



**Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club Inc.**

Monthly General (Hybrid) Meeting  
 March 27, 2024

Virtual portion conducted via Zoom.



Venue: St John Ambulance, 100 - 2nd Street W., Cornwall.  
 Date: March 27, 2024  
 Time: 19:00 EDT  
 Present: 21 members. And 3 guests.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. John Grow, President (VE2EQL)</li> <li>2. Hunter Racine, Vice-President (VA3HWF)</li> <li>3. Roger Bélanger, Secretary (VA3GBV)</li> <li>4. Christopher Lauzon, Treasurer (VA3CRR)</li> <li>5. Earle DePass, Past-President (VE3IMP)</li> <li>6. Doug Pearson (VE3HTR)</li> <li>7. Earnest Vinson (VA3EWW)</li> <li>8. Dave Tucker (VA3OPS)</li> <li>9. Dan Cullen (VE2JMF) (VE3DIT)</li> <li>10. Dean Brush (VA3BS)</li> <li>11. Daniel Thériault (VA3SDO)</li> <li>12. Nathan Thériault</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Jason Racine (VE3PRY)</li> <li>14. Brendan Bronzan (VA3BXJ)</li> <li>15. Michel Bickerstaffe (VE3AQE)</li> <li>16. Marshall McBride (VE3SX)</li> <li>17. Michael Berthiaume (VE3HRO)</li> <li>18. David Bernard (VE3YH) via Zoom</li> <li>19. Robert Fry (VE3ARF) via Zoom</li> <li>20. Richard Bowen (VA3KCB) via Zoom</li> <li>21. Jason Forget (VA3XDZ) via Zoom</li> <li>22. Steve Harvey (VE3EZB) via Zoom</li> <li>23. Jeff Devries via Zoom</li> <li>24. Kevin Quiggin (VE7ZD) Guest Speaker via Zoom</li> </ol>
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**1- Call to order:**

Meeting called to order by John (VE2EQL) at 19:05 EST.

**2- Review of the minutes of last General Meeting:**

The minutes of the February 28, 2024, have been circulated on March 1<sup>st</sup> 1, 2024, and again on March 20, 2024, along with the agenda for this meeting.

Motion to approve the minutes: Dave Tucker (VA3OPS)  
 Seconded: Rick Bowen (VA3KCB)  
 Minutes approved unanimously.

### 3- Treasurer's Report

Presented by Chris (VA3CRR)

28-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 814088 Memo JASON FORGET	\$45.00	2024 Renewal – Non RAC
28-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 813525 Memo EARNEST VINSON	\$5.00	50\50
28-Feb-2024	Email Money Transfer Credit Other Reference # 812631 Memo CHRIS LAUZON	\$90.00	2024 Renewal – Non RAC, 50\50

Balance as of March 26, 2024

General	Repeater	Total	Shares	Accessible
<b>\$1,588.82</b>	<b>\$3,205.14</b>	<b>\$4,793.96</b>	<b>-\$50</b>	<b>\$4,743.96</b>
<hr/>				
+\$45	+\$2.50			
<hr/>				
+\$2.50	+\$2.50			
+\$67.50	+\$22.50			
<b>\$1,703.82</b>	<b>\$3,230.14</b>	<b>\$4,933.96</b>	<b>-\$50</b>	<b>\$4,883.96</b>

Motion to approve the Treasurer's report: Roger Bélanger (VA3GBV)  
 Seconded: Doug Pearson (VE3HTR)  
 Report approved unanimously.

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

As of March 27, 2024, the SVARC has 46 Members in good standing including 42 voting members.

<b>Total Number of paid Members</b>	<b>46</b>
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**Break-down of Paid Members**

<b>Number of voting Members</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Number of to be licenced Members</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total Number of RAC Members</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Members 2023:</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Desists:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>New members:</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Members outstanding:</b>	<b>3</b>

Motion to approve the Secretary's report: John Grow (VE2EQL))  
Seconded: Hunter Racine (VA3HWF)  
Report approved unanimously.

## 5- Net Managers Report for March 2024 – Earnest (VA3EWW):

192 Check-Ins –

New Format is working where we test all 3 repeater sites then swap.

Out 2 repeaters that we didn't use the week before.

We also had 4 new visitors in the month of March that dropped in for a QSO.

### SVARC March 2024

March 4, 2024										
Net Control : Earnest Vinson - VA3EWW	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	C4FM Fusion	
	VE3SVC - 147.180	VE3PGC- L- EchoLink	VE3PGC - 443.650	VA3SDG - 444.450	VE3VSW - 442.200	VA3FHA - 147.030	VE3SVC - 224.180	VA3EDG - 442.100 - TG9 Slot 2	VA3SDG - 145.570	Total
Totals	16	1	12	9	8	10	0	0	0	56
March 11, 2024										
Net Control : Earnest Vinson - VA3EWW	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	C4FM Fusion	
	VE3SVC - 147.180	VE3PGC- L- EchoLink	VE3PGC - 443.650	VA3SDG - 444.450	VE3VSW - 442.200	VA3FHA - 147.030	VE3SVC - 224.180	VA3EDG - 442.100 - TG9 Slot 2	VA3SDG - 145.570	Total
Totals	15	2	14	0	4	9	1	5	0	50
March 18, 2024										
Net Control : Earnest Vinson - VA3EWW	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	C4FM Fusion	
	VE3SVC - 147.180	VE3PGC- L- EchoLink	VE3PGC - 443.650	VA3SDG - 444.450	VE3VSW - 442.200	VA3FHA - 147.030	VE3SVC - 224.180	VA3EDG - 442.100 - TG9 Slot 2	VA3SDG - 145.570	Total
Totals	14	0	10	9	0	6	0	4	0	43
March 25, 2024										
Net Control : Earnest Vinson - VA3EWW	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	C4FM Fusion	
	VE3SVC - 147.180	VE3PGC- L- EchoLink	VE3PGC - 443.650	VA3SDG - 444.450	VE3VSW - 442.200	VA3FHA - 147.030	VE3SVC - 224.180	VA3EDG - 442.100 - TG9 Slot 2	VA3SDG - 145.570	Total
Totals	13	0	12	4	0	9	0	5	0	43
Repeater Totals	58	3	48	22	12	34	1	14	0	192

Net Control Operators needed, for 2024, please email [earnestvinson@gmail.com](mailto:earnestvinson@gmail.com)

Jan 01	Jan 08	Jan 15	Jan 22	Jan 29	Feb 05	Feb 12	Feb 19	Feb 26	Mar 04	Mar 11
No Net	Hunter Racine – VA3HWF	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earle DePass – VE3IMP	Hunter Racine – VA3HWF	Hunter Racine – VA3HWF	Roger Bélanger VA3GBV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV

Mar 18	Mar 25	Apr 01	Apr 08	Apr 15	Apr 22	Apr 29	May 06	May 13	May 20	May 27
Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	Earnest Vinson – VA3EWV	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

Motion to approve the Net Manager’s report: John Grow (VE2EQL)  
 Seconded: Roger Bélanger (VA3GBV)  
 Report approved unanimously.

## **6- Technical Directors Report – Doug (VE3HTR):**

The VA3SDG-UHF repeater was replaced by the newly acquired Yeasu DR-2X C4FM, allowing this repeater to provide digital mode in addition to FM.

The VE3SVC- 220 failed during a routine maintenance at the CCH site. The repeater is presently being overhauled with a new controller by Doug (VE3HTR). It will be restored to service on the next maintenance visit to CCH.

Motion to approve the Technical Director's report: John Grow (VE2EQL)  
Seconded: Hunter Racine (VA3HWF)  
Report approved unanimously.

## **7- Wearables for Club members at events.**

John (VE2EQL) suggested that for events we should have uniform caps and shirts, with the SVARC logo and our callsign with a mention of "COMMUNICATIONS" or "ECOMM".

Members wishing to do so can contact Michael Berthiaume (VA3HRO) to make an order.

Daniel (VA3SDO) mentioned that some recognition should be given to Joe Tondreau (VA2JHT) who is going through difficult times in St. Joseph's Continuing Care Centre. It was further proposed that the club give Joe a hat and shirt as described above at a cost of \$65.

Motion to approve the disbursement of \$65: Roger (VA3GBV)  
Seconded: Hunter Racine (VA3HWF)  
Approved unanimously.

## **8- New meeting venue status (John VE2EQL / Doug VE3HTR)**

Several possibilities for a new venue for the Club meeting have been discussed:

- Library at a cost of \$20 per evening.
  - Pro: Central location.
  - Con: Cost and operating hours (Closes at 20:30).
- Legion on Cumberland
  - Pro: likely to be free
  - Con: Alcohol consumption may be an issue.
- Best Western
  - Pro: Free
  - Con: Patrons are expected to order food and or drinks.
- St-Matthews Community Hall:
  - Large room with WiFi and large video screen.
  - Jim Richarson (VE3AFV) is an active member and will inquire.

## **9- 2024 Year Planning:**

- a. Iroquois Hamfest, April 6, 2024 (All tables are sold out)
- b. Raisin River Canoe Race:
  - o Earle (VE3IMP) and Jason (VE3PRY) attended the RRCR planning meeting.
  - o In spite of the water level being low the race will be held. The starting line may have to be moved; this will be decided at a later time.
  - o The SVARC is again welcome to participate and will need 12 to 15 volunteers. See Appendix II for more details.
- c. Fox Hunt (Hunter VA3HWF), Not discussed.
- d. Youth Engagement Fair April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 (Hunter VA3HWF)
  - o Hunter VA3HWF, John, VE2EQL and Roger VA3GBV will be present. All members are welcome to drop by between 16:00 and 21:00 at the Civic Centre.
- e. Field Day: To be discussed later.
- f. SVARC / PRARC Ham Fest, September 28, 2024. Planning on-going.
- g. MS Bike: To be discussed later.
- h. Summer BBQ: To be discussed later.

## **10- 50/50 draw:**

The total proceeds were \$55. The draw was won by Brendan Broznan (VA3BXJ).

## **11- Guest Speaker:**

Kevin McQuiggin, VE7ZD / KN7Q via Zoom Digital Radios & Software.

## **12- Adjournment**

Proposed by Hunter (VA3HWF)

Seconded by Roger (VA3GBV)

Motion carried at 21:10

Date, time, and place of next meeting: April 24, 2024, 7:00PM, St. John Ambulance, 100, 2<sup>nd</sup> Street W., Cornwall.

**Annex I**  
**SVARC 2024 Annual Planning Calendar - Last Revised: May 3, 2024**

<b>Event Number</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time (Local)</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Comment</b>	<b>Lead</b>
1.	Winter 2024	Sundays	13h00 - 15h00	Winter Fox Hunts	TBD		TBD
2.	April 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	Saturday	9 h 00	Iroquois Amateur Radio Club Hamfest	<a href="http://iroquoisarc.ca/page3.html">http://iroquoisarc.ca/page3.html</a>		
3.	April 10 <sup>th</sup> , 2024	Wednesday	16:00-21:00	Youth Engagement Fair	Civic Centre		John (VE2EQL)
4.	April 13, 2024	Saturday	8h00 – 16h00	Raisin River Canoe Race	South Glengarry		Jason (VE3PRY)
5.	April 24, 2024	Wednesday	19 h 00	Club Meeting	SJA	TBD	John (VE2EQL)
6.	May 29, 2024	Wednesday	19 h 00	Club Meeting	SJA	TBD	John (VE2EQL)
7.	June 22, 23, 2024	Saturday-Sunday	All day	Field Day	TBD		TBD
8.	TBD	Saturday	15h00 - 19h00	Summer BBQ	TBD		TBD
9.	TBD	Saturday-Sunday	All day	MS Bike	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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of each month, starting at 08:30L, at *Best Western's*, 1515 Vincent Massey Dr, Cornwall, CA K6H 5R6
3. Club meetings take place on the last Wednesday, of each month starting at 19:00L, at *St. John Ambulance HQ*, 100-2<sup>nd</sup> Street West, Cornwall.



## Appendix II



### 2024 Raisin River Canoe Race (Planning Draft)

#### 1. Communication Protocol

Protocol	
Prime repeater VE3FHA	
Standby repeater VE3VSW	
All communications via the Net Control	
Peer to peer comm request via Net Control	
Peer to peer comm QSY to freq. assigned by NC	Peer to peer on VSW or Simplex
Report time of first canoe through Check point	
Report time of sweep canoe through Check point	
Wait for stand-down clearance from Net Control	
EV embeds to report position and transit	
FD embeds to report position and transit	
Roll Call every half hour	Use both strategic and formal callsign
Keep transmission short and to the point (Avoid small talk)	

Notes:

1 - Simplex frequencies are. Simplex-1: 146.580 MHz, Simplex 2: 446.175 MHz

2 - In case of VE3FHA failure, Net will QSY to VE3VSW, peer to peer will use VE3PGC or Simplex

#### 2. Net Control Station

As discussed, and requested at the 2023 debrief meeting, the net control will to be posted at the finish line for the duration of the race. The finish line is also the main command post for the race organization throughout the event.

It is recommended that 2 operators man the Net Control station.

- This allows reliefs of operators to take breaks.
- Allows sharing net control duties.
- Allows easier coordination with race officials.

The Net Control will post a white board displaying the following information:

Distances	Check-points		EV's	FD's	Time tags	
(KM)	#	Location	Location	Location	First Canoe	Sweep
0	<b>Start</b>	St. Andrews School (TBD)				
	1	Highway 138 Bridge				
3,7	2	S.S. Twp 22 (Lefebvre) Road Bridge				
6,6	3	Delaney Road Bridge				
11,2	4	Cemetary Road Bridge				
		Martintown start of Portage				
14,7	5	Martintown C.R. 18 Bridge (Dam)				
22,2	6	MacGilvray's Bridge C. R. 27				
27,4	7	Old CPR (Peanut Line) RR Bridge				
28,2	8	Williamstown C.R. 19 Bridge				
28,5	<b>Finish</b>	Williamstown John St. C.R. 17 Park				

### 3. Check point assignments.

We will need a total of 10 volunteer operators in the following configuration:

Again, as discussed at the 2023 debrief meeting it was requested that we embed an operator in both emergency vehicles.

We also suggested to embed one with the fire department vehicle. (To be discussed with Dave Robertson.)

The operator assignments would be as follows:

Approx. Water distances (KM)	Check Points	Location	Stations		On-station	Stand-down	Expected times	
			First Position				First canoe	Sweep
0		St. Andrews School	#1		10h00	11h00	10h00	
	1	Highway 138 Bridge	#2		10h00	12h00	10h30	12h00
3,7	2	S.S. Twp 22 (Lefebvre) Road Bridge	#3		10h30	13h00		12h50
6,6	3	Delaney Road Bridge	#4		11h00	13h30		13h15
11,2	4	Cemetery Road Bridge	#5		11h30	14h00		14h00
		Martintown start of Portage		#1	11h30	15h00		14h30
14,7	5	Martintown C.R. 18 Bridge (Dam)			11h30	15h00	12h00	14h45
22,2	6	MacGilvray's Bridge C. R. 27		#2	12h30	16h00	13h00	16h00
27,4	7	Old CPR (Peanut Line) RR Bridge		#3	13h00	16h30		16h30
28,2	8	Williamstown C.R. 19 Bridge		#4	14h00	16h30		16h30
28,5	NC	Williamstown John St. C.R. 17 Park		#5	10h00	16h30		

<b>Net Control</b>	<b>#11</b>	<b>#12</b>
<b>EV1</b>	<b>#6</b>	
<b>EV2</b>	<b>#7</b>	
<b>FD1</b>	<b>#8</b>	
<b>FD2</b>	<b>#9</b>	
<b>FD3</b>	<b>#10</b>	

## 1. List of volunteer's operators

The following operators have volunteered to participate to the operation during the meeting:

Earnest (VA3EWW) Net Control  
Hunter (VA3HWF) Net Control  
Brendan (VA3BXJ)  
Steve (VE3EZB)  
Roger (VA3GBV)  
Jason Forget (VA3XDZ)  
Jason Racine (VE3PRY)  
Rick (VA3KCB)  
Dan (VE2JMF)  
John (VE2EQL)  
Daniel (VA3SDO)  
Doug (VE3HTR)  
Dave (VA3OPS)  
Earle (VE3IMP)  
Michael Joyce (VE3LTN)