



## Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the March 6<sup>th</sup> 2009 Meeting

### Present:

John VA3MDJ  
Ian VE3IJS  
John VA3AAD  
David VE3VNE

Vipi VE3PID  
Elliot VA3EJF  
Bert VE3ENA

Frans VE3VNC  
Bernie VE3OTR  
Jim VE3GRT

### Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Claus VE3PMD  
Sam VA3SEP  
Andrew VA3CRA  
Jost VE3SWI  
Cyril VA3CJE  
Doug VE3EES

Bill VE3WHW  
Rej VA3REJ  
Ron VA3CCR  
Tony VE3VME  
Martin VE3MHC

Geoff VA3GEG  
Tom VE3TEG  
Jana VE3BFU  
Paul VE3PGF  
Jal VE3SOC

John, VA3MDJ chaired the meeting.

### Old Business

#### Repeater

Elliot, VA3EJF reported that he had reprogrammed the repeater so that the “tail” after each transmission is now reduced from 4 seconds to 0.5 seconds.

John, VA3MDJ stated that he and John, VA3AAD again had not been able to get together to work on the repeater, as was outlined in the January minutes, but that he was hopeful that some progress would be made shortly.

John, VA3MDJ, suggested that if after ensuring that the repeater is operating optimally, we feel that we still need increased sensitivity, we could consider installing a pre-amplifier. He stated that these become available occasionally on eBay.

*[To date, VA3MDJ, VA3CJE, VE3IJS, VA3EJF, VE3EES, VA3AAD and VE3ENA have all reported that they can trigger the repeater from their QTH's. Other members who*

*would like to receive advice or assistance in establishing a connection should not hesitate to contact one of these members.]*

## **RAC Insurance:**

John, VA3MDJ reported that he had received an email from R. D. (Bob) Cooke, VE3BDB, the new RAC president, thanking Nortown for its February letter. Cooke stated that the “musings” of former president Goodwin were not RAC policy and that the issue would be discussed by the board during its March telecom meeting. He assured us that the Nortown letter would be distributed to every board member in advance of the meeting.

## **Ontario Bill 118**

John, VA3MDJ stated that there were no further developments on this issue.

## **Financial**

John, VA3AAD, reported that he had paid \$125 to rent the Club’s post office box for another year. The arrangement had expired well over a year ago and although we have “saved” more than a year’s rental, we were fortunate that the number had not been assigned to another party. From now on, we will have to look for a renewal notice in the box each February.

The coffee collection yielded \$7.05 and the raffle \$7.00.

## **Albert Yates Trophy – Don Guthrie**

John, VA3AAD, will bring the trophy board to the next meeting so that Eliot, VA3EJF can get a shield engraved and mounted on it, along with a plaque for Don, VE3EVZ.

## **Field Day**



Another reminder to please mark your calendars now for **June 27<sup>th</sup>**, so that we can plan for a great turnout.

## **New Business**

### **Wanted – Not Dead but Alive**

Elliot, VA3EJF reported that Paul, VE3PGF is looking for a dual bander; either HT, mobile or base. In the event that anyone has one that they are willing to part with for a reasonable price, Paul can be contacted at [pgfletcher@gmail.com](mailto:pgfletcher@gmail.com).

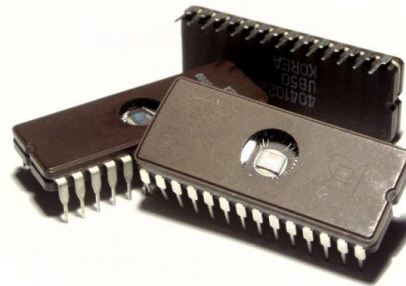
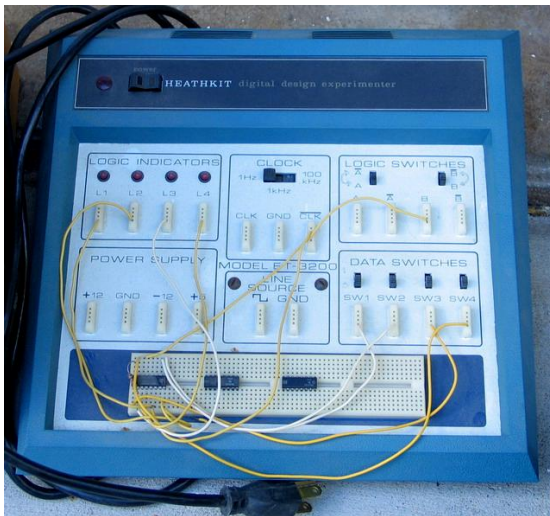
## Future Presentations

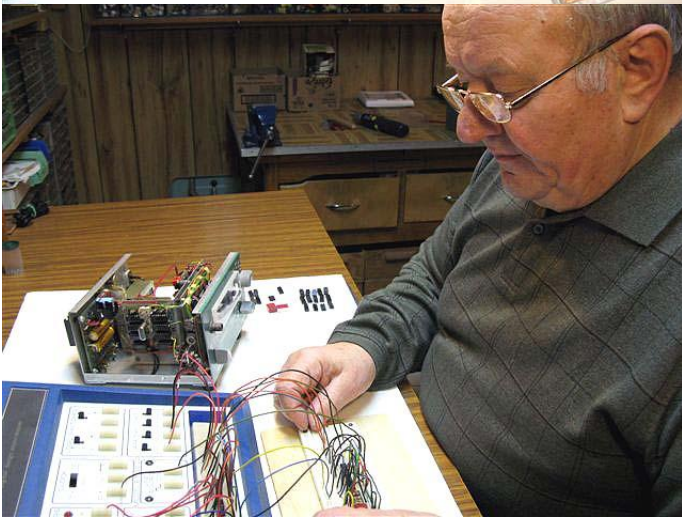
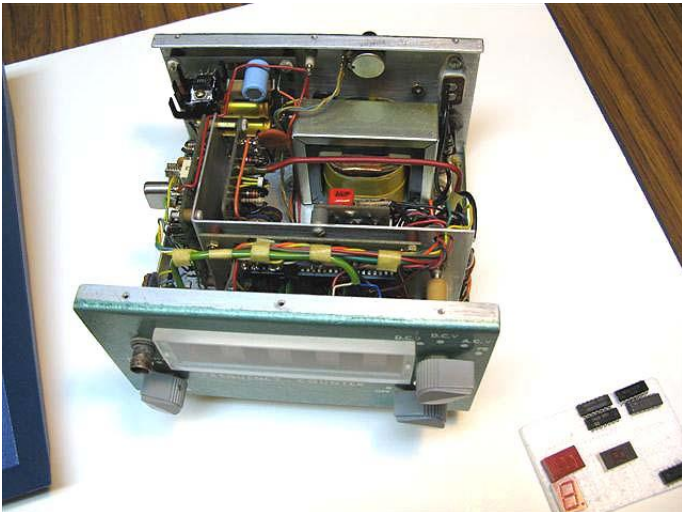
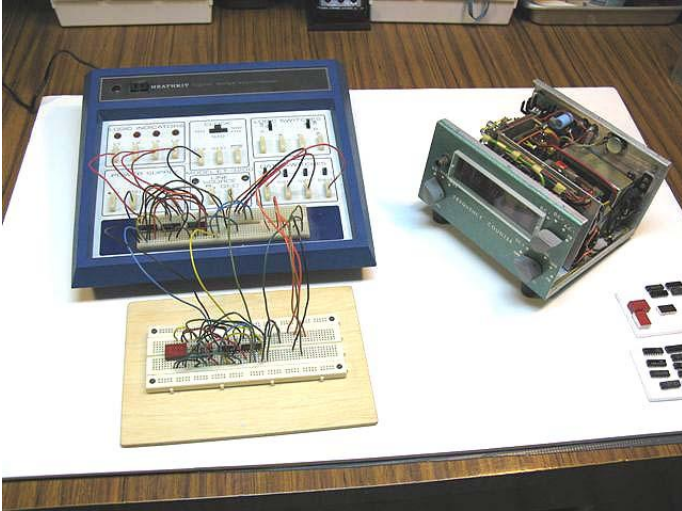
The schedule for presentations will be:

March 20, 2009	Frans VE3VNC
April 3, 2009	John VA3AAD
April 17, 2009	John VA3MDJ
May 1, 2009	Bert VE3ENA
May 15, 2009	John VA3AAD
June 5, 2009	Doug VE3EES
June 19, 2009	Tony VE3VME

## Presentation

Bert, VE3ENA gave a comprehensive survey of digital logic circuits, and their diagrams, and demonstrated a Heathkit experimenter's board that he had built. He had set up on the board a maze of connections that constituted a pulse-counting circuit that activated a seven-segment LED. He also demonstrated a professional-looking digital frequency counter that he had built, based upon a 1980's article in QST. He had even etched the printed circuit boards in the counter and bent the sheet metal for the cabinet himself. We regret that we didn't have a camera present to record this remarkable workmanship.





## Quarter Century Wireless Association

A message below, from Joan Powell, our out-of-town Ottawa Life Member:

### **Did you obtain your Amateur Radio licence prior to 1984?**

If the answer is “yes”, then you may be eligible to join **QCWA!**

The Quarter Century Wireless Association, which had its beginning in 1947 and now listing members in over 50 countries, offers you an opportunity to mix with this elite group helping to further our hobby and enjoy the many aspects of Amateur Radio whether they be social or technical. Discover more at [www.qcwa.org](http://www.qcwa.org)

Joan Powell VE3ZC  
QCWA Director



A photo of Joan accepting an award on behalf of her father VE1HU, commemorating his 75 years in the hobby.

### ***Next Meeting***

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on March 20<sup>th</sup> at the Bayview Community Centre. **Mark your calendars for this one:** Frans, VE3VNC, is working on another of his memorable “don’t miss” presentations. In case what he’s working on flops, we won’t announce the subject matter until the meeting notice that goes out this weekend.

John Shepherd, VA3AAD

and

John Carlisle, VA3MDJ