

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club

Promoting Amateur Radio in London
and surrounding areas since 1920



Jan 8th, 2008

MEETING TOPIC

- At the January meeting the presenter will be Tom McKay from TGM Communications (<http://www3.sympatico.ca/tgmc/>) . The subject will be antenna construction.
- At the January meeting we will have a short survey of your interests. We are looking at setting up special interest groups in various areas of interests depending on response. Typical interests are VHF/UHF, HF, DXing, QSLing, Digital modes, Foxhunting, Home brewing, Antennas

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST...

- ⇒ Field Day results, We are number 1
- ⇒ Quick note from Doug
- ⇒ Member Profile: Doug, VE3IDT
- ⇒ Member Profile: Ruth, VE3RBO

NEXT MEETING IS WHERE AND WHEN?

Reminder of the next monthly Club meeting on Thursday, January 10th, 2008 @ 7:30pm

All meetings are located at St. Judes Anglican Church, 1537 Adelaide Street North at Fanshawe Park Road East in London, Ontario,

They are normally held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm EST during the months of September to June (no meetings July and August).

Other Items of Interest

2007/2008 L.A.R.C. EXECUTIVE

Past President:	Gord Baker, VE3GB	
President:	Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT	(Flea-market)
Treasurer:	Dave Steels, VE3UZ	
Secretary:	Ruth Dahl , VE3RBO	
Director:	Ann Rundle, VA3EOR	(Flea market)
Director:	Doug Elliott, VA3DAE	(ARES EC; Web-site)
Director:	Shirley McCall, VE3SMN	(Membership)
Director:	Pat Ross, VE3CNX	
Non-Voting:		
	Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG	(ARES DEC)
	Tom Stewart	(Canwarn)
Appointments:		
	Tony Drawmer, VE3SQU	(Field-Day)
	Mark Bramwell, VE3PZR	(Newsletter Editor)
		(LARC Repeater Coordinator)
	Dave Young, VE3EAY	(Repeater Operator/Programmer)

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).

How will it work? On the membership page, we'll attach your own picture where your first name appears, and the picture of your shack to your callsign. See the entry for Doug Elliott, VA3DAE for an example.

How do you submit your pictures?

Just email them to the LARC site webmaster address, which is: webmaster@larc.ca

FIELD DAY RESULTS - WE'RE NUMBER ONE !

When the points were tallied for the last Field Day, LARC did quite well. I

n fact, for our category, 4A, with a Power multiplier of 2, we came in FIRST in the non-US entries. Congratulations to all who participated and contributed to these excellent results. (And it's never too early to start planning your part in the 2008 Field Day.)

Here are the official results from the ARRL website:

The screenshot shows the ARRL website's Interactive Contest Scores page. The browser title is "ARRLWeb: Interactive Contest Scores - Windows Internet Explorer". The address bar shows the URL: http://www.arrl.org/members-only/contests/scores.html?fd_category=4A&fd_power=2&fd_sect=Div-FG&ss_call=8&sort0=8&si. The page title is "Interactive Contest Scores". A dropdown menu shows "Contest: 2007 ARRL Field Day" and a "Select contest" button. A "Text-only" link is in the top right. A yellow box highlights "2007 Field Day" with links to "Results Article (Members Only)", "Soapbox", and "Rules". A "Select and Sort List" link is below the contest dropdown. A yellow header bar reads "2007 ARRL Field Day". Below it, text says "Displaying entries for Category=4A and Power Mult=2 and Division=Non-US". A table lists 5 entries. Below the table are links for "Download current selection (5 records): Comma-delimited (CSV) - Tab-delimited". A "Select Entries to List" form shows filters for Category (4A), Power Mult (2), and Section/Division (Non-US), with a "Choose Sort Order" section below it. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the Start button, Adobe Reader, and the ARRL website.

#	Call	Score	Category	QSOs	Power Mult	GOTA Call	Section	Participants	Club
1	VE3LON	3,548	4A	1,027	2		ON	60	London ARC
2	VE3XR	2,694	4A	550	2		ON	20	Peel ARC
3	VE7VRG	2,656	4A	866	2	VA7OSO	BC	32	Greater Vancouver Radio Group
4	VO1AA	1,962	4A	158	2		NL	21	Society of Newfoundland RA
5	VE7CML	800	4A	200	2		BC	11	Maple Ridge ARC

QUICK NOTE FROM DOUG, VE3IDT...

Check out the SPAR winter field day fun contest on Saturday January 26th.

<http://www.spar-hams.org/contests/winterfd/index.php>

MEMBER PROFILE: DOUG TOMPKINS - VE3IDT



Doug Tompkins - VE3IDT has been a LARC member since 1992, is President of the Club, having previously served on the Executive 1994-1998, 2005-2007, including his role as 'Flea Market Coordinator'.

Doug enjoys chasing DX and accumulating awards.

He is currently using an Icom IC 756 ProII, but in the past has used a Kenwood TS-820 and still has a Kenwood TS-450 which is installed in his minivan and used for HF when mobile.

For antennas, Doug has moved from homemade dipole to a 'Windom 80' special wire antenna and in 2001 put up a 10-15-20M 3 element beam on a 50ft tower. The tower and antenna was a gift from the son of a silent key (VE3GC) and for that Doug was very grateful. It took Doug an entire summer to dig the hole for the base in hard clay with a pickaxe. He managed to cut his phone line in the process and almost cut into his hydro lines which were not exactly in the location that was indicated by the Hydro paint lines (call before you dig was not entirely accurate).

Doug works mainly 20M and 40M right now but checks 15 often for activity.

Doug enjoys just listening and working DX but mainly contesting along with Special events for some neat cards or certificates. He likes collecting QSL cards and scanning them into the computer so he can then have a digital copy for searching and viewing. He makes his own QSL cards and changes them often. Doug has over 100 DX contacts from mobile but hasn't done much lately as he finds himself driving less. While driving, his wife Mary Jane will log for him

Doug is big on Field Day and enjoys the challenge of operating remote from his QTH. His most memorable QSO was when he was the first to respond to a CQ from a South African station and engaged in a 40 minute rag chew, not aware that erstwhile a big pileup was building, waiting to make the same contact.

Doug's most exciting contact was the South Pole (KC4AAA), which took him a week to get through the pileups.

What Doug enjoys most about LARC is getting out once a month to see some of the other hams and meet new ones. The club is a good source for advice and there is always someone with the same interests in the many aspects of the hobby. Listening to guest speakers is another one, even if on a topic that he is only slightly interested in. This inspires Doug to always try something new.

Doug retired in May 2005 and in his words, he has "been darn busy since then. Work always interfered with my hobbies anyway. Now the wife keeps me busy around the house. The one thing about this hobby is there are so many areas to pursue that you can't do them all (you can try though) and that is what keeps it interesting. I belong to RAC and ARRL as I feel it is important to support our hobby that way."

MEMBER PROFILE: RUTH DAHL – VE3RBO



Ruth Dahl – VE3RBO has been a LARC member since 2003 and serves on the Executive Committee as Secretary.

Ruth is a 2 meter buff, and uses a Radio Shack HTX-242 transceiver into a J-pole antenna mounted on an old upright vacuum. She is very keen on organizing and participating in the annual Field Day activities, especially making new friends and working the 40M band.

Ruth's steady beau is fellow LARC member John Visser (VA3MSV) and she has one daughter, Elisabeth (20) who is in her third year at King's College – University of Western Ontario campus.

Ruth works as a sales clerk at Value Village and enjoys people and friends.

