

CLUB NEWSLETTER

KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



PRESIDENT MESSAGE

May President's Message

I am pleased to see an increase in HF operating over the past month. The propagation has led to some great contacts.

We have the offered spare repeater and will get the programming material soon. Testing will then have to be done before purchasing the back-up repeater.

The tug has left Hamilton to tow the SS Keewatin to Hamilton. The Molly M 1 has reached Port McNicholl and the tow has a tentative departure date of April, 24.

I am also pleased with the turnout at the Fireside Room for the meetings. The venue seems to be working out well.

I remind people that if you wish something on the agenda please send it to Wayne so it can be published before the meeting. We are aiming for a week before so everyone can be prepared for the meeting.

Ron VE3GO



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- President
Ron Walsh, VE3GO
pres@ve3kbr.com
- Vice President
Tim Gregory, VA3TIC
vicepres@ve3kbr.com
- Treasurer
Greg Foster, VE3PJ
treas@ve3kbr.com
- Secretary
Wayne Anderson, VE3UWA
sec@ve3@kbr.com

KARC REPEATERS

- VE3KBR 146.940(-) MHz
Tone 151.4
IRLP Node# 2750
- VE3UEL, Hartington APRS
Node
144.390 MHz Simplex

COMMITTEE CHAIR MEMBERS

- Membership Manager
Greg Foster, VE3PJ
membership@ve3kbr.com

Agenda – May 3, 2023

1. Welcome and self-introductions.
2. Review the agenda.
3. Minutes of the February and March meetings
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Reports
 - a. 2-meter net
 - b. CFARS
 - c. HF Remote
 - d. Hearts & Flowers
 - e. KAREX
6. Old Business
 - a. Ham Fest Update
 - b. Net Controllers
 - c. All Star Link update
 - d. Communications Museum update
 - e. SS Keewatin update
 - f. Summer Field Day June 24th and 25th
 - g. Repeater Backup - update
7. New Business
 - a.

Next Meeting June 7th, 2023, at 19:00 – Branch 560 – Royal Canadian Legion

The tug has left Hamilton to tow the SS Keewatin to Hamilton. The Molly M 1 has reached Port McNicholl and the tow has a tentative departure date of April, 24.



DINING ROOM



MAIN DECK - ATRIUM





KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MINUTES – April 5, 2023

1. Welcome and self-introductions.

The April Meeting of the Kingston Amateur Radio Club held on April 5, 2023, was opened at 19:03 by VE3GO Ron, President. After some words of welcome Ron invited all present to introduce themselves by Callsign and First name. There were 17 in attendance.

2. Review the agenda.

VE3GO, Ron, asked if there were any additions to the agenda, there were three, World Amateur Radio Day, Special Event Station, and Hockey Tickets for a Box at Leon's Center.

3. Minutes February and March meetings

The Secretary VE3UWA, Wayne, he stated that the Minutes of both February and March had been distributed by email and asked if there were any errors or omissions. Moved by VE3FFR, Doug, and Seconded by VA3DAC, Dave, voted was called, February and March minutes were – **APPROVED.**

4. Treasurer's Report

VE3PJ, Greg, gave the Treasurer's report with a summation of what is in the accounts this report will be on the Club Website. Moved by VE3PJ that his report be approved, Seconded by VA3KGB, Chip, vote was called for and Motion **APPROVED.**

5. Reports

- a. **2-meter net** – VE3GO, Ron stated that VA3EBK, Bill could not attend this evening. Ron reported an average net attendance has been between 15 and 20 check ins. There is a requirement for more Net Control operators and there is a preamble, and it is on the web site. The Swap Shop continues to be a success and enjoyed by all who check into the net. Also it was requested of the membership not to discuss the interference while operating on the VE3KBR repeater.

- b. **CFARS** - VE3KFS, Les gave a detailed overview of CFARS said there was a lot of excellent information on the CFARS web page (<https://cfars.net>) There is a CFARS Net for members on Sundays at 22:00 and a MARS net on the 1st Sunday of each month. Currently CFARS has 113 members. CFARS support to Canadian Military is ongoing with this month seeing communications support to the Canadian Rangers on Baffin Island. They operate with low power HF portable radios while “on the land.” The Rangers are being equipped with new Barret HF Transceivers.

(<https://www.barrettcommunications.com.au>)

CFARS has 4 HF PACTOR and 4 VARA gateways in conjunction with various members using MIL Standard 110 for communications with MARS stations cross border. A CFARS station will be re-established in the Kingston Military Communications and Electronics Museum when the antenna replacement project is complete, date TBD. For more information or membership please go to the CFARS web page.

- c. **HF Remote** – VA3KGB, Chip no report but still working on the equipment.
- d. **Hearts & Flowers** – VE3GO, Ron reported that VE3KJN, Kevin had injured his leg and we all wish him a speedy recovery.
- e. **KAREX** – VE3HST, Phil gave a brief overview of the KAREX group, and they meet in this same location on Saturday mornings 9 to 11 AM and if they have more than ten then breakfast is available. Anyone wishing to join KAREX just give Phil your Name and Callsign.

6. Old Business

- a. **Hamfest** –VA3TIC, Tim is on vacation, VE3PJ, Greg had no further report.
- b. **All-Star proposal** - VE3XCC Charlie could not be in attendance this evening and the Secretary VE3UWA, Wayne, presented a report emailed by Charlie:
 - i. A raspberry Pi was donated to the project by Doug Smith (many thanks) and I have provided a memory card and installed the software and started configuration.
 - ii. A new node number has been secured and turned it up, so VE3KBR will be node number 58939. This node is NOT yet connected to the repeater, so it is not usable at this point, but using a headset I have connected our node to another node and confirmed basic functionality.
 - iii. Modification of an older 2M radio to provide COS signal and tested that audio, PTT, and COS all function correctly, we have a radio for this project.
 - iv. Following is still required:

1. A power supply with 12v (>5A) for the radio and a supply of 5f for Pi; a case for Pi model 3b(V1.2)
 2. A VHF antenna – mobile J-pole or suitable for use on a balcony.
 - v. More to follow.
- c. Communications Museum Update** – VE3KFS, Les, stated that a meeting had been on the calendar for over a month. No one from the Museum showed up for the meeting.
- 7. New Business** –
- a. **Proposal to establish Radio Station on the SS Keewatin:** VE3GO – Ron said he would be doing a presentation on this proposal after the business portion of the meeting.
 - b. **Pirated Calls and Silent Keys:** Unfortunately Call Signs from Silent Keys are being pirated and used. Several of these have been used during contests, this comes from the family not being aware to report the passing of the Call Sign holder.
 - c. **Summer Field Day June 24th and 25th:** Same format and location as the Winder Field Day, VE3PJ, Greg, will be looking after the Field Day. VE3FFR, Doug suggested that the club could support with the cost of the food, more information to follow.
 - d. **Use of KARC Facebook Page:** VE3GO, Ron stated that the page should be operated by a member of the KARC, more to follow.
 - e. **Repeater Offered to KARC:** Equipment has been offered to the KARC as a back up to our current repeater. The equipment is same as currently in use a Kenwood TKR-750 and there is software available at a very reasonable cost. It was Moved by VE3KFS, Les that we purchase this back up repeater, Seconded by VE3FFR – Doug. Vote was called Motion APPROVED. VA3KGB, Chip moved that we purchase the required software, seconded by VA3RT, Rob. Vote was called for Motion **APPROVED**.
 - f. **World Amateur Radio Day:** April 18th is World Amateur Radio Day and VE3GO, Ron encouraged everyone to get on the air that day.
 - g. **Special Event Station:** VA3RT, Rob spoke of a Special Event happening June 15, 2023, through August 15, 2023. For more information go to the web page: <https://mememonth.ca>
 - h. **Hockey Tickets:** There is a box seat section at the Leon's Center that is made available for non-profits in the Kingston area to use to thank their volunteers. VA3RT, Rob is looking into this, there will be more information to follow.
 - i. **Request to use VE3KBR Repeater as Backup:** Group from VE3FRG has requested to use the VE3KBR as a Backup should the VE3FRG repeater go down as they are doing Communications and Security for a Bicycle Rally from Ottawa to

Kingston. This was approved and VE3GO, Ron, will communicate this to VE3FRG group.

- 8. Presentation:** At the end of the business of the KARC, VE3GO, Ron did a presentation on the ship S.S. Keewatin. Ron had a visual display of photos of Keewatin inside and outside the ship as well as the signal shack. As well some historical photos of the Kingston area. He proposed that KARC would outfit and operate Amateur Radio Equipment on S.S. Keewatin once she is drydocked in Kingston. VE3NXE, Pieter moved that the KARC support this effort, it was seconded by VE3FFR, Doug. Vote called for and Motion was **APPROVED**.

No further business was forthcoming, on Motion from VE3FFR, Doug, VE3GO, Ron Club President closed the meeting at 20:23.

Submitted for Approval by:
Wayne Anderson, VE3UWA, Secretary



KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB