



# FEEDBACK

The Official Newsletter of the  
Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club  
September 2017



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## Message from the President

Hello GBARC Ham's and welcome back from a summer of varied conditions, weather wise, Solar Eclipse and DX propagation. Through this I hope you all had interesting contacts that are worthy of a fire side yarn. With summer now being over, we can only hope for improved conditions that will make the hobby more fun as we become more active on the air making interesting contacts. Club meetings are also starting up and I look forward to seeing you all there during the Knowledge based sessions prior to the start of the meeting. During the meeting we will have a few things to discuss such as where we may want to hold next years Field Day, Winter Field Day, and other items that need longer range planning as well as the upcoming National RAC ARES SET on Saturday October 14<sup>th</sup> at the Owen Sound Fire Hall. Opportunities to participate will be available however space at the Fire Hall is at a premium for Operator, logger and supervisor so scheduling time slots will most likely be necessary. National RAC ARES SET details will be discussed during the meeting session and then posted on the forum for those that could not make the meeting.

Welcome back and see you all at the meeting on Tuesday September, 26th.



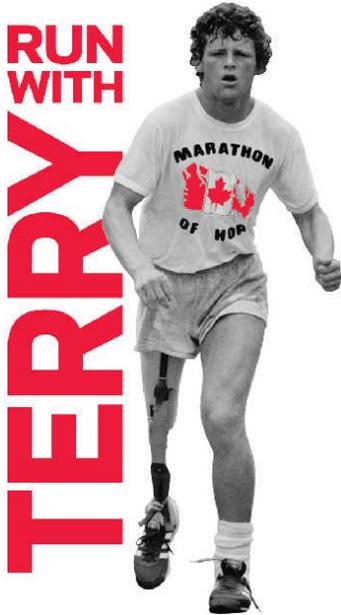
**ARES Update** ARES EC's have been active in supporting Grey County with a Simulated Emergency Test. The test simulated a small town of 5,000 that had a small 15 passenger airplane fall apart in the air over the town causing fires and road closures. An emergency evacuation center was set to get the citizens of the town to a safe location. The evacuation center activities simulated a 16hour period over 3 real hours. This involved shift changes and the hand-off of GMRS radios for the individual Grey County Staff team leaders. All had interesting learning's as well as ARES EC and AEC sharing ideas, that were noted for adoption into future planning updates. One observation was the use of GMRS radios that users were not familiar with nor a plan to change batteries once exhausted after lengthy use. These ideas on how to implement a spare battery or radio into the plan with scheduled changes are being considered for implementation into the documented emergency plans including power failure operation processes and fixed antenna for HF communications allowing evacuees to email their loved ones an update on their situation in the event of an emergency escalation where these would be needed. It was observed that in the event of an escalated emergency with no power or phone service, an evacuee communication method such as HF e-mail would be a dire necessity. ARES has been asked to demonstrate the Email capability with HF radio at our next event to test the radio facilities at the newly finished Grey County addition, planned for November 15th subject to construction completion by then.

RAC is also scheduling on October 14th a SET to test our municipal ARES radio installation to HF communication capabilities and log contact locations/groups to benchmark our current capabilities. RAC will be testing the National Traffic System for emergency traffic handling capabilities. In Octobers meeting, we will critique and review good points and weaknesses apparent during the SET. All this with an emphasis to improve procedures, techniques and coordination with all groups involved. Further details to be provided at the upcoming GBARC meeting, September 26th.

Cheers  
Frank Gufler

This event will have come and gone by the time you read this but it's good to keep this worthwhile cause current in our memories. I have included a picture below of those that came out and provided important communication.

## The Terry Fox Run 17<sup>th</sup> September 2017 9:00am



**“The running I can do even if I have to crawl every last mile.”**

“The night before my amputation, my former basketball coach brought me a magazine with an article on an amputee who ran in the New York Marathon. It was then I decided to meet this new challenge head on and not only overcome my disability, but conquer it in such a way that I could never look back and say it disabled me.

But I soon realized that that would only be half my quest, for as I went through the 16 months of the physically and emotionally draining ordeal of chemotherapy, I was rudely awakened by the feelings that surrounded and coursed through the cancer clinic. There were faces with the brave smiles, and the ones who had given up smiling. There were feelings of hopeful denial, and the feelings of despair.

My quest would not be a selfish one. I could not leave knowing these faces and feelings would still exist, even though I would be set free from mine. Somewhere the hurting must stop... and I was determined to take myself to the limit for this cause.

From the beginning the going was extremely difficult, and I was facing chronic ailments foreign to runners with two legs in addition to the common physical strains felt by all dedicated athletes.

But these problems are now behind me, as I have either out-persisted or learned to deal with them. I feel strong not only physically, but more important, emotionally. Soon I will be adding one full mile a week, and coupled with weight training I have been doing, by next April I will be ready to achieve something that for me was once only a distant dream reserved for the world of miracles – to run across Canada to raise money for the fight against cancer.

The running I can do, even if I have to crawl every last mile.

We need your help. The people in cancer clinics all over the world need people who believe in miracles.

All are welcome, come out and provide important communications for this public event. We meet at the Harrison Park bandshell at 9am. Handhelds are great but mobiles work well also. The event is usually over by noon and we go for coffee afterwards.



L-R Fred VA3STG, Jon VA3CIC, Scott VE3OSA, Scott Grieg, Dave VE3WI, Doug VE3WRF, Bobby VE3PAV, Frank VA3GUF, Tom VA3TS

## VY2NX Bob

Congratulations to Bob and Toni on their successful relocation to Springfield West PEI



# Upcoming Events

## Blue Mountain Half Marathon

**Sunday October 15th, 2017, 9am**



The Thornbury-Clarksburg Rotary Club is pleased to host this year's Run Blue Mountains. Proceeds will go to Children/Youth and Health Care projects in our community. Please come out to provide emergency communications. We meet at **Beaver Valley Community Centre 81 Victoria Street, Thornbury (by the water tower) at 8am.**

## Scouts Jamboree on the Air

and **Jamboree on the Internet** will next take place on

**Saturday October 21st and Sunday October 22nd, 2017**



Doug VE3WRF reports that he is in contact with the 1<sup>st</sup> Owen Sound Scouts at St Andrews Church and waiting for a response from them and the Owen Sound Girl Guides.

Rob VE3PCP will have the Lion's Hall in Tiverton rented for the day of Saturday, October 21, 2017. Our plan is to have the Girl Guides and hopefully some Scouts as well in the afternoon from around 2 PM. Plan on staying set up until after super as conditions will no doubt improve. We are looking at doing a small pot luck with the kids and their families but that is TBD.

I was thinking since we have the hall all day, what would you think about doing something club wise in the morning. Maybe an indoor swap meet or just a gathering. Could do a pot luck lunch as well for the hams.

Would also be a chance for other hams to operate using VA3RAC. I plan on having 2 HF rigs set up and cover 80,40 and 20 meter bands and well as VHF for 2M repeater coverage. Any and all can stay as long as they want too throughout the afternoon when the young folks arrive.

Let me know if this sounds like something area hams would embrace.

## Club Dues

Dues can be paid at any meeting or by contacting our Treasurer [Bernie VE3BQM](#)

# Dual Band J-POLE Project

This is a neat little dual band vhf/uhf J-pole Antenna. If you print them out, they will print a full sized page. Editor

## DUAL BAND J-POLE 144/440Mhz

Original Plans By: Allen Lowe (N21MWW)

Simple to create yet effective 144/440 Mhz Antenna.

Materials Needed (Refer to parts list below)

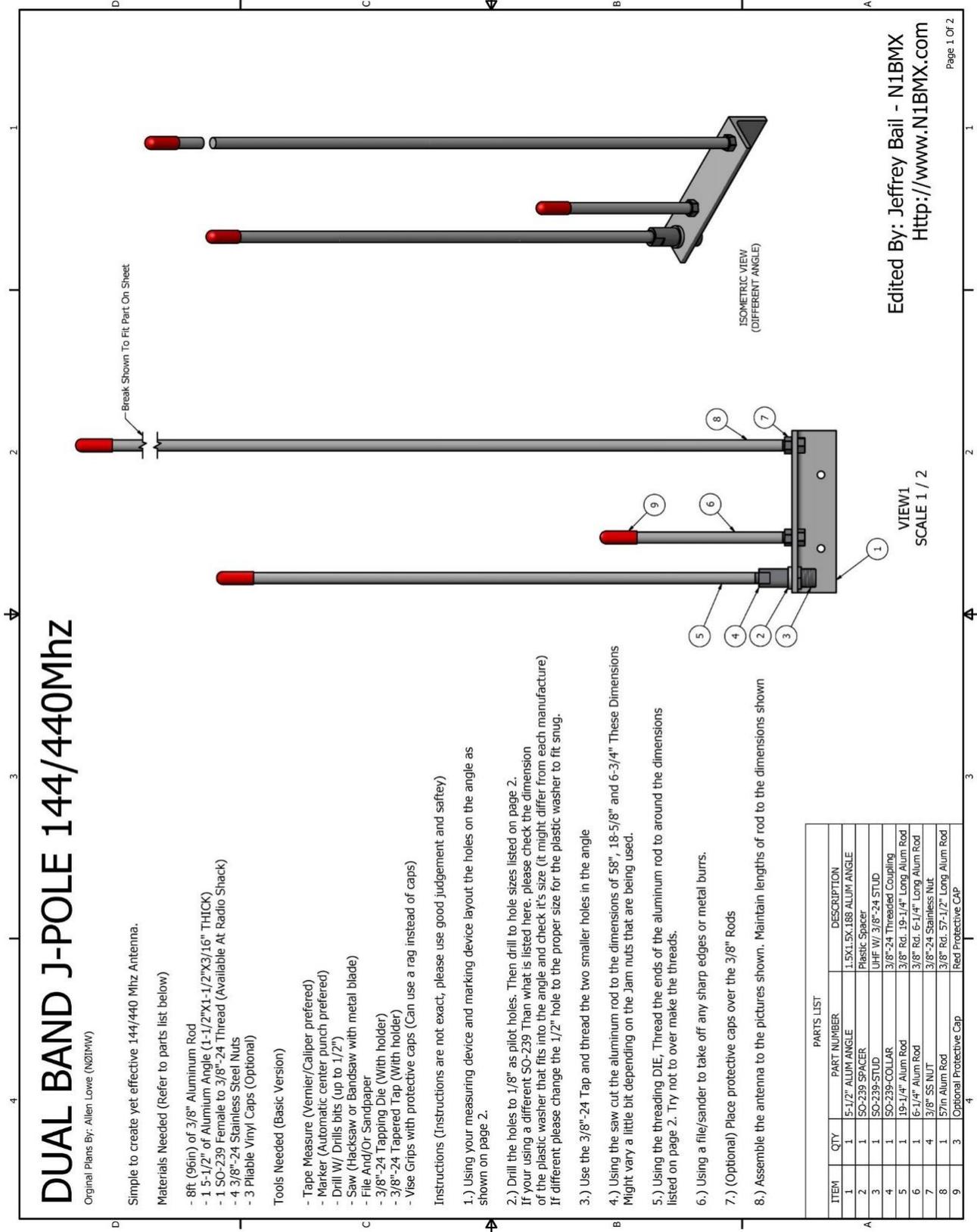
- 8ft. (96in) of 3/8" Aluminum Rod
- 1 5-1/2" of Aluminum Angle (1-1/2"x1-1/2"x3/16" THICK)
- 1 SO-239 Female to 3/8"-24 Thread (Available At Radio Shack)
- 4 3/8"-24 Stainless Steel Nuts
- 3 Pilable Vinyl Caps (Optional)

Tools Needed (Basic Version)

- Tape Measure (Vernier/Caliper preferred)
- Marker (Automatic center punch preferred)
- Drill W/ Drills bits (up to 1/2")
- Saw (Hacksaw or Bandsaw with metal blade)
- File And/Or Sandpaper
- 3/8"-24 Tapping Die (With holder)
- 3/8"-24 Tapered Tap (With holder)
- Vise Grips with protective caps (Can use a rag instead of caps)

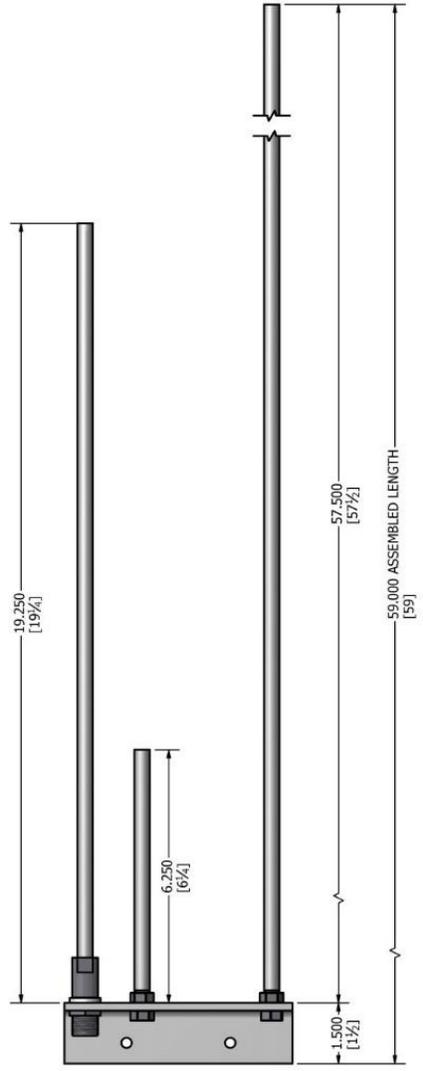
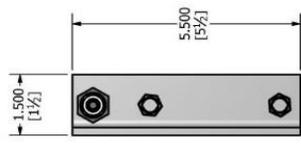
Instructions (Instructions are not exact, please use good judgement and safety)

- 1.) Using your measuring device and marking device layout the holes on the angle as shown on page 2.
- 2.) Drill the holes to 1/8" as pilot holes. Then drill to hole sizes listed on page 2. If your using a different SO-239 Than what is listed here, please check the dimension of the plastic washer that fits into the angle and check it's size (It might differ from each manufacture) If different please change the 1/2" hole to the proper size for the plastic washer to fit snug.
- 3.) Use the 3/8"-24 Tap and thread the two smaller holes in the angle
- 4.) Using the saw cut the aluminum rod to the dimensions of 58", 18-5/8" and 6-3/4" These Dimensions Might vary a little bit depending on the Jam nuts that are being used.
- 5.) Using the threading DIE, Thread the ends of the aluminum rod to around the dimensions listed on page 2. Try not to over make the threads.
- 6.) Using a file/sander to take off any sharp edges or metal burrs.
- 7.) (Optional) Place protective caps over the 3/8" Rods
- 8.) Assemble the antenna to the pictures shown. Maintain lengths of rod to the dimensions shown

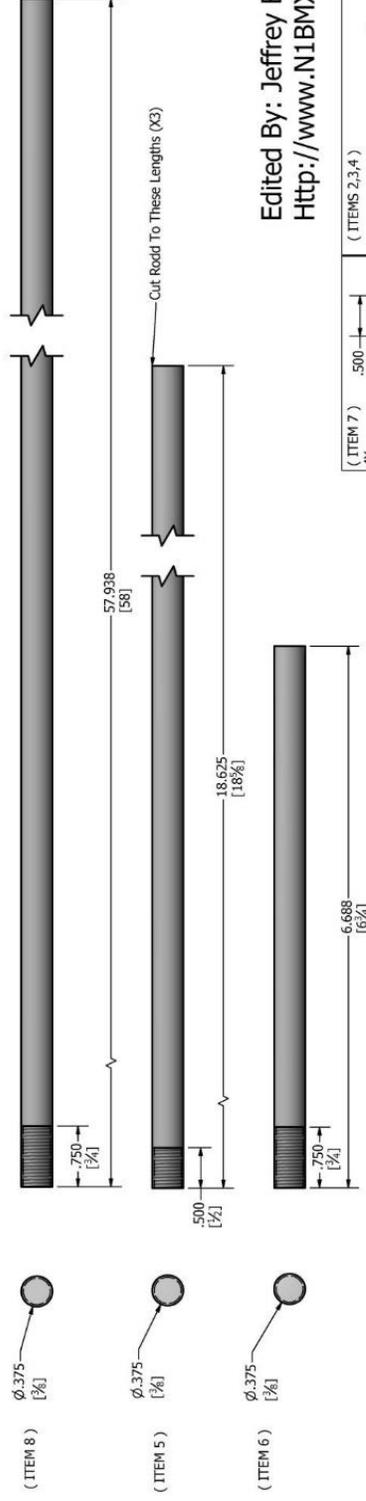


PARTS LIST		
ITEM	QTY	DESCRIPTION
1	1	5-1/2" ALUM ANGLE
2	1	SO-239 SPACER
3	1	SO-239-STUD
4	1	SO-239-COLLAR
5	1	1/8"-24 Threaded Coupling
6	1	3/8"-24 Alum Rod
7	4	3/8"-24 Stainless Nut
8	1	57in Alum Rod
9	3	Optional Protective Cap

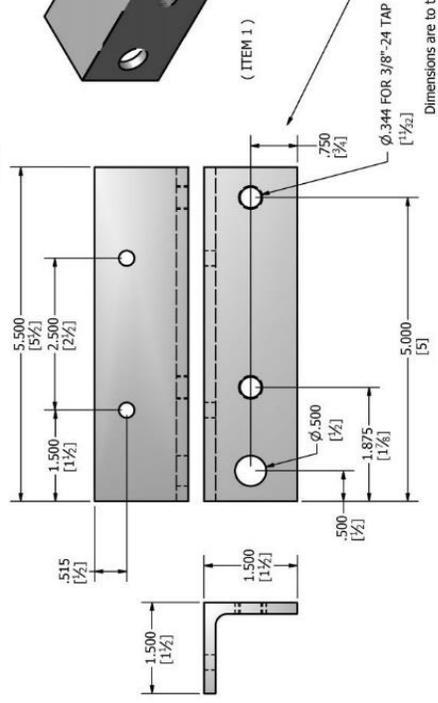
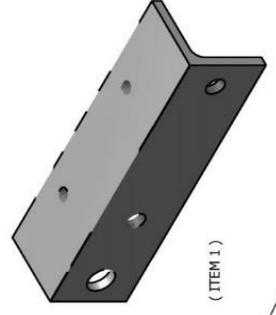
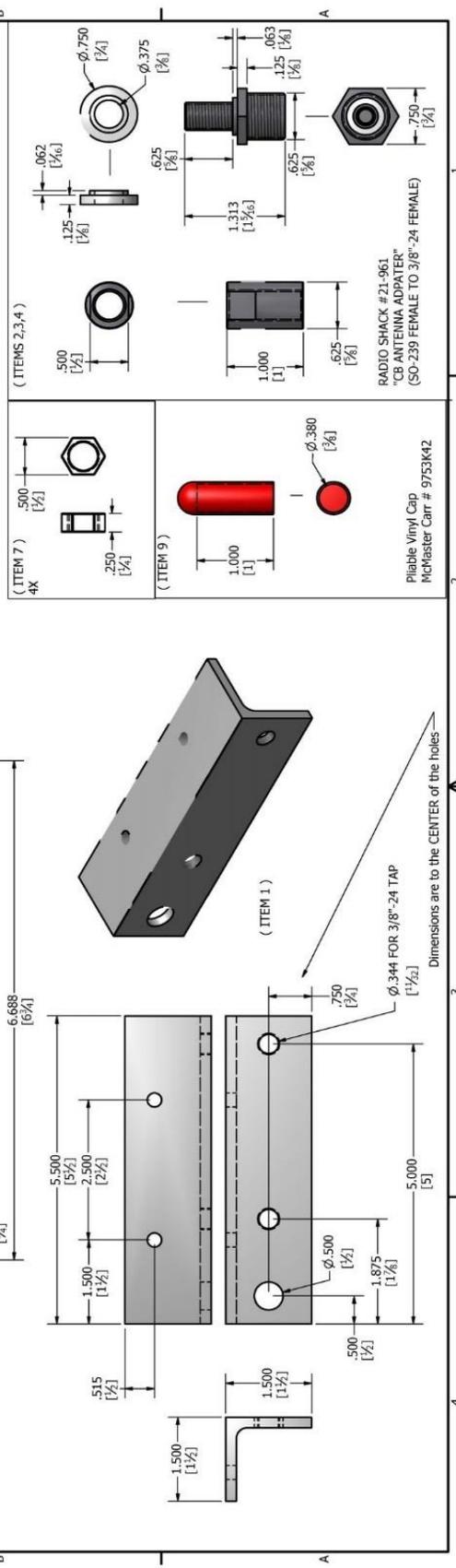
Edited By: Jeffrey Bail - N1BMX  
[Http://www.N1BMX.com](http://www.N1BMX.com)



**ASSEMBLED DIMENSIONS**  
(Shown Without Optional Protective Caps)



Edited By: Jeffrey Bail - N1BMX  
Http://www.N1BMX.com



Dimensions are to the CENTER of the holes

# A Canadian Adventure

by Kevan VA3WVG / 2E0WVG

## A Canadian Adventure

Kevan PughG-21098 / VA3WVG / 2E0WVG

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<http://www.iswl.org.uk/internat.htm>



Last summer a change in personal circumstances led me to take six months off work and head to Collingwood in Ontario Canada. Being a 2E0, I was unable to operate although I did take a trip to Radioworld in Toronto to buy myself an Eton-Satellite SW receiver so I could

listen. I joined the local club, the Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club, a great club who were very welcoming. I operated during Lighthouse Weekend from Cabot Head Lighthouse and also did a talk titled 'Island Adventures' at a club meeting which I had given at my two local clubs in Colchester and Harwich.

In October, Paul VE3EFQ invited me to go along with him for a one-night camping and radio trip on Bells Lake. I was questioning my sanity a week later as we paddled his canoe to our camping spot in the first real snow of the year. Once we had put the tent up I had to use a canoe paddle to sweep the snow out of the tent, we put up a linked dipole for 40/80m and got the woodstove on the go so we were nice and toasty. We both made a few contacts using Paul's call, we ate a chicken curry cooked on the stove and woke up to a beautiful sunny morning.

Towards the end of my six months it was decided I would return to Canada this summer for 3-4 months plus a two week visit in February.

Thinking it would be nice to operate I decided to sit my test here. So, after buying the course book and swatting up for a few weeks I drove to the local volunteer examiners house to sit my Canadian test of 100 multi choice questions.

The pass mark is 70% to obtain the basic license and access to 50MHz and above, however a pass mark of 80% or higher gives access to all HF bands. For me less than 80% was not an option so I was pleased to score 96%, very soon Industry Canada issued me with VA3WMG. It is not practical to operate from the apartment here so all my activity needed to be portable.

As you might expect operating portable in Canada in February was going to be cold. There is a marina here at the apartment on the shores of Georgian Bay with a great take off to the east and into Europe, there is also a handy picnic bench from where I could operate albeit with a compromise antenna.

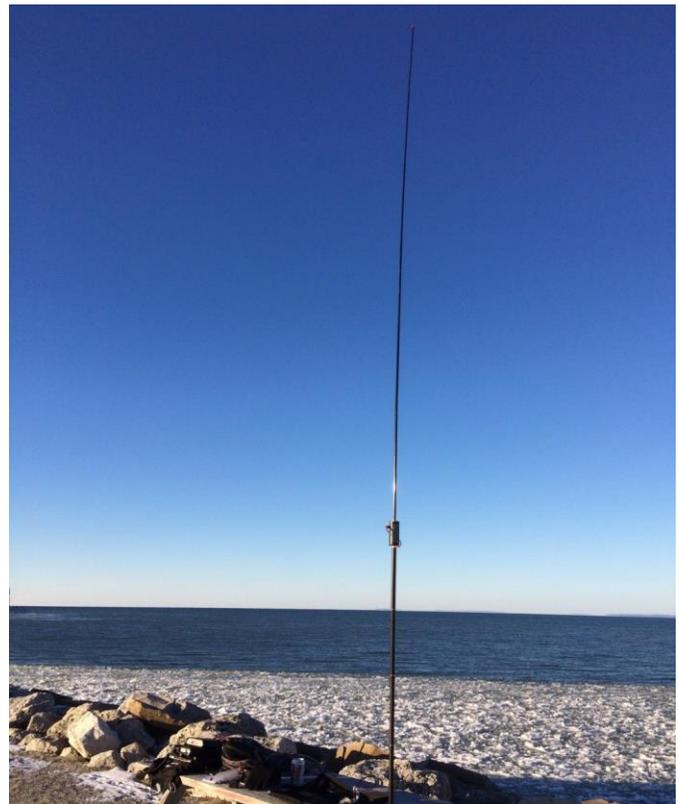


So, with several layers of clothing, my trusty Yaesu FT-857, LDG Z-100 ATU and a 7-amp hour SLA battery I ventured out to the picnic bench.

The antenna was one half of a Buddipole, clamped to the bench with a Superantennas clamp and two sets of counterpoise wires, each with four wires at varying lengths stretched out at almost 180 degrees going to the ground.

I was using longer (optional) 9½ foot telescopic whips, the total length being about 12 foot including coil. The wind was biting cold, the lake was frozen and my can of diet coke also frozen, so I was only out about an hour but managed a few nice contacts into the states and Canada on 20m.

Later sessions were more productive where I worked into the Caribbean and South America plus Spain & Portugal, maybe not DX from my home in Essex but considered DX from here. I also operated from a park in Owen Sound on a trip to meet with Paul and Carson VA3OSO, both keen portable operators.



Fast forward to June and time of writing and although the WX has been warmer of course it has been unsettled and often wet which has hampered my activities. I took part in Field Day in Owen Sound with the Club which was a nice social occasion, the bands were not great but I made a few contacts with my own call and the club call.

A video and photos from field day can be seen on the club website at [https://gbarc.ca/activities\\_2017.php](https://gbarc.ca/activities_2017.php)

Most of my activity has been from the picnic bench. In addition to the short vertical I have used the Buddipole mounted on a decorator's pole.

A few times I have put my kit in dry bags and kayaked from the marina to Hen & Chickens Island to give me more room to put up home made linked dipoles for 40/20/17m or 80/40m.

Paul VE3EFQ and I also took a longer paddle out to activate Nottawasaga Island. To date I have made 150 contacts mainly on HF SSB with 50w or less, although this includes a contact through the local 2m FM repeater from my kayak as well simplex on 2m FM with Paul kayak to kayak.



I've worked fifty-one DX entities including quite a few EU stations, working back into England on a few occasions has been fun and my accent but Canadian has been a talking point and caused confusion at times. My best DX so far has been KH7HS in Hawaii, easier from here in Canada than the UK but nice anyway. I am heading back the UK in early September so hope to get a few more new ones, but my approach is pretty casual enjoying a rag chew as much as getting a new one so will see how it goes.

73 Kevan VA3WMG/2E0WMG G-21098

## Websites of Interest

Delta Loops for HF [http://www.w5sdc.net/delta\\_loop\\_for\\_hf.htm](http://www.w5sdc.net/delta_loop_for_hf.htm)

## Wednesday Evening Net

The 2 meter net is underway again Hosted by Rob VE3PCP. The net is at 7:30pm local time, with links to VE3OST in Woodford and VE3RTE in Paisley. VE3OSR is also reachable on Echolink on node 333014. Please mark your calendars and check in.

# Imponderables

1. If you take an Oriental person and spin him around several times, does he become disoriented?
2. If people from Poland are called Poles, why aren't people from Holland called Holes?
3. Do infants enjoy infancy as much as adults enjoy adultery?
4. If a pig loses its voice, is it disgruntled?
5. If love is blind, why is lingerie so popular?
6. Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?
7. When cheese gets its picture taken, what does it say?
8. Why is a person who plays the piano called a pianist but a person who drives a racing car not called a racist?
9. Why are a wise man and a wise guy opposites?
10. Why do overlook and oversee mean opposite things?
11. Why isn't the number 11 pronounced onety one? (I like this one alot!)
12. 'I am' is reportedly the shortest sentence in the English language. Could it be that 'I do' is the longest sentence?
13. If lawyers are disbarred and clergymen defrocked, doesn't it follow that electricians can be delighted, musicians denoted, cowboys deranged, models deposed, tree surgeons debarked, and dry cleaners depressed?
14. I thought about how mothers feed their babies with tiny little spoons and forks so I wondered if Chinese mothers use toothpicks?
14. Why do they put pictures of criminals up in the Post Office? What are we supposed to do, write to them? Why don't they just put their pictures on the postage stamps so the postmen can look for them while they deliver the post?
16. You never really learn to swear until you learn to drive.
17. No one ever says, 'It's only a game' when their team is winning.

18. Ever wonder about those people who spend money on those little bottles of Evian water?  
Try spelling Evian backwards:
19. Isn't making a smoking section in a restaurant like making a peeing section in a swimming pool?
20. If 4 out of 5 people suffer from diarrhea, does that mean that one enjoys it?
21. Why if you send something by road it is called a shipment, but when you send it by sea it is called cargo?