

Minutes Kings County Amateur Radio Club November 5<sup>th</sup> , 2018

**Present:** Lysle VE1BZE, Fred VE1FA, Helen VA1YL, Bob VE1RSM, Al VO1NO/VA1AVR, Greg VE1HGR, Scot VE1WTF, Neil Northop VE1STP, Janet Northrop VE1JNT, Don VA1VC, Moe VE1ABM, Kevin VE1BAK, Wayne VE1BAB, and one more – Bob Comeau – VE1ARN a visitor from western shore.

Meeting started at 7:30 but the secretary was late.

The mins from last month meeting were approved as circulated, moved by Bob, seconded by Al.

**Finance:** Art was not there.

**EMO visit:** October 26<sup>th</sup>. The van cost \$150. There were 6 people in the van & 5 people went on their own.

**EMO –Al VO1NO**

ICS 300 course November 6<sup>th</sup>. Al will be there.

ICS 200 10/11 Jan 2019 at Shubie. EMO Report

- KCARC conducted a very informative tour of Shubie Radio on 27 Oct. Our host, Colleen Nesseth, is very knowledgeable and answered the many questions we had.

- As a result of the tour, Al has more detailed information on the poor coverage areas for TMR-2 in Kings County. He will use that to develop contingency plans to provide emergency communications to first responders.

- Kings County REMO conducted a tabletop exercise 26 Oct, using a wildfire evacuation scenario. The exercise was well-run, and succeeded in assisting county officials in learning their responsibilities in time of emergency.

- There are still openings on the ICS 200 Course being held in Shubenacadie 10-11 Jan 2019. Completion of ICS 100 is a prerequisite. Anyone interested in the course can contact Al VO1NO.

- Al VO1NO will attend an ICS 300 Course offered by Kings REMO 6-8 November.

Report on Panama

Al VO1NO attended the Executive Committee meeting of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 (North and South America) in Panama City, Panama 12-15 Oct, as the Chair of the Band Planning Committee, and reported the following:

- All members of the Executive Committee are dedicated Amateurs who are strongly committed to improving Amateur Radio.

- Reports from the various Area Directors included a number of interesting tidbits:

\* RAC and RAQI are cooperating quite well;

- \* ARRL membership is down, most likely due to increased membership rates;
- \* The national regulator in Mexico is not very responsive to Amateur requirements, to the point where it is almost impossible to obtain new licenses;
- \* There are concerns about sustaining the small and aging group of Hams in the Caribbean countries;
- \* On the positive side, Amateur Radio is doing quite well in Brazil;
- \* Region 2 has an effective Emergency Communications organization, especially in areas susceptible to hurricanes;
- \* A new monitoring system is being introduced in Region 2 in order to report non-Amateur stations in Amateur bands. Details will be promulgated in the next few months;
- \* ARDF - Amateur Radio Direction Finding - is becoming more popular in Region 2, and is viewed as an excellent way to attract young people into the hobby;
- \* The Region 2 Youth Coach presented several other strategies to attract young people into Amateur Radio;
- \* The Region 2 SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) are being reviewed and updated to streamline operations; and
- \* Succession planning was discussed, with the aim being to ensure that executive and volunteer positions in the IARU Region 2 organization continue to be filled by dedicated and knowledgeable people.

**New Business.** The reason our website is down – our money ran out. We need to pay \$81.84 to open it up. Doug gave Wayne a suggestion. He suggested that he have control over the site on his server. There would be no cost for the web site. The domain cost per year would be \$18 per year. Wayne's daughter gave Wayne some advice. The person in control of our web site has complete control. Doug has a backup copy of our site. We have to pay \$80 to Rebel.ca regardless. Bob made a motion to pay the cost to Rebel. Al seconded it. It was suggested that Doug's contribution be used to make him a membership. Our web site will be hosted on Doug's server.

**AI VO1NO** gave a talk on his trip to Panama. There were nice guys there. RAQI will join RAC because they are not being supported by Canada.

**RAC** KCARC will become a member of RAC.

When we get a subscription to TCA Helen suggested we donate it to Port Williams library because the librarian is a ham. VE1SUE. Her husband is also a ham.

Bob reported that a special call would cost \$60. He suggested that we just use VE1LD. Motion by Bob that we use VE1LD at Archibalds on January 20<sup>th</sup> for the 50th anniversary of the club. . Al seconded it. Anyone can use VE1LD during January. Motion carried.

Packet node is not working. Lysle can't go in to get the system turned on. We should send a group up to check out the Repeater station. Maybe the batteries are dead.

IRLP – Echolink – Lysle has decided we will get the board from USA. We need a 220 radio to get things up and running. It needs to transmit from Lysle's site to the repeater. Lorne has 4 or 5 of the radios but he has not told Lysle how much he would charge.

**Field Day 2019:** Wayne VE1BAB will run Field Day.

Presentation by Al, VA1AVR

December Meeting will be Christmas Party. Lysle will find a night to book at Kao.

Al moved adjournment, Greg seconded it.

Meeting ended at: 20:15