



## Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the January 8, 2010 Meeting

### Present:

John VA3MDJ  
John VA3AAD  
Elliot VA3EJF

Ian VE3IJS  
Bert VE3ENA  
Doug VE3EES

Jim VE3GRT  
Frans VE3VNC  
Tom VE3BKA

### Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Claus VE3PMD  
Sam VA3SEP  
Andrew VA3CRA  
Jost VE3SWI  
Jal VE3SOC  
Vipi VE3PID  
Tony VE3VME

Bill VE3WHW  
Rej VA3REJ  
Ron VA3CCR  
Cyril VA3CJE  
Geoff VA3GEG  
Bernie VE3OTR

Tony VE3XC  
Tom VE3TEG  
Jana VE3BFU  
David VE3VNE  
Paul VE3PGF  
Martin VE3MHC

John, VA3MDJ chaired the meeting.

### *Old Business*

#### Repeater

No progress has been made in setting up the ILP connection. Elliot, VA3EJF and John, VA3AAD should be able to collaborate on this project soon, once Elliot's new basement has been completed.

### RAC Insurance

John, VA3AAD reported that new RAC Insurance procedures are now listed on the RAC website. All renewals are being brought to January 1<sup>st</sup>. The \$75 "named insured" fee is a one-time initial cost and will not apply to Nortown,. However, there is now a \$25 annual cost for maintaining club affiliate status, which is a pre-requisite for being able to buy insurance.. There is also a charge of \$2.75 per year for each Nortown Club member who is not a member of RAC. The bottom line is that the Club's insurance cost for 2010 will be \$117 and approximately \$160 per year starting in 2011. This is still much less than the cost of our former insurance policy.

## **Ontario Bill 118 (mobile handsets ban)**

John, VA3MDJ noted that more “Bluetooth” applications are being designed for use with mobile radios. This subject could warrant discussion at a future meeting.

## **December 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Festive Dinner**

Ian, VE3IJS, reported that there was a profit of \$47.08 from the dinner, due to the reduced cost from having made dessert an optional extra. It was felt that the food was excellent, as usual, and that we were able to use a closed-off area that shielded us from the noise of the other areas of the restaurant.

There was one suggestion, arising out of the fact that we were seated promptly and did not have as much time to mingle and chat at the bar, as in previous years. It was suggested that we make the event a catered cocktail party at someone’s house. Members are asked to give this some thought before the event is planned, this Fall.

## **New Business**

### **Future Presentations**

Future presentations will be:

Bert, VE3ENA, January 22<sup>nd</sup> (A protection device for mobile transmitters)

John VA3MDJ, February 5<sup>th</sup> (Hands-free mobile solutions)

Tom, VE3BKA, February 19<sup>th</sup> (Subject to be determined)

March 5<sup>th</sup> (open)

March 19<sup>th</sup> (open)

Frans, VE3VNC, April 9<sup>th</sup> (Subject to be determined)

April 23<sup>rd</sup> (open)

Volunteers are still needed for six subsequent meetings

## **Financial**

The meeting coffee collection yielded \$8.00, the raffle yielded \$14.

John, VA3AAD, gave a summary of the Club’s financial position as of Dec. 31, with a projection for the fiscal year that will end July 31, 2010. A copy of this summary is attached.

## **Presentation**

John, VA3AAD, gave a refresher on AC circuit theory and how it relates to the Smith Chart. He used an MFJ259 antenna analyzer to measure impedance at the end of a 20 ft. length of coax that was terminated with a known impedance at its other end. He then compared the Smith-calculated impedance with the known-actual value. A copy of this presentation is attached.

## **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on January 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Bayview Community Centre.

Bert, VE3ENA will describe a protection device for mobile transmitters, built around the 555 timer. Hope to see you there.

John Shepherd, VA3AAD

John Carlisle, VA3MDJ