Newsletter
April
2013

Kingston Amateur Radio Club

2013 Executive

Kingston Amateur News

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vicepres at ve3kbr.com

Vice-Pres:

Treasurer: David Sellick, VE3DZE
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Secretary: Larissa Reise, VE3KGC
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Past-Pres: Terry Barrett, VA3KLG
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2013 COMMITTEE CHAIRS:
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VE3KC Steve Cutway
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Newsletter Editor:
VA3PCI Assaf Shool
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168 McMichael Street
Kingston, Ontario K7M 1N6 Canada
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
IRLP 2750

VE3UEL-1 Hartington APRS node
144.390 MHz

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Like any club, the key for KARC's success is it's members. Volunteer organizations face the challenge of retaining members and recruiting new ones in order to grow. For a club to be successful, it needs not just numbers, but to do be able to offer something back to its members and make itself a worthwhile endeavor for the participants. This burden cannot lay on the executive alone, rather, a successful club is one which all members make some kind of contribution to create something greater than what any individual can achieve alone. Thus, we need both an active executive and membership to make the club work.

While the duties of the executive are clearly spelled out in the bylaws, the duties of the membership at large are not. I would like to propose the following “code” for members to follow, both as a guide for personal development and to continue to make KARC a viable organization. (These are not guidelines I invented myself, rather they are inspired by the guidelines Toastmasters International recommends to its members.)

As a Member of the Kingston Amateur Radio Club, I promise:

- To attend Club meetings regularly;
- To willingly prepare for and fulfill assignments I have agreed to;
- To provide fellow members with helpful, constructive feedback;
- To help the Club maintain the positive, friendly environment necessary for all members to learn and grow;
- To willingly serve my Club as an officer when called upon to do so;
- To participate in Club activities regularly;
- To treat fellow Club members and our guests with respect and courtesy;
- To bring guests to Club meetings so they can see the benefits KARC and Amateur Radio offers;
- To adhere to guidelines and rules for Amateur Radio activities;
- To maintain honest and highly ethical standards during the conduct of all KARC and Amateur Radio activities.

Assaf

VA3PCI

MEMBER ARTICLE

KARC SDR Receiver Project

Paul VA3LX organised a software defined radio (SDR) receiver project for KARC. He made a bulk order for 11 VHF/UHF pre-assembled Terratec dongles and an HF up-converter kit for hams in the Kingston and Picton areas. Some people built their kits by themselves. A kit-building and demonstration session was held at RMC on Saturday, March 16th. Three kit builders attended (Phil VE3HST, Al VE3FZ and Art VE3SQG). Alex VA3CUS, although not a kit builder, kindly showed up to give us an interesting demonstration of receiving CW and packet from an amateur satellite and from the ISS on the Icom IC-910H, all controlled by Ham Radio Deluxe. Al and Art demonstrated their operating dongles on VHF/UHF and on HF although the HF antenna was not very good and there was a lot of local computer noise. We also had a visit to the roof to see the satellite az/el VHF/UHF antennas and the satellite tracking domes and telescopes. And Alex gave us a tour of the "clean room" where the balloon payloads and the nanosat payloads are being developed. Thanks to Al and Art for driving all the way from the Picton area.

The dongles cover about 60 MHz - 1.2 GHz, all-modes, and the up-converters extend that coverage to the HF bands. The software called SDR# is available free on the Internet at http://www.sdrsharp.com. It is quite remarkable software that is specifically designed to work with the Terratec dongle. The cost of the dongle plus the up-converter was under $50. delivered. Additional parts such as a battery or power supply, switches, connectors and a case are needed for the small up-converter.

So thanks to Paul, many of us now have a new SDR toy to experiment with on a huge range of frequencies and modes.

... Phil VE3HST

MEMBER ARTICLE

Kingston Amateur Radio Club - Sponsored Ham Radio Course 2013

The course commenced on Feb 6th with 30 registered students. To date - Mar 18th there still remain 13.

The course instructors VA/E3"s RPF, KGB, KLG, ORP, MNE and KFS have provided the instructions on a voluntary basis and to date the course is going very well.

The Attached photo of the Students and Instructors was taken during the practical training session on Mar 16th where instructions on antenna building and coax connector installations were completed.

The next practical training session is scheduled for Apr 6 at the C&E Museum where a wide variety of topics will be covered.

Expect to hear a lot of new callsigns shortly after the completion of the course around the 1st of May.

73 Les/VE3KFS

MEMBER ARTICLE

Wind Shear Radar at Gananoque Airport

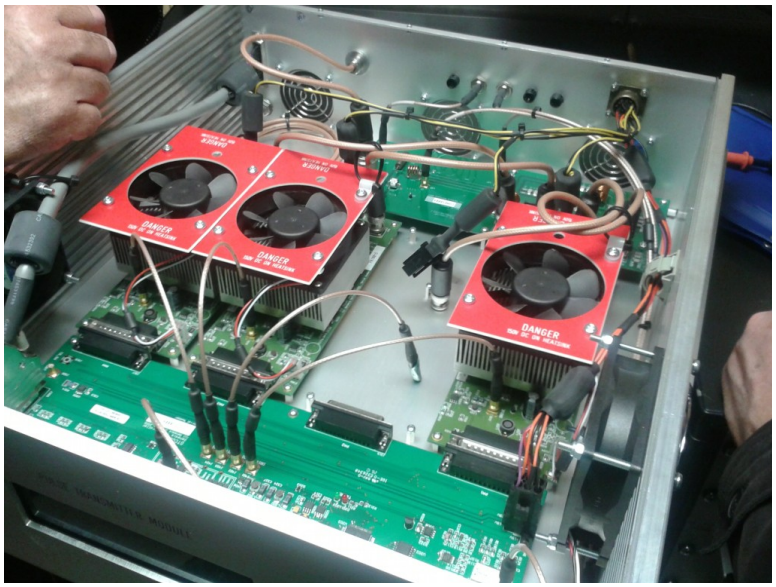
Phil VE3HST

I got a phone call from Dave VA3ORP saying that he had a short-notice opportunity to have a look at the new wind shear research radar system that is operating at the north-west corner of the Gananoque airport. So on a cold, late-afternoon in February, Dave and I went over to have a look. We were met by Professor Wayne Hocking and his graduate student who opened up their research building to show us the antennas and the radar equipment. Outside, there is a vast array of vertical-pointing beams. Inside were lots of very sophisticated-looking high-tech transmitters, receivers, computers, switching equipment and complex and very precise VHF coax and high quality connectors. Wayne is from Western University in London, Ontario where he specialises in atmospheric radar systems. This Gananoque radar is only a small part of a network of windprofiler radars across Ontario and Quebec called O-Qnet.

http://www.yorku.ca/oqnet/

http://www.physics.uwo.ca/~whocking/cfi/home.html

Equipment Rack



Transmitter

The system is essentially a 44 MHz Doppler radar that looks at the atmosphere from the surface to about 15 km altitude and measures the winds. In addition to research, O-Qnet feeds its data to Environment Canada to help observe and predict the weather. It is particularly good at showing the location and the details of the jet stream. It does not directly contribute to flying at the Gananoque airport but is located there as a matter of convenience. You can see the antenna array very near the road on Pine Grove Road, about 3 km east of Hwy 15, just north of Kingston. The equipment is controlled remotely except for occasional maintenance visits. I took some photos of the antennas, one of several of the radar transmitters, and one of the equipment racks that contained arrays of high-tech switching and routing modules.

AGENDA – 3 APRIL 2013

1. Members and Guests introduce themselves

2. Additions to the Agenda

3. Minutes of the last Meeting: errors / omissions / approval (Larissa VE3KGC)

4. Treasurer's Report (David VE3DZE)

5. Business arising from the Minutes:
   a. Trillium Funding/TNC
   b. Signing Authority

6. New Business:
   a. Google Calender on Website
   b. Swap box

7. Reports:

a.	President	(Assaf VA3PCI)
b.	Repeaters	(Chip VA3KGB)
c.	RAC	(See RAC bulletins via the Free List.)
d.	Net Manager	(Steve VE3KC)
e.	Web Page	(Chip VA3KGB)
f.	KARC Newsletter	(Assaf VA3PCI)
g.	Frontenac EmComm Group	(David VE3DZE)
h.	Kingston ARES	
i.	CFARS	(Les VE3KFS)
j.	"Hearts and Flowers"	
k.	Other Reports	

8. Date of next meeting: 01 May 2013

9. 50 / 50 Draw

10. Elections

11. Adjournment

FINANCIAL REPORT

Kingston Amateur Radio Club
Financial Statement
March 27, 2013

Income	
Membership	25.00
Callsign Badge Payment	24.00
Total Income	49.00
Expenses	
Callsign Badges/Names Tags	86.28
Total Expenses	86.28
Overall Total	-37.28
Bank Balance	
Co-Operation Plus Account	$6735.77
Dividend Savings	$23.39
Equity Shares	$238.16

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

Month	Date	Controller
March	5	VE3DZE David
March	12	VE3JPW Warren
March	19	VE3KC Steve
March	26	VE3KGC Larissa
April	2	VE3NFU Bill
April	9	VA3PCI Assaf
April	16	VE3VJF Roy
April	23	VE3CAK John
April	30	VE3DZE David

NET CONTROL SCRIPT

KARC Tuesday night net Control Script

Revised March 7, 2011

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.