



January 2009

Quinte Amateur Radio Club Inc. Newsletter

PO Box 23039 BELLEVILLE Ontario K8P 5J3

NOTICE OF MEETING:

- DATE / TIME:** January 21, 2009 @7:30PM
- LOCATION:** Loyalist College (Pioneer Building) Room P-2
- PROGRAM:** Our guest speaker for January is Brian VA3BRW who will be giving a presentation on his trip from Belleville to Inuvik NWT

**Club Repeaters: VE3QAR: 146.985 Mhz / 444.475 Mhz. (118.8 Hz PL)
2 meter net: Tuesday 7:30 PM on VE3TJU 146.730**

**QARC HomePage <http://www.qarc.on.ca/> webspace provided by:
Kingston Online Services, 153 Front St,
Belleville K8N 2Y6 (613) 968-7137**

Monthly Meetings: 3rd Wednesday 7:30 PM Loyalist College
(Pioneer Bldg.) Room P-2

Hams 'n Eggs: SATURDAYS 8:00 AM Quinte Restaurant 135 Cannifton Road

RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA ADDRESS:

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QARC EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT:	Tim Pekkonen VE3UO	613-969-8012	tim.ve3uo@gmail.com
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Brian Williams VA3BRW	613-962-9690	va3brw@rac.ca
SECRETARY:	Bob Moore VE3QWB	613-968-5128	ve3qwb@rac.ca
TREASURER:	Miles LeClair VE3XDX	613-969-2290	ve3xdx@kos.net
PAST PRESIDENT:	Mike Papper VE3OX	613-969-1744	ve3ox@rac.ca
NEWSLETTER:	Dave Ackerman VE3UGT	613-962-3991	ackerman@xplornet.com

Minutes of the QARC Meeting November 19, 2008

Bob Moore, QARC Secretary

Meeting called to order by President Tim VE3UO at 7:30pm

Welcome to all, new member Richard Shettell VE3KFN, members and guests.

Executive present: President Tim VE3UO, Past President Mike VE3OX, Vice President Brian VA3BRW, Treasurer Miles VE3XDX and Secretary Bob VE3QWB

Motion to accept minutes of the QARC October meeting, as circulated by email, made by Cliff VA3ECP, seconded by Ron VE3IVC

President Tim reported the Halloween Safe Streets went well again this year, with thanks to the volunteers that helped.

Brian VA3BRW reminded members of our QARC Christmas Dinner on Dec. 10 at Capers Restaurant. Contact Brian for tickets, only 40 will be sold. Brian.Williams@sympatico.ca

Dave VE3BIP reported the last two foxhunts, 'Tour of the County' & 'Turkey Shoot' went well. For details check the foxhunt webpages: <http://web.mac.com/dpward/TxHunting/ResultsOct2008.html> and <http://web.mac.com/dpward/TxHunting/Nov2008TurkShoot.html> He also reported on the Amateur balloon launch in Perth, you can read about it at: <http://www.greatballoonchase.ca>

Repeater Report - The club's 2-meter receiver has been changed and we hope to move it back to Queen Vic soon. The club asks for reception reports. The UHF repeater is still at Dave VE3UGT's QTH, still working well. Tim advises that he was able to work it during the 'Turkey Shoot' foxhunt from the McFarland Conservation Lookout east of Picton, across from the cement plant,

IRLP Node - Dave VE3BIP reports problems with his Internet connection, resulting in the IRLP node (2090) being down, until he gets Internet back.

Field Day Scores. ARRL sent out the results of Field Day 2008. There were twelve 2A stations in Ontario; our combined effort of QARC and PERC came in fifth. There were twenty nine 2A stations across Canada, we came in eleventh. Congratulations and thanks to all those who took part. We are open to suggestions of where to set up for June 2009, please plan on helping at the mic/key for whatever time you can give.

Greg VE3CH reports they are working at putting VE3ALC back on the air at Loyalist College. The antenna is installed on the roof of the main Kente Building.

Doug VE3ZDG reminds everyone of the PERC Christmas dinner next Saturday November 29 - \$20 per person, at Prince Edward Yacht Club - meet and mingle at 6:00 PM - Dinner at 7:00 Contact Doug for tickets dmonk@kos.net

QARC Membership Status - List to be sent around Dec 1

New items that the club logo and member's call sign can be printed on from Star Trophies - metal travel mugs (\$11) and travel bags (\$20) (useful for ARES?)

Tim VE3UO introduced a "Ham-Cache" box for members to take turns bringing home from Saturday breakfasts etc. Items inside are valued under ten dollars. The idea is to take the box home, remove an item you want and replace it with another item. At the next breakfast or function, another member takes the box home, and keeps the rotation going. The Kingston ARC is also doing the same idea at their Saturday breakfasts.

An email was received from Michael Bell VE3NOO regarding Adolphustown Loyalists 2009: "Loyalist Settlement Experience 225" (Thursday June 11 - Sunday June 14) in Adolphustown and Napanee ON hosted by Bay of Quinte Branch of United Empire Loyalists Assoc of Canada. For details see the websites: <http://www.uelac.org/conference/conference.php> and Bay of Quinte Branch: <http://www.uel.ca/>

Door Prize: a mini camera tripod, donated by Bob VE3QWB was won by Greg VE3CH. The 50/50 Draw prize of \$22.00 was won by Art VE3SQG

During the break we enjoyed coffee and juice, home made chocolate chip cookies and rice squares. Thanks to Dave VE3UGT and his XYL Leona.

Following the break our guest speaker, Keith VA3KRV, gave an interesting and informative presentation on his APRS weather station. See the following websites for information: <http://www.findu.com/cgi-bin/wxpage.cgi?call=ve3khv> <http://www.weather-display.com/index.php>

After the presentation Tim gave Keith one of the new metal travel mugs with his callsign and club logo on it. Well done Keith, thanks.

Tim then asked for a motion to adjourn, made by Cliff VA3ECP.
Meeting adjourned at 8:50pm. Attendance was 28.

RAC Bulletin 2008-031E IYA Special Prefix Callsign

The International Year of Astronomy Special Prefix Callsign starts January 1st 0h UT and ends Feb 27th 23:59 UT Feb 28 2009.

All Canadian Amateurs are encouraged to use it to commemorate Galileo Galilei's first look through an optical instrument towards the heavens. The Special Prefixes are:

VE changes to **CG**; **VA** changes to **CF**; **VO** changes to **CH**; **VY** changes to **CI**

The official kickoff date for IYA is January 10th and on that date many astronomy clubs across Canada and around the world will be participating in local astronomical activities. Displays at Shopping Malls, talks in Public Libraries, star parties for the public will be happening. I am also encouraging those amateur Radio operators who are affiliated with the RASC (Royal Astronomical Society of Canada) that might have local IRLP access to visit node 9005 the Vancouver Reflector on January 10th to join in the across Canada IYA Net.

To find out more about this unique ham radio Special prefix and related projects visit <http://www.hamiya2009.info>
Malcolm Scrimger, VE7DAO

ENCOMM : ARES-Alert Reflector

Radio Amateurs of Canada Field Services Organization has created an ARES-Alert system for Radio Amateurs who are part of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service or other Canadian Emcomm unit. The email-based system is provided as a means to alert Radio Amateurs of emergencies or disasters, or threat of same, where Amateur Emcomm services are or may be required. It will also serve to advise stations of the need to avoid or monitor frequencies that are being used in an emergency event anywhere in the world. Any Canadian Radio Amateur may register to be added to the email list. Full name, call sign and QTH are required. This is not a "chat" reflector and only national officials of the RAC Field Services Organization will have authority to initiate messages. To be added to the list, or for further information, please see <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ARES-Alert/> ."

Bob Cooke VE3BDB, RAC Vice President Field Services

Note: For more information, and to sign up for RAC Bulletins, please visit:
<http://rac.eton.ca/racbullemail.htm>

Change Your Shortwave Radio Dial

After seventy years of broadcasting Canada's official time, NRC's shortwave station CHU will move the transmission frequency for the 7335 kHz transmitter to 7850 kHz. The change has occurred as of 01 January 2009 at 0000 UTC.

CHU is a part of NRC's system for disseminating official time throughout Canada, broadcasting 24 hours a day from a location approximately 20 km south-west of Ottawa. Listeners hear tones to mark the seconds, voice to announce the time in French and English, and digital data to set computers.

The atomic clocks at CHU are part of the ensemble of clocks in the time and frequency research laboratories in Ottawa, at the National Research Council Canada. The NRC clocks are used in conjunction with clocks in the time laboratories of other countries to construct the internationally accepted scale of time, UTC (Coordinated Universal Time), which is now the reference for official time used by all countries. UTC is the modern implementation of Greenwich Mean Time.

"Coincidentally, this frequency change comes at a time when NRC is investing resources to refurbish the aging transmitters at CHU in order to provide clear, dependable shortwave services as part of NRC's mandate to disseminate time to all Canadians." said Ray Pelletier, Technical Officer at the NRC-Institute for National Measurement Standards, who oversees the CHU facility "The shortwave time service is especially beneficial for those in remote locations where there is limited access to internet and telephone communication. CHU also provides a back up against failure of other services."

In April 2007, the International Telecommunications Union re-allocated the 7300-7350 KHz band from a fixed service to a broadcasting service. Since then, interference on the 7335 KHz frequency has come from many information broadcasters around the world.

CHU listeners in Canada and around the world who have for so long considered the 7335 kHz frequency exclusively for time signals, are very vocal about this interference. We have heard from

amateur radio operators, watchmakers, astronomers, and navigators who use the tones and voice signals. As well, comments were received from those who use the carrier as a calibration source at a distance for their equipment.

To give notice to users, CHU will broadcast an announcement in both English and French. More information can be found at

http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/main_e.html and
http://www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/main_f.html

Comments about the CHU change can be sent by e-mail to radio.chu@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
(Raymond Pelletier, CHU, DX LISTENING DIGEST)

This NRC website also mentions a leap second to be added at the end of 2008:

http://time5.nrc.ca/timefreq/bulletin_tf-b.html (gh)

And here's another website with the history of CHU, etc.:

http://inms-ienm.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/time_services/shortwave_broadcasts_e.html

Sled Dog Races – Mush ! Mush!

January not only brings the new year, but also a series of Sled Racing held in Center and North Hastings. These events are held in Marmora, Eldorado and Bancroft. Amateur Radio operators have been assisting in communications for these events. For more information on dates and times, contact Bill Milligan VA3WOW or Peter Hodgson VE3UR.

Exercise For People Over 50

Perfect for a New Year resolution!

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side. With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer. After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags. Then try 50-lb potato bags and then eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm at this level.)

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.