

VE3BK

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



THE HAMILTON AMATEUR

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President's Remarks

Hello to all Members



Dont forget May is Home brew so bring what you have.

HMCS HAIDA National Historic Site and historic naval ship.

She is the last remaining example of the 27 Tribal Class destroyers built for the Royal Canadian Navy, the Royal Navy and the Royal Australian Navy between 1937 and 1945. It has been said that The Tribals were "magnificent in appearance, majestic in movement and menacing in disposition". Technologically, they represented the most advanced naval architecture, marine propulsion systems and weaponry of their time.

Once, HAIDA was a mighty fighting ship. Today, she is an irreplaceable historic artifact and her significance has been formally recognized by the Canadian Historic Sites and Monuments Board. Not only is the ship historically significant, but she is a cultural asset representing a life style, however transient, of more than a generation of Canadians who served in Canada's Navy between 1943 and 1963. The thousands of men who sailed in Haida represented a total cross section of Canadian society during that period.

Today, Parks Canada owns and operates HMCS HAIDA as a National Historic site.

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 guest speakers.

Don't forget the general meeting for the month of May 16/2012

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 3.693 MHz in the 75 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>

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HARC 2011-2012

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Treasurer

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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 April 18, 2012 at The Hamilton Mountain Seventh - day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON. Motion set forth by Gorden VE3JSJ and seconded by Sandi (SWL)

II. Sign In

Attendance was conducted by the circulation of the members sign in sheet. 30 members were present & 2 visitors, Rick VE3UJ (Brantford), Danny (friend of Dave VE3DV)

III. Speakers

There was no speaker this evening as our scheduled speaker was unavailable and has asked if it would be ok to re-schedule for May 16, 2012

IV. Contesting

Rick VE3BK announced the Ontario QSO Party contest April 21, 22 where contesting members will be running multi / multi category, and invited club members to come out and log or run a station. Rick drew attention to the TCA magazine, pg 49 where VE3DC took second place field day in their category. Up-coming contests, The Florida QSO Party ON April 28, ARRL International DX on May 5, and CQ- M International DX on May 12.

Rick pointed out to the members the Hendrix Kits pg 73 of the CQ magazine where there was an attenuator kit for the homebrew folks, in which that tool could be displayed or entered for homebrew night and could also be used in the clubs scheduled "Fox hunts". Rick also mentioned the upcoming ARRL DX International SB contest March 3&4th 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.

V. Repeater

Our repeater chair, John VE3DVV, reported that the UHF & VHF repeater will soon have voice recordings as Tracey VA3CDU will be trying her hand at scheduled announcements regarding future club events, such as "fox hunt dates", "flea market" reminders, "check-in nets" etc. John also floated the

idea of pre-booking the repeater for linking with the Saturday's Global 360 net, The Friday night tech net and other notable nodes / reflectors.

VI. Membership

Membership dues are being collected for 2012-13 season, with the early bird draw being held in September 2012.

VII. New Business

Tom VA3TVW announced Dave Bruton VE3DWJ will be temporarily looking after the treasurers duties for the next couple of months. If there is anything that needs attention in this field please notify Tom VA3TVW for direction.

2012 Flea Market - John VA3BOZ has asked for assistance with this year in a variety of capacities. Please contact John with your desire to help make this year's ham-fest one of the best. John has also asked that you tap into your resources to acquire suitable donated door prizes. A sign-up sheet was distributed at the meeting and will be available in the next couple of months for your consideration to be a volunteer.

Pictures - Due to some privacy concerns by some members, the pictures moved from the Hamilton ARC site have been removed from PBASE. The pictures submitted to Hamilton ARC will now only be kept on the club's web site @ www.hamiltonarc.ca

Fox Hunts -Keep an eye out for scheduled events on the Hamilton arc web page. The first of the 2012 Hidden Transmitter hunts will be held April 29 2012 @ 1pm and again May 13 012. Check the web site for more information. You do not have to be a licensed ham to participate. Bring your spouse, grandchild, child or other and have some fun. Some equipment is available upon notice.

Distracted Drivers - Ontario Regulation 366/09 of The Highway Traffic Act. Rick VE3BK made the members aware of a proposal brought forth by the Ministry of Transportation to Extend the period of

Minutes submitted by:

Secretary Jim Sawadski
VE3EEZ



General Meeting Minutes 04/18/2012 (Cont)

exemption by 5 years. (Currently Hams are exempt until Jan 2013)

Club Website updates - Mardy VE3QEE will see that Anita VA3ANI gets a copy of the Hamilton ARC Flea Market flyer posted on the club website.
Sherry VE3DCU was notified by Paul Hazen VE3NYC in regards to Rolli VE3NYC – Paul noted that Roland was not listed on the Hamilton arc web site as a silent key.

Elections – June is elections night for the 2012-13 season. Please consider running in the next election.

Homebrew – May 16 is Homebrew night. Please enter something that you have made this season or just bring in something that you made and tell us about it.
Some homebrew ideas are available on line. See Elecraft, QRP Clubs, Hendrix kits etc.

Field Day 2012- Preparation planning is under way. Dan VA3DJ, Field Day Coordinator, will be having a Band Captains meeting at his place Saturday on May12, 12:00.
Contact Dan for more information about the Field Day event to be held at “The Devils Punchbowl” June 23-24.

Picnic in the park-VE3DC was asked via Tom VA3TVW if we would once again be in attendance at the “Picnic in The Park” gathering to display Amateur Radio. That event takes place July 7th. See Tom for details.

Next meeting
May 16, 2012 The Hamilton Mountain Seventh - day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON.

Adjournment
Motion to adjourn the meeting at 20:45
Moved by Gal (SWL)
Motion seconded by Dave VE3DV
Thanks all in attendance
Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski
VE3EEZ

Picnic In The Park

The city of Hamilton has ask again that we be involved with Picnic In The Park again the Date is July 7/2012 11am to 3:30 pm we should be there 1hr before to set up Location is Bay Front Park

CERVA

Community Emergency Response Volunteers Association, more commonly known as CERVA

As a result of 911, this group of local volunteers was established and trained to support and assist the City of Hamilton's emergency personnel in the event of a disaster or emergency.

With the invaluable assistance of Ms. Carla McCracken and Ms. Gina Cliffe from the City of Hamilton's Emergency Management office and the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board, we are setting up and running our 2nd Emergency Preparedness Day event for the general public on Saturday, May 12, 2012, from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. The event will be held at the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board office at 100

Main Street West (corner of Main and Bay Streets). The displays will be set up in their lower auditorium and parking lot at the back of the building.

We would like your help and participation in this event. Your participation will help to raise the public's awareness of local emergency preparedness services and what they do and to re-ignite the information, education and fun provided from last year's Emergency Preparedness Day.

The lower auditorium will have displays from our exhibitors where they can answer questions from the public, hand out information and show their new technology and equipment. In the parking lot we will have on display any vehicles, equipment and/or other items deemed necessary by the participants. They should also be available to answer any questions from the public concerning their equipment and services.

We will provide a free lunch of hamburgers/ hotdogs with beverages (hot and cold) to all exhibitors for their involvement and participation.

Field Day 2012

Dan Martinak VE3DJ Field Day Coordinator

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club will be having Field Day at the same location as last year. We will be at the Devil's Punch Bowl once again. This is located at the top of the Stoney Creek Mountain off of Ridge Road and 20 Highway (Centennial Parkway).

For actual coordinates, go to the ARRL Website to the Field Day Locator section and type in VE3DC. Rules are at:

http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Field-Day/2011/2011_Rules.pdf

Field Day runs from Saturday June 23, 2pm to Sunday June 24, 2pm, a 24 hour

emergency coordinated event with stations all over North America taking part. Helpers are needed to help setup antennas and stations. Anyone is welcome to come out and help set up and operate; you don't have to be a member to help out. Come and visit just to see us in action.

We will be running 4A this year again using the Club call VE3DC. 4A means 4 stations on HF. Usually the 2m station is a free station and the G.O.T.A. (get on the air station) is also a free one on all HF bands and modes with his points helping our overall score. Our G.O.T.A. station

this year is Ron VE3DF. Ron is one of our site impaired operators so he can use some help with his logging. We will even have some stations doing CW and digital for bonus points.

Hospitality will be provided for the Operators by Tracy's VA3CDU Mom again this year. She did a great job last year with great food for the operators. Make sure if you are an Operator that you bring your own snacks and drinks for at night. Only basic meals are provided for the Operators by the Club during daylight hours.

The Band Captain's meeting will be held on Saturday May 12, 2012 at Dan's

VA3DJ place again this year at 12 noon. The address is 897 Mud Street, Stoney Creek. You can google the address for the exact location contact me at va3dj@hamiltonarc.ca or call me on the phone, my number is in the club newsletter.

73's Dan



Front Row: va3qpd(Marsh), va3cda(Fraser), va3atq(Mike), va3zpl(Mark), va3chf(Dan), va3hgf(Owen)
 Back Row: va3rvj(Dan), va3jkh(John), va3zay(Steve), va3zay(John), va3zay(John), va3zay(John)
 Field Day 2011 The Devil's Punchbowl Stoney Creek Ontario

RADIO HOBBYIST LOSES LIFE IN ANTENNA ACCIDENT

A sad story from down-under where a radio hobbyist has been killed in a strange accident.

Police are investigating the death of a man who fell from his vehicle onto an antenna at his hobby farm. The 51 year- old man is believed to have suffered fatal injuries after he fell onto the 20 meter high metal antenna at the Cunderdin property in Western Australia.

Police spokeswoman Ros Weatherall said the antenna was used for surveying services, and had been removed by the man from the roof rack of his Landcruiser utility before the incident. Initial investigations reveal that he may have slipped from the top of the car and fallen onto the antenna. The victim has not been identified by authorities.

VE3RXA NAMED DEPUTY DIRECTOR

VE3RXA NAMED DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR RAC N/E. ONTARIO REGION

Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA of Ottawa is the new Deputy Director for Radio Amateurs of Canada, North East Ontario Region. By way of background, VE3XRA was employed by the Canadian Federal Government in various

departments as diverse as Environmental issues to Foreign Affairs.

Bill Unger, VE3XT, is the North East Ontario Regional Director for the Canadian national society. He says that MacDonell will bring some important administration, innovation and management skills to Radio Amateurs of Canada. As such Unger says that he is looking forward to working with him as part of the North-East Ontario team.

AUTHOR ROBERT L. SHRADER, W6BNB

S.K.

The changing of the guard in amateur radio continues. This with the sad news that writer and author Robert L. Shrader, W6BNB, became a Silent Key on Wednesday, April 11th.

The author of numerous books and articles dealing with almost every area of communications, possibly his best known work was the textbook Electronic Communications, which was first published in 1959 and is currently in its 6th edition from McGraw Hill.

Robert Shrader, W5BNB, is survived by his wife Dorothy, W6ECU, a son Doug, KJ6TEJ, and daughter Patricia. At the time of his passing Robert Shrader was age 98.

Special Event Station VX3W

Members of the Manotick Amateur Radio Group will be operating special event station VX3W from Fort Wellington in Prescott, Ontario, on Saturday, May 19th from 10:00 EDT to 16:00 EDT (1400Z to 2000Z) to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812.

Operating Modes: We will be operating on various HF bands, depending on the conditions. Local operators may be able to find us on simplex VHF and/or UHF. While most operations will be voice, we may also operate in digital modes.

Check the VX3W board on our club's forums for more information: <http://www.ve3rix.ca/forums/forumdisplay.php?f=43>.

If you make contact with VX3W, please send us a QSL card to the address below. We will send out cards in return and ask that you include a first class stamp for Canadian addresses or an IRC for any other country.

QSL Information:

Manotick Amateur Radio Group
c/o 609-45 Holland Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1Y 4S3

Geomagnetic Storm



NATIONAL AERONAUTICS
AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

An aurora on March 8, 2012 shimmering over snow-covered mountains in Faskrudsfjordur, Iceland. Image courtesy of Jónína Óskarsdóttir

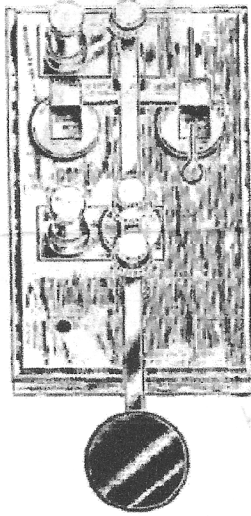


Geomagnetic storms due to coronal mass ejections (CMEs) earlier in the week have increased in strength, and are now rated a G3 on a scale from G1 to G5.

This space weather is due to the March 7 activity from the sun that caused rapid changes to the shape of Earth's magnetosphere – the bubble of protective magnetic fields surrounding the planet -- resulting in a geomagnetic storm. As of March 8, the storm was fairly mild since the magnetic fields from the CMEs were partially aligned with Earth's own and thus slid around the magnetosphere. However, the geomagnetic storm has increased because the magnetic fields of the CMEs have now changed direction such that they can more easily deposit magnetic energy and radiation into Earth's environment.

Two New Bunnell Specialties

first QST from
December
1915.



The Straight Line Renewable Contact Radio Key

By far the BEST and HANDSOMEST transmitter yet produced. Not only are the contacts renewable, but they are kept in a straight line with perfect surface contact until completely work out, and the lever remains in its original horizontal position.

Fading signals caused by varying resistance of contact points are entirely eliminated.

Its binding posts automatically clamp the wires, making loose connections impossible.

Net Price, \$7.50

Send for descriptive circular.

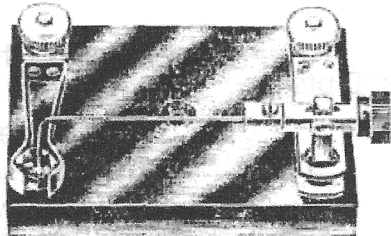
The Jove Detector Holder

The most perfect of crystal holders.

Holds one or two different crystals of any form at once without the use of a clamp-screw.

A sensitive point of either crystal quickly found, the correct pressure held constantly without moving a single screw or nut.

Beautifully finished and mounted on dark glazed porcelain.



Net Price, \$1.00

SEND FOR OUR NO. 36 WIRELESS CATALOG

J. H. Bunnell & Co., Incorporated

32 Park Place—Broadway Block

New York

The 15th Annual Ontario QSO Party 2012

ONTARIO QSO PARTY 2012

Call Used: VE3DC
 Last County Ran: HAL
 Entry Class: Multi-operator

BAND	QSO	MULTS			
160	1	1 80	106	52	40
402	77 20	274	45 15	33	
14 10	0	0 6	0	0	144
11	8 220	0	0 440	0	0

Multipliers: 197 ON

Counties/State/Prov
 Extra DX Mults: 16
 Ontario Mobile Bonuses: 0 pts

Contact Points : 1060
 Total Mults : 213
 Bonus Points: 0
 Claimed Score: 225780

Callsign(s) of Operators(s) : VA3DJ
 VE3BK VE3DCU VE3DVV
 VE3EEZ VE3QEE VE3QU VE3RIA
 Visitor: Charlie Janicki, a future ham and contester.

Soapbox:

We had fun on this truly Canadian contest as usual. We totally beat our score from last year with Andrew VE3RIA doing even a better job the CW and all the other ops totally killing our SSB Score.

Thanks to all that came out to make this a successful contest.

Missing this year were Mark VE3RYI, that came to visit last year with a bad back but was a no show this year as well as an operator from last year, also a no show, Mike VE3ATX.

This is one contest that VE3DC has been involved with since the beginning and we definitely have fun doing it.

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Rick Danby VE3BK



Thanks to all that worked us and all the Rovers that made this contest even more fun again this year.

Hopefully next year we will have Charlie with a new callsign, helping us rack up the points.

73 Rick VE3BK

