



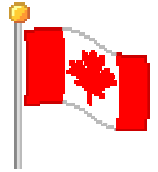
The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR

PO BOX 8895
HALIFAX NS
B3K 5M5

October 2018, Volume 79 Number 8

club web site is www.halifax-arc.org



Happy Hallowe'en complete with Goulies & Ghosties ... and things that go 'bump' in the night

HARC Club Station phone number - 902-490-6421

Executive

| | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|
| President - Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF | 240-4302 | ve1jhf@gmail.com |
| First V.P. - VACANT | | |
| 2nd V.P. - VACANT | | |
| Secretary - VACANT | | |
| Treasurer - Bill Simm, VA1ALW | | williamrs@outlook.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 - Murray MacDonald
QSL Bureau Mgr - VACANT
EMO Coordinator - David George, VE1AJP 466-8723 dgeorge@dal.ca
EMO Trailer coordinator - David Musgrave, VE1EDA 435-4333 veleda@rac.ca
Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT 865-8567 bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca
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Web site content Manager - Brandon Fowler (VE1BMF) bmfwler95@gmail.com
Basic ham course - Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE velpye@bellaliant.net
2019 Flea market Chair - George Snow, VE1CAW velcaw@gmail.com
2019 Field Day Coordinator - VACANT
Safety Officer - Pat Kavanaugh, VE1PK velphk@rac.ca
VA1MMA Project Manager - Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2191 velqd@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 velqd@rac.ca

Take-15 Net Controllers

. We need more net controllers. **If you want to join**, let Bill Elliott, VE1MR, know.



| | | | |
|------|----|-------|--------|
| Oct. | 14 | Scott | VE1QD |
| Oct. | 21 | Peter | VE1PJW |
| Oct. | 28 | Gary | VA1GGM |
| Nov. | 4 | Bill | VA1ALW |
| Nov. | 11 | Cam | VE1BIT |
| Nov. | 18 | Scott | VE1QD |
| Nov. | 23 | Peter | VE1PJW |



*You hit down to make
the ball go up. Swing
left and the ball goes
right. The lowest score
wins; on top of that,
the winner buys the drinks.*

Quote By George Burns
May 29, 1903 - July 27, 2003

ON TURNING 70 'You still chase
women, but only downhill'.

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

The October 2018 General Meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will be held Wednesday, Oct. 17, in the training room at Fire Station 50 (2050 Hammonds Plains Rd.) See page 3 for information re parking and building access.

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

7:00-8:00pm - Presentation: Operating from a Rare IOTA Island in the Bearing Sea

Presenters: Fred and Helen Archibald, VE1FA & VA1YL rip to Round Island in Alaska.

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

Guests are welcome

**Deadline for submissions to the
November Reflector is
Saturday, Nov.10, 2018**

*Behind every great man is a
woman rolling her eyes.*

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

The Radio Room at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic is still in operation.

Saturday, October 20 -
Greenwood ARC flea market from 10am to 1:00pm followed by the NSARA Meeting and AGM.

Saturday, October 20 - NSARA Meeting and AGM

When: 12:00pm to 1:30pm

Where: following the Greenwood ARC flea market, at the Greenwood Community Centre, 110 Church St. Greenwood, NS

December: H.A.R.C. Christmas Party Basic Amateur Radio Course.

Co coordinated by Wayne, VE1WPH & Jason, VE1PYE. Because of the move and the current incomplete state of the club station, the course will be delayed until early in 2019. Classes will be on Saturday at the club facilities. Check our website and the Take 15 net for information.

VY0ERC will be QRV from October 17 until November 10, 2018 from Eureka, NU (NA-008).

Expect activity on 40, 20 Meters and hopefully 80m in SSB, Digital and CW when time and weather permits.

Activity via FM satellites from ER60, EQ79 and close grids is also scheduled.

Alex, VE1RUS

The **Truro Newbie Round Table** will be returning on Sunday, October 14th at 2100.

Repeaters linked for the round table: VE1HAR will be the primary site with the following repeaters linked, VE1TRO, VE1BHS, VE1SHU, VE1USR, VE1PKT, VE1HR, VE1AEH, VE1WN, VE1RTI, VE1GYS, VE1CFR, VE1WRC, VE1NET

Is it wrong that only one company makes the game Monopoly?

Greenwood ARC flea market

Date: Oct.20, 2018 (Saturday)

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

Place: Greenwood Community Centre 110 Church Street, Greenwood, Nova Scotia

Cost: Admission \$5.00. Tables Free To Sellers

GPS Coordinates: N44° 58.512' W064° 55.612'

Talk In: VE1WN 147.240+

A GARC Member will be on the air to answer questions and to give directions.

Flea Market - All sorts of **Amateur Radio, Computer and Electronics** for sale. Sell your old stuff or buy some new old stuff.

To Book Tables Contact: Flea Market Coordinator Carol VE1ICY cfhutchinson@gmail.com

To Obtain Further Info Contact: GARC President – Phil Hunter VE1PHL garc.ve1wn@gmail.com

There will be various **door prizes** given out. Don't forget to buy your tickets for the main raffle - Prize TBA

BBQ: Sausage, Hot Dogs, Muffins, Cookies, Chips, Pop, Water, Tea / Coffee are available for purchase

Examples from the IOTA "Most Wanted Islands" listing:

Barbados: worked by 59.9% of "IOTA chasers"

Honshu: worked by 58.1% of "IOTA chasers"

Bon Portage: worked by 29.5% of "IOTA chasers"

Walrus Islands: worked by 6.4% of "IOTA chasers"

Nihoa (KH6,KH7): worked by 0.0% of "IOTA chasers"

The Maritime Amateur

Ham Radio

for Maritimers by Maritimers

www.maritimeamateur.ca

Looking For Program Ideas!

We have begun to arrange programs for our monthly HARC meetings in 2019. As always, we are anxious to solicit your ideas of interesting topics we might address and recommendations of presenters who are entertaining & informative speakers.

Our monthly programs represent an important educational opportunity but should also be an entertaining event. We often call on our own membership for programs; however, we should never hesitate to broaden the pool of talent on which we draw. There are accomplished and interesting hams throughout our Maritime Provinces who we can invite to address us – something we already have been doing now and then. Moreover, there is little standing in the way of inviting any exciting speaker, anywhere in the World to address us via a conferencing technology such as **Go-to-Meeting** or **Skype**, for example. Is there a presenter at some ham fest or an author in leading ham radio magazines who has inspired you and who we might similarly invite? The extent of our imagination and dreams are the only limit!

Do you have a topic you would like to share with your fellow Club members, but feel that you may need some help with the preparation of a program? Well, we can help you prepare a power point presentation, including graphics and some coaching, if desired.

Please contact me with any suggestions you may have.

K. Scott Wood, VE1QD,
HARC Program Committee
Email: scott.ve1qd@gmail.com
Tele: 902 823-2191

Proofreading is a dying art, wouldn't you say?

New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group
Weren't they fat enough?!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE for October, 2018

Greetings from Lower Sackville !

The cool weather is now upon us but Calgary is welcome to keep the 40 cm. of snow they have already received.

It was good to see everyone at the last General meeting .

As most of you know our Club is facing some challenges at the present time.

This move this year has been a difficult one for the Club and we still have some hurdles to overcome.

We are looking for members to come forward and fill the current vacancies on the Executive .

We also require a new QSL Bureau manager.

Come election time, there will be other positions to be filled as well.

The nominating committee will be contacting the membership in the next month looking for people to serve on the Executive.

Please consider contributing your time and talents to the future of HARC by serving in an Executive position.

The work to get the Club station fully operational is still ongoing. We are still waiting for the phone and internet lines to be installed, and to get our full radio compliment up and running.

Please consider offering your help to the reconstruction of the radio room. You can contact Bill (MR) or Brian (Stn mgr) to offer your services.

This Club, now more than ever, needs the membership to pull together to make our future a bright and prosperous one.

We look forward to seeing you all at the next General meeting on the 17th.

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

EXERCISE HANDSHAKE FROM HARC AT STATION 50

On Tuesday September 25th, 2018 4 operators went in to the Halifax ARC station for Exercise Handshake. Taking part were George, VE1CAW; John, VE1BIR; Bill, VE1MR and Fraser, VE1WO. We checked in to net control stations on various modes and frequencies as well as testing 900 MHz between the Riverside Jem (Fire Station 45 in Fall River) and the Dartmouth ARC at the HRM EOC. HF net control was the Yarmouth EOC and we had good signals in both directions. The TMR net control was the Antigonish EOC and TMR worked well from our station using the hand held with attached rubber antenna. The VHF/UHF net control was the Amhurst EOC. We had planned on checking in to the VHF/UHF net via VHF on VE1HNS and IRLP but the DTMF did not seem to work so we switched to UHF and used the Gore UHF hub repeater.

Thanks to Alastair Cox, VE1PAB for manning the River-Lakes JEM to test the 900 MHz radio for signal quality between the DARC station and the HARC station. The signal from the River-Lakes JEM to DARC was good while the signal from the River-Lakes JEM to HARC was noisy and occasionally dropped out. The signal between DARC and HARC was full quieting. Alastair also commented that the signal received from HARC was sometimes noisy. The signal between HARC and the River-Lakes JEM can probably be improved by swinging the antenna at HARC more toward the River-Lakes JEM. After testing the path to HARC and DARC Alastair went on to check in to Exercise Handshake on TMR and VHF.

While this is not the first time HARC has taken part in Exercise Handshake it is the first time from our new location. Hopefully we will take part in Exercise Handshake on a regular basis whenever possible now that we have a working station. There is still lots of work to be done in the club radio room but we do have a working station. Exercise Handshake is held the last Tuesday of every month. This exercise would be good practice for HATS members on using the various radios at the HARC station.

Report submitted by Bill Elliott, VE1MR

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.

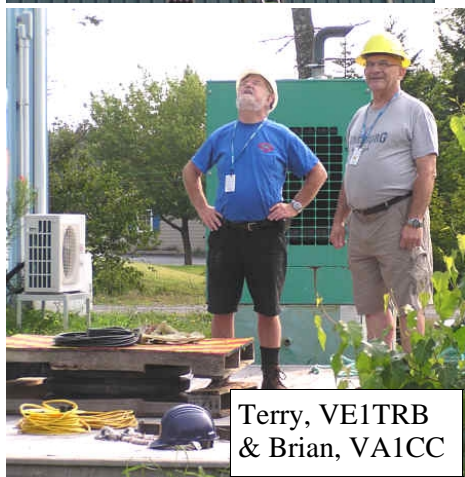
If the parking area at the rear of the station is full there are a couple parking areas very nearby.

August 11- Installation of some of the antennas on the Halifax Amateur Radio Club's Tower at Fire Station 50
August 25 - Installation of the last of the antennas and installation of cabling



Dave, VE1DDC and Brandon, VE1BMF on the tower doing the antenna and cabling work.

I changed my password to "incorrect," so whenever I forget it the computer will say, "Your password is incorrect."



Terry, VE1TRB
& Brian, VA1CC

"Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn't make a decision."

~Unknown~



SHARED ON I'M NOT RIGHT IN THE HEAD.COM

Activating a Rare Arctic Island for IOTA

Fred VE1FA/KL7 & Helen VA1YL/KL7

Probably the most popular amateur radio contest in the world is the ARRL's DXCC challenge, in which you try to work all of the 341 or so "radio countries" on Earth. Recently, the Islands On The Air (IOTA) challenge, in which you try to work all of 1178 ocean islands and island groups around the world has approached DXCC in popularity. As in DXCC, in the IOTA system you can be a "activator" who goes to and puts islands on the air, or a "chaser" who tries to work those islands from home, and as in DXCC some islands are quite easy to work (think Newfoundland, Cape Breton, or Vancouver Is.) and some are very difficult! Since 1991 a group of us has mounted many IOTA DXpeditions to a number of Canadian Maritime islands. Although we always generate pileups and have fun, the islands we usually activate (like Fogo, St. Paul, Whitehead, Seal, Pictou, and Bon Portage) aren't at all rare.

Round Island is one of the Walrus Is. group in the Bering Sea, west of mainland Alaska. Our daughter Margaret (VE2ZOO) has spent the last three summers collecting biometric data on Round Island's amazing wildlife for the Alaska Department of Fish + Game (ADF+G). This summer Margaret invited us to visit her there. Of course we said yes! While we were going primarily to

(Continued on page 5)

see her and her wild arctic habitat, we couldn't resist checking on the island group's IOTA status: turns out that the Walrus Is. Group (NA-121) is very rare, with only 6.4% of all-time IOTA chasers having worked it. The last activation was many years ago.



Margaret, ADF+G technician (and VE2ZOO) observing walrus haul-outs (pink masses on beach) from halfway up Round Island

We couldn't resist! We first obtained the necessary visitor permits from ADF+G. Then we put together a "fits in the overhead bin" portable station. It consisted of an IC-706Mk2G transceiver, tiny switching power supply, 70' of quality mini-8 foam co-ax, and a common feed double 40m-20m dipole made with tough, light 24-ga kapton-coated silvered wire. Total station weight, with all accessories: 11.4 lbs. This station, nicely padded with socks, shirts, &



The Round Is. station. The clock is wrong: if the time zones were uniform we would have been 11h behind UTC, but with daylight savings and distorted zones we were actually 8h behind UTC.

long johns rode in my suitcase in the overhead bins of most of the 10 flights needed to get us there and back. The only exception was the ancient 6-seat Piper to Togiak that didn't have bins, overhead or anywhere else.

Because there are no trees on Round Is. we also had to bring a duffel bag that contained 7 x 4' lengths of 1.75" dia. fiberglass & aluminum masting, 1/8" Dacron guy cord and halyard, plus aluminum stakes and hardware. Our boots and sleeping bags rounded up the bag.

July 3, 2018. We arrived in the Yup'ik (Eskimo) village of Togiak, on Alaska's west coast (Bristol Bay) and contacted the driver who was supposed to take us by boat the 35 miles out to Round Is. the next morning. After a night filled with anticipation (and a great dinner of king salmon caught 200 yards away a few hours earlier) the boat driver decided not to go. July 5th was a go,



Our "Weather Port" QTH and noisy power shed. Note the shadow of our antenna.

and we were off in his light launch, skipping across the big swells pushed by the 225 hp outboard, and passing a big Russian tug and barge selling tax-free oil to one and all. The huge hump of Round Is. (it's 1400' tall, with a broad, low

plateau on the east side) grew and grew, until we finally nosed into Boat Cove. The island, clothed in waist- to chest-deep grass was a most brilliant green up to the raw rock and tundra near the mountain top. The entire population of 6 (4 visiting tourist-photographers, and Amber & Margaret, the ADF+G staff) came down to greet us.

There is only a single small dwelling/office/lab on the island, which is Margaret and Amber's, but for us Margaret had set up their auxiliary "Weather Port", a Quonset-style tent, tall enough for a small table and chair, making it both our dorm and radio shack.

Interestingly, on each of the 9 places it is permitted to camp on Round Is. there is a platform made of 1" x 6" "boards" of recycled plastic. Each of these platforms rests on and protects the site of an ancient house or hut, probably used when hunting walrus. The oldest was occupied 6000 years

before the present. It made us wonder who was sleeping a few feet below us...

Antenna setup went smoothly, except for the strong cold wind & occasional blasts of fine rain and the deep grass that would "disappear" anything you dropped! The island's power for computers, satellite links,

(Continued on page 7)

Halifax Amateur Radio Club Monthly Meeting Minutes 19th September, 2018

The June monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 20:15 hrs with Jeremy, VE1JHF in the Chair welcoming everyone to the meeting.

Roll Call: - was dispensed with since it was done earlier for the guest speaker.

Silent Keys:

Bill Ackerman, VE1VAV,
Stellarton N.S. on July 5th

Neil Everett, VE1AHN,
Kingston N.S. on July 18th

John Milburn, VE1JGM,
Lincoln N.B. on July 25th

Betty Ross, VE1RBK,
Riley Brook N.B. on Aug. 5th

Bruce Edward Croft, VE1BEC,
Liverpool N.S. on Sept. 4th

Dr. Jules J.C. Picot, ex VE1AES,
Fredericton N.B. on Sept. 10th

Motion to approve the agenda: -

This portion of the audio recording missing.

Approval of the Minutes of the June Meeting:

Betty's comments and the resignation letter from Amanda to be added to the June meeting minutes.

Scott, VE1QD moved,

Doug, VE1LDL seconded.

- Passed unanimously

President's Report:

Jeremy, VE1JHF discussed the stress and changes due to the move and went on to say several executive positions were vacated due to resignations. Treasurer, Secretary, 1st VP, 2nd VP, Tom has stepped down from co coordinating the course and the QSL bureau Manager.

Jeremy went on to discuss what the city is requiring for insurance purposes and the volunteer registration form and the difference between guests and people who are here on a regular basis such as course participants. He also discussed the need for the nominating committee to try and fill vacant positions. Several people added comments. Jeremy

stressed that Treasurer and Secretary were the most important position to be immediately filled. Scott, VE1QD stressed temporarily filling some positions but the real need to get a slate of officers. Bill, VE1MR stressed the need for a chair of the nominating committee and said anyone with math skills could temporarily take on the treasurer. Cam, VE1BIT asked what was involved and where the bank was. Jeremy went over the requirements and said which bank and branch we were using. Bill, VA1ALW said he could do it and Cam indicated that Bill could take it on. Jeremy discussed the phone line and internet and we hoped that would be addressed tomorrow at the EMO Advisory Committee meeting. He also discussed some of the hold ups due to contractors as well as the status of the radio room and what was hooked up and would be conducting radio tests as we go forward.

Treasures report:

Jeremy read the financial report to August 31 as submitted by Jim, VE1JG.

Bill, VE1MR moved acceptance

Scott, VE1QD seconded

- Motion Passed

Executive Reports:

Membership report submitter by Jim, VE1PPA read by Jeremy, VE1JHF.

103 full, 23 associate, 4 life and 18 complementary

Committee Reports:

EMO: - Dave, VE1AJP

Helped with the forest fire by providing all terrain vehicles to haul hose in to the fire line.

Gave a report on the status of tracking devices and the amount of energy they put out – very little.

Reported a search for missing cyclist who, when realizing he had lost contact with his parent, headed home. A very long ride and a person at the home called to say he was home so the search was over.

Technical committee: - No report

VA1MMA report: - Scott, VE1QD

Reported that Steve, VE9SF donated his \$100 honorarium back to the club.

Scott took over for Dick and has had excellent response for volunteers. He said the museum staff is very happy and supportive of the station there. Scott also thought with the facilities we have available there that it could be designated as another emergency communications back up location. Bill, VA1ALW also related that one of the staff asked to record the spiel they give to people who come by the station display so he could post it on Facebook. Bill adlibbed a presentation and hopes it was successful.

HATS report: - Scott, VE1QD

Jim, VE1PPA has all the EMO files from Joe, VE1CH

The move has disturbed some of the plans and Scott is restructuring the steering committee. Scott has recruited Larry Hicks as Technical systems manager – essentially the Winlink system. Scott went on to speak about building a leadership program and is looking for a training officer. courses. Scott spoke about training plans to offer up to 12 courses and is looking for instructors. Currently planned courses are a message handling course, ICS100 and a TMR course. They are writing a Handbook for the duty officer - COMM L and COMM A. Scott went on to speak about the importance of training to be ready to meet our commitment to EMO. A general HATS meeting is scheduled for October 11 and will have Matt Boyle, VE1BSG to speak on threats to radio communication.

Programs: - Scott, VE1QD

October - Fred, VE1FA will speak on their trip to Round Island in Alaska.

January – Skype call from John Bartlett, HJ3C on Amateur Radio in Columbia.

Would like to have someone speak on FT8

Brit Fader Scholarship: - Bill, VE1MR - We have made an award of

(Continued on page 10)

Minutes (Continued from page 5)

lights, and the Explore.com walrus “critter cams” was produced in a shed with triply redundant wind turbines, solar panels, and methanol-powered fuel cells. Unfortunately, the shed was close to our tent and it generated a continuous and evil S-5 to S-7 buzz across 20m. Disconnecting the co-ax showed the buzz was entering the IC-706 entirely via the antenna. Added to this was “audio QRM”: one of the shed’s wind turbines had bad bearings, which whined loudly when the wind blew, which was 90% of the time. We could move neither our Weather Port nor the power shed, so we just had to work with it.

Before leaving home we sent Bill NG3K, who posts IOTA Announced Operations online, our planned operating dates and approximate frequencies, which he posted and passed on to other DX sites, so when we went on the air crowds were waiting!

On 7 July our first “CQ CQ CQ from Round Is., NA-121. This is VE1FA/KL7 standing by” went out on 20m from the Weather Port. Propagation

on 20m was poor, but the ops who responded were very excited! I was surprised by one of the first calls... very strong, like he was next door, from Kamchatka. Wait a minute, Kamchatka IS next door!

There were many very faint JAs, who would probably have filled our log, but unfortunately for them, Round Island’s 1400’ mountain was exactly between Japan and our antenna, blocking RF up to about 50° elevation. Fortunately for North America and Europe, we had a clear 25-mile wide ocean takeoff to the east from our antenna which was about 100’ above sea level.

West coast Vs & Ks were relatively strong and clear, but many central US & EU stations got through also, especially I, D, F, SM, OM, & R ... but strangely, only a single UK station... on the Isle of Man! Our biggest disappointment: no Canadian Maritime stations were logged, although Gary VE3XN was there with a good signal...as he always is!

We spent much of our week hiking, photographing, and observing the myriad flowers, seabirds, foxes, Steller sea lions & walrus with our expert, Margaret. The weather changed constantly, from leaden gray skies, strong, cold wind and driving drizzle, to crystal blue skies, warm breezes with magnificent scenery & views in all directions!

Unfortunately, between the attractions & distractions of beautiful Round Is., the power shed buzz, and the poor propagation we only logged 179 QSOs. We were pleased to see that about 60% of our contacts were from outside North America, so our little dipoles and 100W worked pretty well! Already (2 months later) we’ve received direct paper QSL cards from about half of all the stations logged, including many IOTA Honour Roll members, who were very excited to work



Our antenna on our 26’ mast. Feedpoint was about 100’ above the ocean. We had 25 miles of salt water to our east to bounce signals off.

a rare new one! Our thanks to those who persisted and made a QSO with us. Our sincere regrets to those who tried unsuccessfully to work us, especially those we almost got before the QSB whisked you away!

QSL cards are via the buro or direct to VA1YL/VE1FA’s QRZ address. If you’re not sure you’re in the Round Is. log, please email VE1FA first to verify! Direct cards will get a prompt return.

For a live glimpse of Round Is., Google “Explore walrus cam”, and watch the 1500-3000 lb “big boys” lounging on Main Beach and First Beach of this very special island.



VE1FA/KL7 operating in the Weather Port. VA1YL’s laptop died, so we paper logged. Lamp is home brewed: an ABS pipe cap with LEDs glued inside attached to 3/16” copper tubing screwed to one of the 706’s mobile mount holes. Think the July wind off the Bering Sea is warm? Look at my clothes...



Fred VE1FA/KL7, Helen VA1YL/KL7, and Margaret VE2ZOO

From the Mail Bag

This article was recently published in the "Southgate Amateur Radio News" and contains some very useful information about QRM generated by some types of LED Lights notably those from China.

- Ken VY2RU

The Listening Project

Many Radio Amateurs suffer from local QRM, so much so that their hobby is endangered.

Small receive-only antennas seem to offer benefits, particularly as they can be located in quiet areas of hams' QTHs.

Having done a brief study on the effects of using LED bulbs - EMC-wise & biological, I thought that results of the searches would be useful to others in their search for solutions.

https://www.larches-cottage.co.uk/rx_antenna/listen_proj.php

73, Keith M0KIL

Apple Tip

I just learned something new this morning that will save me a huge amount of time in the future when it comes to scanning documents. No longer will I need to drag out the old flat-bed scanner. I just point and click and end up with a .pdf document. If you have an iPad you have a "Notes" application on the device. Open the app; create a new note; in the lower right-hand corner click the "+" icon and select "scan documents". The camera turns on, so simply point your device at the page that you want to scan. If set to "Auto" the software automatically searches to get only the document in the frame; it tries to center and straighten it up for you and during this time you will see a flashing yellow background moving over your document. If it correctly senses the doc it will automatically scan it, or you can click the circular photo take button and then adjust the dimensions and shape as you wish. At this point you can keep the scan or do a retake. While I know that you can do all of this with the camera on your device, the advantage here is that the final file is saved as a .pdf and not a .jpg as would be the case when taking a normal photo of the document.

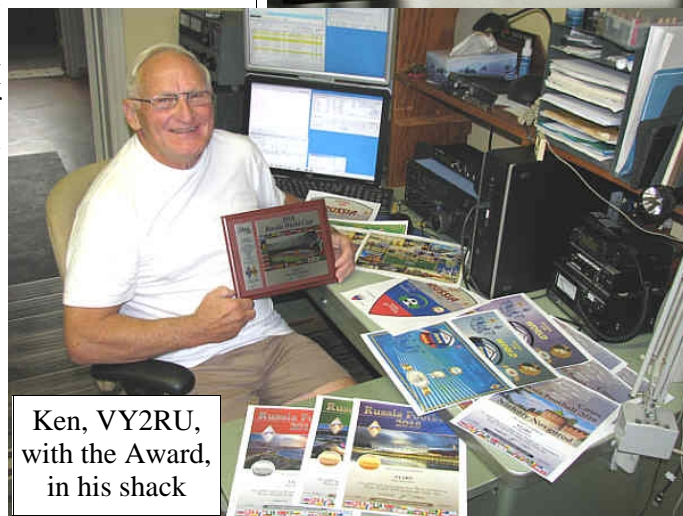
D. Howard Dickson, VE1DHD

Hi folks, here are a couple of Awards I received for the Russia Football (Soccer) World Cup Amateur Radio Event. One picture is of the Plaque for contacting the Russian cities involved and the other is myself with the Plaque and a few of the 24 Certificates I acquired during the FWC. I also came 1st for North & South America, Africa and OC (Pacific Area) see: <http://fwc18.hamlogs.net/?locale=en>

You can input my call sign to see the Award Certificates I acquired. A lot of work, time and dedication but fun also!!!

- Ken VY2RU

P.S. I would be remiss to not mention Ella's understanding when I take part in these Amateur Radio Events!!!!



Ken, VY2RU,
with the Award,
in his shack



*Money is the root
of all wealth.*

If you have missed **APRS and packet radio from the ISS** (as ARISS has), you'll be happy to hear that a replacement system is on its way. When the packet module aboard ISS died in late 2017, the ARISS hardware team was heavily involved in design and safety certification of the new Interoperable Radio System (IORS). After basic troubleshooting and a few attempts to revive the failed module, we decided to dedicate our time to IORS and get it - with its packet and other capabilities - aboard ISS as soon as possible.

Early this year, thermal testing of the 1st flight-identical IORS power supply showed that some air flow changes were needed. This looked likely to delay our expected IORS deployment from late 2018 to early 2019.

With some newly available time, the hardware team was able to dig up an original duplicate of the packet module, replace its battery, and test the module to verify that it still works. Fortunately, NASA has approved flight of this identical unit with minimal paperwork, so we are asking to be on the manifest for supply mission 71P (a Progress spacecraft). Launch currently is scheduled for Oct.31, with docking on Nov.2. Installation will depend on the crew's busy schedule, but we expect packet to be operational again by the end of Nov. 2018.

Dave, W8AAS

News from the HATS: October 2018

The Halifax Auxiliary Telecommunications Service (HATS) is an operational vehicle through which HARC and DARC contribute 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: So far this hurricane season, we have escaped any big storm. However, the season is far from over and we need to continue our emergency preparedness activities.

The **fall training schedule** includes the basic courses that all HATS members need to complete to be prepared for an emergency. We want a good turn out for these courses, since our instructors give up their free-time and wish to see their effort produce the maximum benefit for HATS. **You can sign up by e-mailing me.**

1. *Basic Message Handling Course.*

Saturday, 13 October from 1000 – 1400 at HARC Club facilities in Fire Station #50 on Hammonds Plains Road

Instructor: Tom Caithness, VE1GTC

2. *TMR Radio Training Class.*

Thursday, 25 October from 1830 – 2100 hrs at the EOC on Mt. Hope Avenue in Dartmouth

Instructor: Don Mosher, VE1DRM

3. *Introductory Incident Command System Course (ICS 100).*

Saturday, 17 November from 1000 – 1400 hrs at the EOC on Mt. Hope Avenue in Dartmouth.

Instructors: Barry Manuel, VE1JRG, and Don Mosher, VE1DRM

4. *Introductory WinLink System Course.*

Saturday, 8 December from 1000 – 1400 hrs at HARC Club facilities in Fire Station #50 on Hammonds Plains Road.

Note that ICS-100 training is also available on-line at no cost. If you want to pursue this independent learning opportunity, I can provide you with the URL and a necessary access code.

Our **Third HATS General Meeting** is scheduled for Thursday, 11 October from 7:00 – 9:30 pm at HARC's new Club location in Fire Station #50 on Hammonds Plains Road. Matt Boyle, VE1BSG, who is with the NS Government's Public Safety and Field Communications Office will make a short presentation on ***Threats to Radio Communication.*** The program also will include a HATS update, plans going forward and group discussion as well as a chance to socialize with one another. We only have a General HATS meeting three times a year, so be sure to attend!

UP COMING EVENTS:

- Every Sunday at 1930 hrs the WinLink Express Practise Net takes place on 146.685 MHz. Following check-in members exchange messages via Telenet or VHF. If you want more information about the net, please contact David Musgrave: veleda@bellaliant.net
- 10 October (Wednesday) at 1000 hrs. HRFE/EMO – Radio Advisory Group Meeting at the Eric Spicer Building on Mt Hope Drive in Dartmouth.

- 11 October (Thursday) from 19:00 – 21:30 hours a General Meeting of HATS will be held. Matt Boyle, VE1BSG, will speak about ***Threats to Radio Communications.***

- 13 October (Saturday) from 1000 – 1400 hrs a ***Basic Message Handling Course*** will be held at HARC Club facilities in Fire Station #50 on Hammonds Plains Road.

- 25 October (Thursday) 1830 – 2100 hrs a ***TMR Radio Training Class*** at the EOC pm Mt. Hope Avenue, Dartmouth.

ACTION:

Jim Calvesbert, VE1PPA, has taken over **compiling our monthly volunteer time and travel data**, and reporting results to HRFE Division Chief Erica Fleck. This information demonstrates the value we provide to the HRM. Thus, it is essential that each member submits their report at the end of the month.

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

73 de Scott

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

*If you just want to Walk Fast,
Walk Alone! But if you want to
Walk Far, Walk Together!*

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

*You are loved when you
are born. You will be loved
when you die. In between,
You have to manage!*

Gary Murphy VA1GGM of Dartmouth is the new contact person for CANWARN.
Email: garygmurphy@gmail.com

(Continued from page 6)

\$1500 to Alex Giffin from Mineville N.S and he will be attending Saint Marys to take Electrical Engineering. He was one of four well qualified applicants.

Basic Amateur Radio Course: -

Jeremy reported for Wayne, VE1WPH

Jason, VE1PYE will help Wayne to co coordinate with the course. It was decided that because of the move and the club station is not completely set up that the course would be delayed until early in 2019. Classes will be on Saturday at the club facilities. Jeremy went on to speak of some of the details of how the course will be run.

Club Move Report: Jeremy, VE1JHF Jeremy spoke about the new radio and the plans are to apply for a grant to get more of the same. The FT-1000 is still in repair and

hopes that it will be repaired soon, and we have decided to offer it for sale. The tower move and antenna installation went well. One HF radio up and running. Lots more to be done in the radio room. Still waiting for the telephone line and internet to be installed.

New Business:

Auditor - no takers at the meeting – will be appointed by the executive

Round Table:

Bill, VE1MR, spoke about parking, please park behind the barriers around toward the tower, leaving one space so those people can get out, also the OK Tire parking lot next door is available. There was also clarification where not to park such as any paved parking space and of how far up the driveway we could park to still allow volunteer fire fighters room to park

Ian, VE1IGP asked for volunteers for

the nominating committee to help out Bill, VE1MR and Scott, VE1QD.

He also asked people to consider executive positions and perhaps down sizing the executive.

Discussion on reducing the size of the executive.

Bill, VE1MR discussed the basic changes to the constitution to update it.

Ian, VE1IGP - Good use of the club Facebook page - an excellent resource that can be used.

50/50 draw \$18.75 – won by Sheldon, VE1GPY and he donated it back to the club.

Move to adjourn by Doug, VE1LDL at 2158.

Submitted by Bill Elliott, VE1MR

"If life were fair, Elvis would still be alive today and all the impersonators would be dead."

~ Johnny Carson...

VP6D Ducie Island 2018 DXpedition to Offer Near Real-Time Contact Posting (09/24/2018)

The VP6D Ducie Island 2018 DXpedition, on schedule to begin October 20, has announced that it will use DXA to post contacts on a near real-time basis. "Bob Schmieder, KK6EK, of Cordell Expeditions, offered the use of DXA, and we gladly accepted," the DXpedition said in a news update this week.

"Within 60 seconds of your contact with VP6D, the browser page is automatically updated to show your call sign; this confirms that your contact is in the log (DXA reads the VP6D log). This process eliminates the need for duplicate contacts on the same band/mode and minimizes the confusion caused by pirates or other DXpeditions operating at the same time."

The DXpedition leaders said they performed an end-to-end test of the DXA system, and expressed confidence that DXA "will significantly reduce, or eliminate, the hundreds of emails asking for 'log checks.' If you see your call sign on DXA you're in the log."

The VP6D Ducie Island 2018 DXpedition will continue from October 20 through November 3. The VP6D team also plans to put Ducie Island on 6-meter moonbounce for the first time ever. Operation will be on 50.200 MHz using JT65.

If you are an old or new Amateur the following information from "Electronics Notes" about using a SWR meter can be very interesting and informative. As well, the "Electronic Notes" website has many interesting articles and videos covering an array of topics. "Electronic Notes" is one of those sites you should no doubt bookmark for future reference.

- Ken VY2RU

How to use an SWR meter

Electronics Notes has just launched a new page on "How to Use an SWR Meter." As there are many misconceptions and myths about SWR, we have tried to look at the topic and detail how to use an SWR meter and also how to interpret the results.

The page details what an SWR meter is, the various ways in which an SWR meter can be used, with and without an ATU, and then it looks at interpreting the results. A step by step guide of making SWR measurements is also included.

Not always does a good SWR reading mean that everything is working well, and in this page with its associated video we try to provide a straightforward and informative explanation about using SWR meters and what to look for.

Read the full story at:

<https://www.electronics-notes.com/articles/antennas-propagation/vswr-return-loss/how-to-use-vswr-meter.php>

Watch the video: <https://youtu.be/qSea5FjcTDE>