

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club

Promoting Amateur Radio in London
and surrounding areas since 1920



Dec 10, 2006

Meeting Topic – Annual XMAS Pot-Luck Dinner



It is that time of the year again!

The December meeting is the annual Xmas Pot Luck dinner.

Everyone is welcomed. Simply bring along some food for everyone to enjoy.

Thursday, December 14th, 2006

Some notes:

Although we have always had the hall starting at 7:00pm, normally we would start the meeting at 7:30p to give everyone a chance to go home, have some dinner and get to the meeting.

This month we have decided to [start the 'meeting' at 7:00pm](#) since everyone will be very hungry. You should arrive before 7:00pm.

The club will supply some drinks, buns, plates, knives/forks/spoons. I will be bringing lasagna!

Everyone is Welcomed, bring a friend and a container of food to share with everyone.

Other Items of Interest

2006/2007 L.A.R.C. Executive

Here is the lineup for the LARC Executive Team 2006/2007:

Past President:	Mark Bramwell, VE3PZR	(LARC Repeater Coordinator) (Newsletter Editor)
President:	Gord Baker, VE3GB	
VP & Treasurer:	Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT	(flea-market)
Secretary:	Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO	
Director:	Tony Drawmer, VE3SQU	(field-day)
Director:	Doug Elliott, VA3DAE	(web site)
Director:	Shirley McCall-Nicholson, VE3SMN	(membership)
Director:	Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG	(emergency services)
Repeater Operator:	Dave Young, VE3EAY	

St Thomas Radio Club Information:

Elgin Amateur Radio Society

Meeting is held the first Wednesday evening each month

September to June
8:00 p.m.

Community Room, Real Canadian Super Store
1063 Talbot Street St. Thomas, Ontario.



<http://www.elginars.ca/>

VA3MGI/Mornington Repeater Site Update

By Gord Baker, VE3GB

On November 25, a group of LARC members volunteered to attend the VA3MGI repeater site to perform some maintenance operations.

The repeater is housed in the elevator mechanical room and there is a renewed interest in security from the standpoint of the building owner/managers (TransGlobal Property Management) and the elevator maintenance company (Thyssen Krupp Elevator). In light of the current emphasis on security we certainly understand their concerns.

- The VE3LON, 220 MHz repeater was removed for major repair and relocation to another site.
- An old 'MGI' hybrid repeater (powered off in the late 1980's) and an associated storage cabinet were dismantled and removed for disposal. The 220 and old MGI equipment was located in the midst of the elevator machinery.
- A 220 MHz repeater owned by a previous LARC member and no longer in use was also removed for storage.

Brad Madsen, Thyssen Krupp's site technician/mechanic volunteered his time to oversee the project and make sure everything met with the safety and security requirements.

This would not have been possible without the help of:

VE3PMK Pat MacKinnon
VE3PZR Mark Bramwell
VE3LOD Al Bernier
VA3EAR Kevin Richardson
VE3IDT Doug Tompkins

VE3NLP Mike Doncaster
VA3HO Rob Hockin
VE3UZ Dave Steels
Brad Madsen

Until you are paid better, THANKS!

Gord, VE3GB



Society for the Preservation of Amateur Radio

SPAR Announces Winter Field Day 2007

Field Day is one of the activities enjoyed by amateurs every June and offers an opportunity for camaraderie and a chance to test our ability to set up operations in less than ideal circumstances, however, emergencies and natural disasters don't always happen in the summer. To test our abilities to operate in the winter, SPAR has established a Winter Field Day event and invites all amateurs to participate.

The first Winter Field Day will be held from 12:00 noon on Saturday January 13, 2007 to 12:00 noon on Sunday January 14, 2007 local time. The object of the event is to set up emergency-style communications and make as many contacts as possible during the 24 hour period. The rules encourage as many contacts on as many bands and modes as possible, because during a real emergency, the most important factor is the ability to communicate, regardless of band, mode or distance.

The official rules can be found at [the SPAR web site](#). The event is open to all amateurs, although we encourage everyone to join in the discussions and other activities sponsored by SPAR. Information about SPAR can be found on the [SPAR Home Page](#). Membership is free and open to all amateurs who want to encourage technical and operating skills. You can register by going to the [SPAR Forum](#) and registering, using your amateur callsign as your user name.

Please join with SPAR in promoting amateur radio and keeping our bands alive!

<http://www.dxzone.com/cgi-bin/dir/jump2.cgi?ID=11942>

The SPAR Winter Field Day

Purpose: To encourage emergency operating preparedness in the winter.

When: 24 hours from 12:00 noon January 13, 2007 to 12:00 noon January 14, 2007 local time. Station set up may begin no earlier than 8:00 AM local time on January 13, 2007.

Bands: All bands, except 12, 17, 30 and 60 meters.

Modes: Any mode.

Categories:

- a) Number of operators: 1, 2, Multi
- b) Site: Indoor, Outdoor, Home

For example, 2 operators at a remote campground would be 2O, 1 person at home would be 1H, 5 club members operating from a community center would be MI.

Exchange: Callsign, True RS/T (not all 599), Category, local outside temperature (with F or C). For example 1 person from a campground where the temperature is 28 F might send "KX5XYZ 449 1O 28F" or "KX5XYZ 449 1O -2C"

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO, irregardless of band and mode. The object is to be able to communicate and in an emergency it doesn't matter what band and mode is used. Busted exchanges will be penalized by 1 additional point for each missed exchange or callsign.

Multiplier: Count 1 multiplier for each mode operated per band. For example, operating CW and Phone on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters, CW and PSK31 on 20m, FM simplex on 2meters and satellite on 1.2 GHz would be a total multiplier of 12.

Bonus: Count 1000 points if commercial power is not used, 1000 points if outdoors and 1000 points if not at home. For example, operating outdoors in your backyard without commercial power would be $1000 + 1000 = 2000$ points (outdoors, no commercial power), while operating from a campground tent using commercial power would be $1000 + 1000 = 2000$ points (outdoors and not home).

Final Score: QSO Points x Multiplier + Bonus Points.

Logs: Logs should be submitted to "winterfd@spar-hams.org" by February 15, 2007 to be considered.

Results will be posted on the SPAR website and included in The Roundtable. Pictures, description of operations and logistics are encouraged and welcome.

Definitions:

Location - the place where an amateur station is setup for the contest.

Home - operating from the place where an amateur station is normally established. If the station used in the contest is setup before 8AM local time, it is a home operation.

Indoor - operating from inside a building at a temporary location where amateur radio is not normally available, including community centers, etc. If it has a permanent roof and walls, it's indoors.

Outdoor - operating from remote locations with no permanent building, including campgrounds, tents, RV's, etc.

Band - the normal amateur band allocations recognized by the ITU, i.e. 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6, and 2 meters, plus the UHF bands. To be counted as a band, at least 1 valid QSO must have taken place on the band during the contest. 75 meters counts as part of 80 meters.

Mode - CW, Voice (including SSB, AM, FM), Digital (including PSK, RTTY, and soundcard modes), SSTV, satellite.

Operator - Any person that operates the radio, keyboard, microphone or CW key, including logging assistance. This does not include non-operators, such as someone who brings food, but does not participate in operating.

Miscellaneous:

- - All rules governing amateur radio must be observed throughout.
- - The decisions of the SPAR BoD is final.

Winter Field Day FAQ

When can we set up our WFD operation?

You can set up your operation at any time, however, if the station and antennas are operational before 8:00 AM on Saturday, the station counts as a home station.

What if we want to set up a tent in the backyard?

No problem! The station would count as a home station, but you would get the 1000 point bonus for being outdoors. If you use batteries or a generator to power the radios, you would also get the 1000 point bonus for emergency power. You can run an extension cord from the house to power the coffee pot!

I'll operate the station, but my (wife, son, friend, ...) will be there, too. What operator category would I use?

No problem. If they don't operate the radios or do logging, you would still be a single operator. You might be able to convince them to bring food!

What bands can be used for contacts?

Just about any, although contest operations are prohibited on the WARC bands. In a real emergency, the ability to communicate on many different bands is a definite advantage.

What modes can I use?

Just about any, since in a real emergency having flexibility in operating modes is an advantage. For scoring purposes, the modes that count are CW, Voice, Digital, SSTV, and satellite.

I want to work both SSB and FM on 2 meters. Can I do that?

Sure! Both SSB and FM would count as Voice, so you'd get only 1 multiplier, but there's no prohibition from using repeaters, so have at it.

What logging software can I use for WFD?

Just about any normal contest logging software should work. SPAR will accept the standard ARRL/CQ Cabrillo format for log submissions via email. There are 2 potential areas in some logging software to be aware of:

1) Modes for normal HF contests are CW, PH and RY for CW, Phone and RTTY. You can use RY for all digital QSO's, but Satellite and SSTV modes don't seem to be defined in the Cabrillo spec. You can use SA and TV for those modes or whatever else makes sense. We'll sort it out.

2) The exchange in the standard ARRL/CQ Cabrillo format is 6 characters. If you log the sent and received exchanges using a 2 character category and up to 4 characters for the temperature, there should be no problem. Just don't leave any spaces in the exchanges.

My questions weren't answered here. Where can I get more information?

Please check the [SPAR Forum](#) where all planning and discussion of the Winter Field Day will take place. Registration is free; just use your callsign as your user name.

