



## What's Happening at LARC Meetings

For the October meeting of the LARC we had a live demo of the newest and hottest new digital mode FT-8. The planning was fine and we could actually do a live demo from the college using the computer and radio at VE3SAO with a program called Team Viewer. There was one small detail however the presenter (XT) forgot to take into account. 20 metres is dead at night. Oops! Hopefully you were spurred to load FT-8 onto your machine and give it a whirl.

For the November meeting we will be using the way back machine and revisiting one of my favourite circuits. It's the PI matching network. Long ago and far away we used to actually manually match our transmitter to the antenna. Not like today where many rigs have built in automatic matching units. I'm going to bring a series of different impedances and see if you can maximize the power transfer by providing a proper impedance transformation from rig to antenna. If a tuner was really good it was common to say it would load up a set of bedding coil springs. Not sure if I will drag that in but we'll see how good it is.

As mentioned earlier if you are doing something interesting please contact a member of the executive and we can schedule you into a meeting for a demo.

Tnx Bill Unger VE3XT

## Meeting Venue Change

Due to the ongoing labour dispute at the college we will be having this meeting at the 55+ centre on River St. at 7:30 pm Thursday November 9th. It will be in the room just past the VE3SAO Shack.

## Amateur Radio Emergency Service 2017 S.E.T. REPORT

On Saturday October 14 the annual S.E.T. (Simulated Emergency Test) was held

This year's S.E.T. was held at the VE3SAO station. This station also acted as our E.O.C. (Emergency Operations Center). VE3XT Bill, VE3RRP Karl, and myself manned the EOC station. The goal of this year's S.E.T. was simple, activate the EOC which is capable of using HF, VHF/UHF as well as digital modes, more specifically RMS Express (Winlink), use the phone tree and start up a 2m net on our local repeater.

We had about 12 check-in's to the net. The phone tree had about 8 people available.

We did make a couple of HF contacts on 40m, to southern Ontario. We sent out some email using RMS express, but had no response to Southern Ontario, but were able to contact some local stations using this digital mode. Bob VE3RVA went to the North Central Fire Hall and started up that station, all worked well.

Even though this year's SET was short, there was always something to learn and improve upon. We started at 10:00 am and finished up around 1:30 pm (local times)

I would like to thank all those that participated.

Brad VE3MXJ



**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 214 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:flesnick@tbaytel.net)  
VE3VAI Lori Bedford 622 – 6386  
[ve3vai@tbaytel.net](mailto:ve3vai@tbaytel.net)

**LARC OPEN ACCESS REPEATERS**

VE3YQT(Mount Baldy)147.060 (-600)

VE3TBR (St. Joseph's) 146.820 pl 107.2

442.075 (+5 MHz) **pl 100**  
144.390 APRS

VE3UPP Upsala 145.470 (-600)

**November**

**Repeater News**

**2017**

## **Minutes for the**

### **Lakehead Amateur Radio Club**

**Date: October 12, 2017**

**President, Randy Gottfred VA3OJ Presiding.**

#### **Guest Speaker**

Bill Unger VE3XT talk and demo on FT 8 digital weak signal mode on 14.074 Mhz USB

#### **Election of Board of Directors:**

Board Member: No one volunteered or was nominated. Club decided to carry on with the board as it stands.

#### **Treasurer's Report: Bill Unger VE3XT**

Bill Unger VE3XT moves to accept the report as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Doug McCormack VE3EFC. Passed Unanimously.

#### **Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

Karl Hamilton VE3RRP moves to accept the previous meeting's minutes as printed in Hi-Q. Seconded by Chris Chadwick VA3TBA. Passed.

#### **Old Business:**

**Public Service (John Sacek VA3JMS public events coordinator)**

#### **Past Events:**

Caribou Ride Sunday September 10

CIBC Run for the Cure Sunday October 1 Bob Hansen VE3RVA reported that they want us to return. Karl Hamilton VE3RRP said ham radio wasn't required for the event. Randy Gottfred VA3OJ stated he didn't want the club to leave the Run high and dry if they need us. Bob to return to the Run organizers and clarify.

#### **Upcoming Events**

Christmas Parade November by Norm Bell VE3XRC

LARC not required at the event anymore.

Santa Shuffle December Bob Hansen VE3RVA

LARC will continue involvement.

#### **CANWARN John Sacek VA3JMS**

No news

#### **ARES Brad Harris VE3MXJ Thunder Bay EC**

Monthly Net

SET is Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> 10AM, we will activate phone tree, VHF net on VE3YQT, active on HF at VE3SAO, try and contain PEOC, and Atikokan.

**Randy Gottfred VA3OJ,  
Terry Stewardson VA3LU**

The 10 meter repeater VE3XFM should be operational by xmas. There is an active portable test repeater on 146.94 with 100 hz tone.

#### **Club Trailer:**

**Bob Hansen VE3RVA**

Bob reported progress in the corporate sponsor search.

#### **Fund Raising Committee**

Different avenues are being explored. Most likely a grant for 50% of the cost will be possible.

#### **New Business**

We received correspondence from the Salvation Army regarding this year's Kettle drive.

RAC Bulletin Highlights by VE3RRP

**50/50 Draw:** Bob Hansen VE3RVA

Adjournment moved by: Axel Rehfuhs VE3OPF

**Next Executive Meeting: November 2,  
2017, 7:30 PM, RM 213**

**Next LARC Meeting: November 9,  
2017, 7:30 PM,**

From Jan VA3JRS - Attempt to make aurora using HAARP

<https://spectrum.ieee.org/tech-talk/telecom/wireless/scientists-in-alaska-attempt-to-produce-fake-aurora-with-giant-antenna-array>

# Lakehead Amateur Radio Club

## October 2017 Treasurers Report

Balance October 1, 2017 \$790.27

### Income

Memberships, October 13 \$315.00  
50 # 50 Draw, October 13 \$9.00

**Total Income** **\$324.00**

### Expenses

**Total Expenses** **\$0.00**

**Balance October 31, 2017** **\$1,114.27**

<u>Trailer Account</u>		
	Previous Balance	\$138.82
<b><u>Income</u></b>		
Interest		\$0.01
Total		<b>\$138.83</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>		
Total Expenses:		<b>\$0.00</b>
	<b>Balance in Trailer Account</b>	<b><u>\$138.83</u></b>

### Term Account

October 01 Balance \$2,058.90

October Interest \$0.25

October 31, Balance \$2,059.15

**Bill Unger CG3XT**

**Treasurer**



Dear RAC Members,

We have been able to resolve the issue with the slow loading of posts and pages.

We are going to keep the security level high due to foreign hacker attempts to login and other questionable activities.

If you do happen to get locked out please send the webmaster an email and we will get you access again.

Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

\* Side Note: Some complaints that the RAC Office phone number was hard to read in yesterday's email. Sorry. the coding should have been blue numbers not a blue background. Ok to proceed with online renewals, or you can call the RAC Office at 1-877-273-8304.

Paul Burggraaf, VE3PRB  
RAC Chief Information and Technology Officer

### Mellish Reef DXpedition Team Has Set Sail 10/31/2017

The Mellish Reef VK9MA DXpedition team has said it plans to concentrate on the lower bands during its November DXpedition. Mellish is the 29th most-wanted DXCC entity. Team member and ARRL Contest Update Editor Brian Moran, N9ADG, said the boat was loaded and set to depart Port Douglas, Australia, today (October 31).

“We are trying to get in front of some weather,” Moran told The Daily DX Editor Bernie McClenny, W3UR. Moran said the DXpedition’s operating plans on its website are “always subject to revision by conditions and pilot guidance.” He urged those attempting to work VK9MA to listen first to get a feel for how the pileup is working.

The team will always be running split; never call on the VK9MA transmit frequency.

Data modes, and especially RTTY, will be one focus of the VK9MA DXpedition, and the team may give JT65/JT9 and the newly popular, but still beta, FT8 a try. During the 13-day stay, VK9MA will run four complete stations around the clock. — Thanks to The Daily DX



### 630-Meter Special Operating Event on November 11 Com- memorates Berlin Treaty 11/01/2017

Amateur Radio operators will descend upon 630 meters on November 11 during a special operating event to commemorate the 1906 Berlin Treaty, which made 500 kHz the International Distress Frequency on November 3 of that year. US radio amateurs recently gained access to 630 meters but must have notified the Utilities Technology Council (UTC) of their intent to operate and either received explicit approval or not heard anything for 30 days in order to participate.

Four different groups will take part: US radio amateurs, US Part 5 Experimental operators, Canadian radio amateurs, and the Maritime Radio Historical Society (MRHS). Canadian and authorized US radio amateurs will operate from 472 to 479 kHz, using CW.

Some stations are expected to offer cross-band contacts, transmitting on 630 meters and listening on 160, 80, and 40 meters. Part 5 Experimental operators, including WD2XSH stations and others who don’t yet have UTC approval, will operate in the 472-479 kHz band or just outside of it, and there may be some operation on 500 kHz proper.

The Maritime Radio Historical Society will activate its KSM/KPH transmitter at Bolinas, California, for a mini “Night of Nights” with special messages and bulletins.

...via ARRL



## November

### Tiny LF Signal Makes the Hop from Newfoundland to the UK

10/27/2017

For Joe Craig, VO1NA, in Torbay, Newfoundland, things have been pretty exciting lately on VLF (very low frequency). He's among the early MF, LF, and VLF experimenters in North America — active even before Canada allocated Amateur Radio bands in that part of the spectrum. He believes he accomplished a “first” for a Canadian radio amateur on October 22, when his very VLF, very QRP signal on 8.27 kHz (that would be the 36-kilometer band) was copied in the UK.

“After much effort on both sides of the pond, SWL Paul Nicholson in Todmorden finally copied a three-letter message,” he told ARRL. “It's the lowest-frequency transatlantic message, made possible because of Paul's EbNaut coherent BPSK mode and DL4YHF's Spectrum Lab spectrum analyzer.” Even more amazing: The power was 10  $\mu$ W ERP. Craig is permitted to run 10 mW by regulator ISED Canada (formerly Industry Canada). The transmission path was more than 3,500 kilometers (approximately 2,170 miles).

VLF signals have been copied across the Atlantic in the past. In March 2014, a very slow-speed (QRSS) CW signal on 29.499 kHz, transmitted by Bob Raide, W2ZM, a New York Experimental licensee, initially was detected in the UK by Nicholson. In June 2014, Dex McIntyre, W4DEX, in North Carolina, transmitted an EbNaut signal on 8.971 kHz, while running on the order of 150  $\mu$ W effective radiated power. Nicholson detected that signal too. McIntyre needed no FCC license to transmit on 8.971 kHz, because the Commission has not designated any allocations below 9 kHz, dubbed “the Dreamers' Band.”

Craig's transmission from Newfoundland began at 2300 UTC on October 22 and ended 7 hours later. “Paul replied by e-mail the following day with the correct message,” Craig said, “and there was much rejoicing across the pond and in the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland!”

Craig said that Nicholson had detected a carrier from VO1NA this past spring, but it was not stable enough to send a message.

2017

DL4YHF's Spectrum Lab, with a GPS module output signal used to calibrate the computer and help from DF6NM and DK7FC, worked much better, Craig said. “Paul measured the phase for a few days before the message was sent. With the new high-stability carrier, Paul got me on the first call.”

The final stage of his VLF transmitter is what Craig described as “the very Canadian Traynor Group One/SC stage amplifier” from the 1970s. He says his is “the only known VLF transmitter in Newfoundland and Labrador.” His antenna, by the way, is approximately 100 meters (approximately 328 feet) of #12 copper wire, about 12 meters high on average.

...via ARRL

<http://www.ucs.mun.ca/~jcraig/vlf.html>





# November 2017



Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7 ARS Spartan Sprint	8	9 LARC Meeting <b>55 Plus Centre</b> 7:30 pm	10 QRP Fox Hunt	11 <b>Remembrance Day</b>  Kentucky QSO Party	12
13	14	15 Phone Fray	16	17	18 ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB	19
20 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest	21	22	23	24	25 CQ WW DX, CW	26
27	28	29 CW OPS Mini CWT Test	30			