



# The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Newsletter – 78 Years of Amateur Radio 1932 - 2010

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club,  
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P.O. Box 75073,  
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Est. 1932 Inc. 1956  
<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/>

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## Upcoming Events

Have a look at what is coming up this month and throughout the summer.

### Annual General Meeting and Elections, 16 June 2010

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting and Election of Club Directors will be held on Wednesday June 16th at 7:30 P.M.

The purpose of this meeting will be to receive Annual Reports from each of the standing committees, prepared by the various committee chairpersons, and to elect six members to fill positions on the seven-member Board of Directors for the Club year, 2010-2011. Joe Urbanski, VE3OCD has agreed to serve as election chairman.

The management structure of the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club is set out in the HARC constitution. Accordingly: *“the affairs of the Club shall be managed by a Board of seven Directors, each of whom, at the time of his/her election and throughout his/her term of office, shall be a Member of the Club. The Past President of the Club shall be ex-officio a Director and member of the Club. Each of the remaining six directors shall be elected to hold office from the 1st day of September, of the year for which he/she is elected, or from the date of his/her election if he/she is elected during the year, until the 31st day of August of the following year, or until his/her successor shall have been elected or qualified. The whole Board shall be retired on August 31st in each*

*year, but shall be eligible for re-election if otherwise qualified.”*

Each of the executive positions, namely: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer is decided by the Board of Directors at an executive meeting taking place at a later date following the Annual General Meeting. The new executive will be installed at the September meeting.

To nominate a candidate for the Board of Directors submit your nomination along with the name of a seconder to the election chairman, Joe Urbanski, VE3OCD. Nominations for the election are open now and will remain open until just before the actual election. Joe, the election chairman will be calling for nominations from the floor at the Annual General Meeting, and then he will declare nominations closed.

Persons eligible to vote must have been members of the club during the 2009/2010 club year. Nobody will be eligible to join the club at the Annual General Meeting and by so doing qualify to vote at that meeting. If you received this newsletter by mail you are on the membership list and are qualified to vote, except for advertisers and other non-members who receive the newsletter on a complimentary basis.

Help us toward a successful year by encouraging able and willing candidates to run for election. Give the names of candidates to Joe, VE3OCD.

Club meetings – 3rd Wednesday each month – 7:30 pm (except July and August) at Hamilton District Christian High School, 92 Glancaster Road, Ancaster, L9G 3K9, corner of Rymal Road (Hwy. #53) and Glancaster Road. Parking on location. Complimentary refreshments.

### Field Day, 27th and 28th of June 2010.

This year we will be operating a Field Day site at Bruce Park on Hamilton Mountain between Queensdale and Brucedale avenues, East of Upper James Street and West of Upper Wellington. It is a residential park with tall trees in one section. Our club will use a 4 Alpha designation, four HF transmitters on four bands drawing power from portable generators. In addition there will be a "free" UHF - VHF station and an SDR demonstration station.



Setup will take place Saturday morning. On-air start time is 2:00 P.M. local continuing for 24 hours.

If you are not officially booked in with a band captain you would be welcome to just drop around and say hello or try your hand at operating and /or logging.

### Canada Day Contest, July 1st 2010.

The contest group plans to work the Canada Day contest on the statutory holiday Thursday July 1st from 00:00 Z to 23:59 Z, which translates to 8:00 P.M. Wednesday June 31st local time to 7:59 P.M. on Thursday July 1st. Anyone wishing to log or to operate is invited speak with Rick VE3BK for a scheduled time. If you have a station to bring let Rick know also. Come out and join the group to help celebrate Canada's birthday and promote international good will.

### International Lighthouse and Lightship Special Event

August 21st and 22nd from 9 AM until 5 PM on the Beach Strip near the Burlington Ship Canal. For details see the special announcement appearing later in this newsletter.

A group of us have been going down to the Beach Strip for several years now to "activate" our local historic lighthouse and speak with other

stations and lighthouses doing the same thing at the same time. It is not a contest, just a special event designed to bring awareness to Amateur Radio and the historic lighthouses. We set up in a public place and answer questions as well as have fun playing ham radio. You are invited to join us.

## HARC Minutes, 19 May, 2010

Recorded by Secretary Bob Zimmerman, VE3RKZ

The general meeting was called to order by John Hudak at 7:33 pm.

(7:35) Visitor Vic Diccio (VE3AOD) was introduced. Vic obtained his license by studying under Fred Robinson many years ago, which aimed him in a career of Electrical Engineering.

(7:40) This is Homebrew Night, and the competition for the annual Crawford Trophy. Casey, VE3CVP, introduced the contestants and assigned each project a number.

1 Mark, VE3RYI, Computerized antenna rotator

2 John, VE3DVV, Computerized antenna selector switch

3 Kevin VE3HNG, 2 meter inverted-V antenna

4 Rick VE3BK, Home-made bazooka antenna with balun.

5 Bob, VE3RKZ, Discovery of radially polarized radio waves

6 Fred, VE3GCP, and Adam, VE3BAU, EZ-ERECT tower

7 Mardy, VE3QEE, 80-40 Shorty- a two band linear loaded dipole

The competition started with an excellent video presentation by Fred (Project #6). Following the presentation, Fred & Adam took the group outside to witness the easy erection and take-down of their EZ-ERECT Tower.

## HARC 2009-2010 Executive

### President

Mike Krebs VA3WXS  
<va3wxs@hamiltonarc.ca>  
905-523-9005

### Past President

David Bruton VE3DWJ  
905-383-9808  
<ve3dwj@hamiltonarc.ca>

### First Vice President

John Hudak, VE3CXB  
905-627-9475  
<ve3cxb@hamiltonarc.ca>

### Second Vice President

Mike Christmas, VE3XMS  
<ve3xms@hamiltonarc.ca>

### Secretary

Bob Zimmerman, VE3RKZ  
<ve3rkz@hamiltonarc.ca>

### Interim Treasurer

Fred Robinson, VE3GCP  
<ve3gcp@hamiltonarc.ca>

### Director

Brian Bowie, VA3BMB  
<va3bmb@hamiltonarc.ca>

John (Project #2) demonstrated that his antenna switch can be controlled by computer selection or manual over-ride.

Mark (Project #1) also prepared a video on his easy to use antenna rotator, with both manual and computer setting and a delayed brake feature.

Kevin (Project #3) presented his 2-meter inverted-V made from readily available material.

Rick (Project #4) explained how a bazooka antenna and balun can be easily built.

Bob (Project #5) explained that over the past year he had discovered a radially polarized radio wave with the

help of Sherry (VE3DCU) and Mardy (VE3QEE).

Mardy (Project #7) showed his elegant linearly loaded dipole for 80 & 40 meters. The dipole uses commercial plastic parallel-line cable for the 40 meter operation. The 80 meter response is then obtained by 'snaking' a single conductor through the parallel-line holes. The kit is sold by MapleLeaf Communications (Bob Morton's company).

The meeting broke at 8:36pm for refreshments while Casey tabulated the project votes.

Business Meeting began at 8:52 P.M.

Casey, VE3CVP, Awards Chairman, presented the Crawford Trophy to Adam Mitchell, VE3BAU, and Fred Robinson, VE3GCP, for their innovative EZ-Erect Tower. Congratulations Adam and Fred.

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter.

Fred, VE3GCP delivered a short treasurer's report. (A written monthly report is delivered to the executive.)

The Membership Report. was delivered by Sherry VE3DCU. Currently we have 63 primary members and 7 family members. The executive will be offering an early registration incentive program once again this year. If you renew before the end of the September meeting your name will go into the draw for a free year's membership.

Health and Welfare. Mary VE3OGQ was pleased to tell us there was nothing to report on the Health and Welfare front.

Web Site Chair. Anita, VA3ANI, mentioned a new page has been added to the web site giving details about Amateur Radio for those inquiring about the hobby. Anita reported our web page gets visited often and she will be looking at the log to determine who is visiting and at what times.

Education Chair. Mardy VE3QEE reported that a basic course is taking place now and an advanced course is planned beginning in September.

Repeater Chair, John VE3DVV showed the two gently used Motorola M120 commercial 40 watt radios that were purchased at the Dayton Hamvention for the 440 repeater. The purchase was made notably under-budget. When the proper connectors are obtained the radios will be installed and tested prior to commissioning.

Field Day Chair. Dan VA3DJ, reported that for the most part planning has been completed for Field Day on 26th and 27th of June 2010. The site at Bruce Park has been secured and arrangements were finalized at a band captain's meeting recently.

Lorraine, VA3NZ, reported that the Canwarn Training Session at Chedoke was well attended. She brought some instructional material from the Environment Canada for distribution to members. Lorraine also brought in some signs made for Field day a couple years ago that can be updated for future use. Thank you Lorraine.

Adjournment 9:07 P.M.

## International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend (ILLW)

*Permission to use the facilities and organization of the event has been looked after this year, as in former years, by President, Mike Krebs VA3WXS. Announcement prepared by Rick Danby VE3BK.*

I am sending this out a little early so that doing our summer break, July and August, you know that we can still have fun doing ham radio activities.

This year is the 152nd Anniversary of the Burlington Lighthouse where we have been operating near it on the Beach Strip for the last 4 years.

### HARC 2009-2010 Chairs

Awards Chairman  
Casey VanBroekhoven VE3CVP  
905-385-8724 <ve3cvp@hamiltonarc.ca>

Contesting Manager/Property  
Rick Danby VE3BK  
905-544-3253 <ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca>

Hamfest. Coordinator  
Mardy Eedson  
<ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca>

Volunteer Examiners  
Lorraine MacPherson VA3NZ  
905-389-7653 <va3nz@hamiltonarc.ca>  
Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ, 905-560-2628  
<ve3ufz@hamiltonarc.ca>

Field Day Co-ordinator  
Dan Martinak VA3DJ  
905-979-7747 <va3dj@hamiltonarc.ca>

Repeater Chairman  
John Vandenberg VE3DVV 905-692-3802  
<ve3dvv@hamiltonarc.ca>

Health & Welfare Chairperson  
Mary Urbanski VE3OGQ 905-388-8383  
<ve3ogq@hamiltonarc.ca>

Hospitality

Membership Chair Sherry Goeller  
VE3DCU, <ve3dcu@hamiltonarc.ca>

Newsletter Editor  
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE, 905-648-0187  
<ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca>

Public Liaison  
Neil Galloway VE3VNG 905-383-6986

Swap Net Controller

Communication  
Michael Krebs VA3WXS 905-523-9005  
<va3wxs@hamiltonarc.ca>

Web Master  
Anita Thomas VA3ANI,  
<va3ani@hamiltonarc.ca> and  
Emsley Mitchell VE3JAI / VA3QI  
<ve3jai@hamiltonarc.ca>



Special Event Station  
International Lighthouse/Lightship Weekend  
Burlington Canal Main Light - Lake Ontario  
CAN-063

# VE3DC

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Contest Group  
P.O. Box 91215  
Effort Square Post Office  
Hamilton, ON  
Canada L8N 4G4

This year it is on August 21 and 22nd 2010 so we will be looking for participants again this year. Let Mike Krebs VA3VXS know if you can come and maybe bring some equipment or an antenna. His number is 905-523-9005. I know that some of you have indicated your interest in this event. Mike has had problems with his email so let me know if you can't get Mike on the phone. If you are interested, Mike will probably be phoning you for confirmation. You can email me at [ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca) and I will pass along the message to Mike.

Here are some places to get information:

August is the month of Lighthouse events. If you go to the ARLHS website, you will see there is also a contest on the 2nd weekend but are not involved with this just the ILLW event when many Lighthouses are on as Special Event stations, the same as VE3DC.

You can check out the ILLW  
<http://illw.net/index.html>

Also you can check out the the web site maintained by the Beach Canal Lighthouse Group that is a group of local volunteers in pursuit of renovating the Lighthouse at the Canal: <http://www.bclg.ca/>

You can check out the information on this particular Lighthouse at:  
[http://www.lighthousedepot.com/lite\\_explorer.asp?action=display\\_details&LighthouseID=452&bhcd2=1212280798](http://www.lighthousedepot.com/lite_explorer.asp?action=display_details&LighthouseID=452&bhcd2=1212280798)

If you want to help us out let Mike know or send an email to me to let us know. Thanks  
73 Rick VE3BK:  
[ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca)

## Field Day at Bruce Park

by Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE

Now that we are operating from Bruce Park, the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club will be in the public eye more than ever before. It is a wonderful opportunity to "make-it-or-break-it". People looking in should be impressed seeing the equipment and hearing us speak with similar stations all over North America and elsewhere if the bands are open. On the other hand, people looking in will be unimpressed seeing one of us doing something objectionable. Keep the location tidy. Don't drop garbage. Keep our activity focused on Field Day. Treat Field Day like what it is, an emergency preparedness rehearsal, not party time for us in a neighbourhood park.

Be aware of those activities that would normally take place in Bruce Park on a Saturday or Sunday if we were not there, because our presence could be preventing those activities. If our Field Day is interesting, neighbours will want to see. If our activity is annoying they will want to get us out of there. I guess what I am saying is, be full of care, that is, careful.

Leaving equipment unattended, and assuming that it should be OK, is risky. At the old place, out at Rock Chapel, there were relatively few people having access to the area. In Bruce Park everyone will quickly know about us. Someone should be at each location all the time.

The level of noise will be critical, especially at night. Don't forget we will have four or five generators going all the time, in an area where a hundred bedrooms back onto our site, and as many people will be trying to get some sleep, with the windows open in some cases, if it is hot.

Don't get me wrong I am looking forward to holding Field Day at the new location. I will do my best to be a good guest so that we will get an invitation to come back another year.

## Important Points

### Executive Meetings

HARC Executive committee meets each month, except July and August. Members are invited to attend. The meetings are on the Wednesday following the club General Meeting each month. Ask an executive member for the location.

### VE3NCF 146.760 - & 444.075 + using tone 131.8

HARC operates VE3NCF repeater, located atop the Niagara Escarpment. It's open for use by all Amateurs. Special features are a privilege of membership.

### Nets

HARC "check-in net" is held every Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. HARC "swap net" follows at 8 p.m. All contacts are welcome.

### Examinations

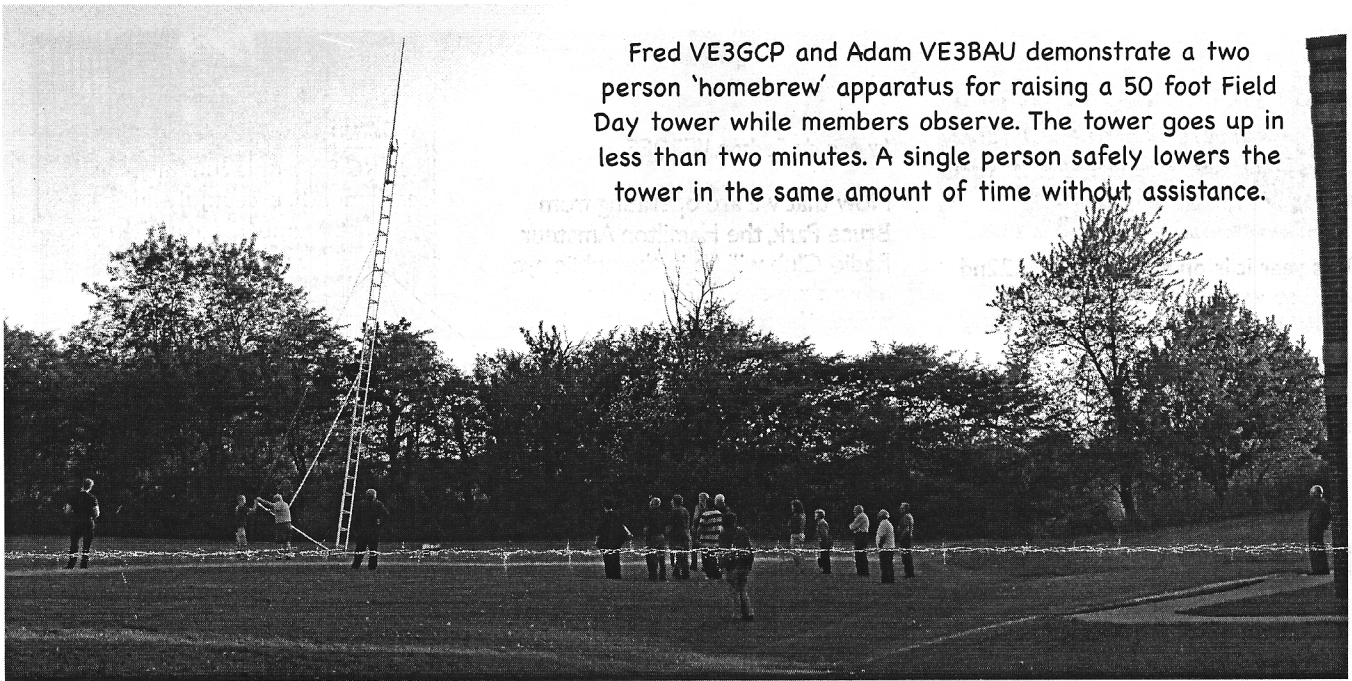
Amateur radio license examinations are conducted the second Wednesday of each month, except July and August. Contact the voluntary examiners to make an appointment. There will be a fee for each examination.

### Membership Information

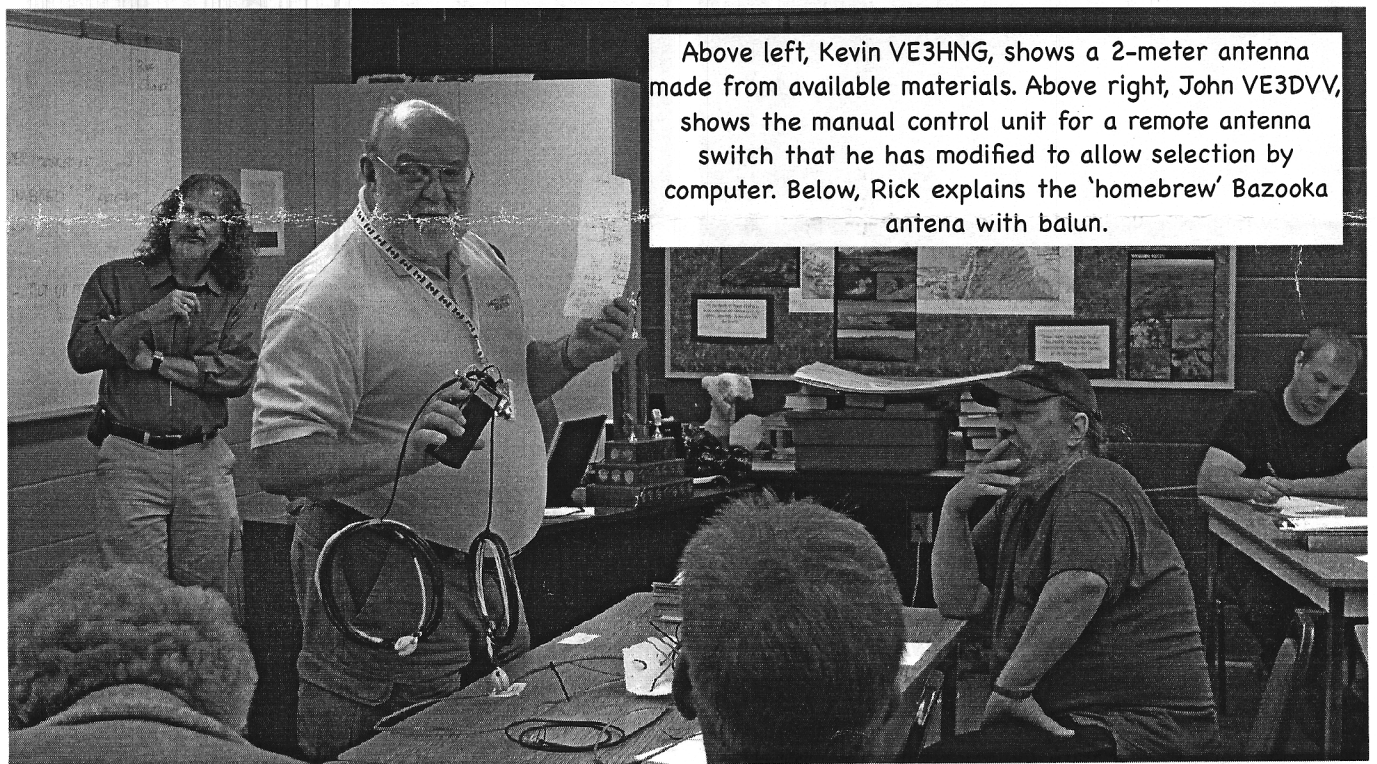
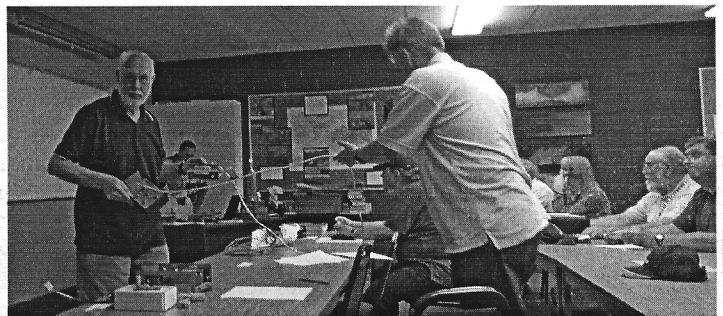
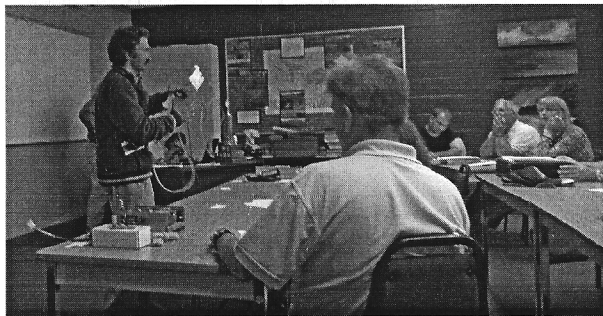
Club membership, including all privileges, is \$25 per person, per year, Sept 1 to Aug 31. Additional membership, for immediate family living in the same home, is \$1 per person. One newsletter sent to each address.

### The Hamilton Amateur

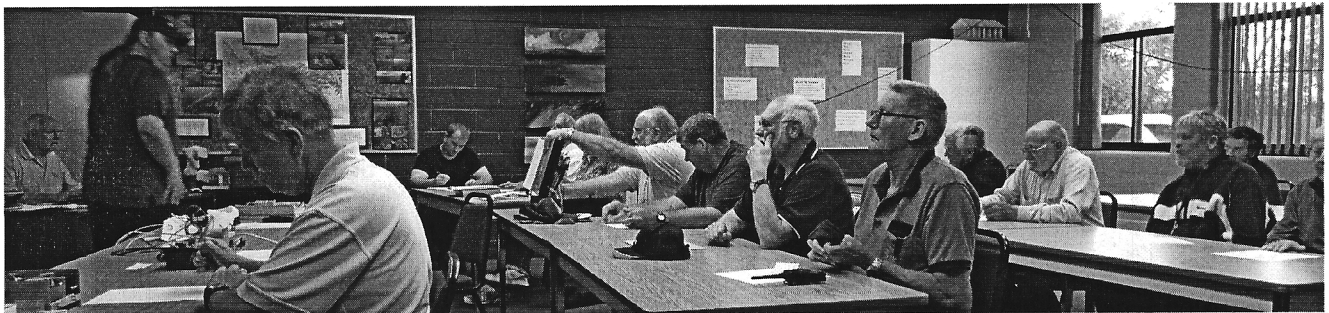
The Hamilton Amateur is published ten times each year (not in July or August). Deadline for article submission is the last Saturday of the month for the next month's issue. Preferred format is .txt file. Articles will be checked for spelling and grammar, but the author is responsible for factual content. E-mail submissions to Editor, Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE, [<ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca>](mailto:ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca)



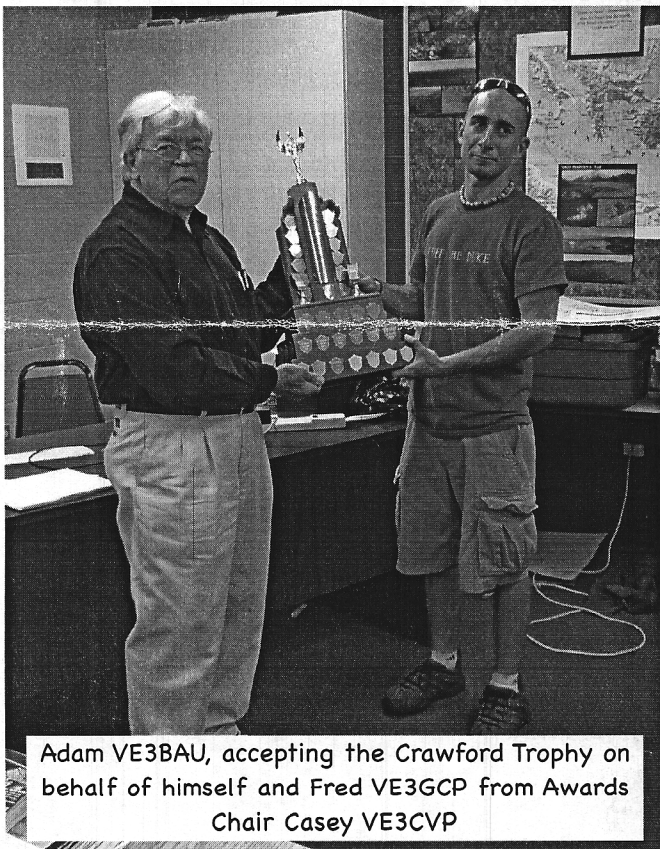
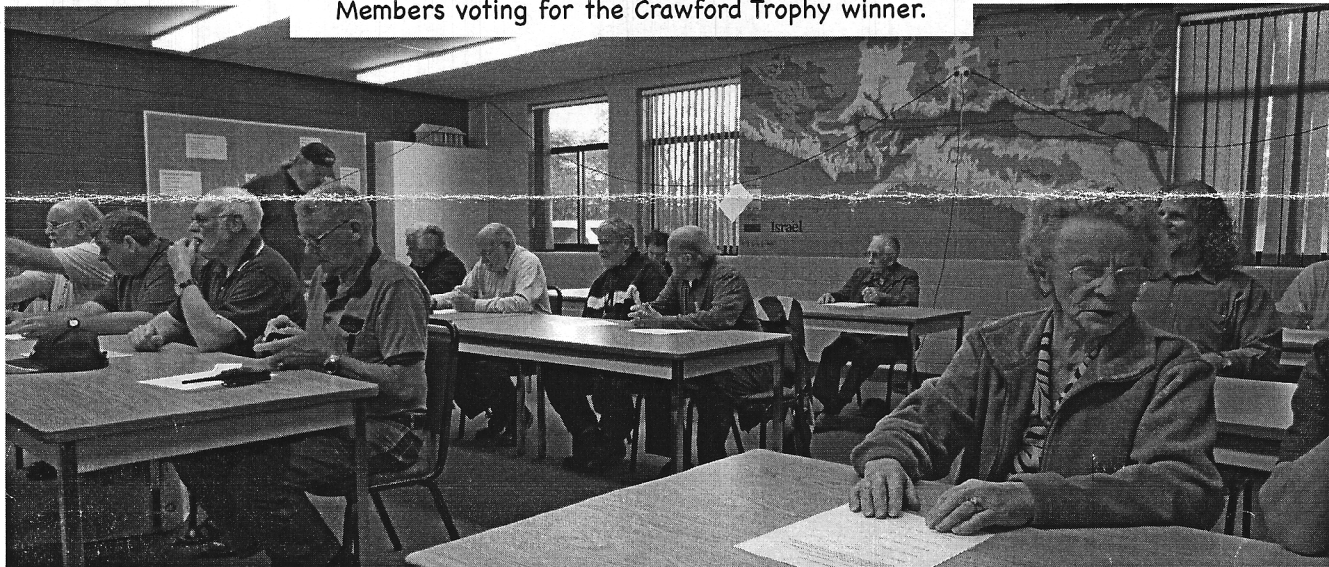
Fred VE3GCP and Adam VE3BAU demonstrate a two person 'homebrew' apparatus for raising a 50 foot Field Day tower while members observe. The tower goes up in less than two minutes. A single person safely lowers the tower in the same amount of time without assistance.



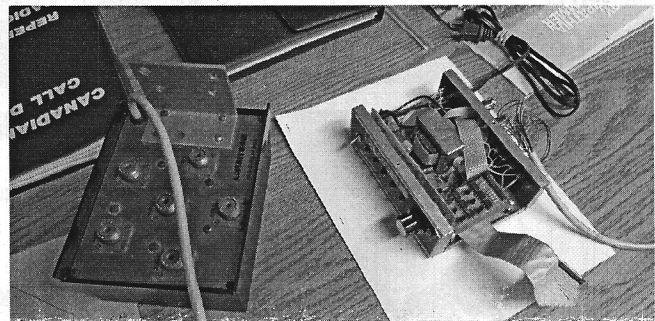
Above left, Kevin VE3HNG, shows a 2-meter antenna made from available materials. Above right, John VE3DVV, shows the manual control unit for a remote antenna switch that he has modified to allow selection by computer. Below, Rick explains the 'homebrew' Bazooka antenna with balun.



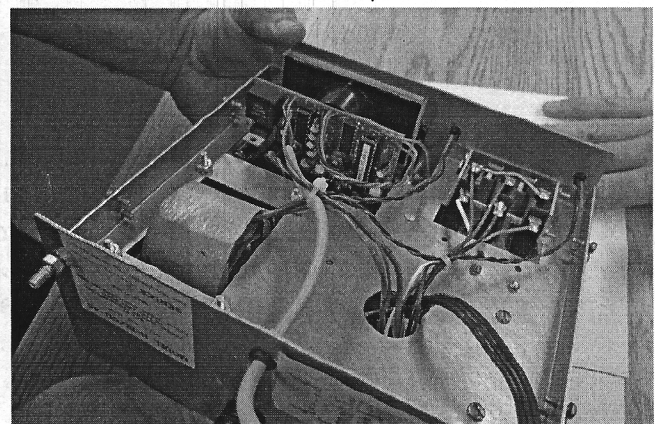
Members voting for the Crawford Trophy winner.



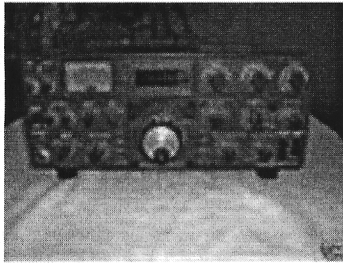
Adam VE3BAU, accepting the Crawford Trophy on behalf of himself and Fred VE3GCP from Awards Chair Casey VE3CVP



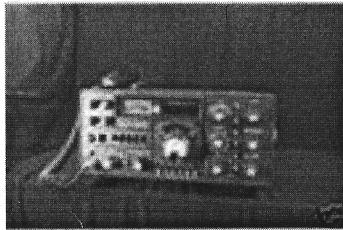
Above, John's VE3DVV, remote antenna switch and control unit. Below, Mark's VE3RYI, modified antenna rotator control box with computer interface circuit.



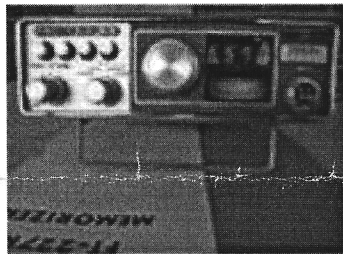
**SwapNet Classifieds**



Ad #100  
Kenwood TS 830 S a solid state HF rig with tube finals and a transformer power supply built in. Phone 905-544-5274 Located in Hamilton. Asking \$500



Ad #101  
Yaesu FT-901-DM located in Hamilton. Asking \$250 Phone 905-544-5274.



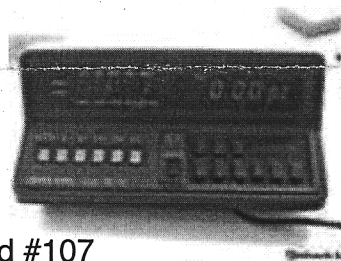
Ad #102  
Yaesu Memorizer 2-meter radio. Asking \$75. Located in Hamilton. Call 905-544-5274.

Ad #97  
HTX 100 mobile SSB/CW transceiver for the 10-meter band. Asking \$100 firm. Located in Stoney Creek.

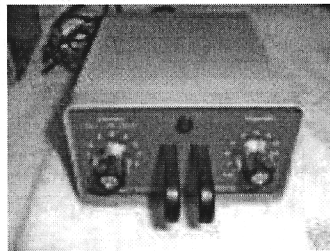
Call Serafino Verticchio  
VA3SV at 905-662-4526.

Ad #105  
Astron RS-7A power supply. Asking \$50. Located in Hamilton, Call 905-544-5274

Ad #106  
Micronta Power Supply Asking \$25 Located in Hamilton Call 905-544-5274



Ad #107  
Kenwood World Clock Asking \$60 Located in Hamilton Call 905-544-5274



Ad #108  
Heathkit Keyer model HD-1410. It makes perfect dits and dahs for the operator. Asking \$30 Located in Hamilton Call 905-544-5274

Keep checking the web site at <hamiltonarc.ca> Swapnet button on the Activities sidebar for new listings on the World-Wide-Web, or listen to the Swapnet on Tuesday

evenings at 8:00 P.M. on repeater VE3NCF, on frequency 146.760 negative offset, with a 131.8 sub-audible tone.