

Natural Disasters Rock the Caribbean

Four hurricanes, Harvey, Katia, Irma and Jose have or are hitting the Texas, Florida, and Caribbean islands and a major earthquake has hit southern Mexico. My in-box is deluged with bulletins from RAC and ARRL but here is a summary:

Puerto Rico: 3.803, 3.808, 7.188 MHz. Radio Amateurs in Puerto Rico also will cooperate with the Hurricane Watch Network on 7.268 and 14.325 MHz.

Cuba: Daylight hours, 7.110 MHz (primary) and 7.120 MHz (secondary); Provincial Net: 7.045, 7.080 MHz, and on other lower frequencies as necessary. Nighttime, 3.740 MHz (primary) and 3.720 MHz (secondary) and on other lower frequencies as necessary.

Dominican Republic: 3.873 MHz (primary), 3.815 MHz (secondary), 7.182 MHz (primary), 7.255 MHz (secondary); 14.330 MHz (primary), 21.360 MHz (primary), 28.330 MHz (primary).

There are many other nets in operation as well such as SATERN.

Rather than trying to reprint hundreds (thousands?) of pages of information, visit RAC and ARRL webpages. A good place to start is <http://www.arrl.org/hurricane-irma-2017>.

We may not be able to offer much assistance from this distance, but perhaps while all this is fresh in our minds we can revisit our own disaster preparations. We are not immune to the vagaries of the weather.

<https://www.emergencymanagementontario.ca/english/home.html>

Also remember to hone your amateur radio skills too, both technical and operating. Can you build a simple antenna? Solder a connector? And talk about ham radio to your friends. There are interested people out there that haven't found us yet.



ROBERT (BOB) JOHN MITCHELL VE3IDJ June 7, 1944 - April 23, 2017 After a valiant fight with cancer, Bob has gone on to his heavenly reward. He is survived by his beloved wife Carolyn (nee Knelson), his children Charlene (fiancé Peter Harbottle) of Burlington, ON, Greg (Susan) of Thunder Bay, ON, and two grandsons: Cameron and Alex. Also surviving are his mother Rebecca, his brother Dave (Betty), and family; and sisters Jean Hall (Don) and family, and Elizabeth Nash (Greg) and family. He was predeceased by his father Robert Mitchell in 2011, as well as his grandparents. Bob arrived in Winnipeg with his family, from Belfast, Northern Ireland in 1958. The LARC would like to extend its condolences to Bob's family. The full obituary can be seen at the Winnipeg Free Press. http://passages.winnipegfreepress.com/passagedetails/id-245205/MITCHELL_ROBERT

RAC Amateur of the Year Nominations: Deadline September 29

The nomination process is well underway for the RAC Amateur of the Year.

Nominations with supporting documentation are to be addressed to the RAC Corporate Secretary and received at RAC Headquarters no later than September 29, for consideration for the current year.

**LARC Meeting:
September 14, 2017, 7:30 PM
Confederation College RM 214
(McIntyre building)**



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

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

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

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

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)

The Slightly Famous VE3FAL

As most of you know I have been a QRP CW guy for most of my operating hobby span. And portable comms are the main interest and focus of my operations pushing it to the limits using stealth antennas and the minimum power required to make a contact (as per regulations I might add).

I take small radios with me when I fly up to Ontario's remote First Nation Communities for work, setting up on a picnic table or a dock and sometimes even string a wire up in my room. I recently did a few canoe trips this summer with one being a 187km paddle into the Wabakimi Wilderness and operated for a short period of time in the RAC Canada Contest from the remote wilderness. This past winter I stayed at my winter tent location for the weekend and operated in the Winter Field Day Contest and played radio while keeping the small woodstove in the tent aglow.

I also enjoy playing with new radios and I do lots of buying, selling and trading of gear once I have had a chance to play with it. So with that being said I have been fortunate to acquire a few new toys this past year. Firstly I may add that I have been a beta tester for Xiegu since the inception of the X1M radio, I was the first ham to have one in my hands and operate and make recommendations on how to make it better suited for the ham operator, since then Xiegu has kept me onboard along with another ham in the UK and we have been testing gear and giving it a workout and making suggestions to make it better.

Since the X1M, we have successfully seen the X08(G) released and just this week the X5105 radio. I own both radios and the X108 is a bit larger almost like the FT857, the X5105 is about the size of the KX2 but slightly heavier and it runs 5 watts and does 6 meters as well.

I was asked by Xiegu after making a contact on 14.300 with the pre-production model of the X5105 and telescopic whip if I could send in a few pictures to them for their Chinese Amateur Radio magazine, so I did and I became the first North American ham featured on the cover of their magazine with the X5105(pre-production model) and my Chameleon F-Loop outback on the picnic table.

I also picked up the SDR radio the mcHF QRP rig and all I can say is WOW. What a great little rig, and firmware and options for the radio are being made almost daily to get full use of the radio. I would have bought a kit form but my hands and eyes just would

have made a long build and like most other builds I would MOST likely have started and then put it away for a bit to forget about it. The radio does 10 watst high power and can be set for each band various power levels as well, it right now has an RTTY decoder in the firmware and short time will see other digital modes incorporated into it as time goes on.

So between the store, travelling up North, radio and canoe trips I have had a fun filled summer. Hunting season and my favorite season fall is here and then it will be Winter Survival skills time again out in the bush. I will attach some links and pictures to some of the radios, my YouTube channel and vendors of the rigs.

Hope you all had a great summer and let's hope band conditions pick up a bit for winter months

73

Fred VE3FAL/QRP/P/CW

My Youtube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/user/VE3FAL1>

Xiegu:

<http://www.cqxiegu.com/index.php?route=common/home>

Recent RS-918 mcHF QRP radio:

http://en.recentchina.com/product_detail.php?id=42



This is picture of me with the pre-production model of the X5105 and using the Chameleon F-Loop. I was told I am the first North American amateur to be on the cover of their radio magazine.

Fred's Xiegu Radios



mcHF RS-918 QRP SDR Radio

Winter Field Day 2017 VE3FAL 10 ONN
Tent location, KX2, Packenna, military keyThis is a look at the pre-production
X5105 (Top Photo)
And the new and available version of
the X5105 (Bottom)

Wanted: looking for a working FT-101 or FT-101E.
Contact Fred VE3FAL at flesnick@tbaytel.net or text
at 630-0273

The Best of the Web from Jan VA3JRS

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/community/2017/8/28/ham-radio-operators-to-speak-to-the-world-from-souris-lighthouse.html>

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/uk-news/amateur-radio-fan-saves-12-11039007>

<http://www.oakbaynews.com/news/saanich-radio-tower-approved-over-neighbours-opposition/>

<http://www.eham.net/articles/39793>

<http://nk7z.net/rebuilding-the-shack/>

<https://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/news/2017/20170721-1/index.php>

<http://www.eham.net/articles/39180>

<http://forums.qrz.com/index.php?threads/amateur-radio-newsline-headlines-for-ham-nation-july-12-2017.573248/>

<http://earthsky.org/space/solar-minimum-is-coming-video>

<http://www.radioworld.com/news-and-business/0002/noise-inquiry-spurs-recommendations/339989>

Minutes for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

Date: June 8, 2017

President, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ Presiding.

Guest Speaker:

Bill n Brad Tag Team: The Dayton Dance!

Field Day: will be at Randy's VA3OJ place.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Unger VE3XT

Bill Unger VE3XT moved to accept the report as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Brad Harris VE3MXJ. Passed Unanimously.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moved to accept the previous meeting's minutes as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Doug McCormack VE3EFC. Passed.

Old Business:

Public Service (John Sacek VA3JMS public events coordinator)

Past Events:

10 Mile Road Race Monday May 22nd. Norm Bell VE3XRC Coordinator

Upcoming Events

Conquer the Dog Saturday August 19th

Xterra Saturday August 26th

CANWARN John Sacek VA3JMS

Training Day: Monday June 12, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority, 100 Conservation Road, Thunder Bay, 7 PM.

ARES Brad Harris VE3MXJ Thunder Bay EC

Monthly Net

Repeater News

Randy Gottfred VA3OJ,

Terry Stewardson VA3LU

Have to visit VE3YQT to tie down coax, and a visit to VE3TBR needed for an overhaul.

Club Trailer:

Bob Hansen VE3RVA

No news.

YouTube Channel

Cory Vickruck VE3ZCV

No news

Fund Raising Committee:

Some preliminary work and research done.

New Business

VE3SAO News:

Election of officers

Morse Code Key Kit

Phil Moorey VE3AXL

Amateur of the Year:

Congratulations to Bill Unger VE3XT

LARC Amateur of the year!

RAC Bulletin Highlights by VE3RRP

50/50 Draw: Randy Gottfred VA3OJ

Adjournment moved by: Karl Hamilton VE3RRP

Next Executive Meeting: September 7, 2017, 7:30 PM, RM 213

Next LARC Meeting: September 14, 2017, 7:30 PM, RM 214

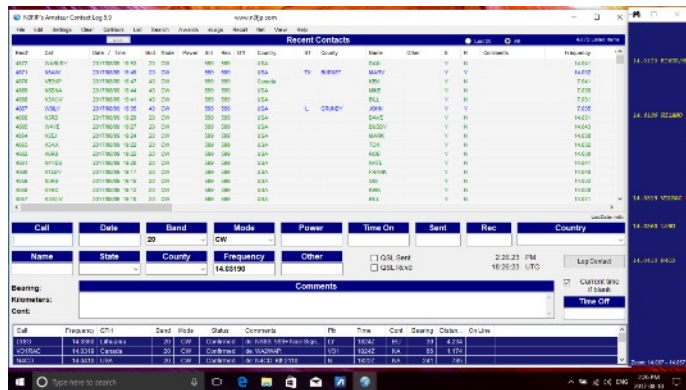
Binder is alive and miserable as ever and still at St Joes in Room 404. Please visit him if you have the chance.



What a Difference a Dit Makes

For my day to day logging I use N3FJP's Amateur Contact Log (ACL). I find it very user friendly and the learning curve was not particularly steep. There's also several other locals who use it so it is easy to ask for and get assistance.

When ACL is up and running it has a "fish finder" component to it. If you're not sure what that means it's a column that you can use to show all the spotted stations on the band you're listening to. I usually never trust these spots as the op that spotted it may have copied the call wrong. It's not uncommon to see another station later report a corrected call. This is what my main screen looks like while I'm operating normally. The spotted stations are shown in the right blue window over a portion of the band that my KX3 is on.



Well last November I saw BY3T spotted in the fish finder, that's China and boy do I want to work'em. He's clipping along at a good rate just on the north side of 30 WPM and man'oh' man is he strong and building. I copy the call and it sure sounds like BY3T. Did I tell you how bad I want China? And he is holding at a S7 and still running stations like crazy.

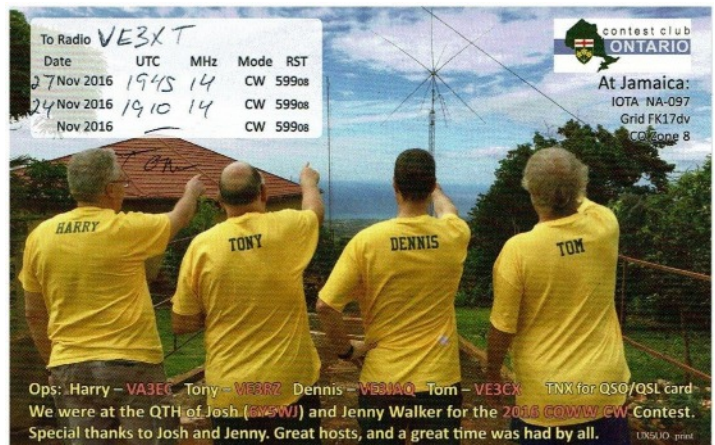
I zero beat him manually on the KX 3. I'm probably only going to get one chance at this and I don't want to mess it up by using the automatic spot function. I wait for a pause in stations calling him and hit the F2 button which sends VE3XT at a robust 3 Watts which is just under a QRP Gallon to my vertical. BINGO.... I hear "VE3XT de BY3T 5NN TNX BILL 73".

Holy smokes I just worked China and he called me by name. I was up doing the happy dance, hollering at the top of my voice to my XYL saying I just snagged China. Wait a minute... so who the heck do I know in China who has a Ham ticket? Nobody! Nada! Zippo! This "Chinese" station is still S7 and running stations like crazy. Let's give a closer listen to his call.

Wait a minute, it's not BY3T but 6Y3T and that would be Jamaica. Tom, VE3CX who lives just outside of Thunder Bay, in Kaministiquia was down there at contest station 6Y3T readying for the CQ WW CW contest operation the following weekend. At this point our dog Rufus learnt some new words as apparently I was a sailor in a previous life. I then went back and edited the log to reflect this new station.

Years ago the American TV Network, ABC ran a program called The Wide World of Sports and its opening showed a ski jumper lunging off a ski jump and making a horrific crash landing. The tag line was "The joy of victory and the agony of defeat".

I now unfortunately understand how that ski jumper felt. I'm still in the hunt for a BY station but I've got a very nice 6Y3T QSL that I keep at the operating position to always remind me to double check any posted call signs in my fish finder.



Executive summary, never trust someone's copy of a call sign and verify it for yourself!

4E3XT, oops VE3XT

Editors Note: I have it on good authority that Bill never eats alphabet soup.....only morse code soup.

Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

June, July and August 2017 Treasurers Report

Balance June 1, 2017	<u>\$565.27</u>
<u>Income</u>	
Total Income	<u>\$0.00</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	
27 July, Cheque 182 Porta Potties for Field Day	\$113.00
31 July Service Charge	\$0.50
Total Expenses	<u>\$113.50</u>
Balance August 31, 2017	<u>\$451.77</u>

<u>Trailer Account</u>	
Previous Balance	\$138.78
<u>Income</u>	
Interest Once cent each month of June, July and August	\$0.03
Total	<u>\$138.81</u>
<u>Expenses</u>	
Total Expenses:	<u>\$0.00</u>
Balance in Trailer Account	<u>\$138.81</u>

Term Account

June 01 Balance	\$2,057.90
June, July and August Interest 25 cents each month	\$0.75
August 31, Balance	\$2,058.65

Bill Unger CG3XT
Treasurer



Ed Frazer, VE7EF

After nearly eight years of service, Ed Frazer, VE7EF, is retiring as Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Canadian Amateur Radio Hall of Fame (CARHOF). RAC would like to thank Ed for his years of dedicated service to the Hall of Fame and to Amateur Radio in Canada.

Taking over as Chair in September is long-time Trustee, Frank Davis, VO1HP. Frank was appointed to this position by the RAC Board of Directors at its meeting on July 27. Welcome aboard Frank!

The RAC 150 Award

<http://wp.rac.ca/rac150/>

Simulated Emergency Test: October 2017

Date: Saturday, October 14

Note: In Ontario the Simulated Emergency Test will be held on Saturday, October 14 but at Emergency Operations Centres that are located in Municipal offices, that can't get access on the weekend, the SET will also be held on Wednesday, October 11.

The Simulated Emergency Test is a North America-wide exercise in emergency communications, administered by the ARRL and the RAC Emergency Coordinators and Net Managers. Both the Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES) and the National Traffic System (NTS) are involved. The SET weekend gives communicators the opportunity to focus on the emergency-communications capability within your community, while interacting with NTS nets.

RAC administers our Canadian SETs. Among other objectives we aim to strengthen the relationship between ARES and served municipalities and relief agencies. It is vitally important that this be done at the local EC level.

Proposed Revisions to the Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations

Canada Proposes to add 5 MHz and to keep five existing domestic channels
The Government of Canada has just released a consultation document to implement the changes from World Radio Conference 2015 (WRC-15) including 60 metres. Note that these are in addition to continuing the domestic allocation of five channels congruent with the United States.

The announcement was made in Gazette Notice SMSE-005-17 which can be found below and at <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf11254.html>

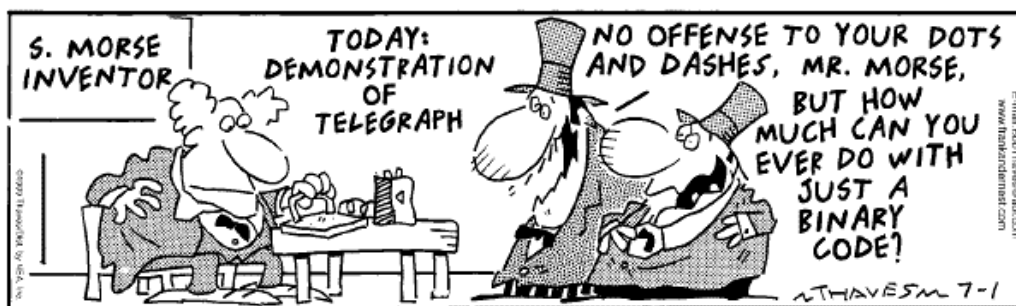
The consultation document "Proposed Revisions to the Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations (2017 edition)" is available at: <http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf11306.html>

The consultation is the first step in the process for regulatory changes. After the 60-day period, responses are tabulated, made public and the regulator Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) then determines how to proceed – with no fixed schedule it can be months or much longer.

Please note that even when these are added to the Canadian Table of Frequency Allocations, until RBR-4 – Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service RBR-4 (regulations for Amateur Radio) is updated to include them, they would not be available for Amateur use.

I hope this may be helpful to us to use as an example to other International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Region 2 countries to convince them to both keep any existing 60m domestic allocation and add the ITU allocation as well.

73, George Gorsline, VE3YV
RAC International Affairs Officer
International Amateur Radio Union Region 2 Director Area A



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September 2017

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4 <small>Labor Day</small>	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 LARC Meeting at Con College McIntyre Bldg Rm 214 1930 hrs.	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	