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# Keyed-Up

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Issue 11 2002/3

September 2002

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P.O. Box 82, Station 'B'  
London, ON. N6A 4V3

**President – Charles McNeil VE3HBB**  
**Past President - Dave Young VE3EAY**  
**Secretary – Brian Bouckley VA3ATB**  
**Director – Norm Campbell VE3MNC**

**Vice President - Jack Leeson VE3KM**  
**Treasurer – Tony Drawmer VE3SQU**  
**Membership - Carlo Cervoni VE3CVA**  
**Web, Bulletin – Eric Pierce VA3EP**

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## NEXT MEETING

**Time:** 7:30 Pm, Thursday, Sept 12, 2002

**Place:** St. Jude's Anglican Church Basement  
Southwest Corner Of Fanshawe Park Road  
& Adelaide St. North

**Topic:** Bob Cook, Rac Regional Director. Learn Why Supporting Your  
National Ham Radio Voice Is So Important!  
Also A Good Opportunity To Renew Your Membership.

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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**Charles McNeil VE3HBB**

Welcome back! Here it is September already. Where has the summer gone? With the onset of autumn comes the beginning of the club year. Your Board of Directors has met throughout the summer and has been developing program ideas for the 2002/03 club year. This includes an exciting speaker line-up for our meetings to come.

Starting this month, we are pleased to welcome Bob Cooke, VE3BDB, Regional Director, Radio Amateurs of Canada. Bob will bring us up-to-date on RAC initiatives and

will present us with the opportunity to renew our memberships in this essential organization. Bob will also be in attendance at the Ham-Fest to be held later in the month.

Other speakers will address antenna design issues, the history of the development of the transistor, APRS, IRLP and other topics. Add to this the usually scheduled events, for example, the Christmas potluck dinner, our swap meeting, Canwarn training (in March), our AGM (in May) and we will have a busy and productive year. We are also looking forward to providing an interesting field trip to replace a monthly meeting early in the new year.

Memberships are coming due! There will be an opportunity to renew (or join for the first time) at the Ham-Fest, and at the monthly membership meetings. There is no intention to increase the annual dues at this time. Old memberships expire as at the October meeting. After that time, unpaid members will be struck from the roll.

It is my pleasure to welcome Jack Leeson, VE3KM to the executive. Jack has agreed to serve in the much-needed capacity of Vice President. We will all benefit from Jack's experience and leadership.

Thanks are due to Archie VE3PTV, Eric VA3EP and Jack VE3KM who have been working hard to increase the number of new licenses in the London area. Successful courses have resulted in many new voices on the air!

Finally, the board is of the opinion that the old 220MHz repeater be placed for sale. This unused system is costing us in terms of rent and insurance. The proceeds of the sale will go toward the upgrade of other club equipment. We will option the site so that it can be used again in future. We will conduct a "straw-vote" at the September meeting to gauge the agreement of the overall membership.

Well, that's it for now. See you all at the meeting.

Cheers and 73,  
Charles VE3HBB  
President, LARC

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**Guy Lombardo Special Event Station At the Western Fair  
Coming Up September 6 to September 15, 2002  
Stephen Harding, VA3NSD**

At the invitation the Western Fair, London and area Radio Amateurs will again operate Special Event Station VA3GLM from Sept. 6 -15 during the Western Fair. Our station is located in the Fair's Museum and Archive building, beside Locomotive 86 and close to the Dundas Street entrance. Our station compliments a photograph exhibit featuring Guy Lombardo's homecoming to London during the City's Centennial celebrations in July, 1955. The Royal Canadians performed the "Sweetest Music This Side of Heaven" at the Fair grounds to over 8,000 of their London fans. Several vintage radios provided by the

London Vintage Radio Club and the Hammond Museum of Radio are on display to highlight Guy Lombardo's accomplishments as a pioneer in radio broadcasting and recording. Radios built right here in London by Sparton of Canada are featured, in addition to the Rogers Majestic, Philco and Westinghouse, and other models on display.

The achievements of another pioneering Canadian, Ted Rogers Sr. are also being featured, using examples of radio sets manufactured at his factory in Toronto. It was Ted Rogers who invented the circuits and tubes necessary to operate radio sets from the 110 volt domestic hydro supply. His invention freed radio listeners from the large and expensive batteries previously used to power radio equipment. VA3GLM will alternate operation using both 20 and 40 metres on 14.255 and 7.255 depending on band conditions, using a Kenwood TS440. A 2 metre VHF station will also be in use. The station will go on the air at 3:00 pm on monday, tuesday and wednesday, and at 11:00 am thursday, friday, saturday and sunday. The station will cease operation at 8:30 every day.

We have been allotted generous space in the Museum for our equipment and displays relating to amateur radio. Passes to the Fair have also been provided for all the station personnel. This is an excellent opportunity to showcase amateur radio, and to demonstrate your operating skills. Call John Donald, VA3JD at 657-4405 or Stephen Harding, VA3NSD at 451-8252, if you would like to be involved in operating the station.

Artifacts relating to Ann May Dingwall, London Township's Queen of the Cowgirls and a Steam Railway exhibit are also on display in the Museum's gallery. Inge Sanmiya, the Fair's Historical Projects Coordinator, can be contacted at 438-7203 ext. 216 for further information about the displays. The VA3GLM Lombardo 100th Anniversary QSL card will again be available to stations who make contact with the station during the run of the Fair. To receive your card please send a stamped, self addressed envelope to L.A.R.C., P.O. Box (insert mailing address).

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## **London Amateur Radio Club 25th Anniversary 2002 Flea Market Coming Up Sunday, Sept 22 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

Located at the Western Fair Grounds, Special Events Building, Western Fair, 900 King Street, London, Ontario. Talk In VA3LON, 147.060 PL 114.8

Free Parking, Air Conditioned, Wheelchair Accessible, Handicapped Washrooms, Commercial Dealers, Ham License Testing, Snack Bar Facilities, Door Prizes. Visit the Western Fair Slots. Book Early, Tables are on a first come, First Serve Basis. Loading door available. We do not reserve unpaid tables. Table and site maps will be sent to you in vendors package. Vendor Set Up 7:30 AM.

Inquiries:

Jeff Peacock, VE3IOS  
Anne Skipp, VA3FRO  
E-Mail: ve3ios@servers.ca

Send completed form below and payments (Admission \$6.00, Tables \$8.00)  
to:

Jeff Peacock  
RR #4  
Parkhill, Ontario  
N0M 2K0

Admission (but not tables) are also available at the door.

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**Order form for LARC Flea Market**  
**Sunday Sept 22, 2002**  
**Western Fair Special Events Building**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Admission:</b> <u>   </u> X \$6.00 =
<b>Call:</b>	<b>Table:</b> <u>   </u> X \$8.00 =
<b>E-Mail:</b>	<b>Table w/ 110VAC:</b> <u>   </u> X \$10.00 =
<b>Address 1:</b>	
<b>Address 2:</b>	<b>Total:</b> =
<b>Address 3:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>	

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**Parkwood Hospital Special Event Station, June 19, 2002**  
**Stephen Harding, VA3NSD**

The 100th Anniversary of bandleader Guy Lombardo was celebrated by local radio amateurs who went on the air on Guy's birthday, June 19, with a Special Event Station using call sign VA3GLM. The London' Senior's Club station at Parkwood Hospital was the host for the event. Guy Lombardo and the Royal Canadians were pioneers in radio broadcasting, so this event organized by radio amateurs was a particularly appropriate way to honour Guy Lombardo.

Band conditions were poor in the morning and early afternoon. Despite this, however, over 100 stations were contacted, most of them on 20 metres. We were very pleased at the response and found that many amateurs wanted to share their memories of Guy Lombardo and the big band era. Stations in, Texas, across the midwest and several in California were among those contacted We also made contact with the Hammond Museum of Radio in Guelph and the Signals and Radar Museum, Kingston. The idea for our event was inspired by reading about the Camp X Special Event Station in the Canadian Amateur Magazine. We were featured in the London free Press with an article and a photograph, and received TV coverage on the New PL and CKCO TV in

Kitchener. Thanks go out to all the London and area amateur radio operators who made this event so successful.

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## **Letters To The Editor**

Mary Marchand and I talked about the club and the newsletter after our experience operating at Parkwood on June 19. We agreed that the newsletter needs to have content directed to new or prospective members. Remember that these are people who do not know their way around yet. For instance, Mary thought it would be a good idea to list the local nets and frequencies in the newsletter.

She also believes a fox-hunt would attract younger people. One of Mary's sons got licensed, but soon lost interest in amateur radio, except for fox hunts and there are none currently in our area. Perhaps this would help to bring some kids like him back. Please print the the suggestion in the newsletter and see if any one comes forward to organise it. I would like to see people's telephone numbers listed in the newsletter along with their call signs. My directory is long out of date, and it is frustrating to have to call other people to get the club executive officers's telephone numbers. New comers would find this a barrier to their participation.

Stephen Harding, VA3NSD

Very good ideas, Stephen!

How about some members who have done it before get some interest up in getting a fox hunt going? How about some members write up some articles on beginner topics, the editor would be very happy to publish them. I'll add some local net and frequency info in this newsletter. – Ed

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## **HAM Radio In Space** **Bob Morden, VE3EIM**

For a live report of the ascent and descent of Space Shuttles, listen to the TV or Radio News reports to determine Shuttle departure and return times. Then listen on 7.183 Mhz LSB for WA3NAN. This Amateur Radio station picks up and re-broadcasts live communications from Mission Control in Houston, Texas to the Space Shuttle.

There is a UFO (Unidentified Flying Object) Net on Tuesday evenings from 8 PM until about 10 PM local time on 7.236 LSB. This Net is run by Rich, W1RV, and Bill, WB9NLI. Hams call in and chat about UFO's, the North American Space Agency, and activities going on at the present. Some talk about Space Movies past and present and movies coming up in the near future. Some of the check-ins appear quite knowledgeable about the subject, and to me, it's a learning experience just listening in to the Net.

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## **June/July Ham Course**

Achiel Van De Velde VE3PTV and Jack Leeson VE3KM help a four Saturday morning Basic course in late June and early July. They had 9 people attend (from 12 years old to retired), and all 9 passed the test first try! Welcome to Art VE3CAH, Vince VE3GRV, Richard VE3GIR, James VE3NMZ, Jim VE3XIO, Joe VA3JVG, Ken VE3BDD, Alex VE3LUE, and Paul VE3VEV.

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## **Next HAM Course**

We currently have a waiting list with a couple of people on it who are doing self study, if we get some more we will schedule another course in Oct or Nov. Please forward contact info of anyone interested to Eric Pierce, [va3ep@rac.ca](mailto:va3ep@rac.ca) or phone 685.9934

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## **Slow Speed Code Practice Net on 40 meters Submitted by Bob Morden, VE3EIM**

The Metro Amateur Radio Club's Slow Speed Code Practice Net meets on the second, third and fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 PM Central (currently 0100 UTC) on 7138 MHz plus or minus ORM). Listen for "CQ MAC"

For more information visit the MAC Web site, <http://www.qsl.net/mac>

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## **Other Upcoming Flea Markets**

Barrie Fleamarket Sponsored by the Barrie ARC.

September 7th. Located at the Shanty Bay Community Centre. Highway 400 North to Hwy 11 East on Oro-Medonte Line 3 to Ridge Road, right turn South to the Community Centre. Vendors 7 AM. Open to public 9 AM to 1 PX. Admission \$3; Vendor tables \$10. Tailgating \$5. Talkin VE3RAG 147.000 plus. VE3LSR 146.850-146.520  
Information Tables or info, Brad Ford at 705-456-3656, [ve3gcb@rac.ca](mailto:ve3gcb@rac.ca)  
Website: [www.bconnex.net/-barc/hamfest.htm](http://www.bconnex.net/-barc/hamfest.htm)

York Region Hamfest November 2nd, 2002, 9 AM

Markham Fairground (McCowan Road at Elgin Mills Road East) Markham, Ont.,  
VE3YRA 145.350 minus.  
[www.yrarc.on.ca/fallfest.htm](http://www.yrarc.on.ca/fallfest.htm)

**The EARL System**  
**Submitted by Bob Morden, VE3EIM**

Date sent: Tue, 02 Jul 2002 11:39:43 -0400  
To: tca@igs.net  
From: Robert <robert.morden@sympatico.ca>  
Subject: Morse Code.

Sirs and Ladies; I have taught Morse Code off and on for over 40 years; I found your article "Another Approach To 5 WPM--The Earl system" very interesting. Last month the London Amateur Radio Club was pleased to learn eight students passed their Basic Test, so, we would like them to take the next step and learn their Morse at 5 WPM. I wonder if I could obtain permission from you to hand in a copy of the Morse article by Bob Nash, VE3KZ to our Club Bulletin Editor so all of our members can be aware of this system? The new Basic people are not members of RAC yet, so they wouldn't have availability to the article. I have been a RAC member since the beginning and with each new member joining our club I hand them an old copy of the RAC magazine and explain your organization to them. I am also a Net Controller for the London Amateur Radio Club once a month on 7.063 11 AM local time and we make a point of mentioning RAC along with your 800 number to join. 73, Bob Morden, VE3EIM.

To: <robert.morden@sympatico.ca>  
Subject: Re: Morse Code.

Hi Bob

I have the OK from RAC and I can now give my personal permission to reproduce the EARL article. I have also included the follow-up that will be in the next TCA.

I hope this can be another tool in the arsenal of things that will help in the upgrading process.

Good luck & 73  
de Bob VE3KZ  
ve3kz@rac.ca

# ANOTHER APPROACH TO 5 WPM — THE EARL SYSTEM

Bob Nash, VE3KZ

This idea may shock some people, maybe even Industry Canada. A few months ago, on "The Sports Page", I mentioned that one could copy 5 wpm off a card and pass the test for full privileges. I should like to follow up on that idea at this time.

I would like to take a moment on my soapbox to encourage all those of you who do not have code to look at this very carefully. It could open a very large door in your hobby. The CW code test is a means to an end. If you can pass the code test, the world is open to you, not through someone else's satellite or repeater, not through your service supplier, but using radio frequencies alone, person to person. I'm not advocating you become a CW specialist, much as I might like you to. What I'm talking about is establishing your ability to communicate on the ten HF Amateur bands on Voice and Digital modes, plus CW if you wish.

Yes, I know many of you believe that CW was put on earth by a bunch of sadists to personally limit your ability to enjoy your hobby. The international CW requirement may indeed be dropped some time in the future. At this time, however, it is deemed to be necessary to facilitate international communication, particularly under emergency conditions. Our country, like all others belonging to the ITU, is a signatory to such an agreement. You need to be able to decode CW under conditions in which the other operator might be reduced to keying a

transmitter by touching together two wires! 5 wpm will do just fine. Decoding his message with a card will be just fine. His message will get through!

To use such a device, I have set up a table, starting with the letters, EARL, hence the name. Two columns are used, one for characters starting with a dit and one for characters starting with a dah. I also threw in the most common punctuation, the question mark and the oblique slash, giving a total of 40 symbols. Remember that at 5 words per minute, a typical word plus space of five letters takes approximately 12 seconds. You have an average of 2 seconds to decode each character. That's often referred to as "one thousand, two thousand", you may recall.

The organization of the dual table is what makes the system work. As the first character is sounded, you hear either a dit or a dah. You immediately move to the proper table. Hearing the next dit or dah takes you down that table to the second character that matches what you heard. If there is a third, you move farther down the table. And so it goes until you are in the right place to write down the character.

Make a copy of this table and try it out. Download the demo version of someone's logging software and set the sending speed for 5 wpm. Have someone type in a line of text and out will come the text at 5 wpm. There are also practice files on the Internet. You'll be on your way.

*Before long we'll be talking about it on 20m SSB!*

TCA

●	E	■■■	T
● ■■■	A	■■■ ●	N
● ■■■ ●	R	■■■ ● ■■■	K
● ■■■ ● ●	L	■■■ ● ■■■ ●	C
● ■■■ ■■■	W	■■■ ● ■■■ ■■■	Y
● ■■■ ■■■ ●	P	■■■ ● ●	D
● ■■■ ■■■ ■■■	J	■■■ ● ● ■■■	X
● ■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■	1	■■■ ● ● ■■■ ●	/
● ●	I	■■■ ● ● ●	B
● ● ■■■	U	■■■ ● ● ● ●	6
● ● ■■■ ●	F	■■■ ■■■	M
● ● ■■■ ■■■ ● ●	?	■■■ ■■■ ●	G
● ● ■■■ ■■■ ■■■	2	■■■ ■■■ ● ●	Z
● ● ●	S	■■■ ■■■ ● ■■■	Q
● ● ● ■■■	V	■■■ ■■■ ● ● ●	7
● ● ● ■■■ ■■■	3	■■■ ■■■ ■■■	O
● ● ● ●	H	■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ● ●	8
● ● ● ● ■■■	4	■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ●	9
● ● ● ● ●	5	■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■ ■■■	0

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## Local Repeaters

### LARC Repeaters

- VA3LON - 147.060+ with 114.8 Hz PL \* + patch (typical [coverage map](#))
- VE3LON - 224.220+ with 114.8 Hz PL \*

### SORT Repeaters

- VE3TTT - 147.180+ with 114.8 Hz PL \* Usually open, ULR link repeater "SORT" System
- VE3SUE - 444.400+ with 114.8 Hz PL \* Usually open, ULR link repeater "SORT" System, IRLP
- VE3SUE is linked to 146.940- VE3TCB and 442.300+ VE3SRT in Ipperwash, full time

### Other Area Repeaters

- VE3NMN - 224.780- with 114.8 Hz PL \*
- VE3NMN - 444.925+ with 114.8 Hz PL \* 2M, 6M and 10M FAT equipped, Multi-recv sites + patch
- VA3SIX - 53.470- with 114.8 Hz PL \* Usually open
- VE3OME - 145.450- with 114.8 Hz PL \* Usually open, CANWARN
- VE3DPL - 146.655- with 131.8 Hz PL \* (Stratfordville)
- VE3MCR - 147.000+ open (Lucan)
- VE3NDT - 147.240+ with 114.8 Hz PL \* (Dorchester)
- VE3STR - 147.330+ with 114.8 Hz PL \* (St. Thomas)
- VE3STR - 443.825+ with 114.8 Hz PL \*(St. Thomas)

### Amateur Telecison Repeaters

- VE3TVL - 439.250 MHz input 1253.250 MHz Output 6 Mhz bandwidth (Talk back audio Frequency is 145.360 MHZ)

If this information is not accurate, please contact [va3ep@rac.ca](mailto:va3ep@rac.ca)

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## Local Nets

Net	Day	Time E.S.T.	Frequency
LARC HF Net	Sunday	11:00 p.m.	7.063 MHz
LARC HF Swap Shop	Sunday	12:00 p.m.	7.063 MHz
LARC 2m Net	Monday	8:00 p.m.	147.060+ ( 114.8 Hz PL) VA3LON repeater
LARC 2m Swap Shop	Monday	8:30 p.m.	147.060+ (114.8 Hz PL) VA3LON repeater
A.R.E.S. Net	Wednesday	7:30 p.m.	145.450- (114.8 Hz PL) VE3OME repeater
VE3TTT 2m Net & Swap	Saturday	7:30 p.m.	147.180+ (114.8 Hz PL) VE3TTT repeater
The VE3TTT net is also carried on the following repeaters: VE3TTT - 147.180 (+) London VE3SUE - 444.400 (+) London VE3TCB - 146.940 (-) Ipperwash VE3TCB - 442.300 (+) Ipperwash VE3SRT - 447.050 (-,114.8 Hz PL Required) Shetland VE3BHR - 447.075 (-,131.8 Hz PL Required) Baden			

If this information is not accurate, please contact [va3ep@rac.ca](mailto:va3ep@rac.ca)

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## Website and Newsletter:

The LARC website is at [www.larc.on.ca](http://www.larc.on.ca)

If you have any contributions or comments for the web site or newsletter, please contact [va3ep@rac.ca](mailto:va3ep@rac.ca)