

Kings County Amateur Radio Club Meeting Jan 2020

Committee:

President	– Wayne	VE1BAB - Absent
V-President	– Lysle	VE1BZE
Secretary	– Helen	VA1YL
Treasurer	– Art	VE1GG
REMO Rep	– Al	VO1NO
Web Master	- Doug	VE1FAL - Absent

Members:

Barry VE1QY,	Fred VE1FA,	Greg VE1HGR,	Bob VE1RSM,
Bruce VE1BDH,	Kevin VE1BAK,	Steve VE1STP,	Janet VE1JNT,
Don VE1VC			

Visitors/Non-Members: John (VE1FTL), Rob (VE1CSE)

Guest Speaker: Anne (VE2WHO)

Lysle, Vice President, Chaired the meeting and called the meeting to order at 7:20pm, as all regular attending members were present.

Art was taking dues. Many people paid. Art did not have an updated financial report. He indicated that we have \$3000 dollars in our account and said he would have a full detailed report for our next meeting.

Announcements: February Challenge – contest runs all month.

(Added Post meeting: *The KCARC Club's annual February Challenge will run again for the month of February 2020. The challenge is opened to all members. This is an all mode contest. You can run one or all three modes for this contest. SSB, CW, and Digital (to include, but not limited to: RTTY, PSK, JT9, JT65, FT4, FT8, etc.) All modes other than SSB and CW will be classed under Digital. There are club plaques for the winners of each of the three different modes, no combination awards, and participant certificates will be awarded to all participants. Your final score is the total QSOs multiplied by the total DXCC worked on each different band. No logs are required unless asked for by Helen – VA1YL. Submit your final score to her NLT Mar 15, 2020. Awards and certificates will be awarded at our annual spring social gathering, usually in April. Any questions as to calculating your final score can be directed to Bob – VE1RSM (ve1rsm@hotmail.com).*

Speaker Anne Archibald's - VE2WHO, talk was "Fast Radio Bursts: An Intergalactic Mystery." Anne asked for us to put our hands up to ask questions.

Greg told us about a female UK astronaut who thinks there is life on or from other planets & they might be here on earth.

Al asked about Dark Matter.
Lots of questions to Anne.

Break 5 minutes

Fred told a story about Anne, who got her ham licence at age 14.

Last meeting was in November. Al VO1NO approved the minutes from November Bob VE1RSM seconded them.

REMO for Kings. From Al VO1NO

Al VO1NO attended the 18 December meeting of the Kings County Regional Emergency Management Committee.

Six emergency measures support plans have been approved and are now on the Kings REMO website: <https://www.kingsremo.ca/>. They include the Flood Preparedness, Heat Advisory, Hurricane Preparedness, Emergency Evacuation, Winter Storm, and overall Emergency Preparedness plans. Three more support plans are being developed.

Kings REMO has developed an Emergency Preparedness Survey for all citizens in Kings County. It takes approximately 20 minutes to complete, and those who submit a survey by 31 January will be entered into a draw for a two-person 72-hour emergency kit. All KCARC members are encouraged to submit the survey and bring a copy to the February meeting. We will review the survey as part of a discussion on emergency preparedness. The survey can be found at

<https://www.kingsremo.ca/docs/Survey%20-%20Kings%20REMO%20Emergency%20Preparedness%20Survey,%202020-01.pdf>

Kings REMO has a community outreach program where Dan Stovel will deliver a presentation for interested groups. This might be an option for a future club meeting.

There will be ICS-100 courses held over the winter for those who are unable to take the course online. Dates and details will be promulgated.

During a discussion of Tropical Storm Dorian, it was revealed that much of the cellular telephone system in Nova Scotia went down.

The county is ready to install masts on the roof of the new Municipal Building for antennas for the ECC Communications Room. The actual installation may have to wait until the spring however.

Kings County will conduct a Flood Disaster exercise in April. A test of the emergency communications systems will be an objective of the exercise. This means that the Amateurs must be ready to assist.

In a discussion about the Willow Hill repeater, it was suggested that Curtis VE1FOX might be willing to become the repeater's sponsor. Al VO1NO indicated that he would contact Curtis.

Go online to check out Emergency Preparedness Survey. If you complete and submit the survey before the 31st of Jan you may be selected for one of the two Emergency Preparedness Kits to be given away.

(Update – 10 Jan 2020 – Al has indicated that Curtis – VE1FOX – is willing to sponsor the VE1CHA repeater callsign. Bob has requested from ISED what information they require from the Club to make this happen.)

Lysle mentioned that twenty years ago the land that our tower was on ran out of money & they had to take down the tower.

Canning Fire Department pays for the site. Port Williams also moved up there & other communities are moving up. The antenna has not been adjusted.

Old Business:

Digital Repeater: Bob – VE1RSM

Should we update to a digital repeater?

Bob suggested that the club do more research and get better informed if we plan to spend the money required to upgrade to a digital repeater. Yaesu is presently the cheapest available on the market, however it has some drawbacks. It is proprietary and does not work with other digital systems. There is a possible workaround available that would have to be co-located at the repeater site which would permit inter-operational workings.

The Digital repeater can distinguish between analogue and digital incoming signals and respond in either mode.

Bob also suggested that if the club plans to spend money on a digital repeater that a few members of the club arrange a meeting with HARC and get briefed on what is out there and what is required to make this all happen, as we lack this knowledge. Al indicated the Doug – VE1FAL – is knowledgeable in this area. He would be a good member to help us if he is available.

Bob also mentioned that Jason – VE1PYE – HARC, noted that the NSARA has two 1st generation Yaesu repeaters available and we may be able to borrow one to see how the system works as we discuss our future. The NSARA may be willing to loan one to use.

Fibre is not in many places in Kings County. Cross Country TV is spreading out through Kings County.

What will this cost if we change to Fusion on the Repeater?

Field Day 2020.. Lysle mentioned this and suggested that we wait until Wayne VE1BAB is at a meeting to discuss. (***BF Feb Meeting.***)

Art VE1GG talked to Al about having a Radio Course in the Fire Hall. Art tried to talk to the Fire Department about this. The Board Meeting is the third week of January. We get this space for free

for our meetings. The Club agreed to help the Ladies Auxiliary. The Ladies Auxiliary has dropped out. What can the Club do for the Fire Department? The Fire Department wants to have the Club help with the Apple Blossom festival. The club could run a hot dog stand. They would like to have the place used for the course. Thursday night would work. The Tuesday & Wednesday the office is used. Fred asked us to vote to volunteer for the hot dog stand. All agreed that we should help if called upon by the Fire Department.

Canning Fire Chief, Jeff Scaling, is to be very interested in the ham course for the fire volunteers. Al has 4 people (maybe 5) interested in the course. Someone else has a person for the course. Al wants to put out ads for the course.

Greg moved adjournment.

Closed at 9:05.