



Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club Inc.

Monthly General (Hybrid) Meeting

February 28, 2024

Virtual portion conducted by Zoom.



Venue: St John Ambulance, 100 - 2nd Street W., Cornwall.
 Date: February 28, 2024
 Time: 19:00 EDT
 Present: 18 members. And 1 guest.

Present:	
1. John Grow, President (VE2EQL)	10. Jason Racine (VE3PRY)
2. Hunter Racine, Vice-President (VA3HWF)	11. Marshall McBride (VE3SX)
3. Roger Bélanger, Secretary (VA3GBV)	12. Michael Berthiaume (VE3HRO)
4. Christopher Lauzon, Treasurer (VA3CRR)	13. Robert Harmaty (VE3JYD)
5. Doug Pearson (VE3HTR)	14. David Bernard (VE3YH) via Zoom
6. Earnest Vinson (VA3EWW)	15. Michael Joyce (VE3LTN) via Zoom
7. Dave Tucker (VA3OPS)	16. Robert Fry (VE3ARF) via Zoom
8. Dan Cullen (VE2JMF) (VE3DIT)	17. Richard Bowen (VA3KCB) via Zoom
9. Dean Brush (VA3BS)	18. Jason Forget (VA3XDZ) via Zoom
	19. Mickael Papineau, Guest (VA3PAI)

1- Call to order:

Meeting called to order by John (VE2EQL) at 19:00 EST.

2- Review of the minutes of last General Meeting:

The minutes of the January 31, 2024, have been circulated on February 1, 2024, and again on February 24, 2024, along with the agenda for this meeting.

Minutes approved unanimously.

3- Treasurer's Report

Presented by Chris (VA3CRR)

31-Jan-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 813272 Memo DAVID KEARLEY	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – No RAC
01-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 814473 Memo DEAN BRUSH	\$35.00	2024 Renewal - RAC
02-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 813667 Memo SERGE DANIEL THERIAULT	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – No RAC
03-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812638 Memo ROBERT HARMATY	\$35.00	2024 Renewal - RAC
04-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 813561 Memo JOHN H GROW	\$35.00	2024 Renewal - RAC
05-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812595 Memo ROBERT FRY	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – No RAC
06-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812274 Memo RICHARD P BOWEN	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – No RAC
07-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812716 Memo ROGER BELANGER	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – No RAC
09-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 814561 Memo NANCY MONTROY	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – No RAC
12-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812513 Memo James Richardson	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – No RAC
13-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812090 Memo JAMES MICHAEL JOYCE	\$35.00	2024 Renewal - RAC
13-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812571 Memo ROGER BELANGER	\$35.00	2024 Renewal - RAC
15-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 814948 Memo EARNEST VINSON	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – No RAC
22-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 813248 Memo E EARLE DEPASS	\$35.00	2024 Renewal - RAC
27-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812831 Memo CHRIS LAUZON	\$370.00	2024 Renewals, Coax, 50\50

Balance as of February 27, 2024

General	Repeater	Total	Shares	Accessible
\$713.82	\$3,140.14	\$3,853.96	-\$50	\$3,803.96
+\$45	+\$15			
+\$35	+\$15			
+\$45	+\$5			
+\$35	+\$30			
+\$35				
+\$45				
+\$45				
+\$45				
+\$45				
+\$45				
+\$35				
+\$35				
+\$45				
+\$35				
+\$305				
\$1,588.82	\$3,205.14	\$4,793.96	-\$50	\$4,743.96

Adopted unanimously.

4- Secretary's Report – Roger (VA3GBV):

As of February 28, 2024, the SVARC has 47 Members in good standing including 43 voting members.

Members 2023:	49
Desists:	5
New members:	7
Members outstanding:	4

Members 2024:	47
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5- Net Managers Report for February 28, 2024 – Earnest (VA3EWW):

We had a total of 217 Check-In in the month of Feb – so we are up from Jan’s 177 – Great job all that participated!

A Huge Thanks for Earle -VE3IMP, Hunter – VA3HWF and Earnest – VA3EWW for tackling the first nets of February.

We do have a few folk lined up for March, Roger VA3GBV, Brandon – VA3BXJ so if you’d like to get in on the fun, please email me at: earnestvinson@gmail.com or send me a text 613-601-0197

Feb 05, 2024	Feb 15, 2024	Feb 19, 2024	Feb 26, 2024
Earle – VE3IMP	Earnest – VA3EWW	Hunter – VA3HWF	Earnest – VA3EWW

SVARC February 2024

February 5, 2024										
Net Control : Earle DePass - VE3IMP	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	C4FM Fusion	Total
	VE3SVC - 147.180	VE3PGC- L- EchoLink	VE3PGC -443.650	VA3SDG - 444.450	VE3VSW - 442.200	VA3FHA - 147.030	VE3SVC- 224.180	VA3EDG - DMR Ch 9 -Slot 2	VA3SDG - 144.570	
Totals	12	2	8	2	2	5	2	3	3	39
February 12, 2024										
Net Control : VA3EWW - Earnest Vinson	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	C4FM Fusion	Total
	VE3SVC - 147.180	VE3PGC- L- EchoLink	VE3PGC -443.650	VA3SDG - 444.450	VE3VSW - 442.200	VA3FHA - 147.030	VE3SVC- 224.180	VA3EDG - DMR Ch 9 -Slot 2	VA3SDG - 144.570	
Totals	11	1	13	4	8	6	5	2	3	53
February 19, 2024										
Net Control : Hunter Racine - VA3HWF	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	C4FM Fusion	Total
	VE3SVC - 147.180	VE3PGC- L- EchoLink	VE3PGC -443.650	VA3SDG - 444.450	VE3VSW - 442.200	VA3FHA - 147.030	VE3SVC- 224.180	VA3EDG - DMR Ch 9 -Slot 2	VA3SDG - 144.570	
Totals	13	4	19	7	4	5	3	3	4	62
February 26, 2024										
Net Control : Earenst Vinson - VA3EWW	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	C4FM Fusion	Total
	VE3SVC - 147.180	VE3PGC- L- EchoLink	VE3PGC -443.650	VA3SDG - 444.450	VE3VSW - 442.200	VA3FHA - 147.030	VE3SVC- 224.180	VA3EDG - DMR Ch 9 -Slot 2	VA3SDG - 144.570	
Totals	15	2	14	8	8	6	4	3	3	63
Repeater Totals	51	9	54	21	22	22	14	11	13	217

Top 5 Contributors: VE3HTR – Doug (35), VE3ARF – Rob – (27), VA3BS – Dean (14), VE3DIT/VE2JMF – Dan (14), VE3XID – Jim (12) – VA3EWW – Earnest (35). And we had a total of 9 operators with double digit check-ins. THANK YOU ALL for coming out to participate!

I will be suggesting a few edits to our current format:

1. I’ll be suggesting that we start our net taking check-ins from those who are mobile (outside in your car on the road mobiles 😊) first as we may risk losing them if they go out of range.
2. We will take Short time (No Traffic) check-ins
3. We will take Portables, followed by Regular Check-ins

Last question – who does not have access to UHF? Quick show of hands.

All in the room had dual band capability.

Dean suggested that we shorten the net by concentrating on the key repeaters (VE3SVC and VE3PGC) every Monday night and adding 2 more repeater from our bank of 8 on a rotating basis every Monday night.

It was further suggested by Roger (VA3GBV) to add VA3FHA to the key repeaters to be exercised on every net, such that we cover all 3 SVARC repeater sites every Monday.

6- Technical Directors Report – Doug (VE3HTR):

The AIS receiver for Marine traffic is off-line and will be investigated on the next maintenance trip to the CCH site (Upon St-Lawrence Seaway opening date, planned for March 22nd)

VA3FHA repeater had experienced interference lately. However, it has been operating normally over the last two Net. No further action is planned at this time.

It is suggested that VE3VSW repeater be exercised more often, as it has the same wide coverage as VE3PGC and has Fusion capability.

Chris (VA3CRR) mentioned that we have received a tracking number from Yeasu for the new repeater ordered. Delivery is expected in March.

7- 2024 Year Planning:

a. Coffee Klatch venue

Motion to adopt the Best Western venue was carried by 10 votes for, 4 abstentions, 4 members did not vote.

Motion carried.

b. Raisin River Canoe Race

No further action until we get more planning info. Water levels are very low at this point.

c. Fox Hunt

I was proposed by Jason (VE3PRY)
Seconded by Earnest (VA3HWV)

To purchase a new FOX: MicroFox PiCon from BYONICS at a cost of \$165 usd plus shipping. Requesting an approval of \$340cdn maximum expenditure.

After some discussion a vote was held:
1 for, 12 opposed, 1 abstention, 4 members did not vote.

Motion rejected.

d. Hamfest:

Hunter (VA3HWF) introduced a guest from the Prescott Russel Amateur Radio Club, Mickael Papineau (VA3PAI), to explain the proposed joint venture between PRARC and SVARC to hold a Hamfest on September 28 at the St-Albert Community Center.

John (VE2EQL) further explained that the idea is to invest \$1000, matching the PRARC investment, and sharing the profits equally.

John explained that the event would be breaking even with 228 attendees.

Proposed to proceed with committing \$1000 from the Club general fund by Hunter VA3HWF)
Seconded by Dave (VA3OPS)

Vote was held:
12 for, 1 against, 4 abstentions, 1 member did not vote.

Motion carried.

e. Field Day

A committee will be formed to plan the event.

f. MSBike

No further information available

g. Summer BBQ

TBA

8- By-laws revision

Article 2.1 of the SVARC bylaws states:

Bylaw amendments require approval of 50% plus one of the full members in good standing, of the Club who are present at the meeting at which the amendments are voted on.

This is not in line with the "Robert's Rules of Order".

Robert's Rules of Order article 56:50 stipulates:

*56:50 **Article IX: Amendment of Bylaws.** The bylaws should always prescribe the procedure for their amendment, and such provision should always require at least that advance notice be given in a specified manner, and that the amendment be approved by a two-thirds vote. If the bylaws contain no provision for their amendment, they can be amended by a two-thirds vote if previous notice (in the sense defined in 10:44) has been given, or they can be amended by the vote of a majority of the entire membership.*

It is proposed to amend article 2.1 as follows:

Bylaw amendments require approval by a two-thirds vote of the members present or by a majority of the entire membership.

Notice of amendments shall be given at the club meeting preceding the meeting at which the amendments are voted on.

Notice is being given at the January 31, 2024, meeting and was submitted to a vote at the February 28, 2024, meeting.

Motion to approve proposal: Roger (VA3GBV)

Seconded: Hunter (VA3HWF)

14 for, none against, 4 members did not vote.

Motion carried.

9- 50/50 Draw

Hunter won the draw and donated his proceeds to the Club.

Thank you, Hunter!

10- Guest Speaker: Michael (VA3LI):

Michael presented some promotional material available to Club members.

11- Guest Speaker: John (VE2EQL):

John presented some very interesting QRP equipment including transceivers, antenna tuners and more.

12- Adjournment

Proposed by Dean (VA3BS)

Seconded by Dave (VA3OPS)

Motion carried at 21:10

Date, time, and place of next meeting: March 27, 2024, 7:00PM, St. John Ambulance, 100, 2nd Street W., Cornwall.

Annex I
SVARC 2023 Annual Planning Calendar - Last Revised: March 28, 2024

Event Number	Date	Day	Time (Local)	Item	Location	Comment	Lead
1.	Winter 2024	Sundays	13h00 - 15h00	Winter Fox Hunts	TBD		TBD
2.	March 27, 2024	Wednesday	19 h 00	Club Meeting	SJA	TBD	John (VE2EQL)
3.	April 6th	Saturday	9 h 00	Iroquois Amateur Radio Club Hamfest	http://iroquoisarc.ca/page3.html		
4.	April 10th	Wednesday	16:00- 21:00	Youth Engagement Fair	Civic Center		John (VE2EQL)
5.	April 13, 2024	Saturday	8h00 – 16h00	Raisin River Canoe Race	South Glengarry		TBD
6.	April 24, 2024	Wednesday	19 h 00	Club Meeting	SJA	TBD	John (VE2EQL)
7.	May 29, 2024	Wednesday	19 h 00	Club Meeting	SJA	TBD	John (VE2EQL)
8.	June 22, 23, 2024	Saturday-Sunday	All day	Field Day	TBD		TBD
9.	TBD	Saturday	15h00 - 19h00	Summer BBQ	TBD		TBD
10.	TBD	Saturday-Sunday	All day	MSBike	Ottawa-Brockville		TBD

Notes:

1. Monday evening weekly Nets take place at 19:00L starting on the VE3SVC repeater,
2. Coffee Klatches usually take place on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month, starting at 08:30L, at *Spinner's*, 118 Pitt Street, Cornwall,
3. Club meetings take place on the last Wednesday, of each month starting at 19:00L, at *St. John Ambulance HQ*, 100-2nd Street West, Cornwall.