

To the members of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club, Thunder Bay, Ontario

My name is Larry Wright, Skip to those of you who know me and who have QSO'd with me on the ham bands, and my call sign is VE3BBS. I was licensed in Toronto in 1964 by presenting my 2nd Class Department of Transport Radio Operators license, and therefore did not have to go through the rigors of writing the ham exams. Prior to working with the D.O.T. I was a radio operator in the Royal Canadian Navy serving onboard Her Majesty's Canadian Ship 'Bonaventure'.

Up until about 5 years ago, I had never been involved with an amateur radio club, then one evening I showed up at the L.A.R.C. monthly meeting at the EMO building and became a member. Since then I have been involved in one way or another with club activities. First as a Director, then Emergency Co-ordinator, Vice President, and finally President of the club in 86-87. The demands upon my free time were such that at the end of my term last year, I wanted to get away, which I did for about a year. During my absence, Keith Fiske, VE3JQ filled the spot as EC. The demands are still there, but I would like to return to 'the fold' so to speak, still as a member, for I never did let my membership lapse, and in the position of Emergency Co-ordinator for the city of Thunder Bay and the District. For those of you not familiar with Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), this is a function to which I was appointed by the District Emergency Co-ordinator, VE3JJA in Kenora. This is not a club appointment, but it does assist ARES if the EC for district is affiliated with the predominant club station in the area. It is with this thought in mind that I would like to sit with the club members again as the Emergency Co-Ordinator of ARES. Special club functions such as Sibley, Jeep 500, Legion Road Races, etc., would still come under the clubs direction and guidance. My responsibility would only be emergency services.

James, VE3JSC, who took over as President of the club last year has confided in me the fact that we stand a good chance of losing our repeater site on CKPR's Mt. Baldy tower unless some rather drastic changes take place with regards to our equipment 'on the hill'. James will explain further. Most, if not all, members are aware of the value of this site. The L.A.R.C. is the sole communications group responsible to the Emergency Measures Organization in time of emergency and this site is without equal and irreplaceable when it comes to VHF communications. At a recent special repeater meeting (a few of which I, as well as others, have attended) I made a comment that I would not assist in club fund raising projects, however it would seem that differences, whatever they may be, must be set aside, and members of the LARC get behind the executive and work for the good of the club, not the good of oneself. I am fully prepared to work in whatever capacity is required to secure, first of all, the site on Mt Baldy and secondly to assist in a return to the fellowship and co-operation of the hams of Thunder Bay belonging to the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club.