



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

# REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895  
HALIFAX NS  
B3K 5M5

June 2018, Volume 79 Number 6  
club web site is [www.halifax-arc.org](http://www.halifax-arc.org)



**Please Note and Access our New Club Station at Fire Station 50  
According to the Instructions on Page 3**

HARC Club Station phone number - 902-490-6421

## Executive

President - Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF	240-4302	ve1jhf@gmail.com
First V.P. - Don Trotter, VE1DTR	823-1888	ve1dtr@rac.ca
2nd V.P. - VACANT		
Secretary - VACANT		
Treasurer - Jim Guilford, VE1JG	466-2124	jimguilford@gmail.com
Member-at-Large: - Craig MacKinnon, VE1JMA	463-8517	cjmackinnon@gmail.com
- Ian Pearce, VE1IGP	469-3474	igpearce@hotmail.com
Station Manager: - Brian Allen, VA1CC	489-4656	basailor@eastlink.ca
Past President - Brian Allen, VA1CC	489-4656	basailor@eastlink.ca
Director Emeritus - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

## Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government & Media Relations - VACANT  
QSL Bureau Mgr - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC 477-7081 tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca  
EMO Coordinator - David 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 bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca  
Reflector Hardcopy Dist. - Carol Wood, VE1HAZ carol.wood@EastLink.ca  
Membership - Jim Calvesbert, VE1PPA jim.calvesbert@gmail.com  
Reflector electronic Dist.; Jim Calvesbert, VE1PPA jim.calvesbert@gmail.com  
Web site content Manager - Brandon Fowler (VE1BMF) bmfowler95@gmail.com  
Basic ham course - Wayne Harasimovich, VE1WPH wayneph@bellaliant.net  
2018 Flea market Chair - VACANT  
Field Day Coordinator - Brian Allen, VA1CC 489-4656 basailor@eastlink.ca  
Safety Officer - Pat Kavanaugh, VE1PK ve1phk@rac.ca  
VA1MMA Project Manager - Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2191 ve1qd@rac.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, 823-2191 ve1qd@rac.ca

## Take-15 Net Controllers

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



June 17 Gary VA1GGM	Aug. 12 Doug VE1LDL
June 24 Peter VE1PJW	Aug. 19 Bill VA1ALW
July 1 Doug VE1LDL	Aug. 26 Cam VE1BIT
July 8 Bill VA1ALW	Sept. 2 Scott VE1QD
July 15 Cam VE1BIT	Sept. 9 Gary VA1GGM
July 22 Scott VE1QD	Sept. 16 Peter VE1PJW
July 29 Gary VA1GGM	Sept. 26 Doug VE1LDL
Aug. 5 Peter VE1PJW	

Advice from A  
Wise Old Man.

*"If you get to  
thinkin' you're  
a person of  
some influence,  
try orderin'  
somebody  
else's dog  
around."*

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

**The June 2018 General  
Meeting** of the Halifax Ama-  
teur Radio Club will be held  
Wednesday, June 20, in the  
training room at Station 50 in  
Hammonds Plains. Please see  
information elsewhere about  
parking and other information.

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

7:00-8:00pm -

Presentation: Field Day Perspec-  
tives and Preparation

Presenter: Brian, VA1CC

8:00-9:00pm May General  
Business Meeting

Guests are welcome

**Deadline for submissions to the  
September Reflector is  
Saturday, Sept. 8, 2018**

## NOTICE OF MOTION

There will be two motions  
to nominate and elect a  
Secretary and a 2nd V.P.

## 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*

This summer - the H.A.R.C. aims to staff the Radio Room at the Museum of the Atlantic with shifts Mondays and Thursdays 10h-13h and 13h-16h. every Monday and Thursday mornings and afternoons. It would be helpful to have additional members volunteer to help out.

To lend a hand (and a 'fist') contact Scott Wood, VE1QD, [ve1qd@rac.ca](mailto:ve1qd@rac.ca)

Field Day - the last full weekend of June

July 5-10, 2018 - rare island  contact opportunity - Fred and Helen Archibald plan to be on Round Island Alaska and operate as VE1FA/KL7 and VA1YL/KL7

July 6 to 8 - A public information display of amateur radio emergency communications and training exercise at Scott Manor House in Bedford

July 28 & 29 - IOTA (Islands On The Air) - sponsored by the Radio Society of Great Britain

July 28 & 29 - the MS Bike Tour  
To help, contact Sheldon Page at [sheldon.page@gmail.com](mailto:sheldon.page@gmail.com)

To view the activities of the Maritime Lighthouse Amateur Radio Group go to;

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/MLARG/>

July 28 & 29 - IOTA (Islands On The Air)  
Fred, VE1FA; Helen, VA1YL; Lowell, VE1OX; Rich, VA1CHP; Al, V01NO; Marc, VA2MM Wayne, VE1BAB; Sheldon, VE1GPY, will be operating in the IOTA contest from Bon Portage Island using the call sign VB1M for the 24hr contest.

No electronic cards please.

Mail QSL cards to  
25 Canard St.

RR#1 Port Williams NS B0P1T0.

**Rare IOTA Island Dx-pedition Announcement**

Fred and Helen Archibald plan to be on Round Island (one of the Walrus Is.) from 5-10 July 2018 and operate as VE1FA/KL7 and VA1YL/KL7 respectively. Round Is. (N. Lat 58.6°, W. Long. 160.0°) is in Bristol Bay in the Bering Sea west of mainland Alaska. It is part of Alaska's Walrus Islands State Game Sanctuary. Operation will be part-time as we are going to visit the walruses and daughter Margaret (VE2ZOO) who is working for the Alaska Department of Fish + Game on the island. Round Is. is in IOTA's Dillingham/Togiak group (NA-121) which has been activated before but remains quite rare.

We plan to be on 20m (14260 kHz) and 40m (7150 kHz) +/- QRM with 100 W and dipoles that have a nice ocean takeoff to the east and south. The beam/quad bearing from Nova Scotia is 320° and the distance is about 6300 km.

Once there and set up we'll announce on DX Summit each time we are active. While there we will also check our email ([va1yl.helen@gmail.com](mailto:va1yl.helen@gmail.com)) for feedback + suggestions.

**No electronic cards please.**

Mail QSL cards to either the buro or to:

H. Archibald  
25 Canard St.  
RR#1 Port Williams, NS  
B0P1T0, Canada

**The 2018 DownEast Flea Market**

We had 190 people through the doors, and the 56 table spaces we had available were all filled.

There was good parking, easy access and the Legion staffed the canteen.



Club Tower  
Relocation

Through the generosity of the City, we had not only a boom truck present for the lift, but also a zoom boom to help remove the antenna array, as well as remove the bolts from the tower as it was separated.

*"It takes only one drink to get me drunk. The trouble is, I can't remember if it's the thirteenth, or the fourteenth."* -George Burns

*Did you ever notice: The Roman Numerals for forty (40) are XL*

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for June, 2018**

June is here!

It's moving time !

So, the DownEast Flea Market has come and gone for another year.

We had 190 people through the doors, and the 56 table spaces we had available were all filled .

Many positive comments about this years venue at the Sackville Legion. It is high on our list for next years venue, but we are limited by the number of tables we can have, so over the next couple of months we are on the hunt for a slightly larger space, but if we can't find one that meets the criteria, we will rebook the Legion again.

Many thanks to Jayne Young for looking after the event. She, with Amanda's help, pulled off a difficult job in a short period of time.

The MS Walk was the day after and we had a good turnout of volunteers as we usually do, and a beautiful day for the Walk.

There were approximately 320 people participating in the Walk this year.

Yesterday, June 9th, saw the tower move take place.

A large contingent of club members were on hand at St Andrew's at 0700 to assist in the take down of the tower, and its transport to Station 50 where it was mostly reassembled in the afternoon.

The weather co-operated, although there were a few light sprinkles at various time during the day.

Through the generosity of the City, we had not only a boom truck present for the lift, but also a zoom boom to help remove the antenna array, as well as remove the bolts from the tower as it was separated.

Now that the tower is moved, we need to get the rest of the stuff moved from the Club to Station 50 as soon as possible.

Things need to be boxed and ready to be moved as we are hiring professional movers to move the bulk of the stuff to our new home.

Please contact Brian if you can help pull things together this week.

We HAVE TO be out of St Andrew's COMPLETELY no later than the 23rd of June. Many hands make light work, folks, so please, pitch in this week if at all possible.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the first General meeting in our new home on June 20th !

73, Jeremy, VE1JHF/VA1GUN, President of the HARC

**NEW CLUB LOCATION**

Here is some information about the new club location. It is Fire Station 50 in Hammonds Plains. In the beginning we will have to man the door to let people into the building until we have members registered and have passes issued.

There is a flight of stairs (about 15 steps) to get to the second floor where the training room and club rooms are.

Parking may also be limited. We do not yet have a clear idea of how many cars we can get in the rear parking lot. We will probably have someone directing parking. **One very important parking note is not to park in front of the equipment bay doors or use any of the marked spaces on the paved portion.**

While the station is manned Monday through Friday it is volunteer at all other times and the volunteers need to be able to easily park if they are called out.

If the parking area at the rear of the station is full there are a couple parking areas very nearby.

**WANTED**

While we do have a few more net controllers we still would like to have 3 or 4 more. Please consider this small task that usually only takes about 15 to 20 minutes on Sunday evening. This net may be very important over the next 6 months as we move to our new location. Announcements of events and work parties may be the only notice people get since there will be no newsletter after very early June. Doing net control will also help if you are needed for emergency communications or exercises. Remember the 3 VE1PSR repeaters are linked for the Take-15 net (6M, 2M and 70 cm), the net can be run from any of these repeaters. Let me know if you are interested in joining the roster.

Bill Elliott, VE1MR

Phone: 902-865-8567

E-Mail: [bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca)

The complete and official rules for Field Day are available on the ARRL Web site at

<http://www.arrl.org/contests/rules/>

Subscribe to the AMSAT-BB at  
<http://www.amsat.org/mailman/listinfo/amsat-bb>

*A hangover is  
the wrath of  
grapes.*



**The DownEast Flea market** is a wrap for another year.

We had a total of \* 190 \* people through the doors (sellers and buyers) at \$5 a head. = \$950 (door)

We gave away 13 door prizes

Our take from the 50/50 draw was \$107.50 (sold 214 tickets @ \$1 )

So, after paying for the hall rental (\$300) and reimbursing the club for the hats/tshirts/crests (\$80), and with the float (\$400) reimbursed, we walk away with a **net total of \$677.50.**

To the D.A.R.C. ----- > \$100.00

To the H.A.R.C. ----- > \$577.50

Jeremy



Tom, VE1GTC, brought the QSL Bureau

From the Maritime Amateur June Report

After fears of the Down East flea market not happening due to lack of amateurs asking for tables, the event turned out to be a real success. I have had several amateurs tell me that they had a great time, a great location and easy access. A little hard work and many emails saved the day. Congrats to all who stood firm and pulled it off and as I always say with the MA website thanks to all who attended... without you the amateurs it would have not happened.

James "Jim" Langille VE1JBL  
Webmaster: [maritimeamateur.ca](http://maritimeamateur.ca)

*"Having more money doesn't make you happier. I have 50 million dollars but I'm just as happy as when I had 48 million."*

~ Arnold

Schwarzenegger...

The  
Annapolis  
Valley  
Amateur  
Radio Club  
was there



R.A.C. was there



FleaMarket photos thanks to Jayne Young

### The Internet of Digital Radio

The topic of how radio evolves and embraces available technology is one that describes the hobby itself. From spark-gap through AM, SSB and FM our community picked up or invented solutions to make communication possible. When the internet came along it too became a tool ripe for picking and in 1997 a connection between a radio and the internet was made with the Internet Radio Linking Project or IRLP when Dave VE7LTD, a student at the University of British Columbia, joined the UBC Amateur Radio Society. Using a radio, some hardware and a computer, you could send audio between radios across the internet.

Since then this field has exploded with D-STAR, Echolink, DMR, AllStar, Wires, CODEC2, System Fusion and Brandmeister.

At a glance they're all the same thing, radio + internet = joy.

Looking closer there are two distinct kinds of internet radio contraptions, those where the radio is digital and those where it's not. IRLP is an example of an analogue radio connecting to hardware that does the encoding into digital and transmits across the internet. At the other end the reverse process, decoding, happens and another analogue radio is used to hear the result. This encoding and decoding is done by a piece of software called a CODEC.

If we continue for a moment down the analogue path, Echolink, AllStar and Wires do similar things. In 2002 Echolink made its way onto the scene, similar to IRLP, but it didn't need any specialised hardware, any computer running the Echolink software could be used as both a client and a server, that is, you could use it to listen to Echolink, or you could use it to connect a radio to another Echolink computer.

AllStar, which started life in 2008 went a step further by making the

linking completely separate. It uses the metaphor of a telephone exchange to connect nodes together, which is not surprising if you know that it's built on top of the open source telephone switching software Asterisk.

In 2012 or so, Yaesu introduced Wires which is much like Echolink and AllStar. There are servers with rooms, not unlike chat rooms, where you connect a node to and in turn your radio.

Blurring the lines between these technologies happened when you could build a computer that spoke both IRLP and Echolink at the same time. Now you can also add AllStar to that mix.

Essentially these systems do similar things. They manage switching differently, handle DTMF differently, use a different audio CODEC and handle authentication in a variety of ways, but essentially they're ways of connecting normal hand-held radios, generally FM, to each other via the internet using intermediary computers called nodes. Before you start sending angry letters, I know, there's more to it, but I've got more to tell.

While Dave was busy in Canada inventing IRLP back in the late 1990's, in Japan the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications funded research, administered by the Japan Amateur Radio League into the digitisation of amateur radio. In 2001 that research resulted in what we know today as D-STAR. Two years later, ICOM started developing D-STAR hardware which resulted in actual physical radios less than a year later. Today you can get D-STAR hardware from ICOM, Kenwood and FlexRadio Systems.

Unlike the other technologies where the audio was converted at a central place, in D-STAR the audio is encoded in the radio and a digital signal is sent across the airwaves.

That in turn means that the software that does the encoding, the CODEC, needs to be inside the radio. Since the information is digital right from the point of transmit, you can send other information, like GPS locations and messages along with the audio.

In 2005 DMR started life as a group of companies, now up to around 40, agreeing on some standards for digital audio in much the same way as D-STAR. Mostly in use by commercial users, DMR has the ability to have two users simultaneously on-air using alternate channels by having separate time slots for each channel, alternating between the two of them. They agreed to use the same CODEC to ensure compatibility. Formal interoperability testing has been happening since 2010, but because DMR allows manufacturers to build in extra features many brands cannot actually work together on the same network.

For many years D-STAR and DMR-MARC, the DMR Motorola Amateur Radio Club World Wide Network, were the main digital radio systems around in amateur radio. That changed in 2013 when Yaesu introduced System Fusion. It too made digital audio at the radio, but it added a wrinkle by making it possible to have both analogue and digital audio on the same repeater. Depending on how the repeater is configured, analogue and digital radios can coexist and communicate with each other.

The Wires system that Yaesu rolled out was upgraded in 2016, renamed to Wires X and now also incorporates digital information to allow the linking of their System Fusion repeaters.

In 2014 at the Ham Radio Exhibition in Friedrichshafen in Germany, Artem R3ABM planned to make an alternative master server for

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Halifax Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018 Minutes

The May monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 20:28 hrs with Jeremy (VE1JHF) in the Chair.

**Motion to approve the agenda** was made by Peter (VE1PJW) and seconded by Don (VE1DTR); carried.  
Self Introductions: There were 35 members and 2 guests present

**Silent Keys:** Jeremy reported the following silent keys for May/June 2017:

Robert Thomas Kirkpatrick, VE9VAR, Riverview NB, Apr.26th, 2018

Robert Curtis Foote, VE1AFJBible Hill NS, Apr.12th, 2018

Edouard McGraw, VE9EMCTracadie NB, Apr.11, 2018

**Motion to approve the April monthly meeting minutes** as published in the HARC Reflector was made by Bill (VE1MR); seconded by Doug (VE1LDL); Carried.

**President's Report:** Jeremy indicated that we need to be out of St. Andrews by June 1<sup>st</sup> but that does not appear to be a fixed date. He also indicated that for the upcoming Flea Market on 26<sup>th</sup> May, we currently have 30 of the 56 available tables are currently reserved according to Crag (VE1JMA); we are confined to the number of tables due to the restricted space at the Sackville Legion site.

**Treasures report:** Jim (VE1JG) presented the Treasurer's report for the month of April 2018. There was an opening bank balance for 1 April 2018 was \$6,926.45. Total income for the month of April was \$882.50 with expenses of \$2.25. There were no outstanding cheques. Therefore our cash position at the end of the month of April was \$7,806.70. A copy of the full report is appended to the official hard copy of these minutes.

**Motion to approve the May report of the Treasurer** - Moved by Jim

(VE1JG) seconded by Dick (VE1AI) Carried.

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

### Committee/Project Reports:

a. Membership report: Jim (VE1PPA) – 95 Full; 23 Assoc & 4 Life.

-b. Technical Committee: Don (VE1DTR) – nothing to report.

-c. SAR/EMO Committee: Dave (VE1AJP) – Dave (VE1AJP) reported on an elderly couple whose car broke down; the husband left his wife to walk and get help but after being found, he couldn't remember where he left the car and his wife.

-d. Program/Social Committee: Gary (VE1GGM) – Absent – No report.

-e. Flea Market: Jeremy (VE1JHF) – So far there are 30 tables booked but we have approximately 56 available. Members were asked to contact Craig (VE1JMA) if they wish to reserve a table. There will be a canteen available for those wishing to purchase food.

-f. Educational Programs: Wayne (VE1WPH) – Absent – no report.

-g. Halifax Auxiliary Telecommunication Service (HATS) – Scott reported on the HATS second general meeting that was held on the 7<sup>th</sup> of May. Scott reported that Joe (VE1CH) has resigned from the steering committee and many on the committee are beyond retirement necessitating the development of a leadership programme in an effort to build a larger base of potential leaders to assist in this area. Scott reported that the official acronym for the organization will now be known officially as HATS. Scott indicated that he is developing a

membership manual for HATS as well as an outline of the duties of the "Duty Officer" who will be responsible for the callout of members if required by EMO. Scott indicated that Tom (VE1GTC) is in charge of training and that training courses continue to be key to the success of HATS.

-h. MMA report – Dick (VE1AI) indicated that they are manning the Wireless Room every Monday and Thursday mornings and afternoons. He reported that it would be helpful to have additional members volunteer to help out.

-i. Other Reports

i. Petition – Dick (VE1AI) reported that he has been made aware of a Ham in the Ukraine who is requesting \$3 if anyone wants a QSL confirmation on ARRL.

### Old Business:

Brian (VE1AZV) reported that our move to Station 50 will be the first or second weekend in June, depending on whether all of the required cabling is completed at Fire Station 50. Brian indicated that there is at least a truck-load of equipment that we use for Field Day that is currently in the Club station at St. Andrews that can not be relocated to Station 50 and must be taken to the container at Cowie Hill. The Club will need help with the move of this equipment and he urged anyone with a truck that is able to help, to let him know. In addition, he indicated that there is a need for assistance in moving things from the Club station to the Flea Market site in Sackville. Brian also indicated that repair work on the FT-1000 has not yet been completed and may be out of service for a month or more. Finally, Brian indicated that all Club members must now fill out and sign a form that is required by HRM for insurance purposes if they wish to have access to Station 50.

**Round Table:** Bill (VE1MR) requested that additional net controllers are required for the Take

(Continued on page 7)

Minutes (Continued from page 6)

15 Net on Sunday evenings.

**Ticket draws:** 50/50 Draw – \$35 was won by Jeremy (VE1JHF).

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn made by Don (VE1DTR) at 21:24 hrs.

Respectfully submitted by Howard Dickson (VE1DHD) Acting Secretary on May 17, 2018.

### From the Maritime Amateur June Report

... After fears of the Down East flea market not happening due to lack of amateurs asking for tables the event turned out to be a real success. I have had several amateurs tell me that they had a great time, a great location and easy access. A little hard work and many emails saved the day. Congrats to all who stood firm and pulled it off and as I always say with the MA website thanks to all who attended...without you the amateurs it would have not happened.

James "Jim" Langille VE1JBL  
Webmaster: maritimeamateur.ca

### Here are the headlines from the Maritime Amateur website for June 1

Recap of May's Exercise Handshake available for viewing

The Halifax ARC has a active SwapShop on their website. They also continue to update the Maritime Callbook which is only available online.

New Brunswick amateur receives Exemplary Service Award

YouTube video of Hamvention 2018 by Larry Jacobs WA7ZBO

Listings for DMR Nets

Recap of MESH presentation with Steve Frost VE9SF

Is the internet, millennials or FT-8 killing ham radio?

Annapolis Valley ARC and Kings County ARC will conduct an Emergency Communications Course

Threat to HF bands from Solor Power

Edouard McGraw VE9EMC (SK) Tracadie NB (Apr.11th, 2018)

William Charles Drillen VE1BR (SK) Saint John NB (Apr.4th, 2018)

Welcome to 10 new amateurs at PSFC.

(Continued from page 5)

DMR+ & DMR-MARC; the result was a German wordplay which we know today as Brandmeister. It acts as a network for digital radios in much the same way as DMR, but it's run as an open alternative to the commercially available options made by Motorola and Hytera.

The story isn't complete without mentioning one other development, CODEC2. It started in 2008 when Bruce Perens K6BP contacted Jean-Marc Valin, famous for the SPEEX audio compressor and David Rowe VK5DGR about the proprietary and patented nature of low data use voice encoders such as those in use in D-STAR, DMR and System Fusion. David had already been working in this area a decade earlier and started writing code.

In 2012 during Linux Conference Australia, Jean-Marc and David spent some time together hacking and managed to make a 25% improvement and CODEC2 was well under way. Today CODEC2 forms the basis of several projects including FreeDV in software, the SM1000 FreeDV adaptor in hardware and the roadmap for the future of open and free digital voice is bright.

I should mention that this information is brief to give you an overview of the landscape. Hopefully I've not made too many glaring errors, but feel free to drop me a line if you do find a problem.

Digital radio and the internet, it's not just a single mode, a whole cloud of modes, and I haven't even started with WSPR, FT8 or JT65.

I'm Onno VK6FLAB

To listen to the podcast, visit the website:

<http://podcasts.itmaze.com.au/foundations/> and scroll to the bottom for the latest episode. You can also use your podcast tool of choice and search for my callsign, VK6FLAB, or you can read the book, look for my callsign on your local Amazon store, or visit my author page: <http://amazon.com/author/owh>

If you'd like to participate in discussion about the podcast or about amateur radio, you can visit the Facebook group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/foundations.itmaze>

Feel free to get in touch directly via email: [onno@itmaze.com.au](mailto:onno@itmaze.com.au), or follow on twitter: @VK6FLAB (<http://twitter.com/vk6flab/>)

If you'd like to join the weekly net for new and returning amateurs, check out the details at

<http://ftroop.vk6.net>

The net runs every week on Saturday, from 00:00 to 01:00 UTC on Echolink, IRLP, AllStar Link and 2m FM via various repeaters.

### The Maritime Amateur

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

*Not doing the  
things that need  
doing never  
makes you feel  
good.*



## From the Mail Bag



Max, VE1IC, and Jim, VE1RB, just completed a three site trip today (June 8) which included the APRS node re-activation at Yarmouth VE1YAR and Barrington VA1BAR. In addition, the Middle Ohio site VE1SCR for reinstallation of the UHF packet node VE1SCR-1 which links to East Kemptville VE1EKV-1. This once again re-establishes the South Shore Packet Network (144.970) to the main MARCAN VHF Packet Network.

Thanks to both Max VE1IC and Jim VE1RB for their dedication for making this all possible.

73, Lorne, VE1BXK

Here is a "Users Guide" for FT-8. Long PDF article but very informative:

[http://www.g4ifb.com/FT8\\_Hinson\\_tips\\_for\\_HF\\_DXers.pdf](http://www.g4ifb.com/FT8_Hinson_tips_for_HF_DXers.pdf)

- Ken VY2RU

From Dana VE1VOX

The Canadian Brandmeister DMR Network now has an established emergency communication talk group for NB, NS, PEI. 3021911 Maritime Canada Disaster.

<https://wiki.brandmeister.network/index.php/Canada>

The "brand spankin' new" KENWOOD TS-890S.....

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pWf9Cn6gOd8&feature=em-uploademail>

- Ken VY2RU

ALSO.... the "NEW???...FTdx101D..

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ROy\\_I5pP7A](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3ROy_I5pP7A)

## The 2018 MS Walk - Halifax

Once again Volunteers from the HARC provided radio communications for the 2018 MS Walk this year which had nice weather for its 320 participants



Pres. Jeremy, VE1JHF at the staging area



Ham Radio communicat  
ors were  
strategically  
located  
along the  
route to  
provide fast  
response to  
'Walker'  
issues  
should any  
arise

The TARC Newbie Round Table was bac k on the air June 10, 2018 at 2100 hrs after a break of several weeks.

Topics - antennas and summer lightning protection, basic repeater operation.



Brandon, VE1BMF, manning a way-point

MS Walk  
photos  
thanks to  
Amanda  
Schreiber



Coms  
Centre



## NOTICE

There will probably be impromptu work parties related to the club move over the next several months. While sending a notice by e-mail will often be the means to let club members know, the announcement may also only be on the Take-15 net. Please listen to the Take-15 net on Sunday evenings at 2030. Also check the web site and read your e-mail regularly.

Advice from A Wise Old Man... "Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong."



## News from the HATS: June 2018

*The Halifax Auxiliary Telecommunications Service (HATS) 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 amateur radio clubs in the Halifax region and functions under the direction of the Emergency Management Division of Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency (HRFE).*

**NEWS:** In the last month two key members of the HATS Steering Committee have stepped back from their leadership roles. One is **Joe MacPherson, VE1CH**, who has many decades of experience as a ham and in emergency planning and management through both government and amateur radio organizations. He led us through several complicated exercises. The other is Tom Caithness, VE1GTC, who has been our training officer with many years of experience as a ham and a trainer with Halifax Regional Fire and Emergency (HRFE). He has designed and delivered many of our courses. The expertise of both of these remarkable colleagues also has included writing handbooks, manuals and various important protocols guiding our work.

Without question they will be deeply missed on our leadership team, but we wish them well and recognize that they deserve a rest after so many years of service. They will remain a part of HATS and available for call out in an emergency, as their circumstances permit.

Good luck, Guys!

Yes, this leaves a big hole in our

leadership structure and will require some new thinking and action to rebuild and strengthen our leadership. It is clear that an aging group of leaders, no matter how able, leave an organization vulnerable. On the other hand, younger members often do not feel they have either the training or experience to assume these roles.

Our response to the situation is to launch a **HATS Leadership Program**. We are now actively seeking members who have leadership capability and are interested in developing it. We will work with them to: 1) identify the knowledge and skills they bring to the table; 2) determine what training and experience they may need to grow into important HATS leadership roles; and 3) develop a plan for them to access appropriate courses and obtain the necessary experience in order to be qualified and comfortable leaders. Let me know, if you wish to be considered for this program.

Our Second General Meeting of HATS on Monday, 7 May was well attended and provided an opportunity to update members regarding current HATS activities. It also included some instruction on the use of TMR radios by Joe MacPherson, VE1CH as well as a nice chance to socialize with fellow HATS members over refreshments.

Planning is progressing well for our **public demonstration of amateur radio and HATS exercise** at Scott Manor House in Bedford on 7-8 July. I will soon be sending out detailed information and a request for your participation.

### UP COMING EVENTS:

- 13 June (Wednesday) at 1000 hrs. HRFE/EM – Radio Advisory

Group Meeting at the Eric Spicer Building on Mt Hope Drive in Dartmouth.

- 20 June (Wednesday) at 18:30 hrs. – HARC Monthly Meeting at our new HQ at Fire Station 50 on Hammonds Plain Road. The meeting will be an introduction to our new facilities and also involve planning field trials for the HARC station.
- 7 – 8 July – A public information display of amateur radio emergency communications and training exercise at Scott Manor House in Bedford

**ACTION:** For those who may not have completed the introductory training course in the **Incident Command System** (ICS), remember that free ICS-100 training on-line is always available. If you want to pursue this opportunity, I can provide you with the URL and a necessary access code. My contact info is below.

Do you want membership information? Please contact Dave Musgrave, VE1EDA. He is our membership officer and will see that you get the necessary information and application forms. His contact information is via email: [veleda@bellaliant.net](mailto:veleda@bellaliant.net)

Finally, please submit your monthly time and travel data to Joe MacPherson ([jmp@bellaliant.net](mailto:jmp@bellaliant.net)) who is continuing to take care of this important record keeping.

73 de Scott

K. Scott Wood, VE1QD  
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To make the most of **our web page** please send photos, notices of events, and ham radio news items, etc. to Web Site Content Manager - Brandon Fowler (VE1BMF) at [bmfowler95@gmail.com](mailto:bmfowler95@gmail.com)

*"A bachelor is a guy who never made the same mistake once."*

-Phyllis Diller

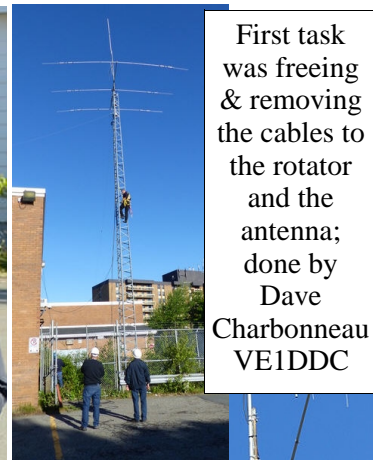




June 9, 2018, Removing our tower from the St. Andrews Centre was a major job made so much easier & faster by the skilled hands and the right tools doing the work.



Don, VE1DRM with Brian, VA1CC



First task was freeing & removing the cables to the rotator and the antenna; done by Dave Charbonneau VE1DDC

The 2nd task was taking down the antenna facilitated by the mobile lift platform



Pre safety meeting with equipment operators.



Photos thanks to Howard, VE1DHD



HF antenna removed



Mast with antennas removed



With the antennas removed, the truck's telescoping boom lifted down the tower in two pieces so it could be put on the truck and transported to Station 50

