



The Halifax Amateur Radio Club

REFLECTOR



2050 Hammonds Plains Road
Hammonds Plains, NS
B4B 1P3

June 2024, Volume 85 Number 6

club web site is www.halifax-arc.org

**Check out the upcoming events on Page 2.
Come out for the ARRL Field Day June 22, 23**

HARC Club Station phone number - 902-490-6421

Executive

President - John Bignell, VE1JMB	223-1945	johnmbignell@gmail.com
First V.P. - Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE	292-9924	VE1PYE@bellaliant.net
2nd V.P. - Keith Bruce, VE1JKB		keith@keithbruce.ca
Secretary - Ray Armstrong, VA1RAY		VA1RAY@outlook.com
Treasurer - Alastair Cox, VE1PAB		coxaf@eastlink.ca
Member-at-Large: - Bill Dyer, VE1WPS		ve1wps@gmail.com
Station Manager: - Ritchie Long, VE1RL	410-7167	VE1RPL@gmail.com
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 - Gary Murphy VA1GGM, 461-9416
garygmurphy@gmail.com

QSL Bureau Mgr - Roger Stein, VA1RST 403-3738
burch.craft@gmail.com

EMO Coordinator - David George, VE1AJP 466-8723
dgeorge@dal.ca

EMO Trailer coordinator - VACANT

Reflector editor - Lynn Bowser, VE1ENT 865-8567
bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

Reflector Hardcopy Dist. - Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF 240-4302
ve1jhf@gmail.com

Membership - VACANT

Reflector PDF Dist. - Ritchie Long, VE1RL 410-7167
VE1RPL@gmail.com

Web site content Manager - John Bignell, VE1JMB
johnmbignell@gmail.com

Basic ham course - Vacant

2024 Flea Market Chair - Ken Asprey, VE1PDL
kasprey@icloud.com

2024 Field Day Coordinator - Clayton Moore, VE1MJF
clayton.moore902@gmail.com

Safety Officer - Malcolm MacDonald, VA1MMD
malcolmm1@gmail.com

VA1MMA Project Manager - Gord Young, VE1GVY
gngyoung@gmail.com

NSARA Director - Jason Ingraham, VE1PYE 292-9924
VE1PYE@bellaliant.net

Honorary Legal Counsel - Paul Radford, VE1ARH

Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Al Penny, VO1NO
dir.atlantic@rac.ca

RAC Section Manager - Dave Hull, VE1HUL
d.hull@ns.sympatico.ca

RAC Assistant Director for HRM - John Bignell, VE1JMB
johnmbignell@gmail.com

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.

NOTE: - The rotation has changed

June 16 Ken VE1PDL	Aug. 4 Clayton VE1MJF
June 23 Earl VE1EPJ	Aug. 11 Robert VE1RSG
June 30 Clayton VE1MJF	Aug. 18 Jeremy VE1LAI
July 7 Robert VE1RSG	Aug. 25 Ken VE1PDL
July 14 Jeremy VE1LAI	Sept. 1 Earl VE1EPJ
July 21 Ken VE1PDL	Sept. 8 Clayton VE1MJF
July 28 Earl VE1EPJ	Sept. 15 Robert VE1RSG



ATTENTION

We are still in need of net controllers. The net is excellent practice for running an emergency net and usually takes about 20 or 30 minutes. Contact Bill, VE1MR to join the list.
bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

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

The June 2024 General Meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will take place Wednesday June 19 at 1900 . The method (**hybrid – in person at the club and virtual**) the details have been sent as a calendar in the e-mail with the Reflector. Check your e-mail for details as the date approaches. Check the web site for any other updates.

Clayton will be going over preparations for the ARRL FieldDay

Guests are welcome in person or send an e-mail to the club to be on the ZOOM invitee list.

Interviewer: "So, tell me about yourself." > Me: "I'd rather not. I kinda want this job"

Deadline for submissions to the September Reflector is Saturday September 7, 2024.

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 and TX tone 151.4 Hz
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz - TX=82.5

PACKET: VE1NSD 145.050 MHz
LAN NODE

The RAC website is at www.rac.ca

The NSARA website is <https://nsara.ca/>

Events for Your Calendar

June 15 – Kids Day
 June 22-23 – ARRL Field Day
 July 1 – RAC Canada Day Contest
 July 7-13 – Youth on the Air (YOTA)
 July 17 – HARC Pizza night
 July 20 – George's Island POTA
 July 27 – Charlottetown ARC Flea Market
 July 27-28 Islands on the Air contest
 August 21 – HARC Pizza night
 September 22 – Trout Lake Rally
 Oct. 19 – Greenwood ARC flea market

Kids Day

Twice a year, ARRL offers an event designed to promote Amateur Radio to our youth. Share the excitement with your kids or grandkids, a Scout troop, a church or the general public!

Dates and Times

Generally the first Saturday in January, and the third Saturday in June. Kids Day always runs from 1800 UTC through 2359 UTC. Operate as much or as little as you like.

TechTalks

We are starting to think about presentations for the upcoming meetings. If you have ideas or topics, please send them along to the events@halifax-arc.org email address. If you have an interesting topic that you like to present, we'd love to hear from you.

HARC has a new stock of **Ander-son Powerpole connectors** for sale at \$20 for a bag of 10 - (\$2.00 ea for a red & black connector & contacts for one complete end) or 2 bags of 10 for \$35 (\$1.75 ea.). To make a complete mating pair will require 2 connectors. If you have not already converted all your gear to Powerpole connectors you should consider doing so. Installation instructions included & are also in the 2012 Callbook.

Contact Fraser, VE1WO:

fmac@eastlink.ca

Or Bill, VE1MR

bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

**Charlottetown ARC
Flea Market**

Date: Saturday, July 27, 2024

Location:

7 Tamarac Ave, Charlottetown
 Join us for the Ham Radio Flea Market!

Vendors: Secure your table for just \$10. Setup begins at 9:00 AM. To reserve your spot, please send \$10 in advance to:

treasurer@charlottetownarc.com

Doors open at 10:00 AM for all attendees. Entrance fee is \$5 per person, which includes complimentary coffee, tea, or bottled water.

For more information or to reserve a table:

<https://charlottetownarc.com/?meca-events=charlottetown-arc-flea-market>

Coffee Meetings

Tuesday Night Coffee Night at 7 PM is held at the MicMac Mall Food Court area.

There is also a coffee meeting Friday mornings at 11 AM held at the MicMac Mall Food Court area

VE1OM 6M NET

When: - Sunday evenings 7:00pm to 8:00pm

Weekly event on VE1OM 6M repeater to promote activity on the repeater and the band.

53.150 – 151.4 Hz

Organizer: VE1PYE
ve1pye@bellaliant.net

If you are interested in 6M consider joining the groups.io, use the link below:

<https://groups.io/g/MARCAN-6m>
 and click on Subscribe

ARRL Field Day 2024**Call for Operators and Helpers**

Where – Fort Needham

When – June 22-23

We are looking for people to help set up and tear down.

Also looking for operators for:

- CW - SSB - GOTA Station - FT-8 - Satellite

If you want to operate then scheduling a time would be good but there may be openings for drop in operators as well. If you want to operate let me know. We need a rough idea of how many participants we will have.

We are looking for people that can help with the following tasks:

- Education Content Creator
- Media and Publicity
- W1AW Message handling

Let me know how you want to participate by emailing me at:

clayton.moore902@gmail.com

Museum Ships on the Air

The weekend of June 1st and 2nd was the Museum Ships on the Air event. While the Acadia, VE0MMA was not available for that weekend several operators were active on the Sackville, VE0CNM. The photos show the ship tied up in the naval dock yard and a shot of the radio room.



Check into the Maritime Noon Net, week days at 12 noon on the Windsor repeater, VE1HCA 146.910 – MHz

Groups.IO for the Halifax Amateur Radio Club

HARC has setup a collaboration group to see if we can improve our club communications. There have been times where important emails haven't reached all members or replies haven't made it back to the right person.

Like many clubs, we have setup a collaboration group called HARC-VE1FQ on Google GROUPS.IO. In order to join, members must have an account and request access to our specific forum. This way, their contact details are protected and they can set preferences on how they wish to receive information.

Access to the HARC-VE1FQ group will be granted to active members. The group will be moderated. Any member can start a new topic and interested members can join in. GROUPS.IO is very flexible on email distribution, from no email, daily digests to individual emails. Users set their preference.

The goal is to move away from direct member emails. Using the collaboration group, the Executive and members can post relevant info, ask questions and share with all club members. Give it a try!

Join GROUPS.IO:

Setup account – <https://groups.io>

Join HARC-VE1FQ:

Request access – <https://groups.io/g/HARC-VE1FQ>

If you run into issues or have questions, send a note to the stationmanager@halifax-arc.org.

**Halifax Amateur Radio Club
General Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2024**

Welcome to the HARC monthly meeting for May 15, 2024. Meeting called to order at 1905 by John Bignell, VE1JMB

2. Acceptance of the Agenda:

Acceptance of Agenda for May General Meeting

Motion by Ritchie, VE1RL

Second by Ken, VE1PDL

Motion passed by vote.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

Acceptance of Minutes for April General Meeting

Motion by Alastair, VE1PAB

Second by Scott, VE1QD

Motion passed by vote.

4. Report of any Silent Keys:

John K. Lockwood, VE9KC

Riverview NB April 18th

George W. Snow, VE1CAW

Bedford NS May 4th

5. Correspondence: Nothing to report.

6. President's Report:

John Bignell, VE1JMB

We have a lot of work to get done on Field Day, upcoming, YOTA event and Flea Market. Those are three events we need help with. If you are interested in helping with YOTA there are some security and background checks that need to be done. Passes and access to the Station, a list has been sent to Don, he is still working on that. I will follow up with him to find out the status.

7. Treasurer's Report:

Alastair, VE1PAB gave a detailed report on the club finances including revenue and expenses as well as opening and closing bank balances.

Acceptance of Treasurer Report

Motion by Alastair VE1PAB

Second by Ritchie VE1RL

Motion passed by vote.

8. Station Managers Report:

Ritchie, VE1RL

We've determined that Joe VE1EEE struggles with the Remote Station may be inherent in his Eastlink Internet connection. Joe is working with Eastlink.

Generator picked up from Pro Honda. Still unserviceable. The inverter module in the generator has failed. And there may be more issues. Details have been provided to the Executive on the investigation which has occurred. We are looking for a plan forward.

Tested RF cables from the trailer. One connector to repair and will deliver back to the trailer. Two longest lengths are 50 feet and 200 feet. A bunch of shorter (under 15 feet) lengths. We have an ongoing equipment list for Field Day. Five PCs which will be used for FD. Working through some networking issues on the CW laptop. We have installed WSJT-X on all PCs and have it working with the FTDX3000. (Station FTDX3000 is also setup for FT8)

9. Education Report:

Jason, VE1PYE – nothing to report.

10. QSL Bureau Report:

Roger, VA1RST was absent

11. HATS/SAR report:

HATS:

Gary, VA1GGM was absent

SAR:

David, VE1AJP was absent

12. Other Reports:

MMA Update:

Gord, VE1GVY was absent

QSL Bureau:

Roger VA1RST

Builders Group: – Ritchie, VE1RL

Basically, done for the year. We are considering setting up a 1 evening a month session (the 2nd Wednesday of the month). Probably start after the Flea Market. Working with individuals to complete projects

Membership: Ritchie, VE1RL

Now sitting at 94 members. 56% (53 members) are RAC members. Important is we going forward with RAC insurance. HAM Breakfast end of April, ~30 attended. Walter Rawle AC1AE/VE1AWS who has provided great knowledge to the Builders group and helps out very Saturday night with CW practice would like to join us for Field Day. He is also offering to do a number of presentations to the club. Walter resides in Maine and has been a HARC member in the past. He has done a number of SMART presentations.

Old Business:

YOTA Camp 2024: Keith, VE1JKB

As John mentioned, we are looking for some more volunteers, in particular to help with set up and tear down of antennas and gear used by the youth to operate. In addition if there is anyone who wished to help, even if for a few hours here and there, we will be sending out a schedule of events to the club. You will need the background check which is a fairly simple process and does not take long to process.

Down East Flea Market:

Ken, VE1PDL – We have some tables sold, I have stepped up to be the coordinator, Fraser is looking after the table sales. We still need a few volunteers to look after the doors and ticket sales.

Generator Repairs: Ken, VE1PDL

After reaching the limit we had set out with Pro Cycle, I told them to drop the wrenches and stop working on it. It was picked up and myself, Ritchie, Bruce and Aymen worked on troubleshooting the issues with the manual Ritchie had brought. It appears that it is the inverter board at this point which is about 1500 dollars. Question is do we want to continue or call it done and move on? It would be

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

cheaper to replace with a new generator than to fix this one. It was decided that the executive would look at options and decide at the next executive meeting. Ritchie will gather information to analyse our options.

George's Island POTA Event:

If we don't get 20 confirmed by the end of the week for the charter boat, we will have to revert to using Ambassatours, 15 are confirmed right now including some wives. Parks Canada have been very good at answering my questions and are looking forward to seeing us en masse.

Field Day: Clayton, VE1MJF

After a meeting last night and a bit of a reality check, we believe we need to scale down the plans for Field Day.

The reason for that is that the requirements have outgrown the number of volunteers we have to set up and tear down. The other thing is with the fall zones for the trailers, we would be very tight with two trailers and tents. We are going to scale down to 1 or 2 tents, 2 maybe 3 radios and 1 trailer. John will update Don Mosher on the revised plans for Field Day.

HRM Registration: John, VE1JMB HARC needs to file and register as a service provider with HRM under the new Administrative Order. Thus allowing us access to funding from HRM for special projects.

RAC Membership: Keith, VE1JKB

I would like to defer this to another meeting as we are running late. I would like to ask those of you who are

not RAC members, if you could email me to indicate what your reasons are for not being a RAC member. Being a non-member will affect our insurance should we decide to go that route.

Round Table:

Museum Ships on the Air:

Ken, VE1PDL

Reminder that on the weekend of June 1-2, we will have this event going on. Access to the Acadia will not be available while access to the Sackville will be limited to small numbers that weekend due to an event being held on the ship.

Motion to adjourn:

Ritchie VE1RL at 2130

*Respectfully submitted by
Ray Armstrong, VAIRAY
HARC Secretary*

Greetings all amateurs

Just a note I have joined social media with Facebook (James Bruce) and I noticed I can set up a group. This will be a learning curve so testing it out and have set up a group page for The Maritime Amateur. Not sure how this will work or what I can do here but let's give it a try. Just another way to get information out to Maritime hams.

Everyone have a great summer.

Jim Langille, VE1JBL www.maritimeamateur.ca

The club has purchased a small reel of low loss coaxial cable similar to LMR400. This is Messi & Paoloni, EX-TRAFLEX BURY 10 /.400". This coax can be used outdoor, direct burial, tight bends and around rotors.

- In fact, it combine a great flexibility (thanks to 19 wires on the conductor) to a resistant tear proof sheath.
- We have applied a petrol jelly layer that helps to prevent oxidation and makes it waterproof.
- Best performances and attenuation for a 10mm stranded core cable!

Example loss per 100 feet	Compared to LMR400
50 MHz = 0.8 dB	50 MHz = 0.9 dB
144 MHz = 1.4 dB	146 MHz = 1.5 dB
430 MHz = 2.6 dB	440 MHz = 2.7 dB

We can sell this to club members for \$2.50 per foot. The price for non club members is \$3.00 per foot.

Contact Bill Elliott, VE1MR
bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

Miscellaneous Information !

- *Still trying to get my head around the fact that 'Take Out' can mean food, dating, or murder.*
- *The older I get, the more I understand why roosters just scream to start their day.*
- *Being popular on Facebook is like sitting at the 'cool table' in the cafeteria of a mental hospital.*
- *I too was once a male trapped in a female body... but then my mother gave birth.*
- *If only vegetables smelled as good as bacon.*

ANTENNAS FOR SALE

The club has some antennas for sale

KLM KT36XA HF 6 element Tri band beam antenna, 10, 15 20M - 34' boom	\$800
Hy-gain TH6-DXX HF 6 el Tri band beam antenna, 10, 15 20M - 24' boom	\$350
Hy-gain DX-88 HF 8 band vertical, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12 & 10M - 25'	\$350
Hy-gain 214 14 element 2M beam - 15' 5" boom	\$ 75

Bill, VE1MR also has an antenna for sale.
Cushcraft A2710S dual band yagi 5 elements on 2M and 70cm - 6' 2" boom \$185

George's Island POTA Activation July 20, 2024

So, what is the closest POTA park to Halifax and available to HARC members which has never been activated? It is George's Island (CA-4838) in Halifax harbour. George's Island sits in the middle of Halifax harbour and can make for a great day excursion for locals.

A couple of intrepid HARC members are investigating the possibility of activating *Georges Island National Historic Site CA-4838* on July 20, 2024. A survey was sent previously to gauge interest. Currently there are more than a half dozen committed and another dozen as strong MAYBE's.

OPTION ONE

Boat Charter – using A&M SEACHARTER, Eastern Passage to/from Georges Island: \$450 + tax: \$520 Free parking available in Eastern Passage (Fishermen's Cove)

- The boat can take 29 people
- based on 20 people, the rate would be \$26 each
- expected time on the Island: 10 am to 6 pm.
- Possible rain date: 21st July

Parks Canada Fee – The fee for folks to visit the island, without boat transport is \$9.00/adult, \$7.50/senior, 17 and under free. Payable to a Parks Canada Guide on the Island.

- I'm planning to have each participant pay their own fee on the Island... as we have a mix of folks who are Senior, non Seniors, and who also may already have a Parks Canada Pass

Parks Canada after hour fee for Guide to remain with the group after normal hours

- \$40.62 / hour x 3 hours (3pm to 6pm): \$121.86 + tax = \$140 – Split this fee by 20 people: roughly \$7.00 each

So if we get 20 people who wish to participate, and take the Charter boat: we could get to/from the Island at a cost of: \$26 (Boat) + \$7.00 (Fee for after hours Guide) = \$33.00. - Each would be responsible for their own Parks Canada Fee.

This would give us an additional three hours on the Island, after it normally closes to the Public at 3 pm.

I'd encourage all who wish to participate to think about bringing along an additional guest for the day. Not necessarily a Radio person, they could partake in the George's Island Parks Canada activities and access the site for their own tour. For those attending, it is recommended that you bring your own picnic lunch, and lots of water.

OPTION TWO – Take the BUS

If we don't get 20 people to commit, we would use the AMBASSATOURS shuttle, at a cost of roughly \$25-\$30 each, giving us access to the island from 10 am to 3 pm. This boat goes according to the schedule below.

<https://www.ambassatours.com/visit-georges-island>

Information concerning the Island is here <https://parks.canada.ca/lhn-nhs/ns/georges/activ>

I'd like to set the course for this activity by mid May, if we use a Charter Boat.. As after that, the availability of the Charter boat may be booked up. I would appreciate your feedback, and also commitments from those interested in doing so.

If we don't get 20 people firmed up.. I'd say we plan on doing the activity anyway. Having each individually arrange their own travel on the AMBASSATOURS boat on that day. Keeping in mind their operational schedule and fees.

If we use option two, participants can come and go from the island according to the shuttle schedule; AND, order a lunch.

If you're interested, have questions, and wish to commit to option one or two; please let me know by May 15th.

You can use FBM, or e-mail, to contact me e-mail: brucehwade@bellaliant.net

This is a BYOR (bring your own radio) event. Much as those who do POTA are used to doing. Bring your own radio gear (radio, power, antenna, means of logging)

The club won't be deploying any equipment. But members stand ready to help you get prepared if you'd like to attend.

If you have interest, please reach out to;

Robert Gillis rg717171@gmail.com or Bruce Wade brucehwade@bellaliant.net

Watch the HARC website for updates. If you are a HARC member, join the 'groups.io' collaboration group 'HARC-VE1FQ' to follow the updates.

