



The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Newsletter – 79 Years of Amateur Radio, 1932-2011

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club,
117 - 350 King Street East,
P.O. Box 75073,
Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 4G6
Est. 1932 Inc. 1956
<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/>

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President's Message

by Tom Van Wort
VA3TVW



Welcome to the 2011-2012 club year, HARC's 79th year of continuous operation. Our election in June returned a mix of former and new members of the executive. Here are the officers for the coming year: President, Tom Van Wort VA3TVW, 1st Vice President Mike Krebs VA3WXS, 2nd Vice President Mardy Eedson VE3QEE, Secretary Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ, Treasurer Mark Proctor VE3RYI, and Director Gail Van Wort. David Bruton VE3DWJ is the Past President.

Starting this month we will be meeting at a new, more central location at the **Hamilton Mountain Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 284 Concession Street; Hamilton, Ontario, L9C-7N7.** This location is overlooking the mountain brow at the top of the Jolley Cut and it can easily be reached by bus. Every route that goes up or down the Jolley Cut stops by the Church.

Members had a very active summer with many "on the air" events taking place like Field Day, Canada Day, a fox hunt, Picnic In The Park, and the Lighthouse-Lightship weekend to name a few. You can read about them further along in the newsletter. Coming up soon is another fox hunt

and our annual Hamfest and flea market at the Ancaster Fair Grounds.

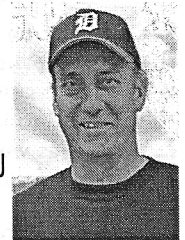
For those who renew their membership before the end of the September meeting the renewal incentive program remains in effect. You could receive next year's membership free of charge. I don't think you can get better odds anywhere.

Our weekly two-meter net resumes on Sunday evening at 7:30 P.M. on VE3NCF, 146.760 (-) tone 131.8. Join us for a check-in.

Watch the club web page at hamiltonarc.ca for reminders and late breaking news. Hope to see you at the meeting on Wednesday September 21st at the new location. If you know someone who could get there by bus, be sure to let them know. In the mean time i'll be listening for you on the air.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting June 15, 2011

by secretary Jim
Sawadski VE3EEZ



Call to order

Dave Bruton VE3DWJ called to order the Annual Meeting of the HARC at 19:34 on June 15, 2011 at The Hamilton District Christian High School 92 Glancaster Road Ancaster.

Club meetings – 3rd Wednesday each month – 7:30 pm (except July and August) at Hamilton Mountain Seventh-Day Adventist Church, 284 Concession Street; Hamilton, Ontario, L9C-7N7 ~~~ at the top of the Jolley Cut Bus stop nearby. Parking on location. Complimentary refreshments.

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 May 18, 2011 by Mike VE3WXS Seconded by Casey VE3CVP, Carried by the members.

Speaker

Bob Nash VE3KZ

Bob is Past President of the Contest Club of Ontario (CCO a contesting club that VE3DC is a member of) and a former First Vice-President of the Radio Amateurs of Canada. He also writes THE SPORTS PAGE - THE CANADIAN CONTEST SCENE in the TCA Magazine for Radio Amateurs of Canada. He is back from retirement writing this column once again. The column keeps us informed of what's new in contesting and gives us the score results in contests we have been involved in. Bob gave us a little biography from his introduction to ham radio, and the 58 years of experiences that followed his 1953 beginning in "the radio world" as VE3BHS, Thunder Bay.

An interesting talk, from the man behind the scenes in contesting. Thank you Bob for putting on the presentation and coming out to meet some of the members.

For information on Contesting see the CCO website <http://www.va3cco.com/> there you will find all you need to know about contesting as well as a link to become a member of this group.

Health & Welfare

There were no new items to report this month as all is well as conveyed by Mary VE3OGQ.

A silent key was announced by one of our members, Stu Graves VE3BRG / VE3SG a past CHCH Engineer and past club member. See his photo on the HARC website, a 1959 photo.

http://hamiltonarc.ca/index.php?module=mGallery2&g2_itemId=1614

Contest

Rick VE3BK announced the upcoming Canada Day Contest 8pm Thursday evening June 30, 2011 through to 8pm Friday July 1st

Also of note was the Lighthouse event Aug 20- 21, 2011 at the Beach strip location, 9am-4pm. For more information contact Mike Krebbs VE3WXS.

Dan VA3DJ announced Field Day 2011 is set to go at The Devil's Punch Bowl. 9m set up for a 2PM start time.

All individuals assisting at the site under Hamilton ARC are encouraged to carry an ID badge. Badges can be made free of charge at the following site <http://bighugelabs.com/badge.php>

All visitors are welcome and encouraged to come up and support your club at this event.

Education Mardy VE3QEE reported status quo, with Basic Training. One person is almost ready to write the exam.

Repeater

Our repeater Chair was not in attendance for a report on the repeater progress. Garry Notto VE3TTO has been monitoring VE3NCF and has recommended to the executives to purchase a new power supply for the station.

Treasures Report

All current treasurer reports will be issued in the latest news letters published monthly. For details consult your newsletter. A year end report will be available in September and thereafter published.

Membership

Sherry VE3DCU reported an additional member to bring the 2010/ 2011 membership to 67 primary and 10 Family members. The new membership application/renewal form can be found on line at <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/pdfs/>

HARC 2011-2012 Executive

President

Tom VanWort, VA3TVW
905 308 7538
<va3tvw@hamiltonarc.ca>

Past President

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

First Vice President

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

Second Vice President

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

Secretary

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

Treasurer

Mark Proctor, VE3RYI
<ve3ryi@hamiltonarc.ca>

Director

Gail VanWort, (swl)
905 308 7538
Gail@hamiltonarc.ca

Thor

harcmembership-2011.04.28.pdf please use the form to submit your 2011/ 2012 dues and please fill it out completely. Information that you provide will be used to update you on changes and club events that you do not want to miss out on.

September 2011 will be the last date available to purchase your early bird membership for the opportunity for you to receive a free club membership.

Club Net

Tracey VE3CDU is your Sunday night Net Controller. Turn on your rig to the VE3NCF repeater Sundays @ 7:30 pm and say hello.

New Business

Year in Review

President Dave Bruton VE3DWJ spoke of some of the successes for the 2010/2011 year and thanked individuals for their contributions. From the successful October Ham fest, where many members assisted, to the Christmas Party, the arrangement of club speakers & Fox hunt. Dave thanked this year executives for their roles this year, the chairs for their contributions in Contesting, Field Day, Membership, Net controllers, Repeater, Awards, Newsletter, Health and Welfare, and Webmaster. Many hands make light work.

Recognition Certificates

This year the executives chose to award twelve of our current members for their contributions to the Hamilton ARC and the hobby of Amateur Radio through their involvement in the hobby and in the community they serve. The award was to thank those individuals for their efforts and contributions, recognising that volunteering their time takes considerable effort and dedication. Thank you for stepping up when asked, being involved in club events that are scheduled and being there when something needs to be done.

Recipients of that award went to the following people:

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE
Lorraine MacPherson VA3NZ
Garry Notto VE3TTO
Mary Urbanski VE3OGQ
Anita Thomas VA3ANI
Rick Danby VE3BK
John Kassay VE3FDK
Mike Krebs VE3WXS
Dave Bruton VE3DWJ
Fred Robinson VE3GCP
Sherry Goeller VE3DCU
John Vandenburg VE3DVV

Order of the Gavel

Casey VE3CVP took advantage of this evenings attendance and awarded Mike Krebs VE3WXS the "Order of the Gavel" a much awaited award, as

Mike has been absent at club meetings due to his health.

Club owned Equipment

Rick VE3BK is taking inventory of any club owned equipment that anyone is aware of that can be listed on the club executives "Back Office". This site is one of Anita's VA3ANI's efforts to give the club a site where all incoming executives have a common place to share info. If you have something that the club owns please contact Rick at 7:30 P.M. ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca so that this equipment can be located for future use.

Elections

Joe Urbanski VE3OCD, chaired the election nominations and the following members have accepted the roles for 2011 / 012 season:

Dave Bruton VE3DWJ – Past President

Tom Van Wort VA3TVW – President

Mike Krebs VE3WXS – 1st Vice President

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE – 2nd Vice President

Mark Proctor VE3RYI – Treasurer

Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ – Secretary

Gail VanWort, SWL – Director Without Portfolio

City Housing of Hamilton "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 station at Bayfront Park July 23rd.

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 Tom for details please.

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
<ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca>

Communication

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

Web Master

Anita Thomas VA3ANI,
<va3ani@hamiltonarc.ca>

Provincial Communications Network (Procom Net)

Gary Notto VE3TTO reminded everyone to check into the Procom net for a quick check-in and stay tuned into the hobby. You can usually find Gary hosting the net at 8pm Thursday evenings on the WIK repeater 443.675 tone 131.8

The Procom Net uses the Escarpment Repeater Association Network which is also linked to the SORT system in south-west Ontario. They incorporate IRLP via the Crossroads Reflector, channel 9206. The Procom Net is an emergency preparedness network that operates under the direction of the Emergency Management Ontario. In the event of a declared emergency the Procom Net would provide auxilliary communications for Provincial and Municipal Emergency

Operations Centres as well as local ARES Groups, providing coverage of all of Ontario using the tactical IRLP channel of 9207.

Next meeting

September 21, 2011 – Location to be announced. Stay close to the Hamilton ARC website for details and events throughout the summer, or stay tuned into the VE3NCF Repeater Sunday evenings in September for any announcements available on the meeting location.

Adjournment

Dave Bruton VE3DWJ adjourned the meeting at 20:10
 Motion moved by Mike VE3WXS
 Seconded by Garry VE3TTO
 Thanks all in attendance

Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ



Financial Report

by Treasurer Mark Proctor VE3RYI

Carry over July 3 2011 \$ 6,613.61

	Withdraws	Deposits
Property Sale		
Bank Charges	\$ 4.95	
Member ships		
BELL CANADA	\$ 23.94	
Petty Cash		
Xmas Party		
New Letter		
Refreshments		
Hamfest		
Feald Day		
Certificates		
Repeater Site		
Supplies	\$ 29.29	
Speakers	\$ 35.00	
TOTAL	\$ 93.18	\$ (93.18)

Bank Account \$ 6,520.43
 GIC. Accounts
 CLOSING BANK BALANCE \$ 6,520.43

Report done, July 30/ 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 \$30 per person, per year, Sept 1 to Aug 31. Additional membership, for immediate family living in the same home, is \$5 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, for the following month's issue, is the last Saturday of the current month. 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>

Field Day 2011

a report by Mardy with help from Rick and others.

Field Day was held at the Devil's Punch Bowl above Stoney Creek. VE3DC operated with four transmitters this year plus one Get On The Air station (GOTA) using a different call sign and one VHF station. Dan organized our participation and arranged things so we earned quite a few bonus points for doing extra things, like having youth operators.

Working the 40m Station were Dan VA3DJ, Rick VE3BK, Scott VE3QU, & Andrew VE3RIA.

Working the 20m Station were Tom VA3TVW, Tracy VA3CDU, John VA3WLD, Sandy Mansfield SWL and youth operator, Erin Van Wort.

Working the 80m Station were John VE3DVV, & Mardy VE3QEE.

Working the 15m Station. were Jim VE3EEZ & Mark VE3RYI.

Working the VHF station were David VE3DWJ, Kevin VE3HNG & Gary VE3TTO.

The 2m and 6m Stations are scored as a single station as only 1 bonus station is allowed and only one was on the air at any given time.

Our GOTA station was operated by Dave VE3DV using a separate call. Points become part of the bonus station count.

The weather was great. We did well and had lots of visitors at that site.

Reg Bagshaw VE3BQQ, now living in Australia, paid us a surprise visit. Regge still runs the weekly Tech Net with check-ins from hams world wide. So it was quite an honour to

see Reg while he was vacationing in the Hamilton Area.

Thanks to all who participated and to those who dropped in to help or just to say hi. It all helped make Field Day a happening. Thanks again, Dan, for doing a really good job.

Picnic In The Park

a report by Tom Van Wort VA3TVW

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club participates in the Hamilton Housing Authority Picnic in the Park event.

In order for the HARC to get out and let the public and other Hams know that we are active, our executive has been promoting more and more public events. The latest one was the Hamilton Housing Authority's Picnic in the Park which took place on Saturday July 23rd 2011.

Front Row: ve3qee(Mardy), va3cdu(Tracy), ve3atx(Mike), ve3ryi(mark), ve3dwj(Dave), ve3hng(Kevin)
Back Row: va3tvw(tom), ve3bk(rick), ve3dv(Dave), ve3dvv(John), ve3eez(Jim), va3dj(Dan)
Fieldday 2011 The Devil's Punchbowl StoneyCreek Ontario



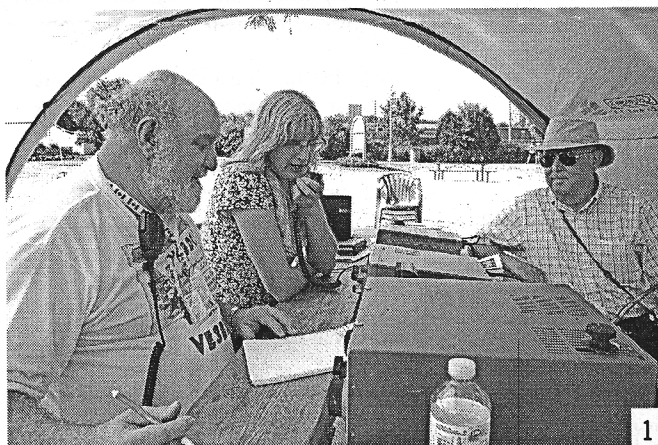
The picnic is a yearly event put on by the city to give tenants of subsidized housing a day out in the park for free. The event took place at Bayfront Park in Hamilton. The tenants had free food and entertainment for adults and children. At this event our Club set up a station to demonstrate amateur radio. In particular, our club is trying to encourage landlords to allow Hams to put up aerials so that apartment dwellers can operate more effectively. We are now known to the Hamilton Housing Authority

so if they have any enquiries, they can come to us for guidance.

It was a hot day but a worthwhile one. We set up the tent, radio and antenna in the morning and operated until 3 p.m. EST. We made around 25 contacts or so and it was a lot of fun. Many people come by to ask what we were doing and we were pleased to explain. It was successful to say the least and also a great way for our club members to gather around in the summer time.

Left to right: Picture 1; Rick VE3BK, Sherry VE3DCU, Mardy VE3QEE. Picture 2; Mark VE3RYI, Dave VE3DV. Picture 3; Erin Van Wort, Tom VA3TVW. Picture 4; Dave VE3DV. Leif VE3KFE, Gail, Tracy VA3CDU. Picture 5; Erin, Dave VE3DWJ, Mardy VE3QEE Sherry VE3DCU, Gail, Tracy VA3CDU.

The event was organized by Tom Van Wort VA3TVW, Tracy Van Wort VA3CDU and Mark Proctor VE3RYI.



1



2



3



4



5



6

We Could Be Using 60M Soon

Excerpts from RAC bulletin 7 Aug 2011

Over the last year RAC has been in discussions with Industry Canada with the objective of obtaining access to 60M.

Industry Canada has now informed RAC that at this point it sees no reason not to respond favourably to the RAC request for frequencies at 60m on a no protection, non-interference basis.

The new frequencies would be included in the schedule of amateur frequencies in the updated edition of RBR-4 to be released for public consultation in the future. Public submissions will be considered by Industry Canada in preparation for the final version of RBR-4. Any new frequencies it contains would become available to Canadian amateurs at the time of release of the updated RBR-4. Thus, if all goes well, Canadian amateurs may expect to gain access to frequencies at 60m, basically the same as those in the US, some time this fall.

Fox Hunt News

by Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ

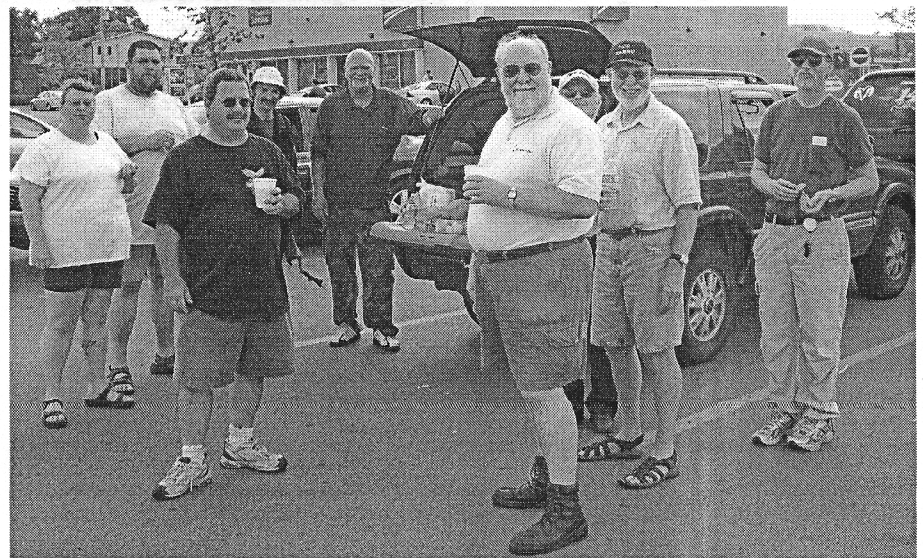
Another fun filled Fox Hunt for the Hamilton Amateur radio Club took place Aug 7 2011. The hunt was scheduled to begin at noon but was delayed until approximately 12:40 to make sure all the hunters and foxes were in place. Mark, VE3RY1, was one fox and Jim VE3EEZ the other. Approximately an hour or so into the hunt Mark announced that two of the hunters had found him.

Twenty minutes later two hunters John VE3DVV and Mark VE3MWH appeared in Gage Park where I was situated. It's a lot of fun being the fox if you can conceal yourself as I did this time around. I parked my car and removed the antenna I was monitoring with before their arrival. I was disguised by wearing sun glasses

and hat sporting a moustache, a costume which neither of the gentlemen had seen me wearing before. As I watched Mark and John approached close enough for the fox to bite them on the legs, and they never spotted me. For the next 70 minutes, until the hunt was over, they walked back and forth, around and around, sometimes together, sometimes apart. The two of them encircled the fox, without discovering its location. Kudos to them though, as they were the only ones to be in the right vicinity. At one point Mark was within 70 ft of the target, but the fox was too tough to catch.

Attached is a photo of them trying to find the fox's location before the hunt was called off.

After the hunt the group met back in the Centre Mall parking lot to tell their stories. Another good time. Thanks to all who came out for some fun.



In the photos, Kevin VE3HNG, David & Rick VE3DWJ / VE3BK, Tom, Tracy & Dave
VA3TVW / VA3CDU / VE3DV, John & Mark VE3DVV / VE3MWH, Mark VE3RY1 Fox 1, Jim VE3EEZ Fox 2 (behind the camera)

Hamilton Air Show

by John Kassay VE3FDK

The Hamilton International Airshow for 2011 went off perfectly, with a few snags, with many volunteers helping out. Looking forward to a great repeat performance for next year being the 40th anniversary of the Warplane Museum.

I volunteered to help out with eight other radio amateurs in the Communications Centre directed by Bob McKinlay VE3DJ. We were set up in the Gordon-Thompson room next to the radio room VA3CWM.

It would be appropriate to include in our HARC bulletin that Rick Danby VE3BK be given praise for handling duties in the radio room for the Special Event all by himself. He had many people from the airshow visiting the radio room, and asking questions. With no one to assist him, Rick was left with very little time to operate the station. He did however make quite a few contacts during the slow periods.

I would like to commend Rick for his great efforts in keeping the station VA3CWM open at the Canadian Warplane Museum and active on the air. He dedicated over 24 hours in the 2 day event, on Fathers' Day weekend.

Thank you Rick. 73, John, VE3FDK/VE3CWM

Contest Corner

RAC CANADA DAY July 1st, 2011, by contest chairman Rick Danby, VE3BK

We did well on Canada Day. Sorry some of the regulars could not make it out to help us. Hope to see you there next year. We increased our score over last year and had fun doing it.

Operators for Canada Day were: Dan VA3DJ, Rick VE3BK, Scott VE3QU, Jim VE3EEZ, VE3RIA & Steve VE3OZO.

Our results are tabulated below.

Soapbox: Another fun RAC Canada Day Contest. Every year seems to be different. This year in the wee hours, I couldn't find anyone calling CQ Canada Day, but heard the guys in Australia ragchewing, so I went back to bed. So much for contacts at greylines. We had a visitor at 3am Mardy VE3QEE who had come to work the wee hours for us but found us all sleeping with the radios turned off, so went back home to get some more sleep himself. Likely he wouldn't had found much activity for Canada Day then anyway. The 20 meter band was the only one working late, same as it did on Field Day. Later on we had a break and wished ourselves "Happy Canada Day" when all the bands seemed to be dead during the daytime on

Friday. We also wished Dan VA3DJ and Scott VE3QU, Happy Birthday. We won't say how old Dan is, but it is a big one. Our break didn't last long and we were back to working whoever we could. We all had fun doing this contest as usual, even though there didn't really seem to be as many on as in the past, but we increased our score from last year just the same. Another great Canadian contest.

Thanks to all that worked us. Hope to see you in the next one.

Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

by Sherry Goeller VE3DCU

Saturday August 20th 2011 was the first day of the HARC Lighthouse event. The event continued on Sunday August 21st 2011. The event was organized by Mike Krebs. This year was the 153rd Anniversary of the Burlington Lighthouse of which we were activating.

What is it all about you ask? Answer, to share our lighthouse experiences with other folks from all around the world via Amateur Radio.

Called "Lighthouse Activations", we set up our portable station inside or near lighthouses and talk to other "Hams" radio operators over shortwave. The purpose of these events are to promote public awareness of the role amateur radio and light beacons have played in assisting and maintaining safety at sea. These hams also strive to



preserve the heritage and history of lighthouses and lightships as well as aid in preserving those lights in danger of destruction.

The event started early on Saturday with Jim Sawadski and his son Jesse getting set up with their station. Dan Martinak also was there and brought the laptop to log the contacts. They had a 20 meter bazzoka antenna and made many contacts. I arrived a bit later that morning with Mike Krebs and we started to set up my station. Not before I had to make a run to the pharmacy to buy bug repellent. The black flies were numerous and pestering. They would not give up. Luckily the bug repellent worked somewhat. I managed to get the mini G5RV up between two trees and on the air we were. Not a lot of contacts were made as it turned out that the North American QSO party started at 2 p.m. and a lot of stations were not on the air. After 2 p.m. the bands got crowded. Kevin Barker also showed up along with Rick Danby. A lot of fun was had that day.

Sunday August 21st 2011

On Sunday, Rick Danby was again at the lighthouse and Rick reports the following. We had a good time even though it rained a few times. Sandi did a great job and we had lots of visitors. One was a ham who had been dormant for about 12 years. Another person was a Bell guy that knew my name but had never met me. We used the G5RV antenna again and the Bazoooka that Mark put up too. David Bruton brought Mike and then went home sick so I said Mike could go home with me. When I arrived Mark was already there setting up. Kevin came again on his bicycle. Sandi Mansfield (no call yet) made a lot of contacts and logged too. We had fun on the Sunday. The rain only lasted a short time each time it came down; 3 times I think.

The location is a good one under the overhang of a public works building with hydro, a fountain, washrooms, and picnic tables. Lots of people pass this point. We can explain to visitors what Amateur Radio is all about.

Band	CW QSOs	CW points	CW mults	Phone QSOs	Phone points	Phone mults
160	0	0	0	0	0	0
80	16	104	2	164	1346	10
40	215	952	9	95	896	10
20	46	212	8	444	2326	12
15	16	90	3	29	116	3
10	3	6	0	17	50	1
6	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	3	30	1