

# Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London  
And surrounding area since 1920

May 3, 2014

## L.A.R.C. Executive

### President

David Lambert, VE3KGK

### Vice-President, Membership

John Visser, VA3MSV

### Past President

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

### Treasurer

Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB

### Secretary, Flea Market

Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO

### Director

Ann Rundle, VA3EOR

### Director, Repeaters

Mike Watts, VE3ACW

### Director

Mark Bramwell, VE3PZR

### Non-Voting

#### ARES Representative

Ken Brightling, VE3ETP

#### CanWarn Representative

Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG

### Appointments

#### Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

#### Repeater Tech Support

John Visser, VE3FDV

#### Field Day Coordinator

David Lambert, VE3KGK

### Webmasters

Jim Morris, VA3AHQ

Tom Pillon, VE3HOR

Simon Wilton, VA3SII/G7HCD

### Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

### Auditor

Rob Hockin, VA3HO

## April L.A.R.C. Meeting

The next L.A.R.C. meeting will be held on **May 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm.** This will be our Annual General Meeting which will possibly including an election of directors to the L.A.R.C. Executive.

## RAC Bulletin 2014-013E - Invitation to All Amateur Radio Operators ...Consultation on Federal Regulatory Issues of Interest to Amateurs

April 15, 2014

The Radio Amateurs of Canada meets on a regular basis with Industry Canada on issues of interest to amateur radio operators. Over the years issues such as requirements for operator certification, amateur frequency spectrum, items for inclusion in World Radio Conferences, antenna management issues, spectrum intrusion and other matters have been raised with Industry Canada by RAC.

The Radio Amateurs of Canada is seeking input from amateur radio operators on developing an inventory of issues that should be raised with Industry Canada for resolution. The Radio Amateurs of Canada represents and advocates for all amateurs to our federal regulator but provides services to our members only.

Your input can be by email or hardcopy. Items raised by amateurs may be published in RAC Report with personal identifiers removed.

RAC is looking for your immediate input. Email and hardcopy to be sent to our office.

RAC

720 Belfast Road. Unit 217

Ottawa ON K1G 0Z5

[rachq@rac.ca](mailto:rachq@rac.ca)

Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW - President and Chair, Radio Amateurs of Canada

## Next Meeting is Where and When?

**Reminder: The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on May 8, 2014 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 June 12, 2014. We will be discussing Field Day including a little training on the logging program.

## Area Repeaters

### LARC Repeaters

#### London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VA3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

Currently off the air for  
maintenance

### SHORT Repeaters

#### London

VE3GYQ 145.350 - 114.8Hz

VE3TTT 147.180 + 114.8Hz

IRLP Node 2400

Echolink Node 10741

VE3SUE 444.400 + 114.8 Hz

ALLSTAR Node 2416

VE3TTT 442.300 + 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

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

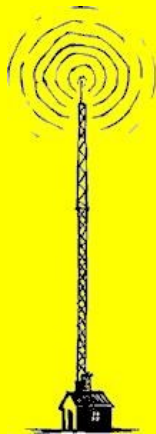
#### St. Thomas

VE3STR 147.330 + 114.8 Hz

Echolink Node: 72886

VE3STR 443.825 + 114.8 Hz

IRLP Node: 2482



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

## Membership Certificates

The Club has created membership certificates for its current members. This feature is still a work in progress with the new website.

## 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).

I am not sure we will continue this feature with the member list. Few members submitted a pic of their shack for others to see on the web site.

## 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?

I think we have plans to continue this service. Still a work in progress I think.

## Membership Report

A new membership year has begun.

Currently the L.A.R.C. membership stands at 99 members with 10 of them being new members.

The following is a list of new member for the 2013/2014 Membership Year with the date that they joined L.A.R.C.

Bill Ambler, VE3CFY	Oct 10, 13
Jim Ballantine, VA3JBY	Jun 11, 13
Brian Coleman, VE3DTM	Sep 12, 13
Jay Gall, SWL	Apr 11, 13
John Hood, VE3VJH	Sep 12, 13
Jim Morris, VA3AHQ	Sep 12, 13
Martin Southcott, VA3MRS	May 31, 13
Brian Wilkins, VA3OPT	Jun 13, 13
John Young, VE3ZJY	Sep 12, 13
James Hodgson, VE3HOV	Mar 13, 14

## Nets



### Daily

#### ONTARS Net

3.755 MHz 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### Trans Provincial Net

7.055 MHz 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

#### London Senior's Net (JO Net)

146.400 MHz 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

### Sunday

#### 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 + VA3LON 8:00 pm

#### SATERN Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 9:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 9:00 pm

### Tuesday

#### ELMER Net

147.060 + VA3LON 9:00 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

# 2013/2014 L.A.R.C. Executive Elections

It is that time of year again for us to think about the lineup for the club's executive members for 2013-2014.

Every May we decide who will be responsible for the handling of the money, physical resources, and determining the future direction of the club.

The club's executive requires at least 7 members each year and if you are interested, we request that you make yourself available one night per month to go over club business.

Some of us have been on the executive for several years and enjoy the experience.

We have some simple rules

1. Any current member of the club can request to be a member of the club's executive and added to the ballot.
2. Only members in good standing can vote (must be a paid member)
3. We must have a quorum (at least 25 members in good standing) in order to hold a valid election.

Some of the activities that require planning, coordination or at least some monthly discussions: Monthly meeting topics, fund raising, flea market, field day, repeaters & other equipment, extra activities.

We currently meet the 4th Thursday of the month from 7:30 pm to about 9:00 pm. All club members are invited to attend any executive meeting. If you have some interest but are unsure, and want to come and see what we do, just check with one of the executive as to where we are meeting.

The next page is a snip from the club's by-laws that specifically deal with the election process.

## Upcoming Events

**Thu., May 8, 2014**

[London Amateur Radio Club  
General Meeting](#) – London ARC  
St. Judes Church, Southwest corner  
of Adelaide Rd. N. and Fanshawe Park  
Rd., London, Ontario

**Sat., Jun. 7, 2014**

[London Vintage Radio Club  
Flea Market](#) - London Vintage  
Radio Club

Held outdoors at the Hammond  
Manufacturing Ltd parking lot. 394  
Edinburgh Rd. North, Guelph (at corner  
of Speedvale and Edinburgh) Open at  
7:00am

**Thu., Jun. 12, 2014**

[London Amateur Radio Club  
General Meeting](#) – London ARC  
St. Judes Church, Southwest corner  
of Adelaide Rd. N. and Fanshawe Park  
Rd., London, Ontario

**Sat., Jun. 28, 2014 to**

**Sun., Jun 29, 2014**

[Field Day 2014](#) – Various Clubs  
and Individuals

**Sat., Jul. 12, 2013**

[ONTARIO HAMFEST - 40th  
Anniversary](#) – Burlington ARC  
Milton Agricultural Fairgrounds, Milton,  
ON. Doors open to public at 9:00 am

**Sat., Aug. 23, 2014**

**6th Annual Junk-in-the-Trunk  
Event** – Ontario Swap Shop  
Newmarket Theatre, 505 Pickering  
Crescent, Newmarket, ON

**Sun., Sep. 21, 2014**

[London Amateur Radio Club  
37th Annual Hamfest](#) – London  
Amateur Radio Club  
Hellenic Community Centre,  
133 Southdale Rd. W., London, ON

**Sat., Nov. 1, 2014**

[The 38th Annual York Region  
Hamfest](#) - York Region ARC  
Markham Fairgrounds, 10801 McCowan  
Rd., Markham, ON

### 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](mailto:va3msv@hotmail.com) and I'll  
add it to the list.

# 2013/2014 L.A.R.C. Executive Elections

## *from the LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED - BY-LAW #1*

3. Board of Directors
  - 3.1 The day-to-day affairs of the Corporation shall be arranged by a Board of Directors composed of 7 selected Directors, 1 non-voting Director appointed by the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (A.R.E.S.) and the Past President of the Corporation.
  - 3.3 To be eligible to stand for election to the Board of Directors one must be a member in good standing for at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting at which members of the Board of Directors will be elected.  
***This year's Annual Meeting will be held May 8, 2014***
  - 3.4 A Nominating Committee shall be struck by the President at least 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting and it shall begin its activities immediately upon being appointed.
    - 3.4.1 The Committee shall be composed of three members in good standing. The Past President shall be the Chairperson of the Committee.
  - 3.5 The recommendations of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Board of Directors. The Board shall cause such report to be published in the L.A.R.C. Newsletter, which will be sent to all members in good standing as notice of the Annual Meeting. Such report shall also outline the procedure pertaining to additional nominations.
  - 3.6 Additional nominations may be made at the Annual Meeting. Nominees must be nominated and seconded. The nominee must accept and then placed on the ballot. All must be members in good standing for at least the last 30 days.
  - 3.7 The election of the Board of the Directors shall take place at the Annual Meeting of LARC. The Directors shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the members present and/or signed proxies. The newly elected Directors shall take office once the election has been completed and the new directors declared elected.

Please contact the L.A.R.C. Secretary Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO, if you have any nominees or questions. You can reach me at [ragann61@hotmail.com](mailto:ragann61@hotmail.com).

Proxy Forms on the last page of this document.

## DX Corner

By David Lambert, VE3KGK

until May 15	Mallorca Island	ON4LO/EA6	40m – 10m SSB
until May 15	Dominican Republic	DL4SDW/HI9	HF bands CW
Apr 27 to May 5	Ogasawara	JD1BLY	40m – 10m SSB/CW/Digital
Apr 27 to May 11	Ogasawara	JD1BMH	40m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
Apr 30 to May 6	Aves Island	YW0A	DXpedition - Cancelled until further notice
Apr 30 to May 15	Corsica	TK1R	Focus on WARC bands
May 2 to May 25	Mauritius	3B8	40m – 6m SSB/Digital
May 2 to May 28	Mauritius	3B8	40m – 6m SSB & digital
May 3 to May 11	Dodecanese	SX5LA	160m – 6m CW/SSB/RTTY
May 3 to May 12	Ogasawara	JD1YBT	All bands/modes
May 4 to May 18	Liechtenstein	HB0DRK	80m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY/PSK31
May 5 to May 9	Greenland	OX3LX	CW spare time operation
May 5 to May 20	Guadeloupe	T60A	40m – 10m CW/SSB holiday style operation
May 6 to May 11	Marianas	NH0J	80m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
May 6 to May 16	Crete	SW9XB	RTTY
May 6 to May 21	Malawi	7Q7VW	160m – 6m CW/SSB/RTTY
May 7 to May 14	Cyprus	5B	CW
May 7 to May 15	Antigua	V25	40m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
May 7 to May 18	French Polynesia	FO	80m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
May 9 to May 15	Micronesia	V650XG	40m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
May 10 to May 31	Dominican Republic	OT4R/HI7	20m & 10m SSB
May 11 to May 22	Iceland	TF	40m – 10m SSB/Digital holiday style
May 12 to May 18	Isle of Mull	F4FET	maritime mobile & portable HF bands
May 14 for 1 day	Faroe Is	OY	HF SSB
May 14 to May 17	Micronesia	V63FSK	20m – 10m PSK31/JT65A
May 15 to May 25	French Guiana	FY	80m – 10m CW/SSB
May 16 to May 18	Botswana	A25GF	40m – 10m maybe 6m
May 16 to May 19	Palau	T88FA & T88TH	
May 18 to June 10	Malawi	7QNL	80m – 10m CW/SSB (CW contest call)
May 19 to May 23	Zimbabwe	Z21GF	40m – 10m
May 22 to May 31	S Cook Is	E51	160m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
May 24 to May 25	CW World-Wide WPX contest		
May 24 to May 31	Isle of Muck	MM1REK	80m – 10m SSB/Digital Modes
May 28 to June 3	Malawi	7QNL	80m – 10m CW/SSB
May 31 to June 9	Tonga	A35JP/p	80m – 6m CW/SSB
June 5 to June 18	St Lucia	J6	40m – 6m SSB
until Jun 08	Dominica	J79WTA	holiday style 160m – 10m SSB/RTTY/PSK

It sounds as if the bands may be getting weaker signals than we have been used to for the past couple of years, but just because you tune across a band (say 15m or 10m) do not assume the bands are dead. Call CQ DX and see if you get a reply. Too many times we tune across the bands and hear nothing and we do not call. There are probably scores of stations doing exactly the same thing and thinking the bands are dead. A band is only dead if you have called CQ for a considerable period of time and no one has answered your call.

The other night I decided to call CQ on 20m which was relatively quiet. After several calls with an S4 noise level I heard a faint call coming back. It sounded like RZ5DAM. He was about a 4/5 (or really a 4/1 since he was one S unit above my noise level.) We both decided to persevere and eventually I got "No, No, my call is RZ5D....slash.... AM. That's when I realized I was talking to a Russian airline pilot who was operating 20m aeronautical mobile. Score one for stick-to-it-iveness!

Both of us were determined to complete the QSO and I'm very glad we did. I have a small collection of AM stations I have worked over the years and I like collecting the QSL cards. I'll spend US \$3:15 to get that card!

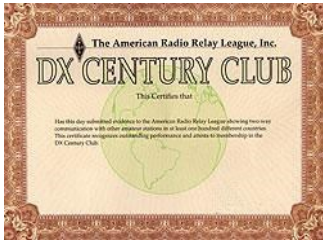
Good DX and have lots of fun on HF!

73,  
David VE3KGK

## DX News

In DX up front JA0RQV is planning to activate Niuatoputapu Island at the very small northern end of Tongan territory between May 28th and June 3rd. He will be signing A35JP/P with operations will be on 80 through 6 meters using CW and SSB. But there is one hitch, that being his time on the air will be limited to when and where he can find a source of electric power as there are no power mains at the locations he will be at. That means locating a generator or a vehicle with a good battery to power his station. JA0RQV adds that in the off chance his flight is cancelled, he will instead operate from Vava'u Island or Tongatapu Island. Either way, if you work him please QSL via his home callsign either direct, via the bureau or electronically using Logbook to the World.

Bill Moore, NC1L, who is the ARRL Awards Branch Manager says that the recently completed 3C0BYP operation from Annobon has been approved for DXCC credit. That DXpedition ran from February 26th through March 6th. Also the 2013, 9X0HP from Rwanda has been approved for DXCC



credit. And while it did not last as long as its planners had hoped but the good news is that the recently concluded VK9MT operation from Mellish Reef has been approved for DXCC credit. Once the confirmation is in your hands you can request credit for having made contact with VK9MT. If a request for DXCC credit for this operation has been rejected in a prior application, contact ARRL Awards Branch Manager [Bill Moore](#), NC1L, to be placed on the list for an update to your record. Please note the submission date and/or reference number of your application in order to expedite the search for any rejected contacts. DXCC is Amateur Radio's premier award that hams can earn by confirming on-the-air contacts with 100 DXCC "entities," most of which are countries in the traditional sense. You can begin with the basic DXCC award and work your way up to the DXCC Honor Roll. Learn [more](#). -- ARRL Awards Branch Manager Bill Moore, NC1L



### **The ARRL Letter**

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## Crimea is *Not* a New DXCC Entity

April 10, 2014

The ARRL Awards Committee has evaluated the current situation in Crimea in light of the DXCC rules and has determined that Crimea is *not* a DXCC entity. Neither Russia nor Ukraine is a rare entity and the vast majority of confirmations used for DXCC credit for either entity do *not* involve Crimea. DXCC Rule 4 reads: "Confirmation data for two-way communications must include the call signs of both stations, the entity name as shown in the DXCC List,



mode, date, time and band. Except as permitted in Rule 1, cross-mode contacts are not permitted for DXCC credits. Confirmations not containing all required information may be rejected." *Bottom line:* A QSL with a call sign issued by the administration of Ukraine and showing the entity name as Ukraine counts as Ukraine. A QSL with a call sign issued by the administration of Russia and showing the entity name as Russia counts as Russia. A QSL that satisfies *neither* condition does not count for *either* entity. -- Thanks to Bill Moore, NC1L, DXCC Administrator

### **The ARRL Letter**

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## July Operation From The Island Of Jersey

April 25, 2014

A group of hams from the Czech Republic will be active as MJ0ICD from the Island of Jersey between July 21<sup>st</sup> and the 27th. Operations will be on 160 through 10

meters using CW, SSB and the Digital modes. They are also taking equipment for 6 and 2 meters along as well. QSL MJ0ICD via OK1BIL. (Facebook)

## Voice of Russia Goes Dark After All

April 3, 2014

The Voice of Russia -- the former "Radio Moscow" -- ended its shortwave broadcasts on Tuesday, April 1 -- No fooling! After contradictory announcements and reports last December, it appears the international broadcaster has indeed pulled the plug on its HF transmissions. SWL Tom Witherspoon, K4SWL, contacted VOR. As he [reported](#) on his [blog](#), Voice of Russia's Elena Osipova told him, "This is to thank you for your message and confirm the information about the upcoming cancellation of the Voice of Russia's short- and medium wave transmissions as of April 1, 2014."

Richard Weil, KW0U, in St Paul, Minnesota, was able to hear the final shortwave broadcast. "Just barely picked up the last-day broadcast of VOR on 13.805 at 1300 UTC," he commented on Witherspoon's site. He used a dipole in his attic. "No mention on air of a final broadcast, which some services have given before closing down," he added. "Too bad to lose it, but time does move on."



Effective December 9, as a result of a decree signed by Russian President Vladimir Putin, the Voice of Russia radio company officially ceased to exist and merged with several other state-run news agencies as part of *Rossia Segodnya*, a Russia-based international news service. From the 1950s through the 1980s, the station, then as Radio Moscow, was an easy catch for budding short-wave listeners (SWLs), many of whom later gravitated to Amateur Radio.

"I remember when the *Voice of Russia and Radio Moscow* absolutely dominated the shortwaves, especially in my early years as a radio listener," Witherspoon remarked on his blog. "Times have changed for this broadcaster, who has been the mouthpiece for Russia and the Soviet Union."

In 2003 VOR was among the first major international radio broadcasters to launch daily broadcasts to Europe in Digital Radio Mondiale ([DRM](#)).

***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## Austria New Special Callsigns

April 4, 2014

The Vienna International Amateur Radio Club has announced that it will operate stations under the newly released callsigns of C7A and 4Y1A as a host organization. The club already operates a United Nations amateur radio station with the callsign 4U1VIC at Vienna International Centre. The new C7A and 4Y1A callsigns will be activated on special occasions related to the organizations or as commemorative operations.

For recognition purposes, the callsign block of C7A to C7Z has been allocated to the World Meteorological Organization while 4YA to 4YZ is assigned to the International Civil Aviation Organization. However both of these callsign blocks will only count as Austria for DXCC purposes. (OPDX)

## Panama Canal Commemorative Special Events Set

April 24, 2014

To celebrate the 100th anniversary of the completion and opening of the [Panama Canal](#), special event station [HO100CANAL](#) (Hotel Oscar One Zero Zero CANAL) will be on the air through August 15, on 1.8 through 28 MHz, SSB, CW, PSK, and RTTY. QSL via HP1AVS. Another Panama Canal centennial special event

station, 3E100PC, will be on the air from June 1 until August 1. QSL via [LoTW](#) or HP2AT. -- *Thanks to [The Daily DX](#)*

***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## GB0STG Celebrates St. Georges Day

April 18, 2014

And a special event station will be on the air on April 23rd to celebrate St. George's Day from the church of St. George and St. Mary at Gresley in the United Kingdom. GB0STG will be operating on the 40 meter

band from around 09.00 to 18.30 UTC, plus 2 meters and other HF bands if conditions permit. For more information please visit GB0STG on QRZ.com. (GB2RS)

## Tromelin Island DXpedition Announces Pilot Stations

April 25, 2014

In DX up front, word that the FT4TA DXpedition team to Tromelin Island has announced its pilot stations and posted a link to them on the operations website. A pilot station is a ham operator that works as a volunteer spotter of sorts alerting those wanting to make contact of whom the DXpedition is looking to make contact

with at any given moment in time. The list for the FT4TA pilot stations along with e-mail addresses is at [www.tromelin2014.com](http://www.tromelin2014.com) and we will have more DX related news for you later on in this week's newscast. (FT4TA Team)

## Special Event Station to Commemorate BBC Normandy Invasion Broadcasts

April 24, 2014

French special event station TM70BBC in Creully, Normandy, will operate June 3-13 to mark the 70 years since BBC reporters sent the first Battle of Normandy reports from the a makeshift radio studio in the castle

in Creully in June and July, 1944. QSL via F5UOW, direct or bureau. -- *Thanks to* [The Daily DX](#)

***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## ZL To Western VK AR 630 Meters Over 3100 Mile Path

April 25, 2014

It seems perseverance has paid off for long-time 630 meter operator Murray Greenman, ZL1BPU, who uses the special-purpose call sign ZL1EE for contacts on that band.

During the week of April 13th to the 20th, ZL1EE had numerous reception reports from Berndt Josef Wulf, VK5ABN/8 some 2010 miles away near the city of Adelaide, Australia. But the real payoff came when he learned that his signal had been copied by Dereck Zeck, VK6DZ, in the Australian city of Elleker, some 3100 miles to the West.

Using the new WSPR 2 digital mode Greenman operated overnight at 200 power out into a small 23 foot high Marconi antenna that was squeezed into a 1/5 acre urban lot. This put the Effective Radiated Signal below the maximum 25 watts permitted. It took a week of trying but with the reception report from VK6DZ, he finally broke the 3000 mile distance barrier.

As elsewhere the 630 meter allocation here in New Zealand is from 472 kHz to 479 kHz. What undoubtedly helped ZL1EE achieve this remarkable low frequency DX is that his location is only about 7 miles from our West coast and most of the path to VK6DZ is over water.

It should be noted that activity between Australia and New Zealand on 630 meters is quite strong, especially over the winter months here in the in the Southern Hemisphere. The window of opportunity for these contacts appears to be about two hours wide from local midnight.

With the growing popularity of this band in the Southern Hemisphere, there's now a New Zealand 630 Meter Net that meets ever Thursday night local time. Those involved say that they are looking for stations in other South Pacific locations who prepared to listen and provide signal reports of transmissions as they are heard. (Southgate, others)

## New World 24 GHz EME Record Claimed

April 3, 2014

A new world record for moonbounce on 24 GHz -- 17,405.6 kilometers (10,815.3 miles) -- was set March 5 by Rex Moncur, VK7MO, and Charlie Suckling, G3WDG. VK7MO set up on Mount Wellington, near Hobart, the capital of Tasmania, to minimize water vapor attenuation of the 24 GHz signal and to take advantage of the Moon's being close to Earth. The

Moon had to be at low elevation, which meant a longer path for the signal through Earth's atmosphere. -- *Jim Linton, VK3PC, via Southgate Amateur Radio News*

***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor



## French Radio Amateur Still Active at 100 Years

April 10, 2014



[Ivan Pastre](#), F3AT, of Saint Georges sur Baulche, France, turned 100 years old on April 7. A ham since 1931, when he was licensed as F3AU, he remains very active on the air after 83 years, still chasing new band countries for the DXCC Challenge. F3AT is at the top of the DXCC Honor Roll. He's a member of FOC, CDXC(F) and other organizations.

Pastre has also operated as FQ3AT (1947), FQ3AT/FE (1947), FE8AB (1948), and FF8AG (1951). *Joyeux anniversaire, Ivan!* -- Thanks to Maurice Charpentier, F5NQL; QRZ.com

**The ARRL Letter**

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## New Energy-Efficient Lights Can Wipe Out Radio

April 11, 2014

If you are having severe interference on the High frequency bands, it could be coming from your lights or that of a neighbor or even a business a few miles away.

Interference to radio and even television reception caused by compact fluorescent and LED lighting is quickly becoming a world-wide problem. According to Jim Linton, VK3PC, as we conserve energy by the use of these new illuminating devices occasionally these some will also emit radio interference.

Among the rising number of cases here in the United States fluorescent lights in a Los Angeles office caused problems for a node of Verizon's Long-Term Evolution or LTE network. Another that we have reported on involves the fluorescent lighting system electronic ballasts in a Texas beauty salon's lighting system interfering with a mobile phone network.

In Australia, complaints about TV reception have come to Australian Communications and Media Authority which has traced the problem to some LED lights. In England and elsewhere there have reports of TV interference complaints, even spreading to set-top boxes and cable TV.

But Linton says not to blame the actual technology, but rather its implementation. He notes that the interference is mainly due to the cheap design used in some products. He advises that if an interference problem takes place to return them to the place of purchase. If you get no satisfaction, we suggest you bring the matter to the attention of the telecommunications regulatory authority in the nation where you live.

Here in the United States complaints would go to the FCC's Enforcement Bureau with a courtesy copy to the American Radio Relay League. (VK3PC, WIA)

## ARRL Releases First *Repeater Directory* App for Android Devices

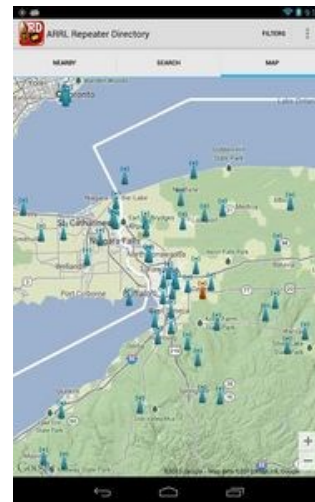
April 10, 2014

ARRL has introduced its first Android app for locating Amateur Radio repeater frequencies in the US and Canada -- *The ARRL Repeater Directory*®...Powered by Travel Plus. Android phone and mobile device users can download the app at no cost from Google Play (an Apple iOS version is coming soon). The free app provides limited access to *The ARRL Repeater Directory* database. Users may purchase a subscription to the *complete* database of 23,000 repeaters, but the full version of the app is included in the price of *The ARRL Repeater Directory* print editions.



"You're probably more likely to have your smartphone at your fingertips when searching for a repeater while traveling," ARRL Marketing Manager Bob Inderbitzen, NQ1R, pointed out. "The app can quickly locate you and deliver a list of nearby repeaters to tune in."

Inderbitzen says users can browse the entire database by city and state too, even while offline.



The *RD* app can display repeater locations on a map.

The app's database contains the current list of frequencies included with the 2014-2015 hard copy editions of *The ARRL Repeater Directory* and in the *Travel Plus for Repeaters* software. "ARRL assembles this data each year from frequency coordinators recognized by the National Frequency Coordinator's Council and carefully vetted submissions from individual repeater owners," said ARRL Publication Manager Steve Ford, WB8IMY, who edits the directory. The database includes repeaters from 28 MHz to 1240 MHz, and includes ATV, D-Star, APCO-25, Digital Mobile Radio (DMR), EchoLink, and IRLP machines.

*The ARRL Repeater Directory* app can search for frequencies by city and state, or by current location, if you've enabled location services on your device. Selecting a listing reveals detailed information on the repeater and its features. Users can filter searches to see only repeaters that match certain attributes, and mapping is integrated.

Users may [purchase](#) an activation code from ARRL for 12 months of access to the full version for \$9.95. The hard copy 2014-2015 *Repeater Directory*, also available from ARRL or from an [ARRL publications dealer](#), includes an activation code for access to the full version of *The ARRL Repeater Directory* app. The [pocket-sized edition](#) is \$12.95, and the [desktop edition](#) is \$17.95 -- both including the app (plus shipping). The activation code permits single users to activate the full version of the app for 12 months on up to three devices.

ARRL produced the app with DHF Systems, the developer of ARRL's *Travel Plus for Repeaters* software.

### ***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## **Toyota Confirms Collision Free Cars**

April 11, 2014

And finally this week, radio may help make the next generation of automobiles a lot safer than today's models.

Toyota Motor Corporation in Japan says that within the next two years it will introduce systems that will make it possible for cars to communicate with each other in order to avoid collisions.

According to a statement by the company, the system will use radio to gather data on the speed of other vehicles to keep a safe distance. Another system consisting of cameras, radar and control software will help a car maintain position in a lane on its own.

The system Toyota has developed incorporates technologies derived from its automated driving research and the carmaker has said it aims to create a virtual "co-pilot" in vehicles that helps drivers avert accidents.

Toyota also recently showcased a new pre-crash technology that can steer a vehicle moving at a high speed away from pedestrians when automatic braking alone cannot avoid a collision.

Toyota says that this new system will be available sometime after 2015. (WIA News)

## **Vancouver, B.C. Soon To Get It's 3rd Digital Voice Mode**

April 25, 2014

Call this one a possible shootout over the future of VHF and UHF digital voice communications. At least in Western Canada.

Vancouver British Columbia is already well covered with 3 major D-STAR repeaters, and 3 minor gateways. There are also two MotoTRBO 4FSK repeaters. Now the city is about to become home to its first C4FM system as well thanks to Yaesu looking for Beta Testers of its new System Fusion.

The introduction of this latest digital voice mode is the result of the Salt Spring Island Amateur Radio Club which operates the VE7RSI repeater on 147.320 MHz. While the old FM only repeater equipment has been

generally reliable the club felt that it was getting a bit old as well as being heavy and difficult to work on.

In late 2013, the club made a decision that it would be a good idea to eventually replace it with something more up-to-date. With a list made up, the brand new Yaesu DR-1 was at the top but it hadn't been released yet. In late March the club heard a rumor that Yaesu was still looking for beta testers so the club sent in an application which was accepted. It's now awaiting the arrival of the new dual mode repeater.

The club looks at the new Yaesu machine as what it terms as a game changer. While it is capable of FM, it also handles digital signals using C4FM FDMA. The club plans to make both modes available through the new

machine to see how current FM users are able to interact with those using C4FM digital radios and vice versa. Likely also watching very closely will be those not yet involved in D-STAR, C4FM, 4FSK, and other digital voice modes such as P25.

While the outcome of a C4FM repeater into an already burgeoning city with several other digital voice modes already entrenched will likely not set any world-wide precedent, it will give hams around the globe something to consider when the time comes for them to make a similar change. More is at <http://www.ssiarc.ca/VE7RSI.php> (SSIARC)

## New Ultracapacitor Developed

May 2, 2014

Scientists at George Washington University have found that ultracapacitors built with carbon nanotubes and graphene deliver high-performance at low cost. Amateur Radio Newsline's Cheryl Lasik, K9BIK, has the details of this scientific breakthrough:

The research team made the new ultracapacitor out of graphene flakes and single-walled carbon nanotubes by using an electric arc to vaporize a hollow graphite rod filled with a catalyzing metallic powder. They then combined graphene flakes and carbon nanotubes, spread them on paper, and rolled them into a new light-weight, high-performance, low cost ultracapacitor.

Jian Li is one of the authors on the report on the research done to create these devices. He explained that the nanotubes offer connectivity while the graphene flakes provide high surface area and good in plane conductivity. By adding graphene, the mixture's specific capacitance tripled compared with using the

carbon nanotubes alone. Li says that the result is like combining the high energy density of batteries with the high power-density of capacitors.

Ultracapacitors sometimes call Supercapacitors are generic terms for a family of new electrochemical capacitors. These devices don't have a conventional solid dielectric. Rather the capacitance value is determined by two storage principles, which both contribute to the devices total capacitance.

The significance of this new ultracapacitor is its light weight and low cost making it useful in a variety of tasks from acting as a source of voltage to maintain static memory to larger jobs such as being part of the power system in electric cars.

An in depth abstract on this research report is available from the Journal of Applied Physics at [tinyurl.com/low-cost-ultracapacitor](http://tinyurl.com/low-cost-ultracapacitor) (Sciencerecorder.com)

## Digital Voice: Getting To Know D-Star Without Buying A Radio

May 2, 2014

If you are thinking about getting into D-STAR and are wondering just what you can expect when you get a radio or DV Dongle, you can now find out by listening to live audio online from the VA6EFR Gateway.

According to Jeff Bishop, to monitor without any D-STAR equipment just take your web browser to the Edmonton Fire Radio website at [www.edmontonfireradio.com](http://www.edmontonfireradio.com) and click on the listen live link. You can also monitor on your mobile device

using various scanner apps on Android, iPhone and Blackberry. Depending on the app you would search by location, and then select Canada, Alberta, Edmonton and finally the VA6EFR D-STAR Gateway.

For those with D-STAR gear, Bishop says that his gateway is normally linked to Reflector 30 C, however from time to time it may connect to other D-STAR reflectors or repeaters. (VE6EFR, D-STAR Remailer)

## Radio Education: Simple Website To Assist New Hams

April 18, 2014

Miles Burke, VK6MAB, has put together a web site for those who are considering taking up ham radio as a hobby, or for those who have recently got their license and want to learn more. The site is written in plain language and avoids all of the specialized ham speak

words that often confuse newcomers to the hobby. And while located down-under in Australia, it's definitely a site for newcomers and those wanting to become hams living anywhere in the world. You can sample it for yourself at [www.enjoyhamradio.com](http://www.enjoyhamradio.com) (WIA News)

## WWV's 25 MHz Signal Back on the Air

April 10, 2014

[WWV](#) silenced its 25 MHz signal in 1977, but it's back on the air "for old times' sake" -- on an "experimental basis." Resurrecting the long-dormant standard time outlet operated by the National Institute of Standards and Technology ([NIST](#)) was Matt Deutch, NØRGT, the lead electrical engineer at WWV.



The WWV complex in Fort Collins, Colorado. [NIST photo]

It all came about after Dean Lewis, W9WGV, lamented the loss of the 25 MHz signal in an e-mail to Deutch, who surprised him by subsequently putting the signal back on the air on April 4 for about 3-1/2 hours. A listener in Scotland [posted](#) a reception report of the

WWV 25 MHz signal on YouTube. WWV ran another 25 MHz test starting on April 7. Initially it was only to stay up for 24 hours or so, but Deutch told ARRL that WWV will remain on the air probably for the rest of the week. "So hopefully a few more people will hear it," he said.

Lewis said he'd told Deutch last week that 10 meter propagation has been very good at this point in Cycle 24, and he uses the various WWV frequencies as propagation beacons every day. "He responded that 'for old times' sake,' they'd put the signal back on the air for a while. I assumed, of course, that he was kidding, and so I didn't check. Matt wasn't kidding!"

NIST said the 25 MHz broadcast consists of the normal WWV signal heard on all other WWV frequencies, at the same level of accuracy. The transmitter in Fort Collins, Colorado, can deliver 2500 W into its "broadband monopole" antenna, although Deutch told ARRL that he is running it at 1200 W. WWV has [invited](#) listeners' comments and signal reports.

### ***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## HAARP Facility in Danger of Being Dismantled

April 17, 2014

According to an April 9 *Alaska Dispatch* [report](#), the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) facility near Gakona, Alaska, could be decommissioned and dismantled altogether this year, unless the US Air Force can find a new prime contractor to take over the sprawling, 35-acre facility. The report said the Geophysical Institute at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks is hoping to pull together a plan to run the facility, which has long been a subject of fascination for hams and the target of conspiracy theorists. The facility shut down last year and, with the exception of some contract-funded research, it has essentially remained in standby.

Money is one major issue. The US Air Force Research Laboratory wants to see HAARP survive, "but only if someone else pays the bills, estimated at about \$5 million a year," the article said.

The University of Alaska Geophysical Institute is said to be trying to come up with a plan to keep HAARP up and running to continue ionospheric research. A White House Office of Science and Technology Policy meeting in February of federal agencies interested in ionospheric research came up with no viable candidates to run HAARP, however.



Part of the HAARP facility's array of antennas.

The news account cited an Air Force spokesman as saying that final research experiments funded by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) are set to wrap up next month.

HAARP had indicated 3 years ago that it would be shutting down, and it did not submit a budget request for FY 15, but that attracted scant attention at the time.

Jointly funded by the [US Air Force Research Laboratory](#) and the [US Naval Research Laboratory](#), the HAARP ionospheric research facility. It's best-known for its 3.6 MW HF (approximately 3 to 10 MHz) ionospheric research instrument (IRI) -- a transmitter feeding an extensive system of 180 gain antennas and used to "excite" sections of the ionosphere. Other onsite equipment is used to evaluate the effects.

The ultra-high power facility long has intrigued hams, even outside of Alaska. In 1997, HAARP transmitted test signals on HF (3.4 MHz and 6.99 MHz) and solicited reports from hams and short-wave listeners in the "Lower 48" to determine how well the HAARP transmissions could be heard to the south. In 2007 HAARP [succeeded](#) in bouncing a 40 meter signal off the moon. Early last year, HAARP scientists [successfully](#)

[produced](#) a sustained high-density plasma cloud in Earth's upper atmosphere.

While the Air Force has possession for now, the unique facility will be dismantled if no other agency steps forward to take it over.

***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## HAARP-Like Ionospheric Research Project Underway at Arecibo Observatory

April 24, 2014

Work is underway to complete the construction of an ionospheric research facility at the [Arecibo Observatory](#) in Puerto Rico that bears some similarities to the High Frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP) far to the north in Alaska, but on a different scale and with different research goals.



The Arecibo Observatory's 1000 foot dish. [Arecibo Observatory photo]

"It is basically the same as HAARP for the science, except that HAARP was in the Auroral Region, where the physics of the ionosphere is quite different with all the energetic particles and magnetic fields," Penn State Electrical Engineering Professor Jim Breakall, WA3FET, told ARRL. "HAARP also had 3 gigawatts of effective radiated power, where Arecibo will only be about 200 megawatts." The Arecibo Observatory Amateur Radio Club, KP4AO, is headquartered at the research facility, which celebrated its 50th anniversary last fall.

The National Science Foundation and Cornell University, which previously operated Arecibo Observatory, contracted with Penn State's Electrical Engineering Department to construct the "new and enhanced" HF ionospheric instrument. It will be used to study the interaction between HF radio energy and ionospheric plasma.

The new facility will replace an earlier ionospheric heater in Islote, Puerto Rico, which was destroyed by Hurricane Georges in 1998. Rather than rebuild that installation, the new instrument will use the

observatory's 1000 foot dish for its antenna. This will keep all research activities involving ionospheric modification at the observatory proper. Plans call for a design based on a Cassegrain-screen concept of phased array at the bottom of the dish feeding a sub-reflector mesh that hangs above the dish from three support towers. Breakall and his team of graduate students at Penn State have done all of the electrical design and modeling of this new antenna system.



The triangular 5.1 MHz and 8.175 MHz dipole array in the dish. [Courtesy of Jim Breakall, WA3FET]

"There are three crossed-dipoles for 5.1 MHz and another three for 8.175 MHz, forming an array that will beam energy up to a net mesh reflector that will hang from the three big towers," Breakall explained. "This Cassegrain screen will then reflect energy back down to the 1000 foot dish and beam an effective radiated power of hundreds of megawatts up to the ionosphere to modify it." Each dipole is fed from a 100 kW transmitter, yielding a total transmitted power of 600 kW.

An even earlier HF ionosphere-heating antenna system also was suspended from the platform above the dish and driven by a single 100 kW transmitter over a frequency range of 3 to 10 MHz. That design suffered from arcing problems and was taken out of service in the 1970s.

Scale aside, Breakall said, while HAARP also tried to modulate the ionosphere's naturally flowing currents to create VLF and ELF for submarine communication,

Arecibo "has much weaker currents, and that probably will not work," he said. On the other hand, he said, "Arecibo has a big advantage over HAARP in that the same 1000 foot dish can be used for diagnostics with the 430 MHz incoherent scatter radar that can measure things such as temperature, density, winds, etc., as they are modified. HAARP has nothing like this."

Breakall said he does not anticipate that the new Arecibo ionospheric research facility will attract the

same degree of controversy that HAARP has over its history, but he conceded that it's possible.

"All of the conspiracy stuff about HAARP really is not true, and I am sure Arecibo could get some of the same conspiracy [talk], and I think some of it maybe has started already," he said.

***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## **D-Star Class Returns To Dayton Hamvention 2014**

April 11, 2014

What's being termed as the ultimate D-STAR training class returns to Dayton Hamvention for the third year. This to provide an introduction to D-STAR for new users getting on the air and more advanced information for experienced D-STAR users.

Called D-STAR Info Con 2014, the three-hour class will be held at the Drury Inn in the heart of hotel row not far from the Hara Arena. This year's topics will include using the D R Mode, using a Raspberry Pi with a DVAP,

updating Repeater Lists for D R Mode, using D-RATS for data and much more.

The new Icom ID-5100A will be demonstrated and all registered participants are eligible to win an ID-51A dual-band D-STAR handheld that will be given away during the class.

The cost of the class is \$15.00 and includes all course material. Pre-registration is required and seating is limited. Registration information can be found at [www.dstarinfo.com](http://www.dstarinfo.com) (D-STARInfoCon2014)

## **Hamvention 2014: W5KUB Live Stream From Hamvention 2014**

May 2, 2014

If you cannot make it to Hamvention 2014, then Tom Medlin, W5KUB, will make it possible for you to join in all the fun vicariously over his video webcast of the event. Tom's Internet video stream will begin on Wednesday May 14th showing his ride from his home not far from Memphis, Tennessee, to the Hamvention at Dayton's Hara Arena. The next three days, Tom and

his crew will be showcasing the magic of the Dayton Hamvention over his dedicated video website at W5KUB.com. During part of that time one of his co-hosts will be astronaut Doug Wheelock, KF5B0C. For the latest update on Toms plans, you can join his group on Facebook. Just put W5KUB into the search bar and you will be taken right to it. (ARNewsline, W5KUB)

## **Hamvention 2014: Ham Nation Live On The Tech Guy May 17**

May 2, 2014

Ham Nation, the popular amateur radio weekly program on the TWiT Internet based television network will broadcast live from its booth located in 'Audio Alley' at this year's Dayton Hamvention on Saturday, May 17th.

Show hosts Bob Heil, K9EID; Gordon West, WB6NOA; George Thomas W5JDX, and Valerie Hotzfeld, NV9L, will join Leo Laporte, W6TWT, at the start of his

Saturday afternoon national program called 'The Tech Guy.

Laporte's show is broadcast over 160 commercial radio stations. The live feed from Hamvention will take place at 2:00PM Eastern Daylight Time through remote facilities provided by the EXCEDE Satellite system. Please check your local listings for the station that carries "The Tech Guy" program in your area. (Ham Nation)

## Vibroplex LLC To Distribute SSB-Electronic Products In United States And Canada

April 18, 2014

Germany's SSB-Electronic GmbH and Vibroplex LLC here in the United States have announced an exclusive agreement for Vibroplex to distribute the SSB-Electronic product line in North America.

Vibroplex is the oldest continuously operating business in amateur radio, founded Horace Martin, inventor of the semi-automatic Morse Code key in 1905. The company is now located in Knoxville, Tennessee and continues to manufacture the original Martin key as well as a complete line of some 30 keys including bugs, iambic paddles, single-lever paddles and traditional straight keys.

On the other side of the Atlantic SSB-Electronic is well-known for its range of VHF high performance products including both standard and auto-switchable receive preamps, sequencers and switches. It also produces the Ecoflex™ coaxial cable, the Zeus ZS-1 SDR transceiver and a line of VHF preamps and accessory equipment.

A completely revamped product line has been released for 2014. You can find that and more on the web at [www.vibroplex.com](http://www.vibroplex.com). (Press Release)

## Sangean Turns 40

April 18, 2014

And a very Happy Birthday to the Sangean Company which is marking the company's 40th year of operation. The Los Angeles based Sangean USA is best known to hams and SWL's for its shortwave and long-wave receiver designs including the iconic ATS-803A. A private label version of the ATS-803A was sold by Radio

Shack as the Realistic DX-440 with both still in demand on the used gear market. Since then, Sangean has expanded its product line and now includes AM/FM, HD Radio, DAB and DAB+, and Internet connectivity receivers as well as pocket, portable and utility tuners. (RW, ARNewsline)

## ESA Philae Comet Lander Wakes Up

April 18, 2014

And finally this week, a successful wake-up call has gone out to an interesting space probe and it has responded in the positive.

The Philae lander which Europe hopes to put on the surface of a comet later this year, has been re-activated. This after three years in deep-space hibernation.

The small probe is currently riding piggy back on the Rosetta space probe which was launched a decade ago to rendezvous with the Comet 67P and was itself brought out of space sleep in January. Both have radioed back to controllers that they are healthy and ready for their mission.

The Rosetta probe and Philae lander should arrive at the ice comet in August. After a period of mapping, Rosetta will then release Philae in November on its challenging attempt to attach itself to 67P. Being only 3 and one half miles in diameter the comet's gravitational field will be very weak, and the 220 pound lander will use harpoons and ice screws to try to hold itself to the surface of 67P.

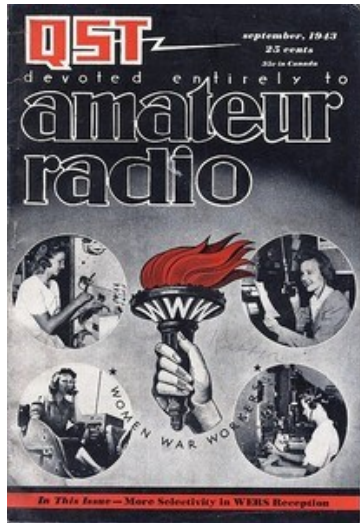
Philae's wake-up is part of a sequence of commissioning activities taking place over the next few weeks.

The twin scientific space probes are currently 407 million miles from Earth with about 237 million miles to go until they reaches comet 67P. (BBC, Guardian Liberty)

## A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

April 3, 2014

When the US entered World War II, Amateur Radio operations were immediately shut down for the duration. After one false start, authorization soon was given for amateurs to operate on 112 MHz for emergency drills and actual emergency operations, as members of the War Emergency Radio Service (WERS).



During the war years *QST* published many articles on WERS equipment suitable for 112 MHz -- especially portable and hand-held gear -- and on club preparedness.

Announcements in *QST* made repeated calls for trained operators to volunteer for the military and for civil service. At one time, the Navy made a call for 5000 men specifically to be trained as radar operators and maintenance personnel -- state-of-the-art work.

As America's young men went to various parts of the world to fight the war, the nation called on its women to help with the war effort. Many female hams became

military radio operators within the US, and others went to work in defense plants building radio equipment, just as their sisters built the aircraft, ships, and vehicles required by modern warfare.

Manufacturers' ads in *QST* started using photos of radio operation during military training maneuvers and even from the battlefield. Early in the war years, manufacturers were unable to keep up with the military's demand, and other ads called for hams to sell or donate their radio gear and components (panel meters were especially needed) for the war effort. Manufacturers expanded their facilities and work forces as quickly as possible, and they soon were able to meet the need.

It has been reported -- but never confirmed -- that, following the attack at Pearl Harbor, Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto said, "I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve." Regardless of the proof of that exact quote, Admiral Yamamoto's writings confirmed that those were, indeed, his feelings. And those feelings were soon proven to be correct.

*Next week:* We will continue to look at how hams and the ARRL backed the war effort.

### ***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

April 10, 2014

During the war years, *QST* featured a number of articles on basic cryptanalysis, an important wartime area. Other articles went back to radio basics, to help hams still at home to brush up on their theory. Still others reported on advances in the state of the radio art. Articles showed military radio setups in use by the Signal Corps in the field during training exercises, by the Army Air Corps, by the Navy on board ships, by the Marines, and by the Coast Guard. The ARRL stood firmly behind the war effort, and did everything it could to help it.

*QST* began listing the names of hams who were missing in action, and of those confirmed by the Red Cross as being prisoners of war. Later in the war, *QST* carried reports of "Gold Star" hams -- those who had died as a result of military action.

The principles of radar were well known in the technical community, but this was highly classified work during the war. The veil of military secrecy was lifted just enough for the first "official" announcement of the

existence of radar in the military to be made on April 25, 1943.

Later in the war, US hams started receiving unusual German-language signals in the vicinity of 10 meters. An investigation by the FCC and other government agencies showed that what those hams were hearing were transmissions from tank-borne tactical radios of the Afrika Korps, commanded by Field Marshall Erwin Rommel -- "the Desert Fox" -- during battles in North Africa. Hams who were fluent in German had a ringside seat to some fierce action!





The April 1944 issue of *QST* included plans for "A Workable WERS Battery Transceiver."

By 1944, stories of hams' experiences in military action began appearing in *QST*. The magazine also included such tales as "Hamfest in North Africa" (*QST*, Feb 1944), as hams got together here and there around the world.

### ***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## **A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL**

April 17, 2014

By 1945, when it became certain that the Allies would win the war, attention turned toward post-war hamming. Articles in *QST* described modern VFO and transmitter construction, small portable stations, antenna advances, and VHF/UHF equipment and techniques. Everyone was ready to return to "normal," and the League was pushing for that return!

In May 1945, the FCC announced its plan for the Amateur Radio bands when the war was over. Among other things the 2½ and 1¼ meter bands would be shifted to the frequencies they occupy today. In June, the FCC announced that it would delete the 5 meter band and replace it with 6 meters.

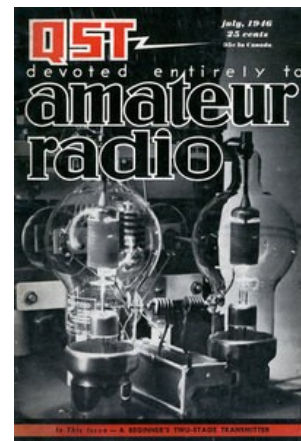
And then, the war was over! The documents were signed on August 14, 1945, to formally end hostilities. On August 15, ARRL asked the FCC to re-open the ham bands. The very next day, the FCC announced that the 112 MHz (2½ meter) band would be immediately opened for ham use. Slashing through miles of red tape, the band was opened on August 21. We were back on the air, even though it was on only one VHF band that would shortly become another!

Other bands were opened to ham operation as quickly as possible, but military communications first had to be moved away from the amateur bands. Making all those military frequency changes was not an easy task, but it was done as quickly as possible. After military circuits had been moved from a given ham band, the FCC would release it for ham use.

The 160 meter band remained closed to hams. During the war, a then-secret navigation system called LORAN (for "Long-Range Aid to Navigation") had been developed and placed in the 1.8 to 2.0 MHz band. After the war it continued to be widely used for maritime

navigation. Hams eventually were allowed back on 160 -- at first with reduced power limits but ultimately, after LORAN went away, with normal power limits.

In another change that came with post-war Amateur Radio, the FCC rezoned the 48 states into 10 call areas, rather than the previous 9. New W0-prefix call signs started showing up on the air. Those were *new* licensees. Hams who had been living in the new 10th call area before the war could continue to use their W9-prefix call signs until renewal time, at which time their call signs were switched to the W0-prefix.



The July 1946 *QST* contained plans for "A Beginner's Two-Stage Transmitter."

By early 1946, 10 meters had been reopened for amateur use, and the ARRL threw a "Band-Warming Party" in February and March 1946. The Band-Warming Party was a worldwide QSO party, with both CW and phone operation. It was a nice way to celebrate being back on the air! -- *Al Brogdon, W1AB*

### ***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

April 24, 2014

War is always terrible, and World War II was one of the worst. But, while war wreaks havoc and destruction on nations and people, it always brings about major advances in technology that can be transferred to peacetime use. Amateur Radio benefitted from many of those advances following World War II.

During the war years, reliable communication was essential. Studies of the characteristics of the ionosphere and how sunspots affect propagation tremendously enhanced our understanding of signal propagation. The upper limit of easily usable frequencies had been pushed much higher during the war. Through *QST*, the League made sure hams learned about such scientific progress.

Much military surplus equipment was not well suited for ham use, but many hams figured out how to convert those radios for the ham bands. Others recycled the components. The prices of parts, tubes, and coaxial cable were remarkably low.

During the war, the military or the federal government purchased virtually the entire production output of radio equipment manufacturers. Within months of the war's end, equipment manufacturers had switched to producing ham gear -- and it was far superior to what had been available before the war.

After World War II, the ARRL announced that hams -- whether seasoned old-timers or brand-new licensees -- would have to start from scratch to earn the postwar

DXCC. That made for lots of excitement when the HF bands again were opened to ham radio.

In January 1946 Project Diana used a converted military transmitter to send a radio signal to the Moon, which bounced back to Earth and was detected by equipment at the Evans Signal Laboratory at New Jersey's Fort Monmouth. A 0.25 second pulse of 111.5 MHz energy was beamed at the Moon, and 2.5 seconds later a faint "beep" was heard by Herb Kauffman, W2OQU, one of several hams involved in the experiment.



An aerial view of the Project Diana site.  
[US Department of Defense photo]

*Hmmm...111.5 MHz. Perhaps hams could do that on 2 meters. -- Al Brogdon, W1AB*

**The ARRL Letter**

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

## A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

May 1, 2014

At the end of World War II, US soldiers and sailors were deployed all over the world, as were the troops of other nations. Among them were radio amateurs, itching to get back on the air. At their military radio stations, they could hear hams from countries around the world, as those governments allowed them back on the air again.



**NEW! BC-348 COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVER \$69.50**

It's the best surplus communications receiver value in the world, in our opinion, and you may never have another opportunity to get a brand new BC-348 at this extremely low price. Guaranteed absolutely new and unused, they are shipped you in the original unpainted wood cases in which the AAF received them. Complete with built-in dynamometer, crystal filter, full set of tubes, and detailed technical manual . . . at the low price of only \$69.50.

**DON'T WAIT--ORDER YOUR BC-348 TODAY!**

Shpg. wt. 61 lbs.; size, packed 3 cu. ft.

Kit for conversion to 110 volt a.c. operation, with full instructions . . . \$6.50

Transformer for 220 volt stepdown to 110 volts, 60 cycles . . . \$6.50

The BC-348 military receiver was a popular surplus item among hams. This ad appeared in the November 1947 *QST*.

But US servicemen and servicewomen in other countries faced a problem. To get on the legally was a bureaucratic nightmare that involved both US military officialdom and the government of the host country. Many hams solved the problem simply by going on the air.

In the late 1940s *QST* carried a number of articles written by those overseas hams. In many cases, the hams were enlisted men, and they might have to go through one or two or three echelons of command to get military permission to operate. But once they got that permission, they usually had high-power transmitters and good antennas, and they made themselves heard in the US and around the world. Yes, ham radio came back with a bang!

Meanwhile, back in the US, as the HF ham bands were reopened, hams began getting back on the air. The old faithful brands of ham equipment reappeared in catalogs and stores -- now much improved and with better operating characteristics and circuitry, including built-in VFOs, something not common in the 1930s.

In addition to the well-known manufacturers shifting their production lines from military equipment back to ham gear, a large number of smaller, new companies were formed to build ham equipment. These new companies mostly built transmitters, which could be put into production quickly and built at low cost, using military surplus parts. In many cases, hams could buy equipment that had been assembled and tested, or -- for considerably less money -- buy a kit of parts and put the gear together themselves. This started the trend for a growing percentage of hams to buy commercial HF transmitters, in kit form or ready-made, rather than building them from scratch, as most hams did in the 1930s.

Many hams bought military surplus transmitters, either to cannibalize for parts or to modify for ham band use. Many military surplus HF receivers could be used with few or no modifications.

As a result of new technology, as well as the availability of inexpensive military surplus equipment, the 1940s and 1950s became high-rolling times for amateurs. It was possible for hams licensed before the war as and newly licensed hams to get on the air with pretty good equipment at low cost.

Then, in the 1950s, new FCC rules gave Amateur Radio a shot in the arm by bringing thousands of ham wannabes to the FCC examination table and then on the air. We'll look at that next week. -- *Al Brogdon, W1AB*

***The ARRL Letter***

[Rick Lindquist](#), WW1ME, Editor

**LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB  
37TH ANNUAL  
HAMFEST**

**SUNDAY, SEPT. 21, 2014  
9.00 AM TO 12.00 PM  
VENDOR SETUP: 8AM**

**ADMISSION: \$8.00, (Age 10 and up)  
TABLES: \$20.00  
Extra Tables: \$15.00**

**Special Draws: 2 Radioworld Gift Certificates**



**HELLENIC  
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**133 Southdale Rd. W.  
London, ON N6J 2J2  
42°56'18.6"N 81°15'57.4"W**

**Talk in VA3LON. 147.060 PL 114.8**

**Free Parking ~ Air Conditioned  
Commercial Dealers**

**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](mailto: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 HAMFEST VENDORS

*Book early, tables are booked on first come first served basis. 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.*

Talk in VA3LON, 147.060 PL 114.8

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Admission: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
Maximum of 2 admissions only

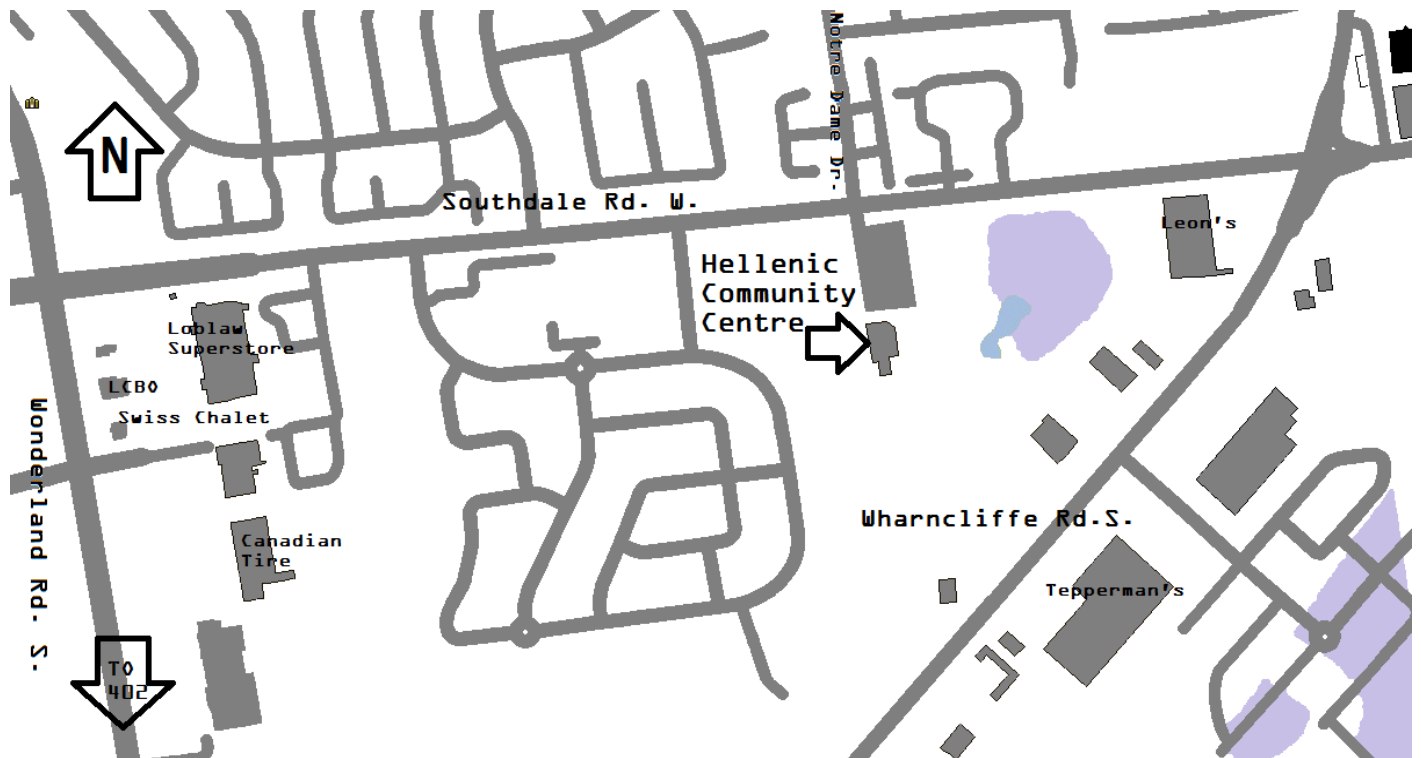
Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Tables: \_\_\_\_\_ x \$20.00 = \_\_\_\_\_  
 Extra Tables \_\_\_\_\_ x \$15.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Total: = \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_



**Coming from Hwy 402**, exit on to Wonderland Road (Exit 100) and go North to Southdale Road and turn Right. Go East until Notre Dame Drive and entrance of Hellenic Centre on the right.

**Coming from the West on Hwy 401**, exit onto Colonel Talbot Road and go North until Main Street in Lambeth. Turn Right and go East until Wonderland Road South. Turn Left and follow directions above.

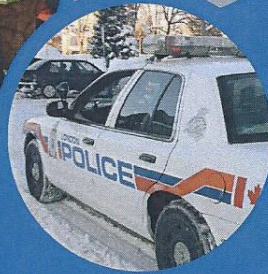
**Coming from the East on Hwy 401**, exit on to Wellington Road and go North until Southdale Road. Turn Left and head West until Notre Dame Drive and entrance to the Hellenic Centre on the Left.

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS OPEN HOUSE

**SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2014 – 10 AM TO 4 PM**

- *Tour London's Emergency Operations Centre*
- *Check out emergency vehicles and displays*
- *Learn how to prepare your family for the first 72 hours*

**Location:**  
**Byron Fire Hall # 12**  
**275 Boler Rd.**



Preparation you can't live without.

[london.ca/emergency](http://london.ca/emergency)





## International Emergency Response Day

C/O 299 Frances Street, Strathroy, ON N7G 4G9

Phone: (519) 245-1250 Fax: (519) 245-6264

*(Address all correspondence to: IERD 2014)*

**24<sup>th</sup>. Annual International Emergency Response Day**  
**Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014**  
**West Middlesex Memorial Centre**  
**Strathroy, Ontario, Canada**

It is my pleasure to extend to you a personal invitation to join me at the 24<sup>th</sup>, *International Emergency Response Day (IERD)*, being held this year on Wednesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., rain or shine.

For the first time in twelve years we will be returning to the newly renovated West Middlesex Memorial Centre. This will be an outdoor event so please come prepared for the weather. This change of venue will allow for a greater number of local students to attend without the necessity of being bused.

*As in previous years, IERD* gathers professionals from police, fire, EMS, victim services, and from other front line emergency service providers, allowing area students an opportunity to interact and learn from them about the importance of their jobs in the community.

The day begins with a parade of emergency vehicles that is typically 2- 3 km in length through the greater part of Strathroy-Caradoc. Children of all ages assemble outside of their schools as the parade passes. The parade culminates in static displays at the West Middlesex Memorial Centre. Local children arrive at the Memorial Centre where, with the help of volunteers, they are given timed tours of the individual displays. Students listen, ask questions and interact with staff members at each display before receiving a stamp, signature or sticker on their *IERD* passport from an emergency services worker.

The displays are your opportunity to showcase the very best of your emergency equipment and services to the community. A large group of antique emergency vehicles are always present.

IERD is truly an international event. Many of our USA partner agencies, some from as far away as Pennsylvania, Michigan and New York are regular attendees. I appreciate your support. Most of all I enjoy seeing old friends, and meeting new ones. All are welcome.

For more information, please see the attached map, agenda and registration form.



Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc

# **MEMBERSHIP INVITATION**

Our term of membership runs from November 1 to October 31 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

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP: \$25.00       RENEWAL  
 FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$30.00       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 \_\_\_\_\_

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City/Town _____	Province _____	Postal Code _____
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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

**Proxy Form**  
**London Amateur Radio Club Inc.**

I hereby authorize \_\_\_\_\_ to vote on my behalf at the  
**Annual General Meeting** on **Thursday May 8, 2014**

**Proxy Valid**

\_\_\_\_\_ for Election only

\_\_\_\_\_ All Matters voted on at the Meeting

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Name**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature**

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

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**Signature**

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