



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895
HALIFAX NS
B3K 5M5

May 2017, Volume 78 Number 5
club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



**Spring Has Sprung, Fish are Jumping, Peeper
Frogs are Courting. Grab Your Radio and Go!**



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

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	dhdickson@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
QSL Bureau Mgr - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC 477-7081 tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
EMO Coordinator - David George, VE1AJP 466-8723 dgeorge@dal.ca
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Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT 865-8567 bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca
Reflector Hardcopy Dist. - Carol Wood, VE1HAZ carol.wood@EastLink.ca
Membership; Reflector electronic Dist.; Web site Mgr. & content contact
- Howard Dickson, VE1DHD dhdickson@eastlink.ca

Basic ham course - VACANT

2017 Flea market Chair - VACANT

Field Day Coordinator - Mark Hemphill, VE1BEL mjhemphill@ns.sympatico.ca
Safety Officer - Terry Bigelow, VE1TRB ve1trb@eastlink.ca
NSARA Director - Bill Elliott, VE1MR 865-8567 bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca
Honorary Legal Counsel - Paul Radford, VE1ARH

Non Club Contacts

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

The May 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 - Presenters: Emergency Communications and Public Service as Key Drivers in the Growth of Amateur Radio
Speaker: Scott Wood, VE1QD

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

Guests are welcome

"The only time I ever enjoyed ironing was the day I accidentally got gin in the steam iron."

-Phyllis Diller

Deadline for submissions to the June Reflector is Saturday, June 10, 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.



May 14	Peter	VE1PJW
May 21	Doug	VE1LDL
May 28	Bruce	VE1MLW
June 4	Gary	VA1GGM
June 11	Peter	VE1PJW
June 18	Doug	VE1LDL

Puzzler - Do you know?

Who was Elsie MacGill and why did she earn the accolade "Queen of the Hurricanes"?

Answer is on pg. 9



"The reason the golf pro tells you to keep your head down is so you can't see him laughing."
-Phyllis Diller.

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

May 28, Sunday - the MS Walk - To help with communications contact co-ordinator Terry, VE1TRB, at ve1trb@eastlink.ca

June 3 & 4 Museum Ships Weekend

June 3 - DownEast Feamarket

Contact co-ordinator Mark Hemphill, VE1BEL, by phone at 902-240- 8024 e-mail mjhemphill@ns.sympatico.ca to help.

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

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

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

Likely 10 operators will be needed for communications

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

RAC's web site is **www.rac.ca**

It's that time of year again and we are winding up to help out with **the MS Walk** again.

This year, it is scheduled for Sunday May 28 2017, starting at the Canada Games Center, the route will be the same as last year.

If you are interested in helping out, please let me know.

If you've never done this before, no problem, I'll double you up with someone who has.

All you need is a hand held 2 meter rig, and possibly a fold up chair.

Checkin/registration will be starting at 11:30 with the walk starting at 1:00, and you'll be home in time for supper.

Terry VE1TRB

email ve1trb@eastlink.ca

Photos thanks to

Hal, VE1LV;

Doug, VE1LDL

The Maritime Amateur

Ham Radio
for Maritimers by Maritimers
www.maritimeamateur.ca

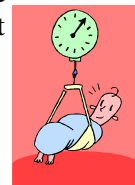
When Insults Had Class.

"He has all the virtues I dislike and none of the vices I admire."
- Winston Churchill

CONGRATULATIONS JAYNE!!!

Friday May 5 at 5:49pm baby Henry Gordon Young decided to make his debut at an amazing 10lb 7oz. Mama Jayne is

doing fantastically, and good wishes can be sent via email at halimonkey1@gmail.com or call/text to 902-229-4882



CHICAGO – March 14, 2017 – Motorola Solutions, Inc. (NYSE: MSI) “Motorola Solutions” today announced it has filed complaints in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois against Hytera Communications Corporation Limited (SHE: 002583) (“Hytera”) of Shenzhen, China. The complaints assert that Hytera’s two-way radios, base stations, repeaters and dispatch systems, as well as its related commercialization and sales activities, are infringing patents owned by Motorola Solutions and utilizing stolen Motorola Solutions trade secrets.

<https://newsroom.motorolasolutions.com/news/motorola-solutions-files-patent-infringement-and-trade-secret-misappropriation-complaints-against-hytera-communications.htm>

Truro Amateur Radio Club - Newbie Round Table

Time: - 2100 hrs (9PM) Sunday Evenings. - Time frame: 30 min. to 1hr.

Location: VE1HAR with the following repeaters linked, VE1TRO VE1BHS, VE1SHU, VE1CDN, VE1PKT, VE1HR, VE1AEH, VE1WN, VE1RTI.

Echo Link will also be available via VE1BHS for those who want to use it.

The node number for BHS Echolink is 100853.

Premise: The main objective of this round table will be a learning experience for both new and older ham operators. It will be a round table discussion forum on air for newbies to ask questions about stuff they don't understand, with experienced hams using their knowledge and experience to provide the answers. There will be a moderator in charge in order to start the discussion and to move things along when necessary. For each round table there will be a suggested topic to be discussed, but other questions and topics would be more than welcome.

If you have any questions feel free to email me at d.hull@ns.sympatico.ca or tarcnewbie@davidh.ca

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for May, 2017

So how's the wx – other than rain, wind and more rain... we should have had this crap in April so it could bring the May flowers out but we seem to be at least a month behind. The well situation along the shore needs all the help it can get; many wells are still dry and may never recover. The water table has changed dramatically in some areas and it's not looking good for hundreds of people.

Some good news ... Mark Hemphill, VE1BEL, has taken on the job of running with the Flea Market. This is his first attempt at doing this so he will need a lot of help from a number of people. There is a lot of work that needs to go into making this a success and trust that folks will step up to help him : Mark's phone number is 902-240- 8024- VE1BEL...HE WILL NEED HELP WITH TICKET SALES AT THE DOOR /:: 50/50 DRAW TICKETS: TABLE ARRANGEMENTS—layout: sound system// truck for tables from Church. (non rental) if possible, food ..(tickets, money) so as you can see, he has his hands full. Call Mark and help make a difference in this years Flea Market event that can surely help the clubs position. The other important issue here is to go thru your ham items that you may no longer want but another new ham could use... you get to make a few dollars and he gets a piece of gear he may have been dreaming about. This Flea Market has always been in a spirit of help and cooperation toward fellow hams new and old. So lets keep this tradition alive and working this year for all to enjoy. For me it's always been about the smiles on people's faces knowing they got what they needed at a really good price and talking to the ham that sold it to him- SATISFACTION in knowing he helped some one he never met before.

Field Day- another very important event in our calendar that helps both our club and the E.M.O. organization. As you all know, this is a test of our ability to set up and run an emergency station in the event of a major catastrophe not only in our immediate area but any where we may be called upon to go. We have a proud history of being number 1 or 2 in North America in our class and again 1 or 2 in Canada in our class. This is not an accident that we are that good – it's because of you - our membership. who take the time and effort to set up , operate and tear down. It is a time of social interaction. dedication and leadership that makes this an outstanding event for us. Leadership, Tradition Dedication, Team-effort and Results. We have these very important qualities in our people that need to show in this very important and practical event. I hope to be able to announce a leader for this event very soon, but I also hope that the same occurs for this leader as we have done for past events and that is

for people to come forward and lend a hand- what ever the task, you can be of help. This event is at the club this year , so the work is not quite as intense as if we were at York Redoubt... yes, we still need our trailers, beams and cabling: we still need our IT network: our cw, ssb and GOTA operators-: Food , once again, is important. The station needs to be 100% for this event but above all is the TEAM SPIRIT needed to make this all come together. It's not a fluke that we are that good at what we do or how we do it, it's effort, dedication and YOU, the membership. COME OUT, HAVE SOME FUN AND MAKE HISTORY AT THE SAME TIME.

The Museum of the Atlantic is on for this summer once again with over 180 ships to visit the Halifax area. This list includes the new QE2 of the famous Cunard Line: with it's long time history of visiting the port. Disney cruise lines will be here several times and with the number of passengers and crew that come ashore offer ample opportunity to show case our hobby and club to the world, just an exciting time to be part of this great club that we have the privilege to be part of. You have made this club excel in so many ways that it is now receiving the benefits of your hard work. I know I have said thanks to Bill (VE1MR) for his past efforts as president to keep this club alive and well for the future when others did not come forward .. and there are so many others we owe thanks too. Come out and help at this wonderful and satisfying event you will not be disappointed about the 3 or so hours you put in because time just flies by and the fun excitement level is very high. Call Erik or Art IF YOU CAN FILL IN A SLOT OR TWO for the summer.

We have other events coming as well and include the MS Walkathon: Terry is handling this event and Bikeathon: Sheldon is looking after this event, museum ships weekend: Halifax Waterfront Days: Ian's car rally event and of course our summer pizza nights. As you can see, we have something for every one to enjoy and participate in and this can be at various levels for your enjoyment. There may be work involved but many hands make for light work. Special thanks to Terry Bigelow and Sheldon for taking the leadership role in these events. WELL DONE.

On a personal note, I will be away from the area from June 15/17 until August 20/17. We are once again going to Ontario to visit our kids and grand kids ..torment them , get some radio in with the mobile gear: get some cottage time in and house sit for a 3 week period...sounds busy but will be a lot of fun. BTW- I have not heard Fred or Helen on from Swaziland yet as band conditions have been bad to worse this last while.

I hope every one enjoys the Flea Market, Field Day and
(Continued on page 4)

HARC Participates in the Spring Hobby Show at the Shearwater Aviation Museum

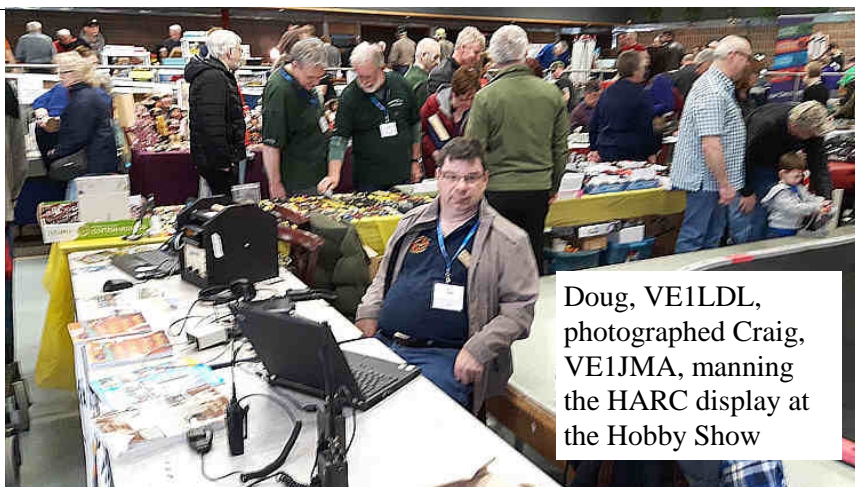
Once again, the Halifax Amateur Radio Club actively demonstrated the hobby at the Spring Hobby Show at 12th Wing Shearwater on the weekend of April 8th and 9th.

Doug LeBlanc (VE1LDL) & Craig MacKinnon (VE1JMA/VA1CM) set up a working station and showed visitors the HARC table, the WinLink system, as well as HF voice and Slow Scan TV. The display also featured a collection of 2m/440 HTs, and a Morse Code Oscillator. Visitors to the table were encouraged to try sending their first name with a straight key.

As in previous years, the HARC table drew attention from a wide variety of people with different levels of experience in amateur radio and fielded many questions.

Special thanks to Ian Pierce (VE1IGP), Tom Caithness (VE1GTC), and Alexey Tikhomirov (VE1RUS) for their help & support throughout the weekend.

The Spring Hobby Show is an annual funding event for the Shearwater Aviation Museum and draws about 500 people each day. A wide range of hobbies are always well represented.



Doug, VE1LDL, photographed Craig, VE1JMA, manning the HARC display at the Hobby Show



President's Message (Continued from page 3)

all of the other special events this club is working on, and I certainly hope that folks turn out to lend a hand to make these events a success. I will see many of you at the Flea Market and always stop by for a chat with me if your time allows. 73 for now... GOOD DX and health as always

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

Is it true that cannibals don't eat clowns because they taste funny?



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 or to our Club Website Manager, Howard VE1DHD@RAC.CA and they will make the booking for you.

On Saturday May 6, 2017 a group of amateurs assembled on Nuttby Mountain at the Aliant radio site, lately the home of the VE1XK VHF repeater and UHF links to Gore & New Glasgow as well as VE1TRO packet. I hope I can remember all the Amateurs on site. Lorne, VE1BXX & Brad, VE1ZX came in from Parsburo, Bill, VE1MR, (me) drove up from Beaver Bank to meet up with Bruce, VE1II, Dave, VE1HUL, Rick, VE1DLH, & Scott, VE1CHL from Truro area. (Sorry for any I missed.)

We proceeded to remove the VHF repeater, RLC3 controller, UHF links & duplexer, the VE1TRO packet stack and some of the RF cabling. We tidied up, loaded the gear into various vehicles and went over to the Nuttby Provincial grid site, home of VE1TRO, 147.210 + (a few hundred metres away). While unloading some of the gear to go into the VE1TRO site Lorne and I checked possible problems with Packet & APRS at the site. The packet problem was readily apparent as the radio was not powered - the fuse had blown. Lorne replaced the fuse and Lorne & I tested the reflected power from the multi coupler cans. I did a slight adjustment to reduce reflected power to near zero. Then Lorne & I tested the reflected power on the APRS and found as much reflected power as forward power. We tested the cable for shorts but all appeared OK. I slightly adjusted the multi coupler cans with no effect. We removed the connector at both ends of the cable, saw no problems and rechecked with the same results. I replaced the problem cable with a spare cable of similar length cable, re-tested and this time the results were good. A slight adjustment of the multi coupler cans reduced the reflected power to near zero. The difference in cable lengths was less than 6 inches but the original cable must have been an impedance transformer at the

frequency being used.

Meanwhile, Brad and the others were preparing to install the RLC3 controller (4 ports) in place of the original RC210 controller (3 ports), the UHF links to Gore and New Glasgow and a new UHF link to Shubenacadie. During this, Hal, VE1LV, arrived from the Truro area to help as well. They moved the VHF repeater higher in the rack so some link radios could be installed below



Brad, VE1ZX,
Bruce, VE1II and
Scott, VE1CHL
fitting a duplexer

it. They started to install 2 UHF duplexers in the rack but were running out of space. With a break for lunch we discussed how to best utilize space in one rack while adding to another rack to be able to make working on the gear easier. While this was happening it was noticed that some of the gear brought



L to r Bruce, VE1II; Brad,
VE1ZX; Bill, VE1MR

into the building was supposed to go to Hilden or home with Bruce. Also, one link radio was missing. After everyone searched their cars it was later found - when someone got more gear from their car - under some other gear.

After lunch Brad and several others started to rearrange things. Brad ended up moving the same shelf 3 times until we were satisfied with the layout. They tidied up most of the wiring and ran cables from radios to duplexers & antenna feed lines. After most of this was done several people left for Hilden to

Dave, VE1HUL and Rick, VE1DLH
replacing the defective cable



install the VE1XK VHF repeater and a shelf for packet & APRS in a rack there - leaving Lorne, Hal and I at Nuttby to adjust audio levels on the RLC3 controller.

Lorne loaded the RLC3 programming into the RLC3 controller to change the identifiers. Then Lorne and I adjusted the audio levels in the controller for the VHF repeater and various links. We tested the links and refined some of the adjustments but more work is needed on this as is completely new programming to take advantage of the additional full duplex link to Shubenacadie which was not fully tested. Hal was taking pictures all day and has since posted them on the Truro ARC Facebook page. Some of

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HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Monthly Club Meeting 19 April 2017

The March monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 20:18 hrs with Don VE1DRT in the Chair

Self Introductions: There were 33 members and 3 guests present.

Motion to approve the agenda – no motion made.

Report of any Silent keys: Howard reported the following silent keys for April 2017:

Francis Lloyd Cavanagh VE1UL
Bible Hill NS Apr.12th,2017

Darrell Gregory Ward VE1ALQ
Grand Bay NB Apr.10th,2017

Bernard "Bernie" Richard VE1ZE
Moncton NB Apr.3rd,2017

Harvey William Doane VE1CCK
Musquodoboit Har. NS
Mar.25th,2017

Terrence "Terry" Gillespie VE1RQ
Sackville NB Mar.23rd, 2017

Francis R. "Frank" Graham
VE1ATS/VY2FG Charlottetown PE
Mar.21st, 2017

Winfield Alexander Hartlin
VE1WIN Halifax NS Mar.20th,2017

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

Michael Bruce Trenaman VE1ZP
Carroll's Corner NS Mar.10th, 2017

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

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

Don added:

Eric Meth VE3EI Niagara Falls, ON

Motion to approval the March monthly meeting minutes as published in the HARC Reflector was made by Bruce (VE1MLW) seconded by Sheldon (VE1GPY); Carried.

President's Report: In the absence of Brian, there was no President's Report.

Treasures report: Jim (VE1JG) presented the Treasurer's report for the month of March 2017.

There was an opening bank balance

for 1 March 2017 of \$6,446.88. We had an income of \$784.60 and expenses of \$302.25. The bank balance as of 31 March 2017 was \$6,929.23 and there were no outstanding cheques, therefore our cash position at the end of the month of March was \$6,929.23. 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 course is progressing well and that for the first time, the course is being taught as a distance education course so participants do the course from home. He reported that of the 31 who registered, there is a core of 10 who are regular participants and that the course is going well; in fact, some have already reached 5 wpm.

- **Brit Fader Scholarship 2017** – Howard reported that to this point, no applicants have been received. He indicated that he will send out a reminder to all Maritime Clubs again this week.

- **Search and Rescue/EMO** – David (VE1AJP) was not present so there was no report.

- **Membership:** Howard (VE1DHD) reported that as of this evening there are 140 paid-up HARC members for 2017 – Life – 4; Full – 108; Associate – 28.

- **Flea Market Update** – Marc (VE1BEL) reported that he has just taken over as the Chair of the Flea Market Committee and is going to start getting helpers organized. He will provide updates to the Club and forward material to be posted on the HARC website.

- **Field Day Update** – Don reported that there is not yet an overall coordinator for field day. While Dick (VE1AI) has agreed to manage the CW operation, and Alex (VE1RUS) has agreed to do the submission, we are still missing phone and GOTA coordinators and someone to manage food operations; someone to coordinate publicity and someone to manage bonus points. Dick indicated that the sloper (40/80/160) and beam both need attention. Ian (VE1IGP) pointed out that the Executive are concerned that at this late date a coordinator and individuals to cover many other key positions have not been identified, and suggest that there is a possibility that we may have to cancel Field Day for this year. Dick commented that most of the work is done by the radio (ssb cw) coordinators; it was nevertheless pointed out that the Field Day overall Coordinator is a critical position that must be filled if we are to go forward. Scott (VE1QD) commented that it is important that we do go forward because of our relationship with EMO and the fact that this year we are to operate from the back-up EMO site.

- **Shearwater Hobby Show Report** – Craig reported that he and Doug (VE1LDL) as well as Ian (VE1IGP) and Tom (VE1GTC) set up at the Hobby Show in Shearwater last weekend and demonstrated several aspects of Amateur Radio. One of the vendors at the show made a presentation to the Club consisting of a framed advertisement for WWII "walkie talkies". They had a good cross-section stop by and show interest in Amateur Radio.

- **Springhill Hamfest** – Scott reported on the upcoming SMART (Symposium for Maritime Amateur Radio Techs) that will be held on Saturday April 29th and put on by the WestCum Club. Scott encouraged members to attend and referred to the Maritime Amateur site for information.

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Minutes (Continued from page 6)

- **Nova Scotia Lighthouse Project** – Scott reported that he and Dick have been talking with the NS Lighthouse Preservation Society about a possible collaboration with HARC. Dick and Scott have agreed to activate the Sambro Lighthouse during the International Lighthouse On the Air weekend in August this year. The Sambro Lighthouse is the oldest lighthouse in the Americas and so the issue of preservation of this facility is of great importance. Scott will forward information on this activation to the editor of the *Reflector*.

- **Maritime Museum of the Atlantic** – Dick (VE1AI) reported that during the recent March Break the Club manned the Wireless Room for ten days and had huge crowds visiting the Museum. Halifax is expecting a record number of cruise ships to be visiting Halifax this summer and this will translate into increased numbers of Museum visitors. Last year the Club gave out over 3500 certificates and expect that the number this summer to be much higher. As a result of the expected increase in activity, Dick is looking for additional HARC members to volunteer to help out.

Old Business:

- **St Andrews Move Report** – Don reported that is now clear that we will need to move from the St. Andrew's Centre at some point in 2018 as the building will be torn down. Barry Manuel has been talking with the Director of Parks and Recreation who have been tasked to find us temporary space during construction of the new Centre.

They will start by looking at suitable space at the Cowie Hill site. If the temporary space does not work for the Club in the long-term, then they will find space for us in the new building.

- **Food Truck Rally Proposal Report** – Howard reported that the Executive have discussed the proposal but felt that there needed to be considerable planning to make such an event successful; a coordinator would also be required. If someone were to come forward to do the organizing, the Club would support the effort. However, for the present, this initiative will be placed on hold.

- **Cowie Hill Container** – Bill (VE1MR) indicated that painting of the roof of the container has been differed (it is stainless steel) but that things need to be organized within in the container; we are still looking for someone to take on the coordination of work at the container site but as yet, no one has agreed to take this on.

New Business:

- **HARC Name Tag Proposal** (Jim reported for Byron Mullett) – he indicated that the previous individual who made plastic name tags for Club members has moved some distance from Halifax so we have been looking for an alternate supplier. Byron has made contact with the Dartmouth Adult Services Centre who could make metal name tags for Club members with pin or magnet on the back. The Club will cover the setup fee and will sell the name tags at a price that will cover costs while making a slight profit.

- **Maritime Amateur Radio**

Calendar Sale – Howard reported that there has been a disappointingly low positive response rate, both from HARC members (36% of members) and from the 24 Maritime Clubs (four responses to date). Once the May first deadline has passed, he will have a better idea of whether the Club should proceed with this initiative.

- **Win Hartlin Participation Award Proposal** – Howard reported that the Executive had received a proposal from Pat (VE1PHK) to create an award in memory of Win. The executive agreed and passed a motion to be brought forward to the Club.

Howard moved that "The current Rookie of the Year Award be renamed the Win Hartlin HARC Participation Award that would be given out annually to a deserving HARC member". This motion was seconded by Ian (VE1IGP). After a brief positive discussion the motion passed.

Howard also reported that Pat had made an additional suggestion that HARC request that VE1WIN be assigned to the Club. The Executive decided not to pursue because HARC already has a large number of callsigns associated with the Club.

Ticket draws: \$10 Door Prize was won by Brian (VA1BPO)

50/50 Draw \$36.50 was won by Mark, VE1BEL

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn Ian (VE1IGP).

Respectfully submitted by
Howard Dickson (VE1DHD)
Secretary on 20 April 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>.



Caddie Comment:

Golfer: "I'd move heaven and earth to break 100 on this course."

Caddie: "Try heaven, you've already moved most of the earth."

From the Mail Bag

Definition: SELFISH: What the owner of a seafood store does

My people skills are just fine. It's my tolerance of idiots that needs work.

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. We had a great discussion going last Sunday (April 30 starting at 9PM). It started off a little slow but I was encouraged by the interest & questions towards the end. I hated to break it up but we were approaching the 1 3/4hr mark, long past the 1hr suggested time limit.

Thank you to Bill, VE1MR, for the topic and for providing great information on long distance communications made possible by tropospheric ducting. The following are some links that you may find interesting regarding this topic.

VHF Propagation map

<http://aprs.mountainlake.k12.mn.us/>

Tropospheric Ducting forecast for VHF, UHF

<http://www.dxinfocentre.com/tropo.html>

Info about Tropospheric Ducting

<http://www.astrosurf.com/luxorion/qsl-propa6.htm>

A thread from last year on the maritimeamateur.ca forum

<http://www.maritimeamateur.ca/apps/forums/topics/show/13363912-vhf-propagation>

A youtube video (you will notice the map he has up on his computer is the same as would be shown from link #1)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gBJQ0Ha9ORM>
another youtube video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jQJAgPFfQvM>

The main topic for the upcoming round table (May 7) will be 2 meter & UHF etiquette. This is something that we talked about a bit on the first couple of round tables. VE1DSS Craig suggested the topic and I know he as well as others have heard some rather questionable or down right wrong conversations taking place. So lets have some discussion on this again.

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.

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 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.

IRLP reflector 9013 will be linked up. Echo Link will also be available via VE1BHS for those that may want to use it, the node number for BHS Echolink is 100853. Reminder - I will not be able to link VE1HAR to the Mavcom system if someone has Echolink already linked to VE1HAR

Please pass this along to anyone who might be interested. If you have any questions feel free to email me at d.hull@ns.sympatico.ca or 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 hams with the knowledge continue to support the round table and provide accurate technical info for those of us new to the hobby.

73 Dave Hull, VE1HUL

From April's Maritime Amateur

The 2017 Symposium for Maritime Amateur Radio Technicians (SMART) held on Saturday, April 29 and put on by the WestCum Club, was a big success with over 50% increase in attendance.

At this time I can't load any pictures onto the Photo Gallery. Once it is fixed by Webs.com I will post pictures from the event.

Here is the latest headlines from the Maritime Amateur website for May.

Audio recording of S.M.A.R.T. are

available from Hal's webpage (VE1LV) at www.vellv.com/

Recap of 2017 S.M.A.R.T. at www.westcumb.ca/s-m-a-r-t

More information can be found on the Maritime Amateur web site.

www.maritimeamateur.ca

News from the Halifax ATS

One of the HARC's most important functions is to provide emergency and public service communications under a variety of circumstances in our Halifax region. Starting with this issue of the *Reflector*, I will be regularly updating you about news and activities pertaining to this vital HARC purpose.

The Halifax Auxiliary Telecommunications Service, or **Halifax ATS**, is an operational vehicle through which HARC contributes to emergency telecommunications when a man-made or natural disaster strikes our community. This service is a joint effort of the three amateur radio clubs in the Halifax region, and it functions under the direction of the Halifax Emergency Management Office. We are governed by Memoranda of Understanding between our respective Clubs and Halifax EMO as well as an articulation of operational relationships that are written into the

Halifax Master Emergency Plan.

It is our responsibility to recruit, train and organize skilled telecommunications specialists. The training prepares our members to operate in a unique emergency management environment, using unique procedures that are understood by the wide range of agencies and services that will be involved in any real emergency.

The amateur radio community constitutes the core of HATS' operation, but may at times also include non-amateur telecommunications operatives who act as coordinating links between various parts of the emergency management environment, such as neighborhood Joint Emergency Management (JEM) Sites.

Our HARC monthly meeting on 17 May will deal with the topic: ***Emergency Communications and Public Service as Key Drivers in the Growth of Amateur Radio***. While the topic will shed further light on the role of the Halifax ATS and how

you can become involved, it will also place our role in a larger context related to the growth of amateur radio. I will be the presenter.

Many Club activities relate to providing communications for various events as a Public Service e.g. the MS Walk-a-thon, MS Bike-a-thon, a Car Rally, support for the scouting movement, etc. These events offer valuable practical experience for members as they develop the communication's skills that will be needed in an emergency – and it is very good public relations for amateur radio!

I look forward to seeing everyone at our meeting this month and to having many more of you join HARC's support for our Halifax community.
73 de Scott

K. Scott Wood, VE1QD

Coordinator, Halifax Auxiliary Telecommunications Service (ATS)
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Tele: 902 823-2191 (h)

(Continued from page 5)

these photos are shown here. Hal left for home while Lorne and I headed for the Hilden site.

I am not sure of all the people who went to the Hilden site but when we arrived there was Bruce, VE1II, Scott, VE1CHL & Brad, VE1ZX. The equipment was mostly installed and Lorne set the APRS on the installed shelf. Cables needed to be made up to go from the VHF repeater to the multi coupler cans. We routed the cables to find the required length and I put connectors on the repeater ends and another cable for the packet. The power supply for the packet & APRS was blowing fuses. Since I always carry a spare power supply on repeater trips we were able to replace the defective power supply. There is still some packet to install at a later date but the APRS

was set up and is operational. The identifiers needed to be changed in the controller and I was able to find an old enough programming software to make the changes. It was getting late and we all were getting tired from the long day so we did not adjust audio levels in the controller as it sounded fairly good. There is still more work to be done at the Hilden site (now VE1XK, 146.790-) new controller programming, setting up audio levels and installing the rest of the packet gear. The plan is to eventually replace the current repeater with a Yaesu Fusion repeater that will be able to do both digital and analog voice.

On the way home I mostly stayed on the VE1XK repeater to see what coverage it would have. I was able to work it up the airport and hill top after that and was able to work it

while parked in my driveway. Everyone was pleased with the coverage which exceeded expectations.

Bill VE1MR



Bill, VE1MR and Lorne, VE1BXK adjusting audio levels

This article appeared in the Herald on April 29 and was passed a long by Howard

Ham Radio Operators Still Have Role to Play

By Anne Farries

Published April 28, 2017

There are about 35 people in the Westcumb Amateur Radio Club, one of 29 clubs in the Maritimes.

The people who keep communication lines open when disaster strikes are looking for new talent.

That's amateur radio clubs, and they're increasingly filled by people above the age of 50, who would like to prepare the following generation to help in a crisis, says Mike Johnson, emergency management co-ordinator for Cumberland County.

"We have so much technology that we rely on, and when it's taken away, it creates a problem," Johnson said Thursday. "There's no question we need new blood."

Once licensed, amateur radio operators — or HAM operators — can "set up a radio with a 12-volt battery and transmit to the world, to let them know how things are," Johnson said.

In a crisis, if the servers that look after cellphone and landline transmission are down, "getting hold of emergency responders gets to be difficult, because people who live in, say, a 661 prefix can't call a 667 prefix, so they can't get through to the emergency service," Johnson

said. So in Cumberland County, for example, "Ham radio members go to the various fire departments where we've already arranged equipment."

"We broadcast to the public: If you have an emergency, please call the local fire department. From the local fire department that information is passed on to the amateur radio member, who relays it through to a central location where the appropriate organization — ambulance, fire, police — is able to respond to the incident."



That system was formalized in 2008, after a backhoe on the side of the Trans-Canada Highway in Amherst cut the fibre-optic cable, Johnson said.

"All digital communication east of that point to Newfoundland went down. ATMs, all 1-800 numbers, 911 — even TMR (trunk mobile radio, used by police and fire services) linking is done by Internet, so the communication between TMR towers went down.

"It was a major communication loss."

During that incident, fire departments radioed emergency calls to a central location, where the appropriate agency was notified.

That led to amateur radio clubs agreeing to provide service to several fire stations in Cumberland County and now, "they're deeply entrenched with us," Johnson said. "They have offices in here ... with high-frequency radios for worldwide communication, as well as VHF for local communication.

"We purchase equipment, they maintain the process. So we get a lot of free work out of them and they get some equipment out of us. It works out very well."

There are about 35 people in the Westcumb Amateur Radio Club, one of 29 clubs in the Maritimes. Members share technical tips and run field days, including fox hunts, where a low-power transmitter is hidden and the person who finds it first wins a free radio.

They also help in fundraisers, such as athletic races through areas where cellphone service is not available.

"We have a very active organization here, a forward-looking group of people, and we have a great relationship with the municipality," Johnson said.

A list of clubs in Nova Scotia, P.E.I. and New Brunswick is available at <http://www.maritimeamateur.ca/>



Answer to Puzzler on page 1

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

Elsie MacGill's life was one of firsts: the first woman in Canada to earn a degree in electrical engineering; first woman in the world to be awarded a master's degree in aeronautical engineering; first woman to design a plane; first woman to hold the position of chief of aeronautical engineering at an aircraft company; and the brains behind the world's first mass-produced aircraft. Soon after World War Two erupted in Europe, Elsie's Canadian Car & Foundry in what is now Thunder Bay, Ont., was selected to manufacture the Hawker Hurricane for the Royal Air Force in 1939. Elsie took control of production, streamlined operations to churn out increasing numbers of aircraft, and even designed a series of modifications to equip the fighter for cold-weather flying. By 1943, the company had produced more than 1,400 Hurricanes and its workforce had grown from 500 to some 4,500 — more than half of them women. Elsie had devised and perfected the mass production of aircraft, a mode of production that was soon the norm worldwide. No wonder this Canadian woman of firsts was crowned "Queen of the Hurricanes."