



Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the September 16th, 2011 Meeting

Present:

Elliot VA3EJF
David VE3VNE
Tom VE3BKA

Bert VE3ENA
John VA3MDJ
Tony VE3VME

John A3AAD
Ian VE3IJS
Vipi VE3PID

Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Claus VE3PMD
Sam VA3SEP
Andrew VA3CRA
Paul VE3PGF
Vince VE3ELB
Jim, VE3GRT
Doug VE3EES

Bill VE3WHW
Rej VA3REJ
Ron VA3CCR
Cyril VA3CJE
Jal VE3SOC
Frans VE3VNC

Tony VE3XC
Tom VE3TEG
Jost VE3SWI
Geoff VA3GEG
Jeff VE3RTV
Bernie VE3OTR

Club President, Ian, VE3IJS chaired this first meeting of the new fiscal year and welcomed a guest, Tim, who had located the Club through the RAC web site...

Old Business

Repeater

No change. Elliot, VA3EJF is continuing to work on the Linux IRLP IP address issue and hopes to have this resolved who knows when.

The VE3MHC (SK) 1926 Antique Bremer-Tulley Radio

No change. Tom, VE3BKA, and Elliot, VA3EJF have yet to make another effort to repair this radio, so that it can be sold in working order. Evidently, Tom has the necessary equipment and Elliot has the second head that is supposed to "be better than one" and neither seems to have the time.

Martin Costa, VE3MHC (SK) Estate

John, VA3AAD reported that, having received no other bids for the AutekVM-1 antenna analyzer, he had sold the unit to Elliot, VE3EJF, for \$100, at the June Field Day. He had also sold a transistor tester to Frans, VE3VNC for \$30. This cash was deposited into the Club bank account in July, prior to the fiscal yearend. In addition, John brought to the meeting a box of the last radio odds and ends from the estate, and will give them to Jim, VE3GRT, for future meeting raffles.

Upcoming Presentations

The schedule for presentations is:

September 16	John, VA3AAD – The Signal Hound spectrum analyzer
October 7	John, VA3MDJ - Subject TBA.
October 21	The Second Annual Nortown Garage Sale Extravaganza.
November 4	Ian, VE3IJS, on APRS.
November 18	Bert, VE3ENA – Subject TBA
January 6, 2010	Volunteer needed for this and for subsequent dates..

Ian, VE3IJS, stated that because the annual festive dinner will replace the December meeting, he will be asking individual members to volunteer to make presentation in the new year. He stated that presentations need not be complicated or lengthy, and can be on any radio-related topic. He suggested that members could look at QST “Hands-on-Radio” or “Hints and Kinks” articles for ideas on presentations. ARRL members (only) can access all except the most recent issues at:

<http://www.arrl.org/experiments-1-through-10>

Nortown Annual Garage Sale October 21

Ian, VE3IJS reminded members that the Club garage sale is for the smaller items that members wish to donate to the Club. There will be a silent auction for these during the October 21st meeting, with all of the money raised going to the Club. Unsold items will be collected by Jim, VE3GRT, and raffled off at future Club meetings.

Other, more significant items for which members wish to recover some of their investments can be consigned to Frans, VE3VNC, who will endeavor to sell them at hamfests. Ninety percent of realized selling prices will be returned to the consignor, with ten percent going to the Club.

Club members who may not be able to attend the garage sale, but who have parts or equipment that they would like to donate, can arrange to have items picked up, by emailing the Secretary at john@eternalchaos.com.

Field Day, June 25/26 Weekend

Tony, VE3VME reported on a successful field day, with perfect weather, with three stations operating and with over 500 contacts having been realized. The event was attended by Doug, VE3EES; John, VA3MDJ; Elliot, VA3EJF; Frans, VE3VNC; Ian, VE3IJS; Tom, VE3II, (the site host); John, VA3AAD; and Tony, VE3VME. An enjoyable time was had by all.

Ian, VE3IJS thanked Tony for his dedicated efforts in having organized the event.

New Business

Financial

Tony, VE3VME gave the auditor's report on the August 1, 2010 to July 31, 2011 financial statement. He had examined monthly bank statements with copies of cancelled checks, spreadsheets detailing all income and expense transactions, receipts, Club minutes and the membership list. He submitted a letter stating that "the bank statements are consistent with the supporting materials provided and are comparable with the number of members in the Club and with our Club activities" Ian, VE3IJS thanked Tony for having volunteered to undertake the audit.

John, VA3AAD, gave the attached PowerPoint review of the previous three fiscal years' income and expense statements (attached to these minutes). The July 31, 2011 bank account held \$2859. He pointed out, however, that without the sale of \$2798 worth of donated equipment over the past two years, the bank account would be close to zero. He pointed out that although we have some breathing room, operating costs are very close to revenues and that we will depend on voluntary contributions to stay solvent.

Bert, VE3ENA, collected \$600 in dues and voluntary contributions from the nine members who were present. The coffee collection yielded \$10.85. In Jim, VE3GRT's absence, there was no raffle.

Back Issues of QST

Elliot, VA3EJF offered to give to any Club member a complete set of back issues of QST for the year 2009. John, VA3MDJ accepted the offer, and will clip out pages of "Hints and Kinks" and "Hands-on-Radio" and will make them available to any member who wishes to prepare for a meeting presentation..

Presentation

John, VA3AAD demonstrated his new "Signal Hound" spectrum analyzer and showed the difference between a clean signal from a commercial signal generator and the multiple harmonics generated by home-brewed Colpitts and Clapp oscillators. Information on the Signal Hound can be found at <http://www.signalhound.com/>. A copy of John's PowerPoint presentation, in PDF format, is attached to these minutes and shows the "ugly construction" method used to construct these oscillators..

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Friday, October 7th. Bert, the Club Treasurer will be happy to accept cash or checks for annual dues and for voluntary contributions. The presentation will be given by John, VA3MDJ, subject TBA.

John VA3AAD
Ian, VE3IJS

