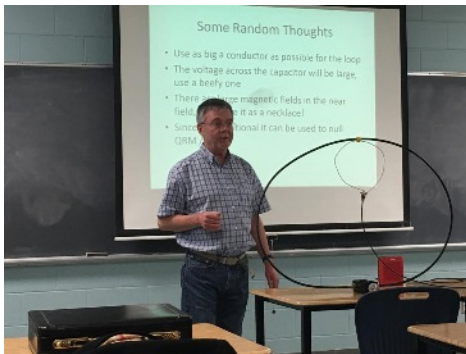## What's Happening at LARC Meetings?

For the February meeting yours truly give a short talk and a demo with some homemade Magnetic Loops

Antennas I've been playing with. Apparently from the photo I'm not capable of logical thinking and rely on random thoughts! The best recommendation for this type of antenna came half way through the demo when a W5 CW station popped out of the noise for a few moments. As you can see from the pictures we had a bit of a pedestrian mobile thing going with some able assistance from Randy, VA3OJ and Karl, VE3RRP. As well.

For this month we are going to continue with Magnetic Loop antennas and Cory, VE3ZCV will bring in his MFJ version of the loop he uses for his field ops. If you have been doing anything "Loopy" over the last month bring it in and join in the show and tell. We are also trying to synthesize another topic for that evening. Hope that you can make the meeting this Thursday, March 9th at 7:30 PM in the Mac building at Confederation College.

Also mark your calendars for April 13th to attend the annual LARC dinner meeting at Chicago Joe's in the Victoria Inn on Arthur Street. You can order whatever you wish off the menu. See you there.

We are always looking for speakers so if you're puttering with something, have a new toy or a better way to do something let one of the executive know and we will slot you in. There's lots of time before next June, 2017. The Executive has made a concerted effort the last few years to make the meetings interesting and with a variety of topics. We hope you can come out and support your fellow LARC'ers and guests. - CG3XT

QLF - Bill CG3XT

For those of you who aren't familiar with CW, there is a set of Q codes to assist the operators to move conversation along. Some of these Q codes have migrated into voice operations as well. Probably everyone knows QTH is used to describe your location, as in my QTH is Riverside Dr. QRM is used to describe interference from another station, as in I can't copy you as another station is QRM'ing you. One of my favourites is QSB, which means a signal is fading in and out. If you're talking to a loooooong winded operator you can say, sorry lots of QSB so I have to QRT. QRT = stop transmitting.

One other Q code is QLF. This has grown to mean that the other operator's CW is so rotten it sounds like they are sending it with their left foot. Unfortunately while scanning the CW portions of the band this seems to be a fairly popular method to send CW.

However in the next few months that may change as we are on the cusp of having a GREAT QLF op here in Thunder Bay. Judy, VE3EAP had a chance encounter with a bit of covered ice and discovered gravity still works. Unfortunately in the process of meeting the ground she suffered a broken ankle, her right one. The good news is her left one is still in great shape and can be used to send CW. Before the end of the year I'm hoping for a demo of some CW sent at nothing less than 35 WPM at a perfect 3:1 spacing ratio.

On behalf of all the members of the LARC we wish you a speedy (as in CW) and full recovery and no clowning around, ok so maybe a little bit. Take care Judy or better yet have Mike take care of you ;-)

April 13th Dinner Meeting @6 PM.
Guest speaker MNR K-9 Unit Andy Heershap and partner.

LARC SENATE
Robert Hansen VE3RVA
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Laurie Bridgett VE3BCD
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ
Vice-President:Bob Hansen VE3RVA
Treasurer:Bill Unger VE3XT
Secretary: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP
Board Member: Mike Skillen VE3EDX
Board Member: Cory Vickruck VE3ZCV
Board Member: Brad Harris VE3MXJ
Board Member: Axel Rehfuhs VE3OPF

LARC Emergency Coordinator
Brad Harris VE3MXJ 767-0628

ARES District Emergency Coordinator
vacant

CANWARN
VA3JMS John 767-3631
VE3MXJ Brad 767-0628

Public Service Events
VA3JMS John 767-3631

Accredited Examiners
VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
flesnick@tbaytel.net
VE3VAI Lori Bedford 622 – 6386
ve3vai@tbaytel.net

ABOUT US
The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. Our meetings are the second Thursday of the month at room 191 McIntyre Building, Confederation College, 7:30 PM. Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184,Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to hiqnewsletter@gmail.com

Nets in the Thunder Bay Area

Last Monday of every Month - ARES net on VE3YQT - 7 pm (you do not have to be an ARES member to check in)

Cook County ARES Response Team (CARRT) net at 0100Z (8 pm) on the BWARC repeater, Grand Portage repeater - 146.655 with CTCSS

Every Day The **NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO ARES NET** , every evening at 8:15PM (local) on 80m 3.750Mhz (note the time does not change with daylight savings time.)

Any questions on these or other nets please feel free to contact me at my e-mail: ve3mxj@rac.ca

Winnipeg Amateur Radio Club Spring Flea Market
Sunday, April 23, 2017, at Heritage Victoria Community Centre
950 Sturgeon Rd, Winnipeg MB.
Doors open for coffee and EyeBall contacts at 9:30
Vendor Setup will begin at 9:45
Doors open for the flea market at 10:30
Prize Draws will be held at 11:30
For tables please contact Ruth VE4XYL at ve4se.xyl@gmail.com or 204-837-6915
to book your table.
Table rental is $5.00 for members,
$10.00 for non-members

LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600) Phone Patch
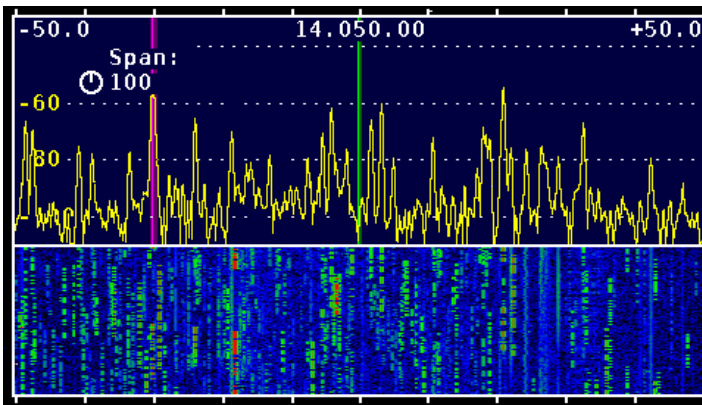
VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) **146.820 pl 107.2**

442.075 (+5 MHz)pl 100
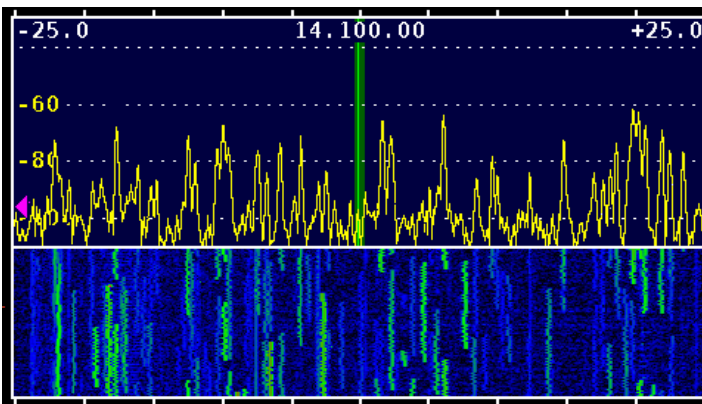144.390 APRS

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)

Busy Bands
Wm Unger VE3XT

Even though the numbers are decreasing and the Maximum Usable Frequency (MUF) is decreasing 20 Metres is still a producer during the contests. Below are two screen shots from recent contest weekends taken on my Panadapter. The one directly below is from the ARRL International DX Contest and is centred on 14050 and covers the bottom 100 kHz of the 20 M band.If you're going to operate in this test you will need some pretty anrrow filters to pull signals out of the QRM. And appologies to all those QRP and digital op's who were crowded out.

The next one was from the ARRL RTTY contest and is also centred on 14100 kHz but with a slightly smaller band width. You can tell these signals are RTTY because you can see the shift in the carrier as a "wobbly" waterfall as compared to the straight one in the display above showing CW. These represent the frequency shift for the mark and space frequencies.

QRP to the Field (QRPttF) is the QRP Field Day, 22 April 17.

Rules, information, and babbling commentary here: <http://www.zianet.com/qrp/qrpttf/2017/ttf.htm>.

Regular SSB and CW QRP frequencies will be used. The Theme this year is "A River Ran Through It' (The title of a popular movie).
I checked my map and I could get to the headwaters of the Rio Grande or Colorado River but I chose instead a nearby creek.
Cripple Creek!
There are numerous stories about how the City of Cripple Creek, Colorado, was named. The most recounted story is of a cow that fell while crossing the small stream that flowed through Poverty Gulch, resulting in the statement, "That's some Cripple Creek."
I will be operating from the head waters of the Creek in Poverty Gulch for QRPttF,
 (In April at 10,000 feet the Creek may still be frozen).
There will be a special Cripple Creek QSL card available.
I will be on 14060 - 14065 kHz around 1700 - 2000z.
Gold was discovered in Cripple Creek in the fall of 1890.
By 1894, what had been a quiet, serene cattle ranch was a booming gold camp of about
50,000 people. The small camp was to become the fifth richest gold strike in the world, a legacy that continues today with a still actively producing gold mine.
You can check the weather on the webcam at: <http://www.utepasscams.com/bennett-3rd-st.html>.
There is a book about the area at: <https://www.amazon.com/POVERTY-GULCH-Cripple-Mining-District-ebook/dp/B0089D9XEY>.
 and a map here:
<https://www.topoquest.com/map.php?lat=38.73008&lon=105.16203&datum=nad27&zoom=8&map=auto&coord=d&mode=zoomin&size=m>.

Paul   w0rw - forwarded by Fred VE3FAL

Excellence in Training: Seventh Annual New Hampshire ARES Academy To Be Held April 1

The ARRL New Hampshire Section has long been one of the most active in the country, and has served as a model for public service communication protocols and development. The section's annual NH-ARES Academy is no exception, continuing that tradition of excellence; it's been effective in recruiting and training new as well as veteran public event, emergency and disaster communications operators for many years. This year, the training program will be held at the New Hampshire State Fire Academy in the state's capitol of Concord, on April 1. The program is divided into blocks of training subjects critical to the development of ARES operators' skill sets.

The program will lead off with a presentation on Net Control functioning and how to work efficiently in a net environment, taught by Assistant Section Traffic Manager John Gotthardt, K1UAF, followed by ARES 101, an introduction to the New Hampshire ARES program for new members, taught by Section Emergency Coordinator Wayne Santos, N1CKM. Next, a new section for this year entitled Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), taught by Dave Colter, WA1ZCN, the section's Assistant EC for Training, introduces the concept and protocols for gathering disaster field intelligence for the state's department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) by monitoring other radio services.

Message formatting, seemingly always in a state of flux within the ICS framework, is a function that is at the core of the ARES mission, and will be another topic presented, by ARRL New Hampshire Section Manager and veteran traffic handler Pete Stohrer, K1PJS.

Hospital Support is another topic to be presented; New Hampshire's ARES program provides support to all of the state's hospitals. Operating plans and new protocols will be discussed by Merle Weber, KB1RJD, and the Hospital Amateur Radio Program (HARP) team. From the HARP operating manual, "the purpose of the [manual] is to provide guidelines, specific instructions, and reference information necessary to connect, configure, and operate a HARP Amateur Radio station in support of backup emergency communications at New Hampshire hospitals during readiness practice drills and actual emergencies, using analog and digital hardware and software for message exchange."

A discussion of Go Kit Basics will be led by Alan Bradford, AE1H, from Southern Grafton County ARES, for new members and those needing to take a fresh look at their go kit.

The critical importance of the ARES Mutual Assistance Team (ARESMAT) protocol/concept was brought to the floor once again during Hurricane Matthew when demand for disaster response communicators outstripped the supply of ARES operators in many states. The academy's Introduction to ARESMAT will describe how the program works to supply operators from outside the affected areas in a system of mutual aid agreements, how to best use ARESMAT resources, and for the individual ARESMAT-deployed operator: what to expect, and how to prepare for deployment. This course will be presented by Colter.

For newcomers to HF operation in the context of emergency and disaster response communications, a course entitled HF for Emcomm, will discuss HF antennas and equipment, temporary station setups, and operating in the field, taught by Stohrer. An all new workshop course for students getting started with the NBEMS digital messaging system will be presented by George Blakeslee, N1GB.

A special course on WebEOC Training will be restricted to ARES members who are regularly assigned to a municipal EOC, and recommended by their Emergency Coordinators. The course will be taught by a member of the state's HSEM staff. Presentations/courses on Winlink Express and the Winlink 2000 world-wide radio email system and an APRS technical workshop will wind up the academy's curriculum. For more information and registration, contact Dave Colter, WA1ZCN, Assistant SEC for Training, ARRL New Hampshire Section.

Thanks Brad VE3MXJ CEC

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

February 2017 Treasurers Report

Balance February 1, 2017   **$960.85**

Income
 February 14, Membership $20.00
Total Income   **$20.00**

Expenses
February 2, Karl Clip Boards for Field Day $20.34
Total Expenses   **$20.34**

Balance February 28, 2017   **$960.51**

Trailer Account	
Previous Balance	**$138.74**
Income	
Total	**$138.74**
Expenses	
Total Expenses:	**$0.00**
Balance in Trailer Account	**$138.74**

Term Account

Fevruary 01 Balance   **$2,056.90**
February 17, Interest   **$0.25**

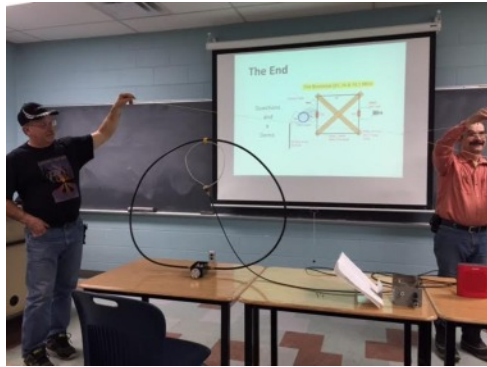**February 28, Balance**   **$2,057.15**

Bill Unger CG3XT
Treasurer

Minutes for the
Lakehead Amateur Radio Club
Date: February 9, 2017
President, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ Presiding.
Guest Speaker:

Bill Unger VE3XT on Magnetic Loop Antennas
with working demo.
Treasurer's Report: Bill Unger VE3XT
Bill Unger VE3XT moves to accept the report as
printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by
Terry Stewardson VaeLU. Passed Unanimously.
Minutes of Previous Meeting:
Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moves to accept the pre-
vious meeting's minutes as printed in
Hi-Q. Seconded by Bill Unger VE3XT. Passed.
Old Business:
**Public Service (John Sacek VA3JMS public
events coordinator)**
Past Events:
Randy Gottfred VA3OJ sends a big THANK YOU
to all who have volunteered in past
events.
Upcoming Events
Sleeping Giant Loppet, Saturday March 4, Randy
Gottfred VA3OJ
parking permits are required to park. The volun-
teer appreciation event will be that
evening.
CANWARN John Sacek VA3JMS
no news
ARES Brad Harris VE3MXJ Thunder Bay EC
Monthly Net on VE3YQT on the last Monday of
the month at 7 PM.
Net: Daily NW ON HF 3750 Khz, 8:15 ET if an
operator is available
Brad reported making contact with the emergency
rep at the hospital, and also touched

base with the Thunder Bay Fire and Rescue.

Repeater News
Randy Gottfred VA3OJ,
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
when wx warms up: TBR battery swap, TBR
mesh ant.
All else working fine.
Club Trailer:
Bob Hansen VE3RVA
no news
YouTube Channel
Cory Vickruck VE3ZCV
no news

April 13th Dinner Meeting @6 PM.
Guest speaker MNR K-9 Unit Andy
Heershap and partner.

New Business
RAC Bulletin Highlights by VE3RRP
Adjournment moved by: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP
Next Executive Meeting: March 2,
2017, 7:30 PM, RM 213

RAC Announces Granting of Scholarships

Every year, through the RAC Foundation, Radio Amateurs of Canada provides grants and scholarships to worthy community programs and to young Amateurs who are enrolled at the post-secondary level in Electrical, Electronic and Software engineering. Students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs are also considered on a case by case basis.

Once again, we are pleased to announce the granting of three scholarships of $500 each to three Canadian Amateurs who are studying in Electrical Engineering programs in Canadian universities.

The first recipient is Aaron Younan, VA3AZY, who is studying at the University of Windsor. When Aaron found out he was receiving a scholarship he said: "Thank you so much! This means a lot to me and I appreciate everything RAC has done for me. I hope one day to be in a position to pay it forward." Aaron is working on Software Defined Radios and other wireless-based projects as part of his studies.

The second recipient is Trent Mitchell, VE9EN, who is studying at the University of New Brunswick (UNB) in Fredericton. The UNB has a very active Amateur Radio group under the mentorship of Dr. Brent Petersen, VE9EX and associates. You can watch Trent make his first QSO with the International Repeater Group in February 2016 and as a bonus you get a pretty good description of how a repeater operates. Here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ET8hutBtVqQ

The third recipient is Louis Harris, VA2LDH, who is studying Electrical Engineering at the Fondation de Polytechnique in Montreal. Louis said: "I like knowing how stuff works and to build, design and repair all types of devices. I intend to specialize in electronics or telecommunications. This passion for electronics is what pushed me into obtaining my Amateur certificate."

It's gratifying to think that a radio you may be using in the future could be designed by a Canadian Amateur who was helped by your or your club's donation to the RAC Scholarship and Grants Program today. We need Amateurs like you who are willing to donate to the RAC Foundation to continue supporting future Engineers and young people at the post-secondary level who are studying in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields.

RAC operates the RAC Foundation in cooperation with the Community Foundation of Ottawa (CFO) which administers and invests the donated funds and disburses the earnings from those invested funds to grant applicants, based upon the advice of the RAC Board. All grant applications should be submitted to the RAC Foundation for processing and recommendation.

In addition to the Scholarship and Grants Program RAC also has a Youth Education Program (YEP). For more information visit: http://wp.rac.ca/youth-education-program/

If you wish to donate or require further information about the RAC Scholarships and Grants Program, please visit http://wp.rac.ca/grant-information/ or contact me at ve3xt@rac.ca.

On behalf of Aaron, Trent and Louis, thank you for your continued support of this program.

Bill Unger, VE3XT
RAC Scholarship Coordinator
Brian Jackson, VE6JBJ
RAC Youth Education Program Chair

Deputy Director – Atlantic Region

Radio Amateurs of Canada would like to welcome Frank Davis, VO1HP, as the Deputy Director for the Atlantic Region. RAC Atlantic Director, Dave Goodwin, VE9CB, appointed Frank as Deputy Director on February 8, 2017.

Frank is a very well-known and well-respected Radio Amateur from St John's and Carbonear, Newfoundland. He has been an Amateur for over 50 years and brings a wealth of Amateur Radio and professional experience to RAC. He will be an important source of sage advice. Frank is an avid 160m DXer with over 200 countries on "Top Band" and is currently involved in a project to bridge the Atlantic on 144 MHz by terrestrial propagation modes.

Frank's predecessor as Atlantic Deputy Director was Len Morgan, VE9MY, of Baxter's Corner, near Saint John, New Brunswick. Len has served RAC and Canadian Amateur Radio with great distinction as a past Atlantic Director and Deputy Director, and he continues to serve as the Manager of the RAC Incoming QSL Bureau. Thank you for many years of outstanding work, Len.

Dave Goodwin, VE9CB
RAC Atlantic Director

March 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 CWops Mini-CW Test	9 LARC Meeting at ConCollege 1930 hrs. McIntyre Bldg	10 QRP Fox Hunt	11 RSGB Commonwealth Contest	12
13 Wisconsin QSO Party	14	15	16	17	18 Virginia/Louisiana QSO Party	19
20 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest Spring Equinox 0629 EDT	21	22 Phone Fray	23	24	25 CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	26
27	28	29	30	31 NCCC RTTY Sprint		