

Newsletter
MARCH
2014

Kingston Amateur Radio Club

2014 Executive



Kingston Amateur News

President: Assaf Shool, VA3PCI
pres at ve3kbr.com

Vice-Pres: Paul Taenzer, VA3LX
vicepres at ve3kbr.com

Treasurer: Steve Cutway, VE3KC
treas at ve3kbr.com

Secretary: Shannon Coolican, VA3XRY
sec at ve3kbr.com

Past-Pres: Terry Barrett, VA3KLG
pres at ve3kbr.com

2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Two Metre Net Manager:
Steve Cutway, VE3KC
netmanager at ve3kbr.com

Newsletter Editor:
VA3XRY Shannon Coolican
news at ve3kbr.com

168 McMichael Street
Kingston, Ontario K7M 1N6 Canada
<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
IRLP 2750

VE3UEL-1 Hartington APRS
node
144.390 MHz

FROM THE PRESIDENT

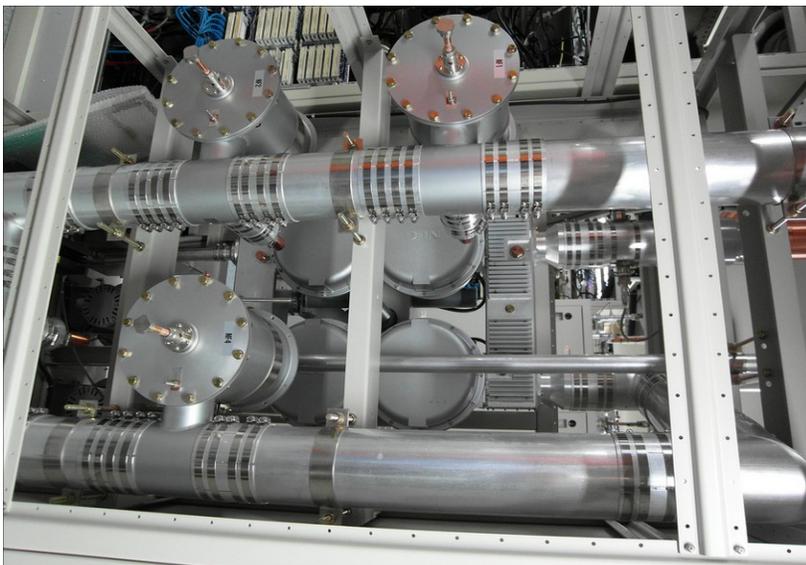
As you have noticed, winter this year has been, to put it in polite terms, unfavorable. The parade of snow storms has dampened or canceled some club activities despite our efforts. Other events, such as the dinner over at Jiffy Grill have been very successful with a great turn out and a lot of fun, despite temperatures that would make Mr. Freeze from Batman & Robin want to put on a warm sweater.



There is lots more fun stuff planned out for this year. Our vice-president's initiative for a monthly club contest with prizes has been highly popular with a lot of participation. Once the warmer weather moves in, I expect the club to be active with more exciting events, stories, and fun.

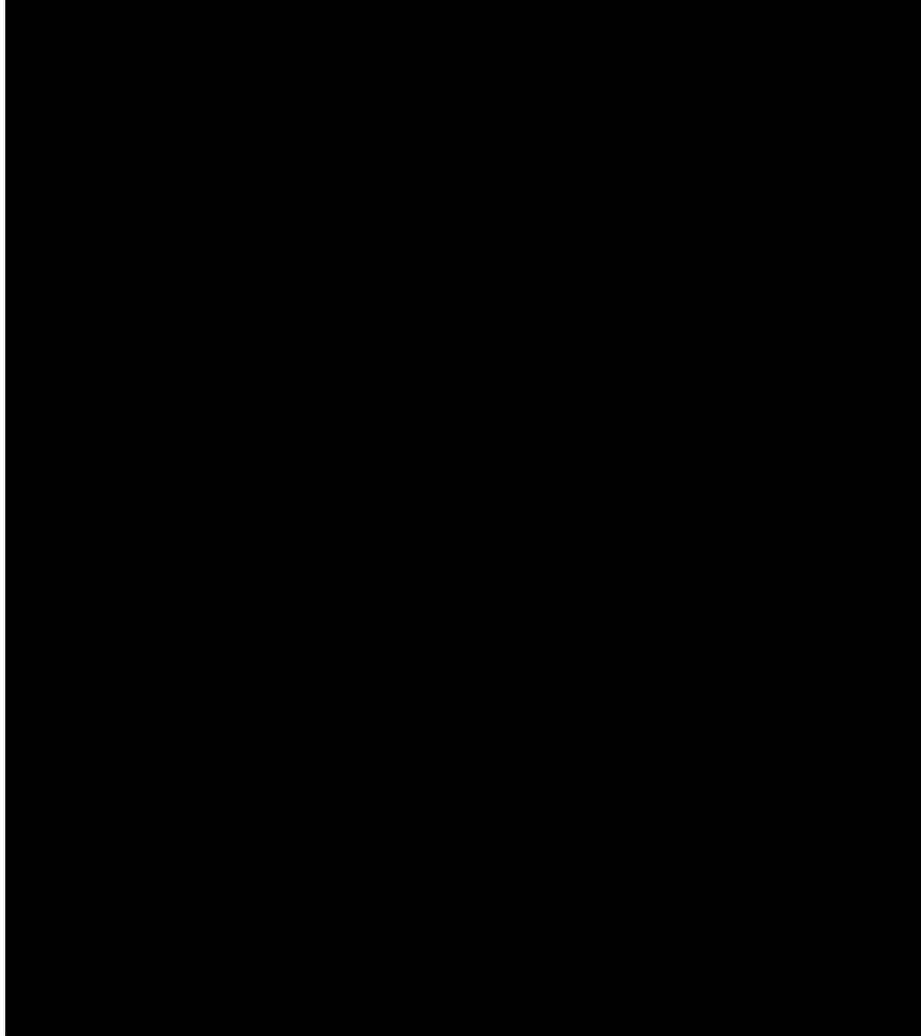
President's Challenge

Can you identify this obsolete equipment? Those aren't water pipes!



SOLAR WAVES – PART 1 of 3 – by Shannon VA3XRY

From a HAM radio perspective the sun is crucial to HF operations. As we know from our HAM radio courses electromagnetic waves and the solar wind contribute to ionize the different layers of the upper atmosphere to allow radio frequencies to bounce off and propagate around the globe. Since the sun (or heliosphere to be technical) is so complex I want to cover the topic as part of a 3 part series. In the first and introductory article I wish to introduce (or re-introduce) you to different terminology and concepts in a simple way.



Sunspot: an area of the sun that is magnetically complex. Although they appear dark there is more radiation and heat produced from these areas.

Flare: from time to time the magnetic loops in a sunspot will break free of the surface of the sun and produce a bright and noticeable flash. X-ray radiation is typically released in a flare. A flare, if earth facing may produce a 'radio blackout' on earth for a short period of time.

Coronal Mass Ejection (CME): Often associated with flares a CME is when particles (electrons, protons, neutrons) break free from the interior of the sun producing a 'solar wind'

Solar Wind – Particles from the sun (protons, electrons, and neutrons) that are typically released in a CME that travel through space and if earth directed may produce auroras or geomagnetic storms. The 'solar wind' typically takes 2-3 days before the earth is impacted as the particles travel at less than the speed of light.

When we talked about contest software in December, a number of club members spoke very highly of the N3FJP Contest logging programs. They cost \$8.99 for each contest but there's a free download you can try for 30 contacts before paying the registration fee. Here's the link: <http://www.n3fjp.com/nasprint.html>
Other options include N1MM which is freeware but a bit complex and the paid version of HRD.
I hope this information will be helpful and that you'll consider joining us for the Sprint!

73s

de Paul VA3LX

Meeting Minutes – Kingston Amateur Radio Club – December 4, 2013

The meeting was called to order at 19:06.

Steve VE3KC went over the financial report. GIC purchase – was determined not to be in the club interests.

Steve VE3KC moved that the financial report be accepted. Carlyle VE3WIO seconded. Motion carried

RAC insurance – Steve VE3KC said that the payment had been sent. It was discussed whether KARC should be charging more for non-members to join the club. The difference would make non-members have to pay \$37 and members pay \$25. The questions was raised as to what happens if a non-member then joins RAC later in the year? Would the member get his \$12 back? The bottom line was that it is more important for us to have members of any sort join the club.

Club Contest – Paul VA3LX. It will be covered with a presentation after the meeting proper.

Arduino workshop report – Assaf VA3PCI mentioned that it was a lot of fun. Everyone got together, exchanged information, checked out the hardware. Assaf VA3PCI is planning another Arduino workshop for late January.

Steve VE3KC discussed that new correspondence was received since our last meeting. The correspondence was regarding Cesar VE7CT and his fund raising for DXpeditions. Cesar VE7CT is looking to fund raise \$40,000 in order to mount their next Dxpediton. They are looking for donations.

For those not on the Freelist – and you don't have to be a member – contact Steve at ve3kc@rac.ca.

Assaf VA3PCI had some last minute addition. He inquired as to whether we received the donation from Larry Manual. Chip VA3KGB acknowledged that we had. The items were a 40m dipole, assorted paraphernalia, and a box full of older manuals. Paul VA3LX asked Assaf VA3PCI whether he could write a letter of thanks on behalf of the club.

Andy VE3FYA was welcomed as a new member to the Kingston Amateur Radio Club. He had just had the Amateur Radio exam administered last week by Les VE3KFS. Andy VE3FYA has spent 17 yrs in Petawawa as a Combat Engineer and LCIS tech. Here is currently at CFB Kingston, on IR from CFB Petawawa.

The KARC Tuesday night 19:30 net report was given by Steve VE3KC. The report is in the newsletter. The only additional comment is that the numbers have been down a little. Steve VE3KC mentioned that these are normal fluctuations. Paul VA3LX has raised the possibility of a DX round table discussion after the net. Larissa VE3KGC plans to run a net on Christmas Eve unless she has reason to suspect there will not be sufficient interest.

Les VE3KFS gave the CFARS report. Les VE3KFS mentioned that it has been very busy as of late. In terms of gateways – one is in the bin, one is operational, and the third one is on his deep freeze talking to both of the above. A new gateway coming up in Charlottetown and is currently undergoing some testing with the RCMP. Les VE3KFS just had a CFARS executive meeting by telecom 2 weeks ago. The meeting covered sorting out the two websites, the addition of 6 new members for a total of 126 countrywide including the arctic. Les VE3KFS mentioned that he is looking for new recruits. Les VE3KFS mentioned that when the Communication and Electronics Museum at CFB Kingston gets expanded he will be conducting a recruiting drive.

Les VE3KFS mentioned that the 090 is off the air right now and does not know why. He mentioned that he will check into it. Les VE3KFS mentioned that the Ham radio course received overtures from the base. Once they have the numbers, Les VE3KFS will ask for civilians to be able to attend as well. The instructors will be the same. Les VE3KFS reported that the Frontenanc County Emergency Communications Group has 3 gateways and new packet TNCs. As a result Les VE3KFS mentioned that the packet circuits are about to become very busy.

Phil VE3HST mentioned an event with the Lanark Amateur Space Agency – balloons with telemetry package, cameras etc. Thru Norm in Westport, Phil VE3HST got in touch with Larry VE3ESP and got pictures of their launch at Perth, including all the schoolkids who were involved. He gave half the PowerPoint presentation and the 9 year old kid did the other half. Phil VE3HST remarked that it was quite impressive what they do and is now on the internet under the Perth Courier (newspaper)

Dave VE3DLF inquired to Les VE3KFS whether there is any Amateur Radio advanced level training being offered through the club. Les VE3KFS remarked that currently there is no advanced course being offered but that could change.

Jim VE3HOV mentioned that there is an organization that offers a distance learning online course. Jim VE3HOV asked Les VE3KFS whether there were any thoughts of doing that. Les VE3KFS replied that those courses do not incorporate any hands on.

Assaf VA3PCI mentioned that there is an issue with the date of the January meeting . This venue is booked every Wednesday except new years day. And traditionally on months that the meeting has moved to another day, turnout has been very low. So the executive discussed it and are offering to cancel the meeting for January and carry on with regular meetings in February. Paul has suggested that instead of a meeting we should consider having a social evening where we can just gather for dinner and chat about radio – not a formal meeting like tonight,.

Paul VA3LX gave a motion that we not have a formal meeting in January and carry on as usual in February. Chip VA3KGB seconded. Motion carried

Elections: Paul VA3LX is running them.

Nominations:

President: Dave nominates Assaf VA3PCI
Steve VE3KC nominates Paul VA3LX (declined)

Nominations closed, no other candidates, congrats to Assaf VA3PCI.

Vice Prez:

Dave nominates Paul VA3LX
Assaf VA3PCI nominates Shannon VA3XRY

Shannon VA3XRY Came from Belleville to Kingston and was with Quinte ARC in Belleville. He was recently one of the instructors for the ham course out there and taught regulations. All 6 students passed last November. He mentioned that he was very privileged to be nominated, would like the opportunity to work with the executive, would like to put time and energy into making it an even better club.

Secretary:

Assaf VA3PCI nominates Shannon VA3XRY
Matthew VE3MHB nominates Larissa VE3KGC

Congrats to Shannon VA3XRY

Treasurer:

Assaf VA3PCI nominates Steve VE3KC.

No further nomination – congrats to Steve VE3KC.

Elections are now closed, thanks to the current executive and welcome to the new member.

50/50 draw – Chip VA3KGB won \$13.00

Carlyle VE3WIO motion to adjourn, Jim seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 20:02

AGENDA – 5 FEB 2014

1. Members and Guests introduce themselves
2. Additions to the Agenda
3. Minutes of the last Meeting: errors / omissions / approval (Shannon VA3XRY)
4. Treasurer's Report (Steve VE3KC)
5. New Business:
 - a. 2014 Field Day
 - b. 2014 Ham Fest
6. Business arising from the minutes:
 - a. Club Contest Results, Future Contest
6. Reports:
 - a. Net Manager (Steve VE3KC)
 - b. CFARS (Les VE3KFS)
 - c. "Hearts and Flowers"
 - d. Other Reports
7. Date of next meeting: 05 March 2014
8. 50 / 50 Draw
9. Adjournment
10. Presentation: TBD

FINANCIAL REPORT

FINANCIAL REPORT - JANUARY 2014

Opening Balance	
Cooperation Plus	6,709.15
Dividend Savings	16.39
Equity Shares	<u>238.16</u>
Total Balance	6,963.70

INCOME	
Memberships (2)	50.00
1 callsign name tag (VE3OWE)	7.00
January Interest	<u>0.12</u>
Total Income	57.12

EXPENSES	
Total Expenses	0.00
Revenue Less Expenses	57.12

CLOSING BALANCE	
Cooperation Plus	6,766.27
Dividend Savings	16.39
Equity Shares	<u>238.16</u>
Total Balance	7,020.82

PETTY CASH	
Opening Balance	100.00
December 2013 10 meter SSB contest prizes (3 TimCards)	25.00
Closing Balance	75.00

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

<u>Date</u>	<u>Controller</u>
March 4	VA3PCI Assaf
March 11	VE3CAK John
March 18	VE3DZE David
March 25	VE3JPW Warren
April 1	VE3KC Steve
April 8	VE3KGC Larissa
April 15	VA3MHB Matthew
April 22	VA3PCI Assaf
April 29	VE3CAK John
May 6	VE3DZE David
May 13	VE3JPW Warren
May 20	VE3KC Steve
May 27	VE3KGC Larissa
June 3	VA3MHB Matthew
June 10	VA3PCI Assaf
June 17	VE3CAK John
June 24	VE3DZE David

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) 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.