

Newsletter  
September 2010



Kingston Amateur News

# Kingston Amateur Radio Club 2010 Executive

**President: Steve Cutway, VE3KC**

pres at ve3kbr.com

**Newsletter Editor: VACANT**

news at ve3kbr.com

**Vice-Pres: Chip Chapman, VA3KGB**

vicepres at ve3kbr.com

**Repeater Committee:**

VE3KFS, Les Lindstrom (Chair)  
rprr at ve3kbr.com

**Treasurer: Doug Richards, VE3FFR**

treas at ve3kbr.com

VA3GST, John Snasdell-Taylor  
va3gst at kos.net

**Secretary: David Sellick, VE3DZE**

sec at ve3kbr.com

VA3KGB, Chip Chapman  
va3kgb at rac.ca

**Past-Pres: Les Lindstrom, VE3KFS**

pastpres at ve3kbr.com

VE3JCQ, John Wood  
john686 at sympatico.ca

## 2010 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

**Two Metre Net Manager:**

VE3KC Steve Cutway  
netmanager at ve3kbr.com

VE3MNE, Don Gilroy  
dgilroy at cogeco.ca

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

<http://www.ve3kbr.com>

VE3KAR Clarendon Stn  
147.090(+) MHz

VE3KER Kingston  
packet node

145.010 MHz simplex



VE3KBR Kingston  
146.940(-) MHz

VE3UEL Hartington  
APRS node

144.390 MHz

## **EDITORIAL**

There's a new look to the *Kingston Amateur News* this month. Joan Clarke, Roy VE3VJF's xyl, our editor for the past four years, has decided to hang up her keyboard (at least as far as this newsletter is concerned). KARC very much appreciates Joan's dedication to producing a quality newsletter every month, particularly as she isn't an amateur.

Joan's departure has left a huge vacancy. The newsletter is key to promoting KARC, its events and info. Article 2 of the KARC Bylaws and Regulations establishes the newsletter as the Club's official publication. Without it, a significant communication link to our members will be lost. So, we're looking for someone to serve as the Newsletter Editor. That person shouldn't have to work alone. Freelist readers will have seen Phil VE3HST's note Aug. 19th in which he offered his assistance. Regulation 5 of the KARC Bylaws and Regulations permits the creation of ad hoc committees including a newsletter committee. So the Editor can choose whomever he/she would like to help and everyone is welcome to submit articles or photos related to their involvement in our hobby.

While talking about getting involved, your guest editor (at least for this edition of the newsletter) is concerned about the lack of participation generally. We have a paid membership of 44 members. Since January 2010, the meeting attendance has averaged 15, or 34% of our members.

Why?

What do we have to do to entice more members to our meetings? We've had presentations at 2/3 of the meetings since January and have presentations already planned for the next three meetings. Yet people leave the meeting before the presentation, something which this writer considers extremely inconsiderate.

Your executive won't do everything. If all you want from a meeting is to be entertained, that isn't enough. KARC is your Club. Its success or failure depends on everyone, not just your executive.

Please give serious thought to your role and if the idea of creating the newsletter that your amateur colleagues will read and enjoy each month is at all appealing, please contact any member of the executive. We'll help you in every way we can.

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## **DATE CHANGE**

Those who notice such things will observe that this newsletter is dated September rather than August. From now on, the date of the newsletter will be the month of the upcoming meeting rather than the month of the last one. This is in line with many newsletters published by amateur and non-amateur organizations. So if you're looking for the August 2010 Kingston amateur News in the future and can't find it, that's because it doesn't exist.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope that everyone had a good summer. We certainly can't complain about the weather other than it might have been too hot at times. But we'll remember it fondly in a few months.

Thanks to the 17 people who made the effort to attend the June meeting and who enjoyed Eric VE3EI's interesting and informative presentation about D-Star.

September's meeting guest speaker promises to be equally interesting. Stephen Mayne VE3LWX, RAC'S Assistant Director, Ontario North and East Region, will be present to talk about RAC. I hope there will be standing room only to hear what Stephen has to say and to discuss concerns that have been raised in the past.

In my report at the June meeting, I mentioned an e-mail I received via Bill VE3CLQ from Craig Hamm VA3KRT, an Ottawa car rally enthusiast, expressing his group's appreciation for VE3KAR, our Clarendon repeater. They used it in May 2009 and again in 2010 for their closed-road car rally and wanted to make a financial donation to its owner but couldn't find out who it was. I corresponded with him and he promised a donation to KARC. He was as good as his word as we received a \$100.00 cheque shortly after the June meeting.

Further to Les VE3KFS's suggestion at the June meeting, Chip has created a section in the 'Members Only' section of our web site for KARC members and Freelist members to set up photo galleries. If you already have a userid and password, you can use it to create public and private photo galleries. Freelist subscribers who aren't KARC members can upload photos to the Freelist public gallery but cannot create private galleries. (A good reason to join KARC!) Chip VA3KGB will explain this in a bit more detail at the meeting.

Rob's kit building project was a huge success. Several participants have showed off their finished Rockmite transceiver kits and a couple posted photos on the freelist. Congrats to all and especially to Rob for organizing it. There is talk about another project so watch the freelist or listen to the weekly Tuesday Night Net for details. Please bring your Rockmite to the meeting on Wednesday for a photo op. Rob is writing an article for the newsletter and for *TCA*.



(To see further photos, go to <http://www.ve3kbr.com/photo/> and select "Rockmite 40".)

The final summer lunch bunch get-together took place at Captain Jack's in Cape Vincent, NY last Thursday, Aug. 26th. A record number of amateurs, 43, from Northern New York, the Brockville and Kingston areas attended. Several amateurs enjoyed a visit to the home of Ed KC2HRZ afterwards and enjoyed refreshments and a keyboard concert by Ed, who taught music as a career. Thanks, Ed and Peggy for your welcoming hospitality. The Northern New York group is planning a Fall Ball in Watertown on Oct. 23rd. Details will follow.

KARC has been invited to participate in the 2010 Boy Scouts Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) and Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI). These events are scheduled for the weekend of Oct. 16-17 at Frontenac Provincial Park. It's been several years since we've had a JOTA presence. One of our members, Mike VE3TD, is a leader in the scouting organization.

The KARC fleamarket is set for Saturday, Nov. 13th from 08:30 to 11:30 at the Military Communications and electronics Museum. Admission is a financial donation to the museum and tables are \$10 each and can be reserved by contacting Terry VA3TRM. I expect there will be a Club table that anyone can put 'fleas' on with proceeds going to the Club. Like last year, the fleamarket will be preceded by a breakfast buffet at the Garrison Golf and Country club from 07:30 to 09:00, \$5.50 per person. Thanks, Terry, for organizing this again. So check your basements and shacks and bring all the equipment you're no longer using. If you need help, just ask your better halves. 😊

It is with sadness that I have to announce that for personal reasons, Joan Clarke, XYL of Roy Clarke VE3VJF, has asked to be relieved of responsibility for editing the KARC Newsletter. I know that everyone who has enjoyed Joan's work during the past four years joins me in thanking her for her loyal and steadfast service and for a job well done. Joan has asked me to send her thanks to all those who were so helpful and supportive over the years, for sending articles and other material that helped make her job easier. She will miss that monthly 'deadline' (and friendly e-mails) but she says that a fresh approach may be just what the newsletter needs. So now, your executive is looking for someone to edit the KARC Newsletter. If you possess good writing, editing and organizational skills, KARC needs you. I encourage anyone interested to review back newsletter issues on the KARC web site to get a feel for how it's been done in the past. You may continue the tradition or develop a new style for a new decade.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the September 1st meeting and hearing Stephen Mayne's RAC talk. Until then, 73s and good DX,  
Steve VE3KC

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### **Geometry Net**

There's a new net in town and I'll bet you've rarely, if ever, heard one like it. It's called the Geometry Net and it's hosted by Phil VE3HST every Sunday at 11 AM on VE3KBR.

Phil described the net in an e-mail to the Freelist before the first one Aug. 22:

At coffee on Wednesday, we somehow got talking about geometry. Several people fondly remembered enjoying their high school geometry. So we discussed having a Geometry Net on the repeater. No, we weren't drinking. Just coffee. ... It will be extremely casual. More like a geometry chat. ... So please join in and enjoy some casual chit-chat about geometry.

To get some discussion going, Phil suggests a look at the following web site:

<http://www.mathleague.com/help/geometry/geometry.htm>

So dig out those compasses, protractors and tracing wheels and join the Geometry Net, Sunday morning at 11 on VE3KBR.

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## **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE KARC BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS**

Your executive recommends the following amendments to the KARC Bylaws and Regulations. These will be discussed and voted on at our meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 1st. To read the current Bylaws and Regulations, visit:

<http://www.ve3kbr.com/karc/karccon.html>

Proposed amendments are highlighted in yellow.

### Article 1. Head Office.

The Head Office of the Club shall be located at the City of Kingston in the Province of Ontario, Canada at the place therein where the business of the Club may from time to time be carried on.

**For administrative and legal purposes, the Head Office of the Club shall be located at the residential street address of the President.**

A specific address for the KARC Head office doesn't appear in the Bylaws that were approved at the KARC meeting March 4, 2009. As a Not-For-profit corporation under the Ontario Corporations act, we are required to specify a physical address, not a Post Office Box, as our Head Office. As we don't have a clubhouse, your executive proposes that the residential street address of the President is the most sensible location. We are required to report executive changes any way so when the President changes, we can report the new address of our Head Office at the same time.

### Article 14. Term of Office.

Executive members shall be elected annually at the **December** general meeting and shall hold office for one calendar year commencing on the first day of January of the year following the election.

The rationale for changing the election to October in the current Bylaws was to allow the outgoing executive time to complete the Ontario Government's reporting requirements as prescribed in the Ontario Corporations Act. A corporation has 90 days to fulfil the requirements.

Your executive doesn't think it makes a lot of difference whether the 90 days starts in October or December. Complying with the reporting requirements should be the responsibility of the outgoing executive as the incoming executive will have to do it the following year.

Your executive believes that holding the election at the December meeting, as we did before last year, makes more sense. We think that having one meeting in September after an almost 3-month break followed immediately by the election meeting in October is impractical. It doesn't allow members new to KARC an opportunity to get to know the candidates. Having the election at the December meeting as we did before last year does.

**Regulation 2. MEMBERSHIP FEES**

The annual fees for Full and Associate membership in the Club shall be recommended by the Executive and approved at a general meeting. This fee shall be payable on admission to membership annually for the fiscal year January 1 to December 31. Any dues paid on or after September 1 shall be for the next fiscal period, but shall not preclude the member from participating in the club business for the period of September 1 to December 31 of the preceding year.

In recent years, membership dues for the following year haven't been accepted until October. Every year, the treasurer is offered dues at the September meeting and has to ask members to wait until October.

Long time members will recall that we used to accept dues for the next year starting in September. Your executive believes we should return to past practice.

These amendments will be voted on at the Sept. 1st meeting.

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**KARC NET CONTROL SCHEDULE**

September	7	VA3PCI Asaf
September	14	VE3SIQ George
September	21	VE3TD Mike
September	28	VE3VJF Roy
October	5	VE3CAK John
October	12	VE3DZE David
October	19	VE3JPW Warren
October	26	VE3KC Steve
November	2	VE3NFU Bill
November	9	VA3PCI Asaf
November	16	VE3SIQ George
November	23	VE3TD Mike
November	30	VE3VJF Roy
December	7	VE3CAK John
December	14	VE3DZE David
December	21	VE3JPW Warren
December	28	VE3KC Steve

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](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 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.]**

**AGENDA**  
KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC  
September 1, 2010  
At Smitty's Restaurant, back room  
7:00 p.m.

1. Members introduce themselves
2. Additions to the agenda
3. Minutes of the June 2010 meeting - errors/omissions/approval (David VE3DZE)
4. Treasurer's report (Doug VE3FFR)
5. Business arising from the Minutes
  - (a) KARC Photo Gallery for Club Members and Freelist Members (Chip VA3KGB)
  - (b) Other items.
6. New business
  - (a) Fleamarket - Nov. 13, 2010 (Terry VA3TRM)
  - (b) Newsletter Editor needed (Steve VE3KC)
  - (c) Proposed amendments to Club Bylaws (Steve VE3KC)
  - (d) JOTA and JOTI (Steve VE3KC)
  - (e) Other items
7. Reports:
  - (a) President (Steve VE3KC)
  - (b) Repeaters (Les VE3KFS)
  - (c) RAC (Steve VE3KC)
  - (d) Net Manager (Steve VE3KC)
  - (e) Web page (Chip VA3KGB)
  - (f) KARC Newsletter (Steve VE3KC)
  - (g) Frontenac County ARES (George VE3SIQ)
  - (h) 'Hearts and Flowers'
  - (i) Other reports
8. Date of next meeting - Oct. 6, 2010. Phil VE3HST will talk about the NEOSAT SATELLITE tracking software he's working with at RMC.
9. 50/50 draw
10. Adjournment

Guest Speaker: Stephen Mayne, Assistant Director, Ontario North and East region, RAC.

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Kingston Amateur Radio Club  
Financial Statement  
June - August 2010

Income	
Membership	20.00
50/50 Draw	10.00
Donations	100.00
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Total Income	130.00
Expenses	
Postage	12.09
Website Cost	179.16
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Total Expenses	191.27
Overall Total	- 61.27
Bank Balance As of Aug 25, 2010	6,246.40

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**MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF THE  
KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC  
HELD ON  
Wednesday 2 June 2010  
At Smitty's Restaurant  
Princess Street, Kingston Ontario**

**The Kingston Amateur Radio Club meeting** was called to order by our president Steve VE3KC at 7:00 PM.

1. The members present introduced themselves. There were 17 members in attendance.
2. There were no additions to the agenda.
3. **Minutes:** our president asked for approval of the May meeting minutes as published in the newsletter. The motion was moved by David VE3DZE and seconded by Les VE3KFS and was passed.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** The report was read by Doug VE3FFR. We had a closing balance of \$6,307.67 after expenses. Doug VE3FFR Moved, seconded by Chip VA3KGB that the Treasurer's Report be adopted as read. Motion carried.
5. **Old Business:** no old business
6. **New Business:** Les VE3KFS would like to photograph the Rock Mites for an article for the newsletter (very fine solder was soon discovered to play a big part of the kit build and many thanks for those sharing their fine solder).

## 7. Reports:

**a) PRESIDENT:** I received an e-mail via Bill VE3CLQ from Craig Hamm VA3KRT, an Ottawa car rally enthusiast, expressing his group's appreciation for VE3KAR, our Clarendon repeater. They used it last year and this for their closed-road car rally and wanted to make a financial donation to its owner but couldn't find out who it was. I have corresponded with him and he's promised a donation to KARC within a month.

As reported in the newsletter, Rob's kit building project is just about complete. Several participants have already showed off their finished Rock mite transceiver kits. Congrats to all and especially to Rob for organizing it. Talk has already begun about another project so watch the freelist or listen to the weekly Tuesday Night Net for details.

As I mentioned in the newsletter, the 'members only' section of the web site containing the Club membership list is now available. Several members have requested a userid and password from chip. If you haven't yet done so, you may request your userid and password from Chip by e-mail at <[va3kgb@rac.ca](mailto:va3kgb@rac.ca)>. You must be a paid Club member to access the site. The current membership list as of May 11th is now available there.

On a personal note, thanks for your condolences to Nancy and me published in the newsletter on the death of our brother-in-law in Maine.

### **b) RAC Report:**

As I wrote in the May newsletter, 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.

**c) Repeaters :** Les VE3KFS gave his report on the health of our repeaters and both machines are running fine.

**d) Net Manager:** Thanks to the controllers who kept the net alive in May. Check-ins ranged from 11 to 16.

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. The script is on the Club website and in the current newsletter.

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

e) **KARC Newsletter:** There will be no newsletter for June and July. Deadline for the August newsletter for the 1<sup>st</sup> of September meeting will be Aug 26<sup>th</sup>.

f) **WebPage:** Chip VA3KGB reported that the website is working well but if anyone has found dead links please let him know so he can correct the problem. He will set up an area for Rock Mite photos; this will let folks add the link to the freelist. Members were reminded that they can e-mail Chip for user name & password to get the membership list from the web page. Chip also said that there are now many apps for the iPhone related to Amateur Radio.

g) **FCARES:** During the Bike Run the weekend of the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> FCARES would like to have the KBR repeater as a backup in case the regular channels of communication are not workable. The IRLP is working fine and FCARES will have two locations for field day.

**8. Date of the next meeting is September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.**

**9. 50/50 draw:** \$10 was won by Roger VE3RJV.

**10. Adjournment:** Les VE3KFS, seconded by Ron VE3GO, moved to adjourn. Motion carried.

**The meeting was followed by a presentation by Eric VE3EI on the DSTAR digital system**

David Sellick VE3DZE  
Secretary  
Kingston Amateur Radio Club Inc.

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## PHOTO OP

Please bring your Rockmites to the meeting on Wednesday for a photo op. Rob is writing an article for our newsletter and for *TCA*.