

THE HAMILTON AMATEUR

April 2013

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President's Remarks

Hello to all Members

Please join us at our next club meeting:
Wed, April 17th, 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.

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

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Repeater Administrator
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Hamfest. Coordinator
John Boswell VA3BOS

Hamfest. Vendor liaison
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HARC (Hamilton Amateur Radio Club)

General Meeting Minutes

03/20/2013

I. Call to order

On behalf of our president Mike Krebs VE3WXS, Roger Pimm VE3UFZ called to order the regular meeting of the HARC at 19:30 on March 20, 2013 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 Brian Norris and Barney Bethel SWL's III. Speakers

Our speakers for this evening were David Wilson VE3BBN and Peter Teminski VA3WET. David and Peter gave the membership a slide presentation of the Ground Wave Emergency Network (GWEN) system. David and Peter had experimented with and are currently organising an 80 meter vertical polarised ground wave system that they hope to span from Kingston to Windsor. The ground wave on the 80 and 160 meter bands are best suited for an emergency network because of low noise and guaranteed communication. The ground wave is a surface wave and makes use of the "D" layer. There is no effect of the upper ionosphere on the ground wave. David and Peter are looking for more interested parties in participating in the completion of this communication network. If you are interested in the presentation or feel you can help with this network in any way contact David at ve3bbn@gmail.com or Peter at va3wet@gmail.com Check into their net at 7pm on Thursday evenings 3.607 khz. For more information on the GWEN system see <http://www.nparc.on.ca/gwen/> Thank you David and Peter for sharing your knowledge and hobby with fellow Amateurs.

IV. Contesting

Rick VE3BK, referenced in TCA magazine where VE3DC had been acknowledged ie Canada Day results for 2012 pg 51. Rick mentioned the next couple of contests upcoming in April, The RAC Ontario QSO Party Contest April 20-21st and the CQWW WPX contest being held March 30-31st. Rick invited new and seasoned Hams to come out and join the party April 21st. See the article <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/news/> Contact Rick VE3bk@hamiltonarc.ca for more information.

V. Repeater

Paul VE3HFF is working with John VE3DVV and Mark VE3MWH to find a suitable solution for the removal of the dial tone phone line presently at the club repeater site. The service is not needed any longer and the group will make recommendations in the near future.

VI. Health and Welfare

Mary reported silent key's and former club members Max Pizzolato VE3DNM Jan 25 2013. See obituary <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/this-that/silent-keys/#P>

Glen Simpson VE3DSP, Dec 6, 2012 also a past club president and winner of The order of Merit. DR.H. Robert Morgan December 25, 2012

Also of note where sympathy cards sent to

Victor Ramirez VE3LJY, and Heidi Schmoll on the passing of Victor's wife Ruth, Jan 17, 2013 and Kondrad VE3SCH, former club member. <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/this-that/silent-keys/#S>

Get well cards were also sent on behalf of the club members to Dan Martinak VA3DJ and Alan MacPherson VA3AM wishing them a speedy recovery.

Roger Pimm noted that Mike Panopoulos VE3ATX is recovering from his illness as well and that we are all anticipating his return soon.

VII. Membership

Sherry VE3DCU reported 61 primary and 4 family memberships.

VIII. Treasurers Report

Dave VE3DWJ reported \$3751.00 in the bank. Web site bill is due.

Minutes submitted by:

Secretary Jim Sawadski
VE3EEZ



IX. Awards

Paul VE3HTF was presented the VE3DC Certificate for "the 2012 WW 160 M Contest", where VE3DC took 1st place Canada in their class, VE3BK passed the certificate to Paul to post on the website.

The order of Merit is awarded by the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club, hereafter called "The Club", in recognition of distinguished service, in the realm of amateur radio. This award is available and a deserving person of your choice can be nominated. See the rules at <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/activities/harc-awards/march-order-of-merit/>

New Business

- 1) Gary VE3TTO reminded members of the upcoming CANWARN training April 20 2013 at the Chedoke hospital. All are welcome to attend. See website for more information <http://www.canwarnhamilton.ca/index.php?module=News&func=display&sid=22>
- 2) Gary VE3TTO reminded members to come out to assist in the communications needed at the 22 checkpoints of the Paris to Ancaster Bike Race April 14 2013. All interested parties to contact Gary Notto or meet at the egg and I restraint at Duffs corners in Ancaster @ 8am. Race begins at 10am.
- 3) President Mike Krebs VE3WXS awarded Rick Danby VE3BK, with the new Digital Award Certificate, on behalf of the membership. Congratulations Rick and thank you for your submission! for more information about this award and to see how you can apply see the link at <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/activities/harc-awards/february-cw-operating-order-of-the-gavel-cw/>
- 4) Mardy VE3QEE reminded membership about the Peel flea market - HAMEX 2013 Saturday March 23, 2013.

5) Jim VE3EEZ announced that Mark VE3RYI will be heading up the Hidden Transmitter Hunts again this year and that the season will begin on April 28 and be held at the end of each month until September 29, 2013. See the article and schedule on your club website at <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/2013/03/24/the-h-a-r-c-hidden-transmitter-hunt-schedule-2013/>

6) Roger VE3UFZ has been in touch with RAC regarding the new "Not For Profit Act" and has been given a contact (Marcel Mongeon VA3DDD) for reference in updating our constitution under the new guidelines.

Next meeting :

April 17, 2013 The Hamilton Mountain Seventh - day Adventist Church, 284 Concession St., Hamilton, ON.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 21:37

Moved by Mardy VE3QEE

Motion seconded by Ron VE3DF

Thanks to all in attendance

Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ

Hidden Transmitter hunts 2013

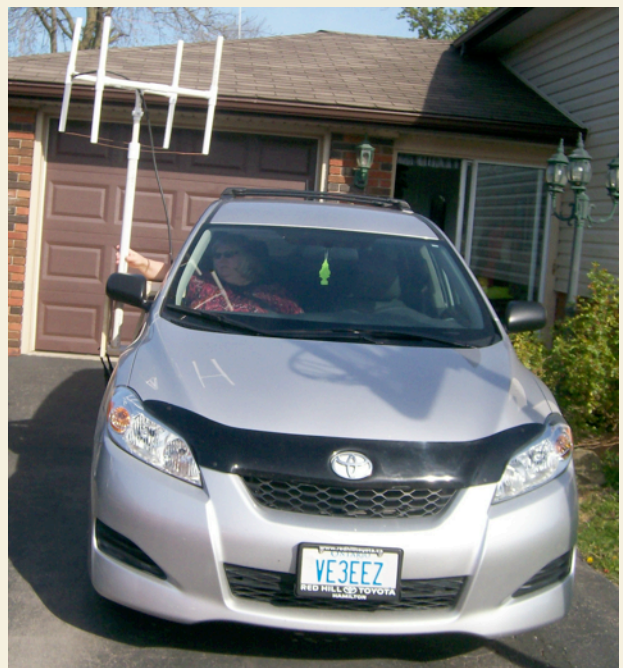
Well another season is upon us and a new schedule therefore is also in order for the 2013 hidden transmitter hunts (fox hunts). Mark VE3RYI and I have put together a tentative schedule with a few different hunting zones that we hope will interest more hunters. See the schedule attached. This schedule has also been added to the hamiltonarc.ca website for your convenience and quick reference. Mark VE3MWH has graciously volunteered to greet all hunters at a starting point which will differ with each hunt location. Pay attention to the hunt schedule to determine where the meeting place will be. There you will find copies of the maps that may assist you in your hunt. If you are new to fox hunting come to the meeting location and meet up with the gang. Borrow some equipment or ride along with someone else. Everyone is welcome. What a nice way to spend a Sunday afternoon. Hone your skills, have some laughs and join the fellows in the hunt. Please don't forget to invite your friends, bring a family member and extend the invitation to other hams. These hunts are open to all.

Want to learn more about hidden transmitter hunts on the web. There are many to articles to help you build antennas, attenuators, and just helpful hints.

Mark April 28th on your calendar for your first fox hunt of the season. See you all there.

<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/2013/03/24/the-h-a-r-c-hidden-transmitter-hunt-schedule-2013/>

Jim VE3EEZ



History

In January 2013, the award known as the CW Order of the Gavel Award, was renamed the Digital Operating award by the 2012-2013 executives as a result of the additional modes of operation available and the decline in the CW submissions for the CW QSO's. (CW being one of the first forms of digital modes available) This change in "re-branding" the award and opening the award to other modes of operation was done to encourage club participation while keeping intact the original mode of operation.

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.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this award is to promote the use of DIGITAL communications and to stimulate an interest among the newer Hams to operate in the HF bands.

RULES:

1. The event is open to all members of the HARC.
2. The award may not be won two consecutive years in a row by the same club member.
3. The contest will be an annual event.
4. Only the previous twelve months will be considered, from January 1st through December 31st. In the case of a new Ham of less than 12 months, the score will be prorated by dividing 365 by the number of days licensed, times the score of points attained.
5. The following point system will be used to decide the winner:
Digital QSO's @ 1 point per QSO
C.W. QSO's @ 5 points per QSO.
6. The total points from above will be adjusted by a DX multiplier of 1, 2 or 5 points per DX country in relation to the power levels listed above. DX will be the current ARRL DX country list. There will be no DX multiplier for USA.
7. A valid QSO will be QTH, RST, and name.

Please submit [this form](#) not later than the February 1st. The judges may want to see your logs before making their final decision. Include QSO's from January 1st through December 31. A valid QSO must be in a digital mode using your own call sign and must contain the standard report (i.e. RST, name, call and QTH). Fill in the applicable blanks in the form to compute your score.

Past Recipients (between 1979 and 2011 all recipients where exclusively CW submissions)

1979 VE3JTO/VA3SP Mike Spenuk
1980 VE3AHB Irwin Merritt
1981 VE3EKY Bernard Granby {SK}
1982 VE3KOT Mort Paterson
1983 VE3NYF Gary Dumbleton
1984 VE3NKW John Rozsa
1985 VE3OIZ Bill Leslie
1986 no recipient
1987 no recipient
1988 VE3SRK Richard Leah
1989 VE3VFR Norm Sander
1990 no recipient
1991 no recipient
1992 VE3DSN Sheran DeVotta
1993 no recipient
1994 VE3JWJ John Johnston
1995 no recipient
1996 no recipient
1997 VE3YAG Richard Appleyard
1998 VE3STT David Jones



1999 VE3EKY Bernie Granby {SK}
2000 VE3EKY/VA3XJ Bernard Granby {SK}
2001 no recipient
2002 VA3RE Bob Edge
2003 no recipient
2004 no recipient
2005 VE3EKY/VA3XJ Bernard Granby {SK}
2006 no recipient
2007 no recipient
2008 no recipient
2009 no recipient
2010 no recipient
2011 no recipient
2012 VE3BK Rick Danby

Modern Amateur Radio is the title of a new, bi-lingual video produced in Canada by Donald Boucher, VE2XT. Boucher put the show together in full wide screen High Definition and it includes some truly breathtaking aerial footage of the Canadian countryside.

VE2XT owns a video production company in Montreal and that he shot the video last year in his spare time. Posting of the video to Youtube was done by CQ Propagation Editor Thomas Hood, NW7US.

What makes Modern Amateur Radio unique is its international flavor. While the narration is in English most of the natural sound background conversations are in French. But you do not have to understand the French language to truly enjoy this Canadian look at our great hobby.

You can see it for yourself at:
www.tinyurl.com/modern-amateur-radio

This is a fantastic video a much Watch

Mike
VE3XMS

CQ LAUNCHES ONLINE PHOTO GALLERY

CQ magazine has announced the launch of the online CQ Photo Gallery to supplement photos published in the magazine.

According to Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, the magazine shoots photos at many events. It also receives many photos from readers that it does not have space to put in the magazine. But CQ still wants to share these with its readers and the new CQ Photo Gallery will allow it to do just that.

Moseson says that the new photo gallery is on the flickr.com web site and is organized into albums called sets. Initial sets include CQ cover images; the CQ Garage featuring ham radio license plates; news photos from the FCC's field hearing on communications lessons learned from Superstorm Sandy, and reader-submitted photos. New pictures will be added regularly.

The CQ Photo Gallery may be accessed at www.flickr.com/photos/cqphotogallery/sets

Review of Canadian Amateur Radio Exam

As a result of its response to a Request for Proposals from telecommunications regulator Industry Canada, Radio Amateurs of Canada has been awarded a \$20,000 contract. This to review the questions used for examinations to qualify radio amateurs in that nation.

The actual work began back on January 28th with the final product will be delivered to Industry Canada on April 17th. More than 3000 questions are being reviewed. Of these 965 are in English and in French for the Basic qualification. Another 545 in English and in French for the Advanced qualification.

The objective of the review is to identify questions and answers no longer relevant as well as those requiring modifications to correct grammatical errors or improve clarity. The review should also lead to new questions on aspects of amateur radio that have changed in recent years.

The present work is the first comprehensive review of the Canadian question pool in more than a decade. While some current questions were revised in 2007 many questions date from much earlier. Radio Amateurs du Quebec Inc. is working with Radio Amateurs of Canada on the French language component of this question pool revision and overhaul.

CONTEST INFO

Held on the third full weekend of April: 1st Part is 1800Z April 20 to 0500Z April 21, this means 2pm Saturday April 20 and 2nd Part is 1200Z to 1800Z April 21 which means 8am to 2pm on Sunday April 21, 2013.

The Ontario QSO Party is 4 weeks away! Please clear your calendars for the weekend of April 20/21. The snow should be all gone and the mobiles and rovers will be in full operation, enjoying the Springtime conditions we usually have this time of year. Tom will be one of the rovers, maybe working 3 counties at once. He wants to earn a new plaque with his new call, VE3IBU. We all like working the mobiles and rovers especially from our Multi-op Multi-radio setup. Also on the air will be the three bonus-point stations VE3ODX, VA3RAC and VA3CCO which make this an interesting contest. Let me know if you are interested in running a station or plan on coming out to operate VE3DC. We plan on having as many stations on the air as possible; we even have a new antenna up, plus some maintenance work was done, thanks to Jim VE3EEZ, David VE3DWJ and myself. The new to ham radio people are more than welcome to come and see how we do it. Regretfully, Dan VA3DJ is still recovering from his illness, so may only make a visit to the Contest site but this means there is an opening this time for someone to go all out on Dan's favourite band.<>

This event is held annually on the third full weekend of April. Beginning in 1998 under the thoughtful guidance of Bob Chandler VE3SRE it quickly became a popular event among Ontario hams and beyond. VE3DC has been involved since the beginning and have many plaques and certificates from this event. In 2006 the organization of the party 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. Please check the rules at <http://www.va3cco.com/oqp/rules.htm> for the contest exchange, frequencies, modes and categories.

4 Weeks goes by very quickly so let me know if you want to be a part of this great Canadian event this year. You don't have to be a great Contester to come and help out. We have fun on this one and get to talk to many Canadians. We find out the weather in Eastern, Western and all parts of Canada. Many of our American friends come to give us a contact for our Ontario QSO Party. Lots of fun. CU there.

submitted by:
Rick Danby
VE3BK

