



Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the May 15th, 2009 Meeting

Present:

John VA3MDJ

Ian VE3IJS

Doug VE3EES

Elliot VA3EJF

Bernie VE3OTR

David VE3VNE

Frans VE3VNC

John VA3AAD

Tom VE3BKA

Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Claus VE3PMD

Sam VA3SEP

Andrew VA3CRA

Jost VE3SWI

Martin VE3MHC

Cyril VA3CJE

Jim VE3GRT

Bill VE3WHW

Rej VA3REJ

Ron VA3CCR

Tony VE3VME

Jal VE3SOC

Bert VE3ENA

Tony VE3XC

Tom VE3TEG

Jana VE3BFU

Vipi VE3PID

Geoff VA3GEG

Paul VE3PGF

John, VA3MDJ chaired the meeting and gave a welcome from the group to Tom, VE3BKA, who is a regular participant in the Sunday morning net.

Old Business

Repeater

John, VA3AAD reported that it seems possible to trigger the repeater from a greater distance than it is possible to have a meaningful conversation, i.e., without severe distortion. Elliot, VA3EJF will determine whether the controller has a setting that reduces trigger sensitivity.

Elliot, VA3EJF and Martin, VE3MHC will undertake to set up a repeater-to-IRLP connection.

RAC Insurance:

John, VA3MDJ indicated that there was nothing new to report about his earlier letter to RAC.

John, VA3AAD indicated that he had received a copy of the insurance policy from RAC.

Ontario Bill 118

Bernie, VE3OTR reported that there had been a recent meeting with representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Transportation about these regulations (see the Radio Amateurs of Canada blog at: <http://racblog.wordpress.com/>). All Ontario amateurs and Club presidents are urged to express their concerns to the Ministry. First of all, read the suggested comments on the RAC blog. Then, go to:

<http://www.ontariocanada.com/registry/quickSearch.do?searchType=current>

then scroll down to “Bill 118” and click on the green paragraph heading. This will take you to the Regulatory Registry at:

<http://www.ontariocanada.com/registry/view.do?postingId=1902>

At the very bottom of this page, click on “Comment on this proposal by email” and you will get to an easy-to-use box at:

<http://www.ontariocanada.com/registry/mail.do?action=displayComment>

where you can enter your comments. **The comments are due by June 19th at the latest.**

Comments should be succinct and relate to your own personal experience and activities. Pay close attention to the suggestions in the RAC blog. Every Nortown member is urged to file a comment.

RAC Licensing Issue

Doug, VE3EES, had nothing new to report on this issue.

Future Presentations

The last presentation for the year will be:

June 19, 2009

Tony VE3VME (Field Day preparation)

Field Day



Another reminder to please mark your calendars for **June 27th**, so that we can plan for a great turnout. Tony, VE3VME has emailed Club members to firm up participation intentions. So far, nine members have indicated that they will participate, but we need at least twelve. **Please Note: Even if you will not be able to attend Field Day, please email Tony at carrollt@istar.ca to confirm this.**

New Business

VE3WHW, Repeater Access

Doug, VE3EES did visit Bill, VE3WHW,s QTH and determined that he would be able to trigger the repeater from a south-facing upper-floor window, using a Yagi. Tests from a west-facing balcony were not successful.

Financial

The meeting coffee collection yielded \$9.00. Elliot, VA3EJF brought in some equipment from VE3LUC, consisting of a Drake TR-4 station, a 2-m radio and an antenna rotor, all of which will be sold at hamfests.

Presentation

Doug, VE3EES and Ian, VA3IJF showed a collection of photographs taken at recent field days and during the Club trip to the Hammond radio museum.

Doug also presented a revolutionary recent news release about the use of carbon nano-tubes, containing microscopic magnetic iron nano-particles that can store data for an indefinite length of time, without deterioration. It is expected that these will be available commercially within two years! The notice is attached. Remember that you heard it first at a Nortown meeting!



Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on June 19th at the Bayview Community Centre. Plans for Field Day will be firmed up at that meeting..

Hope to see you there.

John Shepherd, VA3AAD

and

John Carlisle, VA3MDJ