



# FEEDBACK

The Official Newsletter of the  
Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club  
**December 2017**



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## 2017 GBARC Amateur of the Year

Congratulations to Doug Hall VE3WRF who is this year's recipient of the coveted GBARC Amateur of the Year Award. The award is presented to the club member who has demonstrated a continued



support for the club and the hobby of amateur radio. Thank you for your participation and encouragement in radio courses, club events and scouts/guides jamboree on the air to mention a few.



### This Month

*Presidents Message*

*Meeting Minutes*

*Upcoming Events*

*Interesting Websites*

*GBARC Challenge*

*Santa Claus Net on ONTARS*

*New Years Resolutions*



## Message from the President

Frank Gufler VA3GUF

To all GBARC members and HAM radio operators, the GBARC Executive wishes you all a Merry Christmas with Health, Happiness, Success and Prosperity in the New Year. Conditions have been improving on 80 & 160 meters in the evenings so contacts are surely being made. I'm told that Europe is opening up with especially good contacts as the evening rolls in. I wish you all the best with your contacts during the festive season. 2018 is coming along quickly and we will surely have another great year of learning and sharing contact stories. We would gladly hear from you of your most interesting contact you had in the last month and should you so be inclined, we can share it with the others. Great contact stories are ones that bring us back to the radio room and try again and again, and again. One that I heard today that reminded me of a similar one that I had many years ago was a Europe contact this past week that one of our members made with an antenna that would have expected only short-range contacts on 80 meters. Conditions were just right to make European contacts with this short-range antenna set-up. My similar experience with a South Carolina Ham who was using his NVIS antenna was able to make a contact with me here in Owen Sound. To both our surprise, the conditions had been perfect at that date and time for him to make the Owen Sound contact while I was using my long-range antenna to contact him in South Carolina. These types of surprise contacts when you just happen to be there at your radio at the right time teaches us that no matter the conditions and the antenna being using, an unexpected long-distance contact that will make you jump for joy is just around the corner. It just might be your next

contact. I have found it to be a rewarding and learning experience each time. Have fun over this festive season making contacts and do share your best contact story.

Cheers Frank Gufler VA3-GUF



## Minutes of GBARC Meeting 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017

**Presentation** Rob VE3PCP gave an excellent presentation on the 4NEC2 antenna modeling software with many real world examples. The software makes it easy to show radiation patterns with adjustments to antenna height, geometry and ground conditions to name a few. For more information or to experiment on your own use this link.

<http://www.qsl.net/4nec2/>

The meeting came to order at 7:45pm

**Attendees** (Executive) Frank VA3GUF, Tom VA3TVA, Bernie VE3BQM, Tom VA3TS Doug VE3WRF, Bobby VE3PAV, Adam VE3IZS, Dieter VA3DST, Maureen VE3MIO, Greg VE3RQY, Jim VE3VEX, Paul VE3EFQ, Philip VE3QVC, Rob VE3PCP, Guests Beth VanAalst, Bill VE3AOE, Bart VE3XBO

Do we have a Quorum-YES A QUORUM SHALL CONSIST OF AT LEAST THREE FULL MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, PLUS AT LEAST THREE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE . NO MOTIONS SHALL BE CONSIDERED OR VOTED ON AT A GENERAL MEETING UNLESS A QUORUM IS PRESENT.

### Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes of last meeting - included in the October Newsletter Motion to accept by Bernie VE3BQM, Seconded by Doug VE3WRF. CARRIED

**Treasurer's Report** – There was no report as there were no changes since last month other than a donation by the Multisport group of \$ 50.

### **Old Business**

GBARC Challenge - Certificate Registration Log. Please post your submission on the GBARC forum in the topic titled Canada 150". Beth Van Aalst's certificates were viewed and a winner was chosen by the meeting attendees. Thanks to Beth for volunteering to do this. She did a great job with it and it will be appreciated by those that meet the requirements to receive one.

**Power amp** - At the October meeting, the idea of a 300 to 500 watt power amplifier was brought up for use at field day, Bobby VE3PAV offered to look into this as well as help from Jim VEX, Paul EFQ, Tom TVA and Adam IZS. A report by Bobby outlines his investigations into kits and ready made amps. The requirements were that they should be capable of 500-600 watts and be able to operate from a 120vac supply. The units viewed so far are used tube amps in the range of \$500-\$800. Research is ongoing.

**Field day 2018** – Last month some locations for next years field day was discussed with a new one at an area next to Van Dolders on HW# 26. Frank had attended this location and it was noted that there were few trees to use with antennae and a porta potty would be needed.

Another location at Victoria park in Owen Sound was discussed, a building is there to use as a radio room, trees and structures for antennae, a location much higher than the Bayshore and the facilities that being close to the city can offer. Paul VE3EFQ volunteered to check with the Heart and stroke society for availability.

**ARES** - ARES Nov 15th - Test of equipment at the renovated Grey County building was successfully completed with HF email demonstration , the sending of a simulated emergency email to all County employees. We will be back in Jan/Feb to provide the demonstration to all municipalities in Grey

County. There is also space allocated in the council chambers for Amateur radio equipment which at this point is an Kenwood VHF rig.

**Paisley Repeater** – A short discussion on the Paisly repeater and its callsign took place, Frank will contact Tim VE3RTE.

**Christmas Dinner Location** - The Christmas Luncheon on the 9th of December at the Golden Buffet in Owen Sound at 1pm.

### **New Business**

**Winter Field Day** - will be held at the QTH OF frank VA3GUF on the 27th and 28th of January 2018

**Ham of the Year** – The amateur of the year award will be presented at the Christmas Luncheon. The webmaster will update the website to include a means for members to vote for their choice. This year the nominations are Bobby VE3PAV, Dave VE3WI, Doug VE3WRF, Frank VA3GUF and Paul VE3EFQ.

**Basic Course** – Doug VE3WRF who was the course co-ordinator for the last course in Meaford, reported that he has a few interested individuals for any upcoming course.

**Scouts** – Doug VE3WRF informed the group that the Scouts will be holding their winter campout at Harrison Park near the end of January.

**Advanced Course** – The topic of an advanced course has come up, with 3 in the group interested in the qualification.

**2 meter net** – Rob VE3PCP asked for help as net control for the upcoming 2 mtr net as he would be away.

**Canada Winter Contest** – Tom VA3TS has volunteered his QTH for the Canada Winter Contest held on the 30th of December. This starts on the Friday evening at 8pm and is proposed to run for 24 hours. If you are interested please contact Tom at

va3ts@va3ts.ca ... so far I have VE3WRF, VE3PAV, VE3QVC and VE3IZS.

**Adjourn** – 8:55 pm Motion to adjourn by Maureen VE3MIO, seconded by Phillip VE3QVC, retire to Timmies for coffee.

**Next Meeting** - Professional Centre, Owen Sound. January 23rd, 2018

Minutes taken by Tom VA3TS Secretary

## Upcoming Events



[Canada Winter Contest](#) – At the QTH of Tom VA3TS on the 29/30<sup>th</sup> Dec 7pm EST Friday evening to 7pm EST Saturday evening - those

who wish to attend please contact [Tom VA3TS](#)

[Winter Field Day](#) – At the QTH of Frank VA3GUF, on the 27th and 28th of January 2018, 2pm EST Saturday to 2PM EST Sunday. If you are interested in participating please contact [Frank VA3GUF](#)



Rob VE3PCP will be operating as [VA3RAC](#) during the month of December. Are you working on your GBARC Challenge?

## Interesting Websites

New transceiver kit  
<http://www.hfsignals.com>

<https://remotegth.com/index.php>

[https://www.nonstopsystems.com/radio/frank\\_radio\\_home.htm#top-of-page](https://www.nonstopsystems.com/radio/frank_radio_home.htm#top-of-page)

## GBARC Challenge



This is the final challenge certificate created by Beth Van Aalst and voted on.



An excellent effort. To get one of these, just follow the instructions on our [Canada 150 webpage](#). Results will be announced at the January meeting.

VE3CVL Tom May SK, we are sad to report the passing of Tom VE3CVL, a long time club member and friend. [Obit](#)



*ONTARS is pleased to announce:*  
**The Santa Claus Net for  
2017**



Once again, this year, Santa Claus will be joining us on the amateur bands to chat with children of all ages. Your ONTARS HF Santa will be Bob VE3HNNH



Click [HERE](#) to send SANTA email. Santa's helper is John Henry VE3CAK

**Sked times:** 80 Meters 3.755 mhz LSB, December 18th (Monday), December 19th (Tuesday). Net start time 5 pm till

## The Inverhuron Ham Radio Club, VE3IHR



We are setting up a Youth Ham Radio Club in the Kincardine area as The Inverhuron Ham Radio Club, VE3IHR.

Our intent is to become an affiliate of RAC and eventually become a non for profit in order to

take advantage of their insurance program but that will be dependent upon interest in the club.

We also have a Facebook Group page.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/511959005826988/>

I will forward on more info as we get things worked out. Thanks. Rob Noakes, VE3PCP

## History of New Year's Resolutions

The tradition of the New Year's Resolutions goes all the way back to 153 B.C. Janus, a mythical king of early Rome was placed at the head of the calendar. With two faces, Janus could look back on past events and forward to the future. Janus became the ancient symbol for resolutions and many Romans looked for forgiveness from their enemies and also exchanged gifts before the beginning of each year. The Romans named the first month of the year after Janus, the god of beginnings and the guardian of doors and entrances. Thus he could look backward and forward at the same time. At midnight on December 31, the Romans imagined Janus looking back at the old year and forward to the new.

### New Year resolutions

My New Year's resolution is 1920 x 1080

I will think of a password other than "password2" or "hello".

I will try to figure out why I really need ten e-mail addresses.

I will leave my brain at home while going to watch the supposedly scary movies.

I will find that damn manual and actually read it.

I will never eat chocolates again. At least, the white ones.