



## Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012 Meeting

### Present:

Ian VE3IJS  
John VA3MDJ  
Frans VE3VNC  
Ron VA3GRE

Bert VE3ENA  
Doug VE3EES  
David VE3VNE

John VA3AAD  
Tom VE3BKA  
Bernie VE3OTR

### Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Tony VE3VME  
Vince, VE3ELB

Vipi VE3PID  
Jim, VE3GRT

Geoff VE3GEG  
Elliot VA3EJF

Club President, Ian, VE3IJS chaired the meeting. He welcomed a visitor, Ron Groshaw, VA3GRE, who has just obtained his call sign.

### *Old Business*

#### **Repeater**

No change. Elliot, VA3EJF has new IRLP software and had expected to test it by now. .

No change. 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**

No change. 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 17, 2012	Doug, VE3EES – subject tba
March 2, 2012	Frans, VE3VNC, subject tba.
March 16, 2012	John, VA3MDJ, Hands-free mobile update.
April 6, 2012	Bert, VE3ENA – subject tba
April 20, 2012`	<i>Need a volunteer</i>
May 4, 2012	<i>Need a volunteer</i>

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 20<sup>th</sup> May 4<sup>th</sup> and June 1<sup>st</sup> meetings. Yet to commit are Bernie, VE3OTR – York Region Emergency Response and Ian, VE3IJS.

Remember that there is a loose-leaf book [our Presentation Binder] 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>

John, VA3MDJ asked that members bring in and give him old copies of QST and Radcom so that he cut out and file useful articles in the Binder.

### **Sunday Morning Net**

Ian, VA3IJF reminded members that frequency is 28.550 MHz. for the Sunday 11:00 AM Net.

### **Equipment for Sale**

Frans, VE3VNCian, VA3EJF reported that he had met VE7DNN and had collected his equipment. It is expected that most of this will be purchased by Doug, VE3EES.

### **Nortown Web Site**

No change. John, VA3AAD noted that the web site shows an incorrect location for the repeater and an incorrect Net frequency along with numerous other errors. Elliot, VA3EJF will make corrections.

## ***New Business***

There was no new business

### **Finances**

The coffee collection yielded \$9.75. In Jim, VE3GRT’s absence, there was no raffle, however, \$5.00 was collected from the sale of some of the radio parts that had been donated by VE7DNN.

### **Presentation**

John, VA3AAD was unable to give his presentation on mixers because he had discovered just that afternoon that he could not get his two demonstration circuits to work. Instead, he brought in the Club’s back-up UHF repeater and demonstrated how its duplexer could be tuned using a VNWA ( Vector Network Analyzer) undergoing repetitive frequency sweeps. Members took turns tuning the duplexer, while the receiver and transmitter graphs were projected on a screen.

A VNWA chart that reflects the final adjustments is attached to these minutes. The duplexer has one connection for the antenna, distributing 448.650 MHz from the antenna into the receiver and passing 443.650 MHz from the transmitter back to the antenna. The graph with its minimum on the left depicts the receiver side of the duplexer/ It shows that the repeater transmitter frequency of 443.650 MHz. is blocked 65 dB from entering the receiving radio, while only 2 dB of the received 448.650 MHz. signal is lost in passing through the duplexer. The graph with its minimum on the right is for the transmitter side of the duplexer. It shows that only 2 dB of the transmitted 443.650 signal is lost through that side of the duplexer, while 62 dB of the received signal is kept from entering the transmitting radio.

Information on the VNWA can be accessed at:

[http://www.sdr-kits.net/VNWA/VNWA\\_Description.html](http://www.sdr-kits.net/VNWA/VNWA_Description.html)

### ***Next Meeting***

Our next meeting will be held on Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. Doug, VE3EES is now scouring through his many years of in-depth experience, preparing for the meeting's presentation, the subject for which will be announced later..

John, VA3AAD