

GRARC FILE
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MAY/84

Feedback

Monthly bulletin of

The Georgian Bay
Amateur Radio Club



GBARC

The Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club (GBARC) is based in Grey and Bruce counties and meets at 8 p.m. sharp on the third Thursday of each month, except July and August, downstairs in the Grey-Bruce Tourist Information Centre at Springmount, just west of Owen Sound.

The club marked its 10th anniversary in the fall of 1983. It was formed in late 1973 by a core of area amateurs consisting of Dick Shave, VE3BIS; Jim Vamplew, VE3CRV; Jack Avis, VE3DTS and Bill Hardie, VE3EFX.

Since then, the club has grown to about 50 resident and non-resident members.

The Georgian Bay club operates a 2-metre FM repeater on 146.34 (in) - 146.94 (out) at 1200 feet ASL at Woodford, just east of Owen Sound.

VE3OSR is an open repeater and covers roughly the area from Collingwood in the east to Southampton in the west and from Durham in the south up to the Bruce Peninsula. Autopatch facilities are available.

The GBARC net meets every Sunday at 0930 local on 3.783 MHz with a rotating schedule of net controllers. Any amateur is welcome to check in on phone or CW.

Club officers for 1983-1984

President	Bill Kohlman, VE3NEG
Vice-President	Jack Avis, VE3DTS
Secretary-Treasurer	Jim Harron, VE3BFV
Membership Secretary	Moe Hurlbut, VE3LPT
Program Directors	Don Finlayson, VE3JUO Harvey Smith, VE3FOT
Net Manager	Dave Dixon, VE3DXO
Technical Director	George Ziegler, VE3HFW
Feedback Editor	Rob Ludlow, VE3AQT
Coffee	Jack Barrett, VE3AUB

Past Presidents

1973-74-75	Jim Vamplew, VE3CRV
1975-76	Dick Shave, VE3BIS
1976-77	Dave Dixon, VE3DXO
1977-78	Ian Trenholm, VE3HIP
1978-79	Ian Sutherland, VE3HXX
1979-80	Don Richards, VE3IDS
1980-81	Harvey Smith, VE3FOT
1981-82	Laverne Wyville, VE3LPD
1982-83	Moe Hurlbut, VE3LPT

Dues

Annual dues for full club membership including a subscription to *Feedback* are \$10.00.

Feedback

Feedback, the monthly bulletin of the Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club is published monthly and mailed to reach members prior to each regular meeting. Contributions, articles and letters are encouraged and should be sent to Rob Ludlow, VE3AQT, 847 15th Street East, Owen Sound, Ontario, N4K 1X7. Phone 371-1692. Deadline is the first Thursday of each month.

Information

More information on club activities may be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer, Jim Harron, VE3BFV, RR2 Kemble, Ontario, N0H 1S0 or from the Membership Secretary, Moe Hurlbut, VE3LPT, Leith, Ontario, N0H 1V0, or from any other club official.

President's Report

At the next meeting of GBARC on Thursday, May 17, the membership will be voting for a new executive. These are important jobs if our club is to continue being active. Certainly it is worthy of everyone's attendance.

I know of no group, club or organization that runs by itself. Always, there are the people in the executive and their supporters. These people can make the club work. The financial support for the club has been very good but really, a club can work without money, with difficulty, but now without people.

I hope the next meeting brings a really good turnout.

My term as president is now up and I'd like to thank all those who supported me during the club year.

73, Bill Kohlman, VE3NEG

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Minutes

The April 19, 1984 meeting was held at the premises of VE3KPK, Fred Kuznicki. The meeting was called to order at 8:20 p.m. by President Bill, VE3NEG. There were 19 in attendance, including two visitors, Bill Hauffman and Ken Dixon.

The minutes of the March meeting were moved for adoption by Jack, VE3DTS and seconded by Moe, VE3LPT.

Under old business, the problem of the North Bay repeater interfering with OSK was raised and Jack, DTS has followed the matter up with VE3LQS at Corbeil.

Jim, VE3CHV moved that action be taken to incorporate GBARC and proceed with the necessary steps. There was no seconder and the issue was set over until the fall.

Likewise, there was no action taken regarding the club associating with CRHL or CARF. This will also be discussed further in the fall.

The club was to notify the CNE amateur radio organizers that GBARC will regretfully be unable to contribute money to this year's setup due to the costs of refurbishing OSK.

Tom, VE3NEM has volunteered to head Field Day and is looking for assistants and participants. The club also heard that the call VE3WF of the late club member Fred Koepke, has been set aside for special purpose use such as Field Day.

Feedback editor Rob Ludlow, VE3AQT will be leaving our area for Ottawa in July so we are now looking for a volunteer for Feedback for the coming year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m. moved by Jack, VE3DTS and seconded by Moe, VE3LPT.

73, Jim Harron, VE3BFV

Looking Back

Ten years ago, at the May 1974 meeting, there were 14 members and three visitors attending. Club funds stood at about \$101.

Twelve students of Jim, CRV's course took the exam on May 14 and most did well.

Dick, BIS and Verne, BSF worked some rare DX on 2m with a VE6 operating aeronautical mobile from a jet flying out of Toronto.

NEW CALLBOOK AVAILABLE

Last February (1983) many of you took advantage of the offer of a club discount from Pen Publishing to purchase the first edition of the new Canada Callbook, the successor to the old CJ Directory.

I don't think I'm alone in having found this book extremely valuable around the shack - not only for its listings which I found to be accurate and up-to-date - but also for the other useful data contained in its appendices.

If you were wondering about a follow-up . . . it's ready. The same group is offering the new May 1984 version of the Canada Callbook at the same discount as last year to clubs or groups who purchase 10 or more.

The book will be in the same format as the first one with large bold type on bright white pages. It includes the listings of all amateur calls in Canada with names, addresses and postal codes. The almost 25,000 entries and repeater listings are up-to-date with DJC computer records as of the end of March, 1984.

The cost is \$10.95, less 15% club discount, plus 7% Ontario sales tax for a net total cost per book (if we have at least 10 orders) of \$10 each.

Shipping cost is included for Ontario orders and payments must accompany the order.

If anyone is interested in ordering a new call book, please bring your \$10 to the May meeting and I will order the books. They should be back within two weeks of that date and can be picked up at my QTH, 847 15th St. E., Owen Sound or I will bring the remainder to the June boat trip.

remember, if you want one, bring your money to the May 17 meeting and pick up your book no later than the June boat trip because I will be moving out of the area a short time later and we all know how things can get lost in the shuffle.

73, Rob, VE3AQT

Feature

NET ETIQUETTE FOR OPERATORS AND CONTROLLERS

By Dick Shave, VE3BIS

From time to time, most of us have taken advantage of one or more of the many nets - local or DX - which operate around the world. It may have been a simple message about a very simple matter or it may have been a life-saving message during some emergency.

Whichever it was, it required the joint effort of many of us as operators or controllers dedicated to providing whatever help we could for the good of all.

The manner in which we relate to nets is very important. There are some who wish nets were not allowed and there are others who think nets should have a super high priority and be allowed to take over whenever an occasion presents itself and that all stations should vacate the hallowed frequency at once.

I hope this article will show the way for us to respect each of the many points of view. First, the average amateur is a well-matured individual, however we all can be faulted for flying off the handle once in a while. The purpose of this article is to help reduce the number of angry comments made towards each other on the air.

Listen to the net before calling in to ensure you are familiar with the procedure. Nets are of many modes and of various rates of traffic handling. They also have a variety of disciplines from military precision to really easy. There are old timers who have known net operation for years to young, very sharp, technical nets. All have their place in amateur radio.

I guess we should not object as fair-minded individuals to any net as long as they show respect to others using the bands for other purposes.

I think the watchword should be "tolerance". Remember the time you made an operating error or failed to recognize a situation for what it was and put your foot in your mouth? Often mistakes are not intentional and a critical remark only irritates the operator who already feels embarrassed by his mistake.

When embarrassing situations develop which make us feel ashamed of our hobby, they are often the result of a minor irritation that has grown to a monster by our lack of tolerance.

If you are a net participant, let the net controller run the net. If he wants help, let him ask for it. Do not communicate with interfering stations unless asked to do so by the controller. Assess the net load and if it is really busy, maybe your traffic can wait.

If you're a net controller, make announcements from time to time as to the way you wish net business conducted. From time to time, ask for out-of-area stations only or mobile stations only, and so on, whenever you think an improved procedure will help you and the participants.

The way some of us conduct ourselves on nets leaves something to be desired at times. Outraged comments by one amateur to another is, I believe, not at all the image we hope our hobby projects.

It must be due to lack of experience and sometimes there is a reason to complain. I think the manner in which the rebuttal or complaint is voiced is often far short of good manners. It would be best to give every situation the benefit of the doubt.

When individuals use a malicious approach to interfere, it is useless to make threatening comments because that is exactly what they like. It make their day. When these things happen, make no remark at all. Let the controller comment if he wants. He may know about the situation and have stations working on locating the offending station. Let the controller do all the controlling.

When on long-haul contacts and the interference may not be heard at one end, make no remarks about it because it will give the offending station the satisfaction he is looking for that he is interfering with you and being heard. Don't give it to him.

All this advice comes from more than 35 years of operating and controlling nets. You may not agree with all the comments but you will probably agree with most of them.

The bottom line is to use tolerance, maturity, understanding and remember, everyone isn't perfect like you and me . . . Hi !.

73, Dick, VE3BIS

Net Control Schedule

Following is the net control schedule for the next few weeks taken from net manager Dave, DXO's master list. Please note your duty and arrange to have someone else fill in if you can't make it.

May 13	Walter, FFN
20	Andy, LGZ
27	Laverne, LPD
June 3	Jack, DTS
10	Verne, BSF
17	Rob, AQT
24	Moe, LFT

NATIONAL STATISTICS ON DOC EXAMINATION PASS RATES:

DATE	AMATEUR				ADVANCED		
		TRY	PASS	% PASS	TRY	PASS	% PASS
FEB '82'	THEORY	384	148	38.5	187	99	52.9
	REGS	365	289	79.2	164	103	62.8
	CODE	222	79	35.6	113	53	46.9
APR '82'	THEORY	569	344	60.5	222	137	61.7
	REGS	541	394	72.8	193	152	78.8
	CODE	440	138	31.4	145	68	46.9
JUN '82'	THEORY	284	158	55.6	152	78	51.3
	REGS	254	204	80.3	165	103	98.1
	CODE	151	40	26.5	81	30	37.0
OCT '82'	THEORY	242	111	45.9	166	66	40.0
	REGS	186	128	68.8	117	70	59.8
	CODE	158	56	35.4	90	48	53.3
FEB '83'	THEORY	114	59	51.8	56	18	32.1
	REGS	102	52	51.0	45	25	55.6
	CODE	52	22	42.3	33	9	27.3
A. R. '83'	THEORY	589	214	36.3	292	154	52.7
	REGS	572	373	65.2	189	167	88.4
	CODE	403	115	28.5	141	69	48.9
JUN '83'	THEORY	407	166	40.8	211	74	35.1
	REGS	310	236	76.1	116	90	77.6
	CODE	202	77	38.1	98	43	43.9
OCT '83'	THEORY	284	113	39.8	187	97	51.9
	REGS	184	108	58.7	110	84	76.4
	CODE	145	51	35.2	95	41	43.2
TOTALS 8 EXAMS	THEORY	2873	1313	45.7	1473	723	49.1
	REGS	2514	1784	71.0	1039	794	76.4
	CODE	1773	578	32.6	796	361	45.4

* Based on data from DOC April 5, 1984. Thanks to the Scarborough A.R.C. Any mass of figures can seem senseless and intimidating but if we analyze them for trends they start to mean something. These figures show that most exam candidates find regulations easiest, perhaps because they call for memorization. Next in difficulty comes theory where the pass rate rarely exceeds 50%, perhaps because theory requires understanding. Most difficult, it seems, is the code, which requires performance. Even though advanced candidates seemed to do better than amateur candidates, probably because they've had time to practice, fewer than half of them pass the test.

Future Meetings

The program for the May 17, 1984 meeting will be made up of three important sections:

1. Election of officers for the next club year. It is important that we have a good turnout to elect a good executive to plan and manage next year's meetings.
2. A Show and Tell session when you have a chance to display and explain the operation of your homebrew project, thus exhibiting your various skills to your fellow club members.
3. A mini-flea market which will give you the chance to exchange your junk which may be a treasure to someone else for his junk which may be valuable to you. I always seem to manage to acquire more junk than I manage to palm off so I am gradually squeezing myself out of the area designated as my ham shack.

Our thanks go to Jim, VE3BFV for such an interesting presentation of some of his adventures and experiences during his 33 years with the National Research Council in Ottawa.

Thanks also to Fred, VE3KPK for allowing us to use his premises as a meeting place.

Also, don't forget, in place of the regular meeting on June 21, if all goes well, Jim, CKV was slated to run the annual boat trip.

73, Don, VE3JUO

Entertainment committee

Coming Events

June 2 - Central Ontario Amateur Radio Flea Market. 10th annual for the Guelph ARC. 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Regal Hall, 340 Woodlawn W. Vendors in at 6 a.m. \$5 per table. Admission \$2. Talk-in on 147.96/.36 or .52 simplex.

June 23-24 - Field Day . . . contact Tom, NEM to offer your services.

July 14 - Burlington Club puts on the annual flea market at the Milton Fairgrounds.

October 6-7 - Ottawa ARC sponsors RSO convention at Westin Hotel.

Nov. 10 - York North ARC 8th annual flea market at the Newmarket Arena. Geoff, KCE, chairman.



Husband finds radio romance

Dear Ann Landers: A few years ago my husband used to play a lot of cards. Harry was gone five nights a week. The only time I saw him was when he'd have the card game at our house. I got fed up making sandwiches, emptying ashtrays and cutting my way through cigar smoke. One day a friend told me how she cured her husband of the same thing. She got him interested in a ham radio.

This is not a cheap hobby, but I decided it was worth it. I bought Harry a set as a surprise birthday gift. Within weeks he gave up the cards to stay home and ham it up. Now he has started a short-wave romance with some woman who lives in San Antonio, Texas. She has a voice like Lady Bird Johnson. Their three-hour conversations are making me sick. Harry rushes home from work, bolts his dinner and makes a beeline for the radio.

Last week he couldn't contact the woman for three days and he was a wreck. When he finally reached her she explained she'd been out of town. He scolded her for not letting him know she was leaving . . . said he was "worried sick." The whole thing was so cosy I felt like betting him one. Furthermore, this ham thing is interfering with our sex life because Harry stays up until 2 a.m. most nights. (I think she does it on purpose).

Now I wish he were back playing cards. What should I do?—DUMMY.

Dear Dummy: Keep quiet. These two will probably talk themselves out. A woman who can't lure her man away from a piece of machinery has no imagination. Toots.

The Six Stages of Any Project

1. Enthusiasm.
2. Disillusionment.
3. Panic.
4. Hunt for the guilty.
5. Punishment of the innocent.
6. Reward for the undeserving.