



# The Monitor

Official Newsletter of the Brantford Amateur Radio Club

## March/April 2003

Edited by Ken Dobson VA3DDB

### GOTA 2003 - Guides On The Air!

Saturday 15th February & Sunday 16th February 2003

The Brantford Amateur Radio Club hosted two groups of girl guides from the community at the Red Cross in Brantford. Girl Guides on the Air is an opportunity for the girls to speak with other girls through out the world via amateur radio.

Ebe Habing VE3EBH took the task of organizing this event for our club and the local guides. With the assistance of club members, VE3BA was on the air for Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> providing education and communication.



(Mario Marques VE3VML demonstrates Morse Code)

Two code oscillators where setup across from one another in the room in an effort to allow the girls to send and receive CW messages to each other. Mike VE3BSE provided a custom built oscillator and also provided training for the girls in CW.

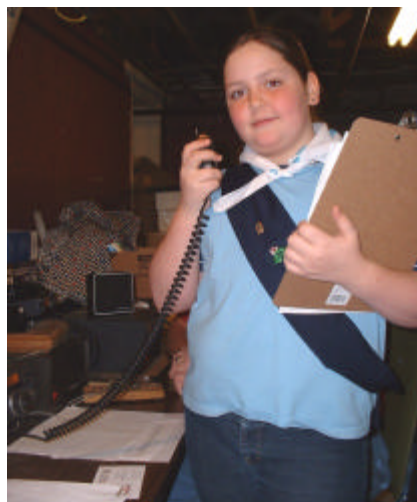
Ken Dobson VA3DDB prepared a short PowerPoint presentation outlining Ham radio and YL's in an effort to

quickly familiarize the girls with amateur radio.



(A guide makes an Echolink QSO)

As the bands were poor for this event, Echolink and IRLP essentially saved the day in providing communication between girls here and as far a way as England. Pete Byerlay VE3NIX made some brief contacts on HF, however his voice made a lasting impression later that day by simulating HF voice traffic from home.



At the end of the day, the girls were handed a certificate of participation from the BARC. The efforts of all club members provided an educational, yet fun experience for the local girl guides. Additional pictures from this event can be viewed on our website at

<http://www.bfree.on.ca/comdir/ah/bramaradio/ve3ba.htm>



## Astronaut Philosophizes of Mankind's Place During Ariss SQO



Astronaut Don Pettit, KD5MDT, told students at an Australian school that humans are more like passengers on Earth than stewards of the planet. Pettit commented during an Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) contact March 19

with students at St Ursula's Girl's College in Toowoomba, Queensland.

"Mankind's place in the universe, from this experience I believe, it reminds you that men are not the stewards of Earth but more like we are passengers on Earth," Pettit said via NA1SS, "and the planet will go about its business regardless of what human beings do, and we just need to make sure as human beings that we do things wisely and don't mess things up for ourselves."

During the QSO, Pettit also confirmed that Earth is, indeed, a sphere and not flat. "If you view the earth with the unaided eye, it's difficult to detect the presence of humans," he said in response to another question.

Pettit--who had served as crew spokesperson for most Expedition 6 ARISS contacts--also addressed the issue of privacy between male and female residents onboard the ISS. "Out of necessity, we can't have separate facilities up here," he explained. "So male and female astronauts have to share the same bathroom and the same shower and all those facilities. You have very little privacy up here."

Pettit managed to answer 15 questions put to him by 11 St Ursulas's students, who ranged in age from 13 to 17. Teacher Jason Contarini said the students had competed to participate on the basis of questions submitted in advance. Handling the contact was ARISS Earth station veteran Tony Hutchison, VK5ZAI, in Kingston, South

Australia. Tim Bosma, W6ISS, moderated, and WorldCom provided the teleconferencing circuit.

### Source:

The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 13 March 28, 2003



## Did you know...

Hamradio.ca provides a useful web based tool for searching the Canadian call sign database from industry Canada. You can search by callsign, given name, surname, city, province and even by club name.

Additionally, a search form is provided for the Technical and Administrative Frequency Lists (TAFL) from Industry Canada. If you have every wondered who owns a frequency in your area, this a great place to look.

Check out the other useful tools and information at <http://www.hamradio.ca>



## QRZ.com - Ham Radio Trivia!

### How many amateurs existed in 1917?

1. 2,000
2. 6,000
3. 10,000
4. 12,000

Answer: 26,000

### What former Major League Baseball player from the Oakland A's is a licensed ham?

1. Reggie Jackson
2. Bert Campaneris
3. Joe Rudi
4. Ken Holtzman

Answer: 3 Former outfielder Joe Rudi



## Iraqi Amateur Operation Reported

The Daily DX <<http://www.dailydx.com>> this week reported that Jim Dunkerton, KT4CK, of Tennessee, has been active from the Middle East on 15 meters SSB. On April 6, he was giving his location as somewhere in the desert of the Middle East, but the following day, he was identifying as YI/KT4CK and saying he was in the desert of Southern Iraq. The Daily DX says that John Shelton, K1XN, has confirmed that Dunkerton is--or has been--with the 101st Airborne, reported by CNN this week as being near Karbala in Central Iraq.

Several stations have reported working or hearing YI/KT4CK between 1400 and 1600 UTC. SV1GRH spotted YI/KT4CK at 1438 UTC on April 7 on 21.312.5 MHz and noted that he was looking for US stations but, The Daily DX quoted SV1GRH as saying that YI/KT4CK was not getting many replies.

Meanwhile, The Daily DX says Ed Giorgadze, 4L4FN, now is in the Middle East after wrapping up his North Korean (P5) operation. He has been in Turkey, very close to the Turkish/Iraqi border, for the last month and awaits his next UN World Food Program assignment--which could be inside war-torn Iraq.

### Source:

The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 15 April 11, 2003

## Ham Radio Humor

Back when the telegraph was the fastest method of long-distance communication, a young man applied for a job as a Morse Code operator. Answering an ad in the newspaper, he went to the office address that was listed. When he arrived, he entered a large, busy office filled with noise and clatter, including the sound of the telegraph in the background. A sign on the receptionist's counter instructed job applicants to fill out a form and wait until they were summoned to enter the inner office.

The young man filled out his form and sat down with the seven other applicants in the waiting area. After a few minutes, the young man stood up, crossed the room to the door of the inner office, and walked right in. Naturally the other applicants perked up, wondering what was going on. They muttered among themselves that they hadn't heard any summons yet.

They assumed that the young man who went into the office made a mistake and would be disqualified. Within a few minutes, however, the employer escorted the young man out of the office and said to the other applicants, "Gentlemen, thank you very much for coming, but the job

has just been filled." The other applicants began grumbling to each other, and one spoke up saying, "Wait a minute, I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never even got a chance to be interviewed. Yet he got the job. That's not fair!"

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but the last several minutes while you've been sitting here, the telegraph has been ticking out the following message in Morse Code: 'If you understand this message, then come right in. The job is yours.'" None of you heard it or understood it. This young man did. The job is his.

### Source:

[www.ac6v.com](http://www.ac6v.com)



## Social Night

A suggestion to hold a social night once a month was welcomed by the members. The first attempt was to head off to Montana's for a Tuesday night social get together. The invitation was open to all members and their family on Tuesday January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003. 17 people showed up for supper. The success of this event has fueled efforts to organize other social events on a Tuesday evening, instead of meeting at the Red Cross.



Please check our website for upcoming social events.



## Coming Events

### Fox Hunt

Brantford Amateur Radio Club

Check the website for additional information

### The Guelph and the Kitchener-Waterloo ARC's Central Ontario Fleamarket & Hamfest

Fergus & District Community Centre

Saturday, June 7, 2003

Fergus ON

### Brantford Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 2003

Burford Fairgrounds

Saturday, August 16, 2003

Burford ON

## ESSENTIAL CLUB INFORMATION

**President:** Bill Cunliffe, VA3WRC

**Vice-President:** Bob Moore, VE3AVU

**Secretary:** Ken Dobson, VA3DDB

**Treasurer:** Paul Tourangeau, VE3IUA

**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:**  
[www.bfree.on.ca/comdir/alh/bramaradio/ve3ba.htm](http://www.bfree.on.ca/comdir/alh/bramaradio/ve3ba.htm)

**EMAIL:** [ve3ba@bfree.on.ca](mailto:ve3ba@bfree.on.ca)

