



The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club  
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 Hamilton, ON L8N 4G4  
 Est. 1932 Inc. 1956  
<http://www.hamiltonarc.ca/>

# The Hamilton Amateur

The Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Newsletter – 75 Years of Amateur Radio 1932-2007

in Hamilton with a presentation about the local ARES organization for responding to local emergencies and the Environment Canada CANWARN net for observing and reporting severe weather conditions. Both Al and Jerry have been active in raising public awareness of Amateur Radio and getting Amateur Radio organizations recognized by and, indeed, written into the City of Hamilton emergency response plan.

contained in the articles or amused by the content of advertisements. For example, I found an original ad for a Dentron antenna tuner which I purchased, used, several years ago, for \$75, and learned from the ad. that the price paid was very close to the price of the tuner when it was new. Hi hi.

The following story begins during the month of August this year when I was perusing a copy of 73 Magazine dated November 1962. What caught my eye was an appealing advertisement for a publication about coils, selling way back then for 50¢. Here is what the ad. looked like, (see picture below).

From information on the ad. I saw that the book was written by a Russ Summerville, K8BYN, so, out of

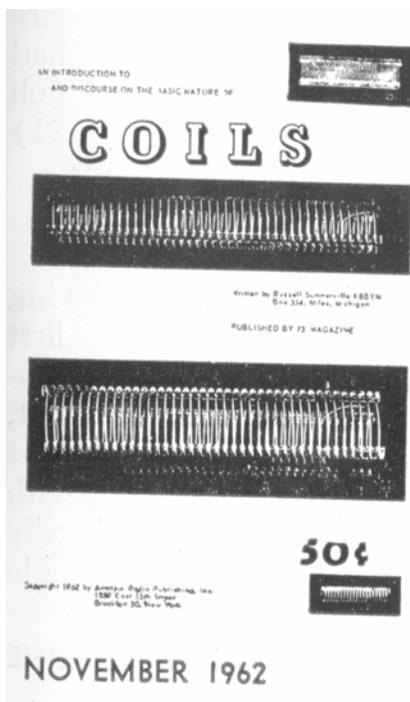
## In This Issue

- Next Meeting----- 1
- In The Nick Of Time----- 1
- HARC Executive----- 2
- Acton Monitoring Station Visit----- 2
- Christmas Party----- 2
- Minutes of the Sept. 19th Meeting----- 2
- HARC Chairs----- 3
- Important Points----- 4
- Being Among Good People----- 4
- Contest Corner----- 5
- Origin of the Term Lid- Contest Group----- 5
- Barbecue----- 5
- Here We Go Again----- 5

## In the Nick of Time

story by Mardy Edson, VE3QEE

I often browse old HAM radio magazines bought at flea markets, and, while doing so, never fail to be impressed by the useful information



This little twelve page booklet will be an interesting addition to your library. It will not only give you quite a rounded body of information about all sorts of coils, but is a fine thing to whip out and show someone who is interested in learning about radio. Marvelously written by Russ Summerville K8BYN, it is also well illustrated. It covers all types of coils and discusses their resistance, inductance, reactance, Q, and distributed capacitance. only 50¢

## Next Meeting

Meeting room opens at 7:00 p.m.  
 Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m.

### October 17th

Two guest speakers will be talking to us at the October meeting. Our own Al MacPherson, VA3AM and Jerry Osborn, VE3JSO will bring us up-to-date on emergency communications

Club meetings – 3rd Wednesday each month – 7:30 pm (except July and August) at Hamilton District Christian High School, 92 Glancaster Road corner of Rymal Road (Hwy. #53) and Glancaster Road. Parking on location. Complimentary refreshments.

curiosity, I looked up his call in the ARRL database. To my surprise, there was an address for K8BYN in Ocala Florida. Taking a chance, I sent him the following letter on September 1st, 2007.

Dear Mr Summerville:

My name is Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE. I have been a HAM since 1993 and retiree since 1997. I am active in the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club where I currently hold a course helping people obtain their Basic license.

I was recently browsing an old 73 magazine from November 1962, and came across your advertisement for a Coils publication which described "a rounded body of information", (pun duly noted), and promised to cover aspects of the coil which we study in our Basic and Advanced amateur radio courses.

I would be delighted to view this publication in some form, if a copy still exists. How would you advise me to proceed?

Sincerely yours,  
Mardy Eedson, VE3QEE

On October 1st, I got a bittersweet reply.

Dear Mardy Eedson:

My father is Russell Summerville. He passed away in February of this year following an illness. My mother passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on September 15. I flew to Florida to take care of all of their affairs.

On her desk, I found your letter along with this copy of "Coils" that she intended to send you. Enjoy!  
Sincerely, Linda ...

I have read this booklet cover to cover and indeed it lives up to every promise of the advertisement. Many of the features I pondered while examining old coils are explained in the text. I feel both lucky and privileged to have received a copy of the original 45 year-old publication just in the nick of time.

My condolences go out to Linda for the loss of her Father in February and the sudden loss of her Mother

## HARC 2007-2008 Executive

### President

Lorraine MacPherson VA3NZ  
905-389-7653 va3nz@rac.ca

### Past President

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE  
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### First Vice President

Emsley Mitchell VA3QI / VE3JAI  
905-627-0333

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### Secretary

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### Treasurer

Fred Robinson VE3GCP  
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### Director

Adam Mitchell, VE3BAU  
ibis101@hotmail.com

two weeks ago. At the same time my thanks go to the family for sharing her Father's book. I will try to keep alive the knowledge it contains in the same spirit that Russell Summerville K8BYN did so many years ago.

## Acton Monitoring Station Visit

*announcement by Lorraine VA3NZ*

There will be room for 20 people to visit the Industry Canada spectrum monitoring station at Acton Ontario. A tour has been arranged for a small

group of people on the evening of Wednesday, November 14th from 7:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M. We plan to drive to the monitoring station by car, and meet in the parking lot where we will be greeted by our host, and taken on a guided tour around and inside the facility. If you don't have a car arrangements can be made to ride with another member. Because spots on the tour are limited let us know soon if you are interested. Should more than 20 people express an interest in taking the tour, it might be possible to arrange a second trip later in the year. To reserve a spot please contact Lorraine by e-mail at <va3nz@rac.ca> or by telephone at 905-389-7653.

## Christmas Party

*Announcement by Fred VE3GCP*

Hi everyone, we are booked at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday in December, which is December 12. The format is basically the same as in previous years. Cost for the evening's festivities will be \$30.00 per plate. There is a social hour from 6:00 P.M. followed by dinner at 7:00 P.M. Please let Fred know your plans to attend. In former years we have had upwards of 50 persons attending, and it has been an enjoyable evening of fellowship and a night out for the wives. Hope to see you there.

## Minutes of the September 19, 2007 General Meeting

*by secretary Roger Pimm, VE3UFZ*

Our guest speaker for this meeting was Guenther Schweigl of i2S Technologies. Guenther's presentation was on the technology and techniques used in mapping RF radiation patterns. Guenther showed the club the sophisticated software used in creating 3D models of radiation patterns of single and multiple antennas. This software not

only showed the geometric pattern generated by the intermingling of RF radiation patterns, but also showed the relative intensity of the radiation by using a colour scale illustration which used red for intense radiation through to blue for faint radiation. This computer model is used to predict the effects of RF transmission from multiple antenna sites in built up areas like the intense field surrounding the top of the CN Tower. Using the modeling program Guenther demonstrated how the combination of a typical high gain antenna along with high power could place some areas of the typical HAM household within the field of harmful exposure.

Guenther showed us a high gain compact log periodic UHF/VHF antenna manufactured by his company Degen Designs which is available at local Hamfests.

#### Business Meeting

The meeting opened with the official handing over of the gavel from Mardy VE3QEE to Lorraine VA3NZ. Casey VE3CVP presented Mardy with the Order of the Gavel. This is the third time that Mardy has received this award. Congratulations Mardy! The minutes of the May General Meeting were presented as published in the club newsletter. It was moved by Fred VE3GCP and seconded by Doug VE3NBL that the minutes be adopted as published.

Treasurers Report: Fred VE3GCP reported that the club spent around \$400 to upgrade the club repeater. There were some minor special costs associated with the club's 75th Anniversary. Other than that, the club is in good financial shape. Fred indicated that he will be assembling a formal "Year End" financial report for the Executive meeting. Moved by Fred and seconded by Mike VA3WXS that the report be accepted.

Membership Report: Emsley VE3JAI reported that at the beginning of the meeting we had 21 paid up members. During the start of the meeting another 19 paid their membership bringing the total membership to

date to 40. Moved by Mike VA3WXS, seconded by Mardy VE3QEE that the report be accepted.

Education Report: Mardy VE3QEE reported that he has a basic class of one student. An Advanced class will be held this club year depending on interest. There were several members who expressed their interest at the meeting.

#### New Business

Christmas Dinner: The annual Christmas party will replace our regular December meeting but occur a week earlier on the second Wednesday of the month. The cost of the dinner will be around \$30 per plate and it will be held at the Royal Hamilton Yacht Club.

CWHM Donation: Further to the notice in the September newsletter, the club ratified by a show of hands the decision by the executive to donate \$1000 to the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum. The ratification vote was unanimous.

Hamfest 2007: Our annual Flea Market will be held on October 13. The event, called HARC Hamfest 2007 still needs volunteers for Setup and Takedown, as well as for Security. The doors open at 6:00 a.m. for setting up tables and chairs before vendors arrive at 7:00 a.m. The Pathfinders will operate the kitchen again as they have in previous years. The Pathfinders provide free coffee during the Flea Market and use the proceeds of food sales to sponsor camping costs for girls. The Flea Market is usually over by noon. Tear down is usually finished before 1:00 p.m.. The more people involved with the setup and tear down the easier it will be on the back for some of us old-timers.

Contesting: Rick VE3BK presented certificates to each of the participants of the 2007 Ontario QSO Party. The participants were: VA3DJ, VE3BK, VE3EEZ, VE3GCP, VE3JAI, VE3NYX, VE3OCD, VE3OZO, VE3QEE, VE3RYI, VE3BAU, and Cassandra. The club accumulated 126,960 points and achieved 1st place in Haldiman County and 1st place

### HARC 2006-2007 Chairs

#### Awards Chairman

Casey VanBroekhoven VE3CVP  
905-385-8724 <ve3cvp@gmail.com>

#### Contesting Manager / Property

Rick Danby VE3BK  
905-544-3253 <rdanby@sympatico.ca>

#### Education Chair / Flea Market

Mardy Eedson VE3QEE 905-648-0187  
<meedson@cogeco.ca>

#### Volunteer Examiners

Lorraine MacPherson VA3NZ  
905-389-7653 <va3nz@rac.ca> and  
Bernard Granby VA3XJ  
905-527-7175 <berngran@hwcn.org>

#### Field Day Co-ordinator

David Bruton VE3DWJ  
905-383-9808 <am983@hwcn.org>

#### Repeater Chairman

John Vandenberg VE3DVV 905-692-3802  
<JVandenberg@mountaincable.net>

#### Health & Welfare Chairperson

Mary Urbanski VE3OGQ 905-388-8383

#### Hospitality

Bernie Granby VA3XJ 905-527-7175  
<berngran@hwcn.org>

#### Membership Chair / Web Page

Emsley Mitchell VE3JAI 905-627-0333  
<eamitch@mcmaster.ca>

#### Newsletter Editor

John Hudak VE3CXB 905-627-9475  
<hudakjm@mcmaster.ca>

#### Public Liaison Co-Chair

Stanley Bolibruch VE3GFE 905-528-4002  
Neil Galloway VE3VNG 905-383-6986

#### Swap Net Controller

Don Grisenthwaite VE3DDQ  
905-388-1365 <ve3ddq1947@cogeco.ca>

#### Communication

Michael Krebs VA3WXS 905-523-9005  
<mkrebs@sympatico.ca>

#### Web Master

Anita Thomas VA3ANI,  
<hamiltonarc.ca>

## Important Points

### Executive Meetings

HARC Executive committee meets each month, except July and August. 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 at 7:30 p.m. HARC "swap net" follows at 8 p.m. All contacts are welcome.

### Examinations

Amateur radio license examinations are conducted the second Wednesday of each month, except July and August. Contact the voluntary examiners to make an appointment. There will be a fee for each examination.

### 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 factual content. E-mail submissions to Editor, John Hudak VE3CXB, <hudakjm@mcmaster.ca>

South-Western Ontario. Congratulations to all the participants. Rick also reported that we got 2nd place in Canada for our efforts on Field Day 2007. The CQ World Wide Contest will be held starting on Friday October 26 at 8:00pm and will continue to Sunday at 8:00pm.

Adjournment. Moved by Mike VA3WXS and seconded by Mardy VE3QEE that the meeting be adjourned at 9:30pm.

## Being Among Good People

*contributed by Fred VE3GCP*

When I was young I asked my mom, "How can I be successful?" and she offered the following advice, "By associating with good people".

Within the ranks of our Amateur Radio hobby we tend to appreciate people based on their contribution to our hobby and sometimes that focus may be a bit narrow. There are people in our club who do more in the community beyond HAM radio and I think it's worthwhile to appreciate that from time to time.

Case in point: on September 28, 2007 the Children's Aid Society of Hamilton, held a Recognition Night for Foster Parents at a banquet centre on the mountain. There was a formal dinner at which were recognized local persons who have served the community. Prominent in the *Program* the following page appeared: (see insert below).

That others recognize one of our own gives us all cause to be proud. On behalf of the members of the HARC we extend our sincere congratulations to Ron & Janet.

## *Janet & Ron Ouwehand* *20 Years of Service*

Janet and Ron Ouwehand have been opening their doors to enfold children into their hearts and lives for the past 20 years.

During that time the Ouwehands have cared for more than 60 children. While the children have been big and small, male and female, of different ethnicities and religions, they have all been welcomed by the same open hearts, smiling faces, and with full acceptance.

Janet and Ron love children and that is very evident in how they live their lives. They are always willing to help one more child, or help the Society in whatever way they can - if it means that a child will have a home and feel loved.

Janet and Ron have always been a passionate voice for the children in their care. They advocate on their behalf to ensure that their needs and interests are being heard and met.

Though saying goodbye to a child is always difficult, Janet and Ron continually place others before themselves and are quick to say "yes" when the agency calls to see if they can take another child.

On behalf of all the children that have received love in your home, Janet and Ron, we say "thank you".

By: Melanie Raakman

## Contest Corner

by chairman Rick Danby VE3BK

VE3DC will be on the air again for the CQWDX Contest working DX from as many stations as we can. Translation: this is the CQ Magazine sponsored, world-wide, long distance contest which is a fun contest where everyone in the world seems to be on the air.

The contest runs 48 hours beginning at 00:00 GMT October 27 and ending at 24:00 GMT October 28.

In local time this means that we will be setting up before supper on the Friday night to be on the air for 8pm Friday October 26 and the contest runs till 8pm on Sunday night October 28, 2007.

October 28 was usually the weekend that the clocks went back, however, this year the clocks are not set back until November 4th.

All operators are welcome. Come out for a period of time during the contest and enjoy the opportunity to contact stations all over the world. The bands will be alive, not like when you turn the radio on at home, and we will be using good antennas and amplifiers, which means your signal will be answered from a pile-up.

Even if you can only spare a couple of hours, it gives the other operators a

break, you will have fun, and your contacts will push up our score. Tell Rick VE3BK at 905-544-3253 or by e-mail at <rdanby@sympatico.ca> if you think you can come so he can co-ordinate our activity. This is HAM radio, lets do it!

Rules for the contest are available at: <http://www.cq-amateur-radio.com/cqwhome.html>

## Origin of the Term Lid

*This item originated with the Western Illinois ARC. W9AWE It came to us by e-mail.*

What is a lid? Originally, early landline telegraphers coined the term. It was used as a term of derision, and applied to inept operators, some of whom placed the lid of a tobacco can on their sounders, which had the effect of amplifying and adding a "ring" to the clacking of the sounder. Amateurs adopted the term to describe incompetent operators.

In my opinion, when you hear someone using a term like *lid*, and pointing a finger, you might wonder if that finger, turned back on the accuser, could indicate things more accurately. I do. (Ed.)

## Contest Group and Club Barbecue

report by Rick VE3BK

The barbecue went on, even though the weather did not co-operate. One thing the Contest Group guys know, is that rain, snowstorm or shine, contests go on anyway, and so does the barbecue.

I started out thinking that day, that probably everyone would think it was a no go because of the rain. I had promised Dan that Pat (my wife) and I would be out early to help set everything up so that when people were arriving, we wouldn't be scrambling to get all the condiments etc. all put out.

I had called Dan in the morning and he informed me that his dad had gone and picked up a huge tarp to put over the gazebo area in the rear, so we could sit if it was sprinkling. Well we never used it.

Pat and I showed up early as planned. We set up everything in Dan's kitchen and then everyone started arriving. I was really surprised at how many did show up. It really was a good turnout. Check out the pictures. The weather was still sprinkling but we had a great time in Dan's living room to start with. It became so warm in there from all the people, that Dan had to turn on his air conditioning.

We started with eating some of the great salads the ladies had made, because Jim VE3EEZ, his wife Dawna and daughter Krista had to leave early for a family function, but still were able to drop in for some fellowship with other Contest Group and Club members. I ended up stuffed when I finally went home, because we ate again when we barbecued.

The group migrated "outside" so we could put whatever we brought on the barbi. Joe, Dan's dad, had set-up a huge table just inside the large double size garage, so that we didn't even get any sprinkles from the



passing rain. Actually by this time, it was really only cloudy out and we could've probably gone outside (very nice property) but we were having such a good time, the men ended up talking at the table and watching the barbecue, while the women seemed to stay in the kitchen-livingroom area.

I don't know about anyone else, but I was stuffed. My wife made a great mushroom, green pepper etc. dish to put on our steaks, enough that we shared it with everyone (that is what potluck is all about) and still brought some home. Next year I think I will get better steaks. Those quick ones

were too quick hi hi, but the one Fred VE3GCP had, looked delicious.

I want to thank Dan's Mom and Dad (Joe and Irene) as well as Dan, for being such gracious hosts and letting us have access to their beautiful property.

Jim VE3EEZ, Fred VE3GCP, Dan VA3DJ, Steve VE3OZO, Deb Steve's Wife, Irene Dan's Mom, Dawna Jim's Wife



John VE3DVV, Dan VA3DJ, Joe Dan's Dad, Steve VE3OZO Fred VE3GCP, Mark VE3RYI

