



# THE HAMILTON AMATEUR

March 2012

Volume 79 Number 7

[www.hamiltonarc.ca](http://www.hamiltonarc.ca)

Est. 1932 Inc. 1956

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### President's Remarks

Hello to all Members

For the members and guest that came out last month it was a great speech from Barry Lisoweski, VE3ISX

on how they do remote on HF and thanks to Barry for doing this for us, great for those that cannot have antennas up, full article inside.



We have a few club members that we never see at a club meeting or other club activities. That means their sole connection with the club is through the newsletter. We would love to have you come and see some of the activities that we have done and our guests speakers.

After many years of dedication producing the newsletter for our club Mardy VE3QEE has decided to pass it onto Mike VE3XMS. Thank you so much Mardy for many years of great reading.

Our weekly two-meter net is on Sunday evenings at 7:30 P.M. on VE3NCF (vhf) 146.760 (-) tone 131.8. VE3NCF (uhf) 444.075 (-) tone 131.8 Join us and check-in and say hello to Tracy VA3CDU

Watch the club web page at [hamiltonarc.ca](http://hamiltonarc.ca) for reminders and late breaking news.

Don't forget the general meeting for the month of March is March 21/2012

**Executive Meetings**

HARC Executive committee meets each month, except July and August, on a Tuesday or Wednesday preceding 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.

**HARC 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 volunteer 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, Mike Christmas, VE3XMS, <ve3xms@hamiltonarc.ca>

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

**Volunteer Examiners**

Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ, 905-560-2628  
<ve3ufz@hamiltonarc.ca>

Mike Christmas VE3XMS, 905-973-9040  
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**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  
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**Membership Chair Sherry Goeller**

VE3DCU, <ve3dcu@hamiltonarc.ca>

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**Web Master**

Anita Thomas VA3ANI,  
<va3ani@hamiltonarc.ca>

**HARC 2011-2012****Executive****President**

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

**Past President**

David Bruton VE3DWJ  
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<ve3dwj@hamiltonarc.ca>

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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

## I. Call to order

Tom VanWort VA3TVW called to order the regular meeting of the HARC at 19:35 on Feb 22, 2012 at The Hamilton Mountain Seventh - day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON. Motion set forth by Dave VE3DV and seconded by John VA3BOZ

## II. Sign In

Attendance was conducted by the circulation of the members sign in sheet. 29 members were present & 3 visitors, Lorraine VA3NZ, Mike VE3MSE, Pat SWL & XYL of Rick VE3BK.

## III. Speakers

Barry Lisowski VE3ISX began the evening with an interactive demonstration of a remote controlled HF station, accessed via his notepad through a wireless internet connection. Barry explained the tools needed for his demonstration to include his rig, an ICOM 756PRO3, Signal Link USB interface, Skype software and Ham Radio Deluxe Software. Barry called up a fellow ham on the 80 meter band on 3.733 mhz and spoke with Grace VE3HQB of Elliot Lake 100 miles west of Sudbury as well as Sal VE3YSE of Sudbury, who was the net controller that evening on the sandbox net. A very viable alternative to having a tower in your back yard with a 6+ "city" background noise level. Barry operates the Ontars Net from Hamilton, while the rig he is interfaced with is in Bracebridge. Noted on this topic is the need to have an advanced operators license in order to transmit in this manner.

Thank you Barry for the educational experience.

## IV. Health & Welfare

Mary had nothing to report. Good news Mary!

## V. Contest

Rick VE3BK announced that on February 24, 5pm to Feb 26, 5pm Est that the contest group, using the VE3DC club call, will be at the site working the CQ 160 meter contest. Last year the group captured 1<sup>st</sup> place Multi in Ontario & Canada. Operators where Dan VA3DJ, Mike VE3ATX, Rick VE3BK, Sherry VE3CDU, Mardy VE3QEE, and Mark VE3RYI.

Rick also mentioned the upcoming ARRL DX International SB contest March 3&4<sup>th</sup> as well as the WW WPX (worked all prefixes ) SSB is coming again March 24-25, 2012, a 48 hr contest, as well as the April 21/22 Ontario QSO Party.

## VI. Repeater

Our repeater chair, John VE3DVV, reported that the UHF & VHF repeater power supplies have been replaced with one unit and if all works well this setup will be used on our new repeaters that are now on order from ICOM. John asked the membership to have a listen to see if the "hum" is now gone. John also informed members that the batteries for the back-up system are in need of replacement, and that the membership should look to replace them with the appropriate dry cell batteries. John also made note that the IRLP was back up running on the 440 side. That mode is there for your use and experience. Don't hesitate to call up a node and have a listen.

Tom VA3TVW reported that the new repeaters should arrive sometime around the 1<sup>st</sup> week in March, at which time John VE3DVV & Mark VE3MWH will begin preparing for their installation.

Minutes submitted by:

Secretary Jim Sawadski  
VE3EEZ





## I. Treasures Report

Mark VE3RYI reported that the financial report to date will be included in the March Newsletter.

contact John with your desire to help make this year's hamfest one of the best. John has also asked that you tap into your resources to acquire suitable donated door prizes.

## II. Membership

Sherry VE3DCU reported that membership dues are coming in continuously and that as of Feb 22, membership stood at 60 primary and 6 family members.

Pictures - John VA3BOZ has volunteered to assist in collecting pictures of past and present for display on a linked website see <http://www.pbase.com/harc> for a snapshot of some interesting photos. If you have some that you would like to share email John at [va3xm@rac.ca](mailto:va3xm@rac.ca) to get them posted....what a great idea.

*when was John given for pictures new site*

## III. Awards

Casey VE3CVP was in attendance and called on Gary Notto VE3TTO to present him with the Art Ferguson Trophy & Certificate in recognition of meritorious service to the public through amateur radio communication. The order of Merit should be in the minds of club members to nominate someone you feel deserving. Look for this one in March/2012. Also of note is Home Brew Night coming up in May in which we will once again be looking for a place to display the Crawford Trophy. These Awards can be found on your website by following the link below.

Emergency Operations Center (EOC) - Lorraine VA3NZ & Jerri VE3JSO were on hand this evening to talk about the EOC located on Stone Church Road East of Ottawa Street. The EOC will be looking for operators to assist in training / testing of that facility from an amateur radio perspective. Interested parties should contact Lorraine or Jerri for further information on what's required.

<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/index.php?module=htmlpages&func=display&pid=14#ferguson>

Fox Hunts - More of the fox hunt events will be scheduled in the upcoming months as the blizzards of 2011-2012 come to closure. Membership is urged to keep an eye out for scheduled events on the Hamilton arc web page.

## New Business

Tom VA3TVW announced the "Girl Guides on the Air" taking place Feb 25 between 2-3pm. The guides would be checking in to the Ontars net as well as experiencing various modes ie. PSK31, VHF, UHF, IRLP, RTTY etc. Mark VE3RYI will be assisting in Elmering the girls.

Membership/Rac Insurance - Mardy inquired about how an increased membership would play out in the RAC Insurance Program since payment is applied in September / October of the previous year. Mark VE3RYI had agreed to look into it with his contact.

Newsletter Editor/ Publisher - Mike VE3XMS has agreed to assist in the publishing of the Hamilton ARC newsletter. Please give Mike your support by sending him articles for inclusion by the Tuesday following the General Meeting, so that your newsletter will be the best it can be. Thank you Mike for stepping up.

Hamilton ARC Web Site - Peter VE3DOU questioned the lack of updates on the member's website. Mark VE3RYI explained the transition taking place that will allow more individuals access to make updates. The Web Master, Anita VA3ANI has done, and continues to do a marvellous job of creating and maintaining our site. It's one of the best sites out there and is used by many on the internet. We apologize for neglecting to inform her of any new updates and we are actively looking to resolve the communication lines from this day forward. Thank you Peter and Anita.

200 year Bicentennial of the war of 1812 - Mike VA3ATX has acquired the call sign XM31812 for the special event station that VE3DC will partake in on July 13, 14, 15, 2012 from The Devils Punch Bowl. A committee has been formed to begin preparations. If you are interested in assisting please contact Mike or email [exec@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:exec@hamiltonarc.ca)

*7 H.A.R.C.*

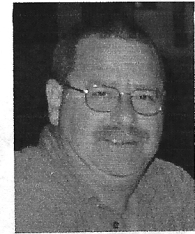
Next meeting  
March 21, 2012 The Hamilton Mountain Seventh-day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON.

2012 Flea Market - John VA3BOZ has agreed to assist in the organization of the Hamilton ARC flea market. John discussed some of the ideas he's working on in regards to the flea market. John will be looking for assistance this year in a variety of capacities. Please

Adjournment  
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 21:30  
Moved by Mardy VE3QEE  
Motion seconded by Mark VE3RYI



by Treasurer Mark Proctor  
VE3RYI



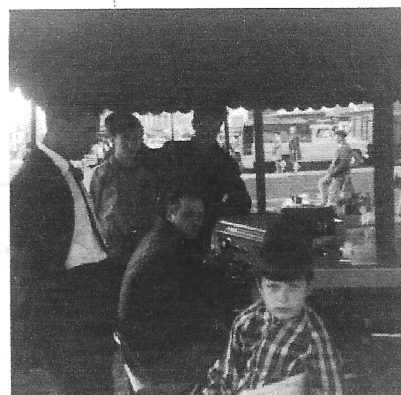
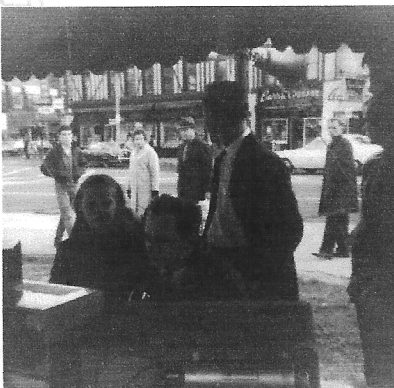
Carry over from Jan28/12		\$ 5,072.80
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	Withdraws	Deposits
Bank Charges	\$4.95	
BELL CANADA	\$27.36	
Field Day		
Flea Market 2011		
Flea Market 2012		
GIC accounts		
Internet webpage		
Member ships		
News Letter		
Other	\$16.95	
Petty Cash		
PO. Box		
Property Sale		
Rac.		
Refreshments		
Repeater		
Speaker		
Supplies paper, ink		
Xmas Party		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$49.26</b>	<b>\$ (49.26)</b>

*FOOD* engaving  
*other* explained

Bank Account	\$ 5,023.54
GIC. Accounts	\$ 3,000.00
<b>CLOSING BANK BALANCE</b>	<b>\$ 8,023.54</b>

Report done, Feb 25/12



This article is from around 1967. Ray Baker VE3CZN was our President then, Vic Copps was the Mayor of Hamilton. We were allowed to operate from the T. Eaton market square, John Kassay VE3FDK did a lot of operating. This brought much interest in Ham Radio and was very good public relations for our Club-- something like we do today with Picnic in the Park and

the Emergency Day with the City of Hamilton.

Pictures and article supplied by John Kassay VE3FDK our still Long time member. *still.*

## AMATEUR RADIO DAY 1967 IN HAMILTON

On October 14th, the H A R C set up VE3DC portable on the T. Eaton property on Market Square in downtown Hamilton, using power from a gasoline powered generator. The equipment was a Viking Invader and SX-101A into a TA-33 Sr., working twenty meters only. Mayor Vic Copps and an alderman visited the station at 12:00 p.m. and spoke to a station in Knoxville, Tennessee. This worked out to be an interesting contact, as the mayor was once a sports announcer, and so was the amateur in Knoxville; he was actually on his way to announce a football game.

It was a beautiful day, and many people crowded around the station; the club had pamphlets to give them explaining amateur radio. The affair was a real success, and the club has had many requests for further information. Rae Baker, VE3CZN, President of the Club made the arrangement with the City Fathers, and the T. Eaton Co., and heartily recommends this sort of activity to other clubs.



Hamilton A R C Exhibition in downtown Market Square: Left, Rae Baker, VE3CZN, and John Kassay, VE3FDK.



By Rick Danby VE3BK

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club has been doing Special Events for a long time.

*Saving 2nd article?*

### Hamilton's New Multi-Agency Training Academy

Hamilton's New Multi-Agency Training Academy Consolidates Services in One Impressive Complex and incorporates Amateur Radio services

In a new, \$25 million state-of-the-art facility, the city is embarking on a partnership project between Hamilton Fire, Hamilton Police and Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

This one-of-a-kind facility permanently houses all of the city's fire, police and EMS divisions in one complex, as well as the emergency management and preparedness division. The Multi-Agency Training Academy consists of three components: a multi-storey building and indoor training facility for fire, police, primary response and emergency preparedness, an outdoor training tower, and a working fire and EMS station.

Planning has now begun with EOC Hamilton to incorporate Amateur Radio. A meeting was held, involving the "core" group...and a basic action plan was decided upon.

Progress of the planning will be posted here, once a meeting is established with EOC Hamilton.

The support of the Hamilton Amateur Radio community is very important. Those interested should consider joining the CVC group, as it is this group which will be called

upon during exercises, and more importantly, during an emergency event.

In the near future, the CVCnet will have an ARES section time set aside presided over by VE3JSO, the area ARES coordinator, and when appropriate, a CanWarn section, with VA3ANI to answer any questions or suggestions concerning CanWarn.

CVCnet control continues with VE3JNX, but shared when necessary.

All operations from the new EOC headquarters will use the callsign VA3CVC. ON AL's request

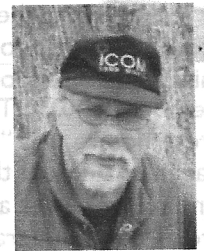
The objective is to offer to the City of Hamilton Emergency Operations Center, an axillary group of Ham Radio volunteers to provide axillary, low level communications during time of need.

The weekly CVCnet objective will remain the same as stated in the weekly net preamble.

More information can be obtained by contacting [eoc.ham.ont@gmail.com](mailto:eoc.ham.ont@gmail.com)

*Jerry still has seat of ARES*

*VA3ANI is now CanWarn*



By Alan MacPherson VA3AM



*Firechief is the real boss of EOC*

*what is it?*

*Al & Louise didn't join club*

*What happened to VE3CEV group. Why is this one now the important one. Who made Al the boss. Article word for word on CVC website*



## RAC Changes Ontario Sections

On February 6, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) issued a statement on their website that the Ontario Section would be split into four new RAC Administrative Sections, effective September 1, 2012. The reason given for the restructure was "...to create a management model that better communicates with, and represents the interests of, the overall Ontario Amateur population." The Ontario Section will be dissolved and be replaced with four new RAC Sections: Ontario North, Ontario South, Ontario East and the Greater Toronto Area. The new section abbreviations will be announced when final.

This new change will affect ARRL contests and Field Day in the following ways:

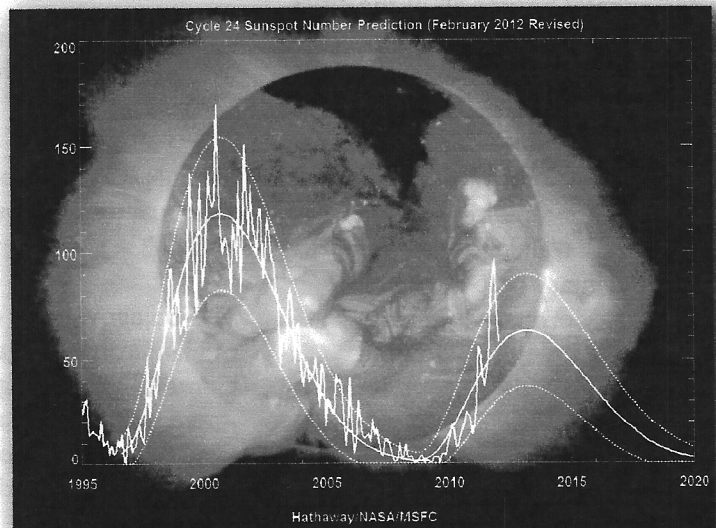
- For ARRL contests that use ARRL/RAC sections as multipliers -- the ARRL November Sweepstakes and the ARRL 160 Meter Contest -- there will be an overall increase of three available multipliers.
- ARRL contests that use US states and Canadian provinces as multipliers -- the ARRL RTTY Roundup, the ARRL International DX Contest and the ARRL 10 Meter Contest -- are unaffected by this change. ARRL VHF+ contests and the IARU HF Championships are also unaffected by this change.

## Solar Cycle Prediction



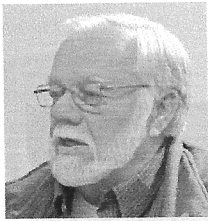
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS  
AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

The current prediction for Sunspot Cycle 24 gives a smoothed sunspot number maximum of about 63 in early 2013. We are currently over three years into Cycle 24. The current predicted size makes this the smallest sunspot cycle in about 100 years. **Running 136**



- The first contest to be affected by the RAC administrative change will be the 2012 ARRL November Sweepstakes, which will now require 83 multipliers to achieve a Clean Sweep.
- ARRL Field Day does not use multipliers, but Ontario stations will send new Section abbreviations as part of their exchanges.

Hamilton Hamfest  
2010 update



Recently John Boswell, VA3BOZ / VA3XM has joined forces with Mardy VE3QEE to organize this years Hamfest, Mardy will continue to

book the tables as he has done in the past and John will be looking after other aspects of the event. To date, many of the commercial vendors have committed so far to attend the event along with door prizes. John is looking for 16 volunteers so if you have volunteered in the past and want to do the same job contact John. The club is still looking for door prizes so if you know of a vendor that is willing to support the club in this way please let John know.  
[va3xm@rac.ca](mailto:va3xm@rac.ca)

*is that all he needs -  
We had a lot more, just  
for set-up*

Art Ferguson Trophy  
& Certificate

Casey VE3CVP called on Gary Notto VE3TTO to present him with the Art Ferguson Trophy & Certificate in recognition of meritorious service to the public through amateur radio communication.

<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/index.php?module=htmlpages&func=display&pid=14#ferguson>



*TOOK this  
LENA for  
engraving*

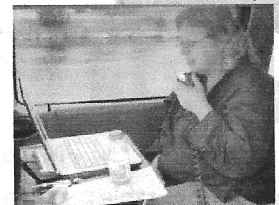
Guides On The Air

Tracy (VA3CDU), Tom (VA3TVW) and Mark (VE3RYI) had the 95th Girl Guide Unit at the house on February 26th 2012 from 1-3pm doing Guides on the Air. It is a yearly event to do with Thinking Day where the girl guides get together on amateur radio and try and make contacts with other guides and other amateurs. This year Tom (VA3TVW) arranged with Barry (VE3ISX) for the girls to do an hour on Ontars for the net and the girls took turns taking check ins for the net and they had a ball doing it. As always Tom, Mark, and I had a good time showing the girls all about amateur radio and what they can do with it.

Also if you would like to support the 95th Girl Guide Unit it is having a fundraiser to raise money for there year end trips in June. They are doing a pasta dinner on Saturday April

28th between 5pm and 7pm at the Oakwood Banquet Center on Barton street East just the other side of Ottawa St. Tickets are \$7 each and for kids under 7 they are \$5 each. If anyone would like tickets they can reach me either by the Sunday night net, via email at [va3cdu@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:va3cdu@hamiltonarc.ca) or by phone [905-308-7538](tel:905-308-7538).

Tracy VA3CDU



Tracy VA3CDU





## Full HF control:

Note: The remote operator MUST have the license to operate phone on the amateur bands as well as an **ADVANCED** license. Basic Plus doesn't cut it.

There are five essential parts to HF amateur remote control.

- 1) The transceiver must have the ability to be controlled via serial/usb interface.
- 2) The operator must install a dedicated "computer server" at the site to control the above radio.
- 3) **FREE SKYPE™** must be installed in an auto answer mode to hear and answer your calls.
- 4) **FREE Ham Radio Deluxe** control software

capable of running in the background for control.

- 5) A site where you have Internet connectivity and of course a place to erect your antennae.

## The interface hardware:

There are many products that connect the computer to the radio for the audio rx/tx component. Unfortunately, a lot of them produce a ground loop or "hum" in the audio transmission. The new **SignalLink™ USB** interface from Tigertronics solves all those problems and provides the operator with the necessary front panel controls to adjust the station as necessary. This USB sound card is recognized by SKYPE and works everytime. Rather than plug the audio in and out from the computer into the radio's mike and external speaker

lines, the **SignalLink™ USB** interfaces directly into the rear panel of the HF radio. **SignalLink™** provides the exact plug for your transceiver. Audio in/out of the transceiver is thus at flat level and allows the transceiver to be used in conjunction with the remote settings.

The only down side of the **SignalLink™ USB** sound card interface was that it "keyed" the transmitter on any sound that the computer generated. Example: As the computer boots, it plays welcome music. To overcome this potential problem, I broke the PTT line going to the radio back panel with a DPDT on/off switch in the PTT line going to the transceiver. The other side of the switch is used to turn on an LED on the front panel of the **SignalLink** to indicate that the system is hot. (vox enabled)

*NO ACTUAL CONNECTION DETAILS*



by Berry Lisowski VE3ISX



**I basically set up the remote control HF operation for amateur radio "down the road" when I no longer had the ability of erecting an HF antenna. A lot of seniors move into apartments or condos where there are limitations to amateur radio. So...here in a nutshell is how I did it.**

*what happened to make your own*

With Ham Radio Deluxe operating in the "remote" mode, you supply an IP address of your home server and connect the remote laptop or desktop using this protocol. Levels of user preferences are available for invited guests. The novice user is permitted to listen, change frequencies and move around the parameters of the particular radio. The expert is given the ability to actually transmit. Not required in Canada, but worthy of consideration is a transceiver TIME OUT TIMER....just in case of Internet loss.

Finally, and for security purposes, I used a FREE program called Hamachi...a virtual private network client that emulates a Network Interface Card in your computer and remote desktop. This adds an extra level of security from hackers and uninvited guests. The other benefit is that once you have Hamachi setup, you can SEE via the status screen if your HF server is ONLINE!

## The iPhone connection:

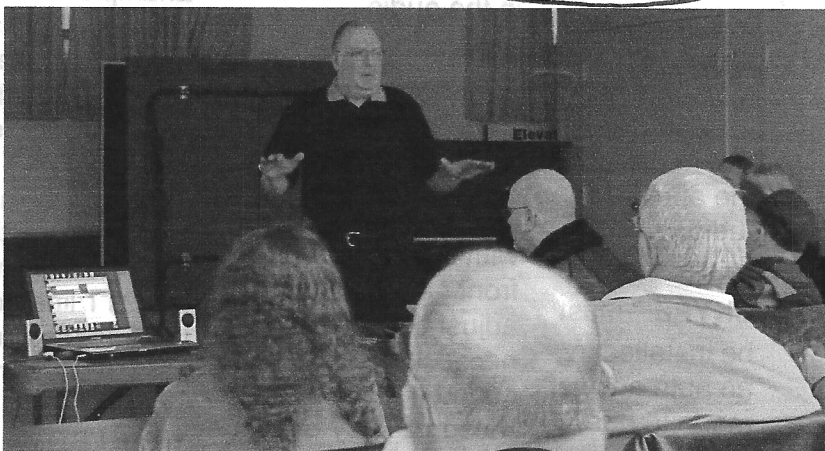
You are away on holidays and want to chat on your favourite HF net. All you have is your iPhone or laptop equipped with SKYPE. NO PROBLEM. If you are the only user on the HF Server/ SKYPE setup back home,

you simply call it. SKYPE answers automatically and you hear the traffic on the net. You keep your SKYPE microphone muted because you have left that DPDT switch in the "HOT or VOX" position. Anything you say will go out over the air. If the transceiver is capable of multiband operation (VHF/HF/ UHF/6M) you can simply leave it set to that frequency and go on holidays. If you are hosting a remote station, you can offer this service to a friend who is travelling anywhere in the world with his iPhone or laptop. All he has to do is talk. SKYPE will also allow "conference calls", and with their yearly phone plan, you can conference into

## Enhancements:

A bonus SKYPE™ camera function will show video of your station transceiver status. In my case while I am away, we monitor critical shack heating and air conditioning set points. Yes, thanks to my Hydro provider I can even change the temperature of the house before we arrive home.

So there it is...the perfect solution to remote control. As mentioned above, I use Hamachi as the secure link to the HF radio. During that time the SignalLink™ USB switch is still in the OFF position and I control HF transceiver PTT with Ham



the regular home phone line of an amateur providing VOX transmission of anything he says. As soon as he stops speaking, the SignalLink will put the remote transceiver into receive!

Radio Deluxe! The perfect setup.

Cheers and have fun!  
Barry VE3ISX

Any dipole carrying RF current radiates two types of waves: These are the well known radio waves, and the second is the little-known vector potential wave. Vector potential waves carry zero power, and many engineers felt that they actually didn't exist at all. That is, with zero power these waves are the ultimate QRP. James Clerk Maxwell predicted these waves in 1875. My work at McMaster University while I lived in Hamilton, proved these waves exist and can be easily detected.

Confirmation tests of my experiments are presently on going here in the Carribean on the Dutch island of Saint Eustatius by engineer George Works, PJ5/KJ6VW, retired from Raytheon Radar Systems. He is transmitting and receiving these waves over a 50 ft range, and has validated all my McMaster work. He will publish his results in the upcoming May issue of QEX magazine.

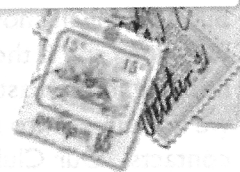
While I lived in Hamilton in 2009, Sherry Goeller helped in my tests, sending vector potential waves across 1500 meters in Dundas.



Bob, VE3RKZ



Bob Zimmerman VE3RKZ





## The 15th Annual Ontario QSO Party 2012

Our next contest as VE3DC. It is held on the third full weekend of April, 1800Z (2 pm local) April 21, 2012 Saturday to 0500Z (1 am local) April 22, 2012 Sunday morning, then we have a break so the Rovers and mobiles go to sleep and then back at it, 1200Z (8 am Sunday) to 1800Z April 22, 2012 Sunday.

This is a fun contest for us and one that we have been successful at right at the beginning. We get to talk to fellow Canadians and find out how much snow they have in Winnipeg and if they have anymore flooding in the East, in other words we actually talk to some of our contacts. Our Club President has been a Rover on this contest, so has his wife, more than once they have enjoyed the event. We even went to the CCO Barbecue so Tracy could get her award last year.

The Ontario QSO Party (OQP) began in 1998. Bob Chandler VE3SRE of DX Ontario started the contest and it quickly became a popular event among many hams. In 2006 the OQP was turned over to Contest Club Ontario (CCO) who now manages the event. In the contest, stations outside Ontario make as many contacts with Ontario amateur radio stations as possible. Ontario stations contact as

many amateur radio stations as possible both in Ontario and world-wide. See the rules for the contest exchange, frequencies, modes and categories.

Let me know if you can come and help us out or run a station for us. We will be running full blown Multi-multi and band conditions have been good at times so we hope to have a great OQP with many contacts that weekend. Email me at [ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca) or call me on the phone. My number is in the bulletin.

### CQ WW WPX Contest SSB

on Mar.24 0:00 UTC to Mar. 25 23:59 UTC. These are fun contests that I like to do myself from at home. I have been listed in many of the magazines such as TCA, CQ Magazine and the ARRL's QST for many of these contests. One contest I remember only having 17 contacts and was very pleased to see my call sign in the magazine for recognition. Like I said, just some other fun contests you can get involved in. For more detail go to the WA7BNM Contest Calendar at: <http://hornucopia.com/contestcall/> and pick the type of calendar you want. You can get rules and websites for all the events there. Good DX and have fun.



Rick Danby VE3BK

### CQ 160-Meter .W. W. Contest

685 QSOs.  
3275 QSO points  
x 58 Multipliers  
= 189950 Claimed score

Station Description: ICOM - 765 Proll, AL-80B  
Antenna(s): Full Dipole 160m, Full Delta Loop 160m, Full Windom 160m & Magnetic loop

Operators: VA3DJ VE3BK VE3DCU VE3QEE VE3QU VE3RIA VE3XMS VE3WBT  
Drop-in visitor: VE3RYI

NO SOAP BOX ?