

# Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London  
And surrounding area since 1920

January 6, 2013

## L.A.R.C. Executive January L.A.R.C. Meeting

### President

David Lambert, VE3KGK

### 1st Vice-President, Membership

John Visser, VA3MSV

### 2nd Vice-President

Mike Watts, VE3ACW

### Past President

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

### Treasurer

Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB

### Secretary, Flea Market

Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO

### Director, Flea Market

Ann Rundle, VA3EOR

### Director

Pat Ross, VE3CNX

### Non-Voting

### Director, ARES & CANWARN

Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG

### Appointments

### Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

### Repeater

### Operator/Programmer

Vacant

### Field Day Coordinator

Pat Ross, VE3CNX

### Webmaster

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE  
Doug Tompkins, VE3IDT

### Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

### Auditor

Rob Hockin, VA3HO

**DO NOT GO TO THE CHURCH for January's meeting.** We have arranged a tour of London's Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) with a presentation by Dave Colvin, VE3DGC. The EOC is located in the Byron Firehall, between the Library and the Byron Bridge. We do have a limitation on how many people we can accommodate - if you want to attend, please sign up by sending an email saying so to [canoe.eh@gmail.com](mailto:canoe.eh@gmail.com) Map showing location of the EOC will be on the last page.

## Silent Keys

### Thorn, Dorothy Naralon, VE3LRU

Peacefully at Victoria Hospital on December 19th, 2012, D. Naralon Thorn of London in her 78th year. Naralon was a proud graduate of the Victoria Hospital Nursing School in 1957. Visitation was at Needham Funeral Service on December 27th with a funeral service to celebrate her life at Community of Christ Church on December 28th.

### Leeson, John Melvin, VE3KM

Peacefully at University Hospital, London, ON, December 30, 2012 in his 78th year. Beloved husband of Jennifer Leeson of London, loving brother of Dennis Lesson (Anne Carlisle) & Robert Leeson (Beverly) of London. Cremation has taken place. A memorial service and reception will be held at a future date - arrangements incomplete. Expressions of sympathy may be made to London Cremation Services, 519-672-0459

## Next Meeting is Where and When?

**Reminder: The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on January 10, 2013 at 7:30 pm**

All meetings are normally 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.

Next Meeting will be February 14, 2013. This meeting will feature a presentation by Pat Simone, VA3HIS from the Middlesex London Health Unit.

## Area Repeaters

### LARC Repeaters

#### London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VE3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

### SORT Repeaters

#### London

VE3TTT 147.180 + 114.8Hz  
Echolink Node 10741

VE3SUE 444.400 + 114.8 Hz  
IRLP Node 2400

VE3TTT 442.200 + D-Star

#### Ipperwash

VE3TCB 146.940 - 114.8 Hz  
Linked to VE3SUE

#### Grand Bend

VE3SRT 442.050 + 114.8 Hz  
Linked to VE3SUE

### Other Area Repeaters

#### London

VA3SIX 53.470 - 114.8 Hz

VE3OME 145.450 - 114.8 Hz  
CANWARN

VA3FEZ 444.100 + 114.8 Hz

#### Grand Bend

VE3RGB 146.760 + 173.8 Hz

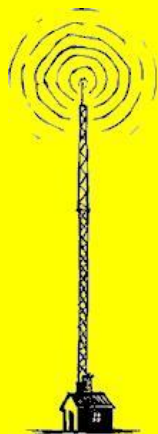
#### Stratfordville

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](mailto:va3msv@hotmail.com) and I'll add it to the list.

## 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](mailto:webmaster@larc.ca)

## Mutual Aid

Would you be willing to answer some questions if a fellow ham needed some advice? Got a problem you can't figure out? Want to try something new but need someone to show you the ropes? Check out our new **Mutual AID page** (<http://www.larc.ca/mutual-aid.html>), a new way to get people who are looking for assistance together with the folks who can help supply the answers. **Let us know** what you think of this new facility.

## Membership Report

Currently the membership for the London Amateur Radio Club stand at 82. Of the 16 Honorary Members brought in from the L.S.R.C., 3 have paid for the current 2012/2013 year. For the 2012/2013 year, we so far have 5 new members.

I would like to welcome the following new members.

Gary Burton, VE3JEA

Geoffrey Clark, Call Sign pending

Tim Clark, Call Sign pending

Don Sefanik, VA3KBC

Darrell Smiley, VE3DLY

## Nets



### Daily

#### ONTARS Net

3.755 MHz 7:00 am – 6:00 pm

#### Trans Provincial Net

7.055 MHz 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

#### London Senior's Net

146.400 MHz 7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

### Sunday

#### 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

147.060 + VA3LON 8:00 pm

#### SATERN Net

147.180 + VE3TTT 9:00 pm

444.400 + VE3SUE 9:00 pm

### Tuesday

#### ELMER Net

147.060 + VA3LON 9:00 pm

### 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

442.050 + VE3SRT 7:30 pm

## The Foundation License Proposed by RAC

This is something we should all read up on in order to give our feedback to RAC. It represents a major change to the way Ham radio is licensed in Canada, and we should be ready to provide our input. Information on the RAC recommendation can be found at:

[RAC Foundation Class Proposal](#) (35 Page PDF file, 846 KB)

[Background Info - Powerpoint](#) (33 screens, PPT file, 1.2 MB)

[Restructuring - Committee Report](#) (45 slides, PPT file, 808 KB)

Due to the number of pages that each file is, the links to the files have only been included. The L.A.R.C. Executive asks that you take a look at this information. Your feedback would be helpful.

## Canadian Enforcement Rules Changes

December 28, 2012

An announcement in the Canada Gazette says that there have been modifications made in the Contravention Regulations concerning the enforcement of the nations Radiocommunication Regulations. These changes will allow peace officers including Municipal, Provincial and Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers to issue tickets for certain offences under the nations Radiocommunication Regulations.

This change is the result of amendments made back in 2000 and 2011 to the Canadian Radiocommunication Regulations to exempt amateur radio apparatus and its operation from the licensing requirement by Industry Canada. Also to respond to concerns expressed by the Standing Joint Committee for the Scrutiny of Regulations. The latter had concluded that provisions of the Radiocommunication Regulations were redundant to, or inconsistent with, the Radiocommunication Act, or inconsistent with the terms of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

You can see the changes and how they might affect radio amateurs in that nation at <http://www.gazette.gc.ca/rp-pr/p2/2012/2012-11-21/html/sor-dors236-eng.html> (RAC, VE4WO)

## New Canadian Hellschreiber Award

December 28, 2012

A new award has been created for those ham radio enthusiasts in Canada who enjoy operating Hellschreiber. The basic Worked All Canada award requires contacts in Hellschreiber with the ten Canadian Provinces. The complete award requires additional QSO's be held with the three northern Territories of the Yukon, the Northwest Territories, and Nunavut.

Hellschreiber was originally a mechanical mode that now is operated by most in the digital domain and enables the transmission of text using facsimile technology. The start date of the award was December 19th which happened to be the birthday of Dr. Rudolf Hell, who patented Hellschreiber in 1929.

You must be a member of the Feld Hell Club to be eligible, but contacts with non-members are bvalid for award credit. A sample of the certificate, the rules and information on how to apply for the award is on line at [tinyurl.com/Hellschreiber-Canada-Award](http://tinyurl.com/Hellschreiber-Canada-Award). (Feld Hell Club)

## Upcoming Events

Sat., Feb. 23, 2013

[Burlington Spring Fleamarket](#) –  
**Burlington Amateur Radio Club**  
Royal Canadian Legion - 828 Legion  
Rd., Burlington

Sat., Mar. 23, 2013

[Ham-Ex 2013](#) – Peel &  
**Mississauga ARC**  
Brampton Fall Fair Grounds - 12942  
Heart Lake Rd.  
(43.77121N, -79.8298W)

Sat., Jul. 13, 2013

[Ontario Hamfest](#) – Burlington  
**Amateur Radio Club**  
Milton Agricultural Fairgrounds, Milton,  
Ontario

Sun., Jun. 2, 2013

[Central Ontario Hamfest &  
Fleamarket](#) - Guelph ARC &  
**Kitchener-Waterloo ARC**  
Waterloo Regional Police Association  
Recreation Centre, R.R. 2, 1128 Rife  
Rd. North Dumfries Township. Beside  
Hwy 401, between exits 268 & 275

### Every Saturday Morning

starting at 8:30 am.  
Breakfast at the Cottage  
Restaurant. Located across the  
street from the London Police  
Station on Dundas St.

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](mailto:va3msv@hotmail.com) and I'll  
add it to the list.

## RAC Bulletin 2012-071E - Distracted Driving Update – Ontario Regulations Changed

December 22, 2012

In light of the prorogation of the Ontario Legislature on October 15, 2012, the amateur radio community in Ontario has raised questions regarding the status of the 5-year extension to the amateur radio exemption in the Display Screens and Hand-Held Devices Regulations that was announced by Minister of Transportation Bob Chiarelli on September 24, 2012. Former RAC Honourary Legal Counsel, Steve Pengelly, VE3STV, has advised that prorogation would have had no effect on the announced extension because it was contained in a regulation passed by an order-in-council.

To further address the concern, Radio Amateurs of Canada is pleased to inform Ontario hams that Ontario Regulation 253/12, which can be found at: [http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2012/elaws\\_src\\_regs\\_r12253\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2012/elaws_src_regs_r12253_e.htm) has amended the amateur radio exemption sections of former Ontario Regulation 366/09. Specifically, the "January 1, 2013" portion of section 13(1) and the entirety of section 13(2) of Ontario Regulation 366/09 were struck out and replaced with section 3(1) and 3(2) of Ontario Regulation 253/12, stating the new January 1, 2018 deadline. The actual amended Ontario Regulation 366/09 can be found at [http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws\\_regs\\_090366\\_e.htm/](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_090366_e.htm/)

Radio Amateurs of Canada will continue to pursue a permanent exemption for Amateur Radio operators in Ontario. Similar exemptions already exist in many other provincial jurisdictions in Canada - thanks in part to the efforts of local amateurs and RAC's national strategy to address distracted driving legislation.

Radio Amateurs of Canada is Canada's national voice for Amateur Radio. Our efforts not only promote the Amateur Radio Service but protect it from regulatory interference that may lead to less capability to provide emergency communications. Not already a RAC member? Why not join today at [www.rac.ca](http://www.rac.ca) and find out about the many benefits our members enjoy across the country and the world beyond.

It is recommended that you carry a copy of your certificate and a copy of the exemption in your vehicle.

Jeff Stewart, VA3WXM - RAC Ontario South Director/Assistant Chairman -  
Ontario Distracted Driving Committee

on behalf of Bill Unger, VE3XT - RAC Director Ontario North - East - Chairman -  
Ontario Distracted Driving Committee

## HF Corner for January 2013

by David Lambert, VE3KGK

**Editor Note:** You can hear Dave make an HF contact on YouTube at the following link.  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KQky1tug-MY>

Dec 01 to Jan 31	Bahamas	C6AGT	40-10m SSB/maybe PSK31/JT65
Dec 08 to Mar 03	Samoa	5W0RK	20-10 m SSB/Digital modes
Dec 10 to Mar 03	Island of Kyushu Japan	8J6HAM	all bands and using many modes
Dec 17 for 20 wks	Lesotho	7P8RI	all HF bands CW/SSB/Digital modes
Dec 22 to Jan 07	Temotu Grp	H40FN	160-6m mostly CW
Jan 03 to Jan 17	Belize	V31ME	17m, 15m, 10m
Jan 04 to Jan 08	Montserrat	VP2ASW	20m to 10m SSB
Jan 04 to Jan 13	Peru	4T4RDP	Special Event Station
Jan 04 to Jan 18	Namibia	V5	80m to 10m RTTY
Jan 05 to Jan 18	Senegal	6W7SK	Mainly CW
Jan 07 to Jan 20	Kenya	5Z4	80m to 10m SSB/RTTY
Jan 09 to Jan 14	Palau	T8C	CW/SSB
Jan 09 to Jan 24	St. Vincent	J8	RTTY
Jan 11 to Jan 14	Bahamas	C6AVA	40m to 15m mainly CW
Jan 11 to Jan 18	Lord Howe Island	VK9L	80m to 6m CW/SSB/RTTY
Jan 12 to Jan 16	Vietnam	XV4CU	40m to 10m SSB/RTTY
Jan 12 to Jan 20	Cayman	ZF2FG	20m to 15m SSB
Jan 15 to Jan 21	Fernando de Noronha Is.	PY0F	160m to 80m CW/SSB/RTTY
Jan 15 to Jan 31	Rwanda	9X0PY	Mainly CW
Jan 17 to Mar 10	Senegal	6W2SC	40m to 10m CW
Jan 25 to Mar 10	Guinea Bissau	J5UAP	40m to 10m CW
Jan 26 to Feb 02	Cayman	ZF2YA	20m to 10m CW/SSB
Feb 01 to Feb 27	Uganda	5X8C	6 stations during 12 days
Feb 09 to Feb 13	Guam	KH2	80m to 10m SSB
Until mid-Jan	Guatemala	TG9/KF5LSG	
Next 3-4 years	Cameroon	TJ3SN	HF bands plus 6 m various modes

These are announced operations for the month of January. However, some other nice DX show up unannounced. You can monitor DX Watch daily to see who is on and what frequency the station may be operating on.

Hope you all had a wonderful Christmas Season and worked some good DX.

I did manage OH8X and OH9SCL in Lapland on 20m SSB during the Christmas holidays.

I'm looking forward to working a couple new ones this year.

In February 2014, a DXpedition is planned to Heard Island. Heard is a very difficult (and EXPENSIVE) place to get to and operations from there a few and far between. Think and plan ahead and get your antennas up and sharpen your operating skills to work that rare one when it comes. The cost of mounting that DXpedition is rumoured to be in excess of ONE AND A HALF MILLION Dollars! If you work them and send a QSL card think about including a small donation with your card. I worked Heard back in about 1979 on three bands SSB and once on CW! Yes, that's right, I made a CW contact with VK0HI !! I will try to work them again and I will also send a donation. But for people like those who do this there would be many countries I would not have worked that I now have in my log.

Gud DX!

73, David, VE3KGK

**Editor Note:** The 2012 operation 5X1EME from Uganda has been approved for DXCC credit. If you have a card for this operation you can submit it to checkers to be added to your DXCC total.



# History Of The Car Radio

January 2, 2013



k6615404 www.fotosearch.com

*Seems like cars have always had radios, but they didn't. Here's the true story:*

One evening, in 1929, two young men named William Lear and Elmer Wavering drove their girlfriends to a lookout point high above the Mississippi River town of Quincy, Illinois, to watch the sunset. It was a romantic night to be sure, but one of the women observed that it would be even nicer if they could listen to music in the car.

Lear and Wavering liked the idea. Both men had tinkered with radios (Lear had served as a radio operator in the U.S. Navy during World War I) and it wasn't long before they were taking apart a home radio and trying to get it to work in a car. But it wasn't as easy as it sounds: automobiles have ignition switches, generators, spark plugs, and other electrical equipment that generate noisy static interference, making it nearly impossible to listen to the radio when the engine was running.

## **Signing On**

One by one, Lear and Wavering identified and eliminated each source of electrical interference. When they finally got their radio to work, they took it to a radio convention in Chicago. There they met Paul Galvin, owner of Galvin Manufacturing Corporation. He made a product called a "battery eliminator" a device that allowed battery-powered radios to run on household AC current. But as more homes were wired for electricity, more radio manufacturers made AC-powered radios. Galvin needed a new product to manufacture. When he met Lear and Wavering at the radio convention, he

found it. He believed that mass-produced, affordable car radios had the potential to become a huge business.

Lear and Wavering set up shop in Galvin's factory, and when they perfected their first radio, they installed it in his Studebaker. Then Galvin went to a local banker to apply for a loan. Thinking it might sweeten the deal, he had his men install a radio in the banker's Packard. Good idea, but it didn't work -- Half an hour after the installation, the banker's Packard caught on fire. (They didn't get the loan.) Galvin didn't give up. He drove his Studebaker nearly 800 miles to Atlantic City to show off the radio at the 1930 Radio Manufacturers Association convention. Too broke to afford a booth, he parked the car outside the convention hall and cranked up the radio so that passing conventioners could hear it. That idea worked -- He got enough orders to put the radio into production.

## **What's In A Name**

That first production model was called the 5T71. Galvin decided he needed to come up with something a little catchier. In those days many companies in the phonograph and radio businesses used the suffix "ola" for their names -- Radiola, Columbiola, and Victrola were three of the biggest. Galvin decided to do the same thing, and since his radio was intended for use in a motor vehicle, he decided to call it the Motorola.

But even with the name change, the radio still had problems:

When Motorola went on sale in 1930, it cost about \$110 uninstalled, at a time when you could buy a brand-new car for \$650, and the country was sliding into the Great Depression. (By that measure, a radio for a new car would cost about \$3,000 today.). In 1930 it took two men several days to put in a car radio -- The dashboard had to be taken apart so that the receiver and a single speaker could be installed, and the ceiling had to be cut open to install the antenna. These early radios ran on their own batteries, not on the car

battery, so holes had to be cut into the floorboard to accommodate them. The installation manual had eight complete diagrams and 28 pages of instructions.

### **Hit The Road**

Selling complicated car radios that cost 20 percent of the price of a brand-new car wouldn't have been easy in the best of times, let alone during the Great Depression -- Galvin lost money in 1930 and struggled for a couple of years after that. But things picked up in 1933 when Ford began offering Motorola's pre-installed at the factory. In 1934 they got another boost when Galvin struck a deal with B.F. Goodrich tire company to sell and install them in its chain of tire stores.

By then the price of the radio, installation included, had dropped to \$55. The Motorola car radio was off and running. (The name of the company would be officially changed from Galvin Manufacturing to "Motorola" in 1947.) In the meantime, Galvin continued to develop new uses for car radios. In 1936, the same year that it introduced push-button tuning, it also introduced the Motorola Police Cruiser, a standard car radio that was factory preset to a single frequency to pick up police broadcasts. In 1940 he developed the first handheld two-way radio -- The Handie-Talkie -- for the U. S. Army.

A lot of the communications technologies that we take for granted today were born in Motorola labs

in the years that followed World War II. In 1947 they came out with the first television to sell under \$200. In 1956 the company introduced the world's first pager; in 1969 it supplied the radio and television equipment that was used to televise Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon. In 1973 it invented the world's first handheld cellular phone. Today Motorola is one of the largest cell phone manufacturers in the world -- And it all started with the car radio.

### **Whatever Happened To**

The two men who installed the first radio in Paul Galvin's car, Elmer Wavering and William Lear, ended up taking very different paths in life. Wavering stayed with Motorola. In the 1950's he helped change the automobile experience again when he developed the first automotive alternator, replacing inefficient and unreliable generators. The invention lead to such luxuries as power windows, power seats, and, eventually, air-conditioning.

Lear also continued inventing. He holds more than 150 patents. Remember eight-track tape players? Lear invented that. But what he's really famous for are his contributions to the field of aviation. He invented radio direction finders for planes, aided in the invention of the autopilot, designed the first fully automatic aircraft landing system, and in 1963 introduced his most famous invention of all, the Lear Jet, the world's first mass-produced, affordable business jet. *(Not bad for a guy who dropped out of school after the eighth grade.)*

## **New Canadian IRLP/Echolink Weather Net**

January 4, 2013

The Weather Radio Listeners Newsletter Net hosted by Gordon Maybee, VA3WXA out of Toronto, Canada, takes place every Saturday evening at 8 PM Atlantic, 7 PM Eastern time on IRLP Reflector 9034 and Echolink node 223557. The net carries information about Weather Radio and the CANWARN service. It also includes weather warnings and notices of any power outages across Canada.

The sponsors say that they are trying to make this a Cross Canada Net to include all provinces and territories. They are also looking for station from Quebec to participate.

For more information about the net, go to The Maritime Amateur website [www.maritimeamateur.ca](http://www.maritimeamateur.ca) and click on CANWARN. Once there, click on CANWARN news where you will find articles on this net. *(VE1JBL)*

## A Belated Happy 65 To The Transistor

January 4, 2013

And finally this week, a belated happy birthday to an electronic device whose invention revolutionized telecommunications and made possible the technology that we have today. Of course we are talking about the transistor.

On December 16, 1947, Bell Labs researchers William Shockley, John Bardeen and Walter Brattain created an amplifier from a germanium crystal that boosted the level of an input signal by 100 times. Various researchers had tried to develop a solid-state alternative to the vacuum tubes during World War II but none had succeeded. The Bell Labs Trio demonstrated it for lab officials a week later on December 23 where Shockley deemed it a magnificent Christmas present.

Bell Labs announced the invention of the transistor six months later. The device went on to become

one of the signature scientific achievements of the 20th century, ranking up with splitting the atom, manned flight, and the discovery of DNA. One could argue, in fact, that the transistor was the most important breakthrough of the 20th century because subsequent advances in those other fields relied on the computing power made possible through integrated circuits and semiconductors. In essence, information has become a science itself.

As a result of their achievement Electronics Magazine put a photo the three men on its cover. The three went on to share the Nobel Prize for physics in 1956. John Bardeen became a laureate a second time in 1972 for his work on superconductivity. And very apropos the entire story is on-line at [www.tinyurl.com/transistor-comes-alive](http://www.tinyurl.com/transistor-comes-alive) (*Readwrite, others*)

## Blind Ham Receives Radio Gift From Fellow Hams

December 20, 2012

<http://www.va3xpr.net/blind-ham-receives-radio-gift-from-fellow-hams/>

As everyone knows, the holiday season is all about sharing with others. And what could be better than to give the gift of ham radio! Just ask Heratch Toroian, a.k.a. "Rudie", VE3OUA, a longstanding member of the Scarborough Amateur Radio Club (SARC) in Toronto, ON, who recently received a brand new Yaesu FT-60 dual band HT from his fellow SARC members. Rudie, a visually impaired ham that uses his HT frequently, had been experiencing problems with his old Yaesu FT-60, which kept him off the air and prevented him from using IRLP & EchoLink on the VA3XPR repeater, one of his favourite modes of communications. So the good members of SARC thought they would help him and that's exactly what they did.

"Rudie's radio just was dying out with time and Rudie has been a member of the Scarborough Amateur Radio Club for over 20 + years. Being a white caner with MS, he is a real trouper and the best friend the club could ever have" said Ralph Muecke, VE3VXY and President of SARC. "He really needed help and that's what a club is all about", Muecke added.

"He just asked me to open my left hand and I was so surprised that he put another radio in my hand" exclaimed Rudie, about receiving the new radio from Ralph, VE3VXY.

So if you hear Rudie on the air over the holidays, be sure to tell him how good his new radio sounds.

Don Trynor, VA3XFT



## APRS Balloon Launched In California Lands In Morocco

December 14, 2012

A group of high altitude balloon experimenters have achieved a milestone. This with confirmation that their K6RPT-12 APRS equipped high altitude balloon has successfully crossed the Atlantic and landed in Morocco.

Amateur radio stations from the United Kingdom to the Azores had been listening for the transatlantic balloon signing K6RPT-12 on 144.390 MHz FM. This after it was lofted skyward from California at about 0126 UTC on Monday, December 3rd.

The balloon was launched by the California Near Space Project team with the intent of it crossing the Atlantic heading for the British Isles. When it left the USA it was traveling at over 185 an hour but was believed to have slowed down in its over-water trek to as little as 55 miles an hour. Knowing this, the payload was designed for over 60 hours of flight. It also included a heating system for its 144.390 MHz FM transmitter developed by Johnathan Corgan, AE6HO, to prevent it freezing during overnight flight. This was because the bitterly cold night temperatures at that altitude

have caused the transmitters on several amateur radio balloons to fail.

After its journey across the Atlantic its APRS signals were first picked up by stations in Spain. It was last heard at 09:22:31 UTC on December 5th descending rapidly, indicating that the balloon had finally burst. Its last recorded position was 34°25.75' North and 3°58.96' West placing it in the Taza Province of Morocco North-North East of Tazekka National Park.

It is believed there are less than 150 radio amateurs in Morocco and no known APRS stations. As such the balloon and its payload may never be recovered.

It should be noted that the amateur radio APRS frequency is not standardized world-wide. The United States uses 144.390 MHz while the British Isles and Europe use 144.800 MHz. To see the See the K6RPT-12 APRS reported flight track please take your web browser to [www.tinyurl.com/k6rpt-12](http://www.tinyurl.com/k6rpt-12) on the World-Wide-Web. (*California Near Space Project, Southgate, others*)

## End Of The World Transatlantic High Altitude Balloon Prematurely Bursts

December 21, 2012

The transatlantic crossing attempt by an amateur radio balloon carrying an 18 MHz PSK beacon ended over the coast of Mississippi when the balloon prematurely burst.

The ham radio balloon called BLT-32 carried a PSK 31 transmitter on 18.100 MHz. It was due to be launched late Saturday, December 15th from near Sugarland, Texas with its destination aimed at Europe. According to reports it only made it a few hundred miles.

The South Texas Balloon Launch Team had joined the NOD End of the World Special Event with the launch its high altitude 'floater' balloon with hope

of it reaching Europe before the End of the World took place as described in one Mayan calendar. And in keeping with the theme of the event the beacons and APRS tracker on the balloon were to use the NOD call sign. NOD meaning Now Zero-Days. And it was a case of Now Zero-Days for this ham radio balloon flight.

As reported last week a similar ham radio floater balloon launched by a group in Northern California did make it across both the United States and the Atlantic Ocean before descending in Morocco. (Southgate)

## HF D-Star Tests To Be Held Saturday And Sunday UTC

December 14, 2012

D-Star is coming to a high frequency band near you. According to a post on the Illinois D-Star Reflector, by Kent Hufford, KQ4KK, D-Star High Frequency tests will be held Saturday at midnight UTC and Sunday at 1500 hours UTC. D-Star operation will last only 5 minutes on each band beginning on 6 meters and working down to 10,

12, 15, 17, 20, 40 and finally 75 meters. The test will be compatible with Icom 9100 series transceivers and other D-Star equipped High Frequency transceivers. The posting did not mention specific frequencies to be used but asked those interested to monitor D-Star reflector 030C to coordinate. (*KQ4KK, D-Star Reflector*)

## Another New Source Of Light Announced

January 4, 2013

A new and more efficient way to light your way is on the horizon.

Scientists at the Wake Forest University have created a new type of light bulb that promises to be just as efficient as LED equivalents, but without any of the drawbacks.

The new field-induced polymer electroluminescent bulbs or FIPEL for short, produce light when an electric current is passed through its nano-engineered plastic layers. The team says that the new type of bulbs are malleable, allowing them to take any shape like compact fluorescent lamps. They also won't shatter like traditional bulbs, nor will they generate the same hum or flicker.

The inventor of FIPEL is Dr. David Carroll. He believes that his new solution is superior to LED

bulbs because there is a limit to how much brightness you can get out of them. If you run too much current through an LED they can short out and melt. Not only that, the light generated by FIPEL bulbs is closer to natural sunlight, unlike the bluish tint generated by LEDs.

Any worries about longevity are also put to rest by Dr. Carroll. He claims to have had a field-induced polymer electroluminescent prototype lamp working in his laboratory for almost a decade.

As for when the technology will make the jump to a commercial product? The research team says that a corporate partner is interested in producing the new bulbs at scale, with the first run expected in 2013. (*CGC, earthsignals.com, TheVerge.com*)

## Russian Ham To Spend A Year In Space

December 14, 2012

Russian Cosmonaut Mikhail Kornienko, RN3BF, along with NASA Astronaut Scott Kelly have been chosen for a one-year long term assignment aboard the International Space Station. According to NASA, the mission will which will begin in 2015 will include collecting scientific data that will be

important to the future of human exploration of our solar system. Also it should help researchers to understand better how the human body reacts and adapts to the harsh environment of space as NASA plans for missions around the Moon, to an asteroid and ultimately to Mars. (*ARRL*)

## Three New Hams Join ISS Crew

December 28, 2012

Three new astro-hams are now on-board the International Space Station. They are American Tom Marshburn, KE5HOC; Russian Roman Romanenko, UT5ERP and Canada's Chris Hadfield, KC5RNJ. All were launched from the Bikenour Cosmodrome in

Kazakhstan on board a Soyuz booster on Wednesday, December 19th. The trio traveled for two days in the capsule, before docking with the space station where three other astronauts are already on board. (*ANS*)

# Voyager 1 Reaching Interstellar Space

December 14, 2012

Researchers say that NASA's long-lived Voyager 1 which is heading out of the solar system, has reached what they call the magnetic highway leading to interstellar space

Voyager 1 will be the first manmade object to leave the solar system. Scientists believe the probe is currently in an area of deep space where the magnetic field lines from the sun are intersecting with magnetic fields from interstellar space. They believe that this phenomenon is causing highly energetic particles from distant supernova explosions and other cosmic events to zoom inside the solar system, while less-energetic solar particles exit.

The Voyager 1 probe was launched 35 years ago to study the outer planets. It is currently some 11 billion miles from Earth. At that distance, it takes radio signals traveling at the speed of light 17 hours to reach Earth.

Voyager 2 which is traveling on a different path out of the solar system has experienced similar, though more gradual changes in its environment than Voyager 1. Scientists do not believe Voyager 2, which is about 9 billion miles from Earth, has yet reached the magnetic highway to interstellar space. *(Space Update)*

# FCC Proposes 3.5 GHz Citizens Broadband Service

January 4, 2013

First there was the old Class A and Class B Citizens radio of the 1940's. Then came 11 Meter Class D Citizens Radio Service in 1958. Next was the Family Radio Service authorized in the United States since 1996. That was followed in 2000 by MURS or the Multi Use Radio Service. Now in 2013, the FCC is proposing to create a new Citizens Broadband Service and it's like nothing else the regulatory agency has ever attempted before.

Just before years end on Wednesday December 26th the FCC announced a proposal to make available 100 MHz of shared spectrum in the 3.5 GHz band using small cell and database technologies. The FCC calls the new service in the 3550 to 3650 MHz band the "Citizens Broadband Service" or CBS and proposes three tiers of service. These will be known as Incumbent Access; Priority Access and General Authorized Access.

Incumbent Access would consist solely of authorized federal and grandfathered licensed Fixed Satellite Service 3.5 GHz band users. They would be protected from the other tiers by regulation and technical means. This would include the use of exclusion zones where other CBS uses would not be permitted.

Priority Access level would be given to small cell use by certain critical quality-of-service dependent users at specific target locations. This might include hospitals, utilities, state and local governments. It might also include users with a distinct need for reliable, prioritized access to broadband spectrum at specific, localized facilities.

Lastly, the General Authorized Access or GAA level would allow opportunistic use of the spectrum for a variety of residential, business and enterprise purposes. These users would have to protect Level 1 Incumbent Access and Level 2 Priority Access users through technologies including geolocation. Also as the lowest level users they would not have any expectation of protection from harmful interference to this user base.

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking is known as FCC 12-148. It also seeks comment on including spectrum at 3650 to 3700 MHz, immediately adjacent to C-band downlink spectrum. If the FCC does include the 3650 to 3700 MHz band in the proposed new service, wireless Internet service providers using this band for links would have to be licensed under the tier 3 General Authorized Access rules.

The NPRM proposes a "Spectrum Access System" which would govern interactions between all devices in the 3.5 GHz band. It would be modeled after the TV White Space database concept and all devices would be limited to 1 watt Effective Radiated Power as compared to an Isotropic radiator.

If the proposed services name of the Citizens Broadband Service has a 1960's or 1970's ring to it, its not by mere coincidence. The FCC is proposing to license users under Section 95 of the Personal Radio Service rules. That's the same section that includes 11 meter Citizen's Band radio. *(FCC, RW)*

# **MEMBERSHIP INVITATION**

-- Membership application and dues are currently requested.

Our term of membership runs from November 1 to October 31 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.

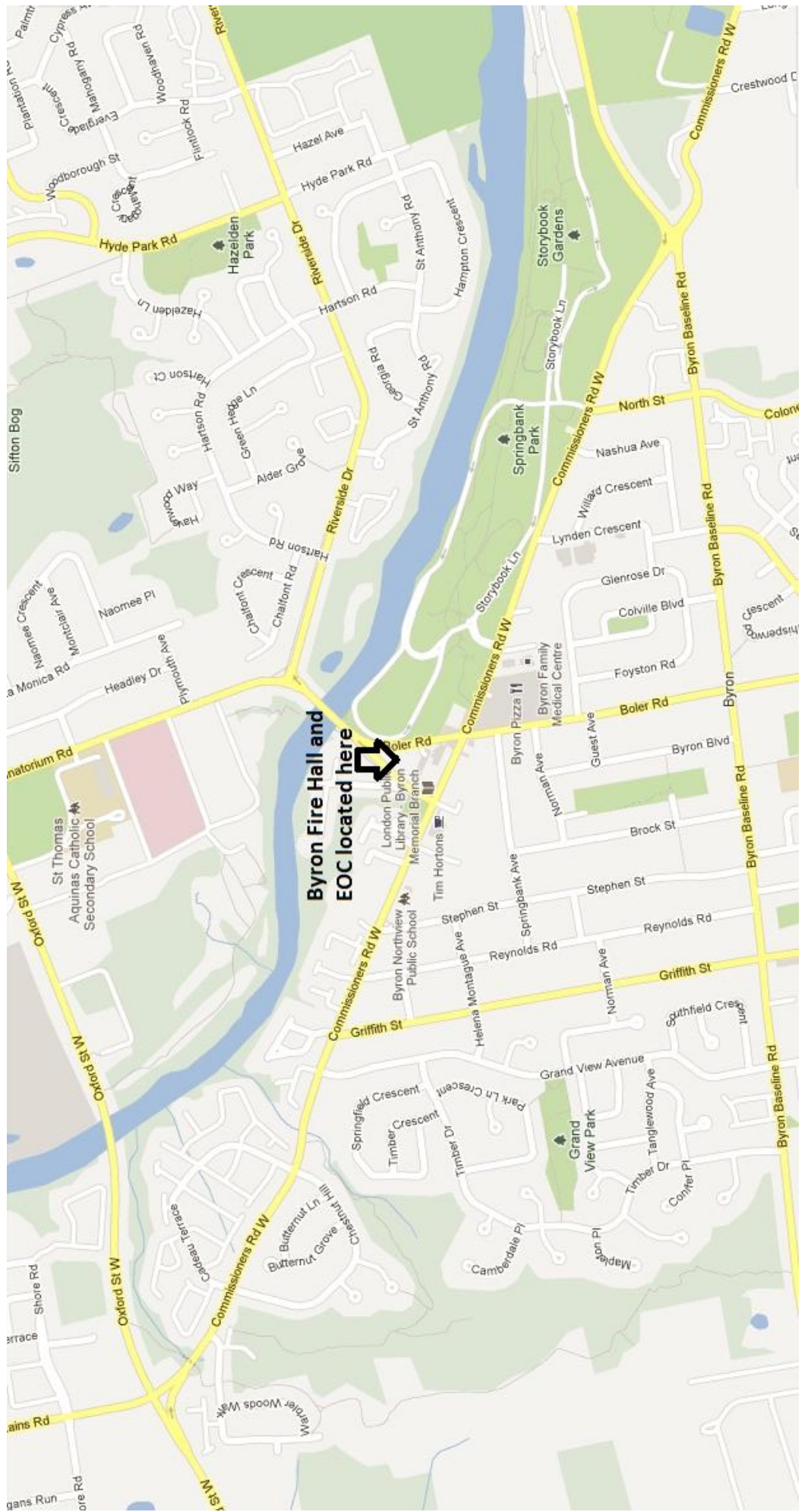
The cost of membership has not changed for a number of years and even in the face of increased cost, we would like to keep it that way.

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).







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EOC located here**

