

# KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

Founded in 1947

October 2017

## *Executive Committee*

### **President**

Assaf, VA3PCI

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### **Vice President**

Brian Hopkins, VA3BAH

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### **Treasurer**

Douglas Richards, VE3FFR

treas@ve3kbr.com

### **Secretary**

Chip Chapman, VA3KGB

sec@ve3kbr.com

### **Past President**

Paul Taenzer, VA3LX

## **KARC Repeaters**

VE3KBR

146.940(-) MHz

151.4Hz Tone, IRLP Node #2750

VE3UEL Hartington APRS Node

144.390 MHz

VE3KER Kingston Packet Node

145.070 MHz Simplex

## *Committee Chair Members*

VHF Net Manager

Brian Hopkins, VA3BAH

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HF Net Manager

David Wendt, VE3EAC

Membership Manager

Steve Cutway, VE3KC

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### **Hams Help Out In Hurricane Ravaged islands**

With power, cell phones, land lines, and towered radios systems all down in Puerto Rico, ham radio has come to the rescue as the only means of getting information into and out of the island other than satellite communications that are limited in availability. Although these hurricanes have been disastrous, they have allowed the hobby to be reflected in a very positive light. Mainstream media quite often treats ham radio as an esoteric and dated means of communication, but even CNN picked up on ham radio's usefulness after the hurricane and did a great story on it. It's important for the public to know that after a natural disaster damages or destroys large amounts of infrastructure, an HF radio will still happily communicate across hundreds or thousands of miles while smart phones become useful for little more other than shaving mirrors.

### **Local ham designs chip selected by NASA for Mars mission**

Doug Smith, VE3KXA, was part of a team at RMC that designed a digital modulator chip all the way back in 1988. The manufacturing process used at that time produced chips that had fewer transistors and used more power, but were more resistant to radiation. The chip was chosen by NASA and integrated into the Mars Rovers to communicate back with the base station which communicated back to earth.

### **3D Printers more popular around town**

With each passing week, more hams and tinkerers are realizing the usefulness of 3D printers, and more people every week I've spoken to have bought one or are about to. The printers are quickly becoming standard tools, sitting alongside multimeters and hand drills and soldering irons. Some people buy them as a means to an end to create some project, some because of their general usefulness, and others because we finally have a machine that can take anything the imagination fancies and convert it into a real-life object. For others, the printers can be somewhat addictive as they outgrow one and acquire another with more capabilities and features (see Figure 1-1).



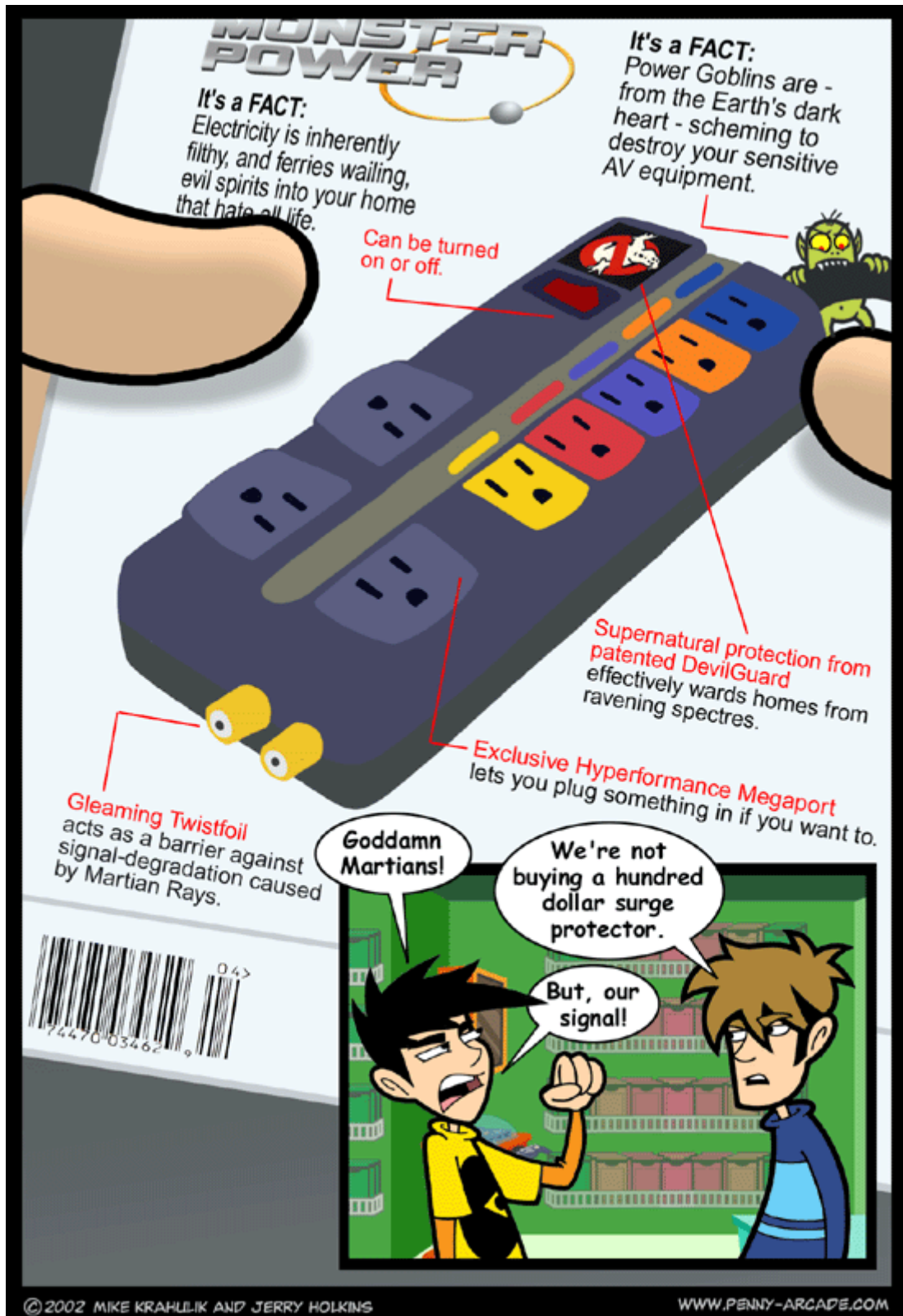
*Figure 1-1: 3D printers can be addicting*

### **Websdr.org Lets you listen to the airwaves**

If you want to listen to the exciting action on HF but don't have a transceiver or room for a giant antenna, you can now do so on websdr.org. It's a directory of many web based SDR's spread out through the entire world. Not all of them cover each band, but being an SDR it allows many listeners to tune into different frequencies simultaneously. All you need to access it is a browser and internet connection.

Assaf

VA3PCI



## MEETING MINUTES

Kingston Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the Meeting

5 September 2017

Held at Smitty's Restaurant

Kingston, Ontario

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by the President Assaf, VA3PCI.
2. There were 19 members and guests present.
3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting:
  - a. It was moved by Chip, VA3KGB, and seconded by Jack, VE3YCJ, that the minutes of the May meeting be approved as posted in the Newsletter.
  - b. Carried
4. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. It was moved by Doug, VE3FFR, and seconded by Brian, VA3BAH, that the Financial Report be approved as posted in the Newsletter with corrections.
  - b. Carried
5. Old Business:
  - a. Remote HF Station:
    - i. Due to Microsoft buying Skype and their updates, Skype no longer has auto answer, therefore the station is currently not operational. Chip, VA3KGB, is looking into alternatives.
6. New Business:
  - a. Membership Dues:
    - i. The Executive proposed that the Membership Dues remain at \$25.00 for 2018. The membership agreed. – No change.
  - b. Italian Enigma Contest:
    - i. If there you are interested in being an Enigma Activator station using the Club Call advise Assaf, VA3PCI.
  - c. Club Dinner:
    - i. Jiffy Grill, Kingston Centre, 27 September (Wed). RSVP prior to 20 Sept.
  - d. Club Promotion:
    - i. Brian, VA3BAH, has been promoting Club Meetings/activities through the local media papers' online calendars. It was noted that some show the mailing address, (a requirement of some posts), as the location which could lead to confusion.
7. Reports:
  - a. 2m Net Manager:
    - i. Brian, VA3BAH, reported that the net has been active, with an average of 10 – 12 check ins over the summer. The swap shop continually produces results. The HF Net should be returning shortly.
  - b. C.F.A.R.S.:
    - i. Chip, VA3KGB, - no report other than the weekly nets have been occurring.
  - c. IRLP/EchoLink:
    - i. VE3RCS (EchoLink) is now on VE3FRG
    - ii. VE3KBR has both IRLP and EchoLink although only one may be active at a time.

- d. Hearts and Flowers: Nil Report
- e. Other Reports: Nil Report
- 8. Date of Next Meeting: 3 October 2017
- 9. 50/50 Draw:
  - a. A total of \$27.00 with Pieter, VE3NXE receiving \$14.00
- 10. Adjournment:
  - a. It was moved by Brian, VA3BAH, and seconded by Pieter, VE3NXE, that the meeting be adjourned.
  - b. Carried
- 11. Presentation:
  - a. Chip, VA3KGB, gave an interesting and informative presentation on the Canada C3 Expedition, RAC C3 Expedition Award, and WSPR. The demonstration included live demos using WSPR and WJST-X via the Remote HF Station (Accessed through TeamViewer and manually answer Skype call).

Clifford ('Chip') Chapman, VA3KGB  
Secretary  
Kingston Amateur Radio Club

## MEETING AGENDA

1. Members and Guests introduce themselves
2. Additions to the Agenda
3. Minutes of the last Meeting: errors / omissions / approval (Chip VA3KGB)
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Old Business:
  - a. HF Remote Station Update
6. New Business:
  - a. No new business
7. Reports:
  - a. Net Manager (Brian VA3BAH)
  - b. CFARS
  - c. "Hearts and Flowers"
  - d. Other Reports
8. Presentation: Ron VE3GO will have a presentation on the history of marine radio in Kingston
9. Date of next meeting: 07 November 2017
10. 50 / 50 Draw
11. Adjournment

FINANCIAL REPORT

KARC FINANCIAL REPORT – Sep 2017

Sep 26, 2017

Opening Balance

Cooperation Plus	5242.64
Dividend Shares	45.89
Equity Shares	261.62
Total	5550.15

Income

Int	.05
50 50 Draw	13.00
Membership	100.00
Total	113.05

Expenditures

Closing Balance

Cooperation Plus	5355.64
Dividend Shares	45.89
Equity Shares	261.62
Total	5663.15

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

05 September 2017	NO NET, Meeting @ Smitty's
12 September 2017	Brian, VA3BAH
19 September 2017	Assaf, VA3PCI
26 September 2017	Steve, VE3KC
03 October 2017	NO NET, Meeting @ Smitty's
10 October 2017	Larissa, VE3KGC
17 October 2017	Pieter, VE3NXE
24 October 2017	Peter, VE3POA
31 October 2017	Carlyle, VE3WIO
07 November 2017	NO NET, Meeting @ Smitty's
14 November 2017	John, VE3CAK
21 November 2017	Brian, VA3BAH
28 November 2017	Assaf, VA3PCI
05 December 2017	NO NET, Meeting @ Smitty's
12 December 2017	Steve, VE3KC
19 December 2017	Larissa, VE3KGC
26 December 2017	Pieter, VE3NXE
02 January 2018	NO NET, Meeting @ Smitty's
09 January 2018	Peter, VE3POA
16 January 2018	Carlyle, VE3WIO
23 January 2018	John, VE3CAK
30 January 2018	Brian, VA3BAH
06 February 2018	NO NET, Meeting @ Smitty's



## **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.