

Newsletter
MAY
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
pastpres at ve3kbr.com

2014 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

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

Newsletter Editor:

Shannon Coolican, VA3XRY
news at ve3kbr.com

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

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

What does ham radio mean to you

We all have our different reasons of why we became hams. Some are interested in contesting, some in emergency communications, some want alternative ways to communicate and others a combination. Myself I enjoy this hobby for the fun aspect of it, that is I enjoy messing around with radios, circuit boards, computers, power sources, and even antennas if I really have to.

As the club president, my role is to lead by example. Part of that means being active on the repeater more often and partaking in club events such as the monthly HF contest. But I will admit that as of late I haven't been fulfilling this role to the level I should be. Truth of the matter is that between home renovations, software projects, other interests and a job that requires frequent travel, ham radio has had to take a backseat. I even have a girlfriend as of this writing, and I find with these sorts of relationships, women frequently demand that you spend time with them, and that you speak with them, and this further decreases the time I have available for ham radio. This brings me to my main point:

“If you don't use it, you'll lose it”

It's a tired old cliché, but ham radio is not exempt from this rule. The golden days of nearly constant ham activity on the KBR repeater have passed on, and today we have new challenges to deal with. Having served several years on the KARC executive, I frequently faced questions and issues regarding the continuity of KARC, the purpose of the VE3KBR repeater and other fundamental questions. As part of your club executive, we work very hard to keep the club vibrant and active in the wake of declining membership and decreasing participation in KARC contests and other events.

To put it another way - without the beating around the bush, without any varnish, without even the MinWax Polyshades 2-in-1 wood conditioner & cleanser, KARC has been on a rapid downward spiral and if we want to save it, changes have to happen now.

Challenge Yourself

I challenge all of you, myself, to devote more of your time to this noble hobby. Even if you already do one thing, dare to do more. A few examples: Pick up the mic and send out your callsign over the repeater, write a newsletter article, participate in a KARC event, become a net controller, volunteer to run for an executive role or provide a presentation of what you have been up to (ham radio wise) at the next monthly club meeting.

The Kingston Amateur Radio Club has been with us since 1947 and the amateur service even earlier than that. They are both unique and historical, and altering our ways and being more active is more crucial now than ever to allow the club to continue and prosper into the future.

Assaf
VA3PCI
KARC President

Meeting Minutes - April 2, 2014 - Kingston Amateur Radio Club Meeting - Smitty's Restaurant - Princess Street - 7:00pm

Meeting was brought to order by **Paul VA3LX** at 7:05pm.

Introductions

Matthew VA3MHB
Carlyle VE3WIO
Doug VE3FFR
Steve VE3KC
Paul VA3LX
Larissa VE3KGC
Shannon VA3XRY
Doug VE3KXA
Phil VE3HST
Fred VE3FBG
Drew VE3UIN
Jim VE3HOV

News of Interest to Amateurs

Steve VE3KC noted that the RAC bulletins have come to an end and RAC is looking for a new Bulletin editor for anyone interested.

Minutes from last meeting

Shannon VA3XRY put forward a motion that the minutes from the March 2014 meeting be accepted. The motion was seconded by **Carlyle VE3WIO**. Carried..

Treasurer's Report

Steve VE3KC moved that all the reports in the April 2014 newsletter be approved. **Doug VE3FFR** seconded this motion. Carried.

Business Arising from Minutes

The only entry in the March contest with **Tim VA3TIC** who made 75 QSO's in the North American SSB contest. The Tim Horton's gift certificate was awarded to Tim.

The Ontario QSO party was selected as the April 2014 contest. There will be \$10 awards for CW, SSB and a third one for the top overall score.

New Business

Field day 2014 options

- a) partner with Quinte and Prince Edward Amateur Radio Clubs at the Ameliasburg museum in Prince Edward County
- b) contact Matthew's friend who has a 150 acre field near Odessa, ON
- c) Partner with Frontenac County EMCOMM group at Don VE3MNE's cottage.

It was determined that a field day committee of **Shannon VA3XRY**, **Matthew VA3MHB**, **Paul VA3LX**, and **Assaf VA3PCI** would help to determine a site.

Repeater Issues

Steve VE3KC and **Les VE3KFS** seem to think that most of the echolink/irlp issues are resulting from the use of wi-fi at the museum (where the equipment is based). **Steve VE3KC** reminded everyone that the equipment is owned by the museum and we are not allowed to modify or replace it.

CWID issue. **Steve VE3KC** mentioned that the CWID speeds up and down. **Steve VE3KC** seems to think that with all the power outages at the tower over the past winter the equipment has gone back to it's default settings. We currently do not have access to the site. **Don VE3MNE** installed the current repeater for the site back in 2011 and has not been active in the club since.

Next Meeting

The next KARC meeting is on Wednesday, May 7, 2014 at 7:00pm at Smitty's restaurant on Princess street in Kingston, Ontario.

Meeting Adjournment

Matthew VA3MHB moved that the meeting be adjourned **Caryle VE3WIO** seconded this motion. Motion carried.

KARC FINANCIAL REPORT - APRIL 2014

May 1, 2014

Opening Balance

Cooperation Plus	6,935.50
Dividend Savings	9.66
Equity Shares	<u>261.62</u>
Total Balance	7,206.78

INCOME

Memberships (2, 1 3-year)	100.00
March Interest	<u>0.12</u>
Total Income	100.12

EXPENSES

Total Expenses	0.00
Revenue Less Expenses	100.12

CLOSING BALANCE

Cooperation Plus	7,035.62
Dividend Savings	9.66
Equity Shares	<u>261.62</u>
Total Balance	7,306.90

PETTY CASH

Opening Balance	65.00
Breakfast for guest course instructor (VE3SRS) Apr. 5	14.20
Closing Balance 50.80	

AGENDA –7 MAY 2014

1. Members and Guests introduce themselves
2. Additions to the Agenda
3. Amateur Radio News
4. Community Acknowledgments
5. Minutes of the last Meeting: errors / omissions / approval (Shannon VA3XRY)
6. Treasurer's Report (Steve VE3KC)
7. Business arising from the minutes:
 - a. Field Day 2014
 - b. Repeaters – KBR & Clarendon
 - c. Ontario QSO Contest Results
7. New Business:
 - a. IRLP & EchoLink status
8. Reports:
 - a. Net Manager (Steve VE3KC)
 - b. "Hearts and Flowers"
 - c. Other Reports
9. Date of next meeting: 04 June 2014
10. 50 / 50 Draw
11. Adjournment
12. Presentations: To Be Confirmed - Radio Buying guide for new hams

VHF Net Report
May 7, 2014

Thanks to the controllers who kept the VHF net alive in April. Check-ins ranged from 9 to 15 and net duration ran from 20 to 46 minutes.

The net control schedule for May is in the current newsletter; but if you hear silence any Tuesday night at 19:30 hours on VE3KBR, please jump in and control the net. The script is in the newsletter and on the KARC web site and if you follow it, you'll do fine.

But the most important thing is that you check into the VHF net every Tuesday night at 7:30 because without you, it's pretty lonely.

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

May 13 – Warren - VE3JPW

May 20 – Steve – VE3KC

May 27 – Larissa - VE3KGC

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.