

# Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London  
And surrounding area since 1920

December 2, 2014

## L.A.R.C. Executive

### President

Mike Watts, VE3ACW

### Vice-President, Membership

John Visser, VA3MSV

### Past President

Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

### Treasurer

Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB

### Secretary, Flea Market

Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO

### Director

Norm Campbell, VA3XCN

### Director

Jim Morris, VA3AHQ

### Director

Tom Pillon, VE3HOR

### Non-Voting

### ARES Representative

Currently Vacant

### Appointments

#### Repeater Committee Chair

Mike Watts, VE3ACW

#### Repeater Coordinator

Brad Seward, VE3NRJ

#### Repeater Tech Support

John Visser, VE3FDV

Rob Leroy, VE3MGQ

#### Field Day Coordinator

Simon Wilton, VA3SII/G7HCD

Corbin Lippert, VE3NIS

### Webmasters

Jim Morris, VA3AHQ

Tom Pillon, VE3HOR

Simon Wilton, VA3SII/G7HCD

### Newsletter Editor

John Visser, VA3MSV

### Auditor

Rob Hockin, VA3HO

## November L.A.R.C. Meeting

The next L.A.R.C. meeting will be held on **December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm**. This meeting is our annual Christmas Potluck Dinner. Bring your favourite dish to share with everyone. Bring your family.

The meeting will be located at St. Judes Anglican Church, 1537 Adelaide Street North at Fanshawe Park Road East in London, Ontario.

## New Hams in London – Basic Course Report

November 30, 2014

By Doug Elliott, VA3DAE

As the Cottage restaurant was wrapping up on Saturday, November 29, so was our Basic Ham course. The candidate count was swelled by some self-study students who were ready for the test, and 12 people have written the exam so far, with 2 more to write at a later date. The final exam was a success for all who wrote it, with 4 achieving scores over 90, 7 more getting over 80 and earning HF privileges, and one who got 75. This is a great showing, and we congratulate all the students.

Due to a change in procedures at Industry Canada, these folks will have call signs and be legal hams within days, and you'll see their new call signs on the website soon.

We also thank our instructors who make these courses possible by sharing their expertise and experience: Doug Elliott, Rob Hockin, Jim Spicer, Mike Cook, Mitch Powell, Mark Bramwell, Dave McCarter and Mike Watts.

The new hams are: Edward Rempel, VA3EWR (Honours); Matthew Rempel, VA3MPE (Honours); Richard Matter; Dave Primeau, VA3ZDP (Honours); Chuck Reid (Honours), Doris Miller, VA3ZDI (Honours); Robert Eveland, VE3ELR (Honours); Joe Duarte, VA3AXR (Honours); Douglas Keeler, VA3DBK (Honours); Erik LeMesurier, VE3ZDN (Honours), and Serhiy "Serge" Trunkin, VA3UAH (Honours).

Karen Doncaster, VE3MQA successfully upgraded her license to "With Honours"

*Editor's Note: Students call signs may be accurate as listed*

## Next Meeting is Where and When?

The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on **January 8, 2015 at 7:00 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.

## Area Repeaters

### LARC Repeaters

#### London

VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8Hz

VA3MGI 145.390 - 114.8Hz

### SORT Repeaters

#### London

VE3GYQ 145.350 - 114.8Hz

VE3TTT 147.180 + 114.8Hz

IRLP Node 2400

Echolink Node 10741

VE3SUE 444.400 + 114.8 Hz

ALLSTAR Node 2416

VE3TTT 442.300 + 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

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

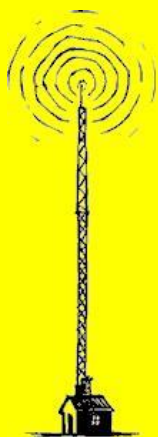
#### St. Thomas

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. This feature is still a work in progress with the new website.

## 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).

I am not sure we will continue this feature with the member list. Few members submitted a pic of their shack for others to see on the web site.

## 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?

I think we have plans to continue this service. Still a work in progress I think.

## Membership Report

Currently the L.A.R.C. membership stands at 93 members with 9 of them being new members.

The following is a list of new member for the 2014/2015 Membership Year with the date that they joined L.A.R.C.

Terry Bendell, VE3TKB	October 9, 2014
Don Chamberlain, VE3EM	October 31, 2014
Joanne Deactis, VA3WMD	October 9, 2014
Bob Eveland, VE3ELR	September 11, 2014
Melba Eveland, SWL	September 11, 2014
Ivan Garnett, VE3IKG	September 21, 2014
Mary Ann Mosley, VA3FMV	October 16, 2014
Todd Mosley, VA3FMV	October 16, 2014
Alex Porzecanski, VA3YXU	September 21, 2014

## 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 (JO 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

## Acting Section Manager Ontario North, South, GTA

November 10, 2014

I am pleased to announce that Allan Boyd, VE3AJB has indicated his commitment to RAC by accepting the role of A/Section Manager, Ontario North and will continue in his role as Chair of the Ontario Section Managers Council and will additionally undertake in an Acting role the SM of Ontario South and SM of Ontario GTA until such time as these positions are filled. You will recall that Allan was Ontario SM before the creation of new sections in Ontario.

I want to thank Allan for his continuing support of RAC. He has been a pillar of RAC for over a decade.

Geoff Bawden, VE4BAW  
A/CFSO

## NASA Releases Video Of Solar Flares Firing From Monster Sunspot

November 7, 2014

NASA has released a video showing eight days of solar flares produced by the largest sunspot in the past two dozen years. Known as AR 2192, the video is a time lapse that shows its X-class flares in both visible and ultraviolet light using images taken by the Solar Dynamics Observatory Atmospheric Imaging Assembly Instrument. As previously reported here on Amateur Radio Newline, the massive sunspot, which has now rotated away from Earth, produced of the most powerful X-class flares between October 19th and the 27th, plus many more medium-class flares during that same period. The video is on-line several places including YouTube at [tinyurl.com/sunspot-AR2192](http://tinyurl.com/sunspot-AR2192). Another version with graphics and a musical background is at [tinyurl.com/sunspot-AR2192-video](http://tinyurl.com/sunspot-AR2192-video) (*spacereporter.com*)

## Real-time Band Conditions Website

November 21, 2014

[bandconditions.com](http://bandconditions.com) is a newly created website that supplies real time band condition information to operators wanting to get this up to the minute information. The data provided is based on what the developers call a new Ionospheric Sounding method called "HF Ionospheric Interferometry" which operates very similarly to the PoISAR system used by NASA.

Reports are generated and uploaded to the web server every 30 seconds. Header information includes a Date, Time in GMT and a report number in sequential order. A web browser refresh command is also sent so the user does not have to hit the refresh button for the latest report. The web browser does it automatically for them.

The display shows the Meter Band in red and the Band Quality Index as blue colored number at the bottom of the band scale. To sample it for yourself go to [bandconditions.com](http://bandconditions.com) and take a look. ([bandconditions.com](http://bandconditions.com))

## Upcoming Events

Sat., Feb. 7, 2015

**[Big Event 37 - Flea Market and Hamfest - Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club](#)**

Merriton Community Centre, 7 Park Ave., St. Catharines, Ontario

## Bouvet In Late 2015

November 21, 2014

And the one many have been waiting to hear. This with the announcement that a team of 12 operators, led by UN7PCZ will be active from Bouvet Island as 3Y0F sometime between December 2015 and January 2016. The group plans to be on the island for 2 weeks with 6 stations on the air. More details and a Web page are forthcoming. (OPDX)

## Bouvet Island – January To April 2016

November 7, 2014

ON4WW reports that he has been granted permission by the Norwegian Polar Institute to land and live on Bouvet Island during the mid-January until mid-April of 2016. The sole purpose of this operation will be to provide contacts with Bouvet which is currently ranked number three on the various DXCC Most Wanted Lists. During his time on Bouvet, ON4WW hopes to make at least 100,000 QSO's using CW, SSB and RTTY on all of the High Frequency bands. There is however one caveat: Whether or not this DXpedition will take place depends on raising the necessary funding. More is on the web at [www.on4ww.be/bouvet2016.html](http://www.on4ww.be/bouvet2016.html) (OPDX)

## Austral Islands In January 2015

November 21, 2014

Also word that KK6BT will be operational as TX5W from Raivavae Island in the Austral Island group between January 5th through the 11th 2015. Activity will be on 40 through 10 meters including the 17 and 12 meter bands operating exclusively SSB. His primary objective is to work as many amateurs in Central and Northern Europe as possible during his stay. QSL direct only. (OPDX)

## NCDXF Grants K1N Navassa Island \$35000 Assistance

November 28, 2014

In DX up front, the Northern California DX Foundation has announced a major contribution of \$35,000 to the K1N Navassa Island DXpedition planned for January of 2015.

Navassa is an environmentally fragile area which since 1996 has had access strictly controlled by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As such no DXpedition has been approved since that time. This in turn has made it the number one most sought after entity on Club Logs 2014 most wanted list.

The KP15 Project has been working for over 12 years to obtain permission to operate from Navassa. There are strict limitations to the number of visitors and the time allowable on the island.

Planners say that access has been granted for two weeks in January, as that month has the least bird nesting. However, January weather makes access by sea all but impossible.

For safety, the Fish and Wildlife Service requires a helicopter landing for all personnel and equipment raising the cost of the operation considerably. Details of the DXpedition are at [www.navassadx.com](http://www.navassadx.com) (NCDXF)

### Every Saturday Morning

Starting at 8:30 am.

Breakfast at The Take A Break Restaurant located on Wilton Grove Road between Wellington Road and Highbury Ave. This may be a temporary location.

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.

## DX Corner

By John Visser, VA3MSV

Nov 08 to Dec 05	St Lucia	J6/DL7VOG	160m – 6m CW/RTTY
Nov 25 to Dec 24	Vietnam	3W3O	160m – 80m
Nov 26 to Dec 17	Jamaica	6Y6N	Holiday Style HF Band
Nov 28 to Dec 04	Micronesia	V63DX & V63ZP	160m
Dec 01 to Dec 06	Niue	E6XG	HF CW/SSB/Digital
Dec 01 to Dec 09	Maldives	8Q7UX	HF Holiday Style
Dec 04 to Dec 12	Ogasawara	JD1BOX	80m – 6m SSB
Dec 09 to Jan 08	Canary Island	EA8/IK1PMR	160m – 6m CW/RTTY/SSB
Dec 11 to Dec 14	Lesotho	7P8NH	HF CW
Dec 12 to Jan 08	Cape Verde Island	D44TWO	HF CW/SSB
Dec 26 to Jan 01	Norfolk Island	VK9N/G7VJR	High Bands CW
Oct 15 to Dec 15	Minami Torishima	JG8NQJ/JD1	HF CW
Nov 02 to Dec 09	Ethiopia	ET3AA	HF CW
Nov 08 to Dec 05	St Lucia	J6/DL7VOG	160m – 6m CW/RTTY
Nov 09 to Dec 05	Cape Verde Is	D44KS	40m – 6m SSB/RTTY Spare Time Operation
Nov 18 to Dec 05	Burkina Faso	XT2AW	40m – 10m SSB/CW
Nov 20 to Dec 12	Falkland Is	VP8KF	80m – 10m
Nov 20 to Dec 26	Curacao	PA0VDV/PJ2	80m – 10m CW
Nov 22 to Dec 06	Grenada	J34O	Holiday Style Operation
Nov 23 to Nov 30	Anguilla	VP2EIM	
Nov 29 to Dec 07	Turks & Caicos	VP5/SM7EQL	20m – 10m CW Holiday Style Operation
Dec 01 to Dec 06	Niue	E6XG	HF w/focus on low bands CW/SSB/Digital
Dec 01 to Dec 09	Maldives	8Q7UX	HF Holiday Style Operation
Dec 02 to Dec 10	Andaman & Nicobar	VU4	
Dec 02 to Dec 25	United Arab Emirates	A6/VE6LB	40m – 10m mainly CW Holiday Style Operation
Dec 03 to Dec 06	Palau	T88ER & T88FC	HF + 6m SSB
Dec 03 to Dec 19	Chagos	VQ9XR	160m – 10m
Dec 04 to Dec 12	Ogasawara	JD1BOX	80m – 6m SSB
Dec 06 to Dec 21	Romo Island	5P8VW	160m – 6m CW/SSB
Dec 07 to Dec 15	St Lucia	J6/SM7EQL	20m – 10m CW Holiday Style Operation
Dec 09 to Jan 08	Canary Is	EA8/IK1PMR	160m – 6m CW/RTTY/SSB
Dec 11 to Dec 14	Lesotho	7P8NH	HF CW
Dec 12 to Jan 08	Cape Verde Is	D44TWO	HF CW/SSB
Dec 20 to Dec 22	Norfolk Is	JA0JHQ/VK9N	HF SSB
Dec 22 to Jan 02	Ogasawara Is	JD1BOI	80m – 6m SSB/CW/RTTY
Dec 24 to Dec 24	Nepal	9N7CB	20m & 15m SSB/CW
Dec 25 to Jan 04	Palau	T8CW	160m – 6m CW/SSB/RTTY/JT65/PSK31
Dec 26 to Jan 01	Norfolk Is	VK9N/G7VJR	High bands CW
Dec 27 to Dec 30	Guam	AH2/AB2RF	WARC bands RTTY
Dec 27 to Jan 04	Tokara Island	J13DST/6	160m – 10m CW/SSB/FM/Digital
Dec 28 to Dec 30	Monaco	3A/EA5IDQ	40m – 10m SSB/RTTY

## Commemorating Those Lost In 1907 W. VA Mine Disaster

November 21, 2014

On the air, Nathan Banks, KC9HYY, has announced a commemorative operation to honor the memory of the miners who lost their lives on December 6th of 1907. On that date an explosion at the Monongah Mine in West Virginia killed 362 workers and stands as the worst in the history of mining of the United States.

In memory of those who lost their lives on that date KC9HYY will be using his call stroke MMD From December 5th to December 14th. Operations will be on 40 through 10 meters using SSB and PSK31. QSL via KC9HYY as listed on QRZ.com. (KC9HYY)

## New Local Hams



A picture taking while the students of the L.A.R.C. Basic Ham Course were writing the exam.

## The Cottage Restaurant Closes After 60 Years

November 16, 2014

by Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO

It saddened me today to find out that one of our favorite family restaurants is closing. We had already lost the Mascot downtown and now the Cottage Restaurant at Dundas and Adelaide which has been there for almost 60 years and owned by the same family is closing its doors on Nov. 29, 2014.

We will miss it and so will the London Amateur Radio Club (LARC), who have been going there every Saturday morning for 30 years.

They have had many struggles over the years with construction on Dundas blocking the access at the front and losses of businesses in the area. So they have decided to retire.

We will miss Kathy and Peter immensely. But we do wish them well.

*This appeared on the London Free Press website by Ruth Dahl.*

November 30, 2014

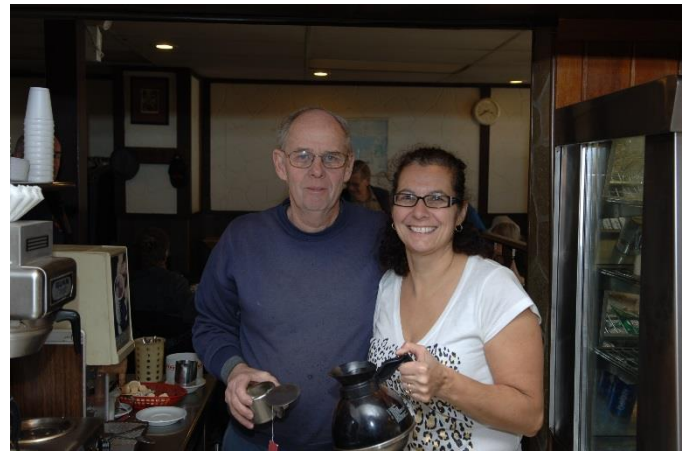
On Saturday, November 29th, The Cottage Restaurant was a busy place. Not just with ham radio operators but with the general public. Peter and Kathy were so busy that they put their 2 sons to work as well.

The VE3MGI Group started going to The Cottage Restaurant 30 years ago and even after the group disbanded, the breakfast was still well attended by local amateur radio operators. During the past couple years the breakfast got dubbed "Hams and Eggs"

Now we are looking for another restaurant to meet at for breakfast on Saturday mornings. Any suggestions are welcomed



Peter and Kathy got a cake for us thanking us for our 30 years of patronage.



John Pederson, VE3MGR with Kathy. John is probably the longest running amateur radio patron.



John Visser, VA3MSV presented Peter and Kathy a certificate of appreciation and a card thanking them for their hospitality. The card was signed by the hams that attended breakfast on November 22nd and November 29th.



Just a few that was present on the last day of The Cottage Restaurant. Front Row, Left to Right. Ron Sinclair, VE3JRN; Don Chamberlain, VE3EM; Ivan Garnett, VE3IKG; Mike Cook, VE3ZMC; John Visser, VA3MSV. Middle Row sitting at the table. Don Tod, VE3MGD; Terry Bendell, VE3TKB; Norm Campbell, VE3XCN; Dave McCarter, VE3GSO; and Al Bernier, VE3LOD. Back Row, standing. Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG; Charlotte Bouckley; Tom Pillon, VE3HOR; Ruth Dahl, VE3RBO; Jim Rivers, VA3DVT; Shirley McCall, VE3SMN; Gord Baker, VE3GB; Brian Bouckley, VA3ATB; Ansil Rock, VE3HDR; Mike Argyle, VE3XMA; and Dave Lambert, VE3KGK

For the month of December we are going to try out a restaurant called "Take A Break" on Wilton Grove Road south of the 401 between Wellington Road and

Highbury Avenue. We are planning on checking out other restaurants as well. Any suggestions are welcome.

## Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame Appointments

November 25, 2014



The Board of Trustees of the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame is pleased to appoint Don Dashney, VE3RM (SK) of L'Orignal, ON and George Spencer, VE3AGS (SK) of



Jordan (St. Catherines), ON to the Hall of Fame for 2014. The families of the two appointees will receive this posthumous award in early 2015. A summary of their contributions to amateur radio will be published in The Canadian Amateur magazine. Both appointees are Silent Keys.

The appointments are to recognize amateurs for outstanding achievement and for sustained service to amateur radio in Canada, or amateur radio at large. The Board of Trustees consists of an amateur radio representative from each province of Canada, appointed by the Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada.

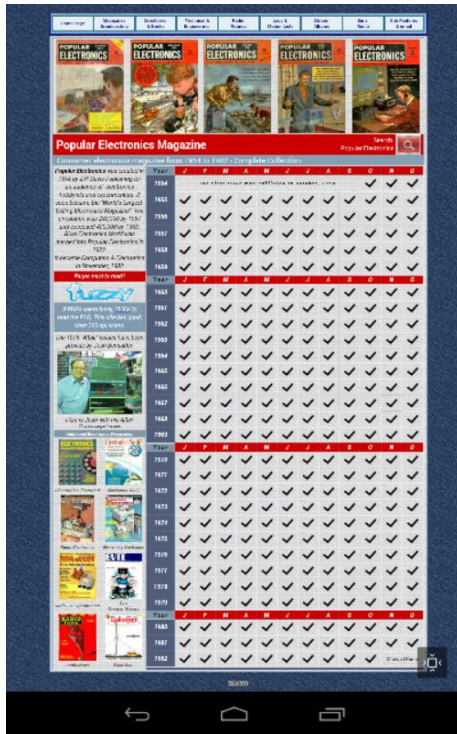
Ed Frazer, VE7EF  
 Chair, Board of Trustees  
 Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame  
 Radio Amateurs of Canada



## Popular Electronics 1954-1982 Available As PDF Downloads

November 26, 2014

by Matt Thomas, W1MST



I've discovered an archive of several older electronics and radio-related magazines available for download in PDF format.

<http://www.americanradiohistory.com/Popular-Electronics-Guide.htm>

In addition to Popular Electronics, they also have archives of the following titles available:

Electronics Illustrated (1958-1972)

Electronics World (1959-1972)

Radio Electronics (1948-1992)

Elementary Electronics (1964-1980 sporadic)

BYTE (1975-1984)

And many more....

## RAC – RSGB Book Deal

November 14, 2014

Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) and Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) reach "book deal"! New membership privilege for RAC members.

RAC and RSGB have recently reached a deal to permit RAC members to receive a 10% discount on books purchased from RSGB. RAC is



pleased to have this arrangement with its sister IARU society.

Details to follow on RAC website and bulletins. Stay tuned.

In the photo taken at ARRL Centenary in Connecticut, RSGB President John Gould G3WKL is on left, Commercial Manager Mark Allgar, M1MPA on the right.

Geoffrey Bawden, VE4BAW  
President and Chair, Radio Amateurs of Canada

## Autumn 5 MHz Newsletter Now Available

November 28, 2014

The latest edition of The 5 MHz Newsletter is now available for free download. The autumn 2014 edition features a number of stories, including 60 meter spectrum changes in Dominica, several items

on WRC 2015, South African beacon changes and NVIS observations, and much more. Your free copy is on the web at from [tinyurl.com/jvjrtn6](http://tinyurl.com/jvjrtn6) (G4MWO)

## Magnesium-Ion May Soon Replace Lithium-Ion Batteries

November 21, 2014

Rechargeable lithium-ion batteries are the mobile power sources of choice today, used in everything from laptop computers to hand held transceivers and even automobiles. For years, though, it has been known that they can overheat and even catch fire. Now there may be a new battery material that overcomes this problem.

The overheating problem is much less likely to happen with batteries made with magnesium. And magnesium ions in the battery electrolytes can carry a double positive charge, increasing the device's energy density, or the amount of electricity the battery can store.

Still, no one's been able to make a commercially viable magnesium-ion battery, mostly because of magnesium's high reactivity with other materials in such a cell which would interfere with the movement of the ions through the electrolyte. Now, researchers Liwen Wan and David Prendergast of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California have conducted computer simulations that show this reactivity actually isn't a problem.

In the October issue of the Journal of the American Chemical Society, they write that the interference is

much lower than had been thought, and therefore that a magnesium-ion battery would be more efficient than expected. On that basis, researchers at the National Cheng Kung University in Taiwan improved the stability of the magnesium-ion battery. Fei-Yi Hung, one of the three leaders of the team, told the online publication Energy Trends that they accomplished this in part by turning to a new technology that uses electrodes made of magnesium membranes and magnesium powder.

The idea of a magnesium-ion battery has long been attractive not only because it's less likely to overheat, Hung said, but also has up to 12 times the energy density of a lithium-ion battery and its charge-discharge efficiency is five times greater.

So when can we expect to see Magnesium Ion batteries hit the consumer market? According to the research teams it will be a while as there are still other technical hurdles to overcome.

More on this story can be found on the web at [tinyurl.com/magnesium-batteries](http://tinyurl.com/magnesium-batteries). (*Journal of the American Chemical Society*)

## Broadband Hamnet Release New Software

November 28, 2014

Broadband-Hamnet has announced a new firmware release titled 3.0.0. This latest version includes the Ubiquiti M9-series airMAX devices, giving Hams use of the 900 MHz band for mesh networking. This latest release builds on a series of advancements

that build on the Ubiquiti firmware released for the 2.4GHz and 5.8 GHz Ham bands earlier this year. More is on the web at [broadband-hamnet.org](http://broadband-hamnet.org). (*Broadband Hamnet*)

## Emerging Technology: New Raspberry Pi Pico Computer

November 28, 2014

A new and inexpensive Raspberry Pi pico-computer christened the model A+ has been released.

Selling at only about \$20 US depending on where you buy it, this is a truly updated version that features among other things a 700 MHz Broadcom CPU with 256MB RAM; a 4 pole Stereo audio output, a composite video port and a full size HDMI

connector. Also included are ports for connecting a CSI camera and Raspberry Pi screen display that are sold separately.

The Raspberry Pi A+ measures only 56 by 65mm with standard mounting holes already drilled into the PC board. A full article on this latest single board tiny computer at [tinyurl.com/raspberry-pi-model-a](http://tinyurl.com/raspberry-pi-model-a) (*G7Vfy*)

## "Frequency" TV Series Would Reprise Amateur Radio-Themed Movie

November 20, 2014

Mike Baxter, KA0XTT -- Tim Allen's character in the "Last Man Standing" TV show on ABC -- may be getting some competition on the ham bands, as NBC appears poised to launch a television series based on the 2000 movie *Frequency*, in which ham radio -- aided by some spectacular solar phenomena -- plays a central role in the sci-fi thriller.

According to a November 13 [article](#) in *The Hollywood Reporter*, NBC has already committed to the series. Jeremy Carver is writing the script for Warner Brothers Television and will be the series' executive producer. Toby Emmerich, who wrote the movie, will be a co-producer.

While Amateur Radio has made only fleeting appearances in "Last Man Standing," it is an essential plot device in *Frequency*. In the movie, a New York City fireman, Frank Sullivan, played by Dennis Quaid, re-connects via a bizarre ham radio link with his son, John, 30 years in the future. Jim Caviezel, now a star in the CBS drama, "Person of



Jim Caviezel played NYPD detective John Sullivan in the 2000 *Frequency* movie. [New Line Cinema]

Interest," portrayed John Sullivan, an NYPD detective.

John Sullivan comes across his late father's 1960's-era Heathkit transceiver, through which -- with the help of a quirk of nature and some Hollywood magic -- he is able to communicate with his father through time and space. Read [more](#). -- Thanks to John Bigley, N7UR, Nevada Amateur Radio Newswire - The ARRL Letter

## New Jersey Radio Amateurs Enter Emergency Antenna-Raising Project in Innovation Competition

November 20, 2014

A group of young Amateur Radio operators from Warren County in Northern New Jersey, has entered its 2013 Dayton Hamvention® Youth Forum project -- the Emergency Antenna Platform System (EAPS) -- in the [Boca Bearings Innovation Competition](#). The group, which calls itself the [721st Mechanized Contest Battalion](#),

developed the device for quickly raising antennas on vertical structures such as lamp posts and flagpoles. In an emergency, a ham radio operator could use the EAPS to put up an antenna and establish a communication link.

Devlin Murray, KC2PIX, and Chris Blackwood, KD2CXC, first [presented](#) the project at Dayton. Murray and Blackwood delivered a Youth Forum presentation on



In a scene from their entry video, Gavin DeAngelis, KD2DPN (left) and Chris Blackwood, KD2CXC, demonstrate how to use the Emergency Antenna Platform System (EAPS).

robotics at the ARRL Centennial National Convention last July in Hartford, Connecticut.

"This project was inspired by Hurricane Sandy," the developers told Boca Bearing in their entry narrative. "Warren County, New Jersey, was hit fairly hard; at one point, even the county's public service communications system was knocked out. Hams pitched in to maintain communications between the various hospitals, shelters, and water distribution sites."

The group's entry relates that while setting up a communication post in a mall parking lot in Sandy's aftermath, the operators encountered reception problems. "We wanted to develop a simple system that was easily transported and deployed to raise antennas," they said. The EAPS can be powered from a vehicle battery. While initially intended for emergency use, the EAPS conceivably could be used to erect antennas for public Amateur Radio demonstrations, such as ARRL Field Day. Read [more](#). -- Thanks to Rob Roschewsk, KA2PBT - The ARRL Letter

## A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

November 13, 2014

After many years of political unrest in Myanmar that resulted in the banning of Amateur Radio, the country formerly known as Burma starting cracking the door open to hams in 1994. Following 3 years of negotiations with Myanmar officials and two small-scale DXpeditions to that country, Martti Laine, OH2BH, obtained permission for a large-scale DXpedition that would demonstrate the value of ham radio to the government. A multinational ham team operating as XZ1A made many thousands of contacts and even operated in the CQ World Wide DX SSB contest. The article, "DXing from the Golden Land," published in the March 1996 issue of *QST*, told the fascinating story.

For many years, interest in 10 GHz operation had been building, spurred on by the ARRL's 10 GHz contests. By the mid-1990s, many hams were heading to the mountaintops with their small dishes to operate at 10 GHz. Coastal hams with pleasure boats would often go offshore to operate from the rarer grids, but sometimes they would have to suspend operation, when seas became high enough to make dish-pointing from their bouncing boats almost impossible.

Gate 1 of the long-awaited vanity call sign program finally opened on May 31, 1996, after many delays -- including a total federal government shutdown at the beginning of that year, because Congress could not pass a budget. Gate 1 accepted applications from former holders of expired and unused call signs and from hams asking for the call signs once held by now-



deceased relatives. Gate 2 opened on September 23, 1996, for Amateur Extra class licensees to apply.

An interesting juxtaposition of two "the old and the new" articles appeared in the September 1996 issue of *QST*. The first was an article explaining how the then-new Global Positioning System (GPS) works. The next article looked far into ham radio's past as it attempted to explain the inexplicable mysteries of the Wouff-Hong and the Rettysnitch. The Wouff Hong and Rettysnitch were fictional tools that sprang from the imagination of "The Old Man" (Hiram Percy Maxim), to be used for punishing Amateur Radio operators who demonstrate poor operating practices.



On display at [ARRL Headquarters](#) today, the Wouff Hong is a constant reminder to Amateur Radio operators to be mindful of their operating etiquette.

As the "It Seems to Us" editorial related in the October 1996 issue of *QST*, "August was ushered in by a sudden announcement of rewritten FCC rules governing human exposure to RF fields, creating a mountain of uncertainty and concern in the Amateur Radio community." The "Happenings" column in that issue provided more details. An article in the January 1997 issue of *QST* further explained how the new rules would affect hams. -- *Al Brogdon, W1AB - The ARRL Letter*

## A Century of Amateur Radio and the ARRL

November 20, 2014



In January 1997 a high-tech, massive, expensive, and very successful DXpedition was mounted to operate as VK0IR from Heard Island in the Antarctic. The 20-man crew, led by KK6EK and ON6TT, made a remarkable 80,673 contacts! The VK0IR story was told in detail in the September 1997 issue of *QST*.

The ARRL Board of Directors designated 1997 as Amateur Radio's Year of Public Service, with two aims. One was to publicize ham radio's major role in

public service over its many decades of existence. The other was a large public relations effort to tell non-hams about ham radio.

The Phase 3D amateur



The Phase 3D satellite during construction.

satellite had been in the works for some time and was nearing its launch date. A five-part series of *QST* articles in 1996 and 1997 described the bird and how hams could use it. As told in the June 1997 issue of *QST*, for his Eagle Scout public service project, Brian, KC4LLD, volunteered to build the Phase 3D shipping container. The project eventually required the help of 21 other Scouts to complete.

On August 6, 1997, Gate 3 of the vanity call sign program was opened, with about 1500 immediate applicants.

During 1997, Congress considered the wording of a bill to make it illegal to listen in on cellular telephone signals and to market equipment that covered cellular service frequencies. The ARRL put forth a successful effort to be sure that radio amateurs would not be affected by the bill. - *The ARRL Letter*

## An Introduction To socialhams, A Ham Radio Social Network

November 30, 2014

by Andreas Pachler, OE8APR



Because my dad has been an amateur radio operator for decades, my interest in ham radio is as old as I am. I had always wanted to get my license. Some time passed by and my interests changed in puberty. There were so many other interesting things like girls, music festivals, journeys all over the world for my job as industrial automation programmer. But my interest in amateur radio never left me and so I decided to get my license in 2012.

After getting my license, I built socialhams. It was hard work but I have really had a lot of fun. I am trying to spread the word about my project.

[Socialhams](#) is a community for ham radio operators. It combines features from typical social networks with ham radio related ones. To join socialhams all you need is a valid email address and, obviously, a ham radio callsign. It's as simple as that!

As a registered member of socialhams you can freely meet like-minded people as well as join the Chat, write Blog and Forum posts, start Polls, create Groups and Events. Photos, Videos and Files can be embedded or uploaded to your profile and many other sections, too.

The iPhone App, allows you to browse profiles, watch photos and videos, upload photos, send mail, and lots more. All from your iPhone! And if you have an Android-powered device, our Android App lets you use socialhams while on the go, right from your own handset.

You can meet people; chat online; check our top rated, featured items; read about popular topics; wish someone a special greeting on his/her birthday;

match your interests; and even take advantage of our elaborate people search option.

You will also find unique ham radio related modules:

### **DX Cluster**

Use the DX Cluster feature to make that contact or Spot one for the rest of the community! The DXCluster tool allows users to locate and spot other Amateur Radio operators transmitting on specific frequencies to make those rare contacts or find that missing location you've been searching for. This is the world first HTML5 web socket based DXCluster client.

### **Logbook**

The socialhams logbook allows you to record those important Amateur Radio contacts. This tool gives members the ability to add, edit, organize and sort their contacts all in one convenient location.

### **APRS Map**

The APRS feature will display the location of any APRS station in the viewable area. This feature also provides each member with the ability to send a message from socialhams to any APRS device with messaging capability.

### **NCDXF Beacon**

The Beacon Map displays the location, status and the current or future action of each NCDXF beacon in the network. By listening for each beacon on each band you can determine which bands are open and to what part of the world.

### **World Clock**

The World Clock allows each user to stay up to date with the time on any part of the globe. Users can also keep track of the Grey line as it moves to make use of this unique propagation condition.

## Library

Collection of various documents like manuals, schematics, spreadsheets, etc.

## Elmer's Corner

The Elmer corner allows any socialhams member to create and publish a tutorial or guide for the entire community to use. Become an Elmer today!!

In our Feedback section, you can post your questions, comments, regards, etc. without any restrictions (of course, you must strictly avoid obscenity, rude language, and abide by the terms of socialhams). To cater to a wider ham radio community, all our features are offered in both English as well as German. Additional languages are in preparation.

We will steadily improve existing functions as well as develop new, interesting ham radio related modules. At the moment we are working on a Geophysics and SOTA module. All our work in process can be previewed on our development site <http://dev.socialhams.net>, and additionally all our developments are available as Git repository on <http://gitlab.paan-systems.com>. We would be happy to find developers that are interested in joining the project.

To enjoy the unique socialhams experience, all you need to do is sign up <http://socialhams.net>!

*[Andreas Pachler, OE8APR](#), is a special contributor to [AmateurRadio.com](#) and writes from Carinthia, Austria. He is the creator of [socialhams](#), a social network for ham radio operators. Contact him at [oe8apr@socialhams.net](mailto:oe8apr@socialhams.net).*

# **MEMBERSHIP INVITATION**

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 only \$30.00 (single) or \$35.00 (family residing at the same address).



# LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

- Single Membership: \$30.00       Renewal  
 Family Membership: \$35.00       New Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

RAC Member?  Yes  No      RAC Member # \_\_\_\_\_      ARES Volunteer? Yes  No

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

**Privacy policy:** We do not publish private member contact information in the newsletter, or on the Web site. Occasionally other members will ask how to contact other members via email or phone.

- I wish to receive LARC News by email  
 I give permission to have my email address given to other LARC Executive members when requested  
 I give permission to have my email address given to other LARC Members when requested  
 I give permission to have my phone number given to other LARC Executive members when requested  
 I give permission to have my phone number given to other LARC Members when requested

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### My interests are:

- |   |                                     |                                       |   |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> HF-SSB           | <input type="checkbox"/> Contesting | <input type="checkbox"/> ARES         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentor/Elmer         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HF-CW            | <input type="checkbox"/> VHF/UHF    | <input type="checkbox"/> SATERN       | <input type="checkbox"/> Require Mentoring    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HF-RTTY          | <input type="checkbox"/> Repeaters  | <input type="checkbox"/> CANWARN      | <input type="checkbox"/> Event Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HF-Digital Modes | <input type="checkbox"/> APRS       | <input type="checkbox"/> Field Day    | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Slow Scan TV     | <input type="checkbox"/> Satellite  | <input type="checkbox"/> Kit Building | <input type="checkbox"/> Mesh                 |

### Family Membership *(Must be living in the same household)*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*All information requested should be completed - this will be used for the club's membership database only.*

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

Paid: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cash:  Cheque:   
Membership Card Needed:   
Sticker Needed: