



The Monitor

Official Newsletter of the Brantford Amateur Radio Club

December 2003

Edited by Ken Dobson VA3DDB and Deborah Jackson

BARC Puts Veterans in Contact with VA3IF



Many veterans and elementary school children shared a special Remembrance ceremony at the Beckett Seniors' Centre in downtown Brantford on Friday, November 7th. Following the ceremony they

viewed an array of military memorabilia and communications equipment. The BARC offered a display which included Morse code equipment to illustrate how messages were passed during the war years. In contrast, we also had a demonstration of the latest communications technology using IRLP.

While all this was happening, the Guelph Amateur Radio Club was operating its annual special event station at the McCrae House Museum, home of Col John McCrae, who wrote the poem "In Flanders Fields", during the First World War. Visitors to the Beckett Centre in Brantford were able to talk to special event station operators as the BARC made 2-metre contact with the station. Several



veterans and school children were thrilled to participate. One participating young Brantford girl had just finished reciting the poem in the ceremony. The special event

station operated with the call sign, VA3IF... "I F" for "In Flanders". On duty for the BARC were Ebe/VE3EBH, Pete/VE3NIX, George/VA3GLH, and Anna, who may well have a call sign by the time you read this issue of the Monitor.

Letter to Pete Byerlay VE3NIX

Please accept my sincere thanks for your most generous support and time to be part of our Remembrance Day program at the Beckett Adult Leisure Centre last week. Each year over the past 5 years I have tried to develop a different theme for the display as part of the Remembrance program. In researching this year's display I discovered the fact that the Canadian military was celebrating the 100th anniversary of communications in the Armed Forces. It was for this reason I decided to focus my display on the communication equipment of WW2. As you are aware the #19 wireless radio unit was the backbone of the Canadian military from the early 1940's to the 1960's, and is still in active use by many amateur radio enthusiasts. Because it was the anniversary year, I was most fortunate to have members from the Brantford Amateur Radio Club to help out. I believe it was very exciting for our guests to have the chance to speak by radio with members of the Guelph Radio Club stationed at "The John McCrae house in Guelph. As John McCrae was a doctor and author of the poem "In Flander's Field", he becomes a very important part of any Remembrance Day program. For this reason I was so happy that we were able to have the radio connection between the two cities during the program. I hope you will consider our request for the loan of your equipment once again in the future, as very important part of our exhibits of Canada's military history.

Once again, thank you, to yourself, Ebe and the other club members who assisted. It is only through the support of people like yourselves that we are able to continue honouring the memory of those gone and the veterans who fought for our freedom. "We Shall Not Forget"

Brian Studier,

Assistant Facility Supervisor
Beckett Adult Leisure Centre

Presidents Message

Each time I sit and think about what I should put into the Presidents message, a great flood of things come to mind that I could babble about. Thankfully I can thin a lot of it out as just that, and save it for the coffee sessions.

This past year has had some interesting times thrown our way and we have come up on the positive side of things thanks to the willing and able of the Club.

We are coming up to celebrating the Seventieth (70th) year of existence as a club. I feel this is quite a feat for any group and should be noted with a festivity or so to mark this event. We have a lot of talented people and clever ones as well who may have some Grand ideas to honour any of the founding people if any are still with us, or some of our past members that were part of the clubs heritage.

If we wait until the 75th year we may miss the boat in saying thanks to some of these great people. The executive would be happy to hear any plans or suggestions. Of Course Volunteers to carry these out would also be appreciated as well.

Last night was the presentation of Camp X by VE3KGE, as well as his life as a youngster there. This was a well timed presentation as it tied in Remembrance Day, Amateur Radio and pride in Canada, with what is happening around the world today. Thank You Kerry.

We have the Christmas Season ahead of us and I am sure "visions of Sugar Plums" in the form of new, or new to us' toys are dancing in our minds. We would take this time to remind everyone that our Christmas Gathering is coming up soon and we invite one and all to take part in this Social Event, for a time of fellowship that we have so little of.

I would like to also mention that I believe we have a great Club and it is only because you have 'Made It So'. We look forward to a New Year, New Ideas and Opportunities for all.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

73 from VA3WRC
Bill
BARC
President

Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Association

I thought this would be a good site for the YL's in our club. This web site is a way to keep YLs members informed, and attract a broader YL audience by introducing

themselves to the amateur radio community. They use this site to inform interested YLs and their OMs about their association.

The Canadian Ladies' Amateur Radio Association has over 30 years of continuous operation on the air.

The birth of the national club came about as a Centennial project of the Ontario Trilliums at their 1967 meeting. The idea was to bring YL's together from across the country. After much discussion it was felt that the name (Canadian Ladies Amateur Radio Association) said it all and the acronym CLARA was most apt. The first president was Chris Weeks VE1AKO (now SK). Present at that first meeting were:



Jean VE3DGG (SK); Betty VE3ASZ; Cathy VE3GJH; Doree VE3EUV; Bonny VE3GSW; Shirley VE3GNG; Doreen VE3FUR; Audrey VE3CCO; Doris VE3BBO (SK); Thelma VE3CLT; Myrtle VE3FXM (SK) and visitors June Sanders and Doreen Titmarsh.

Prior to the formation of CLARA there were two clubs in Canada - The Ontario Trilliums and the Maritime Sparkettes.

At the CLARA meeting in September 1997, The Ontario Trilliums 'signed off' as their club membership had dwindled over the last few years. They generously gave their support to the Canadian Ladies.

On their website they have a listing of various activities, nets, Girl Guides on the Air, together with the Certificates and Awards you can work towards

You can find out more about CLARA at their website.

www.qsl.net/clara/



BARC Website

"The club's website is undergoing an major overall.", stated Ken Dobson VA3DDB the current webmaster.

Since its creation many have forwarded positive comments as to the helpful content provided. However over time, some information has become outdated and links broken. The goal is to provide more dynamic content on the clubs status and amateur radio in general.

Visit <http://comdir.bfree.on.ca/ve3ba> for more information.



Did you know ? ...

The Australian Communications Authority (ACA) have announced as of January First 2004 CW will no longer be a requirement for Amateurs to operate on the HF bands. From Monday November 17 (check mid morning) the ACA site will have the press release under the signature of Dr. Bob Horton. According to Wireless Institute of Australia President VK1LK, "The proposed changes will require no changes to existing licenses or call signs and so amateurs across Australia will be able to enjoy access to HF operation from the beginning of 2004. I look forward to hearing many new operators on HF over the New Year break including all of you interested in ensuring the preservation of on air CW. With any luck I will be able to get some time on air myself and hope to be operating QRP CW over the holiday on 80, 40, 20, and 15m "

(Thanks to QNEWS)



QRZ.com - Ham Radio Trivia!

What Doris Day Movie from the 60's showed W6 QSL cards on the wall as she talked to her father?

1. Send Me No Flowers
2. Do Not Disturb
3. The Glass Bottom Boat
4. Move Over, Darling

Answer: 3 1966 movie with Rod Taylor.

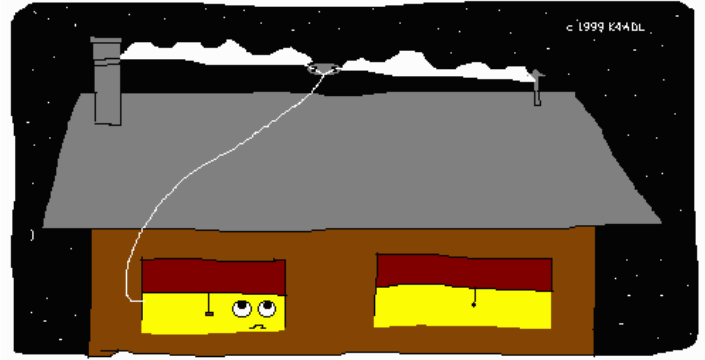
Of QRC, QRK, QRW and QRY, which is NOT a Q-Signal?

1. QRC
2. QRK
3. QRW.
4. QRY

Answer: 1 QRC



Ham Radio Humor



WILBUR ASSUMED HIS MAGNET-WIRE DIPOLE WAS INVISIBLE TO THE HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION, BUT THE FIRST SNOWSTORM OF THE SEASON PROVED HIM WRONG.

Source: <http://www.gsl.net/k4ad/>



CANWARN - Winter

Hi Everyone,

Now that the summer season has come to a close, and the winter is approaching, we will likely not be paging out the CANWARN network for severe thunderstorm outbreaks.

At the same time though, I would like to encourage everyone on this list to call in your reports of winter severe weather. I know that you have not had any formal training in observing winter severe weather. However I would still like to encourage any keen weather enthusiasts out there to report certain weather conditions to our severe weather reporting line (1-800 line) during this coming winter. Those of you, who are CANWARN Controllers, please use the metapage report system if you like.

Snow squalls and big Winter Storms are the main culprits for our winter severe weather. We are always in short supply of snowfall measurements from across the province, especially in our traditional snowbelt areas. I have attached a Word document that describes in detail how snow fall measurements should be taken, according to Environment Canada.

<<Snowfall measurement Procedures.doc>>

I have also added a link from NOAA below that gives a fairly good description of how to measure snow, however we prefer to have reports in centimeters rather than inches...

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/apx/spotter/guide/smeasure.htm>

Please do the best that you can and let us know your confidence in the measurement that you've taken.

We are interested in receiving snowfall amounts and snowfall rates (ie snow fallen in 1 hour), as follows:

- 1) Snowfall amounts of 10 cm or more
or
- 2) Snowfall rates of 2cm/hour or more

As always, these observations are greatly appreciated while the event is occurring, but are also appreciated after a major snowfall as well.

In addition, any report of

- 1) Freezing rain (not freezing drizzle)
or
- 2) High winds of 60 km/h steady and/or gusts to 90 km/h
or
- 3) Damage incurred by weather are also very much appreciated.

Thank you very much in advance & keep watching the weather!

Isabel Ruddick
Severe Weather Program Supervisor
Ontario Storm Prediction Centre (OSPC)
Meteorological Service of Canada



Coming Events

BARC Christmas Dinner
Tuesday December 16th at 7:00 PM
Red Cross Branch Brantford
Contact Paul Tourangea for more information

NPARC 26th Annual Big Event
Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club
Canadian Auto Workers Hall
St. Catharines, Ontario
Saturday, February 7, 2004



ESSENTIAL CLUB INFORMATION

President: Bill Cunliffe, VA3WRC
Vice-President: Bob Moore, VE3AVU
Secretary: Ken Dobson, VA3DDB
Treasurer: Paul Tourangeau, VE3IUA

Past President: Marven Ford VE3MWF

Directors: Pete Byerlay VE3NIX
William Thorpe VE3WXT
George Howarth VA3GLH
Kim Watson VE3KMW
Dave Amies VE3ZVR
Deborah Jackson (Novice)

MEETINGS: Every Tuesday at 7:30 PM.
Business meeting, second Tuesday of the month

LOCATION: Canadian Red Cross Society, 25
William St. 1st Floor, Brantford.

MAILING: Brantford Amateur Radio Club, P.O.
Box 25036, Brantford, ON, N3T 6K5

REPEATERS: VE3TCR 147.150 MHz+600
KHz & 443.025+5 MHz

IRLP NODE: 1590

INTERNET WEB SITE: <http://comdir.bfree.on.ca/ve3ba/>

EMAIL: ve3ba@bfree.on.ca

