Kingston Amateur Radio Club

2011 Executive

Kingston Amateur News

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pres at ve3kbr.com

Vice-Pres: Terry Barrett, VA3KLG
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Secretary: David Sellick, VE3DZE
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Past-Pres: Les Lindstrom, VE3KFS
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2011 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:
Two Metre Net Manager:
VE3KC Steve Cutway
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Newsletter Editor:
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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
151.4Hz Tone

VE3UEL Hartington
APRS node
144.390 MHz

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, as everyone knows, our February meeting was cancelled because of a snowstorm. As a result, the March meeting will feature the presentation we didn't get to enjoy in February. Derek VE3HRW, relatively new to Kingston, will demonstrate at least two amateur radio internet applications, CQ 100, which some of you use, and HamSphere. I am familiar with CQ 100 as I've tried it, but I didn't know about HamSphere until Derek mentioned it to me. Joining Derek will be our new 'Presenter', the Epson Powerlite Pro multimedia projector, which purchase was approved at the January meeting. This unit can project multimedia content via DVD, VGA, USB, HDMI, composite and component video. You don't need a computer although you can certainly use one. If you put pictures on a USB thumb drive, they'll be displayed as a slide show which you can control with a fully functional remote control. So you can bring pictures to show your fellow members at future meetings without having to prepare a full-blown presentation.

Our new repeater, which was first turned on Jan. 18th, continues to work very well. To my ears, its audio is superb and its coverage is too. I suggested in the February newsletter that the CW identifier may be all we need going forward and no one has expressed a different opinion. The IRLP node had a hard drive failure and will be operational when a new hard drive is installed.

Looking ahead a couple of meetings, Ron VE3GO will talk about and show telegraph equipment at the May meeting. He has his father's actual telegraph equipment he used here at North American Telegraph, the CPR Telegraph and the James Richardson And Sons Ltd. office where he started as a messenger and worked up to be a brokerage telegraph operator. The equipment includes the sounder, key and vibroplex bug in a box. Ron also has some other very old telegraph equipment his father collected, a diagram that he and Bernie Burdsall VE3NB put together showing the North American telegraph network from Kingston, a Phillips Code Book, other associated artefacts and papers including a copy of the last telegraph message sent from Kingston, along with several stories he wrote down about his telegraph days.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the March 2 meeting. Until our next QSO on the air, at the next meeting or in the next newsletter, 73s and good DX.

Steve VE3KC

The Value of Tearing Things Apart

In amateur radio and electronics, some people like to buy toys. Some like to build equipment and gadgets. And others like to tear things apart. All three activities are enjoyable. But I think that value of tearing things apart is not sufficiently appreciated.

The obvious value of disassembling unused and/or obsolete electronic and electrical equipment is to recover and use the many bits and pieces you can salvage. There are the obvious switches, connectors, resistors, capacitors, inductors, diodes, transistors, integrated circuits, LEDs, little motors, wire and assorted hardware bits. But in addition to the value of this loot, the shear pleasure and enjoyment of getting into a chassis with screwdrivers, side cutters, pliers and other implements of destruction is considerable. For components, there is also the somewhat tricky job of de-soldering, either with a small solder-sucking device, a big solder gun and solder wick, a little grinder, or maybe even a blow torch. Sometimes the delicate components are still re-usable. Actually, they are generally very hardy and most still work very well.

But the therapeutic value of tearing stuff apart is often overlooked. Whereas construction often involves long hours of careful work and often long delays in finding all the required components, followed by the often misguided belief that the thing is going to work in the end, dis-assembly has none of these disadvantages and worries. Occasionally there are challenges of how to get things apart without damaging them, but generally the process goes quickly and very successfully. In the end, you have the satisfaction of discarding a bunch of big useless pieces, thus reducing the clutter in your shack

or work area, while retaining a nice collection of very useful looking stuff. How much of this stuff ever gets used is not a major concern. Much of the value was the enjoyment and the relaxation of the disassembly. And often there is the amazement of how complex, how simple, how well designed or engineered, and how well assembled the original object was. Sometimes, you come to understand why it cost so much 10 or 20 years ago.

Last Saturday, Mike VE3MBV gave me an obsolete VCR recorder at our ham radio breakfast. This afternoon, I "tore it apart". I'll attach a photo of the results except for the big chunks, like the chassis, that were discarded. Look at all the neat stuff. All the things I listed above. Imaging all the things I can build with these treasures! Thank you Mike. It was an enjoyable couple of hours.
Phil Somers - VE3HST

AGENDA
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AGENDA
KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC
March 2, 2011
At Smitty's Restaurant, back room
7:00 p.m.

1.   Members and guests introduce themselves
2.   Additions to the agenda
3.   Minutes of the January 2011 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) Repeaters (Les VE3KFS)
        (c) RAC
        (d) Net Manager (Steve VE3KC)
        (e) Web page (Chip VA3KGB)
        (f) KARC Newsletter (Assaf VA3PCI)
        (g) 'Hearts and Flowers'
        (h) Other reports
8.   Date of next meeting: Apr. 6, 2011
9.   50/50 draw
10.   Adjournment

Presentation: Derek VE3HRW will demonstrate two internet amateur radio applications: CQ 100 and HamSphere.
Other picture presentations are also welcome. (See the newsletter).

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Kingston Amateur Radio Club
Financial Statement
Feb 2011

Income

Membership	60.00
Total Income	60.00

Bank Balance
As of Feb 24, 2011   **$4962.84**

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

March	1	VE3CAK John
March	8	VE3DZE David
March	15	VE3JPW Warren
March	22	VE3NFU Bill
March	29	VE3KC Steve
April	**5**	**VA3PCI Assaf**
April	**12**	**VE3SIQ George**
April	**19**	**VE3TD Mike**
April	**26**	**VE3VJF Roy**
May	3	VE3CAK John
May	10	VE3DZE David
May	17	VE3JPW Warren
May	24	VE3KC Steve
May	31	VE3NFU Bill
June	**7**	**VA3PCI Assaf**
June	**14**	**VE3SIQ George**
June	**21**	**VE3TD Mike**
June	**28**	**VE3VJF Roy**

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.]