



October 2002

Quinte Amateur Radio Club Inc. Newsletter

PO Box 23039 BELLEVILLE Ontario K8P 5J3

NOTICE OF MEETING:

DATE / TIME: October 16, 2002 @ 7:30PM

LOCATION: Loyalist College, Alumni Hall. Kente Building

PROGRAM: AMSAT New Projects 2002 - 2006 a presentation by Robin Haighton VE3FRH. See below for more details.

Club Repeater: VE3QAR 146.985 MHz.

2 meter net: Tuesday 7:30 PM on VE3TJU 146.730

QARC HomePage <http://www.qarc.on.ca>

QARC HomePage <http://www.qarc.on.ca/> provided free of charge by:

Lakeshore Internet Services, 199 Front St, Suite 113

Belleville K8N 5H5 (613) 962-9299

Monthly Meetings: 3rd Wednesday 7:30 PM Loyalist College
(Pioneer Bldg.) Room P-17

Hams 'n Eggs: SATURDAYS 8:00 AM Quinte Restaurant 135 Cannifton Road

Foxhunt: Sundays at 2PM. Check in on VE3QAR for details.

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QARC EXECUTIVE

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Quinte Amateur Radio Club Minutes for September 18th, 2002

The meeting was opened by our President, **Peter, and VA3PKH** at 7:30 pm and introduced our guest speaker for the evening **Syd, VE3EGO**. Also peter announced that our next month's speaker is **Robin Haighton VE3FRH President of AMSAT – NA**. His presentation will be "AMSAT New projects 2002 – 2006". The meeting will take place at Loyalist College, not in our usual meeting room, but in the Theatre room nearby the cafeteria.

There is a need for Net Controllers this fall for the Bay Bridge Net that is held every Tuesday evening at 7:30 pm. Please contact Peter to volunteer. It is an informal Net and the script is on the WEB page and no experience is necessary. This is a good way to get to know a lot of Hams in the area.

Peter, VA3PKH, summarized the Club activities over the summer holidays as follows:

Summer Dinner Meetings: Instead of our regular meetings during the months of July & August, we met for dinner and a rag chew at our local establishments. This year we met at Crabby Joe's in July and Montana's in August. For those in attendance a good time was had by all.

Saturday Morning Breakfast (Hams & Eggs): Our traditional Saturday am breakfast meeting has been moved to the **Quinte Restaurant** at the corner of College and Cannifton. So if you missed us at the Northway, now you know why! The Hams arrive at about 7:45 am.

Other Business:

Tower Relocation Update: Tim, VE3UO, is still waiting for a reply to proceed with the Stirling location. (As an update to this, Dave Ward, VE3BIP & Tim, VE3UO met with a Bell representative, Lawrence Lainchbury and the Club is very close to receiving approval. There are some details to work out but no major obstacles and no fee, if the Club is willing to do a bit of grass cutting and building sweeping as required. More at next month's meeting so be there!).

Ares: with Ron, VE3IVC

There are three events coming up that require 2M communications.

1. Assist the Toronto Auto Sport Club, for the "Upper Canada Car Rally" to be held just north of Marysville on September 21. Communications will be required at every check-point this year, so more volunteers will be required. (As an update there were 16 check-points this year and two different routes. Ron will update at next months meeting).

2. Assist the Mothers & Daughters Walk-a-Thon at Zwick's Is. on Sunday September 22. 6 or 7 Volunteers are required. Be at Zwick's Is by 12:30 pm. There is a choice of a 2K or 4 K walk.
3. Our traditional "Pumpkin Watch" Safe Streets Halloween night vigil on Thursday October 31st. Volunteers will be required between 5:00 pm and 8:00 pm. If you are interested you must let RON know at next months meeting at the latest, as a background check is required of every volunteer by the local Police.

Peter, VA3PKH, asked how many at the meeting have Palm Pilot type PDA's. Four in attendance had PDAs. Possibly fewer than he expected!

Peter, VA3PKH, announced for those that are not aware that **QST** is no longer sold at newsstands. The primary reason is cost. If you want to receive QST you must now be a subscriber or a pass along reader (if you are so lucky).

Our guest speaker corrected his topic by saying he will talk about "the challenges in Amateur Radio" not advancements in Amateur radio.

His talked briefly about ways of chasing DX. One of the most important considerations in chasing DX is knowing or becoming familiar with the "habits" of the DX station. You can also use "DX Clusters" for identifying rare DX.

A useful WEB site for DXer's is <http://oh2aq.kolumbus.com/dxs>. This site provides a variety of information depending how you ask for it. For example, you can ask for DX by Bands up to 1.2 GHz. Or by call sign, and ask for the last time they were on frequency. You can ask for when a DX station last worked in NA. There are many different ways to sort. Check it out.

Syd is still looking for P5 – North Korea.

Other kinds of DX are Satellite. Syd talked about A013 a High Earth Orbit Satellite that was great fun working until it died in 1992 when its battery failed. In the November 2000 the AMSAT OSCAR-40 satellite was launched. In December 2000 an "event" (a possible explosion) took place aboard the satellite. The command teams are assessing which systems are truly lost and which systems are temporarily unavailable. Currently the 2.4-GHz S2 transmitter performs flawlessly and the 1.2-GHz and 435-MHz are working well. The 24-GHz transmitter is operating nominally. AO-40 has a proverbial antenna farm, consisting of a 2M Ant array, a 70 cm patch antenna consisting of six patch antennas that are phased to form a single array, dishes for 1.2-GHz, 2.4-GHz, and 8 GPS antennas. The satellite is about 8 feet in diameter with a wingspan of 20 feet with the solar panels unfolded. Currently you can work Europe, Africa and the America's on one day and on the second day the America's, the Pacific countries and New Zealand and eastern Australia. On the third day AO-40's footprint covers India, China, eastern Russia, Australia and the Pacific countries. The apogee 65000 KM and appears stationary for about 8 hours each day.

Syd took an interest in communicating with this satellite and decided to build a dish. He emphasized that he could not buy a suitable dish for this purpose. It is more fun building one. You need lots of gain, like 30 dB. He talked in detail about the characteristics and design features required for a 5ft 6in or 140cm dish to provide high gain and also described how to build it. He first thought about using a 3-foot Dish. Believe it or not but Syd said that a Spider Web gave him the idea for his design. He described the building in very great detail outlining all of the many challenges he faced to obtain accuracy to within a fraction of an inch. He covered the Dish with Aluminum mesh and explained in detail how he designed his dish. If you know Syd, everything must be exact and this is a compliment to his interest in the hobby.

If you were not at the meeting you missed an excellent talk. He spent about 400 hours and 5 weeks to complete this project!! He talked for about one entertaining hour.

Following this **Fine Business** presentation we had our usual coffee and rag chew.

Door Prize: Again, donated by **Eric, VE3GSI** thanks Eric. This month's prize was a QRZ CD ROM, vol 17, summer 2001. **Dick, VE3EER** won the Door Prize. . Congratulations Dick.

50/50: Ron, VE3IVC, won the 50/50 draw.

The attendance was 26.

The meeting ended about 9:30 pm, a good time was had by all.

Mike, VE3VMP
Secretary, QARC

October Meeting Program

October Meeting - Wednesday October 16, 2002.

Our speaker for October will be Robin Haighton VE3FRH President of AMSAT - NA. Robin's presentation will be "AMSAT New projects 2002 - 2006". He will talk about what AMSAT is doing for the Ham community, and take a look at the latest designs of satellites they are building. There will be a question and answer period. The Location is the Alumni Hall at Loyalist College in the main Kente Building at 7:30 PM.

All Amateurs and other interested individuals in the area are welcome to attend.

Invitations have been sent out to the Presidents of our neighboring clubs - so that we know approximately how many people to expect, please contact your President if you are interested in attending - or send a note to QARC

President Peter Hodgson **VA3PKH**.

va3pkh@rac.ca

New Ham

I'm very happy to report that Sylvia Brown (XYL of Kent VA3KNQ) wrote and passed her Basic License. Obviously still waiting for her callsign. Congratulations to Sylvia. Hope to hear you on the air soon.

Fox Hunting

The second tour of the county foxhunt was held on September 14. The three foxes were Ian VE3IEM hid at an old baseball field on Kingsley Road near the Picton airport, Ralph VE3CSU hid on Wesley Acres Road at the entrance to Wesley Acres and Dave VE3UGT hid on Black Road near Demorestville.

There were nine teams hunting. Peter VA3PKH found three foxes with 74.5 klm, Brian VE3GRA three foxes with 81.1 klm, Dave VE3BIP two foxes with 63.8 klm, Ron VE3IVC two foxes with 69 klm, Jim VE3PLP two foxes with 86 klm, VE3UO Tim one fox with 25 klm, Rick VE3IQZ one fox with 30.4 klm, Mike VE3VMP one fox with 40.6 and Mike VE3MPA found none.

We met at McCauley Mountain Conservation Area after for some to brag and others to give excuses as to why they didn't find all of the foxes.

QARC Saturday morning breakfast Reminder.

Our Saturday Morning Breakfast has changed location as of Saturday July 20. We will now be meeting same time (8:00 am) for breakfast at the Quinte Restaurant 135 Cannifton Road (The North East Corner of College & Cannifton in the plaza) We found this Restaurant can better accommodate us as it has a row of tables in one area permanently set up that can seat about 14 with more tables close by for an additional 8.

Treasurers Report

MONTH TO DATE

Revenue		Expenses	
Membership Dues	\$100.00	Insurance	\$583.20
Coffee	\$10.30	Office Supplies	\$52.59
50/50 Draw	\$14.50	Donations	\$75.00
Donations to QARC		News letter printing	\$14.91
Interest		Name Tags	
		Hall Rental (Field Day)	
		Post Box Rental	
Total revenue	\$124.80	Total Expenses	\$725.70
		Month to Date Income	-\$600.90

YEAR TO DATE

Revenue		Expenses	
Membership Dues	\$100.00	Social Events	
Donations to QARC		Post box rental	\$77.04
50/50 Draw	\$14.50	Office supplies	\$52.59
Coffee	\$10.30	News letter printing	\$14.91
Repeater Move		Door Prizes	
Interest	\$0.37	Insurance	\$583.20
		Donations	\$75.00
		RAC Membership	
		Hall Rental	\$30.00
		Incorporation	
		Name Tags	\$8.05
Total revenue	\$125.17	Total Expenses	\$840.79
		Year to Date Income	-\$715.62
		Cash at July 1/02	\$4,453.61
		Cash on Hand	\$3,737.99

