



Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the April 23, 2010 Meeting

Present:

John VA3MDJ
John VA3AAD
Geoff VA3GEG
Frans VE3VNC

Jim VE3GRT
Bert VE3ENA
Elliot VA3EJF

Ian VE3IJS
Tom VE3BKA
David VE3VNE

Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Claus VE3PMD
Sam VA3SEP
Andrew VA3CRA
Jost VE3SWI
Paul VE3PGF
Bernie VE3OTR

Bill VE3WHW
Rej VA3REJ
Ron VA3CCR
Jal VE3SOC
Cyril VA3CJE
Doug VE3EES

Tony VE3XC
Tom VE3TEG
Jana VE3BFU
Vipi VE3PID
Tony VE3VME

John, VA3MDJ chaired the meeting.

Old Business

Repeater

No progress has been made in setting up the IRLP connection. John, VA3AAD and Elliot, VA3EJF will continue to try to get this project completed,

Martin Costa, VE3MHC, SK - Equipment

John, VA3AAD reported that the only remaining radio-item from the estate is the Comet CHA-250B vertical 3.5 to 57 MHz. antenna. It is still mounted on a chimney but will probably be available for resale later this summer.

Field Day

John, VA3MDJ urged members to respond to Tony, VE3VME's request to commit to participation at Field Day, on the weekend of June 26, 27. Please mark your calendars.

New Business

Sale of Donated Equipment

Frans, VE3VNC reported that he had been able to sell the following items at recent hamfests:

Ameritron Screwdriver Antenna Controller	\$ 40
Eddystone Receiver	\$100
Drake MN4 Tuner	<u>\$ 65</u>
Total	\$205

John, VA3MDJ thanked Frans for turning this equipment into much-needed cash for the Club.

Auction of Antique Radios

Elliot, VA3EJF reported that there would be a bulk auction of antique radios to be held sometime in May, with the date and location not yet established. The Empire Auctions web site is at:

<http://toronto.empireauctions.com/>

I.O.T.A. (Islands-on-the-Air) Activation

John, VA3AAD reported that our guest from Ottawa, Adrien Comeau, VE3IAC, who attended our last meeting, will be operating from an IOTA expedition on an island in the northern St. Lawrence river during the week of May 17th. Details about IOTA can be found at:

<http://www.rsgbiota.org/index.php>

Adrien's web site provides details of the expedition at:

<http://acomeau.blogspot.com/2010/04/iota-activation-of-na-128-by-ve3iac2.html>

Club members may wish to try to contact the expedition.

Future Presentations

Future presentations will be:

- May 7th John, VA3MDJ (subject to be determined)
- May 21st tentatively IRLP demo
- June 4th Doug, VE3EES (on Field Day technique)
- June 18th, preparation for Field Day (June 26th and 27th)

Financial

The meeting coffee collection yielded \$9.35 and the raffle yielded \$9.00. The Club also received \$20 from Bert, VE3ENA, via Jim, VE3GRT from sale of equipment

Presentation

Elliot, VA3EJF demonstrated QSONET, a virtual internet “radio”, for amateurs only, that allows users to contact each other over the Internet, using a simulated transceiver.

The transceiver on the computer screen looks like:



The spectrum scope on the image allows you to see all the other stations that are active, in real time. The sound quality is perfect, with no static. It may even be possible (but don't count on this yet) to link this utility to our 70 cm. repeater and to our own 28.300 MHz. Sunday morning HF Net, and allow out-of-town Nortown members or those temporarily without suitable antennas to participate..

Details can be found at: <http://www.qsonet.com/>

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on May 7th, at the Bayview Community Centre. John, VA3MDJ is scheduled to do the presentation, subject to be announced.

John Shepherd, VA3AAD
John Carlisle, VA3MDJ