



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895
HALIFAX NS
B3K 5M5

September 2011, Volume 72 Number 7

club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



As we reluctantly bid good-bye to
Summer 2011 ...



HARC Club Station phone number - 490-6421

Executive

President - Fraser MacDougal, VE1WO 865-4198 fmac@ns.sympatico.ca
First V.P. - Bill Elliott, VE1MR 865-8567 ve1mr@rac.ca
2nd V.P. - Rod Padmore, VE1BSK 443-7181 rodpadmore@ns.sympatico.ca
Secretary - Betty Caithness, VE1BSW 477-7081 betty.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
Treasurer - John Goodwin, VE1CDD 865-5731 ve1cdd@rac.ca
Director-at-Large: - Sheldon Harling, VE1GPY 835-8860 hartling@netpathinc.com
Club Station Mgr. - Wayne Harasimovitch, VE1WPH 835-4865 wayneph@eastlink.ca
Past President - Bob Swinwood, VE1PQ 860-4454 bob_swinwood@hotmail.com

Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government liaison - VACANT
QSL Bureau Mgr - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC 477-7081 tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
EMO Coordinator - Dave George, VE1AJP 466-8723 dgeorge@dal.ca
EMO Trailer coordinator - David Musgrave, VE1EDA 435-4333 ve1eda@rac.ca
Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT 865-8567 ve1ent@rac.ca
Reflector Dist. - Carol Wood, VE1HAZ carolwood@accesswave.ca
Membership - Carol Wood, VE1HAZ carolwood@accesswave.ca
Web page - Frank Smith, VE1FIS frankiansmith@gmail.com
Basic ham course - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI 861-3719 ve1tri@rac.ca
2010 Flea market Chair - Tom Gaum, VE1BMJ 445-8103 tgaum2@ns.sympatico.ca
Callbook Editor - Howard Dickson, VE1DHD, 823-2024 dhedickson@eastlink.ca
Field Day coordinator - VACANT
Safety Officer - Terry Bigelow, VE1TRB ve1trb@eastlink.ca
NSARA Director - Barry Diggins, VE1TRI 861-3719 ve1tri@rac.ca
Honorary Legal Counsel - Paul Radford, VE1ARH

Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Everett Price, VO1DK vo1dk@rac.ca
RAC Section Manager - Jim Langille, VE1JBL (902) 667-1485 ve1jbl@eastlink.ca
RAC Assistant Director for HRM Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2761 ve1qd@rac.ca

The **September Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday, September 21, 2011 at 1930 hours (7:30 PM) in the club rooms in the Saint Andrews Rec Ctr.

Entertainment this month will be several speakers on what some HARC members did this past year.

Guests are welcome.

FIELD DAY 2011

Every one who attended had a lot of fun this past Field Day and the operators were busy most of the time.

Our claimed score is 3080 points. We were down a bit on bonus points but still were able to claim 1070 bonus points.

Puzzler - Do you know?

Where (in what country) is Amateur Radio growing the fastest?

Answer is on pg. 3



Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation. We would like at least 1 more. **If you want to join**, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



Sept. 18	Bob	VE1PQ
Sept. 25	Win	VE1WIN
Oct. 2	Erik	VE1JEH
Oct. 9	Doug	VE1LDL
Oct. 16	Bruce	VE1MLW
Oct. 23	Emil	VE1ESP

**Deadline for submissions to the
October Reflector is
Saturday, October 8, 2011**

*The perfect summer day is when the
sun is shining, the breeze is blowing,
the birds are singing
and the lawn mower is
broken*



HRM EMO Ham Advisory web site
is at <http://www.ve1hre.ca>

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

Events for Your Calendar

September 22 – Registration for the Basic Amateur Radio Licence Course will be on 22 September at the HARC station at 7 PM. First class will be on Saturday, Sept. 24 at 10:00AM on Basic Fundamentals.

October 15, Saturday – Greenwood Flea Market

October 15 – Scouts' Jamboree On The Air

Route 66 On The Air Special Event

Hosted by: Citrus Belt Amateur Radio Club in Beautiful Sunny Southern California.

September 10th- 18th 2011

See <http://www.w6jbt.org/Route66OTAEvent/Index.htm>

Ken, VY2RU, has worked this event for many years and says "it is a lot of fun, check it out!"

Cowie Hill repeater building:

- A) We need some one to take on co-ordination of finishing the siding.
- B) Recommendations for changes or renovations of building.

There are no new sins; the old ones just get more publicity.

Cowie Hill Repeater site & Tower:

NOTE: *** - Some of these jobs may require trained climbers and the high angle rescue kit.

A) We need some one to co-ordinate equipment, antenna and feed line assessment. We have several people who have indicated a willingness to help.

- B) Assess antennas and feed lines.
 - a) Replace antennas as required.
 - b) Re-orient antennas as required.
 - c) What antenna is on what feed line and then securely mark them.
 - i) Replace feed line if needed.

C) Assess for requirement, repair or replacement of unserviceable equipment.

- a) If required, repair, replace or upgrade equipment.

Silent Key

Art Grant, VE1EP, of Indian Point, Lunenburg Co. on June 17, 2011 at the age of 95

Doug Fraser, VE1XI & VE1BSJ, of Lunenburg on June 19, 2011 at the age of 82

GREENWOOD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB 23rd ANNUAL FLEAMARKET

Date: 15 October 2010 (Saturday)

Time: 10:00AM – 1:00PM
(Open 8:00AM To Sellers)

Place: Greenwood Community Centre, Church Street, Greenwood, NS

Cost: Admission \$4.00.
Tables Free To Sellers



GPS Coordinates:

N44° **58.512'** W064° **55.612'**

Talk In: VE1WN 147.240+

Features: BBQ sausages, hot dogs, Tea, Coffee, Pop are available
Door Prizes and Raffle
FleaMarket: All sorts of Amateur Radio, computer, and Electronics for sale.

To Book tables contact:

Guy - VE1NC Email ve1nc@rac.ca or phone (902) 825-6151
Brian-VE1RCF Email ve1rcf@rac.ca or phone (902) 765-3028

From the ARRL Letter Aug.25, 2011
Heathkit Returns to Kit Business

A notice on the Heathkit website announces that the kit manufacturer will be re-entering the kit business in late August. The notice states, in part: "Heathkit will debut their new line of Do-it-Yourself kits for common around-the-house items. The first kit will be a Garage Parking Assistant (GPA). The Garage Parking Assistant kit lets you build your own system that uses ultrasonic sound waves to locate your car as it enters the garage. The system signals to the driver using LED lights mounted on the wall when the car is detected and in the perfect spot for parking."

The Basic Amateur Radio Licence and Certification Course 2011

This years course will start on Thursday the 22nd of September at 7:00 pm in the club classroom of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club.

The first class will be for registration and information about the course and amateur radio activities both as a hobby and a public service.

The registration fee for this years course is \$120 with a reduced fee of \$65 for any person with a course study manual or a returning student.

The first full class will be on basic fundamentals on Saturday the 24th September at 10:00 am with Tom Caithness VE1GTC.

For additional information contact course Co-ordinator (below) or any member of the HARC executive.

Barry Diggins, VE1TRI
Grand Lake, NS
(902) 861-3719 vox/fax



From the ARRL Letter for Aug.11, 2011

The HK0NA DXpedition to Malpelo – January 22 to February 6, 2012. Malpelo is located approximately 235 miles off Colombia's Pacific coast.

The HK0NA DXpedition to Malpelo island is scheduled for January 22-February 6, 2012. Organized by the DX Radio Amateur Club out of Colombia, the DXpedition boasts an international team of 16 operators from eight countries. Malpelo is currently #12 on DX Magazine's 100 Most Needed Countries Survey. According to DXpedition leader Jorge Prieto, HK1R, the HK0NA Team will depart from Buenaventura, Colombia on January 22 for the boat trip to Malpelo. Depending on sea and landing conditions, they expect to be on the air within 36 hours after landing on Malpelo. They will be using SSB, CW and Digital modes on 160-6 meters. Operations are planned on 160-6 meters on CW, SSB and Digital modes, including EME.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE September 2011

Here we are in September, I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer .

The Club had a busy July and August, we were active on the Acadia early in July, helping to celebrate their Birthday. We operated on Saturday and Sunday. We were fortunate to have one of the Crew Members visit, he served for 18 months in 1947 and 1948. This was the first time he had been on board since this time.

During IOTA weekend Two Club Teams activated two Islands, Bon Portage NA 126 in Southwestern Nova Scotia and Pictou Island NA 154 in Northumberland Strait. Both Teams had enjoyable times and reported successful weekends.

The highlight of the Summer activities was the Girl Guide Jamboree in Elderbank. The Guides celebrated 100 Years of Guiding in Nova Scotia. We set up for the duration of the Activity providing Amateur Radio Communication as well as Radio Demonstrations for the Guides. The most popular activities seemed sending and receiving PSK 31 messages to be the ability to send E-mail home using Amateur Radio. Special thanks to John, VE1CDD, for organizing this activity and to Jim , VE1JIM, and Win, VE1WIN, who spent the 10 days along with John at the site.

The Pizza Nights in July and August were well attended. Attendees enjoyed the Social evenings as well as the Pizza and Soft Drinks.

I am pleased to report that Spud, VE1BC, has agreed to take on the task of organizing the Club Material to be placed in HRM Archives. He will be starting this shortly and his experience dealing with HARC History will come in handy. If any other Members are interested in assisting Spud, please contact him.

Carol Wood, VE1HAZ, will be taking on the Membership and Reflector Distribution starting in September. Frank, VE1FHW, is planning to move out of Province in the near future. Thanks to Frank for his efforts during the past year.

The Club has been in contact with The Discovery Center again. They have indicated that they are still interested in having an Amateur Station set up for demonstration. Additional information will be forthcoming.

An addition to this Reflector for September will be Executive Reports. These are provided for Club Members to read prior to the Monthly Meeting. We are trying to shorten the Business Portion of the meetings to allow more time for the social aspect.

Please read these reports.

Fraser Mac Dougall VE1WO President

Development of a Canadian Field Organization – from Doug Mercer, VO1DTM CEC – RAC Vice-President Field Services (vo1dtm@rac.ca)

During the March 24/11 RAC Board of Directors teleconference, a motion was unanimously passed for the implementation of a “new” RAC Field Organization. Under the direction of Doug Mercer, VO1DTM CEC, RAC VP Field Services, and with the guidance of Special Advisor Ian Snow, VA3QT, our Section Managers – as part of the newly created Vice-President Field Service Council (VPFSC) – and various volunteers from across the country will begin the work that will see a different RAC in the future. Our look will be consistent with the RAC Vision Statement of Nov.14, 2010, when we committed to the “education & elmering of new Hams” and supporting “the training & coaching of RAC volunteers to achieve exemplary results, at the municipal, provincial & national levels. The new RAC Field Training program is the recognized tool leveraged by our ARES groups.”

The VPFSC is committed to the development of the Canadian Field Organization. A key component is the existing Field Service that provides service to the public and the Amateur Radio Community. It will also incorporate new functions to better represent our interests to governments at the provincial & municipal levels, provide a strengthened public relations capability, expand the affiliated club program with a view to improving the input of Canadian Amateurs with respect to RAC policy development, and bring focus to promoting technical developments.

This process began in November 2010 and it currently has 3 working groups, a secretary, advisors from provincial Emergency Management agencies and a host of volunteers from each Section. Our key individuals are:

- * Ian Snow, VA3QT - Special Advisor to the VPFS
- * Allan Boyd, VE3AJB - Chair Training Update on The Canadian Amateur



Answer to Puzzler on page 1

The ARRL Letter for June 2, 2011 states that the country in which Amateur Radio growing the fastest is China. The Dayton Hamvention® had a booth for the Radio Association of China and its subsidiary, the Chinese Radio Amateur Club this year.

IOTA 2011 on
Pictou Island



"VC1Z operated from Pictou Island NA-154 in the Northumberland Strait less than half way to Prince Edward Island from Nova Scotia. The team consisted of five operators from the Halifax Amateur Radio Club:

Fraser, VE1WO; Bob, VE1PQ; Al, VA1MM; Barry, VE1TRI; John, VE1CDD.

The team is standing behind the radials of our phased 40 meter vertical at sunset looking south towards the coastline of Nova Scotia."



If your best golf shots are the practice swing and the 'gimme putt', you might wish to reconsider this game.

HURRY!! Win a FREE HARC 2012 MEMBERSHIP!!!

Complete the following task and submit it to the HARC Strategic Planning Committee 2011 by October 1, 2011 and Win a FREE 2012 HARC MEMBERSHIP!!!

Simply arrange the following list in order of "Most Important" to "Least Important" as far as you are concerned. This information will provide valuable assistance to the committee and executive when creating a Vision and Mission statement for HARC this fall.

Return your selection to VE1PQ@RAC.CA by October 1, 2011 to be eligible for a draw to be conducted at the HARC 2011 Annual General Meeting on Wednesday November 16, 2011.

Arrange the following values in order of importance to you.

Most Important = 1; Least Important = 5

The words are in no special order.

- ▲ **Accomplishment**
- ▲ **Professionalism**
- ▲ **Preparedness**
- ▲ **Commitment**
- ▲ **Camaraderie**

If you wish, add additional values (up to 5) you feel are appropriate and include them in a single prioritized list with those shown above.

This event is open to current 2011 Full and Associate members of HARC only.

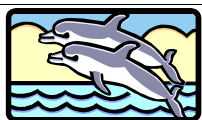
Thank you and good luck.

Bob (VE1PQ@RAC.CA)

Gary (VE1RGB)



Dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish.



CANWARN

From Emile, VE1ESP,

CANWARN is a volunteer organization of ham radio operators who report severe weather when they see it to Environment Canada. What they do is called ground-truthing. They confirm on the ground what satellites and radars see in the atmosphere. When Environment Canada's weather centres issue severe weather watches or warnings, they alert the CANWARN volunteers at the organization's regional stations in the affected areas. The volunteers contact other CANWARN members on the ham radio, tell them a watch or warning has been issued and ask them to report signs of severe weather. These include lightning, hail, cumulonimbus clouds or and funnel clouds, which if they touch down are then called tornadoes.

Any Operators wishing to take part of Canwarn can contact Emil, VE1ESP, for more information, or phone 880-9110

If you do not have a weather station, you can use the Beaufort Wind Scale as a guide .

The Beaufort Wind Scale is named after Sir Francis Beaufort, an admiral in the British Navy. He developed the scale in 1805 in order to estimate wind speed by noting how sails move in the wind. It turned out to be a great help and was later adapted for use on land.

See Beaufort Wind scale on page 5



Providing communications and other assistance for the **2011 MS Walk this May** were (left to right) Carol VE1HAZ, Peter VE1PJW, Dave VE1DDC, Win VE1WIN, Doug VE1LDL, Terry VE1TRB, Mike VE1HMY, Tom VE1GTC, and Amanda.

Do you have pictures, an interesting or funny radio-related story, an article or a question you would like to share via the HARC Reflector? Please send it/them to Lynn, VE1ENT, ve1ent@rac.ca or bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

WHY DIDN'T NOAH
SWAT THOSE TWO
MOSQUITOES?



The Beaufort Wind Scale

Force	Strength:	Speed: miles per hour (mph)	Speed: kilometers per hour (kph)	Observations:
Force 0	Calm	Less than 1 mph	less than 2 kph	Tree leaves don't move, smoke rises vertically, sea is calm
Force 1	: Light Air	1-3 mph	2-6 kph	Tree leaves don't move, smoke drifts slowly, sea is lightly rippled
Force 2	Slight Breeze	4-7 mph	7-11 kph	Tree leaves rustle, flags wave slightly, small wavelets or scale waves
Force 3	Gentle Breeze	8-12 mph	12-19 kph	Leaves and twigs in constant motion, small flags extended, long un-breaking waves
Force 4	Moderate Breeze	13-18 mph,	20-29 kph	Small branches move, flags flap, waves with some whitecaps
Force 5	Fresh Breeze	19-24 mph	30-39 kph	Small trees sway, flags flap and ripple, moderate waves with many whitecaps
Force 6	Strong Breeze	25-31 mph	40-50 kph	Large branches sway, flags beat and pop, larger waves with regular whitecaps
Force 7	Moderate Gale	32-38 mph	51-61 kph	Whole trees sway, large waves ("heaping sea")
Force 8	Fresh Gale	39-46 mph	62-74 kph	Twigs break off trees, moderately high sea with blowing foam
Force 9	Strong Gale	47-54 mph	75-87 kph	Branches break off trees, shingles blown from roofs, high crested waves
Force 10	Whole Gale	55-63 mph	88-101 kph	Some trees blown down, damage to buildings, high churning white sea
Force 11	Storm	64-74 mph	101 kph-119 kph	Widespread damage to trees and buildings, mountainous waves
Force 12	Hurricane	75 mph or greater	120 kph or more	Severe and extensive damage

**The Halifax Amateur Radio Club
Monthly General Meeting
June 15, 2011
MINUTES**

President Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) opened the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Silent Keys – None

Approval of Agenda

Motion – THAT the agenda be adopted.

Moved by: Eric (VE1JEH);
Seconded by: Murray Alary, VE1ALS.

Motion carried.

Introduction of guests –
Randall Nelson (ZA3RDN)
Wally Rogers (VE8DW)

Approval of Minutes of May 18, 2011 monthly meeting.

Motion – THAT the minutes of the May 18, 2011 monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club as published in the June, 2011 edition of the *Reflector* be approved.

Moved by: Gary Bartlett (VE1RGB); Seconded by: Doug LeBlanc (VE1LDL).

Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report – John Goodwin (VE1CDD) reported that the opening balance was \$8,503.28, expenses for the month of May were \$329.52, income was \$1,843.70, outstanding cheques \$402.84, which results in a closing bank account balance of \$8,825.35. Full report is attached to the *filed* minutes.

Motion – THAT the report of the treasurer be approved.

Moved by: John Goodwin (VE1CDD); Seconded by: Tom Caithness (VE1GTC).

Motion carried.

Field Day Meal Tickets – Betty Caithness (VE1BSW) advised that meal tickets for Field Day are on sale this evening. Cost of tickets are as follows:

Friday night dinner will be free to all set up workers. Anyone who is not a worker but would like a Friday night meal will be asked to pay

\$3.00. All set up workers will be given a ticket during the day for a free Friday night meal.

Individual breakfast or lunch tickets will be \$3.00 each.

Saturday night dinner will be \$10.00 per person.

Sandwiches for Saturday night overnight operators will be free.

A total meal package for the weekend will cost \$22.00 but if bought this evening will be discounted to \$20.00 for the full package.

No meal will be provided without a ticket. The tickets will, of course, be on sale during the weekend at the dining hall.

Executive Reports:

1st Vice President – Bill Elliott (VE1MR) reported that last weekend a crew of people helped with Cowie Hill repeater repairs and a major refit on the site. Thanks to all who helped out. Bill is looking for people to put siding on the repeater building and clean up outside. Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) suggested that the building should be locked. Bill has a lockset that just needs to be installed. Bill also mentioned that the gate to the property used to be locked so locking the building wasn't much of a concern. However, due to various circumstances, the gate is no longer locked.

2nd Vice President – Rod Padmore (VE1BSK) was absent. However the door prize for this meeting will be a utility set. Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) has taken care of obtaining tonight's refreshments.

Station Manager – Wayne Harasimovitch (VE1WPH) was absent. It was pointed out that Jim Flowers (VE1JIM) tests station equipment every day when he is in the club and participating in a daily net.

President – Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) reported that the Museums Weekend was cancelled by the Museum as they did not have enough staff available for the Acadia. Also, the main building

was booked for weddings and could not be used for this event.

Committee Reports:

Membership – Report given by Frank Wilson (VE1FHW) (copy of his report is attached). The club has 92 fully paid up members for 2011 as well as 16 associate members and 4 lifetime members.

Basic Course – Barry Diggins (VE1TRI) reported that a new basic course will begin on September 22. Let Barry or an executive member know if you know of anyone who wants to take the course.

Barry went on to advise that Tom Cohoon (VE1TA) would like some information about our club members for the NSARA insurance coverage. Barry passed around a form for those present to provide their names, call signs, and whether or not they belong to NSARA and RAC.

EMO – No report.

Search and Rescue – No report.

Call Book – No report.

Strategic Planning Committee – Bob Swinwood (VE1PQ) reported on behalf of himself and Gary Bartlett (VE1RGB), the members of this committee. Bob explained that he and Gary will be working on the terms of reference over the summer as well as possible small tweaks to the Mission and Vision Statements. They will report to the executive in September. Bob also wanted to acknowledge the contributions of those who had worked on this project in the past including Murray MacDonald (VE1MMD). Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) thanked Bob and Gary. Once the work is done, the results will be reported in the *Reflector* and will be voted on before November.

(Continued on page 7)

I'm always slightly terrified when I exit out of Word and it asks me if I want to save any changes to my ten-page technical report that I swear I did not make any changes to.

Minutes (Continued from page 6)

Old Business:

DX Forum - Scott Wood (VE1QD) absent. Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) reported that everything is on track. Fraser also mentioned that Nautel is providing the software for the webinar which will allow people everywhere live and interactive access to the event at a price. (See the June Reflector for more detail). Discussion. Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) asked for a list of registrants for QSL purposes.

HRM Storage of HARC Materials - Fraser MacDougall (VE1WO) reported that he has no volunteers yet for this committee. He will start contacting people in this regard including Spud Roscoe (VE1BC).

Girl Guide Jamboree - John Goodwin (VE1CDD) also reported on the Nova Scotia Girl Guide Jamboree to be held on August 13 – 20, 2011 at Camp Nadooe in Elderbank in honour of their 100th anniversary. We will be setting up an amateur station including various modes of operation from August 14 to 19. Girls will be able to operate in ½ hour shifts throughout. John has applied for and obtained a special prefix for this event and that will be CJ100 Nova Scotia. John still needs operators and will start sending out e-mails to try and set up a schedule. Truro club members and others will be helping out. If you plan to stay overnight, please let John know because there is some paperwork that needs to be done in this regard. If you are coming for the day, please bring your own meals and utensils as the girls and leaders have to pay for theirs. There is no government or other funding for this event only money raised by the girls and leaders themselves. There will be 600 girls plus leaders from around the world attending this event. They want us to operate from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. John will be the QSL manager for this event. Questions and discussion.

New Business:

MS Bike Tour – Rick Gardner

(VE1RGG) was absent. Tom Caithness (VE1GTC) reported that the event is a go and there will be a meeting soon. Rick will need volunteers to take the EMO trailer to the event site, set it up and look after it for the weekend.

IOTA – John Goodwin (VE1CDD) issued a general invitation to anyone who might want to take part July 30-31, Pictou Island. Special call sign will be VC1Z. John will be QSL manager for this event.

Flex 3000 – Sheldon Hartling (VE1GPY) reported this system will be used at Field Day this year as it was last year. Sheldon demonstrated and explained the system and answered questions.

50/50 Draw - \$24.00 was won by Dwayne (VA1DWG).

Door prize – a utility set was won by Betty Caithness (VE1BSW).

There being no further business, on a motion by Doug LeBlanc (VE1LDL), the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m..

Social break followed by Field Day preparations.

Respectfully submitted.
Betty Caithness – VE1BSW,
Secretary – June 15, 2011

From the ARRL Letter for July 21, 2011
Amateur Radio in Space: NASA's Space Shuttle Program Comes to an End

As Atlantis once again touched the Earth in Florida on Thursday, July 21, an era came to an end. This era saw dreams realized when men and women could go into space on a craft -- the space shuttle -- that could be used again and again. NASA's space shuttle fleet has set dreams aflight since its first launch on April 12, 1981, starting with Columbia and continuing with Challenger, Discovery, Atlantis and Endeavour. These crafts have carried people into orbit repeatedly, launched, recovered and repaired satellites, conducted cutting-edge research and transported materials to help build the largest structure in space, the International Space Station.

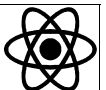
Barely 30 months after Columbia first lifted to the skies, radio amateurs around the world were excited about another first: a ham in space. It was 1983 -- the third year of the space shuttle program -- and Mission Specialist Owen Garriott, W5LFL, was on board Columbia for mission STS-9. NASA had given Garriott permission to attempt radio contact with Amateur Radio operators on Earth during his free time.

University of Western Ontario's **Canadian Meteor Orbit Radar system** provides NASA with real time data to track the countless miniscule particles streaking through space which could endanger a shuttle launch or astronauts on space walks. The system tracks particles as small as 0.1 millimeter moving as fast as 70 Km/second. At that speed a collision with a space walking astronaut could be catastrophic.

The Radar has been on-line since 1999 but NASA began using its data more effectively after the space shuttle Columbia disaster in 2003. Although the accident was caused by foam from a booster rocket striking the protective thermal tiles during liftoff investigators pointed out that natural space debris could cause similar damage.

The one-of-a-kind radar system daily tracks about 3,000 objects before they burn up in the atmosphere; collects & analyses the data before the information is automatically transmitted to NASA's Meteor Environment Office where a "mission critical" map for keeping astronauts & equipment safe is built every day. Source: the Montreal Gazette, April 1/11

*Two hydrogen atoms meet. One says, 'I've lost my electron.'
The other says 'Are you sure?' The first replies, 'Yes, I'm positive.'*



From the Mail Bag

Al Skierkiewicz sent a message using the contact form at <http://halifax-arc.org/contact>.

Thank you for the warm welcome when I visited your special event on the Acadia two weeks ago. We were just starting our vacation and you showed that the folks in Nova Scotia are some of the friendliest people we have met. My wife and I thoroughly enjoyed our time up north. Hope to work one of you some day.

Al, WB9UVJ

Amazing! - 3D printing

This video was spotted by John, VE1WZ

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZboxMsSz5Aw&feature=youtu.be_gdata_player

And commented on by Charlie (a lapsed ham).

Pretty cool.

The Enclosures division of SSCI in Fremont, CA has a version of this where they can get "samples" of new mechanical designs done in plastic resin.

Not sure what vintage of printer, but it worked on the same principle as the one in the video.

CJE

KCARC web site is at

<http://www.kcarc.ns.ca>

The KCARC Web Pages are best viewed at 1024 X 768 or higher resolution.

John, VE1ATT,
KCARC Webmaster

Sheldon Hartling notes a Morse code learning site at



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

From: Monica Jordan

Thank you for volunteering to help make the 2011 RONA MS Bike Tour a great success! Our participants commented time after time that they felt very well supported along the route, and well cared for all weekend. We couldn't have done it without your time and energy – thank you!

With almost 400 cyclists registered for the event, which covered 2 days and more than 100 km, we needed lots of help to create a successful event. Our fantastic volunteers made a difference every step of the way: preparing and packing materials before the event, posting route signage, the registration and banking process early Saturday morning, en-route support at Rest Stops, and Flaggers at intersections, Cyclesmith bike repair, not to mention the Canadian Ski Patrol volunteers who were ready to provide First Aid, and HAM radio operators handling communications along the route! With less than a dozen MS Society staff onsite for the weekend, all this great work was made possible thanks to you, and the other 60 volunteers who gave a combined 700 hours of

volunteer time - Wow!!! So when I say we couldn't have done it without you, I really mean it!

And in case you missed the total raised – more than \$340,000 in pledges has been submitted to date! On behalf of the staff of the MS Society and the people we serve, thank you for making our RONA MS Bike Tour another great success! For more information about the programs and services this event helps to fund, please visit our website at www.mssociety.ca/atlantic or feel free to contact me directly.

Thanks again, and have a great week!
Monica

P.S. If you enjoyed your weekend, and would like to join us again next year, please mark your calendar for July 28-29, 2012!

Monica Jordan | Director, Volunteer Programs & Acting Director, Client Services Atlantic Division
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From Ken, VYRU,

Scott, VE1QD and Martti, OH2BH were on hand to witness this event. Jumping from the OH8X Tower

The tower at the Amateur Radio station OH8X is 330 feet high but it's not just used for transmitting, people jump from it as well.

Radio Arcala, OH8X, is a team of amateur radio operators dedicating their best efforts to novel areas of their avocation. Their home base is located in the middle of nowhere near the Arctic Circle. There you can find a pretty massive antenna array, one of a kind.

Total height 100m (330ft) Antennas 1.8MHz 3-el & 3.5MHz 5-el yagis
Total weight 39,000kg (80,000lbs) Boom lengths 71m (215ft) & 60m (200ft)

One midsummer weekend three lucky men received permission to use the antenna tower for something completely different.

Base jumping at Radio Arcala is strictly forbidden without permission.

Watch Radio Arcala base jump at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AS3fQtSKCTw>

OH8X website is at <http://radioarcala.com/>

Did you see this article in the NY Times on Morse Code with Bill Ruck W6VSY?

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/14/us/14morse.html?_r=1&scp=1&sq=Bill%20Ruck&st=cse

Regards, Tom, WA9ETO



Configured, tested, posed and photographed by Sheldon, VE1GPY, who wrote "Here are our 8 Field Day computers posing for a group photo the week before Field Day. All of the computers are configured and the network is working correctly. We'll use two computers for the GOTA station:"

After Field Day all who were asked agreed it was a particularly fun example of this annual event.

Randy, visiting from Carolina had passed his Amateur test on his way north and enthusiastically participated Friday, Saturday & Sunday; then presented us with a video he & his wife had made of some of our Field Day activities. You can view it on the HARC website.

Field Day 2011 at the HARC station



At the Get On The Air station



Antenna raising using the EMO trailer's extendable mast



Talking with "the Man from the CBC" as the operators concentrate on contacts

2010 was our Navy's 100th Anniversary. The Canadian navy began the Second World War with a half dozen vessels, and ended up policing nearly half of the Atlantic against U-boat attack. More than 120 Canadian warships participated in the Normandy landings, during which 15,000 Canadian soldiers went ashore on D-Day alone.

Canada finished the war with the third-largest navy and the fourth largest air force in the world.

*On electric toasters, why do they engrave the message "one slice"?
How many pieces of bread do they think people are really gonna try to stuff in that slot?*

Donated and/or surplus gear. First purchase opportunity to HARC members – Make an offer

MAKE	MODEL	DESCRIPTION	CONDITION	PRICE
Realistic	DX-300	HF communications receiver	Not working	Bids
Drake	Model 2-B	HF communications receiver	Working - needs TLC	\$170.00
Yaesu	FT-2800	2M FM transceiver	Working	\$150.00
Kenwood	Hamclock	Analog clock	Unknown - requires D cell	Bids
Daveco	DD-38	Hand microphone, dynamic, 4 pin	Unknown	Bids
Icom	IC-738	HF transceiver with hand mic	Working	\$400.00
Micronta		Logic probe	Unknown	Bids
Micronta		Dynamic transistor Checker	Unknown	Bids
Micronta	22-152	Analog VOM	Unknown - requires batteries	Bids
Brown Brothers	CTL-B	Key and Paddles	Unknown	\$120.00
Micronta		12 VDC, 2.5 A power supply	Working	Bids
Mastercraft		Digital Voltmeter	Working	\$ 10.00
Micronta		Digital Voltmeter	Unknown	Bids
MFJ		Dxers' World Map Clock	Working	\$ 15.00
Unknown		Wall cube - 5 VDC @ 140 ma	Working	\$ 0.50
Heil	GM-4	Goldline microphone	Unknown	\$ 80.00
MFJ	MFJ-432	Voice keyer	Unknown	\$ 75.00
Unknown		Crimp connectors and tool - kit		Bids
Unknown		Hand tool		Bids
EICO	Model-315	RF signal generator	Working	Bids
Tektronix	Type-181	Time Mark Generator	Unknown	Bids
Tektronix	Type - 190-B	Constant Amplitude Signal Generator	Unknown	Bids
Sola Basic		RF Wattmeter with 3 Bird 2-30 MHz slugs - 50, 250 and 500 Watt	Unknown	\$250.00
Hygain	Ham IV	Rotator, control box with about 40' cable	Working	\$250.00
Ameritron	AL-811H	HF Amplifier	Working	\$600.00
Unknown		3 element monoband 15M yagi needs refurbishing, U bolts etc., some bent and 1 broken piece 17 foot boom	Probably could be rebuilt as is for a 12M beam with a supply of U bolts and hose clamps	\$ 50.00

From The ARRL Letter for June 30/11 **Amateur Radio in Space: ISS Survives Near Miss of Space Junk**

Monday, June 27, the ISS narrowly missed getting slammed by space junk.

Just after 8 AM (EDT) on Tuesday, June 29, the six residents of the International Space Station (ISS) climbed into two Soyuz space capsules as an unidentified object hurtled past them at a speed of 29,000 miles per hour, missing the space station by only 1100 feet. This was only the second time in the 10 year history of people living on the space station that the crew needed to take such precautions. If the station had been hit, the crew could have quickly undocked from the ISS and returned to Earth via the space capsules. Currently, there are four hams on board the ISS: Ron Garan, KF5GPO (NASA), Mike Fossum, KF5AQG (NASA), Sergei Volkov, RU3DIS (RKA), and Satoshi Furukawa, KE5DAW (JAXA). The other two cosmonauts -- Andrey Borisenko and Alexander Samokutyaev -- are not licensed.