Newsletter
December
2016

Kingston Amateur Radio Club

2016 Executive

Kingston Amateur News

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168 McMichael Street
Kingston, Ontario K7M 1N6 Canada
http://www.ve3kbr.com

VE3KAR Clarendon Stn
147.090 (+) Mhz
(non operational)

VE3KER Kingston packet node
145.070 MHz simplex

VE3KBR Kingston
146.940(-) MHz
151.4Hz Tone
IRLP 2750

VE3UEL Hartington APRS node
144.390 MHz

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our December meeting will bring the calendar year to a close as well as ending my tenure as president of the Kingston Amateur Radio Club.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the other members of your club executive for all of their hard work on behalf of club members. Carlyle VE3WIO has done a wonderful job arranging for our monthly programs that have truly been the highlights of our meetings. Carlyle has also chaired as many meetings as I have. Thank you indeed! Thank you also Doug VE3FFR for your diligence in keeping our finances up-to-date and volunteering to host the IRLP server. And thank you Steve VE3KC for keeping me on track with Roberts Rules of Order during our meetings and for your exceptional minutes.

I also like to take the opportunity to thank the many others of you who have contributed significantly to our club and our enjoyment of ham radio. I began writing a list of everyone I could think of who has made a significant contribution to the club during my tenure and quickly realized that it is a very long list. That gave me pause to reflect, that although what times, it feels as though the club executive is doing 'the heavy lifting'; in fact many of you are making ongoing and important contributions that benefit all of us. Thanks so very much! It is indeed all of our individual and combined efforts that have made the club viable for over 50 years. I look forward to continuing to contribute to the club and to supporting the upcoming club executive.

Vy 73s,

Paul

VA3LX

DX NEWS

Looking ahead to announced DXpeditions for December, it's no surprise to see many planned operations from the Caribbean. The NG3K Announced DX Operations website (www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html) lists operations during December in St. Martin, Bonaire, Turks and Caicos, St. Lucia and Nicaragua.

Looking ahead to 2017; there have been few 'major DXpeditions' announced so far. Except for one and it's scheduled for early 2018; but it's a big one: Bouvet Island. Bouvet is number 2 on the DXCC most wanted list and was last activated in 2008. It's 'owned by Norway, 97% covered by ice and truly in the middle of nowhere at the southern end of the Mid-Atlantic ridge! It is known as 'The most isolated island on earth'. Here's the link to the expedition website: www.bouvetdx.org.

Backtracking now to the here and now, as we all know, the most important operating event in December is the RAC Winter Contest. The contest is early this year; Saturday, December 17 from 0000 UTC (that's Friday night at 7 PM our time) to 2359 UTC. Here's the link to the contest rules: wp.rac.ca/rac-canada-winter-contest-rules/.

I look forward to hearing you on the bands.

vy 73s,

Paul

MEMBER ARTICLE

A Passion for Beacons

Next spring I will have been licensed for fifty years. Wow, where did that time go? I remember going to the big city (Toronto) as a fifteen year old to sit the amateur exam - with its terrifying Morse code exam. You had to copy 100% at 10 wpm for three minutes or you would fail. It was the first part of a two hour exam and was, frankly the biggest, darkest, scariest thing that I could imagine. I met my examiner; a kindly employee of the Department of Transport named Jim Jarvie. Jim encouraged me to practice with the code oscillator a bit just to get warmed up. He let me send code with the straight key, and then allowed me to relax as he sent a few minutes of Morse back to me. Time flew by as I really did know my code, and of course I made a few dumb errors due to nervousness. After about ten minutes it came time to actually take the test. Jim told me not to worry about it as I had passed the code portion without realizing it. The weight of the world came off my skinny shoulders and everything thereafter was easy. I have loved Morse code ever since.

Over the past half century I have tried most things that hams like to do. High Frequency, VHF, UHF, SSB, CW, AM, antennas, amplifiers, DX, rag chewing, the usual suspects. And what seems to hold my attention the most is connected right back to my roots: Morse code and simple equipment. I am fascinated by 10 metre beacons. They are simple to use, cheap to build and endlessly fascinating.

I have two of them. One here in Kingston operates from my daughter's garage on a hill east of town on 28.164 MHz. I have a perfectly good ham shack in the same neighbourhood overlooking the St. Lawrence River, but my house is down at the bottom of the hill. My wires strung through the trees seem to work fairly well for HF and NVIS propagation. But 10 m can be both a line of sight band as well as offering good low angle propagation. So I took advantage of my daughter's house up the hill to put my beacon at higher elevation. It is nothing fancy, just a simple keyer, a Radio Shack 5 watt transceiver and a dipole strung in the garage rafters. An old analog 12 volt power supply and a battery backup complete the installation. It has been running for a year without attention. I imagine that it can be heard all over Kingston, although I haven't really gone out to listen for it.

Despite the low sun spot number and generally poor 10 m conditions my Kingston beacon is heard up and down the eastern seaboard and out to Arizona most weeks. I am getting signal to noise measurements ranging from 3 to 12 dB, which is not bad when you consider that it is probably due to Sporadic E propagation. Sometimes the signal lasts for several hours at far location. I am sure that most hams that operate on HF are familiar with the Reverse Beacon Network. This web site allows me to log in and see who is reporting hearing my beacons.

My other beacon is a bit more exotic. I spend my summers on an island in Georgian Bay, about 5 km from the mainland and even farther from the roads. It is boat access only and my 25 acre piece of rock and pine trees has wonderful views out over the Bay. I do have electrical grid power, which is convenient.

Using similar equipment VA3KAH on Kah-She Island sends out a 15 watt signal on 28.168 MHz. It has been heard all over the world, including Australia, New Zealand and most of Europe. Recently it was picked up in Uruguay. A simple half wave vertical antenna on a piece of pipe is sufficient to put out a solid signal that seems to travel the world well. I imagine that being surrounded by water and having no hills intervening helps.

All the beacons do is send my call in Morse code, over and over. If you hear them, you know that 10 m is open in that direction. I regularly get emails from hams in exotic places that have heard the beacon, looked on QRZ.com and seen the pictures of my QTH. Canada and its wild open spaces seems fascinating to hams from other lands. They often comment on how lucky we are to live here. I agree.

This summer a cottage area magazine did a piece entitled “The Last Beacon on Georgian Bay.” It told the story of the old Coast Guard radio beacons that once ringed the coast and were used as navigation points. Most are now gone and my 10 m beacon is that last connection to the Morse beacons of old. Attached is the article.

Ian, VE3DJI

Navigation has always been a diffi cult thing on Georgian Bay. As long as there have been ships, there have been shipwrecks. Vessels lost in the fog, pitch black nights or driving snow often end up on the jagged rocks that line the shores and ring the Thirty Thousand Islands that we call home. As sailing vessels gave way to steamships and cargos and passenger lists grew, the cost in human lives and property became truly staggering. Of the 15,000 commercial vessels that have plied the Great Lakes throughout history is it estimated that about 4,000 are still there. On the bottom. Government stepped in and built a chain of lighthouses starting in the early 1800s – most of which still stand as proud guardians of safe shipping lanes. The lighthouse keepers who kept the sperm oil lamps lit or the kerosene wicks trimmed are now gone. Technology has replaced them with solar-powered, automated lamps that fl ash their location over the water from dusk to dawn. And who has not been mesmerized by the sweeping fl ash of a distant lighthouse many miles away? It provides a comforting reassurance about where that dangerous shore lies – as long as you can see it. No matter how bright the light, or big the lens, this is not much help during fog or snow, or beyond the dozen-or-so-milerange of the lamps. Most of the Great Lakes are well beyond sight of a lighthouse. So beginning in the 1930s, radio beacons were installed alongside the light stations. The new science of shortwave radio brought increased range and accuracy to every light station. Soon almost every lighthouse had its tall, red and white metal tower that fl ashed out a programmed Morse message, over and over. The messages were simple, merely a short identifi er such as “L” or “R” or “YQA.” In the Parry Sound area, the lighthouse and radio beacon tower at Snug Harbour were a well-known way of identifying where you were. Snug Harbour beacon could be heard right across Georgian Bay, and well beyond. Marine maps carefully identifi ed the frequency and the Morse identifi er for each light station alongside the details of the lighthouse height and fl ash rate. If you could see the light and count the time between each would tell you which lighthouse it was. Farther away you would tune to the lighthouse beacon and use your ship’s aerial to log its direction. With two radio signals, simple triangulation told you where you were on the map. It was simple, low tech and for over 50 years, it was the easiest way of fi nding where you were on a dark and stormy night. As the ship got close enough to the lighthouse the radio beacon would come booming through the speaker and the direction and strength of the signal told you where to watch for the fl ash of the lighthouse. Sometimes in the snow, you could only see the light when you were almost on top of it. But the radio beacon was easily heard 50 or 100 kilometres away. Great Lakes steamers had wireless cabins, and the operators in those kept a steady ear on the bearing of all lighthouse beacons within range. Sometimes monitoring over a dozen and updating the chart using the bearing of each. The Bay used to be ringed by these radio beacons, each beside a lighthouse. There were a few more at the entrances of important harbours. Others inland were located at airports or on a prominent hill. As time passed and GPS technology became the norm, the need for both the lighthouses and their radio beacons declined. First to go were the beacons. One by one the tall red and white metal towers came down and the radio signals they faithfully sent out in allweather were silenced. There are no more radio beacons on the Bay, although a few airports still keep one alive, mixing nostalgia with navigation. Shortwave radio beacons are defi nitely not the modern digital systems that airports use as part of the instrument landing systems. The VHF signals used by airplanes to navigate have been around for a few dozen years and are special to fl ight paths and airport approach control. And the old beacons are not to be confused with modern cell towers that dot the landscape. All of these are much higher frequency, shorter range and super high-tech. No, the radio beacons that once surrounded the Bay were much simpler, employing shortwave signals that could be easily heard with a portable shortwave radio and a good pair of ears. If you could count out the slow Morse code identifi er, sent over and over, and read the frequency on the radio dial from the deck of a heaving ship on a dark night, you could fi nd that beacon on the map and quickly fi gure out whether you were near the rocks. If the beacon was super loud, watch out ... you were too close! Alas, the government-run navigation beacons that once ringed the Bay are long gone. The lighthouses are mostly still there, but the radio signals that identifi ed each are not. GPS has had its way. Of course, this is a good thing as navigation is now automatic and safer. The long-ago radio voices of Georgian Bay have been silenced … or have they? From the east side of Georgian Bay there remains just one lonely shortwave sentinel. It is not a navigation beacon of the old type, nor is it run by government. In fact, has no offi cial purpose. But radio hams around the world still tune in to one unique shortwave radio beacon that runs on Kah She Island. Located near Twelve Mile Bay, this ham radio beacon is privately owned and operated. It is part of a network of world-wide shortwave radio beacons that are used, not for navigation (although of course they could be) but to determine how radio The Kah She Island radio beacon (above) . At right, the beacon antenna, with the beacon transmitter itself located in the shed. (Photos by Ian Baines) 6 SIDEROADS MAGAZINE NOVEMBER 2015 7 ad 4x68 ad 4x68 signals are propagating long distances. Kah She Island is a modest bit of rock and pine which has a long history connected to navigation on the Bay. Just three kilometres from Kah She is the spot where the 300- foot steamship Waubuno was driven on the

Haystack Rocks on the night of Nov. 22, 1879 with the loss of all 23 souls aboard. The island itself is home to a steamship dock that served the steamships since the 1890s. The restoration of this dock was covered in an article (by Nora Alexander) published in Sideroads a few years ago. Today, Kah She has a cottage dating to 1906 and is home to the Baines family from Kingston. The owner is a long-time licensed radio ham who has maintained a life time interest in radio beacons. He remembers hearing all the navigation beacons around the Bay at night on his shortwave set from the shores of Lake Ontario back in the '60s. They were a source of wonder – distant Morse letters amongst the crashes of static, coming all the way from all over Georgian Bay. It just made sense that he would set up his own beacon on the Bay, and in a sense, become the last of the radio beacons that once proudly called the Bay home. Operating a very low-power shortwave transmitter, the beacon puts out a tiny fi ve watts (about the power of a fl ashlight, a small one at that). It sends Morse identifi er KAH over and over, day and night, year round. During the long winter it runs unattended for six months. Power outages, freezing storms and complete isolation do not prevent Kah She Island from being heard. And it is heard around the world! As the sunspots fl are and the northern lights dance, so too does the radio ionosphere conduct very weak shortwave signals a long way. All the way to Australia for example – 16,000 kilometres away. Radio listeners from Brazil to Russia, Germany to Japan, and New Zealand and all over the U.S. hear the tiny Morse signal from Kah She Island. They report in via email or web site to say when they heard the beacon and how well it was coming in. Dozens of them have heard it, at all times of the day and throughout the year. With the age of computers and the internet, numerous automated radio receivers throughout the world monitor the frequency and report its reception automatically. This tells other "hams" that Georgian Bay is coming in loud and clear. And those who wonder just where this little mouse of a transmitter is located, can look it up on Google and see the story of our rocks and a bit of our history. Georgian Bay is once again on the radio map and famous (just a little bit) amongst the radio hams who hear the shortwave radio call and Google the web page with its maps, photos and story of this part of our Bay. Just Google "VA3KAH." The VA3 part of the call identifi es an Ontario station. The latter part is obvious. And if you have a shortwave radio, tune in to Georgian Bay's last radio beacon. About the author Ian and Nancy Baines have resided on Kah She Island since 2000. The old fi shing camp and steamship dock have been lovingly restored thanks to a reliable Stanley barge and considerable help from local contractors and friends from Moose Deer First Nation. They divide their time between granddaughters in Kingston and wonderfully long summers on the Bay. Nancy puts up with the inevitable wires and antennas in the trees that come with running the beacon and simply tells visitors that her husband is a radio nut. One of the best parts of running the radio beacon is the many emails, often with pictures, from far away countries that hear it. Our part of Canada seems to hold a special fascination with those who write. Many express a desire to come and see the Bay for themselves after hearing the signal from Kah She Island.

VHF NET REPORT

Thanks to the controllers who kept the VHF net alive during November: Brian VA3BAH, John VE3CAK, Steve VE3KC and Larissa VE3KGC. Check-ins ranged from 12 to 15 and net duration ran from 33 to 52 minutes. Thanks also to Larissa VE3KGC for continuing to do the swap net. If you have items to trade, buy, swap or sell, get hold of her.

I mentioned this in my November report but it bears repeating. I will be stepping back as Net Manager at the end of this year so a new Net Manager is required. I've done it for more than 7½ years and I think it's time for someone else to pick it up. If no one does, the net will fold.

The net manager's duties are:

- to recruit and train net controllers;
- to schedule the controllers and to publish the net control schedule in the KARC newsletter and on the KARC web site;
- to review and update the net control script as required and to publish it in the KARC newsletter and on the KARC web site;
- to maintain the net logs;
- to present a net report either at the monthly meeting or in the newsletter that includes: net statistics, such as number of check-ins, net duration, and anything else of interest from the net;
- to remind net controllers when it's their turn to control the net;
- to post a weekly net reminder on the KARC Freelist;

I'm always looking for more net controllers. It isn't difficult to do. The script is on the web site and in the newsletter. But the most important thing is that you join us every Tuesday night at 07:30 PM on VE3KBR for the net. It's your participation that makes it worthwhile.

Steve VE3KC
Net Manager

HUMOUR RATION

"Hi, I'd like to hear a TCP/IP joke."

"Hello, would you like to hear a TCP/IP joke?"

"Yes, I'd like to hear a TCP/IP joke."

"Ok, I'll tell you a TCP/IP joke."

"Ok, I will hear a TCP/IP joke."

"Are you ready to hear a TCP/IP joke?"

"Yes, I am ready to hear a TCP/IP joke."

"Ok, I am about to send the TCP/IP joke. It will last 10 seconds, it has two characters, it does not have a setting, it ends with a punchline."

"Ok, I am ready to get your TCP/IP joke that will last 10 seconds, has two characters, does not have an explicit setting, and ends with a punchline."

"I'm sorry, your connection has timed out.

...Hello, would you like to hear a TCP/IP joke?"

2017 ELECTIONS

It's time to think about who you want to lead the Club in 2017. Elections for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer will take place at the December meeting. Our bylaws permit one person to hold the positions of Secretary and Treasurer. Let's have real elections this year instead of the acclamations that have become too common in recent years.

Our bylaws set out the duties of each executive position as follows:

Article 24. Officers.

The Officers of the Club shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The offices of Secretary and Treasurer may be combined and held by the same person.

Article 25. Duties of the President.

The President shall be the chief executive officer of the Club and shall be charged with the general supervision of the business and affairs of the Club. The President shall preside at all meetings of the members and of the Executive.

Article 26. Duties of the Vice-President.

The Vice-President shall, in the absence or incapacity of the President, perform the duties and exercise the powers of the President. The Vice-President shall also perform such duties and exercise such powers as the Executive may prescribe or as the President may delegate.

Article 27. Duties of the Secretary.

The Secretary shall record the minutes of all meetings of the members and of the Executive in the books to be kept for that purpose. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, all notices required to be given to the members and to the Executive and shall perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the By-Laws, regulations or by the Executive. The Secretary shall be the custodian of all current records, other than financial, of the Club.

Article 28. Duties of the Treasurer.

The Treasurer shall keep full and accurate records of all financial transactions of the Club; shall be responsible for the deposit of all monies of the Club in such bank, or banks, as may be designated by the Executive; shall control the disbursement of the funds of the Club; and shall render to the Executive, whenever required, an account of all transactions undertaken by the Treasurer and of the financial position of the Club. The Treasurer shall prepare an Annual statement for the incoming Executive. The Treasurer shall also perform such other duties as may be prescribed by the Executive.

KARC ARCHIVE PROJECT

Two years ago, we were made aware of the existence of the club archives. The archives consisted of photo albums, minute books, newsletters and other documentation related to the club going all the way back to the 1940s. It was suggested that the archive be transferred to permanent storage, but before we do that I volunteered to digitize it so it can be accessed on the web for all to enjoy or research.

After a great deal of scanning, with the help of many other volunteers, we've nearly completed putting the archive online and I urge you to view at http://ve3kbr.com/karc/arhives.html .

One interesting document is the minutes sheet from the very first club meeting on Thursday, February 20th, 1947, at somewhere only written as "Abraham's Studio" (Anyone know where that is??) Suggested names for the club were either "Kingston Amateur Radio Club" or "Eastern Ontario Radio Club" The first president was L. Millar, vice president B. Lay, and secretary-treasurer H. Storey. Although VE3 callsigns were in effect during 1947, they were not usually recorded in the minutes.

At a later meeting, fees for becoming a member and yearly membership were established. A $1.00 joining fee, followed by a $2.50 yearly membership fee was set. In today's money, it would cost about $12 to join and $30 per year for membership. Since then, the club has abolished the joining fee and yearly membership remains at $25.

Perhaps in 70 years there will be a newsletter blurb written about us today, noting that we met at some strange place referred to as "Smitty's". Future historians will discover that we had to buy expensive equipment like radios and antenna towers instead of just 3d printing them, and skipped radio waves off something called the "atmosphere", which apparently used to exist prior to the start of the First Great Trump Nuclear War. The present $25 annual membership fee would likely cost over $150 trillion Ivanka-Marks in 2086.

I encourage everyone to visit the archives project and get a fascinating look at the history of the club, Kingston, and amateur radio.

Assaf
VA3PCI

MEETING MINUTES

KARC General Meeting Minutes
November 1, 2016 - 7:00 PM
Smitty's Restaurant
2376 Princess Street, Kingston Ontario

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by the Vice-President, Carlyle VE3WIO, who welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Members and guests introduced themselves: 18 members and guests were in attendance.

2. Additions to the agenda: Assaf VA3PCI asked to add 'the old IRLP equipment' and 'the archive project' under "New Business".

3. Minutes of the October meeting: Steve said that he had received two corrections from Chip VA3KGB:
   - Under Agenda Item 1, 'Members and Guests Introduced Themselves', in Chip VA3KGB's comments: replace, "He doesn't have to go to work but does, to be able to enjoy the hobby that he loves.", with, "He goes to work where he gets to play with his hobbies."
   - Under Agenda Item 6.c, 'Hearts and Flowers', replace, "Chip VA3KGB reported that Les VE3KFS's XYL broke her wrist while helping Les repair the roof of their RV.", with, "Chip VA3KGB reported that Les VE3KFS's XYL broke her wrist while helping Les repair the roof of their deck."

   Steve VE3KC/Chip VA3KGB moved approval of the minutes as amended. The motion carried.

4. Treasurer's Report: Doug VE3FFR reviewed the financial report that was included in the October/November newsletter. We made $0.08 interest with no expenses. Doug VE3FFR/Les VE3KFS moved approval of the Treasurer's Report. The motion carried.

5. New Business:

   a. Insurance:

   Steve VE3KC explained that the agreement with the owner of our repeater site, SBA Communications, requires us to carry liability insurance on our repeater. He said that since 2007, we have obtained that insurance through RAC as a member of the RAC Affiliated Clubs Program, details of which are available on the RAC web site: http://www.wp.rac.ca/insurance. He said that the insurance cost is at least $150.00 less than comparable insurance anywhere else. He presented his calculations made to arrive at our cost: attached as Appendix A to these minutes. Based on those calculations, our insurance cost will be $431.18. Herman VA3QX said that the amount is a ridiculous fee for a Club with a limited number of members. Steve reminded him that the cost from any other insurer would be higher and added that if it's decided not to buy the insurance, we may as well shut the repeater down tonight. Steve VE3KC/Doug VE3FFR moved that we allocate $450.00 to cover the cost of the 2017 RAC Insurance Program. The motion carried with Herman VA3QX's negative vote recorded.

   b. The Old IRLP Equipment:

   Assaf VA3PCI said that the old IRLP equipment is still at his house and he wonders what to do with it. It includes a relatively compact 30-amp power supply, a small UPS, an Intel 1.6GHz Atom-based PC that includes the original IRLP board from 2001 and a single-frequency Motorola radio. He suggested we could give it away, raffle it, try to sell it or scrap it. Les VE3KFS suggested that we could offer it to other clubs who might be looking for a starter system. Assaf VA3PCI didn't think that would be a good idea because he's had to perform a lot of maintenance over the years including building a custom version of Linux. He thought the maintenance requirements might be more than many clubs could handle. After discussion that included a suggestion to put the equipment on the SWAP net, and an expression of interest from Larissa VE3KGC to take it for experimentation, Assaf VA3PCI/Steve VE3KC moved that the old IRLP equipment be given to Larissa VE3KGC. The motion carried.

c. The Archive Project:
Assaf VA3PCI reported that the archive project is just about complete. Most of the documentation has been scanned. He'll give it to Chip VA3KGB for posting on the web site. Two items are outstanding: an audio cassette has to be digitized and the newsletters from the 1980s and 1990s have to be scanned. Steve VE3KC has the cassette and Andy VE3FYA has the newsletters. Carlyle VE3WIO thanked Assaf for coordinating the project. Steve VE3KC asked what will become of the paper documentation now that it's been scanned. He said he'd like to offer it to Queen's Archives as they are the City of Kingston archives as well.

6. Updates:
a. President: No update.

b. NVIS Operating Event Oct. 16:
Peter VE3POA reported via Carlyle VE3WIO that "Eleven questionnaires were submitted. Contacts ranged from a low of 2 to a high of 44. Personally I did 30. Majority were in the double digit QSOs. Estimate of participation would be somewhere north of 50. Many expressed an interest in this as an annual event and one wanted it more often. A couple wanted more bandwidth (good idea) and longer operating time. Majority of stations appeared to be operating at 50W or less and there were some QRP stations as well. Of note here, I had a QSO with a Peel station at about 100W and he was at about 10. I turned my power down to about 5 and there was no difference in signal report. The event was deemed a success and I expect we will run it again. Discussions are taking place for changes and any suggestions will be appreciated and considered."

Local participation included Paul VA3LX, Tim VA3TIC, Les VE3KFS, Peter VE3POA and Carlyle VE3WIO.

c. Net Manager: The report was published in the October/November newsletter.

d. "Hearts and Flowers": Doug VE3FFR reported that his Mother is over her shoulder injury.

e. Community acknowledgements: Doug VE3FFR thanked Carlyle VE3WIO for his eye-splice on a thimble for Steve VE3KC's HF dipole antenna. Carlyle VE3WIO replied that any good sailor could do the same.

f. Remote HF Station: Chip VA3KGB reported that one G5RV antenna is up and he has another one in his garage to raise but he's holding off installing it because Tim VA3TIC has offered a Windom antenna that will work on 160 thereby expanding the station's capabilities. For the benefit of new members, he explained what the remote VHF station is and how it works, details of which are available on the Club web site.

g. CFARS: Les VE3KFS reported that the mobile skywave exercise was completed two weeks ago that went very well. On the Automatic Link Establishment (ALE) world-wide exercise, a CFARS member came in third and the top team on both ALE and sideband was from Valcartier, Quebec.

7. Announcements:
Carlyle VE3WIO mentioned the November Frequency Measuring Test that will begin at 0000 UTC, November 3 (8:00 PM EDT November 2). Transmissions will take place on three bands: 20, 40, and 80 meters. The link for more information is http://www.arrl.org/frequency-measuring-test, or the article in the November QST page 95. He encouraged us to give it a listen and participate if we can. We can actually contribute to science.

Assaf VA3PCI announced that he received an article for the newsletter from Ian VE3DJI, who is relatively new to Kingston but not to amateur radio.

8. Date of next meeting: December 6, 2016 - 2017 executive elections.

9. Adjournment: Doug VE3FFR/Chip VA3KGB moved adjournment. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 07:41 PM.

Presentation: Neil Marleau, a signaller in the Canadian Forces, gave an interesting and informative talk about Solar Weather and its effects on HF.

Steve Cutway VE3KC
Secretary

Appendix A: **KARC 2017 Estimated Insurance Fee Calculation**

registration =	$160.00
plus $1.00 per Club member (34) =	34.00
plus $11.00 per non-RAC member (16) =	176.00
subtotal =	$370.00
plus 8% PST =	29.60
subtotal =	$399.60
plus annual affiliation fee payment =	$27.95
plus 13% HST =	3.63
subtotal =	$31.58
TOTAL =	$431.18

AGENDA

KARC General Meeting Agenda
December 6, 2016
07:00 PM
Smitty's Restaurant
2376 Princess Street, Kingston Ontario

1. Members and guests introduce themselves

2. Additions to the agenda

3. Minutes of the November meeting (Steve VE3KC)

4. Treasurer's Report (Doug VE3FFR)

5. New Business: Distracted driving exemption support letter to RAC(Paul VA3LX)

6. Updates:
   a. President (Paul VA3LX)
   b. Insurance (Steve VE3KC)
   c. Net Manager (Steve VE3KC)
   d. Remote HF station (Chip VA3KGB)
   e. CFARS (Les VE3KFS)
   f. "Hearts and Flowers"
   g. Community acknowledgements
   h. Other updates

7. Election of 2017 officers (Les VE3KFS)

8. Announcements

9. Date of next meeting: January 3, 2017

10. Adjournment

FINANCIAL REPORT

KARC FINANCIAL REPORT –Nov 2016

Nov 30, 2016

Opening Balance

Cooperation Plus	5115.06
Dividends Savings	37.54
Equity Shares	261.62
Total	5414.22

Income

Int	.04
Membership	425.00
Donation	15.00
Total	440.04

Expenditures

RAC Ins	431.18
Total	431.18

Closing Balance

Cooperation Plus	5123.92
Dividends Savings	37.54
Equity Shares	261.62
Total	**5423.08**

NET CONTROL SCHEDULE

Date	**Controller**
December 13	VA3PCI Assaf
December 20	VE3WIO Carlyle
December 27	VE3CAK John

NET CONTROL SCRIPT

KARC Tuesday Night 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) 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.