

# LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

---

## KEYED-UP

---

ISSUE 18 2003/04

APRIL 2003

---

London Amateur Radio Club,  
P.O. Box 82 Stn. 'B',  
London Ontario, N6A-4VA  
Established in 1920 Incorporated in 1978  
Editor: Carlo Cervoni VE3CVA

Editor: Carlo Cervoni VE3CVA  
Editor e-mail: ve3cva@rac.ca  
Web Site: <http://www.larc.on.ca>  
Web Manager :va3ep@rac.ca

---

Editor e-mail: ve3cva@rac.ca  
Web Manager: Eric Pierce va3ep@rac.ca

---

### APRIL MEETING

**Date: April 10<sup>th</sup> 2003**

**Time: 7:30pm**

**Place: St. Jude Church, All Saints Hall  
1537 Adelaide Street North London Ont.**

**Topic: CANWARN TRAINING**

---

### PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

---

#### Canwarn

Amateur Radio Operators are trained in the "art" of Severe Weather Spotting by representatives of Environment Canada, and other local experts. When Severe Weather threatens an area, a designated net controller is called by the Weather Specialist on duty at the local Weather Office. The Net Controller then reports to the Weather Office to operate the Amateur Radio Station which is set up there. The CANWARN net is called on one of the local repeater systems.

Hams from around the area are alerted to the potential of severe weather by a variety of methods, and check into the net. Mobile, portable and base stations participate in the nets. As weather bulletins are updated by the Weather Office, the information is passed on to the Hams by the net controller. Now that the participating Hams know what type of severe weather is expected, they now have an idea of where and what to look for. When the CANWARN Spotter sees an indication of severe weather such as a Funnel Cloud, or large hail, he passes the information to the net controller who gives it to the Weather Specialist on duty. Weather Warnings or Advisories can then be updated utilizing real time weather information.

Any Licensed Amateur Radio Operator may become a CANWARN Spotter. You do not have to be a member of any other Amateur Radio Club or Organization to join. Training in Severe Weather Spotting, and Net procedures will be provided by local experts.

Training will be held at the LARC. March monthly meeting place, St. Judes Hall on Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 pm. Last year the club had a full house of over 75 participants, so don't come late.

## LARC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT Charles McNeil VE3HBB ve3hbb@larc.on.ca.

Past President David Young VE3EAY ve3eay@larc.on.ca

Vice President Jack Leeson VE3KM

Secretary Brian Bouckley VA3ATB va3atb@larc.on.ca

Treasurer / Station Manager Anthony Drawmer VE3SQU ve3squ@larc.on.ca

Director/Web Eric Pierce VA3EP va3ep@larc.on.ca

Director Norman Campbell VE3MNC ve3mnc@larc.on.ca

Membership / Bulletin Editor Carlo Cervoni VE3CVA ve3cva@rac.ca

---

## CLUB STATIONS'

**VA3LON 147.060+ 114.8 Hz PI**

**VE3LON 224.220- 114.8 Hz PI**

**VE3RCL HF BASE**

---

## AREA NETS

VA3LON 147.060+ 114.8 HZ PL. MONDAY 8:00 pm.

VE3OME 145.450- 114.8 Hz PL. WEDNESDAY 7:30 pm

VE3TTT 147.180+ 114.8 Hz PL SATURDAY 8:00pm

VE3STR 147.330+ 114.8 Hz PL SUNDAY 9:00pm St. Thomas repeater

LARC HF NET 7.063 MHz SUNDAY 11:00 am

London Swap Shop 7.063 MHz SUNDAYS 12 noon

ONTARS NET 3.755 MHz DAILY 7am-6pm

---

## CLUB NEWS

- Nominations for the 2003-2004 Executive. The nomination committee is looking for members who would be interested in serving on the LARC Executive for next year. Nominations should be handed or e-mailed to Brian VA3ATB no later than April 23<sup>rd</sup>. This will give time for all nominees to be posted on the May issue of KEYED UP. May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting is our Election Day. If you are interested please advise Dave Young VE3EAY or Brian Bouckley VA3ATB or Carlo Cervoni VE3CVA.
- Nomination committee for the May Club Elections:
- Ham of the Year Award for 2003. Each year LARC tries to honour a member who stands out in the local Amateur Radio community through their participation in and contribution to the hobby. If you think a particular Ham deserves consideration for this award please advise any member of the current executive. Please provide us with reasons for this recommendation.

### **Web Site News**

Our web site [www.larc.on.ca](http://www.larc.on.ca) run by our own web master Eric VA3EP is running well with up to date information and news concerning our club. Please show support by visiting the web site and providing your comments and concerns to Eric at [va3ep@larc.on.ca](mailto:va3ep@larc.on.ca).

### **NEWS FROM THE MEMBERS'**

Bob VE3EIM writes;

#### **Television and AM radio Tornado Detection.**

Television and radio can be used to detect nearby tornado activity by using the following method. With a television set, detune the brightness on the high VHF frequency of Channel 13 by turning the control so that the picture disappears and the screen is almost black. Switch the set to Channel 2 and turn the volume down so the crackling noise will not startle you. Up to 17 miles (32 Kilometres) away, the electrical discharge from a funnel will cause the video portion of the TV set to produce a steady white glow on colour as well as black-and-white sets. Should you have cable TV, however, the set could react to a storm near either a microwave relay antenna or your own outside TV antenna if that is what you have. Therefore, you should detach the cable connections or the lead from your outside antenna and use a "rabbit ears" type of antenna instead. It should be noted that a set tuned for funnel detection, lightning will show up as only a momentary flashes or streaks. The brightness control on some TV sets is located at the front or back on older models and usually features a knob for adjustment. When an AM radio is tuned to the low end of the dial, around 550 kHz it will generate intermittent static during an electrical storm. On this same frequency range a funnel event in the area will cause continuous static. So there you have it. The next time a storm comes through your area, you know what to do! If you think you have detected the presence of a tornado, you should have sufficient time to react and get down in a corner of your basement and wait it to pass. Remember to think of your safety and the safety of others first. 73's Bob Morden, VE3EIM

## **HAM FESTS and FLEA MARKETS**

### **AMHERSTBURG RADIO CLUB**

The Amherstburg Radio Club is holding it's first annual Ham Fest on Sunday, June 1st 2003.

The location is the Amherstburg Scout Hall, 300 Victoria St., right on the corner of Victoria and Essex County Road 18 (locally known as Simcoe St.).

It runs from 9am to 1:30pm, and the admission is FREE. The flyer states they'll have Amateur Radio stuff, as well as "11 Meter" stuff and computer-related items. There's even crafts.

Vendors can get a table for a mere \$5 by calling Carey Collard (ve3cfq) at (519) 736-7694 or [ve3cfq@rac.ca](mailto:ve3cfq@rac.ca). Another contact is Joe Cristofaro at [va3trl@rac.ca](mailto:va3trl@rac.ca). Vendors will get access to the Scout Hall at 7:30am.

There will also be refreshments: donuts; coffee; baked goods.

Talk-in freqs: 145.290 negative offset, no PL tone OR 146.520 simplex.

### **HAMFEST WHITBY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

Saturday April 12<sup>th</sup> 2003

Location: Jubilee Pavillion #55 Lake View Park Oshawa Simcoe Street south of Hwy. #401 on the shores of Lake Ontario off Hwy. #401 Exit #417 eastbound, #418 westbound.

Time: vendors 7am Public 9am till 1pm

Cost Admission \$5.00 vendors an 8ft. table \$10.00 e-mail info to [va3dx@rac.ca](mailto:va3dx@rac.ca)  
[www.smith.com/fleas.htm](http://www.smith.com/fleas.htm)

Tak-in VE3WOM 147.150+ and VE3RPT 147.060+

### **HAMVENTION 2003**

Dayton Ohio May 16,17 &18<sup>th</sup> 2003

Annual Ham Fest this year their 52<sup>nd</sup> year

For details go to [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org)

