Nortown Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of the October 2nd, 2009 Meeting

Present:

John VA3MDJ	Tom VE3BKA	Vipi VE3PID
John VA3AAD	Bert VE3ENA	Frans VE3VNC
David VE3VNE	Elliot VA3EJF	

Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Claus VE3PMD	Bill VE3WHW	Tony VE3XC
Sam VA3SEP	Rej VA3REJ	Tom VE3TEG
Andrew VA3CRA	Ron VA3CCR	Jana VE3BFU
Jost VE3SWI	Cyril VA3CJE	Bernie VE3OTR
Jal VE3SOC	Geoff VA3GEG	Paul VE3PGF
Doug VE3EES	Jim VE3GRT	Ian VE3IJS
Martin VE3MHC	Tony VE3VME	

John, VA3MDJ chaired the meeting.

Old Business

Repeater

No progress was made in setting up the ILP connection. Elliot, VA3EJF, Martin, VE3MHC and John, VA3AAD will not be able to collaborate on this project until December, at the earliest..

RAC Insurance:

John, VA3AAD reported that details on insurance changes are still not yet available on the RAC website.

Ontario Bill 118 (mobile handsets ban)

John, VA3MDJ stated that October 26th is the deadline to stop using "hand-held wireless and entertainment devices". See the official government publication at:

http://www.ontla.on.ca/bills/bills-files/39_Parliament/Session1/b118.pdf

http://news.ontario.ca/mto/en/2009/09/ontarios-new-rules-for-hand-held-wireless-and-entertainment-devices.html

He stated that although there is still a question as to whether the provincial government has the authority to regulate ham devices, which are regulated federally, in practical terms, the new legislation will ban the use of hand-held ham radios by drivers in moving vehicles.

Under regulations to the act released this week there will be an exemption for "commercial use" of two way radio devices equipped with hand held microphones for a period of three years to permit the development of Bluetooth or other adaptations to allow them to be used in a hands free mode. This will include amateur radio equipment. Hand held amateur radios will come under the ban immediately.

December Annual Festive Dinner

With the Annual Festive dinner scheduled for December 4th this year, there will be no Club meeting in December.

Donated Equipment - Disposal Policy

After some discussion, it was agreed that the major objective of this policy should be to maximize the Club's income from the disposal of such equipment. Accordingly, it was decided that:

(1) Equipment donated to the club will be assessed by Frans, VE3VNC, to determine whether it can probably be sold, at a reasonable price, at hamfests. Frans will take possession of this equipment and will attempt to sell it in this manner.
(2) If such equipment has not been sold at hamfests within one year, then it will be sold either to Club members, through a Club-wide open auction, or sold over the Internet through one of the Ontario Clubs' websites, where such equipment is often listed.
(3) For significant donations, for which VE3VNC feels that local hamfest markets are unsuitable, such equipment will be listed for sale through one of the Ontario Clubs' websites. Nortown members will be able to make offers to purchase this equipment.
(4) If VE3VNC feels that any equipment is not saleable,, then such equipment will be given to Jim, VE3GRT, to sort into lots for raffles at Club meetings.

Disposal of Equipment

Frans, VE3VNC, transferred to the Treasurer, VA3AAD, $50, received from the sale of a key, a low pass filter and some computer components.
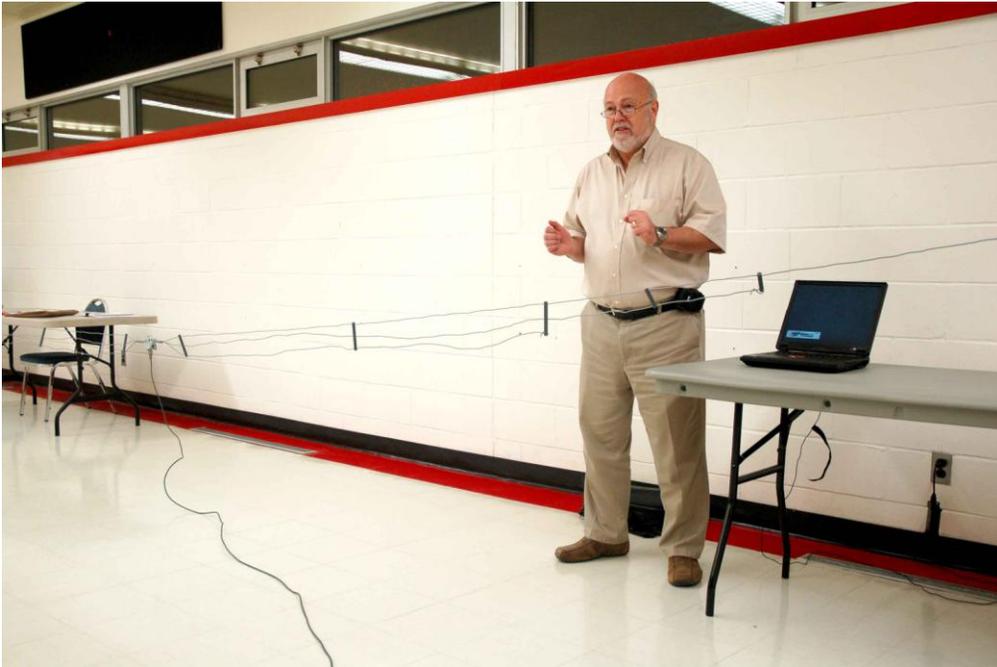
Future Presentations

There was no assignment of topics for future presentations.

Financial

The meeting coffee collection yielded $10.00. There was no equipment raffle.

Presentation

Elliot, VA3EJF demonstrated a compact dipole antenna, capable of operating on the 40, 20 and 15m bands. The antenna had been used at field day, with great success. When demonstrated indoors, only four to six feet from the floor, however, its SWR was unusably high.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on October 16th, at the Bayview Community Centre.

John VA3 MDJ will give the presentation which will be entitled "Who Really Invented Radio?"

Hope to see you there.

John Shepherd, VA3AAD
John Carlisle, VA3MDJ