



Nortown Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the November 2nd, 2012 Meeting

Present:

John VA3MDJ
John VA3AAD
Bert VE3ENA

Frans VE3VNC
Doug VE3EES
Elliot VA3EJF

Ian VE3IJS
David VE3VNE

Recent member-attendees who were absent:

Tom VE3BKA
Tony VE3VME
Ron VA3GRE

Geoff VE3GEG
Vipi VE3PID

Vince VE3ELB
Jim VE3GRT

John, VA3MDJ chaired the meeting,

Old Business

Repeater

John, VA3AAD reported that Elliot, VA3EJF and Vince, VE3ELB had reassembled the repeater but that there was still some work to do to adjust the CAT-200B contrpoller. Hopefully this will have been completed before our next meeting.

EchoLink

Attached to these minutes is a summary of several documents that have already been sent out to all Club members, that are about using EchoLink to access the Club repeater – so that it can be printed and kept as a ready reference.

Ontario Bill 118

John, VA3MDJ will bring a certificate laminator to the next meeting in case members wish to make use of it. Members should carry in their glove compartments a copy of the legislation, which can be downloaded

from: <http://www.ontariocanada.com/registry/view.do?postingId=9043&language=en>

Fox Hunt

Six members - VA3AAD, VE3IJS, VE3ENA, VA3MDJ, VE3VNC and VA3EJF have already agreed to participate, with VE3EES being the fox.

It was agreed that our first fox hunt should be an elementary affair, using a 70 cm. frequency, with a stationary but hidden transmitter, in a large park or conservation area. Since two members (VA3EJF and VE3IJS) already have suitable antennas, only one additional antenna needs to be constructed. Doug, VE3EES will organize a group construction project for a meeting in mid February or early March. Elliot, VA3EJF will assist Doug in designing the logistics of the hunt, to be held before mid May, 2013.

Holiday Festive Dinner

The dinner will now be held at the David Duncan House on Monday, December 3, 2012. Arrival time is between 7:00 PM and 8:00 PM, with dinner served at 8:00 PM. Tickets cost \$45 per person and will be available at the next meeting. Dessert, wine and coffee will be extra and will be billed at the dinner..

Ian, VA3IJS has already sold eleven tickets.

December Club Meetings

There will be no Club meetings on December 7th or December 21st.

Fourth Annual "Garage Sale"

This sale was a success, collecting \$84 and a new supply of gear for Jim, VE3GRT to raffle off.



VE3ENA with contributions from his shop.



VE3VNC with his bargains – making a quick exit./

Future Presentations

November, 16, 2012

Tom, VE3BKA Subject t.b.a.

January 4, 2013

John, VA3AAD, - Cavity Resonators.

Mid-February or early March 2013

Doug, VE3EES Construction of a 70cm fox hunt antenna

Members are urged to take turns preparing presentations. John. VA3MDJ reminded everyone that a loose-leaf book with scores of potential topics is kept in the meeting room cupboard. Several members are available who can coach members in the rudiments of PowerPoint preparation, which is really quite easy and intuitive..

New Business

Monday Evening 9:00 PM Nortown Repeater Net

It was agreed that Monday evenings at 9:00 PM would be the best time to hold a net using our repeater. Members who cannot transmit directly to the repeater can use EchoLink in two ways: to either transmit to a closer repeater that does provide EchoLink, or to use a computer or iPad to connect directly through EchoLink. The attached document describes how to do this.

[Addendum – added after the meeting] The first Monday night UHF net was held on November 5th and was great success, with VA3EJF and VE3EES participating through iPhone or iPad connected to EchoLink, and VE3IJS, VE3ENA and VA3AAD using base stations or hand-helds, transmitting to the Nortown repeater. All communications were clear, with excellent audio. Out-of-town members and ex-members are encouraged to set their alarm clocks and to log on to this net to keep in touch with the Club.

Financial

The meeting coffee collection yielded \$4.25. In VE3GRT's absence, there was no raffle.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 8:00 PM on Friday, November 16th at the Bayview Community Centre. Tom. VE3BKA is preparing a talk on directional antennas.

John Shepherd
VA3AAD
and
John Carlisle
VA3MDJ