

# **History of the Almonte Amateur Radio Club**

last updated May 22, 2010

Bill Barrie VE3AAS     Neil Carleton VE3NCE



## **Early Amateur Radio Activity in the Almonte and Carleton Place Area**

**By Bill Barrie VE3AAS**

### **1958**

Joe Norton, VE3PK, in Pakenham was my first radio contact in this area. We QSO'd on 75 meters from St. Lambert at a time when VE3AAS was temporarily VE2IK.

### **1961**

VE3AAS moved to Almonte. The HF bands were much in use at this period and there were big beam antennas sprouting up in the back yards of Tom Howe VE3AAT, Syd Bateman VE3FSH, Larry Schweizer VE3IHZ, VE3AAS, and others. Don Stewart VE3PDF was moving around the globe and made many contacts with Almonte on 20 meters. Weekly skeds with VE2AGM / W4 found VE3AAS unexpectedly participating in Sunday Mass across the street at St. Mary's, and also through the PA system of the United Church off the back of the beam.

The monitoring station of the federal Department of Communications on Highway 29, not far from town, employed three active hams, two living in Almonte: Ron VE3FIN and Ross VE3DIW. When VE3FIN later moved to Ottawa, we gained the Ainsworth family, Louise VE3LJA, Terry VE3TLC, Colleen VE3YAW, and Sean VE3SMA.

### **1970s**

The mini-net on repeater VE3STP was the meeting place for the earliest radio enthusiasts in the Ottawa Valley from Hawkesbury to Deep River. Radio activity built up after Japanese equipment came on the market with solid state 10 watt transceivers capable of frequency switching with crystals and synthesizers. Commuters to Ottawa used repeater VE2CRA, while it was VE3STP for mobiling in the upper part of the Ottawa Valley.

By general agreement, 146.52 MHz simplex was the local frequency. It was here that the Goblin Patrol in Almonte operated on a number of Halloween nights.

### **1990s**

In the 1990s, hams in the Carleton Place area joined with the Almonte Radio Repeater League (ARRL). Both the HF and VHF bands enjoyed a big increase in ragchew, contest, packet, and the present digital revolution. It was during this period we determined that the ARRL would be an unorganized organization with no constitution, no dues, and no meetings, except by chance at the post office.

At a meeting in Ottawa, the well known VE3HC discussed the existence of the Canadian ARRL with the President of the American Radio Relay League (ARRL), and had a good chuckle.

## **Year – By – Year**

from the archives of the Almonte Radio Repeater League (1984-2004)  
and the Almonte Amateur Radio Club (2005-2009)

Neil Carleton VE3NCE

1984

### GOBLIN PATROL

Although a formal club had not yet been established in the area, Almonte radio amateurs were actively performing community service in 1984.

Assisting the Ontario Provincial Police, they provided a volunteer Goblin Patrol on Halloween night with mobile amateur radio stations monitoring activities in town at Blackburn's garage, Peterson's ice cream plant, the Royal Bank, library, and the IGA grocery store. The amateur radio control station was also assisted by other mobile volunteers who visited the neighbourhoods of seniors and schools.

Almonte and area radio amateurs who helped out included:

Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC  
Bill Barrie VE3AAS  
Syd Bateman VE3FSH  
Brian Hick VE3BRT

Tom Howe VE3AAT  
Larry Schweizer VE3IHZ  
Don Stewart VE3PDF  
Al Wrenshall, VE3PAW  
John Newman VE3DDN  
Mark Penney VE3MSP  
Art Childerhose VE3CGD  
Ron Power VE3FIN  
Brian VE3ELQ

1986

This 1986 photo from the weekly Almonte Gazette newspaper is the earliest shot in the AARC archives.

I remember stopping at the amateur radio station that was set up outside the Reformed Presbyterian Church

in Almonte, on Bay Hill. I met Larry VE3IHZ, and learned that it was a JOTA operation with the second Almonte scouts. The group was having fun at the microphone, and I stayed to see what amateur radio was all about.



1992

### CLUB ESTABLISHED

An amateur radio club was formed on May 1, 1992, for the Almonte area of eastern Ontario, including Pakenham, Carleton Place, Corkery, Blakeney, and Carp. In a news release dated May 9<sup>th</sup>, it was announced that the Almonte Radio Repeater League (ARRL) had been established, and a meeting was planned for later in the month.

The inaugural meeting of the ARRL was held at the Superior Restaurant in Almonte at 7:00 p.m. on May 24<sup>th</sup>. The meeting was convened and chaired by Tom Howe VE3AAT, and attended by Bill Barrie VE3AAS, John Kirkwood VE3KLY, Tim Ray VE3XV, Kieran Shepherd VE3OSQ, Peter Williams VE3TFP, and Al Wrenshall VE3PAW.

The need for a club, and the purpose of the meeting, was stated to be (i) the relocation of the VE3AAT repeater to the Highway 15 property of Tim VE3XV, and (ii) the operation of a repeater with better coverage and an auto-patch. Membership was to be open to all interested radio amateurs.

The original SCR1000 30WT VHF repeater, #641 duplexer, VHF duplexer cables, FL-6 filter, lightning protection, and phone patch, was originally purchased in 1984 for \$3273.95 by Larry Schweizer VE3IHZ.

The inaugural officers established at the May 24<sup>th</sup> meeting were President - Tom Howe VE3AAT, Vice President - Tim Ray VE3XV, Treasurer - Bill Barrie VE3AAS, Secretary - Al Wrenshall VE3PAW.

The first year of operation was funded by a \$20.00 contribution from each member:

Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC  
Bill Barrie VE3AAS  
Al Hepburn VE3GFZ  
Brian Hick VE3BRT  
Tom Howe VE3AAT  
John Kirkwood VE3KLY  
Tim Ray VE3XV  
Al Ross VE3DMR  
Kieran Shepherd VE3OSQ  
Don Smith VE3SPM  
Don Stewart VE3PDF  
Peter Williams VE3TFP  
Bob Ward VE3ZXV  
Al Wrenshall VE3PAW

#### REPEATER RELOCATED

The relocated VE3AAT repeater began operation in July 1992 on a frequency of 147.27 MHz (147.870 output), with a power of 30 watts at 13.8 V, using a Telrex V-2S antenna with two stacked 5/8 sections. The site was provided by Tim Ray VE3XV, and the shack was built by Al Wrenshall VE3PAW and Bill Barrie VE3AAS. John Kirkwood VE3EEV (KLY) supplied the feed line, and Al Ross VE3DMR re-activated the battery and solved the intermod problems.

1993

FIELD DAY

On the weekend of June 26-27, members of the Almonte Radio Repeater League and the West Carleton Amateur Radio Club took part in a 24 hour field day





Members of the West Carleton Amateur Radio Club, which includes participants from Almonte and Carleton Place, pose for this group shot during their 24-hour emergency services demonstration at the Mill of Kintail June 26. Shown here, left to right, are Dave Burniston, Brian Crook, Ken Holt, Jordan Williams, Peter Williams, and Bill Barrie.



operation, coordinated by Peter Williams VE3TFP, to test their emergency communications skills. Other volunteers at the event were:

Bill Barrie VE3AAS  
Dave Burniston VE3LFQ  
Brian Crook VE3CRG  
Gord Dey VE3PPE  
Al Hepburn VE3GFZ  
Ken Holt VE3VC  
Tom Howe VE3AAT  
Vickie Howe VE3VVH  
John Kirkwood VE3EEV  
Tim Ray VE3XV  
Al Ross VE3DMR  
Larry Schweizer VE3IHZ  
Kieran Shepherd VE3OSQ  
Rob Webb VE3UIX

1994

#### REPEATER PURCHASE

The repeater was purchased in January 1994 from Tom Howe VE3AAT, who moved to Calgary, for \$500 with funds provided by 10 trustees:

Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC  
Bill Barrie VE3AAS  
Brian Hick VE3BRT  
Dietor Jeschor VE3AVJ  
John Kirkwood VE3EEV  
Tim Ray VE3XV  
Al Ross VE3DMR  
Don Smith VE3SPM  
Don Stewart VE3PDF  
Al Wrenshall VE3PAW.

#### NEW CALL SIGN

The new call sign of VA3AAR (Almonte Amateur Radio) replaced VE3AAT.

The antenna was raised about 15 feet on masting provided by Larry Schweizer VE3IHZ. Lightning proofing was installed by Darwin Thom VE3DXR and Al Wrenshall VE3PAW.

A phone patch was operational with access to Almonte, Carleton Place, Pakenham, Ottawa, and Hull.

#### MEMBERSHIP GROWING

In September 1994, the ARRL had 17 members:

Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC  
Bill Barrie VE3AAS Treasurer  
Tom Bartello VE3ELM

Jim Griffith VE3KJG  
Brian Hick VE3BRT  
Vicki Howe VE3VVH  
Dieter Jeschor VE3AVJ  
John Kirkwood VE3EEV  
Clive Oakes VE3YB  
Tim Ray VE3XV President  
Al Ross VE3DMR Vice President  
Larry Schweiser VE3IHZ  
Don Smith VE3SPM  
Don Stewart VE3PDF  
Peter Williams VE3TFP  
Bob Wilson VE3RAJ  
Al Wrenshall VE3PAW Secretary

### GOBLIN PATROL

In partnership with the Ontario Provincial Police, members of the ARRL continued to provide a successful Goblin Patrol in Almonte on Halloween night.

1995

### NEW MEMBERS and CALL SIGN CHANGES \*

Colleen Ainsworth VE3YAW - Almonte  
Louise Ainsworth VE3LJA - Almonte  
Sean Ainsworth VA3SMA - Almonte  
Don Fraser VE3CDF - Ottawa  
John Kirkwood VE3CN \*  
Russ Kirkwood VE3RKB - Richmond  
Charles Lawrence VE3FEJ - Almonte  
Darwin Thom VE3DXR - Carleton Place  
Lynn Thom VE3DCQ - Carleton Place

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT NETS

During the past year, Andy Webb VE3UIY conducted a net at 9:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

### FIELD DAY

For the 4<sup>th</sup> year at the Mill of Kintail, members of the Almonte Radio Repeater League and the West Carleton Amateur Radio Club took part in a 24 hour field day operation to test their emergency communications skills. From a handful of radio amateurs in the first year, 35 volunteers took part on the weekend of June 24-25 in 1995. Visitors were encouraged to see what was going on, and even try their hand at the controls of one of the demonstration HF, satellite, and VHF stations. The weekly Almonte Gazette newspaper included a feature with accompanying photo about the field day in the July 5<sup>th</sup> edition.



George Sansom (left) and Pat Stever try to make contacts from their computer station at this past weekend's 24-hour amateur radio field day at the Mill of Kintail.

### GOBLIN PATROL

ARRL volunteers continued to operate a successful Goblin Patrol in Almonte on Halloween night. The club received a thank you letter from the OPP Detachment Commander acknowledging the valuable service.

1996

### APRIL MEMBERSHIP

Support for the ARRL continued to grow and the membership list had 30 names in April 1996.

Colleen Ainsworth VE3YAW Almonte  
 Louise Ainswoth VE3LJA Almonte  
 Sean Ainswoth VA3SMA Almonte  
 Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC Almonte  
 Bill Barrie VE3AAS Almonte  
 Tom Bartello VE3ELM Carp  
 William Boon VA3WWG White Lake  
 John Chistensen VE3IAO Carp  
 James Griffith VE3KJG Perth  
 Brian Hick VE3BRT Carleton Place  
 Dietor Jeschor VE3AVJ Carleton Place  
 John Kirkwood VE3CN Almonte  
 Russ Kirkwood VE3RKB Richmond  
 Charles Lawrence VE3FEJ Almonte  
 Eric MacGillivray VE3LBE Kemptville  
 Mike MacGregor VE3QMM Carlet Place  
 Les McCready VA3BZQ  
 Tim Ray VE3XV Almonte  
 Daniel Reardon VE3GVV Stittsville  
 Al Ross VE3DMR Carleton Place  
 Don Smith VE3SPM Almonte  
 Don Stewart VE3PDF Almonte  
 Darwin Thom VE3DXR Carleton Place  
 Lynn Thom VE3DCQ Carleton Place

Andy Webb VE3UIY Carp  
Rob Webb VE3UIX Carp  
Bob Wilson VE3RAJ Carleton Place  
Al Wrenshall VE3PAW Rideau Ferry  
Jack VE3TJB  
Guy VE3WCL

#### GOBLIN PATROL

The Goblin Patrol in Almonte was an annual event for the ARRL with volunteer members assisting the Ontario Provincial Police in patrolling the town.

1997

#### CLUB ACTIVITIES

In the July annual report, ARRL activities during the year included (1) Wednesday night nets with net control Les VA3BZQ; (2) doughnut or coffee gatherings at 9:30 a.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, at the Country Style doughnut shop on Highway 7 in Carleton Place; and (3) the successful Goblin Patrol on Halloween night.

#### REPEATER REFURBISHING

Extensive work on the repeater was carried out by Al Ross VE3DMR and Phil St. Germain VE3CIQ. Medals were to be handed out at a later date.

#### NEW ARRL SECRETARY

When Al Wrenshall VE3PAW relocated to Rideau Ferry, Louise Ainsworth VE3LJA assumed the duties of Secretary.

#### DONATED EQUIPMENT

The sale of items donated to the ARRL by the wife of the late Larry Schweizer VE3IHZ brought in \$715.00 by September. With \$250.00 received in membership fees, the club's account totaled \$965.00 with all expenses paid in full.

1998

#### ICE STORM OF THE CENTURY

During the ice storm of the century, AARC volunteers provided valuable communications assistance from the emergency post at the Almonte town hall. A Certificate of Appreciation was received from the Town of Mississippi Mills to recognize the club's contribution.

#### NEW REPEATER

Al Ross VE3DMR and Phil St. Germain VE3CIQ continued with the refurbishment of the old VHF repeater to keep it running. A new repeater was generously donated by Manfred Kahle VA3MWK.

#### JUNE MEMBERSHIP

In June 1998, the membership list of the ARRL was 32 names long with many returning members as well as new supporters.

Colleen Ainsworth VE3YAW Almonte  
Louise Ainswoth VE3LJA Almonte  
Sean Ainswoth VA3SMA Almonte  
Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC Almonte  
Bill Barrie VE3AAS Almonte  
Tom Bartello VE3ELM Carp  
Fred Chamberlain VE3CFZ Almonte  
John Chistensen VE3IAO Carp  
Dale Hennigar VE3XZT  
Brian Hick VE3BRT Carleton Place  
Bruce Hodgkinson VE3JIL Pakenham  
John Kirkwood VE3CN Almonte  
Russ Kirkwood VE3RKB Richmond  
Charles Lawrence VE3FEJ Almonte  
Phil Lytle VE3HOA Carleton Place  
Eric MacGillivray VE3LBE Kemptville  
Mike MacGregor VE3QMM Carlet Place  
Les McCready VA3BZQ  
Murray Pierce VE3IFP Lively  
Tim Ray VE3XV Almonte  
Ross Ritchie VE3DIW Almonte  
Al Ross VE3DMR Carleton Place  
Art Scott VA3LEY Carleton Place  
Don Scott VE3QLQ Carleton Place  
Don Smith VE3SPM Almonte  
Don Stewart VE3PDF Almonte  
Phil St. Germain VE3CIQ Carleton Place  
Andy Webb VE3UIY Carp  
Rob Webb VE3UIX Carp  
Bob Wilson VE3RAJ Carleton Place  
Al Wrenshall VE3PAW Rideau Ferry

1999

#### JULY MEMBERSHIP

In June 1999, the membership list of the ARRL was 35 names long with the following new members:

Brunhilde Kahle VA3BHK Ashton  
Manfred Kahle VA3MWK Ashton

Jack Bridges VA3TJB Fitzroy Harbour  
Mark Ritchie VE3GMC Almonte

2000

### CLUB ACTIVITIES

The popular Wednesday night nets continued during the year at 9:00 p.m. on 147.27 MHz with net control Les VA3BZQ. The doughnut or coffee meetings were now held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, at 9:30 a.m. Nipperkins coffee shop in Almonte was the new gathering place, with some meeting held at the Country Style doughnut shop on Highway 7 in Carleton Place. Volunteers continued to help with the annual Goblin Partol on Halloween night to help local Almonte authorities keep the streets safe.

Thanks to Phil St. Germain VE3CIQ, the AARL now had a web site to post and share information <<http://www.igs.net/~va3aar>>.

### REPEATER OPERATION

A new repeater battery and charge controller were purchased in 2000. The main operating expense of the club was the monthly cost of a telephone line for the auto-patch service on the repeater.

Site Latitude North: 45° 11' 51"  
Site Latitude West: 76° 10' 36"  
Grid: FN15ve  
Elevation: 141 m  
Transmit: 147.270 MHz  
Receive: 147.870 MHz  
Antenna: 4 element folded dipole vertical colinear  
Antenna Gain: 8dBi  
Antenna Polarization: vertical  
Antenna Power: 12 watts to the antenna  
Antenna Height: 17 m

### MEMBERSHIP

In 2000 the ARRL had 39 members from across the greater Almonte area.

Colleen Ainsworth VE3YAW Almonte  
Louise Ainswoth VE3LJA Almonte  
Sean Ainswoth VA3SMA Almonte  
Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC Almonte  
Tammy Bahry VA3DIY Almonte  
Bill Barrie VE3AAS Almonte  
Tom Bartello VE3ELM Carp  
Jack Bridges VA3TJB Fitzroy Harbour  
Fred Chamberlain VE3CFZ Almonte  
John Chistensen VE3IAO Carp  
Bob Clermont VE3AKV Carleton Place  
Sandra Fraser VA3HYK Carleton Place  
Dale Hennigar VE3XZT Almonte  
Brian Hick VE3BRT Carleton Place



Bruce Hodgkinson VE3JIL Pakenham  
Brunhilde Kahle VA3BHK Ashton  
Manfed Kahle VA3MWK Ashton  
John Kirkwood VE3CN Almonte  
Russ Kirkwood VE3RKB Richmond  
Sandy Last VE3AFW Carleton Place  
Charles Lawrence VE3FEJ Almonte  
Phil Lytle VE3HOA Carleton Place  
Eric MacGillivray VE3LBE Kemptville  
Mike MacGregor VE3QMM Carlet Place  
Les McCready VA3BZQ  
Tim Ray VE3XV Almonte  
Mark Ritchie VE3DIX Almonte  
Ross Ritchie VE3DIW Almonte  
Al Ross VE3DMR Carleton Place  
Art Scott VA3LEY Carleton Place  
Don Scott VE3QLQ Carleton Place  
Don Smith VE3SPM Almonte  
Don Stewart VE3PDF Almonte  
Phil St. Germain VE3CIQ Carleton Place  
Ross Taylor VE3HYK Carleton Place  
Andy Webb VE3UIY Carp  
Rob Webb VE3UIX Carp  
Bob Wilson VE3RAJ Carleton Place  
Al Wrenshall VE3PAW Rideau Ferry

2001

#### CLUB ACTIVITIES

Early in the year a new slate of officers was established for the ARRL.

President Tim Ray VE3XV

Treasurer Bill Barrie VE3AAS

Secretary Tammy Bahry VA3DIY

Membership Don Scott VE3QLQ

Head of Engineering Al Ross VE3DMR

Head of Repeater Operations Fred Chamberlain VE3CFZ

Head of Emergency Services S. Mark Ritchie VE3DIX

Net Manager Les McCready VA3BZQ

Web Master Bob Clermont VE3AKV

Breakfast gatherings were held every two weeks, alternating on Saturday and Sunday at 9:15 a.m., at the Angus Barn on Highway 15 between Almonte and Carleton Place.

A contingent of the ARRL was involved with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES), and a bi-weekly ARES net was initiated on VA3AAR.

### INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION CONTACT

November – Alpha – 1 – Sierra – Sierra, this is R. Tait  
Mckenzie Public School calling

History was made on Friday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, when students at R. Tait McKenzie Public School in Almonte made radio contact with the Commander of the International Space Station as the crew passed high overhead in orbit. R. Tait McKenzie was the second school in Canada to have students speak directly with an astronaut on the ISS. This unique activity was part of the Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contact program.

This exciting educational project, using amateur radio at school to connect students with an astronaut in space, took place at 5:46 a.m., before most students and parents were usually out of bed. By 5:30 a.m. every chair in the gym was filled, and there was standing room only along the sides and at the back. As an audience of over 400 students, families, invited guests, and community visitors watched and listened, one student from each grade level (kindergarten to grade 8) took a turn stepping up to the microphone and speaking directly by amateur radio with Frank L. Culbertson, Commander of Expedition 3 in orbit on the space station. The answers, transmitted directly from the ISS, were heard throughout the gym as we all followed the position of the station on a world map that was projected on the wall of the gym.

When the last answer to the student questions was received from orbit, we still had almost 3 minutes of contact time before the space station disappeared over the eastern horizon. This was unexpected, and I had to think quickly, so that's how I got to ask Commander Culbertson a question too. Before the ISS was out of radio range, the cheering, clapping, and whistling let him know this was a community event that would be remembered for many years to come.

An 8 page souvenir newsletter, which included the names of the many community volunteers who supported the project, was sent home in December with every child at R. Tait McKenzie. A transcript of the contact was posted by the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) on its web site. Each student also submitted an essay at the invitation of Canadian astronaut Marc Garneau that was posted at the CSA web site.



Our successful event was possible because of the dedicated volunteers of the Almonte Radio Repeater League. With their help and expertise, our school prepared and submitted an outstanding ARISS application. With their encouragement, I studied for, wrote and passed my amateur radio exam to support my school's application. Following the November 1<sup>st</sup> telephone call from NASA, announcing that our contact had been scheduled, this enthusiastic team of community volunteers worked very hard in so many ways for the students of R. Tait McKenzie Public School.

They made it happen, and they did it with such class. It looked, sounded, and performed like a polished studio presentation. Our community is still in awe of their power to communicate with the heavens.

To watch a video of our remarkable contact, go to the web site of the Almonte Amateur Radio Club, at <http://www.almontearclub.ca>, and click on the link for ARISS/EVEREST.

#### ARISS Planning Team of the ARRL

This team prepared our successful ARISS application and created a plan so students at R. Tait McKenzie would be able to speak directly, by amateur radio, with an astronaut on the ISS.

Neil Carleton [VE3NCE](#), ARISS Coordinating Teacher; Bob Clermont [VE3AKV](#), Radio Contact Coordinator; Fred Chamberlain [VE3CFZ](#); Dale Hennigar [VE3XZT](#); Sandy Last [VA3AFW](#); Mark Ritchie [VE3DIX](#); Phil St. Germain [VE3CIQ](#); Andrew Webb [VE3UIY](#)

#### ARISS Radio Team of the ARRL

With materials and equipment, they loaned, borrowed, or constructed, this team made it possible to make our amateur radio contact with the ISS, and to be heard around the world on the internet, and through amateur radio repeaters in many countries.

Bob Clermont [VE3AKV](#), Radio Contact Coordinator; Travis Clermont ([VE3AKV](#) junior); Fred Chamberlain [VE3CFZ](#); Dale Hennigar [VE3XZT](#); Phil St. Germain [VE3CIQ](#); Andrew Webb [VE3UIY](#)

#### Other ARISS Volunteers of the ARRL

Art Scott VA3LEY and Don Scott VE3QLQ welded the main antenna base. Chuck Lawrence VE3FEJ was our acting astronaut across town at his apartment, helping the students practice their questions on air from room 22 at R. Tait McKenzie Public School.

### MEMBERSHIP

New members in 2001 included Celia Bartello VE3CRJ, Carp; Doug Leach VE3XK, Carp; Dieter Jeschor VE3AVJ, Carleton Place, and the Pugh family of Richmond, Audrey VE3AUD, Ed VA3PU, and Jennifer VE3AQT.

2002

### NEW ARRL POSITIONS

At the League's meeting of December 14, 2002, in Almonte's Old Town Hall, the following positions were voted on and approved.

President Tim Ray VE3XV

Vice President Bob Clermont VE3AKV

Secretary Andrew Webb VE3UIY temporary until his job situation is resolved

Treasurer Neil Carleton VE3NCE

Repeater Committee Fred Chamberlain VE3CFZ Committee Head, Al Ross VE3DMR

ARES Committee Art Scott VE3LEY Committee Head and Assistant ARES Coordinator, Don Scott VE3QLQ

Net Manager Les McCready VA3BZQ, Andy Webb VE3UIY backup controller

IRLP Committee Dale Hennigar VE3XZT Committee Head, Andrew Webb VE3UIY, Bob Clermont VE3AKV

### ARRL CONSTITUTION

A draft constitution for the League was proposed for member comments.

### FUTURE MEETINGS LOCATION

Art Brown, Fire Chief, invited League members to hold future meetings at the new fire hall, to be completed in January.

### UHF REPEATER

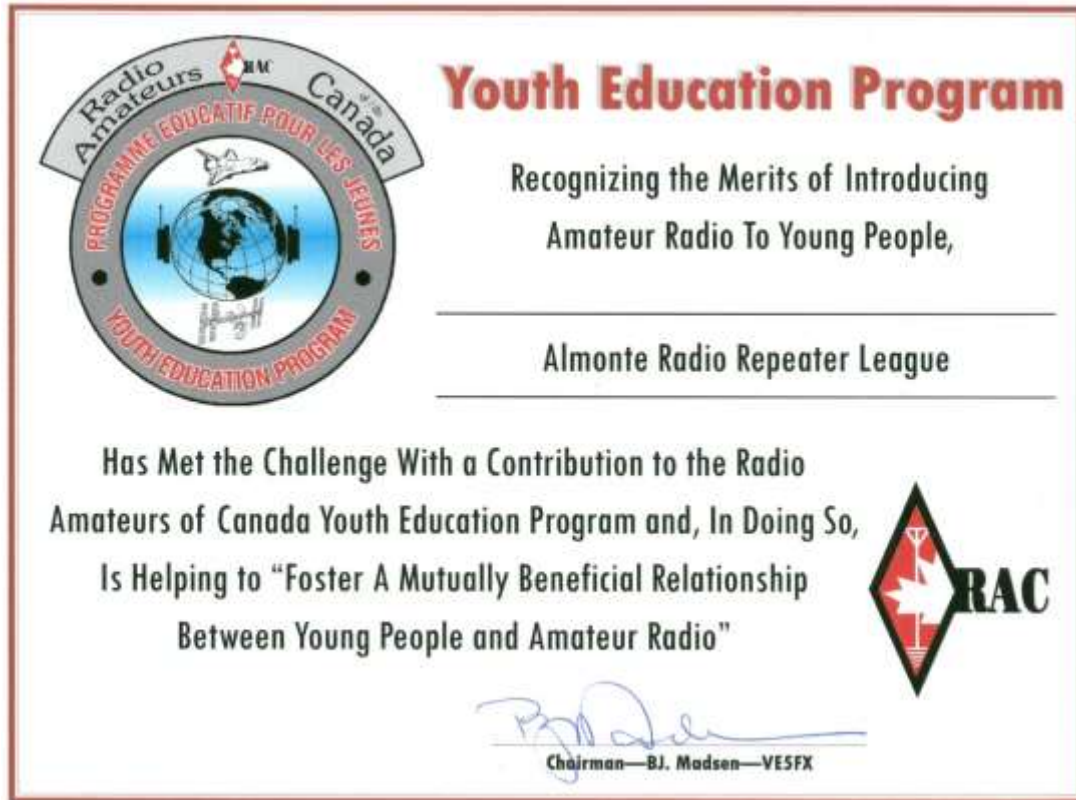
ARRL Vice President Bob Clermont VE3AKV obtained the use of a UHF repeater to be installed at a commercial site once crystals and filters had been acquired.

2003

### DONATIONS TO RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA

A donation of \$25 was made on May 25<sup>th</sup> by the ARRL for the RAC Defense of Amateur Radio Fund with the money Doug Leach VE3XK won in the League's May 14<sup>th</sup> 50/50 draw. Doug generously donated his win for the DARF.

On August 14<sup>th</sup> the ARRL donated \$100 to the RAC Youth Education Program challenging each amateur radio club across Canada to match the donation. Our contribution resulted in the donation of thousands of dollars for the YEP from radio amateurs and clubs across Canada.



#### NEW MEMBERS

Joining for the first time, or returning in 2003 after an absence, were:

Earl Andrews VE3AB Almonte  
Jim Griffith VE3KJG Perth  
Bob Sadler VE3IDD Almonte  
Darwin Thom VE3DXR Carleton Place  
Lynn Thom VE3DCQ Carleton Place

#### VISIT OF RAC PRESIDENT AND YEP CHAIRMAN

During the October 23<sup>rd</sup> open house in VE3NCE's classroom, for the after school Shortwave Listening and Amateur Radio Club at R. Tait McKenzie Public School, ARRL members had a chance to meet RAC President Bill Gillis VE1WG (right), from Moncton, New Brunswick, and YEP Chairman Bj Madsen VE5FX, from Tisdale, Saskatchewan.



2004

#### LINKING VA3AAR WITH VE3KJG

At breakfast gatherings, and during the weekly Wednesday night nets on VA3AAR, ARRL members discussed the possibility of linking the League's repeater in 2004 with VE3KJG at Lavant. Operated by the Lanark County ARES group in Perth, VE3KJG was linked with VE3RNU at Tweed, and VA3TEL at Westport.

There was general support for the idea. Some of it was conditional that the link NOT be full-time (i.e. user commandable). The question of replacement work for VA3AAR was also an issue for consideration. It was decided not to pursue the idea further until the replacement or relocation of VA3AAR had been resolved.

#### ALMONTE SCHOOL STUDENTS CONTACT ANTARCTIC SCIENTISTS

It was another active year for the grades 4 to 7 students at R. Tait McKenzie Public School in my after-school Shortwave Listening and Amateur Radio Club.

On March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>, for example, the students had their polar questions answered by a research team at US Palmer Station, about 12,350 km away on the Antarctic Peninsula. As a founding member and participating teacher of the Youth Education Program (YEP) of Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC), I used amateur radio at school each week to reach out and bring the world into my classroom.



This special project at school used the classroom UHF amateur radio station in combination with the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP), a Canadian invention. The IRLP uses Voice-Over-IP (VoIP) custom software and hardware to link VHF and UHF amateur radio stations around the world.

The student voices were transmitted from room 22 at school to the UHF amateur radio repeater and IRLP node of the ARRL on the other side of the Mississippi River. Our signals were then routed through the internet to Palmer Station.



This unique technology allowed the students and scientists to talk with each other by amateur radio for about 40 minutes on each day of our two scheduled contacts. Many thanks to Jeff Kietzmann KD7OXT at Palmer Station for his help in arranging these special contacts.

The students were surprised to learn that Almonte had colder temperatures that winter than Palmer station in Antarctica. Due to global climate change, they discovered, Palmer Station was one of the most rapidly warming up places on the planet. The students also learned what a penguin sounds like, and why Antarctica looks blue. Hooray for amateur radio!

Details about our project were published in the article "Amateur Radio Connects Almonte Students With Antarctic Scientists", in the August 2004 issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine, page 52.

#### PRINCIPAL-TO-PRINCIPAL AMATEUR RADIO CONTACT



On October 20<sup>th</sup>, my students and I launched our Eco-Pals project with Brian Jackson, VE6JBJ, and his class two time zones away at Chestermere Middle School, in Alberta. The launch took place with a principal-to-principal amateur radio contact. R. Tait McKenzie Principal Joanne Clayton was a natural at the microphone.

2005

### ARRL POSITIONS

Breakfast gatherings of the ARRL were held in 2005 at the Apollo's Garden restaurant in Almonte, on Ottawa Street. At the League's gathering of April 9<sup>th</sup>, the following positions were filled by (i) election, or (ii) re-election, or (ii) being forced into the job by everyone in attendance, or (iv) volunteering.

President Tim Ray VE3XV

Vice President Bob Clermont VE3AKV

Secretary Celia Bartello VE3CRJ

Treasurer Neil Carleton VE3NCE

Dues Enforcer Don Scott VE3QLQ

Public Relations Bill Barrie VE3AAS

Membership Don Scott VE3QLQ

Web Master Andrew Webb VE3UIY / VE6EN

Saturday Breakfasts Organizers Don Scott VE3QLQ, Al Ross VE3DMR

Sunday Breakfasts Organizer Ed Pugh VA3PU

Repeater Manager Fred Chamberlain VE3CFZ, Al Ross VE3DMR Deputy

Packet Manager Al Ross VE3DMR

Net Manager Les McCready VA3BZQ

IRLP Manager Dale Hennigar VE3XZT

Echolink Manager Phil Lytle VE3HOA

Engineering Phil St. Germain VE3CIQ

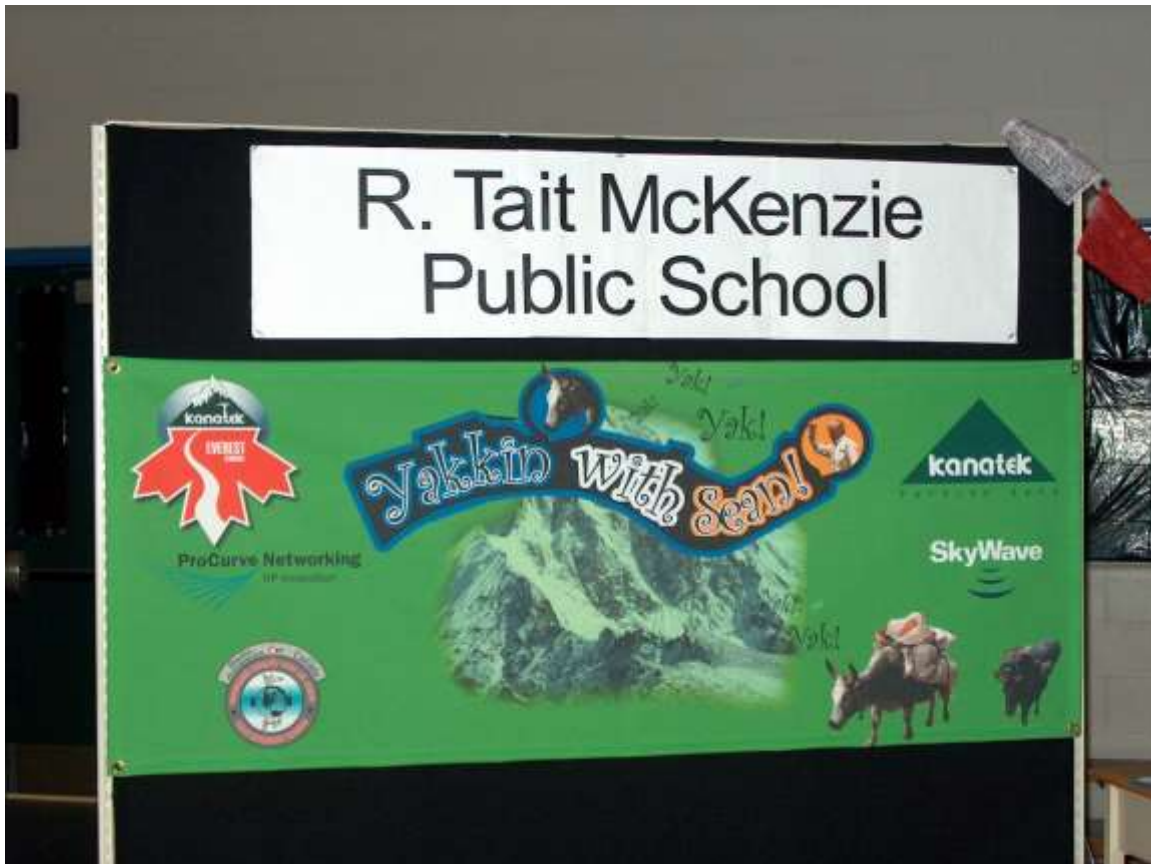
Amateur Radio Emergency Service Don Scott VE3QLQ EC, Al Ross VE3DMR Deputy, Bill Barrie VE3AAS Deputy, Art Scott VA3LEY Advisor

### MOUNT EVEREST CONTACT

Volunteers of the Almonte Radio Repeater League made it possible for students at schools across Canada to connect with the Kanatek Expedition at Mount Everest base camp on October 11<sup>th</sup>. It was a first in Canada to have students from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast talk by amateur radio with a Mount Everest expedition.

Six schools across Canada took part in this unique experiment at Halifax, Nova Scotia; Grand Manan, New Brunswick; Almonte, Ontario; Saskatoon, Saskatchewan; Chestermere, Alberta, and Duncan, British Columbia. The elementary and high school students had their mountain climbing questions answered by Almonte resident Professor Sean Egan, of the University of Ottawa, as he stood outside his tent in the early morning light at Mount Everest base camp.

Dr. Egan was a friend with a passion and a zest for life. With his energy and enthusiasm, he used every opportunity with students to promote the lifelong benefits of fitness. When I asked him about connecting with students by amateur radio when he returned to Mount Everest, Sean thought it was a great idea.



What started as a local event at R. Tait McKenzie Public School, in Almonte, soon developed as a national project. With the approval of Industry Canada, and the support of participating schools in the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) Youth Education Program (YEP), a unique opportunity was created for students from coast to coast to speak with Dr. Egan by amateur radio on Mount Everest.

To make it possible, the expedition at Mount Everest base camp called the Kanatek office in office in Canada by satellite phone. The audio was directed into the company's telephone conference bridge. The Halifax team connected to the Kanatek teleconference and routed the audio through the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) reflector in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Participating schools across the country connected to the Saskatoon reflector by amateur radio through their local IRLP nodes.

The net control in Almonte, Bob Clermont VE3AKV, coordinated all the school traffic from province to province. The event coordinator in Halifax, Bob Burns VE1VCK, enabled the switching needed to steer the conversation back and forth between the expedition on Mount Everest and schools taking part.

Contact time was scheduled for 8:15 p.m. in Ontario on Monday night April 11<sup>th</sup>. This was 6:00 a.m. in Nepal on Tuesday morning April 12<sup>th</sup>. More than 250 people whispered and stirred in our school gym as the TV crew set up and contact time approached. Then, before we knew it, there was Professor Egan's voice from the other side of the world as the sky slowly lightened at base camp.

One at a time, 10 students at R. Tait, from kindergarten to grade 8, took a turn asking Dr. Egan a question about his climbing adventure. After our school's contact, it was exciting to follow the

conversations at the other schools from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts. Through the wonders of amateur radio we were linked with Mount Everest on the other side of the world. Wow!



Special thanks to ARRL volunteers Bob Clermont VE3AKV, Phil St. Germain VE3CIQ, and Dale Hennigar VE3XZT for their efforts and expertise to make this national event such a success.

To hear the audio from our remarkable Mount Everest contact, go to the web site of the Almonte Amateur Radio Club, at <<http://www.almontearclub.ca>>, and click on the link for ARISS/EVEREST. Details about the project were published in the September-October 2005 issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine, pages 24-25, "Amateur Radio Linked Canadian Students With Mount Everest Expedition".

2006

#### NEW CLUB NAME

During the year the name of the organization was changed from the Almonte Radio Repeater League (ARRL) to the Almonte Amateur Radio Club (AARC). The new name was deemed to be a better reflection of the general purpose of a club for the greater Almonte area.

#### RADIO AMATEURS OF CANADA DONATION IN MEMORY OF VA3LEY

Following the ARRL's February 22 meeting at the conference room of the Almonte fire hall, a donation of \$25 was made to RAC's Defense of Amateur Radio Fund in memory of the late Art Scott, VA3LEY.



## ARES GROUP

Members confirmed through their discussions that they'd like to keep the ARES group as a subset of the AARC. All members of the ARES Group would be AARC members first. RAC would provide insurance coverage for ARES activities if those participating were RAC members.

## **AARC VOLUNTEERS MADE RADIO AT SCHOOL A SUCCESS** **(From Neil Carleton)**

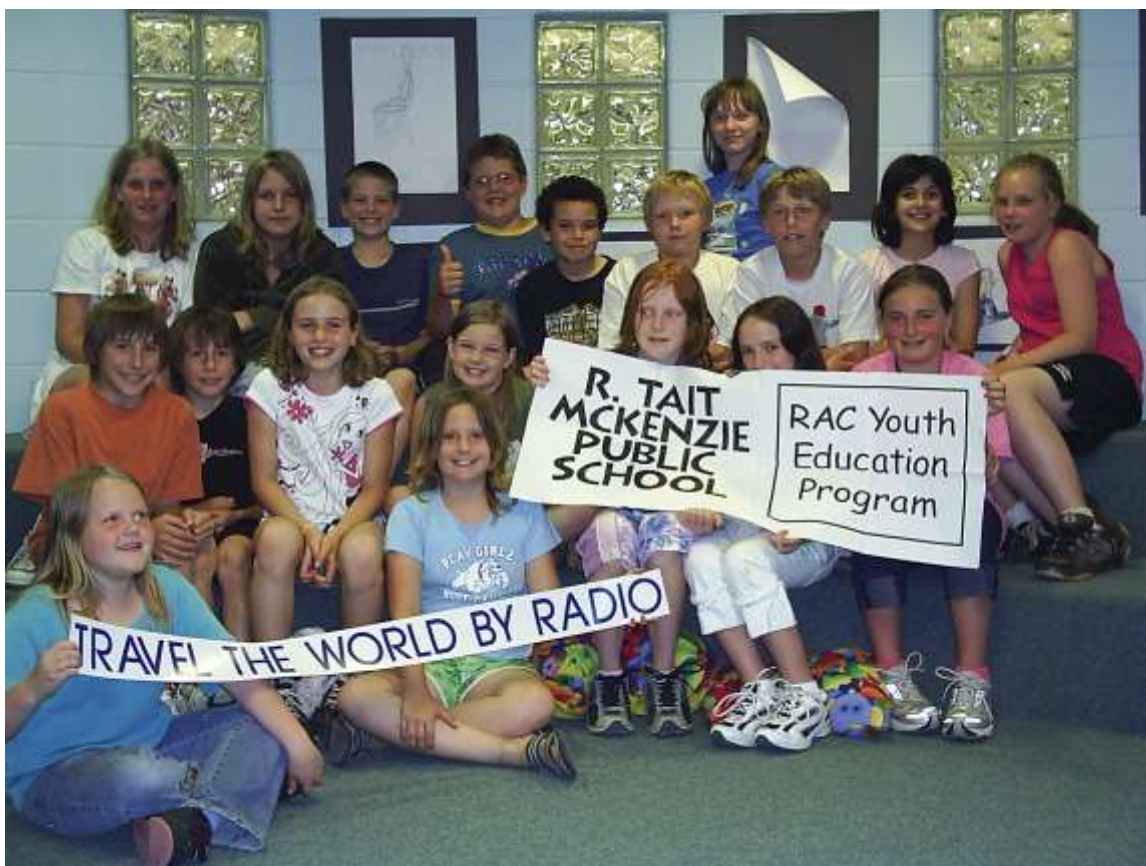
Since our remarkable school contact with the International Space Station in November 2001, volunteers of the Almonte Amateur Radio Club helped each year to make amateur radio such a success at R. Tait McKenzie Public School. Their contributions included valuable advice, equipment, inspiration, volunteer time at school, and on-air experience for the students.

Thanks to the support of ARRC members, I was able to develop a variety of amateur radio initiatives in 2006 with Brian Jackson VE6JBJ, in Airdrie, Alberta, that made connections across the curriculum. These included the exchange of data by radio between our classes from our weekly math surveys, and the popular on-air audio book reviews.

The help of ARRL volunteers also made it possible for me to operate an after school Shortwave Listening and Amateur Radio Club. The grades 4 to 8 students who lined up outside my classroom door twice a week were always excited to get started at Club time. Some of our activities included:

- on-air surveys with radio amateurs close to home and in distant locations;
- making electronic circuits;
- collecting stamps and QSL cards;
- monitoring international broadcasting stations.





None of these rich learning experiences would have been possible without the generous support of AARC volunteers.

2007

#### SILENT KEY

John Kirkwood VE3CN was an original member of the ARRL when it was established in 1992.

#### 2007 MEMBERSHIP

Although more volunteers were involved in Club activities, the spring records show that only 19 had paid their membership dues.

Colleen Ainsworth VE3YAW  
 Louise Ainsworth VE3LJA  
 Sean Ainsworth VE3SMA  
 Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC  
 Bill Barrie VE3AAS  
 Celia Bartello VE3CRJ  
 Tom Bartello VE3ELM  
 Neil Carleton VE3NCE  
 Fred Chamberlain VE3CFZ  
 Bob Clermont VE3AKV  
 Dale Hennigar VE3XZT  
 Les McCready VA3BZQ

Murray Pierce VE3IFP  
Audrey Pugh VA3AUD  
Christopher Pugh VE3TUF  
Jennifer Pugh VA3AQT  
Al Ross VE3DMR  
Don Stewart VE3PDF  
Bob Wilson VE3RAJ

### ARES SUPPORT

Planning proceeded in December by AARC volunteers to establish an amateur radio station at the Almonte fire hall which could be used to support ARES needs in the area.

### 100 CONTACTS FOR 100 YEARS

The amateur radio stations in my classrooms were usually on all day. When we needed a weather forecast, we'd also tune to a local FM station on the classroom boom box. For international news, we'd turn on a shortwave receiver. My students thought it was normal to hear radio voices during the day from close to home or around the world.

Until December 2006, my students in room 22 likely took radio for granted. They all assumed it had been around forever. This changed when they learned in class that Reginald Fessenden, a Canadian, made the first voice transmission in 1900, and the first radio broadcast on Christmas Eve 1906.

To celebrate the centennial year of voice broadcasting, we brainstormed and came up with the fun idea of talking with 100 radio amateurs. We'd take on the challenge of exchanging voice signals in 2007 with 100 radio amateurs near and far. Each day at recess time, some of the grades 4/5 students in my class would volunteer to stay in and take turns making contacts on the class VHF or UHF stations. This included local contacts here in eastern Ontario, as well as IRLP and EchoLink connections with amateur radio stations in distant locations.

We also invited Brian Jackson VE6JBJ, and his grade 6 class at Ralph McCall School, in Airdrie, Alberta, to join in. Contact 100 for both classes were with



The grade 4/5 students of VE3NCE in room 22 at R. Tait McKenzie Public School posed after their amateur radio contact with Canadian astronaut Colonel Chris Hadfield in Houston, Texas, U.S.A. It was our 100<sup>th</sup> contact to celebrate the centennial year of voice broadcasting.

Canadian astronaut Colonel Chris Hadfield, VA3OOG, in Houston, Texas. We met on the Discovery Reflector where the students at R. Tait McKenie and Ralph McCall took turns asking Colonel Hadfield questions by amateur radio about his space experiences.

Celebrating the centennial of radio broadcasting with amateur radio was a remarkable learning experience.

You can hear our 30 minute contact with Colonel Hadfield at the web site of the Discovery Reflector. Visit <[www.discoveryreflector.ca](http://www.discoveryreflector.ca)>, click on "Audio Library", then, under the saved audio recordings for 2007, click on the link for "Chris Hadfield".

### ARCHAEOLOGY AND AMATEUR RADIO AT SCHOOL

V-E-3-B-S-B at Murphys Point Provincial Park, this is V-E-3-N-C-E at R. Tait McKenzie Public School in Almonte

With this first call on October 1<sup>st</sup>, my grade 5 students stirred with excitement at their desks as we launched our on-air connection with an archaeological site on the other side of Lanark County in eastern Ontario. It was the start of two successful contacts where amateur radio linked students

in the classroom with archaeologists in the field at the Hogg Bay excavation site, near the town of Perth. This was a first in Canada – to have elementary students in the classroom connected by amateur radio with archaeologists at an excavation site.

As part of our grade 5 social studies program, my students and I visited Murphys Point Provincial Park to take part in a real archaeological dig. The students and our parent volunteers said it was their best field trip ever. Our two amateur radio contacts with the site archaeologists made it just that much better.



The day before our field trip, half the class had their questions about archaeology answered on-air by archaeologists at the Hogg Bay site. As a follow-up to our visit, the other half of the class spoke on October 4<sup>th</sup> via amateur radio with an archaeologist at the site about their field trip observations and the things they learned.

Our two special VHF contacts were made with my classroom station through repeater station VE3KGJ at Lavant. The answers of the archaeologists were transmitted from temporary stations set up at the excavation and examination sites by volunteers of the Lanark North Leeds Amateur Radio Emergency Service (LNLARES). The student voices from room 22 at R. Tait McKenzie were also heard across eastern Ontario through three other repeater stations that were linked to the Lavant site at Christie Lake VA3TEL, Tweed VE3RNU, and Toledo VE3HTN. The coverage of the four repeater stations extended from Stittsville in the east and south to Morrisburg on the St. Lawrence River, west to Picton in Prince Edward County, up to Havelock in the northwest, and over to Renfrew in the north.

The radio operators of the LNLARES who generously helped out at the archaeological site with our contacts were Barrie Crampton VE3BSB, Al Nittymaa VA3KAI, Tony Wilson VE3XNT, and George Ward VE3GXW. Jeff Earl and Brenda Kennett were the adventurous archaeologists with a microphone in hand at the Hogg Bay site.



Thank you to everyone who helped. Details of our project were published in the March / April 2008 issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine, page 31. "Contac:

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Thank you to everyone who helped. Details of our project were published in the March / April 2008 issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine, page 31. "Contac: Another First (On Earth)", was also reprinted in the Fall 2008 issue of the American magazine CQ VHF, page 38-39.

#### MAYOR-TO-MAYOR AMATEUR RADIO CONTACT

My grade 5 class at R. Tait McKenzie Public School, in Almonte, made history on November 21<sup>st</sup> with the first ever mayor-to-mayor amateur radio contact in Canada. Our partners for this unique Class-To-Class project were Brian Jackson VE6JBJ and his grade 6 students two time zones away at Ralph McCall School in Airdrie, Alberta.

Al Lunney, Mayor of Mississippi Mills, spoke with Linda Bruce, Mayor of Airdrie, Alberta, to officially launch the initiative. Each class prepared a parcel that was later exchanged through the mail to explain the way of life in their classroom, school, and community. During the year, the students also talked with each other from their classrooms by amateur radio about what they learned from the projects that arrived in the mail.



2008

#### AARC ARCHIVES

VE3NCE put out the call to AARC members and supporters on the Wednesday night nets, and by e-mail, that material was being solicited for the Club archives. Newsletters, annual reports, photos, newspaper clipping, and other treasures from years gone by was needed for the archives of the Almonte Radio Repeater League (1992-2005) and the Almonte Amateur Radio Club (2005 name change). Thanks to Bill Barrie VE3AAS, many early records from the formation of the ARRL had been saved.



Photos were requested from corn boils, breakfast gatherings and other social outings, along with newspaper clippings and magazine articles of club members participating in amateur radio events.

### AARC MEMBERSHIP

A membership drive was launched in April 2008 with the distribution of an e-mail notice to radio amateurs in the greater Almonte area. This was followed by a letter campaign with a postage paid return reply. For a small investment, the project resulted in 27 paid members for the ARRC.

Louise Ainsworth VE3LJA  
Sean Ainsworth VE3SMA  
Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC  
Bill Barrie VE3AAS  
Celia Bartello VE3CRJ  
Tom Bartello VE3ELM  
Neil Carleton VE3NCE  
Fred Chamberlain VE3CFZ  
Lory Chamberlain KD5ZOT  
John Chistensen VE3IAO  
Bob Clermont VE3AKV  
Garry Hammond VE3GHP  
Dieter Jeschor VE3AVJ  
Charles Lawrence VE3FEJ  
Phil Lytle VE3HOA  
Les McCready VA3BZQ  
Murray Pierce VE3IFP  
Gary Pollack VA3GMP  
Tim Ray VE3XV  
Al Ross VE3DMR  
Bob Sadler VE3IDD  
Don Scott VE3QLQ  
Don Stewart VE3PDF  
Phil St. Germain VE3CIQ  
Andy Webb VE6EN  
Rob Webb VE3UIX  
Bob Wilson VE3RAJ

### AARC PROJECTS PROCEED

At the AARC meeting of October 15<sup>th</sup>, the vote of attending members was unanimous to proceed with several ongoing projects, including:

- (1) Move the VA3AAR VHF repeater to the tower at Union Hall owned by Lanark County and used by the public works department of Mississippi Mills. The relocation of the Club's repeater to the Union Hall site would provide greater geographical coverage in the event of an emergency.
- (2) Install a UHF repeater at the Almonte fire hall. The installation of the station for Club use would also support ARES needs in the area.
- (3) Investigate what was necessary for a D-Star funding application. Tom Bartello VE3ELM volunteered.

- (4) Establishment of Rob Webb VE3UIX as head of the AARC ARES Group and the Club's ARES Liaison.

#### FIRST SCHOOL CONTACT WITH NEW SPACE AGENCY IRLP NODE

Although I was on a medical leave and not able to be in my classroom, volunteers of the AARC made it possible for the grade 5 students in room 24 at R. Tait McKenzie Public School to talk by amateur radio with Canadian astronaut Dr. Robert Thirsk, VA2CSA. This 35 minute event was the first school contact for the newly operational IRLP node located at the Canadian Space Agency in St. Hubert, Quebec.

Dr. Thirsk visited R. Tait McKenzie on October 1, 2002, and made presentations in the gym to students of all three elementary school in Almonte. He also gave the school an autographed collection of photographs and his mission patch to display in the school hall.

When he offered to make an amateur radio contact with the students in room 24, volunteers of the AARC made it happen. Each student asked a prepare question, and Dr. Thirsk, VA3CSA, answered with vivid descriptions of events and living conditions in space.

Thank you AARC members for your support with this special event.

Helping in the classroom and operating the VHF amateur radio station were AARC volunteers Celia Bartello VE3CRJ, Tom Bartello VE3ELM, Don Stewart VE3PDF, Allan Ross VE3DMR. Tom's article about the event, "First School Contact With New Canadian Space Agency IRLP Node", was published in the July & August 2008 issue of The Canadian Amateur magazine, page 45.



AARC volunteers, left-to-right, with the class after their successful amateur radio contact by IRLP with VA3CSA: Al VE3DMR, Tom VE3ELM, Celia VE3CRJ, Don VE3PDF

2009

### BREAKFAST GATHERINGS

The routine of AARC breakfast gatherings was well established at JRs' Restaurant on Ottawa Street, in Almonte, when the calendar page turned over for the new year. At the January 10<sup>th</sup> gathering, a record 18 members and supporters attended.

Louise Ainsworth VE3LJA  
 Terry Ainsworth VE3TLC  
 Celia Bartello VE3CRJ  
 Tom Bartello VE3ELM  
 Neil Carleton VE3NCE  
 Darlene Hammond  
 Garry Hammond VE3GHP  
 Bernie Madore VA3BMZ  
 Stan Madore VA3SMM

Les McCready VA3BZQ  
 Murray Pierce VE3IFP  
 Gary Pollock VA3GMP  
 Bill Renaud VA3WAR  
 Al Ross VE3DMR  
 Bob Sadler VE3IDD  
 Ilene Sadler  
 Don Scott VE3QLQ  
 Rob Webb VE3UIX



Breakfast gatherings were well attended during the year. On November 21<sup>st</sup>, club members took advantage of the fine hospitality at the Almonte branch of the Royal Canadian Legion to support the community fund-raising breakfast. Visible in this photo, left-to-right, are Don VE3PDF, Rob VE3UIX, John VE3IAO, Bill VE3AAS, Bernie VA3BMZ, Terry VE3TLC, Celia VE3CRJ, Louise VE3LJA, Stan VA3SMM, Tom VE3ELM, Les VA3BZQ, Al VE3DMR, and Bob VE3AKV.

#### SILENT KEY

Ross Ritchie VE3DIX was an early radio amateur in the Almonte area. Starting in the 1960s, he worked at the monitoring station of the federal Department of Communications, on Highway 29 not far from town between Almonte and Carleton Place.

#### AARC AND ARES MEETINGS

Meetings of the AARC were held quarterly in 2009, and the ARES sub-group of the club met monthly. Arrangements were made by Bill VE3AAS to use the conference room of the Almonte fire hall for these sessions.

#### UHF REPEATER PROGRESS FOR ALMONTE FIRE HALL

On Wednesday evening, May 9<sup>th</sup>, volunteers of the AARC moved the UHF repeater to the Almonte fire hall from the home of Fred VE3CFZ and Lory KD5ZOT Chamberlain. VA3UW had been running on test for several months at their place. Many hands made light work of carrying equipment into the fire hall.



Helping out on the team with the repeater move were:

Bill Barrie VE3AAS  
Tom Bartello VE3ELM  
Neil Carleton VE3NCE  
Fred Chamberlain VE3CFZ  
Lory Chamerlain KD5ZOT  
Bernie Madore VA3BMZ  
Stan Madore VA3SMM  
Al Ross VE3DMR  
Don Scott VE3QLQ  
Don Stewart VE3PDF





Fred VE3CFZ installed the equipment that night up on the fire hall mezzanine for further testing at a later date. Mischievous amateur radio gremlins may have had a role in the problematic functioning of the UHF repeater at its new location. The equipment wasn't fully operational during the year from the fire hall.

#### ARRC VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

During 2009, volunteers of the AARC continued to support a variety of activities in the greater Almonte area with their communications expertise. They operated check points during the winter, spring, and fall for a dog sled race, bicycle tour, and triathlon.



Rideau Cup Dog Sled Races at Newboro – February:  
Bernie VA3BMZ, Stan VA3SMM



Rideau Lakes Cycle Tour from Ottawa to Kingston – June:  
Al VE3DMR, Don VE3QLQ, Rob VE3UIX





Graham Beasley Triathlon - July:  
Terry VE3TLC, Tom VE3ELM, John VE3IAO, Bernie VA3BMZ, Stan VA3SMM, Al VE3DMR, Don  
VE3QLQ, Don VE3PDF, Rob VE3UIX

#### VE3AAS RECEIVES 75 YEAR QCWA PLAQUE

On February 10<sup>th</sup>, AARC member Bill Barrie VE3AAS was presented with a plaque by the Quarter Century Wireless Association, National Capital Chapter 70 in Ottawa, on the occasion of his 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a radio amateur. It was also noted that he held the VE3AAS call sign the entire way!



To acknowledge his 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a radio amateur, AARC member Bill Barrie was presented with a plaque by Doug Leach VE3XK at the February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Quarter Century Wireless Association, National Capital Chapter 70 in Ottawa.

Bill was given a standing ovation at the AARC's meeting of February 18<sup>th</sup> for this remarkable achievement in his amateur radio career.