

Charlottetown Amateur Radio Club

President

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Secretary

Vice-President

Treasurer

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG

Minutes of May 5th, 2026 meeting

Bill VY2WM called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Members present were:

Bill McMaster VY2WM

Joel MacNeill VY2KW

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG

Mike McNeill VY2MG

Charles Easter VY2CE

George Meggison VY2GM

Darrell MacArthur VY2OM

Ron MacKay VE1AIC

Selina MacArthur VY2OL

Devin Garlick VY2DFG

Gordon Bernard VY2GB

Fraser Ashworth VY2FA

Julia Ashworth VY2JA

Charlie Mullen VY2KC

Chris VanHorn VY2HC

Andrew Jorgensen VY2HZ

Michael Morrison VY2CO

Richard Greaves VY2TO

Doug Silliker VY2DS (virtual)

Tracey Allen VY2TAZ (virtual)

Rodney Mann VY2CGA (virtual)

Brent Taylor VY2HF and Bill Glydon VY2LI sent their regrets.

Sick and Silent Keys:

It was noted that Brent VY2HF had been feeling very unwell with his vision being affected. He's having tests done this week to hopefully discover what's going on. Bill VY2WM said he would call Brent.

Announcements:

Fraser VY2FA announced that he was programming a new FT8 software. The website is ft8lab.com.

Bill VY2WM announced that the Summerside club had welcomed a new ham: Thelma Phillips VY2VH.

Minutes of April 7th, 2026 meeting:

Bill VY2WM advised that since the minutes for the last members' meeting had been emailed to all members there was no need for the secretary to read them.

Moved by Bill VY2WM, seconded by Selina VY2OL to approve the minutes as circulated. All approved, motion carried.

Business arising from the minutes:

None noted.

President Report:

Bill VY2WM reported that he and Brent VY2HF had met with Adam and Alan from the EMO on April 11th, 2026. Brent had prepared a document detailing a number of recommended repeater sites in eastern PEI. EMO indicated that none of them were available. They suggested looking at the Bell towers, but Bill and Brent told them that they had not had any success with Bell in the past.

EMO then asked them what the cost of a tower would be. Bill told them that he would find out and get back to them at the next meeting, scheduled sometime in June. We would need a 200 ft tower.

Bill also reported that the annual EMO Touch-A-Truck event was scheduled for this Saturday, May 9th, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Sobeys Allen Street car park. Bill VY2WM and Mike VY2MG will both be there. Bill will have a table, and Mike will set up for POTA. All are welcome to join them.

Treasurer Report:

Brian Gorveatt VY2BG reported that he had received three membership renewals in April. Banking fees were \$3.75. The bank balance at the end of April was \$6,837.07.

Moved by Brian VY2BG, seconded by Michael VY2MO that the financial report be approved. All in favour, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Training/Education:

Mike VY2MG reported that one person had inquired about our courses during April. The individual is a Holland College student studying something electronics-related. The list of people interested in an in-person basic licensing course now consists of six names from last year and two from this year.

Bill VY2WM and Micah VY2MIC had the idea to offer a general introduction to amateur radio course at the Charlottetown library. The library said we could put up posters in the library to advertise it. Additional ideas for advertisement include passing the info on to the eight people on the list (above), public service announcements on CBC radio, sharing the info on Facebook, sending an email to the newsletter email list, and the homeschooling community.

Repeater Update:

Ron VE1AIC reported that the Springhill, NS repeater was up and running again. The Churchill repeater was also working.

Ron also mentioned that he had attended a presentation on repeater linking at SMART26. Apparently, the NS government has given \$140,000 to the provincial radio group to upgrade the repeater equipment and links in the province.

Ron has two repeaters and controllers that are ready for use. One of them is currently set up at Tyler VY2TM's place in Murray Harbour. Ron might move it to Cape Bear lighthouse for the summer. The other repeater is earmarked for north-eastern / far eastern PEI, perhaps Morrell, St. Peters Bay, or Souris. So far, Ron has been unable to find anyone to host it.

Field Day 2026:

Mike VY2MG reported that Devin VY2DFG had been in contact with someone about Cherrycliff park. It's a provincial property that isn't active anymore. The person who Devin spoke with sounded positive about us being able to use it, but it could likely only be during the day. There are no facilities on the property. Mike said he would visit Cherrycliff this week and report back. Devin also mentioned the school across from a field in Georgetown as a possible site.

Darryl VY2OM and Doug VY2DS are going to activate from Georgetown. Darryl will check if there are tables and chairs, and what we would need to bring.

Correspondence:

Nothing this month.

New/Ongoing Business:

Summerside Club:

No-one from the Summerside club was in attendance. Bill VY2WM said that the Monday night self-study group was still meeting every week at the clubhouse.

Cleanout of Syd VY2MAC's [SK] remaining equipment:

Joel VY2KW reported that Syd's radios had been sold at the last flea market. However, there are still quite a few items left at Syd's former residence including two antennas. Joel had initially arranged for us to help clear out the remaining radio gear on May 2nd, but due to SMART26 and bad weather it was postponed. Joel will check on the weather and reschedule the date. It would be a Saturday afternoon. Joel will update us. He is hoping for five or six hams to help clear out the stuff and take down the antennas with him. All items are for the taking.

Cape Bear Lighthouse:

Bill VY2WM said that Cape Bear Lighthouse had reached out to him to ask if he would be willing to operate at the lighthouse again during the Lighthouse Lightship Weekend in August. He said he would. Anyone else who would like to activate from Cape Bear Lighthouse can join him. There may also be other activities for us to get involved in.

Flea Market - July 2026:

It was decided that we would like to have another flea market this year, again at the end of July. It would likely be on Saturday, July 25th, 2026. The location would likely be St. Mark's Church again. We will ask Ricardo VY2AN to reach out to them again as he did it last year. Bill VY2WM reminded the club that last year we charged \$2 for admission and \$10 for a table. Once we've confirmed the church as our location, we will promote the event. We will have door prizes again.

Ron VE1AIC reminded the club that the Waverley flea market is coming up in June.

Bill VY2WM adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

Julia Ashworth
Secretary

Bill McMaster
President