



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

# REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895  
HALIFAX NS  
B3K 5M5

April 2017, Volume 78 Number 4  
club web site is [www.halifax-arc.org](http://www.halifax-arc.org)



## Sadly We Have Lost Too Many Fellow Hams This Winter



HARC Club Station phone number - 902-490-6421

### Executive

President - Brian Allen, VA1CC	489-4656	basailor@eastlink.ca
First V.P. - Don Trotter, VE1DTR	823-1888	ve1dtr@rac.ca
2nd V.P. - Doug LeBlanc, VE1LDL	465-4665	igpearce@hotmail.com
Secretary - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD	823-2024	dhickson@eastlink.ca
Treasurer - Jim Guilford, VE1JG	466-2124	jimguilford@gmail.com
Director-at-Large: - Craig MacKinnon, VE1JMA	463-8517	cjmackinnon@gmail.com
- Ian Pearce, VE1IGP	469-3474	igpearce@hotmail.com
Station Manager: - Alex Tikhomirov, VE1RUS	444-1271	a.texer@gmail.com
Past President - Murray MacDonald, VE1BB	876-0661	twomacds@ns.sympatico.ca
Director Emeritus - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

### Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government & Media Relations - Gary Murphy, VA1GGM [garygmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:garygmurphy@gmail.com)  
QSL Bureau Mgr - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC 477-7081 [tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca)  
EMO Coordinator - David George, VE1AJP 466-8723 [dgeorge@dal.ca](mailto:dgeorge@dal.ca)  
EMO Trailer coordinator - David Musgrave, VE1EDA 435-4333 [ve1eda@rac.ca](mailto:ve1eda@rac.ca)  
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- Howard Dickson, VE1DHD [dhickson@eastlink.ca](mailto:dhickson@eastlink.ca)  
Basic ham course - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC 477-7081 [tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca)  
2016 Flea market Chair - VACANT  
Field Day Coordinator - VACANT  
Safety Officer - Terry Bigelow, VE1TRB [ve1trb@eastlink.ca](mailto:ve1trb@eastlink.ca)  
NSARA Director - Bill Elliott, VE1MR 865-8567 [bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca)  
Honorary Legal Counsel - Paul Radford, VE1ARH

### Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Dave Goodwin, VE9CB [ve9cb@rac.ca](mailto:ve9cb@rac.ca)  
RAC Section Manager - Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS [cseaboye@stfx.ca](mailto:cseaboye@stfx.ca)  
RAC Assistant Director for HRM Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2761 [ve1qd@rac.ca](mailto:ve1qd@rac.ca)

All phone numbers must be preceded by area code 902 when dialling, unless otherwise indicated

**The April 2017 General Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will be held Wednesday, April 19, in the Senior's Room on the 1st floor of the St. Andrew's Centre, 3380 Barnstead Lane, Halifax.

6:30-7:00pm - Social half-hour with refreshments.

7:00-8:30pm - Presentation:  
Getting the Most from Our Regional Repeater Network  
Presenters: Rob Ewert, VE1KS and Bill Elliott, VE1MR

8:30-9:30pm Regular Monthly Business Meeting

Guests are welcome

*I asked the waiter, 'Is this milk fresh?' He said, 'Lady, three hours ago it was grass.'*  
- Phyllis Diller

**Deadline for submissions to the May Reflector is Saturday, May 6, 2017**

### Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation. We need more net controllers. If you want to join, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



April 16	Peter	VE1PJW
April 23	Doug	VE1LDL
April 30	Bruce	VE1MLW
May 7	Gary	VA1GGM
May 14	Peter	VE1PJW
May 21	Doug	VE1LDL

### Puzzler - Do you know?

Who created the first hand-held, portable transceiver and when did he do so?

Answer is on pg. 9



*The 2016 Darwin Awards: 7th Place*  
A 49-year-old San Francisco stockbroker, who "totally zoned when he ran", accidentally jogged off a 100-foot high cliff on his daily run.



### GENERAL INFORMATION



Sunday evenings:  
TAKE-15 NET at 8:30 PM

CLUB REPEATERS:  
VE1PSR - 147.270 MHz + TX=82.5  
VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +  
VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -  
access tone 151.4 Hz  
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz - TX=82.5  
PACKET: VE1NSD 145.050 MHz  
LAN NODE

*Event for Your Calendar*

April 23rd Sunday @ 2100hrs - the next Truro Amateur Radio Club Newbie Round Table Sunday will be a review of what participants have discovered to date regarding repeaters VHF and UHF along with whatever other questions or topics arise.

April 29 - Symposium of Maritime Amateur Radio Technicians (S.M.A.R.T.) will be held on April 29th, 2017 in Amherst.

More information will be added to the webpage as it becomes available. Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact James "Jim" Langille VE1JBL by email at

jimve1jbl@gmail.com

### **June 3 - DownEast Feamarket Co-ordinator needed**

July 8 to 15 - Jamboree On The Air Scouts Canada, the largest youth programme in Canada, will be holding their National Jamboree in Nova Scotia this summer, at Camp Nedooae near Elderbank.

### **June 24, 25 - Field Day, 2017 Co-ordinator needed**

July 29-30 - Islands On The Air (IOTA), 2017 - Starts July 29, 12:00 UTC ends July 30, 12:00 UTC

July - MS Bike Tour

### **Message handling practice nets**

On VE1PSR (147.270 +) Sundays at 1930

Anyone wishing to become involved with the emergency communication message handling please contact Tom Caithness for voice practice. Tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca or

Dave Musgrave for digital david.musgrave@ns.sympatico.ca

*"You know you're old if they have discontinued your blood type."*  
-Phyllis Diller

Hi All, I would like to invite everyone to participate or at the very least listen to the Truro Amateur Radio Club Newbie Round Table Sunday April 23rd @ 2100hrs (9PM). We will be taking a break from the round table for the next two Sundays (April 9 & 16). We did have a great discussion going last Sunday and I hated to break it up but we were approaching the 1.5hr mark, long past the 1hr suggested time limit.

The main topic for April 23rd will be a review of what we have discovered to date regarding repeaters VHF and UHF along with whatever other questions or topics arise.

New topics are always welcome. Feel free to make suggestions or add your comments or questions on the round table in an email to me at [tarcnewbie@davidh.ca](mailto:tarcnewbie@davidh.ca).

I'm sure that after awhile you will get tired of hearing my voice all the time, so please feel free to ask questions and or supply information. My main job for the round table is to be the moderator not necessarily be the one who talks the most :).

Knowledge is key to enjoying the amateur radio hobby. The fact that the newbie (me) doesn't have the knowledge or even know what to ask to who makes the idea of this round table even more exciting. With experienced amateur operators taking part in the round table and sharing their years of experience and knowledge, it will certainly make getting into and exploring the hobby that much more enjoyable for the newbie.

Repeaters linked for the round table: VE1HAR will be the primary site with the following repeaters linked, VE1XK (VE1TRO when the new site comes online) VE1BHS, VE1SHU, VE1CDN, VE1PKT, VE1HR, VE1AEH, VE1WN, VE1RTI, VE1GYS, VE1CFR, VE1WRC, VE1NET

If a repeater you can use is not included on the list don't hesitate to link up with us or send me an email asking to have your repeater added to the list.

I will be linking up the 9013 IRLP reflector, via ve1wrc, as requested by some from the New Glasgow area using their new fusion repeater. Echo Link will also be available via ve1bhs for those that may want to use it. The node number for BHS Echolink is 100853.

Please pass this along to anyone you feel may be interested.

If you have any questions feel free to email me at [d.hull@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:d.hull@ns.sympatico.ca) or [tarcnewbie@davidh.ca](mailto:tarcnewbie@davidh.ca)

If you are just listening but don't want to ask questions, I would greatly appreciate an email to let me know you are out there in the background. It would be great to know how big of an audience we have to help determine if this is a worthwhile effort to continue.

I would like to thank all the hams who have been helping out with their great technical knowledge since the start of the round table. I hope that you and other knowledgeable hams continue to support the round table and provide accurate technical info for those of us new to the hobby.

73, Dave Hull, VE1HUL

### **Surplus Club Item for Sale**

The club has surplus to needs a BenQ PB6110 Projector (SVGA Portable Projector) with a new spare lamp, soft case and assorted cables. Asking for reasonable offers. Contact any executive member or submit bids to Jim Guilford, VE1JG.

All contact information is on page 1.

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for APRIL, 2017**

Well, here it is – April and we have made it through another winter. Spring I think has sprung as March was hard on us hams having lost antennas to high winds and freezing rain. Hopefully this is all gone and we can look forward to much better weather as the days move on. Once my antenna was repaired, I entered the WPX contest at the end of March and made over 170 contacts. This initially was a challenge as my computer ignored my radio and certainly did not recognize my keyer interface. After trying several combinations of virtual com ports for the radio, computer and the interface they finally agreed to be on the same page. And yes N1MM worked as it should have and logging was a dream.

It has been a couple of weeks now since Win, VE1WIN - (Win Hartlin) has passed. He was one of our most valuable members who worked tirelessly for our club. He has left a huge hole in our club and at an age of 92 could be found at the Museum or our Flea Market selling small cheap items for what ever he could get for them. To me, he was a good friend, colleague and mentor and an inspiration to young and old alike. He was admired and respected where ever he went and those who met him and talked with him always had wonderful things to say about him. Before his passing, he had acquired a communications uniform worn during the war and was about to donate it to the Museum of the Atlantic and this will happen, however we have obtained permission from his family to place his name tag with call sign on this uniform thus preserving his memory. We will have a special announcement and vote at the April general meeting so please make sure you are there for this event.

June is quickly approaching and so are our 2 major events- The Flea Market and the ARRL Annual Field Day. We are at a cross roads in our club where currently no one has stepped forward to run these events. The alternative for the Flea Market is to CANCEL THIS EVENT. The critical time to proceed with this is the April general meeting. If no one takes this on, we will cancel so as not to put this on in a half a.... manner. It seems that with a membership of about 150 members only 10% of the people actually participate in club ventures.

We need our younger members to come forward and take leadership roles.

There are a number of openings for leadership ranging from Director/co-ordinator of education covering HATS, BASIC and Advanced courses and other training, a fundraising chair to over see at least 2 special events and so on. We need help to move the club forward or it too will go by way of the dodo bird with a life expectancy of 3 - 5 years.. We need to make positive changes now.

Other events to watch for is the SMART symposium being held at the end of April and more info can be found on the Maritime Amateur web site. Please watch our calendar for more upcoming events like the Museum and the volunteers needed for the cruise ship explosion expected for this summer (170 ships). There will be a schedule on our web site and those who have filled their name in please find time to honour your commitment to this very worth while event as we can use all of the exposure we can get. We also have Museum Ships weekend, Halifax waterfront days and of course our pizza nights in July and August. More about those nights as they approach. Ian always has fun at his car rally and will need volunteers for this event and he too will provide info as this event gets closer.

The two events I personally like are the Museum Ships weekend and of course our FIELD DAY- I guess I like the sound of being number one in Canada in our class and near the top in the United States. We take pride in our club and the participation is always up around 60 people as support staff - and operators. I would like to see us on top of our game once again. As Dick, VE1AI would say- "yes we can" on our CW course and he is right, or what Kirk would say to Scottie "make it happen Scottie". Don't let this event slip away...

I look forward to seeing everyone at the April General meeting on the 19th we have an excellent presentation, some refreshments and the meeting - all starts at 18:30- presentation at 19:00 - a short break afterward and then the business meeting. And don't forget our special announcement / vote...73's.

73's for now, Brian Allen, VA1CC, President- HARC

**HARC Booking Calendar**

Looking to find out what is going on in the HARC Station? If so, you should go to our on-line room booking calendar at:

<https://teamup.com/ksa1105421c0509940>

There you can find information on events taking place in the:

- Club Station Main Meeting Room
- Club Library / Technical Room
- Club Radio Station Room
- Club Remote Radio Reservation Booking

If you want to reserve space in one of the above three rooms, or if you are approved to use and want to book

time on the Club Remote Radio, then send an email to our Station Manager, Alex [a.texer@gmail.com](mailto:a.texer@gmail.com) or to our Club Website Manager, Howard [VE1DHD@RAC.CA](mailto:VE1DHD@RAC.CA) and they will make the booking for you.

*Definition - EYEDROPPER:  
A clumsy ophthalmologist*





Getting everyone on the same safety page before starting to set-up.



Scott, VE1QD doing a training session for the GOTA station



In the GOTA (Get On The Air) tent Scott, VE1QD, coaches a young operator.

*The first testicular guard, the "Cup," was used in Hockey in 1874 and the first helmet was used in 1974. That means it only took 100 years for men to realize that their brain is also important.*

Remember how much fun we had at **Field Day 2016** in late June's warm weather at York Redoubt? Here are some photos to remind you.

This year (2017) our Field Day location is planned to be the St. Andrews Center where we will operate F Class. But we still need a coordinator so that the HARC can participate in Field Day 2017



HRM EMO Coordinator Barry Manuel (seen here chatting with Field Day 2016's coordinator Wayne, VE1WPH) visited to see how everything was working

*He had a photographic memory that was never developed.*

### The Maritime Amateur

Ham Radio  
for Maritimers by Maritimers  
[www.maritimeamateur.ca](http://www.maritimeamateur.ca)

Using solar cells to charge a battery. The battery was then used to power a transceiver to make at least 5 QSOs







Jayne & Amanda posing with a visiting TV personality.



TV cameraman on the job on a summer day's disaster-free assignment



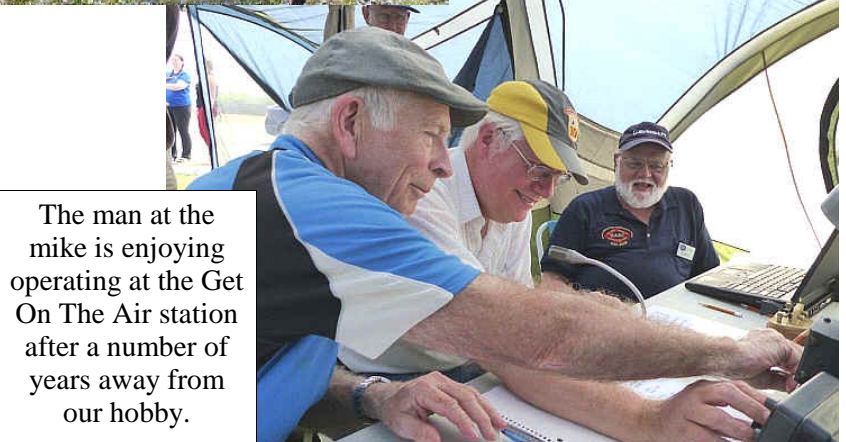
The CW for "@" is  
di-dah-dah-di-dah-dit

*The 2016 Darwin Awards  
8th Place:*

*In Detroit, a 41-year-old man got stuck and drowned in two feet of water after squeezing head first through an 18-inch-wide sewer grate to retrieve his car keys.*



Jayne was seen introducing her baby to ham radio. (Let's hope the hand held is drool-proof.)



The man at the mike is enjoying operating at the Get On The Air station after a number of years away from our hobby.

### Procedure to Request Amateur Radio Call Plates

*The form for Amateur Radio Plates is available at Access Nova Scotia*

VE1/VA1 Plates Request Procedure  
by Tom Cohoon, 2017-04-05

An individual requesting Amateur Radio plates for the first time must complete Sections 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7C of the Form 2 (Section 5 must be completed if vehicle owner is different) and forward it to:

**Nova Scotia Amateur Radio Association**

**C/O Thomas J. Cohoon**

**99 Hyson Point Rd.**

**Oakland, NS B0J 2E0**

OR by e-mail [ve1ta@eastlink.ca](mailto:ve1ta@eastlink.ca)

Mr. Cohoon will approve and forward the Form 2 to our Dartmouth

ANS office. The individual must have an existing valid plate, in their name only, to replace.

An amateur radio plate may NOT be issued in joint ownership. If the existing plate is due to expire, the applicant should include the renewal fee (cheque or money order), along with their application.

If replacement VE1/VA1 plates are required, (damaged, etc.) the applicant must complete a Form 2 (Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6) and forward it, along with the replacement fee (please check with Access NS) (cheque or money order) to the attention of

**Perry McInnis - Dartmouth ANS office. 250 Baker Drive suite 134 Dartmouth, NS B2W 6L4**

The VE1/VA1 plates will be received from the manufacturer within 6-8 weeks. Once the plates are received by the Dartmouth Access NS office, they will be sent to the applicant, along with corresponding vehicle permit and sticker (same expiry as their existing plate).

NOTE: If a plate has been previously issued with the call sign you have now, you cannot be issued that plate/call sign unless you get written permission from the registered plate owner. If permission is approved all previous history attached to that plate is then inherited with the issuance to you.

There is a sample form on the NSARA Website.

## HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

### Monthly Club Meeting 15 March 2017

**Minutes:** The March monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 20:00 hrs with Brian VE1AZV in the Chair

**Self Introductions:** There were 32 members present.

**Motion to approve the agenda** – moved by Craig (VE1JMA) seconded by Tom (VE1GTC); Carried.

**Report of any Silent keys:** Brian reported the following silent keys for January, February and March:

Norman David Budd VE1BQE  
Miramichi NB Mar.12th,2017

George "Ernie" Blanchard VE9AAG  
Quispamsis NB Mar.4th, 2017

Rudolph "Rudi" Saueracker  
VE9RHS Dieppe NB Mar.3rd, 2017

Daniel Raymond McIsaac VE1CBL  
Glace Bay NS Feb.26th, 2017

Nicholas Harley Whidden VE1NW  
Bible Hill NS Feb.20th,2017

Brian Edward Shanks VE9BES  
Quispamsis NB Feb.12th, 2017

Robert Harold Petitpas (Member  
HARC) VE1RHP Hubley NS  
Feb.11th,2017

Donald C. Bower (Life Member  
HARC) VE1AMC Lr. Ohio NS  
Jan.29th, 2017

Richard Ernest Steeves VE1XL  
Weldon NB Jan.28th, 2017

James William "Bill" McKnight  
VE1WMC Milton NS Jan. 20, 2017

**Motion to approval the January monthly meeting minutes** as published in the HARC Reflector was made by Don (VE1DTR); seconded by Doug (VE1LDL) Carried

### Executive Reports:

**President's Report:** Brian reported on the activity at the Wireless Room of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, indicating that he, Terry (VE1TRB), Dave (VE1DDC), Dick

(VE1AI) and Corey (VA1PAX) from the museum staff, had done some antenna repair work on the vertical. He also indicated that there has been a great deal of traffic through the Wireless Room as a result of this being spring break for schools. Dick (VE1AI) informed the meeting that they are in need of additional volunteers to assist at the museum and anyone interested should contact Dick. He also showed the membership the new certificate that has been drawn up for those who visit the display and demonstrate CW proficiency. Feedback that the museum has received indicates that the most popular display is the Wireless Room.

**Treasures report:** In the absence of Jim (VE1JG), and because the February monthly meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather, Brian and Howard reported the Club financials for both the month of January and February 2017.

**January 2017:** There was an opening bank balance for 1 Jan 17 of \$6411.64. We had an income of \$1533.35 and expenses of \$926 83. The bank balance as of 31 Jan 17 was \$7157.89 but, with two outstanding cheques totalling \$190.06 gave us a cash position of \$6967.83.

**Motion to approve the January report of the Treasurer** - Moved by Howard VE1DHD

Seconded by: Don (VE1DTR) Carried

**February 2017:** There was an opening bank balance for 1 February 2017 of \$7,157.89.

We had an income of \$325.00 and

expenses of \$845.95. The bank balance as of 28 February 2017 was \$6446.88 and there were no outstanding cheques, therefore our cash position at the end of the month of February was \$6,446.88.

A copy of the full report is appended to the official hard copy of these minutes.

**Motion to approve the February report of the Treasurer** - Moved by Brian; Seconded by: Dick (VE1AI) Carried

### Committee/Project Reports:

- **Basic course up-date:** Tom reported that of the twenty-one students in the 2016/2017 class, ten passed, and of those, nine received honours (80%+); the remainder will presumably write at their leisure. Tom is looking at running an advanced course using Skype. The CW course has yet to be finalized but it is likely going to start in April and will be run as a distance education offering. Don (VE1DTR) indicated that there is new software (CW.Com) available to students wishing to learn CW. A sign-up sheet was passed around for all who were interested.

- **QSL Bureau** – Tom (VE1GTC) reminded members that all VE1, VA1 and VE0 cards should be given straight to him and NOT put in the mail. He also reminded members that if they do not want to receive cards they should let him know so he will not waste time sorting and sending them out.

- **Brit Fader Scholarship 2017** – Howard reported that announcements of the 2017 award have been sent out to Maritime Clubs and an advertisement appeared in the March/April edition of TCA. To date, there have been no applications received.

- **Ham Breakfast** – Amanda reported that approximately 25 people had attended and a good time was had by all.

*The oldest computer can be traced  
back to Adam and Eve.*

*No surprise - it was an Apple.  
But with extremely limited memory.*

*Just 1 byte.  
Then everything  
crashed.*

*Sorry, couldn't resist...*



(Continued on page 7)

*Minutes (Continued from page 6)*

- **Search and Rescue/EMO** – David (VE1AJP) reported that there have been relatively few S&R calls this winter. He also reported that there has been an issue with the septic system at the S&R Base that will have to be fixed in the spring.

- **Membership** – Howard indicated that there were 4 Life; 97 Full; and 28 Associate members for a total of 129 members so far in 2017.

- **Flea Market** – Brian indicated that we need a volunteer to coordinate the Flea Market that will take place in the St. Andrew's Centre on Saturday June 3rd. He asked that anyone who would be interested in taking on this leadership role should contact him as soon as possible.

- **Field Day** – Brian reported that in 2017 we will be operating F-class from the St. Andrew's Community Centre, and we are still looking for someone to coordinate this event. Dick (VE1AI) volunteered to coordinate the CW operation; a coordinator for the SSB team is also needed, as well as an overall coordinator. It was also suggested that we contact Barry Manuel before he retires to arrange for backup generators from EMO.

- **Shearwater Hobby Show** – Craig reported that the Club will be putting on a display at the hobby show over the weekend of April 8/9 at the Shearwater air base Sea King Club, and he and Doug (VE1LDL) would like to have assistance in setting up and demonstrating several aspects of our hobby.

#### **Old Business:**

- **St Andrews move** – Brian indicated that the current information that is available to the Club has the St. Andrews Centre being torn down at some point in 2018 and a new facility will be built. Given the importance of the HARC as communication backup for HRM-EMO, the city has agreed to provide the Club with backup locations for our radio station (likely on Cowie Hill) as well as meeting facilities while the new facility is being constructed.

- **Proposed Membership Fee Increase for 2018** – Brian indicated that our ByLaws require that membership fee increases must come to the Annual General Meeting, so discussion was postponed to November.

#### **4.0 MEMBERSHIP FEES**

**4.1 The annual membership dues for each class of membership shall be determined at the annual general meeting.**

However, Brian indicated that since the Club will no longer be producing a Callbook, there is a need for the Club to come up with some other means of raising funds.

Dick suggested that HARC undertake to collect RAC membership fees on behalf of RAC. This will be brought forward to the Executive for discussion.

#### **New Business:**

- **2017 Nominating Committee Election** – Brian indicated that the 2017 Nominating Committee will consist of Scott (VE1QD) chair; Bill (VE1MR) and Dick (VE1AI). The composition was moved by Don (VE1DTR) and seconded by Doug

(VE1LDL). Carried.

- **2017 Scout Jamboree Request for Help** – Doug (VE1LDL) reported that Bill (VE1MR) has been talking with Andy Dunn CG3XAD at Scouts Canada who is coordinating the event for Scouts Canada. Andy is looking to get a special callsign, possibly CJ13NS for July 15 to 22nd ; the Jamboree will be held at Camp Nedooaw. It will be important for HARC to identify someone to officially coordinate with Scout Canada. Andy would like HARC to provide equipment (radios and antennae) for HF and VHF / IRLP.

**Round Table:** Alex (VE1RUS) informed the membership that he has replaced two of the computers in the Club station with versions that are running Windows 7; he also indicated that the dipole antenna on the tower needs some work.

Dick suggested that because the HARC station is the backup for HRM-EMO, the Club should set up a Packet Station in the Club Radio room that is WinLink-compatible with the EMO portable Packet Stations. It was suggested that the Executive look into this in collaboration with EMO.

#### **Ticket draws:**

Door Prize - Alex (VE1RUS) (\$10 gift card)

50/50 Draw - Alistair (VE1PAB) (\$23.00)

**Adjournment:** On a motion by Don (VE1DTR) the meeting adjourned at 21:17

Minutes respectfully submitted by:  
Howard Dickson (VE1DHD)  
HARC Secretary on 16 March 2017

#### **Canada 150: Special Event Prefixes for Canada's Sesquicentennial**

R.A.C. has secured permission for all Canadian Radio Amateurs to use special call sign prefixes to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Canada's Confederation. Events will take place throughout 2017 to celebrate the anniversary..

These special prefixes are optional. Amateurs can choose if & when to use the special prefix vs their normal prefix at any time during the year. Stay tuned to the RAC website for additional information.

For more information on Canada 150 visit <http://canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1342792785740>.

<http://www.instructables.com/>

You may want to join this site if you are not already on it. Some neat stuff posted.

- Ken, VY2RU



**From the Mail Bag**

*Definition: MISTY -  
How golfers create divots*

Hello and greetings from the Kings County Amateur Radio Club.

Several years ago we were approached by Albert Bahri who at the time was the REMO Co-ordinator for the Town of Windsor/Municipality of West Hants.

Mr Bahri advised us that Hants County Amateur Radio Club, who had been associated with TOW/WH REMO with the communications aspect of their emergency planning, had folded. Apparently in an end stage development, the Club only had a few active members and had meetings only twice a year.

Mr Bahri reached out to our group here in Kentville to step up and provide the same services to TOW/WH EMO as the old Hants County Club did before it ceased to exist.

At the time, our group was already heavily committed to Kings County REMO/EMO because of our long standing relationship with them and the significant contributions to our repeater infrastructure and hardware that they had made.

Even so, we felt an obligation to help out TOW/WH, if only to provide a presence at their planning table. We've tried our best to respond but lately, due to our own shrinking resources, it is becoming more & more apparent that we cannot continue to honour our obligation to the 2 jurisdictions effectively at the same time.

As a result, I am asking for assistance from HARC in attracting interested Amateur Radio Operators who might live in an area within driving distance of Windsor to become involved in TOW/WH REMO so that our group can concentrate on working with Kings County REMO.

Becoming involved would typically mean one Amateur Radio Operator representative attending TOW/WH REMO planning meetings and attending scheduled exercises, including Exercise Handshake once per month from the EOC in Windsor.

I would stay on as part of the Amateur Radio comms team as an advisor until any new recruits became familiar and comfortable with the routine.

Interested persons can contact me at 902-678-1653 or Email [elsylah@yahoo.ca](mailto:elsylah@yahoo.ca) and I generally monitor the Glenmont Repeater VE1AEH for more information.

Thanks in advance. I appreciate any interest.

Lysle Anderson VE1BZE

### Crystal Manufacturer Shutting After 6 Decades

Passed Along by Ken, VY2RU

Our top story this week is about International Crystal Manufacturing. The longtime supplier to the amateur radio community is going out of business, as we hear from Newsline's Mike Askins KE5CXP.

**MIKE'S REPORT:** International Crystal Manufacturing, once one of the suppliers of crystals for Collins Radio, will be closing its doors by the end of May. The Oklahoma City company manufactures precision crystals, quartz crystals, oscillators, filters and other products and has been in business since 1950.

A letter on the company's website from Royden Freeland Jr. W5EMH, the son of the company's founder, said the company will honor all pending orders and would try to fill a limited number of new orders depending on the availability of raw materials.

International Crystal is considered one of the few remaining makers of crystal products based in the U.S. ICM expanded from crystals into other electronics in the 1980s, following the 1978 death of the founder and his wife in an airplane crash. It eventually went back to its core manufacture of crystals in the 1990s after selling much of its distribution and equipment business.

In addition to being a Collins supplier, ICM also provided materials to RadioShack which has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy for a second time and announced that many of its 5,900 employees and 1500 remaining stores would be impacted.

*Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you!* Pericles (430 B.C.)

I am sending this to remind you of this year's S.M.A.R.T. which will be held on April 29th, 2017 in Amherst.

This year there is a form on the Westcumb website <http://www.westcumb.ca/s-m-a-r-t> to fill out if you plan to attend. We need numbers for food etc. Please fill out and send us the form even if you only plan on attending.

More information will be added to the webpage as it becomes available. N.B. Decision on the location (Amherst or Springhill) will be made at the Westcumb Club's April meeting.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at my email address.

[jimveljbl@gmail.com](mailto:jimveljbl@gmail.com)

James "Jim" Langille VE1JBL

For information on the symposium location, topics and times go to <http://www.westcumb.ca/s-m-a-r-t>



**From the April Maritime Amateur**

Things are coming together for the 2017 Symposium for Maritime Amateur Radio technicians (SMART) which will be held this year on April 29th, 2017 in the Amherst area.

Now that Trunked Mobile Radios (TMR) radio is being used throughout the Maritimes it is nice to have New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island take part in Exercise Handshake. Recap of March's Exercise Handshake on the site for viewing.

Unfortunately we had eight Silent Keys recorded on the site for March. They can all be found on the Silent Key 2017 page.

Here are the April 2nd, headlines from the MA website.

NEW Information about this year's S.M.A.R.T.

Recap of March Exercise Handshake

Harvey William Doane VE1CCK (SK) Musquodoboit Harbour NS

Cornelius Terrence Gillespie VE1RQ (SK) Sackville NB

Francis R. Graham VY2FG / VE1ATS (SK) Charlottetown PE

Winfield A. Hartlin VE1WIN (SK) Halifax NS

Check out "Arduino Ham Radio Starter Kit"

Michael Bruce Trenaman VE1ZP (SK) Carroll's Corner NS

New executive for Society of Newfoundland Radio Amateurs

Norman D. Budd VE1BQE (SK) Miramichi NB

Trent Mitchell VE9EN awarded Radio Amateurs of Canada Scholarship

Thanks to Fredericton ARC for donation to Maritime Amateur website.

George "Ernie" Blanchard VE9AAG (SK) Quispamsis, NB

Nova Scotia UHF Back Bone Linking System

Rudi Saueracker VE9RHS (SK) Dieppe NB

New revised RIC-3, Information on the Amateur Radio Service

James "Jim" Langille VE1JBL

Webmaster: [www.maritimeamateur.ca](http://www.maritimeamateur.ca)

**Answer to Puzzler on page 1**

Who created the first hand-held, portable transceiver and when did he do so?

Donald Hings probably had little idea just how useful his creation was about to become. In 1937, the Canadian inventor created the first handheld portable two-way radio transceiver.

Donald called it the packset. It soon gained widespread use and fame under a more descriptive name – the walkie-talkie. Within two years, war erupted in Europe and Donald was summoned to Ottawa to adapt his packset for military use. Thousands of the sturdy and reliable devices were soon in the hands of Allied infantrymen around the world. They became even more popular after the war. First responders relied on them as essential equipment. Truck drivers used them to report emergencies and stay in touch while on the road. Even kids were equipped with them, roaming around their neighbourhoods during the day and chatting under the covers at night when they should have been sleeping. 10-4. Roger out.

Source: The Globe and Mail (Atlantic Edition) March 25, 2017

Greetings all CANWARN members,

This is a notice that Bob Robichaud VE1MBR from Environment Canada will be presenting a CANWARN course at the upcoming Symposium for Maritime Amateur Radio Technicians (S.M.A.R.T.) in Amherst on Apr.29, 2017

This is a great chance for spotters and Net Controllers new & old to meet with Bob and ask questions and give input to the running of CANWARN.

If you are interested in attending go to the SMART page on the WestCumb ARC website and fill out the Registration Form.

<http://www.westcumb.ca/s-m-a-r-t>

Any questions, don't hesitate to contact me.

Jim Langille Email: [jimve1jbl@gmail.com](mailto:jimve1jbl@gmail.com)

From the ARRL report, April, 2016

World Amateur Radio Day (WARD), observed every April 18, marks the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) in 1925.

"April 18 is the day for all of Amateur Radio to celebrate and tell the world about the science we can help teach, the community service we can provide, and the fun we have," the IARU said in announcing World Amateur Radio Day 2016. "We hope you will join in the fun and education that is World Amateur Radio Day!"

Amateur Radio experimenters were the first to discover that the short wave spectrum - far from being a wasteland - could support worldwide propagation. In the rush to use these shorter wavelengths, Amateur Radio was "in grave danger of being pushed aside," the IARU's history has noted. Amateur Radio pioneers met in Paris in 1925 and created the IARU to support Amateur Radio worldwide. From the 25 countries that formed the IARU in 1925, the IARU has grown to include 160 member societies.

Today, Amateur Radio is more popular than ever, with over 3,000,000 licensed operators! World Amateur Radio Day is the occasion when IARU member societies can demonstrate Amateur Radio's capabilities to the public and enjoy global friendship.

Tom VA3TS

**HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP - For 2017**
☐ Same address as last year    ☐ New address

☐ I would like newsletter as PDF E-Mail (Please note by taking the newsletter online you save the Club significant mailing and printing costs )

☐ I would prefer to have the newsletter mailed to my home **at an additional cost of \$10.00 to the regular membership fee structure below..**


E Mail Address    ( Please provide for our files )

Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_

First Name                      Initial                      Surname

Street Address    (Mailing)

City/Town                      Province                      Postal Code                      Telephone Number

 Fees    ☐ Full Member, must be a licensed Amateur (\$30.00)\*    ☐ Associate member (Non Voting) (\$15.00)

☐ Family membership (one newsletter) (\$30.00)\* + \$15.00\* each additional person.\*    Amount submitted \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

\* Full HARC Members will also receive full membership in the NSARA

The membership year is from January 1 to December 31.

**All members receive the newsletter, which is also available on the HARC website.**

✉ Mail to:	Membership Chair	CERT _____	CARD _____
	Halifax Amateur Radio Club		
	P.O. Box 8895	SEC _____	ENTERED _____
	Halifax, NS B3K 5M5		

**Payment Options** ... In addition to mailing a cheque to the Club mailing address along with the application form, or paying at the February Club meeting, we have set up a new electronic money transfer process as outlined below:

Procedure for Paying HARC Membership Dues by electronic money transfer:

Since fewer and fewer of our members use cheques, it is becoming more difficult for some to pay their HARC dues, requiring that they come to a meeting and pay with cash. That is fine for some but for others who are for what ever reason unable to attend meetings it is a problem. However, we now have a system set up to allow HARC members to pay their 2016 membership dues using electronic money transfer. The procedure to use is as follows:

- 1) Send an email to Howard VE1DHD our Membership Chair at [dhedickson@eastlink.ca](mailto:dhedickson@eastlink.ca) and cc: Jim Guilford our Treasurer at [jimguilford@gmail.com](mailto:jimguilford@gmail.com)... with either a scanned or photo of your 2017 Membership Application Form; or, if there are no changes, simply email with your full name and callsign saying no changes; ALSO indicate that you are paying by e-money transfer.
- 2) Go to your on-line banking site and send an e-money transfer to our Treasurer (Jim Guilford) [jimguilford@gmail.com](mailto:jimguilford@gmail.com). Be sure to include in that email the security question that Jim will need to then make an electronic transfer into our HARC bank account.
- 3) Once Jim receives the money and has deposited it to the HARC account, he will confirm with you by email and he will cc: to Howard.
- 4) Howard will then issue a 2017 e-Membership Card (by email) confirming that your 2017 membership has been paid.

73 Howard, VE1DHD