

# Message from the London Amateur Radio Club



Promoting Amateur Radio in London  
And surrounding area since 1920

November 4, 2012

## L.A.R.C. Executive

### 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

## October's L.A.R.C. Meeting

The next LARC meeting will be **Thursday, November 8 at 7:30 pm.** **John Visser, VA3MSV** will be doing a presentation on APRS. What is APRS? What do I need for APRS? Hopefully your questions will be answered.

## Got Generator?

November 2, 2012

By Stan Horzepa, WA1LOU, ARRL Contributing Editor

*This week, Surfin' considers portable power generators in the wake of another horrific storm.*

Hurricane/Tropical Storm Sandy barreled through here Monday, but I was lucky: The tree man had done his work last month, so there was no tree damage on my property, except for a few small branches that landed without incident here and there. And my home lost power for only 23 hours (compared to last year's Halloween surprise snowstorm that kept us off the grid for over three days).

Despite my luck, there were queries again about buying a generator for the house. After another night of bumping into things in the dark, I am seriously considering such a purchase this time around.

Some of my co-workers (electrical engineering types) already own generators, so I asked around and received some tips about buying and using them, including a few that are probably not in compliance with the electrical code.

Online, *Popular Mechanics* offers some sound advice in its article titled "[How to Buy the Right Backup Generator for Your Disaster & Budget.](#)"

The American Red Cross addresses questions about using a generator when disaster or emergency strikes in its article "[Safe Generator Use.](#)"

From the ARRL website, you can download a June 1999 *QST* article called "[How to Choose and Use a Portable Power Generator.](#)"

I will read all three articles while I figure out where to store enough gasoline to run a generator for three days or more!

Until next time, keep on surfin'!

## Next Meeting is Where and When?

**Reminder: The next monthly L.A.R.C. meeting on November 8, 2012 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 December 13, 2012. This will be our Annual Potluck Christmas Dinner.

## 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

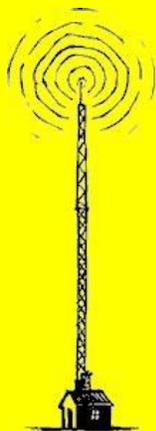
#### Stratfordville

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 79. 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, Current L.A.R.C. Basic Student

Tim Clark, Current L.A.R.C. Basic Student

Don Sefanik, VA3KBC

Darrell Smiley, VE3DLY

# Nets

# RAC Bulletin 2012-062E - Allan Boyd, VE3AJB



## 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

October 25, 2012

It is with great pleasure that I forward this news item concerning our Ontario North Section Manager Al Boyd, VE3AJB. Al has been a huge supporter of the RAC as Ontario Section Manager for the past number of years, and it is great to see him professionally recognized for his contribution to the citizens of Ontario. Congratulations Al!

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October 23, 2012

By: Sudbury Northern Life Staff

Manitoulin Island Ontario Provincial Police's longest-serving full-time member has been recognized with an OPP Accolade award for his dedication to the service, according to a news release.

Provincial Const. Al Boyd joined the OPP in 1981. He was assigned to the Manitoulin detachment where he has served ever since, "dedicating himself to his family, his policing career and his community," said the OPP in the news release

The Accolade award recognizes an individual whose actions and behaviours demonstrate and/or exceed commitment to the OPP and their communities; excellent and consistent performance; exceptional customer service over a sustained period; strong support for colleagues; team spirit; a commitment to professional or personal learning; sharing ideas to increase program efficiency and effectiveness; humanitarian actions that personify OPP values; exemplary efforts in assisting the public in unfortunate circumstances; and selfless personal investment off the job requiring time and effort in support of someone else that goes beyond the pursuit of personal success and recognition.

Boyd holds the position of community service officer for Manitoulin detachment, North East Region. His strong work performance and exceptional skill set, including a background in community services, media relations, crisis negotiation and amateur radio, makes him a valuable asset to the OPP and the communities he serves, said Staff Sgt. Kevin Webb, Manitoulin detachment commander.

"It was my pleasure to nominate Al for an Accolade Award" said Webb in a news release. "Since joining the OPP, he has developed his role through outstanding and significant support to his colleagues at all rank levels, both uniformed and civilian."

"Al brings an enthusiastic professionalism to the projects he is involved with and his ideas and opinions respected. On a day-to-day basis, he consistently contributes to the goals and objectives of the OPP in service to the people of Ontario."

Doug Mercer CEC VO1DTM/VO1DM  
Chief Field Services Officer

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Vernon Ikeda - VE2MBS/VE2QQ

Pointe-Claire, Québec

RAC Blog Editor/RAC E-News/Web News Bulletin Editor

## Upcoming Events

Sat., Nov. 17, 2012

[KARC Hamfest 2012](#) - Kingston  
Amateur Radio Club, Inc. and  
Military Communications &  
Electronics Museum  
95 Craftsman Blvd, Kingston

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.

## Amateur Radio Supplies Announces Youth Giveaway

October 12, 2012

Amateur Radio Supplies of Haverhill, Massachusetts, has announced a new biannual giveaway. This to promote youth in amateur radio DXing and contesting.

Beginning January 1st of 2013, the company says that it will give a complete high frequency station to the selected applicant. The gear to be presented will include Alinco DX-SR8T/E 160 through 6 meter all mode transceiver with a 30 amp power supply, an LDG antenna tuner, a choice of an all band G5RV or HyGain DX-77A Vertical plus just about all the accessories to put it all on the air.

Applicants from any country under the age of 21 are invited to provide brief answers to the following three questions. These are how often are you able to operate on the HF bands? Where do you typically operate from and how do you intend to use the equipment provided in the give-away.

Send your answers along with your name, callsign, and license class using the form at [www.amateurradiosupplies.com/youth-s/222.htm](http://www.amateurradiosupplies.com/youth-s/222.htm). Nominations will also be accepted.

For more information please e-mail Randy Rowe at [randy@amateurradiosupplies.com](mailto:randy@amateurradiosupplies.com). Amateur Radio Supplies is a new company that provides a full line of gear, including antennas, transceivers, coax, antenna wires and countless station accessories. *(Michelle Garrett - Project Manager - Amateur Radio Supplies)*

## More TV Watchers Opting For Free Over The Air Programming

October 12, 2012

As cable bills rise and the United States economy remains weak, more Americans are watching television using good old fashioned antennas.

According to the research firm GfK Media, nearly 18 percent of all US households with television sets are watching broadcasts delivered for free over the air. This is up from 15 percent of homes last year according to research the firm. Translated into numbers, that means 20.7 million homes, or roughly 54 million consumers, now get channels over the air instead of paying a monthly cable or satellite bill.

According to the study, 6 percent of TV households, or 6.9 million homes, canceled their cable service at some point in the past and now rely on free broadcasts. GfK's report also found that 16 percent of households downgraded TV service in the business year through March, while only 11 percent of TV households said they had increased service.

The report also found that people using Web-connected TV increased to 34 million households, or 29 percent. That's almost double the previous year's 16 percent. More is on-line at [www.tinyurl.com/9z4ffj5](http://www.tinyurl.com/9z4ffj5). *(Published News Reports)*

## HF Corner for September 2012

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>

Nov 1 to Nov 9	ZL7A	Chatham Is.	80m – 6m	CW/SSB
Nov 3 to Nov 10	YJ0ARI	Vanuatu	160m – 6m	Some CW/SSB
Nov 4 to Nov 9	C6AXY	Bahamas	40m – 10m	CW/SSB
Nov 5 to Nov 19	VP9KF	Bermuda	All Bands	CW
Nov 5 to Nov 19	VP2M	Montserrat	80m – 10m	SSB
Nov 5 to Nov 22	5Z4	Kenya	40m – 10m	CW
Nov 6 to Nov 13	P29 CVX	Papua New Guinea		Mostly CW
Nov 6 to Dec 11	5X1NH	Uganda	80m – 10m	Some SSB
Nov 6 to Nov 15	PJ2	Curacao	Check DX Watch	
Nov 9 to Nov 13	T88ON	Palau	HF Bands	SSB
Nov 9 to Nov 17	PJ4	Bonaire	Check DX Watch	
Nov 9 to Nov 17	3A	Monaco	80m – 10m	SSB
Nov 10 to Nov 22	PT0S	St. Peter & Paul Rocks	160m – 6m	SSB/CW
Nov 10 to Dec 9	5R8IC	Madagascar	20m – 10m & digital	modes
Nov 11 to Nov 23	V84SMO	Brunei	DX-pedition	All bands/Modes
Nov 12 to Nov 19	E5I	South Cook Is	80m – 10m	SSB/CW/PSK31 1800-2400Z
Nov 16 to Nov 19	XP2I	Greenland	160m – 80m	CW
Nov 17 to Nov 27	VK9	Lord Howe Is	160m – 6m	CW/SSB/RTTY
Nov 18 to Nov 24	PJ7	Sint Maarten	160m – 10m	All Modes
Nov 18 to Dec 8	E51TLA	South Cook Is		CW/RTTY
Nov 20 to Dec 11	C6	Bahamas	CQ WW CW, ARRL 160m, ARRL 10m	Contests
Nov 21 to Nov 28	8P9DF	St. Philip, Barbados	CQ WW CW, HF	CW mainly
Nov 21 to Nov 30	HI7/R4WAA	Dominican Republic	40m – 10m, CQ WW CW	
Nov 21 to Dec 3	VP2V	Brit Virgin Is	CQ WW CW Contest	
Nov 23 to Dec 3	7P8D	Lesotho	160m – 10m	CW/RTTY/SSB
Nov 24 to Dec 10	5T0SP	Mauritania	160m – 10m	CW/RTTY/SSB
Nov 26 to Dec 11	8Q7AU	Maldiva Is	80m – 10m	SSB
Nov 28 to Dec 9	ZL9HR	Auckland & Campbell Is	DX-pedition	All bands/Modes

### Note:

Most DX-peditions operate split frequencies. They will transmit on one, say 21.295, and listen up 5, or maybe up to 5 to 10 KHz. You need to listen to their instructions. Some roam that 5 KHz split frequency and some just sit 5 KHz up and work the pile-up. You need to determine what they are doing by listening.

The CQ WW CW contest is on Nov 24/25. The exchange is the signal report plus your CQ Zone. For Ontario it would be 59904.

The ARRL 160m contest is on Nov 30 to Dec 2. The exchange is 599 and your ARRL/RAC section. (Editor Note: Due to Ontario being split into 4 sections, we are now **ONS** and not **ON**.)

The ARRL 10m phone contest is on Dec 8/9. The exchange is signal report plus your State/Province. For us in ON, it would be 59 Oscar November. This

is a nice contest to work. In a contest station, you are calling wants only, your signal report, and your province.

The whole exchange would be something like this:  
You tune up and down the 10m band listening.  
Then you hear someone calling.  
He says: CQ, CQ, CQ 10 metre contest, WD4XXX  
You put out just your call: VE3YYY (or whatever your call is.)  
He says: VE3YYY 59 Foxtrot Lima (or whatever his state letters are)  
You say: QSL 59 Foxtrot Lima. You are 59 Oscar November.  
He says: QSL 59 ON. CQ contest CQ contest from ... and he's on to his next contact. No time for your name, your

QTH, your rig or antenna, or anything more than what he needs, which is your call and your signal report and province.

Try it. It can be fun and it certainly does improve your skills as an operator. It teaches you how to pick up a callsign, and how to efficiently make a contact and pass and receive the information you both need for the contact.

One thing you must try to avoid is working the same station twice. That is called a "dupe" and the serious contesters are slowed when you make a second contact with them. They are logging with a sophisticated computer logging program and they know instantly if they have worked you before in this contest. I keep a paper log and once I've trolled from one end of the band to the other and

logged each call I've contacted, I make sure that I check my log on my next pass so I do not work the same station twice.

Try it! You might have some fun. Maybe even make a big dent in your quest to work all 50 states!

What is DX Watch? If you put DX Watch into your search engine it will bring up a site you can go to that updates every 15 seconds. The second column tells you what stations are active in real time. It gives the frequency the station has been heard on, the time the station was worked, and who heard the station. That is the call sign in the left column. Checking that can give you an idea what propagation is like.

Good DX-ing in November.

## Canadian AM Stations Leaving The Air

October 12, 2012

More AM stations are leaving the medium wave AM broadcast band in Canada than are coming on the air. This is according to the trade publication Radio World that says since 2009, some sixteen Canadian AM broadcasters have gone off the air as several have moved to the FM band and companies closed the least profitable stations.

But in this case more seems better from a profit standpoint. According to the research firm Statistics Canada, the moves have allowed AM

operating revenues to grow by 1.1% in 2011, to 311 million Canadian dollars.

A quick search of the Canadian Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission site shows 727 commercial licensed radio stations, not broken down by service. That compares to 4,754 commercial licensed AM and 6,568 FM broadcast entities in the United States according to FCC figures for the most recent quarter. *(RW)*

## Radio Amateur Files SDR Patent

October 12, 2012

And Software Defined Radio is coming of age in the world of amateur radio. This with word that Tao Wang, KB3KSR, has filed a patent for a General-purpose software defined radio platform.

The patent disclosure describes Wang's invention as a flexible, compact size, low power consumption, low cost, high performance software defined radio platform. One that can be used in

different areas, including industrial applications, amateur radio, and academic research.

In its present form, Wang's unit is a processing platform that packs a complete computer inside a pocket size enclosure. The invention makes use of a graphic user interface and touch screen LCD display for interaction with those who are utilizing it. *(Southgate)*

## Dissolvable Bio-Med Electronics

October 12, 2012

Ultra-thin electronics that dissolve inside the body have been devised by scientists in the US and could be used for a range of medical roles.

According to research published in the journal Science the components are made of silicon and magnesium oxide and placed in a protective layer of silk. Once their job has been completed these

devices can simply melt away with the speed of melting is controlled by silk.

The technology has already been used to heat a wound to keep it free from infection by bacteria. More is on-line at [www.tinyurl.com/melting-electronics](http://www.tinyurl.com/melting-electronics). (BBC)

## All Digital AM HD Testing On Its Way

October 19, 2012

Information is surfacing regarding NAB Radio Technology Committee plans to test all-digital AM HD Radio technology on an existing full carrier AM radio station.

The committee has been meeting since last November to discuss technical options for the revitalization of AM. Testing would quantify both indoor and outdoor coverage. In general, the goal is to verify whether the station coverage and robustness are improved with an all-digital signal in both day and night transmission. Also to quantify any change. There's little technical data in the public arena for all-digital AM operation.

Glynn Walden is CBS Radio Senior Vice President of Engineering. He said during the fall NAB Radio Show that a test station has been chosen with testing likely to begin right after the presidential elections. Walden and other committee members declined to identify the facility but some believe it will be a CBS station in an area that could be characterized as a medium sized market. You can read more about this AM broadcast digital experiment on-line at [www.tinyurl.com/all-digital-am](http://www.tinyurl.com/all-digital-am). (CGC, RW)

## 14 Year Old Makes Digital DXCC

October 26, 2012

The ARRL report that 14 year old radio amateur Tom Jose, VU3TMO, has just achieved his Digital DXCC award.

First licensed when he was 13 years old in December of 2011, VU3TMO is a 3rd generation

ham operator in his family along with his parents. VU3TMO is a member of India's National Institute of Amateur Radio and the Dayton Amateur Radio Association. He is reported to be one of the youngest hams in his nation. (ARRL, Southgate)

## Awards: CQ Introduces 40 CQ Zones On 160 Plaque

October 19, 2012

CQ has announced the availability of a special plaque for those who have achieved contact to all 40 CQ zones on 160 meters. This is considered the most difficult of all amateur radio awards to earn and because of this the Worked All Zones 160

Meter Plaque recognizes that receiving it as one of the elite Top Band DXers. If you believe you qualify, please contact WAZ Award Manager Floyd Gerald, N5FG, by e-mail to [n5fg@cq-amateur-radio.com](mailto:n5fg@cq-amateur-radio.com) for further details. (CQ via Facebook)

## Hurricane Sandy - Radio Ham Lost In Bounty Sinking

November 1, 2012



Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, is missing at sea after the sinking of Tall Ship *Bounty*. The ship's electrician Doug Faunt, N6TQS, was rescued.



Robin Walbridge with his sister Lucille Jansen in front of *Bounty* at Fall River, Massachusetts in May 2011 [Photo courtesy of Walbridge family]

The ARRL report that the crew of the *Bounty* (a replica of HMS *Bounty*) used Amateur Radio and Winlink to send an e-mail to the US Coast Guard to summon assistance after the *Bounty* sank off the coast of North Carolina on October 29 as Hurricane Sandy made its way toward New Jersey. (*Southgate ARC*)

## Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, Missing at Sea after Sinking of Tall Ship *Bounty*, Ship's Electrician Doug Faunt, N6TQS, Rescued

November 1, 2012

Every DXer knows the story of the HMS *Bounty* and Pitcairn Island, VP6: In 1789, the HMS *Bounty* -- a small three-masted sailing vessel sent by Britain's Royal Navy to the Pacific on a supply expedition -- was roiled by tension between its crew and its captain, William Bligh. After landing in Tahiti and taking on a cargo of breadfruit, the *Bounty* set sail for the West Indies; it never reached that destination. Instead, Master's Mate Fletcher Christian led the men in a mutiny, eventually allowing Bligh and his loyalists to sail off in a longboat. After an arduous journey, they reached safety at the Dutch-owned port of Kupang. Christian and his followers ended up on Pitcairn Island where they burned the *Bounty* and settled on the island. Passing ships did not discover the enclave until after the turn of the century.

On Monday, October 29, a replica of the *Bounty* -- built in 1960 for a remake of the 1962 film *Mutiny on the Bounty* -- sank off the coast of North Carolina as Hurricane Sandy made its way toward New Jersey. Of its 16 crew members, 14 were

rescued by the US Coast Guard. *Bounty* Captain Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, never made it to one of the two deployed life rafts and is presumed dead. Claudene Christian, who claimed to be a direct descendent of Fletcher Christian, was unresponsive and passed away at a North Carolina hospital on Monday evening.

Doug Faunt, N6TQS, of Oakland, California, was one of the 14 who was rescued by the Coast Guard; Faunt served as a deckhand and was also the ship's electrician. A noted DX'er and ARRL Life Member, he was part of the FO0AAA DXpedition crew in 2000 to Clipperton Island and in 2007, he was part of the DXpedition to Lakshadweep. According to Spud Roscoe, VE1BC, Faunt had satellite communications equipment and *Winlink* capabilities on board the *Bounty*, but he was not the ship's radio officer. "Sailing on replica ships was a hobby of Doug's," Roscoe told the ARRL. "He had previously sailed across the Great Australian Bight on a replica of the [HMB Endeavour](#), Captain Cook's ship. He was an able

seaman of the watch." Roscoe was the radio officer on the replica *Bounty* for its original voyage to France in 1962.

Faunt told the ARRL that the *Bounty* crew tried various methods, including a satellite phone, to call for help, "but we got nothing when tried calling out on HF. We tried calling the Maritime Mobile Net, but nothing was out there. We had *Winlink* on the ship that we used for e-mail and accessing the Internet to post to blogs and to Facebook, and we finally found an e-mail address for the Coast Guard. As a last-ditch effort, we used *Winlink* to e-mail the Coast Guard for help. Within an hour, we heard a C-130 plane, and later, a helicopter overhead." According to Faunt, it was Walbridge, as master of the ship, who sent out the distress messages.

"I don't know how I made it off the ship," Faunt recalled. "I had finished serving a long watch, and then we started going down. I was exhausted. I had to swim to get to the life raft. The water was full of rigging, and here I am, in my Gumby suit, trying to swim. It was so difficult. While swimming to the raft, I came up for air and a spar was coming at me. I finally found a raft and tried to climb into it, but I almost didn't make it, tired as I was. Through the help of my shipmates who were already aboard the raft, I got on." The two life rafts were out about 100 miles from shore when they were rescued.

The vessel left Connecticut on Thursday, October 25 with a crew of 11 men and five women, ranging in age from 20-66. After being treated at a hospital in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Faunt arrived back home in California on Wednesday, October 31. "I'm looking for a new boat to sail and a DXpedition to go on," Faunt told the ARRL. "Ham radio got me into my position on the *Bounty*, and ham radio got me out alive!" (ARRL)



Doug Faunt, N6TQS, on the deck of the Tall Ship Bounty. The *Bounty* sank during Hurricane Sandy, and the US Coast Guard rescued Faunt and 14 of his 15 shipmates. *Bounty* Captain Robin Walbridge, KD4OHZ, is presumed lost at sea. [Photo courtesy of Doug Faunt, N6TQS]

## Ham Radio In Space: Four Cubesats Deployed From ISS

October 12, 2012

Radio amateurs around the world have been listening for signals from the four new amateur radio CubeSats that were deployed from the International Space Station on Thursday, October 4th.

FITSat-1 has a CW beacon on 437.250MHz, 1200 bps AX.25 packet radio on 437.445MHz and a high-speed data transmitter on 5840.0MHz.

F-1 has the callsign is XV1VN and the communications subsystem is built around two Yaesu VX-3R amateur radio handheld transceivers. One will transmit 1200 bps packet radio every 30 seconds on 145.980MHz while in darkness. The

other will operate only in sunlight sending a 20 second FM transmission of a CW tone on 437.485MHz followed by a 60 second gap.

TechEdSat carries a 1200 bps packet radio transmitter on 437.465MHz.

WE-WISH transmits CW and 1200 bps packet radio on 437.505MHz. Due to the effects of Doppler shift the 70cm downlink frequencies will vary by +/- 10 kHz during an 8 minute pass.

Each could have a life-time of 4 or 5 months before they burn-up on reentry into the Earth's atmosphere. (AMSAT, GB2RS)

## Ham Radio In Space: Hams Asked To Help Find Missing F1 Cubesat

October 19, 2012

An article published on the AMSAT-UK website reports that the F Space team at the FPT University in Viet Nam are requesting Amateur Radio operators continue to listen for their F1 CubeSat. The mini satellite went missing shortly after it was deployed from the International Space Station on October 4 but never heard on Earth.

F1 was expected to begin transmitting beacon alternatively on its main and backup channels 30

minutes after deployment. Its operating frequencies are on 437.485 MHz while in daylight and 145.980 in satellite darkness.

More information and guide to download F1 telemetry decoder can be found at [www.tinyurl.com/f1-info](http://www.tinyurl.com/f1-info). Decoded data can be submitted on using a File Transfer Protocol client to [thuvt@fpt.edu.vn](mailto:thuvt@fpt.edu.vn). Audio recordings are highly appreciated. *(F1 Cubesat Team)*

## Ham Radio In Space: Israeli GPS Cubesat Being Built

October 19, 2012

Israel is planning to launch a student built ham radio microsat. The Space Duchifat-1 is an experimental and educational CubeSat being developed and built by students at the Space Laboratory of the Herzliya Science Centre.

The CubeSat will carry an APRS digipeater operating on 145.825 MHz and a UHF/VHF 1200 bps BPSK transceiver that can provide a CW beacon and an FM to DSB transponder.

The main mission of the satellite is to transmit real-time information via packet radio from a Low Earth

Orbit using the Automatic Position Reporting System protocol. The satellite will allow remote traveler's to access the bird for worldwide position, status reporting and messaging. This using simple handheld or mobile radios with omni-directional whip antennas.

The project is directed by Dr. Ana Heller with support from the Herzliya city municipality and the Israeli Amateur Radio Club. At this moment no launch date or orbit details are available. *(ANS)*

## New Exoplanet Discovered Only 24 Trillion Miles Away

October 26, 2012

Scientists using visual and radio telescope data have discovered the closest planet outside our Solar System. One that is orbiting a sun-like star about 24 trillion miles away from Earth.

According to astronomers at the European Southern Observatory the so-called exoplanet has about the same mass as Earth but it circles its star much closer than Earth does the sun. The exoplanet which is described as a planet outside our Solar System is outside the "habitable zone" for possible life because of hot and rocky conditions.

Temperatures on its surface could reach some 2,200 degrees and the surface is likely to be lava.

Scientists discovered the planet while monitoring stars in Alpha Centauri, a neighboring star system, only about four light years away. That system is peppered with stars orbiting one another, making the hunt for planets difficult, astronomers explained.

This is now the closest of more than 840 confirmed exoplanets. This according to research published in the British science journal Nature. *(Nature)*

## British Soprano Sarah Brightman To Be The Next Visitor To The ISS

October 26, 2012

The British songstress who created the role of Christine Daae (pron "Die Aye") in Sir Andrew Lloyd Webbers musical



stage classic The Phantom of the Opera will be the next space tourist to visit the International Space Station.

On Wednesday, October 10th it was announced in Moscow that world famous soprano Sarah Brightman had passed the required mental and

physical examinations to permit her fly to the ISS. And in a video of the press conference made public by the Russian Space Agency Roscosmos, and the singer herself, Brightman described how as a child she was inspired by the Apollo 11 landing on the moon.

Brightman: "When I look back, my minds eye brings me to a rush of images from all of the incredible things that I have been privileged to experience in my life. But if I keep tracking back, my thoughts eventually come to rest on a flickering TV screen in 1969. There as a small and incredulous child I watched a man bound gently from the steps of a rocket ship and land on the surface of the moon.

"This really was an adventure. It was something miraculous.

"For me it was an epiphany. From that moment I began looking into the future. I began to dream about what life might hold in store for me and of what I could accomplish."

During her comments, Brightman said the trip would serve as a way to promote environmental awareness and to encourage women's education by helping to close the gender gap in the sciences. For this she has called on the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

better known as UNESCO, to join with her to make it happen:

Brightman: "There are two key areas that we have identified which unify my personal passions, UNESCO's objectives and my spaceflight. Both are inexplicably linked and both relate to issues of sustainability."

After completing an upcoming world tour to promote her new album appropriately called Dream Chaser, Brightman will undertake six months of training at Star City in Moscow in preparation for her mission to the International Space Station. Once on-orbit she is expected to take part in several educational ventures as just mentioned but it is not yet known if she will obtain an amateur radio license or has any plans to make any ham radio contacts from the ISS.

This is not Sarah Brightman's first venture into the area of science education. Earlier this year in conjunction with Virgin Galactic she launched the Brightman STEM Scholarship program. STEM is an acronym for the words science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. Her program is designed to help young women in the United States to pursue STEM education across their four year college careers. (*Roscosmos, Southgate, others*)

## Pico Ham Balloon Makes Trek From UK To Sweden

October 26, 2012

PicoAtlas VII, a single foil balloon launched by James Coxon, M6JCX, on Saturday, October 20th from Suffolk in the UK has landed some 1050 kilometers or 650 miles to the East in Sweden.

PicoAtlas VII carried a GPS receiver and a miniature transmitter running only 10 milliwatts output sending RTTY on 434.301 MHz USB. The telemetry data from the balloon transmitter could be decoded using the free software at dl-fldigi. This program can decode many different amateur radio digital

modes and can be downloaded for Windows, Mac and Ubuntu Linux at [www.tinyurl.com/8zlo437](http://www.tinyurl.com/8zlo437).

An increasing number of radio amateurs are experimenting with ultra light balloon payloads, typically weighing less than 100 grams. Balloons such as these do not go to high altitudes. Instead they float between 3,500 and 6,000 meters which roughly equates to 9000 to 20,000 feet for an extended period of time. During the 19 hour flight this balloon successfully crossed the North Sea before landing in central Sweden. (*Southgate*)

## May Launch And October Recovery Of High Altitude Balloon Payload

October 26, 2012

An amateur radio balloon project launched last May finally ended this month with the recovery of the payload.

Members of AMSAT-LU, had launched a high altitude balloon on 19th May from La Pampa,

Argentina. The payload included a 70cm to 2m 4 watt FM repeater, live SSTV, an HF beacon and two video cameras. During the 4 hour flight, over 200 stations made contacts through the repeater.

Unfortunately, while the flight was deemed to be a complete success the balloon came down in an isolated and flooded area. It was finally recovered from the mud on October 6th by a 4 by 4 off-road adventure group.

The good news is that all flight data was retrieved. This included over 6 hours of video from the two cameras. Details can be found at [www.uk.amsat.org](http://www.uk.amsat.org). (GB2RS)

## **DHS To Team Up With Dayton Hamvention On EmComm Training**

October 19, 2012

Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications is teaming up with the folks in Dayton to provide free emergency communications training in conjunction with Hamvention 2013.

The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications will be on hand at the next Dayton Hamvention. This to conduct its nationally recognized NIMS/ICS compliant Auxiliary Emergency Communications course.

The course itself focuses on a number of important aspects of emergency communications. These include auxiliary communications interoperability, emergency operation center etiquette, on-the-air etiquette, FCC rules and regulations, auxiliary communications training and planning, certification and accreditation to mention only a few. The objective of the training is intended to supplement and standardize an operator's basic knowledge of

emergency amateur radio communications in a public safety context.

This Office of Emergency Communications workshop is designed for auxiliary emergency communicators who volunteer to provide backup emergency radio communications support to public safety and emergency response professionals and their agencies. Typically this includes amateur radio communicators from groups such as MARS, ARES, RACES, SATERN and the like. The course will actually be held just prior to Hamvention, but still in the Dayton area and as part of Hamvention 2013.

Details on any pre-required training for this free course is on-line at [www.hamvention.org](http://www.hamvention.org). Information on for registering for this special free course will be posted at the same site in the near future. (Hamvention.org)

## **Celebrating 150 Years Of The Pacific Railway Act**

October 19, 2012

And the Union Pacific Amateur Radio Club will sponsor Special Event UP150 on December 1st. The operation commemorates the 150 years since President Abraham Lincoln signed the Pacific Railway Act of 1862 and directed the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific to construct a transcontinental railroad. The event will use the

call sign W0UPR. It will begin at 6am Central and end at 8 pm Pacific. Many present and past Union Pacific employees are expected to operate during that time frame in hope of talking with you. A special QSL will be available. More information is on-line at [www.pocatelloarc.org/uprr](http://www.pocatelloarc.org/uprr). (Union Pacific ARC)

## **GRE Quits The Scanner Business But Alinco Not Affected**

October 26, 2012

GRE, the radio manufacturer which also represents Alinco here in the United States, has ceased all manufacture of scanner radios. The good news is that Alinco product sales and service will continue.

The news was a bit of a shock to the GRE group in Belmont, California - word from Japan earlier this month that the GRE personnel in Asia and the United States were being dismissed and scanner operations were being discontinued.

It was October 16th when the official word was released by GRE-employed U.S. managers of the shutdown in Japan.

But there was a pledge to keep the California office open because of its distribution affiliation with Alinco.

Michael Herbert, WB6JKV, a service technician and engineer for GRE's Belmont office, officially confirmed for Amateur Radio Newsline that things are still go for Alinco.

"GRE America will continue to market, service and support Alinco's radio products without any interruption," Herbert says. "So, for us amateurs, it will be business as usual."

And, Herbert continues: "No worries for warranty repairs. We have a great parts supply. We have a direct line with the factory and they are really eager to go forward with us and proceed."

Herbert says he's not authorized to say much more.

However, he says GRE is waiting on Alinco's new SDR, 100 watt HF radio due for delivery by Christmas. And, is expecting to distribute the new 900 megahertz/220 megahertz mobile radio about Dayton time next May.

The bottom line. If you own or are planning to purchase an Alinco brand piece of radio gear you have nothing to worry about. However the future of GRE manufactured scanner radios is unknown. *(ARNewsline™)*

## **GRE Official Announcement 10/23/2012**

October 23, 2012

To our valued Dealers and Customers,

Due to circumstances beyond its control, General Research of Electronics of Japan (GRE) is temporarily not able to manufacture the GRECOM and Radio Shack branded radio scanners.

The Chinese Government's plan to redevelop the area where the GRE factory had been in operation for over ten years finally forced its closure. Anticipating this eventuality, GRE was in the process of building a new factory but unfortunately the cost of raw materials, labor and increased taxes created a heavy financial investment burden that could not be effectively recovered.

GRE America continues to market, support and service the GRECOM branded scanners and is contractually committed to keep the Library Database updated and current. GRE America will continue to market, service and support Alinco's radio products without any interruption.

We sincerely apologize for this unfortunate turn of events. GRE is proceeding to establish a contract with a new factory and believes it will be able to restart the manufacturing in the near future.

For continued sales, service and support, please contact the GRE America office.

Raj Gounder  
Director of sales  
GRE America, Inc.

# **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).

