



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/>

In This Issue

HARC How it
All Began ----- 1
November Minutes ---3
J.O.T.A. -----3
HARC Executive -----3
Santa Claus Run -----4
HARC Chairs-----4
Thank You-----5
Local Amateur Radio
Still Going Strong -----5
Important Points -----5
Annual Christmas
Party-----6
Pictorial ----- 7 - 8
Contest Corner ---8 - 9
News About Town --10

The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Newsletter ~ 84 Years of Amateur Radio 1932-2016

H.A.R.C. — How It All Began

In late 1928, Arthur Ferguson, VE3HP, was transferred by Ontario Hydro from Port Arthur to Dundas. It may interest some of you to know that Dundas, at that time, was the operating control centre for the Southern Ontario System of Hydro. On his way to Dundas, Art spent one week visiting a number of Hams in the Toronto area he had worked from Port Arthur. Two of these were Keith Russell, VE9AL, and Wm. Sloane, VE9BJ, these calls obtained before the formation of the VE3 district. Keith Russell is known as the founder of the Radio Society of Ontario. These, and a number of others, were very interested in Art's move to Dundas. They impressed on him that the Hamilton Area was rather dead insofar as Amateur Radio was concerned and they hoped that he would become very active and stir up interest in a club organization.

After getting settled in Dundas, he visited a Dr. Jaffery, VE3DC, and Fred Emery, VE3BT, who was living in the East end of the city. Dr. Jaffery was living in Burlington but, eventually moved to Creighton Rd. in Dundas. Others ere Eric Farquhar, VE3I, Hep Richardson,



Art Ferguson VE3HP

VE3HT, and Wib Clemence, VE3KM. All of these showed great interest in the formation of an area amateur club. It was most unfortunate that Fred Emery died before the club was formed. In the Fall of 1931, VE3HP, VE3IA, VE3BT AND VE3KM attended the A.R.R.L. convention which was held in the King Edward Hotel in Toronto. It was there that they met Charlie Poole, VE3OJ who was living in Aldershot and later became a dominant force in the formation of H.A.R.C. Charlie is still active and resides in the City of Ottawa.

It was in the early Fall of 1932 that these same four, who had attended the A.R.R.L. convention in 1931, decided to take in the Ontario Convention in the Hotel

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.

London in London, Ontario. It was here that the first really serious discussion took place regarding the formation of the Hamilton Club. As a result, Wib Clemence called a meeting of local area amateurs at his home on 46 Beechwood Ave., Hamilton. This was in September 1932. A number of officers were elected including Art, VE3HP as President, an office which he held during the following years of 1933 and 1934. The second meeting was held at the new President's home in Dundas in October of 1932. A third meeting took place in November but, nothing in December due to the holiday season.

And so the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club was conceived and born. They were much surprised by the number who attended these first meetings and interest shown in the formation of the Club. The greatest surprise, perhaps, was the number who were there from outside the City. At these first meetings, various items of business were transacted including membership dues and a committee to find a regular meeting place. Eventually, the old Moose Hall in Hamilton was obtained at a cost of \$4.00 per month. Regular meetings were scheduled for the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. Dues were struck at 25¢ per member per month. Very unfortunately, it was not long before a fire in the Moose Hall completely destroyed all records pertaining to the Club. It was this that has made it so difficult to obtain factual information as to our beginnings.



Art Ferguson VE3HP, our first president, receiving "Order of The Gavel" certificate from President John Dykstra VE3BOY

The original membership list is of course, lost forever. We have, however, with the help of a number of old-timers, succeeded in recalling many of them. Our apologies to those, or the families of those deceased, who we have not included due to lack of reliable information.

Original Members

Brantford

Jim Scace	VE3DB
Hal Brown	10AH
Clayton Anguish	VE3LU
E.E. McIntyre	VE3VV

Burlington

Charlie Poole	VE3OJ
Dr. Plummer	VE3MA
Dr. Jaffrey	VE3DC

Beamsville

V.E. DeMontmorency	VE3YB
Alf Pinfield	VE3DW

Caledonia

EV Small	VE3HQ
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Dundas

Art Ferguson	VE3HP
Mel Lye	(not licenced)

Galt

Mait Wilson	VE3LS
Conn Gorth	VE3UM

Grimsby

Bill Stevens	VE3AD
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Hamilton

Wib Clemence	VE3KM
Bill Crawford	VE3JU
Mel Riddell	VE3QU
Elton French	VE3VJ
Jim Tazzeo	VE3TQ
Eric Farquhar	VE3IA
Fred Neal	VE3QH
Fred Rogers	VE3IQ
Hep Richardson	VE3HT
Henry Harley	VE3BR
Roy Carter	VE3QD
Vic Ross	VE3WE
R. Souter	VE3WO
Wm. Smith	VE3VZ
Bob Potter	VE3TO
Chas Buscombe	VE3XT

NOTE - Your editor began his working-life with Ontario Hydro in the Town of Dundas. This was in May of 1929. Art Ferguson and I became well acquainted at this time, partly due to our common interest in Amateur Radio. In 1930 I was transferred to the Toronto area but did, however, continue my friendship with Art. On November 14 1931 I obtained my License with the Station Call of VE3JR. Due to my parents living in Dundas and my close contact with Art., VE3HP, I was well aware of the formation of the H.A.R.C. although I never became a member of the organization.

Editor VE3KTT (SK), Les Sharman.

Source and date unknown, text was transcribed by Mardy Eedson VE3QEE, in 2010, from typed manuscript scanned and sent over e-mail by Kevin Leahy a grandson of Bill Crawford.

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Minutes for the General Meeting of November 18, 2015

I. Call to order

Ron Pereira VE3ZX called to order the General Meeting at 19:02 on 11/18/2015 @ The Westdale Secondary School, 700 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON.

II. Sign In

Attendance was conducted by the circulation of the members' sign in sheet. Twenty-eight members/guests were present. We welcomed Ansil Rock VE3HDR, Tom Pillon VE3HOR, Tim Morris VA3AHQ, David Lambert VE3KKG and Peter Goodson VE3DOU

Presentations

Rick Danby (VE3BK) gave a presentation on **QSL cards**

- Incoming/outgoing bureau rules
- If you create your own an old timer can check they are complete
- The following site offers an excellent price on cards:
<<http://www.ux5uoqsl.com/>>
- 1000 cards for \$88

Gary Notto (VE3TTO) Area Emergency Coordinator gave a presentation on **ARES** the Amateur Radio Emergency Service

- ARES - Volunteers in the community in times of need and emergency
- Interested in participating?

- Need portable radio or base station with backup power
- Need to understand your equipment
- VE3NCF club check in on Friday

Our **guests from London** (LARC) talked about their club station at The Secrets of Radar Museum in London

- <http://secretsofradar.com>
- Club station call VE3LS

Coffee Break

III. Membership

Sherry VE3DCU reported we have 59 primary memberships, 4 family memberships and 2 complimentary memberships (RAC and Library). Membership renewal is not yet available online. The winner of the membership renewal early bird prize is John Kassay VE3FDK. Congratulations John on one year of membership free!

Sherry will be reaching out to students.

IV. Contesting

Review of upcoming contests. VE3DC 2nd in Canada and 1st in Ontario CQ WW DX.

Contact Rick ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca if you are interested in Contesting. Rick also has badges and shirts for sale.

V. Upcoming Events

Breakfast in December will be at The Symposium – Rymal Road & Centennial Parkway in Stoney Creek. First Saturday of the month at 9:00 A.M.

Christmas Party in December. There are still tickets available for the Christmas Party.

Santa Claus Run. Gary (VE3TTO) asked for volunteers to support the Burlington Santa Run. Contact Gary at (ve3tto@gmail.com)

Next meeting

January 20, 2016 from 7 to 9 pm at the Westdale Secondary School Cafeteria, 700 Main Street West, Hamilton, ON.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 21:00 moved by Brent VA3XWZ, seconded by Scott VE3QU.

Thanks to all in attendance.

Minutes submitted by Secretary, Samantha Williams VE3LZY

HARC 2015-2016 Executive

President

Ron Pereira VE3ZX
ve3zx@hamiltonarc.ca

Past President

Roger Pimm VE3UFZ
ve3ufz@hamiltonarc.ca

First Vice President

Albert Ersser VA3ERE
va3ere@hamiltonarc.ca

Second Vice President

Scott Hamilton VE3QU
ve3qu@hamiltonarc.ca

Secretary

Samantha Williams VE3LZY
ve3lzy@hamiltonarc.ca

Treasurer

Jim Sawadski VE3JS
ve3js@hamiltonarc.ca

Director

Brent Michaluk VA3XWZ
va3xwc@hamiltonarc.ca

The Santa Claus Run

Submission by Rick Danby VE3BK

Kevin VA3KRA, the Burlington ARES guy and our own Hamilton ARES guy Gary VE3TTO did a great job organizing communication for the Santa Claus Run again this year.

There was many of us involved, from Hamilton, Burlington and other area hams as well. Those that helped out were: Stan VA3SBB, Peter VA3PRE,

Gary VE3TTO, Kevin VA3KRA, Joan VE3JNX, David VE3DWJ, Kevin VE3HNG, Rick VE3BK, and George VE3OGP.

I think this is a complete list that I collected when we met and had coffee at the Hamilton Yacht Club first thing that morning.

Think about helping out when Gary asks for various runs. The next run I know about is the Burlington Santa Claus Run on December 12, 2015.

Email Gary Notto ve3tto@gmail.com or Kevin Andrews va3kra@cogeco.ca

Ready at the start-finish line



Hundreds ran at Bayfront Park



Not exactly like Christmas weather on Nov 15th.



Prep. meeting first thing in the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club



HARC Chairs 2015 – 2016

Health / Welfare
Greg Gignac VE3YGG

Contesting / Property Manager
Rick Danby VE3BK

Membership
Scott Hamilton VE3QU

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 Technicians
Greg Gignac and Mark Gibson

EQSL Manager
(VE3DC & VA3CWM)
Don Grisenthwaite VE3DDQ

Field Day Coordinator
Ginette Pereira VA3SEW

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

Flea market Coordinator
open

Public Relations/Communication
Ron Pereira VE3ZX

Flea market Vendor Contact
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

Webmaster
Jim Sawadski VE3JS

Thank You

Greetings Fellow Amateur Operators...

May I take this opportunity to give a big 'THANK-YOU' to our fellow member Ahmet - VA3TUR for helping me install a vehicle radio on Saturday December 5. There were several complications with this install with both the radio and the antenna due to vehicle construction. Ahmet's patience and experience however won the day and this operator is the better for it.

Thanks again Ahmet I learned a lot!

Mark...VA3FLC

Broadcasting: Local amateur radio still going strong

Dec 1, 2015 Posted By Ben Dymont In Hamilton Lifestyle reprinted with permission. Watch Ben's video presentation at <http://www.ignitenews.ca/broadcasting-local-amateur-radio-still-going-strong/> and click on the picture of Roger VE3UFZ at the bottom of the page.

It may not be the hottest new fad on the market, but there's no denying that Ham Radio has an enduring popularity. Viewed by some as nothing more than a relic from a bygone era, those in the know keep its legacy burning bright, through Ham organizations and groups scattered around the globe.

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club is one of these groups, in operation since 1932. Last Thursday, the club offered a class at Westdale Secondary

School to help newcomers prepare for their operator's license test.

"Back when I was president, we hadn't done it in more than ten years, so we reached out to the community and we set up these classes," said Roger Pimm, past president of the Club. "Since then our membership has grown from about 20 to close to 70 members. They're not all active, but at our monthly meetings we get around 25 to 30 people showing up, which is a huge improvement, and we're hoping to keep moving if we can."



Roger VE3UFZ past President

Like most hobbies, each member has his or her own unique story of how their interest and passion began.

"I was a materials research scientist at McMaster University, but I've always been interested in radio, so after playing with radios most of my life I finally decided to get a ham radio license," said member John Hudak.



John Hudak VE3CXB

"Ham radio is mostly science, so any sort of scientific background, especially physics or electronics, is

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>.



Basic Qualification Candidates taking the course at Westdale

a great help, but even people who don't have any scientific background at all, we can help them learn this sort of stuff if they put their mind to it."

"For me it goes back to my father," said Pimm. "He was a radio amateur in the days when you built everything by hand, and was one of the original Hams in Hamilton. When he volunteered for WWII, he taught radio and morse code for the whole duration of the war. I really wanted to get my ham license in high school, but I was so busy with other activities that it took until I was 45 years old before I finally found the time."

And while the focus of Ham enthusiasts is on their personal sets, the club makes an effort to provide resources for the community.

"There's all kinds of activities that ham enthusiasts can get involved with, such as field day, contests, digital modes, and satellites," said Pimm. "In the community there's the Boy Scouts and parade activities that we get involved with too. I'm hoping to see the club get more involved with emergency operations, which is

something that we're all trained to do."

"It's one of the most amazing hobbies," said Education Director Mardy Eedson. "As far as the technology goes, amateur radio is always breaking new ground. Right now the software-defined radios like the Flex have taken all the parts and pieces and combined them with computer software, so not only do you get the on-air signal, but you can see the signals on the screen too, which opens up a whole new area. Once you get your ticket, you find there's as many branches of amateur radio as there are radio amateurs, which lets everybody do their own thing."

"People tend to think that ham radio is a 50s, 60s type of thing, and it was more common back then, but it's picking up again," added Hudak. "The comment we get the most is 'why do you need ham radio when you've got cellphones and the Internet?' People don't realize that Ham radio is a stand-alone system. If cellphones and the Internet go down, we're still here. We can still communicate."

A big **thank you** to Ben Dymont, third year Mohawk College Journalism Student for seeking us out and reporting on one of our classes at Westdale Secondary School. It was a pleasure having you join us for the class, Ben. See other articles by Ben Dymont on the web. Simply search <Ben Dymont>. Ed.

Annual Christmas Party

A note of appreciation by Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

Thanks to all who gathered at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club on December 6th to celebrate at the HARC Annual Christmas Party.

It was a pleasure enjoying a night out with the wives and good fellowship with our colleagues. Thank you to Ginette VA3SEW, Georgette and Scott VE3QU, and master of ceremonies, Brent VA3XWZ for their work putting things together. In addition, thank you to Roger VE3UFZ, Murray and Laurel VE3ZPV, members of the Yacht Club, and Ron VE3ZX for overseeing the organization. Special thanks to Barry VE3ISX for tireless promotion, for obtaining many door prizes, for taking and posting many fine pictures of the event on the ONTARS web site. I hope I have not left anyone out. It was a truly enjoyable evening thanks to the fine efforts of many people.

Photos on pages 5 & 6.

Royal Hamilton Yacht Club





Tracey & Brent

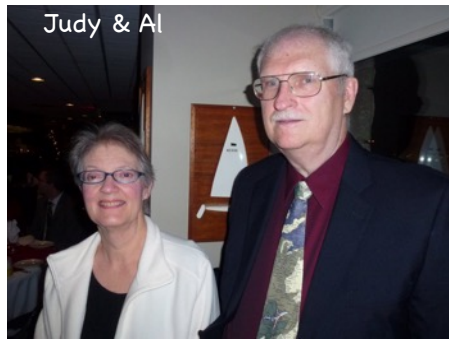


Danny & John

All of these photos are posted on the ONTARS web site courtesy of Barry VE3ISX. Visit the ONTARS site to view original photos. Reprinted with permission.



Jim & Dawna



Judy & Al



Judy & Barry



Rick & Pat



Mardy & Betty Ellen



Loretta & Gary



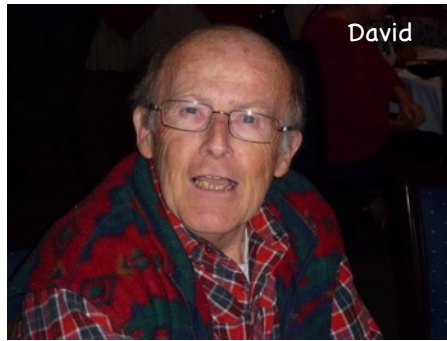
Samantha & Rosita



Ahmet & Elizabeth



Laurel & Murray



Rick taking photos.
Clockwise: Judy, Barry,
Norm, Donna, Loretta
(hidden) Gary, Laurel

Contest Corner

Reporting on results of the RAC Winter Contest by chairman, Rick Danby VE3BK

Hello Contesters,

We had another great time doing the RAC Winter Contest this weekend. Sorry for those members that could not make it out to visit at least. We actually were expecting some that did not come, but we know that people

have other commitments in the days leading up to Christmas and this can be a very busy time of year.

So hopefully we'll see you at the next contest. We missed one of

our great CW operators for sure. We could have used the points, hi hi. Anyway, Merry Christmas to you all and Happy New Year to everyone.

Here are the results:

Interpreting the Results.

The number of QSOs per band shows that some bands were more open than others. We spend time on the productive bands getting contacts. There was

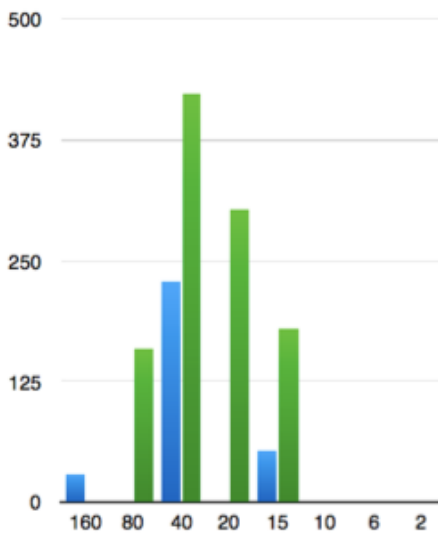
only one contact on 10 meters for example. The best band was 40 meters for both CW contacts and for Phone contacts.

Multipliers (Mults for short) are important because they are used

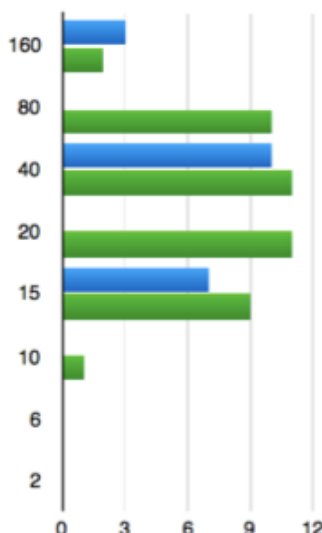
Results 2015 RAC Winter Contest

	CW QSO	Phone QSO	CW Mults	Phone Mults	CW Points	Phone Points
160	30	2	3	2	140	20
80	0	160	0	10	0	1030
40	227	422	10	11	950	1938
20	0	303	0	11	0	1592
15	54	180	7	9	220	976
10	0	1	0	1	0	10
6	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0	0	0	0	0	0

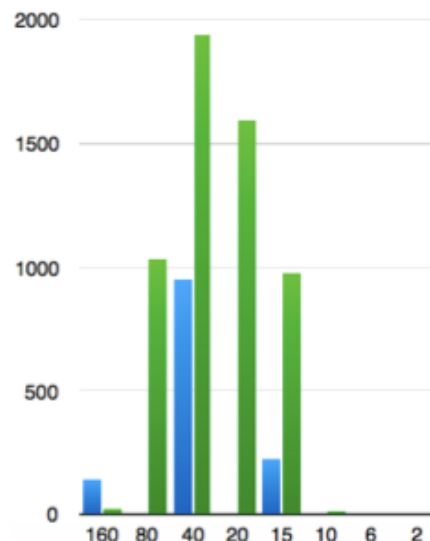
Contacts by Frequency
 ■ CW QSO ■ Phone QSO



Multipliers by Frequency
 ■ CW Mults ■ Phone Mults



Points Earned by Frequency
 ■ CW Points ■ Phone Points



to gross up the points. You take the number of contacts and multiply that by the multiplier to get the point totals shown in the last graph. Total points are what count, so getting more multipliers is a fast way of getting more points.

In this contest each province is a multiplier therefore, getting a lot of provinces increases the point count.

The importance of CW is clear when you consider that each CW contact is worth two points compared to a single point for each Phone contact. Plus, a good

CW operator takes much less time to make a contact than a Phone operator. The mode is that much more efficient.

Lastly, in this contest each RAC station is worth 20 points. There is one per province, for example VE5RAC; worth 20 points times the Saskatchewan multiplier.

News About Town

By Mardy, VE3QEE

In case you were wondering, there was no December issue of The Hamilton Amateur. Lots to do in the holiday season for everyone created delays and ultimately the abandonment of publication. For the same reasons there was almost no January issue. With material coming in now we are catching up with the January issue. A February issue should be following shortly. One way to guarantee issues are published on time is to send in material for publication. If nothing comes in there is nothing to put in a newsletter. It could help if we had an editorial committee that would seek out material of interest to members and get it submitted for publication. Just an idea... hmmm

Rick Danby reports that there is a new repeater in town:

Announcing a 220 Mhz Repeater

by Rick VE3BK

Gary Notto and the ERA Network, now have a working 220 repeater VE3WIK on the West Mountain. It puts out only 2 1/2 watts, but will service the Hamilton area, with your unused handheld especially.

This repeater would normally have a tone of 131.8 but has no tone on it at the moment and also has no tail, so it's not conducive to kurchunking. I can use the repeater with my older FT-33 220 handheld that has no tone. This could be another repeater we use for local runs, or we can use with little traffic on it. Discover 220 today, not as crowded as 2m or 440 Mhz is today.

This repeater is 224.520 (-) down 1.6 MHz, so the transmit frequency is 222.920, no tone required.

Thanks, Rick for this information and thanks to Gary and the Escarpment Repeater Association for their service to amateur radio.

One small handheld radio that has been available for about 12 years and is still selling is the Kenwood THF-6A. This radio has 400 memories, and transmits on three bands, 2 meters, 1 1/4 meters (220 MHz) and 70 cm (440MHz). It also receives the HF bands and so it can listen to standard broadcast AM stations, FM stations, and even sideband and CW transmissions with an appropriate antenna. If you have one of these handhelds try hitting the new repeater.

Ahmet VA3TUR just sent this one in:

Love Stations on the Air

Dear YL/OM
TeamPapa and some amateur friends are planning to organize a HAM activity to celebrate the Valentine's Day at February 14, 2016. The activity is projected on HF bands and modes and will be a certificate program for working the "love stations". We can easily organize some "love stations" in Turkey and hope other countries to join us. The love stations are the callsigns with "LOVE" at the suffix as in TC14LOVE. Multiple love stations are also acceptable from a country. The schedule is flexible, one or two weeks just covering Valentine's Day at February 14, 2016. The activity will be a "love call" hunt for DXers and we don't offer any competition among countries or love stations. At the end of

the period we will collect the logs from love stations and upload the data to our web based awarding software which was successfully used at "Goncasuyu DX Project" before.

As we cannot forecast the count of love stations right now; rules will be announced later, after our invitations to potential love stations answered. It will be most likely based on the band / mode / love callsign principle. Depending on the number of "love stations", rules and achievements may be varied.

Dear friend; Can you organize such a "love station" from your country including the legal registration of "love callsign" and working at the activity period? You may participate individually or in a team. We don't expect a big performance from love stations, considering that this is a quickly organized event.

We hope your participation, support, or any idea sharing. Your early reply will be highly appreciated.

73... Teampapa
<http://www.teampapa.org/>

Lastly, here a couple of web sites to check out. Rick recommends a QRP site for ideas:

http://www.k4icy.com/cw_qrp_sw40.html#Quick_Disco_nnect

Here is a link to *Ham Radio Now Episode 220* recorded at the 2015 DCC (Digital Communications Conference),

<http://arvideonews.com/hrn/HRN_Episode_0220.html>

Please send in your submissions for the February issue now. With your help can have it out on time.