



Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the May 15th, 2009 Meeting

Present:

John VA3MDJ
Cyril VA3CJE
Bert VE3ENA

Jim VE3GRT
Bernie VE3OTR
Doug VE3EES

Frans VE3VNC
John VA3AAD
David VE3VNE

Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Claus VE3PMD
Sam VA3SEP
Andrew VA3CRA
Jost VE3SWI
Martin VE3MHC
Ian VE3IJS

Bill VE3WHW
Rej VA3REJ
Ron VA3CCR
Tony VE3VME
Jal VE3SOC
Elliot VA3EJF

Tony VE3XC
Tom VE3TEG
Jana VE3BFU
Vipi VE3PID
Geoff VA3GEG
Paul VE3PGF

John, VA3MDJ chaired the meeting.

Old Business

Repeater

John, VA3AAD reported that on Tuesday afternoon, May 12th, he and John, VA3MDJ had reconnected the Sinclair 4-bay antenna. Based on tests and signal reports from members, we can now conclude that it is working as well as can be expected and that any system limitations are due largely to the antenna's location (its height and proximity to nearby higher buildings). It was agreed that we should now concentrate on getting the IRLP working and making best use of the setup.



It is planned, initially, to set up the IRLP node at John, VA3AAD's QTH. The "point person" on this initiative will be Elliot, VA3EJF.

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.]



John, VA3MDJ suggested that a weekly net be established to exchange signal reports and ultimately to test out the IRLP connection. John, VA3AAD will canvas the seven members, who can now trigger the repeater from their QTH's, in order to determine an optimum time and day. One suggestion was to schedule the net at 11:30 AM on Sunday mornings, immediately after the Club's 10 meter net.

RAC Insurance:

John, VA3MDJ indicated that there was nothing new to report about his earlier letter to RAC. He noted that the new RAC president, in his recent initial letter to the membership in TCA, had made no mention of the initiative.

John, VA3AAD stated that he had not yet received a response from RAC to his application for regarding renewal of the coverage, which is due to expire this month..

Ontario Bill 118

John, VA3MDJ reported that there is nothing new to report on this legislation. now that specific regulations are being developed. Some provisional details that do not exempt amateur rdio can be found at

<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/news/statements/stat081028-chart.pdf>

He will continue to monitor developments on the issue.

RAC Licensing Issue

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

Albert Yates Trophy – Don Guthrie, VE3EVZ

John, VA3AAD stated that he had been in contact with Don, who would try to make it out to a meeting to accept plaque and to receive thanks from the Club for the work he did on the repeater antenna installation..

Field Day



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

Future Presentations

The schedule for presentations will be:

June 5, 2009	Doug VE3EES and Ian VE3IJS (Hammond Museum)
June 19, 2009	Tony VE3VME (Field Day preparation)

New Business

VE3WHW, Repeater Access

Doug, VE3EES stated that on Sunday afternoon, May 17th, he planned to visit Bill, VE3WHW,s QTH to determine what equipment would be required to trigger the repeater from that location.

Financial

The meeting raffle yielded \$13.00 and the coffee collection \$11.05.

Presentation

John, VA3AAD, subjected the group to a “mixed bag” PowerPoint presentation on RF line-of-sight propagation, RF Safety and RF Interference. The presentation, in *.pdf format, is attached to these minutes.



He also summarized some rudimentary field strength measurements that he had carried out on the repeater's Sinclair antenna, on a simple ground pane antenna and on his ICOM T90A "rubber duck" antenna.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on June 5th at the Bayview Community Centre. Doug, VE3EES and Ian, VE3IJS have prepared a display of revealing photographs from recent field days, along with shots from the Club's memorable 2007 visit to the Hammond Museum in Guelph.

Hope to see you there.

John Shepherd, VA3AAD

and

John Carlisle, VA3MDJ