

THE HAMILTON AMATEUR

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President's Remarks

Hello to all Members

Please join us at our next club meeting:
Wed, Feb 20, 2013, 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 Allan Gammon VA3ALZ

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>

HARC 2010-2011 Chairs

Awards Chairman
Paul Fleck VE3HTF

Contesting Manager / Property /
Repeater Administrator
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Hamfest. Coordinator
John Boswell VA3BOS

Hamfest. Vendor liaison
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE 905-648-0187
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Director

Mike Panopoulos VE3ATX
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I. Call to order

Roger Pimm called to order the regular meeting of the HARC at 19:32 on NOV 21, 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.
28 members / visitors were present.
Welcome Joe Skrypka (Hamilton)

III. Speakers

Our speakers for this evening were club members Mardy Eedson VE3QEE and John Vandenburg VE3DVV with a demonstration on Flex Radio. Thank you Mardy and John.

IV. Contesting

Rick VE3BK announced the RAC Canada Winter 2012 contest coming up Dec 28, anyone wishing to assist in operating a station or help log contacts see Rick or email ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca. Also coming in February is the 2013 CQWW in which the contest group will also be taking part in. Rick announced the results for 2012 field day in which VE3DC came in 2nd in Ontario & 2nd Canada running a 4A. Results can be found in QST magazine pg 76. Results for Canada Winter 2011 are in and can be found in TCA magazine pg 40. VE3DC place 2nd in Ontario and 3rd in Canada. Operators were Dan VA3DJ, Tom VA3TVW, Mike VA3ATX, Rick VE3BK, Sherry VE3DCU, John VE3DVV, Jim VE3EEZ, Mardy VE3QEE, Andrew VE3RIA, Scott VE3QU, Mark VE3RYI and Jack VE3WBT

V. Repeater

Our repeater chair, John VE3DVV, is working on a proposal submission to a back-up power supply for the club repeaters. Tom reported an error code 302 & 304 was being heard relating to not identifying. John is investigating.

VI. Membership

Sherry VE3DCU reported 58 primary and 4 family members.

VII. Health and Welfare

Mary VE3OGQ reported that Dan VA3DJ is not well and awaiting test results on his state of health....get well Dan!

VIII. Treasurers Report

Sherry noted a possible clerical error in the treasurers report in the debt column. Dave Bruton to address in the next issue.

IX. Awards

Rick presented the certificate for the 2012 CQWW to Paul VE3HTF to insert into the VE3DC Awards collection.

Paul aired possibly working on a revision to the club website to bring the awards section up to date and get the membership engaged in participation in order to acknowledge the membership and award those available certificates, trophies and plaques.

Meeting Minutes

Sherry noted that the volume numbers being assigned to the 2012-13 newsletters are incorrect. The volume number should be 80 and not 81 as being published. Attention M Christmas VE3XMS.

John Boswell moved to accept the minutes of the October meeting as stated in the October newsletter, Sherry 2nded the motion.

New Business

1) 2012 Flea Market – Mardy VE3QEE announced that the 2013 flea market will take place Saturday, October 5 2013 at the Ancaster Fair Grounds. John VA3BOZ is working on ideas for the 2013 flea market and floated some ideas around running of the the kitchen as Hamilton ARC will man the kitchen next year. John asked Mike VE3ATX to head up the task of

Minutes submitted by:
Secretary Jim Sawadski
VE3EEZ



kitchen manager. Mike accepted graciously. Thanks you Mike!

2) John VE3BOZ announced a draw for the volunteers that assisted with the flea market set up and day activities. The two winners Joe VE3OCD and Tom VA3TVW each received food gift certificates for a variety of restraunts. Congratulations fellows.

3) Gary VE3TTO asked for assistance in the 5 km, Hamilton Santa Race for November 25 @ pier 4. The Burlington Santa race is December 8, 2012 see Gary for details on how you can assisst.

4) Roger announced some interest in future guest speakers. Keep your eye on your club website for updates. The January meeting is a presentation on underwater photography.

5) Don't forget your tickets- 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.

Club Website updates – Please send any website corrections / additions to exec@hamiltonarc.ca

Next meeting

January 16, 2013 The Hamilton Mountain Seventh - day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 20:28

Moved by Ron VE3FD

Motion seconded by Rick VE3BK

Thanks all in attendance

Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ

Treasure Report

	Credit	Debit
Membership	\$255.00	
Bank Charge		\$ 4.95
Bell Canada		\$ 30.79
Engraving		\$16.15
Newsletter		\$32.30
Subtotals	\$255.00	\$84.19
Gic	\$3000.00	

Treasurer Report

By David Bruton
VE3DWJ



Making the “CW Order of the Gavel Award” more accessible and relevant

In January 2013, the award known as the “CW Order of the Gavel Award” will become the Digital Operating award. Broadening this award to include all modes of digital operation, including CW, has been done to encourage member participation in competing for this award.

Note that Award Winners between 1979 and 2011 were exclusively CW mode only. Future winners will have specified which mode of operation was recognized by The Hamilton ARC.

Student Bursary

It was decided at the December 12 2012 executive meeting to abolish the \$50.00 Student Bursary Award since its value has been severely diminished over time and the Hamilton ARC is not currently in a position to increase its value. There are currently no members applying for this award, and no recipient has been realised in some time.

Trophies

With the decline in active member participation and lack of storage space for the trophies and plaques, of which were at one time a popular club tradition in awarding and recognising members for their works and initiatives, some changes

have been made at the December 2012 executive meeting that need to be conveyed.

With exception of the “Crawford Trophy”, which is given to the winner of the “Home Brew” submission, all trophies will be archived. Homes for the current trophies will be discussed and sought out by the membership in the next few general meetings and trophies will be placed with those handlers.

Recognition & Awards

Future awards will be made to club members and participants by means of a “Certificate” of participation for the nominee. The winner will be awarded a certificate with his/her name applied to it for the purpose of recognition. Past recipients and a history of the award will be displayed on the back of the certificate. A copy of that certificate will be

stored on the Hamilton ARC website along with the winners name and picture as approved by the recipients. The recipients will be acknowledged in the Hamilton ARC Newsletter as appropriate.

Nomination Forms

Nomination forms are currently being reviewed and revised for a more convenient method of submission, in an effort to encourage member participation in nominating deserving members of the Hamilton ARC.

A big “Thank You” goes out to Paul Fleck VE3HTF on behalf of the 2012-2013 executives for his insight and ongoing dedication to the position of “Awards Chairman”. Thanks Paul for your efforts in bringing a review of the available awards forward and for your insights / recommendations to the changes needed. These changes to this area of the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club activities should stimulate renewed interest.

The 2012-13 Executives

UNLICENSED RADIO STATION IN FLORIDA LOCKS PEOPLE OUT OF THEIR CARS

What appears to have been a relatively high power out of band spurious signal from an unlicensed broadcast transmitter is being blamed for locking hundreds of people out of their cars in Hollywood, Florida. This according to a statement from the city's police department who called it a mystery no one could solve until now.

For months residents were complaining that they could not use their keyless entry systems to unlock or start their cars whenever they parked near the Hollywood Police Department. Once the cars were towed to the dealers, the problem disappeared.

After months of searching, the wayward signal causing the problem was T-Hunted to the roof of the near-by Regent Bank Building. An undercover detective and FCC agent found the equipment on December 6th concealed under an air conditioning chiller.

Four days after they removed the equipment, a man identifying himself only as "Jay" left a message for a maintenance worker at the bank building. Police say that when the worker returned the call, "Jay" asked if he'd taken his equipment. The worker answered no, but told him that the cops had.

Hollywood Florida detectives are still searching for the man who set up the bootleg station on the roof of the bank building. When it was shut down and seized it was operating around the clock on 104.7 FM broadcasting Caribbean music. If found, the man could be arrested on state felony charges and also face a minimum fine of at least \$10,000 from the Federal Communications Commission. Cars made by Ford, Lexus, Toyota, BMW and Mercedes reportedly were affected.

IRISH RADIO AMATEURS GET NEW 472-479 KHZ ALLOCATIONS

Some good news for hams in Ireland. This with word that the Irish Radio Transmitters Society have been informed by telecommunications regulator ComReg that the band segment 472 to 479 kHz becomes available to all licensed radio amateurs in Ireland. This, on a secondary basis, with effect from 1 January 2013. The maximum power is 5 watts and available for use with CW, QRSS, and narrow band digital modes.

There are some restrictions that ComReg has put in place. As ham radio is a secondary user of this spectrum ComReg says that stations in the Amateur service shall not cause harmful interference to, or claim protection from, stations of the aeronautical radionavigation service or stations of the maritime service. Also that the amateur service shall ensure that no harmful interference is caused to the frequency 490 kHz which is used exclusively for the transmission by coast stations of navigational and meteorological and urgent information to ships.

Also, a Test License held from ComReg by the Irish Radio Transmitters Society under which a number of licensed amateurs were given permission to operate in the band segment 501 to 504 kHz expired on January 2nd. As such, amateurs in Ireland who had received special permission to use that spectrum were required to cease operation on 501 to 504 kHz on that same date.

NEW HUGE TELESCOPE TO WARN OF SOLAR STORMS

Astronomers say a new eye on the sky in Western Australia's remote outback could potentially save the world billions of dollars. This by warning of a pending cosmic catastrophe.

The International Center for Radio Astronomy Research in Perth reports that the new Murchison Widefield Array radio telescope will give a dramatically improved view of the sun. This in turn should provide an early warning of explosive solar storms that can damage to communication satellites, electric power grids and GPS navigation systems.

In addition to its solar observations, the Murchison Widefield Array will offer scientists an unprecedented view of the entire history of the universe, including how the very first stars and galaxies formed.

A "Real" Ham's Test

1-Aliens from a highly advanced planet visit's earth and you are the first person they encounter. They give you a small, metallic disc that can eliminate all disease, bring world peace, and a stable economy.

Do you:

- A - Give it to the president of the United States
- B - Deliver it to the United Nations
- C - Take it apart to see how it works

2-As you grow older what quality of your youthful life do you miss the most?

- A - Boundless Energy
- B - 39 Cents per gallon gas
- C - Peak Sunspot Cycles

3-When is it OK to hug another male?

- A - When it's your father & you haven't seen him in over a year
- B - When you are performing the Heimlich maneuver
- C - When The homebrew antenna you and your buddy just put up actually works

4-In your opinion the ideal pet is:

- A - Cat
- B - Dog
- C - A parrot that can ID for you every 10 minutes without prompting

5-One morning your XYL tells you she is not feeling well and asks you to get the 3 children ready for school.

You reply:

- A - "We have three kids?"
- B - "Is there anything special they need to take to school?"
- C - "Sorry, I'm Net Control at 0700 for The Old Ragchewers Net"

How to score:

Give yourself 20 points for every time you answered C, 10 points for any other answer

100 Points-A Real Ham

80 Points-You Have

Potential Of

Becoming A Real

60 Points-Better Reading QST, CQ & ARRL Handbook

50 Points Or Less-

No Hope. Better

donate your equipment to a

school radio club and take up

another

hobby like yard

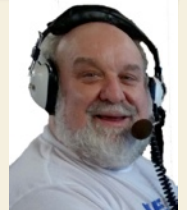
work, collecting paper clips, or go

shopping with the XYL.

(Author unknown)

submitted by:
Rick Danby
VE3BK

The



In September 2012, my wife and I travelled to the U.K. to visit her birthplace and many relatives in the region of Cumbria also the home of poet, William Wodsworth.¹

Our journey was to the town of Workington, Cumbria, located just south of the Scottish border on the west coast.

In order to get to Workington, your travels take you on a two and a half hour drive north of Manchester into the Lake District. This is the “Haliburton” of the U.K. and a world away from the bustle of the big city.



Peter Webster, G8RZ (Deputy Chair), looks good holding that mike!

Upon arriving in Workington, visiting with family and taking time to visit several great pubs I dropped into the local library and did some research on Amateur Radio in the U.K. and found a local club in Workington that was having a meeting that very night!

The local club call is MX0WRC.²

I attended the meeting and was welcomed by Barry and the team. The meetings are held at the Helena Thompson Museum and the club station is perched in the attic with plenty of room for us to attend a “wireless data” presentation by Alex. There was also a chance to talk with the club DX-expedition that were working the airwaves from

a remote island located off the coast of Scotland! The DX-expedition operator couldn't understand how a VE3 call was originating from the Workington club station!

I was informed that the maximum power that a U.K. station can transmit watts and there are levels of operator licensing in the

submitted by:
Paul Fleck
VE3HTF



Barry Easdon, GORZI (Secretary, gentleman in the middle)

Barry is also the RSGB local representative and he runs the local net on Sunday mornings.



Alex Hill, the teacher, helping us understand this data stuff... G7KSE

The Workington club participated with the RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institute) to raise funds. The RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institute) is a national charity that saves lives at sea. They are all volunteers and rely on donations for support. There is a national series of special event stations in January which the Workington club got involved with a couple of years ago with the Workington lifeboat station and last year ended up with 4 stations in total.³

The Workington radio club had special event stations that were run over 2 consecutive weekends last year. Silloth station GB1LBC and Workington GB2LBC. Norman and Alex ran the St Bees lifeboat station GB4LBC and the Barrow-in-Furness club ran the Barrow station GB5LBC. Between the stations we had over 400

contacts, mainly in the UK that qualified for a mini award for contacting all the stations and that helped us to raise a little over £2000. We raised the majority of the cash for the whole of the programme (about £3500 was raised nationally) so we are pretty pleased with ourselves. We're quite close to the lifeboats as many of us work with crew members and hope never to meet them in the sea.

We haven't finalised plans for next year but I imagine it'll be same again. Norman, G7MRL is the main organiser but we share the operating between ourselves. The only station we don't operate from in Cumbria is Haverigg, we just don't have enough people. Perhaps we need to recruit a few more!

Well done, Workington Amateur Radio Club!!!

All in all, a great trip, new friends and a great reason to book my next trip back!

Thanks to the Workington Amateur Radio club for your warm hospitality.

73's

Paul
VE3HTF