



# REFLECTOR



PO BOX 8895  
HALIFAX NS  
B3K 5M5

February 2018, Volume 79 Number 2  
club web site is [www.halifax-arc.org](http://www.halifax-arc.org)



## And The Daylight Hours Are Increasing!!

HARC Club Station phone number - 902-490-6421

### Executive

President - Jeremy Fowler, VE1JHF	240-4302	ve1jhf@gmail.com
First V.P. - Don Trotter, VE1DTR	823-1888	ve1dtr@rac.ca
2nd V.P. - Gary Murphy, VA1GGM		garygmurphy@gmail.com
Secretary - Aaron Bradley, VA1ARN		ad.bradley@me.com
Treasurer - Jim Guilford, VE1JG	466-2124	jimguilford@gmail.com
Member-at-Large: - Craig MacKinnon, VE1JMA	463-8517	cjmackinnon@gmail.com
- Ian Pearce, VE1IGP	469-3474	igpearce@hotmail.com
Station Manager: - Brian Allen, VA1CC	489-4656	basailor@eastlink.ca
Past President - Brian Allen, VA1CC	489-4656	basailor@eastlink.ca
Director Emeritus - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567	bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca

### Committees/Offices/Prime Contacts

Government & Media Relations - Gary Murphy, VA1GGM	garygmurphy@gmail.com
QSL Bureau Mgr - Tom Caithness, VE1GTC	477-7081 tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca
EMO Coordinator - David George, VE1AJP	466-8723 dgeorge@dal.ca
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Web site content Manager - Brandon Fowler (VE1BMF)	bmfowler95@gmail.com
Basic ham course - Wayne Harasimovich, VE1WPH	wayneph@bellaliant.net
2017 Flea market Chair - Marc Hemphill, VE1BEL	mjhemphill@ns.sympatico.ca
Field Day Coordinator - Wayne Harasimovich, VE1WPH	wayneph@bellaliant.net
Safety Officer - Pat Cavanaugh, VE1PHK	ve1phk@rac.ca
VA1MMA Project Manager Dick Grantham, VE1AI	rgrantham@ns.sympatico.ca
NSARA Director - Bill Elliott, VE1MR	865-8567 bowser.elliott@ns.sympatico.ca
Honorary Legal Counsel - Paul Radford, VE1ARH	

### Non Club Contacts

RAC Atlantic Director - Dave Goodwin, VE9CB	ve9cb@rac.ca
RAC Section Manager - Craig Seaboyer, VE1DSS	cseaboys@stfx.ca
RAC Assistant Director for HRM Scott Wood, VE1QD, 823-2191	ve1qd@rac.ca

### Take-15 Net Controllers

This will be the rotation.  
**We need more net controllers. If you want to join, contact Bill, VE1MR**



February	18	Doug	VE1LDL
February	25	Gary	VA1GGM
March	4	Peter	VE1PJW
March	11	Bruce	VE1MLW
March	18	Doug	VE1LDL
March	25	Gary	VA1GGM

### Puzzler - Do you know?

When did amateur radio "enter the space-age" ?



The answer is on page 3

The odds of hitting a duffed shot increase by the square of the number of people watching.



All phone numbers must be preceded by area code 902 when dialling, unless otherwise indicated

**The February 2018 General Meeting** of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club will be held Wednesday, February 21, in the Senior's Room on the 1st floor of the St. Andrew's Centre, 3380 Barnstead Lane, Halifax.

6:30-7:00pm - Social half-hour with refreshments.

7:00-8:00pm - Presentation: Electro-magnetic Pulse (EMP) Events & Communications  
Speaker: Gary Murphy, VA1GGM

8:00-9:00pm Regular Monthly Business Meeting

Guests are welcome

**Deadline for submissions to the February Reflector is Saturday, March 10, 2018**

*"A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul."*

George Bernard Shaw

### GENERAL INFORMATION



Sunday evenings:  
TAKE-15 NET at 8:30 PM

CLUB REPEATERS:  
VE1PSR - 147.270 MHz + TX=82.5  
VE1PSR/UHF - 444.350 MHz +  
VE1PSR/6M - 53.550 MHz -  
access tone 151.4 Hz  
VE1HNS - 146.940 MHz - TX=82.5  
PACKET: VE1NSD 145.050 MHz  
LAN NODE



### Event for Your Calendar

The Truro Amateur Radio Club's Newbie Round Table Net returned on October 22nd, 2017.

The HARC Annual Ham Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday February 18th at the Steak and Stein on Young St. in Halifax. The feasting is to begin at 10 a.m. President Jeremy VE1JHF is looking forward to seeing all the early morning smiling faces.

PLEASE LET GARY MURPHY VE1GGM garygmurphy@gmail.com KNOW IF YOU WILL BE ATTENDING so that sufficient advance notice can be given to the restaurant.

Feb.17 - Guides On The Air (GOTA)  
March - The NSARA Contest

S.M.A.R.T. 2018 is scheduled for Saturday April 28th 8am-5pm at the Dr Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre in Springhill NS. Registration fee will be \$5.00 which includes lunch.

### Maine State Convention "HAMFEST/CONVENTION".

Start Date: 03/25/2011

End Date: 03/26/2011

Location: Ramada Conference and Convention Center  
490 Pleasant Street  
Lewiston, ME 04240

Website: <http://www.w1npp.org>

Sponsor: Androscoggin ARC  
Type: ARRL Convention

Talk-In: 146.610 (no PL)

Public Contact: Ivan Lazure,  
N10XA

440 Webber Avenue  
Lewiston, ME 04240  
Phone: 207-577-5152  
Email: n10xa@arrl.net

For more information, please visit their website at

<http://www.w1npp.org/pages/MEConvention2018.html>

Feb. 17 - Guides On The Air (GOTA) - GOTA is an opportunity for Members of Guiding - from Sparks to Guiders - to talk to other Members of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts all over the world via amateur radio. GOTA is held every year on the third full weekend in February.

If you get a few free minutes, get on the air on February 17th or 18th to provide a few GOTA contacts.

For more information have a look at the GOTA web page:

<http://www.clarayl.ca/index.php/whatisgota>

or contact Helen, VA1YL@rac.ca

HARC's autumn 2017 Basic Amateur Radio Certification course (BARC) is over

Details about the next course - 2018 - can be found, when firmed up, on the HARC Website - [www.halifax-arc.org](http://www.halifax-arc.org)

January - Congratulation to the newest "hams" in the Halifax Amateur Radio Club and welcome to your new fraternity:

John Bignell - pass with honours;

Isaac Carlin - pass with honours.



Thanks to all who made the path to success easier for John and Isaac.  
Well done all.

73 de Jim, VE1JG

Please send any issues (broken links, missing information, etc.) found on the H.A.R.C. Website to our Website Manager, Brandon Fowler, VE1BMF, at [bmfwler95@gmail.com](mailto:bmfwler95@gmail.com)

Check out the RAC blog at:

<http://racblog.wordpress.com/transforming-radio-amateurs-of-canada-introduction/>

### S.M.A.R.T. 2018 scheduled for Saturday April 28th.

From Jim VE1JBL Jan. 6th, 2018

The event will again be held at the Dr Carson & Marion Murray Community Centre in Springhill NS on Apr. 28th, 2018 8am-5pm. Registration fee will remain the same \$5.00 which includes lunch. There will also be 50/50 tickets and prizes given throughout the day.

First classes will begin at 9 am. Lunch hour (barbecue) will be from 12 noon till 1 pm.

The organizers have decided to keep the "Out of the Trunk" fleamarket this year. Amateurs interested in selling are to write up a note on items for sale with price and will get it on the site. Amateurs looking for something send it along and will also post it on the site.

This year the Hospitality room will be available and will have refreshments and an area to sit and chat if not taking in the courses.

We are looking for presenters for courses. If interested in putting on a course contact George Dewar VY2GF at [dewarg@bellaliant.net](mailto:dewarg@bellaliant.net)

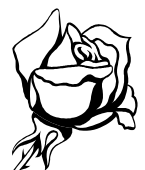
As presenters come forward they will be posted on the site so everyone will know what courses will be available this year.

The WestCumb ARC and the Municipality of Cumberland are looking forward to hosting this event again this year.

For more information and registration go to:

<http://www.westcumb.ca/s-m-a-r-t>

*I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered. But I was not pleased to read the description in the catalogue: 'No good in a bed, but fine against a wall.'*



Eleanor Roosevelt

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE  
for February, 2018**

Happy February !

Missed seeing all of you at the January meeting, but of course Mother Nature was uncooperative. There's a movement afoot to make greater use of the local repeaters . If you're out and about, or even just sitting in the shack, pick up the mic and give a call on PSR or HNS and see who's around ! Let's get the airwaves active again!

Looking forward to a good turnout at the Ham Breakfast on the 18th. Hope to see you there . Also looking forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting!

73

Jeremy, VE1JHF/VA1GUN  
President of the HARC

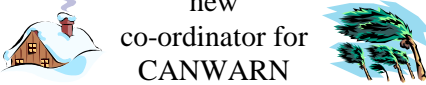
Join in for World Amateur Radio Day, the IARU worldwide operating event that celebrates ham radio's global community.

**World Amateur Radio Day** (WARD) is celebrated every April 18 to commemorate the 1925 creation of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) in Paris, France. The IARU's job is to watch over the interests of the Amateur Radio community around the world. Each year WARD has a different theme and in 2014 the theme is "Amateur Radio: Your Gateway to Wireless Communication." Each of the 150 countries in the IARU has a Member Society and many clubs associated with the various Member Societies get on the air with special event stations to celebrate this day.

Photo this issue thanks to  
Scott, VE1QD


*Nothing is foolproof to a sufficiently talented fool.*

Gary Murphy, VA1GGM, is the new co-ordinator for CANWARN



A gentle reminder  
Dues for 2018 can be e-transferred to our Treasurer, Jim Guilford (jimguildford@gmail.com) with the application to me, Jim Calvesbert, VE1PPA, Membership Chair Halifax Amateur Radio Club  
See Membership Form and more information on page 10

**Answer to Puzzler on page 1**



On December 12, 1961, Amateur Radio entered the Space Age when OSCAR-1 was launched. Since then, amateurs from more than 22 different countries have launched over 70 satellites, exploring both digital and analog satellite technology. Many of the latest birds have been school experiments, training scientists and engineers. But, you don't need to be a rocket scientist to participate-- Some satellites operate FM and can actually be worked using a dual-band handheld transceiver. An excellent place to start is AMSAT's Station and Operating Hints page. AMSAT, or the Radio Amateur Satellite Corporation, has played a key role in building, launching, and using amateur satellites. Occasionally, Radio Amateurs can talk with the astronauts on the International Space Station. For more information check out ARISS at

<http://www.arrl.org/amateur-radio-on-the-international-space-station>

From the ARRL website

To make the most of **our web page** please send photos, notices of events, and ham radio news items, etc. to our Website Manager, Brandon Fowler, VE1BMF, at [bmfowler95@gmail.com](mailto:bmfowler95@gmail.com)

**ARRL Announces Mobile DXCC Operating Award - 02/09/2018**

ARRL this week announced a Mobile DXCC Operating Award, available to radio amateurs who have contacted at least 100 DXCC entities from a working vehicle, with antennas and power source capable of operating while in motion. ARRL Radiosport Manager Norm Fusaro, W3IZ, advised those pursuing the award to put safety first.

"Distracted driving is a serious concern. We hope all mobile operators exercise care when operating from a moving vehicle ."

Full, official details are on the Mobile DXCC Operating Award page

<http://www.arrl.org/mobile-DXCC>

The Mobile DXCC is a one-time and non-endorsable award. Contacts made any time in the past do count toward the award. QSLs are required but you do not need to submit them.

Mobile stations may use any legal power for the entity from which they are operating. This award specifically excludes contacts made by aeronautical or maritime mobile stations.

You do not have to be an ARRL member to qualify for this award.

Because this award is similar to the QRP DXCC Operating Award, ARRL has redesigned the QRP DXCC Certificate so that the two awards complement one another. Operators who hold the QRP DXCC award may apply for the new-style certificate with the original date of issue printed on the certificate, but you do not have to re-submit QSL cards or a log. All certificates are \$16.

Example of inadequate proof-reading (*with snarky commentary*).

Enfield (London) Couple Slain;  
Police Suspect Homicide  
*They may be on to something!*

**GROWING AMATEUR RADIO AND ITS PUBLIC SUPPORT**

One of the very most important projects in which HARC is engaged is the **Wireless Room** at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. It is an important part of the Cunard Line Exhibit at the Museum and show cases how important wireless marine communications after 1900 have been for the safety and welfare of ocean plying vessels and their crews. Moreover, it is important for building public understanding and support for amateur radio.

Club members manning the Wireless Room 12 – 15 hours per week during the summer season, and less often during the winter, interface with hundreds of visitors each week. Given the opportunity to learn how to send their own name in Morse code, our visitors inevitably rise enthusiastically to the occasion, and are very pleased with their achievement. We have delightful conversations with folks from all corners of the World.

Every now and then something special happens. Such was the occasion when Jacqueline and her seven-year-old son Henry paid us a visit as part of a home-schooling field trip. Henry took to the Morse key like a natural talent and with an abundance of interest. It quickly became clear that the **Wireless Room** had sparked in him more than a little interest.

Following several conversations with Jacqueline, Scott Wood, VE1QD, agreed to find a Morse code practise oscillator and key for Henry so he could continue learning Morse code. The picture was taken soon after he arrived home in early January with a gift from Jim Guilford, VE1JG. During the hand-over meeting with his family, we talked about how Henry might get into Ham Radio. It is hoped that Henry and his parents will join our

qualification course one day soon!

This is how we grow amateur radio by sparking an interest in the hobby and then encourage the development of that interest. You too could be a part of this important HARC project at the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic. We need enthusiastic hams that will make a clear commitment to the project on a regular basis. You want to join us? Get in touch with:

Arthur Osmond, VE1/G5DJW by phone (902) 466-7735 or by email aeo@live.ca

or  
Dick Grantham, VE1AI by phone at (902) 434-8046 Or by email rgrantham@ns.sympatico.ca

Scott Wood. VE1QD



Henry at home in early January with a Morse code practise oscillator and key - a gift from Jim Guilford, VE1JG

**D-Star ONE Phoenix, First D-Star Communication Spacecraft, Launched - 02/04/2018**

A Soyuz rocket launched D-Star ONE Phoenix and 10 other satellites into orbit on February 1 from Vostochny Cosmodrome in Russia. Developed by German Orbital Systems in Berlin in cooperation with the Czech company iSky Technology, D-Star ONE Phoenix carries an Amateur Radio relay payload (call sign DP1GOS). It replaces the D-Star ONE nanosatellite that failed to attain orbit following a November Soyuz launch from Vostochny.

Downlink frequencies are 435.700 MHz for telemetry and 435.525 MHz for D-Star. The

uplink is 437.325 MHz.

D-Star ONE Phoenix is a 3U CubeSat equipped with four identical radio modules with D-Star capability, operating in half-duplex mode with a power output of 800 mW. The two telemetry and telecommand modules both receive, and both in sequence, so each telemetry frame is repeated. The other two modules are dedicated to Amateur Radio, although only one will operate at a time.

The modules are configured to work as D-Star repeaters, so they retransmit received D-Star frames on the downlink frequency. They also have a D-Star voice beacon. — Thanks to AMSAT News Service, D-Star ONE

From the ARRL website, Feb., 2018

The website of the newest Amateur Radio Club in Nova Scotia, the Annapolis Valley Amateur Radio Club (AVARC), can be found at <http://avarc.ca/>.

Advice from A Wise Old Man -

*"Keep skunks and bankers at a distance."*



### Canadian Radio Amateur Finds Resurrected NASA Satellite

From the ARRL website 01/29/2018

When he's not on ham radio, Scott Tilley, VE7TIL, an amateur astronomer, hunts spy satellites. Using an S-band radio from his home in Roberts Creek, British Columbia, Tilley routinely scans the skies for radio signals from classified objects orbiting Earth, according to a recent article on Spaceweather.com. Since starting 5 years ago, Tilley has located dozens of secret or unlisted satellites. Earlier this month, while hunting for ZUMA — an undisclosed US government spacecraft lost in a January 8 launch mishap — when he saw the signature of IMAGE (Imager for Magnetopause-to-Aurora Global Exploration), a NASA spacecraft believed to have died in December 2005. The discovery has delighted space scientists.

“The long gone and nearly forgotten IMAGE spacecraft has come back to life and been detected by an amateur astronomer,” said Mission Manager Richard J. Burley at NASA's Goddard Space Flight (GSFC), which confirmed that what Tilley spotted is, indeed, IMAGE. Amateur observer Paul Marsh, MOEYT, in the UK provided the first independent confirmation of the IMAGE signal.

NASA said on January 29 that observations from five sites were consistent with the RF characteristics expected of IMAGE. “Specifically,

the radio frequency showed a spike at the expected center frequency, as well as side bands where they should be for IMAGE,” NASA said. “Oscillation of the signal was also consistent with the last known spin rate for IMAGE.”

But just to make certain beyond a shadow of a doubt, NASA will next attempt to capture and analyze data from the signal. The challenge to decoding the signal is primarily technical. The types of hardware and operating systems used in the IMAGE Mission Operations Center no longer exist, and other systems have been updated several versions beyond what they were at the time, requiring significant reverse-engineering.”

If data decoding succeeds, NASA will try to turn on the science payload to understand the status of the various science instruments.

After the spacecraft went silent, an unsuccessful 2007 effort was made to track IMAGE in the hope that a “long shadow encounter” would drain the battery enough to cause IMAGE to reset its control hardware. When that effort failed, the mission was declared to have ended. Space scientists now theorize that an even longer eclipse — or other event — did reset the system and bring the transmitter back to life. Yet to be determined is whether it's possible to restore IMAGE to operation and to what degree.

Launched in 2000 on a mission to monitor space weather, IMAGE mapped plasma patterns around Earth, keeping tabs on the planet's magnetosphere as it responded to solar activity; on-board ultraviolet cameras shot images of Earth's auroras. “It had capabilities that no other spacecraft could match — before or since,” said Patricia Reiff, a member of the original IMAGE science team at Rice University.

“If revival occurs, the mission should be able to continue as before with no limitations,” NASA's IMAGE Failure Review Board said in its 2006 report. Reiff said scientists stopped listening after the 2007 effort failed.

After seeing the radio signature, Tilley used a program called STRF to identify it. STRF deduces orbital elements from the Doppler shifts of their radio signals, and it immediately matched what Tilley saw to IMAGE.

Reiff said UC Berkeley still has a ground station that was used for real-time tracking and control and is scrambling to find the old software to see if they can get the spacecraft to respond.

“[IMAGE's] global-scale auroral imager would be fantastic for nowcasting space weather, Reiff said. “Fingers crossed!” — Thanks to Alex Schwarz, VE7DXW; Spaceweather.com; NASA

### HARC Booking Calendar

Looking to find out what is going on in the HARC Station? If so, you should go to our on-line room booking calendar at:

<https://teamup.com/ksa1105421c0509940>

There you can find information on events taking place in the:

- Club Station Main Meeting Room
- Club Library / Technical Room
- Club Radio Station Room
- Club Remote Radio Reservation Booking

If you want to reserve space in one of the above three rooms, or if you are approved to use and want to book time on the Club Remote Radio, then send an email to our Station Manager, Brian at 489-4656 or [basailor@eastlink.ca](mailto:basailor@eastlink.ca) or to our Club Website Manager, Brandon, VE1BMF, at [bmfowler95@gmail.com](mailto:bmfowler95@gmail.com) and they will make your booking.

**Reprint of the  
HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO  
CLUB Monthly Meeting Minutes  
15<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

The November monthly meeting of the Halifax Amateur Radio Club was declared open at 19:37 hrs with Brian (VE1AZV) in the chair.

**Motion** to approve the Agenda – moved by Don (VE1DTR); seconded by David (VA3IIF); carried.

**Self introductions:** There were 37 members present.

**Silent Keys:** Brian reported the following silent keys for the period October 17th to November 14, 2017.

Richard "Dick" D'Entremont,  
VE1RDD - Shelburne NS  
Nov. 14th, 2017

Bernard Saint-Pierre, VE9SP  
Tracadie-Sheila NB  
Oct.31st, 2017

Laurie Edward Mersereau,  
VE9IBM - Fredericton NB  
Oct.30th, 2017

Joseph L. "Sonny" Ratto,  
VE1ADB - Halifax NS  
Oct.25th, 2017

**Motion** to approve the minutes of the October monthly meeting as published in the November edition of the HARC *Reflector* was made by Bill (VE1MR); seconded by Scott (VE1QD); carried.

**President's Report:**

Brian reported that HRM has made the Club an offer to occupy two rooms on the upper floor of the Hammond Plains Fire Station #50 and HARC has accepted. There will have to be a few upgrades made to the facility before we can take occupancy. There is also a large meeting room that we can book that will hold upwards of 40 people and will work for our monthly meeting. There is a smaller room that is also bookable and will work for small-group meetings such as the Executive and our Basic Course. Not having to

rent our current monthly meeting room, will save the Club significant money. The plan is to move our tower from St. Andrews and put it up as a 56-foot tower with a beam and other antennae at the new location. The actual move-in date is yet to be determined.

**Executive Reports:**

**Treasurer's Report** – Jim (VE1JG) presented the Treasurer's report for the new fiscal year beginning with the month of October 2017. He reported that there was an opening bank balance for 1<sup>st</sup> October 2017 of \$3,636.16. Total income for the month of October was \$2,006.40 with expenses of \$ 1,549.77. There were no outstanding cheques, therefore our cash position at the end of the month of October was \$4,092.79. A copy of this full report is appended to the official hard copy of these minutes.

**Motion** to approve the October report of the Treasurer – Moved by Jim (VE1JG); seconded by David (VA3IIF); carried.

**Second reading of the 2017-2018 budget** – Jim (VE1JG) reviewed the proposed 2018 Club budget line by line for the second time. A copy of the proposed budget is attached to these minutes. Approval of the budget was moved by Jim (VE1JG); seconded by Bill (VE1MR); carried.

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President Report** (Don – VE1DTR) – Jason (VE1PYE) indicated that he is working on the FT1000 and has determined that there is an issue with the auto-tuner and is replacing the PAs. Dick suggested that the ALC was also an issue and Jason will look into that. He also has access to a used FT1000 that can be plundered for parts. Don indicated that the firewall in the station is still an issue so internet is down but he will try to get it fixed this week.

**Station Manager Report** (Alex – VE1RUS) – Alex just returned from

the arctic and thanked those members who have been helping out in the Station in his absence. He also indicated that the vertical antenna is still not functioning in a predictable way and suggested that we think about a different vertical for the new location.

**Committee/Project Reports:**

**Search & Rescue / EMO** (David – VE1AJP) – David (VE1AJP) reported several searches that had been carried out this past month, all with successful outcomes. David was asked whether their S&R group was using drones; his response that they are not allowed to use them because there are often helicopters in the air during searches.

**Membership** (Howard – VE1DHD) – Howard reported that as of this evening there are 4 Life members; 121 Full members and 45 Associate members for a total of 170 paid-up members for 2017, and 55 of our members are also members of RAC.

**Win Hartlin Award 2017** (Brian – VE1AZV) – Brian reported that he and Fraser (VE1WO) are working to bring forward a candidate for the 2017 award that will be presented at the Christmas Dinner.

**HATS Report** (Scott – VE1QD) – Scott indicated that they (Tom – VE1GTC & Don – VE1DRV) are currently working on the development of a course that can be given to members of the JEM sites, and that this course would be for both Hams and non-Hams. He also reported that the current issues of QST and TCA provide an excellent summary of Radio Amateur activities in the recent storm season.

**Basic Class Update** (Wayne – VE1WPH) – Wayne was absent, but Brian indicated that there are 15 students participating in the course this year and that all appear to



(Continued on page 7)

*Minutes (Continued from page 6)*  
be doing well.

#### Old Business:

**St. Andrew's Move / New Club Location Report** (Brian – VE1AZV) – see above under President's Report.

**Special Halifax Explosion Callsign (CK100VDA) Update** (Howard – VE1DHD) – Howard reported that to this point, there have been relatively few of our Club members who have signed up to use the special call. He reminded members that there is an on-line booking schedule on the HARC website and encouraged more people to sign up to use this special Halifax Explosion Anniversary callsign. To facilitate those who want to sign up on short notice during the ten-day operating

period, Jim (VE1JG) will be available by phone to coordinate the HF band usage and Bill (VE1MR) will do the same for the VHF/UHF bands.

#### New Business:

**HARC Surplus Equipment Disposal** (Brian – VE1AZV) – Brian indicated that he and Alex will be working on getting the surplus equipment organized and we will likely hold the sale to HARC members in the new year.

**Ticket Draws:** \$ 33.50 in the draw was won by Bill Simm (VE1ALW).

**Adjournment:** 20:33 hrs motion to adjourn by Howard (VE1DHD).

Respectfully submitted by HARC Secretary, Howard Dickson (VE1DHD)

**Contesting** – Love it?  
Like it?  
Never even tried?  
Not enough time for an entire contest?  
Don't like to play alone?  
Arrange to "team up" with one or more other hams to go in to the club station to operate a contest or a part of a contest.

*Definition Karmageddon:*  
*It's like, when everybody is sending off all these really bad vibes, right? And then, like, the Earth explodes and it's like, a serious bummer.*

Here are the headlines from the Maritime Amateur website for February 1st.

Ronald Ivan Maund VE9RIM (SK) - Moncton NB

Raymond Ross VE1BDL (SK) - Riley Brook NB

Stanley Heinsma VE1BES (SK) - Pictou NS

Information and history of the AM mode Sunday morning net.

Carl Anton Smidt VE9OV (SK) Penobsquis NB

Roderick Gordon Bird VE1ROD (SK) - Amherst NS - ( Dec.17th, 2017 )

Introduction by Gary Murphy VA1GGM new coordinator for CANWARN

Recap of recent weather storms and CANWARN.

Welcome to new member Dave McClafferty VE1ADH from Lower Sackville

Welcome new member Jim Calvesbert VE1PPA from Bedford NS

Welcome new member Joe Christie VE1DVR of Shelburne NS

Welcome new member Curtis Baxter VE9CJB of Saint John NB

Welcome new member Gordon Fairchild VE9BCD from Moncton NB

Welcome non amateur Ben Arsenault as a new member of the site.

Welcome new member Lee Williams VE9LJW - Fredericton NB

Welcome new member Tim Delaney VA1TIM - Fort Ellis NS

Welcome to new member Doug Schultz VE1IOU - Lunenburg NS

CANWARN NB activated for winter storm

NB Hospital Radio System Exercise Great Success!

Recap of first S.M.A.R.T. 2018 meeting held in Amherst.

CANWARN Atlantic welcome two new members.

If you or your club have any news or information they would like to share with their fellow hams here in Atlantic Canada send it along and will get it on the site ASAP.

If you use Twitter, you can follow the website via @maritimeamateur and receive immediate updates and changes to the website as they happen. It also delivers news and information from other amateur radio operators and clubs using Twitter.

If you notice any links not working or see any mistakes or corrections needed please contact me ASAP.

A reminder to all members to please add your callsign with your name on your members page. This makes it easier to find you in the search box. Just SIGN IN and go to EDIT PROFILE. You can also put a picture of yourself on there if you wish. Remember to sign out when finished.

Thanks to all the members for your continued support of the website and for sending news and information to keep this site updated and fresh with new material. Without you "the amateur community" the site would not be possible.

"Ham Radio for Maritimers by Maritimers"

Sincerely, James "Jim" Langille VE1JBL

Webmaster: maritimeamateur.ca

**From the Mail Bag**

Great Info....

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

Forwarded by Ken, VY2RU

**The Maritime Amateur**

Ham Radio  
for Maritimers by Maritimers  
[www.maritimeamateur.ca](http://www.maritimeamateur.ca)

Ham radio  
operators  
do it  
til their  
gigahertz

Greetings all CANWARN members,  
I am writing you to inform you of changes to CANWARN Atlantic.

With all my work with the Maritime Amateur website, WestCumb ARC and Exercise Handshake I have decided to step down as coordinator for CANWARN.

Gary Murphy VA1GGM of Dartmouth will be the new contact person for CANWARN. Email: [garygmurphy@gmail.com](mailto:garygmurphy@gmail.com)

Gary recently retired as Paramedic Communications Officer at the EHS Medical Communications Center in Dartmouth.

Gary is a member of the Halifax ARC and is 2nd VP in the club. He also is a member of HATS and will be training the new crop of the Halifax Auxiliary Telecommunications Service radio operators.

I want to thank all the members for taking the time to volunteer over the years sending in storm reports to CANWARN to help Environment Canada and the Atlantic Storm Prediction Centre. I hope you will continue to volunteer your time with reports when Gary activates CANWARN.

Gary will soon be in touch with all of you with his information and new ideas going forward. I look forward to working with him as a spotter here in Tidnish.

James "Jim" Langille VE1JBL

Webmaster: [maritimeamateur.ca](http://maritimeamateur.ca)

Email: [jimve1jbl@gmail.com](mailto:jimve1jbl@gmail.com)

MONITOR: VE1WRC 147.285, MAVCOM 154\* , IRLP 2060

*Even duct tape can't fix stupid, but it can muffle the sound.*

FYI...(passed along by Ken, VY2RU)

Foxes and Hounds — FT8 DXpedition Mode is in the Works for WSJT-X, 02/05/2018

Speaking on behalf of the WSJT-X Development Team, Joe Taylor, K1JT, has issued a progress report on the team's efforts to develop FT8 DXpedition Mode. The new digital mode will include new and innovative features, which are detailed in a draft FT8 DXpedition Mode User Guide, released on February 2. Taylor said the basic goal of FT8 DXpedition Mode is to enable DXpeditions to make FT8 QSOs at the highest possible rates, and the WSJT-X Development Team has been working with members of the Baker Island KH1/KH7Z DXpedition team, ahead of its mid-summer operation, to work out the wrinkles.

"Like most major DXpeditions, this one will almost certainly make a majority of its QSOs using SSB and CW," Taylor said. "However, the group is well aware of the rapid rise of FT8 popularity, and they plan to use FT8 as well. Making FT8 QSOs with KH1/KH7Z will require the DXpedition and everyone trying to work them to use a new, yet-to-be-released version of WSJT-X. We have tested the new program features on the air several times, and found them to work well."

In FT8 DXpedition Mode, a DXpedition stations is the

Fox, and calling stations are Hounds. The new mode permits contacts to be completed with as little as one Fox transmission per contact. The Fox also can transmit up to five signals simultaneously, upping the potential contact rate to 600/hour. "With expected signal levels and likely levels of QRM, sustained rates of several hundred QSOs/hour are expected to be possible," the User Guide asserts. The User Guide points out that FT8 DXpedition Mode is suitable for use only by legitimate DXpedition stations and by those attempting to work them and should not be used for day-to-day FT8 operation.

"Another test run [of the new mode] will probably be scheduled in a month or so," Taylor continued, adding that others subsequently will be invited to upgrade to a "release candidate" called WSJT-X v1.9.0-rc1, "and to join in trying to work one or more specific 'pseudo-DXpedition' stations at a certain time and frequency." WSJT-X release candidate versions, identified by an -rcx suffix, are offered temporarily for beta-testing but are not suitable for long-term general use.

Taylor said the Development Team's approach to FT8 DXpedition Mode will continue the process of "shaking bugs out of the program" and generally improve its usability for DXpedition operators and DXers alike.

— Thanks to Joe Taylor, K1JT



Truro Amateur Radio Club - Newbie Round Table  
 Time: - 2100 hrs (9PM) Sunday Evenings. - Time frame: 30 min. to 1hr. Location: VE1HAR with the following repeaters linked, VE1TRO VE1BHS, VE1SHU, VE1CDN, VE1PKT, VE1HR, VE1AEH, VE1WN, VE1RTL.  
 Echo Link will also be available via VE1BHS for those who want to use it. The node number for BHS Echolink is 100853.

The main objective of this round table is as a learning experience for both new & older ham operators. It will be a round table discussion forum on air for newbies to ask questions about stuff they don't understand, with experienced hams using their knowledge & experience to provide the answers. There will be a moderator in charge in order to start and facilitate the discussion as necessary. For each round table there will be a suggested topic to be discussed, but other questions & topics will be more than welcome.

Questions? Email Dave Hull at  
 d.hull@ns.sympatico.ca  
 or tarcnewbie@davidh.ca

*"I have come to the conclusion that politics is too serious a matter to be left to the politicians."*  
 ~Charles de Gaulle~

Want to check road conditions before driving?  
 New Brunswick Highway Cams:  
<http://www.gnb.ca/0113/cameras/allcams-e.asp>



Nova Scotia Highway Cams:  
<http://gov.ns.ca/tran/cameras/camera.asp>

PEI Highway Cams: <http://www.gov.pe.ca/tpwpei/index.php3?number=1016836&lang=E>

Halifax's Armdale Rotary <http://www.novascotiawebcams.com/halifax/armdale-rotary.html#axzz1AmMziRUo>

*The 2016 Darwin Awards: Sixth Place*

*While at the beach, Daniel Jones, 21, dug an 8 foot hole for protection from the wind and had been sitting in a beach chair at the bottom, when it collapsed, burying him beneath 5 feet of sand. People on the beach used their hands and shovels trying to get him out but could not reach him. It took rescue workers using heavy equipment almost an hour to free him. Jones was pronounced dead at a hospital.*

The HARC maintains a stock of **Anderson Powerpole connectors** for sale.

Contact Tom Caithness, VE1GTC, by E-mail at [tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:tom.caithness@ns.sympatico.ca) for current pricing and to order. (A complete mating pair is 2 connectors.)

Wiring instructions can be found in the 2012 Maritime Provinces Callbook

**Safety**

*Don't know if this is factual but just in case. -ed.*

**Very Clever New Credit Card Scam!** The following is a recounting of the incident from the victim:

A week ago, I had a phone call from someone saying that he was from a courier company. He asked if I was going to be home as there was a package for me that required a signature. The caller said that the delivery would arrive at my home in roughly an hour. About an hour later, a uniformed delivery man turned up with a beautiful basket of flowers & a bottle of wine. I was surprised as there was no special occasion and I didn't expect anything like it. I asked who the sender was. The courier replied, "I don't know, I'm only delivering the package."

Apparently, a card was being sent separately... (No card has arrived!) There was also a consignment note with the gift. He then explained that as the gift contained alcohol, there was a \$3.50 "delivery verification charge," providing proof that he had actually delivered the package to an adult (of legal drinking age), and not just left it on the doorstep. I offered to pay him cash. He replied that the delivery company required payment to be by credit or debit card to help in keeping a legal record of the transaction. Also, that couriers don't carry cash to avoid

loss or robbery.

My husband pulled out his credit card, and the "delivery man," asked him to swipe the card on a small mobile card machine with a small screen & keypad. My husband, was asked to enter his PIN number and a receipt was printed out. He was given a copy of the transaction. The guy said everything was in order, and wished us good day.

To our horrible surprise, between Thursday and the next Monday, \$4,000 was charged/withdrawn from our credit/debit account at various ATM machines. Apparently the "mobile credit card machine," which the deliveryman carried now had all the info needed to create a "dummy" card with all our card details including the PIN number. On finding out about the illegal transactions on our card, we immediately notified the bank which issued us a new card, and our credit/debit account was closed. We also went to the Police who confirmed that it is indeed a scam and several other households had been hit.

**WARNING:** Be wary of accepting any unexpected gift or package, especially if it involves any kind of payment as a condition of receiving it. Never accept anything if you do not personally know or there is no proper identification of who the sender is. Above all, the only time you should give out any personal credit/debit card information is when you yourself initiated the purchase or transaction!

**HALIFAX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB MEMBERSHIP - For 2018**

Same address as last year     New address     I would like newsletter as PDF e-mail (Please note by taking newsletter online you save the Club significant mailing and printing costs)

I would prefer to have the newsletter mailed to my home **at an additional cost of \$10.00 to the regular membership fee structure below..**

E Mail Address ( *Please provide for our files*) \_\_\_\_\_.

Call Sign \_\_\_\_\_.

First Name, Initial, Surname \_\_\_\_\_.

Street Address (Mailing) \_\_\_\_\_.

City/Town, Province, Postal Code and Telephone# \_\_\_\_\_.

Fees:  Full Member, must be a licensed Amateur (\$30.00)     Associate member (Non-Voting) (\$20.00)

Family membership: \$30.00 for first member + \$20.00 each additional. Amount submitted \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Please Note: the HARC membership year runs from January 1 to December 31.

Mail to: Membership Chair Jim Calvesbert, VE1PPA

Halifax Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 8895

Halifax, N.S. B3K 5M5

Please fill in method of Payment: (Cheque or Cash or Interac e-transfer)

~~~~~  
...If you are using Interac e-transfer to pay, please follow the instructions on the Membership page (reproduced below) for emailing this

Are you currently a RAC member?

**Payment Options** ... In addition to mailing a cheque to the Club mailing address along with the application form, or paying at the February Club meeting, we have set up a new electronic money transfer process as outlined below:

Procedure for Paying HARC Membership Dues by electronic money transfer:

Since fewer and fewer of our members use cheques, it is becoming more difficult for some to pay their HARC dues, requiring that they come to a meeting and pay with cash. That is fine for some but for others who are for what ever reason unable to attend meetings it is a problem. However, we now have a system set up to allow HARC members to pay their 2016 membership dues using electronic money transfer. The procedure to use is as follows:

1) Send an email to Jim Calvesbert, VE1PPA, our Membership Chair'man at jim.calvesbert@gmail.com and cc: Jim Guilford our Treasurer at jinguilford@gmail.com... with either a scanned or photo of your 2018 Membership Application Form; or, if there are no changes, simply email with your full name and callsign saying no changes; ALSO indicate that you are paying by e-money transfer.

2) Go to your on-line banking site and send an e-money transfer to our Treasurer (Jim Guilford) jinguilford@gmail.com. Be sure to include in that email the security question that Jim will need to then make an electronic transfer into our HARC bank account.

3) Once Jim Guilford receives the money and has deposited it to the HARC account, he will confirm with you by email and he will cc: to Jim Calvesbert.

4) Jim Calvesbert will then issue a 2018 e-Membership Card (by email) confirming that your 2018 membership has been paid.