



# THE HAMILTON AMATEUR

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### President's Remarks

Hello to all Members

I just wanted to remind everyone about this years holiday dinner, check it out on page 5.

Hope to see all of you at our next club meeting.

Please join us at our next club meeting:  
Wed, Nov 21, 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 Mike Christmas, VE3XMS and Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ 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](mailto:ve3xms@hamiltonarc.ca)>

**HARC 2010-2011 Chairs**

Awards Chairman  
Casey VanBroekhoven VE3CVP  
905-385-8724 <[ve3cvp@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3cvp@hamiltonarc.ca)>

Contesting Manager/Property /  
Repeater Administrator  
Rick Danby VE3BK  
905-544-3253 <[ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca)>

Hamfest. Coordinator  
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE 905-648-0187  
<[ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca)>

Volunteer Examiners  
Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ, 905-560-2628  
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Repeater Technician  
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<[ve3dvv@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3dvv@hamiltonarc.ca)>

Health & Welfare Chairperson  
Mary Urbanski VE3OGQ 905-388-8383  
<[ve3ogq@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3ogq@hamiltonarc.ca)>

Membership Chair Sherry Goeller  
VE3DCU, <[ve3dcu@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3dcu@hamiltonarc.ca)>

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**HARC 2012-2013****Executive****President**

Mike Krebs VA3WXS  
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**First Vice President**

Roger Pimm VE3UFZ  
<[ve3ufz@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3ufz@hamiltonarc.ca)>

**Second Vice President**

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE  
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**Secretary**

Jim Sawadski, VE3EEZ  
905 664 3198  
<[ve3eez@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3eez@hamiltonarc.ca)>

**Treasurer**

David Bruton VE3DWJ  
905-383-9808  
<[ve3dwj@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3dwj@hamiltonarc.ca)>

**Director**

Mike Panopoulos VE3ATX  
<[ve3atx@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3atx@hamiltonarc.ca)>

10/17/2012

## I. Call to order

Roger Pimm called to order the regular meeting of the HARC at 19:32 on Oct 17, 2012 at The Hamilton Mountain Seventh - day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON.

## II. Sign In

Attendance was conducted by the circulation of the members sign in sheet. 27 members / visitors were present.

## III. Speakers

Our speaker for this evening had canceled days before the general meeting due to an unforeseen change in plans.

## IV. Contesting

Rick VE3BK announced the CQWW 2012 contest coming up Oct 26, 8pm. A 48 hr contest in which members present were invited to participate. Rick announced that we would be running in the Multi/Multi category.

Rick displayed certificates and QSL cards that were received during the "Picnic in the Park" exercise where a few of the members demonstrated ham radio as a hobby and emergency service to the public.

## V. Repeater

Our repeater chair, John VE3DVV, reported a failed hard drive on the IRLP system, which is now back on line. John is still looking for a back-up hard drive with 40 or more GB to satisfy the computer in service. (ID drive)

There may still be an intermittent problem with the radio not receiving. Some feedback was low or no audio. John and Mark have made a change to the ports between UHF & VHF but it was still too early to tell if a difference was made. John is looking for prompt feedback on what people are experiencing and when it's happening. A new power supply and back-up battery system is being investigated. John has a used power supply for sale if anyone is looking for a

winter project. Contact John for details.

## VI. Membership

Sherry VE3DCU reported 54 primary and 4 family members. A membership was drawn at the flea market and no one yet has submitted it.

## VII. Health and Welfare

Mary VE3OGQ was not in attendance. Reported to members was the passing of Bob Winfred Wilson VE3CIB. Oct 7th 2012.

## VIII. Treasurers Report

Dave VE3DWJ reported that a balance of \$3694.66 in the active account with an additional \$3,000. In G.I.C'

The flea market was another success which in comparison to last year, brought in an additional \$500.00 above last years total.

Motion to accept the report as stated was raised by John VE3FDK seconded by Mike VE3XMS

## New Business

1) 2012 Flea Market – Mardy VE3QEE and John VA3BOZ reported a well organized and successful flea market. The pair thanked the members for their efforts and support leading up to and the day of the venue. Members reciprocated by expressing their pleasure for the efforts of these two organisers and all who were on hand that day.

Mardy and John asked for feedback on what people saw that could improve future ham fests.

Some issues tabled where:

1) Wrist bracelets did not go well. Too much time affixing – large line ups – not enough people affixing them.

2) Possibly not enough cashiers. Could look for way of collecting quickly from "exact change lines".

Minutes submitted by:

Secretary Jim Sawadski  
VE3EEZ



3) Some vendors complained of no spaces between table sets. Makes it difficult to get in and out.

For 2013 flea market no date is selected as there is a conflict with the Home Show venue. Mardy asked the members for suggestions, recommendations on preferences. Mardy will see what's available earlier in the month, or at the end of September. The thought was is to give vendors a break between the many flea markets that they attend.

2) Roger Pimm VE3UFZ introduced guest and returning member Paul Fleck VE3HTF. Paul introduced himself to the membership as a past and returning member as a result of his career movements. Welcome Paul!

3) Casey VE3CVP was looking for someone to pass the torch to as "chair of the awards". After many years of service to the club in this capacity Casey is retiring. Thank you Casey for your dedication and efforts.

Picking up this task is our "new again" member Paul VE3HTF. Thank you Paul for stepping up!

4) Lorraine VA3NZ suggested to the executives to look into the Red Cross as a possibility for a space to hold the executive meetings.

5) John VE3FDK asked if any of the members would be interested in ordering name tags. John will ask his contact if

he would be interested in supplying them as ordered and if he would be interested in renting a table at the next flea market.

Paul VE3HTF suggested that we may be able to set up a virtual site for the ordering of such tags.

6) Mark your calendars for December 2nd Christmas Party 2012 – Tickets have been issued to Roger Pimm for sale.

The cost of the tickets are \$30.00 per person. Venue – Royal Hamilton Yacht Club. Roger will send a general mailing out to see how many people are interested in tickets and subsequently arrange the transactions. Members were asked to put their feelers out for door prize donations. Club Website updates – Please send any website corrections / additions to [exec@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:exec@hamiltonarc.ca)

Next meeting

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

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 20:30

Moved by John VA3BOZ

Motion seconded by Sherry VE3DCU

Thanks all in attendance

Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ

## Treasure Report

	Credit	Debit
Membership	\$550.00	
Bank Charge		\$ 4.95
Bell Canada		\$ 30.79
Hamfest	\$3,354.00	\$ 1017.00
Refreshments	\$ 10.00	
Newsletter		\$ 57.28
WYNSORC		\$ 20.00
Petty Cash	\$ 20.00	
.Subtotals	\$3399.74	16654.28\$
Renewal of Gic	\$3000.00	

### Treasurer Report

By David Bruton  
VE3DWJ





**The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club  
Annual Christmas Party  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2012**

**Royal Hamilton Yacht Club  
555 Bay Street North  
Located at the foot of McNab Street**



**Doors open @ 6pm  
Dinner @ 7pm  
\$30.00 per person  
Contact [rpimm@cogeco.ca](mailto:rpimm@cogeco.ca) for your tickets  
905-560-2628**

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS



## MAY LAUNCH AND OCTOBER RECOVERY OF HIGH ALTITUDE BALLOON PAYLOAD

An amateur radio balloon project launched last May finally ended this month with the recovery of the payload.

Members of AMSAT-LU, had launched a high altitude balloon on 19th May from La Pampa, Argentina. The payload included a 70cm to 2m 4 watt FM repeater, live SSTV, an HF beacon and two video cameras. During the 4 hour flight, over 200 stations made contacts through the repeater.

Unfortunately, while the flight was deemed to be a complete success the balloon came down in an isolated and flooded area. It was finally recovered from the mud on October 6th by a 4 by 4 off-road adventure group.

The good news is that all flight data was

## New Zealand 6m Access

Amateurs across New Zealand may have to wait a bit longer to get full access to the 6 meter band. As previously reported, 50 to 51 MHz down-under is to be returned to amateur radio once all Channel 1 television has ceased using the spectrum and the current management right for this band expires.

What may not be known by some hams is that the last New Zealand channel 1 television transmitter is not due to close down until November 2013. After that, the management right under which it operates does not expire until August 2015.

Because of this, the New Zealand national amateur radio society, NZART, is working with the nations Radio Spectrum Management on arrangements for the period between when all the Channel 1 transmitters are turned off and their management right expires. In the meantime any New Zealand amateur in an area where TV channel 1 is no longer operating can apply for a permit to operate on the band.

## QATAR TO HOST FIRST MIDDLE EAST HAM RADIO FESTIVAL

The city of Doha will host the Qatar's first International Festival for Amateur Radio in December. This according to HE Abdullah bin Hamad Al Attiyah, who is the Chairman of the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority and the vice-chairman of the US Amateur Radio Society.

Al Attiyah, who is also chairperson of the board of directors of the Qatar Amateur Radio Society says that the festival will include a contest between amateur radio operators from all over the world. About 100 hams from across the globe will be invited to the festival to take part in the competition. The Qatar Amateur Radio Society will also establish five amateur radio stations in different parts of Doha during the festival, including the society's

office and the festival venue itself. Announcement of an exact date for this event is expected to be announced shortly. The festival is being dubbed as the first of its kind in Middle East and will take place in conjunction with the Qatar National Day celebrations.

Doha is the capital city of the state of Qatar and is located on the coast of the Persian Gulf. (The Peninsula)

## RAC WINS 5 YEAR EXTENSION FOR HAM RADIO FROM ONTARIO DISTRACTED DRIVING LAW

Radio Amateurs of Canada says that it has received written confirmation from Minister Bob Chiarelli of the Ontario Provincial Government regarding a five year extension of exemption for radio amateurs to the Ontario province distracted driving law.

In his letter, Minister Chiarelli explains that the current exemptions for both Amateur Radio and Two Way Commercial Radios will be extended until January 1st, 2018. He also expresses his hope that in that time commercial hands free alternatives will be found for two way radios.

While Radio Amateurs of Canada says that it finds victory in the five year extension, it also says that a permanent solution is desired. As such it will continue to pursue a permanent exemption for amateur radio operators in Ontario.

Similar exemptions already exist in many other provincial jurisdictions.

## CQ INTRODUCES 40 CQ ZONES ON I60 PLAQUE

CQ has announced the availability of a special plaque for those who have achieved contact to all 40 CQ zones on I60 meters. This is considered the most difficult of all amateur radio awards to earn and because of this the Worked All Zones I60 Meter Plaque recognizes that receiving it as one of the elite Top Band DXers. If you believe you qualify, please contact W-A-Z Award Manager Floyd Gerald, N5FG, by e-mail to [n5fg@cq-amateur-radio.com](mailto:n5fg@cq-amateur-radio.com) for further details. (CQ via Facebook)

We had fun as usual working all that rare DX with some of the guys asking me where that station was. Lucky for me, Writelog usually tells you where they are and where to point. We were



thinking of running Multi-2 as we did last year, but we were beat out on M2 by another Ontario Station, so

we decided on Multi-multi this year instead. This is the first time we have run this contest as a Multi-multi. We are in it for the fun after all, and the more stations you have, the more people you should have. Not true, we had a ball with 4 stations most of the time and 5 at one point. On the Sunday, I personally had fun working all the bands. I worked all the contest bands, 160m, 80m, 40m, 20m, 15m and 10m, all the bands allowed in this contest. We had 4 stations on Sunday with 3 operators, so we moved around a little to work as much as we could. This was actually better than just having 2 stations to play with. More variety on which band you wanted to run and when.

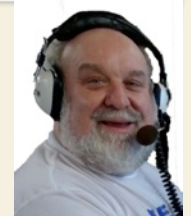
Operators for this contest were Rick VE3BK, Sherry VE3DCU, Jim VE3EEZ, Scott VE3QU and Andrew VE3RIA. We did about the same number of contacts as last year (down a bit) but our multipliers were better, making for a great score for us. As in years past, some of the operators were part time, actually we all were, because we did what we have always done in the past, usually close down before the end of the contest. That means we could have done considerably better if we had stayed, but family functions etc. come first, after-all, this was just for fun and as I have been

hearing lately, Ham Radio is only a hobby, so this is where the fun part comes in. The only part of the whole weekend that wasn't very pleasant, was all the wind and rain caused by Hurricane Sally's effect, but this was no problem, if anything, made band conditions better the bad weather.

submitted by:  
Rick Danby  
VE3BK



Discussion at the contest site was about other contests we could run. Some maybe with CW as some of our members have brushed up on their CW and maybe some Sweepstakes. There is a few contests that I personally like, so if you have a suggestion or would like to help us out in one of your favorite contests, let me know and we will see if we can run that one too. We were dry and slept good all weekend, we even had someone sleep in the new shed on the property. A great time was had by all, with no equipment failures and everything working great all weekend. Thanks to



all that worked us. I know that some of you from the Club did just that. We appreciated all contacts, now we hope that the CQ Contest people find our logs good as we had to send them



in with a 5 day deadline, something new. In the past we lost 20% of our score one year because of typos etc. in our log. This year it went in as was and was actually logged more efficiently. We are all getting better at it. Thanks to the Operators for doing such a great job this year