



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

# REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895  
HALIFAX NS  
B3K 5M5

June 2017, Volume 78 Number 6  
club web site is [www.halifax-arc.org](http://www.halifax-arc.org)



## The deadline for receipt of applications for the Brit Fader Scholarship 2017 is July 7



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 - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	bowser.elliott@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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Membership; Reflector electronic Dist.; Web site Mgr. & content contact  
- Howard Dickson, VE1DHD [dhickson@eastlink.ca](mailto:dhickson@eastlink.ca)

Basic ham course - VACANT

2017 Flea market Chair - Marc Hemphill, VE1BEL [mjhemphill@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:mjhemphill@ns.sympatico.ca)  
Field Day Coordinator - Don Trotter, VE1DTR 823-1888 [ve1dtr@rac.ca](mailto:ve1dtr@rac.ca)  
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 June 2017 General Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will be held Wednesday, June 21, in the Senior's Room on the 1st floor of the St. Andrew's Centre, 3380 Barnstead Lane, Halifax.

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

7:00-8:00 pm - Presentation:

Field Day 2017

Presenter: Field Day Coordinator Don Trotter, VE1DTR,

8:00-9:30 pm Regular Monthly Business Meeting

Guests are welcome

Photos from the Symposium for the Maritime Amateur Radio Techs (S.M.A.R.T.) can now be viewed at <http://ve9tca.weebly.com/smart.html>

**Deadline for submissions to the September Reflector is Saturday, September 9, 2017**

### Take-15 Net Controllers

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



June 18 Doug VE1LDL	Aug. 6 Peter VE1PJW
June 25 Bruce VE1MLW	Aug. 13 Doug VE1LDL
July 2 Gary VA1GGM	Aug. 20 Bruce VE1MLW
July 9 Peter VE1PJW	Aug. 27 Gary VA1GGM
July 16 Doug VE1LDL	Sept. 3 Peter VE1PJW
July 23 Bruce VE1MLW	Sept. 10 Doug VE1LDL
July 30 Gary VA1GGM	Sept. 17 Bruce VE1MLW

### 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***June 24, 25 - Field Day, 2017**

Don Trotter (VE1DTR) - overall

coordination 902-823-1888

E-mail [ve1dtr@rac.ca](mailto:ve1dtr@rac.ca)

Bill (VA1ALW) - coordination of the sideband radio operation;

Scott (VE1QD) - will oversee the GOTA station;

Dick (VE1AI) - coordination of the CW station;

Alex, VE1RUS - will take care of the Public Relations tasks such as sending invitations, sending information to the public media, mayors office, etc. and will also do the web submission to the ARRL.

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.. More info on this page. **(VE17JAM at CJ17)**

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

July 29&30- MS Bike Tour

Coordinator - Sheldon Page

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

Aug. 19&20 International Light House\Lightships Weekend

August 19 & 20 - Ledwedge Rally Timeline is to be determined.

It is likely that the Sunday will be the main part of the communications needed, as in past years.

Contact - Ian Pearce, VE1IGP by phone at 902-469-3474 or

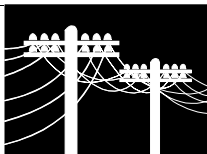
Email at [igpearce@hotmail.com](mailto:igpearce@hotmail.com)

Likely 10 operators will be needed for communications

**Safety**

See important information about safety near downed power lines at

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/fLVzvMTgGDY>



Greetings **MS Bike Tour** Amateur Radio Operators.

It is that time again! This is an initial call for amateur radio operators in support of this year's MS Bike Tour. If you are not aware, Rick has passed the role of Amateur Radio Coordinator to me starting this year.

The 2017 tour dates are July 29&30

I am restricting my call out to last year's contact list and will expand if necessary given responses received.

If you can participate in this year's tour, please let me know ASAP and indicate when you are available (29th and/or 30th) and if you require accommodations at Acadia.

Please note that the route has changed significantly and a new repeater site is being researched. The tour starts & ends at Acadia; there is a different route each day.

I will send further information (including repeater frequencies, vehicle assignments and safe driving guidelines) once the list of volunteers is finalized.

Sheldon Page

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

**The Maritime Amateur**

Ham Radio  
for Maritimers by Maritimers

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

**Maritime Museum of the Atlantic**

The 2016 season at the Maritime Museum and the "Wireless Room" (VA1MMA) was a very busy one indeed. We give out certificates to those who send their name correctly (or so) in Morse Code. Last year we gave out 3500 certificates. This year the museum had 5000 printed up on card stock and they are very attractive. We think that with 179 cruise ships due in this season, with almost 300,000 tourists we may run short.

We have a number of very dedicated volunteers from HARC who staff the room on Mondays & Thursdays as well as some special event days for local school classes and the like. We can always use a few more volunteers. Contact our museum project chairman, Dick Grantham, VE1AI, if you wish any more information on this super fun program. Why not drop in some Monday or Thursday when we are there to see how much fun it is, and to see the real excitement when a smiling face beams at you as you hand them their attractive certificate, whether they are 8 years old or 80.

Dick, VE1AI

Contact Dick at [ve1ai@rac.ca](mailto:ve1ai@rac.ca)

Or 902-434-8046

*The Wireless Room is one more place we'll miss the cheerful involvement of Win, VE1WIN. -ed.*

*I'm not saying let's go kill all the stupid people. I'm just saying let's remove all the warning labels and let the problem work itself out.*

**VE17JAM at CJ17** H.A.R.C. has been asked to take part in the **Boy Scouts Jamboree (CJ17)**, to be held at the Boy Scout Camp Nedooae located in Elderbank. The event will run 8 July to 15 July this summer. The goal is to introduce Amateur Radio the youth attending this camp.

There will be an HF station along with other aspects of our hobby. It is hoped that the Club can provide 1 or 2 operators along with the scouting amateurs for each of the operation times (not firm at this time) but will be between the 8 and 15 July. There will be a set up and tear down work party needed set up on 6 or 7 July and tear down on 15 or 16 July.

If you are able to assist the Club in this endeavor please make contact with Tom Caithness VE1GTC via email at [ve1tom@rac.ca](mailto:ve1tom@rac.ca) or phone 902 477-7081

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

Hello, all amateurs: It's almost summer and the sun came out after the Flea Market just in time for the tower climbers to check our antennas (See page 10). Our Flea Market was a success! Co-ordinator Marc, VE1BEL, assembled a team of many willing hands. Comments were over-heard praising the event's 'vibe'. Great job Marc and all who pitched in to make this a smooth event (See Marc's comments & suggestions on pages 8 & 9). A wide variety of radios and other gear left with new owners.

Our next major event is Field Day. Don Trotter, VE1DTR, is heading up this exciting venture. See page 2, *Event for Your Calendar* to see who is captaining the various sections (cw, GOTA, hf ssb, 6m & satellite). Howard, VE1DHD is our photographer. I.T. is being handled by Don and Sheldon once again. Don still needs

someone to (please!) head up the food. Set up & tear down NEED MANY HELPING HANDS. Please let Don know in advance if you can help with or operate any of the stations. This is a great opportunity for recent grads to get hands-on at the GOTA station so let Scott know your intentions.

Visitors from over 180 cruise ships are expected at the Museum of the Atlantic this summer and Arthur needs people to fill in the Wireless Room schedule. Shifts are typically a few hours per day, a couple of days per week. This is a case where many hands make for light work and you might have a shift once a month depending on the number of volunteers. Let ARTHUR KNOW what shift(s) you would like.

73 to all amateurs and your families and have a safe and fun summer with good dx as always...

Brian Allen, VA1CC, President of H.A.R.C.

**News from the Halifax ATS**

There was a lot of activity around the Halifax ATS in May & early June about which I can report but first this little reminder about who we are:

*The Halifax Auxiliary Telecommunications Service, or **Halifax ATS**, is an operational vehicle through which HARC contributes to emergency telecommuni-cations when a man-made or natural disaster strikes our community. This service is a joint effort of the 3 amateur radio clubs in the Halifax region, and it functions under the direction of the Halifax Emergency Management Office (EMO).*

On every month's 2nd Wednesday at 10AM, the EMO Radio Advisory Group, made up of representatives from local ham radio clubs meets at the HARC Club Room to deal with big picture issues around emergency telecommunications. It is chaired by Barry Manuel, VE1JRG, the HRM's EMO Director. The Halifax ATS serves as the EMO's auxiliary operational wing.

On 17 May I made a presentation to a well-attended **monthly HARC meeting** on the topic: ***Emergency Communications and Public Service as Key Drivers in the Growth of Amateur Radio.*** I explored the link between an interest in emergency communication and the growth of our hobby. It was also an opportunity to explain & promote membership in the Halifax ATS I can report that at this time we have **27 registered members in the Halifax ATS** - a good start but we are keen to enroll many more!

An important **Halifax ATS Planning Meeting was held on 31 May** in which we reviewed the status of various issues & initiatives. We have made progress in establishing a good website. We are working on populating our website categories with

information that will serve our members needs and provide an understandable & inviting face to those wishing to know more about us and our mission. Michael LeBlanc, VE1LEB, is helping us with this task and has agreed to be our webmaster. Once the website is up & running we will be able to post more details about the work of the Radio Advisory Group and ATS.

The Joint Emergency Management (JEM) sites also have a Council made of representatives from each of the 6 existing and planned JEMs. I addressed them on Thursday, 8 June, in order to introduce to them amateur radio and to explore the link between the Halifax ATS and themselves. I have offered to visit each JEM site and talk more extensively about amateur radio, the role of the ATS and the links that need to be forged with JEM Sites. Since Field Day is coming up in two weeks and is our most important annual test of our telecommunications readiness, I have also invited them to visit our backup EOC and operate on the GOTA Station.

**Training:** Terry Bigelow, VE1TRB, has developed an excellent Net Controller Course that will be on offer in the next training cycle. Tom Caithness, VE1GTC, our Training Officer tells me that starting in September there will be both introductory & advance courses offered through the fall & winter.

It is important that we enroll HARC members in the Halifax ATS, particularly hams who will diligently engage in the necessary training, practise sessions and exercises in order to be truly prepared for an emergency. However, we welcome non-amateurs as well. Soon we will be able to direct you to our website in order to enroll, but in the meantime you can contact Dave Musgrave, VE1EDA, about your interest. Dave, who is our membership officer, will see that you get the necessary information & application forms. Contact Dave Musgrave via email at david.musgrave@ns.sympatico.ca or telephone: 902 435-4333.

Our Steering Committee is made up of the following people

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### A Special QSO

de VE1FA

One of the things I enjoy most about the HF bands is having good conversations with hams in other countries. If an important goal of amateur radio is to foster understanding between people, isn't that a great way to do it?

Canard, Nova Scotia, November 16, 2016. I had a fellow ham's radio to fix, so I cleared the work bench, placed the sick radio in the middle, then for entertainment pushed our Kenwood TS-590's ON button and set the frequency to 14,253 kHz, where an interesting- sounding QSO was in progress. The corrective surgery on the workbench proceeded, the 20m QSO ended, but I didn't bother to change the Kenwood's frequency. Some minutes later the TS-590 spoke: "CQ CQ CQ ..This is 3DA0TM, 3DA0TM". I couldn't resist going back to such a rare country, so I moved over to the radio bench and sat down for a long and interesting QSO with Andy Cory, sitting at his radio bench in a little valley outside Mbabane, Swaziland, near the southeast coast of Africa 7760 miles away. Andy described Swaziland's beauty, the friendly people, his off-road 4X4 adventures in the high veldt, and the big animals of Swazi and nearby Kruger National Park. I had to admit to Andy that I had never been to Africa. "Why don't you come over and visit for a couple of weeks?" said Andy. "Are you serious?" "Sure, come over and

stay with us!" My xyl Helen VA1YL agreed, emails flew back & forth, and the flights were booked. Of course Helen and I expressed an interest in operating from Swazi, and Andy was able to get us actual Swazi calls, 3DA0FA and 3DA0YL. Since there were only 4 HF-active hams in Swazi, we increased the Swazi DXer population by 50%!

On 17 April 2017 we left Nova Scotia for Johannesburg, South Africa. Arrival in "Jo-berg" was followed by a 5-hour bus trip to Mbabane, the capital of Swaziland. Andy was waiting at the station with his rugged Toyota "Fortuner" 4x4 and took us to his beautiful home in a small steep valley in the hills a few km from the center of Mbabane,



Andy (3DA0TM) and Meri on their patio



View of Andy, 3DA0TM and Meri Cory's house (partly hidden in trees) and their valley from Andy's antenna tower

up tiny rough dirt /



where we met his xyl Meri, a talented graphic arts designer. Both Meri and Andy took most of the next 2 weeks off from their work to host us around the highlights of Swaziland and world-famous Kruger Big Game Park just to the north of Swaziland. Andy, a skilled off-road driver & instructor, took us

Big kitty in the long grass at Hlane Royal National Park, Swaziland

stone roads and stream-beds into the hills where many Swazis live and raise their maize, beans, melons, chickens, goats & cattle. Cattle, as much as emilangeni (rands) are still the currency of the country: a nice bride will set you back 7 cows.

After visiting a small nearby game park (Mlilwane), the four of us went north into South Africa, to Kruger National Park, 20,000 km<sup>2</sup> of

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protected, unspoiled bushveldt, rivers, hills and savannah. It's bigger than all of Swaziland! While in Kruger it is strictly forbidden to get out of your car except in rest and camping areas that are closed and guarded at night.



However, the amazing animals and scenery you can see from your 4X4 make it a photographer's paradise. Meri and Andy were very skilled at spotting critters like lions, cheetahs, hyenas, baboons, jackals, leopards, etc. camouflaged in the long tan grass and big bushes of the great vistas of bushveldt, and in little river valleys. Loads of crocs and hippos in the ponds and rivers too...we didn't go swimming. Attempting to get the best pictures possible of the stunning African creatures and scenery, we took 2500 photos!!

One of our goals was to work hams back in Canada, especially our friends in Nova Scotia. With the help of hams here in Nova Scotia we spread the word via email when we planned to be on. We used Andy's Yaesu FT-100 transceiver, FL-2100Z linear and MFJ tuner feeding a TH-6 triband beam and 40 + 80m dipoles on a 14m tower, to put out Swazi's maximum legal power of 400W. However, the propagation gods weren't helpful, and even 20m to Europe was a great struggle with QRN, QSB, weak signals, and power line noise. No propagation to North America on 20m! Unfortunately, in addition to very poor propagation, just beyond Andy's antennas there were two sets of high voltage power lines, the nearer set just 130' away. Then there were the nearby hills: Andy's house is at 2700', but on a bearing of 285°, optimal for

Nova Scotia, there is a 4600' hill! Hence Andy often works North America by long path on 20-10m, so copying him in Nova Scotia could be by the 17,000 mile long path, not the 7700 mile short path!

We switched to 40m for the Americas, and had more success, although 40 only "hotted up" around 3-4 AM Swazi local (9 PM local in NS). At this horrible hour we crawled out of bed and contacted numerous US, South American, and Asian stations, many of whom were very excited and thanked us for a "new one" on 40m. Apparently most contacts with 3DA0 have been on 20m and up. South Africa and Namibia were the loud locals on 40m!

When we called for "Canadians only" on 40m we heard a frustrating number of "can't quite copy" stations in the mud, and had only three clear contacts with Nova Scotians: Dick Grantham VE1AI, Rob Steenweg VE1CHW, and Al Penney VO1NO/VE1. We also worked Canadians Dave Goodwin VE9CB, Carl Begin VA2ZP, and Garry Hammond VE3XN. Garry takes the prize for the Best Canadian Signal into Swazi!

In the end, Helen and I only worked 422 stations from all



Helen 3DA0YL (VA1YL)  
operating from  
3DA0TM's station

parts of the world, but we were well satisfied. This wasn't intended to be a DX-pedition: we went to meet Andy and Meri, and to learn about and enjoy their beautiful country. Thanks so much, guys, for showing us a great time!

So what has amateur radio done for us lately? This great trip wouldn't have happened if we weren't hams!

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ATS Coordinator & EMO Liaison K. Scott Wood, VE1QD  
Leading Communications Officer Tom Caithness, VE1GTC  
Training Officer Tom Caithness, VE1GTC  
Exercise Planner Joe MacPherson, VE1CH  
Records & Membership Officer Dave Musgrave, VE1EDA

Technical Officer  
Secretary & DARC Rep.  
Liaison with EMO JEMs

Brian Allen, VA1CC  
Marc Hemphill, VE1BEL  
Don Mosher, VE1DRM

73, K. Scott Wood, VE1QD, Coordinator, Halifax  
Auxiliary Telecommunications Service (ATS)  
Email: scott.ve1qd@gmail.com Tele: 902 823-2191 h)

### HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Monthly Meeting 17th May 2017 Minutes

The May monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 20:09 hrs with Brian (VE1AZV) in the Chair.

Self Introductions: There were 35 members and 5 guests present.

Report of any Silent Keys: Brian reported the following silent keys for April/May, 2017:

Rene Dupuis VE9KDK Grand Falls NB May 3rd, 2017

Francis "Vincent" Williams VE1AC Truro NS May 2nd, 2017

Frederick Leigh Hunt VE1QI Lockhartville NS May 1st, 2017

Stewart Sutherland Briggs VE1VYS Dartmouth NS Apr. 30th, 2017

Arthur Kristan Hansen VE1AUF Halifax NS May 8th, 2017

Tony Ross MacPhee VE1TRM Gore NS May 15th, 2017

**Motion to approve the April monthly meeting minutes** as published in the HARC Reflector was made by Don (VE1DTR); seconded by Peter (VE1PJW). Carried.

**President's Report:** Brian had nothing specific to report under this topic.

**Treasures report:** Jim (VE1JG) presented the Treasurer's report for the month of April 2017. There was an opening bank balance for 1 April 2017 was \$6,929.23. Total income for the month of April was \$526.50 with expenses of \$248.50. There were no outstanding cheques therefore our cash position at the end of the month of April was \$7,207.23. A copy of the full report is appended to the official hard copy of these minutes.

**Motion to approve the April report of the Treasurer** - Moved by Jim (VE1JG)

Seconded by Bill (VE1MR) Carried.

**Executive Reports:** There were no other reports from members of the Executive.

### Committee/Project Reports:

- **CW Course Report** – Dick (VE1AI) reported that the CW class had started with 31 students but is now down to 7 dedicated students that have all achieved 5 wpm to this point.

- **Brit Fader Scholarship 2017** – Howard reported that he is in receipt of one completed application but that the deadline for receipt of applications is not until July 7th 2017.

- **Search and Rescue/EMO** – David (VE1AJP) indicated that there had not been any searches this past month.

- **Membership** – Howard (VE1DHD) reported that there are now 4 Life, 111 Full, and 28 Associate members for a total of 143; 51 of our members also belong to RAC.

- **Flea Market Update** – Brian reported for Marc (VE1BEL) who was unable to attend. Brian reported that Marc has much of the organization planned but has outlined the positions that require support and encouraged members to contact to volunteer their assistance. The Centre will open for sellers at 8 am and 10 am for buyers, and a Friday evening social and Saturday morning breakfast will take place at the Chebucto Inn in Halifax.

- **Field Day Update** – Brian outlined the importance of Field Day to our Club and since we are operating in the 2F category this year from the backup EMO-EOC, to our relationship with the HRM-EMO as well. Jason LaPierre (VE6TMR) volunteered to take on the overall coordination of the event this year. Bill (VA1ALW) volunteered to again coordinate the sideband radio operation; Scott (VE1QD) will oversee the GOTA station; Dick (VE1AI) will cover off the CW station. Alex will look

after promotion and the final ARRL submission.

- **Equipment Silent Auction** – Ian reported that Peter (VE1PJW) won the first silent auction – a hand-held radio.

### Old Business:

- **St Andrews Move Report** – Brian reported that it is important for the Club to begin planning seriously for the impending move by identifying what is to be thrown out, and what is to be kept and stored. The Executive agreed to meet for the next few Tuesday evenings to determine how much storage space is going to be required during the rebuilding of the St. Andrew's Centre, but first there needs to be an inventory drawn up of all of the contents in the Club station that need to be stored and what radio gear will go to a temporary site that can be used for radio operation for the next few years. Brian also reported that the city has agreed to find us a temporary operating position – possibly in the administrative building on Cowie Hill; our final home will need to be determined later, but it now seems unlikely to be back at a new St. Andrew's.

- **Maritime Amateur Radio Calendar Project** – Howard reported that because of lack of interest, particularly from other Maritime Clubs, the Executive decided not to go forward with the project.

### New Business:

- **Scout Jamboree** – July 2017 – Tom (VE1GTC) reported on the upcoming Scout Jamboree that will take place this summer at Camp Nedooae; will run from July 8 to 14th (setup 7th and teardown 17th) and will have its own special callsign – VE17JAM. The Scouts have requested assistance from HARC to provide radios and antennae for this event; HARC will

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*Minutes (Continued from page 6)*

set up our mobile trailer with jack-up tower and beam.

- **Nametag Production Update** – Byron Mullett (VE1NFD) has been able to locate a vendor for the production of nametags and the Club will sell them for \$5 with pins or \$6 with a magnet backing.

- **Museum Ships on the Air Weekend** – Jim (VE1JG) reported that the Club will work this weekend – 3rd & 4th June – from the Wireless Room in the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic, but in sight of the Acadia. They will work using both modern and historic radio equipment. Jim encouraged Club members to take part.

- **Red Cross** – Jason LaPierre (VE6TMR) reported that the Red Cross is in the process of putting up a new antenna (multiband dipole). He also announced that the Red Cross Net will be on hiatus over the summer.

- **MS Bike Tour** – Sheldon (VE1SJP) informed that he will be coordinating the fundraising bike ride on the weekend of July 29/30. This year the ride will take two different routes and planning is underway to ensure good repeater coverage; he has already identified a number of our Club members who will assist with communication.

- **Maritime Museum of the Atlantic** – Eric (VE1EH) appealed to the membership to volunteer to assist in the Museum Wireless Room. Jim suggested that anyone interested should make an effort to come out on the 3rd/4th July weekend (Museum Ships on the Air weekend) to get a feel for what takes place in the room.

- **International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend** – Scott (VE1QD) reported that he and Dick (VE1AI) will be working on the mainland, but within sight of the Sambro Lighthouse (the oldest lighthouse in the Americas) on the weekend of August 19th and 20th. All are welcome to visit and help work stations.

- **MS Walk** – Don (VE1DTR) reported that the walk has been organized and they now have all of the volunteers needed for communication.

#### **Ticket draws:**

Door Prize – \$10 gift certificate – Alastair (VE1PAB)  
50/50 Draw – \$28.50 – Bill (VA1ALW)

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Peter VE1PJW at 21:10 hrs

Respectfully submitted by  
Howard Dickson  
(VE1DHD) Secretary  
18 May 2017



**The Annapolis Royal Space Agency launched their high altitude balloon** June 9. AVARC assisted them with installing an APRS transmitter and building an antenna. The APRS unit worked flawlessly - we missed maybe 1 or 2 position reports over the 5 hour flight - probably due to packet collisions. Unfortunately, the balloon ended up in the ocean off Peggy's Cove. The lift calculations got screwed up due to ambiguity in the prediction program. We know what to do the next time to ensure the ascent rate is high enough.

The farthest digipeater that the payload accessed was in Matane, Quebec when the balloon was at ~ 97,642 feet - pretty good for 300 mW!

73, Al, VO1NO



*"Suppose you were an idiot. And suppose you were a member of government. But then I repeat myself."*

Mark Twain

Photos this issue thanks to  
Fred, VE1FA; Helen, VA1YL  
Howard, VE1DHD  
Amanda Schreiber

## *Silent Key*

Helen MacRae, VE1HMR

Helen's obituary is at: <http://obits.dignitymemorial.com/dignity-memorial/obituary.aspx?n=Helen-MacRae&lc=3004&pid=185647903&mid=7425284>.

What happens to a Silent Key's Amateur Radio Operator Certificate?

Unless someone notifies the Amateur Radio Service Centre at Industry Canada, now known as Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED), so that the deceased ham's call sign can be deleted from the database, absolutely nothing happens and the callsign remains active until the SK's 125th birthday. This then begs the question as to how many of the Radio Amateur callsigns in the ISED database belong to SKs.

While the families of some Radio Amateurs are aware of the importance of cancelling the callsign of a deceased family member, I suspect that the vast majority are not. I would therefore suggest that all Radio Amateurs should, as a matter of course, instruct their families in a formal way as to how to cancel their callsign on their death. The best way to do this is to include a directive in our wills to the effect that the executor needs to contact the Amateur Radio Service Centre in Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada to report the passing of a licensed Radio Amateur; a copy of the deceased's obituary is required as confirmation.

The address for Innovation, Science & Economic Development Canada is  
ISED Amateur Radio Service Centre  
2 Queen Street East  
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 1Y3

email address: [ic.spectrumamateur-spectreamateur.ic@canada.ca](mailto:ic.spectrumamateur-spectreamateur.ic@canada.ca)  
Telephone Toll free: 1-888-780-3333  
Fax number: 1-705-941-4607

The next time you update your will be sure to add this change.



**From the Mail Bag**

*Atheism is a non-prophet organization.*

Two articles I just published on the RadiocomHistory.ca website that might be of interest to Hams:

Field Day - June 27, 1992 - The Minister On The Air by Joe MacPherson, VE1CH

[http://radiocomhistory.ca/z\\_1992\\_FieldDay.htm](http://radiocomhistory.ca/z_1992_FieldDay.htm)

1977 - COPY YOU LOUD AND CLEAR YOUR MAJESTY by Donald Courcy, VE1CG

[http://radiocomhistory.ca/z\\_1977\\_JY1.htm](http://radiocomhistory.ca/z_1977_JY1.htm)

73, Donald Courcy doncourcy@aol.com

Webmaster - [www.RadiocomHistory.ca](http://www.RadiocomHistory.ca)

VE1SCR (144.970) packet node is now accessible via the VE1SCR-1 (441.025) node to VE1EKV-1 (441.025) node / VE1EKV (145.010) at East Kemptville to the main VHF MARCAN Network.. New tower, antennas, feed lines and building at the Middle Ohio site took place on May 31, 2017.

Thanks to Bill, VE1MR, (NSARA) and the SCARC members who took part in the move to the new installation.

73, Lorne, VE1BXK

C3 ship is leaving Toronto June 1.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/canada-c3-sets-sail-1.4140360>

<https://canadac3.ca/en/homepage/>

[https://twitter.com/canada\\_c3](https://twitter.com/canada_c3)

During the past month tremendous work has been done in order to install a WSPR beacon on board of the ship. The beacon is operational now with call sign CG3EXP.

It can be tracked at <http://wsprnet.org> or with your radio and a computer.

Official press release is here:

<http://wp.rac.ca/a-whisper-for-canada-c3/>

Alex, VE1RUS

Please, find scanned reflector issues from the past using the link:.

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B4esHv7BOijmdUJma1RCYWhrbnc?usp=sharing>

Alex, VE1RUS

*Definition: PHARMACIST - A helper on the farm*

### Down East Flea Market 2017



Commentary, Observations, Thanks & Suggestions by this year's Flea Market Chairman, Marc J. Hemphill, VE1BEL

*Good Job, Marc! -ed*

Despite a late start, a relatively successful and reasonably profitable Flea Market was held on June 3rd.

We had 219 paid participants and 65 vendor and display tables.

This year, we identified the participant's table with their name & call to speed up placement and to

reduce confusion. [Apologies to Scott VE1QD and one other as they had booked but were omitted from the floor plan. We had to scramble to correct that error.]

We had some difficulty this year in getting sufficient tables but we just managed. The number of tables available from the centre was reduced as one of the rooms was in use on the morning of the event. Many thanks to Murray MacDonald, VE1BB, and Calvin Presbyterian church for lending us 20 tables.

One change this year is that we provided a write-in ballot for the door prizes (serially numbered to keep an accurate count). It also meant that the winner did not have to be on site to win.

Another advantage is that the participant could enter their e-mail to be notified about next year's Market or other events of interest to Hams.

The door prizes consisted of 3 \$50 Canadian Tire gift cards and 4 \$25 gift cards from RadioWorld. The

*(Continued on page 9)*



*FleaMarket (Continued from page 8)*

DARC donated the Canadian Tire gift cards to mitigate losses from last year's event.

The 50/50 draw collected \$146 dollars, of which the Flea Market retained \$73. The call sign of the purchaser was written on the back of ticket so that the winner did not have to be present for this draw either.

The barbecue offering was less than stellar as the barbecue could not generate enough heat to cook properly. That will have to be addressed next year. Also, if we serve large sausages we will have to find a way to pre-cook them and finish them on the barbecue.

Unfortunately, more product was purchased than was needed. The pop, water, supplies & unopened condiments can be used on Field Day but the meat was a loss. We didn't quite break even with respect to food given the additional cost of gas and ice. We will cut this back next year.

As there was no gas cylinder on-site, a new cylinder was purchased. This will be donated to HARC for future use by the convenor.

Unfortunately, the NSARA representative could not make it due to an illness in the family. The RAC representative also could not make it.

If we are forced to change venues or it is preferable to find a new site,

we'll have to look carefully at all requirements such as parking, security, person-traffic flow, public address and food issues.

I think we should not admit vendors until they have paid their admittance fee. It is an unnecessary nuisance to track them down after the fact.

Should we consider including one sales table with the \$5 admittance fee and asking for \$5 for each additional table?

Thanks to Pat Kavanaugh for setting up an excellent sound system. Unfortunately, the acoustics of the room and the overall level of noise reduced its effectiveness. Perhaps we can work towards a better way to do this.

As many buyers wait up to an hour after buying their tickets, it would be good if we could hustle them into a room where we could offer them coffee and reduce the crowding of the hallway. Although we had rented a room for this purpose, no one took advantage of it.

There was some success in creating an updated database of clubs for notifications. We should double check and correct the list early next winter. A list should also be made of all on-air promotional opportunities and free print publications. This was hit & miss this year. Many thanks to all the volunteers from both clubs

who helped in setup, operation and tear down. All the effort isn't readily apparent during the Market. Armed with the experience of 2017, we need to get an earlier start, nail down volunteers much earlier and define their tasks beforehand. Their flexibility this year made the whole exercise possible and mitigated my own lack of experience. Those contributors of effort and ideas are:

Ed Grace VE1EGG

Murray MacDonald, VE1BB

Ron Reashore VE1ZC

Ed Linard VE1GD

Bob Brown VE1BFX

Fraser MacDougal VE1WO

Brian Allen VE1AZV

Sharon Reashore VE1SER

Elizabeth Crook

Bruce Hollett VE1MLW

Ankit Patel VA1NMQ

Pat Kavanaugh VE1PHK

Al Wilson VE1AWW

Jeremy Fowler VE1JHF and family

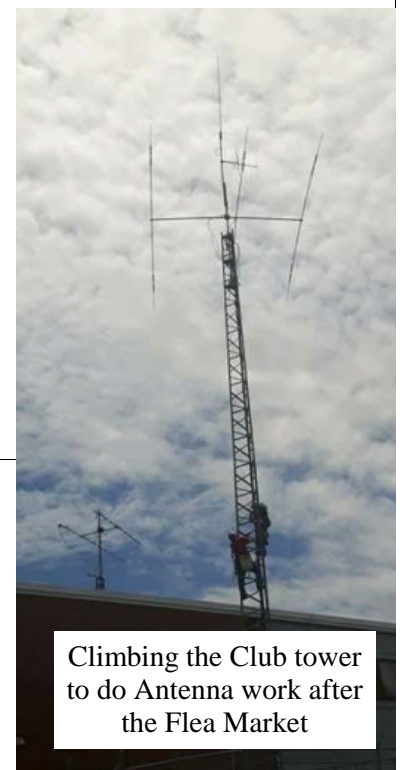
Amanda Schreiber

Aaron Bradley VA1ARN

Jeff Thompson VA1JRT

Tom Caithness VE1GTC

Howard Dickson VE1DHD



Climbing the Club tower to do Antenna work after the Flea Market

### Tower Work

Saturday June 3 in the afternoon after the Flea Market several people gathered to see if the antennas could be repaired in preparation for the ARRL Field Day. The beam had high SWR on all bands, the sloper had high SWR on 80M & 40M and the vertical was poor on several bands.

It was apparent from the ground that one side of the air-wound balun on the beam had come off and when the climbers got up to where the sloper was attached they found one side was broken off as well as corrosion on the ground to the tower. The sloper was lowered to the ground for repair while the climbers cleaned up the ground point on the tower. The sloper was raised and a new bolt and nut attached the sloper to the tower. The climbers went up and reattached the loose side of the air wound balun on the beam.

Alex took measurements of both tower antennas on all bands and found them much improved but still not as good as when originally installed. They were deemed very usable for Field Day. Since it was getting on in the day it was decided to look at the vertical on another day.

I'd like to thank the following Club members for taking their day on Sunday 28 May 2017 to help out with the MS Walk.

Jeremy, VE1JHF,  
Graham, VE1GFA,  
Brandon, VE1BMF,  
Sharon, VE1SER,  
Dave, VE1DDC, Peter,  
VE1PJW & Amanda,  
Doug, VE1LDL, and  
Amanda Schreiber.

You all did an excellent job today by providing communications, setting up and removing route signs, photography, and showing your support to all the walkers, and those with MS! We were able to provide excellent communications coverage to all positions this year by using the VE1HNS (146.940) repeater. Thank you all again!

Terry, VE1TRB



HARC volunteers provided communications and more for the MS Walk, 2017



Later the vertical was removed, tested and disassembled. It was subsequently found that the vertical had an open trap which has been repaired. As of this writing it still needed to be reassembled and put back on the roof.

Bill, VE1MR

On the tower are Jeremy, VE1JHF; Dave, VE1DDC; and Graham, VE1GFA (later replaced by his brother Brandon, VE1BMF)



Amanda said that she took these pictures with her feet firmly planted on the ground. -ed.