

THE CANADIAN AMATEUR

MAY / JUNE 2025 – MAI / JUIN 2025



The Importance of
Getting On The Air!





ONE

GIANT

LEAP

FOR

HAMKIND.™

AUROLA[™]

.IN SHACKS 2025

 FlexRadio[™]

TCA

The Canadian Amateur

Canada's Amateur Radio Magazine La Revue des Radioamateurs Canadiens

Volume 53 Number 3 – tcamag@yahoo.ca | marcom.rac.ca – W: <https://www.rac.ca/tca/>

May /
June
2025

Mai /
Juin

Editor / Rédacteur en chef

Alan Griffin

Email: tcamag@yahoo.ca

Translation / Traduction

Jacques Roland, VA3DLZ

Technical Diagrams /

Schémas techniques

Stan Smith, VE3DDX

Advertising Department:

Rate sheet:

<https://www.rac.ca/tca/>

Contact: marcom@rac.ca

The Canadian Amateur is published by Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc. / The Canadian Amateur est publié par la société Radio Amateurs du Canada Inc.

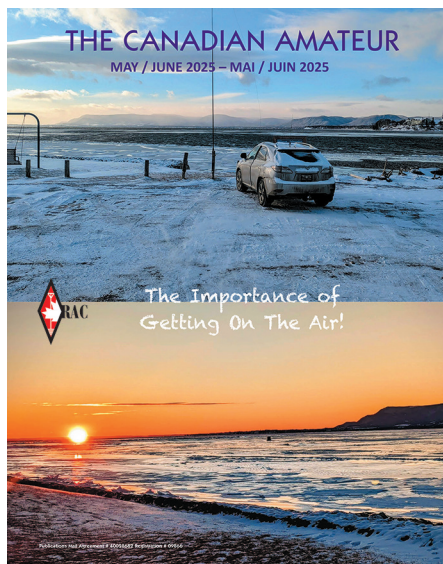
Indexed in the Canadian Periodical Index / Enregistré à l'Index des publications canadiennes : ISSN 0834-3977

Publications Mail Agreement
Accord de publications diffusées #40028682.
Registration / matricule #09866

The Canadian Amateur
720 Belfast Road,
Suite / Bureau 217
Ottawa, ON, Canada
K1G 0Z5
613-244-4367;
1-877-273-8304
tcamag@yahoo.ca
<https://www.rac.ca/>

Printed in Canada by
St. Joseph Communications
Ottawa, ON, Canada
Imprimé au Canada sur
les presses de St. Joseph
Communications
Ottawa, ON, Canada

Return Undeliverable
Canadian Addresses to:
Circulation Department:
217-720 Belfast Road
Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z5



Our Cover Story...

"Despite the snow and wind, brave Radio Amateurs across the Great White North still headed out and set up stations so they could scream into the great expanse in the hopes of contacting those of us who preferred to sit in front of our fireplaces, nice and warm."

Ante Laurijssen, VA2BB

"Minus 10°C and 40 km/h winds... It's hard to concentrate on sending good CW when you think your mast is going to break!" – *Eric Lefebvre, VA2IDX*

Thanks Eric for the stunning photos!

WWW. HAMSTUDY .COM

Self study courses for Canadian
BASIC and ADVANCED
Amateur Radio exams

National & International

RAC National Executive and Board of Directors.....4

A Message from the President / Un Message du Président5

RAC Annual General Meeting | Assemblée Générale Annuelle... 7-8

RAC Constitutional Change | Modification de l'acte constitutif 7-8

Adam Farson, VA7OJ (SK) and John Schouten, VE7TI,
Inducted into Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame..... 14

RAC Regulatory Roundup – Dave Goodwin, VE3KG 23

World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRC-27) and
the Importance of the Defence of Amateur Radio Fund –
Paul Coverdale, VE3ICV..... 34

Defence of Amateur Radio Fund Annual Report –
Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB – RAC International Affairs Officer..... 34

RAC Canada Contest 2025 Rules –
Sam Ferris, VE5SF and Bart Ritchie, VE5CPU 36-40

Message from RAC Community Services Officer 41

Community and Disaster Services Reports..... 43

RAC Portable Operations Challenge –
Ante Laurijssen, VA2BBW 54-56

Technical

Amateur Radio Satellites: Transceivers for Satellite Operation –
Keith Baker, VA3KSF 12

QUA: A Topical Digest: A Visit to Japan –
Allen Wootton, VY1KX..... 19

Radio Magic: The Road to Radio – Part Four –
Robert C. Mazur, VA3ROM 28

Departments

TCA Advertising Index.....2

RAC QSL Bureau System 3

Silent Keys: In Memoriam 3

RAC Membership | Adhésion de RAC 25-28

Defence of Amateur Radio Fund (DARF)..... 34

Coming Events 63-64

For RAC Membership Inquiries and Change of Address please contact RAC HQ at: rachq@rac.ca

Operating

Six Metres and Down – Dana Shtun, VE3DS	9
World Wide Flora & Fauna Outdoor Adventures: Activate Nature Through Amateur Radio – Stuart R. Crawford, VE9CF	11
Two men, a Jeep and a Quest: The NSARA Contest – Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS President Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association.....	16
Grants and Scholarships Now Available – Al Eros, VE4ZB.....	22
RAC Regulatory Roundup – Dave Goodwin, VE3KG.....	23
RAC Contest Rules: Canada Day + Winter Contests 2025 – RAC Contest Managers Bart Ritchie, VE5CPU and Sam Ferris, VE5SF	36
Message from RAC Community Services Officer – Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT	41
Elgin Amateur Radio Society Holds Emergency Communications Exercise – Worth Chisholm, VE3BTC ACS/ARES Emergency Communications Coordinator	42
Community and Disaster Services Reports.....	43
National Traffic System Net Reports	46
Youth On The Air Month 2024: A Success! – Harrie Jones, VE3HYS.....	48
Noble Skywave 2024: An HF Challenge – Rob Noakes, VE3PCP.....	50
“Kim’s Convenience”: Antennas for Small Spaces – Kimberly Kostescu, VE3KKA RAC Membership Officer	52
RAC Challenge / Operating Awards – Ante Laurijssen, VA2BBW.....	54-56
The Sports Page: The Canadian Contest Scene + Contest Calendar – Todd Bendtsen, VE5MX	57-60
The Club Corner / “Bits and Pieces...” – Phil Boucher, VE3BOC	61
Coming Events (Hamfests and Fleamarkets).....	63-64
International Lighthouse Lightships Weekend	64

– Please send your articles now to the TCA Editor at tcamag@yahoo.ca –

Please Support our Advertisers

Amateur Radio Operators of Canada	47
Begali Keys	33
Coax Publications Inc Study Guides	13
Degen Designs	53
FlexRadio	inside front cover
Guthries Communications Inc	53
Hamstudy.com	1
HC MacFarlane Electronics.....	63
Olah Technologies Air Boss Antenna Launcher.....	53
Radio Society of Great Britain	47
Quarter Century Wireless Association	60
Radioworld	18, outside back cover
The Personal Home & Auto Group Insurance.....	inside back cover

The Canadian Amateur is published in Canada six times per year to provide Radio Amateurs, those interested in radio communications and electronics, and the general public with information related to the science of telecommunications.

Articles, reviews, letters, features, suggestions, photographs and essays are welcomed. Manuscripts should be legible and include the contributor's name, call sign, phone number(s) and addresses (mail, email and packet, as applicable).

For a complete Author's Guide visit:

<http://www.rac.ca/tca/>

The contents of this publication are copyright, and may not be reproduced without prior consent except by a bona fide Amateur Radio organization which may reproduce them provided the author and The Canadian Amateur are acknowledged.

The Advertising Department of The Canadian Amateur, on behalf of the magazine, wholly disclaims any responsibility for the content of any advertisement contained herein and makes no representations on behalf of The Canadian Amateur as to the truth of any statement contained in any such advertising.

Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc., and the publisher and editor of The Canadian Amateur, hereby disclaim any responsibility for any statement of opinion or other statement that may be contained in any article published by The Canadian Amateur and any such statement of opinion or other statement contained in such article is solely the opinion of the author of the article and not that of Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc., or the publisher or editors of the magazine, unless it is specifically stated to be the case therein.

The Canadian Amateur is published by Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc., 720 Belfast Road, Suite 217, Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z5

Indexed in the Canadian Periodical Index: ISSN 0834-3977.

Publications Mail Agreement No. 40028682.

Registration No. 09866.

The Canadian Amateur, publié six fois par an, est destiné à fournir aux radioamateurs, à toute personne intéressée à la radio et à l'électronique et au grand public, des informations de toute nature relatives à la science des télécommunications.

Nous acceptons avec plaisir tout article, étude, suggestions, photos et lettres. Les manuscrits soumis doivent être lisibles et porter le nom de l'auteur, son indicatif, son ou ses numéros de téléphone ainsi que ses adresses postales, courriel et paquet s'il y a lieu. Si vous avez envie d'écrire pour TCA :

<http://www.rac.ca/tca/>

Le contenu de la présente publication est protégé par copyright, tous droits réservés et ne peut être reproduit sans autorisation préalable dont est toutefois dispensé tout groupement reconnu de radioamateurs sous réserve que ladite reproduction paraisse avec les mentions du nom de l'auteur et soit identifiée extraite de The Canadian Amateur. Le service publicité de The Canadian Amateur, agissant au nom de la revue, décline toute responsabilité quant au contenu des annonces publicitaires publiées et ne se porte en aucune façon garant de la véracité des propositions contenues dans lesdites annonces.

La compagnie Radio Amateurs du Canada Inc. ainsi que l'Éditeur et le Rédacteur en chef de The Canadian Amateur déclinent par les présentes toute responsabilité quant aux opinions exprimées ou autres déclarations pouvant apparaître dans tout article publié par The Canadian Amateur et déclarent en outre que toute expression d'opinion ou déclaration figurant dans un tel article représentent uniquement l'opinion de l'auteur dudit article et non l'opinion de la société Radio Amateurs du Canada Inc., ou celle de l'Éditeur ou du Rédacteur en Chef de la revue à moins qu'il soit spécifié que ce soit le cas en l'occurrence.

The Canadian Amateur est publié par la société Radio Amateurs du Canada Inc., 720 rue Belfast, Bureau 217, Ottawa, ON K1G 0Z5

Enregistré à l'Index des publications canadiennes sous le numéro ISSN 0834-3977.

Accord de publications diffusées par courrier : 40028682.

Numéro de matricule 09866.

The RAC QSL Bureau System

<https://www.rac.ca/qs1-bureau/>

National Incoming QSL Bureau

Ed Spingola, VA3TPV, Manager
PO Box 83, Streetsville, ON L5M 2B7
W: <https://www.rac.ca/the-rac-national-incoming-qs1-bureau/>

RAC Outgoing QSL Bureau

PO Box 11156, Station H, Nepean, ON K2H 7T9
T: 613-670-3230; E: ve3exy@myrac.ca
<https://www.rac.ca/rac-qs1-outgoing-bureau/>

The RAC Outgoing QSL Bureau service is available to RAC members, RAC affiliated clubs (club call only) and QSL Managers who are members of RAC. Your RAC membership number must accompany each shipment of QSL cards. There are limits and restrictions for use of the Outgoing QSL Bureau. For more information, surcharges, card sorting details and some handy tips, please visit <http://wp.rac.ca/> or <http://www.magma.ca/~ve3exy/bureau.html>.

Member Societies of the International Radio Union (IARU) operate a worldwide system of QSL Bureaus. Radio Amateurs of Canada, as the Canadian member-society, operates a National Incoming QSL Bureau, and sponsors the Incoming Bureaus for the 12 Canadian call areas.

Cards received by the National Incoming Bureau from IARU Member Societies are sorted and forwarded to the Incoming Bureau in each call area. All domestic cards (VA-VE-VY) to Canadian Amateurs are to be sent directly to the RAC National Incoming Bureau and not to the Outgoing Bureau.

Note: Domestic cards sent to the Outgoing Bureau will experience a delay. Only cards for destinations outside Canada are to be sent to the Outgoing QSL Bureau.

The Incoming QSL Bureau service is a user-pay system, using one of four methods to get cards to you: (A) envelopes; (B) credits; (C) labels; or (D) combination credit with labels.

*Note: Method B is preferred.

VE1 – VE0 Brit Fader Memorial QSL Bureau (B)

Sponsored by the Halifax ARC
Roger Stein, VA1RST
12 Canary Crescent
Halifax, NS B3M 1R1
burch.craft@gmail.com
www.halifax-arc.org/pages/qs1-bureau.html

VE2 Bureau (A, B)

Pierre Jolin, VE2GT
20 Rue Rajotte
Sorel-Tracy, QC J3P 4X9
ve2pij@qs1.net

VA3/VE3 Bureau (B)

Michael Brickell, VE3TKI
PO Box 46
Streetsville, ON L5M 2B7
bureau-manager@ve3qcb.ca
<https://ve3qcb.ca>

VA4/VE4 Bureau (B)

Harm Hazeu, VE4HAZ
7 Ashley Cove
Winnipeg, MB R2G 2Z3
ve4haz@gmail.com

VA5/VE5 Bureau (B)

Todd Bendtsen, VE5MX
616 Moffet Drive
Weyburn, SK S4H 2M7
ve5mx@sasktel.net

VA6/VE6 Bureau (B)

Jerry Spring, VE6TL
206 Hampstead Place NW
Calgary, AB T3A 5J2
springjl@yahoo.com
www.buro.ve6hams.ca/

VA7/ VE7 Bureau (B)

Ken Clarke, VE7BC
PO Box 1109
100 Mile House, BC V0K 2E0
ve7bc27@gmail.com

VE8/VY0 Bureau (A, B)*

John Boudreau, VE8EV
PO Box 3099
Inuvik, NT X0E 0T0
ve8ev@myrac.ca

VE9 Bureau (B)

Stuart Crawford, VE9CF
80 Kay Road
St-Antoine Nord, NB E4V 2Z2
Canada
stuart@outnaboot.ca

VO Bureau (B, C)*

Bill Kirby, VO1BB
60 McNiven Place
St John's NL A1A 4X1
vo1bb@yahoo.ca

VY1 Bureau (A, B)

Allen Wootton, VY1KX
Box 21217
Whitehorse, YT Y1A 6R8
vy1kx@myrac.ca

VY2 Bureau (A, B)

Douglas Silliker, VY2DS
1072 Barbara Weit Road
Summerside PE C1N 4J8

Thank You
Volunteers!

Silent Keys – In Memoriam

With regret, we record the passing of the following Radio Amateurs.
Nous avons le regret de vous annoncer le décès des radioamateurs suivants.

- VA3ABG** – Brad Parisien, of Barry's Bay, Ontario, on January 21, 2025, at age 51
VA3MJW – Mike Welsh, of Cornwall, Ontario, on February 6, 2025, at age 63
VA3MLO – Leone Orr, of Echo Bay, Ontario, on February 4 2025, at age 95
VA3TOS – Tony Scornaiencki, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, on February 12, 2025, at age 77
VA3WFL – Frank Love, of Mount Hope, Ontario, on April 28, 2023, at age 93
VA7LMP – Scott Prior, of Qualicum Beach, British Columbia, on February 25, 2025, at age 64
VE1BED – Art Barton, of Fredericton, New Brunswick, on December 18, 2024, at age 87
VE1CRR – Bobby Roper, of New Waterford, Nova Scotia, on December 10, 2024, at age 91
VE1CSM – Colin Murray, of Chester, Nova Scotia.
VE1JP – Sandy Muir, of Bayside, New Brunswick, on December 24, 2024
VE1ROK – Robert Kiteley, of Halifax, Nova Scotia, on December 26, 2024, at age 82
VE2AUW – Aurèle Voyer, of Cantley, Quebec, on October 10, 2024, at age 75
VE3AVS – David Kimpton, of Thunder Bay, Ontario, on January 29, 2025, at age 85
VE3CTF – Sean McMurray, of Peterborough, Ontario, on January 18, 2025, at age 64
VE3EU – Paul Witehead, of Hillsburgh, Ontario, on January 29, 2025, at age 82
VE3NSX – Ed Bogdanowicz, of North York, Ontario, on December 31, 2024, at age 81
VE3RJ – Rolly Jubinville, of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, on February 4, 2025, at age 87
VE3RQ – David Lewis George, of North York, Ontario, on January 2, 2025 at age 84
VE3SB – David Karecki, of Etobicoke, Ontario, on February 25, 2025, at age 78
VE3UCW – Les Arnott, of Chapleau, Ontario, on January 25, 2025, at age 65
VE4GQ – Eric DePass, of Brandon, Manitoba, on March 4, 2025, at age 97
VE4IAM – Ian Brownlee, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, on February 27, 2025, at age 66
VE4NL – Clare Nesbitt, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, on February 23, 2025, at age 92
VE6GHT – Gordon Toole, of Beiseker, Alberta, on February 2, 2025, at age 76
VE6PUR – Jerry Purpur, of Edmonton, Alberta, on March 2, 2025, at age 82
VE6TGM – Tyler McCoy, of Onoway, Alberta, on January 13, 2025, at age 38
VE7ASB – Philip Wallbank, of Port Alberni, British Columbia, on August 21, 2024, at age 78
VE7WTE – Watty Whatmore, of Coldstream, British Columbia, on January 21, 2025, at age 102
VE9DAZ – Dennis Belliveau, of Sussex Corner, New Brunswick, on December 14, 2024, at age 71
VE9IM – Ian MacFarquhar, of Saint John, New Brunswick, on April 8, 2025, at age 75
VY2ET – Sonny Tremblay, of Alberton, Prince Edward Island, on November 17, 2024, at age 88

Note: In the above list an * indicates that a call sign has been reissued. The list of Silent Keys is prepared by volunteers. Please send obituary notices by email to rachq@rac.ca with a copy to: ic.spectrumamateur-spectreamateur.ic@ic.gc.ca. For more information see the Silent Key Submission Guidelines at: <https://www.rac.ca/silent-keys/>

Radio Amateurs of Canada / Radio Amateurs du Canada

National Executive

Regional Directors

Deputy Directors

Section Managers

Alberta (AB)

Ron Pettigrew, VE6RWP
29 Michigan Street
Devon, Alberta, T9G 1H7
alberta@fieldorg.rac.ca
780-668-3218

British Columbia (BC)

Acting: Bill Gipps, VE7XS
9362 - 206A Street
Langley, BC V1M 2W6
british.columbia@fieldorg.rac.ca

Manitoba (MB)

Jan Schippers, VE4JS
202 Sadler Avenue
Winnipeg, MB
R2M 1P3
manitoba@fieldorg.rac.ca

New Brunswick (NB)

Vacant

Newfoundland-Labrador (NL)

Boyd Snow, VO1DI
78 Main Road
Bristol's Hope, NL A1Y 0A7
newfoundland.labrador@fieldorg.rac.ca

Nova Scotia (NS)

Dave Hull, VE1HUL
45 Archibald Street
Truro, NS B2N 4R5
nova.scotia@fieldorg.rac.ca

Ontario East (ONE)

Michael Hickey, VE3IPC
2768 Chartrand Road
Lefaire, ON K0B 1J0
ontario.east@fieldorg.rac.ca

Ontario Golden Horseshoe (GH)

Ian Clarke, VA3KCP
2 Forest Laneway, Suite 1801
North York, ON M2N 5X7
ontario.golden.horseshoe@fieldorg.rac.ca

Ontario North (ONN)

Allan Boyd, VE3AJB
27 Red Mill Road, Box 208
Little Current, ON P0P 1K0
ontario.north@fieldorg.rac.ca

Ontario South (ONS)

Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG
225 Periwinkle Road
London, ON, N6M1B7
ontario.south@fieldorg.rac.ca

Prince Edward Island (PE)

Bill McMaster, VY2WM
11 Birch Hill Drive
Charlottetown, PE C1A 6W4
prince.edward.island@fieldorg.rac.ca

Quebec (QC)

Sylvain Lamarre, VE2LAM
506 rue Père Joseph Jean
Rimouski, QC G5N 1L18
quebec@fieldorg.rac.ca

Saskatchewan (SK)

Vacant

Territories (TER)

(Northwest Territories/
Nunavut/Yukon)
Vacant



PRESIDENT

Allan Boyd, VE3AJB/VE3EM
27 Red Mill Road, Box 208
Little Current, ON P0P 1K0
705-368-2779
president@rac.ca



VICE-PRESIDENT

Brent Taylor, VY2HF
30 Harland View Drive
Stratford, PE C1B 1W3
902-330-7668
vp@rac.ca



ALBERTA/NWT/NU

Stephen Lee, VA6SGL
51 Ireland Crescent
Red Deer, AB T4R 3K8
403-307-1643
dir.alberta.northwest.nunavut@rac.ca



ONTARIO NORTH/EAST

Joel Brisson, VA3WBK
Casselman, ON
K0A 1M0
dir.ontario.north.east@rac.ca

BRITISH COLUMBIA/YUKON

Allan J Munnik,
VA7MP/VE7RMP

MIDWEST

Peter Toth, VE4TTH
(Selkirk)

Assistant Directors

ALBERTA / NT / NU

Chris Cameron, VE8WD
Wally Gardiner, VE6BGL
Neal Sunderland, VA6NLS
Bill Till, VE5FN

ATLANTIC

Rino Deschênes, VE9VIC
(North-Western NB)
Sheldon Donaldson,
VE1HQ
(Yarmouth-Shelburne area)

Jim Fisher, VE1JF
(Annapolis Valley /
Fundy Shore)

Bill Glydon, VY2LI
(Prince Edward Island)

Naz Simon, VO2NS
(Labrador)

Peter Surette, VE1PJS
(Truro and area)

Ken Tucker, VO1KVT
(Central Newfoundland)

Michael Newton, VO1OK
(Western Newfoundland)

John Bignell, VE1JMB
(Halifax and area)

John Bignell, VE1JMB
(Halifax and area)

Ross Wilmot, VA7NRW
(Surrey, BC)

Joe Musgrave, VE5JM
(Lloydminster)

Doug Pfaff, VE5DCP
(Regina)

Dave Scarfe, VE5UO
(Saskatoon)

Keith Baker, VA3KSF
(Sarnia)

Jerry Beneteau, VE3EXT
(Essex & Kent)

John Lorenc, VA3WM
(Niagara)

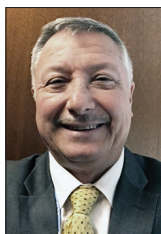
Stan Leschinsky, VE3TW
(Greater Toronto Area)

Tony Pattinson, VE2KM



REGULATORY AFFAIRS OFFICER

Dave Goodwin, VE3KG
141 Acton Drive
Smiths Falls, ON K7A 5B8
613-430-4911
regulatory@rac.ca



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS OFFICER

Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB
5651 Goldenbrook Drive
Mississauga, ON L5M 3W2
905-567-6592
international@rac.ca



ATLANTIC

Al Penney, VO1NO
386 Victoria Road
Aylesford, NS B0P 1C0
902-847-0554
dir.atlantic@rac.ca



ONTARIO SOUTH

Barry Brousseau, VE3SLD
67 Deepath Drive
Guelph, ON N1K 1V1
519-831-3408
dir.ontario.south@rac.ca



COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER

Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT
3 Smyth Crescent
Beeton, ON L0G 1A0
705-890-9967
community@rac.ca



CHIEF INFORMATION AND TECHNOLOGY OFFICER

Jeff Dale, VA3ISP
Box 91
Hammond, ON K0A2A0
cito@rac.ca



BRITISH COLUMBIA/YUKON

Hiroshi Takahashi, VA7LET
3381 Cambie St #539
Vancouver, BC V5Z 4R3
778-899-5888
dir.bc.yukon@rac.ca



QUEBEC

Patrice Bourdages, VE2PTB/VA2PK
1266 rue Andante
Québec, QC G3K 2P7
581-909-2778
dir.quebec@rac.ca



HONORARY LEGAL COUNSEL

Marcel D. Mongeon, VA3DDD
Suite 374 - 3-35 Stone Church Road
Ancaster, ON L9K 1S4
905-390-1818
legal@rac.ca



MEMBER SERVICES OFFICER

Kimberly Kostescu, VE3KKA
1308 - 140 Bridge Ave
Windsor, ON, N9B 3R8
1-519-819-1627
membership@rac.ca



MIDWEST

Ed Richardson, VE4EAR/VE4VT
64 Avalon Road
Winnipeg, MB R2M 2L5
204-254-8425
dir.midwest@rac.ca

Staff Positions:

RAC Office Manager

Adam MacDonell -
racgm@rac.ca

MarCom Director

Alan Griffin -
marcom@rac.ca

TCA Editor -

tcamag@yahoo.ca

For RAC Membership
Inquiries and Change of
Address please contact
RAC HQ at: rachq@rac.ca



CORPORATE SECRETARY

Alvin (Al) M. Masse, VE3CWP
440 Maple Avenue
LaSalle, ON N9J 1P4
519-734-0026
secretary@rac.ca



TREASURER

Margaret Tidman, VA3VXN
583 Drummond Concession 58
Perth, ON K7H 3C8
613-263-5486
treasurer@rac.ca





Allan Boyd, VE3AJB
president@rac.ca

As I write this message in the early days of April, winter weather has come back with a vengeance, with snow and ice storms affecting several communities, and interrupting the annual spring inspections and repairs that Amateurs usually do.

I hope that when you read this in May you will have had a chance to prepare for all the many special

events organized by enterprising individuals, clubs and organizations. You can find many of these in the Coming Events and the Contest Calendar and also in articles throughout this magazine and on the websites of Amateur Radio clubs. These events include swap meets, fleamarkets and hamfests, offering opportunities to buy, sell and trade radio equipment, as well as connect with fellow enthusiasts.

As mentioned in previous Messages, RAC is once again participating in the Canada-Wide Science Fair (CWSF) and STEM Expo which is being held at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton. RAC first became involved in the CWSF in 2017 when we were approached by the Regina

Au moment où j'écris ces lignes, en ce début d'avril, l'hiver est revenu en force, avec des tempêtes de neige et de verglas touchant plusieurs communautés et venant interrompre les inspections et réparations que les radio amateurs effectuent habituellement chaque année au printemps. J'espère qu'à l'heure où vous lirez ce message en mai, vous aurez eu l'occasion de vous préparer à participer aux nombreux événements intéressants organisés par des personnes, clubs et organisations entreprenants. Vous constaterez qu'une bonne partie d'entre eux sont mentionnés dans les rubriques intitulées « Événements à venir » et « Calendrier des concours », ainsi que dans des articles de la présente revue et dans les sites Web des clubs de radio amateurs. Ces événements comprennent des rencontres-échanges, des marchés aux puces et des hamfests lors desquels vous aurez non seulement l'occasion d'acheter, de vendre et d'échanger des matériels de radio, mais aussi de rencontrer d'autres amateurs passionnés.

Comme expliqué dans de précédents messages, RAC participe une fois encore à l'Expo-sciences pancanadienne (ESPC) et à l'Expo STIM, qui auront lieu à l'Université du Nouveau-Brunswick à Fredericton. RAC a pris part à l'ESPC pour la première fois en 2017, à la demande de la Regina Amateur Radio Association (RARA), qui souhaitait bénéficier d'un soutien pour l'installation de son kiosque. Nous avons été ravis de répondre présents, et depuis lors, RAC collabore avec des clubs locaux de radio amateurs du Nouveau-Brunswick (2018), d'Ottawa (2019/2024) et d'Edmonton (2023). L'Expo STIM se tiendra les 5 et 6 juin et sera ouverte au public. Le vice-président de RAC, Brent Taylor, VY2HF, et

Amateur Radio Association (RARA) to see if we would be willing to provide support for their booth. We were indeed very happy to do so and since then RAC has worked side by side with local Amateur Radio clubs in New Brunswick (2018), Ottawa (2019/2024) and Edmonton (2023). The STEM Expo will be held on June 5 and 6 and is open to public viewing. RAC Vice-President Brent Taylor, VY2HF, and RAC Atlantic Director Al Penney, VO1NO, have put together a very enthusiastic team of volunteers. For more information about the event visit: <https://cwsf-espc.ca/>

At its meeting on March 27, the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada voted unanimously to cancel RAC's plans to operate a booth at Hamvention (Dayton) in Xenia, Ohio in May. This decision was not taken lightly and was made with deep regret as our members and volunteers always look forward to attending this significant international event. It is a complex and evolving situation, but it is our hope that we will be able to return to Hamvention in future years and we hope that Canadian Amateurs who do attend the event will have a safe and enjoyable experience.

The annual Field Day event will be held on Saturday, June 28 and Sunday, June 29, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and running through 2059 UTC Sunday. Radio Amateurs have been taking part in Field Day in Canada and the United States since 1933. Field Day is a great opportunity to highlight the community service, technical, sport and educational aspects

l'administrateur de RAC pour l'Atlantique, Al Penney, VO1NO, ont formé à cet effet une équipe de bénévoles débordants d'enthousiasme. Pour en savoir plus, consultez le site <https://cwsf-espc.ca/fr/>

Lors de sa réunion du 27 mars, le Conseil d'administration de Radio Amateurs du Canada a décidé, par voie de vote adopté à l'unanimité, d'annuler sa participation à la Hamvention (Dayton) prévue à Xenia en mai. Cette décision n'a pas été prise à la légère et a été adoptée avec un profond regret, car nos membres et nos bénévoles ont toujours assisté avec plaisir à cet événement international important. La situation à laquelle nous faisons face est complexe et évolue de jour en jour, mais nous espérons pouvoir participer à nouveau à la Hamvention dans les années à venir. Nous espérons aussi que les radio amateurs canadiens qui s'y rendront cette année vivront une expérience agréable en toute sérénité.

Cette année, la Journée sur le terrain se célébrera le samedi 28 juin et le dimanche 29 juin, de 18 h 00 UTC le samedi à 20 h 00 UTC le dimanche. Les radio amateurs participent à cette Journée au Canada et aux États-Unis depuis 1933. Elle constitue une occasion exceptionnelle de mettre en valeur le service communautaire, ainsi que les aspects techniques, sportifs et éducatifs du service radio amateur. Nous vous serons extrêmement reconnaissants de nous faire rapport sur les activités que vous entreprendrez à cette occasion, et nous serons ravis d'en publier un compte rendu dans la revue TCA. Veuillez envoyer vos textes au rédacteur en chef de TCA à l'adresse tcamag@yahoo.ca.

of the Amateur Radio Service. We would love to hear about your Field Day activities and would be happy to consider them for publication in The Canadian Amateur magazine. Please send them to the TCA Editor at tcamag@yahoo.ca. Of course, right after Field Day is the RAC Canada Day Contest on Tuesday, July 1 and we hope to have all our RAC stations activate along with our new VE3RHQ Flagship station at RAC Headquarters. You can find the contest rules on page 36.

Radio Amateurs of Canada will be holding its biannual Planning Meeting and its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Ottawa in September. The Planning Meeting will take place on September 4 and 5 and the AGM will be held on Saturday, September 6 as part of the Ottawa (Carp) HamFest hosted by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC). RAC will have a table at the HamFest and the AGM will be held both in person and online. It is a great opportunity to meet members of the Executive and Board of Directors. As part of the AGM, RAC members will have an opportunity to vote on proposed changes to RAC's Bylaws which are designed to ensure that RAC officials are better able to serve you and keep our organization running as smoothly as possible. Please see the information on page 7. We will also be hosting an official launch of our new flagship Amateur Radio Station VE3RHQ and are planning to hold an open house during the week. We encourage RAC members to visit the station and see the new equipment that your donations have made possible.

Comme prévu, le Concours RAC de la Fête du Canada aura lieu immédiatement après la Journée sur le terrain, pour se tenir le 1^{er} juillet. Nous espérons que toutes nos stations RAC seront actives, de même que notre nouvelle station de prestige, VE3RHQ, exploitée au siège de RAC. Vous trouverez le règlement du concours à la page 36.

Radio Amateurs du Canada organisera sa Réunion de planification bisannuelle et son Assemblée générale annuelle (AGA) à Ottawa en septembre. La Réunion de planification aura lieu les 4 et 5 septembre, tandis que l'AGA se tiendra le samedi 6 septembre dans le cadre de la Hamfest d'Ottawa (Carp) organisée par l'Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC), où RAC aura installé un kiosque. L'AGA se déroulera à la fois en présentiel et en ligne. Cela offrira à tous une excellente occasion de rencontrer les membres de l'Exécutif et du Conseil d'administration. Les membres de RAC auront ainsi la possibilité de voter pour se prononcer sur les propositions de modifications à nos statuts, lesquelles visent à permettre aux dirigeants de RAC de mieux vous servir et à aider notre organisation à avoir un fonctionnement aussi harmonieux que possible. Pour en savoir plus, veuillez consulter la page 8. Nous organiserons également un événement destiné à marquer le lancement officiel de notre nouvelle station de prestige, VE3RHQ, ainsi que des portes ouvertes durant la semaine. Nous invitons les membres de RAC à visiter notre station et à voir fonctionner le nouveau matériel financé grâce à vos dons.

Dans le numéro de TCA de mars-avril 2025, le responsable des services communautaires de RAC, Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT, a rédigé un excellent compte rendu du travail déjà réalisé dans le cadre de la Phase 1 d'un projet pilote mis en chantier en 2022,

In the March-April 2025 TCA, RAC Community Services Officer Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT, provided an excellent overview of the work that has already been completed under Phase 1 of a Pilot Project which began in 2022 in collaboration with the Ontario Provincial Government. Under Phase 2 of the project, RAC applied for funding to enable training opportunities across the province and I am pleased to announce that our proposal has been accepted. Please see the Community and Disaster Services column on page 41 for more information.

Lastly, in this issue you will find an article by Paul Coverdale, VE3ICV (RAC Special Advisor for World Radio Conferences) and Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB (RAC International Affairs Officer) which provides an update to the hard work that RAC volunteers are doing to prepare for the upcoming World Radiocommunication Conference in 2027. In particular, the article includes the Annual Report for the Defence of Amateur Radio Fund (DARF). The DARF Trust's role is to provide funding for our delegate's travel and living expenses in order to attend these various conferences. Without DARF, there would be no Canadian Amateur presence at these international meetings or in the many pre-meetings that take place developing and working out what ultimately becomes Canada's position.

If you have not contributed to DARF, please consider making a personal donation and suggest a club donation to DARF at your next meeting. Donations of any amount are welcome. Every dollar helps and will only go to defending and expanding our access to spectrum. – 73, Allan Boyd, VE3AJB/VE3EM – RAC President

en collaboration avec le Gouvernement provincial de l'Ontario. Dans le cadre de la Phase 2, RAC avait demandé à bénéficier d'un financement qui lui permettrait d'offrir des possibilités de formation dans toute la province, et j'ai le plaisir de vous annoncer que notre proposition a été acceptée. Pour en savoir plus, veuillez consulter la rubrique intitulée « Services communautaires et de secours » à la page 41.

Enfin, le présent numéro contient un article signé Paul Coverdale, VE3ICV (conseiller spécial de RAC pour les Conférences mondiales des radiocommunications) et Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB (responsable des Affaires internationales de RAC). Ils y font le point sur le travail inlassable accompli par les bénévoles de RAC en prévision de la tenue de la Conférence mondiale des radiocommunications de 2027. Cet article inclut également le Rapport annuel du Fonds de défense de la radio amateur (FDRA). Le rôle de ce fonds est de financer les frais de déplacement et de séjour de nos délégués lors de ces conférences. Sans le FDRA, aucun radio amateur canadien ne serait présent à ces rencontres internationales, ni aux nombreuses réunions préparatoires qui servent à déterminer la position officielle du Canada.

Si vous n'avez pas encore contribué au FDRA, nous vous invitons à envisager de faire un don personnel ou de suggérer à votre club de lui accorder un soutien financier lors de votre prochaine réunion. Quel qu'en soit le montant, tout don sera le bienvenu. Chaque dollar compte, et il servira exclusivement à défendre et élargir notre accès au spectre.

– 73, Allan Boyd, VE3AJB/VE3EM – Président de RAC

– Traduction par Jacques Roland, VA3DLZ. Merci Jacques!

NOTICE TO RAC MEMBERS:

2025 RAC ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to hold its Planning Meeting and Annual General Meeting (AGM) in Ottawa, Ontario this September. RAC's Board of Directors meetings throughout the year are teleconferences so these Planning Meetings held every two years allow for a face-to-face meeting of RAC's leadership and provide an opportunity to set goals and priorities for the future. The Planning Meeting will be held on Thursday, September 3 and Friday, September 4 ahead of the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Saturday, September 6.

The AGM will be held in conjunction with the Ottawa (Carp) 2025 Hamfest which is hosted annually by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC) as described below.

Date: Saturday, September 6, 2025

Time: 1 pm (Eastern Daylight Time)

Place: The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds, 3882 Carp Road in the W. Erskine Johnston Arena at north end of fairgrounds.

Agenda items will include:

- Report of the President
- Review of the 2024 Finances
- Appointment of Auditors for 2026
- Amendment to RAC Constitution (see the right column)
- Question and Answer period

This is your opportunity to hear what your representatives have been doing over the past year, to raise questions, and to make suggestions about how RAC is managed and where it is going in the future. The meeting will be attended by the members of the RAC Board of Directors and Executive and is open to all RAC members. The AGM will also be available online by YouTube livestream. Stay tuned to the RAC website for more information.

Ottawa (Carp) 2025 Hamfest

Hosted by the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Date: Saturday, September 6

Place: Ottawa (Carp), ON; Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds, 3882 Carp Road in the W. Erskine Johnston Arena at north end of fairgrounds.

Time: Commercial Vendors: 7:30 am; Private Vendors: 8 am; Public: 9 am to 12 noon

Cost: Vendor tables: \$17 per 8-foot table.

Admission: \$6. Children 12 and under are free.

Talkin: VE2CRA, 146.94-, 100 Hz

Info: Contact Ed, VE3WGO, hamfest@oarc.net. Volunteer and table reservation forms are available on the OARC website. Please use online reservation rather than email, to ensure that your requests are not missed. Pay for tables at the door. See the Coming Events on pages 63-64 for more information.

Website: <https://oarc.net/hamfest/>

RAC Constitutional Change Notice

Background

RAC's By-Laws direct that officers on the Executive (6.08) and members of the Board of Directors (5.04) are limited to three two-year full terms, for a total of six years in office. At that point, new Executive members or Directors must be chosen.



We believe these term limits are an important part of keeping our organization fresh and renewed, and generally should be observed.

Although the ability to install new Directors is not an issue, the six-year limitation for Executive members does, in some circumstances, lead to problems finding and retaining some officers who bring specialized experience to their roles.

For example, RAC's Treasurer needs to be someone with a strong background in finance and accounting, and a six-year term limit could require that person to leave their Executive position and trigger a search for someone new, when in fact the incumbent was doing well and was willing to continue.

Proposal

In light of the above, we are asking for consideration of an amendment to By-Law 6.08, which presently reads:

6.08 Term of Executive Office

"All positions on the Executive shall have a term of two years. A full term of office is defined as commencing January 1 of the first year to December 31 of the second year. Any person may occupy the same office for a maximum of three consecutive terms, with a partial term not being counted as a full term. At the discretion of the Board, a person may subsequently hold a different Executive office or may return to an office previously held after a break from that office of at least one year."

We are asking you to consider the following addition:

"Upon completion of three full two-year terms of office, the Board may – on unanimous consent – reappoint any member of the Executive for one additional term of two years."

We believe requiring unanimous consent from the Board for an extended Executive appointment preserves the intent of the term limit provision, while permitting the retention of an especially willing, specialized and valuable members of the Executive.

At the 2025 Annual General Meeting, RAC members who are in attendance both in person and online will be invited to vote on and give final approval to the special resolution.

I look forward to your attendance.

Allan Boyd, VE3AJB
President – Radio Amateurs of Canada

AVIS AUX MEMBRES DE RAC : ASSEMBLÉE GÉNÉRALE ANNUELLE DE RAC 2025

Radio Amateurs du Canada a le plaisir d'organiser sa Réunion de planification et son Assemblée générale annuelle (AGA) à Ottawa (Ontario) en septembre. Les réunions du Conseil d'administration de RAC ont lieu par visioconférence tout au long de l'année. Ainsi, ces réunions de planification bisannuelles permettent aux dirigeants de RAC de se rencontrer en personne et offrent l'occasion de déterminer les objectifs et les priorités pour l'avenir. La Réunion de planification prévue aura lieu le jeudi 3 et le vendredi 4 septembre, en amont de l'Assemblée générale annuelle prévue le samedi 6 septembre.

L'AGA se déroulera dans le cadre de la Hamfest d'Ottawa (Carp) 2025, organisée tous les ans par l'Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC), comme décrit ci-dessous.

Date : Samedi 6 septembre 2025

Heure : 13 h (heure avancée de l'est)

Lieu : L'Assemblée générale annuelle aura lieu au Parc des expositions agricoles de Carp, au 3882, Chemin Carp, dans l'Aréna W. Erskine Johnston, à l'extrémité nord du site.

Les points inscrits à l'ordre du jour seront notamment :

- Rapport du président
- Examen de la situation financière 2024
- Nomination des vérificateurs pour 2026
- Modification de l'Acte constitutionnel de RAC (voir colonne de droite)
- Période de questions

Vous aurez l'occasion de découvrir ce que vos représentants ont accompli au cours de l'année écoulée, de poser des questions et de faire des suggestions sur la gestion de RAC et sur son orientation future. Les membres du Conseil d'administration et de l'Exécutif seront présents à cette réunion ouverte à tous les membres de RAC. L'AGA sera également diffusée en direct sur YouTube. Restez à l'affût des informations qui seront communiquées sur le site Web de RAC.

Hamfest d'Ottawa (Carp) 2025

Organisée par l'Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Date : Samedi 6 septembre

Lieu : Ottawa (Carp), ON – Parc des expositions agricoles de Carp, 3882, Chemin Carp, dans l'Aréna W. Erskine Johnston, à l'extrémité nord du site.

Horaire : Vendeurs commerciaux : 7 h 30;
Vendeurs particuliers : 8 h; Public : de 9 h à 12 h

Coût : Tables de vente : 17 \$ par table de 8 pieds.

Entrée : 6 \$. Gratuit pour les enfants de 12 ans ou moins.

Liens : VE2CRA, 146.94-, 100 Hz

Informations : Communiquez avec Ed, VE3WGO, à l'adresse hamfest@oarc.net. Les formulaires pour services bénévoles et pour réservation de tables sont disponibles sur le site Web de l'OARC. Veuillez utiliser le système de réservation en ligne plutôt que le courriel afin d'avoir l'assurance que vos demandes soient bien prises en compte. Le paiement des redevances pour les tables se fera sur place. Pour en savoir plus, consultez la rubrique intitulée « Événements à venir », aux pages 63-64.

AVIS DE MODIFICATION DE L'ACTE CONSTITUTIF DE RAC

Contexte

Les Statuts de RAC stipulent que les membres de l'Exécutif (article 6.08) et du Conseil d'administration (article 5.04) ne peuvent pas exercer plus de trois mandats complets de deux ans, pour un total de six années en poste. À l'issue de cette période, de nouveaux membres doivent être nommés à l'Exécutif ou au Conseil.

Nous estimons que ces limites de mandat sont importantes pour assurer le dynamisme et le renouvellement de notre organisation, et qu'elles devraient généralement être respectées.

Toutefois, même si la nomination de nouveaux administrateurs ne pose pas problème, la limite de six ans fixée pour les membres de l'Exécutif peut parfois compliquer notre tâche, car il n'est pas simple de trouver et de conserver certains responsables qui possèdent une expérience spécialisée essentielle à l'exercice de leur fonction.

Par exemple, le poste de trésorier de RAC exige une solide expérience dans les domaines des finances et de la comptabilité. La limite de six ans pourrait obliger une personne compétente et toujours disposée à poursuivre son mandat à quitter son poste, ce qui entraînerait le déclenchement d'une recherche inutile pour lui trouver un successeur.

Proposition

Compte tenu de ce qui précède, nous vous demandons d'envisager de modifier l'article 6.08 du règlement, dont le libellé est actuellement le suivant :

6.08 Durée du mandat des membres de l'Exécutif

« Tous les postes au sein de l'Exécutif sont occupés pour un mandat de deux ans. Un mandat complet est défini comme débutant le 1^{er} janvier de la première année et se terminant le 31 décembre de la deuxième année. Une personne peut occuper un même poste pour un maximum de trois mandats consécutifs. Un mandat partiel n'est pas considéré comme un mandat complet. Au gré du Conseil, une personne peut ensuite occuper un autre poste au sein de l'Exécutif, ou revenir à un poste déjà occupé après une interruption d'au moins un an. »

Nous vous demandons d'envisager d'ajouter la disposition suivante :

« À l'issue de trois mandats complets de deux ans, le Conseil peut – par consentement unanime – reconduire un membre de l'exécutif pour un mandat supplémentaire de deux ans. »

Nous estimons que l'exigence d'un consentement unanime du Conseil pour prolonger un mandat de membre de l'Exécutif respecte l'esprit de la disposition fixant une limite à la durée d'un mandat, tout en permettant de conserver des membres de l'Exécutif particulièrement compétents, spécialisés et motivés.

Lors de l'Assemblée générale annuelle de 2025, les membres de RAC présents en personne ou en ligne seront invités à voter sur cette résolution spéciale afin d'indiquer s'ils l'approuvent définitivement. J'espère pouvoir compter sur votre présence.

Allan Boyd, VE3AJB

Président – Radio Amateurs du Canada

Six Metres and Down...

Summer Propagation Coming on VHF

April showers bring May flowers, but also propagation of various types on VHF as the sun interacts with the ionosphere and the ground and water.

On 50 MHz the annual Sporadic E season kicks off in May and you will find signals "skipping" in from 1,200 kilometres away during the day, and even occasionally more than 3,000 kilometres as from Europe and Japan for example.

If the Es become strong, E-skip can happen on 144 and 222 MHz so keep an eye on it.

One way is to monitor FM broadcasts in the 88 MHz to 108 MHz band, as an indicator that the E-skip frequency is moving up. We even still have some low band TV broadcasting going on in Canada so there may be an opportunity to monitor those channels as well.

Don't forget the 8 metre band, even though we can't transmit (TX), we can listen for FT8 signals on 40.68 MHz and more. Back in the day, the only way to catch these openings was "seat time" in the shack, but today we have lots of tools to monitor for openings including ON4KST Chat, PSK Reporter, DX Clusters, various beacon networks and more. In addition, with the ever-growing remote software and equipped radios, you don't even have to be at home.

On the higher bands 144, 222, 432, 902, 1296 and up, as the atmosphere and earth is warmed by the sun, you can get layering occurring in the air, and those layers can trap radio signals just like a wave guide, and carry them long distances out 1,000 kilometres or more.

In addition there are a number of meteor showers during the summer months and you can bounce signals off the meteor trails and work beyond 1200 kilometres above 30 MHz.



Dave Goodwin, VE3KG

VE3KG 50 MHz DXCC

Dave, VE3KG, in FN24 has received his DXCC certificate for 50 MHz joining the more than 20 Canadians to join the club. Dave is pictured above with his DXCC and WAZ (26 Zones minimum).

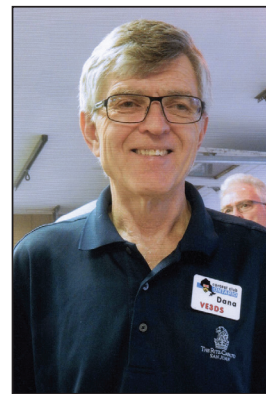
Ontario VHF Association 75th Anniversary

The Ontario VHF Association has its roots in post WWII Amateur Radio activity when an active group of young guys, full of energy were trying to forget the War and focus on the future by trying to work DX above 30 MHz. Remember, this was prior to the advent of Repeaters too so they were doing this work with directional antennas, CW and AM mostly, but FM and TV also.

There was a huge market of available WWII surplus gear that could be converted to run on 144 MHz. The Lancaster Bombers were outfitted with VHF radios designated SCR-522 which used a dual tetrode 832A output PA and would run 7 watts on 144.144 MHz AM using readily available 8008 kHz crystals.



COLUMNIST



Dana Shtun, VE3DS
ve3dss@hotmail.com
www.qsl.net/ve3dss

Antennas were converted Channel 6 TV antennas or homebrew.

This surplus supply of equipment also gave rise to 216 MHz and 420 and 1215 MHz gear as well, and here in Southern Ontario the Niagara Escarpment provided some high spots for DXing.

The guys would meet each year in Oakville at the Riverside lodge. During the 1960s Gus, VE3DSE, Al, VE3AL, Keith, VE3DHL, Martin, VE3MR and Ted, VE3BQN, to name a few, were instrumental in keeping things going. With the advent of repeaters some of the guys led the charge to set up, including the VE3RPT system as well as the other major GTA repeaters of the day, including Keith, VE3DHL and Al, VE3AL.

After a mid-1970s hiatus, the group reconvened in the 80s and 90s at various locations including at Humber College thanks to Bob, VE3WY, and at the homes of Dana, VE3DS, Dick, VE3FAC and Clarke, VE3WCB.

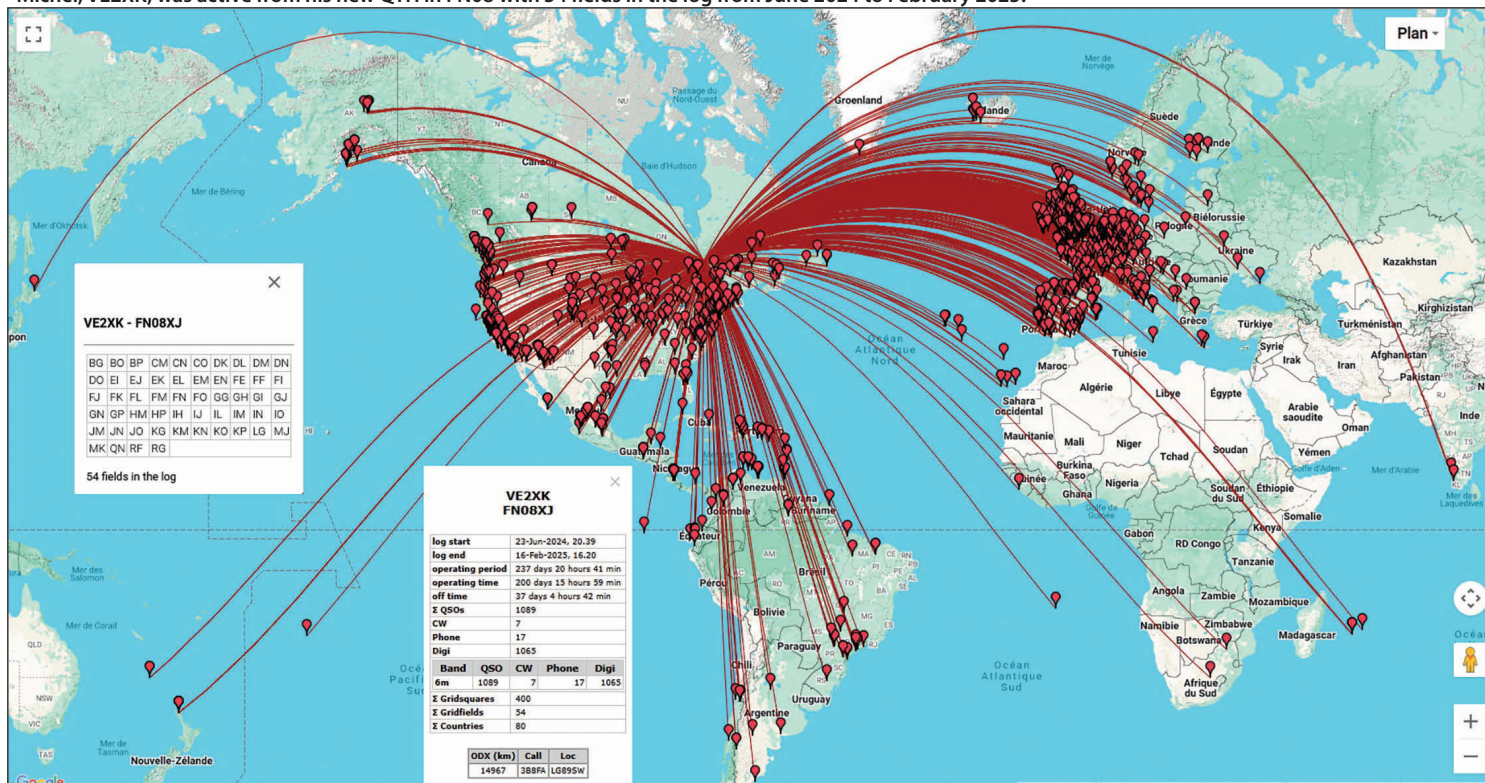
Today, the group has reconnected and partnered with the Rochester VHF group to enhance activity across Lake Ontario and we have had three annual joint meetings in Stevensville, Ontario and occasional meetings at the VE3MIS station in Mississauga.

Thanks to the efforts of VA3ELE, VE3KH, VA3TO, VE3SMA, K0SMN and N2OA among others, the group has extended their activities up into the high GHz bands. In addition, members continue to learn and share the "how to" to anyone who is interested. If you are intrigued, please reach out! Everyone is welcome to join in.

Getting on the air and having fun, working DX and learning about contesting and other stuff is what the group is about.

The next 75 years are going to be very interesting. Hi.

Michel, VE2XK, was active from his new QTH in FN08 with 54 fields in the log from June 2024 to February 2025.



50 MHz Propagation: Solar Cycle 25

Well, many of us diehard 50 MHz operators have been through past solar cycles and had some great experiences, and this cycle is no different. Michel, VE2XK, from his new QTH in FN08, got back QRV in 2024, and immediately tapped into the DX flying around the planet. A map of what he had worked is provided above!

I now have 160 countries confirmed on 50 MHz and there are many now including VA3DX and VE3EK with numbers well into the 140s. In fact, more than 20 Canadians now have greater than 100 countries on 6 metres. Some of the DX of course has passed over Canada and landed in the tropical zone where the guys can access the Transequatorial Propagation (TEP) and work into Japan and Asia long path in the mornings. For ops in Ontario and Quebec, the late February and early March openings have been mostly north-south into South America, the Falkland Islands and some occasional brief openings to Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean and snippets to New Zealand (ZL) and the South Pacific.

These openings are brought on by disturbances in the ionosphere, flares and coronal holes that interact with the Earth's magnetic field. They can trigger radio aurora where you point north and work stations who are also pointing north, but the southern direction opens too. In fact when you get major storms you can work south by pointing north – VE3FGU worked Hawaii back in 1989 that way and Don,

VE2DFO, did the same. As an example of the south openings, we had openings on March 21, 23, 24 and 25, with a total QSO count of over 50 stations worked including the Falklands, Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Uruguay and a few Caribbean stations as well.

The East Coast guys have been lucky to get into Europe, as well as Africa and the Indian Ocean areas with great over water takeoffs. Out in British Columbia and Alberta it's been Japan, Caribbean and the Pacific. Geography plays a big part and in Canada we are lucky to be spread out enough to access different propagation types on the bands above 30 MHz.

Microwave Activity – Langstone Project Transceiver

I have been working on my Langstone transceiver project and I successfully added a feature for a tuning knob and controls using an ATMEG32 to simulate a mouse. The next step will be to start packaging it and to add relay controls, preamps and internal amplifiers all in a nice cabinet that can be taken out in a Rover station or portable.

The Langstone will work on 144 up through 5.7 GHz and with further additions also 10 and 24 GHz. There is even a configuration for ATV as well so it's pretty versatile. Kudos to the guys in the United Kingdom for promoting this technology using the Raspberry Pi and Pluto SDR.

ARRL June VHF QSO Party

The ARRL June VHF QSO Party contest is held every year and is set for June 13-15. The contest starts at 1800 UTC, and you can operate under a number of different classifications. There is also a club component so if you are within 250 miles of York Region let us know and join in as the Ontario VHF Association Club as we go up against the big US clubs, jockeying for the number 1 spot.

KOPRT Venus Bounce Experiment

The guys in Colorado at KOPRT, have a 60-foot dish that they maintain, and operate on moonbounce. On March 22, the team – in coordination with teams in Europe including the Dutch team at Dwingeloo P19RD and Germany using their 25 metre dish on Stockert Mountain (DL0EF) – experimented with bouncing signals off Venus on 1296 MHz. The team in Colorado are running a kilowatt amplifier and an ERP (Effective Radiated Power) of about 65 megawatts (Mw). The plan was to just use carrier, if detected, then CW and JT65.

The team streamed the event live on Zoom. They had a number of issues on Saturday so the plan is to rerun the test in July. The US guys did mention that on their transmission there was an echo at five seconds so everyone is wondering what was out there that faraway to reflect a signal back. Was it "the mother ship"?

Well that's it for now. Enjoy the warm weather and let us know what DX you work and what projects you are working on out there! – 73 Dana, VE3DS

World Wide Flora & Fauna Outdoor Adventures: Activate Nature Through Amateur Radio

Stuart R. Crawford, VE9CF

Canadian Amateur Radio operators may already be familiar with the excitement of operating from parks through the Parks On The Air (POTA) program. However, POTA was not the first program involving operating from parks to enrich the Amateur Radio community. World Wide Flora & Fauna (WWFF) is the original global initiative that offers an excellent opportunity to extend your portable operations and connect with a broader audience – all without extra effort. Established in 2012, the WWFF program promotes preserving natural environments while allowing Amateur Radio enthusiasts to operate from protected areas. It encourages operators to leave their shacks and explore the great outdoors, all while making valuable contacts.

The Canadian chapter, VEFF (Canada Flora & Fauna), is dedicated to fostering this spirit within Canada, inviting operators to participate in a vibrant community that celebrates nature and radio. With WWFF, you can enjoy the thrill of working DXCC locations from stunning Canadian landscapes, making it a fantastic complement to your POTA activities. The program is not just limited to Canada. It includes Amateur Radio operators worldwide, creating a rich tapestry of global connections. This international aspect allows you to share your experiences and achievements with fellow Amateurs, enhancing your overall enjoyment of the hobby.

VEFF encourages all Amateur Radio activity from national parks, provincial parks, marine parks, landscapes and protected areas (including UNESCO and Ramsar sites) within Canada, not only for the “activator” but for the “hunter” as well. This inclusivity makes it ideal for outdoor enthusiasts, hikers, backpackers, Summits On The Air (SOTA) activators, and all those who enjoy operating a portable station from a scenic location away from home.

Whether activating a location or seeking to log new ones, VEFF provides a platform for all Amateurs to engage with nature and each other. The VEFF program is designed to inspire you to explore Canada's natural beauty while enjoying your passion for Amateur Radio. The thrill

of activating a WWFF location is matched only by the satisfaction of knowing you're contributing to preserving these precious areas.

In 2025, WWFF was officially included in the RAC Canadian Portable Operations Challenge (see page 54), further solidifying its place in the hearts of Canadian Amateurs. This integration means you can count your WWFF activations toward your overall score as you participate in the challenge. This is a fantastic incentive to explore new locations and engage with nature while enjoying your passion for radio.

Operating under the WWFF banner lets you connect with a dedicated community of operators who share your love for the outdoors and Amateur Radio. You'll find that many operators are eager to make contacts from various parks and protected areas, making it easier than ever to log new locations and expand your operating experience.

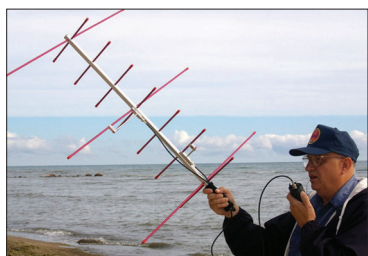
Canadian Parks on the Air (POTA) activators can quickly expand their park experience by participating in WWFF during the same activation. The process is straightforward. First, check the Canadian WWFF (VEFF) reference numbers for your planned park. Since POTA originally built its systems using WWFF's program, you can use your existing setup with minimal changes. After activating, you can submit the same log file to both programs. Send your POTA logs through the standard POTA system, then upload that same POTA ADIF log through the VEFF website. No modifications are required. VEFF will automatically convert your POTA log for WWFF and credit you for activating and awards. Remember to announce your activation on the WWFF Agenda for maximum visibility and spot your activations on the WWFF website and DX clusters.

The WWFF program enhances portable operations by offering a fresh perspective on operating from Canada's beautiful parks and wilderness areas. It allows you to participate in an international community and encourages conservation and appreciation of the natural world. By activating WWFF locations, you promote environmental awareness while enjoying the thrill of making contacts from picturesque settings.



If you want to diversify your portable operations and connect with a broader audience, WWFF is the perfect addition to your Amateur Radio toolkit. With its long-standing history and commitment to promoting nature conservation, this program will surely enrich your Amateur Radio experience.

If you're interested in learning more about the World Wide Flora & Fauna program and how you can get involved, don't hesitate to visit www.veff.ca to learn how WWFF can become part of your portable operations. Join the WWFF community today and discover a new dimension of portable radio! The possibilities are endless, whether you're activating a remote location or hunting for new contacts. Start your journey with VEFF and explore the beauty of Canada while connecting with fellow Amateur Radio enthusiasts.



Keith Baker, VA3KSF/KB1SF
kb1sf@yahoo.com

I hope that when you read this column the weather will finally be warm enough to get "out and about" and operate on the satellites from portable locations.

Fortunately, there are a couple of new satellites (and satellite constellations) now in orbit that as of mid-April were awaiting checkout before they are released for general Amateur use.

So, in this installment of the column, I'll offer a quick review of some of these new satellites as well as do some "seed planting" about some other related activities that can be easily combined with your portable satellite work.

New Satellites Now In Orbit!

Finally...A Launch After Delays!

After delaying the launch (a highly unusual) seven times (it was originally slated to take to the skies on February 27) a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket *finally* carried their 13th Rideshare mission to orbit on Saturday, March 15. The launch carried 74 small satellites (including some for Radio Amateurs) to a sun-synchronous orbit (SSO), lifting off from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California at 06:43 UTC (11:43 pm local California time on March 14).

HADES-ICM

Among the 74 small satellites carried on the launch was AMSAT-EA's HADES-ICM 1.5 PocketQube satellite. Its main mission is to act as an Amateur Radio FM voice repeater. It can also repeat FSK derived from modes like FT-4 and FT-8. A small empty space available on the satellite was also used to carry an experiment by Smart IR/Graphene Engineering Innovation Centre (GEIC) at the University of Manchester (UK). The experiment consists of a very low power active radiator to be tested in space conditions. The data for this experiment will be transmitted in a specific data packet in the telemetry. This experiment is the same one that was carried aboard HADES-R (which was subsequently named SO-124 on orbit).

This experiment will be operated by AMSAT-EA, as all of the data downlinked from it will be unencrypted and publicly available. Engineering and manufacturing support for the experiment was carried out with the help of private sector companies and universities, but AMSAT-EA will be the only operating organization

HADES-ICM will offer Radio Amateurs around the world the opportunity to relay FM voice along with AX.25 / APRS 300 / 1200 bps digital communications. Again, FSK derived transmissions and modes like FT-4 and FT-8 will also be supported. As an improvement from previous missions, maximum power will now be upwards of 0.25 watts when the battery is fully charged (the amplifier uses battery energy). This will allow for easier QSOs with handheld antennas (like an Arrow or an Elk) and/or less sensitive receivers.

Figure 2: A group of satellites called "TEVEL2" were carried on the SpaceX Rideshare 13 launch. (Courtesy: AMSAT)

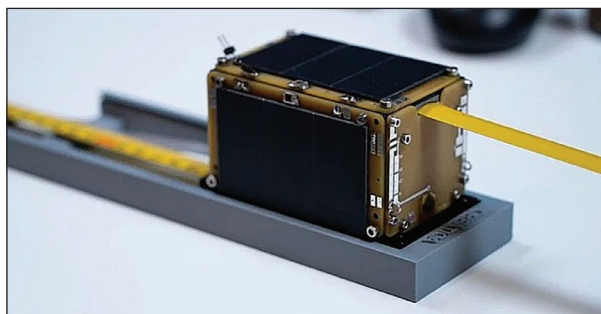


Figure 1: A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket carried AMSAT-EA's HADES-ICM satellite to orbit on Saturday, March 15, 2025. It was one of 74 small satellites that were included on the Rideshare 13 launch. (Courtesy: AMSAT-EA)

The satellite will also transmit telemetry status and CW messages. This all will be achieved by implementing a SDR-based repeater. The FM/FSK repeater will be available full time and opened by simply breaking the squelch on the satellite's uplink receiver without the need of an audible sub-tone. Uplink to the satellite will be on 145.875 MHz with a downlink on 436.666 MHz.

In mid-April, the satellite was still being checked out on orbit. The FM repeater will not be fully activated until all checks have been successfully performed on the satellite. This will most likely take several weeks to complete.

Nine New TEVEL Satellites Were Also Launched

A group of satellites labeled as "TEVEL2" were also on the launch manifest for the SpaceX Rideshare 13 mission and were designated as TEVEL2-1 through TEVEL2-9 before launch (see Figure 2).

One may assume that these satellites will operate in much the same manner as the first series of TEVEL satellites that were launched in January 2022 and which have now decayed from orbit. Those satellites were activated individually and carried FM repeaters with the same 436.400 MHz downlink and an uplink frequency of 145.970 MHz. However, there is no official word from the satellite sponsors as to their final plans for this new series of satellites.

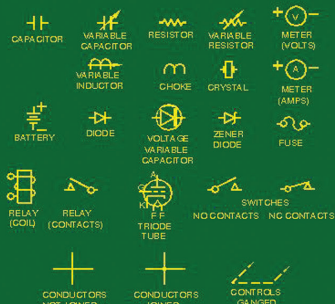
POTA and Satellites

Besides working the satellites, one of my (other) favourite activities in warmer weather has been to participate in the international Parks On The Air (POTA) program on HF. POTA started in early 2017 when the American Radio Relay League (ARRL's) National Parks On The Air special event ended. A group of volunteers wanted to continue the fun beyond that one-year event, and thus the current POTA program was born.



Coax Publications Inc. Ensuring Your Success!

Canadian Amateur Radio Basic Qualification Study Guide



The Canadian Basic Qualification Study Guide: \$49.95 + shipping and taxes, includes unlimited access to the Student Success Pages on our web site and also "Ask the Professor" assistance.

Canadian Basic Qualification Study Guide: We continue to support all of our customers!

We matched to current 9th edition, 5th printing of the Study Guide for the Basic Qualification to the new ISED July 15, 2025 Question Bank. Our online Student Success Pages are now based on this material and all question cross-references have been adjusted. If you write your exam on or before July 14 it will still be based on the old Question Bank. The revised questions apply for exams written on July 15, 2025 or later.

Overall, most of what has been added or changed is already in the book. In some minor cases we decided that the wording in the book might be a bit ambiguous when compared to the questions so we updated it. The changes are available on the errata page.

There were only a few places where we didn't already cover the topic and new sections have been written. Coax Publications will not leave purchasers of current versions stranded. If any additional areas are found where the material required is missing we will provide it at no cost to you, either as new pages for download or in the online errata.

For over 16 years Coax Publications has produced the best study materials for students studying for their Canadian Basic or Advanced Qualifications in Amateur Radio. We cover all of the information required for the ISED exams. Our books provide valuable context to what you are learning and are used by the RAC online classes and most Amateur Radio clubs. The price of the books includes lifetime access to the Student Success Pages and Ask the Professor help pages on our web site. Students – you will want to keep these books for reference after you pass your course!

Order From Our Web Site: <https://www.coaxpublications.ca/>

\$49.95 + shipping and taxes

POTA has since turned into a very popular, ongoing effort that encourages Amateur Radio operators to develop their skills, foster community goodwill and demonstrate the Amateur Radio Service to the public. Thousands of parks are now available to be "activated" in the program worldwide, and each presents a unique operational experience for those who participate.

And while contacts made through land-based repeaters do not "count" as POTA contacts, those made via our fleet of Amateur Radio satellites *very much do!* This means that while many of us also enjoy operating portable on the satellites from various Maidenhead Grid Square locations, combining that activity while *also* operating from a POTA Park at the same time means that our contacts can now "count" for two on-air activations rather than just one!

The POTA program sponsors maintain an extensive website at <https://pota.app> that contains all of the information you need to register for and get started in the program. One of the features of their site

is a page where you can even self-spot your own park activation(s) by entering the park information you are operating from (by POTA Park Number) and then what frequency and mode you are using. Then, when you call "CQ POTA" you will often have scores of people waiting in line to work you. I've found it much like being on the working end of a pileup while located in a rare DX entity.

AMSAT at Hamvention

Once again, AMSAT will have a booth at this year's huge Dayton Hamvention. The 2025 show will be held on May 16, 17 and 18 at the Greene County Fairgrounds in the small town of Xenia, Ohio USA. AMSAT will once again be occupying a large area in Building One of the venue in booths 1007-1010 and 1107-1110.

Traditionally, AMSAT has also been given a small space immediately adjacent to our indoor booths for on-air satellite demonstrations. We've also been provided a place on the Hamvention schedule to conduct an informative forum about the current status of AMSAT's Amateur Radio satellite projects.

And, if all goes as planned, I will also be there again this year, most likely helping to staff the "Beginner's Corner" of our booth.

So, if you plan to attend Hamvention be sure and stop by the AMSAT booth to introduce yourself and say hello. I look forward to meeting you there for an "eyeball" QSO!

Looking Ahead

That's all for this installment. In future columns, I'll continue to shine the spotlight on Amateur satellite projects that are currently on the drawing boards, are awaiting launch and/or those that are still (or becoming) operational on orbit.

In the meantime, you can always obtain the very latest information and transponder status of all of our Amateur satellites from the AMSAT website at: <https://www.amsat.org/status/>.

And, as always, I very much look forward to meeting you on the birds!

Adam Farson, VA7OJ (SK) and John Schouten, VE7TI, Inducted into Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame

**Frank Davis, VO1HP – Chair,
Board of Trustees of the Canadian
Amateur Radio Hall of Fame**

The Board of Trustees of the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame is pleased to announce that Adam Farson, VA7OJ (SK), and John Schouten, VE7TI, have been formally inducted into the Hall of Fame.



Adam Farson, VA7OJ (SK)



John Schouten, VE7TI

Radio Amateurs of Canada recognizes deserving Amateurs by appointments to the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

**Nominations are now open until
September 30.**

Please get together with your fellow Amateurs or club members and submit a nomination or two.

For more information on the Hall of Fame please visit: <https://wp.rac.ca/carhof/>



Ed Frazer, VE7EF,
Vince Busto, VE7NZO
(NSARC President),
Walter Salden,
VE7WRS, Hiroshi
Takahashi, VA7LET
(RAC Director for
British Columbia/
Yukon) accept the
CARHOF plaque
on behalf of Adam
Farson, VA7OJ (SK).

Photo by George
Merchant, VE7GM.

Adam Farson, VA7OJ (SK) – CARHOF 2024 Inductee

Adam Farson was born in England in March 1940, and he obtained his first Amateur Radio licence in South Africa in 1962 as ZS1ZG (later ZS6XT).

Adam worked as a Radio Engineer with General Telephone and Electronics Corporation and then for Siemens in Florida where he was able at last to set up a permanent operating station and test bench. He became well known for his skill in converting retired commercial Motorola handhelds for Amateur Radio use and for many years he was a VHF repeater coordinator in Florida. He was instrumental in promoting the noise-power-ratio (NPR) method of testing the behaviour of a receiver which was used for years in the telecommunications industry.

In 1999, Adam moved to Vancouver, British Columbia to begin his retirement. In the decades that followed, he set up a lab in his home in which he tested many Amateur Radio products and published detailed test reports. He continually updated his knowledge by attending major Amateur conventions and he shared his professional expertise with the Amateur community in Canada and internationally. Adam was an active member of the North Shore Amateur Radio Club (NSARC) in Vancouver for over 20 years and served as a Director, Website Manager, Examiner and a CW tutor and he was a regular speaker at club meetings and at other local clubs. Adam also created a comprehensive website featuring his test reports and articles on testing techniques.

From 1989 to 2020, Adam was the net controller for the ICOM HF radio net operating Sundays on 14.316 MHz. These discussions along with the online ICOM forums he moderated, provided operating and repair advice for ICOM owners.

He always had a smile, always had time to “talk radio”, always had an interesting radio-related story and always would help another Amateur – either with knowledge and advice or more practically by testing/repairing their equipment.

On April 3, 2025, Adam Farson, VA7OJ, SK was formally inducted into the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame at a meeting of the North Shore Amateur Radio Club (NSARC) in North Vancouver, British Columbia. Ed Frazer, VE7EF, who had nominated Adam for the award, summarized Adam’s many contributions to Amateur Radio, including his 20-year membership in the club to whom he gave many lectures and demonstrations on the performance of HF radios, particularly those made by ICOM.

RAC British Columbia / Yukon Director Hiroshi Takahashi, VA7LET, then described the Hall of Fame program and presented the plaque to Walter Salden, VE7WRS, one of Adam’s closest friends. Adam had no living relatives in North America so Walter requested that the plaque be displayed in the radio room of NSARC, which is part of the North & West Vancouver Emergency office. Club President, Vince Busto VE7NZO, will arrange for a suitable placement of the plaque. Former RAC Director Keith Witney, VE7KW, also attended the presentation.

John Schouten, VE7TI – CARHOF 2024 Inductee

Born in the Netherlands, John moved to Canada as a child and has lived in the Greater Vancouver area since 1960. As a qualified electronics technician, John's early career saw him work in the telecommunications industry where he first gained exposure to Amateur Radio, although he did not become licensed at that time.

John left his technological career behind in the mid-1970s when he joined the Vancouver Police Department, serving for 30 years as a Patrol Constable, Dog Master ("K9" Officer) and Homicide Detective. He served as the Manager in charge of police operations at BC's regional 911 and emergency response centre and as Deputy Chief of the Support Services Division before his retirement in 2003.

During his policing career John was able to return to his long interest in Amateur Radio and became licensed as VE7VPU. John was part of the planning group for E-Comm, a City of Vancouver initiative to bring a new wide-area integrated police, fire, and ambulance communications, 9-1-1, and dispatch system to the BC Lower Mainland.

At his urging, Amateur Radio was included in the E-Comm concept, and in October 1998, with three other Amateurs, John conceived and brought together Amateurs from across the region to form the Vancouver Emergency Community Telecommunications Organization (VECTOR).

Until his retirement, John served as a Director of VECTOR, and liaison officer with the City of Vancouver Emergency Program. He remained a member of the E-Comm Board of Directors for five years after he retired.



RAC Director Hiroshi Takahashi, VA7LET (British Columbia / Yukon Region) presents the CARHOF plaque to John Schouten, VE7TI (on the left).

John was instrumental in developing a relationship between the City of Vancouver's Council and VECTOR, involving the Amateur group in many civic events. VECTOR provided communications for events such as the Celebration of Lights and other large activities. This relationship continues to this day.

John has been a key member of the Surrey Amateur Radio Communications Society (SARC; shown below) and Surrey Emergency Program Amateur Radio (SEPAR) for many years.

He has applied his creative talents as Editor of SARC's bimonthly publication "The Communicator" to build it from a short club newsletter distributed locally to a free magazine which averages 125 pages that is downloaded over 30,000 times per issue across the globe.



Hiroshi Takahashi, VA7LET (RAC Director for BC/Yukon Region), CARHOF Recipient John Schouten, VE7TI, and Keith Witney, VE7KW (former RAC Director British Columbia / Yukon Region) celebrate John's induction.

John is also the coordinator and lead instructor of SARC's Basic course for new Amateurs.

John works closely with SEPAR and the City of Surrey to continue to integrate Amateur Radio into the community providing emergency communications. Using SEPAR's portable equipment they are able to provide communications for biking, walking and other events within the City of Surrey.

Radio Amateurs of Canada and the Board of Trustees of CARHOF sincerely congratulate John Schouten, VE7TI, and Adam Farson, VA7OJ (SK), on their induction into the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame.

For more information on the Hall of Fame please visit: <https://wp.rac.ca/carhof/>



Members of the Surrey Amateur Radio Communications Society at their monthly meeting.

Two men, a Jeep and a Quest: The NSARA Contest

Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS
President NSARA

Each year the Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association (NSARA) holds their spring contest. The goal is to reach as many counties as possible within Nova Scotia on 80 metres.



The date is always the first Sunday in March (March 2 this year) and the times are between 8 am to noon and 2 pm to 6 pm local time.

There are 18 counties in Nova Scotia, but in the last few years several of them had no active Amateur Radio operators for the contest.

Stations making contacts with all 18 Nova Scotia counties (all modes) will have a "Clean Sweep" and this was not achievable last year. Everyone was missing three of the four counties within Cape Breton Island: Inverness, Richmond and Victoria.

A plan was hatched by me, Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS and Evan Mosher, VA1ECM, to see if we could help solve the problem for this year. We decided to see if we could be a rover station and move an 80m system to remote locations in the time frame given and help the Amateur community achieve the clean sweep.

The 80m band is not very forgiving in the daylight hours and the distances between the different counties was going to be a challenge. The weather in Cape Breton at this time of the year can be very inhospitable with snowstorms and gale-force winds that are not only a possibility, but within the highlands, more of a probability. We would use my two-letter call sign VE1HD for this contest.



Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS/VE1HD



Evan Mosher, VA1ECM

We gathered our equipment for this quest: a Yaesu FT-991A transceiver; a large gel cell battery; a homemade 80m dipole consisting of a 1:1 balun and two 62.5-foot legs of 12 gauge stranded wire; and an industrial tripod, usually used for outdoor speaker support. We added several smaller aluminum poles to achieve our 30-foot mast. We tossed in an antenna analyzer and a few different cable

combinations as we were not sure how long our antenna was going to be from the vehicle. The vehicle that we used was my new 2024 Jeep Wrangler Willys Edition (two-door) and there is not a lot of room for all the gear.

We left Antigonish County at 6 am before sunrise to start out on our quest. It was cloudy and just above freezing, and the weather forecast said sunny periods and a high of 4 degrees Celsius.

On the way to Cape Breton Island, we discussed other ways to reach all four counties within Cape Breton and to activate a Parks on the Air (POTA) station at the same time. If there was time, we would also try to setup in several mainland counties such as Guysborough, Antigonish and Pictou.

Our first choice was to go to Inverness County and we arrived before 9 am at the Whycocomagh Provincial Park (POTA CA-9054) to find a parking lot thankfully cleared of snow. As we started to plan our antenna placement, we noticed that on all sides of the lots there were power lines including some high-tension ones. Was this even going to work? Was it even safe enough with our untested 30-foot mast and dipole? The only way to find out was to set it up.

By 9 am we had put up our mast and antenna system and put the analyzer on it. Although the legs were a little long it was within the operating range. By 9:07 am we were on the air!



Stop 1: Inverness County

The noise from the power lines was annoying, but we made four contacts and convinced ourselves that we better move on with our tasks if we were to try to complete this quest. As we waded through knee-high snow to retrieve our antenna tie-out points, we were grinning from ear to ear. We were now addicted! We took the time to roll up the legs and guy wire so it would be easier to setup the next time.

Back on the road, the next stop was of course Tim Hortons.

Our next goal was Victoria County where the Alexander Graham Bell Museum was located. Would we be lucky again? Arriving at the site we were pleased to see that the road was not gated and some of the parking lot was plowed. After scouting out our options, we chose where the buses were usually parked when the museum is open. The official name is the Alexander Graham Bell National Historic Site (POTA CA-4826).

Although it started to snow, we got our mast and antenna system up quickly, tying one leg to a power pole and the other to a lilac shrub. Although we did trim 12 inches off the legs and got the standing wave ratio (SWR) better, they were still a little long.



Stop 2: Victoria County

Starting at 11:03 am, at the back of the jeep under the small rear window, we made five contacts and found out that the band conditions were terrible for everyone. We broke down our gear and tossed it into the back of the Jeep.

Our next stop – Tim Hortons again for another warm coffee and to plan our next step. As it was around noon and we couldn't start again until 2 pm, it was decided that we would travel through Cape Breton County to its southern tip – was there a park in that area? Yup, Ben Eoin Provincial Park (POTA CA-0888) was in that area.

Ben Eoin is a beautiful community and the park driveway was accessible to our vehicle. Although it wasn't plowed, we had a Jeep! After setting up our mast and antenna system, we ate our pack lunch of egg salad and salmon sandwiches, and washed it down with a soda pop. Once we plugged our transceiver in again and did an autotune on it, we got a high SWR error and noticed the band was very quiet.

After playing with the cabling, it seemed to get better. We made a few contacts, but the band conditions seemed to be even worse than the last stop. At least the weather had decided to be nicer as the sun had come out. Off to the next one.

Looking at Google Maps, the next stop was Richmond County and I was aware of a provincial park there – Battery Park near St. Peter's. As we drove, we calculated our time management to meet all our goals before 6 pm – it was going to be close! Our other concern was if our antenna system was broken or had a bad cable?

We didn't have the time to do a lot of troubleshooting. Our first setback was when we arrived at the driveway to Battery Park to find it was gated and full of snow and ice. Hmmm, back to Google Maps where we found another location, St. Peter's National Historic Site, just around the corner and down by the canal.

We were getting better at our set up.



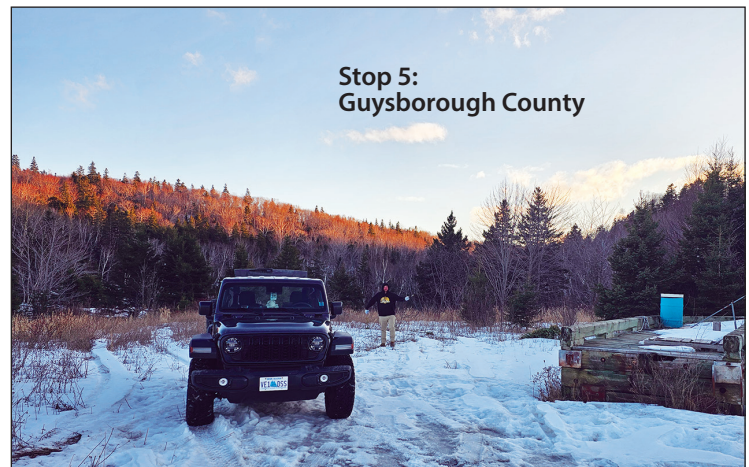
Stop 3: Cape Breton County



Stop 4: Richmond County

Each of us had our jobs and we were working very well together and by 3:43 pm we had made our first contact. Unfortunately, our antenna would no longer autotune, even with a different feedline. Our power was compromised, but we did manage six contacts there and even one mobile contact. Time to toss everything back into the Jeep and roll on down the highway.

Our next mission was to cross the causeway back to the mainland and find a site close to Highway 104 but in Guysborough County. Just inside the county line, we found an empty lot to set up our mast and antenna system.



Stop 5: Guysborough County

Radioworld.ca

Canada's favourite Amateur Radio Stores!



POWER SUPPLIES OF THE NEXT GENERATION, ENGINEERED WITH ALINCO'S FINEST COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AND PHILOSOPHY

DM430T - 30 AMP
SWITCHING POWER SUPPLY
WITH VARIABLE VOLTAGE
FROM 9 TO 15 VDC featuring
Anderson Powerpole connectors.



BEST SELLING POWER SUPPLIES



DM530T - 30 AMP
SWITCHING POWER SUPPLY
WITH VARIABLE VOLTAGE
FROM 5 TO 15 VDC featuring
DC Car Socket and more!

Radioworld **central**
Toronto, ON **Radioworld**
866-666-8600 **Calgary, AB**
800-585-9331

It was used to store large docks in the winter but there was lots of room for us too. The sun was starting to drop and the temperature was starting to drop and it was 5:07 pm by the time we made our first contact. Although the band conditions had improved and we were hearing more stations, our crippled antenna was restricting our power output but we did manage four more contacts. Time to go again.

By this time, we were almost out of time, down on fuel and getting a little tired. It was an eventful day! We decided to revise our original plan to go to Beaver Meadow Park in James River as we would not make it before 6 pm. The choices were few but Evan knew of an old ball field in Monastery near the Monsignor Donnelly Catholic Parish Hall.

When we arrived there, the temperature showed -6C and the wind was howling enough to make whistling sounds from our mast. Our fingers were starting to stick to the poles, but at 5:52 pm we made our first of four contacts from Antigonish County. We had achieved it! It was just after 6 pm when we drove out of the ball field and headed home.

After an examination of our antenna system, I found our MFJ balun had a fault in it. The nut that held the eyebolt to the tie-point had rattled loose and dropped down to short out the input connector of our balun. I am very glad that we didn't let the magic smoke out of my FT-991A.



Stop 6: Antigonish County

The result! We travelled 438 kilometres, consumed 55 litres of fuel, worked from six counties, contacted 26 Amateurs in six different Nova Scotia counties and several more from New Brunswick, and activated four POTA locations.

With the current scoring system, we get one point for every contact, multiplied by the number of counties worked plus 100 bonus points for each of the counties we worked from. The final result was a total of 1,285 points for first place in the contest!

More than that, we had a great experience and a lot of fun! I believe, because of our commitment to this quest it was possible to get a Clean Sweep this year.



NSARA Contest: First Place and a Clean Sweep!

Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS, lives in Antigonish, Nova Scotia and has worked at St. Francis Xavier University for 30 years as a Senior Electronics Technologist and Consultant.

He obtained his Basic with Honour's Certification in 2010 and his Advanced a few years later. His hobbies include camping, motorcycles and electronics.





Allen Wootton, VY1KX
Box 21217 | Whitehorse, Yukon
vy1kx@myrac.ca

CW is by far my favourite mode. I value it for its simplicity, the sense of accomplishment it provides and its ability to allow communications even when conditions are not particularly favourable. I like that it can provide relaxed conversation too – the real communication of ideas that is so lacking with some digital modes. I was therefore really pleased to hear that RAC is offering a course for those wanting to learn Morse (<https://raccw.ca/>).

A few months ago Dave Johnson, VE7VR, sent out an email notice to members of the Orca DX and Contest Club regarding a very interesting BBC documentary podcast. If you need encouragement to learn or improve your Morse, I recommend listening to this podcast. It is called “Morse code: Ready to transmit – The Documentary Podcast” and can be found at <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0k8y9kq>.

Learning Morse does take some effort, but it is much easier to do than trying to learn a second language. There are, after all, only about 40 characters that you need to know – 26 letters, 10 numbers and a few punctuation symbols. I have heard people say that they have trouble learning Morse because they are too old or too non-musical, but I think both of these are poor excuses.

“QUA – A Topical Digest”: Learning Morse

Mastery comes with practise, and these days there are many good learning programs and even online courses that provide instruction.

One program that is easy to use was written by Ray Burlingame-Goff, G4FON. Although he died in 2021, this PC program is still available at <http://g4fon.net/>. A program for improving contesting skills called “Morse Runner”, written by Alex Shovkoplyas, VE3NEA. It is fun to use but can be quite addictive too! You will find this program at <https://dxatlas.com/MorseRunner/>.

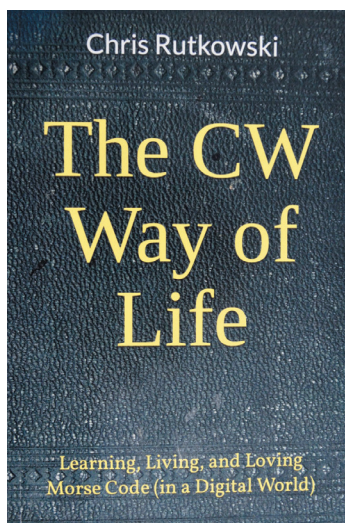
George Privett, VY1GP, gave me an excellent book on CW that I recommend very highly.

The CW Way of Life: Learning, Living, and Loving Morse Code (in a Digital World) by Chris Rutkowski, NW6V,

provides history, information about keys and ergonomics, reading and writing Morse, head copy and suggestions regarding QSOs. It is the most complete guide that I know of for learning and enjoying Morse and CW operation. You can find it online at the RSGB Shop (print) and at Amazon.ca (print and Kindle).

A Code Practice Oscillator

For those wanting to practice code as individuals or in groups, the article “A Hi Fi Keyer – Code Practice Oscillator – Audio Amplifier” by Ken Grant, VE3FIT, published in the May/June 2019 TCA provides the circuit and description of a very nice project. As the title indicates, the project includes a keyer, code practice oscillator and audio amplifier. His oscillator is a “twin T” type that produces a very nice tone. He also includes a contact debouncing circuit to eliminate the scratchy sounds that are sometimes produced at the make and break of mechanical contacts, and also a wave shaping circuit that eliminates the clicks of rapid on-off keying.



I decided to build this project because it combined all the circuits needed for group or individual code practice into one compact unit. It also included circuits that I found interesting and that I thought others might too. In this column I will describe the oscillator section of the project. You can find a PDF version of the article on the RAC website next to the online version of this magazine.

Ken used a twin T oscillator. As the name suggests there are two T-shaped circuit elements in this type of oscillator. You can see these sections in the circuit diagram of Ken's project shown in Figure 1 on the next page.

In this diagram, the T-shaped section composed of the two capacitors marked as C_1 and the resistor R_1 make a high pass filter. The T-shaped section composed of the two resistors marked R_2 and the capacitor C_2 act as a low-pass filter. Note that C_2 is equal to $2C_1$. In practice, it is usual to use two capacitors equal to C_1 in parallel to make up the value of C_2 .

Low-pass and high-pass filters have the characteristics shown in Figure 2. As the name suggests, a low-pass filter allows frequencies below its “cut-off” frequency to pass through with very little attenuation whereas a high-pass filter attenuates low frequencies and passes high frequencies. A twin T notch filter is made by overlapping the low- and high-pass filters so as to produce a notch. At the chosen frequency the attenuation will be very large and there will be a phase shift of 180 degrees between input and output.

In its simplest form, an oscillator has the characteristics shown in Figure 3. In this diagram, a signal from the output of an amplifier is returned or “fed back” to the amplifier's input. In Figure 1, the amplifier is the 2N3904 transistor. Because it is a common emitter amplifier, its output is shifted 180 degrees from the input. Feedback of the resonant frequency through the twin T filter shifts the frequency another 180 degrees so that the feedback is shifted a total of 360 degrees. This 360 degree shift only occurs at the notch frequency.

At frequencies above and below the twin T notch frequency, the transistor is overdriven because at these frequencies the signals pass through the filter relatively unattenuated. Only at the notch frequency is there sufficient

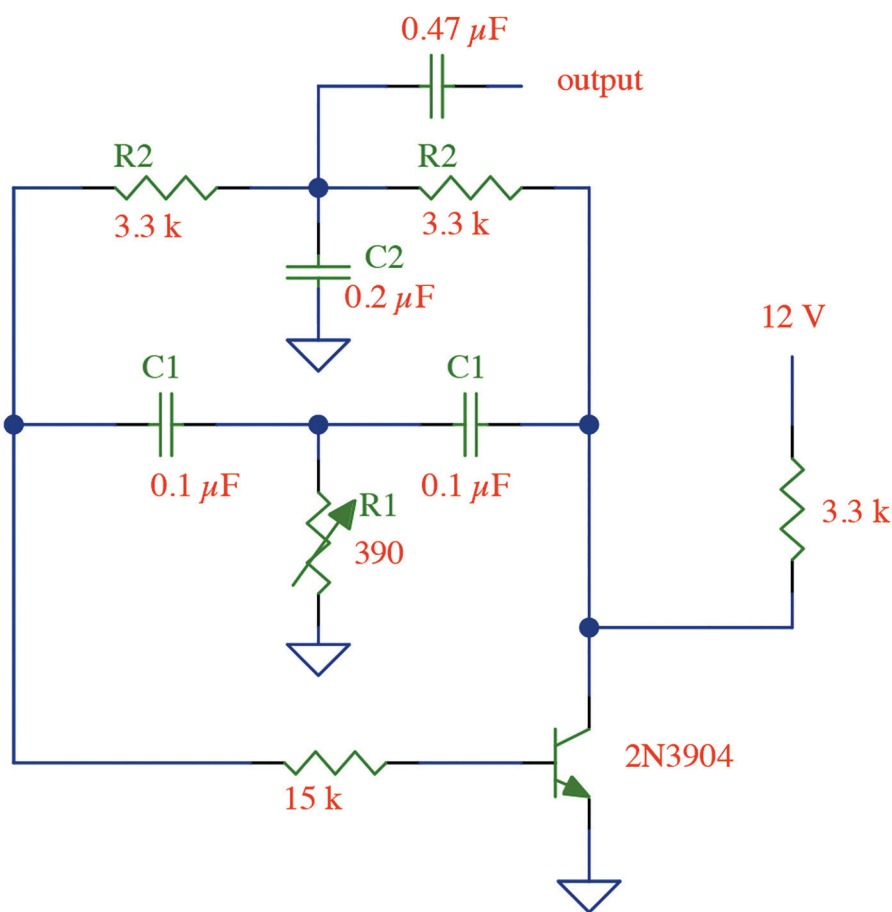


Figure 1: This is the oscillator circuit from VE3FIT's code practice oscillator. Since capacitor C_2 is equal to $2C_1$ it is made up of two $0.1\ \mu\text{F}$ capacitors in parallel. Ken used a fixed $390\ \text{ohm}$ resistor in the high-pass filter. I needed a lower resistance of about $260\ \text{ohms}$ at that position for oscillation to occur. I used a fixed resistance of $220\ \text{ohms}$ in series with a $50\ \text{ohm}$ potentiometer. With this combination I could adjust the oscillation slightly to produce the best waveform and make small changes in frequency.

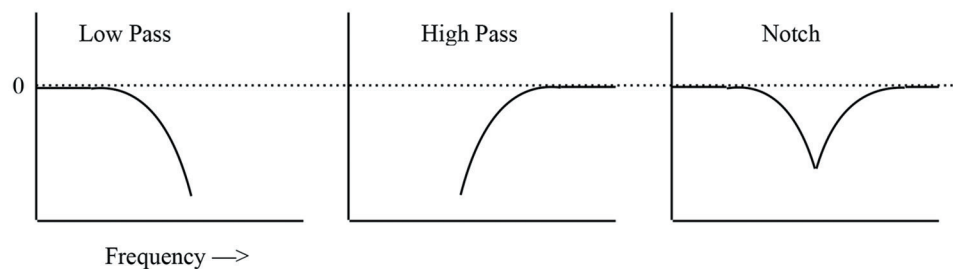


Figure 2: In these graphs attenuation increases downwards from zero along the vertical axis.

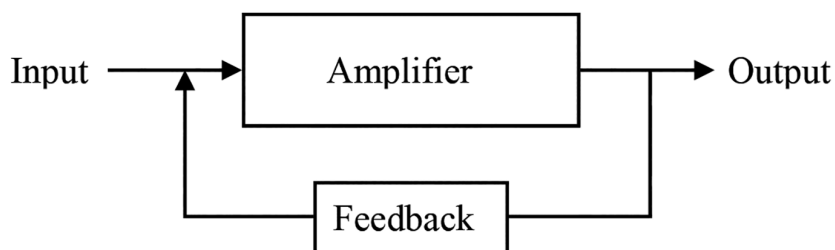


Figure 3: Oscillation occurs when the feedback signal has the right phase and amplitude. For the twin T oscillator of Figure 1, the right conditions are a 180° degree shift in the amplifier followed by an additional 180° degree shift in the twin T filter. The feedback amplitude is very small at this frequency.

attenuation of the feedback and the required additional 180° degree shift such that oscillation occurs at that frequency.

According to information on page 25.19 of my 2018 edition of *The ARRL Handbook*, a twin T oscillator based on a transistor should have R_1 with about $1/10$ th the resistance of R_2 , and C_2 should be twice the value of C_1 . *The ARRL Handbook* also states that the output at the location shown in Figure 1 gives the least harmonic distortion. For a frequency of $750\ \text{Hz}$ the Handbook says R_1 should be $1800\ \text{ohms}$ and each of the two R_2 resistors $18\ \text{kohms}$.

C_1 capacitors should be $0.02\ \mu\text{F}$ and C_2 equal to $0.05\ \mu\text{F}$, close, but not exactly the 2:1 ratio suggested. The components in Ken's twin T oscillator are different from these too. I found they gave a frequency of about $700\ \text{Hz}$.

During my research for this topic I realized that the calculations for the design of a twin T filter can be quite complex. As an example, take a look at the Analog Devices mini tutorial found at <https://www.analog.com/media/en/training-seminars/tutorials/MT-225.pdf>. This mini tutorial shows the notch design equations and provides a simplified formula for its frequency.

According to that equation, $f_0 = 1/(2\pi RC)$, where R is the resistance of one of the low-pass filter resistors and C the capacitance of the high pass capacitor. Using this equation I found calculated frequencies lower than I expected, but in the general range. I found only one site that provided a computer calculator for the design of a twin T filter. It was at the Japanese site sim.okawa-denshi.jp.

If you go to this site you will see a selection for "Tools" right at the top of the page. Click on that and scroll to the bottom of the page that is presented. There you will find the choice "Engineering Design Utilities" in English. If you click on this you will find an English language listing for various design tools including one for filters, within which is a choice for twin T filters. This calculator gave results for frequency and phase shift compatible with my expectations and measurements. I also found that twin T oscillators based on op-amps are much more common than those that use a single transistor. A typical circuit for one of these twin T oscillators is shown above in Figure 4.

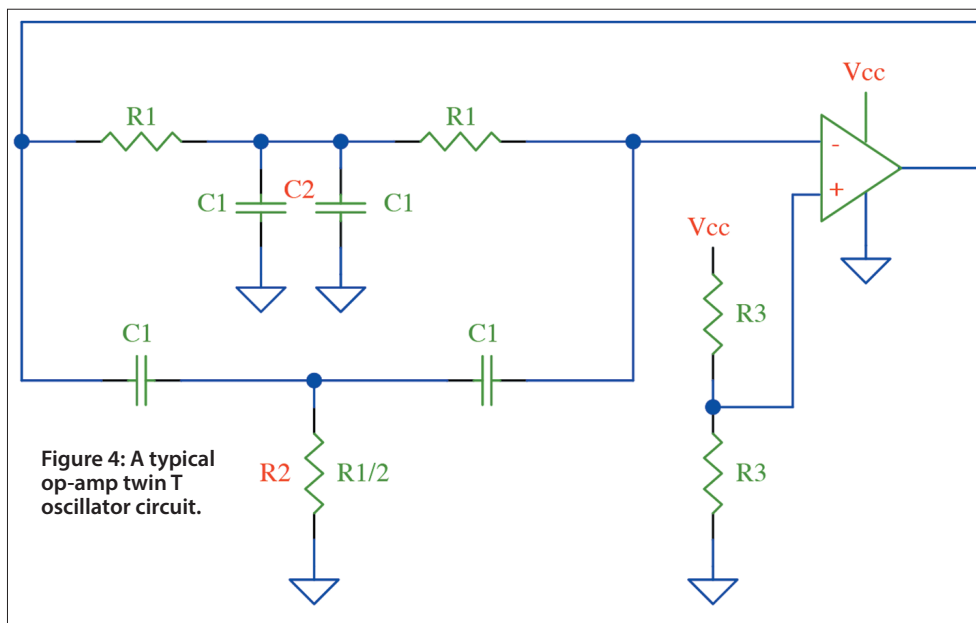


Figure 4: A typical op-amp twin T oscillator circuit.

All of the circuits of this type that I found – including that in the Analog Devices mini tutorial mentioned above – use 2:1 ratios for the resistors and capacitors in the twin T filter. For example, in Figure 4, $R_1/R_2 = C_2/C_1 = 2:1$. However, I don't understand why all the single transistor twin T oscillators used resistor and capacitor values in line with *The ARRL Handbook* suggestions rather than the 2:1 ratios used for op-amp oscillators.

As is so often the case for many other topics, Alan Wolke, W2AEW, has an excellent YouTube video on Twin T oscillators. You will find it as his video #380. I wrote to Alan to ask if he knew why the choice of resistor values is so different between a transistor based Twin T oscillator and one based on an op-amp. He replied that without doing a detailed analysis he wasn't sure either, but

suggested that it could be because the gain of an op-amp is so much greater than that of a single transistor amplifier.

I enjoyed experimenting with this circuit and found it to be very instructive. Even if you don't want to build the code practice oscillator, the Twin T oscillator is easy to set up on a solderless breadboard and it can be exciting to see a very nice sine wave output when everything is properly adjusted.

Straight Keys and Bugs

In my March/April 2025 QUA column, I wrote about my visit with Taka Sakai, JA1KIH, Shun Sekiya, JJ1RZG, Nao Hosada, JO3HPM and Hiro Sugisaka, JJ1FXF in Japan. Each of them are also all ardent CW operators with selections of straight keys, bugs and paddles at their operating positions.

JA1HIK's instruments are shown in Figure 5 and those of JJ1RZG are featured on his QSL card in Figure 6. Like these Japanese Amateurs, I have a few Morse instruments. At my operating position, for example, I have a straight key, a Vibroplex bug and a set of paddles all wired in parallel so I can quickly switch from one to another as I wish.

For long periods of operation most people find the sideways motion of a bug or paddles much easier on the arm and wrist than the up and down motion of a straight key. However, whereas it is easy to change the sending speed of an electronic keyer and, up to a point, that of a straight key, adjusting a bug for optimum performance at a particular speed can be tricky – the weights on the vibrating arm need to be moved and, ideally, slight adjustments made to the dot lever stop.

Because proper set up of a bug takes some time and care, telegraph operators that depended on the smooth operation of a bug would be sure to have their own, adjusted to their particular preferences. An excellent guide to bug adjustment is available from Vibroplex at https://www.vibroplex.com/techdocs/champion_adjustments.pdf

On the Vibroplex publication, this guide is credited to Brian Murphy, VE2AGO, but the call sign VE2AGO is now registered to a different person. Apparently, Brian Murphy wrote the guide for *QST* magazine and I thought it would be interesting to know which issue of *QST* it was in. Unfortunately, a search of the *QST* archives came up negative and every other reference to the guide just says it was originally written for *QST* without specifying an issue or providing any more information.



Figure 5: CW instruments at the home of Taka Sakai, JA1KIH.

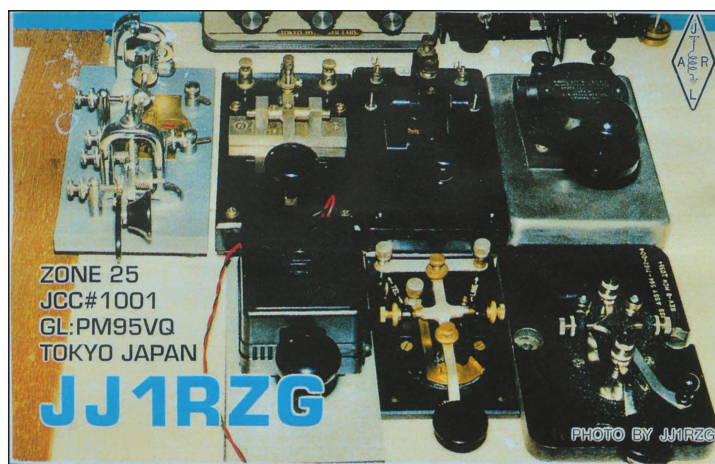


Figure 6: The QSL card of Shun Sekiya, JJ1RZG, features keys.

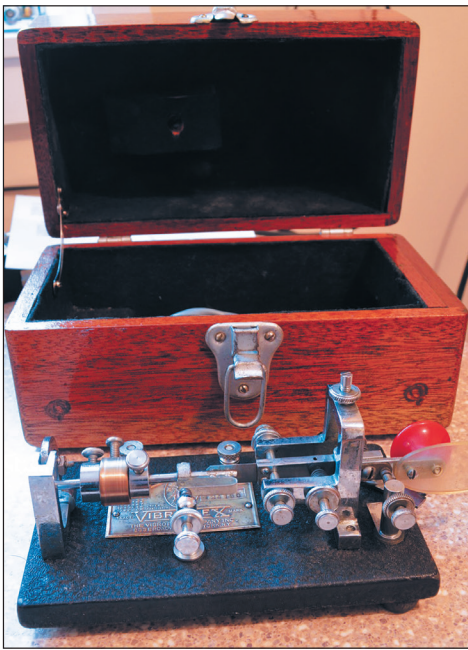


Figure 7: An old Vibroplex bug and its carrying case.

I have two bugs. The older one shown in Figure 7 was given to me by Glenn Grieve, VE7CNQ. It has its own case and came with a wedge. The case and wedge give some indication of how a bug like this would have been used in the past. I imagine the operator carrying the bug to work in its case, removing it and inserting the wedge between the contacts of a straight key that is already connected to a transmitter.

Figure 8 shows a "Wilson" straight key with a wedge inserted between its contacts, allowing easy connection of a bug to a transmitter. Some keys have a special slot for a wedge, but this is not the case for the Wilson key. Instead, on the Wilson key and others like it, the contact gap has to be widened so that the wedge can slide between the contacts.

Figure 8: A "Wilson" straight key with a wedge inserted between its contacts.



This "Wilson" straight key seems to be a fairly common Canadian key of military origin. I have had mine for more than 60 years.

Oscilloscope Tutorial

An oscilloscope, even an older CRT-based oscilloscope of modest specification like the one I have, is a very useful instrument for experimenting with circuits like the twin T oscillator that I have described.

A recent advertisement for new Analog Devices components contained a reference to an article regarding oscilloscopes written by two engineers that work for the company.

This article is "Lab Skills for Switch-Mode Power Supply Evaluation – Part 1: Measuring Voltage Ripple and Switching Node" by Wesley Ballar and Jacob Ciolfi.

As the title indicates, it is written with regard to measuring characteristics of switch mode power supplies, but the techniques and information it includes is not specific to these measurements, but rather is generally applicable to any measurements made with an oscilloscope. Topics include adjustment of 10:1 and 1:1 probes, probe grounding effects and when to use probes versus 50 ohm cables.

This well written and illustrated article can be found at:

<https://tinyurl.com/5fbbz725>

As always, if you have comments or questions, please contact me at vy1kx@myrac.ca.



Grants and Scholarships Now Available!

Deadline October 31

Al Eros, VE4ZB – RAC Scholarship and Grants Coordinator – grants@rac.ca

The RAC Foundation is now accepting Scholastic Grant applications from eligible Amateurs for the 2025-2026 school year.

The application deadline for all grants is October 31.

Through the the RAC Foundation Program, Radio Amateurs of Canada provides grants and scholarships to worthy community programs and to young Canadian Amateurs who are studying at the post-secondary level.

RAC undertook the RAC Foundation Program in order to increase the relevance of our national organization at a local level, as well as to increase our relevance to youth.

It is thanks to the continued generosity of Amateurs and Amateur Radio Clubs from all parts of Canada that we can support talented Canadian Amateurs who will contribute to the Amateur Radio Service for years to come.

Eligibility Requirements:

Eligible candidates must be:

- in full-time attendance at an educational institution such as a university or community college
- Canadian Radio Amateurs: must be a certified Amateur at time of the grant application

Scholastic grants will have a maximum value of \$1,000. Decisions on grant eligibility and size will be at the sole discretion of the RAC Directors or their designees.

Applications:

All grant applications should be submitted to the RAC Foundation for processing and recommendation by October 31.

For more information please see the RAC Scholarship and Grant Program at:

<https://www.rac.ca/grant-information/>



Dave Goodwin, VE3KG
Regulatory Affairs Officer
regulatory@rac.ca

THE REGULATORY ROUNDUP

Topic: ISED's Rules On Antenna Systems | Tips on Dealing with Municipalities

In the "Regulatory Roundup" column in each issue of *The Canadian Amateur* magazine, I will provide an overview of our regulatory priorities and also discuss some topics of interest.

Regulations Relating to Antennas

Our regulator, Innovation Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), has rules governing the use and installation of antenna systems. These are contained in an ISED policy document called "Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems" (CPC-2-0-03).

"Antenna systems are normally composed of an antenna and some type of supporting structure, often called an antenna tower. Most antennas have their own integral mast so that they can be fastened directly to a building or a tower."

There is a certain measure of flexibility in the placement of antenna systems, which is constrained to some degree by the need to achieve acceptable coverage for the service area, the availability of sites, technical limitations, and safety. In exercising its mandate, Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) believes that it is important that antenna systems be deployed in a manner that considers the local surroundings."

This policy is binding on "anyone who is planning to install or modify an antenna system, regardless of the type... including for Amateur Radio operation and over-the-air TV reception." It sets out procedures for "proponents" to consult with the land-use authorities before putting up antennas.

Under the Canadian Constitution, responsibility for regulating radio communications lies with the Parliament of Canada. That includes the antennas and structures to support them. However, local land-use authorities, such as municipalities, can have quite legitimate interests in antenna structures as they can have an impact on zoning.

In 2003, ISED's predecessor, Industry Canada, commissioned a study on the issue led by Professor David Townsend of the Faculty of Law of the University of New Brunswick. The "Townsend Report" examined six key policy issues related to antennas and made 34 recommendations. These recommendations are the basis for the current ISED policy.

The general thrust of this policy is that "proponents" (in our case, Radio Amateurs) must consult with the local land-use authority before putting up permanent antenna structures. We are expected to come to an agreement with the local authority before beginning work. This may require us to follow the local authority's approval procedures. If your local authority has no procedure, then ISED has a default procedure for consultation that we must follow. Except...

"Fifteen metres is a gift."

This pearl of wisdom comes from RAC's Honorary Legal Counsel, Marcel Mongeon VA3DDD. It refers to the key exemption in ISED's policy. In most cases, if you put up an antenna system with a total height no greater than 15 metres or 49 feet, you do not have to consult with the local land-use authorities.

Section 6 of ISED's policy lists circumstances when "proponents" may not be required to consult. These exemptions include:

- New antenna systems 15 metres tall or less
- Increasing the height of existing antenna structures by no more than 25%
- Installing an antenna on an existing "non-tower" structure, so long as the antenna does not increase the height of the structure by more than 25%
- Temporary antenna systems – structures erected for three months or less

For most Amateurs, the most important point is that 15 metre "exemption". That 15 metres is all-inclusive, from ground level to the top-most part of the antenna system. In most circumstances, you are not required to consult with anyone when erecting an antenna system with a height of 15 metres or less

Even with these exemptions, there may be circumstances where it would be wise to follow a consultation process. ISED's policy lays out some suggestions which you can read yourself.

There Are Risks

If you are intent on going higher than 15 metres, and you do go through a consultation process, you are bound by the results of that process.

If you and the local land-use authority come to an impasse, ISED are supposed to be the final decision-maker.

ISED may decide in your favour. Or they may not. You cannot count on ISED rescuing you from an unsympathetic local authority. You cannot even count on ISED to roll back the clock and authorize a 15 metre tall structure. Opening that process to go above 15 metres binds you to whatever ultimate decision ISED makes.

As Marcel said "15 metres is a gift". Going beyond 15 metres is risky. Be as well-informed as possible.

I know of one very ambitious Amateur who planned to move to a new community. He wanted to put up multiple large towers and began going through the municipality's consultation process. The process was designed for telecommunications companies and involved massive costs. The process did not even consider the possibility of an individual putting up an antenna system for their personal use. Through negotiation, the Amateur was able to employ a modified and much less-expensive process. The public notification element of the process unearthed some wild and frankly unsustainable objections from some neighbours. At the time of writing, the result of the process is pending.

Municipalities Are Not Always The Enemy

There are many municipalities and local land-use authorities that will authorize quite tall structures for Amateur antennas even beyond 15 metres. The City of Ottawa has a remarkably accommodating set of rules for "Residential Use Antenna Systems." The policy specifically mentions Amateur Radio. Ottawa's rules allow backyard antenna systems up to 18 metres tall, and 29 metres tall if your lot is greater than one acre. Ottawa Amateurs can thank Ray Perrin, VE3FN, who worked tirelessly on this issue over a period of a few years. Ray showed real leadership when local clubs and prominent Ottawa Amateurs simply gave up.

In my own case, my rural township was very accommodating, and agreed almost instantly to my plans to erect two 22-metre tall towers with additional antennas on top. I have had the same experience in every place I have lived. I have lived in five different provinces and put up towers in all of them with no objections from the land-use authority or the neighbours. In fact, some of my neighbours helped dig the holes for my towers!

Be Careful What You Sign

Even with ISED's policy and the exemptions, there may be circumstances where you may not put up what you want, even if it's less than 15 metres tall. If you are renting your home, your landlord has a definitive say. ISED won't intervene. You will have to be your most charming to overcome your landlord's concerns about their property.

Since the 1980s, many housing developments have restrictions written into the deeds. These are often called "covenants" and are intended to maintain a similarity in style and quality among the houses in a development. When you buy a house that has restrictions written into the deed, you are signing a contract in which you agree to be bound by those restrictions.

Developers aren't consciously targeting Amateur Radio, they use covenants to help them raise the capital required to get a project going. Developers often use a "stock" covenant in order to convince their investors or financiers to lend them the money required to build. Once developers are ready to start selling units, covenants give buyers reassurance about the quality of the house and the neighbourhood. ISED can't get you out of a contract you willingly signed.

When buying a house, you should make sure your realtor and your lawyer are well aware that the wrong wording in a deed could be deal-killer. I once bought a house where the covenants forbade "satellite dish antennas greater than two metres in diameter". The intended target was the two- and three-metre diameter TV receive-only (TVRO) dishes that were appearing in suburban neighbourhoods in the 1980s. These large dishes were widely seen as eyesores by judgmental neighbours. Seeing as my antennas bore no resemblance to satellite dishes, I was in the clear.

Words Count

The lexicon we use among Amateurs is mysterious and puzzling to non-Amateurs. When you deal with local authorities or your neighbours, be careful what words you use. The word "tower" scares people. Your neighbours may picture something like a massive hydro pylon. You want to put up "an antenna system." Keep the concept simple and clear for an audience that may have no understanding of radio.

If someone complains about you "broadcasting," that may be an indicator that they have no idea what they're talking about and are trying to hide their ignorance with large words. In Amateur Radio, we do not "broadcast". Broadcasts are radio transmissions intended to inform and entertain the general public. We are involved in the "art and science of radio communications"; and we don't do it 24/7, like broadcasters do. We are not conducting a commercial enterprise. We are indulging a personal interest.

Your neighbours do not have a veto on your plans. They do not have to like your antennas. They may still object even after they go up. All they really need is to have you listen to their reasonable concerns and to hear a reasonable response from you. The "Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems" policy (CPC-2-0-03) provides six examples of the types of concerns you should be prepared to address, as well as three examples of potential concerns that are not relevant. Among the irrelevant matters, the CPC identified "potential effects... on property values or municipal taxes". You don't have to waste your time on the irrelevant concerns.

Be Prepared

I have only given a brief overview of ISED's policy. If you are planning to put up a permanent antenna structure, please read the CPC carefully. Please find out what your local bylaws might say about antennas. Check if you have restrictions written into the deed to your property. Make sure you are on the right side of the rules.

Relevant Links

CPC-2-0-03 – <https://tinyurl.com/yt3w4r9e>

Townsend Report – <https://tinyurl.com/yvdbmnc4>

City of Ottawa Rules on Towers –

See sections 4.1 and 5.1: <https://tinyurl.com/2nxtpx9>

– 73, Dave Goodwin, VE3KG



Gold / Or

Stuart Crawford, VE9CF
Tim Ellam, VE6SH

Silver / Argent

Stuart Allan, VE3STY
François Daigneault, VE2AAY
Ed Frazer, VE7EF
Erik Kehler, VA7NX
Ronald Vadeboncoeur, VE3REV
Gerard White, VO1OR

Bronze / Bronze

Dave Ackerman, VE3UGT
Yvonne Adam, VE3RYA
Michael Adams, VE2KVV
Rob Adams, VE6YXE
Russell Adams, VE7MTU
Jim Alberton, VE3JUM
John Alexandersen, VE5JJA
Jeff Allen, VE1JWA
Chris Allingham, VE3FU
Christopher Allsop, VE3SKH
David Alston, VE9DY
Pablo Alvarez, VE3FNT
Wayne Anderson, VE3UWA
Michael Anson-Cartwright, VA3QAC
Luis Araiza Chavez, VA7WCR
Kevin Arbour, VE3KJN
David Archer, KA7RRA
Les Arnott, VE3UCW
Ken Asprey, VE1PDL
Gary Badcock, VO1GWC
Bernard Baker, VA3BGB
James Baker, VA7ODR
Doug Bannard, VE3SPF
Toni Barabas, VA3MTI
Lance Barber, VE4JLB
Douglas Barnes, VE3VJY
Lawrence Barnett, VE6WL
Wayne Barry, VE3JV
David Barron, VE3ZKA
Dwayne Barton, VE9DW
Trevor Batstone, VE7BM
Geoffrey Bawden, VE4AE
Rebecca Baxter, VA7RBQ
William Bayrak, VE7WAJ
Gary Bazdell, VA3GBZ
Don Bedard, VA6BED
Warren Bekker, VA3WEB
Michael Bell, VE3NOO
Ron Bell, VE3RKB
Jeffrey Belliveau,
Mike Bergen, N8XMD
David Bernard, VE3YH
Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB

RAC MEMBERSHIP / ADHÉSION À RAC

RAC MAPLE LEAF OPERATOR MEMBERSHIP / ADHÉSION À "OPÉRATEURS MAPLE LEAF" DE RAC

Michel Bickerstaffe, VE3AQE
John Bickle, VA2INT
Markus Biehl, VA3MQS
Chris Bisaillon, VE3CBK
Lawrence Bishop, VA3LBX
Leif Bjornson, VE7LTB

Clinton Blackmore, VE6CWB
Henry Blais, VE3HJL
Louis Bodnar, A6XD
Aaron Boeker, VY2EK
Don Booker, VA1DB
Dan Botari, VE3CMZ
David Botting, VA3TKL
Bruno Bouliane, VE2VK

Matthew Bovolotto, VE3QMB
Allan Boyd, VE3AJB
Dale Brandstrom, VA6COG
Dan Brennan, VE1DVB
Patrick Brewer, VE3KJQ
Michael Brickell, VE3TKI
L.A Robert Brosseau, VA2DBJ

Yvan Brosseau, VE2DVY
Eric Brown, VA6EBR
Jay Brown, VE3CMN
Matthew Eric Brown, VE3EB
Ian Brownlee, VA4IAM
Denis Brunette, VA3DCB
Eric Bryer, VE3HF

Nino Bucciarelli, VE1NDB
Don Buchan, VE3DBM
Pam Buckway, VY1PJB
Richard Budny, VA3RSA
Guy Bujold, VE2CXA
Ron Bull, VE7DIO

Paul Burggraaf, VE3PRB
Rob Burns, VA3KGY
Gary Butler, VE7OQ
Paul Caccamo, VA3PC
David Caddell, VA7VVV
Frederick Cain, VE3JMJ
Bruce Cairnie, VA7SGY

Michael Caissie, VE9MCA
Bruce Calhoun, VE3BER
Antonio Callà, VE7AXI
Ralph Cameron, VE3BBM
Jim Campbell, VE1DXL
Mark Capewell, VA7MNV

Mary Card, VE3FEB
Andrew Carr, VE7SNF
Aaron Caswell, VA7KWZ
Blair Cawston, VE3BCA
Malcolm Challis, VA7MKB
Borden Chapman, VA1CBC
Fernand Charlebois, VA3LMA

Rob Chartier, VA7QAD
Gilles Chevalier, VA2CG
John Chin, VA3BOF
Richard Duane Chipley, VA7XDC

Janice Lynn Clanfield, VA3POX
Jean-Francois Cliche
Ernest Clintberg, VE6ECK
Scott Clitheroe, VE3QBZ
Patrick Collicutt, VY2PC
Reginald Collie, VE1DOG

Edmondo Conetta, VA3ITA
Bradley Conner, VA1YXH
John Connor, VE3TG
Johnny Console, VA3MOF
Ernie Console, VE3MOC
Nick Cook, VA3NKC
Daryl Corbett, VA3UAP

Brendan Cormier, VE1BTC
Pierre Cossette,
Guy Costanzo, VA7GAC
David Coutts, VA7UX
Robert Cove, VO1REC
Walter Coventry, VE3FHE
Mary Coyle, VE3MVM

Paul Cragg, VE3AXT
John Crake, VE3TLB
Brad Crass, VE4BSC
Daniel Giulio Crocco, VE3CZQ
Mark Cundict, VA6MKC
Terry Cutler, VE5TLC
Erick Dahan, VE2LRZ

Jeff Dale, VA3ISP
Renze Dam, VE6DC
Rick Danby, VE3BK
Brian Davies, VE6CKC
Glenn Davis, VE3WGD
Frank Davis, VO1HP
David Delafield, VE6TVP

Andrew DeMarsh, VE3HCA
Jeffrey Dever, VA3WJD
Richard Dion, VE3LAD
Grant Dixon, VE3CGV
Lawrence Dobranski, VA3IQ
Michael Doyle, VE3EJF
Nicholas Doyle, VE7NCD

Mike Drake, VA3BKQ
George Duffield, VE3WKJ
John Duffy, VE3DRZ
Ken Duvio, W0YRE
Matthew Dwight, VE3OCC
Robert Dyer, VE3KTY
John Earl, VE6WAZ

Adam Easton, VY1AE
Rob Eichhorn, VE7LR
Clinton Elliott, VA6CBE
Mark Ellison, VA2MKE
David Empey, VE3KVR
Glenn Empey, VE3OER
Leif Erickson, VA7CAE

Paul Albert (Al) Eros, VE4ZB
Marcel Eschenmoser, VE3UKW
Albert Everett, KF5LNM

Gordon Fairchild, VE3GDN
Malcolm Farrell, VY1FC
Ivan Faust, VA2EYD
Antony Fenton, VA7AQF
Richard Ferch, VE3KI
Robert Ferguson, VA7RIF

Margaret Ferguson, VA7VF
Andriy Fesun
Halden Field, VE7UTS
Garrick Filewod, VE3ONU
Walt Fillier, VA6WLT
Terry Finn, VE6TF
Sally Finora, VA7SMF

James Fisher, VE1JF
Jim Fleming, VE3PBJ
Bob Foley, VE3RVZ
Gary Fors, VA7YXS
Scott Fortnum, VE3ISF
James Fortune, VA3JSF
Arthur Foster, VE6ACF

Doug Frame, VE3JDF
Ryan Fraser, VE3VNA
Norm Freidin, VE3CZI
Stefan Fridriksson, VA3FDX
Roger Froebe, VE4RLF
Rob Fry, VA3FR
Frank Fullum, VE2KOI

Ken Galama, VA2TXZ
Daniel Galway, VA3WPZ
Ralph Garnett, VA6RHG
Denis Gerasimenko, VA3BTV
Liam Gerrie, VE6LGG
Ross Gibson, VE4RWG
John Gilje, VE6KJG

Robert Gillis, VE1RSG
Eric Gingras, VA3DZY
Thomas W. Godden, VE3TWG
Sarah Goldrup, VE3YRB
Dave Goodwin, VE3KG
Stephen Goodwin, VE6SMG
Donald Gover, VA6DLG

Timothy Graham, VE7LXC
William John Grandell, VA3WJX
Gregory Grant, VA7GRA
David Green, VE3TLY
Dustin Greig, VE6SVN
Guy Grosjean, VA3ZHF
Julian Gumley, VE3FZG

Jose Gutierrez, VE6GTZ
J. Paul Guy, VE8JG
Tom Haavisto, VE3CX
Will Haggerty, VA1HEL
Colin Haig, VE3MSC
Bruno Haineault, VE2EQ
Alan Haines, VE3ALH

Don Hamilton, VA7GL
David Hamilton, VE6DWH
Gordon Hamilton, VE7ON



Garry Hammond, VE3GHP
 Garry V. Hammond, VE3XN
 Jovan Hamovic, VA7JOV
 Noel Handley, VE3KDT
 Richard Hanishevski, VE5RH
 Henry Hansen, VE6HNH
 Douglas Hardy, VE7HZY
 Dave Harnum, VE8AZ
 Brad Harris, VE3MXJ
 Gerald Harris, VE6GBH
 Bertram Harrison, VA7WWX
 Andrew Harton, VE4KL
 James Haworth, VE3DXG
 Ben Haylett, VE6CZT
 Harm Hazeu, VE4HAZ
 David Helland, VE7DHz
 John Hemingway, VE3HAY
 Jean-Paul Henault, VE2JHP
 John Henderson, VA3JHK
 Hugh Henderson, VY1HH
 Paul Henry, VE3CPH
 Jody Herperger, VE5SAR
 Paul Hibbert, VA7PHO
 Paul Hicks, VE3ZT
 James W. Hodgson, VE3HOV
 Frank-Michael Hofmann, VE6FMH
 Gabor Horvath, VE7DXG
 Robert (Bob) Howard, VE3YX
 Ian Howes, VA3ICH
 Derek Howes, VE3BRV
 Scott Hoyt, VE9SDH
 Adrian Huber, VA7AGH
 James Hughes, VE2DKK
 Mark Humphreys, VA5LNX
 John Hunter, VA3OOD
 Steve Hutchings, VY2SH
 Warren Hyde, VE3AQU
 Jan Hykamp, VA3EPP
 John Illes, VE7JSI
 James Irvine, VE3UZX
 Lorne Jackson, VE3CXT
 Gordon John Jacques, VA3GJJ
 Peter Jago, VA3PJ
 Zain Jaison, VA7VZN
 Stephen Jamieson, VA3ZXN
 Robert Jankov, VA3KRJ
 S. Wray Jaques, VA3EO
 B.M. Jatzek, VA6BMJ
 Gordon Jewsbury, VE7JBY
 Jason Johnson, VE3PEJ
 Dave Johnson, VE7VR
 Scott Johnston, VE1SJ
 James Joyce, VE3LTN
 Perica (Peter) Jugovic, VE7PAE
 Jean-Michel Julien, VE2ZEB
 Ernie Jury, VE3EJJ

Janusz Juryk, VE2ZHP
 Solomon Kappala, VY2SK
 Gordon Kelland, VO1KGZ
 Jason Kendall, VE3YCA
 Ward Kennedy, VE3WKG
 Stephen A. Keppel, VA3LDK
 Stephen Kern, VA7RSM
 Richard Kettle, VE3QRK
 Kevin Kidd, VA3KCT
 R Neil King, VA7DX
 David Kingsland, VE3MDX
 Erland Kirste, VE7EFK
 David Klatt, VE5GN
 Boris Kohut, VE4BG
 Brian Konopski, VE4KON
 Michael Kowalsky, VA1TTY
 Mahendra Kumar, VR2ER
 Bud Kuzenko, VE7KBB
 Luc LaCasse, VE2LLX
 David LaHay, VE7FVW
 Ken Laker, VE3LRK
 Calvin Lambie, VE6CLC
 Robert Laramée, VE2KZW
 Kevin Larsen, VE7PW
 Don Latter, VE7DIL
 Al Law, VE3FZ
 Samuel Leach, VO1CBL
 Gregory Leck, VA2LCK
 Francis Leclerc, VE2FLP
 John Lediet, VE3FVC
 Gerald Lehtola
 Barrie Lennox, VE3AOI
 Stan Leschinsky, VE3TW
 Ritchie Leslie, VA7RLX
 David Levard, VA2PWN
 Charles Levasseur, VE9CEL
 Joel Levis, VE3CJJ
 Peter Liatowitsch, VE7PLI
 Carolyn Liggins, VE1CRL
 Andrew Lippmanm,
 Damien Long, VE6DNL
 Ritchie Long, VE1RL
 David P. Lopetinsky, VE6ELL
 John Lorenc, VA3WM
 Daren Lorentz, VA6DRL
 Greg Loucks, VE9PHX
 Philip Lowden, VE3PLU
 Gordon Lowick, VE7YMJ
 James Ludwar, VE6JWL
 Mark Lunn, VE6MXL
 Eric Lusk, VE7EMI
 Ancil Lynch, VA3FIP
 Jory Maccan, VE6JBM
 Richard MacDonald, VA1UAV
 Charles MacDonald, VA3CPY
 Ian MacDonald, VA6MCI

Glenn MacDonell, VE3XRA
 Mike MacGregor, VE3QMM
 Darcey MacInnes, VA7DKY
 John MacKay, VE7EEX
 Robert MacKenzie, VA3RKM
 Neil Macklem, VE3SST
 Terrence MacLean, VE9ATM
 Drew Maddison, VA3DDM
 Frank Maddix, VA3FMM
 Pierre Mainville, VA3PM
 Alan Mallett, VA7AWM
 Bill Manners, VA7BMJ
 Eric Manning, VA7DZ
 Craig Marceau, VE6WIN
 Daniel Marlow, VE3TOQ
 Bruce Marshall, VA6BRM
 Sean Martin, VE7TVM
 Daniel Martineau, VA7PGQ
 Gregory Mason, VE4AMN
 Marc Masson, VE2MMH
 Jan Matusiewicz, VA3TCN
 Gabriel Mazzeo, VA3CWT
 Phil McBride, VA3QR
 Don McCallan, VA3GFD
 David McCarter, VE3GSO
 Hugh McCully, VE3AYR
 Brian McDonnell, VA3CBG
 Doug McDougall, VE3DGY
 Ian McEachern, VA7IM
 Steve McEdwards, VA3TPS
 William McEvoy, VE3NEF
 Ken McIntosh, VA7KBM
 Andrew Allan McKay, VA4XRY
 David McKinlay, VA3IR
 Virginia McLane, VE7FXH
 Nicholas McLean, VE7NMX
 Tim McMullin, VE3TCS
 Andrew McPhee, VA7ASI
 Carlos Ernesto Medeiros, VA3VIE
 Martin Menard, VA3EIC
 Robert Miller, VE3LNV
 Eric Mills, VE1AST
 Michael Milosevic, VE3EQM
 Lou Milrad, VE3TRY
 Vladimir Milutinovic, VE3JM
 Andrew Mitchell, VA3CW
 J.T. Mitchell, VE6OH
 Austin Mitchell, VE7XPP
 Paresh Mody, VE3PQX
 Marcel Mongeon, VA3DDD
 Andrew Moore
 Robert Moore, VE3AVU
 Donald Morris, VE7AMU
 John Moylan, VA3YOM
 Harry Mueller, W1HMM
 Wilf Mulder, VE7OHM

Gordon Murray, VE3JSJ
 Bruce Murray, VE6BRZ
 Jeremiah Nahwegahbow, VE3EJN
 Robert Nash, VE3KZ
 Jim Nelson, VE6ACR
 Chris Nielsen, VA6JCN
 Allan Niittymaa, VA3KAI
 Brian Nilsson, VE3SLB
 Trevor Nisbet, VA7TLN
 David Nixon, VA7NIX
 Rodolfo Novak, VE3NAK
 Mark Nowicki, VE3MNA
 Keith Olson, VE4VO
 Richard Osborne, VE3OZW
 Phil Parker, VE3GFX
 Ed Pasetka, VE5AM
 Gordon Passmore, VA7GAP
 Russell Pastuch, VE3FSN
 Bruce Patten, VE7PTN
 Bruce Patterson, VE7XBP
 Colin Pavey, VA3FP
 Irmgard (Geddie) Pawlowski,
 Tim Pekkonen, VE3UO
 Steve Pengelly, VE3STV
 Paul Peters
 Brent Robert Petersen, VE9EX
 Paul Pickering, VA3BHU
 Jim Pierce, VA1YZX
 Richard Pierik, VE1RPX
 Dale Pilsworth, VA6OK
 Shel Pimentel, VA3XDX
 Bruce Poirier, VA3WBO
 André Poitras, VE3IN
 Marc Poitras, VE3VEB
 Gary Pollock, VA2OF
 Gregory Popelas, VA3CBN
 Peter Potjewyd, VE3WYD
 Terry Potts, VE3TEP
 John Potts, VE6JWP
 Nicolas Provencher, VA2KMZ
 Theodore Arthur Rachwal, VE9AQM
 Victor Rowell Radovan, VE4RWL
 Michael Rak, VA6RAQ
 Kolya Ramirez-Hughes, VE5KE
 Paulo Ranzani, VE8PR
 Norman Rashleigh, VE3LC
 Glenn Rattray, VA6AGR
 Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN
 Chris Recoskie, VE3VMP
 William Redmond, VA3WBR
 James Reed, VE7APF
 Warren Rees, VE3NQR
 Logan Reese, VE6EOL
 Steve Regan, VA3MGY
 David Reid, VE6BIR
 Cam Richard, VE3IGX

New Members: February/March | Nouveaux membres : février/mars

Earl Richardet, VE7QJ
 Simon Rizzardo, VE7RIZ
 Jeff Robb, VE3MDC
 Jeff Robbins, VE3JTR
 Donald Robinson
 William Robinson, VE3ARE
 David Robling, VA6EVA
 Samuel Ross, VA3RUC
 Allan Ross, VE7WJ
 Shaun Rossi, VE3FNI
 Eric Rouse, VA3FYB
 Don Rowed, VE3KII
 Dave Rowlinson, VE3ZDR
 Cary Rubenfeld, VE4EA
 Ken Rusnak, VE3EFZ
 Robert Ryll, VA7RYL
 Ted Rypma, VE3TRQ
 Edward Samborski, VE3TAS
 Dan Sanchez, VE7EOZ
 David Sangwin, VA3NSC
 Olivier Savoie, VE9OLI
 Lee Sawkins, VE7CC
 Kim Schaffer, VA3ZXC
 John Scheeringa, VE3JXX
 Mern Scheidl, VA6MER
 Mark Schellenberg, VE7JWU
 Shawn Schenkey, VE6NS
 Derek Schmidt, VE5PPR
 Bill Scholey, VE7QC
 Trevor Schriver, VE3VVB
 Mark Scola, VA3HES
 John Scott, VE1JS
 David Scott, VE3ZZU
 Don Scott, VE7DLD
 Ian Seddon, VE3HUT
 Zachary Seguin, VA3ZTS
 Randy Shaw
 Ian Shaw, VE3IJS
 William Sheldrick, VE6ILE
 Ronni Shino
 Pietra Shirley, VE4PXL
 Chad Shoaf, VA6TT
 Joseph Shynn, VA3GOC
 Steve Simon, VA3SBI
 Antonio Simonetta, VE3WZM
 Gary Simpson, VE1KL
 Glenn Simpson, VE3GTS
 Jack Sinclair, VA3WPJ
 Ron Sinclair, VE3JRN
 Erik Skovgaard, VE7MDL
 Colin Slade, VA3YZZ
 Curtis Smecher, VE7CAS
 Adrian Smith, VA3VKT
 Douglas Smith, VE3OUI
 Brant Smith, VE3UME
 Michael Snarr, VE3WNX
 Patrick Speer, VE7PJS
 Ron Spencer, VA3RSX
 Mark Spencer, VE7AFZ
 Edward Spingola, VA3TPV
 Mike Stafford, VE6MEX

Yoland Auger, VE2KGE
 Luke Bagatto, VE3ZXF
 Susan Bailey
 Scott Baker, VA7WT
 Laura Bennett, VE4LBN
 Mike Bergen, N8XMD
 Guy Berthelot, VE2AFO
 Alan Booth, VE4AWB
 Marie Christine Bouchard
 Laurence Bouthillier
 Brian Butler, VO1VHF
 Chris DeFreitas, VE7XCD
 Kathy Derochie
 Elizabeth Dubas, VE3ZGR
 Shamsheer Dullet, VE7ZSC
 Marco Duquet, VE2DQM
 Angus Findlay, VA6NA
 Sandy Fowler, VE1BRZ
 Shaun Foy
 Stephen Gibbard,
 Richard Greaves, VY2TO
 Christian Henri, VA2CHQ
 Shaun Ho, VE3HOS
 Patrick Huynh, VA7PKH
 Dany Jacques, VA2DJI
 Michael Johnson
 Hagen Kaye, VE3QVY
 David Lane, VE7ODL
 Michel Lauth, LX1ML

Paul Le Couffe
 Rick LeBlanc, VE3PV
 Seow Fong Lee
 Raymond Le
 Jonathan Leonhardt,
 Songping Liu
 Starlee Lively Odorico, VA3RZO
 Jayson Lorenzon, VE3JYN
 Jodi Lough, VE7JLQ
 Oleksandr Lukyanov
 Kevin MacDonald, VE7KVO
 Lukasz Malasinski, VA3OLM
 Daniel Marlow, VE3TOQ
 Roderick Marsh, VE7RPD
 Darryl Mason
 James McKinnon, VE7JJZ
 Kevin Middleton, VA3AII
 Kelvin Monsen, VA7VKM
 Progyadeep Moulik, VE4ZWR
 Jared Mudrik, VE3QJM
 Dave Muir, VE7OER
 John Ney, VA3NEY
 Jay Ng
 Rino Odorico, VE3RZO
 Ninon Pageau, VE2NIN
 Dawn Patterson, VA7EKG
 Joe Pawlow, VE4JP
 Chris Pearson, VE3KDZ

Daniel Pereira
 Keith Piercey, VO1AE
 Dragoljub Popovic, VE7ZAI
 Nathan Prentice, VA3XNP
 Francois Provencal, VE2MRS
 Lee Reynolds, KD1SQ
 Emma Samms, VA2EMZ
 Marcus Sandhar, VE3EIZ
 Aaron Saunders, VE6XMR
 Frank Schuurmans, VE5SCH
 David Serani, VE6DCV
 Mohammadreza Shahrokh, VA3CKF
 Zaak Shirlaw, VA7CRN
 Adam Simon, VE3TJQ
 William Sotomayor
 Bill Steele, VE7KIN
 John Stinson, VA6DS1
 Francois Sylvain, VA2XXY
 Michael Taylor, VE1IA
 Rodney Tidy, VE3MWW
 Frank Verardi, VE3FLV
 Patrick Walker, VE7SFN
 Bernie Walp, WB6PIO
 Richard Wilkins, VE7RWZ
 Braiden Winkelhorst,
 Justin Wood, VA3BIU
 Mark Young, VA3MYH
 John Janusz Zawierucha, VA3OKZ

Welcome! Bienvenue! | Thank You! Merci!

Ken Staples, VA7CGM
 Bartholomew Stavisky, KF5EKG
 Peter Stec, VE3TOT
 Alan Steele, VA3STL
 Rob Steenweg, VE1CHW
 Al Stephens, VE3NXP
 Bruce Stevenson, VA3BSR
 Mark Stevenson, VE3EVF
 Jeff Stewart, VA3WXM
 David Stewart, VA4DJS
 Patrick Stoddard, VA7EWK
 Gary Stortz, VE7GSZ
 Edmund Strange, VE2MPP
 Frank Stratton, VE3YY
 Brian Summers, VE7JKZ
 Gustave Guillaume Swolfs,
 Walter Szyz, VE3SYZ
 Hiroshi Takahashi, VA7LET
 Raymond Tanguay, VE2RZQ
 Andrew Taylor, VA7AMT
 Ian Taylor, VE1HUM
 Art Tendies, VE4AK
 Richard Tervo, VE9AS
 Marc H. Tessier
 Jim Thiessen, VA3KV
 Thomas Darren Thordarson,
 Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT
 Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT
 Owen Trott, VA3DFW

Gerry Trueman, VE7GGT
 Yori Tsuji, VE4ACX
 Robert Turzo, VA3RTU
 Paul Twa, VE7KWA
 Luke Uhlman, VE1AXY
 William Underwood, VE1WLU
 Michael Van Kuyk, VE7KPZ
 John van Loenen, VA3FVL
 Robert Vanderminnen, VA3RMV
 Pierre Vella-Zarb, VE3VZP
 Steven Verhoef, VE3WLX
 Stephen Vinokuroff, VE7WCZ
 Earnest Vinson, VA3EWW
 Stanley Voogt, VA3AAA
 Marc Waddell, VE7MWG
 Scott Waller, VE3OCB
 Mark Walsh, VE9MGW
 Ryan Watson, VA3WTN
 John Weale, VA7ZMR
 James Webb, VE3WA
 Andrew Webb, VE6EN
 Joel Weder, VE6EI
 Gerald Welch, VE6WCE
 David Wendt, VE3EAC
 David Westerman, VE7DVQ
 Derek White, VA3RFQ
 Alfred Whitehead, VA3ZTB
 Donald Whitty, VE9XX
 Nigel Wieland

Brice Wightman, VE3EDR
 James Wilkins, VE7UVL
 Caiden Willey, VA4YYZ
 Lee Williams, VE9LJW
 Stephen Williams, W0ML
 Wayne Willis, VE5WFW
 Alan Wilson, VE1AWW
 Maureen Wilson, VE3MWW
 Rodney (Rod) Wilson, VE3RXN
 Calvin Winter, VE4AJ
 Bruce Winter, VE7HBW
 John Wiseman, VE7BVS
 Richard Wodzianek, VA7RLW
 Elizabeth Wolf, VE3AOA
 Gregory Wong, VA3GBW
 Justin Wood, VA3BIU
 Jeffrey Wood, VE6PAI
 Denise Woodford, VA7YE
 Allen Wootton, VY1KX
 Robert Wortman, VE9RLW
 John Wowk, VA3OWK
 Clayton Wozney, VA3WOZ
 Matthew Wright, VE3XYU
 Leo Yoshinaka, VA3EBI
 Giancarlo Zaghini, VA3FGD
 John Janusz Zawierucha, VA3OKZ
 John Zawierucha, VE3OKZ
 Jeffrey Zeck, VE3ZCK
 Jeff Zimmerman, VE3JZT



Robert C. Mazur, VA3ROM
 va3rom@gmail.com
 www.va3rom.com

Introduction

"The agreement of this law with nature will be better seen by repeating the experiments than by a long explanation."

– H. C. Ørsted

The year is 1813. Our quantum time-jump drive, stealth cloaked Humvee has accumulated battlefield damage from shot and shrapnel because of the still-raging Napoleonic Wars, but we have arrived safely in Copenhagen, Denmark.

Genesis

Hans Christian Ørsted recently published *Ansichten der chemischen Naturgesetze, durch die neuern Entdeckungen gewonnen* (View of the Chemical Laws of Nature, Derived from Recent Discoveries) but it is widely known and read because of Marcel de Serres' translation *Recherches sur l'identité des forces chimiques et électriques* (Research on the Identity of Chemical and Electrical Forces).

The chapters of our interest explore static electricity – a surface charge phenomenon, dynamic electricity (galvanism) created by electrochemical reactions, and magnetism, a force somewhat similar to gravity.

Note: Parts 1, 2 and 3 of "The Road to Radio" can be found in the November-December 2024, January-February 2025, and March-April 2025 issues of The Canadian Amateur.

RADIO MAGIC

The Road to Radio: Part 4

Ørsted notes that although static charged objects affect both magnetic (steel, iron, nickel, etc) and non-magnetic (copper, paper, hair, etc) objects, their influence did not appear to stem from any inherent magnetic force of their own, which requires further investigation.

Recherches introduces Ørsted's new "dynamic system", a modification of philosopher Immanuel Kant's metaphysics theory of "dynamism: that only two forces (attractive and repulsive) constitute all matter."

Ørsted posits that Kant's forces, besides creating matter, interact with each other in various degrees of "conflict" and this causes all observable phenomena. That this conflict can manifest itself as attraction or repulsion, expansion or compression and balance or imbalance.

For example, system equilibrium occurs when the two forces are balanced, while various degrees of "disequilibrium" affect a material's conductivity as it becomes more unbalanced. Poor, very unbalanced conductors restrict force movement resulting in excess energy accumulation (friction) creating heat, light and combustion.

He points out the numerous similarities among the (static) electric, galvanic and magnetic forces, which suggests some undefined relationship exists.

While stopping short of explicitly stating their interconnectedness, Ørsted proposes that galvanism could be a "mediator" between electricity and magnetism, implying a hierarchical force spectrum exists in nature. However, he excludes the magnetic and gravitational forces because, while both acted

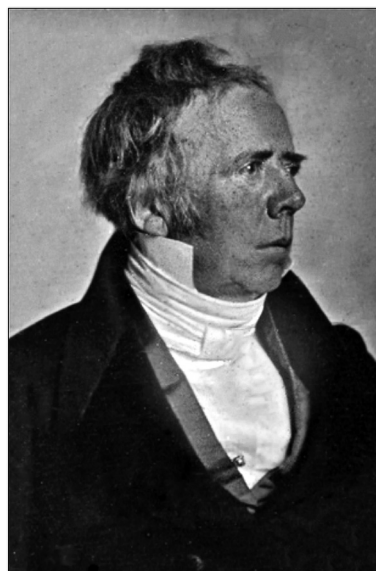


Figure 1: Hans Christian Ørsted Portrait. Daguerreotype of Ørsted, age 65. Credit: Johann Peter Dinesen, 1842.

at a distance, they differ significantly: magnetism has polarity with attractive and repulsive properties, but various materials were impervious to its effects.

In contrast, gravity has no polarity, was an attractive-only force and can easily pass through and affect all matter.

However, like his late mentor Johann Wilhelm Ritter did, Ørsted prioritized analogies

and abstract concepts over empirical proof. This results in harsh criticism of *Recherches* as being overly speculative with obvious Naturphilosophie undertones.

This criticism is openly expressed in an anonymous review published in the widely read *Allgemeine Literatur-Zeitung* (General Literature Journal):

"The author's theory has significant flaws and lacks practical applications. Since the author derives matter in general, and associated effects from only Kant's two forces, it is quite striking that he says nothing about the attractive force of gravity and the consequences that would follow from his theory. One can only view the work as hastily thrown-together thoughts that require a more careful dissection to earn the approval it perhaps deserves."

Ørsted's past association with Ritter and Naturphilosophie has put the "mark of Cain" on him in Kantian-dominated academia. Whatever he did or said would always be taken with a considerable amount of skeptical salt.

Note: Geologist, naturalist and writer Pierre Toussaint Marcel de Serres de Mesplès' translations and writings helped bridge diverse scientific communities across Europe, fostering the faster exchange of ideas.

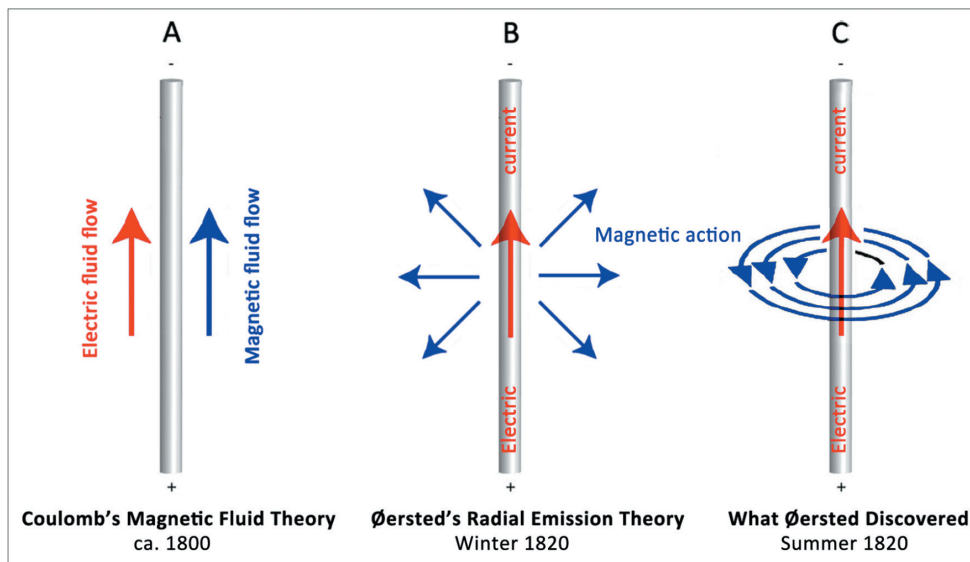


Figure 2: The Forks in the Road to Electromagnetism. Conventional current flow, based on Benjamin Franklin's single-fluid theory, was used to determine the direction of electric current.

Morphosis

Jumping ahead a few years, Ørsted has modified his dynamic system to include magnetism by introducing two new hypotheses (Figure 2):

1. When an electric current produces heat in a conductor created by the electrical conflict of Kant's two dynamic forces, it also creates an internal magnetic action (heat hypothesis).
2. When a critical amount of electrical conflict is exceeded, the magnetic action radiates outward from the conductor in all directions like heat and light (radial emission hypothesis).

However, sometime over the winter of 1819-1820, Ørsted realized something was wrong, but he will never reveal the when and how, making it impossible to make the exact time jump. The magnetic action radiated outward as predicted but not in straight lines – it rotated! It must be experimental error!

However, over several months of carefully conducted experiments (60+), Ørsted learns more about the character and behaviour of this unknown phenomenon until he was – without any doubt – convinced that a serious force flaw existed in physics. But when you strike at the “king” – the great Sir Isaac Newton – you had better not miss!

On July 21, 1820, at considerable expense and risk to his reputation, Ørsted distributed the nicely bound and printed

four-page Latin treatise *Experimenta circa effectum conflictus electrici in acum magneticam* (Experiments on the Effect of the Conflict of Electricity on a Magnetic Needle). This is a simplified translation of its major points:

“The experiments detailed here were conducted during the winter while lecturing on electricity, galvanism and magnetism. Initial experiments seemed to show that a magnetic needle could be deflected using a galvanic apparatus, specifically with a closed (not open) galvanic circuit (a point of contention among some prominent physicists of the time).

However, because the initial apparatus was inefficient and yielded indistinct results, I enlisted the help of my colleague Esmarch (a councillor of justice) to improve the setup and expand the experiments. We also had the assistance of several other notable scientists as witnesses and collaborators: Wleugel (a knight and governor), Hauch (renowned naturalist), Reinhardt (professor of natural history), Jacobsen (professor of medicine) and Zeisel (an experienced chemist and philosophy doctor).

The galvanic apparatus consisted of twenty rectangular copper containers, each measuring twelve inches in length and height, and just over two inches in width. Each container held two inclined copper plates and a zinc plate suspended in a solution of sulfuric and nitric acids. Smaller apparatus could be used provided they could heat a metallic wire. The opposite ends of the apparatus were connected by a metallic wire (henceforth referred to as the connecting wire or conductor).

The observed effect is referred to as an electrical conflict. The connecting wire was positioned horizontally above the magnetic needle, parallel to it. The needle deflected towards the west under the part of the wire receiving the negative electricity from the galvanic apparatus. The deflection angle decreased with increasing distance between the wire and needle.

The experiment was repeated with the wire moved to the east and west of the needle, with other materials replacing the wire. The effects were unchanged except for intensity. The material (platinum, gold, silver, brass, iron, lead, tin, mercury) used in the conductor had little impact. The effect was observed even through materials such as glass, metal, wood, pottery and liquid. The key observation is that the needle's deflection was not due to simple attraction or repulsion, but is a complex interaction.

The pole above which negative electricity enters deflects westward; the pole below deflects eastward. Additional observations were made on needle behaviour under different orientations of the wire, finding patterns in how the needle would move and tilt when the wire was positioned perpendicular or at angles.

The electrical conflict only acts on the magnetic particles of matter. All non-magnetic bodies appear penetrable by the electrical conflict, while magnetic bodies resist its passage.

The electrical conflict is not contained within the conductor alone but extends into the surrounding space.

The electrical conflict moves in spirals that extend into the surrounding space.”

Ørsted shrewdly sent copies to specific scientific academies and open-minded colleagues for peer review to overcome academic “inertia”. Among these are:

- Det Kongelige Danske Akademi (Danish Royal Society)
- The Royal Society (of London)
- L'Académie royale des sciences (French Royal Academy of Sciences)
- Die Deutsche Akademie der Wissenschaften (German Academy of Sciences)
- Jean-Baptiste Biot, Félix Savart and André-Marie Ampère. Physicists and mathematicians.

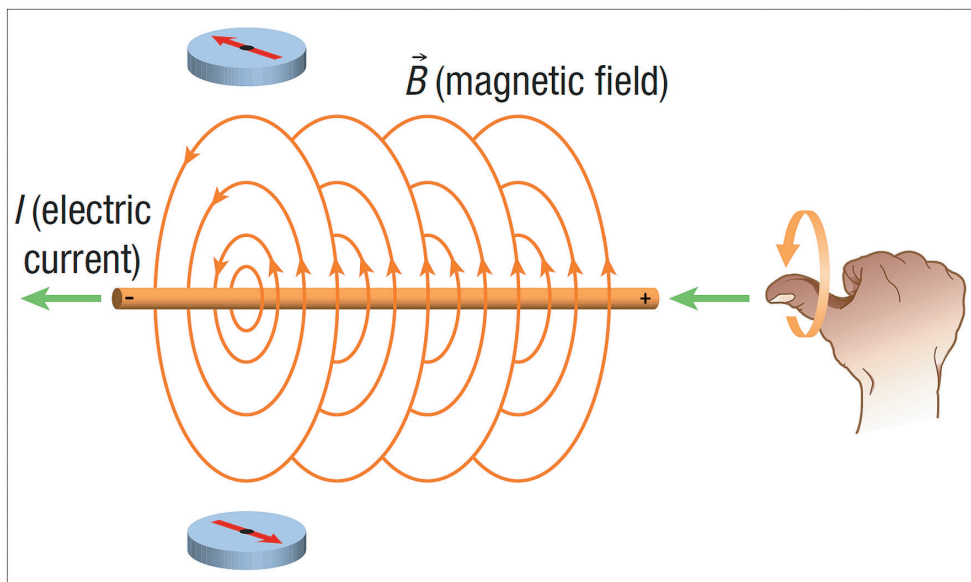


Figure 3: Ampère's Right-Hand Rule. This applies to conventional current flow only. Credit: *Physics 12-8, Magnets and Electromagnets*, Nelson Education, 2012.

Within three months, the Biot-Savart Law was derived. It describes the magnetic field generated by an electric current at a specific point in space surrounding the conductor.

Working with Biot and Savart, Ampère took a different approach, presenting his initial findings in early September (the Circuital Law). Their work proved that the strength of a magnetic field at any point is inversely proportional to the distance of a point from the conducting wire or $1/d$ – not the inverse square law or $1/d^2$!

Ampère also came up with the handy "Right-Hand Rule" (Figure 3), along with the term "intensité", symbol "I", describing the strength of electric current flow. But he disagreed with Ørsted's theory. Ampère believed electric current was created by moving charges, generating a rotating magnetic action (force) as a natural consequence.

Johann Schweigger

Physicist and chemist who quickly invented the first practical application of the discovery, which he called a "multiplier". Ampère refined and renamed it "galvanometer", in honour of Luigi Galvani (Figure 4).

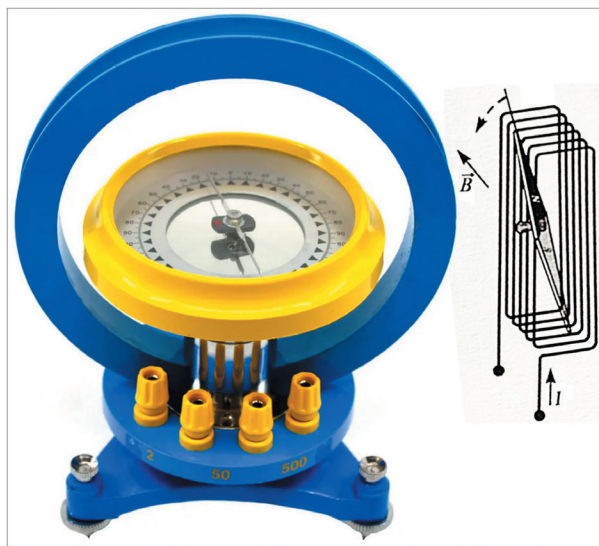


Figure 4: Ampère's Galvanometer (Modern Version). Properly called a "tangent galvanometer", it is mainly used today for classroom demonstrations of the Tangent Law of Magnetism. It can detect and measure minute magnetic and geomagnetic fields, as well as steady electric currents. Credit: Eisco Labs.

Note: In 1820, when Ampère and Biot-Savart formulated their laws, they described magnetic phenomena in comparative terms of what we now refer to as the B vector, which represents magnetic flux density – the measure of magnetic field lines of force per unit area created by moving charges (electric currents).

The Biot-Savart Law specifically calculates the B vector produced by a current-carrying conductor, focusing on the magnetic flux density at a given point in space.

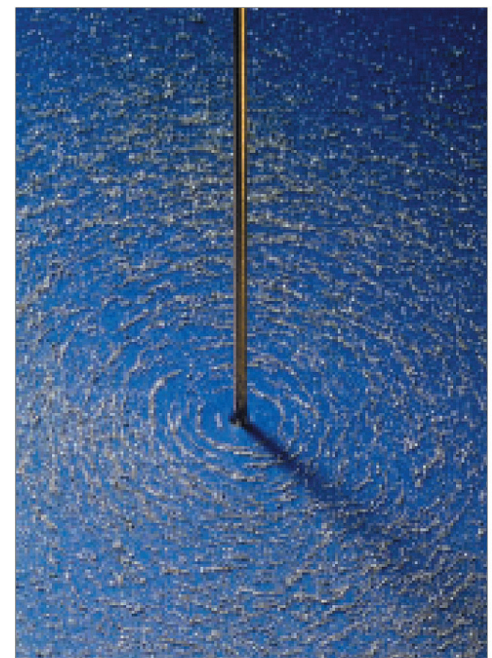


Figure 5: Arago Demonstrates Rotating Magnetic Action. Frustrated by obstinate Académie members, Arago used a vertical metal rod with cardstock pushed down the centre, sprinkled with iron filings. When the ends of the rod were connected to a galvanic battery – "Messieurs, et voilà!" Credit: *Physics 12-8, Magnets and Electromagnets*, Nelson Education, 2012.

Similarly, Ampère's Circuital Law relates the B vector to the current enclosed by a loop, emphasizing the magnetic effects caused by electric currents. At the time, scientists used relative or qualitative descriptions derived from experimental observations, such as measuring compass needle deflections or gauging the apparent strength of magnetic effects to attract/repel at a specific distance. Today, magnetic flux density is quantitatively measured in either gauss (G) or tesla (T).

François Jean Arago

Physicist, mathematician and astronomer who demonstrated Ørsted's experiment to members of the Académie. But so disbelieving of this "German reverie" (fantasy or delusion) that Arago was called back to repeat them several more times (Figure 5).

Humphry Davy

(his assistant was Michael Faraday)

Pioneering electrochemists. *Experimenta* had such a profound effect on Faraday that he gave up his stellar chemistry career to become one of the greatest (self-taught) experimental physicists of the era.

Christopher Hansteen

Geophysicist and astronomer, best known for his work in early geophysics and geomagnetism. He is a former student and lab assistant of Ørsted's. More about him later. Unfortunately, Ørsted wrote his treatise using complex and arcane Latin, perhaps trying to sound "majestic" (or poetic). This caused difficulties with the proper translation, understanding and reproduction of his experiments. One recipient tersely wrote to him:

"Why have not you just written your report in plain German and French, languages you have mastery of, or in normal Latin?!"

Note: He did not include diagrams, which would have helped. Figure 6 is one (of many) drawn in his notebook. Also included are my pictures of two experiments (Figures 7A and 7B).

Breaking (Electromagnetic) Bad

Early 19th-century classical (Newtonian) physics treated forces as linear reactions acting over a distance so the conceptual framework to satisfactorily explain Ørsted's discovery did not exist. The reaction of physicists transcended shock and awe – it was disbelief and incredulity. And so the sharpened "poison pen" or quill of Ludwig Wilhelm Gilbert, editor of *Annalen der Physik*, a harsh critic of any speculative science – especially Naturphilosophie – returned with a vengeance. Years earlier, he led the vitriolic editorial attacks against Ritter that effectively ended his career (Part 2 refers). Was this another one of his "whimsicalities" resurrected by the protégé?

Gilbert was skeptical of Ørsted's treatise and dynamic theory it was based upon. Because of this, he called it a chance or accidental classroom discovery, more so because Ørsted's own theory did not predict rotation (nor did anyone else in physics). In this sense, he is quite correct that it was an accidental discovery.

Experimenta sparked a more controversial article by Pietro Configliachi, editor of the *Giornale di Fisica*. He revealed the earlier but ignored works of Jean-Baptiste Mojon and Gian Domenico de Romagnosi. He pointed out that their experiments had detected two distinct phenomena: Mojon showed that an electric current traversing steel needles magnetized them; while Romagnosi observed the effect on an external magnetic needle (magnetic compass) not traversed by an electric current.

In the case of Romagnosi, Configliachi referred to the two Italian newspaper accounts announcing this discovery in 1802, including his application for a Prix du galvanisme as well as Giovanni Aldini's 1804 *Essai théorique et expérimental sur le galvanisme* (*Theoretical and Experimental Essay on Galvanism*), describing Mojon's experiment with a tagline mentioning a "Romanesi" (Romagnosi mistranslated), including the fact Ørsted had several meetings with Aldini in Paris 1803, and had also contributed material to *Essai*.

Had he not read it?! Configliachi was inferring prior knowledge without proper credit given or plagiarism without actually using the word – furiously fanning the flames.

Note: See Part 3 of "The Road to Radio" in the March-April 2025 issue of *The Canadian Amateur*.

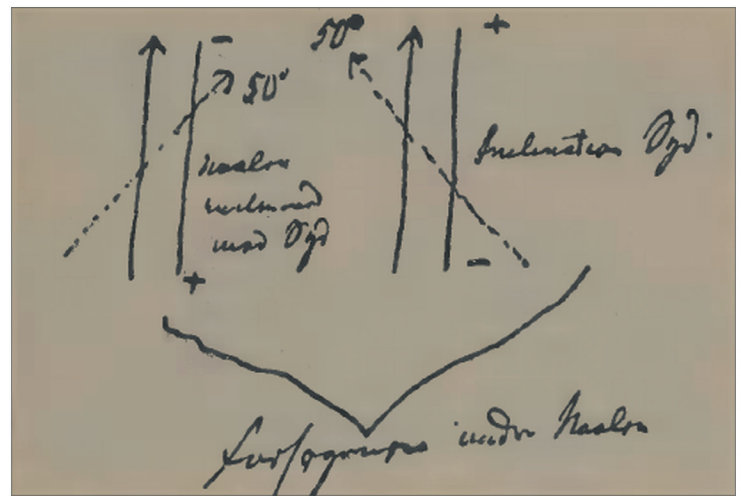


Figure 6: Rotating Magnetic Action Caused by Electric Current.
Credit: H. C. Ørsted, 1820.

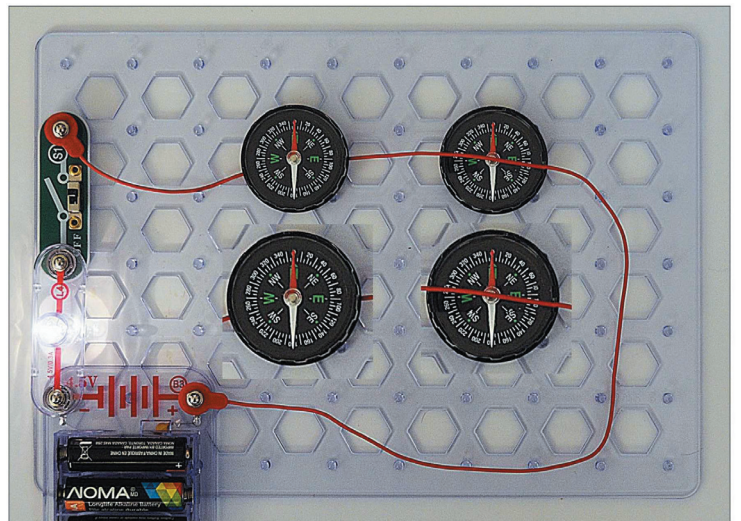
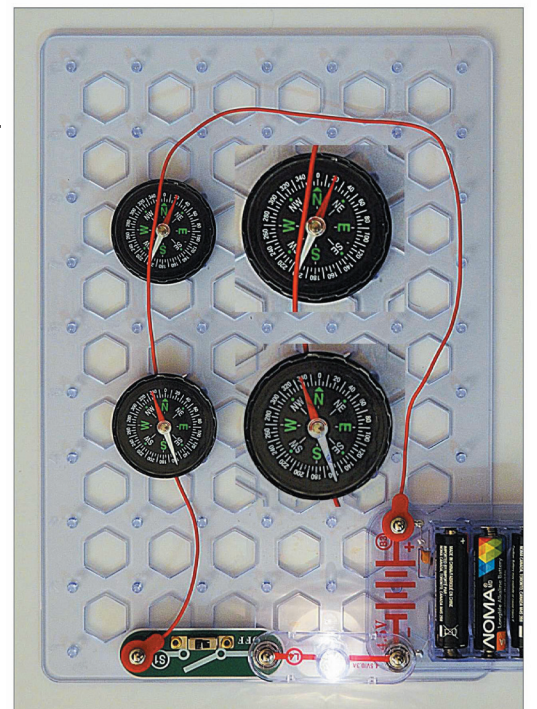


Figure 7A: Experiment I. There is no observable effect when a current-carrying conductor is placed perpendicular to magnetic compasses, first aligned to magnetic north, using this over-and-under wire example. Enlarged compass face inserts added for clarity.

Figure 7B:
Experiment II.

When a current-carrying conductor is placed parallel to magnetic compasses, first aligned to magnetic north, a noticeable deflection of the magnetic needles is observed using this over-and-under wire example (instead of changing battery polarity).

Enlarged compass face inserts added for clarity.



In June 1821, the King of Denmark ended the controversy by knighting Ørsted, elevating his social status, making him a Danish national hero and a royal favourite. The former protégé of the German Ritter (the “knight”) was now a de facto Danish ridder (a knight). According to the Rules of Chivalry, further public attacks on Ridder Hans whether personal or professional were implicitly viewed as attacks on the King, himself. Because all British and European royal families were interrelated by blood, and their benevolent patronage was the lifeblood of royal academies, societies and prestigious universities from where most scientists obtained their employment and/or research grants, it was now very prudent to “let it go”.

Ørsted was already awarded the Royal Society’s prestigious Copley Medal and membership, due to Davy and Faraday’s support, in late 1820.

Napoleon’s Prix du galvanisme no longer existed after the Bourbon monarchy restoration in 1815, but the Institut de France awarded him 3,000 gold francs (the old secondary prix for lesser achievements, a sly slight). The now Ridder Hans was quickly showered with many other foreign awards, honours, memberships in academies along with all expenses paid invitations to visit and lecture at academies and universities across Europe and Britain. However, many members of the Académie royale des sciences felt humiliated by this “obscure German chemist” who had bested the greatest minds of France; they dragged their heels (politely) before granting him membership in 1824.

Note: *The argument was whether Romagnosi’s deflections of his magnetic compass needle were the result of static electricity or dynamic electricity (electric current) or even a defective compass. The agreed-upon ruling was “static electricity”. But I believe it was dynamic electricity because of my Part 3 experiments plus this new one using a working-model galvanic battery (Figure 8).*

Aftermath

Despite numerous attempts – positioning magnets near, above and below wires – even coiling wires – generating an electric current using static magnetism was impossible.

No one, including Ørsted, understood the crucial role of relative motion because another concept was lacking in 1820 physics – force symmetry – in the context of electromagnetism.

That the electric and magnetic forces are actually two aspects of the same fundamental force – that changes in one can produce changes in the other – will hide in plain sight for another decade. Consequently, research focused on quantifying the magnetic forces between electric currents along with heated debates about the fundamental nature of electromagnetism: Was it Ørsted’s “conflict of forces” or Ampère’s mechanistic mathematics?

By 1825, the overwhelming fame, constant expectations, lack of privacy and endless demands of correspondence and public appearances, some still lingering silent suspicions, all weighed heavily on Ørsted. Realizing his conflict theory was taking him down a dark, deserted, lonely cul-de-sac, he abandoned experimental physics to return to his first love – chemistry. He also channelled his efforts into improving the Danish science and technology educational system, founding Københavns Polytekniske Lærestalt (Polytechnical Institute of Copenhagen)



Figure 8: The “Romagnosi Effect”. This Eisco (10-cell, 10-volt) voltaic/galvanic electrochemical battery is operating in open-circuit mode; therefore no external electric current can flow. Yet “something” is pulling the compass needle – first aligned to magnetic north – north-north-east. This battery uses pure copper and zinc discs (both non-magnetic) and felt washers mounted on a plastic spindle and base. More importantly, there was no magnetic needle deviation until after the felt washers were dry-soaked in acetic acid (vinegar). This is definitely not a static electricity effect!

in 1829, serving as its first rector until 1851 (the year of his death). It is now part of Danmarks Tekniske Universitet or DTU (Technical University of Denmark). A very talented amateur poet, he published his various Naturphilosophie-inspired works (e.g., *The Soul in Nature*, *The Airship*, *Visions of Spirits*). And, in 1830, Ørsted belatedly acknowledged Romagnosi’s priority in the fifth and final English-language version of *Experimenta*, published in the British *Encyclopædia Metropolitana*:

“Neither the French Institute, nor the other learned societies, nor the numerous natural philosophers took any notice of his work, which would have accelerated the discovery of electromagnetism by sixteen years.”

Postscript

Decades later, Christopher Hansteen sent a letter, dated December 30, 1857, to Michael Faraday, which, for some inexplicable reason, contained a detailed first-person narrative but without a specific date for the supposedly witnessed event – a red flag:

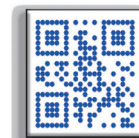
“Professor Oersted was a man of genius, but he was a very unhappy experimentator; he could not manipulate instruments. He must always have an assistant or one of his auditors, who had easy hands to arrange the experiment; I have often in this way assisted him as his auditor. Already in the former century there was a general thought, that there was a great conformity and perhaps identity between the electrical and magnetical force; it was only the question how to demonstrate it by experiments. Oersted had tried to place the wire of his galvanic battery perpendicular (at right angles) over the magnetical needle, but remarked no sensible motion.



Where Art &
Engineering meet

OFFICIAL BEGALI KEYS DEALER

Radioworld



MADE IN ITALY
by i2rtf



VISIT US
DAYTON HAMVENTION
May 16-18 (Bldg 2)

Via Badia,22 - 25060 Cellatica (BS) ITALY Tel. 0039 30 32 2203 E-mail: begali@i2rtf.com

Once, after the end of his lecture, as he had used a strong galvanic battery in other experiments, he said, 'Let us now once, as the battery is in activity, try to place the wire parallel with the needle.' As this was made he was quite struck with perplexity by seeing the needle making a great oscillation (almost at right angles with the magnetic meridian). Then he said: 'let us now invert the direction of the current,' and the needle deviated in the contrary direction.

Thus the great detection was made; and it has been said, not without reason, that 'he tumbled over it by accident'. He had not before any more idea than any other person, that the force should be transversal. But as Lagrange has said of Newton in a similar occasion: "Such accidents only meet persons, who deserve them."

Modern scholars dismiss this letter as either apocryphal or "retrospective mythmaking". But Cui bono? – Who benefits? Faraday never replied. No bona fide first-person account of Ørsted's discovery, written by any of his students in 1820 (predating *Experimenta*) or even years later, is known to exist. We do know from 1816 to 1825, Hansteen lived in Christiania (now Oslo), Norway, and was very busy in his own right. He sent only a handful of letters from 1810 to 1820 about his work (but no planned visits) to Ørsted, who never replied, until:

Copenhagen, July 22nd, 1820

"I am extremely pleased to be able to send you, my highly esteemed friend, the enclosed report on the magnetic effects of galvanism. It seems to me that the consequences of my discovery could be very far-reaching. I would soon like to hear your opinion on this."

Yours truly, H. C. Ørsted

My Final

Whether Ørsted's revolutionary discovery resulted from having prior knowledge, a serendipitous accident, or "a prepared mind" and meticulous experimentation does not matter. What does is that he had the courage of his convictions to cast the die and cross the Rubicon of physics. – 73

Additional References

Correspondance de H. C. Ørsted avec divers savant, tome I, M.C. Harding, 1920.

H. C. Ørsted, Naturvidenskabelige Skrifter, Kristine Meyer, 1920.

Persistent errors regarding Oersted's discovery of electromagnetism, Robert C. Stauffer, 1953.

Physics and Naturphilosophie: A Reconnaissance, Kenneth L. Caneva, 1997.

Romagnosi and the Discovery of Electromagnetism, Sandro Stringari and Robert R. Wilson, 2000.

Resistance to the Discovery of Electromagnetism: Ørsted and the Symmetry of the Magnetic Field, Robert de Andrade Martins, 2004.

Chance in Science: The Discovery of Electromagnetism by H. C. Ørsted, Nahum Kipnis, 2005.

The Correspondence of Michael Faraday: 1855-1860, Volume 5, Edited by Frank A. J. L. James, 2008.

Hans Christian Ørsted: Reading Nature's Mind, Dan C. Christensen, 2013.

World Radiocommunication Conferences (WRC-27) and the Importance of the Defence of Amateur Radio Fund

Paul Coverdale, VE3ICV
Special Advisor for
World Radio Conferences

World Radiocommunication Conferences are organized and held by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) every four years to update the *Radio Regulations*, the international treaty that, sets out the frequencies on which radio services such as the Amateur Radio Service may operate.

With the completion of the World Radiocommunication Conference 2023 (WRC-23) in December 2023, attention turned in 2024 to a new study cycle leading up to the next conference in 2027.

The detailed preparatory work for WRC-27 takes place in individual Working Parties of the ITU Radiocommunication Bureau. In particular, Working Party 5A (WP 5A) – “Land mobile service excluding International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT); amateur and amateur-satellite service” – provides a “seat at the table” for the worldwide Amateur community to influence the outcome of the Conference.

Dale Hughes, VK1DSH, is the Chair of WP 5A. Radio Amateurs of Canada participates in ITU-R and WRC meetings under the auspices of Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED).

For WRC-27 there are no major threats to Amateur Radio, but there are a number of Agenda Items (AI) which could result in potential threats (or opportunities), which need to be followed by RAC, including:

1) Consideration of possible additional spectrum allocations to the radiolocation service on a primary basis in the frequency range 231.5 – 275 GHz and possible new identifications for radiolocation service applications in the frequency bands within the frequency range 275 – 700 GHz for millimetric and sub-millimetric wave imaging systems.

The frequency range 231.5 – 275 GHz overlaps an Amateur secondary allocation from 241 – 248 GHz, and a primary allocation from 248 – 250 GHz.



2) Studies on possible new allocations to the mobile-satellite service for direct connectivity between space stations and International Mobile Telecommunications (IMT) user equipment to complement terrestrial IMT network coverage.

This application of IMT (direct connectivity between a satellite and a handset) could become very popular in the future as a means of filling gaps in current terrestrial IMT service. However, the new allocations for MSS being considered include frequency ranges between 694 MHz and 2.7 GHz, and overlap parts of secondary Amateur allocations in the 33 and 13 cm bands.

3) Studies on frequency-related matters, including possible new or modified Space Research Service (space-to-space) allocations, for future development of communications on the lunar surface and between lunar orbit and the lunar surface.

Of the frequencies currently under study for this Agenda Item, there is an adjacent primary Amateur allocation (Region 1) from 430 – 440 MHz, as well as overlap with secondary Amateur and Amateur-satellite allocations in some countries at 420 – 430 MHz, 440 – 450 MHz, 2400 – 2450 MHz, 5650 – 5725 MHz, and 5775 – 5925 MHz. The scope of this Agenda Item also opens the door for developing a future regulatory framework for other services, including Amateur, for operation on the lunar surface.

Ole Garpestad, LA2RR (Former IARU Vice-President), **Paul Coverdale, VE3ICV** (RAC WRC Special Advisor) and **Thomas Wrede, DF2OO** (IARU Vice-President).

4) Consider regulatory provisions for receive – only space weather sensors and their protection in the Radio Regulations, taking into account the results of ITU Radiocommunication Sector studies.

Initial frequencies proposed for the space weather sensors were very concerning since they overlap a number of Amateur bands. Even though the sensors are passive there is a danger that they could become active in the future and potentially cause interference.

Significant lobbying by Amateurs during WRC-23 was successful in redirecting the frequencies to be studied to outside of any Amateur (primary or secondary) allocations. However, some of the remaining frequencies are directly adjacent to the Amateur 10 metre band (a primary service).

WP 5A is not the responsible group for any Agenda Items during this study cycle, but is a contributing group on many, including those with implications for Amateur Radio. To influence the responsible groups, it is necessary to proceed via liaison statements (LS). Five LS replies have so far been generated concerning AI's having potential Amateur implications, as noted above. Of these, two were based on input contributions from RAC and IARU, the remaining three were initiated primarily by Canada during the meetings themselves.

Some time has also been spent on updating several ITU-R documents related to Amateur Radio:

- Revision of Amateur and Amateur-Satellite Handbook. The current version of this handbook is dated 2014. The update still needs some work, and will take one or more meetings to complete.
- Revision of Rec. M.1041-2 “Future amateur radio systems”. Revisions include material supplied in a contribution by Canada. The revision is now considered complete and has recently been published as Rec. M.1041-3.

- Revision of Rec. M.1042-3 “Disaster communications in the amateur and amateur-satellite services”. The current version is dated 2007. Brazil brought in a contribution providing new material, but more work needs to be done.

Finally, work has started on a new Working Document on Amateur experimental activities on millimetric wave systems. This is in support of the possibility of new Amateur allocations above 275 GHz at WRC-31.

In Defence of Amateur Radio: We Need Your Help!

Serge Bertuzzo, VA3SB – RAC International Affairs Officer
Defence of Amateur Radio Fund (<https://www.rac.ca/darf/>)

The Defence of Amateur Radio Fund (DARF) is an independent legal Trust, which is administered by Radio Amateurs of Canada to:

- 1) Ensure that there are sufficient funds on hand for the Amateur delegate’s expenses to attend WRC meetings. WRC-23 was held in Dubai and the location of WRC-27 is yet to be determined.
- 2) Support travel to Preparatory Meetings in Geneva, Switzerland – if sufficient funds are available – when issues directly affecting Amateur Radio spectrum are being debated. Our delegates typically attend two of these meetings each year, each lasting 10 to 12 days. Even with discounted airfare and hotel rates, it is expensive to send a person to Geneva to work and live for two to four weeks each year.

Defence of Amateur Radio Fund (DARF) Trust Financial Summary for 2024	
Starting balance	\$9,828.32
Donations and income on investments	\$7,705.50
Disbursements	\$9,427.56
Ending balance	\$8,106.26
Net change	– \$1,722.06

The Financial Summary provided in the above table shows that although DARF is still viable, inflation and the trend that new donations are less than expenses continue to be worrisome in the longer term. The insatiable demand for mobile device connectivity means continued and increasing pressure on spectrum from large corporate and government interests as well as from other Radio Services such as the Satellite and Space Sciences Services. Only a strong and consistent Amateur presence at the ITU table to defend the bands we already have will protect the future of Amateur Radio. Without sufficient funds, our voices will not be heard.

Donations can be made online by clicking on the “Donate” link at the top of the RAC website or sent to RAC HQ. One easy way to donate is to include an extra \$10 or \$20 or more when you renew your RAC membership. Please make your cheque payable to “Radio Amateurs of Canada” and note in the memo field “DARF donation”.

If you wish to donate by other payment methods or have a question on how to donate please email RAC HQ at rachq@rac.ca.

For more information about DARF and the World Radiocommunication Conferences visit: <https://www.rac.ca/darf/> and <https://www.rac.ca/wrc/>

Defence of Amateur Radio Fund
(DARF) 2024 Annual Report

Donors to the DARF Trust

Amateur Radio Clubs:

Club Radio Amateur de Granby	\$300
Calgary Communications Club	\$200
QCWA Wild Rose Chapter 151	\$250
North Shore Amateur Radio Club (Ontario)	\$100
Quarter Century Wireless Association	\$3,000
Radio Amateurs of Manitoba	\$200
Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club	\$200
Peel Amateur Radio Club	\$100
Fredericton Amateur Radio Club	\$100

Individuals:

Raymond Tanguay, VE2RZQ	\$25
Francois Daigneault, VE2AAY	\$100
John Lediett, VE3FVC	\$50
Garry Hammond, VE3GHP	\$200
Wayne Stacey, VE3QO	\$50
David Harris, VE3KMV	\$20
Neil Rowe, VE6AK	\$25
Victor Morenec, VE3VAR	\$100
Hal Giles, VE7ENT	\$25
John Lediett, VE3FVC	\$100
Clayton Smith, VE3IRR	\$100
Frank Andersen, VE7GCO	\$50
David LaHay, VE7VFW	\$100
Tom Nanson, VE6JTN	\$50
Stan Leschinsky, VE3TW	\$50
Forbes Leslie	\$250
Robin Chaster, VA7QXM	\$25
Richard Hanishewski, VE5RH	\$25
John Ahern, VE2DBV	\$50
Steve Desrosiers, VE2VEQ	\$25
Martin Potter, VE3OAT	\$300
Ronald Vadeboncoeur, VE3REV	\$150
David Green, VE3TLY	\$50
Clinton Blackmore, VE6CWB	\$100
Joel Weder, VE6EI	\$200
Colin Pavey, VA3FP	\$100
William Januszewski	\$25
Dustin Frisch, VE6DJF	\$100
Angus Richard, VE3IGX	\$100
David Empey, VE3KVR	\$50
Ron Schwartz, VE3VN	\$100
Richard Parlby, VE7ZEP	\$43.70
Anonymous Donor	\$169.80
Francois Daigneault, VE2AAY	\$100
Thomas Godden, VE3TWG	\$47
Frank Davis, VO1HP	\$100
Richard Parlby, VE7ZEP	\$50
Vic DiCiccio, VE3YT	\$50

Thank You For Your Support!

RAC Contest Rules: Canada Day + Winter Contests 2025

RAC Contest Managers Bart Ritchie, VE5CPU and Sam Ferris, VE5SF

Radio Amateurs of Canada sponsors two radio sport contests each year. The RAC Canada Day Contest celebrating Canada's Birthday on Confederation Day and a celebration of the winter holiday season with the Canada Winter Contest. Amateurs all over the world are invited to join us in these celebrations.

Please review the contest rules carefully to ensure full understanding of the contest categories and requirements. If you have questions about these rules or need help with preparing or submitting your log or have any other questions, please contact the contest manager for each contest:

- **Bart Ritchie, VE5CPU at canaday@rac.ca for the Canada Day Contest**
- **Sam Ferris, VE5SF at canadawinter@rac.ca for the Canada Winter Contest**

For the previous year's contest results, visit the RAC website in the Contest section at: <http://wp.rac.ca/contesting-results/>

We look forward to your participation in the RAC Contests.

Contest Periods:

RAC Canada Day Contest:
Canada Day Monday, July 1, 2025 –
00:00:00 UTC to 23:59:59 UTC

RAC Canada Winter Contest:
Saturday, December 20, 2025 –
00:00:00 UTC to 23:59:59 UTC

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, 7060*, 7225, 14175, 21250 and 28500 kHz. Check for CW activity on the half-hour.

**Note: For 7060 kHz please watch for conflicts in the band plan where there are overlaps with other modes of operation.*

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

Table 1: Score Calculation			
Description	Examples		
Canada QSOs (excluding RAC)	QSOs X 10	50 X 10	500
RAC QSOs	QSOs X 20	12 X 20	240
QSOs outside Canada	QSOs X 2	35 X 2	70
Sub-Total	Sum of Points		810
Multiplier	Times Mults	20	20
Claimed Score	Sum of Points X Mults		16,200

QSOs: Contacts with stations in Canada or VEØs (maritime mobile Canadian stations) 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, VE3RHO, 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. Contacts in the RAC Canada Contests also count towards the RAC Canadian Portable Operations Challenge Award.

Multippliers: Thirteen in total, Canada's 10 provinces and three territories. Each multiplier may be counted once on each mode on each of the eight contest bands.

The multipliers, with their postal abbreviations and prefixes are: Nova Scotia [NS] (VE1, VA1, CY9, CYØ); Quebec [QC] (VE2, VA2); Ontario [ON] (VE3, VA3); Manitoba [MB] (VE4, VA4); Saskatchewan [SK] (VE5, VA5); Alberta [AB] (VE6, VA6); British Columbia [BC] (VE7, VA7); Northwest Territories [NT] (VE8); New Brunswick [NB] (VE9); Newfoundland and Labrador [NL] (VO1, VO2); Nunavut [NU] (VYØ); Yukon [YT] (VY1); and Prince Edward Island [PE] (VY2).

Certain special Canadian prefixes in use at the time of the contest may also apply; however, there may be no more than 13 multipliers on each band/mode. Please use the multiplier abbreviations, in square brackets, noted above.

***Note:** in the event a station is unable to make a contact with a Canadian station, there will be granted a multiplier count of 1 to facilitate the proper calculation of the final score since a multiplier of zero (0) would not create a valid calculation of a final score.*

Final Score: The total sum of QSO points (2, 10 and 20-point QSOs) from all bands multiplied by the total number of multipliers from all bands. Table 1 above provides an example score calculation.

Categories:

All categories are designed to be multi-mode, Phone and CW categories except for the two single operator single mode categories. It is required that single operator all bands categories have at least one contact in both modes to differentiate those categories from the single mode categories.

All other categories may operate single mode if so desired recognizing that it reduces their potential contacts and multipliers.

Special thanks to all of our sponsors for their support of the RAC Canada Day and RAC Canada Winter Contests.

The following categories are eligible for plaques or certificates as detailed in the Awards section of the rules.

1) Single Operator All Bands High Power (SOABHP) >100 watts – **Radioworld**

2) Single Operator All Bands Low Power (SOABLP), max. 100 watts output – **Contest Club Ontario**

3) Single Operator All Bands QRP (SOABQRP)*, max. 5-watt output All Bands & Single Band – **Radioworld (See Note 8)**

**Note: QRP entries from Single Band and Single Mode will be reclassified to this category.*

Table 2: Summary of Category Elements, Limitations and Eligibility

Category	Power Level	Logged Band Requirement	Mixed Mode Contacts Required	Assisted Use Allowed	Transmitted On-air Signals	10 Minute Rule Applies	Rookie Plaque Eligible
SOABHP	>100 W ²	2 or more	Yes	No	1 at any given time	No	Yes
SOABLP	>5 to <=100 W	2 or more	Yes	No	1 at any given time	No	Yes
SOABQRP	<5 W	1 or more	Yes	No	1 at any given time	No	Yes
SOABCW only	Any legal power ^{1,2}	1 or more	No, CW only	No	1 at any given time	No	No
SOABPH only	Any legal power ^{1,2}	1 or more	No, Phone only	No	1 at any given time	No	No
SOSB	Any legal power ^{1,2}	1 only	Optional	No	1 at any given time	No	No
SOAHP	>100 W ²	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 at any given time	No	No
SOALP	<=100 W	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 at any given time	No	No
MOSTLP	<=100 W	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 run, 1 multiplier on different band	Yes	No
MOSTHP	>100 W ²	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 run, 1 multiplier on different band	Yes	No
MOMT	Any legal power ^{1,2}	1 or more	Optional	Yes	1 per band	No	No

¹ QRP stations that enter in the SOABCW, SOABPH or SOSB categories will have their entry reclassified and recorded as part of the SOABQRP category as none of the mentioned categories have a suitable power class.

² Maximum high-power levels used must comply with legal requirements of the entrant's jurisdiction.

4) Single Operator All Bands CW only (SOABCW only), any authorized power – **Gary Bartlett VE1RGB Memorial by the Maritime Contest Club** (See Note 8)

5) Single Operator All Bands PH only (SOABPH only), any authorized power – **Saskatchewan Contest Club** (See Note 8)

6) Single Operator Single Band (SOSB), any authorized power – **Radioworld** (See Notes 8 and 9)

7) Single Operator Assisted High Power (SOAHP) > 100 watts – **Radioworld Central** (See Note 3)

8) Single Operator Assisted Low Power ** (SOALP), max. 100 watts output – **Radioworld Central** (See Note 3)

****Note: QRP entrants who wish to use assistance will be placed in the low power category.**

9) Multi-Operator Single Transmitter High Power (MOSTHP), >100 watts – **Alfa Radio** (See Note 4)

10) Multi-Operator Single Transmitter Low Power (MOSTLP), max. 100 watts output – **Tony Allsop VE3FTA Memorial by the Mississauga Amateur Radio Club** (See Note 4)

11) Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter (MOMT), any authorized power – **Radioworld**

Special Category Plaques

For the **Canada Day Contest**, a special trophy is awarded for the highest scoring Single Operator (no power classification, excludes assisted categories) Foreign Entrant – **Larry Kayser VA3LK Memorial sponsored by Alan Goodacre, VE3HX**.

For the **Canada Winter Contest** a special trophy is awarded for the highest scoring Single Operator (no power classification, excludes assisted categories) Foreign Entrant – **Russ Coleson, VK4XA Memorial sponsored by Alan Goodacre, VE3HX**.

For the Canada Day and Canada Winter Contests there is a **"Rookie"** subcategory plaque sponsored by **Radio Amateurs of Manitoba**.

For detailed information regarding the qualifications for the Rookie plaque, please refer to item 14 of the Category Notes.

Previous rookie winners of this contest are ineligible for entry in the Rookie category, an additional Rookie Plaque in this contest or establishing a new subcategory all-time record score.

Additional details on contest categories, limitations, exceptions, callouts and Rookie plaque eligibility appear in the Category Notes and in Table 2 shown above.

Category Notes:

Please check the RAC website for any revisions.

1) The contents of a log that is submitted for a specific category must reflect that category including any multimode or single mode QSO requirement that may apply to the category. In the event of a conflict between the actual content of the log and the stated category in the Cabrillo header or contained in other elements of the entry material, the actual contents of the log will be used to determine the category of entry where possible. In the event this cannot be determined or in the event where a log does not identify the entry category, the entry will be classified into the Multi-Operator, Multi-Transmitter, any authorized power category.

Any entrant who wants to enter a specific category (i.e. Single Band entry) but who also worked additional contacts outside that category **may** submit those additional contacts in a **separate** check log file. Do not include them in the main entered category log file.

2) Where the categories have a power class and the submitted log does not clearly identify the power class entered, then the log will be treated as if the highest power class for that category was entered.

3) **Single operators** who receive assistance in identifying potential new QSOs and/or multipliers from an Amateur Radio Spotting Network – including Skimmer and similar technologies or any type of Packet Cluster system – during the contest must classify their log as being in one of the two **Single Operator Assisted** categories. To indicate an assisted entry use the Cabrillo heading “Category-Assisted: Assisted” in your log file to identify this entry classification. As noted in the category description, any QRP entrant claiming “Assistance” will be placed in the SOALP category as there is no QRP assisted class. All multi-operator categories allow the use of spotting assistance without special identification.

4) **This note applies to the Multi-Operator Single-Transmitter Low Power (MOSTLP) and Multi-Operator Single-Transmitter High Power (MOSTHP) categories.**

Both Multi-Operator Single Transmitter categories permit up to two signals (one **Run** and one **Multiplier**) to be transmitted at the same time **if, and only if**, each signal is on a different band **and** with the following limitations:

- The Run Station is intended to be the primary and most active station for any Multi-Operator Single Transmitter operation. The Run Signal may be transmitted on any band and may solicit contacts (call CQ, QRZ, TEST, etc.) with all other stations as well as seek multipliers within the limitations which follow. The Run signal must remain on the band for at least 10 minutes, but may change mode within the Run Station active band within the 10-minute minimum time period.

The 10-minute period begins when the first QSO (contact) on the run station band is logged and the time is recorded by the logging software. A Run Signal may not be transmitted on a “new band” until the 10-minute period has been met or exceeded as measured by the time difference

recorded in the logging software. The Run signal QSOs will be designated with a “0” in the transmitter column of the Cabrillo log if the logging software supports this feature (preferred).

- It is intended that the Multiplier Station only “hunt” new Multipliers. The Multiplier Signal may be transmitted on any band other than the current Run Signal band, but may only contact another station **if, and only if**, it is a new multiplier on that band and mode. The Multiplier Signal may only reply to CQ’s of other stations. The Multiplier Signal may **not** request or attract any QSO by calling CQ, QRZ, TEST, etc., other than requesting a new multiplier worked to change modes on the same Multiplier Station active band if the contact would be a new multiplier on that band and mode combination.

The Multiplier Signal must remain on one band for at least 10 minutes. The 10-minute period for the Multiplier Signal begins when the first QSO with a new multiplier on that band is logged and the time is recorded by the logging software. A Multiplier Signal may not be transmitted on a “new band” until the 10-minute period for the Multiplier Signal has been met or exceeded as measured by the time difference recorded in the logging software. The Multiplier Signal QSOs will be designated with a “1” in the transmitter column of the Cabrillo log if the logging software supports this feature (preferred).

- The designation of “0” (Run) or “1” (Multiplier) may not be assigned to an actual physical radio, although that is possible. The signal designation of “0” and “1” is a **functional** designation. Rig “A” or “B” (or “C,” etc., if more than two radios) can be assigned either “0” or “1” according to its function (role) at the time of the QSO. Operators should ensure that logging software is capable of designating each Run and Multiplier Station contact in the described manner. Please check your logging software in advance of the contest to ensure capability to comply. This is a desirable feature to properly adjudicate logs in these categories but if your software does not support this function, the log will still be accepted.
- Both Run Signal and Multiplier Signal station transmissions must comply with the maximum power limit for the power category entered.
- Multi-Operator Single-Transmitter categories may employ spotting assistance on both the Run and Multiplier stations
- All QSOs must be logged **immediately** upon completion of a QSO for proper time stamping of the QSO.

If an unintended contact is made with a non-multiplier station using the Multiplier Signal, operators are strongly encouraged to designate such QSOs as unclaimed within their Cabrillo log by marking that QSO with “X-QSO:” at the beginning of the line for each such logged QSO to avoid creating Nil QSOs with the station they contact, being assessed penalties or re-categorization for QSOs that are out of compliance with the category. Doing so will allow the other station to continue to receive points credit. Likewise, should either the Run Station or Multiplier Station log QSOs outside of the active band before the 10-minute band

change limitation period expires, such QSOs should be marked as X-QSO: to avoid score and or possible multiplier reductions.

Multi-Operator, Single Transmitter QRP entries will be included within the Multi-Operator, Single Transmitter Low Power Category.

Failure to comply with the above noted category specifications may result in reclassification of an entry to the Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter category or Checklog category.

5) Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter category stations may operate the eight contest bands simultaneously, but only one transmitted signal per band is permitted at any time. All power levels are mapped into this single category. Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter QRP entries will be included within the Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter category results as there is no QRP power level for this category.

6) For all multi-transmitter categories, all transceivers, transmitters and receivers operated by the multi-station participants/entrants must be within a single 500-metre diameter circle and the antennas must be physically connected by RF transmission lines to the transceivers, transmitters and/or receivers.

7) Operators in either the Multi-Multi or Multi-Single categories should note that a distributed contest station is permitted in the RAC contests, however such operations are not eligible for awards.

A distributed station is defined as a station which does not have all transceivers, transmitters and/or receivers operated by station operators/participants/entrants located within a single 500-metre diameter circle of each other. Distributed Multi-Multi operations must identify such operations as part of their Cabrillo form log submission as a Soapbox comment or summary sheet document. Those individuals using distributed station operations must do so in accordance with the regulations governing Amateur Radio operation in their jurisdiction.

8) The Single Operator All Band QRP (SOABQRP) category is the only official single operator QRP category supported in the contest. Any Single Operator using a Single Band or Single Mode entry that claims QRP power levels, other than a QRP Assisted entry, will be recategorized and reported in the SOABQRP category as that is the only entry class supporting QRP power levels.

An entry that claims QRP Assisted will be recategorized and reported in the Single Operator Assisted Low Power (SOALP) category as that category defines the operating benefit of using assistance. A Multi-Operator Single-Transmitter Low Power (MOSTLP) entry claiming QRP power levels will be left in the MOSTLP category as that category defines the operating benefit of using multiple transceivers.

A Multi-Operator Multi-Transmitter (MOMT) entry claiming QRP power levels will be left in the MOMT category as that category defines the operating benefit of using multiple transceivers.

9) Although there is only one Single Operator Single Band category that qualifies for a certificate or award, it is intended that the published results would show High Power or Low Power.

To facilitate this break out of the listings, your entry should indicate the power class you used.

10) Operators who have participated in any multi-operator category entries may not contact the station they have participated in if they were to operate as part of another entry in the same contest. In addition, guest operators at any station regardless of entry category may not claim contacts with the station host owner or host station mobile call for points or multipliers.

11) Remote operations of a **single station** under the same call sign where all transceivers, transmitters and receivers are within a single 500-metre diameter circle – the antennas must be physically connected by RF transmission lines to the transceivers, transmitters and/or receivers – is explicitly permitted.

Those operators using remote operations must do so in accordance with the regulations governing Amateur Radio operation in their home and remote station jurisdictions.

Remote operation of more than one station under the same call sign, or remote operation of more than one station by the same licensee under differing call signs, is prohibited during the contest period.

12) Single Operator 1 VFO (SO1V), Single Operator 2 VFO (SO2V) and Single Operator 2 Radio with one VFO shown for each radio (SO2R) entries are allowed in all categories.

13) Self-spotting and requesting other operators to spot your station by any means is strictly prohibited for any Canada Winter Contest entry categories

14) **“Rookie”** is defined as a single operator who was first licensed as a Radio Amateur less than 36 calendar months (three years) prior to the date of the contest. Any level of Amateur Radio licence available from the licensing jurisdiction of the entrant qualifies for the category. The three supported categories that qualify for the “Rookie” plaque have a multi-mode requirement as differentiation from the single mode categories. Further, we are trying to encourage entrants to explore both SSB (Phone) and CW aspects of the contest thus **requiring a minimum of one CW and one SSB contact** to be made in the qualifying single operator categories that qualify for adjudication for the “Rookie” plaque.

The participating licensed Amateur is required to self-declare their eligibility, but the RAC Contest Management Committee reserves the right to request proof of eligibility to assist in resolving any disputes.

Eligible Categories for Rookie Plaque:

Participants are eligible for the Rookie Plaque in the following categories.

Note: only one plaque is available across the three categories designated below.

- Single Operator All Band Low Power (SOABLP)
- Single Operator All Band High Power (SOABHP)
- Single Operator All Band QRP Power (SOABQRP)

Log Identification of Rookie Overlay Category:

Your submitted log will need to indicate your entry in the Rookie category by indicating with a **“Category-Overlay: Rookie”** line in the Cabrillo log file header. You may need to manually enter this line if the logging software you use does not support this category overlay. This can also be selected when submitting a log via the RAC Web Log Submission System.

In addition, “Rookie” entrants will need to indicate the date they were first licensed by adding a comment with that information in a “Soapbox:” field in the Cabrillo header. An example would be: “Soapbox: First licensed in January of ‘year’ – no greater than 36 months prior to the date of the contest”.

While the scores from the single mode, unlimited and multi-op “Rookie” entries will be noted in the contest results, only Rookie entrants in the SOABHP, SOABLP or SOABQRP categories will be eligible for the Rookie plaque.

While there is only a single Rookie plaque determined by the results from the three eligible single operator categories, a Rookie entrant will still be eligible for the plaque for the single operator category they have entered should they achieve the highest score for that category. Should they qualify for a certificate based on the normal criteria for certificates, they will be further awarded that certificate.

Contest Awards:

Plaques will be awarded to the top-scoring entrants in each category, as noted above in the category list.

Special thanks to our sponsors for their ongoing support!

Certificates will be awarded to the top-scoring entrant in each category, where a log containing a minimum of 50 gross QSOs has been submitted, in each of the following:

- 1) Canadian provinces or territories, including VE0.
- 2) Continental US call districts, W0 through W9 as well as Alaska and Hawaii. US Commonwealths, Territories and Possessions such as Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, etc will be treated as equivalent to a DXCC country.
- 3) DXCC country, excluding Canada and the United States.

Note: The areas identified above will not receive a certificate if that area had a plaque winner.

To facilitate the proper allocation of certificates, all US stations should indicate their actual US call district based on their actual address, as provided in the Cabrillo header, if different than indicated by their call prefix.

DX stations should indicate the actual country of operation if different than indicated by their call prefix by indicating the country as part of the portable call sign designator.

RAC stations will compete and be considered the same as any other entrant for eligibility to plaques and certificates.

Results: Will be published in *The Canadian Amateur* magazine published by the Radio Amateurs of Canada. The results will also be published on the RAC website.

Entries: For the **Canada Day Contest** all entries must be electronically submitted by 23:59 UTC 14 days after the end of the contest (**July 15, 2025**). For the **Canada Winter Contest** all entries must be electronically submitted by 23:59 UTC 14 days after the end of the contest (**January 3, 2026**).

The preferred method is to submit logs via the Web Log Submission system at: <https://www.contest.rac.ca/>

For the current contest year, we will also accept logs sent via email to canadaday@rac.ca or canadawinter@rac.ca as appropriate for the specific contest.

Electronic email entries will be confirmed by return email by the contest manager. This is a manual process, so do not expect an immediate reply.

Special Note:

- 1) **We are no longer accepting paper logs.** Those entrants using paper logging who would like to enter the contest can convert their paper logs to a Cabrillo electronic log using the process to create a RAC Cabrillo log file that has been provided by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The links to this service are available from the RAC Web Log homepage at <https://contest.rac.ca>. Each contest has its own link.
- 2) Any entry with 100 or more contacts should be submitted in digital format using the contest log submission system or, while supported, via email.
- 3) The required electronic format is the RAC Cabrillo format. The files must be submitted in plain ASCII/Text format. The current Cabrillo logging format / standard is available from the RAC web site at: <https://www.rac.ca/contesting-results/>, under the heading of RAC Cabrillo V3.3.
- 4) When submitting any electronic log please use a **unique identifier** by naming the file using your call sign with a file extension of .LOG, .CBR or .TXT (e.g., yourcall.LOG). If you email your log, please send the file(s) as **attachments**. Do not paste the log file into the text of your message as there may be issues with the formatting making it difficult to properly extract the log. Large files may be zipped if necessary.

If you have questions about these rules or need help with preparing or submitting your log or have any other questions for the **Canada Day Contest**, please contact Bart Ritchie, VE5CPU, at canadaday@rac.ca or the contest manager contact at canadaday@rac.ca.

If you have questions about these rules or need help with preparing or submitting your log or have any other questions for the **Canada Winter Contest**, please contact Sam Ferris, VE5SF, at canadawinter@rac.ca or contact the contest manager at canadawinter@rac.ca.

For the previous year's contest results, visit the RAC website in the Contest section at: <https://www.rac.ca/contesting-results/>

Community and Disaster Services

Message from Community Services Officer

Future Developments for Radio Amateurs of Canada: Enhancing Community Engagement and Disaster Services



Jason Tremblay, VE3JXT
Community Services Officer
community@rac.ca



The RAC Field Organization was established 30 years ago to assist communities by supporting local clubs or organizations.

Radio Amateurs of Canada has always been interested in local activities across the country.

Through the reports in the Community and Disaster Services and the Club Corner and Coming Events columns in TCA magazine and on the website, we are pleased to assist community groups, clubs and disaster service groups in sharing information about what is taking place in their region.

In this CSO Message I am excited to outline the next phase of developments for Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) and the strategic partnership with Emergency Management. As we embark on this journey in 2025, significant changes will be evident across all RAC media and training materials.

Transforming Community and Disaster Services

Over the past year, we have increasingly recognized community and disaster services, and we aim to build on this momentum. This year, I will propose a pivotal restructuring within our organization at the Annual General Meeting in Ottawa. The imperative goal is to separate our Field Service into two distinct branches: Community Services; and the newly established Disaster Services. Each will operate under dedicated leadership with its mission, allowing us to respond to our community's needs more effectively.

Strategic Objectives for Enhanced Engagement

1) Membership Growth and Participation:

Our primary objective is to increase membership and active participation nationwide. The introduction of a membership committee, coupled with on-the-air bulletins facilitated by Bulletin Managers and the Official Bulletin Station, will ensure timely dissemination of information regarding local nets and activities. This initiative will keep our members informed and foster a sense of belonging and involvement.

2) Public Awareness Campaigns: In 2025, we will expand our public awareness campaigns with the support of Section Managers and Net Managers. The focus will be on awareness and recruitment strategies, leading to increased community interest and involvement in Amateur Radio. Each program will be developed with clear mission statements and strategic plans that resonate with our audience.

3) Enhanced Communication Channels:

The Community Services branch will collaborate closely with Section Managers to create robust bulletin services. We aim to establish and enhance bidirectional communication channels between RAC and member clubs. By improving these communication links, we can better respond to our communities' needs and concerns.

3) Balancing Responsibilities with Community Needs

As the Community Services Officer, I recognize the demands on our time and resources over the past two years. Our teamwork with the Amateur community and the evolving landscape of Emergency Management has been a full-time commitment. After an in-depth review, separating these services will significantly benefit our community, allowing each program to flourish and address its unique challenges more effectively. We are committed to enhancing community engagement and promoting outreach to community-based groups and educational institutions. Together, we can build a stronger, more resilient Amateur Radio community equipped to respond to present and future challenges.

Radio Amateurs of Canada's new Disaster Services branch will encompass the Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) and develop a more impactful role for CanWarn, RAC's national severe weather preparedness program for 2026. Thank you for your continued support and dedication to Radio Amateurs of Canada. Let's move forward together with purpose and passion.

Ontario's Emergency Readiness and Capacity Building Program | TPON 2025-26

After extensive meetings and careful planning, Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to announce our acceptance for round two funding under this initiative. The allocated funds will be designated as outlined in RAC's comprehensive plan submitted to Ontario Corp and will be utilized to execute a 12-month project framework. This timeline encompasses not only training and exercises, but also a province-wide demonstration exercise scheduled for 9 to 10 months into the project.

As we move forward, there will be opportunities for additional equipment to support the program. More importantly, we are reaching out to volunteers who possess a clear understanding of our project objectives. We are specifically looking for individuals who aspire to take on leadership roles in the future.

Radio Amateurs of Canada is committed to securing the future of the Auxiliary Communications Service in Ontario through this program, and your involvement is crucial to our success. Together, we can ensure a robust and effective communications framework for our province.

Elgin Amateur Radio Society Holds Emergency Communications Exercise



Worth Chisholm, VE3BTC – ACS/ARES Emergency Communications Coordinator City of St. Thomas | County of Elgin

The Elgin Amateur Radio Society (EARS) held an emergency communication exercise on Saturday, January 25 to coincide with the North American Winter Field Day. The location of this year's event was provided by the Port Stanley Fire Station under the direction of Fire Chief Raymond Ormerod Township of Central Elgin, County of Elgin. The facilities were excellent with the location presenting opportunities to test various antennas.

The purpose of the exercise was to test the operational readiness of Brad Burke, VA3BUF, Josh Roy, VE3NEM and Tim Harvey, VE3VTH. Transceivers and antennas were supplied by Brad Seward, VE3NRJ, Brad Burke, VA3BUF, Josh Roy, VE3NEM and Tim Harvey, VE3VTH.

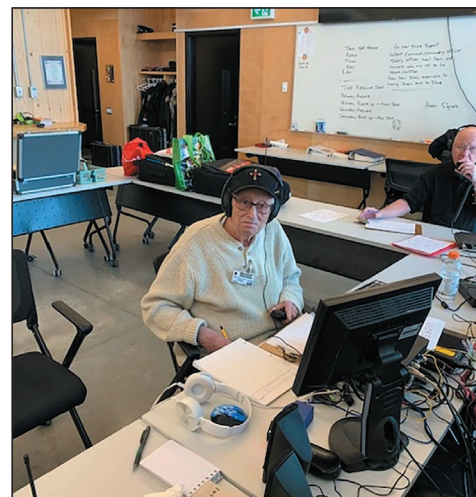
A shortened dipole was also supplied by Greg Popelas, VA3CBN, for testing.

On the left in the above photo is the shortened dipole and on the right is a 30-foot end-fed vertical using an AH4 tuner. We had to deploy all four antennas on the north side of the fire station due to very high winds coming in off the north shore of Lake Erie. Operating as VA3RSE a total of three stations covered the Amateur frequencies in the VHF/UHF and HF bands with 50 to 100 watts output, utilizing the uninterrupted power supply located at the fire station. The set up time was 9 am with

operations successfully achieved by 10 am which ran through to 4 pm. Contact totals were: 15 VHF/UHF; 25 HF on 40m; 20 HF on 20m; and 15 HF on 10m. All those involved agreed the exercise was successful and an excellent learning experience for future emergency communications.

Amateurs participating in the exercise included: Brad Burke, VA3BFU, Rob Wheeler, VE3RHW, Josh Roy, VE3NEM, Brad Seward, VE3NRJ, Worth Chisholm, VE3BTC, Greg Popelas, VA3CBN, Mike Lukasik, VA3MD, Al McRorie, VE3GAM, Roland Shea, VE3LRQ, Dave Tilley, VA3TD, Rick Shirran, VE3NUZ, Tim Harvey, VE3VTH and Dave Primeau, VA3ZDP. Brad Seward, VE3NRJ, President of the Elgin Amateur Radio Society, was the Safety Officer for the exercise. Worth Chisholm, VE3BTC, was the Logistics and Operations Officer.

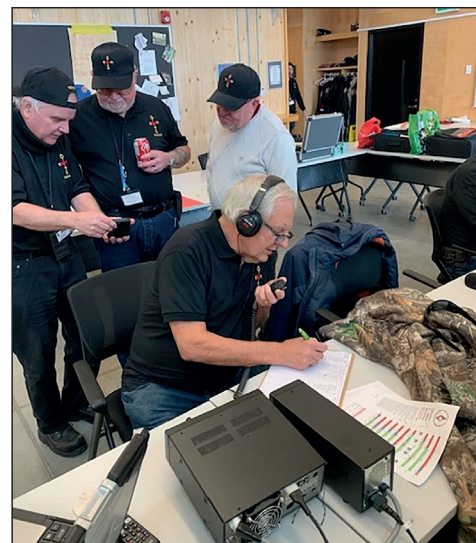
The Elgin Amateur Radio Society currently has 23 active members and three legacy members. As with all small groups, insurance is a limiting factor when planning an exercise but EARS has been fortunate to receive the support of the St. Thomas Fire Chief David Gregory and Central Elgin's Fire Chief Raymond Ormerod. The Chief's support in allowing emergency communications exercises to take place at fire stations under their direction provides the insurance coverage the Elgin Amateur Radio Society normally requires when holding an exercise.



From left: Mike Lukasik, VA3MD, and Dave Tilley, VA3TD (on the mic) at the Emergency Operations Centre in the Port Stanley Fire Station.



Brad Seward, VE3NRJ, Josh Roy, VE3NEM, Tim Harvey, VE3VTH, Greg Popelas, VA3CBN, and Brad Burke, VA3BFU.



Standing: Brad Seward, VE3NRJ, Rich Shirran VA3NUZ, and Roland Shea VE3LRQ. Seated: Rob Wheeler, VE3RHW.

Community and Disaster Services Reports



BRITISH COLUMBIA / YUKON:

Acting SM: Bill Gipps, VE7XS

A/SM: David Musselwhite, VY1XY

A/SM: Neil King, VA7DX

STM: Al Ross, VE7WJ

SEC: Acting Al Munnik, VA7MP

OOC: Dennis Wight, VE7IJJ

ACC: Karla Wakefield, VA7KJW

CEC: Gursimran Gill, VA7GUR

SBM: Fred Orsetti, VE7IO

Website: www.va7mpg.ca

January-February SM Report:

If you have an item of interest to include in this section, please send it to Acting Section Manager Bill Gipps, VE7XS, at british.columbia@fieldorg.rac.ca and to the TCA Editor at tcamag@yahoo.ca.

Burnaby ARC Swap Meet:

The Burnaby Amateur Radio Club held their spring swap meet on March 22, with over 200 attendees.

Door prizes were donated by ICOM, Burnaby Radio, Fleetwood Digital, as well as RAC. Thanks to all of the attendees and vendors.

VB7MAN Special Event Station – Operation Manna 80

BC Amateurs will join other Amateur organizations in Canada, the Netherlands, England, Poland and Australia in honouring the memory of those who participated in Operation Manna, a humanitarian mission carried out near the end of WWII by the Royal Air Force (RAF) and Allies who dropped food supplies to the starving population of the German-occupied Netherlands.

By pre-arrangement, BC Amateurs may book use of the call sign VB7MAN, which will be available only between April 1 and May 10.

The full story of Manna 80 can be found at <https://manna80.radio/>.

Also check Callsign Database - QRZ.com for updates on VB7MAN.

Public Service Honour Roll

January: VE7XLH: 14; VE7ZN: 22; VA7MPG: 55; VE7GN: 249; VE7WJ: 34

February: VE7XLH: 15; VA7MPG: 65; VE7GN: 333; VE7WJ: 25

ALBERTA:

SM: Ron Pettigrew, VE6RWP

SEC: Brian Davies, VE6CKC

STM: Don Moman, VE6JY

OO: Don Moman, VE6JY

wp.rac.ca/ares-alberta-yellowknife-nwt/

January-February SM Report:

Red Deer – Stephen Lee, VA6SGL

At the Central Alberta Amateur Radio Club (CAARC) meeting on February 19, Stephen, VA6SGL, presented a short demonstration using the NanoVNA to test antenna traps and filters. One of a pair of antenna traps was tested to determine its resonant frequency. The original markings had faded, although traps had been used with a dipole built in the 1980s. The NanoVNA was also used to measure the cut-off frequency of a low-pass filter.

Mackenzie – Sean Smith, VE6SAR

Mackenzie Regional Radio Club members and non-affiliated local Amateurs have formed a separate group focused on the Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS). We have had two organizational and training meetings so far this year. There are training nets being held every second Wednesday in Peace River, starting on the VE6AAA repeater and moving to a simplex frequency afterward.

We have a number of newer Amateurs so the current focus of the net is getting operators comfortable working in a controlled net and trying different modes that can be used on VHF. Personal radio equipment is being set up in order to meet different objectives each week. Future communications with local authorities will commence shortly in order to provide services and awareness. The group currently stands 10 strong for the area. Thanks to Chad Shoaf, VA6TT, for taking the initiative to organize the meetings and the net.

Medicine Hat – William Baugh, VE6CTM

The Medicine Hat Amateur Radio Club currently has 14 active members. The club now meets at the 40 Mile Gas COOP offices in Dunmore Alberta at 9 am Saturday mornings. We were required to relocate from the Red Cross building after 40 years of supporting the Red Cross with communications. The club actively participates in supporting community events with communications services.

This year we assisted the Medicine Hat Stampede Parade and the annual Multinational Run for the Colors event.

The club currently maintains four Repeaters in Medicine Hat and the surrounding area.

The Club organized and offered an Amateur Radio Basics certification course which had six graduating new Amateurs. Several of these new Amateurs were members of Southern Alberta Search and Rescue who use Amateur Radios and the club's repeaters to assist in searches in the area.

Edmonton – James Edwards, VE6AJE

Colin Bodor, VA6CCB, has stepped down as EC for the Edmonton and Area ARES group. James Edwards, VE6AJE, has stepped in to take on the role.

We put on a Basic Communicator course where five members attended at the Northern Alberta Radio Club's VE6HM Site.

The Winlink Node at the VE6HM site is down because a truck crashed into the tower and took the entire tower out of commission. It will likely not be back up until spring when the tower is replaced.

We have had two new members join our group.

– SM Ron Pettigrew, VE6RWP

MANITOBA:

SM: Jan Schippers, VE4JS

SEC: Vacant

DECs: Jeff Dovyak, VE4MBQ (Capital Region and CanWarn); Gord Snarr, VE4GLS (South-East Central Region / South-West Region); Wayne Warren, VE4WR (North Region and Special Projects); Vacant (North-Eastern Region); Vacant (North-West Region). EC Ron Willis, VE4QE (Selkirk and District) Bill Boskwick VE4BOZ for RM of Grey, RM of Dufferin & Town of Carman. EC Jason Coombe VE4JYC, for Brokenhead ARES.

EC Grant Delaney VA4GD for LGD of Pinawa and surrounding municipalities. Vacant (Portage la Prairie area)

January-February SM Report:

Winnipeg ARES – Jeff Dovyak, VE4MBQ

Thanks to those who supported the Salvation Army Toy Mountain campaign and thanks to Dick Maguire, VE4HK, who coordinated the Amateur Radio response.

Our December General Meeting was an on-line presentation on Ready Winnipeg from the Office of Emergency Management presented by Emergency Management Officer Dwayne Hackinen.

There was a discussion at the January Winnipeg ARES General Meeting about winter weather reports and the public alert that was sent out January 17. Subsequent to

the Winnipeg ARES meeting I spoke with Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) Warning Preparedness Meteorologist Natalie Hasell. There are particular elements of interest to ECCC.

Winter weather reports should focus on:

- Low Visibility (< 1 km Snow, < ½ km Fog)
- Freezing Rain or Freezing Drizzle or Ice Pellets
- Snowfall accumulations > 5 cm
- Rain that changes to Snow or Freezing Rain
- Please pass on reports of power outages or dangerous road conditions
- ECCC Reporting number provided during Spotter Training.

Traffic Totals

January: 0

February: 0

ONTARIO – GOLDEN HORSESHOE:

SM: Ian Clarke, VA3KCP

ontario.golden.horseshoe@fieldorg.rac.ca

January-February SM Report:

The Section continues to host training sessions, develop and improve our readiness. I visit the clubs in the Section regularly and all are very interested in the development of ACS. The Community Services Officers' article in the March-April 2025 TCA outlined the framework that will be the foundation to ACS going forward. It's a big undertaking and is being driven out of the ongoing meetings with Emergency Management Ontario. More details will follow, but it is a very exciting time.

I'm definitely looking forward to warmer weather and with it the opportunity to get outside and participate in the spring and summer events where we provide communications assistance to our local communities. Without question, there are activities planned every weekend. Community service is a core tenant of Amateur Radio operators and I'm proud to say that the GH Section is busier than ever.

Enjoy the summer, have fun with the radio, learn something new – come join one of our virtual training sessions (check the bulletin for times and dates) and volunteer some time to a worthy local community event. They need our service and it's great to raise Amateur Radio awareness.

PARC's report from Richard Upfield VA3RMU:

Our Wednesday Night Net starts at 20:00 hrs on the VE3ADT repeater (444.125 MHz (+) T 131.8 Hz). We had 40 stations check in; 4 RAC Section Bulletins were read by VA3RIE & VA3BGD, a total time of 182 minutes/30 days.

The Thursday Breakfast net, also on the VE3ADT repeater had 34 stations checked in, for a total of 240 minutes/30 days discussing various topics of interest.

The Sunday morning CW Net is called by John Lewis, VA3JL, at 10:00 hrs on 3.685 MHz. If you would like to practice your CW messaging please join John and the group where the speed is adjusted to the slowest participant.

York Region ARC Community and Disaster Services Report

Community Service: Organized by Eric Brown, VE3EB, YRARC was in full swing at our first public service event where we helped to manage traffic flow and assist in case of emergency. The event was on March 1 at King Township Maple Syrup Festival (Cold Creek Conservation Area in Nobleton). More than 10 club members were on site to make sure the event ran smoothly.

Repeaters: The link between our UHF repeater in Richmond Hill and the VHF repeater near Aurora failed in March. A team including Steve Holland, VE3UT, David Craig, VA3DCY, John Snelgrove, VE3PUH, Andy Betterton, VE3ORE and Chris Sullivan, VE3NRT, visited the site and retrieved the link radio for repair, and service was restored two days later. The 6m repeater, which has been down for an extended period due to a connector failure, was restored to service, and the D-STAR repeater was removed so that it can be relocated to a more favourable site.

Golden Horseshoe Communications Test:

On March 8 at 5 pm a test of repeater coverage and simplex coverage was performed. The test was led by Richard Upfield, VA3RMU, and tested coverage from Scarborough, Mount Albert and Burlington. After a few glitches it seemed that VE3YRA offered the best coverage. A new test is being scheduled to add VE3URU which currently has over eight repeaters linked, mostly using microwave links.

Recruitment: YRARC is actively seeking Amateurs to participate in ARES. We just completed training for Basic qualifications and have excited to share that we now have eight new Amateur Radio operators. Chris Sullivan, VE3NRT, is looking to produce training slides and notes for those seeking the advanced qualifications.

AREDN: The club is actively planning an AREDN mesh network. We have several sites that could support the AREDN microwave equipment. The antennas will be two Ubiquiti Titanium (each offering 120 degree coverage) and will be facing NW to SW. We are looking into five additional sites to provide coverage of central York region and beyond.

ONTARIO NORTH:

SM: Allan (Al) Boyd, VE3AJB

ontario.north@fieldorg.rac.ca

STM: Patrick (Pat) Dopson, VE3HZQ

dopsonp@vianet.ca

SEC: Stiig Larsen, VE3LBX

slarsen@vianet.ca

OBM: Paul Caccamo, VA3PC

va3pc@ciinet.org

Web: <http://ontario.racares.ca>

January-February SM Report:

There is a great deal going on with the new rolling out of the ACS program. A recruitment campaign will take place for individuals to join the ACS program after enrolling in the Ontario Corp program. Please stay tuned for more information.

Albany District

Sault Ste Marie –

It has been a busy winter season for the Algoma Amateur Radio Club. We have had our annual general meeting, and big push is for our members to become RAC members as well to both support our club and the insurance benefit, but also radio protection nationwide. We have offered a club membership discount for RAC members to further reinforce this idea.

Thanks to the generous donation of radio equipment from the City of Sault Ste Marie, we will be programming and equipping each fire hall with a dedicated radio to provide backups to their existing systems. In addition to the bases, we will be creating a cache of handheld, preprogrammed radios to be able to deploy to assist large scale community events.

Thanks to our relationship with our Michigan neighbouring radio community, we have two members fully AUXCOM certified with a third member well on their way to gaining this recognition.

The training focus for 2025 will be based around ICS skills, message handling and community support.

Elliot Lake – EC Bob Young, VE3ETE

Our Tuesday evening net participation averaged of 29 in January and 32 in February. Formal traffic messages increased in volume during the period. Our NCS, Earl Andrews, VE3AB, continues with the CW and SSB nets on 144.200 MHz, followed by the FM net on Tuesday nights and now operating from the home QTH. The C4FM side of the repeater has not been working for a couple of weeks now. It obviously needs a reset. The C4FM net has been run temporarily on 146.52 simplex. During the period I attended seven Manitoulin ARC Zoom meetings and 17 ProComm nets. There were seven XR103 reflector check-ins (D* Digital Mode) during the same period.

I also checked into ONTARS on Sunday mornings eight times.

I participated in the Winter Field Day Contest but only made about 27 contacts. I also tried working the VHF contest the week before, but conditions were not exceptionally good, as I only made 4 or 5 contacts. Better luck down the log!

Amethyst District

Thunder Bay – EC Woody Linton, VE3JJA

I made a business case to our sponsor (Thunder Bay Fires Services) and was successful in getting funding for a YA-30 antenna. This folded loop HF antenna should solve previous issues on 80m band. The old antenna is a backup to all other bands; at time of submission the antenna had just been shipped.

An onsite radio test at Thunder Bay Region Hospital was performed and the equipment then given to VA3OJ for professional PM and certification.

I am in the process of making a business case to our Regional Hospital to replace the equipment that was lost about four years ago while secured at Hospital. The equipment would include VHF/UHF mobile radio and power supply.

More onsite training was conducted at the Thunder Bay EOC in February. Practise makes perfect but we need more practise to attain that elusive goal.

Atikokan – EC Warren Paulson, VE3FYN

I checked and tested all equipment at the EOC. The two metre and HF radios are working, as is the APRS I-Gate. It is especially important for all inter EOC software to be updated to the latest version as we have found that not current versions cannot always connect to other EOCs. Atikokan remains prepared for any upcoming challenges.

Fort Frances – EC Rod Davis, VE3RYD

The month of January was productive as we ordered a new antenna for the EOC. We have been evaluating the new 7300 located at the Fire Hall and it is working out well. We did a VARA chat during one of the Wednesday nights exercises and will do an EOC check-in shortly. All is going well. The new equipment purchased by the municipality for our EOC station will be installed as soon as warmer weather prevails.

Kenora – EC Chris Bigelow, VA3ECO

In January, we practised sending direct text messages using VARA Chat between several pairs of stations on 80 metres.

A direct connection with this digital mode gives the advantage of an ARQ type of transmission. ARQ is a protocol that gives

reliable data transmission through error detection and automatic retransmission of lost or corrupted data, very handy in weak signal conditions. Our furthest QSO was from Sioux Narrows to Marathon, about 700 kilometres!

During February, in our weekly Wednesday 80m ARES net we practised relaying VARA Chat text messages from one station to another, totaling hundreds of kilometres in the end. One of our AECs John Benson, VE3JJH, had a hip replacement so attending training sessions is off in the short-term. We wish him a speedy recovery.

Sioux-Narrows – Nestor Falls EC Woody Linton, VE3JJA

All is well in the EOC Stations at VA3EMC Sioux Narrows or VA3EMN Nestor Falls. Several power outages at both locations happened during January, but due to our UPS backup power in both EOCs to cover a momentary blip and the building power generators no equipment went down.

Surprisingly enough the severe cold and heavy snow did not lead to any equipment breakdowns or call outs.

Dryden – EC Bob Ernewein, VE3YDN

The big continuing focus is the April 2025 two-day Emergency Management Forum for the Amethyst District and our ARES group to setting up a display. We will be working on this tasking during the months to come as well as what members will attend what forums.

Winter has brought several challenges to the Dryden area and some of them at the repeater site with freezing weather operation. All is running smoothly again in February.

Killarney District

Manitoulin Island and North Shore – EC Allan Boyd, VE3AJB

The Manitoulin Amateur Radio Club Inc has been busy as we conduct weekly nets for operations. A new complete radio station has been set up for Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands Township at the EOC and complex for the shelter location with radio equipment. Allan Boyd, VE3AJB and Paul Pasternak, VE3ZHI, helped install the equipment in the fall.

We are gearing up for a highly active year and getting ready for tabletop exercises with the various municipalities on Manitoulin.

DECs Reporting:

VA3s: PC

VE3s: JJA

ECs reporting:

VA3s: ECO

VE3s: AJB, ETE, JJA, MXJ, RYD, SNA, TGI, YDN and ZDR

ONTARIO EAST:

SM: Michael Hickey, VE3IPC

Email: ontario.east@fieldorg.rac.ca

SEC: Michael Hickey, VE3IPC

STM: Vacant

OBM: Paul Caccamo, VA3PC,

va3pc@ciinet.org

Web: <http://wp.rac.ca/ares/>

January-February SM Report:

With summer around the corner, it's a good time to look at Field Day 2025. There is always much to inspect, prepare and repair and to make ready all necessary equipment, accessories and tools either for a Club or EmComm group. The same applies for a small private Ops as the work is the same, but the fun one can have is in the experience of it all and the camaraderie is always great and lasting.

For extra points don't forget to send a radio message to your Section Manager from inside the FD site. It can be relayed by Winlink station or by other means of relay.

Indicate the group name; date/time location; how many are part of the FD team effort; how many visitors attended and signed the visitors log; and the number of officials who visited are always the type of info your SM wants to know.

Have a great and memorable FD-2025,

ARES EmComm Group Leadership Reports:

Peterborough ARES/ACS Group Coordinator – Harmen, VA3OU/VE3EMA

The Peterborough (P-ARES) / ACS Group reports that there are an average of 10 check-ins for weekly nets and there has been a notable improvement by many ARES participants in message handling, due to the weekly exercises.

GC Harmen VE3EMA did a follow-up radio check of the newly installed station at Otonabee-South Monaghan EOC, Fire Station #1. VA3OSM station is still performing very well and is able to hit the Apsley repeater at a distance of 60 kilometres.

I would like to welcome Chuck Parsons, VA3NY, to the Peterborough ARES/ACS team as Assistant Group Coordinator. Along with AGC Chuck's long active participation and experience with ARES, he has been vital to our training and an essential liaison with the other CEMCs, other Peterborough County officials and Emergency Management at the provincial level. Chuck has been an invaluable asset.

On February 11, GC VE3EMA provided an ARES/ACS presentation to Bent Abell, who is new Peterborough County CEMC.

The Peterborough County Emergency Control Group were very interested in what services we could provide them and could see us as an essential asset in providing communications. Peterborough County is purchasing a new, larger ESU Trailer as well as a large tent as part of their recent provincial grant acquisition. They are planning to do an exercise in the fall to showcase their new assets and have asked us to participate.

On February 20, GC Harmen Minnema, VE3EMA, Scott Tompkins, VE3TCG, Robin Hanwell, VA3HEH, and Barry Monaghan, VE3BLM, tested the radio and antenna at the Peterborough County EOC located in the County Courthouse. The radio and antenna tested well and was able to hit the Apsley repeater, 58 kilometres away. We also tested Winlink to VE3KPG-10 and VE3BUY-10 gateways.

**Submitted by the PR-ARES Group
Coordinator Lance Peterson, VA3LP**

The Prescott-Russell ARES Group and the Prescott-Russell ARC held another successful January Winter Field Day (WFD) at the Larose Forest Welcome Centre in January. The participants set up antennas for HF (End Fed) and VHF/UHF (Dual Band J on 30-foot telescopic Mast) and operated for the entire 24 hours. Mick Papineau, VA3PAI, provided a Yaesu FTDX10 to operate on HF and GC Lance Peterson, VA3LP, provided a Winlink station to provide the Winlink message multiplier. In all total, 266 contacts were made.

The following operators were involved in the Winter Field Day contest: Jim Thiessen, VA3KV, Mick Papineau, VA3PAI, Harry Ratajczak, VA3ZAK, William Yuan, VA3ODW, Joel Brisson, VA3WBK, Chad Waite, VE3OUO, Gilles Beaulieu VE3NPI, and GC Lance Peterson, VA3LP.

Everyone had a great time and are looking forward to Field Day in June.

**Submitted by SD&G RAC ACS / ARES
EmComm Group Coordinator
GC Earle DePass, VE3IMP**

The SD&G RAC Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Group, a subset of the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES), is associated with the Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club (SVARC) Inc. [SVARC]. This Club continues to hold its monthly hybrid meetings featuring Guest Speakers at the Saunders Hydro Centre in Cornwall. The SVARC held its most recent “hybrid” meeting there at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, February 26 at the same location.

**RAC FIELD ORGANIZATION REPORTS
National Traffic System (NTS) Net Reports**

Net (Manager)	Sessions	QNI	QTC
January 2025			
Alberta ARES (VE6JER)	4	217	12
APSN (VE6JY)	31	2545	16
Aurora (VE7GBO)	31	4464	0
BCEN (VE7OM)	30	174	8
BCYTN (VE7WJ)	31	452	48
CECA (VE7DTO)	4	93	23
MEPN (VE4JS)	31	934	0
MMWXN (VA4GD)	31	524	0
MSMN (VE4AJ)	23	483	0
RAM (VE4HK)	9	272	0
Saturday (VE4AJ)	4	83	0
February 2025:			
Alberta ARES (VE6JER)	4	229	15
APSN (VE6JY)	28	1226	16
Aurora (VE7GBO)	28	3985	0
BCEN (VE7OM)	28	168	10
BCYTN (VE7WJ)	28	400	39
CECA (VE7DTO)	4	101	28
MEPN (VE4JS)	28	890	0
MMWXN (VA4GD)	28	441	0
MSMN (VE4AJ)	20	415	0
RAM (VE4HK)	8	235	0
Saturday (VE4AJ)	4	82	0

Coffee Klatches where members can socialize with each other are held on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month, starting at 9 am at Spinners Diner at 118 Pitt Street in Cornwall.

South Glengarry SD&G ARES:

The VA3FHA repeater which was installed on August 29, 2022 at the Beaver Brook landfill site continues to function well.

The last exercise took place on October 29, 2024 when SD&G ARES participated. It involved the Townships of South Stormont, South Glengarry, North Dundas and North Glengarry and was intended to highlight and resolve in advance communications challenges. Operators from SD&G ARES – members of the Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club – provided radio links from the United Counties building in Cornwall with the Township of South Stormont (Long Sault) and South Glengarry (Lancaster). Harold (Hal) Green, VA3HWG, John Grow, VE2EQL and GC Earle DePass, VE3IMP, participated. The group has been invited to attend their upcoming exercise on April 29.

**Submitted by Renfrew County West ARES
Group Coordinator Bob Howard, VE3YX**

The Renfrew County West (RCW)-ARES GC reports that Tim Pychyl, VA3PYC and GC Bob Howard, VE3YX, continue to send submissions to Winlink Wednesdays, both Canadian and US.

February 22 was the CNOY, Coldest Night of the Year, a family-friendly 2K or 5K fundraising walk in support of local charities serving people experiencing hurt, hunger and homelessness. More than \$125,000 was raised by about 300 walkers for “The Grind” in Pembroke. RCW-ARES provided three marshals and two cars driving around the route checking on the walkers.

George Dionne, VE3GPD, Dwight Paquette, VE3ZLO and GC Bob Howard, VE3YX, were marshals while Fred Blackstein, VA3FPB, circulated in a paramedic vehicle with ambulance staff and Ean Robertson, VE3TLG and Linda Robertson, VA3LDA, circulated in their car. Yvonne Adam, VE3RYA, walked the route acting as a sweep.

While our ARES group planned to attend, our participation became very important when a couple of Police Foundation students who were intended to be marshals failed to show up and we filled the gaps to maintain the safety of the route.

Our participation was very much appreciated by the walkers and the organizers.

Districts Reporting:

Eastern Ontario and Severn

GCs (ECs) or Assistants Reporting:

VA3LP, VE3MA, VE3IMP and VE3YX

OBS Reporting: VE3IQZ

ONTARIO SOUTH

SM Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG –
ontariosouth@fieldorg.rac.ca

January-February SM Report:

EARS January 2024 Emergency Communications Exercise –
EC Worth Chisholm, VE3BTC

The Elgin Amateur Radio Society (EARS) held an emergency communication exercise on Saturday, January 25 to coincide with the North American Winter Field Day.

The location of this year's event was provided by the Port Stanley Fire Station under the direction of Fire Chief Raymond Ormerod Township of Central Elgin, County of Elgin. The facilities were excellent with the location presenting opportunities to test various antennas.

The purpose of the exercise was to test the operational readiness of Brad Burke, VA3BUF, Josh Roy, VE3NEM and Tim Harvey, VE3VTH. Operating as VA3RSE a total of three stations covered the Amateur frequencies in the VHF/UHF and HF bands with 50 to 100 watts output, utilizing the uninterrupted power supply located at the fire station.

Amateurs participating in the exercise included: Brad Burke, VA3BFU, Rob Wheeler, VE3RHW, Josh Roy, VE3NEM, Brad Seward, VE3NRJ, Worth Chisholm, VE3BTC, Greg Popelas, VA3CBN, Mike Lukasik, VA3MD, Al McRorie, VE3GAM, Roland Shea, VE3LRQ, Dave Tilley, VA3TD, Rick Shirran, VE3NUZ, Tim Harvey, VE3VTH and Dave Primeau, VA3ZDP.

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ, President of the Elgin Amateur Radio Society, was the Safety Officer for the exercise. Worth Chisholm, VE3BTC, was the Logistics and Operations Officer.

The Elgin Amateur Radio Society currently has 23 active members and three legacy members. As with all small groups, insurance is a limiting factor when planning an exercise but EARS has been fortunate to receive the support of the St. Thomas Fire Chief David Gregory and Central Elgin's Fire Chief Raymond Ormerod.

The Chief's support in allowing emergency communications exercises to take place at fire stations under their direction provides the insurance coverage the Elgin Amateur Radio Society normally requires when holding an exercise.

Please see page 42 for more information and for a look at a few photos.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

SM Bill McMaster, VY2WM –
prince.edward.island@fieldorg.rac.ca

January-February SM Report:

The members of the Amateur Radio community in Prince Edward Island have settled into the slower activities of the winter months.

A dedicated number of brave PEI Amateurs continue to be active in POTA and several have earned a number of awards. There are often opportunities to work Park to Park contacts and some spots in PEI where one can activate a two-fer.

The Summerside Amateur Radio Club organized a presentation to a local Scout troop highlighting Amateur Radio and discussing the Scouts' Jamboree On the Air event. The event was attended by a representative of the Charlottetown club. The Scouts seemed quite interested in the information provided and several of the Scout leaders were interested in learning more about radio training courses.

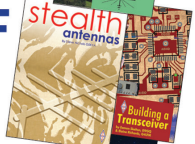
In concert with this, the Summerside Amateur Radio Club has moved closer to hosting a Basic Radio Course for candidates in the western section of PEI. The Charlottetown club has committed to provide whatever support might be needed to ensure a successful course delivery. At this time they have secured a location for the course and have identified 11 possible candidates.

Members of both Island clubs participated in Winter Field Day activities on the weekend of January 25/26. The Ardgowan, National Historic Site of Canada located in Parkdale, PEI was chosen as the location of the Winter Field Day activities so contacts could also be part of a POTA activation.

The weather cooperated for the most part although it was cold enough that participation was limited to 4 or 5 hours Saturday afternoon. Approximately 15 to 20 Amateurs were on site at some point during the event. While the number of contacts made was not overwhelming, everyone had a good time and the debrief that took place at the Tims restaurant at the end was certainly enjoyed.

The PEI community and especially the Summerside Amateur Radio Club mourned the loss of a very much loved member of their group. Clarence Henry Clark, VY2CK, became a Silent Key on February 6, 2025. He will be remembered fondly by all those who knew him.

Efforts continue to find an organization to host a permanent club station for the



SPECIAL DEAL FOR RAC MEMBERS

10% OFF BOOKS
at the **RSGB Bookshop**

Simply insert the following code:
RACdiscount
(Excludes Postage)

Get great books delivered to your door, and benefit the RAC in the process

Radio Society of Great Britain www.rsgbshop.org
3 Abbey Court, Priory Business Park, Bedford, MK44 3WH. Tel: 01234 832 700 Fax: 01234 831 496



**Amateur
Radio
Operators of
Canada**

Share your OTA adventures, DIY Builds, or maybe learn CW. The discord chat is a great place to find hams near and far to discuss a range of topics 24/7.

Come check us out at the link below.

73s



[Discord.me/AmateurRadioCanada](https://discord.me/AmateurRadioCanada)



Charlottetown Amateur Radio Club. The club is exploring many possibilities and hopefully something will be located in the future.

The Amateur Radio community in PEI continues to participate in our various nets, which hold the community together. The weekday morning "Wake Up" net takes place on a number of linked repeaters throughout the Maritimes.

The Wednesday evening 2m net and the 2m Virtual Breakfast nets are hosted on the VE1CRA repeater. There is also the 80m "ragchew" net that happens every Thursday night on 3727 kHz. This net typically sees check-ins from New Brunswick, Nova Scotia as well as PEI.

– 73, Bill McMaster, VY2WM



Youth On The Air Month 2024: A Success!

Harrie Jones, VE3HYS

December is Youth On The Air month around the world. Youth is defined as 25 and under and the December goal is to encourage youth to make contacts and have conversations with Amateurs of all ages.

In previous years, a VA7 classroom was very active on FT8 and there were a couple of VE3 youth and a YL in VE2-land. This past December was a bit different as we had more Amateurs than ever, but they all ended up sharing the VE3YOTA call sign. Maria Polyanska, VE3OMV, was the call sign holder and she had help from Daniel Alvarez, VE3FCT, Jules Benkemoun, VA3IEY, Justin Noakes, VA3AQZ, Tugce Osmangazi, TA3TGC, Merzuke Gediktaş, TA7YLY and Matthew Nemec, OM8ATE.

Jules, Tugce, Merzuke and Matthew all used Rob Noakes, VE3PCP, station that is set up to allow remote operations. Their stories are provided below.

Jules Benkemoun, VA3IEY

"I'm Jules VA3IEY (a.k.a *IEY, proud owner of six call signs, more to come soon), French 24 year-old, passionate CW operator and deeply involved in Amateur Radio. I have been working as an aerospace system engineer since 2023. My obsession for getting call signs started in 2018 with my first call sign F4IEY8, followed by K4IEY in 2021 and I upgraded my Canadian certification to Advanced and CW this year during the Youth On The Air camp in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Since I started my Amateur Radio journey, I've had the privilege of participating in some of the world's most prestigious contests big gun stations. These include operating under call signs TM1A, TM6M, and TM4Y as part of my quest for World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC) 2026 qualification. Contests not only test our technical skills but also unite operators worldwide, crossing antennas with international friends.

A cornerstone of my involvement is mentoring young operators and promoting Amateur Radio. As the France National Youth Coordinator for REF and Vice-President of two radioclubs (F6KGL



Jules Benkemoun, VA3IEY

and F6KOP), I have organized workshops and participated in events such as national science fairs, fostering curiosity and hands-on learning.

Additionally, I am proud to contribute to the YOTA (Youngsters on the Air) project in Region 1, representing the initiative at fairs like HAMEXPO (France), La Louvière (Belgium), Iberradio (Spain) and Friedrischafen. Through these engagements, I've promoted the vibrant energy of youth participation in Amateur Radio, both as a booth speaker and an event organizer.

This year has been especially dynamic, with highlights including attending the Istra Contest Conference in Porec, Croatia, presenting at the IARU Spectrum24 conference in Paris, and participating in IARU VHF and Marconi Memorial CW contests as OE1W. Each experience has broadened my perspective and strengthened my commitment to advancing our shared hobby. Moreover, I also attended FOSDEM in February, contributing to the Amateur Radio devroom, and I am actively working on the organization for the 100th REF and IARU Anniversary celebrations.

My journey with YOTA has taken me to Region 1 (R1) Subregional Camps in Spain, Summer Camps in Hungary and Canada, and even maintaining the December YOTA Month event since 2019. This year, operating from multiple countries, I've been proud to run call signs such as TM(2)4YOTA, OQ24YOTA, 9A0YOTA, VC3YOTA, AO24YOTA and many others.

As an active member of the IARU R1 Youth Working Group and the main organizer for the upcoming YOTA Camp R1 2025, I am

committed to creating opportunities for young operators to thrive in the Amateur Radio world.

Operating across various modes and bands, I'm a committed CW operator and a member of Radioklub Vegova S59VEG in Ljubljana. I also participate in the RHR Youth Program, actively operating remote stations in the United States Slovenia and Croatia. As I continue this incredible journey, I look forward to connecting with more operators, exploring new technologies, and contributing to the global Amateur Radio community. You can follow my adventures on Instagram at @jules_f4iey.

– 73, Jules, F4IEY, K4IEY, G4IEY, OK8IEY, VA3IEY, 3D2IEY

Matúš Nemec, OM8ATE/3D2ATE

My name is Matúš Nemec. I am 21 years old and my call sign is OM8ATE.

I passed my Slovak Amateur Radio Novice exam in 2022 at the age of 19. Since then I have participated in many Amateur Radio activities. I was a participant in Camp 9A22YOTA in 2022. I have been the Parks On The Air (POTA) program coordinator for OM since December 2024.

I am also the coordinator of the OM25ISS anniversary call sign, which was a successful applicant for the International Space Station (ISS) crew contact that took place on January 25 at the University of Prešov in Slovakia. It was a great honour for me not only to be the coordinator of the project, but also to be the first Slovak to make educational contact with the ISS.



Matúš Nemec, OM8ATE/3D2ATE

The intention was not only to bring the first such contact to Slovakia, but also to introduce children and the general public to the subject of space as well as to point out the scientific possibilities related to space.

In 2024, I was part of the group of youth remote operators that participated in the 3D2Y DXpedition at Rotuma Island. As part of that, we operated FT8 using Anydesk to access the Remote In a Box (RIB) stations on the island. It was very interesting operating a station on the other side of the world with the time difference and so many countries we would not normally contact from home. As part of that operation I now also have the call sign 3D2ATE.

In December 2024, we also did a Special event to celebrate the 123rd anniversary of Marconi receiving the first Transatlantic radio signal at Signal Hill in Newfoundland on December 12, 1901. We operated as VA3XXT with both FT8 and SSB on 10 bands.

For the VC3YOTA operation, I operated FT8 through our remote station and enjoyed making many contacts while operating. During the eight days that we operated, we had three other youths from different countries working with us at different times. We had a total of 321 contacts, 249 were FT8 and 72 were SSB.

One day with more studying, I hope to get my Advanced qualifications. I look forward to the next Amateur Radio adventure.

– 73, *Matúš Nemec, OM8ATE/3D2ATE*

Maria Polyanska, VE3OMV

I'm Maria, this year's call sign holder of VC3YOTA. I became an Amateur in 2021 and upgraded to Advanced in 2023. Right now, I'm 14 years old and YOTA month 2024 was my 4th YOTA month participation. I operated mostly CW but the occasional SSB too. This year, rather than going for the most QSOs, I decided to experiment with things that I had not tried before.

The first thing I enjoyed was trying to get contacts through the ISS Amateur Radio satellite. Just knowing that I was attempting to communicate through the International Space Station made the whole process exciting. The timing was crucial as the window for making a contact was brief as I had to be ready to make my call when the ISS passed overhead. The experience of working



Maria Polyanska, VE3OMV

through the ISS was both challenging and incredibly rewarding, even though I wasn't able to make a successful contact. I hope to make one next year!

Of course, as always I enjoyed working the CWT's (CWops high speed weekly CW test). It's nice to have pileups on a special event call sign! Sometimes, the four-letter suffix would confuse different ops! The CWTs always feel like a bit of a friendly competition, but it's also a great opportunity to practise my CW skills in a more relaxed, yet still challenging, environment.

Finally, and probably my favourite part of YOTA month, was the diversity and different operators. I got to talk to operators in different languages, from Spain to Ukraine to right here in Canada, it was so much fun! Lastly, I really enjoyed working with Rob Noakes, VE3PCP, and youth from around the world using the VA3YLR station. We had operators from France, Turkey and more! I can't wait for the next YOTA month, and I encourage you all to join us, same time, next year!

– 73, *Maria VE3OMV.*

Justin Noakes, VA3AQZ

My name is Justin Noakes. I am 21 years old and my call sign is VA3AQZ. I passed my Canadian Amateur Radio Basic test with Honours in 2018 at the age of 14. I am one of several Amateurs in my family. My Dad, Rob, is VE3PCP and my Mom, Alicia, is VA3KGZ. My uncle John who lives in British Columbia is VE7NI. My late grandfather, Leonard was VE3CRW and he passed away in 2008.

In 2017, my Dad along with my mother and I formed the Inverhuron Ham Radio Club which is a youth-oriented club. Our first club call sign was VE3IHR.

Since then we have participated in many Amateur Radio activities. We have done Parks on the Air (POTA), Jamboree On The Air (JOTA) for a number of years with both Girl Guides as well as Cubs locally.

Other activities included the International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend at the Kincardine Lighthouse. We have also participated in Field Day each year from different locations operating portable.

In 2020 my Dad, VE3PCP, set up our home station as a remote operated station. We formed the International YL and Youth Remote Group, VA3YLR, and have done many operations with youth and YL operators from around the world with my Dad in the station as we operated. Our group participated in many different operations over the last four years.

I enjoy setting up and operating our portable stations and also operating our remote station using my computer for both voice and data. Sometimes we combine operating portable and also using our remote station as part of the operation. We have operated portable from many different locations.



Justin Noakes, VA3AQZ

In 2024, I was part of the group of youth remote operators that participated in the 3D2Y DXpedition at Rotuma Island. We operated FT8 using Anydesk to access the Remote In a Box (RIB) stations on the island. It was very interesting operating a station on the other side of the world with the time difference and so many countries we would not normally contact from home. As part of that operation, I now also have the call sign 3D2AQZ.

In December 2024, we also did a special event to celebrate the 123rd anniversary of Marconi receiving the first Transatlantic

– continued on page 51



Noble Skywave 2024: An HF Challenge

**Rob Noakes,
VE3PCP**

In May 2024, the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) held "Trillium Venture", an emergency response exercise in which a contingent of approximately 1,500 members from Joint Task Force Central (JTFC) participated along with Community Emergency Management Coordinators across Ontario.



During that operation I was set up in Goderich and was one of several teams that participated in Grey, Bruce and Huron Counties in Midwestern Ontario. The lead on the exercise was Lieutenant Griffin Baird – now a Captain – and it was a great experience for our team and others participating. Captain Baird reached out to me to invite me to attend another event – Noble Skywave – as a mentor for Canadian Forces Signal Ops.

Noble Skywave is a military-led competition which has been organized by the Canadian Communications and Electronics branch of the Canadian Armed Forces since 2013. The exercise challenges competitors with voice and data contacts between domestic and international teams via HF skywave propagation. Providing training experience through the exercise and competition, Military Radio Operators from around the globe are invited to crown the best HF Operators.



I was happy to do so and bring my travelling Amateur Radio shack with me. I also felt it was necessary to obtain my Canadian Forces Affiliate Radio Service (CFARS) qualifications to be the best asset possible and be able to operate on air. The exercise was held entirely on military frequencies, which also required that I had my radio "opened up" to be able to transmit on those frequencies.

Successes and Lessons Learned

As a group, we were set up at the Guelph Armory which is a beautiful and historic building in downtown Guelph. We had seven teams set up on site with an eighth station at the Guelph Emergency Operations Centre.

There were multiple phases to the operation over the 40-hour operating window with names like "Establish the Net", "Free Play", "Team Challenge" and "Back to the Future". Each phase had its own challenges and rewards and we had specific tasks and frequency lists to work.

Overall there were over 300 entries around the world and with our seven teams we did well. We were all operating with a maximum output of 150 watts. We placed 75th overall and 21st in SSB-only teams! A great achievement for the team!

During the "Back to the Future" phase, I managed to make a contact with US 38 on Kyrgyzstan at a distance of 10,135 kilometres. Out of the noise, we heard "GR" (Good Readable) "Any Station any station US38 Radio Check, over". So I gave him a call and after a couple of resends, we were logged at both ends. This would be the furthest contact for our team.

Radio and Antennas Used

My radio is a Kenwood TS-850. For those that are not familiar with the radio, it has some age but is still a very solid performing competition class radio. Mine has been refreshed and recapped and tuned and has an output of 130 watts on most bands. Most found out quickly that antennas tuned for Amateur bands were a challenge for non-Amateur usage, especially antennas like end-fed antennas that depend on harmonics to work.

I did have my 80/40/20 linked dipole that did work well near the band edges with some help from both an internal ATU and external Kenwood AT-200 Tuner. For other bands I took a different route. I had with me several rolls of insulated wire and cut quarter-wave vertical elements for those circumstances to the fundamental operating frequencies given to us.

I have several feedpoints at the roof line of my enclosed trailer that I can attach a vertical element to and use my 25-foot high fibreglass pole to pull the end to a vertical position. It effectively gives me an elevated vertical using the trailer body as a counterpoise. It works very well and I can use elements for different bands with a spreader at the base to make a fan vertical of sorts. This proved to be quite effective.

The other edge I had in dealing with some high local noise was my remote station back at home in Inverhuron, Ontario. I have a low local noise floor which was a great help in hearing the weak stations so we used my remote for RX and the TS-850 locally for TX.

Signal Ops and Mentoring

We had three different Signal Operators who worked with us on a rotating basis and they were great! They taught us some aspects of military operations as well as learning HF operations from us. We were happy to sit back and let them carry on making as many contacts as they could.



Logging of Contacts

The exercise had a web-based logging portal set up that all participants used to log their contacts. Each contact had to be confirmed within a short time slot to count. This portal allowed for that to happen and be very effective for a running tally for all stations.

Different Operating Language

Amateurs are all used to operating in a contest environment calling "CQ Contest" and the exchange of 5/9 5/9 both ways. In this and all other CFARS exercises, we say instead "Any Stations, Any Stations, This is CA254, CA254 Radio Check Radio Check, Over".

CA254 was our team call for the exercise. Replies would be "CA254 this is CA334, we



have you LC (Loud and Clear). Over." And we would do the same back to them. Upon the two-way exchange, we would wait to hear "Logging Now" or "You are Logged" before repeating the same back. It was actually an efficient way of finishing the contact once you got used to it.

It was a 40 hour long exercise but we did not operate for all of it. We had many great opportunities to interact over a meal which were all supplied for us – great food by the way. There were a number of site visitors from area clubs and individuals.

From the Elmira Radio Club we had René Paquin, VA3RRP and Rich Clausi, VE3DCC. Mike Willis, VE3FE and Linda Willis, VE3CZ, were there as participants. You can find an online photo album at:

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/RYJ5JzYFebScPBRWA>

In December, I was also a special guest on the "Outdoors on the Air" YouTube channel by Tracy McKim, VE3TWM, and we talked about Noble Skywave along with other things we are doing. You can watch that part of the livestream here at the link.

<https://www.youtube.com/live/AfXJ9cROhAk?si=Nko8HeZlcbEHpTof&t=3046>

You can also find an edit from a recorded video from my remote station during Noble Skywave. Take a listen, it's only 10 seconds:

https://youtube.com/shorts/i2-7Fbpooes?si=_nxHTdX7SrR_wE4

In summary, it was a great experience and one that I hope to do each year to come.

– 73 Rob Noakes, VE3PCP,
Inverhuron Ham Radio Club



YOTA Month 2024 continued from page 49

radio signal at Signal Hill in Newfoundland on December 12, 1901. We operated as VA3XXT with both FT8 and SSB on 10 bands.

In 2025, I will be participating, with my Dad, Rob, VE3PCP, in Exercise Trillium Venture 2025 which will be held in Eastern Ontario and is a large, Canadian Armed Forces, CAF Emergency Training exercise where Amateurs operators help with communications between different sites. I also hope to become a CFARS operator and participate in Noble Skywave which is a CAF HF Championship that my Dad participated in this past October 2024 portable at the Guelph Ontario Amoury (see page 50).

For the VC3YOTA operation, I operated FT8 through our remote station and enjoyed making many contacts while operating. During the eight days that we operated, we had three other youths from different countries working with us at different times. We had a total of 321 contacts, 249 were FT8 and 72 were SSB.

I hope to get my Advanced qualifications and I look forward to the next Amateur Radio adventure.

– 73, Justin Noakes, VA3AQZ

These youth are very active and it is something that I have seen each year when I coordinate the call signs. When youth first volunteer they have never done a great deal of operating so this pushes them well out of their comfort zone and amazing things happen. Ariel Blum, VE2SZU, wasn't able to operate this year but she has been running a Basic course in her school mostly because of the confidence she gained operating VC2YOTA last year. How amazing is that!

Before you know it, December YOTA month will be here again. If you qualify please get in touch with me so that I can arrange for a special YOTA call sign for you courtesy of the Ottawa Amateur Radio Club (OARC).

– 73, Harrie, VE3HYS
at VE3HYS@myrac.ca





Kimberly Kostescu, VE3KKA
RAC Membership Officer
membership@rac.ca

Welcome to a brand new TCA column!

Whether you're a long-time Amateur Radio operator, or like me, fairly new, you'll know that any discussion about antennas can be easily broken down into two components: the best antenna and the best installation.

While there have always been debates about which antenna is best, it is generally accepted that all antennas are compromised in some way and the way in which the antenna is installed will determine its best output.

Installation of an antenna always comes down to what the operator's physical space limitations are as compared to the size of their desired antenna. In some cases, the installation of an antenna may also be limited by what the operator's spouse/partner will tolerate, but that's a whole different area that I'm not prepared to delve into!

I live in an apartment. I was living in an apartment even before I earned my Certificate of Proficiency so I knew that if I wanted to work HF there would be obvious challenges.

When I was first became an Amateur, I bought an MFJ-1899T Multi-Band Telescopic Antenna and set it up in my shack/office as well as connecting it to a tripod on the balcony. The antenna did not perform exceptionally well. But it was fine! It gave me experience with FT8.

“Kim’s Convenience”

Antennas for Small Spaces

In June 2024, I went to my first Field Day sponsored by the Sun Parlor Amateur Radio Club (SPARC) in Leamington, Ontario.

I was hooked! Not with the specific radios they used. Not even with any specific antenna they used. I was so impressed with the organization of each station and how seamlessly each piece of equipment worked effectively together, allowing for thousands of contacts to be logged from all over North America and beyond.

What was most encouraging for me was that contacts were being made with hundreds of home stations as well as those stations using emergency power.

I left Field Day more determined than ever to create a station that, to the best of my ability, regardless of my living environment, would give me the best opportunity and satisfaction of reaching other Radio Amateurs from all over the world. I didn't want to settle for a setup that was just OK!

I started to plan my new shack and the first person I discussed it with was Jerry Beneteau, VE3EXT, a fellow member of the Border City Radio Club in Windsor, Ontario. Jerry offered to loan me three Hamsticks – a 6m, 20m and 40m – as well as radials for them just to see how they'd work for me.

I purchased a clamp from Amazon (\$28) that secured the Hamsticks to the rails of my balcony, connected the coax and ran it through the sliding patio door using a door pass-through. Hamsticks get mixed reviews online.



My experience is that Hamsticks are amazing! I'm happy to report that they work exceptionally well for me!

Then I heard everyone raving about the 10m band, how open it was and how many DX stations could be heard. Since I didn't have a 10m Hamstick I decided to build a 10m Inverted V. I chose this antenna because it would fit in the space of my balcony. I had accumulated enough wire and had some insulators that the only thing I needed to purchase for this project was a metal outdoor hook – similar to ones that you hang plants from – and a 1:1 balun.

I had to come up with a way to hang the inverted V from the ceiling of my balcony without killing myself by falling over the balcony! To accomplish this, I used a very handy “tool” called a “grabber”.

I applied epoxy to the bottom of the hook, positioned the hook in the clamp of the grabber and reached it up to the edge of the ceiling where I positioned it with the open space facing me.

After two days, the epoxy was cured and the hook

was securely and forever fastened. This is the only piece that was permanently attached to the building. It is small enough to be unnoticeable if the antenna was ever removed permanently.

Next, I measured each leg of the dipole, secured each leg to the balun, weatherproofed the connections, added the coax to the balun, and hung the balun from the now secure hook – again using the grabber tool. I then took my time to test – using the middle of the 10m band – and trim each leg until the standing wave ratio (SWR) reached the desired expectation. I secured the end of each leg with an insulator and from the insulator to each side of my balcony using fishing line.

More detailed instructions and measurements can be found by using any dipole and inverted V antenna online calculator. I used the one found online at: <https://qsl.net>.

It took me three to four hours to make this antenna, and it has been hanging in place since late November 2024. I do not take it down. However, if I did, it would take less than five minutes to dismantle and set up. Because I attach the Hamsticks directly to my balcony, I take them down each time I'm done using them for the day. Again, less than five minutes to take down and set up. I am more than satisfied with my station and I now have as much opportunity to reach those DX stations as anyone else!

I have heard it said that real learning occurs after you receive your Certificate of Proficiency in Amateur Radio. I can vouch for that! I've learned so much over the last two years, thanks to my fellow club members who encouraged me and shared their knowledge with me. My antenna project wasn't a new invention. It has been done successfully thousands of times before. Nevertheless, it was extremely rewarding!

Amateur Radio has always been and will always be a platform for experimentation and mentoring others. There's nothing quite as satisfying as figuring it out!

If you wish to see the entire image gallery, please visit:

<https://bordercityradioclub.ca/newsletters-presentations/>

– 73, Kimberly Kostescu, VE3KKA

BCRC (Border City Radio Club) VE3WHT

SPARC (Sun Parlour Amateur Radio Club) VE3SPR



Degen

Antennas, Connectors, Cables and More

WWW.DEGENDESIGNS.COM

416-347-8517

SALES@DEGENDESIGNS.COM

Guthrie's Communication Inc

Guthries Communications Inc., formerly Guthries Mechanical Services, is a family-run business serving the Greater Toronto Area and Southern Ontario for over 50 years.

Company founder Don Guthrie, VE3EVZ, has over 50 years of experience in tower work which has been passed down throughout the family generations. It was Don's love of Amateur Radio that first brought him into the field of antenna and tower installations.

Now generations later we are still growing in the tower business. We work with Amateur Radio operators and their projects along with many commercial projects. We specialize in installing all types of towers including Tylon, Maxtower, Delhi, Rohn, AN Wireless, Turris Corp and other manufacturers from non-penetrating roof mounts to monopoles, cellphone communication hardware installs on building rooftops, guyed towers and self-supporting towers.

We're always happy to give advice and a more detailed description of our services and costs. Please call Don, VE3EVZ, or Todd, VA3TGT, at 905-251-7133 or email todd@guthries.com at any time.

E: todd@guthries.com | W: <https://www.guthries.com/>

Air Boss Antenna Launcher

www.olaotechnologies.com

See Video

For when you want your antenna on top

\$99.99

Free shipping to lower 48

olaotechnologies@gmail.com



RAC Challenge | Operating Awards Update



RAC Awards Manager – Ante Laurijssen, VA2BBW

In the Nation’s Capital, February saw a wild swing from almost no snow to more than we knew what to do with– all within a couple of days.

During the last storm, every hour brought in more white crystals than we had in a long time, creating treacherous conditions that meant most people, myself included, were more than happy to stay at home.

Despite the snow and wind, brave Radio Amateurs across the Great White North still headed out and set up stations so they could scream into the great expanse in the hopes of contacting those of us who preferred to sit in front of our fireplaces, nice and warm.

My hat goes off to these folks. Having done my share of winter portable operations, I know that they face unique and dangerous challenges that we don’t encounter in the summer months.

Being outdoors when it’s minus 10 degrees Celsius is one thing when you’re snowshoeing or playing hockey, but when you’re sitting down with wind blowing in your face as you try and turn the frequency knob (of course you need to take your mittens off for this), it can be deadly.

Operating portable in winter isn’t for the faint of heart and needs preparation. The weather can change in a heartbeat, turning a pleasant excursion into a frostbitten nightmare. The Amateurs here have lived to tell their tale (see page 55), while earning important points in the early stages of this year’s edition of the RAC Portable Operations Challenge.

Let’s see what’s going on.

January 2025 Results

Nineteen participants submitted reports for January, across seven provinces.

I’m happy to report that many of them took advantage of the rules changes and added World Wide Flora & Fauna (WWFF) parks to their operating arsenal. This is fantastic!

And while WWFF and POTA were by far the most popular multipliers, a few activators also operated from lighthouses, islands, and even a few SOTA summits.

Earnest Vinson, VA3EWW, has started off the year the way he ended last year: with a bang! For a relatively new Amateur, he’s certainly embraced this hobby and public service and become one of the most active folks around.

Veterans John McGrath, VA3WP, and Stuart Hayes, VE3RGO, completed the podium, with newcomer Eric Lefebvre, VA2IDX, and last year’s runner-up Stuart Crawford, VE9CF, finishing fourth and fifth for the month.

RAC Challenge Top 5: January 2025		
Place	Name/Call	Points
1st	Earnest Vinson, VA3EWW	90 321
2nd	John McGrath, VA3WP	59 496
3rd	Stuart Hayes, VE3RGO	58 444
4th	Eric Lefebvre, VA2IDX	45 678
5th	Stuart Crawford, VE9CF	36 537

February 2025 Results

Typically one of the coldest months of the year, February saw a bit of a slowdown in participation.

We saw 10 people head out into the frost to operate, spread out across five provinces, with the westernmost reports coming from Manitoba.

No islands or summits this month, but plenty of POTA and WWFF parks, as well as a few lighthouses.

Earnest Vinson, VA3EWW, kept up the pace to finish first yet again, and we saw Stuart Crawford, VE9CF, climb back up into second place.

John McGrath, VA3WP, “Mister Consistent”, took away third place, while Phil Cummings, VE1MDF, was able to finish fourth. And fifth place goes to the one and only Pavel Shumarov, VA4ADM, who is tearing it up across the Prairie parks.

“Coureurs des bois” Award

Despite the activity, no new Coureur des Bois awards were issued in January and February, but we have many new participants who are getting close to earning their Bronze level certificate soon. And I think they will be giving the seasoned operators a run for their money. Stay tuned!

RAC Challenge Top 5: February 2025		
Place	Name/Call	Points
1st	Earnest Vinson, VA3EWW	103 950
2nd	Stuart Crawford, VE9CF	51 380
3rd	John McGrath, VA3WP	33 720
4th	Phil Cummings, VE1MDF	33 175
5th	Pavel Shumarov, VA4ADM	9 344

The RAC Canadian Portable
Operations Challenge
Le Défi canadien des opérations portables de RAC

Coureur des bois
JAMES DOE,
0808FE
You have achieved / vous avez atteint:
BRONZE

25 portable operations / 25 opérations portables
Congratulations / Félicitations

Stories and Pictures

Thanks again to all the participants who sent us stories and pictures of their activations. Here are a few that I would like to share.

Rob Schuetze, VE3XBI –

January 1, 2025

"It was a wet day and I was having issues with very high SWR and not able to tune, as it turned out the whip on my antenna was not screwed in tight enough causing the issues. Always remember to double-check all connections."

This hasn't happened to anyone else, ever, right... Or has it?"

Earnest Vinson, VA3EWV –

January 18, 2025

"This has been the second only activation of the new year and it was at Cooper Marsh, because I am so close to getting the POTA Kilo Award that is given when you have exceeded 1,000 contacts in a single park.

Today, I left with under 150 more to get so I'll be wrapping that up on another trip if at all possible. You also get bonus points for working the late shift so it was pitch back when I arrived."

But not too long after, he also sent this:

January 19, 2025

"Cooper Marsh is now a Kilo Park with over 1000 QSOs from yours truly."

He also happened to earn a couple of more POTA Kilo awards from other parks in January as well. How does he do it?

Eric Lefebvre, VA2IDX –

January 20, 2025

"Minus 10°C and 40 km/h winds... It's hard to concentrate on sending good CW when you think your mast is going to break!"

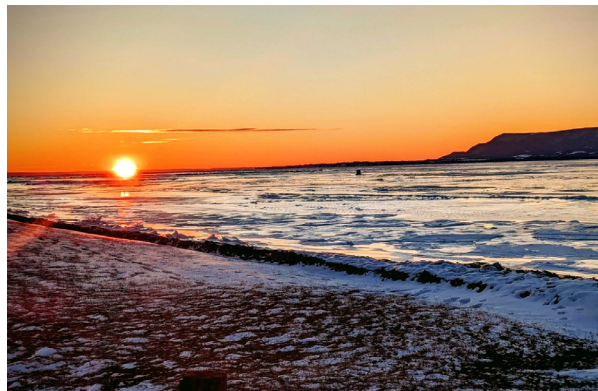
I think I would have a hard time concentrating surrounded by such beautiful scenery!

He also told us about his Winter Field Day activation from the same spot.



Above: Earnest Vinson, VA3EWV and his dog Joe Biten.

Below: Eric Lefebvre, VA2IDX, and stunning scenery!



Below: Jeff Zimmerman, VE3JZT, braves the elements.



January 25, 2025

"Operating Winter Field Day 2025 and POTA from Pointe-Taylor in Gaspésie over two days, I had several curious onlookers approach me, mesmerized by my 30-foot fishing pole – the ultimate antenna. It was the perfect chance to explain the wonders of Amateur Radio, propagation and my POTA adventures."

Thanks for putting in the good word for Amateur Radio Eric. Who knows who you may have inspired?

Jeff Zimmerman, VE3JZT –

February 1, 2025

"A fresh snowfall on the day prior meant the 2.5 kilometre hike in would be trudging through snow along the Cambridge to Paris Rail Trail. Despite the -10°C temps, it was a beautiful sunny day.

I dressed warmly and brought a thermos of soup to enjoy. Most of the Grand River was frozen over. The arborist weight and 100-foot of rope made it easy to setup a 33-ish foot random wire antenna line.

The balun was secured to a broken tree branch. I setup the KX3 on a towel that I used to keep it safe in my pack along with a 6 Ah battery just in case. I used a new to me CW Morse paddle and made 35 contacts in the 38 minutes I spent operating.

Not sure if it was how I was holding the paddle but I seemed to make more mistakes than normal. After about 25 minutes I poured the soup into the lid and drank some. Talk about appreciation for something warm!

On my way out, there were four mergansers enjoying a spot on the ground that had opened a channel with running water. Nice to be out and enjoying winter."

– 73, Ante Laurijssen,



RAC Operating Awards: January-February

Ante Laurijssen, VA2BB | RAC Awards Manager

A big congratulations goes out to Michael Stagg, VA6CNC. Through hard work and lots of on-air activity, he has earned the Canadaward on the 20m band on Phone, Digital and Morse Code! That is an impressive feat. Not only that, but he has also added his name to the list of Worked All RAC recipients. I have no doubt that the recent RAC Canada Winter Contest was a big help in getting those last few stations.

Canadaward

Number	Call sign	Name	Date	Band	Mode
232-L	VA6CNC	Michael Stagg	2025-02-08	20m	Morse Code
231-L	VA6CNC	Michael Stagg	2025-02-08	20m	Phone
230-L	VA6CNC	Michael Stagg	2025-02-08	20m	Digital
229-L	KE0ME	Thomas Doult	2025-01-23	Basic	Digital

Worked All RAC Award

Number	Call sign	Name	Date	Band	Mode
83-L	VA6CNC	Michael Stagg	2025-01-11	20m	Mixed

Thomas Doult, KE0ME, from across the border, also managed to confirm contacts with Amateurs in each Canadian province and territory, earning Canadaward #229-L. Great job!

The Canadaward is awarded for having confirmed contact with stations in each of the Canadian province and territories. Visit www.rac.ca/canadaward for details.

The Worked All RAC award can be earned after having confirmed contact with at least ten official RAC stations. See www.rac.ca/worked-all-rac for more information.

73, Ante Laurijssen, VA2BBW



RAC Commonwealth Contest Results 2025

The annual Commonwealth Contest (CC) was held from 1000z Saturday, March 8 to 0959z Sunday March 9. This 24-hour CW-only contest takes place on the five HF contest bands (80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 metres).

The contest has been around since 1931. Once known as the "BERU," the Commonwealth Contest involves Amateurs in the 56 member countries of the Commonwealth of Nations and their associated territories only. This gives us an exclusive shot at some very interesting DX.

The contest is now a partnership of the International Amateur Radio Union's (IARU) member societies for Canada (Radio Amateurs of Canada – RAC), Australia (Wireless Institute of Australia – WIA), India (Amateur Radio Society of India – ARSI), New Zealand (New Zealand Association of Radio Transmitters – NZART) and the United Kingdom (Radio Society of Great Britain – RSGB).

RAC has created awards for Canadian leading entrants and the leading entrants in the Commonwealth countries of North and South America.

Canadians featured prominently in the results, winning 6 of the 11 categories.

The results of the 2025 Commonwealth Contest are now available at:

<https://tinyurl.com/2ns6nduv>

For information on the Commonwealth Contest, please go to:

rac.ca/commonwealth

RAC Get On The Air for World Amateur Radio Day Event

On Friday, April 18, 2025, Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) once again organized a special on-air event to celebrate World Amateur Radio Day.

The RAC "Get on the Air on World Amateur Radio Day" special event was designed to encourage as many Amateurs as possible to get on the air and contact as many RAC stations as possible.

RAC official stations operated across Canada from 0000Z to 2359Z on

April 18. Participants simply needed to complete one or more contacts, on any band and mode, with RAC official stations to earn their certificates.

Radio Amateurs of Canada would like to thank everyone who participated in the event. We will be providing information on how to obtain your certificate on our website at:

<https://www.rac.ca/operating/world-amateur-radio-day-april-18/>





Todd Bendtsen, VE5MX
ve5mx@sasktel.net

THE SPORTS PAGE

The Canadian Contest Scene

Contest Results and
Contest Calendar:
Stan Leschinsky, VE3TW

Tips on Tower Design and Installation

Hello radiosport fans. Welcome to spring. It's time to start working on all those projects we've been dreaming about all winter. Now is a good time to get an early start on some of those projects before the summer vacation season is upon us.

I know what you're thinking, you had a great time last winter on the bands and need to put up a tower and tribander! This is a huge step from the backyard vertical or wire antennas that many Amateurs use every day. There are many steps involved in this process and I will attempt to go over some of the things you must consider when tackling a project of this magnitude. Remember that sometimes less is more and technology is your friend. Make use of software to model antennas and terrain, the results may surprise you.

First up are your design considerations, what are you putting up. Once this is decided that will be the end of the "easy" decisions. Determining the location of the tower on your property takes careful consideration of many different factors and your personal safety must be kept top of mind. It seems simple but it bears repeating, keep your tower installation away from overhead power cables. Knowing where any underground utilities are located before picking a spot for the tower could save you from a nasty surprise later down the road.

There are a few other things to consider when choosing the spot in your yard. Please do this with the XYL's input, trust me!

- No antennas should overhang onto your neighbour's property. If you are planning to hang some wire antennas off the tower, think about how much room you need to make them fit inside your property.
- You will need to find a happy balance between any trees in the yard that may interfere with the installation, along with how far from the house to keep the tower to minimize, as much as possible, any potential interference or consideration of feedline losses or cable lengths.
- One other important thing to consider at this point is how you are going to dig the hole and get concrete into it? Do you have access for heavy equipment for excavation or room for a concrete truck? If not, what are your options?

Once you have those details worked out you need to take care of the paperwork part of the process. It's not reasonable for me to delve too far into the permitting process because there are almost as many processes as there are municipalities, but there are a few general things that will apply regardless of location.

Most, if not all, localities will want some kind of engineering done before approving your installation. Good construction practices dictate that you should be doing this regardless. It is important to start this process as soon as practical. Remember, while you may be in a hurry to move your project along, the regulatory authority is under no such timeline!

The next important step is sourcing the materials you need. While you are awaiting approvals it is a great time to be gathering the antenna, tower, coax and control cables. Remember that now is not the time to cheap out – quality materials will save you money and hassle down the road.

A good example of this is zip ties, you will need a lot of zip ties; more zip ties than you think. Your cheap hardware store's white zip ties will disintegrate quickly in the sun. Do some research and spend the money to get yourself good quality black UV rated products. Get your ducks in a row and the permitting process on its way and we will delve more into the following stages of the project in the next column.

New Contests

On the new contest front, it is my pleasure to introduce a brand new QSO Party that has been organized by a dedicated group of Amateurs in Atlantic Canada.

I was lucky enough to attend the RadioSport Manitoba meeting where Stuart Hayes, VE1RGO, gave us a presentation on the work that has gone into getting the Atlantic Canada QSO Party off the ground and ready to launch on June 7, 2025.

Atlantic Canada was one of the few regions left without representation in the State QSO Party Challenge and this group has been making all the right moves to rectify that. They have included all the provinces in Atlantic Canada to help stimulate participation while keeping the administration reasonable. This should be a great opportunity to work our friends in Atlantic Canada. And it will be a fitting bookend to the Canadian QSO Party year that began in February with the British Columbia QSO Party.

May hosts a myriad of QSO Parties including my "home" contest, the Canadian Prairies QSO Party, the other relative newcomer. Both offer great opportunities to work some of the provinces with smaller Amateur Radio populations. May also has the last of the WPX contests with the running of the CW version.

The weekend after the Atlantic Canada QSO Party, the VHF guys get their big one for the year with the June VHF Contest. Hopefully OI' Sol will see fit to schedule some good conditions for that weekend.

At the end of the month, we have the highlight of the RAC contest calendar, the RAC Canada Day Contest. Let's take a little closer look at the jewel in the RAC contesting crown. Thanks to the generosity of the RAC Contest Management, namely Sam Ferris, VE5SF and Bart Ritchie, VE5CPU, I have a treasure trove of information and statistics related to the Canada Day contest. For instance, did you know that the very first running of the Canada Day contest was July 1, 1979? Making this years contest the 46th consecutive year for this contest. That inaugural running resulted in a grand total of 15 logs being submitted. Quite the change to the 746 logs submitted for the 2024 Canada Day contest.

The RAC Canada Day Contest has enjoyed steady growth of around 10% and averages about 630 logs a year. Which is remarkable when you consider that Canada Day falls throughout the week and doesn't always enjoy the benefit of falling on a weekend every year.

Here are a few more numbers for those of us that like to geek out to those things. Did you know the average log last year averaged 142 contacts? A total of 105,865 QSO's were made during the contest. Twelve RAC stations were available, capably manned by 50 operators, providing all those juicy 20-point QSOs for us.

This year why don't you make a point of getting on the air for the RAC Canada Day Contest and celebrate this great country? You can find more information on page 36.

-73, Until next time, Happy Contesting!

Contest Calendar: May to Mid-July		
Contest	Start	End
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	0001Z, May 3	2359Z, May 4
ARI International DX Contest	1200Z, May 3	1159Z, May 4
7th Area QSO Party	1300Z, May 3	0700Z, May 4
Indiana QSO Party	1500Z, May 3	0300Z, May 4
Delaware Qso Party	1700Z, May 3	2359Z, May 4
New England QSO Party	2000Z, May 3	2400Z, May 4
CQ-M International DX Contest	1200Z, May 10	1159Z, May 1
Canadian Prairies QSO Party	1700Z, May 10	0300Z, May 11
VOLTA WW RTTY Contest	1200Z, May 10	1200Z, May 11
His Majesty King of Spain Contest, CW	1200Z, May 17	1200Z, May 18
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z, May 24	2400Z, May 25
Kentucky QSO Party	1300Z, June 7	0100Z, Jun 8
ARRL Inter. Digital Contest	1800Z, Jun 7	2400Z, Jun 8
VK Shires Contest	0600Z, Jun 7	0600Z, Jun 8
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z, Jun 14	1300Z, Jun 14
Portugal Day Contest	1200Z, Jun 14	1159Z, Jun 15
ARRL June VHF Contest	1800Z, Jun 14	0300Z, Jun 16
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z, Jun 22	2400Z, Jun 22
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z, Jun 21	1500Z, Jun 22
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z, Jun 21	0400Z, Jun 22
His Majesty King of Spain Contest, SSB	1200Z, Jun 28	1200Z, Jun 29
ARRL Field Day	1800Z, Jun 28	2100Z, Jun 29
RAC Canada Day Contest	0000Z, Jul 1	2359Z, Jul 1
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z, Jul 5	1400Z, Jul 6
IARU HF World Championship	1200Z, Jul 12	1200Z, Jul 13
- For other contests visit https://www.contestcalendar.com/ -		

ARI INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST – May 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE2BVV	108	84	SORTTY LP	51,576
VE9CZ	100	79	SOSSB LP	48,111
VE3FH	95	78	SOCW LP	37,596
VA3IK	36	32	SOCW HP	7,200
VE2GT	1	1	SOSSB HP	10
Checklog: VE3TM				

7 QP – THE 7TH CALL AREA QSO PARTY – May 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE5KS	226	82	SOMIX LP	49,446
VE7ZO	232	75	SOMIX HP	49,425
VE3KP	200	69	SOCW HP	41,400
VE3TM	150	65	SOCW LP	29,250
VE2FK	134	59	SOCW HP	23,718
VE3YT	132	62	SOMIX HP	23,560
VA6RCN	127	63	SOMIX LP	21,546
VA3FN	119	53	SOCW LP	18,921
VE3TW	112	57	SOMIX HP	17,670
VE7JKZ	105	56	SOCW HP	17,640
VE9AA	89	44	SOCW HP	11,748
VE3SIF	86	45	SOCW QRP	11,610
VE3HZ	81	42	SOMIX LP	9,408
VA7RN	63	42	SOCW HP	7,938
VA3SP	50	36	SOCW LP	5,400
VA3IDD	45	28	SOPH LP	2,520
VA3RKM	33	25	SOCW LP	2,475
VE6TL	29	25	SOMIX HP	2,000
VA3SB	28	21	SOCW HP	1,764
VE9KK	30	16	SOCW LP	1,440
VA7JC	28	22	MS HP	1,232
VE7BGP	21	16	SOMIX LP	928
VA1RST	16	14	SOCW HP	672
VE3KMQ	18	15	SOPH LP	540
VE3JZT	13	11	SOMIX LP	396
VA3PMH	15	11	SOPH LP	330
VE7KAJ	7	7	SOCW LP	147
VE7CCY	5	5	SOCW LP	75
VE3HQZ	5	5	SOCW QRP	75
VE1RGO (VE3RGO)	6	6	SOPH LP	72
VE3DQN	4	4	SOCW QRP	48
VA3PC	4	4	SOPH LP	32
VE2EZZ	3	3	SOCW HP	27
VA3IJK	2	2	SOCW LP	12
VE2GT	2	2	SOPH HP	8

INDIANA QSO PARTY – May 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE3HZ	64	49	SO LP	4,116
VE3YT	45	29	SO HP	2,262
VA3IDD	49	33	SO LP	1,617
VE2FK	31	21	SO HP	1,302
VA3FN	24	16	SO LP	768
VE3KP	26	13	SO HP	676
VE3TM	20	16	SO LP	640
VE3KMQ	28	21	SO HP	588
VE3TW	18	15	SO HP	480
VA3SP	16	11	SO LP	352
VA6RCN	18	13	SO LP	338
VA3RKM	14	11	SO LP	308
VE3JZT	13	12	SO LP	288
VE3SIF	9	6	SO QRP	108
VA3PC	8	8	SO LP	64
VE2GT	9	7	SO HP	63
VE6TL	6	6	SO HP	60
VE3DQN	5	5	SO QRP	50
VE9RLW	8	6	SO LP	48
VA3IJK	5	5	SO LP	30
VE3RGO	5	5	SO LP	25
VE7CCY	3	3	SO LP	18

DELAWARE QSO PARTY – May 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE3HZ	10	5	SO LP	1,650
VE3TM	6	4	SO LP	1,010
VA3IDD	8	4	SO LP	930
VE3KP	8	5	SO HP	850
VE9RLW	5	5	SO LP	550
VE2FK	5	4	SO HP	450
VE3YT	6	3	SO HP	350
VE3TW	4	4	SO HP	290
VA3PNL	3	3	SO HP	230
VA3RKM	2	2	SO HP	210
VE2GT	3	3	SO HP	170
VE3JZT	2	2	SO HP	170
VE5MX	3	2	SO HP	170
VA3PC	2	2	SO HP	130
VA3FN	2	1	SO HP	130
VE3RGO	2	2	SO HP	130
VA3IJK	2	1	SO HP	130
VE3KTB	1	1	SO HP	90
VA2KD	1	1	SO HP	70

NEW ENGLAND QSO PARTY – May 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VA1MM	173	55	SOHP	16,115
VE2FK	168	46	SOHP	15,456
VE3KP	127	42	SOHP	10,668
VE3TM	113	44	SOLP	9,944
VE1ZAC	113	50	SOLP	9,400
VE3TW	112	47	SOHP	9,071
VA3FN	105	41	SOLP	8,610
VE3HZ	107	44	SOLP	7,524
VE3NFN	105	41	SOLP	7,421
VE9AA	71	37	SOHP	5,254
VE3YT	77	34	SOHP	4,998
VA3SP	53	29	SOLP	3,074
VE7ZO	55	25	SOHP	2,450
VE5MX	42	26	SOHP	2,184
VA6RCN	49	25	SOLP	1,975
VA3IDD	61	32	SOLP	1,952
VE2GT	54	26	SOHP	1,794
VA2UR	43	26	SOHP	1,638
VA3RKM	31	23	SOLP	1,426
VE3KMQ	40	29	SOLP	1,160
VE9RLW	37	24	SOLP	888
VA1RST	23	18	SOHP	828
VE3KTB	17	14	SOLP	476
VE6TL	18	15	SOHP	465
VE3JZT	16	16	SOLP	464
VA3PC	22	16	SOLP	352
VY2LI	13	11	SOLP	286
VA2KD	18	15	SOLP	270
VE3SIF	10	10	SOQRP	200
VE7BGP	11	10	SOLP	190
VE3PYJ	11	10	SOLP	110
VE7KAJ	7	7	SOLP	98
VE3KGT	7	6	SOQRP	42
VE7CCY	4	4	SOLP	32
VE3RGO	5	4	SOLP	20
VA3PNL	4	4	SOLP	16
VA3IJK	3	3	SOLP	12
VE2EZZ	1	1	SOHP	2
VE3HQZ	1	1	SOQRP	2

CANADIAN PRAIRIES QSO PARTY – May 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE5MX	402	104	SOHP	41,808
VE6AO	156	56	MS	8,736
VE6TL	154	48	SOHP	7,392
VA6RCN	68	26	SOLP	1,768
VE6BBP	58	25	SOLP	1,450
VE4GV	43	31	SOHP	1,333
VA6AN	44	22	SO Rover	968
VE5SF	39	20	SOLP	780
VA4HZ	18	11	SOLP	198
VE3CT	10	10	SOHP	100
VE3EJ	9	9	SOHP	81
VE3HZ	7	7	SOLP	49
VE3VN	6	6	SOLP	36
VA3IDD	6	5	SOLP	30
VA6MA	4	4	SOLP	16
VE2FK	4	4	SOHP	16
VA6BED	3	2	SOLP	6
VA3PC	2	3	SOLP	6
VE6SYD	2	2	SOLP	4
VE3JZT	2	2	SOHP	4
VA3IJK	2	2	SOLP	4
VE6CSX	2	1	SOHP	2
VA4JP	1	1	SOLP	1
VE2GT	1	1	SOHP	1
VE9RLW	1	1	SOLP	1

HIS MAJESTY KING OF SPAIN CONTEST, CW – May 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE3NZ	276	105	SOAB HP	38,220
VA3TNM	139	75	SOAB HP	12,975
VE2FK	107	39	SOAB HP	4,836
VE3TM	54	28	SOAB LP	1,792
VE9DXC	41	26	SOAB LP	1,508
VA3IK	36	20	SOAB HP	840
Checklog: VE1ANU				

CQ WW WPX CONTEST, CW – May 2024

Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VC2A (UX1AA VA2KI VA2OT VA2WA WB2AA0)	4,665	1,303	M2	19,509,819
VC7X (VA7DX VA7OO VE7JH VE7KW VE7UF@VE7UF)	4,214	1,226	MM	14,252,250
VY2TT (K6LA)	3,358	1,237	SOAB HP	12,908,095
VE3EJ	3,069	1,058	SOAB HP	10,225,570
VE5MX	2,895	1,119	SOAB HP	9,152,301
XM3T (VE3DZ)	2,636	983	SOAB HP(T)	8,518,678
XM3R (VA3JK VE3NE VE3NZ)+	2,518	1,042	MS HP	7,474,266
VE9AA	2,154	818	SOAB HP	5,648,290
VX3A (N2WQ W1UE)	1,807	887	MS LP	4,923,737
VE3NNT	1,658	798	SOAB HP	4,511,892
VE3JM	1,434	659	SOAB HP	2,989,883
VA7DZ (VA7DZ VA7KH VA7VK VE3YT)	1,355	670	MS HP	2,365,770
VE3CT	951	684	SOAB HP	2,003,436
VA3TNM	1,124	580	SOAB HP	1,984,760
VE6BBP	1,088	649	SOAB HP	1,853,544
VA3AR	1,068	582	SOAB HP	1,810,602
VE7ZO	985	633	SOAB HP	1,665,423
VE6UM (VE6BMX)	1,048	653	SOAB HP	1,624,011
VE3TM	1,010	529	SOAB LP(T)	1,594,406
VA3OKG	972	510	SOAB LP	1,508,070
CK2Z (VA2CZ)	967	581	SOAB LP	1,504,790
VE3NZ	657	519	SOAB HP	1,330,716
VE9ML (VE9BK VE9ML)	757	487	MS LP	1,282,271
VE3MA	854	454	SOAB LP(C)	1,202,646
VA7OM	905	551	SOAB HP	1,187,405
VE1ANF	735	546	SO20 LP	1,003,548
VE7WO	800	517	SO20 HP	976,613
VE3VY	682	415	SOAB LP	932,920
VE7SAR (VA7OM VA7XB VE7LWW)	757	462	MS HP	892,584
VE3KOT	692	401	SOAB LP(C)	881,398
VE2FK	698	422	SOAB HP	795,892
VE3DN	640	404	SOAB LP(T)	789,820
VE3VN	499	499	SOAB LP	788,919
VA3WB	586	410	SOAB LP	715,450
VE3AQ	648	371	SOAB LP	705,271
VE3YAA (VE3DQ VE3EUT VE3FJ)	588	406	MS HP	676,396
VA7ST	654	381	SOAB LP(T)	655,701
VA3SB	547	358	SOAB HP	578,528
VE2EZD	563	345	SOAB HP	553,035
VA3FH	546	329	SOAB HP	527,716
VE9VIC	475	369	SOAB LP	488,925
VA3FN	493	318	SOAB LP	480,498
VA3SP	479	370	SO15 LP(C)	438,820
VE3KP	432	282	SOAB HP	359,268
VE2OXP	397	276	SOAB LP	351,348
VE6KC	419	295	SOAB HP	335,710
VE1ANU	396	330	SO15 LP	317,130
VE5ZX	394	333	SO20 HP	304,362
VE7XF	348	344	SOAB HP	303,408
VA2UR	386	296	SOAB HP	290,672
VE3MV	358	272	SOAB LP(T)	285,328
VA2EBI	345	273	SOAB HP	279,279
*VE3LC	352	235	SOAB LP	248,865
VE6WR	364	274	SOAB LP	234,818
VE3MM	319	244	SOAB LP	229,116
VA6RCN	385	241	SOAB LP(T)	220,033
K2NV/VE3 (K2NV)	293	202	SOAB LP(C)	189,072
VE7JKZ	315	215	SOAB HP (C)	181,245
VE7CV	316	220	SOAB HP(T)	178,200
VA4ADM	316	242	SOAB LP(T)	173,998
VE3OMV	314	214	SOAB LP(Y)	172,698
VE9KK	328	220	SOAB LP	157,960
VA1MM	197	166	SO40 HP	157,202
VE3SMA	219	215	SOAB LP(C)	131,580
VE5UO	263	192	SOAB HP	124,224
VA7JC	258	171	SOAB HP	105,849
VA3TMV	186	152	SOAB LP	93,632
VE9DXC	202	162	SOAB HP(T)	89,100
VE4DL	209	177	SOAB LP(T)	74,871
VA7GI (VA7GI@VA7GI)	200	163	SOAB HP	74,165
VA7RN	198	147	SOAB HP	73,353
VA3EON	156	130	SOAB LP	61,490
VE6AO (UR3GU VE6CCL)	205	153	MS HP	59,058
*VE2ZDX	148	123	SOAB LP	51,660

VA7UI	168	131	SOAB HP	41,003
VE3EY	107	94	SOAB HP(T)	38,822
VA7XU	120	97	SOAB HP	32,883
VE5VG	115	106	SOAB LP	32,012
VE3KTB/VY0 (VE3KTB)	129	116	SOAB LP	30,508
VA3EC	110	96	SOAB LP	29,856
VE7AP	124	94	SOAB LP	26,978
VE2VIA	102	85	SOAB HP	25,840
VE3TW	104	80	SOAB HP(T)	25,040
VA3IK	100	95	SOAB HP	24,890
VE3TAZ	94	87	SO10 HP(C)	22,446
VE7VR	113	91	SOAB HP	21,112
VE7CA	99	93	SOAB LP	20,553
VE5GC	121	96	SO15 LP(C)	20,544
VE7KAJ	93	93	SOAB LP(C)	17,670
VE6LB	89	77	SOAB LP(T)	14,245
VE3NFN	100	84	SOAB QRP	14,028
VE3HZ	86	75	SOAB LP	13,875
VA2EU	71	70	SOAB LP	13,720
W6KC/VE7 (W6KC)	90	81	SO20 LP(T)	13,365
VO1HP	70	65	SOAB HP	12,415
VE7BGP	82	71	SOAB LP(T)	11,857
VE2ZQ	72	62	SOAB LP	11,346
VA3CK	65	64	SOAB HP	10,496
VA3TAR	79	66	SOAB LP	10,428
VE7MR	66	64	SO15 LP	8,960
VA3PM	66	62	SOAB LP	8,246
VY2OX	54	50	SO10 LP	7,250
VE3VIG	57	53	SOAB LP	7,208
VE2OWL	48	48	SO15 LP(T)	6,624
VE7AX	50	46	SOAB LP	6,624
VA3OOL	50	49	SOAB LP(R)	5,733
VE7RK	56	52	SO20 HP	5,616
VA7MM	46	40	SOAB HP	5,440
VE4IM	46	45	SO15 LP	5,220
VA2QR	44	43	SOAB HP	4,902
VE3GMZ	45	44	SOAB QRP	4,796
VE2PI	71	68	SOAB HP	4,760
VA7VJ	45	44	SOAB LP	4,752
VE3DZG	42	41	SOAB LP(C)	4,182
VE3KQN	44	39	SOAB QRP	3,939
VA1RST	21	21	SO40 LP	2,205
VE6GL	41	35	SOAB LP(C)	2,205
VO1KGZ	29	28	SO15 LP	1,932
VE3MDX	26	25	SOAB HP	1,725
VE4SF	27	26	SOAB LP	1,716
VE1JS	28	28	SOAB HP(T)	1,680
VE7BLW	25	23	SOAB LP	1,380
VO2AC	22	22	SOAB HP	1,056
*VE3QN	16	15	SOAB LP	540
*VE3JZT	11	11	SOAB LP	275
VE2QV	9	9	SO20 LP	180
VE3INE	13	12	SO15 LP	132
VA7WBT	6	6	SO40 LP	78
VE3SST	4	4	SO15 LP	24
VA4JP	6	6	SO20 QRP(C)	24
VE2GT	2	2	SO40 HP	6
VA2NW			SOAB LP	
Rookie (R): licensed less than 3 years				
Classic (C): single op, no assistance, 1 radio, max 24 hours				
TB-Wires (T): tribander for 10-20m and single-element wire antennas for 40-80m				
Youth (Y): Operator 25 years old or less				
* Score was received after the 5 day deadline and is not eligible for awards.				
KENTUCKY QSO PARTY – June 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE3HZ	38	25	SO LP	3400
VA3IDD	35	24	SO LP	3000
VE3TW	38	25	SO HP	1775
VE3IMU	20	18	SO LP	920
VE3JZT	10	9	SO LP	688
VE3SIF	7	5	SO QRP	510
VA3PNL	9	9	SO LP	362
VE9RLW	4	3	SO LP	324
VE7ZO	7	6	SO HP	278
VE2FK	6	6	SO HP	272
VA7RN	7	4	SO HP	256
VE3RGO	5	5	SO LP	250
VA3RKM	6	6	SO LP	244
VA2NW	3	3	SO LP	236
VE7CCY	2	2	SO LP	216
VE9CZ	2	2	SO LP	208
VE2GT	2	2	SO HP	204
VA3FN	5	5	SO LP	200

ARRL INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL CONTEST – June 2024

Call	QSOs	Category	Score
VE3WUE	598	SO2R LP	7,199
VE5KS	461	SO1R LP	4,343
VA7ST	447	SO1R LP	4,009
VA6RCN	388	SO1R LP	3,233
VE2DM	403	SO1R LP	2,800
VE9DXC	248	SO1R LP	2,578
VA3PC	184	SO1R LP	2,459
VE2HEW	289	SO1R LP	1,981
VE3CT	152	SO1R LP	1,707
VY2DS	122	SO1R LP	1,433
VE3BZ	164	SO1R LP	1,431
VE3MGY	201	SO2R LP	1,402
VE7BGP	138	SO1R LP	1,267
VE2OWL	55	SO1R LP	1,085
VE7UBA	86	SO1R LP	1,079
VE2PI	137	SO1R LP	878
VE5MX	77	SO1R LP	806
VE3BR	44	SO1R LP	574
VE3RCD	73	SO1R LP	417
PU2PKA	42	SO1R LP	374
VA7KBM	50	SO1R LP	367
VE2GT	39	SO1R LP	298
VA4ADM	33	SO1R LP	291
VE3MCF	43	SO1R QRP	183
VA3NFL	36	SO1R QRP	146

ARRL VHF CONTEST – June 2024				
Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE3OIL/R	405	150	CI. ROVER	116,850
VE3MIS (VA3ELE VA3FIP VA3HES VA3XDX VE3GKT VE3MYO)	506	194	MO Lim.	114,848
VE3WCC (VA3TEC VE2ZAZ VE3FN VE3IRR VE3JGL VE3KI)	286	149	UnMO Lim.	60,047
VE3CKO	280	119	SO HP	32,249
VE3ZV	176	104	SOAn. HP	30,888
VE3DS	185	88	SOAn. LP	29,480
VA3IKE	189	125	SO HP	26,500
VE3KH	187	78	SOAn. LP	25,974
VE3WY	198	124	SO HP	23,808
VE3WJ/R	109	81	CI. ROVER	20,736
VE3RX	164	97	SO HP	15,617
VE3SMA	159	75	SO LP	15,150
VE5MX	120	82	SO HP	9,594
VE3PJ	108	57	SO 3B	5,586
VE3CT	97	57	SO HP	5,187
VA2BN	97	59	SO 3B	5,074
VA2CY	79	60	SO 3B	4,680
VE4VT	78	56	SO HP	4,200
*VA7OTC/R	105	31	ROVER (L)	3,875
VE3EJ	84	44	SOAn. HP	3,652
VA7SC	99	23	SOAn. LP	3,243
VE2NR/R (VE2DDZ)	60	36	CI. ROVER	2,952
VE2PN	58	48	SO HP	2,928
VA7ROH	107	21	SO 3B	2,793
VE6BMX (VE6UM)	62	43	SO HP	2,752
VA6AN	62	41	SO LP	2,747
VE3KG	52	40	SOAn. HP	2,560
VA7FC/R (VA7FC VA7USD)	82	20	ROVER (L)	2,060
VE3AKS	57	37	SO LP	2,035
VA3FLF	56	34	SO 3B	1,870
VA3TIC	59	33	SO HP	1,716
VA3WB	50	33	SO 3B	1,650
VE7DAY	56	30	SO 3B	1,560
VE3SST/R	28	16	ROVER (U)	1,472
VE7HR	52	18	SOAn. LP	1,404
VA3CW	49	29	SO HP	1,392
VE3LFS	41	33	SO 3B	1,287
VA2WA	46	28	SO HP	1,260
VE3KGC/R	30	22	ROVER (U)	1,078
VA3RTG	42	27	SO LP	1,053
VE3RWJ	69	10	SO FM	1,010
VA7RKM	42	17	SO HP	850
VA3PC	32	27	SO HP	783
VA3EON	41	19	SO 3B	760
VE3VHB	36	22	SO 3B	748
VA6WWW	28	24	SO LP	600
VE2GT	27	23	SO LP	598
VE3MDX	28	20	SO HP	540
VE2OTA	21	18	SO 3B	378
VA2VT	19	18	SO Port.	342
VE3MLM	20	16	SO3B An.	320
VA7DX	29	11	SO 3B	319
VA7JC	27	8	SO HP	240
VE7AFZ	24	8	SOAn. HP	216
VE3OOU	17	11	SO 3B	176
VE3GMZ	16	8	SO3B An.	144

VA6RCN (VE3RCN)	15	9	SO 3B	135
VE7BGP	11	7	SOAn. LP	105
VA3TNM	11	9	SOAn. LP	99
VA7WY	10	8	SO LP	80
VE6SM	7	6	SOAn. LP	78
VE3RVZ	12	4	SOAn. LP	68
VE3EG	4	3	SOAn. Port.	48
VE3TM	7	6	SO3B An.	42
VE3QC	8	4	SO 3B	32
VA7MM	8	5	SO 3B	30
VA2FW	6	5	SO LP	25
VE3RXH	8	5	SO 3B	25
VE3JZT	6	5	SO 3B	20
VA3RKM	7	3	SO 3B	18
VA7KBM	5	3	SO LP	15
VA7ST	4	3	SO LP	12
VE7JRX	2	2	SO FM	4
VE7VIE	3	2	SO Port.	4

*received after the deadline, not eligible for awards.

ALL ASIAN DX CONTEST, CW – June 2024

Call	QSOs	Mult	Category	Score
VE7JH	1,048	427	SOAB	455,182
VE7ZO	371	222	SOAB	81,252
VE5MX	362	200	SOAB	71,400
VE7IO	326	161	SOAB	50,876
VE3CT	226	165	SOAB	36,960
VA7DZ	212	147	MS	31,017
VE7WO	221	110	SOAB	24,200
VE7BC	171	107	SOAB	17,976
VA2WA	119	85	SOAB	10,030
VA3TNM	101	85	SOAB	8,500
VE3KG	98	78	SOAB	7,566
VA7KO	98	68	SO15	6,528
VE3MM	30	29	SOAB	870
VA3OKG	31	28	SOAB	840
VE7JKZ	24	23	SOAB	552
VE3MV	22	22	SOAB	484
VE3EJ	21	20	SO15	420
VE9ML	18	17	SO15	289
VE7BGP	10	10	SOAB	100
VE9VIC	3	3	SOAB	9

STEW PERRY TOPBAND CHALLENGE – June 2024

Call	QSO	Category	Score
VE3MGY	95	SOLP	385
VE3PN	48	SOHP	168
VA3OKG	29	SOLP	110
VA3EC	31	SOLP	108
VE1RST	18	SOHP	88
VA2EU	15	SOLP	63
VE7ZO	4	SOHP	10

WEST VIRGINIA QSO PARTY – June 2024

Call	Category	Score
VE3HZ	SOLP	1,138
VA3IDD	SOLP	933
VE3YT	SOHP	579
VE9CZ	SOLP	280
VE9VIC	SOLP	268
VE2GT	SOHP	253
VA3FN	SOLP	248
VA3PMH	SOLP	210
VE3IMU	SOLP	164
VA3RKM	SOLP	160
VA2QR	SOLP	140
VE9RLW	SOLP	120
VE3SIF	QRP	118
VA2KD	SOLP	116
VE3DQN	QRP	24
VE3RGO	SOLP	16
VE2EZD	SOLP	2

HIS MAJESTY KING OF SPAIN CONTEST, SSB – June 2024

Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE9CZ	56	39	SOAB LP	3,120
VE2GT	2	2	SO20 HP	4

MARCONI MEMORIAL CONTEST – July 2024

Call	QSO	Mult	Category	Score
VE3NNT	627	113	SOAB HP	70,851
VA3AR	507	93	SOAB HP	47,151
VE3CT	201	88	SOAB HP	17,688
EA7/VE3NZ	240	71	SOAB QRP	17,040
VA3TNM	199	44	SO15 HP	8,756
VE5MX	124	37	SOAB HP	4,588
VE7IO	84	40	SOAB HP	3,360
VA1CC	60	38	SOAB HP	2,280
VE1ANU	48	34	SOAB LP	1,632
VE6BBP	28	17	SOAB LP	476
VE7BGP	11	5	SOAB LP	55

IARU HF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP – July 2024

Call	QSOs	Mult	Category	Score
VA2WA	2,827	319	SOMIX HP(U)	3,761,648
VE3EJ (VE3EJ VE5MX)				
	3,297	264	M2 LP	3,388,704
VY2TT (K6LA)	3,450	232	=SOMIX HP	3,370,960
VE3JM	3,008	247	SOCW HP	3,082,560
VE3NNT	1,857	219	SOCW HP(U)	1,657,611
*VE7ZO	1,615	244	SOMIX HP(U)	1,582,584
VA7RR	1,611	250	SOCW HP(U)	1,532,500
VE9HF	1,473	236	SOCW HP(U)	1,349,920
VE3TM	1,410	185	SOCW LP	1,064,860
VE7LWW	1,453	190	SOCW HP(U)	1,053,550
VE9AA	1,094	237	SOMIX LP(U)	942,312
VE3WUE	827	213	SOCW LP(U)	673,719
VA2EBI	670	179	SOMIX HP(U)	438,729
VE3CT	545	209	SOCW HP(U)	432,003
VA2CZ	735	168	SOMIX LP(U)	426,384
VE3MA	686	148	SOCW LP(U)	343,804
*VE3YT	624	155	SOCW LP(U)	338,055
VE5RAC (VE5RAC VESSF)				
	821	112	IARU HQ	322,112
VE3MV	490	183	SOCW LP(U)	302,499
VE6BBP	691	110	SOCW LP	299,420
VA7KO	526	147	SOCW HP(U)	280,917
VE3MIS (VA3FIP VE3GKT)				
	541	119	MOST HP	247,877
VE3KOT	512	131	SOMIX LP	234,883
VE3KP	432	138	SOCW HP	203,412
VA3SB	499	112	SOCW HP	198,576
VE7BC	528	109	SOMIX HP	185,409
VE7WO	499	97	SOCW HP(U)	181,293
VA2FK	466	111	SOCW HP(U)	180,264
VE3FH	416	121	SOCW LP	168,069
VE3AQ	404	120	SOCW LP(U)	165,600
VE2CSM	447	92	SOPH HP(U)	164,588
*VY2OM (VY2BG VY2OL VY2OM)				
	409	92	MOST HP	141,312
VA3FN	334	115	SOCW LP	129,950
VA3IDD	319	116	SOPH LP(U)	126,904
VE4SG	420	88	SOPH HP	124,696
VA3TMV	302	112	SOCW LP(U)	119,168
VE9KK	396	88	SOCW LP	117,744
VE2NTT	564	69	SOPH HP(U)	117,438
VE3UZ	309	110	SOMIX LP	115,280
VA2IW	356	94	SOMIX QRP	108,194
VE6SH	321	99	IARU ADMIN.	101,079
VA1MM	379	72	SOCW HP	100,296
VE9CZ	266	104	SOPH LP(U)	96,928
VA7ST	376	77	SOCW LP	95,326
VE3GSI	269	98	SOCW LP	93,002
VA3FH	304	92	SOCW HP(U)	88,136
VA3TNM	218	96	SOCW HP(U)	81,888
VA1CC	227	80	SOCW HP(U)	68,560
VA3ZNQ	200	84	SOPH HP	61,320
VA3FF	200	83	SOCW LP	57,436
VE1ANU	234	68	SOCW LP(U)	56,848
VA3OKG	216	73	SOCW LP	55,553
VE2HTC	171	92	SOPH HP	53,820
VE3KTB	190	82	SOCW LP(U)	52,562
VE7IO	217	65	SOCW HP(U)	52,390
VA7RN	203	77	SOCW HP	51,975
VA1JON (VA1JON VE1AWR VE9EZ)				
	180	85	MOST HP	50,575
VE3NFN	188	74	SOCW LP	44,918
VE3RRD	197	72	SOMIX LP	42,912
VE3RVZ	160	77	SOPH LP	42,042
VE4DL	177	70	SOMIX LP(U)	40,040
VE3BR	190	59	SOCW LP	39,766
VE3PRD (VA3KV VA3WBK VE3OU VE3WPZ)				
	159	68	MOST HP	38,488
VA3CK	163	65	SOMIX HP	36,270
VA3YLR (TA3TGC VE3PCP)				
	163	71	MOST HP	33,512
VE7JKZ	146	73	SOCW HP	33,069
VE5GC	207	36	SOCW LP	22,968
VA6RCN	142	51	SOMIX LP	22,848
VE3MGY	165	44	SOCW LP(U)	22,264
VE2IAA	120	52	SOPH LP	21,268
VE2HIT	108	62	SOPH LP	20,708
VE3GJP	99	54	SOPH LP	18,684

VE2HEW	133	48	SOCW LP(U)	18,432
VE3INE	137	41	SOCW LP(U)	17,343
VE2QV	113	50	SOCW LP	17,300
VA3KRT	101	49	SOPH LP	17,297
VA3IK	130	38	SOCW HP(U)	16,340
VE5CPU	96	57	SOMIX HP	15,960
VE7AX	107	51	SOCW LP	15,147
VA7VK	96	47	SOCW HP	14,852
VE3TAZ	86	55	SOMIX HP	14,465
VA2EU	75	61	SOCW LP	14,152
VE7AP	100	46	SOCW LP	13,340
VE6LB	103	41	SOCW LP(U)	13,284
VA1RST	74	56	SOCW LP(U)	12,824
VE6CLG	73	41	SOPH LP	10,414
VA7MM (VA7MM VE7CNF)				
	67	45	MOST HP	9,810
VE6KC	70	43	SOCW HP(U)	9,503
VE7RC	63	41	SOPH LP	9,143
VE6SYD	71	37	SOPH LP	8,880
VA6AGR	63	40	SOPH LP	8,360
VE9RLW	86	26	SOPH LP	8,164
VE6LRR	64	36	SOPH HP	7,596
VE7MHI	66	33	SOPH LP	7,359
VA2SCJ	64	30	SOPH LP(U)	6,900
VA3PM	67	31	SOCW LP	6,572
VE3YV	64	38	IARU R2	6,498
VE3GMZ	60	28	SOCW QRP(U)	5,488
VE2GT	52	37	SOMIX HP(U)	5,291
VE9QR	63	26	SOMIX QRP	4,550
VE7BGP	45	28	SOMIX LP(U)	3,976
VE3IGJ	53	26	SOCW LP	3,484
VA3GMO	35	21	SOPH QRP	2,835
VA2SIB	41	26	SOMIX LP(U)	2,704
VA7KBM	44	19	SOCW LP	2,337
VE3BFU	33	20	SOPH HP	2,080
VA3EC	31	14	SOCW LP	1,680
VA2YLB	29	23	SOPH QRP	1,633
VA3KSF	24	12	SOCW LP	1,236
VA2BS	30	10	SOPH LP	1,190
VO1KGZ	27	11	SOCW LP(U)	1,177
VE3MT	19	14	SOPH LP	812
VO1PPW	22	6	SOPH LP	660
VE2NDB	15	12	SOPH LP	612
VE7BLW	17	9	SOMIX LP	513
VA2KD	16	16	SOPH LP	336
VA3DJF	13	7	SOPH LP	308
VE2RRE	4	3	SOPH LP(U)	42
VE3FR	3	3	SOPH LP	9
VA7VF	5	3	SOPH LP	0
VA3PNL	2	1	SOPH LP	-1

* received after the deadline, not eligible for awards.



QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Were you first licensed 25 years ago and licensed today?

Then you should join the Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.

To Join or Renew, Visit:
<http://www.qcwa.org/join-renew.php>

For more information, please contact:
om@qcwa.org



Welcome to the Club Corner!

Phillip Boucher, VE3BOC phillipjboucher@gmail.com www.phillipjboucher.com

In this column we are very pleased to hear from the Amateurs in Newfoundland and Labrador and see what's up Down East! Many thanks to Joe Earles, VO1BQ, RAC Atlantic Deputy Director, for passing along the information. We also have a report from Jerry Proc, VE3FAB, of the Skywide Amateur Radio Club on a recent vintage electronics event. Jerry does a great job of keeping me posted. Don't forget to send your stories to me!

Consolidated Report from Clubs in Newfoundland and Labrador VO1/VO2

Joe Earles, VO1BQ – RAC Atlantic Deputy Director

Greetings fellow Amateurs, it's been some time since you've heard from us here in Newfoundland and Labrador. Many thanks to Joe Craig, VO1NA and Ken Tucker, VO1KVT, for passing along input for this article. Joe Craig, VO1NA, reports that in December 2024, the Marconi Radio Club VO1MRC linked up with GB2GM in Poldhu. School kids were delighted to learn about Marconi, radio and building crystal radios. They all took turns talking to Poldhu club members across the pond on 20m SSB after the letter "S" was received.

In January, the club took part in the World Wide Award 2024 to commemorate Marconi's 150th birthday and worked five BY's, earning 2620 points. In February, interference was experienced on the 75m net because of an intruder. VO1NU was notified and the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) became involved. Within a week, the interference had stopped. Marconi's 150th birthday was celebrated on April 24 with many VO Amateurs including Brendan McHugh, VO1FK, relaying tributes on the net. A Marconi radio was used to make the commemorative QSO with Poldhu.

A major solar flare saw the Kyoto DST dip below -400 and the poorest conditions in recent memory. It took weeks to rebound, and many relays were needed on our evening HF Net. The VO1ZA repeater, 147.00 MHz (-) is coveting a fantastic site for coverage of the NE Avalon. Meanwhile the club's 6m beacon is reported with increasing regularity as the solar cycle peaks.

Ken Tucker, VO1KVT, reports that back in December members of the Amateur Radio Club of Central Newfoundland and other Amateurs from VO1/VO2 decided to recognize Bill Butt, VO1WB, for his 32 years of dedicated service as Manager of the Cod Jigger Net. Ken coordinated with Cal Janes, VO1CAL, and other VO1/VO2 regular net participants, to gather a collection of gifts for Bill. Norm Denty, VO1YN, presented Bill with the gifts which included a plaque, a beautiful coffee mug complete with his call sign and Cod Jigger Net emblazed, and a bottle of Bill's favourite fine scotch.

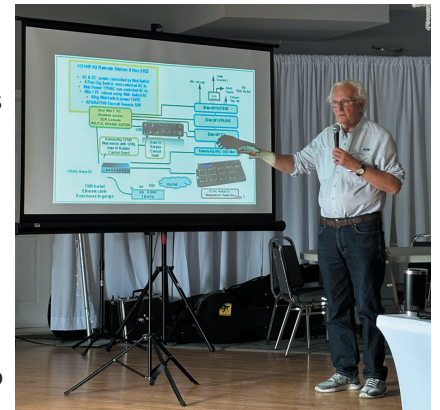
The response from VO1/VO2 Amateurs greatly exceeded those expected/needed so the remaining funds were put into the Cod Jigger Net Fund and will cover the costs of postage and Get Well or Sympathy Cards for some time to come. For many years Bill took the time to send such cards to Amateurs across the province when there was illness or a death their families. In recent years, members of the Cod Jigger Net would send a few dollars to him to assist him with the cost of cards and stamps and other incidentals. Thanks to Bill and all the other dedicated Net Controllers as well as the regulars who check in daily, you always know where to tune in and



find out the latest Amateur Related News in Newfoundland and Labrador, the ever reliable Cod Jigger Net (7085 and/or 3780 daily at 0930hrs NL time) every day of the year.

On Saturday, September 7, 2024, the Amateur Radio Club of Central Newfoundland (ARCON) hosted Radio Amateurs from across the island and the big land of Labrador to a fantastic Hamfest held at the Curling Club in Gander. Over 100 NL Amateurs and their spouse's attended and a great time was had by all. In addition to local Amateurs from across the island, we were pleased to have a several from VO2, a couple from VE3 and one FP5. The day kicked off with a Swap Shop that ran throughout the day and the afternoon included several very interesting presentations. Frank Davis, VO1HP and Ben Kean, VO1ACZ, presented on their Remote Station setups. The Grassroots Amateur Radio Club (led by Mike Ryan, VO1OP and Aaron Abbott, VO1IV) did a presentation on their DX'ing and Contesting activities.

Joe Craig, VO1NA, shown in the photo, presented on his Low Band experiments. Aaron Abbott, VO1IV and Mark Sheppard, VO1MRK, presented on Winlink and FT8. They stepped up to the plate to



do this presentation at short notice when our Winlink guru Dave McLennon, VO1LM, had to bow out of participating in the Hamfest in order to travel from St Johns to Cornerbrook for knee replacement surgery on the day of the Hamfest. He was of course, very disappointed to miss the event, but you don't turn down a chance to get surgery these days anywhere in Canada.

The evening social was a great time and featured a dinner of stuffed Chicken Breast and all the trimmings. A splendid meal which was followed by draws for the numerous door prizes. Some prizes were swag from local businesses, but there were some fine Amateur Radio prizes as well donated from MFJ and Radioworld to name a few, as well as other items such as SDR Receivers, VHF/UHF Radios and Heil Headsets which were donated by clubs around the province.



On completion of the door prize draws and other prizes being presented, all in attendance were entertained for the remainder of the evening by the "Just Off Frequency Agony Band" – a group of Amateurs who had been practising solely for this event for several weeks. Ev Price, VO1DK, is on the Executive Committee at the 150 Wing of the Royal Canadian Air Force Association and he persuaded the club to allow the band weekly access to practise for the event. Ira Stacey, VO1IRA, took care of maintaining the set list and kept us all on the same key and kept everyone up to date via email on upcoming practise sessions. The band consisted of Frank Davis, VO1HP, Doug Mercer, VO1DM, Cal Tucker, VO1NY, Ira Stacey, VO1IRA, Vince Okeefe, VO1SO, Joe Earles, VO1BQ and Gerard (no call but a wiz on the Accordion).

It had been at least 10 years since our last NL Hamfest and it was a huge success and special thanks to all the fine folks from ARCON, Ken Tucker, VO1KVT, Terry Hollett, VO1TH, Gerald Stuckless, VO1PS, Cal Janes, VO1CAL, and others that I've surely missed. Additionally, Ken and his team strongly encouraged all clubs to provide input and assist in the planning. There were several Zoom Meetings that were attended by numerous other Amateurs from several clubs around the province with an interest in making this event the success that it was. Thank you all for attending and participating. As heard over the local nets for days afterwards, "what a time, we gotta do that again soon"!

More recent activities included the Society Of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs (SONRA) participating with the 1st Conception Bay South Scout Troop in their Jamboree On the Air (JOTA).

The Scouts made dozens of QSOs with Amateurs in North America and Europe as well as a couple of 2m QSOs with Barry Harris, VO1NC. The Scouts and Scout Leaders really enjoyed the day and are looking forward to participating again next year.

Skywide ARC Vintage Electronics Event



Jerry Proc, VE3FAB

On March 11, the Skywide Amateur Radio Club held its first "Vintage Electronics" theme night at the Etobicoke Civic Centre in Etobicoke, Ontario.

On display were vintage gaming computers, receivers, test equipment and some homebrew gear.



Photos by Gary Zakaib, VA3GDZ

Each presenter explained the purpose of the gear which was brought in. Near the centre of this group is the Heathkit Two'er.(HW-30). It was a 1960s vintage, two metre, single frequency (crystal) AM-only transceiver. To use it, an operator would call "CQ", give out his call sign, then tune the receiver across the entire 2m band looking for any reply to the CQ. To change transmit frequencies, the case would have to come off and another crystal would have to be reinstalled. Split frequency operation was the norm for this rig. We have come a long way since then!

In abundance were gaming computers, CD media and other personal entertainment devices.

Jerry, thanks for the article. It really shows that even older equipment still gets the job in today's digital world. The idea for this event came from the Nostalgia Net which meets every Tuesday at 7 pm on the Skywide Radio Club repeater (146.985 MHz) and hosted by Ken Bain, VA3KEX. The club will look forward in repeating this event sometime in the future. A lot of interest was expressed by those attending the event. Don't forget that if you want to check out some older equipment, just visit your local Hamfest to find lots of vintage equipment for your needs and desires.

Send in your club and non-club bits and pieces, tales and adventures, questions, comments, and articles for inclusion in the column. You can write me via the magazine, or at phillipjboucher@gmail.com.

Coming Events | Hamfests

Please visit the RAC Events Database for other events and for more information about the events listed below: <https://hambone.ca/rac/events/upcoming.php>

Quesnel Ham and Vintage Radio Swap Meet

Quesnel Amateur Radio Operators Society
Date: Saturday, May 3
Place: Quesnel BC; Quesnel Legion Hall at 262 Kinchant Street.
Time: Vendors 8:30; Public 9 am to 1 pm.
Cost: Tables \$20 each; extra tables are \$10 each. No cost for entry. Donations accepted. 147.060 100 Hz
Info: Contact tubetester@gmail.com or phone/text 519-658-9572.
W: www.facebook.com/groups/qaros/

RAM Spring Flea Market Radio Amateurs of Manitoba

Date: Sunday, May 4
Place: Winnipeg, MB; Valour Community Centre – Clifton Site; 1315 Strathcona Street
Time: Vendors: 9 am; Public 10 am – 12 pm.
Cost: Vendors: \$20 (includes 1 admission) Public: \$10.
Talkin: 147.390+ 127.3 Hz
Info: Contact info@ramb.ca.
W: <https://ramb.ca/events/flea-market/> 2025

Spring Swap Meet Maple Ridge Amateur Radio Club

Date: Sunday, May 4
Place: Pitt Meadows, BC; Heritage Hall, 12460 Harris Road.
Time: Vendors 7:30 am; Breakfast 8 am; Early-bird 8:30 am; General admission 9 am.
Cost: Vendor & Table \$25; Admission \$10; Early-bird \$20, Breakfast \$7.
Talkin: VE7RMR 146.800 (-) Tone 156.7.
Info: Reserve a table swapmeet@mrarc.ca.
W: <https://www.mrarc.net/swap-meet/>

Simcoe County Hamfest

Simcoe County Amateur Radio Enthusiasts
Date: Saturday, May 10
Place: Grenfell, ON; Grenfell Community Centre, 1989 Sunnidale Road (County Road 40).
Time: Vendors 8 am; Public 9 am.
Cost: Vendors \$5. Donations for Grenfell Centre building fund welcome.
Talkin: 146.55 MHz simplex no tone.
Info: Call or email Brant Smith, VE3UME, at 705-733-0554, ve3ume@yahoo.com
W: <https://scare-radio.com/Scare-Radio.com/Home.html>

Smiths Falls Ham Fest Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club / Lanark North Leeds ARES

Date: Saturday, May 17
Place: Smiths Falls, ON; Smiths Falls Civitan Club 12468 ON-15.
Time: Vendors 7 am; Public 8 am.
Cost: Public \$5 (includes door prize ticket). Youth under 16 admitted free.
Tailgaters \$10 + \$5 if they wish to shop inside (includes door prize ticket).

Vendors: Tables (approx 2.5 x 5 ft) \$15 + \$5 for each person (includes door prize ticket);
Talkin: VE3RLR 147.210 + PL 151.4Hz.
Info: Contact ve3rlr@gmail.com.
W: <https://www.ve3rlr.ca/p/httpsgoo.html>

Hamfest du Quebec a Sorel-Tracy

Sponsored by VE2CBS
Date: Sunday, May 25
Place: Sorel-Tracy QC; Curling Aurele-Racine 3010 Place des Loisirs.
Time: Inside Vendors 6 am to 8:30; Public 9 am to 11:30 am.
Cost: Public \$10 (free 0 to 12 years old); Vendors: Inside tables \$10 admission not included.
Talkin: VE2RBS 145.370 MHz, FM 103.5 Hz VE2RBS TG9 local mode DMR.
Info: Contact ve2cbs@gmail.com
W: <https://ve2cbs.com/hamfest/>

London Vintage Radio Club Flea Market

London Vintage Radio Club
Date: Saturday, June 14
Place: Guelph, ON; Hammond Manufacturing at 394 Edinburgh Road North.
Time: Public and Vendors 7 am.
Cost: Vendors \$10; Public: no charge.
Info: Contact larry.asp@sympatico.ca.
W: <http://lvrc.homestead.com/fleamarket.html>

Central Ontario Hamfest

Guelph ARC & Kitchener-Waterloo ARC
Date: Sunday, June 1
Place: North Dumfries (near Cambridge) ON; 1128 Rife Road.
Time: Indoor vendors 7 am, Tailgate 8 am, Public 9 am to 12 noon.
Cost: Admission \$8, youths under 12 free. Indoor Vendors: \$23 per 8-foot table includes one admission. Tailgaters: \$18 per pad includes one admission.
Talkin: VE3KSR repeater on 146.970, offset -0.6, CTCSS/PL 131.8. Simplex will be 146.520.
Info: Contact info@hamfest.on.ca.
W: <https://hamfest.on.ca>

Steeltown Tailgate Treasures Hamilton Amateur Radio Club

Date: Saturday, June 14
Place: Grimsby, ON; St. Joseph RC Church, Parking Lot, 135 Livingston Ave. Parking is free by going through "admission" area.
Time: Vendors 7:30 am; Public 9 am.
Cost: Public: \$5 each; children admitted free. Vendors \$15 per space included for you and your helper. You supply your own tables.
Talkin: HARC repeater 146.760 MHz -600 Hz, 131.8 tone. Simplex: 146.52 MHz no tone.
Info: Vendors book your space/table with Barry, VE3ISX, at ve3isx@gmail.com.
W: hamiltonarc.com/Grimsby/index.html

SUMMER ANTENNA CLEAROUTS

Trylon Towers In Stock

Hy-Gain:

TH-3MK4 3-El 1.5 kW PEP 10,15,20 metres

Cushcraft:

A50-3S 3-Element 8 dB Gain 6m Beam
A50-5S 5-Element 10.5 dB Gain 6m Beam
A270-10S 10dB Gain 2m & 70 cm
A124WB 10.2 dB 4-El Wide Band Boomer
ARX-2B 135-160 MHz 7 dB Ringo
AR-270B 5.5 & 7.5 dB Dual Band Ringo

Refurbished Antennas :

A4S 4-Element Beam 10,15, 20m
A-3WS 3-Element WARC Beam
TH-5MK2 5-Element 1.5 kW 10,15, 20m
Force "12" 4-El 20m Mono Band Beam
Tower: Deluxe 70-ft Crank Up & Fold Over

Wire and Cable:

RG8-Mini 0.95/ft 200 feet \$189
RG-213 50 Ohm NCV Jacket per ft \$1.89
75ft with PL-259 attached \$179
100ft with PL-259 attached \$229
LMR-400 50 Ohm Low Loss Cable \$2.09/ft
50 feet with PL-259 attached \$139
100 feet with PL-259 attached \$249

Custom Lengths Upon Request

450 Ohm Ladder Line .95/ft | 200 feet \$179

Hard Drawn Copper Antenna Wire

7-strand 14 gauge \$0.29/ft
7-strand 12 gauge \$0.35/ft
Yaesu or Hy-Gain Rotor Cable \$1.19/ft

Dacron Rope

1/8" @ 0.22/ft | 3/16 @ 0.25/ft | 1/4" 0.35/ft

Yaesu & Hy-Gain Rotors In Stock

H.C. MacFarlane Electronics Ltd.

5683 Battersea Road, ON K0H 1H0
Call Harold, VE3BPM, or Tom, VE3UXP,
or Victor (B.Eng and MSc)
Phone 613-353-2800
Email: macfldt@kos.net
www.macfarlaneelectronics.on.ca

51st Annual Ontario Hamfest

Burlington Amateur Radio Club

Date: Saturday, July 12
Place: Milton, ON; Milton Agricultural Fairgrounds, 136 Robert Street.
Time: Tailgating Vendors: 7 am at Robert Street approach from the west only. Public: 9 am at North Thomas St Gate only.
Cost: Public \$10; Vendors \$10 per Tailgate space plus \$10 each admission.
Talkin: 146.52 Simplex no tone.
Info: Contact buckmelbuckmel@gmail.com
W: <https://www.barc.ca/>

Please send your event information to the TCA Editor at tcamag@yahoo.ca

Swap Meet & Emergency Communications Display

Richmond Amateur Radio Club

Date: Saturday, July 19

Place: Richmond, BC; Gym Hall at South Arm United Church, 11051 No. 3 Rd. (at Steveston Highway).

Time: 9:30 am to 12 noon.

Cost: Vendors: Tables \$25; Public \$5.

Info: Contact: ve7ure@cwthree.com.

W: <http://www.richmondarc.ca/swapmeet2025.html>

Hanover Ham Haul

Sponsored by local Amateurs

Date: Saturday, August 9

Place: Hanover, ON; Hanover Drive-in Theatre and enter at the Ticket booth.

Time: Vendors 8:30 am; Public 9:30 am to 1 pm.

Cost: Admission \$5 per person and \$5 per vendor space. Children under 12 free. This is a bring your own table hamfest. All proceeds after expenses go to local charities.

Talkin: 146.520 Simplex, no tone.

Info: Contact davemargetts@bmts.com,

W: <https://www.ontars.com/>

Parry Sound Hamfest

Parry Sound Amateur Radio Club

Date: Saturday, August 16

Place: Seguin (Parry Sound), ON;

Foley Community Hall, 60 Rankin Lake Road.

Time: Vendors 7:30 am; Public 9 am.

Cost: Table \$20 each (8-foot table), additional \$10. Two chairs included.

Talkin: VE3RPL 145.490 minus pl 156.7.

Info: Contact psarc@ve3rpl.com.

W: <https://www.ve3rpl.com>

Ottawa (Carp) 2025 Hamfest

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Date: Saturday, September 6

Place: Ottawa (Carp), ON; Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds, 3882 Carp Road in the West Erskine Johnston Arena at north end of fairgrounds.

Time: Commercial Vendors: 7:30 am;

Private Vendors: 8 am; Public: 9 am to noon.

Cost: Vendor tables: \$17 per 8-foot table. Admission: \$6. Children 12 and under free.

Talkin: VE2CRA, 146.94-, 100 Hz.

Info: Ed, VE3WGO, hamfest@oarc.net.

Volunteer and table reservation forms on OARC website.

W: <https://oarc.net/hamfest/>

Simcoe County Hamfest

Simcoe County Amateur Radio Enthusiasts

Date: Saturday, September 13

Place: Grenfel, ON; Grenfel Community Centre, 1989 Sunnidale Road (County Road 40).

Time: Vendors 8 am; Public 9 am.

Cost: Vendors \$5; Admission free. Donations for Grenfel Centre building fund welcome.

Talkin: 146.55 MHz simplex no tone

Info: Call or email Brant Smith, VE3UME, at 705-733-0554 or ve3ume@yahoo.com

W: <https://scare-radio.com/Scare-Radio.com/Home.html>

Annual General Meeting | Assemblée générale annuelle

The Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to announce that its Annual General Meeting (AGM) has been scheduled as follows.

Les Radioamateurs du Canada ont le plaisir d'annoncer que leur assemblée générale annuelle (AGA) a été programmée comme suit :

Date: Saturday, September 6. | **Date :** samedi 6 septembre

Time: 1 pm (Eastern Time) | **Heure :** 13h00 (heure normale de l'Est)

All RAC members are encouraged to attend the Annual General Meeting which will be held in Ottawa and online.

Tous les membres du RAC sont encouragés à participer à l'assemblée générale annuelle qui se tiendra à Ottawa et en ligne.

For more information please see page 7 | Pour plus d'informations, veuillez consulter la page 8.

Ancaster 2025 Hamfest

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club

Date: Saturday, September 27

Place: Ancaster, ON; Ancaster Agricultural Fairgrounds, 630 Trinity Road.

Vendors will use garage door starting at 7:30.

Time: Commercial vendors 7:30 am.

Public 9 am. There will be no tailgating.

Cost: Vendor tables \$15 includes admission. Public: \$5 each.

Talkin: Hamilton VHF repeater 146.760/146.160 131.8 tone Linked to 442.525 MHz tone 131.8.

Info: Contact ve3isx@gmail.com.

W: <https://hamiltonarc.com/Ancaster/Hamfest%202025%20Tickler/index.html>

Eastern Ontario Hamfest

Prescott-Russell Amateur Radio Club and Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club

Date: Saturday, September 27

Place: St-Albert, ON; St-Albert Community Centre, 201 Principale Street.

Time: Vendors setup: Commercial 7:30 am; Private 8 am; Public 9 am to 12 pm.

Cost: Admission: \$10. Children 12 and under free. Vendor Tables: \$15 per table includes admission for 1 person.

Talkin: VE3PRV, 147.330+, 110.9Hz or VA3PRA, 145.470-, 110.9 Hz (Linked).

Info: Contact exec@eohamfest.com

W: <https://eohamfest.com/>

Kingston Amateur Radio Club Hamfest

Date: Saturday, October 18

Place: Kingston ON; Royal Canadian Legion Branch #560, 734 Montreal Street.

Time: Vendors 7:30 am; Public 8:30 am.

Cost: Tables \$10; Admission \$5.

Talkin: 146.94- Tone 151.4.

Info: Contact Tim, VA3TIC, at va3tic@gmail.com or Greg, VE3PJ, at greg.foster@sympatico.ca.

W: <https://www.ve3kbr.com/>

York Region Amateur Radio Club 45th Annual Hamfest

Date: Saturday, November 8

Place: Aurora, ON; Aurora Legion Banquet Hall; 105 Industrial Parkway North.

Time: Doors open to public at 9 am.

Cost: General Admission \$10.

Info: For Vendor information / Registration refer to our website or contact Hamfest Coordinator Jan VE3ZYL, hamfest@yrarc.org

W: <https://yrarc.org/>



International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend

An invitation is extended to visit Prince Edward Island in the week leading up to the International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend – (ILLW.net) on August 16. ILLW has been held on the third full weekend of August since 1998 and usually attracts over 500 lighthouses from 40 countries. ILLW is one of the more popular Amateur Radio events because there are no rules and logs are not required.

The month of August is designated as Lighthouse Month due largely to the popularity and growth of the ILLW. The PEI Lighthouse Society (<https://peilighthousesociety.ca>) lists 61 lighthouses and range lights where all but three are easily reached by car. A number of sites even permit station setup inside the lighthouse.

A number of local Amateurs will be available to assist in organizing an activation. Visitors to PEI can obtain tourist information from (www.tourismpei.com). To make arrangements contact VY2GF (George) at: dewarg@bellaliant.net.



**Take advantage
of exclusive group
home and auto
insurance savings**

**Enjoy preferred rates on
home and auto insurance
with The Personal.**



**Profitez de rabais
de groupe exclusifs
pour vos assurances
auto et habitation**

**Bénéficiez de tarifs avantageux sur
vos assurances auto et habitation
avec La Personnelle.**

Learn more
thepersonal.com/radioamateurs
1-888-476-8737

En savoir plus
lapersonnelle.com/radioamateurs
1 888 476-8737


thePersonal
Home and Auto Group Insurer
Group rates. Preferred service.




laPersonnelle
Assureur de groupe auto et habitation
Tarifs de groupe. Service unique.

The Personal refers to The Personal Insurance Company. Certain conditions, limitations and exclusions may apply. Auto insurance is not available in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia due to government-run plans. The Personal® and related trademarks are trademarks of The Personal Insurance Company, used under license.

La Personnelle désigne La Personnelle, compagnie d'assurances. Certaines conditions, exclusions et limitations peuvent s'appliquer. L'assurance auto n'est pas offerte au Manitoba, en Saskatchewan ni en Colombie-Britannique, où il existe des régimes d'assurance gouvernementaux. La marque La Personnelle^{MD} et les marques de commerce associées sont des marques de commerce de La Personnelle, compagnie d'assurances, employées sous licence.

Radioworld.ca

4335 Steeles Ave. West, Toronto, ON M3N 1V7

Phone 416-667-1000 Fax 416-667-9995

email: sales@radioworld.ca

KENWOOD

TM-D750A

144 / 220 / 430 MHz DIGITAL TRIBANDER

NEW

The Ultimate Tribander – Driving Connectivity to New Heights in Mobile Communications



KENWOOD's multiband mobile transceiver: Advanced APRS® and Digital Voice capabilities plus Built-in Wireless LAN take your operating experience to the next level.

- Built-in Wireless LAN: D-STAR network can be accessed directly and easily using the Direct Mode without the need for external devices.
- Simultaneous Reception: Dual-signal reception for digital voice and data expands your communication capabilities.
- Supports APRS operations with a standalone digipeater function. PC connection enables 1200/9600 bps packet communications and IGate operation.
- Flexibility: Remote Operation Panel with built-in speaker • Convenience: Built-in GPS module and patch antenna • Display: 3.45-inch TFT colour LCD
- Connectivity: USB-C*4 port and microSD card slot are on both the remote head and RF deck respectively.
- Voice Guidance: Powerful voice guidance features include 4-step variable speed and over 900 phrases.

central Radioworld

8, 711 48th Ave., S.E., Calgary, AB. T2G4X2

Phone 403-239-1400 Fax 403-239-1408

email: sales@radioworldcentral.ca