

Nortown Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the December 7, 2007 Meeting

Present

Jim VE3GRT	John VA3AAD	David VE3VNE
Ian VE3IJS	John VA3MDJ	Tony VE3VME
Doug VE3EES	Bert VE3ENA	Paul VE3PGF
Elliot VA3EJF	Jal VE3SOC	

Recent member-attendees who were absent

Claus VE3PMD	Bill VE3WHW	Cyril VA3CJE
Chris VE3CNK	Jeff VE3QBZ	Sam VA3SEP
Reg VA3REJ	Andrew VA3CRA	Tom VE3TEG
Geoff VA3GEG	Martin VE3MHC	Vipi VE3PID
Frans VE3VNC		

Old Business

Repeater

Tom, VE3TEG, was not present to report on any progress on the Yonge/Sheppard repeater site.

Elliot VA3EJF reported that Stephen Canney has passed along our request to technical personnel at CFRB, to try to get the repeater re-admitted to the #2 St. Clair West site.

John, VA3AAD, reported that he did receive a reply to his November 2nd letter to the Canadian Manager of GE Real Estate, requesting permission to reinstall the repeater at the #2 St. Clair West location. That building, although owned by GE, is managed by a different company and is not subject to direct GE control. However, #2 St. Clair West could be available for a repeater installation. John, VA3AAD, and Elliot, VA3EJF will visit the east building on December 11 to review, with the site manager, the feasibility of an installation.

The building being offered does have drawbacks. It is only 14 floors high and appears to be about 20 feet lower than the #2 St. Clair West building. More significantly, it is immediately adjacent to a much taller tower, one that is roughly 50 feet higher. It was agreed that we should still enquire whether it might be possible to contact the managers at 2. St. Clair West before setting up our repeater in the eastern building. However, both buildings seem to have excellent north-south transmission “views”.

Annual Festive Dinner

Ian, VE3IJS, reported that so far, he has sold 17 tickets for the dinner, somewhat down from last year. He will telephone a few people who have often attended, who might not know about the event because our “nortown.all” email has been inoperative.

The event will be held at the Sierra Grill in Bayview Plaza (the same location as last year) on next Friday evening, December 14th.

Sunday Morning Net

John, VA3AAD stated the 28.300 MHz frequency seems to work satisfactorily and encouraged members to join in at 11:00 AM. He did work with Vipi, VE3PID, to set up a resonant 10m wire antenna, but reception was weak because it is not sufficiently high enough up.

Field Day Band Pass Filters

John, VA3AAD stated that he had tried to locate band pass filter parts over the Internet, without success. The descriptive article was written almost ten years ago. It was agreed instead, that the Club will purchase the four band pass filters, at approximately \$100 each, before the next field day. John, VA3AAD, will consult with Martin, VE3MHC, Club Treasurer, to ensure that there are sufficient funds for this.

Club Email:

Elliot, VA3EJF, reported that he will work on the Club email system over the coming weekend. Out-of-town members are not receiving email communications from the Club..

New Business

Executive Nominations for 2008/9

John, VA3AAD, noted that under the Club constitution, the Past President, Martin, VE3MHC must establish a nominating committee to present a slate for next year's executive, and arrange to carry out an election at the first meeting in May.

March Meetings:

John, VA3AAD, noted that since the third Friday in March is Good Friday, there will be only one Club meeting during that month, and that it will be on Friday, March 7th.

Antenna Tuning:

John, VA3AAD noted that he, Martin, VE3MHC and Doug, VE3EES all own MFJ259 antenna analyzers and are willing to lend them to Club members who might wish to check whether they have resonant antennas. Antennas that are not resonant reflect power back into the tuner, to be dissipated as heat in the tuner and in the coax, which results in weaker signal strengths.

Presentation

John, VA3MDJ, gave an excellent and informative presentation on the PL259 connector, describing its limitations, how to identify high quality pieces, and how best to cut, dress and solder for optimum results.

Financial

The meeting's coffee collection was \$9.26 The equipment raffle yielded \$8.50.

Next Meeting

Will be held at the same location, at 8:00 PM on Friday, January 4th. Frans, VE3VNC will be working over the holidays on a much-anticipated presentation on "Restoring Boat Anchors".

On behalf of all Club members, I would like to wish everyone a great holiday season, and a happy new year.

73's,
John, VA3AAD
www.eternalchaos.com