

# The Dummy Load

Official Bulletin of The Cambridge Amateur Radio Club (SWARC Inc)

*Serving the community since 1964*

## Club Executive and Volunteers

### President

Calvin Benoit VA3CBE

### Vice President

Scott Buell VE3ANT

### Treasurer

Hugh Martin VE3IHM

### Secretary

Brian Lowery VE3ESW

### Member at Large

Jeff Rombough VA3WIF

### Past President

Dave Lott VE3BHZ sk

### Bulletin Editor

Tom Franks VE3MAH

### Club Historian

Tom Franks VE3MAH

### Call Custodians

#### VE3SWA

Calvin Benoit VA3CBE

#### VE3SWR

Tom Franks VE3MAH

### Web Master

### Club Contest Coordinator

Steve Nyul VE3USP

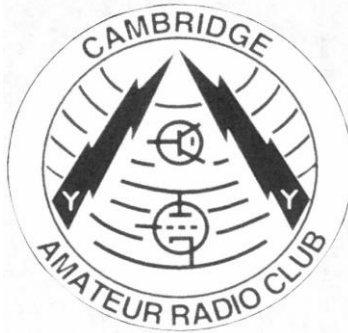
<http://www.cambridgeham.ca>

### Club Net

Every Wednesday on VE3SWR at  
9 pm. Local time.

All comers are welcome.

VE3SWR is an open repeater  
146.790 MHz -600 KHz offset



**VE3SWA**  
**DXCC HONOR ROLL**  
**(335/335)**  
**WAZ, WAC, WAS.**

## Next Meetings

Second Monday\* of the month  
Preston Arena Boardroom at  
8:00pm

**April 11, 2016**

May 9, 2016

June 13, 2016

September 12, 2016

\*October 17, 2016\*

November 14, 2016

December 12, 2016

**Visitors are always welcome**

## Editor's Column

I guess old Mother Nature just couldn't let things be! When it looked like the long awaited spring weather was here – another blast dropping many centimeters of the white stuff on us started and is possibly still happening as you read this edition of the Dummy Load.

For the month of April, we have some very important activities scheduled.

The annual dinner is set for Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cocktails (wine and beer) at 5:30 with dinner being

served at 6pm. Of those who submitted their preferences to Scott VE3ANT, the Grand Valley Golf Course was chosen to host us once again this year. Cost of the 3 course dinner is \$20 per person, payable to the treasurer. If you cannot make it to the April meeting and want to attend, give Hugh VE3IHM an email

[hughmartin36@rogers.com](mailto:hughmartin36@rogers.com) or a 2 meter shout so he can include you on the list and then pay him at the door.

The origin of the club dinner goes back to almost the beginning of our club. Initially it was held in February as an outing for members and their wives. As the local clubs grew, KWARC also had a dinner where members of SWARC and GARC were invited. GARC did the same. For a few years, the three clubs hosted a combined effort. Come out and spend some social time with your fellow club members and watch as the XYL's 'roll their eyes' in unison when an operating practice is mentioned.

The upcoming meeting is our Annual General Meeting. Please make a special effort to come out and support those members who have agreed to stand for the clubs' executive positions.

We welcome new member Peter Darg VA3PDG – the voice regularly heard from Norfolk County.

Contest participation in the Ontario QSO Party will take place on the weekend of April 16 and 17. While SWARC did not have an entry in 2015, congrats to Walter VE3NQM and Peter VA3PDG for their excellent individual scores. An excerpt from the rules appears further down. Consider a few hours or a full shift to support the clubs effort. Make your intentions known to the club contest coordinator.

*Tom ve3mah@bell.net*

## Cambridge Amateur Radio Club Meeting 7 March 2015

Meeting opened at 8:02pm on a motion by VE3ANT 2<sup>nd</sup> VE3PSVcarried

Present:

Va3cbe Ve3ihm Va3wif Ve3jwk Ve3skx Va3mp Ve3usp Ve3nxv Va3ggt Ve3psv Ve3esw Ve3unf Ve3joi  
Ve3ant

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted on a motion by VE3NXV 2<sup>nd</sup> VE3USP

Introduction of members to our guest Paul Ra gany

VE3MAH is not feeling good and VE3IHM gave us a short report on his welfare

Treasurers Report

Treasurers Report accepted on a motion by VE3PSV 2<sup>nd</sup> VA3WIF

OLD Business

VE3ANT Reported the following prices for the annual banquet

Golf's Steak House \$29/person all Saturdays in April open

Grand Valley Golf \$19/person 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> April Open

VE3ESW is to follow up with the President of KWARC in mid April concerning local community involvement.

VA3CBE gave information on the Cambridge Fire Department and their amateur radio situation.

It was also pointed out that interest in Amateur Radio may not be as prevalent as hoped.

VE3NXV asked if Hamilton Military had any amateur radio communication or connection to form a net in case of a disaster

The proposed club tent for Field Day was table until May

New Business

Nominations for Executive positions for the following year to be voted on at the April meeting

President VE3MF (Bob Kernohan) nominator VE3USP

Vice President VE3USP (Steve Nyul) nominator VA3MP

VE3ANT (Scott) nominator VE3NXV

Secretary VE3ESW (Brian Lowery) nominator VE3USP

Treasurer NO NOMINATION

Member at Large VA3WIF (Jeff Rombough) nominator VA3MP

Volunteer Positions

Bulletin Editor OPEN

Contest Coordinator VE3USP Steve Nyul

Donation to repeater by VE3ESW \$12.50

Close 8:51pm moved by VE3NXV

*As received from Secretary Brian VE3ESW*

## A new? Column – Looking inside the stations of our club members.

Sometime during the reign (1976 thru 1982) of the Ketchabaw family producing the club bulletin, Joe VE3JWK, using his newspaper background started a feature in the bulletin where he would go out and photograph members in their station and provide a short write-up. So – in our first installment Joe provides us with a bit of his story. Additional pictures to what Joe sent me are from the club's archives. (Let your editor know if you want to be featured in an upcoming edition or send your own picture(s) and story)



### GETTING BACK TO AMATEUR RADIO

- Joe Ketchabaw VE3JWK

My Interest in Amateur Radio began in the early '70s when my wife Mary's uncle, Keith Kaufman VE3CTY gave me a demonstration of what "Ham" radio was all about. I can still hear him calling "CQ, CQ, 10 meter phone, this is VE3 CTY calling...." When a station in South America responded to the call I was amazed and hooked. A few months later I was surprised to learn that my brother, Oliver had become an Amateur Radio operator and was going to participate in "field day" (whatever that was). Now I was really interested, but didn't go to this "field day" thing.

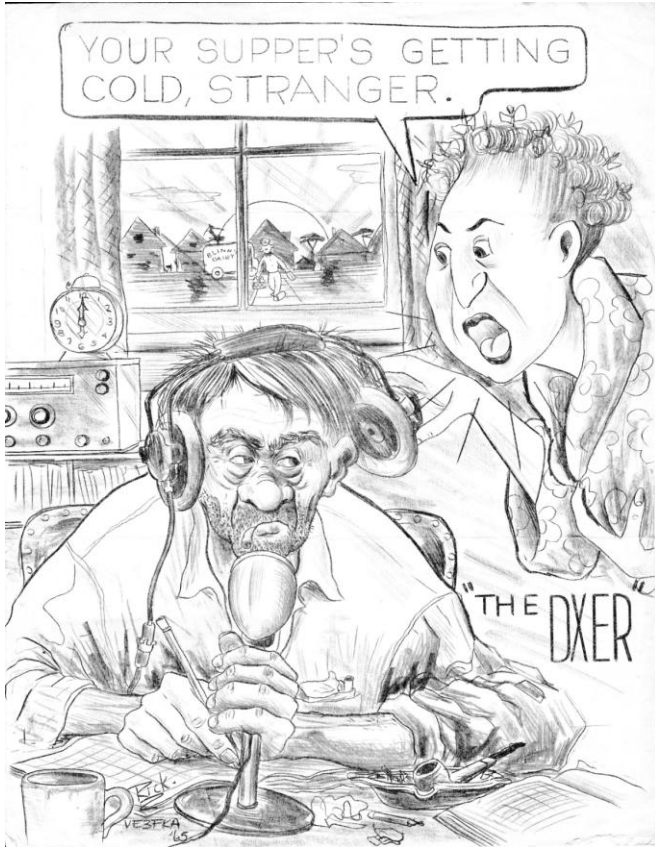
Unfortunately, around that time, Keith passed away suddenly. His brother Earl wanted to retain the call so he started his studies to become an Amateur. He was successful and was able to pick up Keith's call. While all this was going on I decided to give it a

shot as well. With Earl's help I picked up an old short wave receiver (can't remember the make) and put up an 80 meter dipole and commenced to learn Morse code. Being a fairly young guy at the time, I soon learned to copy the required 10 wpm and then on to 20. How to draw diagrams of transmitters, receivers, power supplies and filters was the hardest part. Not so today. On the 23 of January 1975, I had my first licence to go on the air in code only. After 6 months I showed my log to the DOC and they gave me an endorsement to go on 10 meter phone (ONLY) until I could write my "advanced" exam in a year's time. After receiving my advanced ticket it was time for a tower and a beam. By this time I was really hooked. With the help of some club members and other friends we put up the 48 foot tower and topped it off with a TH6DXX tri-bander. I also had dipoles for 80 and 40 meters. That was a lot of fun and lasted for over 30 years. Somehow my interests changed and I became interested in other things and radio began to take on a lower priority to the point where I was not getting on the air at all. The tower and beam came down and was sold along with most other things relating to Amateur Radio. It's only been in the last 2 or 3 years that the interest has returned and with the help of Tom Franks VE3MAH that I'm now back on the air in a much reduced form. I'm now operating with a Yaesu FT840 and 2 dipoles (15m & 20m). Also, thanks to Tom, I'm on 2 meters as well. I've rejoined CARC and try to get out to all the meetings. That doesn't always happen. I still like to get on and listen on 20 and 15 and work a bit of DX when the bands are open. I also enjoy the occasional chat on 2 meters in the late afternoon.

Note how the equipment gets younger --- but not Joe! Joe and Mary's daughter Ann VA3ANN



## Historical Notes:



An article in the recent issue of TCA (March / April page 27) about Stan Hill VE3DQ showing some of his famous amateur radio cartoons reminded me of a cartoon in my files by local amateur Rick VE3FKA.

Shown here is a copy of a full page that Rick did back in 1965. While I did not meet Rick, some of our older members from the area may remember him. The call VE3FKA appears to have been reissued to a ham in Windsor.

And yes – I do remember when fresh dairy milk was delivered most every morning to the door. It was a race between my brother Don and me to see who could get the cream off the top before mom collected the glass bottles and put them into the fridge.

Tom VE3MAH

## Following are some quotes from the news in 1955 – how far have we progressed?

Soon it's going to be impossible to buy a week's groceries for \$10.00.

Have you seen the new cars coming out next year? It won't be long before \$2,000.00 will only buy a used one.

Did you hear Canada Post is thinking about charging 5 cents just to mail a letter.

If they raise the minimum wage to \$1.00, nobody will be able to hire outside help at the store.

When I first started driving, who would have thought gas would someday cost 36 cents a gallon. (*8 cents a litre – ed.*) Guess we'd be better off leaving the car in the garage.

I'm afraid to send my kids to the movies any more. Ever since they let Clark Gable get by with saying DAMN in GONE WITH THE WIND, it seems every new movie has either HELL or DAMN in it.

I read the other day where some scientist thinks it's possible to put a man on the moon by the end of the century. They even have some fellows they call astronauts preparing for it down in Texas.

Did you see where some baseball player just signed a contract for \$50,000 a year just to play ball? It wouldn't surprise me if someday they'll be making more than the Prime Minister.

I never thought I'd see the day all our kitchen appliances would be electric. They're even making electric typewriters now.

It's too bad things are so tough nowadays. I see where a few married women are having to work to make ends meet. It won't be long before young couples are going to have to hire someone to watch their kids so they can both work.

I'm afraid the Volkswagen car is going to open the door to a whole lot of foreign business.

Thank goodness I won't live to see the day when the Government takes half our income in taxes. I sometimes wonder if we are electing the best people to government.

The fast food restaurant is convenient for a quick meal, but I seriously doubt they will ever catch on.

There is no sense going on short trips anymore for a weekend. It costs nearly \$2.00 a night to stay in a hotel.

If they think I'll pay 30 cents for a haircut, forget it.

## Upcoming Events:

Mark your new calendar in advance:

**The 19th Annual Ontario QSO Party 2016;** Held on the third full weekend of April  
(1800Z April 16 to 0500Z April 17 and 1200Z to 1800Z April 17)  
(*that would be Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> from 2pm thru 1am Sunday local time and Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> from 8am thru 2 pm local – ed.*)  
Rules may be found here: <http://www.va3cco.com/oqp/2016OQPRules.pdf>

**Monday April 18, 2016.** International Amateur Radio Union **World Amateur Radio Day.** Every April 18, radio amateurs worldwide take to the airwaves in celebration of World Amateur Radio Day. It was on that day in 1925 that the International Amateur Radio Union was formed in Paris.  
Complete information here: <http://www.iaru.org/world-amateur-radio-day.html>

**Saturday April 16, 2016.** Returning for its 40th year is the **Durham Region Hamfest.** The Durham Region Hamfest is an annual market and hobby show bringing together manufacturers, commercial and flea market vendors to provide communication information, services and equipment to amateur radio, scanner, shortwave and other communication enthusiasts! Pickering Recreation Complex at 1867 Valley Farm Road, Pickering, ON. The event runs from 09:00 - 13:00. Admission is \$7. VE3SPC - 147.375 MHz+ Tone: 103.5 Hz

**Saturday, May 7, 2016.** South / West end of Barrie, Ontario. Barrie Amateur Radio Club

**Saturday, May 14, 2016.** Smiths Falls, Ontario. Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club

**Sunday June 5, 2016** [Central Ontario Hamfest & Fleamarket](#) Cambridge, Ontario

**Saturday June 11, 2016** [London Vintage Radio Club Flea Market](#) London Vintage Radio Club, Guelph

**Saturday July 9, 2016** [ONTARIO HAMFEST](#) Burlington Amateur Radio Club. Milton

## DX News:

Rather than list some of the events coming, here are some sources that I find quite complete.

For DXpedition news: <http://www.dx-world.net/>

For special events: <http://www.ng3k.com/Misc/adxo.html>

Islands on the air: <https://www.rsgbiota.org/index.php>

## For Sale / Swap / Free

The intention of this section of the bulletin is to provide a space where **members** can advertise items of a ham related nature to other members of the club. It is not intended as competition to the many on air and internet based swap shops.

Free: (to club members) 440 ohm Ladder line. About 66 feet available – enough for 2 G5RV's. Tom VE3MAH

Free: (to club members) Cushcraft A3S TriBand beam. Needs new hardware. Tom VE3MAH

Free: (to club members) CDE AR-44 rotor unit only. Working when removed from VE3FC's tower.  
Tom VE3MAH

Free: (to club members) Tripp-Lite Internet 750u UPS. Battery is about 60% capacity. Tom VE3MAH

## Real Swap Sites:

KWARC Swap Shop -- one of the best around. <http://www.kwarc.org/swapshop/index.htm>

Maritime Swap Shop -- <http://www.ve1pjs.com/swap.html>

ONTARS Marketplace -- [http://www.ontars.com/cgi-bin/classifieds/classifieds.cgi?session\\_key=&search\\_and\\_display\\_db\\_button=on&results\\_format=headlines&query=browse](http://www.ontars.com/cgi-bin/classifieds/classifieds.cgi?session_key=&search_and_display_db_button=on&results_format=headlines&query=browse)

**Membership / Information update form:** Membership in the Cambridge Amateur Radio Club is \$20 per calendar year. Please help the Treasurer by printing this page, filling in your information and giving it to him. If mailing, please use the address listed.

**Cambridge Amateur Radio Club  
% Hugh Martin Treasurer  
301- 400 Champlain Blvd.  
Cambridge, Ontario  
N1R 7J6**

\*First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \*Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Call Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Full membership \$20     Renewal     New Member  
Associate member \$5     Renewal     New**

\*required – your information will not be shared with third parties.