

CLUB NEWSLETTER

KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB



PRESIDENT MESSAGE

President's Message September 2023

I hope everyone enjoyed the summer months and was able to spend time with family. The radio bands were great at times and bad at times. However, I made some good hf contacts. It is amazing what you can work with 100 watts and a dipole. I am presently checking my antennas so they will be good for the winter months.

I was able to upgrade my camera. Photo shoots at the Sports Car races and some ships were good summer events.

I was disappointed with the turn out for our Lake Ontario Park event. The 7 people who attended had fun but we expected a lot more support. I had a lot of freebies and many of them went back with the other six people. My fudge was also well received. If you want these events, then we need member support to make the effort worthwhile.

Remember, we have a flea market / Hamfest coming up on October 14, at the legion. Greg and Tim have put a lot of effort into this event. They are going to need help to be sure this event runs well. Steve, VE3KC, will do the talk-in while Wayne and I are going to run a table for the KARC. This is for members who only have an item or two to sell. We will man the table and ask if you sell the item, then make a small donation to the KARC. If you want your own table then contact Tim, VA3TIC, soon as the tables will go fast in September. Please volunteer our help as this is a money maker for the club and we hope to build on it in future years.

See you ALL at the meeting September 6, 1900 at the legion.

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



AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

MINUTES – June 7, 2023

1. Welcome and self-introductions.

The June Meeting of the Kingston Amateur Radio Club held on June 7, 2023, opened at 19:02 by VE3GO Ron, President. Ron invited all present to introduce themselves by Callsign and First name. There were seventeen in attendance.

2. Review the agenda.

VE3GO, Ron, asked if there were any additions to the agenda – there were two items:

- a. KARC Club QSL Cards (Tabled until the September meeting)
- b. Club Membership – for those who have recently passed their exam.

3. Minutes April meetings

The Secretary VE3UWA, Wayne, stated that the Minutes of May meeting were distributed by email, and asked if there were any errors or omissions. Move by VE3UWA, Wayne and Seconded by VE3EAC David, President called for the vote, May minutes were – **APPROVED**.

4. Treasurer's Report

VE3PJ, Greg, read the May report moved by VE3PJ that his report be accepted as read, Seconded by VE3RT, Rob. President called for the vote Motion **APPROVED**.

5. Reports

- a. **2-Meter Net** – VA3EBK, Bill reported an average net attendance has been between 15 and 20 check ins. Highest number so far was 20 check ins on March 28. Also, 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.
- 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>)
- c. **HF Remote** – VA3KGB, Chip a large amount of work has been done on the remote system. Chip introduced the RCForb software to the group and passed around his android tablet to see the software running. Chip explained all the issues he had to get the software to run successfully. To use the HF remote station the operator must hold an Advanced License.
- d. **Hearts & Flowers** – VE3GO, Ron, stated that Jack Whittingham is in Providence Care and to keep him in our thoughts.
- e. **KAREX** – VE3EAC, David said that KAREX would continue to meet throughout the summer.

6. Old Business

- a. **HamFest** –VA3TIC, Tim said the HamFest is a go for October 14th, and still looking for volunteers to assist with set up and clean up after the event. Flyers were handed out at the Smith Falls event.

- b. **All-Star proposal** - VE3XCC Charlie said that VE3NWV, Barry could no longer host the All-Star node and is looking for someone to host the node. VE3EAC, Dave has volunteered, more to follow.
- c. **Communications Museum Update** – VE3KFS, Les, there has been some work, pole location has been established and hopes to see them installed by October.
- d. **Proposal to establish Radio Station on the SS Keewatin:** VE3GO – Ron SS Keewatin work is continuing in Hamilton, and once she arrives in Kingston there will be more work done before she is open to the public. Ron will attend a meeting on the 18th of June, and we will have more information to follow.
- e. **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 plans to have five (5) stations set up and will look for help with set up and tear down. Should be a good weekend.
- f. **Back up Repeater for KARC Club:** VE3PJ, Greg said that he had transmitted into a Dummy Load needs to work on the power as there was an issue with power levels. Locks have been changed at the VE3KBR repeater sight will investigate that also.
- g. **Fox Hunt** - Date is Sunday June 18, meet at the A&W near Costco on Princess Street at 8:30 for meet up and last-minute instructions, fox will depart at 08:45 and move to an unknow location. Fox will begin transmitting at 09:00 on Frequency 146.700 with an approximate 1000 Hz for 5 seconds and every 20 seconds. The Unknow location will be south of 401, East of Westbrook Road, West of the Cataraqui River, and North of the lake (no ferry rides).
- h. **Summer Meetings** – VE3PJ, Greg said he would investigate getting something set up at a local park for a get together this summer.
- i. **Volunteer Examiners** there is a need for Volunteer Examiners and to fill this role an Advanced License must be held. VE3TEF has volunteered and Ron, VE3GO will do the necessary paperwork.
- j. **Free Stuff Table** – was set up for the June meeting and will continue for upcoming meetings.

7. New Business:

- a. Membership upon passing the course:** Moved by VE3PJ, Greg, and second by VE3GO, Ron, that anyone taking the KARC lead course and passing the exam will receive one year membership in the club. Also, anyone writing the exam with one of our KARC examiners would likewise receive a one-year membership. President called for the vote Motion **APPROVED**.
- b. Upcoming Classes** this is on hold until the fall.
- c. Newsletter** it was suggested by both VE3GO, Ron, and VE3PJ, Greg if you had articles of interest to pass them to our newsletter editor VE3SDQ, Ron, for insertion in our Newsletter.

8. Presentation: there was none.

Ron, VE3GO asked if there was any further business. On motion – moved by VE3FFR, Doug and seconded by VA3KGB, Chip, the meeting adjourned.

Submitted for Approval by: Wayne Anderson, VE3UWA, Secretary
Next Meeting September 6th, 2023, at 19:00

May 2023 | Founded 1947

From: charles@familygale.com

To: KARCMembers@groups.io; kingston-amateur-radio-club@googlegroups.com

Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2023 10:12 AM

Subject: [KARC] RE: AllStar Update

Hi folks,

AllStar has been up and down quite a bit this summer, and with being away and the usual summer interrupts, I have not had much time for troubleshooting. This week I uncovered the root cause of the issues - the VHF radio I'm using is not really working properly in this application. Many thanks to Dave VE3EAC for a lot of help, and for hosting the unit once everything is up to speed.

At this point I have it running on an HT. This is not a viable long term solution as a lengthy QSO will cause it to overheat, however it is available for testing and seems pretty solid. Give it a shot! Some basic commands are listed below.

Finally, we need a VHF radio for this if anybody has a spare to donate. Key requirement is that it must be able to supply a COS/COR signal as well as the usual Mic, audio out, and PTT signals.

Thanks!

Charlie VE3XCC

From: Charles Gale [<mailto:charles@familygale.com>]

Sent: May-13-23 8:02 AM

To: 'KARCMembers@groups.io'; 'Kingston Amateur Radio Club'

Subject: AllStar Update

Hi Everyone,

I've reached the stage of on air testing for the club's new AllStar node. Over the past few days you may have heard a very formal articulate female voice identifying the repeater, saying the time, saying the weather, and so on. These announcements can be automated for example to announce the time and ID the repeater every hour, but currently I have these set to on demand with a DTMF code. I'd welcome feedback about which you prefer (auto, on demand, both). You may have also heard some unusual courtesy tones out of the repeater (sorry about that) but these are now disabled. The node will still be up and down as I continue to tweak settings for the next week or two. This is a bit of a challenge as I am remote enough that I can't simply take a portable down the block to see how the node works in terms of levels, ability to decode DTMF tones, and so on over the repeater. It does seem to work fine when tested on 146.52 simplex.

May 2023 | Founded 1947



At this point, feel free to play with it and provide any feedback during this testing phase. I'm sure there are still bugs so please report anything that seems strange or doesn't work how you would expect it to. Dropping me a quick email is simplest as I can't actually monitor the repeater while AllStar is up (only one antenna that can hit KBR from my place in Tamworth).

We are also now ready to try linking to other nodes, so you may hear some non-local voices on the repeater.

Here are a few basic DTMF commands:

*80 - Repeater will send an ID

*81 - Repeater will send time (and soon weather)

*82 - Repeater will send time in 24 hr format

*70 Repeater will report status

*73<node> to connect a node e.g. *7351001 will connect to Picton

*71<node> to disconnect a node e.g. *7151001 will disconnect Picton

*76 will disconnect all nodes

All the best,

Charlie VE3XCC



Rob Mazzolin

KINGSTON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Agenda – September 6, 2023

1. Welcome and self-introductions.
2. Review the agenda.
3. Minutes of the June meeting
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. All Star Link update
 - c. Communications Museum update
 - d. SS Keewatin update
 - e. Summer Field Day June 24th and 25th
 - f. Repeater Backup – update
 - g. Fox Hunt - update
7. New Business
 - a. KARC QSL Card Policies – QSL Manager, Costs printing and post paper cards, electronic cards)
 - b. Use of Club Call Sign(s)

Next Meeting October 4th, 2023, at 19:00 – Branch 560 – Royal Canadian Legion

May 2023 | Founded 1947

Chip sent these photos of the new antenna poles at the Communications and Electronics Museum at CFB Kingston They are for the antennas of VE3RCS> Thought you might like to include these in the newsletter.

Ron

----- Original Message -----

From: chipperc524@gmail.com

To: les.lindstrom@sympatico.ca Cc: Arron.Oberman@forces.gc.ca; ve3go@sympatico.ca

Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2023 4:25 PM

Subject: Re: CFARS Pole installation

Haven't been going through McNaughton side of base due to construction and therefore missed the poles going up. If I had known they were going in I would have taken pictures during the installation. Took these on the way home today and the skies opened up right after I took them.

On Thu, Aug 10, 2023, 06:05 Les Lindstrom <les.lindstrom@sympatico.ca> wrote:

Gents fyi

Les

