



Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the January 20th, 2012 Meeting

Present:

Ian VE3IJS
John VA3MDJ
Frans VE3VNC
Bernie VE3OTR

Bert VE3ENA
Doug VE3EES
Elliot VA3EJF

John VA3AAD
Tom VE3BKA
David VE3VNE

Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Tony VE3VME
Vince, VE3ELB

Vipi VE3PID
Jim, VE3GRT

Geoff VE3GEG

Club President, Ian, VE3IJS chaired the meeting.

Old Business

Repeater

Elliot, VA3EJF now has new IRLP software and expects to test it within the next couple of weeks. A round of applause greeted this promising news.

John, VA3AAD reported that we have had no response from G.E. to Ian's, VE3IJS December letter asking for a reduction in the suggested fee.

The VE3MHC (SK) 1926 Antique Bremer-Tulley Radio

Bert, VE3ENA reported that he had contacted Jeff, VE3RTF to confirm that he can have the set. To date, the radio has not yet been picked up.

Upcoming Presentations

The schedule for presentations is:

February 3, 2012	John, VA3AAD - mixer demo and theory
February 17, 2012	Doug, VE3EES – subject tba
March 2, 2012	Frans, VE3VNC, subject tba.
March 16, 2012 (tent.)	Bernie, VE3OTR – York Region Emergency Response.
April 6, 2012	Bert, VE3ENA – subject tba
April 20, 2012`	<i>Need a volunteer</i>

May 4, 2012	John, VA3MDJ – subject tba
May 18, 2012	John, VA3AAD – subject tba
June 1, 2012	<i>Need a volunteer</i>
June 15, 2012	Tony, VE3VME – Field day (June 23, 24) Preparations

Volunteers are still needed for the April 20th June 1st meetings.

Remember that there is a loose-leaf book containing articles from recent QST “Hands-on-Radio” or “Hints and Kinks” columns and some Radcom issues. It’s now kept in the Club meeting cupboard for use by members wishing to develop presentations. These need not be complicated or lengthy, and can be on any radio-related topic. ARRL members (only) can access all except the most recent issues at:
<http://www.arrl.org/experiments-1-through-10>

Sunday Morning Net

John, VA3AAD confirmed that the frequency is 28.550 MHz.

New Business

Equipment for Sale

Ian, VA3EJF reported that he had received a call from VE7DNN who is living in a retirement home and who has an ICOM 7000 Transceiver for sale (“in good condition”), along with an antenna tuner and an MFJ269 antenna analyzer. Frans, VE3VNC will visit the owner to determine whether it may be worth trying to sell the equipment at hamfests. In the meantime, members who might be interested in this equipment can contact Frans at: f.huizinga@sympatico.ca. Club policy is that when an item sold through the Club, the Club receives a 10% commission on the sale.

Photos



Bernie, explaining how a cigar lighter voltage reducer plug can be gutted to provide 12V into an Anderson Powerpole connector.



Our executive (from L to R, Bert, Ian and John), looking rather glum, probably about the fiscal deficit, or at the prospect of soliciting volunteers for meeting presentations. Worry not, election time is coming up, and we can bounce them all out of office.

Nortown Web Site

John, VA3AAD noted that the web site shows an incorrect location for the repeater and an incorrect Net frequency. Elliot, VA3EJF will make corrections.

Finances

The coffee collection yielded \$9.75. Regretfully, in Jim, VE3GRT's absence, there was no raffle.

Presentation

Elliot, VA3EJF, gave an updated version of an earlier presentation on OTA (over the air) reception of HDTV signals. Copies of his PowerPoint slides are attached..

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Friday, February 3rd. John, VA3AAD, is gearing up for another one of his thrilling technical demos (thrilling, because we can never be sure if they're going to work). This one is about how mixers convert two RF frequencies into their sum and difference frequencies. He'll bring along two "ugly construction" circuits that he has made.

If this kind of stuff puts you to sleep, than at least come for the business part of the meeting. Who knows, Elliot may have solved the IRLP problem, or Frans may have sold a lot of equipment and saved the Club from this year's looming financial deficit, or Jim may show up with great stuff for the raffle, or someone may have put a \$100 bill into the coffee collection. "Hope springs eternal ..."

John, VA3AAD
Ian, VE3IJS