



Hamilton Amateur Radio Club,
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 Est. 1932 Inc. 1956
<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/>

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The Hamilton Amateur

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

The Next Meeting

The next meeting takes place on Wednesday November 19th at 7:00 P.M. in the Cafeteria of Westdale Secondary School (Main West at Longwood). Visitors are welcome.

The topic for this evening is a handi-talky workshop. Bring your handheld radio and a 5 watt dummy load if you have one. For each type of handheld the experts will be helping the learners in a workshop setting. Here's what you might want to learn - how to:

1. program a repeater pair
2. enter a sub-audible tone
3. program telephone number
4. enter a simplex frequency
5. scan the local repeaters
6. program the local repeaters
7. adjust the squelch
8. program + or - offsets
9. create an odd split
10. adjust the frequency step

Please note if the parking lot is full, there are usually some parking spaces on the main streets to the east and west of the campus, on Longwood Road South and Paradise Road South.

Join us on Wednesday Nov. 19th. Hope to see you then.

Long Distance love affair HARC

Just in from Jack Gauthier VE3WBT (on the right getting his Basic in 2003).



It is with a sad and heavy heart that I will not be an active member of H.A.R.C. I have accepted a lucrative position in the north which will start on November 10, 2014. I will however be keeping my ears open and listening to the distant call of VE3DC and others I have grown fond of over the years. I wish the membership of H.A.R.C. the very best in years to come, and if you hear me out there, feel free to PTT.

Jack Gauthier VE3WBT



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.

Minutes for the Meeting of October 15, 2014

Recorded by Secretary Jim VE3JS



I. Call to order

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE called to order the General Meeting at 19:00 on 10/15/2014 @ The Westdale Secondary School, 700 Main Street West, (library) Hamilton, ON.

II. Sign In

Sign In Attendance was conducted by the circulation of the members sign in sheet. 22 members / visitors were present. Welcome visitor John Tsiourlis VE3JNT.

III. Speakers

There were no guest speakers this evening. Mardy VE3QEE gave a Power Point presentation on, "Kit Building". Mardy explained different kit building techniques, showed several kits that he has built through the years and

demonstrated many of those kits first hand as the night went along.

Mardy distributed several kits and circuit boards that he had picked up over time that he felt he would never get to. Many in the room snatched up the projects in hopes to master them by Home Brew night May 2015. A little "push" from Mardy to the

membership to try something different and spark some interest.

IV. Contesting

Rick VE3BK announced the CQWW contest Oct 24, 2014. Rick invited anyone interested in visiting or assisting the operators at the site to contact him at ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca if they would like to participate.

Rick handed out certificates of accomplishment to participants of the Ontario QSO Party contest 2014 using the VE3DC Callsign. Participants were Andrew VE3RIA, Ahmet VA3TUR, Rick VE3BK, Sherry VE3DCU, John VE3DVV, Jim VE3EEZ.

V. Health and Welfare

Please remember Mary Urbanski VE3OGQ, Dan Martinak VA3DJ, Leif Thomsen VE3KFE and Richard Appleyard VE3YAG as they continue to combat a variety of health issues.

New Business

- Dave Bruton commented on a successful day at the annual Hamfest, Oct 4th surpassing last year's revenue.

- Ron VE3ZX noted an article in CQ magazine about QRP operation, contact Ron if you are interested doing something with QRP.

- Roger announced the Hamilton ARC Christmas Dinner Dec 7 at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club.

5-6pm social hour

6pm dinner.

- Ron VE3ZX is looking for suggestions on guest speakers. If you are interested in a specific topic Ron would like to hear from

you. Do you have an understanding of a particular topic that you could share with the group?

Ron proposed that our members could learn together, because many times the experts don't need to come in and entertain us, the experts are sometimes here within the club. Some topics to consider were suggested by members and listed on a chart:

-Ham Radio Deluxe, CW, VHF/ UHF, SDR, Kit Building, QRP, Digital modes, WSPR,

Propagation Modelling (Grey Ilne), Bonding & Grounding, Maritime

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

radio, SOTA, IOTA, VE2DM
 Propagation Tool, Solar flux index,
 Wobulator, Antenna Analysis,
 Mobile HF.

If other topics come to mind you
 are encouraged to get in touch
 with Ron and have them added to
 the list.

Next meeting

November 15, 2014 @ the
 Westdale Secondary School
 library, 2nd floor, 700 Main Street
 West, Hamilton, ON..

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at
 21:02 Moved by Ahmet VA3TUR

Motion seconded by Rick VE3BK
 Thanks to all in attendance

*Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski
 VE3JS*

Reminder about the HARC Annual Christmas Party

*A message from your executive
 committee*

Current members, former
 members, and guests, please join
 us for this gala holiday celebration,
 our annual Christmas Party.

Date and location:
 Sunday December 7th at the
 Royal Hamilton Yacht Club.

Cost is \$35.00 per person.

Dinner will be a Traditional
 Christmas Turkey Dinner and
 dessert.

Social Hour runs from 5:00 p.m.
 followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m.

Organizers are asking guests to
 bring a canned good to fill a
 Christmas hamper for a needy
 family.

For tickets call Roger Pimm
 VE3UFZ, or Murray Thompson
 VE3ZVP or relay through any
 member of the executive.

Please circle the date in your
 calendar and invite a friend or
 friends to make up a
 table. Everyone is welcome.

The Christmas Party replaces the
 December meeting, so after
 November, the next monthly
 meeting will be in January.

Next Hamfest coming up shortly – Last one of the year.

THE YORK REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

is proud to present

THE ANNUAL YORK REGION HAMFEST

Saturday, November 1st, 2014. Coffee and snacks at 0730;
 Doors open at 0900.
 Vendors admitted at 0630

THE PREMIER INDOOR AMATEUR RADIO & ELECTRONICS EVENT IN CANADA

We're baaaaack! The YRARC Hamfest is returning to:

Markham Fairgrounds

10801 McCowan Roud

Markham, Ontario

Latitude: 43.925340 Longitude: -79.296125

Admission: \$7:00 per person, with an “express lane” for those
 with exact change. Vendors are admitted at 06:30.

Commencing at 07:30 a covered indoor area opens for the
 general public, with free coffee and tea. Muffins, donuts are
 available for purchase! Doors open to the sales area for the
 general public at 09:00.

Talk-in: VE3YRA 145.350 MHz(-) T: 103.5 Hz

<http://www.yrarc.org/index.php/our-hamfest>

Builders' Corner

by Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE

I subscribe to a number of email reflectors posting topics related to amateur radio. Recently on one of the reflectors there was a question about constructing a shortened portable 20 meter dipole for QRP work. Thinking this topic might be of some interest to our readers and Basic Qualification candidates I have copied the question and response, which I investigated and found to be quite interesting. In fact I may get around to making the antenna pictured and trying it out for fun.



Question:

Suppose I wanted to build a short 20m antenna (i.e. dipole elements shorter than $\frac{1}{4}$ wavelength). I know I could use any length I want with a tuner but not much energy will be radiated by the antenna due to heating in the tuner and coax losses. However, I think I can do this by using a coil (load coil or trap) similar to what's done with a vertical antenna. Is this correct? Is this how you can get a short 40m vertical antenna for your car?

For simplicity, let's assume it will be a shortened 20 dipole. Is there any design specs/rules/formulas for doing this? That is, how do I determine the coil parameters (length, windings, etc) and the shortened length of the antenna?

Any help/guidance would be appreciated.

Reply:

Here's one <<http://www.hamlan.org/tech/20mloadeddipole/20mloadeddipole.htm>>

The link leads to a great web site where you will find a diagram showing the 20 meter QRP antenna and the dimensions of each element along with a couple of photos of the finished product. I have reproduced their photos here to peak your interest. with credit to the guys at www.hamlan.org Do check out the whole web site because there are lots of stimulating ideas there not to mention photos of their contest group members.

Thanks to the members of the PARC Builders' group for the original question and for finding the link and thanks to the HamLan group for sharing their ideas on the web.

Picture below shows detail of traps and the feed point of the QRP portable 20 meter antenna. Picture on the next page shows the antenna in use at a bed and breakfast place in Ireland.



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 VE3DVV

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



JOTA 2014, Jamboree On The Air where Scouting Meets Amateur Radio.

Based on an account of events sent by email from Rick Danby VE3BK

Rick Danby VE3BK and Peter Goodson VE3DOU helped Scout Leader Enrico Fala VA3ENF set up and operate a portable JOTA station for two troops of Boy Scouts in two consecutive locations this year. First, they set up below the escarpment in Winona and later above the escarpment in Grimsby. They had a busy day. Both locations were productive as band conditions were good and the hams were able to put up the antenna nice and high at each site. They were using a G5RV Junior, a wire antenna which is actually half the size of a traditional G5RV. It is designed to get out on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters with a tuner. That antenna was ideal because they were operating the JOTA station

during daylight hours and it is a manageable size.

In Rick's own words:

"It got out great. The bands were open 10-40 and we worked mostly 40 and were able to work many other JOTA Stations on the air. Our Scouts and Scout Leaders too, got to talk to many other Scouts and hams. Enrico says this year's JOTA was a lot better than his last years JOTA. I think the antenna and the height we were able to get it up, plus the propagation was excellent, made it a great radio day. Other contests were on too, so we really had fun finding a spot on 40 to talk. I used the "spud" [a rubber-covered weight attached to braided mason's line] to get the antenna up really high in the trees, up about 40'. The leader from Dunville kept calling it a torpedo hi. We were there from 9am to 4pm.

Go check out the website. I have the pictures on there already."

73 Rick

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 Friday 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>

Editor's note: Enrico, Rick, and Peter are all members of the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club. Enrico is also an active Scout Leader. Together they provided an opportunity for their scouts to participate with other scouts and leaders in this annual event. In years gone by you may recall Gary Notto, VE3TTO, a former scouter, also had members from our club set up a JOTA station. So did Tom

and Tracy VanWort more recently using their home station.

The HARC web page contains the Club's Mission Statement worth quoting here:

"The stated purpose of the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club is to promote public interest in Amateur Radiocommunications, experimentation and the advancement of the art and science of radio.

The H.A.R.C. holds regular public meetings, offers educational courses, engages in radio sport and community activities utilizing our newsletter and social media to promote the club's activities.

The members and executive of the H.A.R.C. promote an inclusive fraternalism, a high standard of conduct and good citizenship."

This JOTA activity really captures many aspects of our mission statement. To the members who were involved, thanks for taking the time.



Jamboree On The Air
JOTA 2014



News About Town

Check Out This Web Site

Rick sent along this web site:
<<http://ve3hg.wordpress.com>>

Check it out for comments about our Hamfest and about joining RAC in the article titled *OK I Renewed*.

Also, have a look at all of the QRP articles. There is enough in this one publication to really grab your interest. QRP is specialized and you have to work harder to make a contact, but the rigs are really neat, the antennas can be simple, and the whole QRP scene can be less expensive and less demanding for space in your home. Thanks for the link Rick.

CQ WW SSB

The CQ magazine World Wide, SSB contest took place over the weekend, 48 hours long. The band conditions were terrific. Ten meters was open. So was fifteen meters. You really can work the world when these bands are open. Twenty meters and forty meters were crazy. Try finding a place to work. Also eighty was open close in during the day and far out at night. Rick showed me a list of our achievements each year since 1993 in this contest. He got the list from the web site. Our scores have continued to climb year after year. When the report is out our scores should be pretty good this year. There will be more in the December issue of THA, (The Hamilton Amateur).

I was at the contest site Saturday morning and worked some on 10, and 15 using the vertical. Twenty

was going strong at the time. I also listened in at home several times. I couldn't hear our guys on 20 meters. The signals were probably going right over my head, but I could hear Scott VE3QU quite plainly on 80 meters, probably ground wave to my location. It is too early for a full report in this newsletter, but we'll have more next month, and hopefully more pictures.

RAC Winter Contest 2014

Rick asked me to remind everyone about the RAC Winter Contest that takes place on December 27th. Actually, the contest begins at 7:00 PM on Friday December 26th and ends at 7:00 PM on Saturday December 27th local time. It is a 24 hour contest.

New hams, experienced hams, VHF and UHF only hams are all invited to come out to the contest site and operate just for an hour or two, or for the whole 24 hours. This is a great way to learn. The exchange is simple and the rules are simple. You'll be talking to a lot of Canadians from every province and territory. It's pure fun.

For your information here are the rules:

Contest Period: 0000 UTC to 2359 UTC December 27, 2014

Bands and Modes: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 and 2 metres, CW and phone (SSB, FM, AM, etc.)

Suggested frequencies: CW – 25 kHz up from the band edge and for SSB – 1850, 3775, 7075, 7225, 14175, 21250, 28500 kHz. Check for CW activity on the half-hour.

Exchange: Stations in Canada send RS(T) and province or territory. VEØs and stations outside Canada send RS(T) and a serial number.

QSOs: Contacts with stations in Canada or VEØs are worth 10 points. Contacts with stations outside Canada are worth 2 points. Contacts with RAC official stations are worth 20 points. RAC official stations are: VA2RAC, VA3RAC, VE1RAC, VE4RAC, VE5RAC, VE6RAC, VE7RAC, VE8RAC, VE9RAC, VO1RAC, VO2RAC, VY0RAC, VY1RAC and VY2RAC. You may work any station once on each of the two modes, on each of the eight contest bands.

It is prohibited to make CW contacts in the conventional phone sub-bands and phone contacts in the conventional CW sub-bands. Contacts or soliciting QSOs through a repeater during the contest period is not allowed.

Come out and try contesting. It is something our club is known for doing. Our call is VE3DC, Victor Echo Three Delta Charlie.

Please get in touch with Rick VE3BK and let him know your intentions.

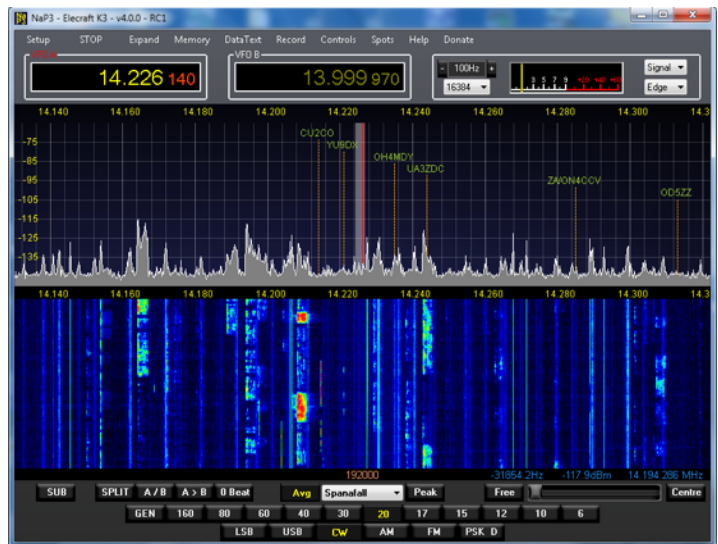
Telepost LP-PAN

Adds a panadapter display to a traditional transceiver.

In the July/August 4014 issue of The Canadian Amateur at the bottom of page 24 reference was made to Telepost's LP-PAN. I had never heard of this hardware item so I looked up the web site and discovered a piece of equipment that a lot of hams might be interested in using. This unit plugs into the IF output jack found on some transceivers, and delivers the stereo IQ output required for a panadapter display found on SDR radios. In other words if your rig has an intermediate

frequency output socket you can hook up a pan adapter display to see what your radio hears. Rig control is also possible.

Initially, the LP-PAN was sold as a kit, but now it comes already assembled ready to plug and play. If you might be interested, check out the web site at <telepostinc.com> for the details of using it and a list of radios that can be connected.



LP-PAN takes the IF signal from a traditional transceiver and converts it to a stereo IQ signal so a computer can display the signals your radio hears.

Scenes on Saturday Morning from the CQ WW SSB Contest

Jim VE3JS racking up the contacts on 20 meters.



Rick VE3BK, Scott VE3QU (horizontal after working all night until 5:00 am.) and Georgette



Andrew, (Drew on the air) working the band on 15 meters



Dan VA3DJ and a visiting ham from Dunville

