



# The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Newsletter ~ 82 Years of Amateur Radio 1932-2014

*Hamilton Amateur Radio Club,  
117 - 350 King Street East,  
P.O. Box 75073,  
Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 4G6  
Est. 1932 Inc. 1956  
<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/>*

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## The Next Meeting

The next meeting takes place on Wednesday September 17th at 7:00 P.M. in the Cafeteria of Westdale Secondary School (Main West at Longwood). Visitors are welcome.

At this meeting final plans for the Hamfest on October 4th to be firmed up and questions answered.

Ron VE3RTJ is delivering a Power Point presentation on future plans for the Club.

course, please let either Mardy VE3QEE or myself know. One of the advantages of instructing is that it reinforces your knowledge of the subject, and it requires that you 'crack open' a book again.

I would like each of you to think about friends and family members that may be interested in gaining their certification, and have them contact us. Our hobby needs a transfusion of 'new blood'. Hopefully the graduates from our classes will stay involved with HARC. We have already experienced graduates coming forward and accepting the responsibility of taking over important functions. That's how we will secure the future of our club and the hobby of Ham Radio.

This past summer I had little luck in using my Ham rig on the boat. I did try several Monday evenings to make contact with the group on the weekly 80m net. The problem appears to be a "tsunami" of QRM in Toronto Harbour, specifically at the Humber Bay end of the harbour where I keep my boat – along with approximately 600 other boats. There is so much digital equipment on boats these days, with minimal care given to noise limiting design. It seems that almost all of the new instrumentation on boats is digital and that includes refrigeration

## President's Message

*By Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ*

Greetings all, and welcome back to another productive and challenging year for the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club. I hope that you all had a wonderful summer and you are all in good health. We have a lot of activities planned for this coming year and we need you in good shape to help with Flea Market set up and tear down.

We are again offering the Basic Ham course this fall, followed up with another Basic class starting in January 2015. As well, we are going to offer an Advanced course starting in January 2015. Our volunteer instructors have a heavy load ahead of them. If you feel you would like to become an instructor for maybe one or two chapters of the Advanced

Club meetings – 3rd Wednesday each month – 7:00 pm (except July and August) in the cafeteria of Westdale Secondary School, 700 Main Street West, Hamilton. Wheelchair accessible. Parking in the back. Use the rear entrance closest to Longwood Road. Visitors welcome. Complimentary refreshments.

systems, inverter systems, converter systems, depth sounders, anemometers and knot meters all are digital now and all produce noise. It used to be a simple problem of suppressing alternator noise – not any more. Fortunately, when I leave the harbour and get out into the lake the QRM falls away so my radio isn't totally useless (only in the harbour). VHF worked fine and I was able to use out club repeater while in Toronto. I have a 5/8 wavelength antenna mounted 65 feet above the water, so I have a clean shot at our repeater at Fennel and Gage.

Don't forget we still have Fox Hunt events this fall – check out our web site. Also, the big event for this fall is our Flea Market. Please check in with Paul VE3HTF or Mardy VE3QEE if you can step in and help out. This is the one major event of the year when we welcome Hams from all over South West Ontario.

I am looking forward to another busy and productive year folks. Hope to see you all at our first General Meeting at Westdale High School September 17, 2014 at 1500hrs.

Roger VE3UFZ .

## Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, June 11, 2014

Recorded by Secretary Jim VE3JS

### I. Call to order

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE called to order the General meeting at 19:18 on 06/11/2014 at The Westdale Secondary School, 700 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON. in absence of our President Roger Pimm VE3UFZ

### II. Sign In

Attendance was conducted by the circulation of the members sign in sheet. There were 19 members / visitors present. Welcome visitor Georgette SWL, and new members Scott Hamilton VE3QU and Rodney Bedford VE3UFC.

### III. Speakers

There was no guest speaker this evening as it was a time of reflection via slide show presentation and an election of an officer to replace one that had stepped down in December 2013. Please welcome to the board, Ron Pereira VE3RTJ.

### IV. Contesting

Rick VE3BK announced the Field Day 2014 taking place June 28-29 at the Devils Punch Bowl; RAC Canada Day June 30/July 1, and Lighthouse, Lightship weekend Aug 16-17. Rick invited members to contact him at [ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca) if they would like to participate. Rick also brought up articles in the QST magazine: on pg 30 (6m Quad antenna), pg 33 (Vacuum invariable antenna coupler), pg 36 (low profile, 2 element 40m beam) for any interested parties.

### V. Health and Welfare

Mary Urbanski VE3OGQ is getting well and will accept visitors, please call her if you are going to drop in.

Leif Thomsen VE3KFE is still in St. Peters and is also taking visitors.

Richard Appleyard VE3YAG in in a home in Niagara Falls as per Rick VE3BK. Contact Rick for further information.

### VI. Treasurers Report

Dave VE3DWJ reported on the finances to date. Mardy VE3QEE moved to accept the report as delivered. Rick VE3BK 2nd the motion and was carried by members present.

### New Business

In response to a question by Paul Fleck VE3HTF, Mardy VE3QEE spoke briefly on the new Flex 6300 and its

capabilities & advantages. Mardy outlined HARC accomplishments in 2013-2014

### HARC Accomplishments during the 2013-2014 year

-The basic course booking and 6 new graduates of the course

-The move to Westdale and the accompanying reduced cost of rental

-The involvement of a new teaching staff and member engagement / supporters

-The Basic and Advanced course booking for the fall off 2014-early winter 2015

-The development of a Special interest group night booking (techie night)

-The revision of our constitution to meet Bill 65

-The incorporation of our new Vision Statement, and Mission Statement

-The initiation of a strategic planning committee

-The new venue for the fall hamfest OCT 4.a cost cutting measure

-The Christmas Party booking of Dec 7, 2014

-A NEW Summer Picnic being held at Paul & Carol Fleck's residence

-The schedule of Hidden Transmitter hunts has been posted on the web site. There is one each month near the month's end through September.

### Next meeting

September 17, 2014 @ The Westdale Secondary School, 700 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON.

### Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 19:58 Moved by Mardy VE3QEE Motion seconded by Ron VE3RTJ Thanks to all in attendance

Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski

# QSL Cards Revisited

by Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE

Not all amateurs exchange QSL cards to confirm a contact. But, for those that do it is necessary to have a card that records basic information about the contact, for example callsign, date, time, frequency, RST, mode, location and how to respond to a received card. Beyond that ordinary information each card becomes unique. You see, many amateurs strive to add a personal touch to their cards and by doing so reveal something about their humanity. Initially, the card is physical proof of a contact having been made. However, the richness and variety cards in a

collection is what makes them worth keeping and looking back over at a later time. To make my point, here are a couple of QSL cards recently received by Andrew Best VE3RIA which he was willing to share.

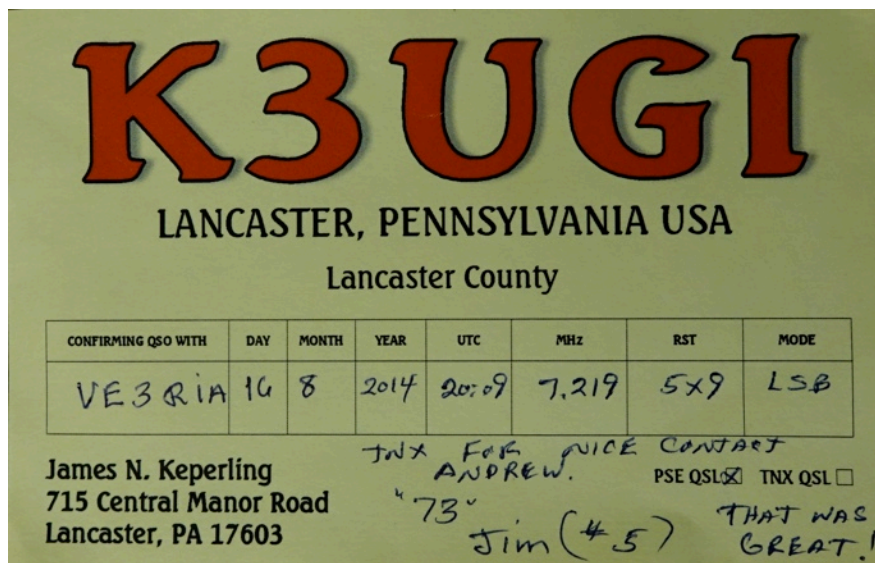
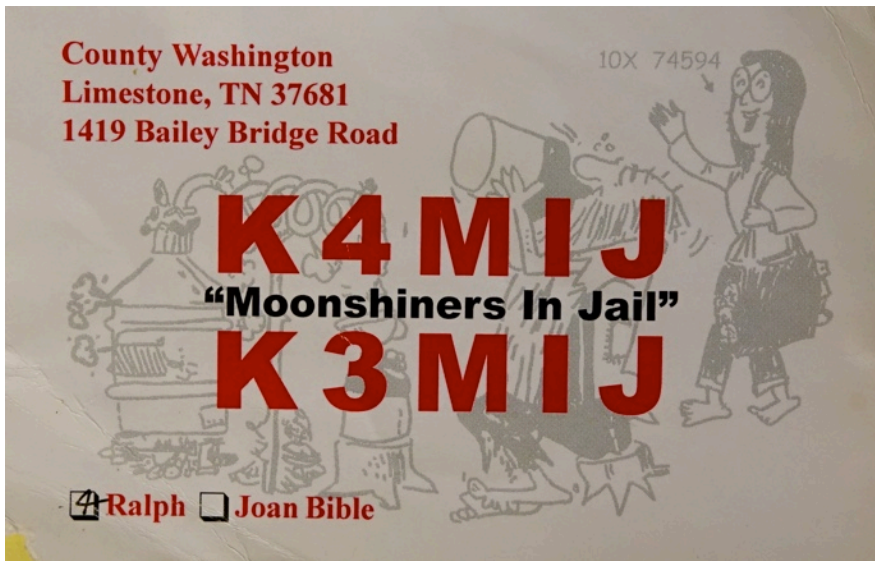
You just can't get any more down home than the combination of elements shown on the humorous card from Tennessee. Just in case the address, call and names weren't proof enough, a note on the other side reveals that Ralph and Joan use an Orion II transceiver, made in Tennessee at the Ten Tec plant in Sevierville. Nice card folks!

The second card, from Lancaster Pennsylvania has an "insider" note at the bottom from Jim. Andrew

explains that during this particular contest the exchange consisted of giving your first name and state. At the time of this contact, Andrew had already recorded four Jims in his log. When the fifth Jim reported his name Andrew couldn't help exclaiming that he felt he was participating in an all Jims contest! Hence the cute note at the bottom: 73 from Jim #5.

If you have a fondly remembered card to show and tell about, please send along a note, with a scan or photo of the card, and we'll be happy to relay the story.

Later in the year we hope to have Gary Hammond, long-time QSL'er as a guest speaker telling about his experiences sending and receiving QSL cards.



## HARC 2014-2015 Executive

**President**  
Roger Pimm VE3UFZ  
ve3ufz@hamiltonarc.ca

**Past President**  
Mike Krebs  
va3wxs@hamiltonarc.ca

**First Vice President**  
Paul Fleck VE3HTF  
ve3htf@hamiltonarc.ca

**Second Vice President**  
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE  
ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca

**Secretary**  
Jim Sawadski VE3JS  
ve3js@hamiltonarc.ca

**Treasurer**  
David Bruton VE3DWJ  
ve3dwj@hamiltonarc.ca

**Director**  
Ron Pereira VE3RTJ  
ve3rtj@hamiltonarc.ca

# We've been listening New Web Site is Officially Launched

Have you been to our new website yet? If not check it out,

[www.hamiltonarc.ca](http://www.hamiltonarc.ca) .

There, you'll find a refreshed view of what we do and what we've been up to. This theme has a quick custom top menu with some of your top search URLs.

The side bar menu has been flattened to assist in the navigation. Recent posts will be displayed upon opening the site so that the latest and upcoming events will be refreshed frequently with the latest information.

Can't find what you're looking for? Use the search icon in the top right corner and type in your query word.

See the collection of pictures that Rick VE3BK has been constantly updating with photos of events we have been involved with.

Note the "side calendar" of events taking place 2 months in advance of their scheduled date.

The "follow us on facebook" (f) icon will take you to our Facebook page, which some members are following. Thank you Ginette VA3SEW for all your posts. This feature gives viewers an instant access to pics recovered after an event. Do you have a picture

to post? Logon to facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/HamiltonAmateurRadioClub>.

Do you know of something that needs to be added and not listed there? Do you have suggestions on how to improve this site, or have questions about navigation? Can you assist in providing articles for the website? Send an note to [webmaster@hamiltonarc.ca](mailto:webmaster@hamiltonarc.ca).

A special thank you to Anita Thomas VA3ANI for your encouragement, mentoring and assistance that you have given me throughout the years to prepare me on this endeavor. Your involvement and experience is very much appreciated and does not go un-noticed.

Jim VE3EEZ

## RAC Canada Day Contest, July 1, 2014

by Rick Danby VE3BK

For this contest we worked Multi-operator at the contest site. The operators were Rick VE3BK Sherry VE3CDU Jim VE3EEZ Scott VE3QU and Andrew VE3RIA.

Visitors to the station included: Paul & Jodey (future Ham students), Mardy VE3QEE, Ahmet VA3TUR, Georgette (future Ham student) accompanying Scott, Dan VA3DJ, Ron VE3RTJ & wife Ginette VA3SEW (new ham).

Here are the results for the bands we worked:

Band	CW QSOs	CW Points	CW Mults	Phone QSOs	Phone Points	Phone Mults
80	0	0	0	12	132	3
40	189	856	8	449	2116	10
20	68	318	8	525	2664	11
15	12	48	3	69	446	8
10	0	0	0	10	20	0

### HARC Chairs 2014 – 2015

Health / Welfare  
Tom Feeney VE3KTP

Contesting / Property Manager  
Rick Danby VE3BK

Membership  
Sherry Goeller VE3DCU

Education  
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

Newsletter  
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

Examiner Volunteers  
Mike Christmas VE3XMS  
Paul Fleck VE3HTF  
Roger Pimm VE3UFZ

Repeater Admin. / QSL Manager  
Rick Danby VE3BK

Repeater Technician  
John Vandenberg VE3DVB

EQSL Manager  
(VE3DC & VA3CWM)  
Don Grisenthwait VE3DDQ

Field Day Coordinator  
Ginette Pereira VA3SEW

Tuesday 2m Check-in Net  
Controller  
Mike Krebs VA3WXS

Flea market Coordinator  
Paul Fleck VE3HTF

Public Relations/Communication  
Ron Pereira VE3RTJ

Flea market Vendor Contact  
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

Webmaster  
Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ

Soapbox: Andrew VE3RIA and I (VE3BK), were there first and decided we were going to stay over another night so that we could enjoy ourselves on the actual Canada Day on July 1st, 2014. We made the call to my wife for extra supplies that Scott VE3QU and Georgette were going to pick up on their way.

Sherry VE3DCU & Jim VE3EEZ arrived and began to setup. Before we knew it there were lots of visitors and we were on the air. I had tuned my station for 40m and it was ready to go. A couple of the ops were on 40m but were getting nowhere. VA2RAC was coming in real good but could not hear us. No contacts on 40m until finally Scott asked me to have a look because things didn't seem right. With new, I noticed that I had left the antenna tuner on the dummy load position (that is where I like to tune up the amp) and switched it to the antenna direct. The signal from VA2RAC went up to 20 over and I worked him the first call. How many stations had we missed? We all had a good laugh over the dummies on the dummy load. We did excellent later on, so in no way had it slowed us down, just taught us a valuable lesson.

Thing were busy with visitors coming and going and many contacts were made. Our CW expert, Andrew VE3RIA was in fine form, right after a great time on Field Day, working as many or more with a record score on Field Day to beat, and he did it with his overall contacts on all bands, not just 40m this time. What a great operator.

Jim VE3EEZ sure beat his Field Day score with all the contacts on 20m. He had some help there too as we all had a turn on different radios and bands. This is the fun part of operating multi-multi with the stations being close together and people needing a break from time to time.

Sherry VE3DCU sure got us off to a good start by doing some work at our Contest Site, cutting the grass and getting our network to work flawlessly by putting in a needed

connection. She did this while the rest of us were getting practiced up on Field Day, great job Sherry.

Scott VE3QU was one of the operators that improved the scores at every station with his great operating. I think this goes back to CB days when I met Scott and he came to help us at Field Day one year, by staying up all night calling CQ on 80m. He still has the stamina and I think he stayed up all night again this time. Way to go Scott.

This was a great Canadian Contest that we all enjoy and I want to thank all that worked us, especially the American Hams who came in there on Canada Day and worked us as their only July 1st Canada Day contact. These guys gave us a 001 serial number and hopefully went on to work some other Canadians. Don't forget to work the 13 Colonies stations for their July 4th USA Birthday. I enjoy that one too and have some certificates from them. Another great event.

Thanks again to all that worked us for this truly Canadian Contest. Look for VE3DC again when we do the Internation Lighthouse Lightship Weekend, on the 3rd weekend in August.

Everyone have a great summer and hope to run into you down the log.

73 Rick VE3BK

## The July Fox Hunt

by Ron Pereira, VE3RTJ and Ginette, VA3SEW

Sunday, July 27 marked the third HARC Fox Hunt of the season. The weather was perfect, warm and sunny. Turnout was excellent, with 17 people taking part. The starting point was Billy Sherring park on Upper Sherman, near Rymal. There was the usual comparing of gear and logistics discussions. Most importantly, the choice of which Tim Horton's to wrap up at was made. The day's search area, area 1 is defined as the area between Upper James and Highway 56, and Rymal Road and the

## Important Points

### Executive Meetings

HARC Executive committee meets each month, except July and August. Members are invited to attend. Time and location of the meetings vary but they are posted on the web site at <hamiltonarc.ca>

### 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.

### Nets

HARC "check-in net" is held every Tuesday evening at 7:30 p.m. on VE3NCF (see above) September through June. An informal HF net takes place Mondays at 7:30 PM on 3.693 MHz. All contacts are welcome.

### Examinations

Amateur radio license examinations are conducted by arrangement with our three designated examiners. Refer to the web site at <hamiltonarc.ca> for details.

### Membership Information

Club membership, including all privileges, is \$31 per person, per year, Sept 1 to Aug 31. Additional membership, for immediate family living in the same home, is offered. Refer to the web site at <hamiltonarc.ca> for details.

### The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur is published ten times each year (not in July or August). Deadline for article submission is the last Saturday of the month for the next month's issue. Preferred format is .txt file. Articles will be checked for spelling and grammar, but the author is responsible for factual content. E-mail submissions to Editor, Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE, <ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca>.

Grand River. With the opening festivities completed, we all mounted up and rode out in search of our prey.

Now, if you've never participated in a Fox Hunt, it can be a bit disturbing to see a gaggle of Hams waving their antennas out of the windows of moving cars. Be assured, it's all normal behavior for this peculiar sport. The goal is to use radio direction finding techniques, such as triangulation, Doppler phase comparison, and the time-honored 'follow the bouncing yagi' technique to find a transmitter (or in our case, 2 of 'em) hidden in out of the way places. Rick (VE3BK) and Jim (VE3EEZ) are the designated foxes this season, and they've demonstrated a marked propensity for finding really Out Of The Way places. Rules are simple; finish in the time allotted (13:00 to 15:30), the winner for each Fox is whoever finds it first with the least driving.

Ginette and I had a hard time with this month's hunt. We spent a lot of time just getting within range of the foxes. We arrived at a parkette at the Grand River to find our fellow hunters all gathered in one place. Following my trusty tape-measure yagi, I headed up a hiking trail along the river. Meanwhile, Ginette drove up River Road to another access point and started in from that end. Ginette found Jim's transmitter, but we didn't find Rick's in time to sign the log. Both foxes were planted on either side of the hiking trail.

The group convened at the agreed rallying point and lively discussion of the day's events ensued. A special welcome to Terry, VA3BHL and his wife Carissa of Mississauga, and kudos to Scott (VE3QU) and his partner Georgette, who found both foxes with nothing but his handheld and it's attached whip antenna. Who needs directivity?

The Grand No-Prize goes to Mardy (VE3QEE) for being first in both fox logs. Congratulations, Mardy!

This is a great way to spend a sunny day. Lot's of fun, you get to exercise

some of that radio training in the fresh air, and bragging rights too. The next hunt is scheduled for August 24, this time in area 2. For details, check the club web page. Scroll down to the bottom of the 'events' section to the hidden transmitter schedule.

See y'all there.

Ron (VE3RTJ) & Ginette (VA3SEW)

## Advice Regarding Damage by Lightening.

The following e-mail exchange was posted to one of the radio related reflectors that I monitor. While I hope none of you will ever incur damage by lightening the suggestions given here might have been helpful if you did.

Question:

Lightning hit the shack last evening. Although everything was on surge protectors, spikes came in through the phone line, blew the surge protector and took out my DSL modem. I further discovered that my computer seems to have lost its Ethernet card, and maybe the Firewire card. The transceiver turns on, but the computer does not see it. What tests can I do to determine whether the communication issue is with the radio, the computer, or both?

Answer:

Ouch, that is too bad.

If you haven't filed a claim on your house insurance, you need to do that now. They will take care of determining what has failed. At least, that is what I did on a hydro surge. This is why you pay for it. For you 5000, the easiest test is to try another computer. However, if the ethernet card is gone, it will have taken most other things on the bus. But, sadly it is a crap shoot. The transceiver should be written off by your insurance company as there is no way to be 100% that you can

repair it back to factory specs. It just isn't practical at all.

I say all the above as an ex Manager of a Ham Radio Store. We would get one of these per week and everyone was handled by the insurance. We never tried to repair anything as there was no way to guarantee it. They also have their professionals who do this. We never had any trouble with any claims either. Again, sorry to hear that. It is a pain in the butt, but you should come out ok.

## International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend 2014

by Rick Danby VE3BK

We used the Club call VE3DC and activated the Burlington Main Light CA0015 for the ILLW event. Present on Saturday was Rick VE3BK, Mardy VE3QEE, Mike Krebs VA3WXS, Scott VE3QU & Georgette, Jack VE3WBT & Donna, Barry VE3ISX, Kevin VE3HNG, Dan VA3DJ & HIS Dad Joe Martinak,

Mardy tried out his rebuilt G5RV antenna. It was centre fed and supported by a large tree in the middle and 2 other trees at the ends. The vertical feed line section was pulled horizontal in the direction of the pavilion with a toroidal sleeve choke at the feed point. I have never seen a full size G5RV work as good as this one. We didn't even need the tuner we had borrowed from David VE3DWJ. The only band that we needed the tuner for was the 15m band. We made a lot of our contacts on 40 meters, some on 80 meters and some on 20 meters too. The antenna worked very well both days (Saturday August 16th and Sunday August 17th, 2014) Two radios were used: Scott's VE3QU Kenwood and Mardy's VE3QEE Flex radios. Sometimes the logging became hectic with so many people there and the wind on the Saturday. I had brought the laptop that Roger had given me to do student training. It was slow to load but worked just fine once it was

# Lighthouse Lightship Weekend Special Event



Kevin VE3HNG, Mardy VE3QEE, Dan VA3DJ



Rick VE3BK, Barry VE3ISX, Jack VE3WBT, Georgette, Scott VE3QU



Dan VA3DJ



Scott VE3QU, Kevin VE3HNG, Mike VA3WXS, Rick VE3BK, Georgette



in the logging program. Dan's dad had brought him to have some time on the radio, but he was unable to work anyone in Great Britain at the moment, to check on the status of the Canadian Lancaster that went to fly with the Royal Air Force Lancaster in England. We had club flyers to hand out and many of the public wanted to know what we were doing. It rained some on the Saturday but we stuck it out and never got any real rain, just some spitting, which didn't hamper our Ham Radio Event at all.

Operators and loggers for the day were: Scott VE3QU, Mardy VE3QEE, Mike Krebs VA3WXS, Dan VA3DJ and Rick VE3BK. Our photographer was Kevin VE3HNG.

Present on the Sunday were Rick VE3BK, Mardy VE3QEE, Mike Krebs VA3WXS, Scott VE3QU & Georgette, Ahmet VA3TUR, Gary VE3TTO & Loretta, Ginette VA3SEW & Ron VE3RTJ, and Ron VE3RMA & Bev. Sunday brought a gorgeous day with more visitors. We used the same antenna, but up higher this time. Mardy was able to get his "Spud", higher in the trees this time (more practice), and we got to see his Flex radio in action. We had some trouble with RF problems with the Flex, (it uses a computer control) but grounding it and the power supply to the metal building fixed the problem for good. There is no good ground available in the sand, so the building ground is the best we could get. Many more visitors were dropping by to find out what we were doing on the Sunday and we even had a fellow that was looking to take the Basic Course. He told us he was a Cadet Leader on Tuesdays so was actually inquiring about any other Clubs he could take the course at. He was really interested in what we were doing. Lots of interesting people to talk to again this year, a great promotion for Ham Radio.

## The 2014 Field Day Story for VE3DC

by Rick VE3BK

It was super hot at the Devil's Punch Bowl this June 28 & 29, 2014. Really hot and no breeze on the Saturday but on the Sunday hot with a breeze.

Paul Fleck VE3HTF supplied Saturday night supper of chile and on Sunday morning, egg mcmuffins made with eggs from his own chickens. Paul set up a Winabago as an air conditioned shack that Roger Pimm VE3UFZ and Mark Gibson VE3MWH were able to enjoy all weekend. Thanks for the meals Paul, you did a great job.

H.A.R.C. Operators on Field Day 2014 were: (Dan VA3DJ) coordinator, did as much as he could again this year and I did the software again this year)

Note: We had 97 visitors sign in. Most of them had come to see the Devil's Punch Bowl where we had located our FD operation. Some visitors were from Russia, Grand Rapids MI, Toronto, Oakville, Chicago, Mississauga, and even Taiwan and Singapore, as well as many others from our local area.

2 Meters was run by Ron VE3RTJ and his wife Ginette VA3SEW who also did the Information Table for us. Ron was bored by inactivity on 2m. so we activeley tried the Mesh network and we found a few problems with it but it will work with further testing, we will get the bugs ironed out. 12 Contacts on 2m. Everyone expected more with the height of Ron's antenna, but just no activity.

10-15 Meters was run by Paul VE3HTF, Mark VE3MWH and Roger VE3UFZ who I think did most of the operating, only on 20m. Paul was more of a cook. 33 Contacts on 15m. 10m just did not cooperate this year. Great effort guys.

20 Meters was run by Jim VE3EEZ who did a great job all by himself with 202 contacts while entertaining visitors as well. Great job Jim.

40 Meters was run by Rick VE3BK, who did very little operating but the big guns made the Field Day very successful, Andrew VE3RIA was the CW man with 339 CW contacts which count for twice the score and then Scott VE3QU did almost all of the SSB contacts with 517 contacts, some of which were done by Andrew, Tony KNIM (also did CW) and Rick VE3BK. Great success at the 40 meter tent with a total of 856 contacts. Fantastic this year guys, Tony was a good influence hi hi.

80 Meters was run by John VE3DVB and Mardy VE3QEE. Their total QSO count was 257 with 6 of them being CW, a mode used for the first time at Field Day by Mardy VE3QEE late in the morning after voice contacts had faded. A job well done on 80 meters, especially with those CW contacts adding to the overall score. Great job on Field Day by all. CU next year.

## Good Time To Buy A Flex 3000 ?

by Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE

I follow the Flex Radio Digest, an email reflector. It appears that this is a good time to purchase a used Flex 3000 on line. They are selling for around \$1100 US almost daily on the reflector. The reason the 3000 models are becoming so available now is because the Flex 6300 production has caught up with the backorders and people are taking delivery of their new model and deciding to sell their older model. In many cases these "older" models are only two or three years old. Not really that old by amateur radio standards!

Flex 3000s are still in production and will remain so according to Flex. The Flex 3000 requires a computer with a Firewire card and Windows 7 or 8 operating system. The Flex 3000 is a full power 100 watt radio. It ships with a built in antenna tuner.



Field Day 2014 at the Devil's Punch Bowl above Stoney Creek



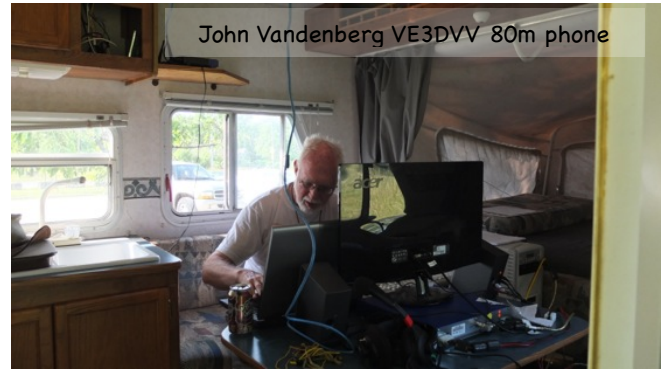
the Devil's Punch Bowl formation



illuminated cross - a local landmark



Andrew Best VE3RIA 40m CW



John Vandenberg VE3DVV 80m phone



Jim Sawadski VE3JS 20m/15m phone



Ron and Ginette Pereira VE3RTJ & VA3SEW vhf



Georgette SWL Scott VE3QU and Rick VE3BK



Ham and Hospitality Station by Paul Fleck VE3HTC