



February 2003

Quinte Amateur Radio Club Inc. Newsletter

PO Box 23039 BELLEVILLE Ontario K8P 5J3

NOTICE OF MEETING:

DATE / TIME: February 18, 2004 @7:30PM

LOCATION: Loyalist College (Pioneer Building) Room P-2

PROGRAM A show and tell of ham related computer software.
If you have a laptop with Ham software please
bring it along.

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

RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA ADDRESS:

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QARC EXECUTIVE

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

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

SECRETARY: Mike Papper VE3VMP 969-1744 (ve3vmp@sympatico.ca.)

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

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

Quinte Amateur Radio Club Minutes

For January 21st, 2004

Mike, VE3VMP Secretary, QARC

The meeting opened at 7:40 pm by our President, **Peter VA3PKH**. There was no new or old business, and we did not have a special guest speaker. Instead, the meeting consisted of a “show and tell” of new rigs that members bought recently and explained why they purchased their particular equipment. Most of the rigs were operational and members had the opportunity to “touch and feel” and ask questions during the evening.

Bill VA3WOW talked about his Yaesu 817 5W all mode all band radio. He was looking for a compact rig that he could fit into a small plastic box that he could carry around with him. This rig seems to work best on 15 and 20 Meters. Has been able to talk to **Paul VE3UUM** on 6 Meters Simplex FM. The price ranges from \$764 to \$894. The antenna costs another \$100.00.

Our President **Peter VA3PKH** talked about his Yaesu FT 897 100W all mode all band rig. Peter was looking for a rig that could be used in the car and at home. Peter also showed his heavy Duty 2M Yaesu 2800 that he enjoys using as his primary 2M mobile rig. It has a very large display that is easy to read.

Keith VE3KRV showed us his Kenwood TS 50 + AT that is neatly assembled into an easy-to-carry metal case e/w a handle that he used in his motor home. But the TS50 was an HF rig only and Keith was looking for an all mode all band compact rig. He just purchased a Yaesu 987 on this afternoon of this meeting, after receiving permission from his XYL! He also purchased the external auto tuner that is e/w a fan that runs all the time and finds this to be a little annoying. Once the warranty is up he said he would install a thermal switch.

Tim VE3UO talked about his – what else – Yaesu FT 1500 2M mobile wired to accept TNC/APRS. Tim also has a Yaesu FT 957 100W all mode all band rig, including 220 Mhz. The TF 857 and Ft 897 were introduced just months apart. Tim is our local Yaesu ambassador.

Al VE3LAW talked about his new Vertex (Yaesu) VX 150 2M only HT. It is a very basic rig and works very well, e/w an alphanumeric display. The batteries can be charged in or out of the rig. It has a metal case and is very rugged.

Mike VE3VMP showed his ICOM 2720 that is about a year old design. It is a dual band unit with a detachable front end. The mic can be connected either into the removable head or the base unit. It is e/w with two separate speaker jacks that allows listening to both bands at the same time. It is also equipped for cross-band repeating. It is also e/w with a data jack for a TNC. The manual is difficult to understand.

Dave VE3UGT talked about his Alnico 605TQ 2M/440 rig that is one of the very few rigs on the market that will “cross-band repeat”. This was Dave’s special requirement. He can operate his HT on 440 from his garage and it will transmit on 2M from his house. Neat!

Ron VE3IVC is looking after the estate of **Darell Walsh VE3KFW**. Contact Ron at 966-2910 if you are interested in any gear that is still available.

Ron VE3UGU won the Door Prize - a new RAC Operating Manual.

Don VE3UHO won the 50/50 draw.

Syd VE3EGO was looking for someone in the area with 70cm (440 Mhz) SSB to monitor him. Bill VA3WOW volunteered.

Tim VE3UO gave a brief update on a potential future amateur radio course that could be held at the Bayside Fire Hall on Mondays and Thursdays. This is not confirmed. But more importantly, volunteers are required to teach the course. If you are interested please contact Tim.

There will be a FUN RUN on Sunday March 28th both 5K and 10K course. Contact Tim VE3UO if you would like to volunteer for communications.

Next month there will not be a special guest speaker; but will ask members how they use their computers to enhance their radio hobby. So tell us about any special software that you use to compliment Amateur Radio.

The traditional coffee and donuts were available during the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

The attendance was 29.

What has RAC done for me lately?

Did you know that...RAC last paid the IARU \$4,438.74 (Canadian funds) for one year. This breaks down to about 7 U.S. cents per Canadian Amateur. The actual amount paid varies with the movement of the Canadian dollar VS the US dollar.

This is based upon the number of actual Amateurs, not clubs or repeaters or duplicates. Of course, it is entirely possible that some silent keys slip through and are counted, simply because family, Amateur Radio friends of the deceased or members of his/her club failed to advise I.C. This is definitely a problem but only the Amateur Radio community can fix it.

RAC also pays each year, on behalf of ALL Radio Amateurs in Canada, an amount at last count of \$3,450 Canadian, to the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC).

So, it can be fairly stated that those who are members of RAC pay out about \$8,000 yearly to pay not only for RAC members but for non-members as well, for the good of Amateur Radio in this country.... LET'S DO OUR PART by becoming part of the team TODAY.

Canadian Hailed as Father of The PC

Submitted by AI VE3WV

Canada is the birthplace of the telephone and cellphone. Now it has been recognized as the home of another invention -- the first personal computer.

It never made a rich man of its inventor, Mers Kutt, who still works with computers and ekes out a living in his Toronto house. But the MCM-70 Microcomputer, unveiled by Micro computer Machines 30 years ago and built at least four years before the Apple, has been recognized as the first of its kind in a recent issue of IEEE Annals of the History of Computing a respected journal based in the United States. With only two to eight kilobytes of random access memory and 14 kilobytes of read-only memory, the computer's capacity was small compared with the megabyte -- rich machines we have today. It was the size of a typical typewriter of that time and used a cassette tape instead of a floppy disk to store data. But it was "capable of running many useful applications," said Zbigniew Stachniak, author of the article and an associate professor at York University.

The MCM-70 marked a great stride forward in the development of a new generation of cost-effective computer systems. "It was remarkable to me that they envisioned the need for computers for personal use," Prof. Stachniak said. "They saw people as the target, not only corporations, not only the government but that we would require computers on our desks." Mr. Kutt, a 70-year old entrepreneur and computer wizard speaks enthusiastically, albeit with a lot of computer jargon, about team building each piece of machine and software.

"We had a complete work system -- the operating system and the language were all in hardware in a computer," he said in an interview. "We not only had spreadsheet capability, we had the mother-of-all- spreadsheets right in the computer."

Mr. Kutt is not frustrated that his work hasn't received much attention until now. Instead, he's relishing the moment. "There are many reasons why this is great," he said. "I think in Canada, if anybody gets recognized for something they did, it's good. In some fields -- and computers is one of them -- we haven't done a lot to acknowledge what has been done. We're all proud of having done it. We definitely knew we were doing something that was just a total breakthrough and that nothing else had been accomplished like that," he added.

Although successful in his inventions, Mr. Kutt had some difficulty and setbacks in business along the way. In the early 1970's he was squeezed out of one company, Consolidated Computer Inc., where he had created a data entry system. Hungry for a new venture, he founded Micro Computer Machines, and eventually the MCM-70 was born. He financed it initially through friends and then got a legal firm to invest in it. The MCM-70 received publicity, especially in Canada, Europe and the United States. There were financial troubles and, as Mr. Kutt described it, he was eventually squeezed out of the company. He is still bitter about that experience. As for losing out on a lot of recognition over the past 30 years for the invention of the first microprocessor, Mr Kutt paused for a moment, and then said: "There's a lot of people out there, and I won't mention the companies, but they write articles about themselves having built it. "In Canada, we don't really look for big acknowledgments unless they sort of come your way. This was a bit of a fluke they way it all happened," he said with a knowing chuckle.

Now that's QRP!!

(RSGB News)

Over the Christmas period, Richard Newstead, G3CWI, carried out tests with a transmitter running just under 3 microwatts. This small signal was positively identified by two stations in Germany, one in Holland and one in Belgium.

The transmissions were on the 10 MHz band using very slow CW with 30-second dot lengths. This is a technique that has been widely used for LF communications at 136 kHz but is less common on the HF bands. Richard was encouraged to try this low power after receiving 'complaints' that earlier test transmissions using 150 milliWatts were "too strong"! There is an active group of HF QRSS experimenters in Europe and details are on the Internet: www.cnts.be/knights_qrss

Inner Peace

I am passing this on to you because it has definitely worked for me...and at this time of year we all could use a little...calm!!! By following the simple advice I read in an article, I have finally found inner peace...the article read: "The way to achieve inner peace is to finish all the things you've started." So I looked around the house to see all the things I started and hadn't finished....and before coming to work this morning I finished off a bottle of red wine, a bottle of white, the Bailey's, Kahlua and Tia Maria, my Prozac, some valium, and a box of chocolates. You have no idea how freakin good I feel.... You may pass this on to those you feel are in need of Inner Peace.

Treasurers Report

MONTH TO DATE

Revenue		Expenses	
Membership Dues	\$325.00	Rac Membership	
Coffee	\$14.50	Office Supplies	
50/50 Draw	\$22.50	Incorporation	\$7.34
Donations to QARC	\$30.00	News letter printing	\$27.29
Interest	\$0.18	Insurance	
		Social Events	
		Donations	
Total reve nue	\$392.18	Total Expenses	\$34.63
		Month to Date Income	\$357.55

YEAR TO DATE

Revenue		Expenses	
Membership Dues	\$500.00	Guest Speaker	\$25.82
Donations to QARC	\$30.00	Post box rental	\$77.04
50/50 Draw	\$50.00	Office supplies	\$85.97
Coffee	\$32.89	News letter printing	\$80.21
Repeater Move	\$0.00	Door Prizes	
Interest	\$1.32	Insurance	\$654.48
		Donations	\$92.50
		RAC Membership	
		Hall Rental	\$60.00
		Incorporation	
		Name Tags	
Total revenue	\$614.21	Total Expenses	\$1,076.02
		Year to Date Income	-\$461.81
		Cash on Hand	\$4,304.48