

# Message from the London Amateur Radio Club

Promoting Amateur Radio in London  
and surrounding areas since 1920



**February 3, 2006**

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- **Next Meeting...**
  - **Meeting Topic – Gary Hammond, Shortwave DX'er**

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## **Other Items of Interest...**

- ⇒ **LARC Executive 2005/2006 lineup**
- ⇒ **St Thomas Club meetings**
- ⇒ **Canadians lose portion of the 220mhz band in Jan 2006**
- ⇒ **Hamming with Hammond – Gary Hammond in Feb.**
- ⇒ **Message regarding CANWARN 2006 training**
- ⇒ **St Catherine's Flea Market – Sat Feb 4**
- ⇒ **2005/2006 LARC Membership Application Form**

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## **The next Meeting is...**

Reminder of the next monthly Club meeting on Thursday, February 9th, 2006 @  
7:30pm

All meetings are located at St. Judes Anglican Church,  
1537 Adelaide Street North at Fanshawe Park Road East in London, Ontario,

They are normally held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm EST  
during the months of September to June (no meetings July and August).

## Meeting Topic

### Gary Hammond to give a talk at the February meeting



Garry Hammond, VE3XN, is a shortwave enthusiast from Listowel, Ontario. A retired secondary school geography teacher, he is also a world traveler and an accomplished photographer.

VE3XN is more than just a callsign. He is radio-active on 9 HF bands from 6 to 160 meters. When the bands are poor, you can find him QSL'ing his own activity or that of the Microlite Penguins DXpeditions.

Garry continues to actively pursue DX . . . he is in the top 200 of the world's DX'ers in the DXCC Challenge Award; the top 25 in the world for the Islands on the Air Award and the top 10 of CQ magazine's WPX Honour Roll. He is highly involved in collecting Antarctic bases, lighthouses, national award diplomas, and various national island awards. He was the founder of, and continues to administer both the Canadian Islands Award and the Maple Leaf Award. Garry has personally used all the call sign prefixes available for Ontario since the 3C prefixes were allowed in 1967. He has also participated on expeditions as diverse as the Polar Bridge Ski-Trek and the Polar Bear Express Train.

Since 1990, VE3XN has been the assistant manager of the Ontario QSL Bureau. In addition, he is the QSL manager for the Microlite DXpeditions to VP8THU, VP8GEO and FT5XO. The extent of his ham radio involvement has not gone unnoticed and was featured in the Canadian Geographic magazine. He has been a regular contributor to the Radio Society of Ontario; Canadian Amateur Radio Federation; Long Skip; CRRL; and QST. Since 2002, you can find his column "DX'ing with Hammond" in RAC's The Canadian Amateur.

Over the past 40 years, he has produced a multitude of audio-visual presentations for his students, teaching colleagues and his fellow hams. He was the featured speaker at the QCWA national convention in 2000. In 2005, he was guest presenter at the QCWA Fred Hammond Chapter 73 autumn meeting, and the Guelph Radio Club, VE3ZM.

Always looking for new challenges, Garry has just recently upgraded from old 35mm slide carousel equipment to a state-of-the-art computer and high resolution LCD projector. With technical support from his brother, he has begun producing a new generation of presentations he hopes will inform and inspire radio amateur audiences.

Happy New Year!  
Tom Hammond

## Other Items of Interest

### 2005/2006 L.A.R.C. Executive

Here is the lineup for the LARC Executive Team 2005/2006:

Past President:	Mark Bramwell, VE3PZR	(LARC Repeater Coordinator)
President:	Gord Baker, VE3GB	(the boss!)
Vice President:	Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT	(flea-market)
Secretary:	Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB	(only 1 that can spel goud)
Treasurer:	Tony Drawmer, VE3SQU	(money-man & field-day)
Director:	Shirley McCall-Nicholson, VE3SMN	(membership)
Director:	Al Bernier, VE3LOD	(keeps us honest)
Director:	Archie Van de Velde, VE3PTV	(ARES & Fox-hunts)
Repeater Operator:	Dave Young, VE3EAY	(knows ALL the codes)

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### St Thomas Club meetings – by AL VA3LX

Here are the details of the EARS meetings for St.Thomas.

We now meet the First Wednesday of each month, at 8:00 PM, in the Community Room of the "Real Canadian Superstore".

The Superstore is located at the corner of Talbot Street, and First Avenue beside Wal\*Mart.

The community room is located on the second floor, with access via stairs or elevator.

No outside food or beverages are allowed, but may be purchased at the Superstore. Please retain your receipt as we are asked to submit them to the store. All are welcome, as we have lots of seating.

Talk-in on VE3STR-R, 147.330 + (114.8 PL)

Thank you,  
VA3LX

## Ham Radio Visits Pathfinder Camp

In October 2005 about 100 girls' ages 12-17 and their leaders got together for a weekend of fun and friendship.

The London Amateur Radio Club sent Mike, VE3ACW and Mike, VE3NLP to join us and teach the girls about Ham Radio.



The girls helped them set up their mobile station and antennas, and then watched and waited until it was their turn to talk.

Both Mikes' were great in explaining what 'Hams' are and how and when they are needed.

The girls got to talk to a couple of other hams in the states and Ontario.





There was a particular group of scouts on the air that weekend for JOTA – Jamboree on the Air that was very popular with these girls.



Monica `Sparkie` McCarey  
1<sup>st</sup> Tillsonburg Pathfinders/Trexx Guider

We invited the gentleman to stay for dinner and come and sit with us by the campfire as the girls treated them to songs and skits.

Mike presented one of the girls with a special flashlight to commemorate the event.

We even managed to find some marshmallows.



Thanks again for everything and look forward to doing this again in the future. Here are some pictures that were taken at the event.

## **MESSAGE REGARDING CANWARN 2006 TRAINING**

**From:** Randy Mawson [Ontario]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 19, 2006 10:38 AM  
**To:** LARC

We held an internal meeting on CANWARN Training on Tuesday of this week (17th) in Downsview. At that meeting, among other things, it was decided to offer training to weather watchers in the province. As you may or may not know, weather watchers have been around since the mid 1970's and have been dedicated volunteers pre-dating CANWARN volunteers which started in 1987. In fact some of the weather watchers went on to become CANWARN Spotters, but many did not. This winter, Paul Robertson, of Environment Canada rationalized the database of weather watchers and we have determined that there are approximately 580 watchers spread over the province. The majority of these people have never had formalized training. They will not replace CANWARN volunteers, - merely complement the numbers of trained spotters we have in the province. Their reports will go to the Ontario Storm Prediction Centre using the same 800 number used for CANWARN now. We envision these additional trained spotters will only improve what is already a very successful program. Nothing regarding the existing London CANWARN Program would change...we would simply offer training to weather watchers concurrent with existing CANWARN Spotters.

The London Amateur Radio Club (LARC) has been very accommodating in providing a training resource for CANWARN over the years and that has been much appreciated. We of course will offer training once again this spring to all CANWARN Spotters in the London-Middlesex-Oxford-Elgin areas and both CANWARN Spotters and weather watchers alike will be encouraged to attend. However we feel that it would be impolite and inappropriate for us to invite everyone to a meeting hosted by LARC.

Instead, we are suggesting that CANWARN training be done outside the normal club meeting night at a location to be determined (quite likely the Ramada Inn at Wellington and 401). Training would run for approximately 1.5 -2.0 hours as usual. All costs including refreshments would be looked after by Environment Canada. A CANWARN courtesy gift will be provided to all attendees as we do every year.

We would appreciate assistance from LARC in advertising this night of training once the date has been determined. We look forward to a great turnout and we hope to be able to provide another exciting night of training which will include highlights from the Elora/Fergus tornado from August 2005.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please feel free to contact either myself or Paul Robertson and we will be happy to answer them.

Kindest Regards,  
Randy Mawson  
Outreach Officer, Environment Canada  
Phone 519-773-3731

## Message from the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club

The Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club presents the 28th annual Big Event! This is the largest amateur radio meet in Niagara! We invite all amateurs, prospective amateurs, the community, and interested vendors to join us! For more information, visit the website at:



Date:	<b>Saturday, February 4, 2006</b>
Location:	Canadian Auto Workers Hall 124 Bunting Road St. Catharines, ON
Doors Open:	Public - 9:00 AM Vendors - 7:00 AM
Admission:	\$ 6.00

<http://nparc.on.ca/www/index.jsp/event28>



**LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.  
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2005/6**

**PLEASE PRINT**

- SINGLE MEMBERSHIP: \$25.00**       **RENEWAL**  
 **FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$30.00**       **NEW MEMBER**

**RAC Membership Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **I am not a RAC Member**

**ARES Volunteer?**       **Yes**       **No**

**NOTE:** It is important for volunteers to provide their phone number and e-mail address.

**Name(s):** \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name	First Name	Call Sign
Last Name	First Name	Call Sign

**Address:**

Street/P.O. Box		
City/Town	Province	Postal Code
Phone Number		

**E-mail Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Monthly reminders via e-mail only)**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*All information requested should be completed - this will be used for the club's membership database only. All LARC membership information is held in strict confidence.*

Please make cheque payable to: ***London Amateur Radio Club Inc.***

Mailing Address: London Amateur Radio Club  
c/o Membership Director, VE3SMN  
P.O. Box 82, Station B  
London, Ontario, N6A 4V3



## Have anything to say?



If you have a comment or announcement that might be of interest to the club, feel free to send me a message and I'll include it in the next mail out.

My email address is: [LARC2005@hamster.foxhollow.ca](mailto:LARC2005@hamster.foxhollow.ca)

**Our Club Web page is:** <http://www.larc.ca>

**For list of upcoming events:**  
[http://www.larc.ca/meet\\_2004\\_5.htm](http://www.larc.ca/meet_2004_5.htm)

**If you want to be added or removed from our  
Mailing list, send an email to:**

[LARC2005@hamster.foxhollow.ca](mailto:LARC2005@hamster.foxhollow.ca) (Mark, VE3PZR)