Newsletter
May 2010

# RAC

# ingston Amateur News

# Kingston Amateur Radio Club 2010 Executive

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Two Meter Net Manager: VE3KC Steve Cutway ve3kc@cogeco.ca **VE3MNE, Don Gilroy** 

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# P.O. Box 1402 Kingston Ontario K7L 5C6

http://www.ve3kbr.com

VE3KAR

VE3KBR

**VE3UEL** 

VE3KER

146.94(-) MHz



The 2nd Repeater is now Operational 147.090(+) MHz

### FROM THE PRESIDENT

# Greetings:

Thanks to the 17 people who made the effort to attend the May meeting and who enjoyed Dave VA3DAC's interesting and informative presentation about living in Swaziland and installing broadcast studios and transmitters there.

June's meeting guest speaker promises to be equally interesting. Eric Meth VE3EI, IES Communications, will discuss leading edge amateur radio technology including Icom D-Star. Long time members will recall that Eric was a frequent vendor at our fleamarkets during the '90s at St. Margaret's Church. Thanks to Doug VE3FFR for organizing this.

Those who attended the May meeting will recall the RAC discussion. I had a very informative conversation with Stephen Mayne VE3LWX, RAC'S Assistant Director, Ontario North and East, at the Smiths Falls Fleamarket. He will attend our September meeting as long as we hold it Sept. 1st. He runs an air cadets squadron that meets Wednesday nights but not until after Labour Day. He also said I did the right thing at our meeting. In his view, recommending the appointment of RAC officials is not a Club concern. However, he asked me to forward his e-mail address to Rob as he'd like to hear from him. RAC needs an Assistant Director for our region as Kingston is outside Stephen's geographic area of responsibility. I have done this and they are corresponding. I hope there will be standing room only at our September 1st meeting to hear what Stephen has to say and to discuss stated concerns.

A reminder that the 'members only' section of the web site containing the Club membership list is now available. Several members have requested a user id and password from chip. If you haven't yet done so, you may request your user id and password from Chip by e-mail at <<u>va3kgb@rac.ca></u>. You must be a paid Club member to access the site. The current membership list as of May 11th is now available there.

Donning my Net Manager's hat, I'd like to thank those who continue to control the weekly KARC Tuesday Night Net. The net meets at 7:30 PM on 146.94 and we welcome check-ins from anywhere and everywhere. I welcome suggestions for making the net more entertaining, informative or just plain fun. If you're listening but not checking in because you don't have anything to say, a 'bean for the pot' is better than none. The net will continue through the summer. Anyone is welcome to try their hand at controlling. It isn't difficult. A revised script is on the KARC web site and included in this newsletter.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the June 2nd meeting and to Eric's talk. Until then, 73s and good DX,

Steve VE3KC



From the Editor: This is your last newsletter until September. Hope you all have a great summer!!!! Fresh start in the fall and hopefully some interesting articles for you to read............Joan

# **KARC Tuesday Night 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.]

# KARC NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

(revised May 13, 2010)

JUNE	JULY	AUGUST
June 1 – VE3DZE David	July 6 – VA3PCI Asaf	August 3 – VE3CAK John
June 8 – VE3JPW Warren	July 13 – VE3SIQ George	August 10 – VE3DZE David
June 15 – VE3KC Steve	July 20 – VE3TD Mike	August 17 – VE3JPW Warren
June 22 – VE3MUD Ian	July 27 – VE3VJF Roy	August 24 – VE3KC Steve
June 29 – VE3NFU Bill		August 31 – VE3NFU Bill

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	
September 7 – VA3PCI Asaf	October 5 – VE3CAK John	November 2 – VE3NFU Bill	
September 14 – VE3SIQ George	October 12 – VE3DZE David	November 9 – VA3PCI Asaf	
1	October 19 – VE3JPW Warren	November 16 – VE3SIQ George November 23 - VE3TD Mike	
	October 26 – VE3KC Steve		
		November 30 – VE3VJF Roy	

DECEMBER
December 7 – VE3CAK John
December 14 – VE3DZE David
December 21 – VE3JPW Warren
December 28 – VE3KC Steve





FRONTENAC ARES Sunday night net on VE3KBR at 1930 hours. All are welcome to check-in.

**FRONTENAC ARES** Tuesday HF night net on 3.740 at 2030 hours.





# The THIRD MONDAY of every month at 7:00 pm. is the KINGSTON ARES REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

at the Woodbine Firehall, second floor

KARC Web page designed and maintained by: VA3KGB, Chip

http://www.ve3kbr.com/

Publication Schedule of the KARC Newsletter will be August 26, 2010

### **OF INTEREST**

### CONDOLENCES

The Kingston Amateur Radio Club offers its sincere sympathy to VE3KC, Steve and Nancy on the death of Nancy's brother in Maine.

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KARC 2m Net Trivia: (Courtesy of Phil, VE3HST)

Here are a couple of links and some info about the two trivia questions I asked on the net.

http://semiconductormuseum.com/HistoricProfiles/Raytheon TransAtlantic Transmitter Profile Index.htm

http://semiconductormuseum.com/Museum Index.htm

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# THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE 2N2222

# The Most Successful and Widely Used Transistor Ever Developed!

(courtesy VE3HST Phil)

Since its initial product launch by Motorola at the 1962 IRE Convention, the 2N2222 has become the most widely used and universally recognized transistor of all time. Billions of units have been manufactured over the past 45 years and there is continuing high volume annual production. Whether you are an engineer, experimenter, educator or amateur radio enthusiast, if you have built a transistorized project over the past 45 years, then you have likely encountered the ubiquitous 2N2222 – the "universal transistor". This Oral History will highlight the personal recollections of Jack Haenichen, whose pioneering work at Motorola in the early 1960s contributed to the fundamental device and process breakthroughs that were key to the phenomenal success of the 2N2222 and related silicon transistors.

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### KIT BUILD

On Saturday, May 15th the first session of the KARC kit build was held.

Everyone is well on their way with building their kit. It is great to see the club working together on an Amateur Radio related project. Some members joined the build for the QRP aspect and some to gain experience in building. I've also been told by some members that they decided to join the build to force them to work on their code.

For some, this was their first time ever building a kit. For whatever reason, I think everyone is finding this project a little bit of a challenge but also a rewarding one.

Once everyone has completed their kit and I've had a chance to go over them, we plan to start a QRP net using our newly build kits.

There is something wonderful about operating a transceiver that you built yourself. Imagine making contacts and telling your contact that your only running QRP. This starts great conversations and many times a pile-up because everyone wants to work you.

I look forward to a successful build and hearing them on the air.

Robert Parker	
VE3RPF	

Phil VE3HST has had a successful build. To view his Rockmite:

http://www.philsomers.ca/Rockmite/Rockmite-1.jpg

http://www.philsomers.ca/Rockmite/Rockmite-2.jpg

http://www.philsomers.ca/Rockmite/Rockmite-3.jpg



# Military Communications & Electronics Museum By Ron Walsh VE3GO

All graphics courtesy the author except where noted

There it was, right in front of me, a 4-rotor Enigma machine that was used for German encoding in World War II. Around the corner was the control panel for the RCAF shortwave station at Trenton. There was a fully equipped ANGRC 26A radio station, ready to be attached to a truck, and Collins Radio equipment that looked as if it was new. I then sat down at an amateur radio station that was connected to a 16 element log periodic antenna on a 50-foot tower!

No, this is not the ultimate dream of a radio enthusiast; just part of what you will see when you visit the Military Communications and Electronics Museum, at Canadian Forces Base, Kingston, Ontario. Although this museum is on a military base, it is open to the general public. In fact, everyone is encouraged to visit the museum. Admission is by donation only and anyone can enjoy the displays that cover the history of communications from early semaphore, telegraph, and radio, right up to satellites.

Although the focus is on military equipment, there are many displays of communications gear that you will not see elsewhere, including their unique collection of Morse code keys. It's easy to spend a lot of time at the museum!

I have had the privilege of participating in some of the programs the museum offers including operating the amateur radio station VE3RCS. I have also had the chance to provide some artifacts and equipment for the museum's collection. If you get the chance to see the storage area, the collection of communications gear is amazing. All the radio sets I could have dreamed of having, as a youngster listening to shortwave radio, are there.

My appreciation for the work that has been done there and the effort being put into the museum by the present staff has led me to write this article. There is no doubt they deserve a sincere thank you and some well deserved publicity for their efforts. It is important to make the general public aware that the museum is open to all who wish to see it.

# **Origins of Canadian Communications**

The museum traces the origins of Canadian communications, when, after the South African War (1899-1902), the importance of signaling was recognized by the Canadian Army. The original Corps of Signals shared communications responsibilities with the Royal Canadian Corps of Engineers until 1919. The separate Corps of Signals received the Royal prefix in 1921. Their distinctive badge features Mercury, the speedy messenger of the Gods. In 1937, the Signal Corps School was moved to its permanent home at the new Vimy Barracks Kingston, Ontario.

A need soon arose to preserve and display the artifacts, equipment and documents relating to communications, and the museum itself began as the Royal Canadian Signals Museum in 1961. The name change to the Military Communications and Electronics Museum took place in 1976.

The collection rapidly outgrew the space in the base's Forde building, so fund raising for the present building began by 1987. Construction began in 1994. On December 1, 1995 the entire museum's collection was transferred to the new location – the Colonel A. E. Child building, so named for his contribution toward realizing the museum – and it officially opened on May 17, 1996. The museum is a sub unit of the Canadian Forces School of Communications and Electronics.



Major Dave Lawrence stands beside 4 Kilobytes of 32 Bit memory from a 1962 Mainframe. If it weren't for microchip technology, it would take 2,000 of these units to run Microsoft Windows. (Courtesy: C & E Museum)

I had the opportunity to interview the director of the museum, Mike De Noble, a veteran of 42 years service in signals. He was in the regular forces for 33 years and the reserves for 9 years. Having risen through the ranks, retiring with the rank of Major, he actually used the MACS HF console when it was at the Trenton, Ontario Air Base.

The museum is entirely self-supporting with all salaries paid for by donations. Some serving members of the forces pay a voluntary donation as well. Outside donations come from local businesses, the City of Kingston and even the Kingston Amateur Radio Club. The displays are rotated, and from May to September there is a new feature display. The museum tries to keep the displays as accurate as possible. For example, the prisoner of war display was actually designed by a prisoner of war.

The building was specifically designed as a museum and has already reached its capacity. It may be possible to convert a storage area to display some of the vehicles and add more displays on the main floor. However, plans are being developed to expand the museum in the near future.

I interviewed the curator of the museum, Annette Gillis, a very personable lady and a good example of the new generation becoming involved in history. Annette earned a BA in honors history, with minors in anthropology and Irish studies, and then completed a master's degree in public history at the University of Waterloo. Besides all her academic credits, she has worked at almost every job in a museum. She worked at the King's Landing historical site in Fredericton, New Brunswick; was a collections assistant at the Miner Museum in Cape Breton, and has even worked as a curator's assistant at the famous fortress at Louisburg, Nova Scotia. She has been involved in conservation restoration and archives, and a six month stay at the New Zealand National Army Museum gave her more background for her tasks here.

Annette told me there are over 10,000 artifacts stored here. In fact, a fifth of their collection is on loan to other museums for display. The World War I display has just been upgraded, thanks to a donation from the Weston family, a historically prominent Canadian family with a signal corps connection. When asked what was needed here at the museum, Annette replied that more World War I equipment was being sought. They would love to get some Aldis lamps from that era for comparative purposes, along with some telescopes on tripods used to observe the semaphore flags and signal lamps.

Equipment from the 70s 80s and 90s is also needed. Although some of this equipment is still in use, a lot of it is stored away in reserve units. Annette asks people not to destroy or junk surplus or decommissioned equipment before contacting the museum to see if it is of use to them. She also said she would like to add some equipment used in electronic warfare to the collection.

Annette mentioned the many requests they get for information. A person in Belgium asked why some Canadian-made equipment he had seen actually had Russian writing on the dial. It was one of the famous 19 set radios from World War II, some of which had been made for the Russians, thus, the appropriate labels.

You never know where Canadian equipment might turn up. I was asked to remind our American readers – and, in fact, readers around the world – that they might have some equipment of Canadian manufacture. This

equipment may have been used by Canadian forces or by others, or may simply be period equipment they might wish to donate.

The museum is a recognized charity and can accept donations. Please contact the museum and make them aware of what you have. It might just be what they are looking for. I am positive all the work that went into forming the museum will only be augmented by Annette's efforts.

# **Public Education Efforts**

I was recently invited to the graduation party that saw Annette become VA3VAI, thanks to the amateur radio course offered at CFB Kingston and presented by local amateur operators Les Lindstrom VE3KFS, Chip Chapman VA3KGB, and Rob Parker VE3RPF. I am sure her voice will soon be heard over the museum's own amateur station VE3RCS.

As a retired teacher, I am always interested in the programs offered by the museum. David McCarey has been in charge of the educational programs for three years. He is constantly improving and developing the material he offers. It has been my pleasure to help David with the Remembrance Day program and demonstrating the amateur radio station. Youngsters get to visit the displays and take an active part in the programs by wearing uniforms, building models and doing crafts.

David has earned degrees for teacher training and his enthusiastic efforts have been praised by many of the teachers who visit the museum, including my wife, Dawn. He can accommodate students of all ages with curriculum-based material covering many subjects, including history, science and geography. Programs are offered during school holidays, and the museum is part of the Kingston Association of Art Galleries Museum Camp in which young people visit a different area museum every day.

I would urge educators to contact David and arrange a visit to the museum. Students can experience, through artifact exploration, cultural material and history not available in the regular classroom. David can always use more volunteers and I can attest that doing so is a rewarding experience!

# C & E Amateur Radio

Of course, my favorite location in the museum is the operational amateur radio station. Terry Murphy VA3TRM is a veteran of 34 years military service, a very active local amateur, and the custodian and license holder for the station. I am privileged to consider him a neighbor and a friend. Terry's career included many years as a lineman for the Signal Corps.

Terry explained about the vast amount of digging required when the forces wanted to bury telephone lines at installations. It took the work of many men and many hours to accomplish the task. Having grown up on a farm, Terry directed the base mechanics to build a small, single-furrow hand-held plow that could be connected behind a Jeep or similar vehicle. The furrows for the cables could be dug in no time and you can see this original item in the museum collection!



Northwest Territories relay station circa 1930s

The station has three call signs: VE3RCS and VA3SIG show the obvious connection to the corps of signals, and Terry also maintains the call VE3AHU that was the call of the late Art Blick, an amateur for over 60 years and a member of the Royal Canadian Signal Corps. The station also operates as CIW64 on the CFARS network, the Canadian equivalent of the MARS network in the United States.

The station had several locations on the base before settling in the museum, and I remember the small building where Keith Goobie VO1LX used to man the station and where Dave Lawrence VA3ORP did the initial station set up. Dave is noted for his knowledge of the famous 19 Set. Many amateurs maintain working 19 Sets and meet on the air the second Sunday of each month at 1800Z on 7.270 MHz (+/- QRM).

VE3RCS has modern transceivers, amplifiers, antenna tuners and power supplies and operates from the 160 meter band to the 70 cm band. There is a complete HF antenna farm that includes trap dipoles for the low bands. My favorite is the 16-element log periodic antenna, 50 feet in the air, which covers from 3 to 30 MHz. It's great to work DX with this antenna and a kilowatt output!

The station is also a member of the Royal Signals Amateur Radio Society and provides contacts for their numerous awards. Terry is constantly improving the station with digital mode equipment being installed and a packet or gateway in the works.

You can find VE3RCS on the Trans-provincial net every Thursday from 1000



Mike De Noble at Trenton shortwave terminal

to 1100 Eastern Time on 7.055 MHz\* and QSL cards are available from the station. All amateurs are encouraged to visit the museum and operate the station, but be sure to bring a copy of your license to show the staff.

Upon entering the museum, you follow a time-oriented tour of communications from the 1860s to the present day. I enjoy the display of the telegraph station, as my father was a landline telegrapher and a member of the signals reserves during World War II. You can actually send Morse on the sounder to hear what it sounded like. The display of the early School of Signals classroom shows an original HRO receiver, among other items, that always catches my attention.

You can also see a typical military wireless station used in Northern Canada during the depression era. These stations greatly helped in opening up the Canadian north, handling countless messages for the people of that region. I am told it is the only branch of the forces that actually made a profit!

A prisoner of war camp is portrayed, including the radios made by the inmates. Actual spy radios carried by operatives behind enemy lines are also shown.

There is an extensive display of equipment You can see restored spark gap units, 19 Sets, Hammarlund, Marconi, Collins and Racal units, among others. Complete mobile stations from various eras are also there for viewing. I particularly enjoy the displays of Morse code keys, radio tubes and military insignia. Telephone sets from the early to the modern can also be seen as is an actual Enigma machine used by the German U-boats to code message during World War II. And, that's only part of what you will see during a visit.

Before leaving, visitors may reflect at the Memorial Room, highlighted by the original molds used to design the statues at the famous Vimy Memorial, dedicated to fallen Canadian troops in France. It serves to remind all of us that many brave people, from many nations, have given their lives so that we may remain free people today!

This article is dedicated to the late Doug Hildebrand, former curator and a driving force behind the creation of the museum and the late Art Blick VE3AHU, who started using amateur radio for phone patches to home for soldiers in the Gaza Strip during the 1950s.

\* U.S. amateurs do not have voice privileges at this frequency.

# **Kingston Amateur Radio Club, Inc. Financial Statement**

# May 2010

	Income	
Membership	\$40.00	
50/50 Draw	6.50	
IRLP	10.00	
<b>Total Income</b>	\$56.50	
	Expenses	
Postage	\$5.99	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$5.99	
Ossanall Takal	Ø50 <b>51</b>	
Overall Total	\$50.51	
Bank Balance as of May 22, 2010	\$6307.67	

Doug VE3FFR

Treasurer

Kingston Amateur Radio Club

### **AGENDA**

# KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC

June 2, 2010

At Smitty's Restaurant, back room

7:00 p.m.

- 1. Members introduce themselves
- 2. Additions to the agenda
- 3. Minutes of the May 2010 meeting errors/omissions/approval (David VE3DZE)
- 4. Treasurer's report (Doug VE3FFR)
- 5. Business arising from the Minutes
- 6. New business
- 7. Reports:
  - (a) President (Steve VE3KC)
  - (b) RAC (Steve VE3KC)
  - (c) Repeaters (Les VE3KFS)
  - (d) Net Manager (Steve VE3KC)
  - (e) KARC Newsletter
  - (f) Web page (Chip VA3KGB)
  - (g) Frontenac County ARES (George VE3SIQ)
  - (h) 'Hearts and Flowers'
  - (i) Other reports
- 8. Date of next meeting Sept. 1, 2010.
- 9. 50/50 draw
- 10. Adjournment

Guest Speaker: Eric Meth VE3EI, IES Communications, will discuss Icom D-Star and other amateur radio technologies.

# MINUTES OF THE KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC HELD ON

# Wednesday 7 April 2010 At Smitty's Restaurant 2376 Princess Street, Kingston Ontario

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

- 1. The members present introduced themselves. There were 17 members in attendance.
- **2.** There were no additions to the agenda.
- **3. Minutes:** As there was no business meeting in April, our president asked for approval of the March and April meeting minutes as published in the newsletter. The motion was moved by Michael VE3PRW and seconded by Doug VE3FFR and was passed.
- **4. Treasurer's Report**: The report was read by Doug VE3FFR. We had a closing balance of \$6257.16 after expenses. Phil VE3HST asked if we are covered by RAC insurance for the 2<sup>nd</sup> repeater and our president said that we are. Doug VE3FFR Moved, seconded by Michael VE3PRW that the Treasurer's Report be adopted as Published in the Newsletter. Motion carried.
- **5. Old Business:** There was no business arising from the minutes of the March or April meetings.
- **6. New Business:** There was no new business.
- 7. Reports:
  - a) PRESIDENT: There was no business last month because of the presentation by Roland Kleer.
- The executive has discussed running a spring amateur course and has decided not to run one due to lack of administration personnel. We will consider a fall course depending on someone stepping up to administer it.
- We would like to thank Terry VA3TRM for his work on increasing the number of amateurs by two, Doug Lee from Westport and Mike Sweeney
  - The estate of George Foster realized \$480.50 from the sale of equipment.
  - The kit build organized by Rob Parker VE3RPF has 20 members signed up for it.
- Thanks to Doug VE3FFR for driving Steve to Brockville for his presentation to the Brockville Amateur Radio Club April 5th.
- Sherm VE3IVY took the 58-foot tower and antennae Terry VA3TRM advertised on the Free List April 3rd.
- The cross border CanAm Lunch Bunch has started up again and the 1st Lunch on this side will be at the Island grill on Wolf Island May 27th.

- b) RAC Report: We have paid the Club liability insurance until December. RAC is re-aligning its insurance policy to run for the calendar year starting Jan. 1, 2011. The price will be higher because the coverage will be for an entire year rather than eight months. New this year is the \$2.75 surcharge per non-RAC member (41 percent of our members are also RAC members). Also new this year is a \$25 club affiliation fee. Clubs must be affiliated in order to be able to take advantage of the very favourable insurance rates. After **much discussion**, a RAC representative will be invited to a fall club meeting to discuss matters of concern, particularly whether the eastern region can be better represented. Rob Parker VE3RPF is willing to volunteer if RAC will accept him.
  - c) Repeaters: No one from the repeater committee attended the meeting and no comments were made.
- d) Net Manager: VE3KC reported the numbers ranged from 9 to 16 during the last couple of months. Suggestions are welcome to make nets more entertaining. Also even if you don't have much to say "a bean in the pot is better than none at all." New controllers are welcome and the script is on the KARC website. Please check in to the net, as we like to hear from you.
- e) KARC Newsletter: Please send Joan some articles for the newsletter. FCARES can send articles to the newsletter as well. Deadline for newsletter is May 26<sup>th</sup>. This will be the final newsletter until the fall.
- f) WebPage: Chip VA3KGB was not at the meeting due to a work commitment. Members were reminded that they can e-mail chip for user name & password to get the membership list from the web page. Pages dealing with WinMore and Bluetooth technology are being added.
  - g) FCARES: No one from FCARES was at the meeting so there was no report.
- 8. Date of the next meeting is June the  $2^{nd}$ , 2010.
- 9. 50/50 draw: \$6.50 was won by Steve VE3KC.
- 10. Adjournment: Roy VE3VJF, seconded by Herman VA3QX, moved to adjourn. Motion carried.

The meeting was followed by a presentation by Dave VA3DAC about his experience installing high-power AM and short-wave broadcast stations in Swaziland.

David Sellick VE3DZE Secretary

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Kingston Amateur Radio Club Inc.