

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club

Promoting Amateur Radio in London
And surrounding area since 1920



March 29, 2009

Next Meeting Topic

The next L.A.R.C. meeting will be on Thurs, April 2, 2009 at 7:30 PM

This meeting will be a presentation prepared by David Wilson, VE3BBN on GWEN (Ground Wave Emergency Network) and presented by John Watson, VE3EZF.

NOTE: Due to lack of availability of the church on April 9, 2009 (our normal meeting night), the April meeting will be held on April 2, 2009.

Items of Interest

- ⇒ Silent Keys
- ⇒ L.A.R.C. Executive Appreciation to L.S.A.R.C.
- ⇒ Membership Certificates
- ⇒ 2008/2009 L.A.R.C. Executive
- ⇒ Flaunt Your Face – Show Your Shack
- ⇒ Local Repeaters and Nets
- ⇒ Upcoming Events
- ⇒ 2009/2010 L.A.R.C. Executive Elections
- ⇒ PROPOSAL BEFORE THE MEMBERSHIP (April 2009)
- ⇒ Amateur Radio Club Losing Its Hall of Science Signal
- ⇒ Global Simulated Emergency Test (GlobalSET)
- ⇒ RAC Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator Needed
- ⇒ EVE! – Radio Amateurs bounce a signal off Venus
- ⇒ Ham Radio In Space: AO-27 Brought Back To Life As FM Repeater In Space
- ⇒ Ham Radio In Space: AO-7 Springs Back To Life
- ⇒ Radio Rules: Digital Repeaters - FCC Says A Duck Is A Duck
- ⇒ Radio Law: Indianapolis Police Unofficial Radio Follow-up
- ⇒ Special Event: N8O From A Caboose In Ohio
- ⇒ Emerging Technology: MIT Scientists Invent Fast Charge Lithium-Ion Battery
- ⇒ Field Day 2009

Next Meeting is Where and When?

Reminder of the next monthly Club meeting on April 2, 2009 at 7:30pm

All meetings are 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 (no meetings July and August).

Next Month's Meeting will be May 14, 2009. This meeting's topic is still to be confirmed.

Silent Keys

March 10, 2009 -



Laetitia "Tess" Hardie, VE3HIR of Kincardine, Ontario at the age of 75. Survived by her husband Bill, VE3EFX. Tess volunteered as a controller for many nets including ONTARS (80m phone) TRANSPROVINCIAL (40m phone). She was a long time member of RAC and CLARA. Her warmth and enthusiasm, obvious to anyone who met her on and off the radio, will be truly missed.

Memorial Service will take place in Kincardine on Friday, June 19, 2009 at the Davey-Linklater Funeral Home at 2:00 pm.

March 20, 2009 -



Radio Amateurs of Canada sadly reports the death of Catherine Helen (Cathy) Hrischenko, VE3GJH. Author of the YL column in The Canadian Amateur (TCA) magazine for over 25 years, Cathy died peacefully at her home, surrounded by her husband George, VE3DGX, and her family, after a fight with cancer.

Cathy was a Past President of CLARA from 1993-1995

L.A.R.C. Executive Appreciation to L.S.A.R.C.

The executive of the London Amateur Radio Club would like to thank the members of the former London Seniors Amateur Radio Club for their kind donation. The money will be put toward the operation of the club and the promotion of the amateur radio hobby.

Membership Certificates

The Club has created membership certificates for it's current members. You can see your own certificate at the following link. <http://www.larc.ca/member-list.htm>

Simply click on your surname and it will bring up a PDF of your certificate suitable for printing.

2008/2009 L.A.R.C. Executive

Title	Name, Callsign
President	Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT
Vice-President	Pat Ross, VE3CNX
Treasurer	Dave Steels, VE3UZ
Past President	Gord Baker, VE3GB
Secretary	Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO
Director, Flea Market	Ann Rundle, VA3EOR
Director, Membership	Shirley McCall, VE3SMN
Director, Website	Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Non-Voting

Director, Emergency Services	Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG
Director, CANWARN	Tom Stewart, VE3OEP

Appointments

LARC Repeater Coordinator	Mark Bramwell, VE3PZR
Field Day Coordinator	Pat Ross, VE3CNX
Field Day Assistant Coordinator	Tony Drawmer, VE3SQU
Repeater Operator / Programmer	David Young, VE3EAY
Newsletter	John Visser, VA3MSV

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

Local Repeaters

LARC Repeaters

London	VA3LON	147.060	+ 114.8Hz
London	VE3MGI	145.390	- 114.8Hz

SORT Repeaters

London	VE3TTT	147.180	+ 114.8Hz	ULR Link repeater "SORT" System
London	VE3SUE	444.400	+ 114.8 Hz	ULR link repeater "SORT" System, IRLP
Ipperwash	VE3TCB	146.940	- 123.0 Hz	Linked to VE3SUE
Grand Bend	VE3RGB	146.750	+ 123.0 Hz	
Grand Bend	VE3SRT	442.050	+ 123.0 Hz	Linked to VE3SUE
Goderich	VE3OBC	146.910	- 123.0 Hz	
Whitechurch	VE3WWD	443.075	+ 123.0 Hz	

Other Area Repeaters

London	VA3SIX	53.470	- 114.8 Hz	
London	VE3OME	145.450	- 114.8 Hz	CANWARN
Stratfordville	VE3DPL	146.655	- 131.8 Hz	
St. Thomas	VE3STR	147.330	+ 114.8 Hz	Echolink Node: 72886
St. Thomas	VE3STR	443.825	+ 114.8 Hz	IRLP Node: 2482



Nets

Swap Net	7.055 MHz LSB	Sunday 12:00 pm
A.R.E.S. Ontario Net	7.153 MHz	Sunday 1:00 pm
A.R.E.S. Ontario Net	7.055 MHz	Sunday 3:00 pm
A.R.E.S. Ontario Net	3.742 MHz	Sunday 7:15 pm
A.R.E.S. Ontario Net	IRLP Reflector 9005	Sunday 8:00 pm
LARC 2m Net	147.060 + VA3LON	Monday 8:00 pm
A.R.E.S. Net	145.450 + VE3OME	Wednesday 7:30 pm
A.R.E.S. Ontario Net	IRLP Reflector 9005	Wednesday 8:00 pm
PROCOMM Net	147.180 + VE3TTT	Thursday 8:00 pm
PROCOMM Net	444.400 + VE3SUE	Thursday 8:00 pm
Tech Net	147.180 + VE3TTT	Friday 8:00 pm
Tech Net	444.400 + VE3SUE	Friday 8:00 pm
VE3TTT 2m Net	147.180 + VE3TTT	Saturday 7:30 pm
VE3TTT 2m Net	444.400 + VE3SUE	Saturday 7:30 pm
VE3TTT 2m Net	146.940 - VE3TCB	Saturday 7:30 pm
VE3TTT 2m Net	442.300 + VE3TCB	Saturday 7:30 pm
VE3TTT 2m Net	447.050 - VE3SRT	Saturday 7:30 pm
VE3TTT 2m Net	447.075 - VE3BHR	Saturday 7:30 pm
Trans Provincial Net	7.055 MHz	Daily 7:00 am – 5:00 pm



If you have a repeater or Net that should be listed here, please forward the information to John Visser, VA3MSV at va3msv@hotmail.com and I'll add it to the list.

Upcoming Events

- Thu., Apr 2, 2009 London Amateur Radio Club meeting
- Tue., Apr 14, 2009 **CanWarn Training - Sarnia** - Kinsmen Centre, Oakroom Rm, 656 Lakeshore Rd - 7pm
- Wed., Apr. 15, 2009 **CanWarn Training - Windsor** - Caboto Club, 2175 Parent Avenue - 7pm
- Thu., Apr 16, 2009 **CanWarn Training - London** - Four Points Sheraton Hotel, 1150 Wellington Rd - 7pm
- Thu., Apr. 16, 2009 **CanWarn Training - Kitchener-Waterloo** - University of Waterloo, Carl A. Pollock Hall Room 1346, 200 University Avenue West, Waterloo 7 PM
- Sat., Apr. 18, 2009 **Durham Region Hamfest (33rd Annual)** - North Shore ARC & South Pickering ARC Iroquois Park Recreation Center - Located on Victoria St. at the corner of Henry St., Whitby, Ontario
- Thu., May 14, 2009 London Amateur Radio Club meeting
- Sat., May 23, 2009 **CNIB HAMFEST 2009** - CNIB Amateur Radio Program
CNIB Centre, 1929 Bayview Ave. Toronto - North of Eglinton Ave - south of Lawrence Ave
- Sat., Jun. 6, 2009 **Central Ontario Hamfest & Fleamarket** - GARC & KWARC
Centre Wellington Community Sportsplex, 550 Belsyde Ave. E., Fergus, Ontario
- Sat., Jun. 6, 2009 to **VE3MIS Special Event Operation** - Mississauga Amateur Radio Club
- Sun., Jun. 7, 2009 **Streetsville Bread and Honey Festival** 28.480 21.315 14.240 7.230 MHz. For certificate send QSL request with a return envelope to Michael Brickell, VE3TKI, 2801 Bucklepost Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada, L5N 1X6.
- Thu., Jun. 11, 2009 London Amateur Radio Club meeting
- Sat. Jun. 27, 2009 to Sun. Jun. 28, 2009 Field Day 2009. Location may still to be determined.
- Sat., Jul. 11, 2009 **ONTARIO HAMFEST 2009** - Burlington Amateur Radio Club
Milton Agricultural Fairgrounds - South of Hwy 401; west of Halton Region Rd. 25 (locally known as Ontario St), Milton, Ontario
- Sat., Aug 15, 2009 **Hamfest 2009** - Brantford Amateur Radio Club
From London: Take Hwy 403 East to Hwy 24 South. Go South on Hwy 24 to Hwy 53(traffic lights). Turn right (West) onto Hwy 53 to Burford. Watch for the "Hamfest" signs. The hamfest is held in the Burford Fairgrounds.
- Sat., Sep. 12, 2009 **Ottawa Amateur Radio Club 13th Annual Hamfest** - Ottawa Amateur Radio Club
Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds, 3832 Carp Road, Ottawa (Carp), Ontario
- Sat., Sep. 12, 2009 **Barrie-Orillia Hamfest** - Barrie Amateur Radio Club & Orillia Amateur Radio Club
Located at the Oro-Medonte Fairgrounds. North on Hwy 400 to Hwy 11. North on Hwy 11 to 7th line of Oro-Medonte. Go towards the Airport, and just past the Airport (follow the Hamfest Signs). Lat/Long - 44° 30' 12" N W 79° 33' 17"°
- Sun., Sep. 27, 2009 **L.A.R.C. 32nd Annual Fleamarket** – London Amateur Radio Club
Located at the Western Fairgrounds Special Events Building.

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 and I'll add it to the list.

2009/2010 L.A.R.C. Executive Elections

It is that time of year again for us to think about the lineup for the club's executive members for 2009-2010.

Every May we decide who will be responsible for the handling of the money, physical resources, and determining the future direction of the club.

The club's executive requires at least 7 members each year and if you are interested, we request that you make yourself available one night per month to go over club business.

Some of us have been on the executive for several years and enjoy the experience.

We have some simple rules

1. Any current member of the club can request to be a member of the club's executive and added to the ballot.
1. Only members in good standing can vote (must be a paid member)
2. We must have a quorum (at least 25 members in good standing) in order to hold a valid election.

Some of the activities that require planning, coordination or at least some monthly discussions: Monthly meeting topics, fund raising, flea market, field day, repeaters & other equipment, extra activities.

We currently meet the 4th Thursday of the month from 7pm to about 9pm. All club members are invited to attend any executive meeting. If you have some interest but are unsure, and want to come and see what we do, just check with one of the executive as to where we are meeting.

The next page is a snip from the club's by-laws that specifically deal with the election process.

2009/2010 L.A.R.C. Executive Elections

from the LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INCORPORATED - BY-LAW #1

3. Board of Directors

3.1 The day-to-day affairs of the Corporation shall be arranged by a Board of Directors composed of 7 selected Directors, 1 non-voting Director appointed by the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the Past President of the Corporation.

3.3 To be eligible to stand for election to the Board of Directors one must be a member in good standing for at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting at which members of the Board of Directors will be elected.

This year's Annual Meeting will be held May 14, 2009.

3.4 A Nominating Committee shall be struck by the President at least 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting and it shall begin its activities immediately upon being appointed.

3.4.1 The Committee shall be composed of three members in good standing. The Past President shall be the Chairperson of the Committee.

3.5 The recommendations of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Board of Directors. The Board shall cause such report to be published in the LARC Newsletter, that will be sent to all members in good standing as notice of the Annual Meeting. Such report shall also outline the procedure pertaining to additional nominations.

3.6 Additional nominations may be received by the Secretary up to 12 hours prior to the Annual Meeting if submitted by a member in good standing supported by the written agreement of 4 other members and the written acceptance of the nominee.

3.7 The election of the Board of Directors shall take place at the Annual Meeting of LARC. The Directors shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the members. The Directors shall take office on July 1 of that year.

Please contact the LARC Secretary, Ruth Dahl VE3RBO, if you have any nominees or questions. You can reach her at ragann61@hotmail.com.

PROPOSAL BEFORE THE MEMBERSHIP (April 2009)

Last summer, the London Seniors Amateur Radio Club began the process of dissolving their club. One of the outcomes of this action included the Seniors club offering to donate the remaining balance of their funds to the London Amateur Radio Club. In return for this proposal, the LARC executive offered to grant the current members of the London Seniors Amateur Radio Club lifetime memberships in LARC upon the dissolution of the Seniors club.

The LARC executive acted in good faith but inadvertently overlooked a twenty year old amendment to the constitution that eliminated the "Life member" as an option.

To correct this oversight, the executive now proposes that the former members of the London Seniors Amateur Radio Club be granted "**Honorary Member**" status instead. This is allowed by the constitution, as currently prescribed.

The Honorary member description is listed below. To grant this status requires a majority vote of a quorum of the membership.

Such vote will take place at the annual general meeting on May 14, 2009. Only members of LARC in good standing will have a vote. If you are unable to attend the May meeting you may vote by proxy. Send the signed ballot found on the last page of this newsletter with another member who will be attending or mail to the club. If mailed, the ballot must be received prior to the day of the vote.

London Amateur Radio Club Inc.
P.O. Box 82, Station B
London, ON N6A 4V3

6. Membership (excerpt from constitution)

6.1 Membership is open to anyone with a genuine interest in amateur radio and is not restricted to licensed radio amateurs.

6.2 There shall be four classes of membership.

- a) **Honourary:** An Honourary member is one who has been recommended by the Board of Directors for Honourary member status and has been approved by a majority vote at any General meeting.
- b) **Amateur:** An Amateur member is one who holds a valid Canadian Certificate of Proficiency in Radio (or its equivalent) or who holds a similar certificate issued by another country recognized by the IARU.
- c) **Short Wave Listener (SWL):** A Short Wave Listener (SWL) member is one who does not hold a valid Canadian Certificate of Proficiency in Radio (or its equivalent) but who exhibits a genuine interest in the amateur radio hobby.
- d) **Family:** A Family member is one who is qualified for Amateur or Short Wave Listener member status but who is residing with an immediate family member who holds such a membership.

Amateur Radio Club Losing Its Hall of Science Signal

March 12th 2009

An Amateur Radio Club that has been doing volunteer demonstrations at the New York Hall of Science for more than 35 years may soon be in search of a new home.

The Corona museum is undergoing extensive renovations and no longer has enough space to host the club, museum officials said.

Though nothing has been finalized, the club has been talking to other museums about finding a permanent home.

"It looks pretty likely to me that we'll leave the museum by the end of June," said New York Hall of Science Amateur Radio Club President Tom Tumino.

His group started an online petition in December to protest the move. It has garnered more than 1,300 signatures to date.

"We're 96 volunteers who paid and volunteered their time to maintain an exhibit," Tumino said. "I can't imagine why the museum would ever want us to leave."

Robert Logan, the museum's executive vice president and chief operations officer, said the decision was just a matter of logistics.

"We have maxed out our space," he said. "The time has come to move into the space with exhibits that draw more people and involve more of our visitors."

On weekends, volunteers teach visitors how amateur radio works before putting them on the air. Sometimes they're able to contact ham radio users from around the world.

The club was asked last year to take its antennas down from the Great Hall, now closed for renovations. After club members complied, they were told not to put new ones up. This effectively shut the club down.

Allen Pitts, a spokesman for the ARRL, the national association for amateur radio based in Newington, Conn., said the biggest losers are the museum's visitors.

"The kids will have lost being exposed to the opportunity that amateur radio presents," Pitts said.

"This is where kids can get hands-on learning. This is where engineers come from."

Tumino, who was first exposed to amateur radio at the Hall of Science as a child, agreed.

"When I put a kid in a seat in front of the radio and he turns the dial and tries to make a contact, I don't know if the Central African Republic will come back to him or Germany or Japan or Kansas," Tumino said.

"That's what makes it so exciting. And that could be lost."

Global Simulated Emergency Test (GlobalSET) - March 7, 2009

The date for this event, sponsored by IARU Region 1, has been altered to coincide with World Amateur Radio Day on April 18th. The theme for the day of "Amateur Radio: Your Resource in Disaster and Emergency Communication" is an ideal opportunity to showcase the work of emergency communications groups around the world.

The timing of the event remains at 1100-1500 UTC but in a change for this and future events, the focus will be on generating and relaying messages in a common format across country borders rather than the information gathering about capabilities which has taken place in the past.

More information will be posted on www.iaru-r1.org and www.raynet-hf.net as it becomes available.

Susan Cooke, VE3SUH
Acting Vice President Field Services
Radio Amateurs of Canada

Global Simulated Emergency Test Scheduled for April

The HQ Stations of all IARU Member-Societies, as well as the stations of Emergency Communications Groups, have been invited by IARU Region 1 to participate in the 2009 Global Simulated Emergency Test (GlobalSET), on Saturday, April 18, 2009 from 1100-1500 UTC. The GlobalSET will take place on and near the emergency Center of Activity (CoA) frequencies on 80, 40, 20, 17 and 15 meters, +/- QRM. Stations in the United States intending to participate need to register through their IARU International Emergency Communications Coordinator. For the United States, registrations should be e-mailed to ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD at, k2dcd@arrl.org.

Dura confirmed that W1AW will participate in the GlobalSET.

According to IARU Region 1 Emergency Communications Coordinator Greg Mossop, G0DUB, the GlobalSET is not a contest, but an emergency communications exercise to develop skills needed to provide an international emergency network.

Mossop said that the GlobalSET has four objectives:

- To increase the common interest in emergency communications.
- To test how usable the CoA frequencies are across ITU regions.
- To create practices for international emergency communications.
- To practice the relaying of messages using all modes: Voice (SSB), Data or CW.

"The exercise will build on earlier GlobalSET exercises and will focus on generating and relaying messages in a common format across country borders, rather than the information gathering capabilities that we've done in the past," Mossop said. "We will pass messages in a format that we may have to use for the agencies we may serve. The message exchange will take longer than in previous exercises, and stations will have to be patient to transmit their messages across country and language boundaries."

Each participating station is to send messages to their Regional HQ station using the IARU International Emergency Operating Procedure, using IARU message forms. Stations should relay the messages they receive to their Regional HQ station; the Region 2 station is TG0AA in Guatemala. To comply with license regulations, all messages should be addressed to Greg Mossop, GODUB, and should come from a licensed radio amateur. Messages should contain fewer than 25 words and should not include anything that would be considered as a "real emergency" message by a listener. Mossop suggests constructing messages that include weather conditions, the number of operators at the station or even an interesting fact about the station. "There is no limit on the number of messages to be sent," he said, "but each one must have a unique message number." Regional HQ stations will not be sending messages, only receiving them.

Mossop recommends that in order to create "a more realistic situation, please limit your transmitting power during the exercise to 100 W. We are especially interested in stations operating mobile/portable and/or on emergency power."

Usually held in May, the 2009 GlobalSET was moved to April to tie into World Amateur Radio Day. The theme of the 2009 World Amateur Radio Day is Amateur Radio: Your Resource in Disaster and Emergency Communication. "This is an ideal opportunity to showcase the work of emergency communications groups around the world," Mossop said.

For more information on the 2009 GlobalSET, including a list of CoA frequencies for Regions 1, 2 and 3, please see the GlobalSET announcement at, <http://www2.arrl.org/news/files/2009GlobalSET.pdf>.

RAC Amateur Radio Direction Finding Coordinator Needed

Radio Amateurs of Canada is seeking an interested Radio Amateur to volunteer as the Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Coordinator for Canada.

ARDF is the sport of finding radio transmitters while on foot, using a radio receiver, map and compass in diverse, wooded terrain. Not to be confused with "fox hunting", it involves the taking of radio bearings, finding hidden transmitters and constructing related equipment.

The RAC ARDF Coordinator's job is to promote the development of this sport and work with ARDF Coordinators in other International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) countries to organize competitions and activities.

As the current ARDF Coordinator's term has come to an end, a replacement is required. Interested Radio Amateurs should contact the RAC Corporate Secretary via email at ve9glf@hotmail.com.

For more information about ARDF, please visit the RAC web page at www.rac.ca/opsinfo/ardf.htm.

R. D. (Bob) Cooke VE3BDB
President - Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.

EVE! – Radio Amateurs bounce a signal off Venus

Radio Amateurs have achieved the very first reception of amateur signals bounced off the planet Venus, over 50 million km away - EVE (Earth-Venus-Earth)

Peter Guelzow DB2OS, President of AMSAT-DL has provided a description of this landmark achievement.

On March 25th, 2009 a team from the German space organisation AMSAT-DL reached another milestone on its way to an own interplanetary probe towards planet Mars.

The ground station at the Bochum observatory transmitted radio signals to Venus. After travelling almost 100 million kilometers and a round trip delay of about 5 minutes, they were clearly received as echoes from the surface of Venus.

Receiving these planetary echoes is a first for Germany and Europe. In addition, this is the farthest distance crossed by radio amateurs, over 100 times further than echoes from the moon (EME reflections).

For receiving the EVE signals, an FFT analysis with an integration time of 5 minutes was used. After integrating for 2 minutes only, the reflected signals were clearly visible in the display. Despite the bad weather, signals from Venus could be detected from 1038UT until the planet reached the local horizon.

The 2.4 GHz high power amplifier used for this achievement is described in the current AMSAT-DL journal.

This represented a crucial test for a final key component of the planned P5-A Mars mission. By receiving echoes from Venus, the ground and command station for the Mars probe has been cleared for operational use and the AMSAT team is now gearing up for building the P5-A space probe.

For financing the actual construction and launch, AMSAT-DL is currently in negotiation with the DLR (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt) amongst

others, to obtain financial support for the remaining budget of 20 Mil Euros.

AMSAT-DL wants to show that low-cost interplanetary exploration is possible with its approach.

More information and the link to the official press release [in German]:

<http://www.amsat-dl.org//index.php?o...=166&Itemid=97>

The EVE experiment was repeated on Thursday, March 26th for several hours with good echoes from Venus. Morse code was used to transmit the well known "HI" signature known from the AMSAT OSCAR satellites.

73s de DB2OS

Peter Guelzow

President AMSAT-DL

A video showing P5-A Project Leader Prof. Dr. Karl Meinzer DJ4ZC and Freddy ON6UG with the 2.4 GHz amplifier used for EVE can be seen at: <http://tinyurl.com/EVE13cmAmp>

Ham Radio In Space: AO-27 Brought Back To Life As FM Repeater In Space

Some good news from up in space. This with word that the Amsat Oscar 27 satellite has been brought back to life.

The Amsat Oscar 27 satellite failed back in December, 2008 and went off the air. The control team pursued what it termed as a strategy to drain the batteries in the hopes of resetting the locked up modem.

The idea worked and during February the control team managed to upload the high level control software needed to bring AO-27 back on-line. They then took a week to collect data to check on the battery status and conduct an on-orbit checkout before making ready to return the satellite to operation to its analogue mode.

As of March 1st the AO-27 control team reports that telemetry is looking good. During several passes over the US they turned on the analogue voice repeater with a target for full operation on or about March 7th. You will easily know if its there as it will be in its FM repeater mode with an uplink at 145.850 MHz and a downlink 436.795 MHz.

More is on line at www.ao27.org

Ham Radio In Space: AO-7 Springs Back To Life

Still with amazing news from space, an aging ham radio satellite has sprung back to life. This with words that the Amsat Oscar 7 UHF Beacon at 435.100 MHz has been reported as becoming operational.

The satellites 70 centimeter beacon was monitored with very strong signals during February 28th passes and also since then with satellite telemetry in RTTY format is being copied. Some listeners reported that the beacon initially sounded as if it was in a two-state mode that sounded a bit like RTTY in idle. Successful RTTY decodes have since been accomplished.

AO-7 is one of the oldest ham radio birds still on-orbit. It was launched from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California on board a Delta 2310 rocket way back on November 15, 1974.

Radio Rules: Digital Repeaters - FCC Says A Duck Is A Duck

The FCC has clarified its use of the word simultaneous in its rules governing repeater operation, and their decision is not going to make some, planning digital voice repeaters, very happy. That's because they will have to get in-line with those planning analog FM systems and wait for a channel pair.

The FCC decision came in response to a 2007 request for a Declaratory Ruling filed by Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU. Gary is the president of Northern California Packet Association.

Gary's filing was the result of some frequency coordinators and the license holders of some digital voice repeaters claiming that these digital voice repeaters need not be constrained to repeater sub bands. This, because they were technically not repeaters. Those coordinators and licensees asserted that the delay inherent in converting the spoken word to a digital data stream and then back again to audible sound meant that these devices were not simultaneously receiving and retransmitting.

But the FCC says audio processing time is irrelevant. Rather, it concludes that the word "simultaneously," as used in the definition of a "repeater," refers to the receiver and transmitter both being active at the same time. In other words, the fact that it takes a second or two for audio to be digitized and un-digitized is incidental to a digital audio repeater's operation.

Mark Thompson, WB9QZB, in Chicago, follows the digital voice repeater scene world wide. He tells Newsline that the small number of digital voice repeaters in Northern California that actually went the out-of-sub-band-route moved to legitimate repeater sub band channel pairs some time ago. Mark says that he knows of no other

digital voice machines currently operating under the guise of being other than repeaters.

We cannot find any either, but if there are, they will need to be re-coordinated inside repeater sub bands or go off the air until such time as channels become available within repeater sub bands.

Because of the time it took the FCC to issue its Declaratory Ruling, it's right now a solution looking for a problem to solve. If nothing else, it does serve as a warning to coordinators and those who might be thinking of putting up a digital voice repeater. One that says to keep them confined within the recognized repeater sub bands and find ways to integrate their operation with the existing analog FM systems because repeater sub bands are the only place where repeaters belong.

One last item. From what we have seen posted on the Internet forums, one thing needs clarification. Neither Gary Mitchell, WB6YRU, nor the Northern California Packet Association coordinate repeaters. The request was filed so as to assure all spectrum users that they will have a place to operate and that digital repeaters will not take over the VHF and UHF bands.

This ruling on the part of the FCC may well go down in the history of ham radio as the "Duck Decision." That's because a number of those who filed in favor of it used the metaphor "if it looks like a duck, waddles like a duck and quacks like a duck, it's a duck." And if a repeater repeats, it's a repeater.

Radio Law: Indianapolis Police Unofficial Radio Follow-up

A follow up to our recent news item on the Indianapolis Indiana police found by local hams to be operating unlicensed personal radio gear in their police vehicles. The story is taking an unexpected twist.

More facts are beginning to emerge following a crackdown on Indianapolis Metro Police officers using ham radios for out of band conversations. Over a three-day period last month, police cruisers were searched and officers not holding a valid Amateur Radio license were forced to remove the illegal radios. This follows a complaint to the FCC that law enforcement officers were using modified ham radios for a talk-around tactical (TAC) channel. Some conversations were heard in the VHF police bands, at the bottom of the 2-meter band and on frequencies assigned to the MURS radio service. Recordings of profanity being used brought action by the FCC.

Inside sources say many of the police officers obtained their 2-meter radios through E-Bay. One of the most popular radios modified is the Yaesu FT-2800.

Some officers reportedly, paid as much as \$350 dollars to a local radio shop for a used amateur radio that, new,

sold for just over a hundred dollars. That is just one example how desperate some Indianapolis police officers are for a reliable TAC channel while fighting crime.

Handcuffed by FCC regulations, many officers are now cracking the cover on Technician Class License study guides to earn their Amateur Radio ticket.

One weekend, three Metro Police officers showed up on the door step of the VE team in Franklin, Indiana. All three passed their test and are anxiously awaiting their new call sign.

Further, this same ARRL examination team is working with one of the newly licensed officers to provide a test session at one of the Indianapolis Metro Police roll call sites so more officers have the opportunity to test and join the ranks of licensed Amateur Radio Operators.

It will be interesting to see just how many Indianapolis police officers earn their ham radio tickets and how involved they become in that city's ham radio community.

Special Event: N8O From A Caboose In Ohio

A special 6 meter event on rails. This, as Andy Sargent, N8OFS, announces that he will be active June 13th to the 15th as N8O 'portable caboose' from Jefferson, Ohio. His operation is to celebrate the 25th anniversary for the Ashtabula Carson & Jefferson Railway. Listen out for him between 1800 to 0300 UTC on 52.525, 51.500 FM and 50.300 and 50.2 MHz SSB. QSL's go to N8OFS, PO Box 517, Jefferson, Ohio, 44047. For more details about the railroad, visit the Web page at: <http://www.acjrscenic.net/history.htm>

Emerging Technology: MIT Scientists Invent Fast Charge Lithium-Ion Battery

Materials scientists at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology report that they've invented a new kind of lithium-ion battery. One that can fully charge or discharge in seconds instead of minutes.

Gerbrand Ceder is a professor of materials science and engineering at MIT. Along with his graduate student Byoungwoo Kang, he discovered a way to build lithium-ion batteries with a performance level more like that of ultra-capacitors. These are capacitors that store less energy but can charge and release it very quickly.

If commercialized, this new breed of Lithium Ion battery could allow future hybrid cars to rapidly recharge. It could also lead to improvements in two-way radio as well as to new consumer and industrial products. More is on-line <http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/mar09/8149>

Field Day 2009



What is Field Day?

Wikipedia defines **Field Day** as an annual amateur radio exercise sponsored by various amateur radio IARU regions and member organizations, in order to encourage emergency communications preparedness. In the United States, it is typically the largest single emergency preparedness exercise in the country with over 30,000 ham radio operators participating each year.

Since the first ARRL Field Day in 1933, Amateur radio operators throughout the United States have practiced the rapid deployment of radio communications equipment in environments ranging from operations under tents in remote areas to operations inside Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs). Operations using emergency and alternative power sources are highly encouraged, since electricity and other public infrastructures are often among the first to fail during a natural disaster or severe weather.

To determine the effectiveness of the exercise and each participant's operations, there is an integrated contesting component and many clubs also engage in associated fun activities of camping out and having cookouts for the participants. Operations are typically for a continuous 24 hours requiring the scheduling of relief operators to keep the stations going through the night. Additional contest points are awarded for such things as experimenting with unusual modes, making contacts through space satellites and involving youth in the activity.

Who can attend?

The event operates under the supervision of the local radio club (LARC). That means any person, even those without a valid radio license, are permitted to show up and operate any radio on any band. For those of you that have thought about working HF, here is your opportunity to get on the air.

When is Field Day?

Field Day is **always the fourth full weekend of June**, beginning at 1800 UTC Saturday and ending at 2100 UTC Sunday. **Field Day 2009 will be held June 27-28, 2009.**



Here is Christian Hornick (age 11, at the time) operating under the watchful eye of Pat Ross, VE3CNX at last year's Field Day.

LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

32nd ANNUAL
2009 FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27th
9.00 AM TO 1.00 PM

VENDOR SETUP: 7:30 AM

BOOK EARLY AND SAVE ON ADMISSION

ADMISSION: \$6.00, (Age 10 and up)
TABLES: \$ 10.00



LOCATED AT THE
WESTERN FAIR GROUNDS
SPECIAL EVENTS BUILDING
LONDON, ONTARIO

Talk in VA3LON. 147.060 PL 114.8



Free Parking ~ Air Conditioned
Commercial Dealers ~ Snack Bar Facilities
Wheelchair Accessible with Handicap Washrooms

Bring & Buy: Let LARC sell your item(s) at our club table.
{2 items max} INFO: <http://www.larc.ca/larctable.html>

Inquiries: Email
LARChamfest@gmail.com
Note: All email answered within 72 hrs
Phone: (519) 238-1542 (Ann)

Make Payments out to
"London Amateur Radio Club Inc"
(not to Ann Rundle) and mail to:

Ann Rundle VA3EOR
36797 Crediton Rd RR2
Dashwood, On N0M 1N0

ATTENTION 2009 FLEA MARKET VENDOR

Book early, tables are booked on first come first served basis. Loading door available. We do not reserve unpaid tables. No separate hydro for tables BUT there will be a test table with power for seller demonstrations. Only two vendors passes allowed per vendor prior to doors opening on the day of the flea market. Vendor passes will not be sold without table sales. Table information and site Map will be sent to you in your vendor's conformation package.

***Book early (before Aug 1st) and 1 vendor admission is reduced to \$ 4**

Name: _____ Admission(s) x \$ 6 (\$ 4) _____

Callsign: _____ Table(s): x \$ 10 _____
Total: = _____

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____ City _____ PO code _____

Phone: _____

Talk in VA3LON, 147.060 PL 114.8

N 42.9876 W 81.2213



MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

-- Membership application and dues are currently requested.

Our term of membership runs from July 1 to June 30 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, its 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 PROXY BALLOT

FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF THE DISOLVED LONDON SENIORS RADIO CLUB PROPOSAL

VOTE TO TAKE PLACE AT THE GENERAL MEETING OF MAY 14, 2009.

The undersigned submits a vote on the proposal to grant the former members of the dissolved London Seniors Amateur Radio Club the status of HONORARY MEMBER in the London Amateur Radio Club.

YES

NO

Dated: _____ X _____

Signature

Call Sign

LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB PROXY BALLOT

FOR HONORARY MEMBERSHIP STATUS OF THE DISOLVED LONDON SENIORS RADIO CLUB PROPOSAL

VOTE TO TAKE PLACE AT THE GENERAL MEETING OF MAY 14, 2009.

The undersigned submits a vote on the proposal to grant the former members of the dissolved London Seniors Amateur Radio Club the status of HONORARY MEMBER in the London Amateur Radio Club.

YES

NO

Dated: _____ X _____

Signature

Call Sign