his first call VE3AQJ, and forty years later Ralph is still very active, using his well-known call VE3UG.

In 1923, using round boxes from Quaker Oats for coil forms and a piece of galena as a rectifier, Ralph started off in radio, and by 1927 he was doing radio servicing. In 1930 he went into R.C.C. Sigs as a C.C.C. instructing in radio and flag, semaphore and lamp signalling. Ralph also travelled around Western Ontario recruiting, maintaining the P.A. equipment and tending bar. In 1947 Ralph was told the war was over and not to recruit any more (except maybe some good-looking girls). He went to Ottawa as W02 in charge of crypto-workshops and travelled extensively in Canada looking after the installation and maintenance of cipher equipment.

In April 1951 Ralph got his VE3UG call, and in 1954 while still in the army, he went to the U.K. to the War Office and to Bletchley Park, home of the famous Stephenson group of wartime code breakers, then back to Vimy Barracks here in Kingston as W01 in charge of cipher machine maintenance.

In 1963 Ralph retired to pension, and has kept busy ever since fixing radios, T.V.'s and, by the look of his Radio Shack, most of the amateur equipment around Kingston.

Good health to you Ralph, from all your many friends in the K.A.R.C.

INTERNATIONAL PLOWING MATCH

Bert VE3EW

Don't forget the international plowing match Sept. 27 to Oct. 1. We'll need volunteers to operate early morning to late afternoon each day. Please see Bert VE3EW or Buster VE3NF.



## **DX News for February 2015**

### **Navassa Island – K1N – Early February**

There are 340 entities on the DXCC list. Navassa Island is the most wanted entity of all. More DXers 'need' a contact with Navassa Island then with North Korea!

The last ham radio operation from Navassa Island was 23 years ago.

Navassa is a small island 30 miles west of Haiti that is a wildlife preserve administered by the USA Fish and Wildlife Service. Access to the island is severely restricted. The last DXpedition to Navassa was in January 1992!

The K1N team of 15 operators plan to run 8 stations 24x7 for two weeks in EARLY FEBRUARY. All the details of when the operation will start and who is on the team and the equipment, QST info etc. are on their website:

[www.navassadx.com](http://www.navassadx.com)

From a propagation perspective, this should be an easy one for us, but the pile-ups are going to be huge, so patience and persistence and a bit of luck will be required to get this one in the log.

### **Cocos Island – TI9/3Z9DX – Mid February**

Cocos Island is a national Park in the Pacific off the shore of Costa Rica. It does not allow inhabitants other than the Costa Rican park rangers. It is number 26 on the DXCC most wanted list. It has been seven years since the last operation from Cocos Island.

This operation is by DOM 3Z9DX and his friends and is scheduled for 7 days between February 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

For the full details see:

[www.nielsen.net/ti9a/](http://www.nielsen.net/ti9a/)

The organizers have initiated a survey on the website asking DXers what HF bands they need TI9 on. Presumably, they'll try to focus their operation to attempt to fulfill the needs of the DX community.

## **DX resources I rely on**

Here are a few resources I rely on to keep up to date with what's going on in the DX World.

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Finally, the DX World site is updated daily and provides a weekly bulletin full of interesting stories and useful links:

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Please let us all know about other sites and tools you find useful.

Happy DXing

de Paul VA3LX

## MEETING MINUTES

**The Kingston Amateur Radio Club meeting** was called to order at 7:00PM by our president Paul VA3LX.

1. The members introduced themselves. There were 13 members in attendance.

### **2. Additions to the Agenda:**

a) Ron, VE3GO, has several upcoming events to tell us about

b) Steve, VE3KC, would like to discuss the KARC archives.

**3. Minutes:** VE3KC motioned that the minutes be accepted as published in the newsletter, seconded by VE3FFR.

**4. December Treasurer's report:** Membership is down by 12 members, and we've lost some of the big money makers of the past, ham fests etc which used to bring in \$1000 back in the 90s. But those days are gone for all clubs. We might look like we've got lots of money in the bank but the reality is that we're not bringing in a lot of money.

### **5. Business Arising from the Minutes:**

a) **Repeaters** – no word from the new tower owners. But in the event of a last-minute need to remove the repeater, one possible site is the John Orr tower on Queen's campus. We don't have access to the repeater site but if the new tower owners want us to remove equipment they will have to facilitate access. Overall there's no sense in worrying unless/until we have word.

b) **VG3SJAM Special Event station:** Chip VA3KGB already has had 4 requests for certificates so far, and almost 300 contacts logged. Any club member can operate – the names on the calendar are just the primary OPI each day. Use the repeater to coordinate bands/modes between club members.

### **6. New business:**

a) **Treasurer (re-)election:** Since Mike VE3HEO has had to resign his position as treasurer, we are holding a new election to fill the position. Assaf VA3PCI nominated Doug VE3FFR (accepted). Phil nominated Steve VE3KC (declined – partly because of planned absence, partly because he's been on the executive for more than 5 years.)

No other nominations – Paul moved nominations be closed, Chip seconded. Doug won by acclamation.

b) **Survey:** This will be a poll of all club members to get a feel for what the club members are generally involved in and interested in. Mainly because Paul, Larissa etc are relatively new to the club and don't really already know the general vibe of the club. Also to get a feel for things club members are perhaps interested in and haven't gotten involved in yet. Carlyle VE3WIO and Paul VA3LX have come up with a good list of questions and Larissa VE3KGC will get the survey published on the web for members to complete.

c) **Upcoming events:** Ron VE3GO wishes to advise the membership of the following upcoming events:

- CANWARN seminar, May 23, 2015 from 0830-1200. Training room for Emergency Services courtesy Mark VE3EOG. The room will hold a lot of people, and this seminar has also been mentioned to other EMCOMM and ham groups in the region.
- Feb 17 – Charleston ARC special event station at the USS HUNLEY.
- March 1 – 1000-2000 NC QSO Party – NI4BK. SSB until about 1300 then CW. Possibility a second date as well. More details will follow when known.
- WA4USN – dates TBC, From the carrier USS YORKTOWN. Ron will donate a CW key to the ship.
- It would also be nice to arrange a local “DXpedition” say from the ALEXANDER HENRY (which may be a way to bring a little publicity to the Marine Museum, or may end up being one of our last opportunities to operate from the ship if the museum ends up closing. Its future is very uncertain) Or Bellevue House, they'd be open to hosting us later this year.

d) **Club archives:** Steve VE3KC will be giving a spreadsheet to Chip for publication to the website, to show the kind of things we have in the archive. Records go back to KARC's formation in 1947 (it has operated continuously since then). The archive also contains minute books from club origin through to the time the club went digital, back in the 90s or early 2000s.

Assaf suggested digitizing everything – several volunteers stepped forward to offer assistance with scanning. Les VE3KFS suggested making use of the digitizing setup held at the museum, which is a very high-quality setup. Also suggestion was made that the hardcopies be donated to the Queen's archives once they're digitized.

Assaf was nominated/volunteered/railroaded as OPI for the digitization project from multiple directions. Chip, Ron, Steve, Les VE3KFS, and Phil VE3HST are all willing to assist.

## 7. Reports:

a) **Net manager:** as published in last newsletter.

b) **Repeater committee:** has already been discussed under business Arising from the Minutes.

c) **CFARS:** Les VE3KFS reports that the radio room in the museum is now established but equipment is not yet moved in. The antenna is coming “sometime” (on DND time). That’s pretty much where it stands at this time. The room is accessible only through the museum (not with a separate entrance as originally proposed)

d) **Radio course:** Les VE3KFS is just waiting for a response back from CFSCE for Feb, instructors are already lined up (7 of them), tentative schedule worked up pending CFSCE commandant approval. This year there will be a charge for the course, mainly to ensure attendance. The course will also be conducted during Thursday evenings instead of Wednesdays, to avoid conflict with KARC regular meeting nights.

e) **Community acknowledgments:** Paul VA3LX sent kudos to Chip VA3KGB for all his hard work to get the special event station running smoothly.

8. There was no 50/50 draw this evening. Larissa VE3KGC has offered to take control of that but indicates she has not yet received the tickets and other materials needed to conduct the draw.

9. **Date of next meeting:** February 4, 2015, 7PM at Smitty's.

10. Motion to adjourn: – Chip VA3KGB, seconded by Ron VE3GO. Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm.

11. Following the meeting, Chip VA3KGB and Andy VE3FYA gave a presentation on using the online logbook set up for VG3SJAM special event station, as well as the RTS-SDR receiver (including a live demonstration)

Larissa VE3KGC

Secretary

Kingston Amateur Radio Club

AGENDA - 4 FEB 2015

1. Members and Guests introduce themselves
  
2. Additions to the Agenda
  
3. Minutes of the January Meeting: errors/omissions/approval (Larissa VE3KGC)
  
4. Treasurer's Report (Doug VE3FFR)
  
5. Business arising from the minutes:
  - a. Update on the VG3SJAM Special Event Station (Chip VA3KGB)
  - b. Club member survey (Carlyle VE3WIO/ Larissa VE3KGC)
  - c. Offer of free one year KARC membership to Ham Course graduates (Paul VA3LX / Carlyle VE3WIO)
  - d. Update on archives project (Assaf VE3PCI / Les VE3KFS)
  
6. New Business:
  - a. Field Day 2015
  - b. other
  
6. Reports:
  - a. Net Manager (Larissa VE3KGC)
  - b. Repeater committee (Ron VE3GO)
  - c. CFARS (Les VE3KFS)
  - d. "Hearts and Flowers"
  - e. Community acknowledgments
  - d. Other Reports
  
7. Date of next meeting: March 4, 2015
  
8. 50 / 50 Draw
  
9. Adjournment
  
10. Presentation: Demonstration of RMS Express by Les VE3KFS

FINANCIAL REPORT

**KARC FINANCIAL REPORT - January 2015**

January 24, 2015

**Opening Balance**

Cooperation Plus	6,792.81
Dividend Savings	9.66
Equity Shares	261.62
Total Balance	7,064.09

**Income**

Memberships (7)	200.00
Interest (estimate)	.12
Total Income	200.12

**Closing Balance**

Cooperation Plus	6,992.81
Dividend Savings	9.66
Equity Shares	261.62
Total Balance	7,264.09

## NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Controller</u>
January 6	VE3KGC Larissa
January 13	VA3PCI Assaf
January 20	VE3WIO Carlyle
January 27	VE3CAK John
February 3	VE3DZE David
February 10	VE3JPW Warren
February 17	VE3KGC Larissa
February 24	VA3MHB Matthew
March 3	VA3PCI Assaf
March 10	VE3WIO Carlyle
March 17	VE3CAK John
March 24	VE3DZE David
March 31	VE3JPW Warren
April 7	VE3KC Steve
April 14	VE3KGC Larissa
April 21	VA3MHB Matthew
April 28	VA3PCI Assaf
May 5	VE3WIO Carlyle
May 12	VE3CAK John
May 19	VE3DZE David
May 26	VE3JPW Warren
June 2	VE3KC Steve
June 9	VE3KGC Larissa
June 16	VA3MHB Matthew
June 23	VA3PCI Assaf
June 30	VE3WIO Carlyle
July 7	VE3CAK John
July 14	VE3DZE David
July 21	VE3JPW Warren
July 28	VE3KC Steve
August 4	VE3KGC Larissa
August 11	VA3MHB Matthew
August 18	VA3PCI Assaf
August 25	VE3WIO Carlyle
September 1	VE3CAK John
September 8	VE3DZE David
September 15	VE3JPW Warren
September 22	VE3KC Steve
September 29	VE3KGC Larissa
October 6	VA3MHB Matthew
October 13	VA3PCI Assaf
October 20	VE3WIO Carlyle
October 27	VE3CAK John
November 3	VE3DZE David
November 10	VE3JPW Warren



## NET CONTROL SCRIPT

### **KARC Tuesday Night Net Control Script**

Revised April 16, 2013

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

The Kingston Amateur Radio Club Tuesday Night Net is an informal net that meets at 1930 hours every Tuesday evening on the KARC repeater, VE3KBR. 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; and to provide news of interest to Radio Amateurs. Information about KARC may be found on the web site ([www.ve3kbr.com](http://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 or 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 *[name and callsign]* returning the repeater to normal amateur use.