

Nortown Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the February 15th, 2008 Meeting

Present:

Ian VE3IJS	John VA3AAD	Frans VE3VNC
Martin VE3MHC	John VA3MDJ	Jim VE3GRT
Cyril VA3CJE	Bert VE3ENA	Elliot VA3EJF
David VE3VNE	Doug VE3EES	

Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Claus VE3PMD	Bill VE3WHW	Geoff VA3GEG
Chris VE3CNK	Jeff VE3QBZ	Sam VA3SEP
Reg VA3REJ	Andrew VA3CRA	Tom VE3TEG
Bernard VE3OTR	Tony VE3VME	Vipi VE3PID
Paul VE3PGF	Jal VE3SOC	

Old Business

Repeater

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

John, VA3AAD, reported that he and Don Guthrie, VE3EVZ, along with Don's assistant installer, had visited the 2 St. Clair East building on February 4th. They climbed onto the roof to determine the best location for the antenna, and worked out how best to run the coax down into a mechanical room below, where the repeater will be located. The building manager then asked for a letter describing the work that we propose to carry out, along with a drawing and insurance certificates. These were delivered on February 11th. We have not yet heard back from the manager, who planned to submit the proposal to his superior at head office.

Doug, VE3EES, reported that Bill, VE3WHW, has been waiting patiently for the repeater to be installed. He plans to participate in the Sunday morning net and other repeater-related activities.

Band-Pass Filters for Field Day

John, VA3AAD, reported that the band-pass filters that he had ordered from Array Solutions had arrived. There are two for 40m, one for 20m and one 15m. They all have female PL259 connectors. The delivered cost was \$125 each, including taxes. We will have to build a few short coax jumpers to for use with them.

Future Meeting Presentations

Jal, VE3SOC, has prepared for the March 7th presentation, which will be a quiz of some 23 questions selected from the Industry Canada Basic question bank, followed by a

discussion. There will be a prize for the highest score. Attendees whose memories have deteriorated, or who, for other reasons, may be too embarrassed to apply their names to the answer sheet, may sign as “anonymous”. Of course, anonymous entries will not be eligible for the grand prize.

Elliot, VA3EJF, will do the April 4th presentation. Bert, VE3ENA the April 18th one, Ian, VE3IJS, the May 2nd one, Martin, VE3MHC, the May 16th one, John, VA3AAD, the June 6th one, followed by Tony, VE3VME, on June 20th, the “Field Day Preparation” presentation.

New Business

List of Club Assets

Currently, several members have custody of various Club physical assets. Under the Club constitution, the Treasurer is responsible for maintaining a list of these. John, VA3AAD, has prepared a preliminary list those assets that he is aware of. The list is attached to these minutes. Members holding other Club assets not on this list, are asked to email Martin, VE3MHC, at:

martin.h.costa@gmail.com

so that he can update the list.

Albert Yates Memorial Award

On behalf of the Club, Elliot, VE3EJF presented John, VA3AAD, with the Albert Yates plaque for the year 2007. Members present did not allow Jim, VE3GRT, to deliver even a brief history of the award.

Club Minutes

Doug, VE3EES, reported that Bill, VE3WHW, who cannot attend many meetings, finds that the minutes allow him the keep in touch with the Club, and be aware of what is going on.

Silent Key, Estate Wind-up

Martin, VE3MHC reported that the Club has been given a transceiver and some other equipment from the executor of an estate, and that he will be transferring these to Frans, VE3VNC for sale at local hamfests, or for use at meeting raffles.

Presentation

John, VA3MDJ, gave an excellent presentation about “wall wart” unregulated power supplies. He pointed out that unless these are used at exactly their rated amperages, they will not deliver their designed voltages. He demonstrated how to construct a useful voltage regulator that overcomes this deficiency. Details are available at:

http://www.dxing.info/equipment/wall_warts_bryant.pdf

Financial

The meeting's coffee collection was \$10.50. There was no equipment raffle.

Other

After the Meeting

Because the Swiss Chalet now closes earlier, at 10:00 PM, half the group repaired to The Pickle Barrel, on the East side of Leslie, just south of Cummer,. This seems to a suitable, although somewhat glitzy, locale, with a wide selection to choose from, at reasonable prices. The consensus was that we should try out this location for a while.

Meeting Raffles

Jim. VE3GRT, our Chief Raffle Coordinator, as well as the Club's official Corresponding Secretary, has advised us that his cupboard is bare, and that he has no more "stuff" to raffle. Members are urged to scour their shelves and junk boxes for surplus equipment that could be used for meeting raffles. One ham's junk could be another's treasure.

Next Meeting

Will be held at the same location, at 8:00 PM on Friday, March 7th. The presentation will be a short quiz prepared by Jal, VE3SOC, with a prize for the clever winner, followed by a discussion led by John, VA3AAD.

There will be no meeting on March 21st.

73's,

John, VA3AAD

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