



The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Newsletter 74 Years of Amateur Radio 1932-2006

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
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 Est. 1932 Inc. 1956
<http://www.hwcn.org/link/harc/>

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Next Meeting

Wednesday June 21, will be the H.A.R.C. Annual Meeting and Election of Directors for the coming year, Sept. 1, 2006 to Aug. 31, 2007. Nominations opened at the meeting of May 17, and a slate of 7 candidates has been proposed and seconded. Nominations remain open until just prior to the election at the Annual Meeting.

For further details look in the minutes of the May 17 meeting printed in the following pages of this issue.

A Message from the President

By Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ, President

Our Mission & Other

The purpose of our Club, The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club, is to promote public interest in Amateur Radio communication and experimentation for the relaying of messages by radio, for the advancement of the radio art and of public welfare, and through its regular meetings and a Newsletter, the maintenance of fraternalism, and a high standard of conduct among its members.

Although this isn't a true mission statement, it truly covers what it is our club is all about, and it is a direct lift from our Constitution and Bylaws, required reading for any member of the club executive.

To accomplish all of our club objectives requires a variety of special interest groups and dedicated HAMS. We certainly have the dedicated members, and we certainly have a number of active special interest groups. Each and every group has done its best to promote the values of amateur radio. Whether it is a formally organized group such as ARES or the group of dedicated volunteers that plan and

operate at our annual Field Day, the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum radio station, teaching HAM radio, or organizing radio assistance for a public event, each of us does our best to promote Amateur Radio as a hobby and a public service. There are in fact so many special interests within our hobby that I wouldn't attempt to list them all here. Whether it is kit building, antenna experimentation or one of the many digital modes available to us, each of us has a niche we develop as the core of our hobby. Because of the diverse nature of our hobby, it attracts people from all walks of life, from every race and creed, from all over the world (and even out of this world in the case of HAMS in orbit).

My challenge to you, the current club members, is to discover ways to get the HAM message out to the world of non-HAMS. To find sources of potential HAM's and foster an interest in the hobby. The success that the few dedicated members who took on the training of CERV volunteers in Hamilton is an excellent example of how an interest in HAM radio can be instilled once the novice is exposed to it. My personal view, not that of the executive or club, is that if our club has the resources to assist in any way, we should jump in and help.

Read the first paragraph again and see if this position fits our mission statement.

A good portion of our financial status is a result of silent key donations and unforeseen reductions

Club meetings – 3rd Wednesday each month – 8 pm (except July and August) at Hamilton District Christian High School, 92 Glanaster Road corner of Rymal Road (Hwy. #53) and Glanaster Road. Parking on location. Complimentary refreshments.

in operating expenses. The donations from silent key families were, I am sure, a result of the silent keys passion for the hobby and the wish that the hobby be supported financially to maintain good health and possibly grow. However, just throwing club funds at projects won't help unless an equal amount of people resources are given. Those of you that get involved know that "job well done" feeling after an event. What can we do to instill that same dedication in our local HAM family? This is the challenge I present to our incoming executive.

One final point I would like to make. We as HAMS must do our best to foster fraternalism and an outstanding level of "on the air" conduct. There has been a number in incidents of QRM on our repeater over the past couple of months. The ONLY way to deal with intentional QRM is to ignore it. Once a QRM'r is acknowledged on the air, we are just encouraging them to continue. Yes, it takes patience to follow this advice, but professionals will tell you that arguing or chastising a QRM'r just feeds their ego and ties up the frequency with meaningless banter. We know that there are individuals out there that are unsavory in their conduct. I would like to believe that they are unlicensed and illegal. If sought and caught their conduct doesn't reflect on amateur radio, thank goodness. The executive have discussed the possibility of temporarily shutting down the repeater if the situation warrants it. Let's ignore any QRM and hope that we don't have to "pause" the repeater. Too many HAM's rely on VE3NCF for more than social communications, rag chews or as a personal soapbox.

Well, that is enough of my soapbox chatter for this issue.

If you have any feedback, good or bad, please send me a note at VE3UFZ@RAC.CA. As past president, in the coming club year, I will make it my personal mission to carry your ideas to the executive and steward their implementation. I don't want our hobby to wither on the

HARC 2005-2006 Executive

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Membership Chairman

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vine. I can't think of any other hobby that performs such an essential public service. Every natural disaster that has occurred over the past year has involved HAM's in establishing communications. Public carriers are incapable of handling emergencies, WE ARE! What can you do to pass on your passion for HAM radio?

73

Roger Pimm VE3UFZ
President – Hamilton Amateur Radio Club

Minutes of the General Meeting for May 17th, 2006

by secretary Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE.

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 PM.

Roger, VE3UFZ, welcomed David Near, VE3DNN, and Mike Hewett, VE3MHX. It was also announced to members that Mike Krebs, VA3WXS, could not be at the meeting because he was attending a banquet where he would be receiving an award from the Premier of the Province and the Federal Minister of Citizenship and Immigration recognizing Mike's ten years of service as a volunteer with the CNIB in Hamilton. Members extend their congratulations to Mike for his notable achievement.

Home Brew. The May meeting was our annual Home Brew Competition. The three volunteer judges for the for the home brew were: John Hudak, VE3CXB, Bill Pleydon, VE3KYC, and John Vandenberg, VE3DVV.

David Near, VE3DNN, entered with a Ten Tec 40 meter CW transceiver kit, assembled from over 200 parts on a high quality printed through circuit board. The kit came with detailed instructions for assembly testing and alignment. David explained the process he followed putting the kit together and demonstrated the completed unit in receive mode. The receiver featured high selectivity and sensitivity and the sound it produced was beautiful.

Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ, entered with three wire antennas made from inexpensive materials. Two of the antennas, one for 20 meters and one for 40 meters are being successfully used by Mike Krebs, VA3WXS, from his apartment QTH. Both antennas are made from designs in 73 Magazine. See issues of 73 Magazine for September 1993 and October 1994. Both antennas are shortened loop distributed capacitance antennas that are tuned

with a stub trimmed to resonance at the place of installation. Made of TV indoor twin lead, the antennas are inexpensively constructed and they work. Roger estimated the cost at about \$5.00. The third antenna was made of 450 Ω ladder line in the form of a J-Pole which can be hung from an insulated support. This antenna, tuned to the marine VHF band, is ready for testing on Roger's yacht.

After these projects were described, members were invited to examine the projects and ask questions and the judges were invited to begin their evaluation.

Hamilton Emergency Preparedness Day. Lorraine, VA3NZ, gave a report on the Emergency Preparedness Day. On Saturday May 13th The City of Hamilton held its annual Emergency Preparedness display at the Bayfront Park. Once again, the local ARES, CERV, and HARC radio amateurs were represented at the event. CERV (Citizen Emergency Response Volunteers), some of which are licensed HAMs, were active on point duty managing the flow of spectators. They did a very commendable job and were highly visible. There was an HF demonstration station in the tent as well as UHF and VHF communication. Due to the growing success of this event, more and more activities for the public to see are being added each year. As luck would have it, across from our location the Fire Department was demonstrating, to the delight of children, the loud siren and horn of a responding fire truck, and beside our location, a brass marching band with a drum corps was warming up. While we could hear contacts on the HF bands, it was impractical to carry on a QSO as the QRM around our tent was that bad. Later, when things quieted down a little we did have an extended QSO with a HAM from the state of Georgia who had an air show going on near his QTH at the time. All in all, the day was a great success and a few people who asked about Amateur Radio were given follow-up information. Once again, thanks go out to Al and Lorraine MacPherson

HARC 2005-2006 Chairs

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for the opportunity to showcase amateur radio and to all the volunteers who participated.

Five Peaks Race Event. Fred Robinson reported on another event taking place on Saturday May 13th, where local radio amateurs provided assistance. The five peaks race event took place on the trails of Dundas Valley conservation area. Hams provided radio communication to ensure safety of the participants. The weather was good and the day a success. Our Club banner was shown at the start-finish line and information was available to those inquiring about Amateur Radio. Thanks to Fred and the volunteers for showcasing amateur radio in a venue new to our group. Pictures and a detailed report of this event are featured in the June newsletter.

Show-and-Tell. A few years ago we added a show-and-tell session to the Home Brew night in order to allow people to demonstrate projects and inventions which did not qualify for the competition but which would be of interest to radio amateurs. David Bruton, VE3DWJ, brought in a hinged base which provides invaluable assistance to those pushing up tall antenna poles at Field Day. On one half of the hinged base there is a black PVC toilet bowl flange bolted to the base upside down. This flange forms a receptacle for inserting the pole to be raised. The other half of the hinged base has four holes at the corners through which 12" spikes are driven into the ground to prevent movement when the pole is raised. The hinged base keeps the foot of the pole firmly anchored while the pole is raised to a vertical position and secured with guy ropes. Thanks, David, for showing us a good idea.

Business Meeting.

Crawford Trophy. After counting up the points, judges declared Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ, winner of the CRAWFORD TROPHY for 2006. Casey VanBroekhoven, VE3CVP, Awards Chairman, presented the trophy to Roger, VE3UFZ.

Election. Roger, VE3UFZ, called upon Joe Urbanski, VE3OCD, Election Chairman, to open the nominations for next month's election. Joe explained the reason for electing a new Board of Directors each year. It gives some of those who have served a chance to take a rest. It also gives other members a chance to step in and get experience. It also brings new ideas to the board. Joe read from the constitution.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR EXECUTIVE

The affairs of the Cub shall be managed by a Board of seven Directors, each of whom, at the time of his election and throughout his term of office, shall be a Member of the Club. The Past President of the Club shall be ex-officio a Director and member of the Cub. Each of the remaining six directors shall be elected to hold office from the 1st day of September, of the year for which he is elected, or from the date of his election if he is elected during the year, until the 31st day of August of the following year, or until his successor shall have been elected or qualified. The whole Board shall be retired on August 31st in each year, but shall be eligible for re-election if otherwise qualified.

ELECTION

The election of the Board of Directors shall take place at a general meeting of the membership held in the month of June in each year. The Chairman of the Nominating Committee, shall publish a Notice of such meeting in the issue of the Club Newsletter for the month preceding such meeting, setting out the names of the persons already nominated with a short biography of each, and calling for any further nominations. Any further nominations may be submitted in writing over the signature of the proposer and seconder, and mailed to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee at least five days prior to the date of such meeting, or submitted and seconded from the floor of such meeting when nominations are called for. The names of the persons so nominated shall be added to the list of Nominees and placed on the ballot.

The nominating committee will be elected by the organization; failing this, appointed by the Directors; the President

Important points

Executive Meetings

HARC Executive committee meets each month, except July and August, at Mohawk College in room E031B. All members are invited to attend and participate. The meetings are on the Tuesday following the club General Meeting each month.

VE3NCF [146.760- & 444.075+]

HARC operates VE3NCF repeater, located atop the Niagara Escarpment. It's open for use by all Amateurs. Special features are a privilege of membership.

Nets

HARC "check-in net" is held every Tuesday evening, except July and August, at 7:30pm. HARC "swap net" follows at 8pm. The ARES net is held on Thursdays at 8:00pm. All contacts are welcome.

Examinations

Amateur radio licence examinations are conducted the second Wednesday each month, except July and August. Contact the voluntary examiners to make an appointment. Each test \$5.

Membership Information

Club membership, including all privileges, is \$25 per person, per year, Sept 1 to Aug 31. Additional membership, for immediate family living in the same home, is \$1 per person. One newsletter sent to each address.

The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur is published ten times each year (not in July or August). Deadline for article submission is the *last Saturday* of the month for the next month's issue. Preferred format is .txt file. Articles will be checked for spelling and grammar, but the author is responsible for the factual content. E-mail submissions to Mardy, VE3QEE < ve3qee@rac.ca >

shall not appoint this committee, nor be a member of it, ex-officio or otherwise. A person, in order to be qualified for nomination as a Director of the Club, must be a Member of the Club in good standing, and must accept such

nomination either by his personal assent if present at such meeting, or by a written letter of acceptance if not personally present. The members shall vote in person, or by proxy, by secret ballot, with such additional rules as the Board of Directors may adopt. Any ballots recording votes for more than the number of Directors required to be elected, shall be declared void. At the conclusion of the election, the Chairman of the Election Committee shall prepare a Report to be signed by each member of such Committee, setting forth the names of each candidate, and the number of votes each received. The Report and ballots shall be delivered to the Secretary, who shall record the results of the vote, arrange for publication of the names of the new Directors in the September Newsletter and retain all ballots for a period of one month, after which period the ballots may be destroyed. Should it become necessary for any reason to give notice of the meeting at which the election is to be held, other than by publication in the Newsletter, 10 days notice shall be required.

Nominations remain open from now until next meeting just prior to the election. Nominations can be accepted if the nominee agrees to stand for election and if the nomination is made with a proposer and a seconder. All parties must be current members in good standing. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the June meeting.

after Joe called for nominations, a slate of candidates was proposed and seconded by those attending the meeting:

Brian Bowie, VA3BMB,
Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE,
Paul Selvey, VE3XPS,
Mike Hewitt, VE3MHX,
Ron Ouwehand, VE3OUW,
John Vandenberg, VE3DVV
Fred Robinson, VE3GCP

Education Report. Mardy, VE3QEE, reported that the current class is finishing with a test session at the end of May. We will have a class in the Fall but we have not arranged a location at this time. Mardy will be getting together with Mike Hewitt

and exploring alternatives in the summer. There are lots of avenues to go down looking for a good location. In the meantime candidates can contact Mardy, (see the HARC Chairs sidebar), and their name will be added to the mailing list. Later, when detailed information is known candidates will be contacted.

Health and Welfare. Mary reported the passing of a local Ham, VE3FDJ, Frank LeBlanc, SK. Not many present had recollections of Frank, but Fred, VE3GCP, remembers Frank as the person that introduced him to amateur radio many years ago. Frank was not a member of the club but he was a very active local Ham for many years. Mary has sent a sympathy card to the family.

Fred, VE3GCP, has been in contact with Bud Barber regarding Gord's recovery and expressed our concerns and best wishes for Gord, VE3AAH.

Contest Group. David Bruton, VE3DWJ, passed on a report from Rick Danby, VE3BK, who could not make it tonight. The next Contest immediately following Field Day is the Canada Day Contest, July 1st. We are looking for operators for this fun contest in which our contest site comprises a sought after location. If you are interested in joining the fun, as an operator, or logger, or whatever, contact Rick, VE3BK, (see the HARC Chairs sidebar) to arrange a time.

Field Day. David Bruton, VE3DWJ, Field Day Co-ordinator confirmed that we have the location at Rock Chapel and we will be a 3A designation with stations on 20 Meter 'phone, 80 Meter 'phone, and 40 Meter CW. We will be using emergency (generator) power and Mike Hewett's offer of a 3 KW generator was enthusiastically accepted.

Repeater. John VE3DVV reported that the repeater has no auto-patch at the moment and the UHF and VHF are not linked. John will be looking for parts at the Daton Flea Market to make repairs.

Hat Draw. A draw for the remaining Club Cap was made by Mary Urbanski, VE3OGQ, and Lorraine, VA3NZ, was the lucky winner.

A.R.E.S. Lorraine announced that the ARES meeting will be held on Tuesday, at 8:00 PM at Dofasco offices on Ottawa North.

Tour of the CFRX short wave station at Clarkson. Arrangements for a tour were discussed. A number of members indicated interest. Further planning will take place at the Executive Meeting.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

5 PEAKS...Fun

By Fred Robinson, VE3GCP. We had some fun, learned a bit, and did some PR for the club.

In early April, I received an email, asking if the club would be interested in doing the communications for an

up-coming (running) race in Dundas. I contacted the sender for more information and then presented the idea to the executive.

The race turned out to be a "trail race" in the Dundas Conservation Area" to be held on Saturday May 13. The race was being hosted and managed by an organization from BC who are now doing events in other provinces. A trail race is basically a route through the woods which may include hills and difficult terrain. The DVCA is certainly that but it is also a very interesting place. The area for the race was the face of the escarpment between Governor's Road and the top of the escarpment above Dundas. There is a replica of a 1900s train station in the centre of the park which is known as the Trail Centre. This conservation centre would be the radio control site and the race headquarters. At various points in the race route, the runners would be on the park trails, a section of the Bruce Trail and would run past historical sites such as the Hermitage and the historical Gatehouse.



Ron Ouwehand (VE3OUW), Emsley Mitchell (VE3JAI), Bob Brown (VE3CYE), Brian Bowie (VA3BMB), Fred Robinson (VE3GCP), Mark Proctor (VE3RYI) -at another location and not in the photo were Bill Pleydon (VE3KYC) and Mark Gibson (VA3MWH)

There were three races included in the day's events. A race around the Trail Centre building for the little folks (under age 12) "Sport" race of 5.7 K and the "Enduro" of 12.3K for the serious folks. The races started at 10:00 AM with about 350 adults in the Sport and Enduro. These two races coursed through the park in a figure of "8" pattern and included a net elevation change of about 200 feet. There were some slippery sections because it had rained the night before but we had a beautiful day for the event. The organizer had requested a command centre (station) and 3 other specific locations on the route which they felt would be strategic. We added 2 other spots and a rover to give us the coverage we felt would best serve the competitors. A week prior to race day, Emsley and I went to the race area to do a radio coverage test of the park. We found that we could get good coverage of the race route and surrounding with hand-helds on simplex. It was decided to manage the event on simplex and go to VE3NCF for back-up. Detailed conservation maps, route maps, race info and assignments were sent out by email.

Since this event was on the same day as the ARES involvement at the Bay Front Park, some of the club members were not available. I was fortunate to get the following volunteers: Mark Gibson VE3MWH, Bill Pleydon VE3KYC, Ron Ouwehand VE3OUW, Emsley Mitchell VE3JAI, Mark Proctor VE3RYI, Bob Brown VE3CYE and Brian Bowie VA3BMB. Some of the fellows had previous experience with other races and some were getting involved for the first time. We used a 25 watt mobile rig with a high-gain commercial antenna for the Control Station and the other rigs were hand-helds or small mobiles with a small battery pack. One criterion that we set was that everyone would be completely portable so that we were not dependent on our cars. This also gave us the ability to move about in the

park or the woods as needed. The first-aid team was the Ski-Patrol Rescue Team. These people were



highly trained, organized and experienced people.

Of course, the day did not go off without a hitch, but it was a good opportunity for us to practice traffic handling and working as a team. Before the races even started there was a bit of a glitch. It seems that there was a misunderstanding between the race manager and the park management and some of the gates that were supposed to be open were locked. Anyway, our guys found the key people and got the gates open in plenty of time. Some of our guys went straight to their radio location from home and some reported to the control station. Our control station was next to an old train and we were supplied with a large awning and picnic table. There were several displays going on and a live band played for most of the time. There were no serious injuries according to the safety patrol. By 12:30 the runners were finished and we had a chance to slow down. Our guys reported back to the control station since there were hot dogs, hamburgs, pop and T-shirts waiting for us. This gave us a chance to sit and talk-over our efforts and meet some of the other committee people. Ron met a nice YL who was willing to take our photo at the control station. You will notice in the photo that this was a good opportunity for the club to fly the

banner. Eventually, we all went home and everyone asked to be called if we do this again next year.

Subsequent to the race I received an email which included the following quote;

Hamilton Amateur Radio Club did an awesome job providing seamless communication for the races. Their operators were a great help; dynamic and adapting to the changing needs of the race. The HARC Crest was included on the race flyer and list of sponsors.

I wish to add my personal thanks. We did some PR, learned a bit and had some

fun.

Fred VE3GCP

Unexpected News about the Basic (+) License.

The following advisory came to us through the Burlington Amateur Radio Club. It has implications for Canadian Amateurs Wishing to Operate Outside Canada

If you have a no code license you may be affected by the following aspects of the regulations regarding operation outside of Canada and Canadian waters.

As you are aware, if you have Basic with Honours, or Basic plus Morse, or Advanced with or without Morse you may operate on HF in Canada and in our territorial waters.

Operating outside Canada is governed by different rules depending on where you are, but in general persons holding only a Canadian Basic with Honours qualification, without any Morse Code, may not operate HF on any mode in most

countries, including the US and their territorial waters.

If you have Basic with Honours or Basic plus Morse or Advanced qualifications, you may operate in international waters (more than 12 miles offshore) with a VE0 call sign from Industry Canada, or you may use your home call sign and identify as maritime mobile.

Note that the Advanced certificate does not give you any new frequencies or modes over and above the Basic with Honours. However, it does allow you to use a higher power limit (1000W instead of 250W), the ability to build and use home-brew and modified transmitters, the ability to establish a repeater, the ability to remotely control a fixed station, and the authority to be the trustee for a club station.

If you already have a Basic with Honours or an Advanced certificate, obtaining the Morse qualification confers no additional privileges inside Canada and our territorial waters or in international waters, but, at this time, the code qualification is still necessary for HF operation in most other countries and their territorial waters or if you intend to operate under a reciprocal licence or agreement, including the USA and CEPT/IARP countries.

USA, CEPT and IARP:

In the US and its territorial waters, including the US Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, you may use your Canadian call sign with the appropriate US suffix (e.g. VE3AK/W2 in New York or New Jersey) without any additional paperwork (provided you do not also hold a license from the FCC - see below under "Licensed in more than one Country?"). However, you must have a Morse code qualification to operate on HF (any mode) in the US. An operator with only a Canadian Basic with Honours qualification may not operate on HF in the US, its territories, or in US territorial waters.

You may operate under a CEPT permit in countries which accept such permits. There is a list at <http://www.rac.ca/regulatory/cept.htm> - in addition to most European countries, as well as South Africa and New Zealand, there are a few in the Americas, including the Netherlands Antilles, Peru, and French overseas territories such as St. Pierre & Miquelon, Guadeloupe, Martinique, etc., including their territorial waters.

Canadians holding Canadian amateur certificates can obtain a CEPT permit from RAC. However, there are two classes of CEPT permit. To operate on HF (any mode) under CEPT you need a CEPT Class 1 permit, and you must have a Morse Code qualification to get a Class 1 CEPT permit in Canada. An operator with only a Basic with Honours qualification can only get a CEPT Class 2 permit, which only allows them to operate on VHF and up. Because of the CEPT rules, this applies even if the country you are operating in (e.g. the UK) no longer requires Morse code for a domestic HF licence.

In certain South American countries (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Venezuela), instead of a CEPT permit you must use an IARP permit (see <http://www.rac.ca/regulatory/iarp.htm>). Peru accepts both IARP and CEPT permits. IARP permits are also available from RAC, but the rules are the same as for CEPT - you may not operate on HF (any mode) under a Class 2 IARP permit, which is all you can get if you do not have a Morse qualification.

In all Other Countries:
You must apply to the responsible authorities in that country before you can operate there. You may not operate in these countries with only a Canadian certificate or a CEPT or IARP permit. The operating privileges in these countries depend on the local administration.

Many countries have a reciprocal agreement with Canada, and it is possible for Canadians to get a licence in those countries using their Canadian operators certificate (there is a list of such countries at <http://www.rac.ca/regulatory/country.htm>).

However, the authorities in many countries still require a Morse code qualification for an amateur radio licence. These authorities quite probably would not issue a reciprocal licence with HF privileges to a Canadian without a Morse qualification. The only way to find out for sure would be to contact them directly.

Licensed in more than one Country?
Either as a result of a reciprocal agreement, or by virtue of having passed the amateur radio exam in another country, you may hold amateur radio licences from more than one country. However, if you hold a Canadian amateur radio certificate, when you are in Canada you must use the call sign given to you by Industry Canada, and your privileges are governed by your Canadian certificate. Likewise, if you hold a US FCC license, you may not use your Canadian call sign in the US; you must use your US call sign inside the US and its territories, and your operating privileges are governed by your FCC license, not by the reciprocal agreement. In other countries, consult with the local administration for the applicable rules.

Thanks to RAC and BARC for this information.

News From Around Town

by Mardy, VE3QEE

This newsletter should have been out sooner but last week my computer crashed. Fortunately, Rob, my son (VA3FDN) is home for the summer and set me up on his computer to finish the job. Some photos and such that were on my computer are not available for this issue but should be OK when the machine is repaired. Thankfully, the problem did not involve the hard drive.

I smelled burning phenolic - most HAMS have experienced this odour



CONGRATULATIONS RADIO AMATEURS.

Results of the June testing session, left to right: Eva Ayers (VA32EEV) Basic +, Nancy Lefneski (VA3TOB) Basic +, Joan Nuxoll (VE3JNX) Advanced, Anita Thomas (VA3ANI), Basic

once or twice - and I shut the machine down to let things cool off. Later, I was able to reboot and save some files to an auxiliary drive. However the next time I started the computer it shut down itself immediately. It seems the problem with my computer model was not unfamiliar to the service personnel in the computer store so there is the possibility of a free repair even though the warranty is 10 weeks out of date. I'm keeping my fingers crossed.

I am happy to report that three candidates who were in the Spring 2006 course Eva, Nancy, and Anita now have their basic qualification. If you hear these YLs on the air please welcome them to the hobby. Joan, the other YL in the picture got her basic with the CERV group and has since earned the Advanced qualification. Congratulations to all. Here is proof that Amateur Radio isn't just a guy's thing.

During the year, Vice President John Hudak (VE3CXB), produced a package of material about the Club to give to new members. It exists as a computer file which Emsley (VE3JAI), the Membership Chair can provide to

new members. If anyone would like to see a copy please ask Emsley. Also, the Club Constitution is available from the Secretary. If you would like to read a copy of the constitution please ask Mardy (VE3QEE).

If you have ever needed to grip a bolt tightly with a pair of pliers you run the risk of damaging threads on the bolt. To avoid this risk, make up a split nut by running a saw cut through one side of a nut. Thread the split nut onto the bolt where you want to grip it. Now you can apply enough force to tightly grip the bolt without damaging threads.



