

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London
And surrounding area since 1920

September 4, 2011

L.A.R.C. Executive

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Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Vice-President

David Lambert, VE3KKG

Past President

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Director

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Non-Voting

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Appointments

LARC Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

Repeater

Operator/Programmer

David Young, VE3EAY

Field Day Coordinator

Dave Lambert, VE3KKG

Webmaster

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

Auditors

Rob Hockin, VA3HO
William Clothier, VE3BCU

Next Meeting Topic

The next **LARC meeting** will be on **Thursday, September 8, 2011** at 7:30 PM. We will have a presentation by the **London Search and Rescue Unit 1182**. Those who took part in a frosty February SAR competition at the Fanshawe sugarbush will remember these folks, and the wide range of skills they maintain to be able to help our community when help is most needed.

Canadian Hams May Get Permanent 60 Meter Allocation This Fall

Canadian hams could have a permanent 60 meter allocation in the not to distant future. According to a news release by the Canadian national amateur radio society Radio Amateurs of Canada, telecommunications regulator Industry Canada has now informed the society that it responds favorably to its request for frequencies at 5 MHz on a no protection, non-interference basis.

The new spectrum would be included in the schedule of amateur frequencies update to be released for public consideration in the future. Comments will be considered by Industry Canada in preparation for the final version of the new frequency plan. Any new frequencies it contains would become available to Canadian amateurs at the time of its release. Thus, if all goes as expected, Canadian amateurs may expect to gain access to frequencies at 5 MHz that are basically the same as those in the United States, some time this fall. (RAC)

Next Meeting is Where and When?

Reminder: The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on September 8, 2011 at 7:30 pm

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

The meetings are **normally** held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm EST during the months of September to June.

Next Meeting will be October 13, 2011. This meeting will be a presentation by

Area Repeaters

LARC Repeaters

London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VE3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

Sort Repeaters

London

VE3TTT 147.180 + 114.8Hz
Echolink Node 10741

VE3SUE 444.400 + 114.8 Hz
IRLP Node 2400

VE3TTT 442.200 + D-Star

Ipperwash

VE3TCB 146.940 - 114.8 Hz
Linked to VE3SUE

Grand Bend

VE3SRT 442.050 + 114.8 Hz
Linked to VE3SUE

Other Area Repeaters

London

VA3SIX 53.470 - 114.8 Hz

VE3OME 145.450 - 114.8 Hz
CANWARN

VA3FEZ 444.100 + 114.8 Hz

Grand Bend

VE3RGB 146.760 + 173.8 Hz

Stratfordville

VE3DPL 146.655 - 131.8 Hz

St. Thomas

VE3STR 147.330 + 114.8 Hz
Echolink Node: 72886

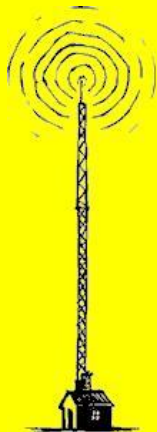
VE3STR 443.825 + 114.8 Hz
IRLP Node: 2482

Goderich

VE3OBC 146.910 - 123.0 Hz

Whitechurch

VE3WWD 443.075 + 123.0 Hz



If you have a repeater that should be listed here, please forward the information to John Visser, VA3MSV at va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll add it to the list.

Membership Certificates

The Club has created membership certificates for its current members. You can see your own certificate at the following link. <http://www.larc.ca/member-list.htm>

Simply click on your surname and it will bring up a PDF of your certificate suitable for printing.

Flaunt Your Face – Show Your Shack

In our hobby it's not always easy to put a face to all the fellow hams you talk to on the air. To help us all figure who's who, LARC invites its members to submit digital photos of yourself and/or your shack to be published on the membership page of our website. Purely voluntary of course, and if you prefer you can submit just one (depending on whether you think your face or your shack is more presentable).

How will it work? On the membership page, we'll attach your own picture where your first name appears, and the picture of your shack to your callsign. See the entry for Doug Elliott, VA3DAE for an example.

How do you submit your pictures?

Just email them to the LARC site webmaster address, which is: webmaster@larc.ca

Mutual Aid

Would you be willing to answer some questions if a fellow ham needed some advice? Got a problem you can't figure out? Want to try something new but need someone to show you the ropes? Check out our new **Mutual AID page** (<http://www.larc.ca/mutual-aid.html>), a new way to get people who are looking for assistance together with the folks who can help supply the answers. **Let us know** what you think of this new facility.

Membership Report

Currently the membership is at 122. As of the beginning of the 2010/2011 year we have gotten 20 new members to the club. Of the 17 Honorary Members brought in from the L.S.R.C., 3 have paid for the current 2010/2011 year. Unfortunately 3 past members of the club became a Silent Key this year.

Nets



Daily

Trans Provincial Net

7.055 MHz 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

London Senior's Net

146.400 MHz 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Sunday

Swap Net

7.055 MHz LSB 12:00 pm

ARES Ontario Net

7.153 MHz 1:00 pm

7.055 MHz 3:00 pm

3.742 MHz 7:15 pm

IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Monday

LARC 2m Net

147.060 MHz + 8:00 pm

Wednesday

ARES Net

145.450 + VE3OME 7:30 pm

ARES Ontario Net

IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Thursday

PROCOMM Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Friday

Tech Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Saturday

VE3TTT 2m Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 7:30 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 7:30 pm

146.940 - VE3TCB 7:30 pm

442.050 + VE3SRT 7:30 pm

If you have a Net that should be listed here, please forward the information to John Visser, VA3MSV at va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll add it to the list.

A Word from the President

New Year's Resolutions, Anyone?

Since the London Amateur Radio Club is starting a "new year" in September, maybe some new year's resolutions are in order. Personally, I have a long list of things I'd like to work on, and the challenge is to narrow it down to the top three to focus on. The top 3 might change over time, but for now, in no particular order they are:

- 1) Improve the website as a source of information on current ham activities, and the history of the club. This can be a time consumer, but it's a good investment in communications.
- 2) work towards my Advanced license. I've wanted to do this for a long time, but this year I hope to make it happen, and I invite the others interest in this to join in, and keep me on track.
- 3) Figure out the S8 background noise I'm getting on the HF bands in my shack. When I finally got ready to do a little more HF, I find that something isn't quite right, so there's detective work ahead.

How about you – what can you resolve to do to improve your Ham radio experience this year? Just in case you haven't already made your resolutions, I have some suggestions for you to consider:

Help a new ham learn the ropes. We have last year's ham course graduates just starting out, and this year's course now has 26 people registered. You can assist these people as they launch into our hobby by:

- giving a tour of your shack for one or 2 greenhorns, and answering the inevitable questions
- offering to take a new ham along next time you visit a Hamfest
- taking a turn being net control for the Elmer net we're trying to start up

Join in one of our community support activities:

- We'll likely be doing the MS Bike Tour again in late July
- The Search and Rescue people are talking about us helping at another bigger competition
- CANWARN severe weather spotting nets will continue through the winter

Drop by some of the regular nets:

- Monday at 8, Brian hosts the LARC net
- Monday at 9, is the Salvation Army SATERN net, from across Canada via IRLP
- Wednesday at 7:30 is the ARES net
- Thursday and Sunday at 8PM is the Ontario Provincial Communications Net
- Friday at 8PM is the Tech Net
- Saturday at 7:30PM is the Triple-T net

Whatever you decide to do for excitement in Ham radio, I hope you enjoy our great hobby.

Happy New Year!

Doug Elliott VA3DAE

President, London Amateur Radio Club

Upcoming Events

Sat., Sep. 10, 2011

Lake Simcoe Ham Radio & Hobby Show - Orillia ARC

ORO-MEDONTE Fairgrounds
Hwy # 400 North to Hwy 11
Open to Public at 8:00 am

Sat., Sep. 10, 2011

Ottawa Amateur Radio Club 15th Annual Hamfest - Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds
3832 Carp Road, Ottawa (Carp),
Ontario

Sun., Sep. 25, 2011

L.A.R.C. 34th Annual Flea Market - London Amateur Radio Club

Held in the Western Fairgrounds
Special Events Building, London,
Ontario
Open to Public at 9:00 am

Sat., Oct. 15, 2011

HARC Hamfest (Ancaster) - Hamilton Amateur Radio Club

Ancaster Fair Grounds
630 Trinity Road, Ancaster, ON
Open to Public at 9:00 am

Sat., Nov. 5, 2011

YORK REGION ARC HAMFEST 2011 - 35th Edition - York Region ARC

Markham Fairgrounds are located
at 10801 McGowan Road
Open to Public at 9:00 am

Sun., Jun. 3, 2011

Central Ontario Hamfest & Fleamarket - Guelph ARC & Kitchener-Waterloo ARC

Waterloo Regional Police
Association Recreation Centre
R.R. 2, 1128 Rife Rd. North
Dumfries Township

Every Saturday Morning starting
at 8:30 am.

Breakfast at the Cottage
Restaurant. Located across the
street from the London Police
Station on Dundas St.

If you have an upcoming event
that you would like to have
listed here, please forward the
information to John Visser,
VA3MSV at
va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll
add it to the list.

RAC Bulletin 2011-024E – RAC Task Force to Seek an Exemption for Ontario Amateurs.

August 9, 2011

At its Annual General Meeting in St. John's, Newfoundland, Radio Amateurs of Canada announced that a task force has been formed to seek a permanent exemption for Ontario Amateurs from the ban on operating mobile devices in a vehicle under Article 5 in Ontario Regulation 366/09 made under the Highway Traffic Act. It is also commonly known as the Distracted Driving Legislation. The ban would take effect on January 1, 2013.

The task force is composed of Steve Pengelly, VE3STV, Former Honorary Legal Counsel, Ian Snow, VA3QT, Special Advisor to RAC, Jeff Stewart, VA3WXM, Southern Ontario Regional Director, Marcel Mongeon, Honorary Legal Counsel, VA3DDD, Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW, President and Chair RAC, and ex officio to the Task Force. It is chaired by Bill Unger, VE3XT, Ontario North/East Director.

The Task Force has already obtained letters of support from groups that we assist ranging from hospitals, communities, agencies and NGO's. All of the letters indicate that limiting Radio Amateurs. ability to provide communications while mobile would not be in the Ontario's best interests. If you would like to submit a letter of support from an external group to the RAC Task Force, please contact the chair Bill Unger.

The Task Force will present the letters as part of our case to Kathleen Wynne, Ontario's Minister of Transportation, that Amateur Radio operators in Ontario should be exempt from this regulation. The objective of the Distracted Driving Task Force is to convince the Ontario Government that the regulation, as currently written, will actually decrease public safety in Ontario.

Amateur Radio Operators provide countless hours of public service work in their communities and by doing so we are prepared to assist with communications in the event of an overload or total failure or the existing telecommunications infrastructure. The change in the regulations that RAC will request, would align Ontario with seven other provinces and one territory that have introduced exemptions which allow Amateurs to operate while mobile.

The RAC Task Force will shortly initiate discussions with officials in the Minister's Office on the need for this regulatory change. Information on the progress will be updated through the RAC Bulletin system, TCA or the RAC Report. If you are interested in assisting please contact Bill Unger, VE3XT at ve3xt@rac.ca

Bill Unger, VE3XT

RAC Director – Ontario North/East

Chair: Task Force – Distracted Driving Legislation/Bill 118

**COME OUT AND JOIN US FOR THE
34TH ANNUAL
LARC FLEA MARKET
SUN. SEPT, 25TH
9AM TO 1PM**



YOU WILL FIND GREAT BARGAINS



**SEE SOME OLD FRIENDS AND
MAKE SOME NEW ONES**



**WE ALSO HAVE SOME GREAT VENDORS
INCLUDING**

**RADIOWORLD
DURHAM RADIO
MAPLE LEAF
A-1 COUNTERPARTS**

**WE ARE LOCATED AT
THE SPECIAL EVENTS BUILDING
ON THE WESTERN FAIR GROUNDS**

Using Bob HKY's Home Brew Dipole in the Real World.

By Dave Lambert, VE3K GK



As some of you will know, I recently spent eight weeks at home after spending two weeks in hospital with a couple of surgeries. One was knee replacement surgery, which initially limited my movement around the house and the other was more serious, a nasty infection, resulting in a 36 pound loss of weight and a general lack of strength to do too much.

John Pederson, VE3MGR, kindly loaned me his Yaesu 857 radio and Doug Elliott, VA3DAE came over and helped me get it on the air. Bob Rice, VE3HKY, generously loaned me his dipole antenna, an antenna he designed and built himself for travel purposes. If you are familiar with the commercially available Buddipole antenna, Bob's antenna might be called similar but it differs in many respects, and it is rugged enough to be left outside in any weather. For those of you who are members of the London Amateur Radio Club and who attend meetings you will likely have seen Bob's presentation of his antenna at a club meeting in July. Bob also has a DVD which chronicles the building of the antenna.

Briefly, it is constructed of two four foot lengths of one inch aluminum tubing, connected to tapped coils wound over $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (1" o.d.) PVC conduit forms. On the outer ends there are telescopic automobile whip antennas that can be adjusted for tuning. The center insulator is a plastic octagonal electrical

box available at a hardware store. There is also a balun wound onto a 3 inch diameter PVC pipe. A picture of the antenna accompanies this article.

Bob kindly came over and helped me; well, he did all the work and I watched, as he set up the antenna in my back yard. I figured 20 meters would be my band of choice so the antenna was measured and tuned for the center of the 20 meter phone band. I'm just not big on CW contacts! Great SWR across the band with no tuner necessary.

Having a radio in the living room, (yes, my wife took pity on me as going downstairs to my much loved Kenwood TS 870 was not on the cards with my knee) where I could sit and see what was out there on 20 meters gave me something to pass my days. The band opened up into Europe most afternoons around 1900 GMT so I'd sit and see if I could make some contacts. I learned to be patient trying to work what I could hear as I was running only 100 watts. To me that is almost QRP as I have a Drake L4 B and a Cushcraft A4 at 55 feet which together sort of clobber most pile-ups!

I had pretty good success working Europe and Russia and I was pleasantly surprised at the reports I was getting back. Many were 5/9 and one or two were 5/7. I talked to one Belgian who told me he was running nine elements at 18 meters. He then asked what I was using for an antenna and I replied, "I don't really want to tell you." He persisted so I told him I was running a home brew aluminum dipole at about 2 meters above the ground. His reply was "Why do we spend so much money on antennas. You are coming in here a nice five and nine."

I worked a 24 hour European contest and had no problems getting through many times on the first or second call even when others were calling. I was impressed.

Now, I've been working DX long enough to know that there is good luck and bad luck

when you are working a DX station where several stations are calling at the same time. I've also learned that there are some tricks one learns after listening to how the station I want to work is operating to be successful in making the contact. I seldom (almost never) jump in until I've listened for a while unless the station

is calling "CQ" and no one is answering. I am a firm believer in the DX Code of Conduct (a document that can be found on the Internet,) and if more operators would read that and adhere to it the bands would be a more civil place to be.



There is nothing that will stir up the self-appointed "policemen" during a DX-pedition as much as some lid who hears a station working split frequency calling for contacts, and who did not listen before throwing in his call with all 2000 watts of power right on the DX station's transmitting frequency. "He's working split, you moron!" is one of the more polite remarks you will hear. I do not believe in being a policeman and the only time I'd transmit intentionally on the DX station's transmit frequency is if someone asked if the frequency is in use. This can happen quite unintentionally, and such a ham is being thoughtful of others and does not deserve being yelled at. A quick "Yes it is. Thanks for

asking" will move that person off frequency with no hurt feelings.

The DX Code of Conduct asks that you give your call sign the same way each time you call. Don't mix up your phonetics, as this can throw the DX operator off. It also asks that you do not keep repeating your call several times before listening to see if the DX station is calling you back. Now, some phonetics are more likely to net you a contact than others. It is nice if your call sign has a letter or two in it that has some phonetic "punch". Letters with hard consonants work well, and I use "kilowatt" rather than the softer sounding "kilo" for the added punch at the end. It may be plain good luck but I've worked lots of rare DX using "Victor Echo Three Kilowatt Golf Kilowatt:

and had the DX station hear only the last "kilowatt". Of course, when VE3GK up in Ottawa was alive if I knew he was on and calling I'd have to use a little different strategy since as soon as the DX station would call for the "ending kilowatt go ahead" in order to get in there I'd have to transmit slightly longer than VE3GK so the DX station would hear me and say "OK, I've got two kilowatts in there. Kilowatt Golf Kilowatt, go please" and I'd give my full call sign and my report. Then he'd pick up VE3GK. When you are running one tenth of the power of a station with a similar call with a lot less antenna you have to figure out how to get in there!! Remember, working rare DX can be a WAR!

Very recently a new DXCC entity came on the air. Southern Sudan voted a few months ago to become separate from the rest of Sudan and the ARRL gave Southern Sudan new country status. This is the toughest DX challenge since ALL DX er's world-wide will need the "new one". Talk about a war!! Late last month several hams from various countries put together a DX-pedition to Southern Sudan and put it on the air with the call ST0 R. The operators were running as many as five stations at a time on various bands. With my Yaesu 857 and HKY's dipole I could only hear them on 20 meters, although I did hear them once on 18.150, but certainly not loud enough to work. They were transmitting on 14.145 and listening generally at 14.200 to 14.210. I listened for several days and noticed that they'd start coming in at 5/4 with an S3 noise level at around 1945 GMT each day. By 2100 GMT they'd be getting up around 5/8 to 5/9. Maybe I'd have a chance of working them. The pile-ups were HUGE, and the band was open to North America, as well as Europe at the same time so it was going to be tough. As much as I listened I just could not figure out some of the operating patterns. Every DX operator has a pattern, whether it be that he starts at 14.200 and slowly goes up to 14.210 and then works back down to 14.200 or jumps from 14.210 back down to 14.200 and sweeps up again or he jumps around randomly looking for calls he can hear clearly. If you can figure

the pattern your chances of success are greater. I also figured that the pile-up would thin out more as each day passed. I checked daily and it always seemed to be wall to wall.

On August 4 I listened on 14.145 and heard this operator who was VERY sharp. He was calling "CQ ST0 R, listening 14.200 to 205" That was different, but I prefer that. When an operator is working that small an amount of the frequency, figuring his operating pattern is much easier as you have only 5 kc to listen to so you can more easily figure out what he is doing.

Now I'm told that below ten feet a dipole antenna is omni-directional. I had the antenna set up pointing about 60 degrees north east, and Africa with a beam would be nearer 90 degrees from north at my location. I decided that turning the antenna to ninety degrees certainly should not hurt so I went out and did that. I came back in, listened for a couple of minutes, and set my transmit frequency at 14.200.30, listening at 14.145.

"This is ST0 R listening 200 to 205."

"Victor Echo Three Kilowatt Golf Kilowatt."

"The station ending Kilowatt, go please."

"Victor Echo Three Kilowatt Golf Kilowatt"

"Victor Echo Three Kilowatt Something Kilowatt, your full call please."

Victor Echo Three Kilowatt GOLF Kilowatt."

Victor Echo Three Kilowatt Golf Kilowatt, you're fifty nine. QSL?

I looked over at my wife who was smiling as much as I was, as she listened to her crazy ham husband, knowing the adrenalin rush he was having.

"ST0 R, QSL the fifty nine. You are also fifty nine. Thank you."

I'm sitting there, mic in hand, with this silly grin on my face. I'd just put all my faith in an antenna that many had said was a rag chewing only antenna and had little chance of breaking a DX-pedition pile-up and I'd just done it! I'd memorized the time so I made my paper log

entry and just sat there wondering if I was dreaming. My wife assured me I was not since she heard the whole exchange. My next move was to call Bob VE3HKY and tell him that as much as I'd believed in his antenna before, to me the true test of an antenna is if it can work a DX-pedition pile up. Was it a fluke? Maybe, but I do not think so. There is always an element of luck in working such a pile-up, and some of it is technique. I guess I must have some technique as I've now worked 330 countries, but without a reasonable antenna all the technique in the world is not worth anything. The distance from my QTH to ST0 R's QTH is some 11,500 kilometers. The fact that the operator on the other end did not have my call correct from the very first part of the contact suggests to me that other stations were calling him on that frequency or very near to it as well as I was, but that antenna made it through the QRM. Was I genuinely 5/9? Who knows? All DX-peditions will give you 5/9 as a matter of course (it makes writing up the thousands of QSL cards they send out so much easier since they do not have to search a log to see what report you were given.) But the fact is that I made the contact even if I was 5/5. That antenna which is not supposed to be able to do what it did, in fact did it! It sent a signal all those kilometers that made it through some QRM and was received intelligibly in Southern Sudan. The next afternoon I went to the ST0 R website and checked the log box. Sure enough, VE3KGK was confirmed on 20 meter SSB!

Would I be able to work every country with this antenna? Who knows? Such countries as Laos and Vietnam are tough sledding from here even with a thousand watts, and a six element beam at 55 feet, so I'd say if the dipole cannot make that contact that would not be an indictment of the antenna as relatively few antennas will make it anyway. That's not to say those countries are not workable from here. They are, but they take a lot of luck and exactly the right conditions to get them into your log.

How good is this antenna? Let me say this. As an operator who has ALWAYS had a beam antenna at 55 feet, would I be happy with this antenna? Yes, I would. Beams on towers are very nice when you are young enough to work on them yourself, but it is becoming increasingly difficult to find hams who climb towers anymore, and if you have to pay for a commercial climber/rigger it could start getting expensive. Also, with more people thinking in terms of condo living of one sort or another, an antenna like this allows some stealth operating that can keep you rag-chewing for hours. I have a covered front porch and I set up this antenna on the porch at 7.5 feet under the roof overhang (my house faces south) and I worked Italy at 5/9 both ways. This antenna could go in an attic, or on a balcony and provide lots of contacts around the world. I know I'll be building one for sure.

David Lambert, VE3KGK.

Heathkit Says It Is Returning To The Kit Supply Marketplace

August 19, 2011

Heathkit says it is re-entering the kit business that it abandoned almost two decades ago. In an announcement posted to its [www dot heathkit dot com](http://www.heathkit.com) website, Heathkit Educational Systems which is the current name for the company states that in late August the company will debut its new line of do-it-yourself kits for common around-the-house items.

Don't look for ham radio gear to be a top priority even though the word on the street is that kits for the amateur radio market may be down the pike. Right now the company is starting off with more general interest kits with their first entry being a Garage Parking Assistant or GPA for short. The Garage Parking assistant kit lets someone build their own system that uses ultrasonic sound to locate a car as it enters the garage. The system signals to the driver using LED lights mounted on the wall when the car is detected and in the perfect spot for parking. Next on the market will be a Wireless Swimming Pool Monitor kit followed by many more novel items.

For those of you too young to remember, it was on March 30, 1992, that the then managers of Heathkit announced that after some 45 years the company was closing out its kits and leaving the business. In its hey-day, Heathkits were products of the Heath Company of Benton Harbor, Michigan. Their build it yourself product line included everything from electronic test equipment to high fidelity home audio equipment, television receivers, and of course amateur radio gear. It was the emergence and subsequent domination of the world electronic marketplace by Pacific Rim manufacturers who could produce and market completely assembled equipment at prices far less than Heathkit or anyone else could supply a do it yourself version that led to the demise of names like Eico, Paco, and of course Heathkit.

So why has Heathkit decided to re-enter the kit market? To hazard a guess you have to

remember that the current incarnation of Heathkit is an educational materials supplier. As such it has likely taken notice of the burgeoning maker and hacker community. This is an ever expanding group of technology hobbyist's world wide that in recent years has grown into a multi-million dollar business opportunity for those smart enough to recognize it and are ready to fill the void. These are also the people that many believe will be the next generation of technology leaders and radio amateurs.

The Heathkit announcement says nothing about the business rationale for going back into the kit supply business but it does state that the company wants to bring to its customers interesting and unique products. As such it is interested in learning what types of products that kit builders would like to see brought to the marketplace. Anyone interested can submit their suggestions by mail addressed to 2024 Hawthorne Avenue St. Joseph, Michigan, 49085 or at www.heathkit.com. (ARNewsline™ with some information supplied by KC8VWM, N4OZ and others.)

HEATHKIT NEWS

You The kit Builders have Spoken!

Thank you for your overwhelming response to our announcement that Heathkit is back into the Do-it-Yourself kits business. We received many great suggestions for kits you would like to build.

We will be releasing Garage Parking Assistant kit (GPA-100) in late September and soon after the Wireless Swimming Pool Monitor kit will be available.

Based on your input, we are looking at developing amateur radio kits. Our goal is to have kits available by the end of year.

Please keep your suggestions coming so that we can continue to bring you interesting, unique Heathkit products.

2011 YHOTY Award Presented To Kaitlyn S. Cole, KS3P

August 26 2011

Saturday, August 20th was a big day in the life of 11 year old Kaitlyn Cole, KS3P. At the 2011 Huntsville Hamfest, Kaitlyn was presented with this years Amateur Radio Newsline Young Ham of the Year Award. Reading from a prepared statement, Kaitlyn had quite a story to tell about her involvement in the tornadoes that ravaged her home state and her decision to try to help those in need:



KS3P: "When the tornado struck on April 27th, I was very scared. We had no power and the phone was dead. I did not know how lucky we were until my parents took us out driving around our community.

"Some of my neighbors had lost everything or had their lives cut short by the tornadoes that struck. It was not some far off event on the news. This was personal to me.

"I didn't think a young ham like myself could do much, especially an 11 year old elementary student. My dad took me down to a command post in a Huntsville church. We signed some release forms and were given wrist bands. We then met up with Charlie, W1CST. Charlie gave me a chance to operate and provided guidance. It was really overwhelming at first because I was completely new to doing net control in a real emergency.

"At the time, I knew I was helping out but didn't think much about it because there were so many hams working. For me it was a way to cope with the devastation and to give something back to my community."

Kaitlyn also shared her ham radio dreams of the future with the assembled crowd:

KS3P: "With amateur radio my goals and opportunities keep expanding. I've accomplished some of my goals but not all.

"I hope in the future to act as a DX station and not just work DX at home.

"I hope to do more videos on YouTube to encourage more youth into the hobby and to work some modes I have not yet tried.

"The sky is the limit with ham radio."

I had the honor of emceeding this year's award ceremony along with representatives of corporate underwriters Vertex-Standard, CQ Publishing and Heil Sound. And it was likely Rich Moseson, W2VU of CQ, who summed it up best as to why Kaitlyn was chosen as this year's award recipient.

W2VU: "Looking over the nomination for Kaitlyn this year the thing that jumped out at me were that an 11 year old – no go back to age 9 – and your typical 8 year old ham going to the Dayton Hamvention® and going to the Dayton Youth Lounge would be going there to do things and be guided by older young hams in things to do. But not Kaitlyn. She was there to help run the booth.

"And this spring with the tornadoes that hit here. Your average young ham might be helping out in the field or something like that, but Kaitlyn was net control.

"So, she is yet another example of those young hams who are head and shoulders above everyone else which has always been the defining qualification for this award."

All in all it was a great afternoon to honor a very giving young woman who even though she is only age 11 has proven that hams of any age are ready and willing to serve their community in times of need. As such, we join with our corporate underwriters and with the Huntsville Hamfest in congratulating Kaitlyn S. Cole, KS3P, for her dedication to the hobby, to the community and really to all of mankind. (ARNewsline™)

East Coast Quake Points Out Fragile Cellphone Infrastructure

August 26, 2011

Although amateur radio emergency communications was not particularly needed following a 5.8 earthquake that shook most of the east coast on Tuesday, August 23rd, the event did point out how fragile the public's personal communications infrastructure really is. Especially the aspect that deals with cellular telephones.

According to several news reports, cellular telephone service was crippled for a short time following the temblor that was centered near Mineral, Virginia. Verizon Wireless admitted that its service was slow for about 20 minutes after the quake struck just before 2 p.m. Eastern time. AT&T and Sprint also report very heavy call volume as East coast residents dealt with Virginia's strongest earthquake since 1897. The three companies say service was compromised because millions of people were making calls at the same time.

Also, according to K3VSA at least one public announcement went out from the FEMA that said due to overload of cell phone usage, there are reports of cell phone congestion. As such it was requested by cellular carriers that members of the public use e-mail or text messages if possible to communicate for the next few hours, except in cases of emergency. This so that emergency officials can continue to receive and respond to urgent calls.

However one story reported by KADI radio pointed out that even though the cellular carriers could not deliver the level of service the public expected that ham radio operators had no problems contacting one another. The KADI report also noted that this once again proves that ham radio still works in emergencies when all other means of communication fail. (ARNewsline™, K3VSA, K0ADI via the PR Reflector)

New WSJT EME Record Claimed

August 12 2011

What's believed to be a new digital EME record on 2 meters was set at 20:20 UTC on August 3rd. This when Allan Saul, ZS1LS, in Sunset Beach, South Africa and Jeremy Alexander, W7EME, in operating portable KH6 in Hawaii established a new South African Radio League record of 18,383 Kilometers between the two terrestrial stations.

The contact was established using WSJT during a small window close to moonset in South Africa and only 7 degrees of moonrise in Hawaii. Signal reports varied between minus

26 dB and minus 31 dB below S zero. Signals that would not be audible to the human ear but which are decodable using WSJT.

For those who never have tried it, WSJT is a digital noise reduction program used for weak-signal radio communication written by Joe Taylor, K1JT. The digital signal processing techniques in WSJT make it substantially easier for radio amateurs to enjoy esoteric propagation modes, such as high speed meteor scatter and moon bounce to name only two. (SARL, Southgate)

LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

34rd ANNUAL
2011 FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY, SEPT. 25th
9.00 AM TO 1.00 PM

VENDOR SETUP: 7:30 AM

BOOK EARLY AND SAVE ON ADMISSION

ADMISSION: \$6.00, (Age 10 and up)

TABLES: \$ 10.00



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WESTERN FAIR GROUNDS
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LONDON, ONTARIO



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Wheelchair Accessible with Handicap Washrooms

Bring & Buy: Let LARC sell your item(s) at our club table.
{2 items max} INFO: <http://www.larc.ca/larctable.html>

Inquiries: Email
LARCchamfest@gmail.com
Note: All email answered within 72 hrs
Phone: (519) 455-9465 (Ruth)

Make Cheque or Money Order Payable to
"London Amateur Radio Club Inc"
(not to Ruth Dahl) and mail to:
Ruth Dahl VE3RBO
Apt #805 700 Wonderland Rd N
London ON N6H 4V3

ATTENTION FLEA MARKET VENDOR

Book early, tables are booked on first come first served basis. Loading door available. We do not reserve unpaid tables. No separate hydro for tables BUT there will be a test table with power for seller demonstrations. Only two vendors passes allowed per vendor prior to doors opening on the day of the flea market. Vendor passes will not be sold without table sales. Table information and site Map will be sent to you in your vendor's conformation package.

***Book early (before Aug 1st) and 1 vendor admission is reduced to \$ 4**

Name: _____ Admission(s) x \$ 6 (\$ 4) _____

Callsign: _____ Table(s): x \$ 10 _____

Total: = _____

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____ City _____ PO code _____

Phone: _____

Talk in VA3LON, 147.060 PL 114.8

N 42.9876 W 81.2213



MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

-- Membership application and dues are currently requested.

Our term of membership runs from October 1 to September 30 of the following year. Each and every year it is increasingly more difficult to get Amateurs to commit to membership in their local club due to the alternate functions we are asked to fund.

*The **London Amateur Radio Club** has a long history of providing technical support, social support and repeater facilities. Public service efforts are currently provided by a club affiliation with Amateur Radio Emergency Services (**ARES**) and **Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)**.*

Your Directors work tirelessly to provide meeting topics that are informative and entertaining, events that are timely (Christmas meeting, field day, bus trip) and participate in events that display and promote Amateur Radio in the community.

To be effective in its pursuits, the Club needs the support of the local Amateur fraternity through membership.

While we obtain financial support from our Annual Flea Market, we require membership support to fund such things as meeting hall rent, repeater sites rent and maintenance, web site fees, membership cards and liability insurance. For what it's worth, none of these things are getting any cheaper.

The cost of membership has not changed for a number of years and even in the face of increased cost, we would like to keep it that way.

With more than 1000 'hams' in the London area, it's inconceivable that less than 10% support a pastime about which most of us are passionate.

PLEASE, make a choice and do your part to keep the **London Amateur Radio Club** alive and well by purchasing your membership at our next meeting (or by mail – details on our web site). The cost is still only \$25.00 (single) or \$30.00 (family residing at the same address).



Office Use Only	
<input type="checkbox"/> Paid _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Chq	
Membership Card	
<input type="checkbox"/> Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Rec'd	
Sticker	
<input type="checkbox"/> Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Rec'd	

**LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

PLEASE PRINT

<input type="checkbox"/> SINGLE MEMBERSHIP: \$25.00	<input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL
<input type="checkbox"/> FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBER

Member # 1	Last Name _____	First Name _____	Call Sign _____
	RAC Member? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	RAC Member # _____	ARES Volunteer? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		Email Address _____	

Member # 2	Last Name _____	First Name _____	Call Sign _____
	RAC Member? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	RAC Member # _____	ARES Volunteer? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		Email Address _____	

Member # 3	Last Name _____	First Name _____	Call Sign _____
	RAC Member? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	RAC Member # _____	ARES Volunteer? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		Email Address _____	

Member # 4	Last Name _____	First Name _____	Call Sign _____
	RAC Member? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes	RAC Member # _____	ARES Volunteer? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
		Email Address _____	

Address: _____

Street/P.O. Box

City/Town _____	Province _____	Postal Code _____
-----------------	----------------	-------------------

Phone Number _____

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, VA3MSV
P.O. Box 82, Station B
London, Ontario, N6A 4V3