



# *Journal of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club*



**Thunder Bay, Ontario**



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## L.S.A.G. LAKE SUPERIOR AUXCOMM GROUP

Hi my name is Brad Harris VE3MXJ. I am the ARES/ACS E.C. for the City of Thunder Bay, ON in the Amethyst District in Northwestern Ontario.

Our group came together following participation in a Coast Guard exercise, the premise of which was a disabled (the original scenario was sabotaged) oil tanker in the middle of Lake Superior that is hit by another vessel causing a massive oil spill. As originally planned, the exercise was scheduled for 2 weeks and involved not only the US Coast Guard, but the Canadian CG, Ontario Provincial government, Canadian Governmental offices in Ottawa, the Michigan State Police and the Minnesota equivalent thereof. Essential to the exercise was the Coast Guard's needs to communicate not only across Lake Superior North to South, but also to the extreme east end of the Lake and then with Ottawa, as well as with appropriate authorities in Thunder Bay, ON and in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, as well as in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Through its own radio systems, the USCG could not accomplish this. It sought the participation and involvement of multiple ARES groups. The focus of ARES performance was the ability to send text messages via radio waves, in addition to voice communication. During lulls in the exercise, literary dozens of our ARES personnel from the states and Ontario discussed organizational problems we all experience preparing for the exercise. The end result of those hours of discussion was the decision to form a group that we now have named LSAG. As an aside, Canadians no longer use the term ARES; rather, they use the terms Auxiliary Communications. For that reason and the fact that it is a more descriptive term, we adopted AuxComm as part of our name.

Our group, Lake Superior AuxComm Group,

LSAG, did not adopt or propose a mutual aid agreement, presuming that you are intending to reference an agreement wherein one ARES group agrees to assist another.

While I could expound on the reasoning here, I am attaching a copy of the Overview of LSAG, which overview was provided by me to ARRL. It I suspect will give you a better understanding of LSAG's operation. One important thing I will mention is that since all of the AuxComm services will be provided by the individual AuxComm or ARES groups, legal liabilities are on the individual ARES/AuxComm groups and LSAG does not need to acquire a separate liability insurance policy.

In addition to the above, LSAG does hold regular meetings, via ZOOM, once per month. The meetings are scheduled for 1 hour. The first 1/2 hour is devoted to business matters. The second 1/2 hour involves the members at the meeting communicating via means designated at the start of the second 1/2 hour; sometimes it is voice over HF (differing frequencies each time) and sometimes via WinLink; sometimes both. The purpose as you are able to surmise is to provide practice and to ascertain which frequencies work best or better than others to communicate with geographically spread out locations.

We are still a new and developing organization.

Our next steps are to sign up more radio personnel from all involved jurisdictions and to collect the identity information for all Emergency Management governmental personnel in the affected geographical areas. As all of this data is collected, it is stored in the Google Drive cloud which is accessible to all.

Brad Harris VE3MXJ CEC  
E.C. for the City of Thunder Bay, ON  
LSAG President

**LARC SENATE**

Robert Hansen VE3RVA  
 Dave Kimpton VE3AVS

Terry Stewardson VA3LU  
 Ed Baumann VE3SNW

**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 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 [hqnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:hqnewsletter@gmail.com)

**LARC EXECUTIVE**

President: Eric Todd VE3XET  
 VP: Stephan Burns VE3SJB  
 Treasurer: Randy McAllister VA3WBW  
 Secretary:

**Board Members**

Robert Hansen VE3RVA  
 Randy Gottfred VA3OJ  
 Axel Rehfuhs VE3OPF  
 John Plumridge VE3FMT

**Amethyst District Auxiliary Communications Service  
 Providing emergency communications  
 for Northwestern Ontario**

This is a list of the ACS frequencies in order of preference, number 1 being the first choice, if that frequency is in use or not working as in a repeater, then number 2 is the next choice, and so on,,,,,,,,,

**VHF**

1. 147.060- VE3YQT (MT.BALDY)
2. 147.390+ VE3BGA PL107.2 (LOCH LOMOND)
3. 146.820- VE3TBR PL107.2 (ST.JOSEPH HERITAGE)
4. SIMPLEX 146.520 > 146.580 > 146.550

**HF**

RAC ACS Canadian National Emergency Frequencies

1. 80M 3.675MHz LSB designated as ALPHA
2. 40M 7.135MHz LSB designated as BRAVO
3. 20M 14.135MHz USB designated as CHARLIE

**Nets and Exercises**

Wednesdays at 8 PM ET (2000hrs) 0000UTC on frequency 3.675MHz LSB (80 Metres)

We have four different net control operators across NWO. At the end of check in's we try and do some sort of exercise, winlink P2P, JS8 CALL, passing messages. Everyone is encouraged to check in, even if you are not an ACS or LARC member.

**LARC Emergency Coordinator**

Brad Harris VE3MXJ

**ACS Amethyst District Emergency Coordinator**

Warren Paulson, VE3FYN

**CANWARN**

VA3JMS John 767-3631  
 VE3RRP Karl

**Public Service Events**

VA3TBA Chris Chadwick

**Accredited Examiners**

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789  
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 VE3VAI Lori Bedford (807) 630-7688  
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**Minutes of the meeting of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club on December 9, 2021**

Called to order at 1903 hrs. Chaired by Eric Todd VE3XET

Presentation: Shack tour by Brad Harris VE3MXJ who also spoke about ACS (ARES) and related topics.

Reports:

Treasurers report moved by Randy McAllister VE3WBW and seconded by Eric Todd VE3XET. Accepted.

Minutes of the previous meeting moved by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and seconded by Karl Hamilton VE3RRP. Accepted.

Safety reminder from Eric Todd VE3XET – safe snow removal

Public Service Chris Chadwick VA3ZU gave an update on the Sleeping Giant Loppet. So far it is a go for Saturday March 5<sup>th</sup> pending approval from Parks Ontario and the Health Unit.

Auxcomm Brad Harris VE3MXJ gave a reminder on the weekly 80 meter net, Wednesdays at 2000 hours.

Sister Club no activity

New Business

Brad Harris VE3MXJ gave information regarding Winter Field Day held on the last full weekend in January.

Club Insurance the Executive upped the insurance to 5 million dollars on the advice of the insurance company and the fact that organizations are now asking for that level of insurance to use their facilities.

Ed Baumann VE3SNW reported to the club that the Executive has selected Lindo Scalese VE3NHX as the new Senator for the club and has been given a plaque to commemorate the event. Congratulations

**We are Very Happy to Announce**

*That Lindo Scalese VE3NHX has been selected as the newest Senator for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club. From mentoring new hams to coordinating repair and maintenance trips up to Mount Baldy with his former employers, Lindo has made countless contributions to our club.*

*Selections like this are difficult for the Executive, not for lack of suitable candidates but because we have so many exceptional members that make so many contributions to the club. Many thanks to all of you.*

*Congratulations Lindo, we appreciate all your efforts on our behalf.*

*This certificate was framed and presented to Lindo*



Lakehead Amateur Radio Club  
 Treasurers Report – As of January 6, 2022

Opening Balance December 2, 2021	\$5,223.91
Total Income	\$ 0
Total expenses	\$ 0
Closing Balance Chequing Account	\$5,223.91
Term Deposit Account (Includes \$0.17 interest)	\$2,075.82
<b>TOTAL LARC accounts</b>	<b>\$7,299.73</b>

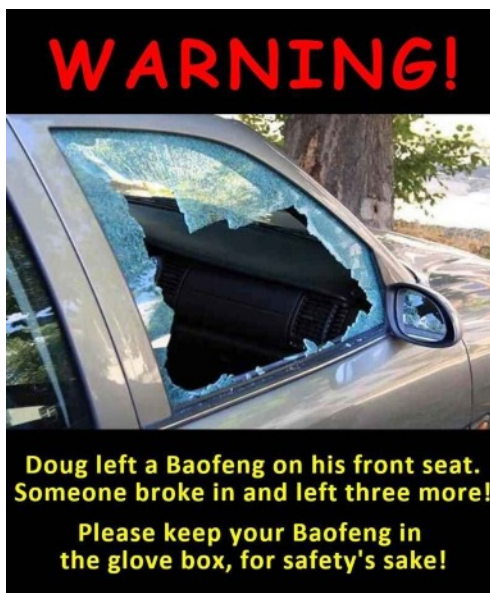
NOTE:

Balance of Chequing account after pending trailer expense transferred from Trailer a/c \$ 5336.91

Trailer Account

Previous Balance	\$1,228.46
Income	
Interest	\$0.00
Total	\$1,228.46
Expenses	
Trailer Cover (Pending transfer from Trailer A/C	\$113.00
Current Balance in Trailer Account	\$1,228.46
<i>(Future Balance after Cover expense transferred out</i>	<i>\$1,115.46)</i>

Randy McAllister VE3WBW  
 LARC Treasurer



**Danish special event station OZ50Q**

Danish Radio Amateurs will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of HM Margrethe II, the Queen of Denmark's, accession to the throne by activating the special event station OZ50Q during the whole month of January 2022.

Special award is available (see QRZ.com). QSL via OZ1ACB, ClubLog's OQRS, eQSL or LoTW. All QSOs will be confirmed via LoTW and eQSL.

-- OPDX

**Free Magazine!**

Australia's QTC ham radio magazine now available on web. The December issue of the Australian amateur radio magazine QTC is now available for free download. Among the articles in this issue are:

- Where is the next generation of radio amateurs?
- Getting started in Morse Code
- FT8 & WSPR with a receiving loop antenna
- Protecting our bands
- Antennapalooza
- RASA wins privacy concession from ACMA

Download the QTC PDF from <https://vkradioamateurs.org/qtc-e-magazine/>

**Observations of Over-the-Horizon Radar Interference in Ham Bands Top All Others**

The volume of reports of over-the-horizon (OTH) radar interference from observers working with the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1 Monitoring System (IARUMS) dwarfs that of all other interference sources. Nearly 800 OTH radars were observed during November alone, and the total number of reports for the year is more than 4,500 although that number likely includes multiple reports of the same OTH radar systems. During November 17 – 21, IARUMS reported a “strange, somewhat washed-out signal” on the order of 7 kHz wide, that “drifted slowly back and forth” in 40 meters and below. Some IARUMS stalwarts made multiple time-difference-of-arrival (Tdoa) observations that pinned the signal’s source to east-southeast of Toulouse, France, not far from a French Naval radio station. The signal disappeared on November 21. Ongoing is the “radio war” between Russia and Ukraine, which IARUMS said has been “a constant nuisance for years.” The broadcasts are heard on 7050 and 7055 kHz, as well as on other frequencies.

-- full article at arrl news

**Radio hams commemorate historic message sent to Newfoundland**

In a brief transmission across the Atlantic Ocean using a 150-watt wireless transmitter station, members of the Marconi Radio Club of Newfoundland on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 12, celebrated the 120th anniversary of Guglielmo Marconi’s reception of the first transatlantic message, at Cabot Tower on Dec. 12, 1901.

At Signal Hill, MRCN members and directors Joe Craig and Len Zedel, in a re-enactment of Marconi’s transatlantic experiment, spoke with club members from the MRCN’s sister club, the Poldhu Amateur Radio Club, in Cornwall, England, from where Marconi sent his transatlantic message 120 years ago.

Using an HF radio contact, Zedel and Craig also spoke with people from the Foundation Guglielmo Marconi in Italy; the Marconi Radio Club in Cape Cod in the U.S.; and the Sydney Amateur Radio Club, in Sydney, N.S.

-- Source SaltWire

Q: Why can you get more energy from a battery of pork chops than a battery of sausages?

A: The sausage is in ground state.

# January 2022

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1 New Years Day	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 LARC Meeting via ZOOM @ 1900 hrs (chat opens at 1830)	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Winter Field Day	30 Winter Field Day
31			Next Exec meeting Feb 3 <sup>rd</sup>			