

THE HAMILTON AMATEUR

Sept/ Oct 2012

Volume 81 Number 1

www.hamiltonarc.ca

Est. 1932 Inc. 1956

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President's Remarks

Hello to all Members

Welcome everyone to the first newsletter of 2013 club year.

We have a new Executive I would like to introduce:

My Self Mike Krebs VA3WXS (President)
Tom VanWort VA3TVW (Past President)
Roger Pimm VE3UFZ (First Vice President)
Marty Edson VE3QEE (Second Vice President)
Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ (Secretary)
David Bruton VE3DWJ (Treasure)
Mike Panopoulos VE3ATX (Director)

Please join us at our next club meeting:
Wed, Oct 17, 2012, 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM
284 Concession St., Hamilton On
Doors open at 7pm

All are welcome

Our weekly two-meter net 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

73's
Mike Krebs

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>

HARC 2010-2011 Chairs

Awards Chairman
Casey VanBroekhoven VE3CVP
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Contesting Manager/Property /
Repeater Administrator
Rick Danby VE3BK
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Director

Mike Panopoulos VE3ATX
<ve3atx@hamiltonarc.ca>

06/20/2012

I. Call to order

Tom VanWort VA3TVW called to order the regular meeting of the **HARC** at **19:33** on **June 20, 2012** at The Hamilton Mountain Seventh - day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON. Motions by Sherry VE3DCU & John VE3BOZ.

II. Sign In

Attendance was conducted. 22 members were present & 2 visitors, Sherrie KD2AXN, Hamilton and our guest Speaker Rick Shirran VE3NUZ of the Salvation Army (SATERN)

III. Speakers

Major Rick Shirran VE3NUZ was in attendance this evening and gave all in attendance a wonderful presentation on the works of the Salvation Army, it's services and the evolvement of SATERN (Salvation Army Team Emergency Radio Network). Rick is an Ordained Minister and the National Coordinator for SATERN. SATERN began in 1988 with the development of SAROF (Salvation Army Radio Fellowship) and grew to the International network that it is today. Rick described the organizational structure of SATERN and presented a disaster filled video presentation for the audience to get a better understanding of the type of emergencies that the organization fields. Rick extended an invitation to check in to the International SATERN Net. All times and information regarding SATERN and membership opportunities can be found at <http://www.saturn.org/>

IV. Contesting

Rick VE3BK spoke of the upcoming Canada Day Contest, and invited members to participate. Rick drew attention to the Lighthouse event coming in August as well as Picnic in the park held in July and The war of 1812 bicentennial July 13,14,15.

New Business

Fox Hunts –Keep an eye out for scheduled events on the Hamilton arc web page. The next Hidden Transmitter hunt will be held July 29 2012 @ 1pm meeting at KAY DRAGE Park and again August 26 012 meeting at The Devils Punchbowl. 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. Ride along with a fellow ham for some fellowship and gain some experience and perhaps develop some patience for the frustrations of the ride.

Elections – Elections were held. Thank you for your nominations and thank you to the nominees willing to stand for the committee.

Returning are the following elected:

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE
Davis Bruton VE3DWJ
Mike Krebs VE3WXS
Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ
Newly elected Mike Panopoulos VE3ATX and Roger Pimm VE3UFZ

Your past President Tom VanWort VA3TVW Please welcome and support the above in the decisions made in 2012-13 season. As per the constitution the elected will soon decide on the roles that each team member will play in the elected committee and communicate that at a future date.

Homebrew

May 16 was Homebrew night. Two contestants Mardy VE3QEE and John VE3DVV brought a few items in to be judged. Casey VE3CVP tallied the scoring and Tom VanWort VA3TVW announced the winner in Casey's absence to be John VE3DVV. Congratulations John, and thank you Mardy & John for the wonderful project submissions.

Minutes submitted by:

Secretary Jim Sawadski
VE3EEZ



Picnic in the park

-Don't forget to please mark your calendar for "Picnic in The Park" gathering to display Amateur Radio.

That event takes place July 7th. See Tom for details.

Special Event Station War of 1812 – Devils Punchbowl July 13-14-15 2012, all welcome to visit and or Operate.

Contact Mike VE3ATX. Look for **XM31812** and make contact for a beautifully created keepsake QSL Card. See hamiltonarc.ca for more information regarding the event.

<http://www.wix.com/xm31812/xm31812#!history-of-stoney-creek>

Flea Market

John VE3BOZ once again reminded members to consider volunteering their time in the October Flea Market held each year at the Ancaster Fair Grounds. See the hamiltonarc.ca for the flea market flyer. Contact John VE3BOZ and let him know that he can count on your support. Door prize donations are still needed. Keep your eyes open for some wonderful prizes. This event is the bread and butter of the clubs funding. Please donate your time. There are many things that can be done there. Mark Oct 13th on your calendar.

Next meeting

September 19, 2012 The Hamilton Mountain Seventh - day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 21:25

Moved by Mardy VE3QEE)

Motion seconded by Rick VE3BK

Thanks all in attendance. Have a wonderful summer and don't forget to Get On The Air and be *active* with your club.

Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ

Thanks to all in attendance

Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ

Treasure Report

Spend

Repeater	\$168.35
Bank Charges	4.95
Bell Canada	30.79
Total	\$203.97 - \$410.00 = \$206.21

Membership Renewals

\$ 410.00

Treasurer Report

By David Bruton
VE3DWJ





There was a beautiful “fall feel” to the day as it began for our last scheduled, hidden transmitter hunt this month. As I was hurrying about trying to get what I thought I should bring into the Matrix, my wife had agreed to join me in the hunt.

We headed out to the suggested hiding spot so that I could secure the digital controller/transmitter and get that job out of the way as quickly as possible.

Once secured, we waited in the area for Mark VE3RYI, our coordinator to begin the hunt. We soon heard the call of VE3TTO, and learned of his intention to join us as well as Mark VE3MWH. Well, Murphy was nearby us. Mark VE3RYI came on the air to announce VE3BK, VE3DWJ and VE3HNG were waiting an ambush. They had set up in the same spot to begin the hunt as Mark and Tom were going to park as the transmitted fox. Off Tom and Mark went for another hiding location. As I went to start the transmitter remotely, I could not, and had to go to the hidden location once more to set it manually. Once we were transmitting, I started off with my wife Dawna to go and find the second transmitter,

Mark VE3RYI and Tom VA3TVW. Well wouldn't you know it, I had started it up right on top of the second transmitter and had to call on Mark and Tom to delay their transmission a few seconds. My navigator and I honed in on Tom and Mark pretty quickly and soon found our way to the area where they were hiding. Thank goodness for the loan of Tom's attenuator to make the final snag. So that we wouldn't give their location away, we sped off so that we could pick up our transmitter when the hunt ended at 4pm. We thought that we would sit inconspicuously off to the side of the road so that we could watch any hunters coming by in search of the second transmitter. Wouldn't you know it, we spotted VE3DWJ's vehicle at that location. But where were the hunters? The car was empty.

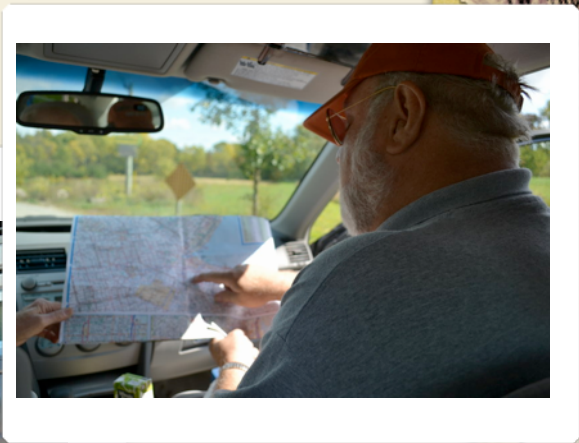
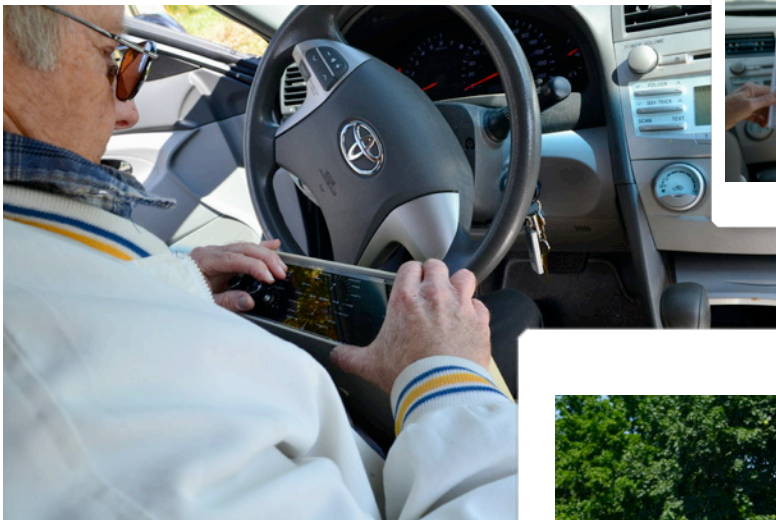
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We waited and watched. We were an hour away from the hunt end time, where were they? It wasn't long the trio came sauntering across the road from the nearby Tim Hortons, tail between their legs, to put the equipment away. Fellows, you were so close to the fox and yet so far away from the goal line. It was a very close find fellows! Well done. The winner for the day was Mark Gibson

VE3MWH, who found both transmitters in record time. Gary Notto VE3TTO who found one transmitter, and Dawna and I who found our mark as well....literally.

Thanks to all that joined us. It was a blast!

Keep an eye on the activities calendar at hamiltonarc.ca for future hidden transmitter hunts.



TWO COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS EVICTED FROM 2 METERS IN CANADA

Radio Amateurs of Canada has announced that two cases of frequency incursion to the 2 meter band by business users have been resolved.

In the first incident, a transportation company based in Reinfeld, Manitoba was observed to be operating illegally on 144.100 Mhz. The company in question had purchased VHF radios from a US based supplier who failed to indicate correct licensing procedures.

Once contacted by Radio Amateurs of Canada the company agreed to immediately cease operating in the two meter band and shifted its operation to a business band frequency. Industry Canada was notified of the incursion and continues to work with the company to secure a licensed channel. In addition to illegally transmitting inside the amateur radio two meter band, this operation posed a threat to low signal operations across a wide portion of North America

In the second matter, a home moving company was observed to be operating on 144.940 Mhz. The company in question is based in Winkler, Manitoba, but the operation was observed in Alberta during the moving of a house.

In this case, the company had already been licensed to specific frequencies with Industry Canada. However it had requested 144.940 Mhz as a channel. Their request was denied and business band channels were issued. However, the company failed to check its license paperwork and assumed it had been approved for their requested frequency.

As in the first case, the moving company was also contacted by Radio Amateurs of Canada and agreed to move their operations to their correctly licensed frequencies. Given their wide geographic operations Industry Canada had licensed their operation on four separate frequencies including 140.730, 154.325, 158.940 and 151.730 MHz.

In both cases, it appears that frequencies in the two meter band were chosen by these businesses because their new vhf radios defaulted to that frequency range. This is definitely an indicator that the actual radio gear being used is likely to be modified amateur radio transceivers.

RSGB ASKS IARU R-2 TO RECONSIDER PLT STANDARD

The Radio Society of Great Britain has formally asked the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Electromagnetic Compatibility Working Group to reconsider its policy on the draft European Broadband over Powerline or PLT standard. One that the RSGB claims to threaten a 38 dB increase in R-F pollution over much of the short wave radio spectrum. The request from the RSGB came in an August 28th letter to C.M. Verholt, who is the Chairman of the IARU Region 1 EMC Working Group from the RSGB's Don Beattie G3BJ. In it, Beattie says that there is no way that the emissions from devices meeting this new standard can satisfy the essential requirements of the EMC Directive outside the notched frequencies.

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As such, G3BJ says that the IARU Region I EMC Working Group is in effect condoning overriding the essential requirements of the Electromagnetic Compatibility Directive by backing the standard. He says that this action of the Commission is clearly contrary to the law of the European Union and therefore open to judicial review.

Beattie goes on to say that the new emission levels, if sanctioned, will inevitably become the baseline for future standards. In this context he notes that there are already some new drafts that are circulating which reference the more liberal proposed emission levels.

Beattie ends his letter by saying that the RSGB hopes that common sense will prevail and that IARU Region I will amend its position on this matter. The IARU Region I EMC Working Group had previously added its support to the new Pan-European Electromagnetic Compatibility standard that the RSGB so vigorously opposes.

YAESU DONATES NEW GEAR TO HELP REBUILD RAST STATION HS0AC

Yaesu has donated a pair of FT-2000D transceivers to the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand. This to help rebuild its headquarters station HS0AC that lost its radio gear during severe flooding last year.

The presentation of the two transceivers to the Radio Society of Thailand was made by Dennis Motschenbacher, K7BV, who is the company's Executive Vice President Amateur

NEW ZEALAND TO ENFORCE UHF CB NARROW-BANDING

New Zealand's telecommunications regulator has issued an edict to all manufacturers and importers of UHF CB radio equipment with 25 kHz channel spacing. It notes that in accordance with the nation's General User Radio License for citizen band operation, equipment that does not comply with a new narrow-banding specification cannot be sold in that nation if it is manufactured or imported after December 1st. Only current stock of 25 kHz radios on hand and merchandise in the domestic New Zealand distribution pipeline can be sold after that date.

Radio Sales and also holds the call sign HS0ZKS.

In his note, K7BV said that Thailand is what he called extremely "radio active" with over 300,000 hams most of whom are on VHF. However, that is in the process of changing.

Dennis says that after seven years of waiting, Thai hams are once again able to test for a license that gives them operating privileges on the High Frequency bands. According to K7BV some 40 applicants have already passed the new exam this year and at least one more test is scheduled before year's end.

Flea Market Update

The HARC Flea Market is fast approaching and there are just two club meetings before it happens. We are still looking for people to help out. I would like to get the people that helped last year first. If we get enough help, it will ensure that all will get their breaks so they can shop for their needs. I am not sure how it was in the past, but I would expect when you sign up, you will be helping for the whole event as this makes it better for all. There may be a small incentive for the first 20 people on the list. This is one of the top flea markets in Ontario and we should keep it that way as it is the bread and butter for the club. If anyone has a suggestion or idea for the show, let's hear it--maybe we can give it a try. We could still use a few more door prizes if you can find them. Also, the club table will be taking your items that you want to sell (maximum of two (2) per person) You set the price, high and low. There will be a small fee of ten percent maximum of Ten dollars and if it is not sold please take it home with you. I will have the sign up sheets at the June meeting. Send me an e-mail if you want to sign up (name, call, phone, if you worked last year & where).

Thanks John Boswell va3boz / va3xm
My e-mail is va3xm@rac.ca

GET TO KNOW THE ONTARIO QSL BUREAU

There are changes to the QSL Bureau and you can find them at:

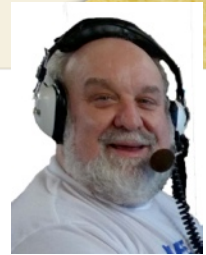
<http://ontarioincomingqslbureau.ca>

We are working on an interactive WEB site and in the first 1/4 of 2013 we are hoping to launch access to each and every HAM in Ontario to check the status of there account and top up funds via PAYPAL. Keep checking the website for breaking news.

If you would like to become a volunteer with the Bureau please contact:

Mike Christmas VE3XMS / qslmgr@ontarioincomingqslbureau.ca

Winner of the Plaque H.A.R.C.
Sponsored



Don VE3XD presenting the Plaque to Vladimir VE3IAE

This is the winner of the 2012 Plaque the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Sponsored for 1st Place Single Operator Mixed Mode - Low Power for the Ontario QSO Party. This is VE3AIE Vladimir Sidarau, former President of the Belarus Contest Club in the country of Belarus. Belarus is officially the Republic of Belarus, is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe, bordered by Russia to the northeast, Ukraine to the south, Poland to the west, and Lithuania and Latvia to the northwest. Vladimir now lives in Ottawa.

Next contest for VE3DC
CQWWDX end of October

Plan for the next Contest the end of October 2012. Plan for it now if you are interested in helping out or just coming to have a look. VE3DC will be on the air again working DX from as many stations as we can. This is a fun contest where everyone in the world seems to be on the air. The contest is a 48 hour contest beginning at 00:00 GMT Saturday October 27TH, 2012 to Sunday 24:00 GMT October 28TH, 2012. This means that we will be setting up before supper on the Friday afternoon to be on the air for 8pm Friday October 26 and the Contest runs till 8pm on Sunday night October 28, 2012. This used to be the weekend that the clocks went back (in 2007), which usually meant that we went home for 7pm local time but now the clock change will be on November 4, 2012. Rules for the contest are available at: http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_contests/cq_ww_dx_contest/cq_ww_dx_contest_rules/2012_cq_ww_dx_contest_rules.pdf%20200973109.pdf For the rules in pdf format or go to: http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cq_contests/index_cq_contests.html then click on Rules 2012 CQWWDX Contest, or you can check past scores there.

Let me know if you want to run a station or plan on coming out to operate, help or observe. We haven't decided on Multi-multi or Multi 2. We can run whatever is better for us, so let me know if you want to run a station. This is a 48 hour contest all that DX is fun working if you like talking to all the zones of the world.

The International Lighthouse
Lightship Weekend 2012

We did the ILLW again this year on August 18th & 19th, 2012 for VE3DC. This is activating the Burlington Main Light CA0015 for the ILLW--CAN063 is the actual Lighthouse designator. This Lighthouse was decommissioned in 1961 and just recently taken over by the Hamilton Port Authority.

This year we more than doubled our QSO count thanks to good operating mostly by Mark VE3RYI and Mike VA3WXS. Mark and I (Rick VE3BK) showed up early on both days to set up the Club aluminum extension pole (40' high) as a vertical with a pulley at the top to pull up any antenna someone might bring to experiment with. The whole idea of this weekend is to promote Amateur Radio and the activation (on the air) of some of the Historical Lighthouses of the world.

On the Saturday, we put Mark's 102" whip on the top of the pole and used it as a vertical the whole day. Only problem with this setup was that many people passed by and looked up and must have thought we were only CB operators as we did not have as much interest on the Saturday as we did on the Sunday. This antenna worked great though with just about as many contacts in the log as last year. David VE3DWJ came down to visit, Kevin VE3HNG was there to

Rick Danby submitted
by:

VE3BK



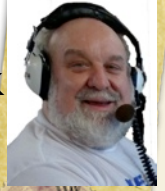
help with the logging, and Susan VE3TLK came from Brantford with her mother to see what we were doing. Her mother was very interested in what we were doing and we had a nice chat about Amateur Radio with both of them. On Sunday the weather was warmer and we had a lot of visitors from the public wondering what we were doing. We had set up the pole as a vertical again, with no whip and this time pulled up an 80m dipole, with both ends supported by small trees. Band conditions were not the best with a lot of signals fading in and out, QSB, but we did exceptionally well with Mark VE3RYI and Mike VA3WXS operating, with Rick VE3BK and Dan VA3DJ doing most of the logging. Ron VE3DF also came down with David VE3DWJ and did some operating as well. Mike was there on the Sunday, even though his back had been bothering him on the Saturday. The sand flies were not biting as bad as last year, so the "OFF" seemed to keep them off this year.

We had a great time activating the Lighthouse again this year, with a lot of interest by the public and twice as many contacts, even with QSB. We are looking forward to it again next year and hope that some of you that couldn't make it this year, will come out to help again next year.

This was not a contest, just a fun event, promoting Amateur radio as well as the history of our Lighthouse. This is a great time to experiment, bring an antenna that would not fit at home to see how it works.

Hope to see you all next year
73 Rick VE3BK

Rick Danby submitted
by:
VE3BK



Rick VE3BK logging Mark VE3RY operating & Dave VE3DWJ



Dan VA3DJ & Mike VA3WXS



80m Dipole On Club Pole Vertical



Feed point Club Pole