

# HI-Q

## THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

LARC, Suite 184, 1100C Memorial Ave., Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, P7B 4A3

### Christmas Party At the next meeting

The ladies of the Lakehead Amateur Radio are preparing for the Annual Christmas Party. It will be at Boston Pizza on West Arthur Street. Please no gifts this year. I hear that the Ladies are planning something special again for this years festivities, so be there or be square. HI-Q Ed.

### Ham Classes Starting soon !

VE3SNW, Ed Baumann will be teaching all you need to know to get your basic licence this winter in room 207B of the McIntyre Building at Confederation College. January 15 at 8:00 pm is the time to show up and learn more about Amateur Radio and what this course has to offer. Please tell your friends and family. HI-Q Editor..

### It's Official

It is official, the horn has sounded. Bill, VE3AJ has blown his horn and declared that it is officially Antenna season. Let the bells ring out and the banners fly antenna season is definitely is here. Be prepared to freeze your fingers while trying to put together that u-bolt or that clamp on the yagi. Don't forget that North Wind that can howl all day the day you try to climb your tower to mount your hardware. Remember that if not for these little hardships your antenna wouldn't work right, just ask AJ HI !. HI-Q Editor..

### Safety Vests

Just a reminder, VA3JRS is still taking orders for the Safety Vests that she is making for all you hard working volunteers. A vest with Communications printed on it would be the ideal piece of safety clothing to add to your gear. Please give her a call at home. The number is 344-3222

### Season's Greetings to Mir

Dave, Anatoly, and Pavel are very far from home during this holiday season. They would like to know everyone back here on Earth is thinking of them. To send your own Season's Greetings to the Mir crew, simply fill out the form available at web page:

<http://shuttle-mir.nasa.gov/shuttle-mir/mir24/seasonsgreetings/>  
(VE3UA, Jim Obrien submitted this bit for those who would like to send their seasons greetings to the MIR Crew)

*Merry Christmas and a Happy  
New Year to one and all, see you  
at the Christmas Party,  
VA3WRL, Wayne*

### Inside HI-Q

Minutes of last meeting	Pg 2
Phone bandwidth, Morse to the rescue, Fists	Pg 3
Swap & Shop, Rednecks Guide	Pg 4
Membership list, RAC membership	Pg 5
Ham Puzzle, Beep Beep, Public Service Report	Pg 6
RAC Report	Pg 7
Great lakes Award	Pg 8

**1997/1998 LARC****Founding President**

P. J. (Pat) O'Shea VE3FW

LARC maintains the Club call VE3FW  
to honour the memory of our first  
President Mr. Pat O'Shea.

**Senate**

Bill Roberts VE3ARN  
Keith Fiske VE3JQ  
Bert Lambert VE3BKY  
Ray Greer VE3CH  
Bill Klemacki VE3AJ

**Executive Board**

President:	Ian Mellis	VA3RIM	577-1628
Vice Pres:	Ed Baumann	VE3SNW	622-1216
Secretary:	Norm Bell	VE3XRC	577-9316
Treasurer:	John Watson	VE3GTX	683-3199
Directors:	Judy LeFevre	VA3EAP	
	Sam Shonias	VA3SAM	
	Bob Hanson	VE3RVA	767-6924
	Jan Sokoloski	VA3JRS	
Past Pres:	Terry Stewardson	VE3TKA	577-9439

**Appointments**

Mem. Sec.:	John Watson	VE3GTX	683-3199
Hi-Q Editor:	Wayne Letang	VA3WRL	344-9759

**Club Repeaters**

VE3YQT 147.060 -OFFSET  
VE3TBR 146.820 -OFFSET

## Next Meeting

### Christmas Party

At the Arthur St. Boston Pizza on *Thursday December 11, 1997*

Be prepared to have some fun and Christmas Cheer.  
If the party is like the one we had last year it surely will be  
an Event worth going to.

### Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club held in Room 207B at Confederation College, Thunder Bay, Ontario on November 13, 1997

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the President VA3RIM, Ian Mellis with 28 members in attendance. VE3XT, Bill Unger started the meeting off with a short story.

**Minutes of the previous meeting:**

The minutes of the previous meeting held October 9, 1997 were published in detail in the November edition of "HI-Q" and distributed to all members.

**Motion:** moved by VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki and seconded by VE3RVA, Bob Hansen that the minutes be accepted as distributed. **Carried.**

Correspondence: none

**Treasurer's Report:** the Treasurer, VE3GTX John Watson was out of town and consequently, the Treasurer's report was not available.

**Old Business:**

**-Safety Vests:** VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski reported that the vests are in the process of being made. She has a sign up list for those wanting the vests.

**-O.P.P. Christmas Parade:** it was announced that the Club would not be entering a float but would be providing communications for the parade.

**-Red Rock Repeater Site:** no reply has been received from T.B. Comm regarding our request.

**-Annual Banquet:** VE3RVA, bob Hansen reported that the Club's Annual Dinner will be held Thursday, February 12, 1998 at the DiVinci Centre on Waterloo Street. Cost will be \$ 20.00 per person. Bob is presently looking for a guest speaker and is open for suggestions.

**-Membership Report:** VA3RIM, Ian Mellis reported that he had called those members who had not renewed their membership. At present, our membership is over 100 and a membership list will be printed in the December edition of "HI-Q".

**-Christmas Party:** VA3PP, Pat Pugh reported that the Christmas Party will be held Thursday December 11 at Boston Pizza on Arthur Street. The ladies are working on the program, it will be fun. There will be no gift exchange this year.

**New Business:**

**-Winter Carnival:** the Club has been asked to provide communications for the Winter Carnival the middle of February. The executive has agreed to participate.

**-Antenna Season:** VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki stated that winter has been cancelled for this year. But, now that there is a sure sign of participation of the ground in the form of snow and due to the pressure brought to bear by some amateurs who said that there had been measurable amounts of snow earlier, Bill officially opened antenna season for the 1997-98 season with a blast from his trusty horn.

**-Field Day:** a discussion was held regarding the 1998 field day.

**Don't miss a single copy of HI-Q. Send your change of address notice to the Club.**

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club History Project

VA3RIM, Ian Mellis asked for suggestions to help in the long range planning. VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki suggested a slide presentation of past field days for the January meeting.

**-Seminars:** VE3XT, Bill Unger asked for ideas on seminars to go along with some ideas he has.

**-LARC Ski Night:** VE3AVS, Dave Kimpton announced that the 2nd annual LARC Ski Night would be held on the 4th Thursday in February at Kamview.

**50/50 Draw:** winner of the 50/50 draw was VE3DWP, Dan Darling.

Following the adjournment, we proceeded to CBQ Radio for a tour of the facilities conducted by VE3CBO, Randy Creighton.

## Fists Club International

The club has many activities and membership in FISTS is not required to participate, just a love of Morse! All FISTS activities are designed to promote camaraderie among members of the club and help hams hone and improve their Morse skills.

The Sunday QSO Party meets at 2300 UTC on 7.058 with W3ERU as NCS

The Slow Ragchewing Group meets Wednesday at 2000 Eastern Time on 3.720 with W8BI as NCS

The Century Award net meets Sunday at 2000 UTC on 14.058 with KE3NV and W4JTU as NCS's

The Slow Traffic Net meets Tuesday and Thursday at 2100 Eastern Time on 3.682 with various NCS's

We have two "SPRINTS" each year. The second Saturday in May there is the Spring Sprint and the second Saturday in October is the Fall Sprint. These events are a CW free-for-all, from 1700-2100 UTC.

The first week in September we have a "Straight Key" Week.

There is a "Code Buddies" program which matches up experienced operators with new ones that want to develop their skills. This program is managed by Ed WA3WSJ. To volunteer or request more information,

contact him at; 775 Moonflower Reading, PA 19606

The club sponsors two awards. The "Century Award" is awarded to those that earn 100 points by working FISTS stations around the world.

Check sheets are available to keep track of your contacts for Awards. **Submitted by VE3FAL, Fred Lesnick FISTS Member.**

## Phone Bandwidth

VE3INI, Andy gave me a phone number for checking the bandwidth of your telephone line if you think you are having trouble with the internet, etc. The number is 1-888-887-9248, this is the number of the USR line testing facility at the U.S Robotics BBS. For user name use: **line test**. Just use what ever terminal program that you are currently using for this test. Andy showed me the print out of the test and it looks impressive, now if I can just figure out what all that means eh. HI-Q Editor.

## Morse to the Rescue

*By Ralph Vartabedian*

In orbit above Earth, a multi-billion-dollar formation of communications satellites stands ready to connect military leaders in Washington with every American warship and military base in the world. But, what if this technological masterpiece should go haywire or be knocked out by an enemy attack? The Pentagon's sophisticated communications net would go silent and leave troops groping for leadership. Not to worry. The Pentagon has a backup plan, in part, using technology that was invented in 1835. It's the Morse code, the language of dots and dashes that has survived the assault of higher technology for 150 years. Morse telegraphy may seem like a quaint anachronism, in fact, however, it is sometimes vital to worldwide communications. "When the Mexico City earthquake occurred, in 1985, and all the power went out, guess who was transmitting calls for international help? It was amateur radio operator using Morse code," said

Marcus Stevens, an official at the FCC.

Advanced communications satellites can transmit 100 volumes of an encyclopedia in a second, whereas a journeyman Morse operator can send about 20 words per minute. But if sophisticated space systems fail, a portable, battery-powered Morse transmitter would be invaluable. "We see the Morse code as a dying art, but we refuse to let it die completely," said Maj. Gen. Leo M. Childs, the Army's chief signal officer. "Newer isn't always better. Even though it is old and slow, Morse is still the most reliable in difficult conditions."

Of course, the most difficult condition imaginable would be a nuclear war, in which any survivors could have only Morse telegraphy for long-distance communications. In the event of widespread devastation, the Pentagon has organized 4,500 civilian amateur radio operators across the country who would attempt to operate a national communications system by broadcasting in Morse code. "As a matter of prudence," Gen. Childs said, the Army keeps a basic Morse capability. "Suppose our satellites were being jammed? The Morse code is the last-ditch method." Morse code signals can get through because they require much less broadcasting power to transmit than voice messages. In addition, even a distorted Morse signal can be interpreted, whereas a distorted voice transmission is virtually useless.

Taxi passengers in major cities hear radio dispatchers send a stream of Morse code. Such private broadcasting operations must periodically identify their station and typically use Morse code to send their call letters. All airport navigational equipment, marine beacons and amateur radio repeaters must identify in Morse code, also.

The Army annually trains about 2,800 men and women in Morse code for a variety of signal jobs in infantry, artillery, intelligence and even Special Forces. For example, Army commandos who are sent behind enemy lines to organize dissident civilians must be able to communicate clandestinely. They do it with Morse telegraphy that is transmitted in bursts too short to be located by enemy listening posts, Childs said. The

Navy considers Morse code capability of critical importance, owing to atmospheric disturbances that sometimes block radio voice transmissions. The Air Force trains hundreds of enlistees each year in Morse code, principally to monitor communications by foreign armed services. The Russian Army continues to use the code for its communications, according to a former Soviet radioman.

Although nobody can forecast what a nuclear war would be like, virtually all worldwide communications would be shut down by two different nuclear effects. An electromagnetic pulse would create powerful shocks over a wide area to electrical devices and wires, probably destroying most radios, computers and communications gear, according to Kota Tsipis, a physicist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The second effect in the aftermath of a detonation would obstruct radio transmissions. "The atmosphere would be saturated with ionized particles such that you will not be able to communicate with voice or data," explained Constantopoulos, the Navy radio operator. "But a Morse transmission will get through. It is very slow, but it is the most reliable. I don't think you will ever see the Morse code die. It is going to be difficult to find another method that is just as good."

This article appeared in an edition of the Los Angeles Times. It has been edited down for size. Reprinted from the Internet. (Submitted by VA3ROM, Bob Mazur)

### *Swap and Shop*

For Sale: 1 Yaesu FT-840 HF Tranciever with hand mike, 10 meter board and manuals, \$1000.00

1 Kenwood TS60 6 meter all mode with hand mike, MC-80 desk mike and manuals, \$1000.00

Call Dave Horne for these two items at 935-2851 Friday to Sunday, Tnx Dave

### **More stuff**

hf package..kenwood ts450s with antenna tuner, 40ft delhi medium duty tower, 20ft galvanized masting, yaesu thrust bearing, tx2 tail twister rotor and control box, 150ft rotor cable, 2 x 150ft (300ft)rg213 coaxial cable, mosley hf beam 10-12-15-17-20 meter, 12ft ground rod, 30amp pyrimd gold power supply..asking as a complete package..\$ 3500.00 or open to resonable offer. uhf mobile packages follows..icom 448h uhf mobile rig, dtmf mic, uhf mag mount 5/8 coil and whip ..\$ 475.00 o.b.o. hf 10 meter mobile package as follows....uniden 2600 hf rig, ham 10 trunk mount (k40)..\$ 385.00 o.b.o. vhf hand held package as follows....icom 2at ht, drop in charger system, 2 bp8 batteries, external mic, extra antenna..\$ 250.00 o.b.o. extras call for prices....many extra icom bp series batteries, motorola maxor crystaled for packet radio 25watts, midland uhf commercial mobile and dtmf light mic, dualband 5/8 magmount and coil/whip maxrad, mfg 1278 packet tnc controller, 2 bay uhf antenna, 2 bay vhf antenna, 2 tnc coaxil protectors, bencher keyer, 2 pos coaxil switch, mfg econo keyer, sm8 dual radio desk mic icom, aea weather fax station, hf wire antenna g5rv, sbx hf base 12 channel radio rack mountable, 475 ft rg213, icom mobile mic hm14, 750ft 7 strand copper antenna wire, cellular phone beam, 2 climbing belts, icom whip trailer spring unit for whip antenna. Please call Tim VE3NWO at 807-626-2700 cellular or 807-623-2488 at home Reason for selling getting out of hobby...tnx Tim.

FLOPPY DISK: Whatcha git from tryin to carry too much farwood.

RAM: Thats the thing whut splits the farwood.

HARD DRIVE: Gettin home in the winter taim.

PROMPT: Whut the mail ain't in the winter taim.

WINDOWS: Whut to shut in the winter taim.

SCREEN: Whut to shut when it's black fly season.

BYTE: Whut them dang flys do.

CHIP: Munchies fer the TV

MICRO CHIP: Whuts left in the munchie bag.

INFARED: Whur the left over munchies go. Fred eats em.

MODEM: Whutchu did to the hay fields.

DOT MATRIX: Ol' Dan Matrix's wife.

LAP TOP: Whur the kitty sleeps.

KEYBOARD: Whur ya hang the dang keys.

SOFTWARE: Them dang plastic knives and forks.

MOUSE: Whut eats the grain in the barn.

MAIN FRAME: Holds up the barn roof.

PORT: Fancy flatlander wine.

ENTER: Northern for come on in y'all.

RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY: When you caint remember whut ya paid for yer new rifle when your wife asks.

(submitted by Fred, VE3FAL)

Does anybody know what Lindo Time is? If you want, you may submit your definition of Lindo time to the Hi-Q Editor for possible publication, that is if Lindo don't mind. Tnx, Ed.

### **Redneck's Guide to Computer Lingo**

LOG ON: Making the wood stove hotter

LOG OFF: Don't add no more wood.

MONITOR: Keepin an eye on that woodstove.

DOWNLOAD: Gettin the farwood ofn the truck.

MEGA HERTZ: When your not careful gettin that farwood ofn the truck.

**LARC Membership List**

A01 Ron Thompson  
 C00 Rainy Lake ARC  
 C01 Algoma ARC  
 C02 Wasya Maslyucov UA0SN  
 C03 Niagara Peninsula ARC  
 C04 Sudbury ARC  
 C05 Mid Island Radio Assn.  
 C08 Woody Linton VE3JJA  
 C10 John M. Wadman G0VZD  
 C11 Elliot Lake ARC  
 C12 Arrowhead ARC  
 C13 Hiawatha ARC  
 C14 ARNS Editor  
 C15 Jean-Paul LeBlanc RAC Club Corner  
 Editor  
 VE3MAJ, Bob Barker  
 VA3XRM, Rod McLeod  
 VA3AMY, Al Sokoloski  
 VA3BEL, Victor Bel  
 VA3BRN, Gerry Burney  
 VA3CRC, Fred Erickson  
 VA3DIZ, Patrick Wilson  
 VA3DPK, Dave Kovacs  
 VA3DVE, Dave Horne  
 VA3EAP, Judy LeFevre  
 VA3EI, Wally J. Tokar  
 VA3GD, Pat Doherty  
 VA3GOT, Randy Gottfred  
 VA3IOU, Alan Parnell  
 VA3JMS, John Sacek  
 VA3KBJ, Karel Brozak  
 VA3KNS, Ken Macko  
 VA3LEB, Len Bougie  
 VA3PEP, Carl Storry  
 VA3PP, Pat Pugh  
 VA3RIM, Ian Mellis  
 VA3ROM, Robert C. Mazur  
 VA3SAL, Sal Farno  
 VA3TFS, Terry Saunders  
 VA3JRS, Janice Sokoloski  
 VA3WOX, Markku Lahti  
 VA3WRL, Wayne Letang  
 VE3AFF, Cliff Grove  
 VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki  
 VE3ARN, Bill Roberts  
 VE3AVS, David Kimpton  
 VE3AXL, Phil Moorey  
 VE3AZB, Alan Bate  
 VE3BBS, L.M. (Skip) Wright  
 VE3BCD, Laurie Bridgett  
 VE3BHN, Bob Gillespie  
 VE3BKY, Bert Lambert  
 VE3BOG, John Boggett

VE3CAP, Don Wright  
 VE3CH, Ray T. Greer  
 VE3DWP, Daniel Darling  
 VE3EDW, Hugh Elliott  
 VE3EDX, Mike Skillen  
 VE3EDZ, Ray Forslund  
 VE3EEL, Matti Nummelin  
 VE3EMI, John Kaleta  
 VE3FLB, Rob VanWyck  
 VE3FTS, Bill Matthews  
 VE3GTX, John Watson  
 VE3GWT, Garry Michaluk  
 VE3HWA, Archie Hogan  
 VE3HZW, Mike Wolowich  
 VE3ICY, Glen Wallace  
 VE3INI, Andy Malcolm  
 VE3JQ, Keith Fiske  
 VE3KRH, Steve Robb  
 VE3KRI, Debbie Robb  
 VE3KRZ, Gerry Lyngstad  
 VE3KVJ, Ken Wright  
 VE3LMV, Bill Wainio  
 VE3MEN, Mel Simenac  
 VE3MJN, Marion Nawrocki  
 VE3MPT, Manuel Migueis  
 VE3NCN, Joan Klemacki  
 VE3NHX, Lindo Scalese  
 VE3NPS, Nestor Procup  
 VE3OPF, Axel Rehfuss  
 VE3OPI, Richard Barry  
 VE3OTK, Kelly Jordan  
 VE3OTZ, Frank Pianka  
 VE3PHL, John Kuzma  
 VE3RJR, Bob McLean  
 VE3RVA, Bob Hansen  
 VE3SLY, Primo Scalzo  
 VE3SNW, Ed Baumann  
 VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson  
 VE3UA, Jim O'Brien  
 VE3VGV, Martin Cheredaryk  
 VE3VUK, Mark Vukovich  
 VE3XET, Eric Todd  
 VE3XLB, Linda Bell  
 VE3XRC, Norm Bell  
 VE3XT, Bill Unger  
 VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki  
 VE3ZZA, Ann Droppo  
 VE3NDZ, Nevelle Denetto  
 S8 Katherine Heintz  
 VA3RDM, Robert Mullen  
 VE3MGJ, Marion Grove  
 VA3TBA, Chris Chadwick  
 VE3UDY, Judy Pianka  
 VA3MOB, Maureen Bell  
 VA3NES, William Bell

VE3VER, Verna Bel  
 VA3DND, John Shoup  
 VE3TRE, Gwen Anderson

**From: RAC HQ**  
**Date: 1997 11 21**  
**Subject: RAC Membership Renewals during Mail Strike**

This Bulletin is being sent to you because you subscribed to the RAC email robot. For more information about the robot, please visit <http://www.rac.ca/~racnews/othernotices/racbullemail.htm>

RAC Membership Renewals during Mail Strike. Don't let your RAC membership lapse during the Canada Post mail strike. There are several ways to renew: Mastercard or Visa Renewals. Fax your renewal in to RAC Headquarters at (613) 244-4369, 24 hours a day. Be sure to include your full name, callsign, address, as well as the credit card number and expiry date. Please send your phone number too, in case there is any difficulty reading the fax. E-mail your renewal to RAC Headquarters at: [rachq@rac.ca](mailto:rachq@rac.ca) We need your full name, callsign, address, credit card number and expiry date. Telephone your renewal in to RAC Headquarters at (613) 244-4367. The office hours are 9 AM to 5 PM Monday through Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM Fridays (Eastern Standard Time!). Cheque or Money-order Renewals

1) If you live in, or are visiting the Ottawa area, drop your payment into RAC headquarters at 720 Belfast Road, Suite 217, Ottawa. We are located on the 2nd floor, and are available from 9A M to 5 PM Monday through Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM Fridays.

2) Courier your cheque or money-order, payable to Radio Amateurs of Canada, to our office at 720 Belfast Road, Suite 217, Ottawa, K1G 0Z5.

Uncertain about when your membership is up for renewal? Look at the label on the November issue of TCA. The top line of the label contains your Membership number (example M1234),

followed by the expiry date (example 199804). If your renewal date is 199711, 199712, or 199801, your membership renewal is due! Don't miss any upcoming issues of The Canadian Amateur by delaying your renewal. Even though the Post Office is on strike, the magazine production is on schedule and the labels are being produced. Make sure you are included on the label runs by ensuring that your membership has been renewed.

Thank you for your continued support of Radio Amateurs of Canada!  
Jacques d'Avignon, VE3VIA  
Editor-Éditeur  
Radio Amateurs of/du Canada E-mail Bulletin  
E-mail: [monitor@rac.ca](mailto:monitor@rac.ca)

**From: Ken Pulfer, VE3PU**

**Date: 1997 11 14**

**Subject: First donation to RAC Foundation**

This Bulletin is being sent to you because you subscribed to the RAC email robot. For more information about the robot, please visit

<http://www.rac.ca/~racnews/othernotice/racbullemail.htm>

The Manotick Amateur Radio Group, a small but active community group of about 30 amateurs in and around the town of Manotick, south of Ottawa, have been the first to make a donation (\$220) to the New RAC Foundation.

In a letter to RAC General Manager Debbie Norman, the club secretary treasurer, Jim Devenny, VA3HL, has challenged all amateur radio groups and clubs, large and small, as well as individual amateurs, to follow their lead and make the RAC Foundation a great success.

For full details about the Foundation, and how to make a donation, please visit the following page on this web site. <http://www.rac.ca/found1.htm>

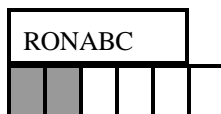
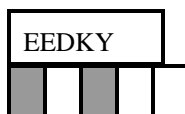
Jacques d'Avignon, VE3VIA, Editor-Éditeur Radio Amateurs of/du Canada E-mail Bulletin  
E-mail: [monitor@rac.ca](mailto:monitor@rac.ca)

## HAM PUZZLER

By Dave VE3AVS

Unscramble the four jumbled words. Then arrange the shaded letters to form a word or words associated with the call sign shown below. Answers in next month's HI-Q.

V A 3 G O T



This is a necessary repeat from last month since the shading did not turn out on the printed page. Note: there may be more than one word to fit a scramble, but only one is correct. 73 CUL de dave

Please print out puzzle for proper shading in the blocks tnx, Ed.

### **From Waynos' glossary of absolutely enlightening electronic terms**

**point impedance**-Ratio of the maximum E-field to the maximum H-field observed at a given point in a wave guide or transmission line.

Wasn't that absolutely enlightening ? Wayno. Next month I'll look up E-field & H-field !

## **BEEP BEEP BEEP**

There is a new satellite orbiting Earth. It is transmitting a continuous BEEP BEEP BEEP on 145.82 MHZ. The very weak signal (20 mW) originates from a small Sputnik replica launched by hand from the Mir Space Station on Nov 3, 1997 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the launch of Sputnik. The internal batteries are expected to last perhaps two months. The replica was built by students in Russia and France. QSL cards will be issued to those reporting hearing the signal and providing the usual QSL info -- Time, Signal strength, Reception mode etc. Anyone that monitors Mir can use the same times for passes of the new Sputnik II. I will have to look up the QSL address if anyone needs it. The following are American topics but they reflect current concerns about amateur radio in the USA. **:excerpt from The ARRL Letter Vol. 16, No. 43, dated October 31, 1997. 73, Jim, VE3UA**

### **Public Service Report by: Mike Nawrocki.**

The Annual O.P.P. Christmas Parade was held on a snow wet Saturday November 24th. It appears the wintry weather did not dampen the spirits of the participants, 74 floats in all, nor of the spectators who lined the parade route, especially the younger set who waited to see Santa and Mrs Claus with their prancing reindeer. MEDIA reports stated that approximately 25,000 people saw the parade this year, and excellent turnout during the middle of the first major snowfall of the year. While Ed VE3SNW and Terry VE3TKA trudged about the Lakehead Auditorium parking lot lining up the floats and assigning them their numbered positions for the parade, Marion VE3MJN and Mike VE3ZG kept track of this information and passed it on to Norm VE3XRC and Linda VE3XLB who were at the announcers booth with Const. Gary Cooper who again provided the colour commentary for the parade. Making a list of the floats and their position in each row made it easy to direct

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Lakehead Amateur Radio Club History Project

participants to their appropriate rendezvous points. This brings to a close all the public service events for 1997. 1998 is already starting to line up, John Beargrease in early January, Northern Lights Winter Carnival is a go for February, and Sibley Ski Tour in March. Keep those batteries warm and charged. I would like to take this opportunity to thank one and all for their assistance during the past year, and wish everyone a joyous and Merry Christmas, since this will be last newsletter for the year.

**RAC Report by Patrick G. Doherty, VA3GD**

Good Morning to all:

Things have been rather quiet on the RAC front. While there has been activity it has mostly been day to day housekeeping. Activity for RAC seems to pick up with the cold weather and band improvement.

Quote

RAC Report  
November 1997

At the Annual General Meeting in 1996 a new procedure for nominating and appointing the Executive was put in place. Prior Executive were nominated and appointed at and during the Board meetings just before the Annual General meeting. This was counter productive. New Executive members did not have time to get up to speed and become fully informed and in some cases would not be at the meeting due to being appointed at such a late date. Under the new system Executive members are elected for a two year term at the end of November/ beginning of December every second year and take office January 1. This allows a period of up to four months for new Executive members to become familiar with their duties prior to the Annual AGM and Board meeting. The Executive are the persons who handle the day to day operations of Radio Amateurs of Canada, the member elected Board members deal with policy and objectives of RAC.

On November 23, 1997 Nominating Committee conference call the following Executive were appointed for a two year term.

- President: J. Farrell Hopwood, VE7RD
- 1st Vice President: Douglas E. Leach, VE3XK
- Vice President Government Affairs : James G. Dean, VE3IQ
- Vice President International Affairs: J. Kenneth Pulfer, VE3PU
- Vice President and General Counsel: Timothy S. Ellam, VE6SH
- Secretary: Joseph MacPherson, VE1CH
- Treasurer: Gerald Tilley, VO1TL

The above Executive shows a very good regional representation of extremely well qualified persons who will be an asset to the continuing success of RAC.

The WRC 97 meetings have wrapped up without a major effect on the Amateur Radio Frequencies. The realignment of the 7.0 MHZ band was delayed to the 2001 agenda along with the proposed review of CW qualifications for operation on HF bands. ITU meetings have a very busy agenda of which Amateur is just a small part. We were fortunate this year to have Jim Dean, VE3IQ as an observer at the WRC 97 and expect that he will be giving a full report in time for my next RAC report.

73, Pat Doherty- Director - Ontario North

Unquote  
Patrick G. Doherty  
RR 1 - 10035 John Street Road  
Murillo, Ontario, P0T 2G0

Phone: (807)935 2253  
Fax: (807)935 2134  
email: [pdoherty@tbaytel.net](mailto:pdoherty@tbaytel.net)  
Radio Amateurs of Canada home page: <http://www.rac.ca>  
Pat Doherty, VA3GD home page: <http://www.tbaytel.net/pdoherty/va3gdhp.htm>

**Excerpt From: The ARRL Letter - Vol. 16, No. 45 - November 14, 1997**

Sputnik PS2 QSL information: Here's what we believe to be the most reliable information to obtain a QSL if you've received the beacon signal from the mini-Sputnik satellite on 145.82 MHZ. The satellite has been heard all around the world. Reception reports go to The Radio Club of Jules Reydellet school on Reunion Island. Those whose reports are confirmed will receive an approximately 6x9-inch color certificate on high-quality paper with number identification and the radio club stamp. Requests for these certificates should be made only by letter with an SASE (6x9 inch) and two (2) IRCs. Do not send requests via e-mail! The mailing address is :

R5KJ Radio Club, 103 Rue de la Republique, 97 489 Saint Denis Cedex, Reunion Island.

Requests will be processed after the satellite has expired.

73 Jim, VE3UA

**Sputnik QSL**

There's been a few requests for QSL info. Here's an excerpt of the original message from Mile Mann on QSLing. Miles strongly suggests the use of an IRC, \*not cash\* and I agree. If the word gets out that Americans are sending "green stamps" (US Dollars) to the QSL address, I suspect few QSLs will get through the Russian postal system unopened. For those not familiar with the IRC (International Reply Coupon), they can be purchased worldwide at most larger post offices (many smaller ones in the U.S. don't carry them or even know what they are). They're good for one unit of postage (1/2 ounce I believe, enough for one QSL card, SAE (self-addressed envelope) and IRC), and at last look (a few years ago) they cost US \$0.95; don't know cost in other countries. And no, Russia doesn't accept US postage. QSL may take many weeks if at all (personal experience). Good luck! The 250 mw beacon can be heard in either FM, CW or SSB modes. Give it a try. If you hear the Beep Beep Beep of the Sputnik

satellite, you can send away for a special QSL card. Envelopes should be well sealed and do not include cash. Send a SAE and an IRC coupon. Do not make any notes on the out side of the envelope with Amateur Radio Call signs visible. Dave Larsen MIREX / N6CO is not handling SWL cards for Sputnik, please use the address below. QSL Information for SWL (Short Wave Listener):

**Sergej Samburov**  
**PO Box 73**  
**Kaliningrad-10 City**  
**Moscow Area, 14070, Russia**  
**Miles WF1F Mirex**  
[\[Miles.Mann@Pictel.com\]](mailto:Miles.Mann@Pictel.com)

### The new improved Real Time J-Track 2.0 Spacecraft tracking web page from

**N A S A a t :**  
<http://liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov/RealTime/JTrack/Spacecraft.html>

Now provides the option to display more satellites. You can configure the display to suit your interests. Categories added recently include: Weather, Search and Rescue, Earth Resource, Amateur Radio and Cosmos. You may even display satellites from different categories on the same screen. Start your selection by clicking on Config then click on Add More. Wait a few moments for the data to load then make your selection from the additional categories. Next, you may configure your display by removing or adding individual satellites from/to the display screen. All the other features still work, such as selecting a satellite by clicking its icon and reveal its current orbital details at lower right. You may also Click-and-hold-on-the-map to momentarily display the next pass that location for the currently selected satellite. **73, Jim, VE3UA**

**This Letter I found in my pile of stuff, sorry if it seems a little late, but better late than never, Hi-Q Ed.**

Greetings to the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club:

I was in QSO with Bob, VE3RVA, of your fine club a few minutes ago and over heard him giving a contact to VO1GO in Newfoundland. Gerry was working on GREAT LAKES & ONTARIO AWARD which features your QTH Thunder Bay. Gerry recently earned the new Canadian Provinces Award which we sponsor, and when I mailed the award to him I included in the envelope GREAT LAKES, etc. So it was a pleasant surprise to hear Gerry hooking up with Bob, VE3RVA. Bob suggested to me that you might find the space to to run the rules for the enclosed CANADIAN PROVINCES AWARD (CPA) which is brand new and popular with Canadian Amateur Radio Operators.

Briefly CPA was designed to encourage more Canadians to turn on their rigs and talk to each other rather than hunting DX, etc. So far we've had 32 winner, mostly GOLD, representing about 4000 Qsos. Canadians talking to Canadians, so it's a success. We hope it will receive the Old Timers giving them an excuse to get on the air and renew their well known operating skills. It will also assist the newcomers and help them learn how to operate SSB or CW. Please note the award has three categories...

Bronze for a 100 pts. Good for those without a lot of operating time. Silver for 2000 pts. for those with more operating time. Finally, Gold for 300+ pts. For the most skilled and of course for those with more time. Surprisingly of our 32 applications most went for the Gold.

The assistance of your fine Radio Club in this new Canadian operating endeavor certainly is appreciated. May I refer you to TCA July-August issue, page 38, where the award was featured by TCA (RAC).

Thank you and good hunting

**Eric Olsen, VE3GGO**  
**Award Chairmen**  
**Heritage Amateur Radio Club**  
**7 Skye Valley Drive**  
**RR#4**  
**Cobourg, Ontario, K9A 4J7**

I have a copy of the application form for the Canadian Award if anyone is interested, Hi-q Ed.

## QRP Anyone

Check out the Minnesota QRP Society. They are looking for new members. For more information please check out their web page. <http://www.qsl.net/mnqrp>. Bill, VE3XT was passing out application forms at the last meeting so check with him he may still have some for you. The address for the Minnesota QRP Club is:

Minnesota QRP Society  
 c/o Claton Cadmus KA0GKC  
 3985 Alabama Ave. So  
 St. Louis Park, MN 55416

It's cheap to join. The cost is One Dollar American. Hi-Q Ed.

Anyone want to help design a Membership Certificate for the Little Thunder QRP Club ? If so let me know. Wayne, VA3WRL.

Once again thanks to all that contributed to this issue of the Hi-Q. Have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, yours truly W.R.Letang, VA3WRL