

Nortown Amateur Radio Club Minutes of the October 5, 2007 Meeting

Present

Jim VE3GRT	John VA3AAD	Frans VE3VNC
Ian VE3IJS	John VA3MDJ	David VE3VNE
Tony VE3VME	Martin VE3MHC	Bert VE3ENA

Recent member-attendees who were absent

Claus VE3PMD	Vipi VE3PID	Geoff VA3GEG
Bill VE3WHW	Paul VE3PGF	Chris VE3CNK
Jeff VE3QBZ	Andrew VA3CRA	Elliot VA3EJF
Sam VA3SEP	Reg VA3REJ	Doug VE3EES
Tom VE3TEG	Cyril VA3CJE	Jal VE3SOC

Old Business

Financial Report

Martin, VE3MHC, agreed that the list of accounts could be revised to make them more meaningful. The 2006/7 results will be restated so that they can be compared more readily with 2007/8 figures.

Repeater

Tom, VE3TEG, was not present to report on progress.

Elliot VA3EJF was not present to report on his effort to contact Stephen Canney.

John, VA3MDJ, reported that the transmitter that was using our frequency pair seems to have shut down.

Field Day, June 23/24 2007

At the October 19th meeting, Tony, VE3VME, will present a report on our most recent Field Day. In lieu of a meeting presentation, he will lead a technical discussion to develop a list of steps that might be taken to minimize the inter-station interference that was experienced.

Annual Festive Dinner

Ian, VE3IJS, reported that he has booked the Sierra Grill in Bayview Plaza (same location as last year) for Friday evening, December 14th.

Field Trip

A majority again expressed interest in going on a field trip to the Military Communications and Electronics Museum in Kingston. The museum is open on weekends from mid-May to September. Its web site is at:

http://www.c-and-e-museum.org/eng_foyer.html

It was agreed that the event will be scheduled for Saturday May 24th. Further arrangements will be made early next year..

Future Presentations

John VA3AAD again urged members to volunteer to make presentations. Commitments (dates and topics yet to be determined) were gratefully received from VA3MDJ, VE3VNC, VE3IJS, VE3VME, VE3GRT, VE3MHC, and VE3ENA.

On October 19th, there will be a discussion of Field Day inter-station interference. The Nov. 2nd meeting will be photo show night. Members will be asked to bring photographs from the Hammond Museum Field Trip or photos of Club activities, or of their stations, preferably on CD's, so that they can be projected onto a screen. On Nov. 16th, Elliot VA3EJF will give a talk about the repeater.

New Business

Loudspeaker Isolation

Tony, VE3VME reported that “distributed-line sound systems”, for use where there are multiple audio speaker outlets, use inexpensive “70.7V” isolation transformers to eliminate RFI (interference). A spec sheet for such a transformer is at:

<http://www.altecp.com/pdfs/vintage/ElectronicsAndTransformers/transformers/T560%20Transformer.pdf>

He suggested that members experiencing RFI at home might consider using these.

RAC-TCA Antenna Article

John, VA3AAD, recommended an excellent article in the latest TCA issue summarizing pros and cons of various antenna designs for novice and intermediate amateurs.

Presentation

JohnVA3AAD demonstrated a simple one-stage RLC band-pass filter and showed how the output voltage shifts its phase with increasing frequency. He also showed how the RC “time constant” is calculated, which determines how quickly a capacitor is charged and discharged. The two data sheets that were distributed are attached to these minutes.

Financial

As of the first two meetings, (this one, and the one previous), \$545 in “Regular \$35 dues, plus Voluntary Contributions” have been paid by 9 members [last year’s figure was \$670 from 13 members], and \$240 in Voluntary Contributions have been donated by our 6 active Life Members [last year’s figure was \$320].

Voluntary contributions have not yet been received from any out-of-town, or “Non-voting Auxiliary Members” [last year’s contributions from 7 of these valued supporters totaled \$285] . An application form is attached to these minutes showing the .Club address to which such contributions can be mailed.

The meeting’s coffee collection was \$8.85. No equipment raffle was held..

Next Meeting

Will be held at the same location, at 8:00 PM on Friday, October 19th..

73’s,

John

VA3AAD

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