

Newsletter  
October  
/ November  
2016

# Kingston Amateur Radio Club

## 2016 Executive



Kingston Amateur News

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

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

**Treasurer: Douglas Richards, VE3FFR**  
treas at ve3kbr.com

**Secretary: Steve Cutway, VE3KC**  
sec at ve3kbr.com

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

**2016 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:**  
**Two Metre Net Manager:**  
**Steve Cutway, VE3KC**  
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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

There's a chill in the air to remind us that now's the time to get those trusty old antennas repaired and new ones installed before the task will involve dealing with frozen ground and numb fingers.

October activities included a fascinating operating event sponsored by the Peel ARC exploring propagation using NVIS antennas. Quite few stations through Ontario and several from Quebec participated. Thanks go to Peter VE3POA for helping to organize the event. I'm looking forward to his report during the upcoming meeting.

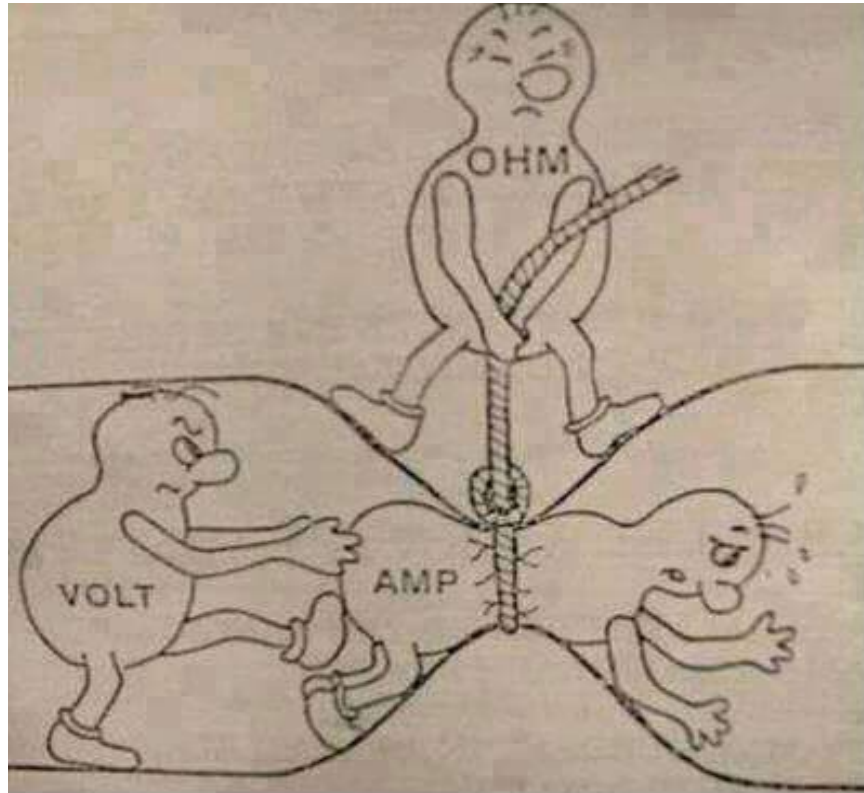
With the long winter months ahead of us, there's more time indoors and time for 'playing ' with our radios. For me this will be a time to explore new facets of the hobby. I'm looking forward to new QRP building projects, finally learning a bit about microcontrollers and testing low noise receive antennas on the low bands.

I'd be delighted to hear about new adventures in ham radio that you may be planning for the coming months. Perhaps that can be the focus of the roundtable introductions at our upcoming club meeting.

Hope to see you all at the November meeting on Tuesday November 1st at Smitty's Restaurant on Princess Street.

Vy 73s,  
de Paul  
VA3LX

*Ohm's Law Explained*



## DX NEWS

While there are no announced ‘major DXpeditions’ scheduled for November, there are quite a few smaller one or two operator expeditions to chase. Here are a few that might be of interest:

- I’ve seen frequent spots for VP6AH on the Pitcairn Islands. DL2AH is operating from there ‘holiday style’ until November 25.
- XT2AW in Burkina Faso, operated by DF2WO, is on the air until November 20th. The announcement says he operates ‘slow CW’ and digital modes. There are lots of spots.
- Heading back out to the Pacific, E51RR will be operating from the South Cook Islands from October 29th through November 25th.
- The Central African Republic has seen a lot of political chaos and has not been on the air much in recent years. TL0A is on the air now. TL0AO will be coming on from November 10th through 22nd and will be using the LOTW.
- There are many additional ‘small DXpeditions’ scheduled for November. Check [dx-world.net](http://dx-world.net) and [www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html](http://www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html) for more information and for updates.

While the DXpeditions are running, you can find their operating frequencies by going to: [new.dxsummit.fi/#/](http://new.dxsummit.fi/#/) and using the site’s search function to filter spots for the DX station you’re interested in. Also, some will be regularly uploading their logs to Clublog. Go to [www.clublog.org/logsearch.php](http://www.clublog.org/logsearch.php) to see if you’re ‘in the log’.

Wishing you all good DX, de Paul VA3LX

## SUBMIT ARTICLES TO YOUR NEWSLETTER

As the newsletter editor, I get to see all articles that are submitted for publication. Unfortunately, in the past year I have witnessed more instances of UFOs abducting unicorns than articles submitted to this newsletter. Articles, writings, musing and pictures are a big part of what make a newsletter interesting from month to month. Having a different contributor add something to the newsletter every month keeps readers engaged to the newsletter, and to the club as well. Thus, your newsletter submissions help make the club a more vibrant and healthy organization.

There are many constants in the universe. Cars need gas, dogs need attention, hipsters need kale and this newsletter needs more content. So let's get writing and get some content to the newsletter. You can write about topics related to amateur radio or anything that would be of interest to hams in general. You can also take a picture of your shack or antenna system, or you can tell us about your latest far-flung project because we'd happy to learn about it. Email your contributions to [news@ve3kbr.com](mailto:news@ve3kbr.com). I look forward to publishing them.

Assaf

VA3PCI

Newsletter Editor

## VHF NET REPORT

Thanks to the controllers who kept the VHF net alive during October: Larissa VE3KGC, Carlyle VE3WIO and Steve VE3KC. Check-ins ranged from 9 to 14 and net duration ran from 27 to 43 minutes. Thanks also to Larissa VE3KGC for continuing to do the swap net. If you have items to trade, buy, swap or sell, get a hold of her.

I will be stepping back as Net Manager at the end of this year so a new Net Manager is being sought. I've done it for more than 7½ years and I think it's time for someone else to pick it up. If no one does, the net may cease to be.

The net manager's duties are:

- to recruit and train net controllers;
- to schedule the controllers and to publish the net control schedule in the KARC newsletter and on the KARC web site;
- to review and update the net control script as required and to publish it in the KARC newsletter and on the KARC web site;
- to maintain the net logs;
- to present a net report either at the monthly meeting or in the newsletter that includes: net statistics, such as number of check-ins, net duration, and anything else of interest from the net;
- to remind net controllers when it's their turn to control the net;
- to post a weekly net reminder on the KARC Freelist;

I'm always looking for more net controllers. It isn't difficult to do. The script is on the web site and in the newsletter. But the most important thing is that you join us every Tuesday night at 07:30 PM on VE3KBR for the net. It's your participation that makes it worthwhile.

Steve VE3KC

Net Manager

## MEETING MINUTES

### **KARC General Meeting Minutes**

**October 4, 2016**

**7:00 PM**

**Smitty's Restaurant**

**2376 Princess Street, Kingston Ontario**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the President, Paul VA3LX, who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Members and guests introduced themselves: 18 members and guests were in attendance. Paul VA3LX invited everyone to mention briefly something they are excited about in Amateur Radio and what they are actively doing in the hobby right now.
  - Les VA3KFS/VE3KFS - summered in Prince Edward Island where he operated HF digital modes, checked into our Tuesday Night VHF Net via IRLP, breakfasted and lunched with other amateurs twice weekly and sailed. He plans to go to PEI earlier next summer than he did last.
  - Larissa VE3KGC - likes VHF contesting as a rover, building antennas from improbable objects and is looking forward to JOTA Oct. 15-16 when she'll be a guest operator with a group from Carleton Place and Ottawa.
  - John VE3JCQ - mentioned no amateur radio activity.
  - Doug VE3FFR - not very active although has HF, VHF and APRS capabilities. He houses and maintains the IRLP node.
  - Neil (guest) - Canadian Forces communications systems tech who has spent the past few years as a radio operator working mainly with HF comms erecting antennas.
  - Chip VA3KGB - dabbles in HF, maintains several web sites including KARC's and houses (temporarily) the KARC remote HF station. He doesn't have to go to work but does, to be able to enjoy the hobby that he loves.
  - Shannon VA3XRY - primary interest is VHF; checks into our weekly net; is interested in weather and dabbles a bit in HF.
  - Greg VA3GGF/VE3PJ - erecting a tower; poured concrete yesterday and will let it cure for about four weeks.
  - Peter VE3POA - spent much of the summer building an Elcraft KX3 for which he's just purchased the optional 100 watt power amplifier. Interested in propagation, the reason for taking on coordination of the NVIS Operating Event, Sunday, Oct. 16, between 13:00 and 16:00 local time that he'll be doing a presentation about later.
  - Brian VA3BAH - also erecting a tower but is not quite as far along as Peter VE3POA. He's taking delivery of the bolts and concrete stubs tonight so it's a work in progress.
  - Thomas (guest) - a very curious person interested in learning what Amateur Radio is all about.
  - Harold VE3BPM - got his Amateur Radio license in 1957 and is still having fun with it.
  - Bob VE3RVC - hasn't been on the radio too much but has been on his roof a lot lately maintaining antenna wires and puttering with an HD TV antenna, not happily.
  - Dave VA3DLF - not active this past summer as was very much involved with radio-controlled model aircraft; but his activity has begun to pick up again, the past couple of weeks, particularly now that he's the proud owner of a Flex radio, much to his XYL's chagrin.
  - Herman VA3QX - is a snowbird so his Kingston season is coming to an end. He's hoping to be able to use the KARC HF remote station this winter from Florida.
  - Carlyle VE3WIO - worked the Spanish special event station, AN400A-Z, celebrating the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cervantes, author of Don Quixote. Three contacts on three different bands using three different modes will earn you a certificate.
  - Steve VE3KC - not doing much with amateur radio because he's gotten involved with another kind of radio. You can hear him on an internet radio station, <http://www.mushroomfm.com>, Sunday evening at 06:00 PM Eastern Time, when he hosts The Early Years, a show featuring 50s and 60s music. It repeats Wednesday morning at 07:00 AM Eastern Time. Requests are welcome.
  - Paul VA3LX - excited to be back home after spending a month in Amsterdam with his new granddaughter. He's getting his lowband antennas ready for the Winter DX season.

2. Additions to the agenda: Steve VE3KC asked to add 'approval of the 2017 membership fee' under "New Business".
3. Minutes of the September meeting: Steve VE3KC/Brian VA3BAH moved approval of the minutes as published. Chip VA3KGB made a correction in 'Haves and Wants' when he reminded the meeting that 2017 is the Club's 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary and the 28<sup>th</sup> year the Club has had an internet presence. '28<sup>th</sup>' should have been '20<sup>th</sup>'. Steve VE3KC said he misheard the number. The amended minutes were approved.
4. Treasurer's Report Doug VE3FFR reviewed the financial report that is attached as Appendix A to these minutes. Doug VE3FFR/Chip VA3KGB moved approval of the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried.
5. New Business: Approval of the 2017 membership fee: Steve VE3KC said that Regulation 2 of the KARC Bylaws and Regulations requires the executive to recommend the membership fee for the upcoming year for approval at a general meeting. He said that the executive recommends that the 2017 membership fee remain at \$25.00. Steve VE3KC/Herman VA3QX moved acceptance of this recommendation. The motion carried.

Steve VE3KC said that he's been sending electronic membership cards for four or five years and wonders what their value is. He suggested that if asked, many members might have trouble reproducing them because several have asked for them to be re-sent months later. He wondered if there's still a need to issue membership cards. Paul VA3LX asked if the membership card is distinct from a receipt. Steve VE3KC said that we used to issue both but more recently we've only issued a membership card which became electronic as the result of a motion passed at the December 2011 meeting. A membership list would still be maintained and published on the web site. Herman VA3QX said that Quebec no longer sends proof of payment to auto license holders now so if they can do it, we should be able to do it too. Larissa VE3KGC said she likes having an electronic membership card. Carlyle VE3WIO/Brian VA3BAH moved that the distribution of membership cards, electronic or otherwise, be eliminated. Brian VA3BAH said that he knows he's paid but what if he needed a receipt of some kind? Steve VE3KC asked him why he would need such a receipt? He added that if KARC receives a donation, the Treasurer has always issued a receipt and if someone doesn't remember whether or not they've paid their membership, they can ask because an accurate and up-to-date membership list must be maintained. He agreed that the biggest downside to eliminating the membership card is ensuring the maintenance of accurate records. Herman VA3QX wondered if the process of paying membership could be simplified, i.e., brought online. Steve VE3KC replied that we're not a big enough organization to contemplate doing that. He said we could use Paypal but there would be a percentage fee. The motion carried with one opposed.

6. Updates:
  - a. President: Paul VA3LX reminded the meeting that the election of Club officers for 2017 will take place at the December meeting. Les VE3KFS has agreed to run the nomination process again this year. Les VE3KFS said that he would be contacting everyone on the membership list. He encouraged everyone to consider running although he pointed out that just about everyone present has served on a past executive. He added that it's not an onerous job. Paul VA3LX agreed, saying that it's giving back to our amateur community and that he's been pleased to serve as President for the past two years but he's ready to pass it on. He thanked Les for running the nomination process again this year.
  - b. Net report: Steve VE3KC read the net report which is attached as Appendix B to these minutes.
  - c. "Hearts and Flowers": Chip VA3KGB reported that Les VE3KFS's XYL broke her wrist while helping Les repair the roof of his RV. Doug VE3FFR reported that his Mother's shoulder injury is improving.
  - d. Community acknowledgements: Steve VE3KC thanked Carlyle VE3WIO and Doug VE3FFR for their help refurbishing his HF dipole antenna. Paul VA3LX acknowledged Ron VE3GO for all the work he put into running the swap net and his efforts along with Les VE3KFS bridging the two poles of the Amateur community. He also thanked Larissa VE3KGC for picking up the swap net.



- e. Other updates: None.
- 7. Haves and wants: Doug VE3FFR has a Fujitsu Lifebook 2003-vintage laptop to give away. (Larissa VE3KGC took it.)
- 8. Date of next meeting: November 1, 2016
- 9. Adjournment: Brian VA3BAH/Carlyle VE3WIO moved adjournment. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 07:35 PM.

Presentation: Peter VE3POA talked about the upcoming NVIS Operating Event, Sunday, Oct. 16, from 13:00-16:00 local time. The presentation will be on the KARC web site.

Steve Cutway VE3KC  
Secretary

**October 1, 2016**  
**Opening Balance**

Cooperation Plus	5114.98	
Dividends Savings	37.54	
Equity Shares	261.62	
Total		5414.14

**Income**

Interest	0.04	
Membership	0.00	
Total		0.04

**Expenditures**

Total	0.00	
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**Closing Balance**

Cooperation Plus	5115.02	
Dividends Savings	37.54	
Equity Shares	261.62	
Total		5414.18

## Appendix B: VHF Net Report

Oct. 4, 2016

Thanks to the controllers who kept the VHF net alive during September: John VE3CAK, Brian VA3BAH (a first-time controller) and Steve VE3KC. Check-ins ranged from 10 to 12 and net duration ran from 21 to 35 minutes.

Ron VE3GO has stepped back from doing the swap net which he did weekly since Dec. 15, 2015. Larissa VE3KGC has picked it up so if you have items to trade, buy, swap or sell, get hold of her.

A reminder that as the KARC meeting night has changed to the first Tuesday of the month, there will be no net that night.

I'm always looking for more net controllers. It isn't difficult to do. The script is on the web site. But the most important thing is that you join us every Tuesday night at 07:30 PM on VE3KBR for the net. It's your participation that makes it worthwhile doing.

Steve VE3KC

Net Manager

## AGENDA

**KARC General Meeting Agenda  
November 1, 2016  
07:00 PM  
Smitty's Restaurant  
2376 Princess Street, Kingston Ontario**

1. Members and guests introduce themselves
2. Additions to the agenda
3. Minutes of the October meeting (Steve VE3KC)
4. Treasurer's Report (Doug VE3FFR)
5. New Business: Insurance
6. Updates:
  - a. President (Paul VA3LX)
  - b. NVIS Operating Event Oct. 16 (Peter VE3POA)
  - c. Net report (Steve VE3KC)
  - d. "Hearts and Flowers"
  - e. Community acknowledgements
  - f. Other updates
7. Announcements
8. Date of next meeting: December 6, 2016 - 2017 elections
9. Adjournment

Presentation: Solar Weather and its effects on HF by Neil Marleau, a signaller in the Canadian Forces.

FINANCIAL REPORT

**KARC FINANCIAL REPORT –Nov 2016**

**October 26, 2016**

**Opening Balance**

Cooperation Plus	5115.02
Dividends Savings	37.54
Equity Shares	261.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>5414.14</b>

**Income**

Int	.04
Membership	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.04</b>

**Expenditures**

<b>Total</b>	<b>0.00</b>
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**Closing Balance**

Cooperation Plus	5115.06
Dividends Savings	37.54
Equity Shares	261.62
<b>Total</b>	<b>5414.22</b>

## NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

<b>Month</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Controller</b>
November	8	VE3CAK John
November	15	VA3BAH Brian
November	22	VE3KC Steve
November	29	VE3KGC Larissa
December	13	VA3PCI Assaf
December	20	VE3WIO Carlyle
December	27	VE3CAK John

## 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.