

Jan 1996

FEEDBACK

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

Sponsoring

VE3OSR FM REPEATER 146.940- Mhz BARROW BAY
VE3OST FM REPEATER 145.290- Mhz OWEN SOUND
VE3GBT FM REPEATER 146.895- Mhz MARKDALE
VE3IJD PACKET BBS 145.630 Mhz KEADY

REGULAR EVENTS

GBARC MEETINGS:

FOURTH TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH

BREAKFAST MEETINGS:

SECOND AND LAST SATURDAY OF
EACH MONTH

GBARC INFORMATION:

INFORMATION REGARDING
MEMBERSHIP SHOULD BE DIRECTED
TO TOM VE3NEM 519-371-0655

RR#4 Owen Sound *N4K 5N6*

Minutes of GBARC meeting December 1995

..... by VE3WUD

Brad, VE3RHJ, opened the December meeting at 7:30 p.m. with 14 members attending.

VE3HXX, Ian, moved that we accept the minutes as read. Seconded by VA3JRF, John.

VA3JRF, John, discussed moving the two-meter net from 8:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

There was no old business.

VE3SYT, Mike, discussed the Santa Claus net to be held on the 22nd of December.

It was mentioned by Brad, VE3RHJ, that club dues are \$20.00 until December 31, 1995 and \$25.00 after January 1, 1996.

Brad, VE3RHJ, won the 50-50 draw.

2 METRE NET SCHEDULE

Hi... here is the latest from John VE3JRF questions or queries should go to him at 934-2389 editor

TWO METRE NET This is the new list for the Thursday night two metre net. I would like to know if there are any problems with the list such as conflicting with work schedules. I am hoping the list will be displayed in an area where it can be readily read in order that controllers who are scheduled are indeed running the net. I would appreciate notification if unforeseen reasons arise and a controller cannot do their tour. I can be reached at 934-2389. The net will still be held at 8:00 pm unless a suitable substitution time can be found. Your check-ins would be appreciated as net totals have not been very good. Any comments on the net would be greatly appreciated. 73 VA3JRF John.

VA3JRF JAN.4 MAR.14 MAY 23

VA3DSI FEB.15 APR.25 JUL.4

VA3KMS JAN.11 MAR.21 MAY 30

VE3FFN FEB.22 MAY 3 JUL.11

VE3RHJ JAN.18 MAR.28 JUN.6

VE3DXO FEB.29 MAY 10 JUL.18

VE3WUD JAN.25 APR.4 JUN.13

VE3IOD MAR.7 MAY 17 JUL.25

VE3IJD FEB.1 APR.11 JUN.20

VE3TSA FEB.8 APR.18 JUN.27

SUPER-CHARGE THAT OLD XT! By Kirk Lawrence (Internet: klaw@3rd1000.com)

I find it difficult to think of a turbo XT-class machine as an "old" computer. Heck, I still use mine every day! While the XT might technically qualify as an "old" computer, this venerable workhorse has a lot of useful life remaining. With a few software tweaks, and possibly a hardware change or two, the turbo XT will continue to serve you well right into the 21st century.

One of the most common moans I hear about XTs is that they can't run the faster IDE or SCSI hard drives. Not true! 8-bit, XT-compatible IDE and SCSI hard disk host adaptors are widely available at a modest cost. Check the smaller, non-color hardware ads in Computer Shopper magazine; you'll find 'em. The on-board BIOS on these cards provides total support for the hard disk, and no AT-style system CMOS is needed. You can easily install one of these host adaptor boards yourself, with just a screwdriver.

Another complaint about XTs is the lack of high-density floppy drives. Again, this is an easy fix. If you feel the need for HD floppies, just grab yourself an 8-bit, XT-compatible high-density floppy drive controller card, or a multi-I/O card with built-in high-density drive support. These are also widely available...either new (from Computer Shopper ads), or used. If there's an independent, local computer store in your town, ask 'em to let you go through the boxes of "obsolete" used hardware in the back room. Almost every independent 'puter shop has a stock of such stuff which they've accumulated over the years. They're usually glad to get rid of it at extremely reasonable prices. Digging into this "old" stuff often turns up some really good finds.

Video? Easily upgradeable to VGA, if you so desire. Any 8-bit VGA card will work just fine in an XT. Simply plug it in, and you're in business.

Okay, that takes care of the hardware. But what about over-all system performance? Well, let's face it: compared to a Pentium, a turbo XT is slow! The good news is, there are several easy software tweaks you can do which will greatly increase your XT's performance. In fact, you'll be amazed at the difference.

The first thing we can do is increase the processor speed. Yes, that's right, we CAN speed up the existing processor, and we can do it with software! Here's how: the XT's 8253 timer chip controls the rate at which the system RAM is refreshed. In a normal generic XT, the RAM is refreshed every 15 microseconds. These 15-microsecond intervals require the processor's attention, thereby consuming chunks of computing time. But the RAM in an XT really doesn't need to be refreshed that often. So if we change the DREQ0 interrupt from its normal 15 microseconds to a much longer period of time, the processor won't have to spend nearly as much of its time refreshing the RAM...and this effectively increases processing speed. This approach will speed up the processor by 5 to 10 per cent. There are a number of freeware utilities, such as SPEEDUP and TOAD8253 (available on many local BBSes), which will alter the RAM refresh rate. Run one of them from your AUTOEXEC.BAT file at boot-up.

If you wish, you can compile your own program from the following source code (use any share-ware ASM compiler, such as A86). It's a tiny program that'll make a BIG difference in your XT's system performance...and it's not a TSR.

```
; Increase XT processor speed by altering the RAM refresh rate.
```

```
; code segment
```

```
org 100h
```

```
mov al,074h
out 043h,al
mov ax,00D0h
out 041h,al
xchg al,ah
out 041h,al
int 20h
```

The next thing we can do to boost XT system performance is to increase the speed of video writes. The mechanics involved here have to do with speeding up certain INT 10h functions, and are somewhat complicated. Fortunately, the shareware program QCRT Version 2.0 (\$5.00 from Glenn K. Smith, RADON Software, 809 South Missouri, Weslaco, Texas 78596) takes care of this for us. Load QCRT from your AUTOEXEC.BAT file, and the speed of your screen writes will increase by as much as 80 per cent. QCRT can be found on many local BBSes and shareware CD-ROMs as QCRT20.ZIP.

Another performance enhancement is to increase the XT keyboard's repeat rate. While not strictly necessary, increasing the typeamatic rate makes a world of difference, particularly if you do a lot of word processing or other types of data entry. Once you've tried it, you'll never be able to go back to that pokey old default keyboard rate! The only catch is, you'll have to find a utility that's designed specifically for the PC and XT. Most utilities of this type are designed for AT-class machines, which support Interrupt 16h, Function 3 (an XT doesn't). I recommend the freeware program HOTKEY.COM, which can be found on many local BBSes and shareware CD-ROMs. Load HOTKEY from your AUTOEXEC.BAT file, and your keyboard will sizzle.

One final suggestion: resist the temptation to run DOS version 5.x or 6.x on your XT. The memory overhead required by these versions is too high. Use DOS version 3.2x or 3.3x, instead. When you're limited to 640K of lower DOS memory, as most XTs are, you need every extra bit of memory you can get. Almost all of the fancy "frills and extras" which were included with the higher versions of DOS (such as MOVE, FIND, etc.) are external commands, and have been available for years as third-party freeware. So if you need'em, find and use the freeware versions of these utilities on your favorite BBS, rather than loading a memory-hogging "newer" DOS version.

Even though it'll never be able to run WINDOWS 95 or DOOM, the turbo XT is a wonderfully useful and versatile machine. There's still a ton of DOS-based, XT-compatible productivity software programs out there -- text editors, word processors, databases, spreadsheets, even desktop publishing programs -- which will allow you to do just about anything you need to do on a computer. By implementing a few software tweaks, and maybe a few minor hardware upgrades, your XT will remain vital and viable for many years to come. And the nicest part is, the price is right! Enjoy.

[This article first appeared in The Computer Journal, P.O. Box 3900, Citrus Heights, CA 95611-3900 USA. Reprinted in FEEDBACK with permission.]

RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL From: VE5ZG

Some important notes on RCI:

From: SCFP Local 675, 1250 de la Visitation, Montreal, Quebec H2L 3B4 TEL: (514) 844-2262 FAX: (514) 521-3082 E-Mail: rci@cam.org

1995 - 50th ANNIVERSARY YEAR SHUTDOWN OF CANADA'S INTERNATIONAL RADIO SERVICE

On the 31st of March 1996, Canada's voice abroad, Radio Canada International, will be silenced. If no new financing is found before then, Canada will become the only industrialized country not to have an international radio service to project its culture and interests abroad. Currently, 126 countries have an international radio service, The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation and the federal government say they are no longer interested in financing Radio Canada International even though it costs each Canadian less than 75 cents a year.

Radio Canada International is the only service which assures continuous, up-to-date Canadian Information both to Canadians abroad and to several million other listeners who have an interest in Canada.

If you feel it is unacceptable to close down RCI, contact your federal or provincial Member of Parliament or contact Prime Minister Jean Chretien. Let them know why it is important for Canada to keep RCI on the air. Only you and your support can help us prevent the 50th anniversary from being the last one. Please write or fax to: The Right Hon. Jean Chretien Prime Minister of Canada Ottawa, ON CANADA K1A 0A6 FAX: (1)-613-957-5556

or send an E-Mail at the following address: remote-printer.Jean_Chretien@16139416900.iddd.tpc.int

RCI Coalition would appreciate receiving a copy of your communique at rci@cam.org

The RCI Coalition: Daniel Black : Bureau : (514) 597-7577 Res. : (514) 495-9030 Wojtek Gwiazda : Bureau : (514) 597-7350 Res. : (514) 844-2262 E-mail: rci@cam.org

CBC NEW RELEASE ON THE DEMISE OF RADIO CANADA

December 13, 1995

OTTAWA -- In accordance with the Canada Labour Code, CBC today gave notice to the employees of Radio Canada International that the Corporation will terminate RCI services effective March 31, 1996.

"Given our limited resources," said CBC President and CEO, Perrin Beatty, " we have no choice but to concentrate on our domestic services."

CBC's international service was formally launched on February 25, 1945. Its mandate is to reflect Canadian life and the spectrum of Canadian opinion to an international audience, including programming for Canadians abroad.

RCI currently broadcasts a minimum of 232 hours a week in eight languages (English, French, Ukrainian, Russian, Arabic, Spanish, Chinese and Creole) to North and South America, the Caribbean, Africa, Europe, Asia, Russia and the other successor states to the USSR.

RCI also provides 24-hour daily satellite radio service for Canadian Forces in Bosnia, the Golan Heights, Rwanda and Haiti, and NATO bases in Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

RCI's studios and main office are situated in Montreal, with bureaus in Ottawa, Toronto, Vancouver, Halifax, Edmonton and Quebec City, transmitters in Sackville and a monitoring station in West Carleton (Ottawa). Its staff includes 125 permanent employees.

From 1991 to 1995, RCI operated as a distinct component of CBC funded by annual grants from the government of Canada. This practice changed with the February 1995 federal budget which directed CBC to assume costs for RCI starting in 1995-96.

HF CONTEST CALENDAR 12-95 (2)

Date	Time	Contest Name	Frequency	Mode	Notes
JAN**01***	2100z-2230z	INTERNET SquIRT CONTEST	14270-14290	CHILD	
JAN*06-07*	1800z-2400z	ARRL RTTY ROUNDUP	80-10m	RTTY	
JAN*12-14*	2200z-2200z	JAPAN INTER. DX CONTEST	160-40m	CW	
JAN	1800z-2300z	NORTHWEST QRP CLUB WINTER S.	80-20m		
JAN 13-14	??00z-??00z	KENTUCKY QSO PARTY	?60-10m		
JAN 13-14	??00z-??00z	MICHIGAN QRP CLUB CW CONTEST	?60-10m		
JAN 13-14	??00z-??00z	MIDWINTER CONTEST	?60-10m		
JAN 13-14	1800z-0600z	NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY	160-10m	CW	
JAN 13-14	??00z-??00z	YLRL MEET THE NOVICES&TECH D	?60-10m		
JAN	0900z-2100z	HUNTING LIONS IN THE AIR	80-10m	Phn+/CW	
JAN 20-21	1800z-0600z	NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY	160-10m	Phn	
JAN 21	??00z-??00z	HA-DX CONTEST	?60-10m		
JAN 21	??00z-??00z	QRP ARCI WINTER FIRESIDE SPR	?60-10m	Phn	
JAN*26-28*	2200z-1600z	CQ WW 160-METER DX CONTEST	160m	CW	
JAN 27-28	??00z-??00z	REF FRENCH CONTEST	?60-10m	CW	
JAN*27-28*	1300z-1300z	UBA CONTEST	?60-10m	Phn	
FEB	0000z-2400z	ADRS WW RTTY WPX CONTEST	80-10m	RTTY	
FEB	1300z-0700z	MAINE QSO PARTY	160-0.7m	digital+Phn+CW	
FEB	1300z-0700z	NEW HAMPSHIRE QSO PARTY	160-1.25m	digital+Phn+CW	
FEB	0000z-0500z	VERMONT QSO PARTY	160-2m	digital+Phn+CW	
FEB	0000z-0400z	NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT	80-20m	Phn	
FEB	0000z-0400z	NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT	80-20m	CW	
FEB	0000z-2400z	TEN-TEN INT.NET WINTER P QSO	PAR.10m	Phn	
FEB 10-11	1200z-1200z	DUTCH PACC CONTEST	160-10m	(160m CW)	Phn+CW
FEB*17-18*	0000z-2400z	ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST	160-10m	CW	
MAR*02-03*	0000z-2400z	ARRL INTERNATIONAL DX CONTEST	160-10m	Phn	
M	0000z-0600z	NEVADA QSO PARTY	160-6m		
MAY	1800z-0300z	MICHIGAN QSO PARTY 21.380,..	160-2m	146.52,144.025,7125	
MAY	1100z-0200z	MICHIGAN QSO PARTY 14.280,	160-2m	50.125,28.580,more.	
MAY	0000z-2400z	WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DAY	160-10m	CW	
MAY	0000z-2400z	CQ WW WPX CW CONTEST		CW	
MAY		ARCI QRP HOOT OWL SPRINT			
MAY	0000z-2400z	WORL TELECOMMUNICATION DAY	160-10mp	Phn	
JUN	0000z-2400z	PORTUGAL DAY CONTEST	80-10m	SSB	
JUN	0000z-2400z	ANARTS WW RTTY CONTEST	80-10m	DIGITAL MODES	
JUN	1200z-1200z	TOEC WW FIELD CONTEST	160-10m	CW	
JUN	1500z-1500z	WW SOUTH AMERICA	80-10m	CW	
JUN	0000z-2400z	ALL ASIAN CW DX CONTEST	160-10m	CW	
JUN	1800z-2100z	FIELD DAY #####	all	MAY QST	
JUN	2100z-0100z	RSGB SUMMER 1.8 MHz CONTEST	1.82-1.87MHz	CW	
JUN	1200z-1800z	SP-QRP INTERNATIONAL CONTEST	80-6m	CW	
JUL 01	0000z-2359z	RAC CANADA DAY CONTEST	160-2m	JUN TCA	Phn+CW
JUL	0000z-2400z	VENEZUELA SSB DX CONTEST	80-10m	SSB	
JUL	1200z-1200z	IARU HF WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP	160-10m	SSB+/CW	
JUL	2000z-2400z	ARCI QRP SUMMER HOMEBREW SPRINT	160-6m	CW	
JUL	0000z-2400z	COLOMBIAN INDEPENDENCE CONTEST	80-10m	Phn/CW	
JUL	0000z-2400z	TEN-TEN INTERNATIONAL NET SUMMER PHONE	QSO PARTY	Phn	
JUL	0000z-2400z	SEANET '95 CW CONTEST	160-10m	CW	
JUL	0000z-2400z	VENEZUELA CW DX CONTEST	80-10m	CW	
JUL	1200z-1200z	RSGB IOTA CONTEST	80-10m	Phn+/CW	
JUL	1000z-1100z	Waitakere 80 Metre Phone Sprint	80m		
AUG	1000z-1100z	Waitakere 80 Metre CW			
AUG	1800z-0600z	NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY CW	160-10m	CW	
AUG	2000z-1600z	YO DX CONTEST	80-10m	Phn+CW	
A	1200z-2400z	EUROPEAN DX CW	80-10m	CW	
AUG	1600z-0300z	MARYLAND-DC QSO PARTY	80-2m	Phn+CW	
AUG	1600z-2400z	MARYLAND-DC QSO PARTY	80-2m	Phn+CW	

RECENT PARLIAMENTARY NOTES ON RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL

1. "...The Committee concludes that RCI is run effectively within its budgetary constraint and represents money well spent, but is underfunded."

(Pg.20 English text, Report of Standing Senate Committee on Transport and Communications, June 1994).

2. "The Committee recognizes the importance of programs such as Radio Canada International...Every effort should be made to exploit more fully the potential of RCI in particular to project Canada abroad."

(pg.71 English text, "Canada's Foreign Policy: Report of the Special Joint Committee Reviewing Canadian Foreign Policy November 1994).

3. "The government takes note of this recommendation that every effort be made to exploit the potential of Radio Canada International...."

"Indeed, by portraying Canada and Canadian values abroad, RCI can play an important role in promoting international peace and understanding. Dialogue and compromise; promoting democracy, human rights, economic and social justice; caring for the environment; safeguarding peace; and respect for diversity are values which RCI is eminently well-placed to project abroad."

"Moreover, RCI and other free media, have an important role to play in ensuring truth, transparency, and justice through the interplay of free and diverse sources of information."

(Pg.91 English text, Government Response to the Recommendations of the Special Joint Parliamentary Committee Reviewing Canadian Foreign Policy, Feb.7, 1995).

The Broadcasting Act proclaimed June 4, 1991, in the section covering the activities of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation says under "International Service" Article 46(2)

"The Corporation shall...provide an international service in accordance with such directions as the Governor in Council may issue."

RADIO CANADA INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS (Canadian \$)

COUNTRY BUDGET 95-96 STAFF LANGUAGES

Radio Canada Int. \$ 16.5 million 120 8

Radio France Int. \$ 179.7 million 578 16

Radio Nederland \$ 68.8 million 267 4

Radio Australia \$ 27.8 million 163 9

Swiss Radio Int. \$ 49.5 million 134 8

Deutsche Welle \$ 373.2 million 2,000 39

BBC World Service (Radio only) \$ 286.1 million 2,100 42

Voice of America \$ 359.3 million 1,800 47

(These figures from a 1995 study by Radio Australia)

RCI 1995-96 funded 50% by Foreign Affairs' Minister Ouellet.

Note: Broadcast industry estimates there are more than 600 million shortwave receivers in operation worldwide. There are 126 international radio broadcasting organizations, of which governments fund 101, religious organizations the other 25.

Canada has apparently decided it is not of the same stature as countries such as Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, Nigeria, Chile, Cuba, Turkey, Luxembourg, and a host of others that are far below us on the scale of wealth and influence in the world... what a sad state of affairs for our country.

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AUG	1800z-1800z	GREAT NEW MEXICO CHILE CHASE	160-2m		Phn+CW
AUG	12 PM-8PM 1	QRP ARCI SUMMER DAZE SSB SPRINT	160-6m		Phn
AUG	0000z-2400z	SEANET '95 SSB CONTEST	160-10m		Phn
3	0000z-0800z	SARTG WORLDWIDE RTTY CONTEST	80-10m		RTTY
AUG	1600z-2400z	SARTG WORLDWIDE RTTY CONTEST	80-10m		RTTY
AUG	0800z-1600z	SARTG WORLDWIDE RTTY CONTEST	80-10m		RTTY
AUG	1200z-1200z	KCJ CONTEST (JAPAN)			CW
AUG	1800z-0600z	NORTH AMERICAN QSO PARTY SSB	160-10m		Phn
AUG	2000z-0700z	NEW JERSEY QSO PARTY	160-2m		Phn+CW
AUG	1300z-0200z	NEW JERSEY QSO PARTY	160-2m		Phn+CW
AUG	1200z-1200z	TOEC WW GRID CONTEST	160-10m		Phn
AUG	1800z-1800z	WEST VIRGINIA QSO PARTY			Phn+CW
AUG	1800z-2400z	SUMMER QRP PARTY	160-10m		Phn+CW
SEP	0000z-2400z	ALL ASIAN SSB DX CONTEST	160-10m		Phn
SEP	0000z-2400z	ALL ASIAN SSB DX CONTEST	160-10m		Phn
SEP	1200z-1200z	LZ-DX CONTEST	80-10m		CW
SEP	1200z-2400z	INTERNATIONAL STRAIGHT KEY		QSO>30min	CW
SEP	0000z-2400z	HIRAM PERCY MAXIM BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION	all bands & modes		
SEP	1200z-1200z	BULGARIAN DX CONTEST	80-10m		
SEP	0000z-2400z	R-C PANAMA XXIV ANNIVERSARY	40-15m		Phn
SEP	0000z-0400z	LABOR DAY SPRINT (MICHIGAN)	160-6m		CW
SEP	0000z-2400z	EUROPEAN DX SSB	80-10m		Phn
SEP	0000z-0400z	NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT	80-20m		CW
SEP	1400z-0200z	YLRL HOWDY DAYS (female only)	80-10m		Phn+CW
SEP	1500z-1800z	SCANDINAVIAN ACTIVITY DAY	80-10m		CW
SEP	0000z-0400z	NORTH AMERICAN SPRINT	80-20m		Phn
SEP	0000z-2400z	CQ WW RTTY DX CONTEST	80-10m		digital
SEP	1600z-2400z	WASHINGTON STATE SALMON RUN	160-10m		Phn+CW
SEP	1500z-1800z	SCANDINAVIAN ACTIVITY DAY	80-10m		Phn
SEP	1700z-2300z	AMERICAN/CANADIAN ISLAND TEST	80-10m		Phn+CW
SEP	1900z-0400z	FALL CLASSIC RADIO EXCHANGE	80-10m		Phn+CW
OCT	0700z-1900z	RSGB 21/28 MHZ CONTEST	15-10m		Phn
OCT	1000z-1000z	VK/ZL/OCEANA PHONE CONTEST	160-10m		Phn
OCT	1600z-2200z	CALIFORNIA QSO PARTY	160-2m		Phn+CW
OCT	2000z-2000z	IBERO-AMERICANO CONTEST	160-10m		Phn
OCT	1200z-1200z	1995 F9AA CUP CONTEST	160-10m		Phn/CW
OCT	1800z-0100z	TENNESSEE QSO PARTY	80-10+2m		DIGI+Phn+CW
OCT	1400z-0200z	YL ANNIVERSARY PARTY	80-10m	YL	CW
OCT	1700z-2100z	FISTS CW FALL SPRINT	80-10m		CW
OCT	1000z-1000z	VK/ZL/OCEANA CW CONTEST	160-10m		CW
OCT	1200z-2400z	QRP ARCI FALL CW QSO PARTY	160-6m		24H CW
OCT	1500z-1500z	WORKED ALL GERMANY	80-10m		Phn+CW
OCT	2000z-2000z	IBERO-AMERICAN CONTEST	160-10m		Phn
OCT	1600z-0500z	PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY	160-10m		Phn+CW
OCT	1300z-2200z	PENNSYLVANIA QSO PARTY	160-10m		Phn+CW
OCT	0700z-1900z	RSGB 21/28 MHZ CONTEST	15-10m		CW
OCT	12AM-12PM 1	JAMBOREE-ON-THE-AIR #####			
OCT		SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST #####			
OCT	1500z-1500z	WORKED ALL GERMANY CONTEST			Phn+CW
OCT	1400z-2200z	TEXAS QSO PARTY	80-10m		Phn+CW
OCT	1800z-0200z	ILLINOIS QSO PARTY	160-2m		Phn+CW
OCT	1400z-0200z	YL ANNIVERSARY PARTY	80-10m	YL	Phn
OCT	0000z-2400z	CQ WW DX SSB CONTEST	160-10m		Phn
NOV	0000z-2400z	HA-QRP CONTEST	80m	3.5-3.6	CW
NOV	2100z-0300z	ARRL CW SWEEPSTAKES	160-10m		CW
NOV	2100z-0300z	2nd Annual N.A.Collegiate ARC	160-10m		CW
NOV	0000z-2400z	INT. POLICE ASSN RC CONTEST			CW
NOV	0000z-2400z	INT. POLICE ASSN RC CONTEST			Phn
NOV	1200z-1200z	UKRAINIAN DX CONTEST			Phn+CW
NOV	2300z-2300z	JAPAN INTERNATIONAL DX	80-10m	30H, JAs 48H	Phn
NOV	0000z-2400z	ALARA CONTEST	80-10m	YL	Phn+CW

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NOV	0000z-2400z	EUROPEAN DX CONTEST	80-10m	RTTY
NOV	1200z-1200z	OK/OM DX CONTEST	160-10m	Phn+CW
NOV	2100z-0300z	ARRL SSB SWEEPSTAKES	160-10m	Phn
NOV	2100z-0300z	2nd Annual N.A.Collegiate ARC	160-10m	CW
NOV	2100z-0100z	RSGB 1.8MHz CW CONTEST	1.82-1.87MHz	CW
NOV	1600z-0800z	IARU REGION 1 160m	1.83-1.86	CW
NOV	0000z-2400z	CQ WW DX CW CONTEST	160-10m	CW
DEC	2200z-1600z	ARRL 160 METER CONTEST	160m	CW
DEC	1800z-1800z	TOPS ACTIVITY 3.5 MHz CW TEST	3.51-3.56MHz	CW
DEC	2000z-2400z	QRP ARCI HOLIDAY SPIRITS HMB	160-6m	CW
DEC	0000z-2400z	ARRL 10 METER CONTEST	160m	Phn+CW

DEC*****2100z-0100z TARA RTTY Sprint

SEE 1/3 2/3

l = LOCAL TIME, z = UTC, * = new information, no contest on 12,17,30m
 + = and, / = or # = not a contest

SEND ME CONTEST INFO, CALENDAR SENT EACH MONTH
 73 DE PIERRE VE2PIJ@VE2CSC.#MTL.PQ.CAN.NA

ve2pij@ve2max.ampr.org

TOWER FALL INJURIES MISSOURI AMATEUR

On December 4, 1995 while hanging Christmas lights on his Amateur Radio tower Charlie Boyd, KEOAH, an ARRL life member in Louisiana, Missouri slipped and fell about 30 feet to the ground. He was flown to St Louis University Hospital by helicopter, under went several hours of surgery, and was placed in intensive care.

Charlie suffered several fractures to his elbow, wrist, and leg. Although he struck a guy wire with his face and injured an eye on the way down, doctors fortunately were able to save his sight.

He is net control for the Missouri Weather net on 3963 kHz and was just appointed an ARRL Assistant Director.

All of us who climb have probably experienced mental lapses when we "forget" to practice extreme caution. I know I have started to lean back and remembered I had not snapped my climbing belt. The best advise is to never take chances while on a tower. It may just be your last one!

Yes, Charlie had his safety belt on, but he is not sure whether it was snapped. While this reads like a horror story, the good news is that Charlie will be able to recuperate at home within two or three weeks, and should be returning to work in a couple of months! Lew Gordon K4VX

Just a wee footnote to this incident...It could very well have happened to me! While working on my tower at about 60' I faithfully hooked the belt thru the tower and hit the snap ring and did the work that I had to do with my leg in a fireman hook around the tower with actually no stress on the belt. On completion of what ever I was doing I reached down to unhook the snap from the ring and the belt was lying unattached....I had apparently hit the snap ring but it did not snap unto the ring...

With weak legs and a pounding heart I climbed down the tower and sat down on the grass for a collection of thoughts and they were not pretty thoughts as I did have the misfortune of sliding of my roof in 1981 and breaking both my legsSo Charlie I know what you are going thru.....

Jack

Area specialists are scrambling to keep Canwarn and its volunteers operating.

By Sandra Coulson
Free Press Reporter

There may be storm clouds gathering on the horizon as Environment Canada moves to close local weather offices. Amateur radio operators, "hams" and government officials have been trying to find a way to save a program that warns against severe weather, including tornadoes, in the spring and summer. The program, called Canwarn, now works on an as-needed basis from the weather offices. A ham radio operator, called a net controller, takes messages from other radio operators who spot funnel clouds and other weather systems that don't show up well on radar. All work as volunteers.

But many of those offices are scheduled to close, including Saranika on April 1 this year and London on April 1, 1997.

Environment Canada officials "very much want Canwarn to survive," said London weather office manager Randy Mawson.



GEORGE BLUMSON / The London Free Press
Rob Bryant, left, of Canwarn, and Randy Mawson of the London weather office have trained volunteers for weather warnings.

Ham operators feel the same way. "We wanted to continue the system because we proved in 1990 it works," said Rob Bryant, Canwarn station manager in London.

That year was the first for Canwarn in London. In August, 1990, an amateur radio operator was the first to alert the weather office of a funnel cloud near Parkhill. The same has happened in other years. Bryant said the lead time created by direct contact between hams and the weather office is a big advantage because of the speed for radios travel. "You wait 10 min-

utes (and) how far has it gone, how much damage has it done, how many people has it killed?"

With weather services centralized in Toronto, hams worry the ability to issue speedy public warnings will be lost. "Short notice warnings out to the public will be a thing of the past and that is dangerous from my perspective," said ham Dave Colvin, who has met with Mawson.

PAGE: "There's no way they (Toronto staff) will be able to keep up with that at any reasonable pace," Colvin said.

But Tony Chir, Environment Canada district weather manager, said sending out warnings from Toronto is not the result of closing local weather offices. He said the severe weather desk in Toronto is already the body that sends out the warnings.

In most cases, notice is sent to Broadcast News, a news agency which sends it to local television and radio stations.

Bryant said more than 1,500 people in Southwestern Ontario have taken the four-hour Canwarn training sessions. There are also about 600 "weather watchers" who get a brochure from Environment Canada, but no training. Mawson has sent a plan for a

new Canwarn reporting procedure to his superiors to consider. "We're hoping to take Canwarn into the 21st century using 21st century technology," he said.

INTERNET: He proposes communication between the net controller and the severe weather desk be done over the Internet. Data would include radar images, he said. "Without an actual weather person on site, it will require a great deal more training" for hams, Mawson said.

And because the local weather offices are closing, a replacement base for the net controller will have to be found.

A prototype is to be tested this summer, probably in Kincardine, Mawson said. Mawson said costs have not been calculated for setting up the new system.

He said the transition has been difficult on Environment Canada personnel at local weather offices because they know they are creating a system that will replace them.

The closing of 50 weather offices across Canada, with the loss of 150 jobs, was announced last March as part of the federal government's cost-cutting measures.

PRICEY WEATHER
By mid-month, Environment Canada will replace some free weather forecast services in Ontario with centralized 1-900 numbers callers will have to pay for:

▼ **Weather Menu:**
Taped messages on conditions in cottage country or across Canada and the U.S. at 95 cents a minute.

▼ **Weather One-on-One:** A consultation with a live forecaster at \$1.95 a minute for a minimum of two minutes.

▼ More detailed forecasts that will now cost money will include farm and near-shore marine forecasts.

▼ Still free — for callers who don't have to pay regular long-distance charges — are taped messages of the public forecast, extended forecast, current conditions and the marine forecast.

THE LONDON FREE PRESS

FRIDAY, January 5, 1996

WEATHER

FEEDBACK -- January 1996

Communications/Electronics Hobby Market ===== 1st June 1996
Bayshore Arena 1900 3rd Ave East Owen Sound, Ont

The amateur radio clubs in Owen Sound, Collingwood, Port Elgin and Kincardine are pleased to announce the first annual "Communications/Electronics Hobbymarket". A Hobbymarket is designed to provide more exposure for amateur radio to the general public by including other hobbyists and interest groups which have some basic tie to communications or electronics. We hope to have computer, internet, solar power, antique radio groups as well as many others to make this a very different kind of fleamarket. Things to see and do as well as bargains to be had. The Bayshore Community Centre is a nice facility and we hope to fill 80 tables with all kinds of interesting and fun things. The hobbymarket runs till 4:00 p.m. and we encourage all vendors to stay till the end. We realize that Owen Sound is a bit out of the way for most of you, this is why we have decided to make this more than a hamfest, an event that the whole family can attend. So please mark June 1st on your calendars and plan to make Owen Sound the destination of choice that weekend. As well as the natural scenic beauty of the area, Owen Sound offers many things to see and do. There is the Billy Bishop Museum, the Marine Heritage Museum, the Tom Thompson Art Gallery, Story Book Park theme area, Inglis Falls conservation area, Harrison Park for campers and many other sites to see. So please come north and sample the Bruce Peninsula.

Door Times 6:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. for Vendors
===== 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. for the public

Admission \$4.00 (2 dubloonies) children 12 and under free
=====

Tables Commercial vendors \$50.00 for 2 tables includes admission for 1
===== or exhibitors \$100.00 for 4 tables
(there will be a maximum of 4 tables for commercial vendors)

Non-Commercial Vendors \$15.00 (First table) includes 1 admission
\$15.00 2nd table
\$20.00 3rd table
(there will be a maximum of 3 tables for non-commercial vendors)

Additional admissions for either type of vendor will be \$4.00

PLENTY OF FREE PARKING ---- DOOR PRIZES
Inquiries should be directed to:
VE3WUD Richard Welsh 1 519-934-0320
or write to: The Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 113, Owen Sound, Ont. N4K5P1

=====

A short message from the Hobby Market committee

As you can see from the above notice, we are embarking on a fairly large undertaking. We, now more than any other time, absolutely require the support of the club membership to make this event a success. We will be looking for a few volunteers to help out with such things as security at the hobbymarket or manning the club station etc. But more important than anything else, we need VENDORS. We need you to rent a table and bring all that stuff that's been collecting dust in the basement, in the shack or just generally in the XYL's way. If you don't have enough for a table on your own then join together with another. So please, and I mean pretty please, consider participating in this event. If you do nothing else with the Club at any other time of the year, then do this. I have enclosed all the information in this month's feedback as a separate attachment. VE3TSA

Communication/Electronics Hobby Market 1st June 1996
Bayshore Arena 1900 3rd Ave East, Owen Sound

V E N D O R A G R E E M E N T

All VENDOR's are required to sign this form indicating their willingness to abide by this VENDOR AGREEMENT. Vendors agree that they shall be responsible for any damages to the facility. Vendors agree that they alone are responsible for losses to their property, however caused. Vendors agree to leave their table area, as they found it, at the completion of the event.

Name of vendor:

Company Name:

Mailing Address:

.....

.....

Phone Number: 1 - (.....)-

Vendors Signature: X

Number of tables needed: Commercial Vendor 2 4 (circle number)

Non-Commercial Vendor 1 2 3 (circle Number)

Hydro Required? Yes ___ No ___ (First come first served)

Additional Admissions : 1 2 3 4 @ \$4.00 each (circle number)

Payment for tables must accompany this form

Make cheques payable to ' **The Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club** '

The Deadline is the 15th of April 1996

RETURN TO:

Richard Welsh VE3WUD

1-519-934-0320

The Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 113, Owen Sound, Ont.

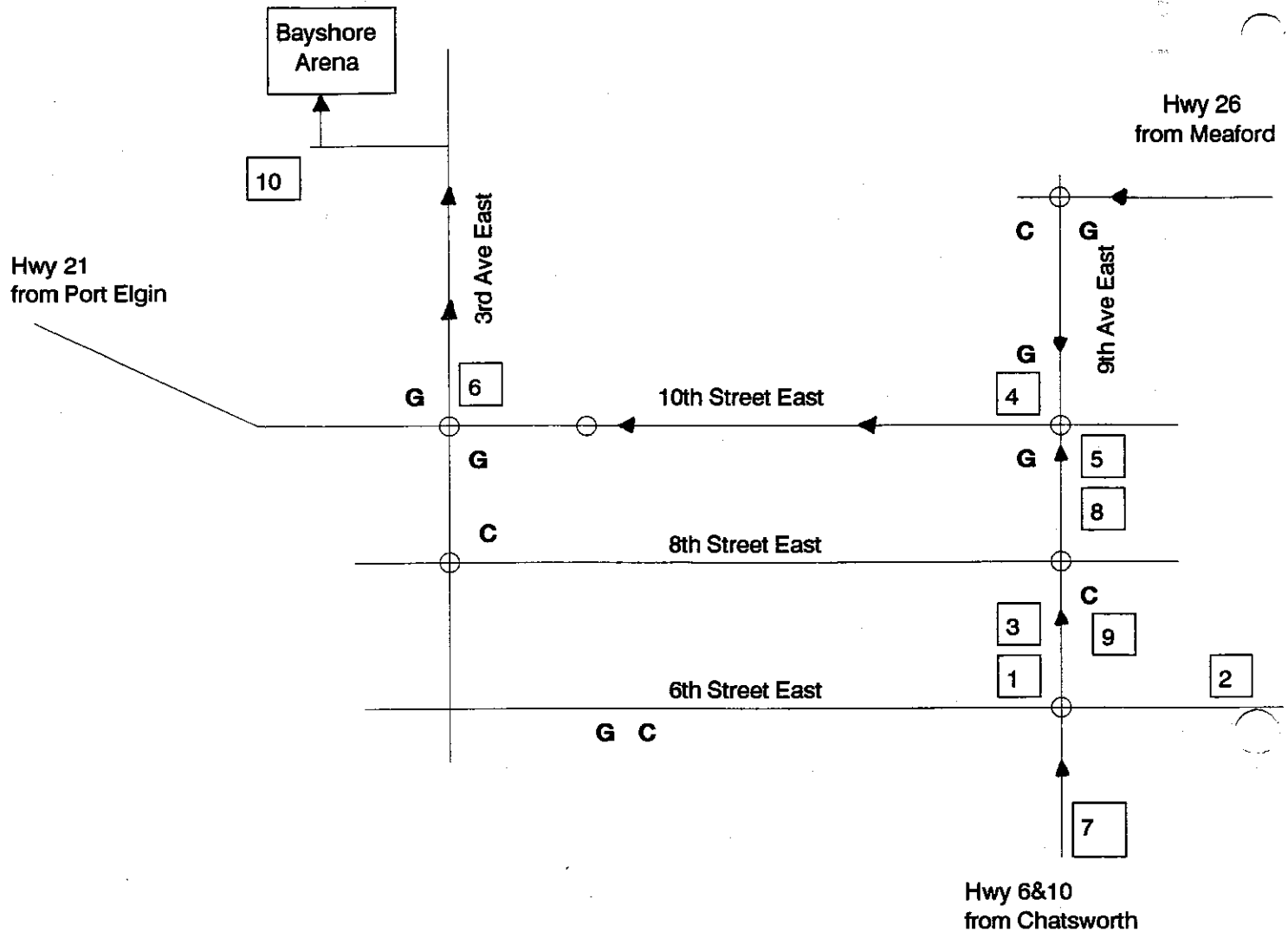
N4K5P1

Thanks and 73 see you there.

Communications/Electronics Hobby Market ===== 1st June 1996

Bayshore Arena 1900 3rd Ave East Owen Sound, Ont

Directions to Hobbymarket and locations of various Motels



Legend

- = traffic lights
- G = gas station
- C = Convenience Store
- 1 = Pinecrest Motel 376-3510
- 2 = Hopitality Inn 376-1551
- 3 = Travellers Inn 376-2680
- 4 = Super 8 Motel 371-9297
- 5 = Tim Horton Donuts
- 6 = Kentucky Fried Chicken
- 7 = Friendship Inn 371-3011
- 8 = Comfort Inn 371-5500
- 9 = Diamond Motel 371-2011
- 10 = Best Western 371-9220

AREA CODE IS 519

Talk in frequencies: VE3GBT Markdale 146.895 -
 VE3OSR Barrow Bay 146.940 -
 VE3OST Owen Sound 145.290 -

Other Information

Billy Bishop Museum 948 3rd Ave W	371-0031
County of Grey Museum 975 6th St E	376-3690
Marine & Railway Museum 1165 1st Ave W	371-3333
Tom Thompsom Art Gallery 840 1st Ave W	376-1932
Story Book Park RR#6 Owen Sound	376-2291
Harrison Park 137 2nd Ave E	376-0265
Owen Sound Airport	371-6936
Visitor Information 1155 1st Ave W	371-9833

The Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 113 Owen Sound, Ont

N4K5P1

Contact: VE3WUD Richard Welsh 1-519-934-0320