

# Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London  
And surrounding area since 1920

October 6, 2014

## L.A.R.C. Executive      **October L.A.R.C. Meeting**

### President

Mike Watts, VE3ACW

### Vice-President, Membership

John Visser, VA3MSV

### Past President

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

### Treasurer

Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB

### Secretary, Flea Market

Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO

### Director

Norm Campbell, VA3XCN

### Director

Jim Morris, VA3AQH

### Director

Tom Pillon, VE3HOR

### Non-Voting

### ARES Representative

Currently Vacant

### Appointments

#### Repeater Committee Chair

Mike Watts, VE3ACW

#### Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

#### Repeater Tech Support

John Visser, VE3FDV

Rob Leroy, VE3MGQ

#### Field Day Coordinator

Simon Wilton, VA3SII/G7HCD

### Webmasters

Jim Morris, VA3AHQ

Tom Pillon, VE3HOR

Simon Wilton, VA3SII/G7HCD

### Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

### Auditor

Rob Hockin, VA3HO

The next L.A.R.C. meeting will be held on **October 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:30pm**. The guest speaker will be Mark Bramwell, VE3PZR on the topic of the MESH Network. This technology is an initiative being taken up by a group of members within LARC.

As a reference please have a look at [Hamnet](#).

The usual, coffee, donuts, conversation and 50/50 draw will also be at the meeting.

The meeting will be located at St. Judes Anglican Church, 1537 Adelaide Street North at Fanshawe Park Road East in London, Ontario.

## Selected "Ham Radio" 2014 Presentations Now

September 11, 2014



[Key presentations](#) from the 2014 "[Ham Radio](#)" international exhibition in Friedrichshafen, Germany, have been posted online. The Vienna-based [DokuFunk](#) archive offers both audio and video presentations from the 2014 Ham Radio, which is Europe's largest Amateur Radio gathering.

*PowerPoint* presentations in English include "The Enigma and Other famous Cipher Machines" by Tom Perera, W1TP; "FT5ZM -- Amsterdam Island DXpedition" by Ralph Fedor, K0IR; "K9W -- Wake Atoll 2013 Commemorative Expedition" by Lou Dietrich, N2TU, and "VK9MT -- Mellish Reef DXpedition" by Leslie P. Kalmus, W2LK. The German-language presentation "Yagi und Quad Antennen für den Kurzwellenamateur" ("Yagi and Quad Antennas for HF") by Martin Steyer, DK7ZB, also is available.

The DokuFunk site offers selected Ham Radio presentations dating to 2008. *The ARRL Letter*

## Next Meeting is Where and When?

**Reminder: The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on October 9, 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 date is still to be determined.

## Area Repeaters

### LARC Repeaters

#### London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VA3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

### SORT 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

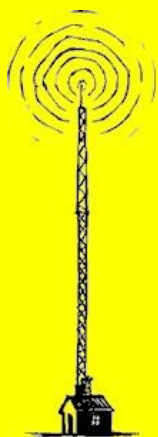
#### St. Thomas

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

Currently the L.A.R.C. membership stands at 96 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

## Radio Amateurs of Canada proposal on international 60M allocation accepted by Industry Canada

September 10, 2014

Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to pass on the news that the CPC (the IC consultative committee that IC uses to determine its position on WRC matters) has accepted the RAC proposal on WRC 15 Agenda Item 1.4 (to establish a 60m allocation for amateurs on secondary basis). This proposal will be tabled at the CITEL (ITU R2 countries minus Cuba) meetings in Merida, Mexico next month to be considered as the CITEL position going in to WRC15. In short it proposes two 25 KHz band segments for amateurs: 5,330 – 5,355 kHz and 5,405 – 5,430 kHz. Amateur access would be on a non-interfering, listen before transmit (secondary) basis, a standard operating approach already in force for several other amateur allocations (e.g. 440MHz).

This is only possible because of the last two plus years of work by Bryan Rawlings, VE3QN, the RAC representative on these domestic committees and as a Canadian and IARU delegate at ITU meetings. His role and the hours of work (essentially an unpaid job) attending many, many formal and informal meetings with our regulator and with interested parties in Canada and internationally are a key factor in gaining formal Canadian government support. We are very fortunate to have his talents and willingness to sacrifice his on-the-air time for all of us. I'd also wish to acknowledge the strong support of Industry Canada at these Working Parties, other committees and at the ITU preparatory meetings.

Although this is very good news, the process is still ongoing. The decision will be made next year at WRC15. However, presenting a firm proposal from Canada with specific frequencies for support by the ITU R2 countries at CITEL is a giant step toward a favourable outcome at WRC15.

George Gorsline, VE3YV  
International Affairs Officer  
Radio Amateurs of/du Canada

## IARU R1 Release VHF/UHF/Microwave Handbook

September 26, 2014

IARU Region 1 has released edition 6.14 of the free VHF Managers Handbook covering the VHF, UHF and Microwave amateur radio bands. While primarily aimed at activities on these bands in Europe, Africa and parts of the Middle-East, the publication contains quite a bit of information applicable to operations worldwide. This is especially true in the area of planning contact attempts between various IARU regions.

The handbook has chapters on Band Planning, Contests, Propagation Research, Operating Procedures and Satellites. It also goes into intricate detail on a number of technical aspects such as specifying a standard for the use of circular polarization defining which way helical beam antennas should be threaded. You can download your copy of this informative publication at [tinyurl.com/IARU-VHF-Handbook-6-14](http://tinyurl.com/IARU-VHF-Handbook-6-14) (IARU-R1)

## Upcoming Events

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.

## Songstress Sarah Brightman To Begin Training As Space Tourist In Early 2015

September 19, 2014

And finally this week, international singing sensation Sarah Brightman will soon begin training for her planned trip to the International Space Station but any ham radio operation by her is still in doubt.

According to Russia's ITAR-TAAS News Agency, Sarah Brightman plans to begin pre-flight training for her journey to the International Space Station early next year.

Yuri Lonchakov is the head of the Russia's Gagarin Cosmonaut Training Centre. He says that Brightman's training will actually begin next January at the Star City facility not far from Moscow. Less than three months ago Lonchakov said that the famous singer had already passed a number of required tests and was ready to begin preparations for the trip.

In conjunction with her role as a UNESCO Artist for Peace ambassador, Brightman says that she will present life on board the space station which requires the mindful, shared consumption of resources and an unwavering focus on sustainability. This as a model for how we might better inhabit our planet.

Brightman is also considered as an ardent supporter of women's education in science. In 2012 in conjunction with Virgin Galactic, the Brightman STEM Scholarship program was created to help young women in the United States pursue this type of education across their four-year college careers. Stem is an acronym that covers the subjects of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

Once her training is completed Brightman is tentatively scheduled to be part of a three-person crew travelling to the ISS on board the Soyuz TMA-18M spacecraft later in 2015 At airtime it is not known whether she will be trained in the use of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station gear or if she will get an amateur license from the United Kingdom regulator Ofcom so that she can make use of it.

In 1991 the first UK astronaut Helen Sharman was issued with a special callsign GB1MIR by Ofcom's predecessor the Radiocommunications Division of the Department of Trade and Industry. She was then able to contact radio amateurs on Earth during her stay on the now de-orbited Mir space station.

The first space tourist was US entrepreneur Dennis Tito, KG6FZX who made the flight to the ISS in 2001 and spent eight days at the station. The most recent visitor was Cirque du Soleil co-founder Guy Laliberte, who spent 11 days at the ISS in 2009. If the Sarah Brightman reaches the ISS next year, she will become the eighth visitor to the orbiting outpost. More about her plans for her space adventure are on her website at [www.sarahbrightman.com](http://www.sarahbrightman.com). (ITAR-TAAS, AMSAT-UK)



# The Secrets of Radar Museum Invitational HF event, September 28/29 2014

By David Lambert, VE3KGK

Each year at the Secrets of Radar Museum on the grounds of Parkwood Hospital an open house is held for two days. This year the curator of the museum contacted the webmaster of the



LARC web site and asked if the club would be able to support the museum by providing an operating HF station at the museum along with some hams who could explain the operations of the ham station and assist with some technical expertise when questions were asked by the public.

The curator asked that the club be available from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 28 and Sunday, September 29. Jim Morris, VA3AHQ agreed to organize the event.

Jim and I arrived at the location more than an hour early on Saturday to get a modest station set up. The radio was a Yaesu 857, a Yaesu PS50 and a VE3HKY dipole set up for 20 m phone. We were given a space at the front of the museum just to the right of the main entrance where we set up on a table which put us in plain view of the people coming into the museum. The staff treated us very well and assisted us with whatever we needed to get up and running.

Once we had the antenna tuned to be resonant at 14.250 Jim VA3AHQ and yours truly, VE3KGK, set about trying to make some contacts. The band was very crowded with several special event stations operating and the Texas QSO Party in full swing.

Shortly after we got on the air as "VE3LON, Special Event Station at the Secrets of Radar Museum" Mike VE3ZMC showed up and he and I started to make some contacts, with Mike calling CQ and me logging the stations calling. We oriented the antenna to work into the north east and south west and started making some good contacts into the United States. Given that the antenna was only 8 feet (a little over two meters) above the ground we were able to work through a lot of heavy QRM and make contacts with very respectable 5/9 signal reports being given to the signal we were putting out with our very modest station. We proved conclusively that with very modest equipment (meaning not very expensive!) equipment and a very modest antenna at very low height above ground we could make good contacts with great signal reports both ways, and more than



anything else, just *have fun* operating HF. It would have been easier to operate with headphones but as the signals we were hearing were very strong we decided that any interested members of the public would be better served if they could hear both sides of the conversation.

We had lots of interested people stop by to look at what we were doing, and they asked many interesting questions. We heard several times "I've always wanted to get into ham radio but I do not think I can learn Morse Code." We quickly disabused them of the idea that having to be proficient in CW was still a prerequisite to getting a Certificate of Proficiency in amateur radio. We got one very interested individual who said he would join the course on October 4 even though the course was already three weeks old. He said he had a background in electronics and when he was told the content of the modules he would have missed he felt he would have no problem covering those on his own. We may even have got a couple of new members through this display. We were very pleased with the level of interest in ham radio shown by the public.

On Saturday afternoon John VA3MSV and Ruth VE3RBO showed up as did Mike VE3ACW and Ruth made four contacts into the US. We were scheduled to close down at 2:00 p.m. but the level of interest was so high that the station was kept on the air until 4:30 p.m. when the museum closed.

On Sunday morning, Jim picked me up at 11:45 a.m. and we went back to the museum. Tom VE3HOR was there and we decided to set up his radio, a Kenwood 480 which has an internal tuner which

would enable us to keep the SWR down to a more than acceptable 1.5 to 1 or less. Between Tom, Jim and myself we logged a good many contacts with one of us calling while the other one logged, and changing places periodically. Again, the 2:00 p.m. hour passed and we kept right on having fun and we kept the station on the air until 4:00 p.m. when the museum closed after a very successful venture for the museum and for LARC.



We were able to show off ham radio to many interested people, raising the awareness of what ham radio is all about. Many who stopped by were amazed that we were able to make contacts with so little equipment, reaching many states in the US and even making contacts as far away as Bermuda and Spain.

In our post-event debrief of the operation, the staff at the museum were thrilled that we came out and even more thrilled that we stayed on well past the two hour window they had asked us to cover, and we were very happy to have been able to provide support for their event when they asked us to be a part of it.

The Secrets of Radar Museum is a wonderful little spot chock full of inventions that came out of some very fertile minds in the early days of the Second World War and the Canadian contribution was

certainly not just a small one. Many Canadian electronics technicians went over to England to assist in the war effort and I can only guess at the commitment they made when they were told they would be sworn to secrecy for **FIFTY YEARS!**

This cooperative venture was well worth the effort expended when we look at the benefits to the Museum and to LARC of the exposure to ham radio that the opportunity provided. We have been told that we are welcome to come out to the museum any time it is open (10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. excluding holidays) and plans are afoot to see if the museum staff would like LARC to provide some ham radio exposure on a more frequent basis, maybe by operating a station there three or four times per year. There is no charge for touring the museum but it does operate on donations so a small donation when you visit would certainly be appreciated. The museum can be located at the south end of Western Counties Road, which runs south off Commissioners Road at the traffic light between Wellington and Adelaide. It is well worth a visit.

This was a truly worthwhile HF event and everyone who participated had **FUN!! Isn't this what ham radio is all about?**

The following LARC members provided some solid and welcome support for the event:

Jim Morris, VA3AHQ - who organized it

Mike Watts, VE3ACW - Club President who fielded lots of questions about ham radio and some of the equipment in the museum

Mike Cook, VE3ZMC - Operator

Tom Pillon, VE3HOR - Operator

Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO - Operator

John Visser, VA3MSV - Much needed moral support

David Lambert, VE3KGGK - Operator and storyteller in quiet moments.

## DX Corner

By John Visser, VA3MSV

Sep 07 to Oct 27	Seychelles	S79LCA	40m – 6m CW
Sep 21 to Oct 15	St. Maarten	PJ7PL	CQWW DX RTTY
Sep 22 to Sep 29	Timor-Leste	4W6LU & 4W6DD	40m – 6m SSB/RTTY
Sep 23 to Nov 05	Nepal	9N7CJ	20m, 17m SSB
Sep 25 to Nov 22	Colombia	HK3JCL	40m, 20m, 15m SSB
Sep 26 to Oct 09	Dodecanese	SV5/DL3DRN	HF CW/SSB/RTTY Holiday Style Ops
Sep 26 to Oct 11	Rwanda	9X0VA	HF SSB
Sep 27 to Oct 10	Hawaii	KH6/VA3QSL	40m – 6m SSB/CW/Digital
Sep 29 to Oct 19	Nauru	C21GC	160m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
Sep 29 to Oct 24	Fehmarn Island	DF8HS/P	HF
Sep 30 to Oct 30	Reunion Island	FR/DJ2CW	160m – 10m CW/SSB
Sep 30 to Oct 10	Bahamas	C6AYS	CW only
Oct 01 to Oct 21	Malawi	7Q7VV	160m – 6m CW/SSB/RTTY
Oct 02 to Oct 15	Cape Verde Island	D44TUJ	HF
Oct 04 to Oct 08	Bahamas	C6AAS	30m – 10m CW/SSB Holiday Style
Oct 05 to Oct 08	Turkey	TC0MI	80m – 10m
Oct 06 to Oct 10	Sint Maarten	PJ7PK	40m – 10m CW/SSB
Oct 06 to Oct 20	Corsica	TK/G4BKI	HF CW
Oct 07 to Oct 14	Aruba	P40JW	160m – 6m SSB/CW/RTTY
Oct 08 to Oct 12	Damas Island	XR2T	40m – 10m CW/SSB/Digital
Oct 08 to Oct 15	Svalbard	JW9DL	CW/SSB/Digital
Oct 08 to Oct 20	Timor-Leste	4W/G3ZEM	80m – 10m CW
Oct 08 to Oct 21	Mariana Island	W1AW/KH0	HF + 6m CW/SSB/RTTY
Oct 08 to Oct 29	Tokelau	ZK3Q ZK3E	80m – 10m SSB/CW
Oct 09 to Oct 24	Reunion Island	FR/F4HAU	40m – 10m SSB Holiday Style Ops
Oct 10 to Oct 12	Lord Howe Island	VK9DJ	SSB/RTTY/CW
Oct 10 to Oct 14	Micronesia	V63AZ, V63GW, & V600	80m – 6m CW/SSB/RTTY/JT65
Oct 11 to Oct 13	Ogasawara	JD1BOW	12m & 10m
Oct 11 to Oct 18	Easter Island	CE0Y/DK5VP	40m – 6m
Oct 13 to Oct 17	Rodrigues Island	3B9/F4HAU	40m – 10m SSB Holiday Style
Oct 13 to Oct 29	Lord Howe Island	VK9DLX	CQWW DX SSB using VK9LM
Oct 13 to Nov 09	South Cook Island	E51NOU	160m – 10m CW Spare Time Ops
Oct 15 to Oct 22	Scilly Islands	MX0LDG	40m – 6m SSB/Digital
Oct 15 to Oct 31	Zambia	9I50JO	HF
Oct 15 to Dec 15	Minami Torishima	JG8NQJ/JD1	HF; mainly CW
Oct 16 to Oct 19	Martin Garcia Island	AY4E	160m – 70cm CW/SSB/Digital
Oct 18 to Oct 24	Ischia Island	IC8/IZ8XLP	40m – 10m SSB
Oct 18 to Oct 26	Dominica	J79L, J79X, & J79F	80m – 6m
Oct 18 to Oct 26	Marquesas Island	TX7G	80m – 10m SSB/CW/RTTY
Oct 18 to Oct 27	Albania	ZA/F4DTO & ZA/F4GFE	40m – 10m SSB
Oct 18 to Oct 28	Pellworm Island	DL1WH/P	HF CW
Oct 18 to Oct 31	Christmas Island	VK9XSP	160m – 6m CW/SSB/RTTY
Oct 19 to Oct 31	Timor-Leste	4W/K7CO	80m – 10m SSB/CW/CQWW DX SSB
Oct 20 to Nov 04	Madagascar	5R8M	HF RTTY/SSB/CW
Oct 21 to Oct 27	American Samoa	KH8B	160m – 10m CQWW DX SSB
Oct 22 to Oct 27	Bermuda	VP9/N1SV	160m – 10m CQWW DX SSB
Oct 22 to Oct 29	Colombia	HK1/LW9EOC	HF CW/SSB
Oct 23 to Oct 28	Samoa	5W0XH	CQWW DX SSB
Oct 23 to Nov 01	Macao	XX9R	HF SSB/CW/RTTY Holiday Style
Oct 24 to Oct 30	Koror Island	T88HZ	CQWW DX SSB

## DX Corner *con't.*

Oct 24 to Nov 04	Nepal	9N7CJ	20m & 17m SSB
Oct 29 to Nov 04	Jersey	GJ8DX	160m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
Oct 29 to Nov 11	Maldives	8Q700	HF
Oct 29 to Nov 11	Namibia	V5/OE3SZA	HF SSB
Oct 29 to Nov 20	Reunion	FR/F5UO	HF CW/SSB/RTTY
Oct 30 to Nov 10	Tromelin	FT4TA	160m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY
Nov 01 to Nov 13	Senegal	DL7DF/6W	160m – 10m CW/SSB/RTTY/PSK31/SSTV
Nov 01 to Nov 30	Central Kiribati	T31R	160m – 10m
Nov 02 to Nov 09	Niue Island	E6RQ E6SG	40m – 10m
Nov 03 to Nov 10	Bermuda	VP9/K2HVN	30m, 20m, & 17m CW/SSB
Nov 03 to Nov 30	Seychelles	S79VR	HF SSB

## US Antarctica Stations Join LOTW

September 12, 2014

In DX up-front, K1IED who is the QSL Manager for United States Antarctic stations KC4AAA, KC4AAC and KC4USV says that all three are now using Logbook of the World. K1IED notes that logs from

the past two years, as well some that are older have already been uploaded. Also some other older logs could be uploaded in the future as well. *(OPDX)*

## Rolls-Royce Special Event Oct 10 – 11

September 12, 2014

October 11th and 12th will see a forty eight hours hour special event operation by the United Kingdom's Hucknall Rolls Royce Amateur Radio Club station GB1RR. This to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the introduction of company's famed Eagle aero engine.

By way of background, Rolls-Royce was asked by the United Kingdom government to develop an aero engine which entered military service in 1914.

For the anniversary event, the club plans to run SSB and PSK 31 on 160 through 10 meters plus FM and SSB locally on the 2 meter band using four separate stations. Further details are at [www.hrrarc.com](http://www.hrrarc.com) *(MONJJ)*

## Arizona QSO Party October 11 – 12

September 26, 2014

On the air, this year's Arizona QSO Party will take place on October 11th and 12th. Modes to be used will include Phone, CW and digital modes on 160 through 2 meters excluding the WARC bands.

The Arizona QSO Party is sponsored by the ARRL Arizona Section and Catalina Radio Club. Full information on this event including complete time scheduling and log submission is in cyberspace at [www.azqsoparty.org](http://www.azqsoparty.org). *(Arizona QSO Party)*

## EI1100WD Celebrating Ireland's Oldest City

September 26, 2014

Ireland's oldest city, Waterford, is celebrating its 1100th birthday and ham radio is a part of the festivities. Through years end the South Eastern Amateur Radio Group is activating the special event

call-sign EI1100WD on the High Frequency bands from various sites. More information, modes and logs are to be posted at [searg.com](http://searg.com) and on the SEARG Facebook page. *(IRTS)*



## Ham Radio Saves the Day in the Yukon

October 2, 2014

According to a [report](#), Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) Amateur Radio bridged the gap recently for members of a search-and-rescue team attempting to locate a missing teenager in Canada's Yukon Territory. SAR team member Terry Hauff, VY1MAP, was unable to contact the team's headquarters in Whitehorse during the September 21 activation. He was out of cell phone range, and the satellite phone the team had was not working. VY1MAP was, however, able to reach a 2 meter repeater from his mobile station.



Hauff reached out to Ray Fugard, VY1RF, and Ron McFadyen, VY1RM, on the 146.88 MHz repeater in Whitehorse, and they were able to relay a report on the search status from the SAR command center

some 35 km north of Whitehorse at Lake Laberge. The missing teen was eventually located unharmed. According to the RAC report, this marked the second time in as many months that Amateur Radio and Yukon Amateur Radio Association members and repeater infrastructure had proved invaluable in an emergency.

Vincent Charron, VE3XU, RAC's Director of Communications, commented, "Whether it's a natural disaster, major weather event, planned community event, or a missing person search, we at RAC receive numerous reports of Amateur Radio interventions when traditional communication systems fail. Ham radio is most certainly still relevant and provides a crucial communications back-up option, often in challenging/dire situations." -- *Thanks to Radio Amateurs of Canada via Mark Bowers, VY1MAB - The ARRL Letter*

## Ham Technology: Plan For Beta Release Of WSJT-X V1.4

September 26, 2014

A public beta release of the weak signal data modes software WSJT-X, version 1.4, is now planned for October 1st.

WSJT-X is a computer program designed to facilitate basic amateur radio communication using very weak signals. The first four letters in the program name stand for "Weak Signal communication by K1JT," while the suffix "X" indicates that this version started as an extended and experimental branch of WSJT.

Some of the changes in version 1.4 relative to version 1.3 include such items as improved C-A-T

control for most radios including expanded support for Commander, Ham Radio Deluxe, and OmniRig. Other improvements are the ability to better handle messages that include compound callsigns and support for standard localization conventions to mention only a few.

In all, there are nine specific changes and improvements to the WSJT-X software in this latest release. To find out what they are send your web browser [tinyurl.com/njabe49](http://tinyurl.com/njabe49) to read the latest WSJT-X manual. (*K1JT, WSJT Development Team*)

## Ham Technology: Measuring Transmitter Noise

September 26, 2014

An interesting web page that measures the transmitter performance of noise element production by a number of popular amateur radio transceivers has been created by Jim Brown, K9YC.

In his research, Brown measured such areas as key clicks, intermodulation distortion, and phase noise. You can see the results of his study on the web at [www.k9yc.com/TXNoise.pdf](http://www.k9yc.com/TXNoise.pdf) (*Southgate*)

## Ham Technology: Free Grey Line Software

October 3, 2014

Simon Brown, G4ELI has released a simple Windows program which displays Gray-line, Geomagnetic Indices, Solar Data as well as Sunrise and Sunset

times. The program is free of cost and can be downloaded at [tinyurl.com/G4ELI-gray-line](http://tinyurl.com/G4ELI-gray-line) (*G4ELI, Southgate*)

## Emerging Technology: Utah University Creates Topological Insulator For Superfast Computers

October 3, 2014

Scientists have found a way to create a special material that could help in developing super-fast computers that can perform lightning-fast calculations without overheating.

Material Science and Engineering professor Feng Liu, of the University of Utah led the study that explained how they had developed a new topological insulator that has the potential to behave in two ways. The first is that it can act as an insulator on the inside while secondly conducting electricity on the outside.

Ever since the researchers discovered almost a decade ago that the topological insulators can be used as a class of material designed to speed up computers scientists have been trying to develop such a material that creates a large energy gap. This translates into the amount of energy consumed by the electrons to conduct electricity in a given

material while allowing the electricity to be conducted on a material's surface so that a computer can be operated at the room temperature while remaining stable.

The University of Utah team found that bismuth metal deposited on silicon can lead to the creation of a more stable and large-gap topological insulator. As the bismuth layer is atomically bonded and electronically isolated from the silicon layer, it leads to the creation of that type of a large energy gap. Moreover the research team says that this process can be very cost-effective in the development of the next generation of super high speed computing devices.

The study was published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. More is on the web at [tinyurl.com/new-super-computer](http://tinyurl.com/new-super-computer) (Published news reports)

## Actor Tim Allen Gets His Ham Ticket For Real

October 2, 2014

Actor and comedian Tim Allen now not only plays an Amateur Radio operator on television, he *is* one! Allen got his Technician ticket on September 4, but did not release the news until this week. In his weekly ABC comedy TV show "Last Man Standing," Allen plays Mike Baxter, KA0XTT, and the show, which starts its new season October 3, has [featured](#) ham radio in some episodes (Allen's TV daughter, Mandy Baxter, is KFOXIE). "Last Man Standing" producer John Amodeo, NN6JA, told ARRL that the agreement with Allen was that "we would not publicize his license until he approved it." Allen subsequently revealed to Tom Medlin, W5KUB, for one of Medlin's webcasts that he had passed his Technician license test but, per Allen's request, did not mention his call sign, Amodeo said. The call sign has since been disclosed elsewhere.

"The Amateur Radio operators on the crew of 'Last Man Standing' are delighted that Tim has taken and passed his Technician exam and received his own, real call sign," Amodeo said. "It took more than 3 years to make it happen, and it started with Tim's personal interest in radio technology and his request to make the Mike Baxter character an Amateur Radio operator." The ham shack on the show is a working station.



Newly licensed Tim Allen in his role as Mike Baxter, KA0XTT, on the TV comedy "Last Man Standing." With him is Flynn Morrison, who plays his grandson on the show. The station on the set actually works. [Photo courtesy of John Amodeo, NN6JA]

More than 2 dozen members of the "Last Man Standing" crew -- and now Allen, its star -- have been inspired by the show's Amateur Radio component to get licensed. On September 28, the K6H "Hollywood Hamnado" special event station was on the air, with "Last Man Standing" crew members at the helm from the show's set.

Amodeo said K6H went very well. "We had about 35 operators and guests on Stage 9 here at CBS Studio Center" he told ARRL. "All enjoyed being on the set of 'Last Man Standing.' The feeling was like a Field

Day and a mini Hamvention." Amodeo said that all six K6H stations had "continuous contacts from start to finish."

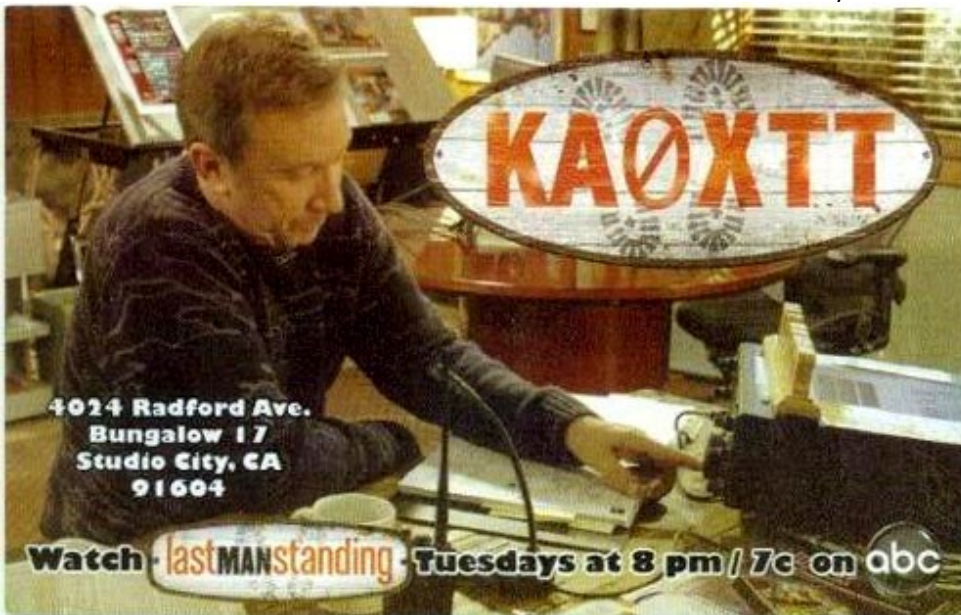
Most of the K6H event and several interview segments, including one with the VEs who administered Allen's test, have been posted on [Medlin's website](#).

Amodeo expressed gratitude to the ARRL for its "continued support," starting with the assistance of former ARRL Media and Public Relations Manager Allen Pitts, W1AGP, in the creation of the KA0XTT call sign and the more recent assistance of ARRL VEC staffers Maria Somma, AB1FM, and Amanda Grimaldi, KB1VUV.



Producer John Amodeo, NN6JA (left), is interviewed on the "Last Man Standing" set by Tom Medlin, W5KUB. [Photo courtesy of John Amodeo, NN6JA]

"We hope Tim will find Amateur Radio to be an enjoyable and useful hobby for many years to come," he added. *The ARRL Letter*



**KA0XTT**

Radio: \_\_\_\_\_

Day	Date Mo	Yr	Time UTC

Frequency MHZ	MODE	Report R   S   T

PLS QSL    TNX

Remarks:  
*thank for watching!  
73  
NN6JA*

4024 Radford Ave.  
Bungalow 17  
Studio City, CA 91604  
USA

TO:  
*Mario - KB4SA0*

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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# A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

September 11, 2014

When the 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC-79) concluded, Amateur Radio had gained new bands at 10, 18, and 24 MHz. Those bands would become available to US hams later, after the FCC had done its work to put them in place. The term "WARC bands" for 30, 17, and 12 meters persists to this day.

Also in 1979, the FCC issued a *Notice of Inquiry* on the subject of radio frequency interference (RFI). The great expansion of consumer electronic gear that was susceptible to RFI had led an increase in complaints of interference from hams, largely through no fault of the hams or their equipment.



The 1979 World Administrative Radio Conference (WARC-79) in Geneva remains one of the most significant conferences in International Telecommunication Union (ITU) history. The ground-breaking decisions at WARC-79 remain important to this day. [Photo courtesy of the ITU]

In the March 1980 issue of *QST*, VE2AEJ's article, "Observance of Long-Delayed Echoes on 28 MHz" concluded that long-delayed echoes are a result of transmitted signals getting into a natural duct, probably between the E and F layers of the ionosphere, and circling the globe many times before re-emerging. After the explanation of LDEs was set forth, scientists asked for hams to help with reports of their LDE experiences, to better understand the details of the propagation.

As *QST* articles in the 1980s reflected, the main topics of interest to the amateur community were new antenna ideas -- from simple and inexpensive to large, complex, and *very* expensive -- the use of new solid state technology in the ham shack, VHF/UHF/microwave equipment and activities, 2 meter FM and repeaters, DXing, contesting, and moonbounce communication.

When microprocessors and microcomputers emerged in the early 1980s, hams began putting them to work. Later, stand-alone computers began to be integrated into the stations of hams who were pushing the state of the art. Another area where digital technology helped amateurs was the construction of frequency synthesizers.



In the late 1970s, the Soviet Union's "woodpecker" over-the-horizon (ionospheric) radar had started its strong and annoying *peck-peck-peck* that slowly swept through the HF amateur bands as well as the allocations of other radio services.

In 1980 the ARRL Board of Directors established a Long-Range Planning Committee, to look far into the future and plan for Amateur Radio to remain strong enough to weather the efforts of other radio services to chip away at our frequency allocations. The LRPC was also tasked to find ways to strengthen the cooperation between Amateur Radio and governmental agencies at all levels.

The Amateur Radio space effort suffered a huge disappointment in May 1980, when the first attempt to launch a Phase 3 (OSCAR 9) satellite was unsuccessful. The *Ariane* launch vehicle failed right after liftoff, and Phase 3 landed in the Atlantic Ocean. The AMSAT-OSCAR community regrouped and went to work building another Phase 3 unit. The ARRL Foundation launched a fund-raising drive for building the new Phase 3 satellite that was highly successful. -- Al Brogdon, W1AB The ARRL Letter



# A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

September 18, 2014

In March 1980, Mount St Helens spectacularly exploded. Before the explosion, radio amateurs had been assisting with communication among a number of sites where ongoing measurements were being taken, because scientists had concluded that the mountain was nearing the point of eruption. The hams continued to work after the volcano's several eruptions, with both emergency communications and a continuation of their previous support work. Sadly, two of those hams lost their lives during the disaster -- W6TQF and KA7AMF.

By the 1980s, some towns and neighborhoods had begun to impose very restrictive rules about antennas and towers -- rules that would prohibit effective amateur antennas. Many of these cases were fought through the legal system successfully by the affected hams. As with so many issues that involve many hams all over the country, ARRL joined the fight, providing legal assistance through the League's general counsel and volunteer counselors who were also hams.

The ARRL introduced a new periodical in December



Mount St Helens erupted in March 1980.  
[Robert Krimmel/USGS photo]

1981 -- *QEX*. Its purposes were (1) to publish articles that documented advanced technical work in areas that were not of wide general interest, and (2) to act as a catalyst for technical development in the Amateur Radio and Amateur-Satellite Services.

On May 21, 1981, at the request of the ARRL, the FCC restored 160 meters to exclusive Amateur Radio use. Before this, the FCC rules included an array of restrictions on 160 meter operation, to protect the LORAN (Long-Range Aid to Navigation) system. Now, hams could run a full kilowatt on 160, day and night, anywhere in the country!

In the 1980s, packet radio and packet repeaters -- digipeaters -- came into being. Numerous *QST*

articles detailed this mode of operation, helping interested hams to get up and running on packet.

In 1982, cable TV systems expanded across the US, bringing with them the potential for CATVI -- cable TVI. Some cable channels were on 2 meter amateur frequencies, and because many poorly installed and maintained cable systems "leaked" TV signals, causing interference on the 2 meter band. Of course, if signals could leak out, other signals could leak in, and hams sometimes caused interference when their signals got into the cable TV system. Cable companies often blamed the problem on hams, rather than take the blame for their poor equipment and maintenance. In the meantime, the FCC was in a fiscal crisis, because of budget cutbacks. Although it was willing to enforce the regulations and bring the cable companies in line, it was unable to fund that enforcement effort. This problem continued for some time before it was corrected.

During the 1980s, the SKYWARN system was established and became affiliated with the National Weather Service, so hams could report dangerous weather events that they saw. To this day, SKYWARN members have proven extremely valuable for monitoring weather conditions and providing "ground truth" reports to the NWS. Much SKYWARN communication occurs via 2 meter repeaters.

Harry Dannals, W2HD, had been ARRL President for 10 years when he decided to step down in 1982. At the same time, ARRL Secretary and General Manager Richard Baldwin, W1RU, retired. At their first 1982 meeting, the ARRL Board of Directors elected Vic Clark, W4KFC, as the League's new president, and David Sumner, K1ZZ, as the new Secretary and General Manager.



On the afternoon of January 13, 1982, Air Florida Flight 90 took off from Washington National Airport. But the Boeing 737 slowly settled toward Earth, clipping the 14th Street Bridge (I-395) and destroying seven cars that were on it, before crash landing in the ice-covered Potomac River. The area's ARES operators and nets sprang into immediate action and provided much-needed communication support among the various governmental agencies that had responded. -- Al Brogdon, W1AB *The ARRL Letter*

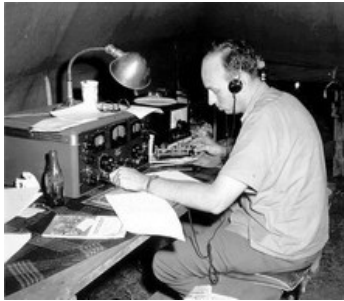
# A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

September 25, 2014

In February 1973, the FCC proposed a new Amateur Radio license class that would not require Morse code testing, and invited comments. At the time, the ARRL opposed the proposal.

From 1965 to 1985, the FCC, ARRL, and US hams took note of what was called the "JA Phenomenon." The number of Japanese hams grew from 70,000 in 1965 to 499,000 in 1975, and then to more than 1 million by 1985! A new Japanese codeless license class helped spur that growth.

On June 16, 1983, the second attempt to launch a Phase III Amateur Radio satellite (AMSAT-OSCAR 10) was successful. Articles in *QST* kept hams up to date on its progress. OSCAR 10 was, by far, the most capable amateur satellite to date.



Then-future ARRL President Vic Clark, W4KFC, at the 1950 PVRC Field Day site in Fort Meade, Maryland. [Photo courtesy of PVRC]

Also in 1983, Amateur Radio in the US reached a new level of formal governmental recognition of Amateur Radio's emergency communication capabilities, when ARRL President Vic Clark, W4KFC, signed a *Memorandum of Understanding* with National Communication System

Deputy Manager John Grimes.

Articles began appearing in *QST* during 1983 explaining what personal computers could do and how they might be put to use in the ham shack.

In October 1983, the US military invaded Grenada. Mark Baretella, KA2ORK (now N2MD), then a

medical student at St George's University School of Medicine on Grenada, became the only non-military source of information from the island, as he relayed messages between other Americans on Grenada and their families in the US. This resulted in excellent media coverage for Amateur Radio.



Astronaut Owen Garriott, W5LFL, was the first to use Amateur Radio from the space shuttle. [NASA photo]

Amateurs throughout the world were saddened to learn of the unexpected death of ARRL President Vic Clark, W4KFC, in November 1983. A well-known ham as early as his teenage years, Clark won the first Hiram Percy Maxim Award in 1936. He also served the ARRL in various roles and offices and was considered a first-rate operator. He was truly one of the giants of Amateur Radio.

In November 1983, Owen Garriott, W5LFL, became the first ham to make contacts from aboard the Shuttle *Columbia*. His first contact was with WA1JXN. W5LFL operated his 2 meter FM transceiver during his non-duty hours during the mission's 10 days in orbit.

In September 1984, phone privileges on 75, 15, and 10 meters were expanded. In addition, US stations in Alaska and in the Pacific had their 40 meter phone privileges expanded, so they could avoid the high-power international broadcast stations. -- Al Brogdon, W1AB *The ARRL Letter*

# A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

October 2, 2014

At the 1983 Dayton Hamvention, volunteers administered Amateur Radio examinations for the first time, under FCC supervision, demonstrating the feasibility of a volunteer examiner system. The following year, the FCC began designating Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (the first was the Anchorage, Alaska, Amateur Radio Club VEC), including the ARRL VEC, now the largest and most successful.

In June 1985, ARRL co-founder Clarence D. Tuska died. He was the last surviving pioneer of early organized Amateur Radio. Tuska was still a teenager and Hiram Percy Maxim was a well-known inventor in his 40s when they first met and eventually formed the League a century ago. Tuska, who went to a career in radio manufacturing and patent law, served as the ARRL's first secretary as well as the first editor of *QST*. The fascinating story of their early association and how it came about was told in the April 1989 issue of *QST* and [recounted and updated](#) in the January 2014 *QST* "It Seems to Us" editorial, "Present at the Creation."

On August 15, 1985, the FCC opened the 902 to 928 MHz band for amateur use. Also in 1985, the 10 MHz band (30 meters), one of the so-called "WARC bands," was opened for US amateur use. The band was one of those gained at the World Administrative Radio Conference 1979.

Also in August 1985, astronaut Tony England, W0ORE, took along ham radio, including slow-scan TV, on a shuttle *Challenger* mission. His aim was to get youngsters involved in the space program and ham radio.



ARRL Co-Founder  
Clarence D. Tuska.

On March 21, 1987, "Novice enhancement" came to pass, 12 years after the ARRL had first asked the FCC to implement it. Novice privileges were expanded to allow operation on 28 MHz SSB, 220 MHz, and 1270 MHz, as well as operation using RTTY, AMTOR, and packet. This was a giant step toward getting Novices more into the mainstream of Amateur Radio.

During Field Day 1987, those new privileges allowed Novices to make contact with the Goodyear blimp *Enterprise*, thanks to KA4KVI, WB4RFC, and N4ORN, who had put a ham station on board.

The results of a new ARRL contest were reported photographically in the April 1987 *QST*-- "The Messy Shack Photo Contest." Winners in each of the nine categories truly outdid themselves, making our hearts swell with admiration and pride at our fellow amateurs' efforts.

The August 1987 *QST* reported an interesting solo hike by VE3HBF, 89 days on foot from the southwestern tip of England to extreme northeastern Scotland. A solo hiker, David was never alone.

He had a 2 meter handheld with him, so that other hams could keep him company along the way, and so he could call for help, if needed. As he walked, he visited historic radio sites along the way, and was visited by other hams on several occasions.

In 1987, Amateur Radio in the US celebrated the bicentennial of the US Constitution with "200" call signs for club stations, a "We the People" WAS, and other radio events.

On January 1, 1988, the Canadian Radio Relay League became fully autonomous, ending its long-held status as a division of the ARRL. -- Al Brogdon, W1AB  
*The ARRL Letter*



# **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).





## LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

- Single Membership: \$25.00       Renewal  
 Family Membership: \$30.00       New Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

RAC Member?  Yes  No      RAC Member # \_\_\_\_\_      ARES Volunteer? Yes  No

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

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

**Privacy policy:** We do not publish private member contact information in the newsletter, or on the Web site. Occasionally other members will ask how to contact other members via email or phone.

- I wish to receive LARC News by email  
 I give permission to have my email address given to other LARC Executive members when requested  
 I give permission to have my email address given to other LARC Members when requested  
 I give permission to have my phone number given to other LARC Executive members when requested  
 I give permission to have my phone number given to other LARC Members when requested

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### My interests are:

- |   |                                       |                                       |   |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HF-SSB           | <input type="checkbox"/> VHF/UHF      | <input type="checkbox"/> ARES         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentor/Elmer         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HF-CW            | <input type="checkbox"/> Repeaters    | <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite    | <input type="checkbox"/> Require Mentoring    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HF-RTTY          | <input type="checkbox"/> Slow Scan TV | <input type="checkbox"/> Kit Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Event Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HF-Digital Modes | <input type="checkbox"/> APRS         | <input type="checkbox"/> Contesting   |   |

### Family Membership *(Must be living in the same household)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

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

*All information requested should be completed - this will be used for the club's membership database only.*

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

Paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cash:  Cheque:   
Membership Card Needed:   
Sticker Needed: