



# 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,  
Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 4G6  
Est. 1932 Inc. 1956  
<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/>

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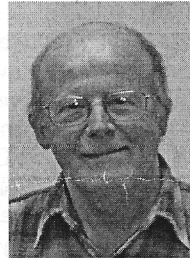
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## President's Message

by David Bruton,  
VE3DWJ



### Fee Increase

For those who missed the May meeting, we announced at the business meeting that there is an increase in the membership fee of five dollars, starting now. The club has not had an increase in years. Gas prices, car insurance, inflation, postage, utilities also have moved upwards. The biggest surprise was club insurance. The insurer changed the method of insuring club members. This alone put a strain on the budget for the current year and maybe in the future years. On the membership form you will notice the new value and other new ideas to make us more efficient to run the club.

### Election

It's time again for the election to elect the executive for 2011 -2012 season. The requirements are simple. Be a member in good standing... Be nominated by a club member. Have a second member agree to the nomination... Six positions are required to be filled. President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Director. The constitution spells out qualifications for positions.

## Summer Program

Activity for the club will continue after June meeting. First is Field day June 25 and 26.

Second is RAC Canada Day Contest a week later, starting on Thursday at 8:00 PM local time June 30 and running for 24 hours ending On July 1 at 8:00 PM. The executive has plans for more awareness of Amateur radio in July and August. We will be attending local community events, and setting up a station at the Lighthouse again this August. At the time of writing not all arrangements have been confirmed, but our participation is being planned. Please listen on the Sunday night check in net at 7:30 for details and any changes. Also check the internet as well, at the [hamiltonarc.ca](http://hamiltonarc.ca) website.

## Guest Speaker for the June Meeting

For the June meeting we have a guest speaker. Robert Nash VE3KZ who comes to our meeting with a lot of experience in contesting. Past President of the Contest Club of Ontario, and former Vice-President of RAC, Robert has contributed articles to TCA magazine on the Sports Page — his column is titled The Canadian Contest Scene. This column keeps us informed about what's new in contesting and gives us the scores and results. Bob knows who we are at the VE3DC call sign. Bob is a real experienced contesteer and his talk will be interesting to all.

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.

## Minutes of the May 18 Meeting

by secretary Jim  
Sawadski VE3EEZ



I. Call to order.  
Dave Bruton VE3DWJ called to order the regular meeting of the HARC at 19:15 on May 18, 2011 at The Hamilton District Christian High School 92 Glancaster Road Ancaster.

II. Sign In.  
Attendance was conducted by the circulation of the members sign in sheet. There were no visitors this evening.

Approval of minutes.  
Motion to accept the meeting minutes of April 4 2011 by Mardy VE3QEE. Seconded by Rick VE3BK, Carried by the members.

III. Speaker.  
No Guest Speaker was scheduled as this was "Home Brew" night.

IV. Health & Welfare Report.  
There was no report on health and welfare this month, as Mary VE3OGQ was away.

V. Contest Report.  
Rick VE3BK announced the "Canada Day Contest" June 30th 2011, 8 PM local time until 8 PM July 1st, falling on the heels of "Field Day". See Rules posted in TCA magazine pg 48.

Also see results from 2010 Canada Day where VE3DC was listed 1st Place Ont., Multi- Multi. Operators where VE3CXP, VE3DCU, VE3LKY, VE3QEE, VE3RYI, VA3DJ, VE3XMS, VE3BK.

Rick announced the upcoming CQ WW WPX – CW contest May 28-29. The North American QSO Party SSB, Aug 20 and North American Sprint – CW Sept 11, 2011.

Rick provided the link to the contest calendar found at <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/perpetualcal.php>

VI. Education Report.  
Mardy VE3QEE reported that Basic Training is ongoing at the East end Police Station Thursday evenings. One person is almost ready to write the exam.

VII. Repeater.  
Our repeater Chair was not in attendance for a report on the repeater progress.

VIII. Field Day.  
Dan VA3DJ reported that 6 generators are now secured for the 2011 Field Day Event. Wednesday May 25 2011 a band captain meeting was scheduled at Dan's Place. Set-up on Saturday will be at 9Am to get ready to go on the air at 2PM. End time is Sunday May 26 2011, 2PM, for the 24 hour Event.

Tom VA3TVW has been busy assisting with Field Day coordination by looking after the hospitality, as well as arranging some dignitaries, media, and anything we need to secure more bonus point. Tom has arranged numerous meals to keep every one going throughout the day and night, with plenty of food and also Coca-Cola donated from the Barton street plant. Way to go Tom.

IX. Treasures Report.  
All current treasurer reports will be issued in the latest news letters published monthly. For details consult your newsletter. Rick VE3BK inquired about the possibilities of purchasing investment securities. Mark explained that interest rates are so low that the executives agreed along with Mark that we will look into what we can do after the Club's Ham Fest in October.

X. Membership.  
Sherry VE3DCU reported 66 primary and 10 Family members. Sherry outlined the new payment structure for the 2011-2012 membership dues.

Rick VE3BK questioned why the increase in the membership costs. The membership costs have not increased since the 1980's while virtually every club expense has increased during that 30 year period. The executives have increased the

## HARC 2009-2010 Executive

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

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

**First Vice President**  
Tom VanWort, VA3TVW  
905 308 7538  
<va3tvw@hamiltonarc.ca>

**Second Vice President**  
Mike Christmas, VE3XMS  
905 973 9040  
<ve3xms@hamiltonarc.ca>

**Secretary**  
Jim Sawadski, VE3EEZ  
905 664 3198  
<ve3eez@hamiltonarc.ca>

**Treasurer**  
Mark Proctor, VE3RYI  
<ve3ryi@hamiltonarc.ca>

**Director**  
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE  
905-648-0187  
<ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca>

membership costs to \$30.00 for primary members and \$5.00 for family / associate members, for the coming year, 2011-2012. This increase is necessary to address rising costs notably insurance rates but also in every other area such as postage, internet service for the repeater site, rental for the repeater site, rental for the club meeting room and a host of other lesser costs.

David Mayes VE3DV suggested perhaps we need to assign a campaign manager to promote our club and secure new members.

Program – Home Brew Night.  
The Crawford Trophy is given to

encourage club members to build their own equipment. The project must be usable in Amateur Radio operating and built in the previous calendar year. A trophy is presented to the winner with his/her name engraved on it. The winner may hold the trophy for the year, however, the it is property of the Club and must be returned to the Club shortly before the presentation the following year. A Crawford Trophy certificate is also presented to the winner.

Casey VE3CP began the evening introducing the contestants Mark VE3RYI and Mardy VE3QEE for their home brew submissions.

Mardy submitted an attenuator for use in Fox Hunting.

Mark submitted two projects,

- 1) A pair of attenuators
  - 2) A 2 meter Cubicle Quad Antenna
- Both projects can be used in Fox Hunts

Both Mardy and Mark showed fine workmanship and ingenuity in their work and designs. The ballots were cast, and the winner of the Crawford Trophy, 2011, went to Mark VE3RYI. Fine job fellows. Nice work!

**Fox Hunt Invitation.**  
Mark VE3RYI announced an upcoming Fox Hunt to take place Saturday May 28, 2011. Meet at Bernie Arbour Stadium, East Mountain at the Grand Stand parking lot. Mohawk Rd. North end Lot. Check the Hamilton ARC website <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/index.php?name=News> for details.

**Participation Request.**  
City Housing of Hamilton is hosting an event called "Picnic in The Park"

Tom VA3TVW has been busy contacting media about our upcoming Field Day Event, now people are contacting him about our club. Tom is making arrangements to set up a demonstration station at Bayfront Park July 23rd 11:00 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. at an event called Summer Picnic In The Park hosted by City Housing Hamilton.

The station will be there to promote the hobby and the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club. Tom is requesting members to seek him out and volunteer their time to help promote the hobby and keep our club alive. See Vice President, Tom VanWort, VA3TVW, for details please.

Special Anniversary Summer QSL Card from New Brunswick available.

Sandi Mansfield mentioned to the membership, that this year is the Moncton NB ARC Special Anniversary. (1936-2011 75 years)

If you are lucky enough to catch them on the air this summer, be sure to request their anniversary QSL card.

The Moncton Club maintains and operates two HF/VHF stations, VE1EV and VE9MSR, together with a Space Station, VE9MSC. It makes regular contacts with the International Space Station and monitors other orbiting satellites. The call sign VE1EV was originally held by Gorely Brown, the Club's first Secretary and longtime active member. To honor his memory, VE1EV, was adopted as an official Club call sign.

To mark the Club's 75th Anniversary a "special event" call sign, VC9M, will be in use during the 2011 Field Day and until July 25th.

Special QSL cards will confirm each contact.

Next HARC meeting is June 15, 2011 – Election night – Our last regular meeting before summer breaks. For the June meeting we have a guest speaker, Bob Nash VE3KZ (Past President of the Contest Club of Ontario). Please make an effort to attend.

**Adjournment**

Dave Bruton VE3DWJ adjourned the meeting at 21:35  
Motion moved by Tom VA3TVW  
Seconded by Sandi Mansfield.

Minutes submitted by Secretary Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ.

## HARC 2010-2011 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  
905-648-0187  
<ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca>

Volunteer Examiners  
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>

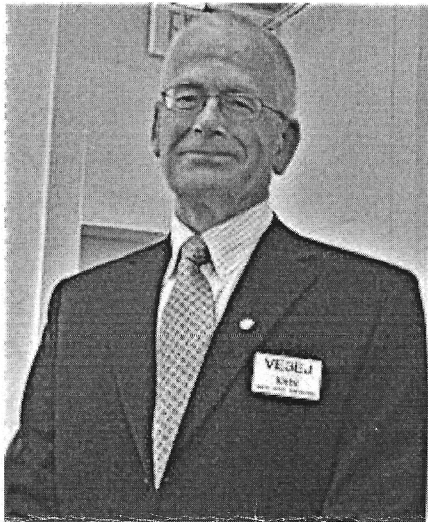
Health & Welfare Chairperson  
Mary Urbanski VE3OGQ  
905-388-8383  
<ve3ogq@hamiltonarc.ca>

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

Newsletter Editor  
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE,  
905-648-0187  
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Communication  
Michael Krebs VA3WXS  
905-523-9005  
<va3wxs@hamiltonarc.ca>

Web Master  
Anita Thomas VA3ANI,  
<va3ani@hamiltonarc.ca>



**This Year's Inductee into the ARRL's CQ Contest Hall of Fame was Canadian John Sluymer, VE3EJ.**

*Well done, John! (Photo by KM3T)*

The announcement was made at the Dayton Hamvention last month. John is our neighbour to the east and his antennas can be seen on Townline Road, at Grassie.

John has spoken to our Club on several occasions. Rick VE3BK, sent John a note of congratulation on behalf of VE3DC.



**\$ 7,155.60**

**Financial Report**

by Treasurer Mark Proctor VE3RYI

Carry over April 30 /2011

	Withdraws	Deposits	
Property Sale			
Bank Charges			
Member ships		\$ 60.00	
BELL CANADA	\$ 23.94		
Petty Cash			
Xmas Party			
New Letter			
Refreshments		\$ 25.25	
Hamfest			
Feald Day			
Repeater			
Repeater Site			
Supplies	\$ 50.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 73.94</b>	<b>\$ 85.25</b>	<b>\$ 11.31</b>
Bank Account			\$ 7,166.91
GIC. Accounts			\$ 7,166.91
<b>CLOSING BANK BALANCE</b>			<b>\$ 7,166.91</b>

Report done, May 29 / 2011

All Deposit slips, Back statements and account books have been compared and all monies accounted for.

Treasurer Mark Proctor, VE3RYI

**Important Points**

**Executive Meetings**

HARC Executive committee meets each month, except July and August, on the Wednesday following the club General Meeting. See the web page for details.

**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**

A HARC "check-in net" is held every Sunday evening at 7:30 p.m. on the VE3NCF repeater, (see above). There is also an informal get-together every Monday night from 7:30 to 8:30 P.M. on 14.135 MHz in the 20 meter band. All contacts to both nets 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 your submissions to Editor, Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE, <ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca>

### Scenes from the Dayton Ohio Hamfest May 20-22 2011



Mike Christmas VE3XMS (above, in the center) getting a good deal on some #43 mix ferrite chokes.



Forums are well attended -- good speakers and a chance to rest your feet.



Lunch time in the food court. Amazing who you'll bump into!

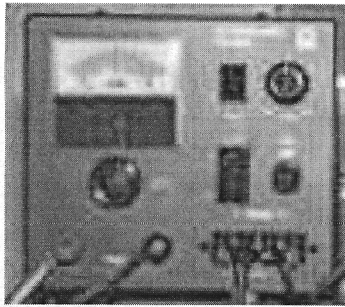


This year's theme at the Dayton Hamvention was International Friendship through Amateur Radio. In keeping with this theme John Vandenberg VE3DVV invited two of his Dutch boyhood friends who each flew to Canada for the occasion. Left, is Bram Bottema, SMOFLY, now a resident of Sweden, next to him is Henk Stuivenberg, ZS7CS, now now a resident of South Africa. I am the short one Mardy, VE3QEE, and on the right is John, VE3DVV. It was Bram's and Henk's first trip to Dayton, and we did have a good time.



Beam me up, Scotty

## Swapnet Listings

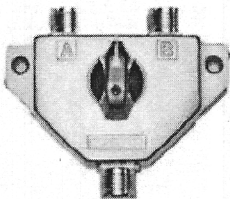


### Heavy duty power supply Daiwa PS 304

Amateur station current is provided by a Daiwa heavy duty power supply, model PS304. It gives up to 30A @ 13.8V. It supplies DC current to all low tension devices, including HF transceiver, 2m/70cm FM transceiver, packet modem, and other non ham devices such as mobile phone battery pack charger. Fan provided for extra cooling safety. Comes in original box.

AD REF.: #132

Submitted By: [ve3bk](mailto:ve3bk)  
Rick at [ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca)  
phone: 1 905-544-3253



### MFJ-1702B 2 POSITION SWITCH (retails for \$39.95 US.)

Same as new MFJ-1702C that sells for \$49.95 at Durham Radio. 2-position coax switch has a center ground protection! Better than 60 dB isolation at 300 MHz and better than 50 dB at 450MHz. 50 Ohm. Unused terminal is automatically grounded for static and RF protection. It has less than 0.2 dB insertion loss and SWR below 1.2:1. Heavy cavity type construction and SO-239 connectors. Mounting holes. 3x2x2 inches. Same as new MFJ-1702C

AD REF.: #131

Submitted By: [ve3bk](mailto:ve3bk)  
Rick at [ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca)  
phone: 1 905-544-3253

## Our first Fox Hunt of 2011...and not the last.

by Mike Christmas,  
VE3XMS / VA3FS



For those of you that missed out on the club's first 2011 adventure of hunting a fox, it was a blast! It all began at Bernie Arbor Stadium. The group of us started to assemble at around 11:30am--Jim VE3EEZ, Rick VE3BK, Mark VE3RYI, Dave VE3DWJ, John VE3DVV and myself, Mike VE3XMS.

Jim was first busy hiding the first Fox before arriving at the meeting point. His fox was a kit he built which was mounted in a military AMO box with a home-brew J-Pole and an HT, driving about 1.5w, emitting a strange jingle followed by his call in CW.

Mark's was the second Fox hiding in his truck, remotely controlling Jim's Fox and manually transmitting his Fox that happened to be his voice. He was using about 500mw

The object was to find the hidden transmitters while driving around, stopping and taking readings using your home-brew antenna and your 2m radio. Once we all gathered we split up into groups. Jim and I hunted together, Dave and Rick formed a team and poor old John was left hunting on his own.

Noon rolled around and there it was--the first beacon--the one Jim built. We scrambled for our strange looking home-brew antennas, turning them in every direction until we locked in on a good signal. Then we took out our maps like we were on some sort of treasure hunt and started drawing lines on them to start our first reference point. Rick and Dave were the first at the gate, followed by John who was never to be seen again. But Jim and I decided to stick around to ensure we got our bearings, dead on, before hitting the road.

I must point out that I was alone on Fox #1 because Jim hid that one so with no help from Jim I asked him to plot a course towards Stoney Creek. I had him make a stop along the way to take a bearing and I was convinced at that point that the first Fox was in the direction of the CHWI tower. Jim also got a bearing on Mark so we decided to first find Mark. So off we went back to the mountain edge to take another reading. But when we were about to stop, Rick and Dave were already taking their bearings where we wanted so we drove on closer to Henderson. We jumped out and waited for the Fox #1 to emit its tone and CW. I got a reading pointing me to Bayfront Park and Jim (got one ) towards the lift bridge so that gave us a cross reference point. So off we went to take more readings that eventually took us to Mark where he was hiding in the parking lot next to the lift bridge. We were the first and only ones to find him. Keep in mind that about 2 hours had already gone by--not as easy as you think.

Now it was my turn to hunt on my own while Jim did the driving. I directed him towards the CHWI tower and stopped along the way to take more readings. That's when I decided to point the car to the punch bowl where I wandered around for a good half hour looking for it. I knew it was there but where? Three minutes to go before the dead line and there it was, chained to a tree with Jim's J-pole swinging in a tree. Were we the first to find this one?--I think not. John beat us to this one. Then it was time to meet up with the group so off to Centre Mall we went to exchange our scores and OH YEAH... we did it!

Team Jim and Mike took first place finding all the transmitters with John taking a close second finding Fox #1. What about Rick and Dave and their fancy antenna system mounted to the car? It looked like they were searching for Mars but came up empty handed with equipment failure. Rick, I think you need to stick to DX HI HI.

All in all, we had a great time and we even had rag chew at the end while tailgating with munchies supplied by Mark.

Hope to see a HUGE turn out for the next Fox Hunt and remember if you don't have access to a car, find a hunting buddy, team up and take first place!

Keep an eye on the events calendar on the club web site for details about the next Fox hunt and other activities the Executive have planned.

## Mobility Cup 2011

by Jim Sawadski, VE3EEZ

The Hamilton ARC has been approached by the organizers of the "Mobility Cup 2011" to assist on land and water for the communications and safety of the disabled sailors.

Here's an article found on "Inside Hamilton.com" for some background on the event

Burlington, Hamilton [yacht] clubs to co-host 2011 Mobility Cup. North America's largest sailing regatta for sailors with physical challenges and disabilities is coming to Burlington Bay. The Mobility Cup will be co-hosted by the Burlington Sailing and Boating Club and the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club. The RHYC will provide the necessary shore facilities for the regatta, scheduled for Aug. 29-Sept. 2, 2011.

Bob Wercholz of the BSBC and Laurel Thompson of the RHYC are co-chairs of the event. (Murray Thompson VE3ZPV as you know is a member of our club, Hamilton ARC).

Anyone with a significant disability, regardless of sailing experience, is welcome to compete. The Mobility Cup annually attracts participants from across Canada as well as the United States, Europe and as far away as New Zealand. First Cup in 1991.

The Mobility Cup was the brainchild of Sam Sullivan, quadriplegic former mayor of Vancouver. Twenty-four

years ago during Expo 86, the British prime minister at the time, Margaret Thatcher, donated a Sunbird sailboat to Rick Hansen to honour his Man in Motion world tour.

Two years later, Hansen presented the boat to Sullivan, who subsequently used it to found the Disabled Sailing Association of B.C.

The first Mobility Cup was held in Vancouver in 1991, and returned in 2010 when it was hosted by the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club.

The Mobility Cup is recognized as Canada's international regatta for sailors with disabilities.

Canada, through the use of innovative technology, is considered a leader in making sailing accessible to people living with severe disabilities.

### What's Shaping Up

The Burlington Amateur Radio Club has been asked by us to co-host a special event station in the fall of 2011. The special event station, as usual, will advertise the event and draw attention to the event, the hobby and club stations via special event QSL Cards and Club information handouts at the public space.

Additionally, the radio amateurs will be assisting the organizers with the needed communications on land and water so that the sailing event runs smoothly.

The hope is to get enough interest from the two clubs to bring together enough volunteers to support this event as communication on site will be key.

This is a fairly long event, more than one club would want to handle. The Mobility Cup takes place August 29 2011 through to September 2nd, just before the Labour Day weekend.

Much organizing will be needed, between the two clubs and the organizers.

The Burlington executives are now considering this and are bring it

forward to their general meeting in June.

Please consider volunteering some of your time as a worthy community event and cause.

We have 66 primary members in the Hamilton Club. Let's get 66 members out there to show the community our support.

## Contest Corner

by chairman Rick Danby, VE3BK



Friday June 3rd, a group of us came out to do maintenance at the contest site. Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ, and Mike Christmas, VE3XMS were there to do clean-up. Rick and a friend repaired a corner of the trailer that had deteriorated. The grass was cut by people taking turns. There is a whole lot of grass and it is not a small job. Later on, Dan VA3DJ arrived with a computer to test for use in contest logging, and John VE3DVB brought a modem to improve the local area network we use. We also repaired the magnetic loop antenna which had blown down in a storm. That is now back up and secured. The new owner has planted a row of trees along the front, but some of those had blown over in the wind, so we put them back up. In short, we got a whole lot done. I want to say thanks to those members who came out and worked so hard to put the place back in shape.

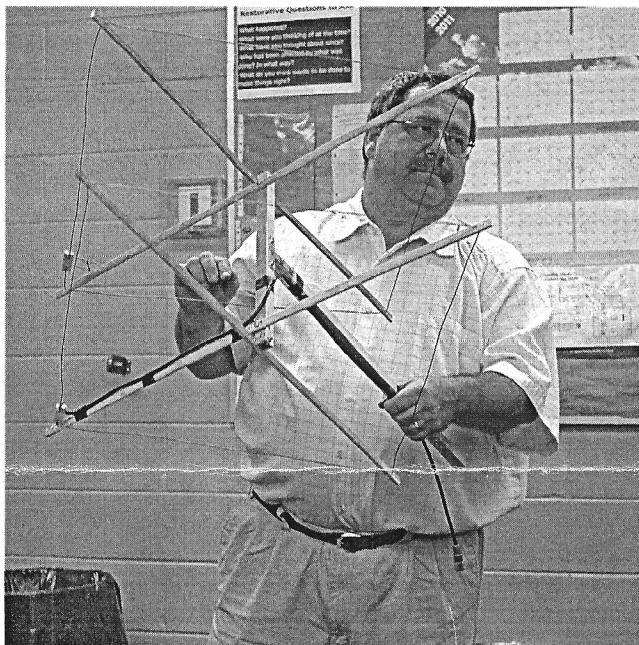
Here are some dates to remember.

**Field Day** at the Punch Bowl on June 25th and 26th, a 24 hour period from 2 p.m. on Saturday (local time) until 2 p.m. on Sunday.

**Canada Day** at the Contest Site on June 30th to July 1st, a 24 hour period, from 8:00 p.m. (local time) Thursday night until 8:00 p.m. on Friday, the holiday.

**Lighthouse Weekend** at the beach strip on August 20th and 21st. Visit the web at [illw.net](http://illw.net) for details.

### Pictures from the annual HARC Home Brew Night at the May 18th meeting



Mark Proctor VE3RYI, takes the Crawford Trophy for his project, a home-brew portable cubic quad antenna for 2 meters, along with two stepped attenuators. The combination forms an essential tool kit for fox hunting. Congratulations Mark.

Awards Chair, Casey VanBroekhoven, VE3CVP presenting the trophy. Photos by Mardy, VE3QEE



Rick Danby, VE3BK, (seated) shows to onlookers some old Club photos that were donated. Viewing the photos, are, (left to right), Sandi Mansfield, SWL, Dave Webb, VA3RF, David Bruton, VE3DWJ, Jim Sawadski, VE3EEZ, and Kevin Barker, VE3HNG.