

MAARC Meeting Minutes - October 2022

The MAARC October Meeting was held on Saturday, Oct. 22, 2022 in Riverview at the Riverview Fire Station. The meeting was called to order by President Oscar, VE9OSK. This was followed by introductions by all present. There were 24 members and one guest, David Alston, who is studying for his certificate. There were two additions to the agenda, #8 was regarding the printer at the clubhouse and #9 was a need for an examiner to conduct license exams for MAARC. With those two additions, a motion to adopt the agenda was made by Kenny, VO1KJM and seconded by Rod, VE9HV. The motion carried.

A motion to accept the minutes from the September meeting was made by Keith, VE9ELA and seconded by Jim, VE9KT. The motion carried. Under business raising out of the minutes, the 60 days required by the Constitution to change Article 4 regarding the length of time one is a member after paying their dues was voted on after a motion by Mike, VE9MTV and seconded by Gordon, VE9GC. The motion carried. A CARG report was given by JP, VE9BK. He advised that the Tuesday night Traffic Passing Net is still being conducted on the VE1RPT repeater and has around 8 regular check-ins. Would be nice to have a few more people check-in. CARG is still looking for help with the Pumpkin Patrol and those involved need to advise JP soon as there info needs to be relayed to the RCMP before Halloween night. Also he is looking for volunteers for the Santa Clause Parade. Both of these events have been sanctioned by MAARC so all involved are covered under the MAARC insurance. Reservations have been made for a Christmas Dinner in Dieppe at the Club d'age d'or for Wednesday, November 30 at 6pm. Turkey dinner with all the trimmings and coffee and desert for \$25 a plate. We have reserved 50 plates. MAARC will pre-pay and members can pay Larry via e-transfer or cash or cheque.

The MAARC website has the most hits on it than any other Amateur Radio Web site in the Maritimes. This is due to the excellent work of our own MAARC member, Mike, VE9NOM. Mike has advised that due to time constraints, he will no longer be able to continue as our web master. We thank Mike for all he has done. He has agreed to stay on and is willing to train and assist anyone who wishes to take over these duties. Also, he has piggy backed our site with one of his but he will not be able to continue to do this and there will be an annual fee of \$150 to maintain the web site. On behalf of the Executives and all members, we thank Mike for all he has done.

We are still looking for a new treasurer to replace Larry, VE9ASB. JP, VE9ADV has declined the position and it will be MAARC policy going forward that no person will be voted into any position in abstentia. We apologize to JP, VE9ADV for this happening. The Constitution requires an audit of MARC finances. Executive members are not allowed to participate. Gordon, VE9GC and Danny, VE9DDK have volunteered to sit down with Larry, VE9ASB and look over books. Larry, VE9ASB advised that RAC advised that our club insurance will expire on January 1, 2023. He further advised that RAC policy gives a \$13 discount per MAARC member who are also RAC members. Some discussion about the possibility of the dues of non-RAC members being \$13 more than RAC members. This can only be done at the Annual General Meeting so we will revisit this topic in the future.

Under the MAARC Flea Market 2022, we had 144 paid entrances. Harold MacFarlane was unable to attend due to his catching CoVid however he did insure that the roll of coax we had ordered was shipped over. A motion by Larry, VE9ASB to make Harold an honorary MAARC member was seconded by Mike, VE9MTV. The motion carried. We are looking for a member to chair a committee to oversee Field Days. A treasurer's report was incomplete at this time. Cam, VE9CAM advised that several of the clubs call signs are still assigned to Tri County Amateur Radio Club and also several of the sponsors are silent keys. Rod, VE9HV has volunteered to sponsor one or more of the licenses that have silent keys. Ross, VE9GCS will contact the government and see what needs to be done to make this happen.

Mike, VE9MTV is looking for MAARC members to help our sister club, West Cumberland Amateur Radio Club with their SMART Symposium in Springhill, NS. He will advise Jim, VE1JBL the names of those who wish to help. Mike, VE9MTV advised that this month's Tek-Talk will be done by Marc, VE9LEG on working the ISS and the amateur radio satellites. Larry, VE9ASB looked into what is needed to get the printer at the clubhouse working again. The cost of the toner required to get it fixed is over \$165. Some discussion about replacing it with an ink jet printer from Staples but it was decided to stay with the laser jet. Gordon, VE9GC found one that fits our needs on the Brothers.CA website, a Brother HL-L2320D delivered with tax and HST for \$292. A motion was made by Ross, VE9GCS and seconded by JP, VE9BK to spend up

to \$300 to replace the printer. The motion carried. MAARC has learned that the MAARC Training Chairperson Yvon, VE1VON is moving up north and MAARC will need a replacement examiner. Steve, VE9SC has the required credentials and has volunteered to be a volunteer examiner for MAARC. We thank Steve for his help. A motion to adjourn was made by Danny, VE9DDK. A cash 50/50 draw was won by Jim, VE9KT with his half being \$42. Marc, VE9LEG assisted with the sale of the 50/50 tickets. Marc also gave the Tek-Talk presentation on working the satellites that have amateur radio repeaters including the ISS. It was well received and contained interesting information. He confirmed that with 5 watts and the proper yagi antenna, successful contacts can be made.