



*February 2003*

## Quinte Amateur Radio Club Inc. Newsletter

**PO Box 23039 BELLEVILLE Ontario K8P 5J3**

### **NOTICE OF MEETING:**

**DATE / TIME:** February 19 2003 @ 7:30PM

**LOCATION:** Loyalist College (Pioneer Building) **Room P-17A**

**PROGRAM:** Deputy Chief Wayne Tremble of the Belleville Police Service will be giving a presentation on the new Radio Communication System recently installed.

**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.**

**RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA ADDRESS:**

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**Phone: (613) 244-4367 Fax: (613) 244-4369.**

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### **QARC EXECUTIVE**

**PRESIDENT:** Peter Hodgson VA3PKH 962-1386 (E-mail: [phodgson@kos.ca](mailto:phodgson@kos.ca))

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Bill Milligan VA3WOW (E-mail [va3wow@rac.ca](mailto:va3wow@rac.ca))

**SECRETARY:** Mike Papper VE3VMP 969-1744 ([nancy@lks.net](mailto:nancy@lks.net))

**TREASURER:** Don Dalrymple VE3DQN 968-9242 (E-mail: [ve3dqn@rac.ca](mailto:ve3dqn@rac.ca))

**PAST PRESIDENT:** Dave Ackerman VE3UGT 962-3991 (E-mail: [ve3ugt@rac.ca](mailto:ve3ugt@rac.ca))

# Quinte Amateur Radio Club Minutes

## For January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2003

Mike VE3VMP, Secretary, QARC

The meeting was opened by, our President, **Peter VA3PKH** at about 7:30 pm. We were informed at our Guest Speaker cancelled at the last minute.

### Updates on Committees:

**Antenna: Tim VE3UO:** no news on the repeater relocation. We are still waiting for approval by Bell Canada to proceed with this project.

In the absence of the guest speaker the floor was open to anyone who wished to make any comments.

**ARES: Ron VE3IVC:** Ron gave us an interesting summary of this year's Dog Sled races. It was a two-day event Saturday and Sunday. Saturday there were 18 teams, and the distance was 40 miles round trip. Sunday there were 17 teams and the distance was 20 miles. They started at Eldorado and finished at Gilmore. There were 9 checkpoints. Each team started 2 minutes apart. The temperature was about minus 18 degree C with winds up to 20 mph. The total time to complete the course for both races was about 4 hours.

There is another Dog Sled race on February 15/16 in L'Amble.

**Terry VE3GTS** is rebuilding the VE3RTY UHF repeater on 443.375 Mhz and asked if anyone in Belleville would contact him so he can check out his receiver. The transmitter is not ready yet. **Bill VA3WOW**, **Tim VE3UO** and **Mike VE3VMP** volunteered to make contact on the weekend. (Postscript: based on the signals from Belleville, the receiver is working FB).

**The 50/50 draw** was won by **Ralph VE3CSU** congratulations.

**Dave VE3BIP** talked about a new FOX HUNT receiver that he purchased on the internet. Normally we use a passive attenuator about 90db between the transceiver and Antenna; but this method falls down at close range, as all of our local Fox Hunters know only too well. His new unit has a built-in attenuator that auto steps up to 135db. It will get you within a foot of your target, as he demonstrated at the meeting. He says it has excellent construction and is battery operated. There are 9 attenuation steps. It indicates the signal strength by providing a very low frequency tone. It is very lightweight and e/w a rubber ducky and headphone input. It will receive AM or FM. If you use a stereo headphone you could hear the demodulated signal in one ear and the tone in the other ear. It has 10 memories. It cost about \$180.00 U.S. It took about 2 weeks to get from Australia.

Dave also provided an update on his wireless LAN saying that an amplifier is available that puts out 1 watt or about 15db of gain. The receiver side has a 20db preamp and this could extend the range over distance by about a factor of 4. The cost is about \$80.00 U.S.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

**February:** Eric VE3GSI will talk about the Rig Runner at next months meeting.

**March:** Dave VE3BIP will talk on Spread Spectrum.

**April:** Auction.

**May:** Elections.

**June:** Trip to CFB Trenton Museum.

**July/August:** Local restaurant socials, on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays.

It was mentioned that **Harold Carruthers VE3NW** is legally blind and has some items for sale, a 48 ft HD Delhi Tower, a 20M beam, a 6M beam and a HAM IV Rotor.

**Peter VA3PKH** asked if anyone is interested in going to the Rochester Ham fest at the end of June in a rented Bus?

**Bill VE3NFP** mentioned that one year they went with the Bus that was going to the Lilac Festival that happened to be the same weekend at a very reasonable cost.

**Al VE3OX** is now resident at the **Hastings Manor** and his room number is NW#17. He now has a telephone and he has his old number – 966-0668, please give him a call and say hello.

**Dave VE3UGT** is asking for articles for the bulletin, anything of interest to Hams, anywhere from one-quarter to one-half page is “OK”.

There is a new IRLP link in Campbellford and it was mentioned that there are now over 800 Nodes world wide and growing. It should be operational by the time you read this bulletin.

The Rag Chew continued over coffee and Tim Bits for another 20 minutes or so.

**Ian VA3IEM** and **Dave VE3BIP** are trying to set up a link between Belleville and Picton so that we could access the DX Cluster locally with our HT's. If you would like more info on DX Clusters go to [www.QSL.NET/DXLAB](http://www.QSL.NET/DXLAB) or [DXLAB.HAYBAY.NET](http://DXLAB.HAYBAY.NET).

**There was no new Business.**

There was 26 in attendance and the meeting adjourned about 8.35 pm.

Don't forget **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. The Hams arrive at about 8:00 am. A number of Hams are also meeting here for dinner before Wednesday's meeting. Join the group for a pleasant dinner and rag chew.

# THE HAM CALLSIGN DATABASE IS BECOMING UNRELIABLE

From the Skyhook Newsletter. Submitted by Gary Westhouse VE3NIT

Since April 2000, Canadian hams no longer had to pay an annual fee to renew their Amateur Radio licence. However, with the elimination of this annual spring ritual, the yearly confirmation of the validity of a ham's address ( or even of some callsigns) has been lost. This casts doubt on many of the addresses and callsigns shown in industry Canada's ham database.

Presently, Industry Canada informs the Radio Amateurs of Canada of all changes made their ham database. R.A.C., in turn makes a form of this database available on their website [www.rac.ca](http://www.rac.ca). The VE3 QSL Bureau relies on the accuracy of the information in this database when mailing incoming QSL cards to hams in Ontario. Therefore, it is imperative that individual hams inform Industry Canada when they change their address.

With regard to hams that have become Silent Keys, Industry Canada will accept this information only from the next-of-kin of those hams. However, in many cases, the next-of-kin may have had no involvement in the Silent Key's hobby and therefore do not know that they should inform Industry Canada of the ham's demise. Even if a ham's passing is published in the "Silent Keys" column of the *The Canadian Amateur*, such notification will not be accepted by Industry Canada as proof of the ham's passing; the information must come to them directly from the next -of-kin.

In a somewhat similar vein, at a recent amateur radio flea market, one ham was overheard telling another that he was not able to get personalized plates for his car. This was because a Silent Key's next-of-kin had not surrendered the old plates bearing the ham callsign to the Ministry of Transportation.

To assure the validity of the ham database, all hams should ensure that their current address is properly registered with Industry Canada. They should also urge fellow hams to do likewise in fact, it is a requirement that appeared on the reverse side of all the licence renewal forms when they were issued each year. Also, if a ham knows of any next-of-kin who have not informed Industry Canada of a ham's passing, they should ask those persons to send such notification to that government department using one of the following methods:

By Mail:            Industry Canada  
                      P. O. Box 9654  
                      Postal Station "T"  
                      Ottawa, ON K1G 6K9

By Fax:            1-613-991-5575

By Phone (toll free)   1-888-780-333

By Email:          [spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca](mailto:spectrum.amateur@ic.gc.ca)

Every ham should make a concerted effort to ensure that the Amateur Radio Callsign Database does not completely lose its creditability.

## IRLP Trivia

Tim VE3UO found a website [http://wa2dci.com/node\\_dist.php](http://wa2dci.com/node_dist.php) where you can calculate distances between nodes. From our node to Node 6200 VK6RFM in Fremantle Australia it is 18243 KLM. This is the node that Don VK6DN calls on most evenings.

## Rochester Hamfest

This is a survey to determine how many hams would like to go to the Rochester Hamfest June 2,3,4 of this year. What we're thinking of is to car pool down depending on how many hams are interested in going. If we have a large group interested, we would possibly look at renting a bus. Departure time would be about 2:00 AM in order to arrive for the opening of the hamfest. Time of departure for the return trip would be dependent on majority decision. Anyone interested contact Mike Papper VE3VMP [ve3vmp@rac.ca](mailto:ve3vmp@rac.ca) at 969-1744

This is a trip plan from Streets & Trips. If it is accurate a 4AM start might be ok.

Time	Km	Instruction	For
<b>4:00 AM</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>Depart 103 Bell Blvd, Belleville ON on Bell Blvd (East)</b>	<b>0.3 km</b>
4:00 AM	0.3	Turn LEFT (North) onto HWY-62 [Front St N]	0.5 km
4:01 AM	0.8	Turn RIGHT (East) onto HWY-401 [Macdonald-Cartier Fwy]	118.0 km
5:14 AM	118.8	Turn RIGHT (South) onto HWY-137	4.4 km
5:17 AM	123.2	Continue (South-East) on 137	20 m
<i>5:17 AM</i>	<i>123.2</i>	<i>Entering New York</i>	
5:17 AM	123.2	*Toll road* Bear RIGHT (South) onto I-81	0.3 km
5:18 AM	123.4	At I-81 Exit 52, stay on I-81 (South)	129.7 km
<i>6:32 AM</i>	<i>253.1</i>	<i>Rest break (30 mins)</i>	
7:02 AM	253.1	At I-81 Exit 32, stay on I-81 (South)	23.3 km
7:17 AM	276.4	At I-81 Exit 25A, turn off onto Ramp	0.7 km
7:18 AM	277.2	*Toll road* Merge onto I-90 [New York State Thruway] (West)	127.2 km
8:32 AM	404.4	At I-90 Exit 46, turn off onto Ramp	2.4 km
8:35 AM	406.8	Merge onto SR-253 [Lehigh Station Rd] (East)	2.3 km
8:38 AM	409.1	Turn RIGHT (South) onto SR-15A [E Henrietta Rd]	2.9 km
<b>8:41 AM</b>	<b>412.0</b>	<b>Arrive SR-15A, Henrietta, NY 14467</b>	

### **SUMMARY**

Driving distance: 412.0 kilometers

Trip duration: 4 hours, 41 minutes

Driving time: 4 hours, 11 minutes

**NOTE:** It would be about 125 klm if we didn't have to drive around the lake.

## Echo Link

Tom VE3UDO now has a link for Echo Link via 2m. Here are the details: Freq: 146.400 Simplex, Node: 80428 Simply go to the frequency and enter 80428 to connect to the Link. To disconnect hit #. After you're connected, you can enter any other Echo Link node and make contact virtually anywhere. Echo Link nodes are available off the internet Echo Link site. Great audio and coverage.

## Q SIGNALS THAT NEVER MADE IT

From the Skyhook newsletter. Submitted by Jerry Proc VE3FAB

Some Q signals have never made it to the ARRL's official list. Here are some that many agree would be useful in appropriate situations. As with regular Q signals, each can be a statement or a question, depending on whether a question mark follows it.

- QBA - My antenna is BIG!
- QBA? - How big is your antenna?
- QBO - Don't sit next to that guy in the meeting.
- QBO? - Buddy, can you spare some soap?
- QBS - It's getting deep in here
- QBS? - Did I tell you about the one that got away?
- QCP - I am using Cat Power (From Rotary Cat Power Wheel)
- QCP? - Are you using Cat Power?
- QCW - I am going to whistle Morse Code on FM (or SSB)
- QCW? - Why are you whistling Morse?
- QDR - Damn Right the frequency is busy! (In response to QRL)
- QDR? - Do you have a Receiver? (In response to QRL)
- QET - Phone home
- QET? - Has anyone called me from another planet?
- QFH - This frequency is MINE! – go elsewhere.
- QFH? - Is this frequency hogged?
- QHI - I am jumping in quick to say hi, then going QRT.
- QHI? - Are you leaving after only one transmission?
- QLF - I am sending with my left foot.
- QLF? - Are you sending with your left foot?
- QOK - Your last transmission was Okie Dokie.
- QOK? - Was my last transmission OK?
- QPM - Your signal is purr modulated.
- QPM? - Is my signal purr modulated?
- QRC - Warning, rag chewer on frequency.
- QRC? - Are you a rag chewer?
- QWC? - Who cares?
- QWC - I don't care.
- QZZ - I fell asleep at the mike.
- QZZ? - Is that a 60Hz hum, or are you snoring?

# Treasurers Report

## MONTH TO DATE

Revenue		Expenses	
Membership Dues	\$425.00	Rac Membership	
Coffee	\$10.30	Office Supplies	\$12.00
50/50 Draw	\$17.00	Incorporation	
Donations to QARC		News letter printing	\$20.62
Interest	\$0.17	Insurance	
		Social Events	
		Donations	
Total revenue	\$452.47	Total Expenses	\$32.62
		Month to Date Income	\$419.85

## YEAR TO DATE

Revenue		Expenses	
Membership Dues	\$850.00	Social Events	\$21.76
Donations to QARC	\$105.00	Post box rental	\$77.04
50/50 Draw	\$72.50	Office supplies	\$143.77
Coffee	\$30.00	News letter printing	\$57.72
Repeater Move	\$0.00	Door Prizes	
Interest	\$1.03	Insurance	\$622.08
		Donations	\$226.00
		RAC Membership	
		Hall Rental	\$30.00
		Incorporation	
		Name Tags	\$8.05
Total revenue	\$1,058.53	Total Expenses	\$1,186.42
		Year to Date Income	-\$127.89
		Cash on Hand	\$4,325.72