

The Hamilton Amateur

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



Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
117-350 King St. East,
Hamilton, Ontario, L8N 4G6
<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/>

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Presidents' Message

by Ron Pereira, VE3ZX

Lest we forget



Our next next general meeting is on Wednesday, November 16, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm in the cafeteria. Just ahead of that, Remembrance Day falls on Friday, November 11. There are services at most Cenotaphs throughout the city. The services in downtown Hamilton are probably the largest, and in my opinion an excellent way to spend a nice fall morning. [Here is a link to the city's planned events.](#)

We have some club activities coming up in November, so look for the announcements below and be sure to take part.

-73 de VE3ZX

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

Brent Michaluk VA3XWZ
va3xwz@hamiltonarc.ca

Secretary

Samantha Williams VE3LZY
ve3lzy@hamiltonarc.ca

Treasurer

Jim Sawadski VE3JS
ve3js@hamiltonarc.ca

Membership Director

Scott Hamilton VE3QU
ve3qu@hamiltonarc.ca

HARC Chairs 2015 – 2016

Health / Welfare

Greg Gignac VE3YGG

**Contesting / Property
Manager**

Rick Danby VE3BK

Education

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

Newsletter

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

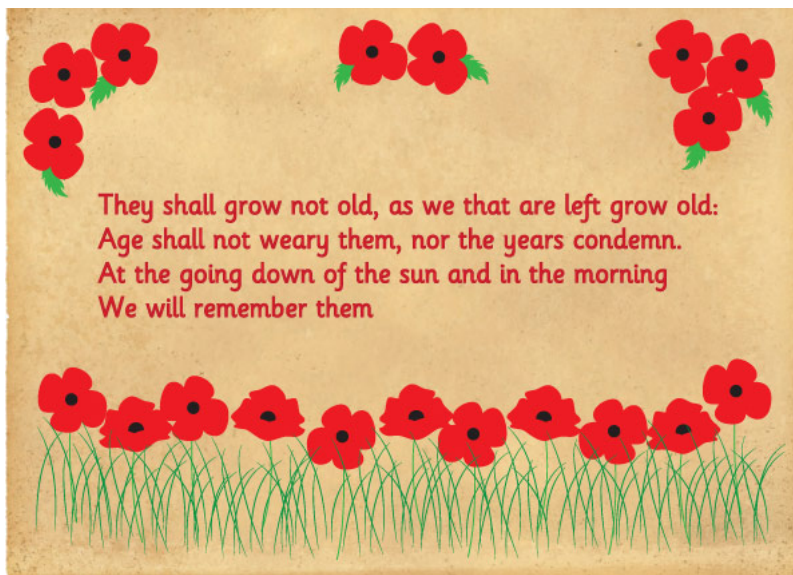
Examiner Volunteers

Mike Christmas VE3XMS
Paul Fleck VE3HTF
Roger Pimm VE3UFZ

**License Trustee / QSL
Manager**

Rick Danby VE3BK

Repeater Technicians



Dues Reminder

Please remember to catch up on your dues. We'll be ready to take your money at the next meeting, or you can mail it to the address in the sidebar. Please be sure to fill out the new membership application. We need your consent for personal information use as detailed on the back of the form. You can download it from the club website (search 'membership') or we'll have some with us on Wednesday. Thank you.



We are pleased to have Hugh McCully (VE3AYR) with us at our next general meeting to talk about the VE100VIMY special event. You can download a brochure for the event by clicking [here](#).

Greg Gignac and Mark Gibson

EQSL Manager
(VE3DC & VA3CWM)
Don Grisenthwaite VE3DDQ

Field Day Coordinator
Brent Michaluk VA3XWZ

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

Flea market Coordinator
Al Ersser

Public
Relations/Communication
open

Flea market Vendor Contact
Mardy Eedson VE3QEE

Webmaster
Jim Sawadski VE3JS

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>

HARC operates VE3NCF

repeater, located atop the Niagara Escarpment. It's open for use by all Amateurs. Special features are a privilege of membership.

VE3NCF 146.760 - & 444.075 +
using tone 131.8

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



UPCOMING EVENTS



The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Annual Christmas Party

December 4, 2016

**Royal Hamilton Yacht Club
555 Bay Street North**

Located at the foot of MacNab Street

Social hour begins @ 5pm, Dinner @6pm

\$40.00 per person

Contact any of our Executive for your tickets

Or call Roger VE3UFZ @ 905-308-0060

To reserve tickets at the door



**Don't forget your donation
to the local food bank**

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.

Contest Reports

by Rick Danby, VE3BK

2016 CQ World-Wide DX Contest

October 29-30, 2016

CALL: VE3DC MODE: PHONE LOCATION: ONTARIO SOUTH
CLASS Multioperator, High Power, Multi-Transmitter, Assisted, All bands.

	QSOs	QSO points	Zones	Countries
160m:	0	0	0	0
80m:	562	1109	17	34
40m:	601	1183	23	49
20m:	212	513	20	74
15m:	155	365	15	46
10m:	51	130	13	28
Totals:	1581	3300	88	231

Multipliers 319

Score 1052700

Operators: VA3WPS VE3BK VE3CDU VE3RIA VE3QEE VE3QU

Visitors: Dan VA3DJ, his Dad Joe and Georgette better half to VE3QU

Club Competition: Contest Club Ontario

SOAPBOX: We at VE3DC enjoy this contest for all the great DX we get to work. Conditions were down for this one but we were still able to work many multipliers and have fun at it. Thanks to all our operators for doing such a great job, all that worked us and especially the Hams South of our border that gave us many contacts. A great fun contest again.

73 Rick VE3BK

Hamilton Amateur Radio Contest Group, VE3DC

Jamboree on the Air

by Rick VE3BK

Members of the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club, Parker VA3WPS, Rick VE3BK, Scott VE3QU, Peter VE3DOU, and Gary VE3TTO set up at the 1st North Grimsby's Scout Hut on October 15, 2016 for Jamboree on the Air. We had 2 stations running, an HF station and Gary provided the 2 meter station with links to many repeaters. Thanks to all for helping out. We enjoyed a hot dog roasted on the fire and an apple leftover from Apple Day that the Scouts had done in the morning. It was a great time showing "Ham Radio" to the group. Below is a picture of us in action followed by the story written up by Scouter Peter.



JOTA/JOTI 2016

On Saturday, October 15th, 1st North Grimsby Scouting Group hosted the annual JOTA/JOTI (Jamboree on The Air & Jamboree on The Internet) at our hut located on top of the Niagara Escarpment at Beamer's Falls, Grimsby, Ontario.

With the help of 4 members from the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club under the guidance of Rick Danby, a radio antenna was stretched across our drive and radio equipment was set up in our scout hut allowing participating youth and adults alike to have a chat with various other Scouting Groups across Canada and the United States. There was a total of 27 present ranging from a "White Tail Beaver", 9 Cubs, 4 Scouts (3 from the 2nd Dunnville Troop), 7 Scouters and 6 adults for the event, while some were



talking on the radio, others were listening in or enjoying the campfire outdoors where they could roast their own hotdog.

Of the 24 locations that were received over the radio, most were in either Ontario or New York State, with a couple being in Ohio and Kentucky. While JOTA is a worldwide event, our radio operators found that the best reception was coming from our part of the world. At the same time as JOTA, JOTI was also taking place; Scouter Terri using her laptop was able to communicate with Scouting Groups from places such as Greece, Cyprus, the Netherlands, Scotland, Sweden, England, Malta, New Zealand and the US.

Thanks to Rick Danby and his operators for getting us “on the air” and to all the youth & adults who participated at this event.

Scouter Peter Bromley 1st North Grimsby Scouting Group



Announcing the RAC Winter Contest 2016

by Rick Danby - VE3BK

Hello Ham Radio Contesters and would be Contesters, Don't forget the RAC Winter Contest. It is a 24 hour contest that starts at 0:00UTC to 23:59 UTC December 17, 2016 this year. That means that because of the time difference with the 5 hour difference now for the Winter months, this actually means that we start at 7 pm local time on Friday, December 16 and go till 6:59 local time on Saturday, December 17, 2016. This is another one of those fun contests where you get to see what the weather is like in British Columbia and Newfoundland as well as wish you fellow Canadians “Merry Christmas and Happy New Year” (or Happy Holidays if you prefer), a great contest. So let me know if you can operate a station (we are multi-multi again, that means 12 possible station, but likely 6 or more) or you can come out and relieve some operators or take a turn calling CQ. You are more than welcome to come and give it a try. If you can't come to work a DX Station with power, you could always work us from home for our log. Last year we were 3rd in Ontario, only behind the Official RAC call for Ontario VA3RAC and also our good competitors the VE3YAA team. So for this contest, lets see if we can be number one in Ontario like we did in 2014 and make this another good one for A VE3DC. Hope to see you all there.

CU all there Rick VE3BK - email: ve3bk@hamiltonarc.ca

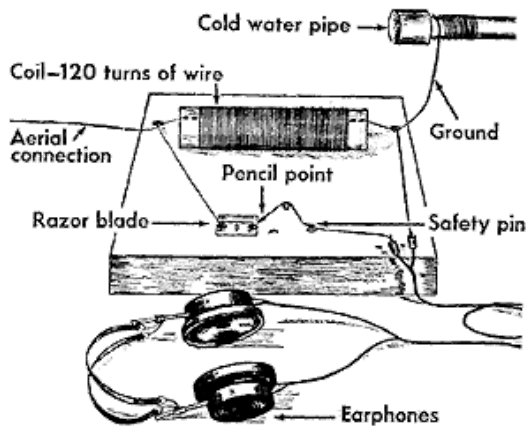
PS Check out this address for the rules on the RAC website: <http://wp.rac.ca/contesting-results/>



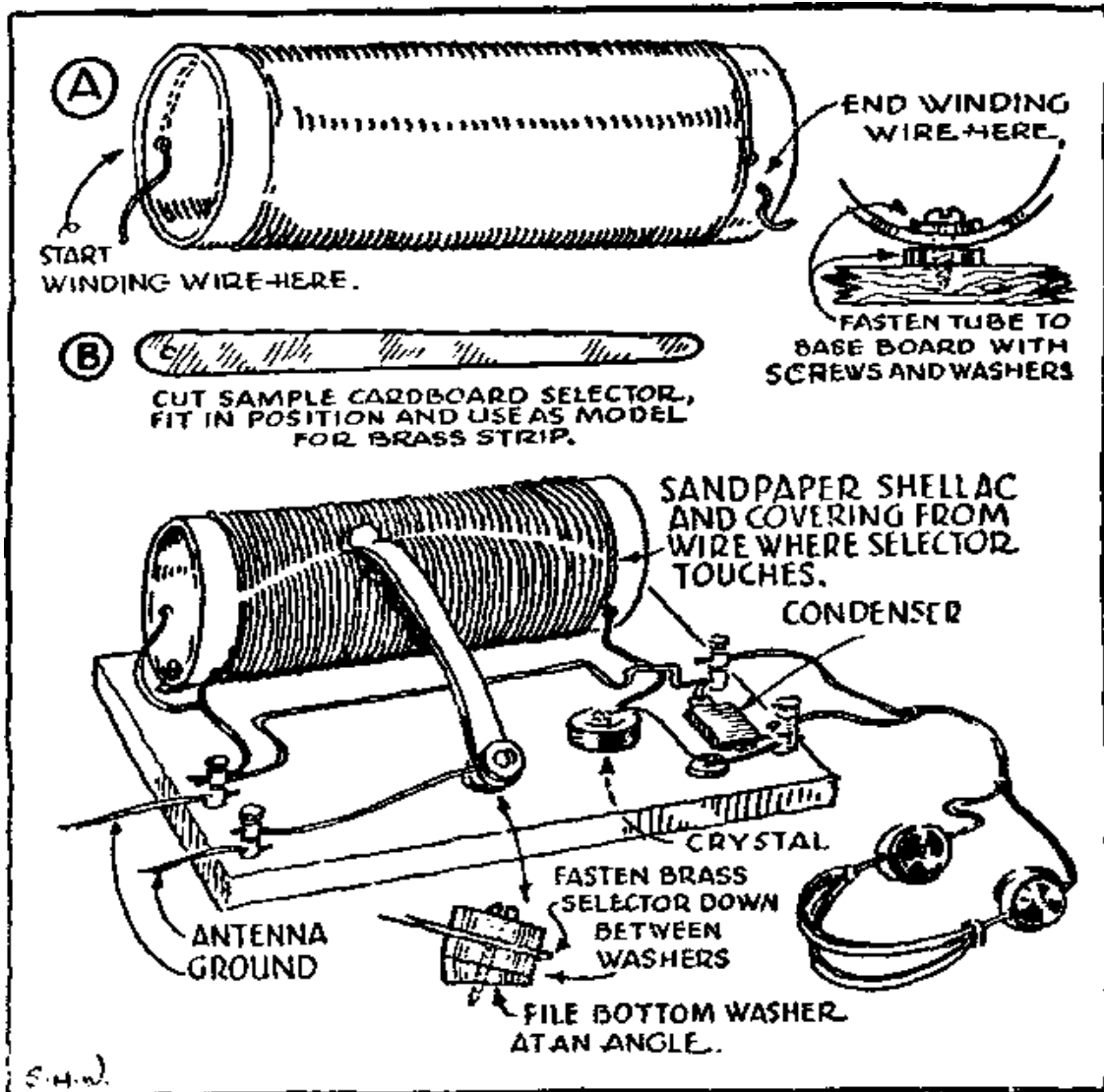
Foxhole Radios

by Ron Pereira - VE3ZX

In keeping with Remembrance Day, I thought I'd throw this little tidbit in the newsletter. One of my first radio projects, sometime in the mid 60's, was a home-brewed crystal radio. There's a tie-in here to the JOTA event reported above, too, because the design I used came from the Scout Handbook I was given as a Cub Scout. Anyway, it sorta worked, and I got a taste of that magical builder's joy that I still look for today.



At the time, the book called for a crystal holder, a crystal and a cat's whisker. I had no means of obtaining those items, but I did find a description of how to use a pencil lead, a safety pin and a razor blade to substitute for the crystal detector. I can't remember the source of this information now, but I have learned that this modification is what makes a 'foxhole radio' a distinct form of crystal set. These improvised receivers were first seen in the trenches of World War I, but gained most of their fame on the Anzio beachhead during World War II.



This is the illustration from the Cub Scout Handbook, c. 1950. The handbook included text instructions and detail drawings.

I have to confess, I swiped the diagrams above from the internet. In the spirit of fair play, [here's a link](#) to the web site with the best information.

If you'd like a longer article about this topic, here's a great one I found in .pdf format. You can download it and read it by clicking [this link](#).

If you have any topics you'd like to write about that would fit under the banner of 'Tech Topics', please drop me a line.

[Ron Pereira - VE3ZX](#)



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