



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/>

The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Newsletter ~ 83 Years of Amateur Radio 1932-2015

President's Remarks

by Paul Fleck VE3HTC

We have enjoyed a wonderful summer season and with September upon us, we begin a new adventure at the H.A.R.C. with your new executive and events such as the 2015 Hamfest in October, our clubs Christmas dinner and so much more. Our teachers are preparing to engage a growing list of newcomers for our September class as well.

I look forward to seeing all members at our scheduled meetings and at our special events.

The recent TCA magazine had an article on the importance of strategic planning and fund raising by R.A.C. and its value in sustaining all of the activities they are engaged in. Your club has completed a similar exercise and has the same challenges.

The time and effort that every member provides to the H.A.R.C. is invaluable and contributes more than one can quantify by dollars and cents, however monetary and fiscal responsibility is one of the cornerstones to your club's success.



Relationships are built and strengthened by those challenges we all face and work to bring positive improvement to our members activities and hence our club.

Henry Ford once said -

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

This is the challenge I present to all of us.... be diligent in your efforts and contribution, be respectful to each other, speak kindly of those around you and take great pride in being an amateur radio operator and a member of the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club.

Best Regards,
 Paul

President - 2015 -The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club

In This Issue

President's Remarks --1
 Next Meeting -----2
 HARC Executive -----2
 Reviewing the
 Summer Events -----2-3
 Committee Chairs ----4
 Minutes of the
 Annual Meeting -----4-5
 Important Points -----5
 Harbour Cruise-----6
 Time Signals -----6
 MACS Receiver Site -7
 Cartoon -----7
 Canada Day Report---8
 Upcoming Event
 Reminders -----8

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.

Next Meeting

a message from the Executive.

The Hamilton Board of Education School Year begins late in the month of September this year. As a result, our club cannot get a room for our meeting until Wednesday September 23rd, which is actually the fourth Wednesday of the month. So please be advised and pass this information along to your friends planning to attend the meeting. Discuss it on the Friday night net and make sure everyone remembers. Good stuff.

Barry VE3ISX will be explaining and demonstrating remote operation of an HF station.

Reviewing Some of the Summer Events at HARC in 2015

by Rick VE3BK

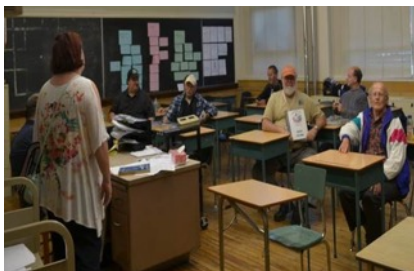
Just because we take a break in July and August, doesn't mean things stop happening for members of the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club.



It all starts out with Field Day on June 27 and 28th, 2015 for the Club. I was unable to attend this year because of illness, but the members that did show up, got wet and had a good time. I was able to make most of the Field Day meetings.

The complete story about The Field Day that Almost Wasn't is on the HARC web site at hamiltonarc.ca Check it out —ed.

Here are some pictures of the meetings leading up to Field Day



Next was a great Canadian Contest for July 1st, Canada Day 2015. It was our 148th Birthday in Canada. We had fun talking to all the other Canadians and saying thanks to many Americans that wished us Happy Birthday as well. Below are pictures of some of the group on Canada Day.



HARC 2015-2016 Executive

President
Paul Fleck VE3HTF
ve3htf@hamiltonarc.ca

Past President
Roger Pimm VE3UFZ
ve3ufz@hamiltonarc.ca

First Vice President

Second Vice President
Albert Ersser VA3ERE
va3ere@hamiltonarc.ca

Secretary
Samantha Williams VE3ZLY
ve3lzy@hamiltonarc.ca

Treasurer
Jim Sawadski VE3JS
ve3js@hamiltonarc.ca

Director
Ron Pereira VE3RTJ



August 13, 2015 was our annual "Picnic in the Park" we run for the Hamilton Housing People. This year's theme was for the elderly and it was held in Gulliver's Park on a week day. The seniors were bussed in and thoroughly enjoyed the festivities, with us being able to show some of them as well as people in the park "Ham Radio".

Thanks to Ron VE3ZX for organizing, Brian VA3BGN, Mardy VE3QEE and Roger VE3UFZ for setting up and David VE3DWJ and Rick VE3BK who showed up later to demonstrate to the public and help dismantle the temporary station.

Thanks to Brian VA3BGN for his pictures.

Next event I was involved with, which was very successful, was ILLW, International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend on August 15-16, 2015.

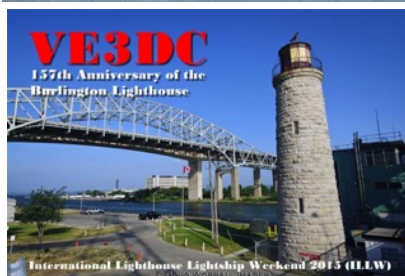
On Saturday and Sunday we activated the CA0015 Burlington Main Light to celebrate the 157th Anniversary of that Lighthouse. The first lighthouse we contacted was the one at Peggy's Cove in Nova Scotia. Over the years our presence in this event has made quite an impression internationally judging by the fact that a picture of our group at the lighthouse is posted on a Ukranian web site. We are famous! What great PR for H.A.R.C. Here is a link to the web site, check it out yourself. Click on English to see commentary you can understand.

: http://www.ut7e.com/news/ve3dc_international_lighthouse_weekend_2015_on_burlington_lighthouse/2015-08-18-121

Picnic in the Park sponsored by the Hamilton Housing Authority. Each year our club gets an invitation to set up a display showcasing Amateur Radio. This year the focus was on Seniors. We had many seniors venture over to ask questions about the hobby. A brochure about our club was available for distribution to visitors.



The ILLW is not a contest. It is a chance to draw attention to lighthouses worldwide. We contacted



HARC (Hamilton Amateur Radio Club) Annual Meeting Minutes



06/10/2015

by Secretary Jim Sawadski, VE3JS

I. Call to order

Roger Pimm VE3UFZ called to order the General Meeting at 19:08 on 06/10/2015 @ The Westdale Secondary School, 700 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON. Roger asked the guests and unfamiliar members to introduce themselves. Welcome back Vic Spafford VE3VMO.

II. Sign In

Attendance was conducted by the circulation of the members sign in sheet.

25 members / visitors were present. Welcome visitors and newest members, Vic Spafford VE3VMO, Al Tyson VE3EXE, Pat Danby SWL and XYL of Rick VE3BK.

III. Membership

Sherry VE3DCU reported membership numbers growing as renewals for 2015-16 season is underway. Sherry reminded everyone that the 2015-16 membership drive will continue throughout the summer, with the early bird draw to take place before the October 2015 General meeting for a free membership in the following year.

IV. Evenings Adgenda

This evening was devoted to elections and the upcoming Field Day organization effort.

V. Education

Mardy VE3QEE spoke of the

Basic course, scheduled for Tuesday evenings 7-9pm beginning September 22 @ Westdale High School. See the website for details as they come available. Advanced Certification will be scheduled for January 2016. Mardy asked for more volunteers to assist with the classes. No experience is necessary, just express your desire to help out.

VI. Contesting

Rick VE3BK announced the upcoming RAC Canada Day contest and the August ILLW (International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend) If you would like to see what public demonstration of Ham Radio is all about or want to become involved with the contesting see Rick ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca

VII. Treasurers Report

David VE3DWJ reported on the bank balance as of June 4 2015. David also announced his retirement as Treasurer.

VIII. Repeater

Greg VE3YGG commented on some issues plaguing our repeater and is working with our repeater chair VE3DVV to resolve them. Greg announced that John has returned home from his surgery and is recovering.

Notes:

Ron is looking for technical night topics of interested to its members. If you have a topic that would benefit others or you feel you could lead someone on a topic of interest please send Ron a note VE3ZX@hamiltonarc.ca

Ginette VA3SEW is looking for volunteers for the 2015 Field Day exercise to be held this year at Valley Park, directly behind the fire department. Email fielday@hamiltonarc.ca if you would like to be involved in any capacity.

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

Friday 2m Check-in Net
Controller
Ahmet Ozguder, VA3TUR

Flea market Coordinator
Paul Fleck VE3HTF

Public Relations/Communication
Ron Pereira VE3RTJ

Flea market Vendor Contact
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

Webmaster
Jim Sawadski VE3EEZ

New Business

1. Roger VE3UFZ began the meeting explaining the student membership role as was decided by the outgoing executives for the past Basic and Advanced courses, as there was much confusion over the structure.
2. Jim VE3JS made mention of the date change for the June 2015 fox hunt schedule posted on the website. For details go to <http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/the-h-a-r-c-hidden-transmitter-hunt-schedule-2014/>
3. Mardy VE3QEE announced his retirement from the Board of Directors so that he can focus on Hamfest duties, Education and Club Newsletters. Thank you Mardy for always stepping up.
4. Roger VE3UFZ commented on the fact that he had been in contact with the local Scouts groups from Caledonia & Binbrook areas and that they may arrive for our Field Day exercise at Valley Park.
5. Ron VE3ZX spoke of the need for more volunteers / operators. Ron announced an upcoming "Build a Dipole" evening geared at Field Day, inviting membership to attend. Ron also asked members to print and spread some posters that were made. Ron again encouraged new members to come out to support us. For field day contact fieldday@hamiltonarc.ca or harcfieldday@gmail.com
6. Paul VE3HTF did a slide show presentation on the Strategic Planning

Initiatives and Opportunities that the members of our club and volunteer focus group had listed as possible endeavors in the next 3-5 years.

7. Mark Proctor VE3RYI announced the passing of VE3HPD and brought with him a list of equipment that was for sale by his estate. Contact Mark ve3ryi@hamiltonarc.ca if you are interested in any of that equipment.
 8. Mardy explained the roles defined as the Board of Directors and encouraged the membership to put their name in the hat for consideration.
 9. Elections:
Roger VE3UFZ asked for nominations from the floor for the 2015-16 and 2016-17 two year term.
The board of directors for 2015 to 2017 are the following people:
Samantha VE3LZY
Brian VA3BGN
Albert VA3ERE
Jim VE3JS
Ron VE3ZX
Paul VE3HTF
Roger VE3UFZ is the 7th member of the Board of Directors holding the office of Past President.
At their first meeting the new Board of Directors will decide who will hold the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Office holders will be announced at the September meeting.
- Next meeting
September 22, 2015 @ the Westdale Secondary School cafeteria, 700 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON.

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 \$42 per person, per year, (\$31 for RAC members) 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>.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 20:47
 Moved by Roger VE3UFZ
 Motion seconded by Sherry VEDCU
 Thanks to all in attendance
 Minutes submitted by: Jim Sawadski VE3JS

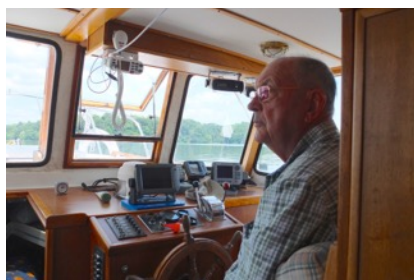
The Harbour Cruise

a report by Mardy, VE3QEE

For several years Murray and Laurel Thompson have generously offered a Harbour Cruise for Three as a prize at the HARC Christmas Party taking place in December at the Hamilton Yacht Club. Last December, Evi Patrick won the prize and invited Betty Ellen Eedson and Danny Cassy to take the cruise with her, for a girls' afternoon out. As it turned out, on a fine day in July, room was found on the boat for the Mardy VE3QEE, and John VE3FDK to join the other five passengers for the ride.



The water was calm the temperature warm and the sky clear, perfect weather for a trip around Burlington Bay. The boat left the dock at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club and proceeded past the High Level



Bridge by the Desjardin's Canal and across to Carol's Point on the north shore. From there we traveled east along the north shore past the Burlington Yacht Club and the Burlington Golf and Country Club as far as the Canada Centre for Inland Waters and the Burlington Ship Canal. We then turned west and had a good look at the docks on the South shore by US Steel (formerly Stelco) and ArcelorMittal (formerly Dofasco), then past the Heddle Marine dry dock and the oil and fuel storage tanks. Finally we entered the basin where a



fleet of tug boats is stationed and also where the Haida is docked, and finally, back to the dock at the Yacht Club where we enjoyed munchies provided both by our hosts the Thompsons and by Evi Patrick. The cruise was a wonderful way to spend a summer afternoon and a great prize to bid on at the Christmas

Party. Thank you, Murray and Laurel, for a lovely adventure and for your support of the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club.

Time Signals on Air

Still useful for a variety of reasons, submitted by Mardy, VE3QEE

A number of frequencies are allocated for amateur radio, but, not all frequencies are useful at a particular time. Checking time signals which are broadcast 24-7 (twenty-four hours, seven days a week) provides a quick way to hear which bands are open when you switch on your short wave receiver or transceiver. To do this, cycle through the following eight frequencies and you will hear the relative signal strength and clarity of the same signal propagating through each of the bands.

One Canadian station, CHU in Ottawa transmits on 3.33 MHz, 7.850 MHz, and 14.670 MHz corresponding to the eighty meter, forty meter and twenty meter amateur radio bands.

Two United States stations WWV in Colorado and WWVH in Hawaii transmit on 2.500 MHz, 5.000 MHz, 10.000 MHz, 15.000 MHz, and 20.000 MHz roughly corresponding to the eighty meter, forty meter, thirty meter, twenty meter, and fifteen meter bands. If your radio has lots of memories you could put each of these frequencies in a memory and cycle through them quickly by pushing a memory button.

When propagation is really good on one of the WWV frequencies you can actually hear the signal from Colorado followed in a split

second by the same signal from Hawaii sounding like an echo. That's neat.

I use the time signals to reset the seconds on my digital watch. To do this push the "Set" button until the seconds blink on your watch, and wait for the broadcast signal to near the top of the minute. When the long beep sounds, press the "On" button to reset the seconds on your watch to zero. My Timex drifts off by a second or two a week, but that can add up so I make a point of keeping my watch on time. I know, your iPhone or computer does this automatically but I am still using dinosaur time.

If you have a QRP receiver, or a short wave receiver with an analogue dial, tuning in one or several of these known signals will provide a "marker" to show if the frequency indicator on the rig is true. These exact time signals are handy for calibration.

There was talk recently of saving money by discontinuing the time signal broadcast service, but enough people called in to indicate that the broadcast time signals were still useful. So for the time being, they are being broadcast and you can hear them on the following frequencies in megahertz:

Time Signal Frequencies

- 3.33
- 7.850
- 14.670
- 2.500
- 5.000
- 10.000
- 15.000
- 20.000



Earlier this year I was driving by a large radio communications installation and wondered what it was. You are looking at a rotatable Log Periodic antenna situated at Carrying Place ON, just beyond the Murray Canal on Highway #33 (Loyalist Parkway) east of Trenton. This antenna is part of an eight tower complex at the MACS Receiver Site whose mission it is "to provide high frequency (HF) Non-Tactical Air-Ground-Air Communications to assist in the command and control of Canadian Forces aircraft." For more information check out the link at http://thecontactnewspaper.cfbtrenton.com/archives/2009/07_June_2009/june_05_2009/thecontact_june_05_2009.pdf Note the eagle's nest of sticks at the centre of the antenna structure. What a perch.

photo by Mardy, VE3QEE



Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
Hamfest 2015

An amateur radio, computer, and electronics flea market.

Saturday, October 3rd
 the first Saturday in October

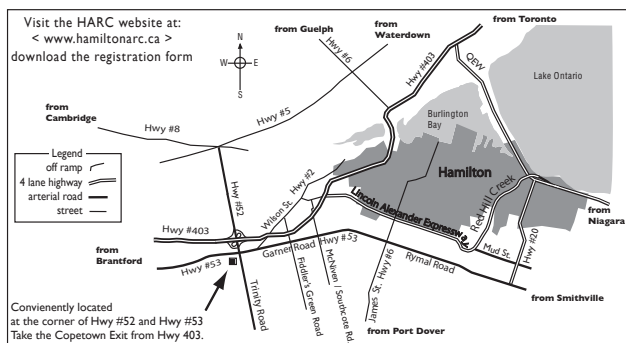


Located in the School Fair Building at the Ancaster Fair Grounds
630 Trinity Road, Ancaster, L0R 1R0
 the south-west corner of highways #52 and #53, just west of Ancaster
 Latitude 43° 11' 25" N Longitude 80° 02' 32" W

General Admission: \$7.00 per person
 Doors open at 9:00 a.m.
 Talk-in repeater VE3NCF
 146.76 (-) tone 131.8 or 444.075 (-) tone 131.8
 On-site repeater VE3RDM 145.27 tone 136.5

Vendor Admission: \$7.00 per person
 Tables \$12.00 each (regular 8' table)
 Make cheques payable to
 Hamilton Amateur Radio Club (HARC)
 Vendor access after 7:00 a.m.

fleamarket chairman: Paul Fleck VE3HTF, ve3htf@hamiltonarc.ca
 vendor liaison: Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE ve3qee@hamiltonarc.ca 'phone: 905-648-0187
 mail payment to: **The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club**
117-350 King Street East, P.O. Box 75073, Hamilton, Ontario L8N 4G6
 Tables are reserved upon receipt of payment on a first come basis. Please book in advance to avoid disappointment.





THE YORK REGION
AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.

39th YORK REGION HAMFEST
Saturday, October 31, 2015

Location: The Markham Fairgrounds
10801 McCowan Rd, Markham, ON

How To Get There: <http://www.markhamfair.ca/canadas-largest-4-day-agricultural-fair-6/greetings/how-to-get-here/>

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. Doors open to the sales area for the general public at 09:00.

Talk-in: VE3YRA 145.350 MHz(-) T: 103.5 Hz and VE3YRC 147.225 MHz (+) T: 103.5 Hz

Venue: Vendors galore in two separate halls, plus a separate hall for admissions --- Breakfast and refreshments available onsite --- Free coffee and tea --- Wide aisles for scooters and wheelchairs --- Exhibits and demonstrations --- Lots of parking --- Great door prizes --- Grand Prizes --- DXCC, WAS & VUCC Card Checking --- Licensing Examinations (register with Hamfest Co-ordinator prior to the event to ensure we bring enough exams)

Further Information? Contact us at: yrarc.hamfest@gmail.com or go to <http://yrarc.org/index.php/our-hamfest>

2015 RAC Canada Day Contest Report

by Contest Chair, Rick Danby VE3BK

The 2015 RAC Canada Day Contest took place July 1st. The operators' list included: Kevin VA3API, Rick VE3BK, Sherry VE3DCU, Jim VE3JS, Mardy VE3QEE, Scott VE3QU, Andrew VE3RIA, and Bill VE3VWJ. We also had visitors come to see the operation: Albert VA3ERE and his wife Judy, Dan VA3DJ and his brother Tim and father Joe, Enricho VA3ENF and his son Thomas, Brian VA3BGN and his wife Carole.

It was truly another great Canadian Contest, supported by the Radio Amateurs of Canada. We combined a BBQ this year to celebrate Scott's (VE3QU) 50th

Birthday on the 30th of June and Dan's 54th (VA3DJ) on July 1st. There were more visitors this year than loggers and operators. Some new hams showed up to see what it was all about and we had a couple of guest operators as well. What a great Canada Day Birthday celebration. Our QSOs and score were right in there with previous years.

Thanks to all that worked us. Hope to see you all in the next one. 73 Rick VE3BK

Upcoming Event Reminders

September Fox Hunt.

September 27th at 1:00 PM meeting at Lowville Community Park on Guelph Line. See the club web page for details. This is the wrap-up event for 2015.

Membership dues.

September 23rd is your last opportunity to get them in and be eligible for the early membership incentive draw. See Sherry.

CQ WW DX Contest SSB.

Coming up at the end of October the CQ Magazine sponsored World Wide Phone Contest provides an exciting opportunity for operators to make contacts all over the world. Seriously. The bands will be alive. Come out to the contest site and operate in quiet conditions with power. "Wisper in Haldimand County and they hear you in France." It is a good one. Contact Rick Danby and he will provide additional information. Don't be missing this opportunity. Contest runs from 8:00 PM Friday Oct 23rd local time until 8:00 PM Sunday Oct 24th local time. DST ends Nov 1.