

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London
And surrounding area since 1920

October 5, 2009

Next Meeting Topic

L.A.R.C. Executive

President

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Vice-President

Pat Ross, VE3CNX

Past President

Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT

Treasurer

Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB

Secretary

Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO

Director, Flea Market

Ann Rundle, VA3EOR

Director, Membership

John Visser, VA3MSV

Director

David Lambert, VE3KGK

Non-Voting

Director, ARES & CANWARN

Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG

Appointments

LARC Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

Repeater

Operator/Programmer

David Young, VE3EAY

Field Day Coordinator

Pat Ross, VE3CNX

Webmaster

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

Auditor

William Clothier, VE3BCU

Our next meeting will be **Thursday, October 8th** with an **ARES Update** by **Steve Struthers, VA3TDZ**.

2009 Flea Market Report

By Ann Rundle, VA3EOR

Once again another flea market has come and gone. First and foremost I would like to thank everyone who made this year's flea market a success. Without all the help that I received it would not have gone as smoothly as it did. For those of you that came out to buy, I hope that you found what you were looking for and maybe a little bit more. To the commercial vendors, thanks for coming out and for the door prizes that you donated to us. Our grand prize winner of the \$100 gift certificate from RadioWorld was VE3GNX Don Scherer of Windsor. Congratulations Don.

Keep checking back for your form for next year's flea market and pictures from this year.

Next Meeting is Where and When?

Reminder of the next monthly Club meeting on October 8, 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 Meeting will be November 12, 2009.

Area Repeaters

LARC Repeaters

London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VE3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

SORT Repeaters

London

VE3TTT 147.180 + 114.8Hz

ULR Link repeater
"SORT" System

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

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

VE3OME 145.450 - 114.8 Hz

CANWARN

Stratfordville

VE3DPL 146.655 - 131.8 Hz

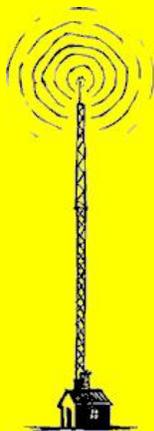
St. Thomas

VE3STR 147.330 + 114.8 Hz

Echolink Node: 72886

VE3STR 443.825 + 114.8 Hz

IRLP Node: 2482



If you have a repeater 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.

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 its 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.

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

Nets



Daily

Trans Provincial Net
7.055 MHz 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Sunday

Swap Net
7.055 MHz LSB 12:00 pm
ARES Ontario Net
7.153 MHz 1:00 pm
7.055 MHz 3:00 pm
3.742 MHz 7:15 pm
IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Monday

LARC 2m Net
No Net currently due to repeater repairs

Wednesday

ARES Net
145.450 + VE3OME 7:30 pm
ARES Ontario Net
IRLP Reflector 9005 8:00 pm

Thursday

PROCOMM Net
147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm
444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Friday

Tech Net
147.180 + VE3TTT 8:00 pm
444.400 + VE3SUE 8:00 pm

Saturday

VE3TTT 2m Net
147.180 + VE3TTT 7:30 pm
444.400 + VE3SUE 7:30 pm
146.940 - VE3TCB 7:30 pm
442.300 + VE3TCB 7:30 pm
447.050 - VE3SRT 7:30 pm
447.075 - VE3BHR 7:30 pm

If you have a 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.

52nd JOTA



52nd On the Air
Sur les Ondes
JAMBOREE On the
13th Sur Internet
17-18 October / Octobre, 2009

What is Jamboree-on-the-Air (JOTA)?

The JOTA is an annual event in which Scouts and Guides all over the world speak to each other by means of amateur radio contacts. Scouting experiences are exchanged and ideas are shared, via the radio waves.

When Scouts want to meet young people from another country they usually think of attending a World Jamboree or another international gathering. But few people realize that each year about half-a-million Scouts and Guides "get together" over the airwaves for the annual Jamboree-on-

the-Air (JOTA). Modern communication technology offers Scouts the exciting opportunity to make friends in other countries without even leaving home.....

Since 1958 when the first jamboree-on-the-Air was held, thousands of Scouts and Guides have "met" each other through this event. Not only is it fun to talk to Scouts from other parts of the world but it provides also a chance to find out about other countries and about Scouting elsewhere. Many contacts made during the JOTA have resulted in penpals and links between scout troops that have lasted for many years.

With no restrictions on age, on the number that can participate and at little or no expense, the JOTA provides an opportunity for Scouts and Guides to contact each other by amateur radio. The radio stations are operated by licensed amateur radio operators. Many Scouts and leaders hold licenses and have their own stations, but the majority participates in the JOTA through stations operated by local radio clubs and individual radio amateurs. Today some operators even use television or computer linked communications.

Date and duration of the event

The world-wide Jamboree-On-The-Air is organized to coincide with the third **full** weekend of October each year. The event starts at 00.00 hours local time on the Saturday and concludes 48 hours later at 24.00 hours local time on the Sunday. Each station can choose its own operating hours within this period.

Rules of the game

There are some basic rules that should be followed:

- All radio operators must operate their stations strictly in accordance with their national licensing regulations;
- Stations should call "CQ Jamboree" or answer scout stations calling to establish a contact;
- Any authorized frequency may be used. It is recommended that stations use the agreed World Scout Frequencies
- The JOTA is not a contest. The idea is not to contact as many stations as possible during the weekend. All participating groups are asked to send a report of their activities to their National JOTA Coordinator (NJaC) after the event.
- NJaC's are requested to send a National JOTA Report to the World Scout Bureau, for inclusion in the World JOTA Report.

The JOTA will have a special theme this year with supporting activities.

Theme: Climate Change Challenge C3

World Scouting's communication theme for this year is environment, given our work and the worldwide focus on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference (COP 15) in Copenhagen 7 - 18 December. Therefore the "C3" is an excellent opportunity to show to the world the efforts of millions of Scouts to protect the environment and take positive action against climate change. JOTA is a real testimony to the international dimension of Scouting, where young people not only learn about new technologies, they can understand that there are millions of Scouts all over the world sharing the same vision: creating a better world!

Upcoming Events 52nd JOTA

Sat., Oct. 17, 2009

LARC participates in the London Scouting **Jamboree On The Air (JOTA)** at Spencer Lodge on Windermere Road. **Volunteers needed** to demonstrate and explain our hobby to youngsters from 8AM to 4PM.

Hamfest 2009

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
New location is the new Ancaster Fair Grounds at 630 Trinity Rd. at the south / west corner of Hwy 53 & Hwy 52 (Trinity Rd.)

Sat., Oct. 24, 2009

York Region ARC Hamfest - 33rd Edition

York Region ARC
Located at the Markham Fair Grounds, 10801 McGowan Road, just north of Elgin Mills Rd

Thu., Nov 12, 2009

L.A.R.C. Meeting – Topic to be determined

Thu., Dec. 10, 2009

L.A.R.C. Meeting – Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner

Thu., Jan. 14, 2010

L.A.R.C. Meeting – Topic to be determined

Sat., Feb. 6, 2010

Big Event 32 - Flea Market and Hamfest

Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club
Merriton Community Centre, 7 Park Ave., St. Catharines, Ontario

Thu., Feb. 11, 2010

L.A.R.C. Meeting – Topic to be determined

Thu., Mar. 11, 2010

L.A.R.C. Meeting – Topic to be determined

Sun., Jun. 6, 2010

Central Ontario Hamfest & Fleamarket

GARC & KWARC
Waterloo Regional Police Association,
R.R. 2, 1128 Rife Rd. North Dumfries Township. Beside Hwy 401, between exits 268 & 275. Lat: 43° 20' 51.20" N, Long: 80° 24' 58.89" W

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.

The radio and Internet discussions that will take place during the JOTA will contribute to enhancing the participants' awareness of environmental issues. The educational tools will be based on the content of the World Scout Environment Programme.

Available topics that can be used related to your JOTA programme:

- natural disasters
- prepare for disasters of any kind
- alternate energy for your JOTA station
- the carbon footprint

For this year we are promoting "green" JOTA radio stations. During the celebrations of the centenary of Scouting in 2007, a JOTA radio station was set up on Brownsea Island, running fully on solar, wind and human energy. In order to complete the Climate Change Challenge ("C3") a JOTA participant should:

1. Help your JOTA radio station to become a "green" radio station. Is your radio station environmentally friendly? Can you reduce the carbon footprint of the radio station?
2. Discuss with 2 different people from 2 different countries about what actions can you do to reduce your environmental footprint
3. Learn about an environmental problem found close to the JOTA radio station and write down a possible action to improve the situation.

SCENES Centres and JOTA.

Scout Centres of Excellence for Nature and Environment (SCENES) Centres have seen a recent revitalization with the launching of the SCENES Network and SCENES Guidelines. There is potential to engage SCENES Centres with JOTA by encouraging SCENES Centres to host a JOTA station and to explore ways in which we can showcase the SCENES Centres over the weekend as examples of places that Scouts can go to for exploring nature and the environment. There are currently 9 SCENES Centres in 7 countries and there is a lot of interest from other Scout Centres throughout the world to also become SCENES Centres. JOTA can help to strengthen the awareness of SCENES and the SCENES Centres could provide the examples of 'Green Stations'.

RAC Bulletin 2009-025E – ExHAMiner ©, new release.

July 19, 2009

An Advanced question bank has been added to the complement of files available for use with ExHAMiner©, RAC's amateur radio (free!) exam simulation software.

As with the Basic qualification, explanations have been added to the bank and partial exams on specific chapters are possible.

Concurrently, a new version of the program has been released. Major changes include control over the default font, a resizable window and an optional simplified layout for blind users relying on screen reading software.

See the ReadMe file which ships with the program for details.

A full description of the program appeared in the March/April 2007 issue of The Canadian Amateur (TCA, p. 63).

The download address has changed:

<http://www.rac.ca/en/amateur-radio/beginner-info/examiner/>

Also on that page, you'll find a selection of diagrams that got lost when RIC-3 replaced the previous RIC-24.

Bob Cooke VE3BDB

President, Radio Amateurs of Canada

NSC responds to ARRL over cell phones

September 14, 2009

By Peter West

Thanks to Keith Baker, VA3KSF / KB1SF, President of the Lambton County Radio Club for bringing this information to our attention about what's happening in the United States in regards to distracted driving and amateur radio:

U.S. National Safety Council Responds to ARRL:

No Evidence of "Significant Crash Risks" While Operating Mobile

ARRL President Joel Harrison, W5ZN, wrote a letter to the (USA) National Safety Council's President Janet Froetscher in July expressing the ARRL's concerns that Amateur Radio not become an unintended victim of the growing public debate over what to do about distracted drivers. Froetscher has now replied saying the ***NSC does not support bans or prohibitions on the use of Amateur Radios while driving.***

Noting that there is significant evidence that talking on cell phones while driving poses crash risk four times that of other drivers, Froetscher observed that the NSC position calling for bans on the use of cell phones while driving is grounded in science.

"We are not aware of evidence that using Amateur Radios while driving has significant crash risks," Froetscher wrote in her August 24 letter. "We also have no evidence that using two-way radios while driving poses significant crash risks. Until such time as compelling, peer-reviewed scientific research is presented that denotes significant risks associated with the use of Amateur Radios, two-way radios or other communication devices, the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibition on their use."

Froetscher said that while "the specific risk of radio use while driving is unmeasured and likely does not approach that of cell phones, there indeed is some elevated risk to the drivers, their passengers and the public associated with 650,000 Amateur Radio operators who may not, at one time or another, not concentrate fully on their driving." She points out that the "best safety practice is to have one's full attention on their driving, their hands on the wheel and their eyes on the road. Drivers who engage in any activity that impairs any of these constitutes an increased risk."

ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, said the ARRL "appreciates NSC President and CEO Janet Froetscher's clear statement that the NSC does not support legislative bans or prohibitions on the use of Amateur Radio while driving. We applaud the NSC for taking positions that are grounded in science. At the same time, all radio amateurs should heed her call to concentrate fully on driving while behind the wheel. It is

possible to operate a motor vehicle safely while using Amateur Radio, but if it becomes a distraction we owe it those with whom we share the road, as well as to our passengers, to put safety first."

On January 30, 2009, the ARRL Executive Committee adopted the ARRL's Policy Statement on Mobile Amateur Radio Operation that states "Amateur Radio mobile operation is ubiquitous, and Amateur Radio emergency and public service communications, and other organized Amateur Radio communications activities and networks necessitate operation of equipment while some licensees are driving motor vehicles.

Two-way radio use is dissimilar from full-duplex cellular telephone communications because the operator spends little time actually transmitting; the time spent listening is more similar to, and arguably less distracting than, listening to a broadcast radio, CD or MP3 player. There are no distinctions to be made between or among Amateur Radio, public safety land mobile radio, private land mobile radio or citizen's radio in terms of driver distraction. All are distinguishable from mobile cellular telephone communications in this respect. Nevertheless, ARRL encourages licensees to conduct Amateur communications from motor vehicles in a manner that does not detract from the safe and attentive operation of a motor vehicle at all times."

In his letter, Harrison explained to Froetscher that Amateur Radio operators provide essential emergency communications when regular communications channels are disrupted by disaster: "Through formal agreements with federal agencies, such as the National Weather Service, FEMA and private relief organizations, the Amateur Radio volunteers protect lives using their own equipment without compensation. The ability of hams to communicate and help protect the lives of those in danger would be strictly hindered if the federal, state and local governments to not ensure that Amateur Radio operators can continue the use of their mobile radios while on the road."

Froetscher replied that she "appreciate[s] your focus of Amateur Radio for emergency communications during disasters. I encourage ARRL to adopt best practices for the safe operation of vehicles that confines use of Amateur Radios while driving only to disaster emergencies."

The Policy Statement asserts that the ARRL "is aware of no evidence that [mobile] operation contributes to driver inattention. Quite the contrary: Radio amateurs are public service-minded individuals who utilize their radio-equipped motor vehicles to assist others, and they are focused on driving in the execution of that function."

New rules on Ontario roadways

September 30, 2009

By Peter West

Ontario's Ministry of Transportation announced today that Bill 118 – the distracted driving legislation – is coming into effect as of Oct. 26. The new law will make it illegal for drivers to talk, text, type, dial or email using hand-held cell phones and other hand-held communications and entertainment devices. Following a three-month period that begins October 26, where the focus will be on educating drivers, police will start issuing tickets on February 1, 2010.

All two-way radios in all vehicles with the exception of emergency responding vehicles must be hands-free in three years time. This news comes from the official government staffer who has been in communications with Radio Amateurs of Canada over the last year. At the end of the three-year exemption, all commercial, CB and amateur radio equipment used in moving vehicles by the vehicle operator must be hands-free in operation.

9 Responses to "New rules on Ontario roadways"

1. September 30, 2009 at 11:15 pm

John J. Riddell VE3AMZ Says:

What a shame that the Radio Amateurs are not exempted totally!

We need to work to get these guys out of the legislature and put in another party that will show some concern for Amateurs.

I've been operating mobile since 1960, and been licensed for 51 years (1958)

John VE3AMZ

Waterloo, Ont.

2. October 1, 2009 at 1:10 am

Bill Ford (really!) Says:

I was just thinking that the Liberals can't get any more stupid than increasing taxes (GST and PST harmonization), and all the farting around that they're doing on a wide range of issues. Then I read that we're exempt for 3 more years and that's it.

What a stupid bunch of morons. Vote Conservative? Get real. The idiot who is in charge of the Tories is a protege of Mike Harris perhaps the all time moron in Canadian politics. I'd vote NDP but as most people are still whining over Bob Rae (and he's no longer a member of the NDP but a sitting Liberal MP) they won't get elected. So for me, this is the straw that broke the camel's back.

I want to use my HF, 2m and CB radios in my van. As nobody is willing to make a hands free radio I guess I'll go back to knitting while driving the 400.

Thanks McGinty and my Liberal MPP cabinet minister. No more!!! And take that bigger moron Harper with you.

3. October 1, 2009 at 12:30 pm

Keith Baker Says:

Somebody (else) needs to now get tough and tell our dear Ministry of Transportation people that they are screwing around with FEDERAL law as we are all FEDERALLY licensed under the Communications Act. I tried to do so in numerous written letters to the Minister.

Lawmakers in Manitoba "got" that message loud and clear, but apparently our collective attempts to reason with our own Ministry here in Ontario fell on deaf, bureaucratic ears.

The truth is that there is not a SHRED of evidence...NONE...that handling a microphone in a moving vehicle is any more dangerous than handling a cup of coffee. Maybe banning that activity, too, will be next.

However, one thing is for sure. If this nonsense stands, my own radios are coming OUT of my vehicles and they can kiss my participation in ARES and CANWARN goodbye.

Keith Baker

VA3KSF

Corunna, ON

4. October 1, 2009 at 12:56 pm

Mike VE3MIC Says:

It will be interesting to see how this plays out. In particular, devices such as smart phones that have built in GPS capabilities. One could always claim that they were using the device for navigation when in fact they may have been sending text messages. How would this stand up in court?

Highway Traffic Act

1. Section 78 of the Highway Traffic Act is repealed and the following substituted:

Display screen visible to driver prohibited

78. (1) No person shall drive a motor vehicle on a highway if the display screen of a television, computer or other device in the motor vehicle is visible to the driver.

Exceptions

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply in respect of the display screen of,

(a) a global positioning system navigation device while being used to provide navigation information;

(b) a hand-held wireless communication device or a device that is prescribed for the purpose of subsection 78.1 (1);

(c) a logistical transportation tracking system device used for commercial purposes to track vehicle location, driver status or the delivery of packages or other goods;

(d) a collision avoidance system device that has no other function than to deliver a collision avoidance system; or

(e) an instrument, gauge or system that is used to provide information to the driver regarding the status of various systems of the motor vehicle.

5. October 1, 2009 at 2:11 pm

David Lane Says:

Holy moley....

I guess the days of Amateur providing emergency support in Canada are over. Pity...won't be long here in the US either...

David, KG4GIY

EC/RO Prince William County, Virginia

6. October 1, 2009 at 2:17 pm

Chris S Says:

Interesting ... parts of this appears to be considerably stricter than expected.

From <http://news.ontario.ca/mto/en/2009/09/ontarios-new-rules-for-hand-held-wireless-and-entertainment-devices.html> ...

"Hand-mikes (push-to-talk systems) and portable radios (walkie-talkies) may be used in a hands-free mode. This would mean the driver can use a lapel button or other hands-free application as long as the hand-mike or walkie-talkies is not held while driving."

So – the use of a standard dash-mount CB radio with a hand-held mike will not be permitted at all. Commercial users have a three-year grace period. For the non-commercial user, a hand-held mike is equivalent to a cell-phone.

7. October 1, 2009 at 3:41 pm

Alan MacPherson Says:

Well, another easy alternative is to install a footswitch not unlike the old headlight dimming switches, for PTT operation, there is no "foot free" rules yet, and most cars are automatic anyway so your left foot has nothing to do! PS keep the floor mat off of it! 😊

8. October 1, 2009 at 3:50 pm

David Hodson Says:

I will show my view at the ballot box.

9. October 2, 2009 at 4:16 pm

Alan MacPherson Says:

You can always black out your windows like so many others do, and they seem to get away with it!

Who is to know what you are doing, if you do not tell anyone! 😊

Oppressive rules and laws demand countermeasures, surely HAMS are smart enough to use "countermeasures!" 😊

The actual act sounds pretty stupid on how it describes "hand microphone" read it yourself!

http://www.lois-en-ligne.gouv.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2009/elaws_src_regs_r09366_e.htm

Reaction to Bill 118

October 1, 2009

By Peter West

Reaction from amateurs across Ontario and from as far away as the US is coming in fast and furious to the provincial government's decision to ban the use of hand-held devices on two-way radios in mobile installations in three years.

This three-year exemption that applies to the use of hand-held microphones associated with all two-way radios (not just amateur radios) allows us time to either incorporate hands-free devices (a VOX headset or VOX mic on a swivel stand attached to the sunvisor for example would comply with the ruling as would a Bluetooth interface which is already available commercially for one radio at this time) or time to organize and lobby for a permanent exemption.

While we may not agree with the research (or lack thereof) that the government used to make this ruling, we have the next three years to create a more positive outcome.

And, while it is human nature to react strongly, we might stop to realize that this is a great victory for amateur radio. We long feared, based on government staff questions, that amateur radio alone might have been immediately and severely adversely affected by Bill 118 and that commercial radio of all types including taxis and

pizza delivery people might have been exempted. That did not happen.

RAC, along with the Canadian Association of Rally Sport, the Toronto FM Society, and individual amateurs including Vince d'Eon, VE6LK/3 and others lobbied long and hard over the last year to convince the government staffers, committee members and the Minister that the use of a hand-held microphone did not contribute to distracted driving and thus should be exempt from Bill 118.

Our position as stated remains the same and we would encourage individual operators to work together to create a united front able to offer well-researched information to help the government understand the error of its ways. So it comes down now to who among us willing to step up and form a working committee??

4 Responses to "Reaction to Bill 118"

1. October 2, 2009 at 3:03 am

Gerald A Kocha Says:

We have only breathing space I hope this will wake up Ham Community to lobby their MPs and to work with our own ham groups clubs etc. Everyone who is not member of RAC should join now and get active on this and other concerns that effect the Amateur Radio Community

73. VA3GAK

2. October 2, 2009 at 4:36 pm

Rob Says:

How can a 3 year grace period be applied when C118 does NOT apply to two-way radios in the first place? My two-way radio, as is, is not capable of telephone communication, text messages or any other data transmission.

3. October 2, 2009 at 9:55 pm

Tim Says:

Rob;

Have a look at:

<http://news.ontario.ca/mto/en/2009/09/ontarios-new-rules-for-hand-held-wireless-and-entertainment-devices.html>

Highlights: (if they can be called that!)

"The use of hand-held radios by amateur radio operators (who provide assistance, especially in emergency situations such as severe storms and blackouts) will be phased out within three years, to allow hands-free technologies to be developed."

"To help these businesses stay competitive, Ontario is granting a three-year phase-out period for the commercial use of two-way radios, including mobile and CB radios, to allow for hands-free technologies to be developed."

"Hand-mikes (push-to-talk systems) and portable radios (walkie-talkies) may be used in a hands-free mode. This would mean the driver can use a lapel button or other hands-free application as long as the hand-mike or walkie-talkies is not held while driving."

4. October 3, 2009 at 12:45 pm

Brian Dixon Says:

I've written to the Minister twice now and all I get back is the same 'what a wonderful job we're doing' letter outlining the legislation. The last letter I received indicated that the regulations would be 'the same as in other jurisdictions' where this type of legislation has been introduced.

Obviously, they've lied again. You simply can't trust these politicians to actually read anything you send them. They don't pay any attention to the actual 'facts of the matter'.

I'm willing to help in any way I can to get this overturned.

More on Bill 118 from RAC President Bob Cooke

September 9, 2009

By Peter West

Based upon email I have seen and a couple of conversations I have overheard recently on the Amateur bands, wild rumours are flying around concerning the Ontario Bill C118 and the use of Amateur Radio in motor vehicles. Some of the comments being made would be laughable if it were not for the fact they are being believed despite being ridiculous on their face.

I urge every Ontario Radio Amateur to not believe everything they hear but instead seek out factual information, an excellent source of which is right here, the RAC Blog, edited by RAC's Vice President for Public Relations, Peter West, VE3HG.

Peter has been leading the RAC effort, on behalf of every Amateur in the province, since the matter of possible restrictions for Amateur Radio operation first came to light. His efforts have included emails, letters and face to face meetings with MTO officials.

The RAC, by way of Peter, has been tireless, contrary to what you may have been told by some. Regardless of the outcome, we all owe Peter a huge vote of thanks.

The sky isn't falling, at least not yet. So I encourage everyone to stop listening to Chicken Little or, worse, mimicking the title character of that children's story, and instead look to the RAC and to VPPR West for the truth.

And, if you are not a RAC member, please consider becoming one so that the RAC can continue to defend Amateur Radio against attacks such as those potentially included in the Ontario cell phone Bill.

Thank you.

73,

Bob Cooke

VE3BDB

President, Radio Amateurs of Canada Inc.

"We're ALL about Amateur Radio!"

"Tous ensemble pour la radioamateur!"

Ontario's New Rules For Hand-Held Wireless And Entertainment Devices

September 30, 2009

As of October 26, 2009, Ontario's new distracted driving law will make it illegal for motorists to use hand-held wireless communication devices or any hand-held electronic entertainment devices while driving.

This includes hand-held cell phones, texting and e-mailing.

Hands-free devices will still be permitted.

This new law also prohibits viewing a display screen unrelated to the driving task such as laptops or DVD players while driving.

HANDS-FREE DEVICES

The new law applies only to hand-held wireless communications and hand-held electronic entertainment devices. This means drivers must only use wireless devices that can be used in a "hands-free" manner:

- a cell phone with an earpiece or headset using voice dialing, or plugged into the vehicle's sound system
- a global positioning system (GPS) device that is properly secured to the dashboard or another accessible place in the vehicle
- a portable audio player that has been plugged into the vehicle's sound system.

Some wireless devices require that users push a button to activate and/or deactivate the device's "hands-free" function. This activity is permitted under the law.

HAND-HELD DEVICES

All drivers

Drivers will not be permitted to use hand-held communication and entertainment devices when driving, with the following exceptions:

- Calling 9-1-1 in an emergency situation
- When the driver has safely pulled off the roadway and is stationary or is lawfully parked.

Other devices not included in the ban:

- Viewing a display screen used for collision avoidance systems
- Viewing a display screen of an instrument, gauge or system that provides information to the driver about the status of systems in the motor vehicle.

Emergency Response Personnel

Police, fire department and emergency medical services personnel will be permitted to use hand-held wireless communications devices and view display screens in the normal performance of their duties.

The use of hand-held radios by amateur radio operators (who provide assistance, especially in emergency

situations such as severe storms and blackouts) will be phased out within three years, to allow hands-free technologies to be developed.

Commercial Drivers

A small percentage of drivers in transport-related industries (e.g., school buses, taxis, couriers) and public service workers (e.g., transit and highway maintenance workers) rely on the use of certain types of wireless devices and display screen technologies in the performance of day-to-day operations.

To help these businesses stay competitive, Ontario is granting a three-year phase-out period for the commercial use of two-way radios, including mobile and CB radios, to allow for hands-free technologies to be developed.

The new law will not affect mobile data terminals, logistical tracking devices and dispatching devices. They will be exempt for commercial and public service vehicle drivers who are engaged in the performance of their duties.

Hand-mikes (push-to-talk systems) and portable radios (walkie-talkies) may be used in a hands-free mode. This would mean the driver can use a lapel button or other hands-free application as long as the hand-mike or walkie-talkies is not held while driving.

CONTACTS

- Bob Nichols
Communications Branch
416-327-1158
Bob.Nichols@ontario.ca
- Nicole Lippa-Gasparro
Minister's Office
416-327-1815
Nicole.Lippa-Gasparro@ontario.ca

Ministry of Transportation
ontario.ca/transportation

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RAC Bulletin 2009-028E

Geoff Smith, VA3GS, re-elected Ontario South Region Director.

September 14, 2009

Following the September 1st, 2009, close of nominations for the Ontario South Region Director position, an Election Committee was convened, chaired by RAC Corporate Secretary Linda Friars, VE9GLF. The committee met to open and review the sole nomination received for the position, as required by the By-laws. There being no other nominees, and the nomination

documents found to be in order, the committee declared the incumbent, Mr. Geoff Smith, VA3GS, elected for another two-year term which begins January 1, 2010. The RAC President, Board and Executive congratulate Director Smith and thank him for continuing to volunteer his services.

G. Linda Friars, VE9GLF
Corporate Secretary - Radio Amateurs of Canada

RAC Bulletin 2009-029E

RAC HFBPC has a new name.

September 14, 2009

It is now official, a while ago, the RAC Board of Directors has approved a motion to change the HF Band Planning Committee name to LF/MF/HFBPC. This new name better reflects the range of frequencies that the committee is responsible for.

Jim Fisher, VE1JF, the Committee Chair indicates that the work the committee members are doing will not change much as they were already including those bands in their ongoing reviews.

73,
Daniel A. Lamoureux, VE2KA
Vice-President International Affairs - Radio Amateurs of Canada

RAC Bulletin 2009-030E

Derek Hay, VE4HAY, elected Midwest Region Director

September 20, 2009

Following the September 16th, 2009, close of nominations for the Midwest Region Director position, an Election Committee was convened, chaired by RAC Corporate Secretary Linda Friars, VE9GLF. The committee met to open and review the sole nomination received for the position, as required by the By-laws.

There being no other nominees, and the nomination documents found to be in order, the committee declared the incumbent, Mr. Derek Hay, VE4HAY, elected for another two-year term which begins January 1, 2010. The RAC President, Board and Executive congratulate Director Hay and thank him for continuing to volunteer his services.

G. Linda Friars, VE9GLF
Corporate Secretary - Radio Amateurs of Canada

RAC Bulletin 2009-031E

Correction to Bulletin 2009-030E

September 22, 2009

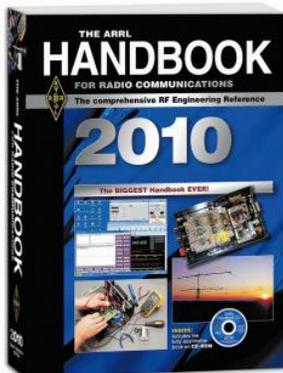
A previous RAC Bulletin regarding the election of Midwest Director Derek Hay, VE4HAY, inadvertently stated that his term would begin on January 1, 2010. In fact, Director Hay is completing a two-year term left vacant when the previous Midwest Director resigned for personal

reasons, a term that will end on December 31, 2010. RAC regrets any inconvenience the original bulletin may have caused.

G. Linda Friars, VE9GLF
Corporate Secretary - Radio Amateurs of Canada

The 2010 ARRL Handbook: Our Biggest -- and Best -- Ever!

October 1, 2009



Click [here](#) to read the first few pages from *The 2010 ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications*.

With more than 60 authors and reviewers contributing over 70 percent of new or completely revised content, *The 2010 ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications* is the biggest *Handbook* ever. Since it was first published in 1926, *the Handbook* has

been a mainstay for the radio electronic experimenter. A core resource for radio amateurs, hobbyists, engineers and scientists, the *Handbook* is the single most

authoritative reference on practical communications topics. It is both reference book and tutorial, woven together with practical applications and solutions. The 2010 *Handbook* -- the 87th edition -- is both a useful introduction to radio communication and features the most current material on electronics and Amateur Radio. As *Handbook* editors H. Ward Silver, NOAX, and Mark Wilson, K1RO, dove into preparing this 87th edition, they kept in mind what F. E. Handy, W1BDI -- author of the first edition -- wrote in that book: "Written first of all for the beginner, such an amount of useful and up-to-date information has been added that the *Handbook* in its present form is equally valuable as a compendium of information for the experienced brass-pounder and the beginner alike." The same idea that prefaced the 176 page *Handbook* in 1926 permeates the more than 1250 pages of the 2010 version.

For 2010, *The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications* has been reorganized into five major sections, making it easier than ever to find exactly what you are searching for: Fundamental Theory, Practical Design and Principles, Antenna Systems and Radio Propagation, Equipment Construction and Maintenance, and Station Assembly and Management. "Each chapter has been designed to be either an 'encyclopaedia' (providing descriptive overviews of current practices and technology) or 'practical handbook' (focusing on techniques, designs and projects)," Silver explained. "In either case, Mark and I tried to ensure that there was enough introductory material to get the newcomer started, as well as plenty of in-depth discussion the experienced amateur will expect."

Nearly every chapter has been rewritten or reworked, with many projects making their first appearance in the *Handbook*. Take a look at some of the new and exciting topics you will find:

- A full suite of new or revised chapters address the burgeoning digital modes: Modulation (by Alan Bloom, N1AL); DSP and Software Radio Design (also by N1AL), Digital Modes (by Scott Honaker, N7SS, and Kok Chen, W7AY), and Digital Communications (by Steve Ford, WB8IMY). There's also a new section on D-STAR digital repeaters by Pete Loveall, AE5PL and Jim McClellan, N5MIJ.
- The ever-popular chapter on RF Power Amplifiers has gotten a thorough refreshing by experts John Stanley, K4ERO (vacuum tube technology) and Dick Frey, K4XU (solid-state amplifiers). You'll find new software, expanded design examples, and a new 250 W solid state amplifier project to get you started toward that bigger signal.
- Power Supplies -- a chapter that every ham turns to regularly -- received the attention of world-class authority Rudy Severns, N6LF. As a result, there is a detailed introduction to switch-mode power conversion -- arguably the most common power supply technology in the world and whose coverage was long overdue in the *Handbook*.

Emerging Technology: New High Efficiency Solar Cells Developed

Turning to the emerging technology page, an Electronics Weekly article reports that Belgian researchers have taken another step towards creating a new generation of mechanically-stacked triple junction solar cells. These new cells are expected to eventually become the most efficient available.

According to the article in a triple junction cell, each junction is tuned to absorb a different part of the solar spectrum, with the upper layers designed to be transparent to wavelengths absorbed in the lower layers.

Names In The News: Editorial Staff Changes At CQ Magazine

CQ magazine Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, has announced two changes to the magazine's editorial staff, including the addition of a new column. First up is a new

- If you're learning electronics from the *Handbook*, as many do, the Fundamental Theory section sports reworked and expanded chapters on basic electronics and analog design (both by H. Ward Silver, NOAX), and digital design (by Dale Botkin, NOXAS), including analog-digital conversion and microprocessor interfacing.
- New resources for experimenters include a chapter on Computer-Aided Circuit Design by Dave Newkirk, W9VES. The Component Data and References chapter received needed updates to the information on component characteristics and surface mount devices by Paul Harden, NA5N.
- In recognition of the growing range of operating modes and activities, you'll find updated and expanded chapters on Space Communications (satellites by Steve Ford, WB8IMY, and EME by Joe Taylor, K1JT) and Image Communications (ATV by Tom O'Hara, W6ORG, and SSTV by Dave Jones, KB4YZ).

The book's accompanying CD-ROM inside the back cover once again includes a searchable PDF version of the entire book, including graphics. Construction information and PC board templates for all projects are included, as are the original *QST* articles, if that was the project's source. Jim Tonne, W4ENE, has again generously provided his powerful filter design and analysis software, *Elsie*, as well as other useful applications. Recognizing that the printed *Handbook* and CD-ROM support a dynamic activity, a [Web page](#) has been created to provide links and supplemental information that may change with time.

For more than eight decades, hams, hobbyists, engineers and scientists have used *The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications* for both practical solutions -- and as a teacher to open doors of understanding. Available in [hardcover](#) and [softcover](#), make sure you get yours today. If you order by October 31, 2009 (or while supplies last), you can receive the hardcover version for the softcover price of \$49.95.

This is similar to the way many color films were made prior to the advent of digital photography. The researchers say that this broad coverage of the spectrum is why high efficiencies are obtained.

This is the first promising demonstration of this new stacking technology which is expected to produce cells with efficiencies above 40%. The complete article on this new is at www.electronicsweekly.com/Articles/2009/09/23/47021/i-mec-opens-door-for-record-breaking-solar-cells.htm (EW)

"Kit-Building," column which will be anchored by Joe Eisenberg, KONEB, of Lincoln, Nebraska. It replaces "The Weekender," a small-project column that had been

without a regular columnist since the departure of Phil Salas, AD5X, at the end of 2008.

Joe Eisenberg has been a ham for more than 40 years and has been building kits and leading kit-building forums at hamfests and conventions for over a decade. The column will mix kit-building tips and techniques with close-up looks at building a variety of currently-available kits. Joe, who also maintains the database for the Roy Neal Amateur Radio Mentoring Program for Amateur Radio Newsline and the QCWA can be reached by e-mail at k0neb@cq-amateur-radio.com.

And John Wood, WV5J, of Germantown, Tennessee, has been named New Products Editor. Wood succeeds Anthony Luscre, K8ZT, who had to step down due to increased time demands at his full-time job.

John Wood, WV5J, is both a longtime ham and a longtime journalist, having held a variety of positions with newspapers in Tennessee and Arkansas. He has also been a regular contributor to CQ, with his most recent article appearing in the October, 2009, issue. According to Moseson, Wood will continue to write occasional feature articles in addition to his monthly new products column. John's first column will appear in the December issue.

Manufacturers and marketers of products for the amateur radio market are encouraged to keep John informed when new products are released. He may be reached by mail via the CQ office in New York, or by e-mail to either wv5j@cq-amateur-radio.com or productnews@cq-amateur-radio.com. (CQ)

Names In The News: Talk Show Host Wants Sat Hams

Broadcaster Ted Randall, WB8PUM, host of the shortwave broadcast QSO Radio Show, is looking for ham radio satellite operators who are interested in talking about their personal experiences in satellite communication to contact him. He is specifically in need of someone who can take an entry level approach to

explain satellites to the new and young hams listening to his weekly broadcasts. If you think you can help, please contact Ted by e-mail to [tedrandall \(at\) kaij \(dot\) us](mailto:tedrandall(at)kaij(dot)us). More about the QSO Radio Show is on-line at www.tedrandall.com. (QSO Radio Show)

Ham Radio In Space: New Ham Astronaut Is KF5DBF

Another astronaut has gotten her ham radio license. Mission specialist Tracy Caldwell recently passed her amateur radio license exam and has been issued the callsign KF5DBF.

Caldwell, who is a PH.D, was born in Arcadia, California and enjoys sports, hiking, and auto maintenance. She is scheduled to fly with Expedition 23 in April 2010. (Southgate)

On The Air: Celebrating The Ontario Provincial Police

On the air, listen out for Ontario Provincial Police Force officer Bob Cooke, VE3BDB and other current or retired uniform or civilian members of the force to activate the special callsign VC3COPP from October 2nd to the 31st. This activity is to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Ontario Provincial Police Force. Since its formation on

October 13, 1909, that service organization has grown to become one of the largest deployed police forces in North America. Activity will be on the HF bands, possibly 6 meters, and using CW and SSB. QSL via VE3BDB only direct. (Southgate)

Funny Technology: Pigeon Beats Internet In Africa

A South African information technology company claims that it has proven it was faster for them to transmit data with a carrier pigeon than to send it using the country's leading internet service provider Telkom.

The local news agency SAPA reported the 11-month-old pigeon named Winston took one hour and eight minutes to fly the 50 miles from Unlimited IT's offices to the coastal city of Durban with a data card was strapped to his leg. Including downloading, the transfer took two

hours, six minutes and 57 seconds. That's the same time it took for only four percent of the data to be transferred using a Telkom line.

SAPA said Unlimited IT performed the stunt after becoming frustrated with slow internet transmission times. Internet speed and connectivity in Africa is poor because of a bandwidth shortage and also expensive for what service does exist. (Telecom News)



THE YORK REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC.
Presents the 33rd Annual

YORK REGION A.R.C. HAMFEST

Saturday, October 24, 2009

Markham Fairgrounds, Markham, Ontario
10801 McCowan Rd at Elgin Mills Rd E

Admission : \$6:00 per person Doors open to general public at 9:00 AM
with a ticket booth set up indoors – no freezing while waiting in line.

Talk-in: VE3YRA 145.350 (-)

Over 200 vendors --- Lots of space for socializing --- Exhibits --- Free Parking
Great Door Prizes --- Refreshments --- Grand Prizes including (2) \$500.00 gift certificates
Licensing Examinations (register with Hamfest Co-ordinator prior to Hamfest to ensure we
bring enough exams.)

VENDOR INFORMATION: Tables only available by Mail. Registration form available at
YRARC.COM or on **reverse** of this flyer. Payment must accompany registration, cheque or
money order. No reservations taken by email, telephone. If you have questions regarding
your registration, please contact the Hamfest Coordinator *PRIOR* to the event at the email
address below. Returned Cheques and NSF will be charged an administration fee and the
replacement of the cheque. Hams are a good bunch of people, so please advise the Hamfest
Co-coordinator *PRIOR* to Hamfest if there is a problem with your cheque.

***All tables are 8ft. Reserve your space early. First come, first served. Questions
and further information?***

yrarc.hamfest@gmail.com Web Site: YRARC.COM

MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

-- Membership application and dues are currently requested.

Our term of membership runs from October 1 to September 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, it's 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).



Office Use Only	
<input type="checkbox"/> Paid _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Chq	
Membership Card	
<input type="checkbox"/> Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Rec'd	
Sticker	
<input type="checkbox"/> Needed <input type="checkbox"/> Rec'd	

**LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

PLEASE PRINT

SINGLE MEMBERSHIP: \$25.00 RENEWAL
 FAMILY MEMBERSHIP: \$30.00 NEW MEMBER

Member # 1 Last Name _____ First Name _____ Call Sign _____

RAC Member? RAC Member # ARES Volunteer? Email Address

No Yes _____ Yes No _____

Member # 2 Last Name _____ First Name _____ Call Sign _____

RAC Member? RAC Member # ARES Volunteer? Email Address

No Yes _____ Yes No _____

Member # 3 Last Name _____ First Name _____ Call Sign _____

RAC Member? RAC Member # ARES Volunteer? Email Address

No Yes _____ Yes No _____

Member # 4 Last Name _____ First Name _____ Call Sign _____

RAC Member? RAC Member # ARES Volunteer? Email Address

No Yes _____ Yes No _____

Address: _____

_____ Street/P.O. Box

_____ City/Town _____ Province _____ Postal Code

_____ Phone Number

Date: _____

*All information requested should be completed - this will be used for the club's membership database only.
All LARC membership information is held in strict confidence.*

Please make cheque payable to: **London Amateur Radio Club Inc.**

Mailing Address: London Amateur Radio Club
c/o Membership Director, VA3MSV
P.O. Box 82, Station B
London, Ontario, N6A 4V3