

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club

Promoting Amateur Radio in London
And surrounding area since 1920



February 3, 2009

Next Meeting Topic

The next L.A.R.C. meeting will be on Thurs, February 12, 2009 at **7:00 PM (NOTE earlier start time)**

The next LARC meeting will be a condensed ARES training course. It will be based on a course we presented last year, and will include information on:

- The structure of the Thames Valley ARES Group
- Callout Logistics and Variations
- NTS Message Handling
- The Incident Command System (ICS)
- ARES Net Procedures
- Being Prepared - The Grab and Go list

This presentation qualifies as ARES training for purposes of obtaining an ARES ID card. Why would I want an ARES ID card? In this age of privacy legislation, disaster agencies have to be very careful who is admitted to their facilities. In a nutshell, you'll need this card to be able to help in an emergency in a Red Cross shelter or command post, or a municipal or county Emergency Operations Center.

The procedure to get an ID card will be discussed at the meeting, but the basic steps are: fill out a form, submit a digital picture for the ID card, and send \$5. We'll be ready to take pictures at the meeting, so that will already be done for you.

Other Items of Interest

- ⇒ 2008/2009 L.A.R.C. Executive
- ⇒ Flaunt Your Face – Show Your Shack
- ⇒ Local Repeaters and Nets
- ⇒ Upcoming Events
- ⇒ 2009/2010 L.A.R.C. Executive Elections
- ⇒ ICE – In Case of Emergency
- ⇒ New Ontario Assistant SEC
- ⇒ Desecheo Island DXpedition Granted Call Sign
- ⇒ Olympic Volunteer
- ⇒ HAM Radio In Space: NASA Seeks HAM Help With STEREO Sun Mission Study
- ⇒ Ham Radio on Venus!
- ⇒ Rescue Radio: EMCOMM Event Cancelled Due To World Economy
- ⇒ Emerging Technology: New Efficient LEDs
- ⇒ Emerging Technology: New Fuel Cell For Portable Devices In Development
- ⇒ HAM Technology: Bringing A 6 Meter Repeater To Life
- ⇒ Korea Unveils Stamp Celebrating ARDF
- ⇒ Amateur Radio Operations to Begin Again on Midway Atoll
- ⇒ Projecting the Impact of a Geomagnetic "Superstorm"
- ⇒ CHU Time Station Frequency Change
- ⇒ SAR 121.5/243 MHz Emergency Beacons
- ⇒ The International Year of Astronomy Special Prefix Callsign Reminder
- ⇒ First of Eight New Section Training Coordinators Announced

Next Meeting is Where and When?

Reminder of the next monthly Club meeting on February 12, 2009 at 7:00pm

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

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

Next Month's Meeting will be March 12, 2009. This meeting will be about **"Secret Words" (and why they are important to you)** presented by Mike Cook, VE3ZMC.

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

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

Non-Voting

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

Appointments

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

Flaunt Your Face – Show Your Shack

In our hobby it's not always easy to put a face to all the fellow hams you talk to on the air. To help us all figure who's who, LARC invites its members to submit digital photos of yourself and/or your shack to be published on the membership page of our website. Purely voluntary of course, and if you prefer you can submit just one (depending on whether you think your face or your shack is more presentable).

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

How do you submit your pictures?

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

Local Repeaters

LARC Repeaters

London VA3LON 147.060 + 114.8 Hz Back in operation
 London VE3MGI 145.390 - 114.8 Hz

SORT Repeaters

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

Other Area Repeaters

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



Nets

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



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

Upcoming Events

- Sat., Feb. 7, 2009 **Big Event 31 - Flea Market and Hamfest** - Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club, Inc.
Merriton Community Centre, 7 Park Ave., St. Catharines, Ontario
- Thu., Feb. 12, 2009 London Amateur Radio Club meeting – Topic will be an overview of some **ARES topics** by Doug Elliott, VA3DAE
- Sat., Feb. 28, 2009 **Burlington Spring Flea Market** - Burlington Amateur Radio Club
Royal Canadian Legion, 828 Legion Rd., Burlington, Ontario
- Thu., Mar. 12, 2009 London Amateur Radio Club meeting – Topic will be **Secret Words** by Mike Cook, VE3ZMC
- Sat., Mar. 28, 2009 **Hamex 2009** - Peel and Mississauga ARC
Brampton Fairgrounds - West side of Heartlake Rd., Brampton Ontario
- Thu., Apr 2, 2009 London Amateur Radio Club meeting
- Sat., Apr. 18, 2009 **Durham Region Hamfest (33rd Annual)** - North Shore ARC & South Pickering ARC
Iroquois Park Recreation Center - Located on Victoria St. at the corner of Henry St., Whitby, Ontario
- Thu., May 14, 2009 London Amateur Radio Club meeting
- Sat., Jun. 6, 2009 **Central Ontario Hamfest & Fleamarket** - GARC & KWARC
Centre Wellington Community Sportsplex, 550 Belsyde Ave. E., Fergus, Ontario
- Thu., Jun. 11, 2009 London Amateur Radio Club meeting
- Sat. Jun. 27, 2009 to Sun. Jun. 28, 2009 Field Day 2009. Location may still to be determined.
- Sat., Jul. 11, 2009 **ONTARIO HAMFEST 2009** - Burlington Amateur Radio Club
Milton Agricultural Fairgrounds - South of Hwy 401; west of Halton Region Rd. 25 (locally known as Ontario St), Milton, Ontario
- Sat., Sep. 12, 2009 **Ottawa Amateur Radio Club 13th Annual Hamfest** - Ottawa Amateur Radio Club
Carp Agricultural Fairgrounds, 3832 Carp Road, Ottawa (Carp), Ontario
- Sat., Sep. 12, 2009 **Barrie-Orillia Hamfest** - Barrie Amateur Radio Club & Orillia Amateur Radio Club
Located at the Oro-Medonte Fairgrounds. North on Hwy 400 to Hwy 11. North on Hwy 11 to 7th line of Oro-Medonte. Go towards the Airport, and just past the Airport (follow the Hamfest Signs). Lat/Long - 44° 30' 12" N W 79° 33' 17"°
- Sun., Sep. 27, 2009 **L.A.R.C. 32nd Annual Fleamarket** – London Amateur Radio Club
Located at the Western Fairgrounds Special Events Building.

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

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

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

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

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

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

We have some simple rules

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

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

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

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

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

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

3. Board of Directors

- 3.1 The day-to-day affairs of the Corporation shall be arranged by a Board of Directors composed of 7 selected Directors, 1 non-voting Director appointed by the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the Past President of the Corporation.
- 3.3 To be eligible to stand for election to the Board of Directors one must be a member in good standing for at least 30 days prior to the Annual Meeting at which members of the Board of Directors will be elected.

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

- 3.4 A Nominating Committee shall be struck by the President at least 90 days prior to the Annual Meeting and it shall begin its activities immediately upon being appointed.
 - 3.4.1 The Committee shall be composed of three members in good standing. The Past President shall be the Chairperson of the Committee.
- 3.5 The recommendations of the Nominating Committee shall be presented to the Board of Directors. The Board shall cause such report to be published in the LARC Newsletter, that will be sent to all members in good standing as notice of the Annual Meeting. Such report shall also outline the procedure pertaining to additional nominations.
- 3.6 Additional nominations may be received by the Secretary up to 12 hours prior to the Annual Meeting if submitted by a member in good standing supported by the written agreement of 4 other members and the written acceptance of the nominee.
- 3.7 The election of the Board of Directors shall take place at the Annual Meeting of LARC. The Directors shall be elected by a simple majority vote of the members. The Directors shall take office on July 1 of that year.

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

New Ontario Assistant SEC

Submitted by: Bob Gammon, VA3RX On: Jan 29, 2009

To all Ontario ARES interests:

A new ASEC (Assistant Section Emergency Coordinator) has been selected for the Ontario ARES Field Service.

Brett Gilbank, VE3ZBG of London becomes the very first ASEC appointment in Canada effective February 01, 2009.

As the newly appointed Official to this position Brett is eager to serve the ARES with promotion and training skills and share Ontario's administrative workload.

We welcome Brett's expertise and dedication to this important new role and wish Him every success.

Ontario ARES SEC.

Congratulations Brett on your new appointment.

Desecheo Island DXpedition Granted Call Sign



This map shows Desecheo and Puerto Rico. Desecheo is located about 14 miles off the Puerto Rican coast.

The DXpedition to Desecheo Island -- February 12-26 -- will use call sign K5D. "As soon as we land on Desecheo, two stations will be immediately activated," said DXpedition co-leader Bob Allphin, K4UEE. Stations will continue to operate until the final moments of departure on February 26."

Desecheo currently sits at number 7 on *DX Magazine's* Most Wanted list; the island is the second most-wanted DXCC entity in Asia and third most-wanted in Europe. Desecheo is a small uninhabited island in the Mona Passage, 14 miles off the west coast of Puerto Rico. It is part of the US Fish and Wildlife Service's national wildlife refuge system administered by the Caribbean National Wildlife Refuge Complex (CNWR).

"Because Desecheo is so very rare," Allphin said, "there are many, many hams worldwide that need KP5 for an

all-time new one. Therefore, we are asking that you not contact the DXpedition on any band/mode that you have confirmed from a previous DXpedition. This will allow the people who really need a new DXCC entity a better opportunity to get through the pileups. Our objective is not to establish a world record for contacts. There will be no 'greenies,' no boxes to check, no competitions for most band/mode QSOs, no certificate or awards for contacting the DXpedition more times than anyone else. So if you have KP5 already confirmed on a particular band/mode, we respectfully ask that you exercise restraint. If, late in the DXpedition, we are calling CQ for contacts, we will welcome your call."

DXpedition co-leader Glenn Johnson, W0GJ, said the team will be running CW, SSB and RTTY on 160-6 meters. "We've had tremendous support from DX organizations all over the world and from numerous equipment and antenna manufacturers," he told the ARRL. "We are diligently working on the propagation studies to reach our hard-to-work areas of Asia and Europe. This plus our planned antennas, we should knock Desecheo off of the Most Wanted List for a long time to come."

According to ARRL Membership and Volunteer Programs Manager and experienced DXpeditioner Dave Patton, NN1N, a well-organized and lengthy operation from Desecheo will be a nice treat for the world's DXers. "With W0GJ and K4UEE leading the operation, I think we can all count on a first class effort that will give maximum exposure to Asia/Oceania and Europe where KP5 is most needed," Patton said. "I also think that Glenn and Bob can demonstrate to the Fish and Wildlife Service that a DXpedition can take place and not damage the environment or cause big problems amongst other hams or for other agencies. I hope hams will be invited back to Desecheo more frequently in the future and expand the places where hams may operate."

Olympic Volunteer

Ottawa is spending more than half a million dollars on an electronic bloodhound to locate foreign wireless devices that play havoc with security or emergency radio frequencies during the 2010 Winter Olympics. More than 5,000 athletes and officials - plus 10,000 journalists - from 80 countries will converge on the Vancouver area during the 2010 Games. They're bringing thousands of high-tech wireless devices with them - from short-range radio communicators to telephones to transmitters. Not all countries assign the same radio frequency bands for the same uses, though, so it's possible that foreign wireless devices may interfere with important Canadian communications signals. There will be a significant increase in the number of licensed radios and wireless devices in the 120-kilometre Games corridor from Richmond to Whistler, Industry Department spokesman

Jean-Pierre Roy said. Unintended interference is likely, given what will be a high congested radio spectrum environment. To curb this, Ottawa is spending up to \$600,000 on direction-finding monitoring and surveillance systems. It's a sole-source contract awarded without competition on the grounds that other technology would not be compatible with the equipment that federal radio inspectors already own. With so many international visitors expected at the Olympics, it is entirely possible that a visitor could arrive with a wireless communication device that transmits on the same frequency used by Vancouver's police or ambulance service, thus interfering with emergency response measures, the Industry Department says on its website.

When combined with computer software, the MicroEagle spectrum monitoring equipment can detect and locate signals that are causing interference in the Vancouver to Whistler region during the 17-day games, whether it's affecting vital services or FM radio stations or taxi dispatchers. The most likely source of serious disruption, Industry Canada says, are people operating two-way radios on channels already assigned to vital emergency or commercial services.

Industry Canada, the department responsible for clearing serious interference from the airwaves, has a team of radio inspectors who have the power to confiscate equipment if necessary. Often, however, users voluntarily adjust their equipment when asked, the department says. The department says the equipment is not being purchased to guard against terrorism, but says that it would offer the service to security forces if necessary. Obviously in a situation where interference is intentional and possibly part of an illegal activity that poses a threat to public safety, it would be the responsibility of police and other related agencies, but Industry Canada would provide support to these agencies upon request, department spokeswoman Christiane Fox said. The technology already exists for hackers or terrorists to flood digital radio systems with requests to open up channels, thus denying service to legitimate users. The department said its ability to pinpoint disruptions is broad. Industry Canada is equipped to locate interference from a wide range of sources, Ms. Fox said.

HAM Radio In Space: NASA Seeks HAM Help With STEREO Sun Mission Study

NASA says it needs ham radio help to keep track of signals from the STEREO mission.

STEREO is an acronym for the twin Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory. It employs two nearly identical space-based observatories to provide the first-ever stereoscopic measurements to study the Sun. One leads the Earth in orbit and the other trails our planet by the same distance.

Chris St. Cyr of the Goddard Space Flight Center says that NASA's Deep Space Network downloads data from STEREO only three hours a day. He says that's plenty of time to capture all of the previous day's data, but the space agency would like to monitor the transmissions around the clock. To accomplish this St. Cyr says that hams experienced with receiving weak signals in the microwave region can participate in the historic mission by helping NASA capture the spacecraft's images.

Bill Thompson is the director of the STEREO Science Center at Goddard. He explains that hams would be a part of an amateur radio-based mini-Deep Space Network. One that that would monitor STEREO around the clock.

Thompson notes that the two spacecraft beam their data back to Earth via an X-band beacon. He says that anyone with a 10-meter dish antenna and a suitable receiver can pick up the spacecraft signals. He notes that the data rate is a slow 500 bits per second, and it takes 3 to 5 minutes to download a complete image. So far, the mini-Network includes stations in the United Kingdom, France and Japan but Thompson is looking for more volunteers. Information on contacting Bill Thompson to become a part of this mission is on-line at <http://stereo-ssc.nascom.nasa.gov/contact/contact.shtml> (NASA)

Ham Radio on Venus!

Posted: Jan 23, 2009

It's not April yet, so this is for real. The Japan Amateur Radio League (JARL) and JAMSAT, the Japanese amateur satellite organization, are working with the Japanese University Space Engineering Consortium (UNISEC) to send an amateur radio payload to Venus as part of the JAXA Planet-C Venus Orbiter mission planned for next year. According to the AMSAT News Service, UNITEC-1 will transmit a CW beacon at about one bit per second. Hams around the world will be invited to listen for the signal and to help with two major science goals:

- 1) development of technologies to receive and decode very weak and low bit-rate signals coming from deep space; and
- 2) development of technologies to estimate the orbit of the satellite and the Doppler shift of its signals based on the received RF signals.

These technologies will be necessary for tracking and receiving signals from satellites in deep space. More information (in English) is available on the UNITEC-1 website at http://unitec-1.cc.u-tokai.ac.jp/en/news_en.

Rescue Radio: EMCOMM Event Cancelled Due To World Economy

A joint ham radio emergency communications expo, co-sponsored by American and Canadian groups, has been cancelled due to lack of money. This, with word that Canada has pulled most of its funding out of a joint Radio Amateurs of Canada and ARRL sponsored event slated for Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in mid-March.

Preparations for the event were halted when Canadian government monetary support was suddenly reduced in early January. The withdrawal of funds was blamed on the current world economic climate. This would have been only the second cross-border event of its type ever held. (VE3BDB)

Emerging Technology: New Efficient LEDs

Researchers at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute have developed and demonstrated a new type of light emitting diode (LED) with significantly improved lighting performance and energy efficiency. The new polarization-matched LEDs, developed in collaboration with Samsung Electro-Mechanics, exhibits an 18 percent increase in light output and a 22 percent increase in wall-plug efficiency. This is essentially measures the amount of electricity the LED converts into light. (ScienceDaily)

Emerging Technology: New Fuel Cell For Portable Devices In Development

Scientists in the UK are attempting to master new technology to power cars, portable computers, mobile phones and numerous other battery-dependant devices. One that could also be of benefit to numerous mobile and portable ham radio field operations.

Researchers at the University of Aberdeen have been given almost £300,000 to create a cheaper and lower

temperature fuel cell. To make this happen, the university's chemistry department is trying to develop what it calls carbon-tolerant fuel cell devices. Like their larger brethren, these cells convert fuel to electric power without the need for combustion. Unlike older fuel cells, these will be better able to cope with the carbon monoxide found in the fuel that it is converting into power.

The project leader is Dr Angela Kruth. She hopes that this new type fuel cell can be introduced to the market in the near future. (Science Today)

HAM Technology: Bringing A 6 Meter Repeater To Life

Construction of the 53.77 MHz Gunstock, New Hampshire 6 meter repeater has been memorialized in a series of photos now on the World-Wide-Web. The pictures do their best to capture the fun and excitement of bringing the repeater to life from a famed skiing resort. Just go to

<http://www.gemoto.com/cnharc/gunstock.htm> on the World-Wide-Web. (CGC)

Korea Unveils Stamp Celebrating ARDF



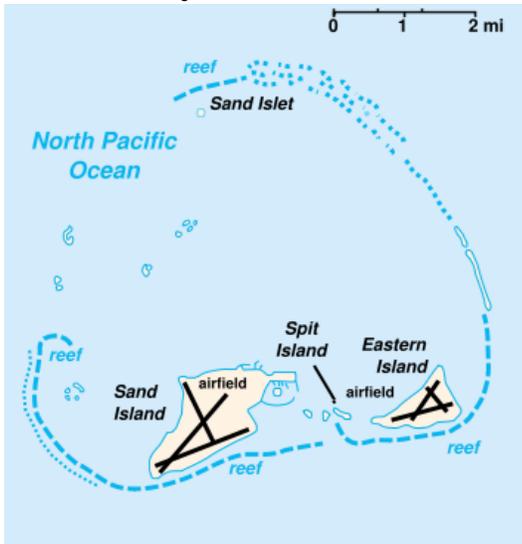
(Jan 26, 2009) -- To commemorate the 2008 Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) World Championships, Korea has issued a postage stamp. The ARDF World Championships, held in Korea and hosted by the Korean Amateur Radio League, were September 2-7, 2008. More than 450 participants from 28 countries came to Korea to compete at the 2008 World

Championships. Upon issuance of the stamp, Korea said it hoped that the "World Championships will provide a momentum to stimulate public interest and participation in Amateur Radio." ARRL ARDF Coordinator Joe Moell, K00V, said that Team USA had their best showing ever at the 2008 World Championships: "We had four Top 10 finishes in the two days of fox-finding competition, first with 2 meter AM signals, and then with 80 meter CW signals. ARRL's team faced more than 300 of the planet's best foxtailers that represented 24 other national Amateur Radio societies." ARDF combines Amateur Radio skills with the map and compass skills of orienteering in a timed race where individual competitors navigate through diverse wooded terrain while searching for radio transmitters. The rules of the sport and international competitions are organized by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU).

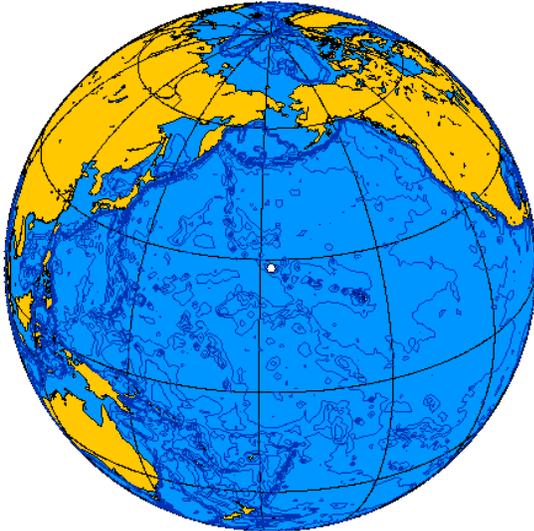
Amateur Radio Operations to Begin Again on Midway Atoll



The USFWS has announced that it will allow amateurs to operate from Midway Atoll for two weeks this October.



Amateur Radio operations will only be allowed on the north side of Sand Island.



GMT 2006 Sep 27 16:16:27 CMC - Martin Wehner

Midway is located in the North Pacific Ocean, approximately 1250 miles northwest of Honolulu.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) announced on Monday, January 26 that they would once again allow Amateur Radio operators the opportunity to operate from Midway Atoll. This the first time that USFWS has allowed amateurs to operate from the wildlife refuge since 2002. The USFWS started a program earlier this month to encourage visitors to experience Midway's wildlife, history and culture, as well as non-wildlife-dependent activities -- including Amateur Radio.

To ensure the safety of the wildlife on the Refuge, the USFWS said that Amateur Radio operations will be permitted for two weeks only, from October 5-19, 2009. "Radio operation will be allowed only within a designated area on the north side of Sand Island and the use of portable generators will not be permitted," said Midway Atoll Refuge Manager Matt D. Brown. "There is 120 V power available at the operation site. Any modifications to the island power grid/infrastructure must be approved in advance and be paid for entirely by the radio operators." All participants will be required to attend a refuge orientation shortly after arrival that is designed to enhance visitor safety, wildlife protection and overall enjoyment of the wildlife refuge.

"Although determined to be a wildlife-compatible activity," Brown said, "this [Amateur Radio] opportunity is being conducted on a trial basis." Brown has the authority to discontinue the activity at any time, based on wildlife protection and conservation goals. For more information, please contact Brown via e-mail or by phone at 808-954-4818.

Travel arrangements to and from Midway are the responsibility of the individual or group. Since there are minimal facilities on the atoll, Brown said that lodging availability is very limited and will be on a first-come, first-served basis. "All Amateur Radio operators on Midway must secure lodging reservations, as camping is not permitted," Brown said. To make reservations, please contact Chugach Industries' Site Administrator Darlene Holst via e-mail or by phone at 808-954-4801.

Midway is located in the North Pacific Ocean (near the northwestern end of the Hawaiian archipelago) -- approximately 1250 miles northwest of Honolulu -- about one-third of the way between Honolulu and Tokyo. At less than 150 miles east of the International Dateline, Midway Atoll is truly "midway" around the world from the Greenwich meridian. The atoll is an unincorporated territory of the United States and is the only atoll/island in the Hawaiian archipelago not part of the State of Hawaii. Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge is owned and administered by the USFWS on behalf of the American people and has international significance for both its historic and natural resources.

In 1988, Midway became a National Wildlife Refuge, at the time subject to the primary jurisdiction of the Navy. In 1993, the Navy decided to close the Naval Air Facility after more than 50 years of continuous operation. On

May 20, 1996, custody and accountability for Midway Atoll transferred from the Department of the Navy to the Department of the Interior. President Clinton signed Executive Order 13022 on October 31, 1996, effectively superseding earlier orders assignment responsibility for Midway to the Navy. A new code of regulations governing activities at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge was published in the Federal Register on March 10, 1998.

When Midway became a national wildlife refuge, it joined a network of more than 500 separate units of the National Wildlife Refuge System, encompassing nearly 93 million acres, throughout all 50 states and several territories and possessions. Refuges represent the only Federal lands set aside and managed principally for the conservation of fish and wildlife.

Projecting the Impact of a Geomagnetic "Superstorm"

Posted: Jan 23, 2009

As the sun begins to rouse from its prolonged quiet period at the bottom of the sunspot cycle, hams around the world are looking forward to the next solar peak and the big band openings on HF and VHF that will accompany it. But a big solar peak can also result in big solar flares, followed by big geomagnetic storms here on Earth. And that has some researchers working for the National Academy of Sciences very worried. Their report, funded by NASA and released in mid-January, looks at the potential impact of a "super solar flare" followed by an extreme geomagnetic storm. According to NASA, the researchers looked at a huge geomagnetic storm that took place in 1921 (estimated to be 10 times stronger than the 1989 storm that left six million people in Quebec without power for nine hours). They then modeled its likely effects on the modern power grid.

Conclusion: the electrical power distribution system is likely to collapse across the eastern one-third of the U.S. as well as the Pacific Northwest, leaving more than 100 million people without power! Projected economic impact is some 20 times greater than that caused by Hurricane Katrina.

So enjoy those sunspots, but just hope the sun doesn't get carried away with itself!

CHU Time Station Frequency Change

Time station CHU, Ottawa Canada will be changing one of their frequencies on January 1, 2009. The 7335 kHz transmitter will be moving to 7850 kHz. The other two frequencies of 3330 and 14670 kHz. remain unchanged. The CHU shortwave time station is used for disseminating official time throughout Canada, broadcasting 24 hours a day from a location approximately 15 km south-west of downtown Ottawa. Listeners hear tones to mark the seconds, voice to announce the time in French and English, and digital data to set computers.

SAR 121.5/243 MHz Emergency Beacons

Aircraft/marine (SOLAS) emergency transponder - etc - EPIRB's

Don't forget that at midnight on February 1, 2009, the SARSAT's discontinued listening to the 121.5/243 MHz beacons. They only monitor 406 MHz only now. The 121.5 MHz channel has been re-delegated to homing only.

February 1, 2009: The Phaseout of 121.5 MHz Beacons for Satellite Distress Alerting

In October 2000 the International Cospas-Sarsat Program, announced at its 25th Council Session held in London, UK that it plans to terminate satellite processing of distress signals from 121.5 and 243 MHz emergency beacons on February 1, 2009. All mariners, aviators, and individuals using emergency beacons on those frequencies will need to switch to those operating on the newer, more reliable, digital 406 MHz frequency if they want to be detected by satellites.

The decision to stop satellite processing of 121.5 / 243 MHz signals is due to problems in this frequency band which inundate search and rescue authorities with poor accuracy and numerous false alerts, adversely impacting the effectiveness of lifesaving services. Although the 406 MHz beacons cost more at the moment, they provide search and rescue agencies with more reliable and complete information to do their job more efficiently and effectively. The Cospas-Sarsat Program made the decision to terminate 121.5/243 MHz satellite alerting services, in part, in response to guidance from the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). These two agencies of the United Nations are responsible for regulating the safety on international transits of ships and aircraft, respectively, and handling international

standards and plans for maritime and aviation search and rescue. More than 180 nations are members of IMO and ICAO.

NOAA, along with the U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Air Force, and NASA (the four Federal Agencies who manage, operate, and use the SRSAT system) are strongly advising users of 121.5/243 MHz beacons to make the switch to 406. Meanwhile, anyone planning to buy a new distress beacon may wish to take the Cospas-Sarsat decision into account.

The International Year of Astronomy Special Prefix Callsign

The International Year of Astronomy Special Prefix Callsign starts January 1st 0h UT and ends Feb 27th 23:59 UT Feb 28 2009. All Canadian Amateurs are encouraged to use it to commemorate Galileo Galilei's first look through an optical instrument towards the heavens. The Special Prefix are VE changes to CG VA changes to CF VO changes to CH VY changes to CI The official kickoff date for IYA is January 10th and on that date many astronomy clubs across Canada and around the world will be participating in local astronomical activities. Displays at Shopping Malls, talks in Public Libraries, star parties for the public will be happening. I am also encouraging those amateur Radio operators who are affiliated with the RASC (Royal Astronomical Society of Canada) that might have local IRLP access to visit node 9005 the Vancouver Reflector on January 10th to join in the across Canada IYA Net. To find out more about this unique ham radio Special prefix and related projects visit <http://www.hamiya2009.info> Malcolm Scrimger, VE7DAO

First of Eight New Section Training Coordinators Announced

January 13, 2009

RAC's National Training Coordinator (NTC), Dave Drinnan, VE9FK, who is also the editor of the recently introduced and highly acclaimed ARES Operations Training Manual, has named the first two appointees to a planned eight Section Training Coordinator (STC) positions.

Jim Forsyth, VA7FJE, becomes STC for British Columbia/Yukon Section, while Bill Boskwick, VE6BOZ, is now STC for Alberta section.

The NTC, who resides in the Maritimes Section, will assume the STC role there temporarily, pending identification of a willing and qualified candidate.

The STC's function is to make available consistent training methods, documents and other training support to RAC ARES units and members, reporting to and acting under the direction of the NTC. Full details of this new position may be found at.

Qualified candidates interested in becoming the STC for Newfoundland/Labrador, Maritimes, Québec, Ontario, Manitoba or Saskatchewan Sections should contact the RAC VPFS at.

Bob Cooke VE3BDB
Vice President Field Services
Radio Amateurs of Canada

LONDON AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

32nd ANNUAL 2009 FLEA MARKET

SUNDAY, SEPT. 27th
9.00 AM TO 1.00 PM

VENDOR SETUP: 7:30 AM

BOOK EARLY AND SAVE ON ADMISSION

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

TABLES: \$ 10.00



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

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

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

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

ATTENTION 2009 FLEA MARKET VENDOR

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

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

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

Table(s): x \$ 10 _____

Callsign: _____ Total: = _____

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____ City _____ PO code _____

Phone: _____

Talk in VA3LON, 147.060 PL 114.8

N 42.9876 W 81.2213



MEMBERSHIP INVITATION

-- Membership application and dues are currently requested.

Our term of membership runs from July 1 to June 30 of the following year. Each and every year it is increasingly more difficult to get Amateurs to commit to membership in their local club due to the alternate functions we are asked to fund.

The ***London Amateur Radio Club*** has a long history of providing technical support, social support and repeater facilities. Public service efforts are currently provided by a club affiliation with Amateur Radio Emergency Services (***ARES***) and ***Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC)***.

Your Directors work tirelessly to provide meeting topics that are informative and entertaining, events that are timely (Christmas meeting, field day, bus trip) and participate in events that display and promote Amateur Radio in the community.

To be effective in its pursuits, the Club needs the support of the local Amateur fraternity through membership.

While we obtain financial support from our Annual Flea Market, we require membership support to fund such things as meeting hall rent, repeater sites rent and maintenance, web site fees, membership cards and liability insurance. For what it's worth, none of these things are getting any cheaper.

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

With more than 1000 'hams' in the London area, its inconceivable that less than 10% support a pastime about which most of us are passionate.

PLEASE, make a choice and do your part to keep the ***London Amateur Radio Club*** alive and well by purchasing your membership at our next meeting (or by mail – details on our web site). The cost is still only \$25.00 (single) or \$30.00 (family residing at the same address).

