Message from the
London Amateur Radio Club

Promoting Amateur Radio in London
and surrounding areas since 1920

Sept 11, 2007

The subject for the September meeting will be a video presentation on the FT5XO DXpedition to the Indian Ocean, located halfway between Africa and Australia.

Other Items of Interest…

⇒ LARC Executive 2007/2008 lineup
⇒ LARC Field Day 2007 Report
⇒ 2007 LARC Flea Market is this month
⇒ ARES Update
⇒ Changes to VE3OME
⇒ Reaching out to young people
⇒ New ham
⇒ 2007/2008 LARC Membership Application Form

The next Meeting is…

Reminder of the next monthly Club meeting on Thursday, September 13th, 2007 @ 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 <u>normally</u> 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).

Other Items of Interest

2007/2008 L.A.R.C. Executive

Past President: Gord Baker, VE3GB

President: Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT   (Flea-market)
Treasurer: Dave Steels, VE3UZ
Secretary: Ruth Dahl , VE3RBO

Director: Ann Rundle, VA3EOR   (Flea market)
Director: Doug Elliott, VA3DAE   (ARES EC; Web-site)
Director: Shirley McCall, VE3SMN   (Membership)
Director: Pat Ross, VE3CNX

Non-Voting:

                    Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG   (ARES DEC)
                    Tom Stewart   (Canwarn)

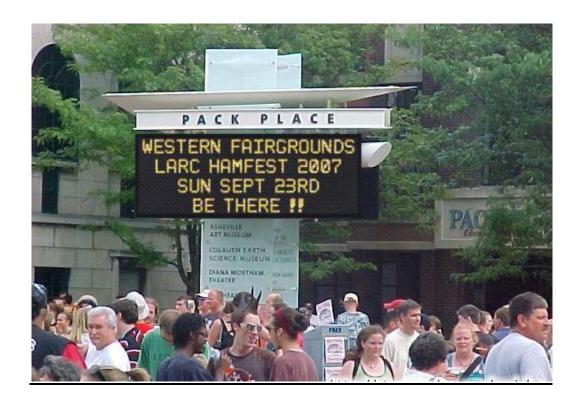Appointments:

                    Tony Drawmer, VE3SQU   (Field-Day)
                    Mark Bramwell, VE3PZR   (Field-Day)
                                                   (Newsletter Editor)
                                                   (LARC Repeater Coordinator)

                    Dave Young, VE3EAY   (Repeater Operator/Programmer)

Report on Field Day 2007, by Dave Steels VE3UZ

LARC Field Day 2007

Callsign Used: VE3LON
Entry Class: 4A
Total Attendees: 60
Power Source: Generator
Transmitter Power: 100 watts

Bonus Points
100% Emergency Power	400
Media Publicity	100
Set-up in Public Place	100
W1AW Field Day Message	100
Web Log Submission	50
Total Bonus Points	750

Score Summary
Total CW QSO's	372	Total CW Points	744
Total SSB QSO's	655	Total SSB Points	655
		Total QSO Points	1399
		Apply Power Multiplier (x2)	2798
		Add Bonus Points	750
		Grand Total Score	3548

New Ham in the club

Dave Bohan recently PASSED his exam
WITH HONORS

Please Welcome VE3ELX from Mount Brydges

ARES Update - Doug Elliott,
London ARES Emergency Coordinator

Activity related to ARES sure didn't slow down over the summer. Not only are we having well attended ARES nets Wednesdays at 7:30, but we've also had 4 practice exercises so far, including:

- May 30 - simulated evacuation of Cherryhill residents after a winter power outage
- June 13 - Using Radio Direction Finding to locate a medically distressed patient
- July 18 - Training and practice in using tactical call signs and message procedures
- August 15 - simulated Search and Rescue assistance in Westminster Ponds area

The next practice exercise will again be the 3rd Wednesday of the month, September 19, involving a simulated release of dangerous materials in downtown, with medium levels of radio traffic involving both mobile and base stations.

Thanks to Mike Watts, VE3ACW for his ongoing efforts to create and stage our exercises. As the days grow shorter, our exercises will shift to the weekend, so if Wednesday nights are awkward for you - stay tuned for more info.

Londoners are playing leading roles in ARES activities in our area, as is reflected in the changed ARES leadership structure:

- Tecumseh District Emergency Coordinator - Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG
- London EC - Doug Elliott, VA3DAE
- Middlesex North and Central EC - Scott Carter VE3CGN
- St. Thomas and Elgin EC - Scott Carter VE3CGN
- Woodstock and Middlesex East EC - Dave Young VE3EAY
- Oxford South EC - Dave Young VE3EAY

What coming up soon, besides the Sept 19 practice exercise?

- Flea Market - drop by the ARES table and see what we're up to
- Meetings with the London Police and Red Cross to confirm our callout processes
- Preparations for the October 6 & 7 National Simulated Emergency Test event

If you're interested in ARES and in being prepared to help out in an emergency, you can:

- Make sure you check the ARES volunteer box on your LARC renewal form
- Look at the ARES info on the LARC website: http://www.larc.ca/ares1.htm
- Check out the Tecumseh District website: http://emergencyteam.ca/
- Join in the weekly ARES net, Wednesdays at 7:30 on VE3OME, 145.450
- Come see us at the Flea Market
- Get in touch with us, c/o Doug Elliott: webmaster@larc.ca

My personal thanks to the Steering Committee who are keeping ARES rolling along: Brett Gilbank, Scott Carter, Tony Drawmer, Pat Ross and Dave Young.

Changes on VE3OME

You may have noticed that the messages on VE3OME, 145.450 MHz are a little different recently.

For unknown reasons (possibly a lightning strike) the digital voice recorder (DVR) hardware has not been working properly for a while, which is why you don't hear the messages you're used to.

In order to keep the repeater operating legally (identifying regularly in particular) and able to send the same information, there have been some changes.

Dave Young VE3EAY and Scott Carter VE3CGN have put in a significant effort to reprogram the macros that previous used DVR to use the synthesized voice instead.

CARWARN and ARES Net controllers should note that the DTMF control codes have also changed. We're hopeful that OME will be returning to its normal healthy self in the near future.

Reaching Out To Young People

We're always looking for ways to promote Amateur Radio, particularly to young people who might become interested in taking up our hobby. With the start of the new school year, we will be renewing our offer to the Boy Scout and Girl Guide organizations in our area to:

- do presentations / demonstrations at group meetings
- assist with merits badge programs related to radio operation
- assist with on air events such as Guides On The Air (GOTA) and Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA)

We will need local Amateurs who are willing and able to assist with this activity and work with local young people. If you can help out, please contact any member of the executive.

LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB
30TH ANNUAL
2007 FLEAMARKET

Every year at the end of September, the London Amateur Radio Club sponsors a technology flea market.

This year the flea market will be held on Sunday Sept 23th at the "London Western Fair Grounds".

The flea market is extremely important to the club.

It is a major source of revenue and allows us to continue with our various functions and services without raising the membership dues or to put it another way, it stops us from closing the doors due to lack of funds.

The full brochure: http://www.larc.ca/flea_2007_flyer.pdf

Inquiries can be sent to: hamfest2007@hamster.foxhollow.ca

How to support YOUR flea market:

The most obvious way to support your hamfest is to **attend**. We charge a small admission for people to enter the flea market. Bring a friend or two. The standard ham-radio flea market of today contains several non-hamradio items and has the interest of a broader audience.

Rent a table. Many of you have high-quality, under-used equipment that is begging to be updated. Seize the opportunity to sell your old equipment and of course buy new stuff! Start cleaning out your closets and garages NOW and have your goods ready for sale on Sept 23th.

Another way to support the flea market is to **volunteer**. We need some people for various activities such as security and setup/teardown on the day of the hamfest. Please send me an email letting me know you are interested in helping.

The real measure of success of a flea market is what happens 'next' year. Many of the SW-Ontario area hamfests are dying due to lack of vendors which has the side-effect of buyers not willing to show-up in subsequent years. We are lucky because some large vendors such as Radioworld and Maple-Leaf Communications have already committed to be a vendor for our 2007 hamfest. Radioworld (and other larger commercial vendors) no longer appear at many of the 'smaller' hamfests which in essence was the last nail in the coffin of those hamfests.

Bring-and-Buy

Based on the success of last year's bring-and-buy table, we have decided to offer it again this year!

The situation:

Many people like to come to our hamfest and look around and have a good time.

Not many are willing to rent a table because they might only have 1 or 2 items for sale or they simply do not want to sit there all morning dealing with the endless stream of people asking the same questions over and over again.

<u>Solution:</u> This year the club will have a bring-and-buy table.

Here is how it works….

You do not rent a table but you come to the hamfest as a buyer. You also bring your 1 or 2 items and go the LARC table. We will take the item(s) and fill out a for-sale card that describes the item plus your asking price. It will cost you a loonie ($1) to leave your item on the club table. When the item sells, you will pay us 5% as a commission. If your item does not sell, you pick it up at the end of the hamfest and the only cost to you was the $1 that you left earlier in the day.

For example: If you asked us to sell your mobile radio, you might put a $200 price tag on the unit. You left a dollar behind as payment. When we sold your radio, we keep a total of 5% which is normally $10. Since you already paid a buck, we only keep $9 giving you back $191.00.

The rules are simple:

- We are only willing to sell one or two items per person. We are not trying to displace our normal table rentals.

- It costs a dollar per item to have it placed on our table

- We will retain 5% as a sales commission when the item sells.

- Please be reasonable with your pricing; it doesn't do either of us any good if you are asking an extremely high price for boat anchors. Radioworld is a good place to compare prices because they have both a new and used section on their webpage.

LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2007/8

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