

HI-Q

THE LAKEHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB JOURNAL

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

Club Celebration

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club was recently caught by complete surprise when one of our own long-time members, Pat Doherty, was recently elected to the position of President of Radio Amateurs Of Canada. To celebrate the occasion, a barbecue was held to honor Pat and to wish him well in his new post beginning January.

The first photo is of Pat being congratulated by our current Club President Ian Mellis, VA3RIM. The second photograph is of some of the attendees at the barbecue. From left to right in the front row are Lindo Scalsese, VE3NHX; Carol Watson; Joan Klemaki, VE3NCN; Cathy Moray; our oldest and longest continuous member Keith Fiske, VE3JQ; Sharon Fiske; and Marion Nawrocki, VE3MJN; in the second row are Laurie Bridgette, VE3BCD; John Watson, VE3GTX; Phil Mooray, VE3AXL; Bill Klemaki, VE3AJ; and Len Catillo, VE3KV. In the back row are Gerry Burney, VA3BRN; Jim O'Brien, VE3UA; Pat Doherty, VE3PD; Andy Malcolm, VE3INI; John Kaleta, VE3EMI; Bob Hansen, VE3RVA; and Ian Mellis, VA3RIM



El Party Group

Amateur Radio classes start third Thursday in January in room 207B at the McIntyre Building of Confederation College

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El Presidenti & El Presidenti

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
Dave Kimpton, VE3AVS

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 344-3222
Andy Malcolm VE3INI
Eric VE3XET
Past Pres: Terry Stewardson VE3TKA 577-9439

Appointments

Mem. Sec.: John Watson VE3GTX 683-3199
Hi-Q Editor: Wayne Letang VA3WRL 344-9759
Emergency Coordinator: Randy Gottfred, VA3GOT.....939-2310

Club Repeaters

VE3YQT 147.060 - OFFSET
VE3TBR 146.820 - OFFSET

Next Meeting**November 12, 1998**

Meetings are held at 7:30 pm every second Thursday of each
month
at Confederation College in room 207B in the McIntyre
Building.

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
held in Room 207B at Confederation College, Thunder
Bay, Ontario on October 8, 1998**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by the President
VA3RIM, Ian Mellis with 28 members in attendance.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting held September 10, 1998
were published in detail in the October edition of "HI-Q" and

distributed to all members.

Motion: moved by VA3MOB, Maureen Bell and seconded by
VE3RVA, Bob Hansen that the minutes be accepted as
distributed. **Carried.**

Correspondence:

-letter from Environment Canada re Upsala repeater site.

Treasurer's Report: VE3GTX, John Watson

Balance as of August 31, 1998 \$ 1,936.15

Income:Donation	35.00	
Call Book Ad	75.00	
Membership Dues	<u>1404.84</u>	
		1,514.84
Expenses:		
Telephone		69.54
Field Day		18.32
Mail Boxes Etc		63.04
Insurance		<u>625.32</u>
		776.22

Balance as of September 30, 1998 \$ 2,674.77

Motion: moved by VE3GTX, John Watson and seconded by
VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki that the Treasurer's report be
accepted. **Carried.**

1998-99 Proposed Budget: presented by VE3GTX, John
Watson

Operating

Income Categories	Proposed**	97-98	96-97
50/50 Draw	80.00	79.50	117.00
Memberships	2900.00	3005.00	2520.00
Student Fees	200.00	135.00	370.00
Donations	200.00	339.70	426.00

Total Income **3380.00** **3559.20** **3433.00**

Expense Categories

Administration	100.00	50.00	279.90
Band Service Charge	10.00	5.40	4.80
Class	200.00	90.00	125.85
HI-Q	400.00	555.23	1171.16
Insurance	625.32	733.32	0.00
Phone	828.12	793.62	707.58

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

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club History Project

Maintenance	200.00	100.00	45.95
Total Expenses	2363.35	2327.57	2335.24
Difference	1016.65	1231.63	1097.76

** Based on last years spending

Capital:

ARES	200.00
Banner	300.00
Repeaters	1600.00

Total 2100.00

Motion: moved by VE3AVS, Dave Kimpton and seconded by VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki that the proposed budget for 1998-99 be approved. **Carried.**

From the floor, the members gave a vote of confidence for the work the Treasurer has done over the past year.

Reports:

-Equipment: VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson reported that there were some problems with the phone patch on VE3YQT. Some maintenance has been carried out on VE3TBR and the 440 repeater is back in operation. We have been given permission by Environment Canada to install a repeater at their Upsala radar site. A discussion was held with Leo Wehrstedt, Environment Canada's technician and he has no problems with what the Club intends to do and he has donated a corner reflector antenna for this project. Equipment for the repeater has been donated by VE3INI, Andy Malcolm and VE3AJ, Bill Klemacki. All we really need now is a simple linking controller. The plan is to install the antenna at Upsala in the next three weeks before it gets too cold

-ARES: VA3GOT, Randy Gottfred explained SET '98 (simulated emergency test) which will be held on November 7, 1998 between 1 pm and 3 pm using HF (40m and 80m). He intends to use VE3SAO, the 55+ Centre on River Street and hopes ARES members will drop by and get their feet wet. He is still working on ID cards with the Fire Chief.

-Public Service: VE3ZG, Mike Nawrocki reported that the Club provided communications for the Heart of Thunder Bay Race and the CIBC cancer run in the past month. Both events were coordinated by VA3JRS, Jan Sokoloski. the next event is the O.P.P. Christmas parade on November 21, 1998.

-RAC: VE3PD, Pat Doherty had a couple of things to report on. A lot of reworking has to be done regarding ARES across the country, something he is working on. ID cards that are recognized by local authorities are a must as was demonstrated when amateurs were involved in the Swiss Air disaster at Peggy's Cove. Pat attended the Canadian Amateur Radio Advisory Board meeting in Ottawa. He described the difference between a licensed service and an authorized service. RAC is concerned regarding the tracking of amateurs and enforcement.

New Business:

-Updating Insurance: VE3UA, Jim O'Brien asked if our insurance would cover the Upsala repeater. This matter will be brought forward to the next meeting.

-Club Banner: VA3RIM, Ian Mellis showed those in attendance the Club banner. It is starting to show its age and some of the lettering is coming off. Ian had quotes to fix up the existing one and for a new one.

Motion: moved by VE3SNW, Ed Baumann and seconded by VE3TKA, Terry Stewardson that the club executive look into getting more quotes for a new banner. **Carried.**

-Christmas Party: the ladies of the Club again stated that they would not do it again this year. VE3SNW, Ed Baumann volunteered to look after the party.

-Annual Dinner: VE3RVA, Bob Hansen reported that the Annual Dinner will be held Thursday, February 11, 1999. He will try to keep the price down and will have a venue confirmed for the November meeting. He is looking for volunteers to help him out.

-VE3AJ's Sale: Bill Klemacki had a list of clearance items from his shack.

-VE3LMO Donation: George Fraser has donated to the Club some used equipment to auction off with the proceeds going to the Club. VE3SNW, Ed Baumann had some of the equipment at the meeting and stated that there was more to come.

-50/50 Draw: winner of the 50/50 draw was VE3UA, Jim O'Brien.

Adjournment: moved by VA3MOB, Maureen Bell that the meeting be adjourned.

Guest Speaker: following a short break, an illustrious guest speaker was introduced, VE3AVS Dave Kimpton. When Dave was much younger, he made his second most important discovery (the first was girls), short wave listening on an old Stromberg Carlson radio collecting SWL cards. He passed around some of his favourite SWL cards. Dave's first amateur call was VE3CFK and when he worked at the monitoring station on John Street Road, he was in his glory. He actually got paid for having fun snooping around the radio frequencies. He passed out a sheet of frequencies that he thought would be of interest to those in attendance. The Ontario DX Association is a good source of information for short wave frequencies. There are also a number of web sites that list frequencies.

From: Dave Finley, N1IRZ via The ARRL Letter, Vol. 17, No. 39, October 2, 1998

August 27th Gama Ray Burst Briefly Affected Propagation

Insomniac hams in the Western US might have witnessed the effects of a startling cosmic event in the wee hours of August 27. And those hams' logbooks may hold information scientists want.

For five minutes, starting at 1022 UTC on August 27, HF propagation changed dramatically for the Western US and Pacific area. "It was as if night was briefly turned into day in the ionosphere," said Stanford professor Umran Inan, leader of a research group that observed the event. That means that your 40 or 80-meter DX QSO may have suddenly faded away, and, for a short time, you could have worked DX on 20 or 15 meters, or maybe even higher frequencies, in the middle of the night.

On HF, Inan said the MUF should have risen to daytime levels for about five minutes. Inan said he'd very much like to hear if any hams noticed the effect.

The cause was a tremendous burst of gamma-rays and X-rays coming from a newly-discovered star type some 15,000 light-years away. The burst of radiation from the distant star was powerful enough to boost the level of ionization in Earth's upper atmosphere from nighttime to daytime levels, according to the Stanford research group.

This was the first time that such a change in Earth's

environment has been attributed to an event so far away. The star that emitted the burst is a magnetar, a superdense neutron star with the most powerful magnetic field ever found in the universe, a magnetic field strong enough to rip atoms apart.

The gamma and X-ray burst "lit up" Earth's ionosphere. Along with the burst a cloud of subatomic particles spewed from the star's surface at nearly the speed of light. Those particles spiraled around the magnetic field lines and emitted microwaves.

At the National Science Foundation's Very Large Array (VLA) radio telescope in New Mexico, astronomer Dale Frail, working with Caltech researchers Shri Kulkarni and Josh Bloom, detected the microwaves emitted by this cloud of particles at frequencies ranging from 1.4 to 8.4 GHz, and made a "movie" of the cloud as its radio emission brightened, then faded away.

The radiation burst affected the ionosphere over the Western US, but the Eastern part of the country was in shadow, so hams in the East would not have experienced the strange propagation effects. For more information, see the National Radio Astronomy Observatory's Web site at: > <http://www.nrao.edu/pr/magnetar.html>

Public Service by Mike Nawrocki

We are nearing the end of 1998, and the last public service event of the fiscal year will be the fire department Santa Claus Parade which will be held on November 21, 1998. Two years ago it rained, last year it was wet snow, wonder what it will be like this year. Already have Norm, Linda, Terry, Marion and myself lined up for the usual duties for this one. Had a chance meeting with an Amateur last week who with his wife were visiting a cousin in Thunder Bay. Ever Viera, CX2PC from Rivera, Uruguay was making the round of the electronic stores around Thunder Bay gathering any information he could on some Yeasu equipment just coming into the U.S. Apparently there is some hot new stuff almost ready to hit the market. A new HF, 6m, 2m and 70cm combination is just waiting FCC approval, but is already being advertised. Would not be surprised that he has one to take home. With decent conditions on 10m the other evening, was also able to give him a patch an

Amateur friend CX3PD in his home town. First DX contact in along time and a new country to boot. The bands are opening up. Have an idea that I will bring up at the next meeting. Keep the batteries charged and ready, never know when you might need them in a hurry. Mike

Friends don't let friends word process without reveal codes

From the Murillo Hermit

Hello All,

It is always surprising, to me, what you can find on the Internet. Here is an interesting browser "test" page. At this URL's site you can discover if your particular computer actually hears, sees and displays "everything" that is being sent over the data stream. You can test each element of data and find out if any plug-ins or helper applications are corrupted or lacking in your computer. Hope you find it useful.

<http://www-dsed.llnl.gov/documents/WWWtest.html>

73, Jim, VE3UA

Hi again

A can of paint and it will look like NEW! It's the chance of a lifetime! It only flew once, on a warm Sunday afternoon! Limited while supplies last! This URL takes you to a series of pages where you may make an offer on a variety of surplus Russian space and aviation vehicles. Visit the links found at: <http://www.spacehardware.com/index.html>

The Mir Space station is one of only three in the world (on Earth). Consisting of four full sized modules it comes complete with a spectator's walkway. Just the thing to erect on your front lawn! You should be able to negotiate for shipping and delivery charges. :) According to Netlingo's domain look-up, the page is registered to: Brad Lawrence Productions (SPACEHARDWARE-DOM) 1416 Wilmar Avenue Merritt Island, FL 32952 US

I suppose they are acting as agents for the present owners, I have no idea whether or not this is legitimate. BUYER BEWARE! I am not an agent!!!!

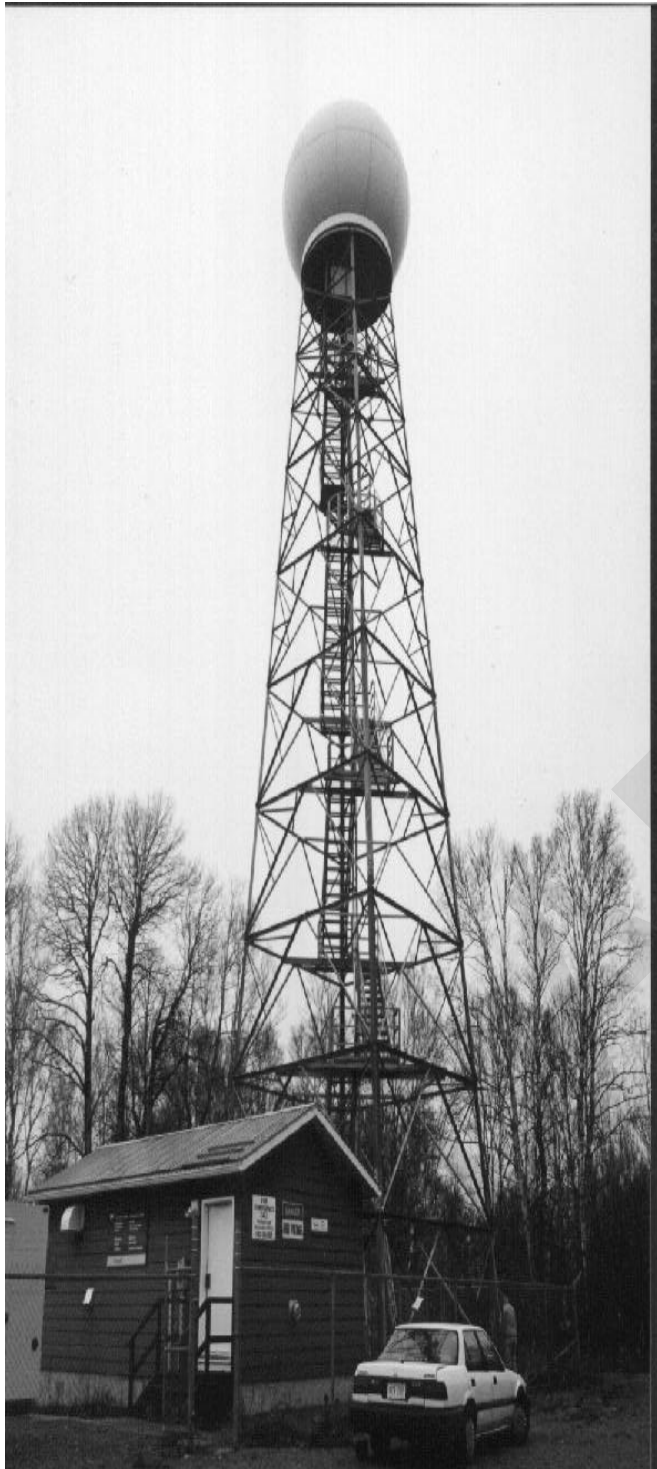
Jim O'Brien, VE3UA
ve3ua@rac

Upsala Update

by

Andy Malcolm VE3INI

As some are probably wondering where we stand with the Upsala repeater project here is the latest breaking news. On Sunday October 18 Terry VE3TKA and I drove out to the Upsala site 90 miles west of Thunder Bay at 49 02 15 N lat. and 90 24 20 W long. bearing 301.4 degrees from YQT. For those that don't know we are locating a repeater at the Environment Canada Weather Radar site with their permission, and it is being coordinated through VE3ATC Leo Wehrstedt the technician for Environment Canada. Leo even donated a VHF corner reflector to use for the link back to YQT. When we arrived at the site we carried a gel cell, 2m mobile and a folded dipole element up the tower to the 75 foot mark It was a cool and very windy day to say the least, and wouldn't you know it, even some AVS dust just to confirm that is was the right time to start on antenna work. The power was connected and the mobile was fired up, antenna connected and I tried to raise YQT. Well guess who came back? It was Dave VE3AVS giving us a signal report not too bad but a little noisy. So we moved all the equipment up the tower just below the radome to the highest point we could mount an antenna. After trying again we confirmed a received signal strength of 2uv from YQT. This was quite a bit lower than expected but still quite useable. Bill VE3AJ kindly provided a path loss analysis and plot using the lat/long coordinates of the site and a great program that he was given access to. We hope to install a Sinclair 210C4 and the corner reflector on the tower as soon as possible while the weather permits. Since there is a catwalk up the center of the tower it will be fairly straight forward work. Two runs of 7/8" heliax will complete the outside job. Once this is finished and over the next few months, we need to procure a controller and compete work on the radio equipment and filter system.



Upsala Repeater Sight

Photo by Andy, VE3INI

Wanted 2m Net Controller

The Club needs a new net controller to replace Dave, VE3AVS. Dave has a heavy commitment on Monday's and is unable to continue. I would like to thank Dave for his time and effort that he gave to his net on the first Monday of each month.

If anyone is interested please contact Bob, VA3ROM via email or phone or on one of the Monday night nets. I will provide you with a net controller script. This slot is for either the first or second Monday of each month and should be of interest to one of the ARES members. The main purpose for any net is to provide emergency communications. The 2m net allows you to get your feet wet in handling routine communications and traffic so that when a crisis occurs, we have an experienced pool of 2m net controllers handy.

73, Bob, VA3ROM
 rmazur@tbaytel.net
 344-7731

Two Runs

We had a very good turn out at the Heart Of Thunder Bay Run. The cool weather seemed to help the runners and not the volunteers, but we all survived. Thanks to VA3AMY, VA3RIM, VE3SNW, VE3XRC, VA3MOB, CIBC Breast Cancer Run took place in again this year and a big Thank You and job well done to the following people: VA3AMY, VA3IOU, VA3RIM, VA3TBA, VE3VUK, Thanks again to all for your help. VA3JRS Jan

Java Hut Winners

The winners for this month are: VA3IOU Alan, VA3TBA Chris, VE3NHX Lindo, VA3AMY Al. Come on out on Tuesday nights and maybe you might win a free meal compliments the Java Hut.

Interesting URL's

www.arnewsline.org

www.ideal.net.au/chipdir/

www.tinaja.com

www.winfiles.com

For those who wanted to know

I tried and I tried, but there was no way I could catch up to a Grizzly let alone kiss the darn bear. The closest I came was to the piles of droppings they left behind. Did manage to whoop it up at Diamond Tooth Gerties Gambling Casino in Dawson City and boy oh boy try wrestling with a Can-can girl in full motion just can't be done. Had a great time WRL'ing in the Yukon. Old one-boot..

Book Review:

"Come Quick, Danger"

A History of Marine Radio in Canada

by

Bob, VA3ROM

A small advertisement in *The Canadian Amateur* caught my eye last month. It read as follows: "*Come Quick, Danger* is an interesting historical account of [Canadian] marine communication from the first radio signal sent by Marconi, to the sinking of the Titanic, to today's age of satellite communications. Using firsthand accounts of people involved in the development of marine communication, this publication successfully combines technical evolution and personal anecdote. *Come Quick, Danger's* colourful illustrations and map of 1950's radio station positions

complete the package which will appeal [to] those involved in the areas of amateur radio operations, shipping, marine navigation, and to historical societies interested in maritime culture."

I remember when the author, Stephan Dubreuil, began his work on this project, a few years ago. The idea for it came from the Director of MCTS (Marine Communications and Traffic Services), Canadian Coast Guard. It was a daunting task since many of us don't appreciate the historical aspects of our jobs. And, momento's and other things do disappear, get misplaced or destroyed as staff comes and goes over the years from stations. Sad to say, but Stephan had a few of his sources pass away before they could be interviewed. Fortunately, a few employees, past and present, had taken photographs of the old stations and could provide some first-hand knowledge. Combined with other archives that are available, including the first-class marine library at the Coast Guard College in Sydney, *Come Quick, Danger* is one book that I couldn't put down. It's strange and interesting to read a historical book whose history you are a participant in.

The evolution of radio from spark to CW, then AM to FM and finally SSB and back to CW, in the Canadian marine service, is very nicely explained. A lot of the time, changes were made because an influential person was in the right or wrong spot at the right or wrong time. It had nothing to do with necessity but rather a personal like or dislike by one person! Of course, the sinking of the Titanic is covered, from the Canadian involvement. To this day, all coast guard radio station's operations, around the world, have been shaped by this single tragic event that occurred over 85 years ago. Also covered, is the history of the combined air and marine stations, and later the separation of these stations, and the amalgamation of VTS (vessel traffic services) and Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS).

There has been a coast station in the Lakehead since 1910. The first distress handled, via wireless, was in 1911 when a ship ran aground off Isle Royale. In those days, the Marconi Company ran the majority of stations on shore and on ship. Radio operators were forbidden from accepting wireless messages from any rival company. A person no less influential than Kaiser Wilhelm II of Germany was refused service from a Marconi station. This led to the not-so-amused Kaiser building a chain of wireless stations throughout the Fatherland, just in time for World War I. How history would have been

different if that one message had been sent by that one radio operator. A humorous exchange of communications involved a vessel traffic regulator and a stubborn ships' captain in the early days of VTS. "Listen, I am the captain aboard this ship and I intend to do as I wish." The regulator, fraught with fatigue, shot back, "Listen Captain, I am the master over the St. Lawrence and I intend that you do as I wish." The captain complied. Just a few of the tidbits from the book.

Of course, knowing some of the characters involved, either working under them, with them or having graduated from the same radio class does strike a chord close to the heart. I've worked at a few of the stations in the book and can attest to the truth of a few of the stories. This book brought back some fond memories. Mr. Dubreuil did an excellent job of playing historical detective in piecing together this condensed history of marine radio in Canada. A lot has been lost through the years in the way of records but his 136 pages truly does justice to the Morse code sparkers of the past and the satellite operators of the future. A must read for anyone who wants to know our radio roots, especially as it applies to Canadians.

Come Quick, Danger is available from Canadian Government Publishing, PWGSC, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0S9. Telephone: 1-800-635-7943. Fax: 1-819-994-1498. VISA or MasterCard: 1-800-565-7757. Internet: <http://publications.pwgsc.gc.ca>. Catalogue No. T31-107-1998E. Price, including shipping & handling & GST: \$27.23 (Canadian dollars).

Wayno's Glossary of absoulutaly Wonderful Electronic Terms

resonance indicator-A meter, neon lamp, headphone, etc that indicates when a circuit is at resonance

resonant gap-The small region where the electric field is concentrated in the resonant structure inside a TR tube.

Resonance-1 A circuit condition whereby the inductive- and capacitive-reactance (or-impedance) components of a circuit have

been balanced. In usual circuits, resonance can be obtained for only a comparatively narrow frequency band or range. **2.** In a mechanical system, the frequency at which the maximum displacement occurs.

Resonant resistance-The resistance value to which a resonant circuit is equivalent.

TOP TEN REASONS WHY TRICK OR TREATING IS BETTER THAN SEX

- 10) You are guaranteed to get at least a little something in the sack.
- 9) If you get tired, you can wait 10 minutes and go at it again.
- 8) The uglier you look, the easier it is to get some.
- 7) You don't have to compliment the person who gives you some.
- 6) It's O.K. when the person you're with fantasizes you're someone else, because you are.
- 5) Forty years from now you'll still enjoy candy.
- 4) If you don't like what you get, you can always go next door.
- 3) It doesn't matter if the kids hear you moaning and groaning.
- 2) Less guilt the morning after.
- 1) YOU CAN DO THE WHOLE NEIGHBORHOOD.

Have a safe and Happy Halloween People

Thanks for all the input, without it there would be no output.
73 es 88 de Wayne, VA3WRL

Don't forget Amateur Radio Classes start in January on the third Thursday at 7 pm in room 207B in the McIntyre Building of Confederation College, The Honorable Ed Baumann presiding