

The Dummy Load

Official Bulletin of The Cambridge A.R.C. (Swarc Inc)
-serving the community since 1964

Issue No. 151 Dec. 2014



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

Next Meetings
Second Monday of every month
Preston Arena Boardroom at
8:00pm
Mon Dec 08, 2014
Mon Jan 12, 2015
Mon Feb 09, 2015
Mon Mar 09, 2015
Mon Apr 13, 2015

CLUB NEWS

The meeting began at 20:05 with 14 members present.

- Minutes read by Bob, VE3MF Accepted by Gerry, VE3NXV and Clarence, VE3FC
- Treasurer's report presented by Hugh, VA3IHM and seconded by Shawn, VE3PSV and Scott, VE3ANT.

Club Executive President

Calvin Benoit VA3CBE
14 Edmund Rd. Kitchener, ON, N2H1J6

Vice President

Scott Buell VE3ANT
15 Woodland Dr. Cambridge, ON, N1R 2X7

Treasurer

Hugh Martin VE3IHM
301/400 Champlain Blvd. Cambridge, ON, N1R 7J6

Secretary

Bob Kernohan VE3MF
1215 Avonlea Rd. Cambridge, ON, N3H 4Z7

Bulletin Editor

Steven Nyul VE3USP
58 Duchess Dr. Cambridge, ON, N1S 4C1

Club Historian

Mike Papp VA3MP
80 Attwood Dr. Cambridge, ON, N1T 1L4

Call Custodians

VE3SWA

Calvin Benoit VA3CBE
14 Edmund Rd. Kitchener, ON, N2H1J6

VE3SWR

Tom Franks VE3MAH also

Member at Large

264 Fearnwood St. Cambridge, ON, N3C 3W9

Past President

Dave Lott VE3BHZ
51 Lincoln Ave. Cambridge, ON, N1R 4W6

Meetings

Meetings held at 8:00 P.M. on the second Monday of the month, Board Room Preston Arena (Bishop St at Hamilton St.) No meetings in July and August. Visitors always welcome.

Club Net

VE3SWR repeater 146.790 Mhz every Wednesday at 2100R (9PM local)

Old Business:

- Field Day results retrieved from ARRL and forwarded to Tom VE3MAH for archival.
- Robin VE3OAV will be approached re Contest Coordinator position.
- Eric VE3EI will be approached re topic for future meeting.

New Business:

- Two visitors, Josh Mardling VE3CEN and Manuel Centeno introduced themselves and answered many interesting questions re themselves and their interests.
- Club Donation went to Gerry VE3NXV \$12.50

Meeting was closed at 20:37

Present at Meeting-: Members:

VACBE Calvin Benoit
VE3IHM Hugh Martin
VA3MP Mike Pap
VA3WIF Jeff Rombough
VE3USP Steve Nyul
VA3CF Clarence Fatt

VE3MF Bob Kernohan
VE3ANT Scott Buell
VE3NXV Gerry Allen
VE3SKX Ken Meihm
VE3PSW Shawn Gartley

Guests:

VE3CEN Josh Mardling
Manuel Centeno



David Beaumont Lott, VE3BHZ



Many of you have been fortunate to know Dave from the times he moved to Cambridge in 1994. He was born in England and served in the British Royal Navy as a Radioman, being stationed at different parts of the world. After his service in the Navy, Dave settled in Toronto with his family and worked as a Police Officer; retired as Detective Staff Sergeant. (Badge #1)

Dave visited the club in December of 1994 and was elected to be a President on the General Annual Meeting in 1995. He was passionate about radio and especially Morse code (CW). I often visited him and we always had a good chat about radio, CW, politics, weather and so on. He told me about how he became a HAM Radio Operator. After his military service, he missed being on air so much that at one time he was operating as an UNLIS from a ship that had been de-commissioned and stationed in Toronto Harbor. Dave also had fond memories of his trip to British Columbia where he met his long time friend who was already a HAM Radio Operator. Soon after, he obtained VE3BHZ call sign. Dave's passion was CW and on account of his proficiency in high speed Morse code communication, he was invited to the First Class Operator's Club (FOC), FOC #1196.

Dave was instrumental in organizing the club's activities, contests and in achieving the prestigious Awards and Diplomas our club has. He was also the editor of this bulletin from January of 2000; has written and administered the club Member's Award and was made a life member of SWARC/CARC in 1999.

.....The club has a weekly net on the VE3SWA repeater every Wednesday evening at 8 PM. All the stations were checking in as usual and the microphone went around from station to station. Dave was talking about his favorite football team, the weather and commented on other events. When it was his turn again at the second go-around, he did not reply. His daughter called me the next morning and told me Dave had been found dead with microphone in his hand. We were the last to talk him.....

Dave passed away while doing the very thing he loved: being on air and being with friends

Rest in peace Dave, 161 de VE3USP

The History Column

by Tom VE3MAH

Part 9: Miscellany—activities, awards, certificates...

I remember someone asking about the president's gavel; this gavel was hand crafted by local amateur and club member Jim Sweet VE3AAI. Jim made a special visit to the April 1978 meeting held at Dickson Centre where 15 members were present to witness the official presentation to new president Joe Ketchabaw VE3BGT now VE3JWK. If memory serves me correctly, there were two parts; the actual gavel and a sounding block.

Some of you may recall Dave Lott VE3BHZ making a reference to Galt California; in the spring of 1994, the club received a letter from Thurman Laubhan KB6UW, Galt California. Apparently the town of Galt knew about another Galt (ours), could find no information, but wanted to make contact during their 125th Galt Heritage Days. What they did not know was the history linking our two cities. Over a period of several weeks, I was in contact with KB6UW and the Deputy Mayor of Galt California and provided them with some history of 'our' Galt and the forming of the City of Cambridge. John McFarland, a founding father of the town of Galt California actually grew up in Galt Ontario. McFarland moved to the Sacramento Valley of California in 1853 where he purchased 1,800 acres of farmland to grow grain. John McFarland became a rancher of prominence and was the man who gave Galt its name, naming the town after the small town in Ontario, Canada, where he had lived with his parents. Following is a letter/article Dave wrote and had published in TCA.

In the Sacramento Valley of California is a small farming community called Galt. Population is approximately 14,000, nothing outstanding about the place to set it apart from any other town of similar size except that this year they celebrated 125 years of existence. That many years ago, a man by the name of John McFarland left the village of Galt Ontario and, travelled west, eventually ending up in the Sacramento Valley where he founded this town which he chose to call Galt.

This year, from June 16th to June 19th as they usually do, they celebrated the founding of the community, but this time there was a little extra added for the very special occasion. Four of the local Hams decided to set up a special event station at the Festival Grounds for the main purpose of contacting fellow Hams in Galt Ontario. The setting up of the station was the easy part, however, they ran into problems trying to locate any Hams in Galt Ontario with a view to arranging schedules etc. because in 1973 the City of Cambridge was formed by amalgamating the towns of Preston, Hespeler, Galt and, parts of North Dumfries, consequently Galt was no longer on the map, nor was it in any reasonably up to date call book. Fortunately for everyone concerned, Thurman Laubhan KB6UW found, a very old book which listed a Galt address and, he was able to contact Tom Franks VE3MAH who is a member of South Waterloo Amateur Radio Club. Members of this club are predominately residents of Galt, Preston and Hespeler (now known as Cambridge). Needless to say, both sides were excited at the prospect of adding to the celebrations in this manner. We had originally hoped to have the Mayor of Cambridge, Her Honour Jane Brewer, transmit greetings via Amateur Radio to the Mayor of Galt California who would be at the Festival Grounds to receive the message. Unfortunately Ms Brewer was out of the country during the celebrations but kindly provided a proclamation from herself and Council to be transmitted on behalf of the residents of the City of Cambridge.

On June 16th at 1930 UTC on 14.250 MHz, VE3BHZ, VE3MAH & VE3ETQ from the South Waterloo Club made contact with KB6UW, N8CLF, W6BMA & N6HCH at the Festival Grounds in Galt California. Daily contact was made and on the main day Sat June 18th, the Mayor of the town was present to hear the proclamation transmitted by VE3BHZ, and he replied via Amateur Radio. This reply was subsequently transcribed in suitable form and presented to Her Honour Mayor Brewer. On Sunday June 19th the proclamation was retransmitted at their request by CW and also via Packet to demonstrate to the residents a few of the aspects of Amateur Radio at work.

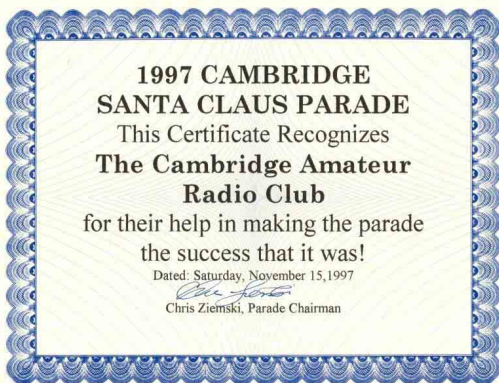
This event was given good coverage by the local radio station who were present at the Festival Grounds and also by the local print media. Unfortunately, the local paper in Cambridge did, not consider it sufficiently newsworthy but we tried.

Dave Lott VE3BHZ President S.W.A.R.C.

Emergency Communications:

Hams have always been available to assist their community. SWARC members are no different and when asked to assist the local emergency services, formed a group in the fall of 1979 under the direction of Eric Kernohan VE3MF. Few members had 2 meter hand held radios or small mobiles and so a push was on to have members outfit our vehicles. Small at this time in the evolution of miniaturization meant a two handed radio weighing several pounds or a tube hybrid transceiver taking up a minimum of a square foot under the dash. I remember running a Syscom Commander II on the passenger floor of my Volkswagen beetle. When the key was pressed, the commander drew enough current to dim the lights and slow the beetles' engine.

At about this time, there were a number of requests coming in for assistance with event communications. Members of SWARC were invited by KWARC to assist with many events including car rallies, runs, bicycle races, parades and a local college spring canoe race. By 1983, the number of requests coming in became very difficult to coordinate. Organizations did not know who or how to contact us. A joint meeting of SWARC, KWARC and Waterloo region EMS produced a new organisation consisting of amateurs from both clubs as well as amateurs with no club affiliation, all willing to volunteer for the various community events and emergency back up communications exercises. This new organisation/club became the Waterloo Amateur Radio Service. (WARS) Fred Hicks VE3MTS, a member of SWARC became the first president along with Ron Reyn VE3IVJ, secretary of SWARC keeping the minutes of WARS. For almost 10 years, there was a central group ready and willing to assist with any communications requirement needed by the cities of this area and their residents. For reasons I don't remember – or never knew – WARS was dissolved in the fall of 1992 leaving a bank balance of approximately \$900. In October of 1992, SWARC received a cheque for \$459.60 as our share of the WARS account.

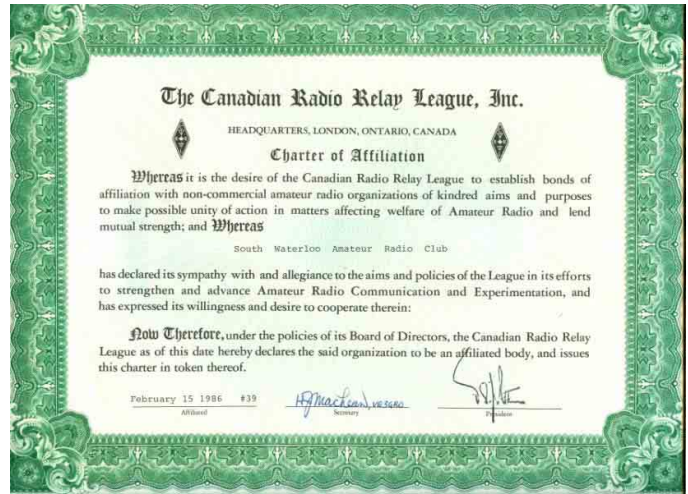
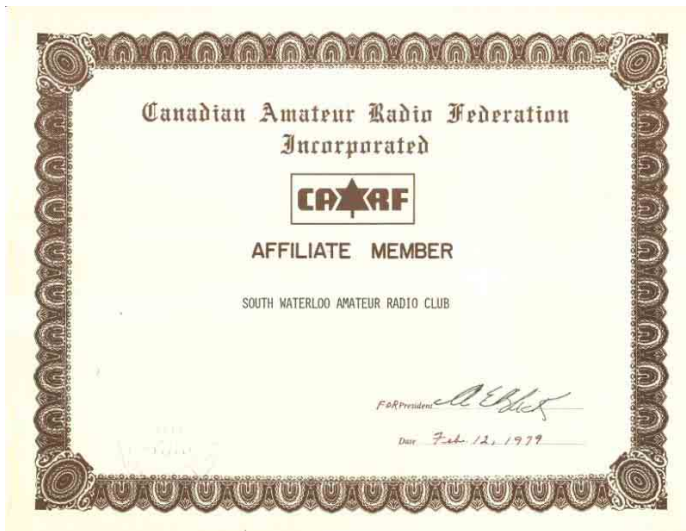


For 16 years members of SWARC assisted with not only the communications for the annual Cambridge Santa Claus Parade, but were in charge of coordinating the orderly lineup of the floats, marching bands and others as well as keeping the parade moving at just the right pace without spaces or bunching. All this was accomplished with a dedicated group of SWARC, KWARC and WARS members. Complete responsibility for the organization was turned over to SWARC for the 1993 parade. About 1998 or so, an integrated communications system was installed in the City of Cambridge providing seamless communications between all city departments, fire and police. The parade chairman, a city employee, decided to utilise this system and assigned

all duties that amateurs had previously completed with skill and dedication to untrained volunteers with a bunch of sophisticated hand held radios. Amateurs were assigned to traffic duty – an area we had no experience with and therefore created a very unsafe environment for our members. When approached for assistance the next year, as the contact person for our group, I suggested that trained traffic people be sought, ending our work with the parade. About this time, the local 11 meter users had formed a very organised group, moving in frequency to the UHF band and willing to take on all forms of communications for community events and traffic control. (Not sure if this group still exists)

As far as SWARC is concerned, any organised association with emergency or back up communications for our city has been very sporadic until the forming of an ARES group in 2005 after discussions with the Cambridge Fire Department in late 2004. A commitment by SWARC members was made in early 2005 with Robin Varcoe VE3OAV as ARES coordinator including Mike Pap VA3MP and Calvin Benoit VA3CBE as assistants. There was now a formal group to conduct training and liaise with local and regional emergency planning groups. In December of 2010, due to health complications, Robin resigned as ARES coordinator and the group has effectively disbanded. But – having this group aided in our obtaining a Trillium Grant in 2007.

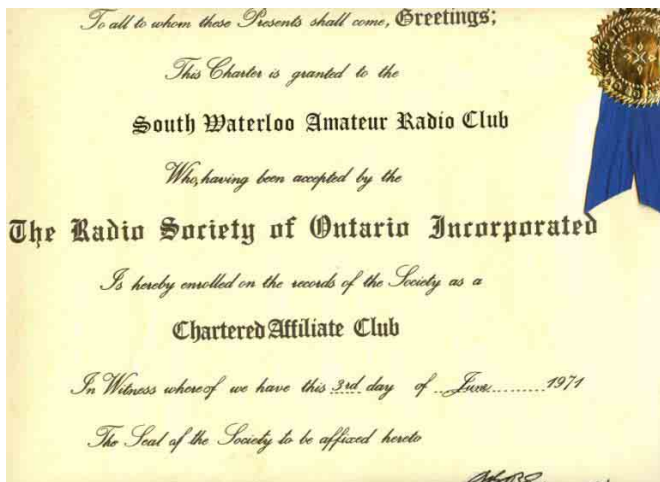
Some of the certificates we have in the archives include:



Canadian organization Memberships



Radio Society of Ontario serving amateurs from April 1962 through 1988

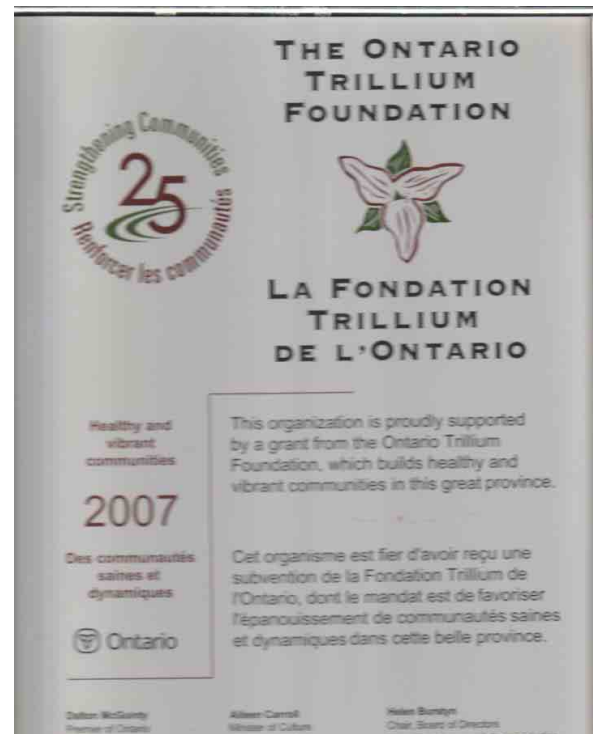
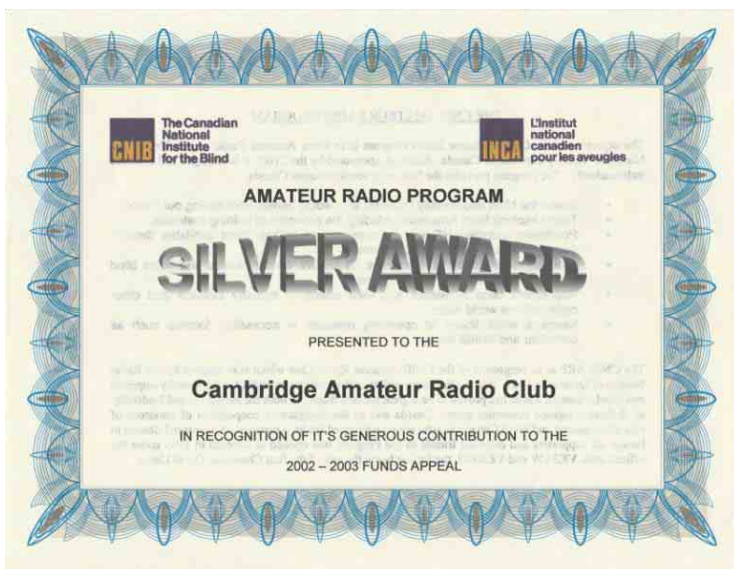


ARRL certificates of merit for FD



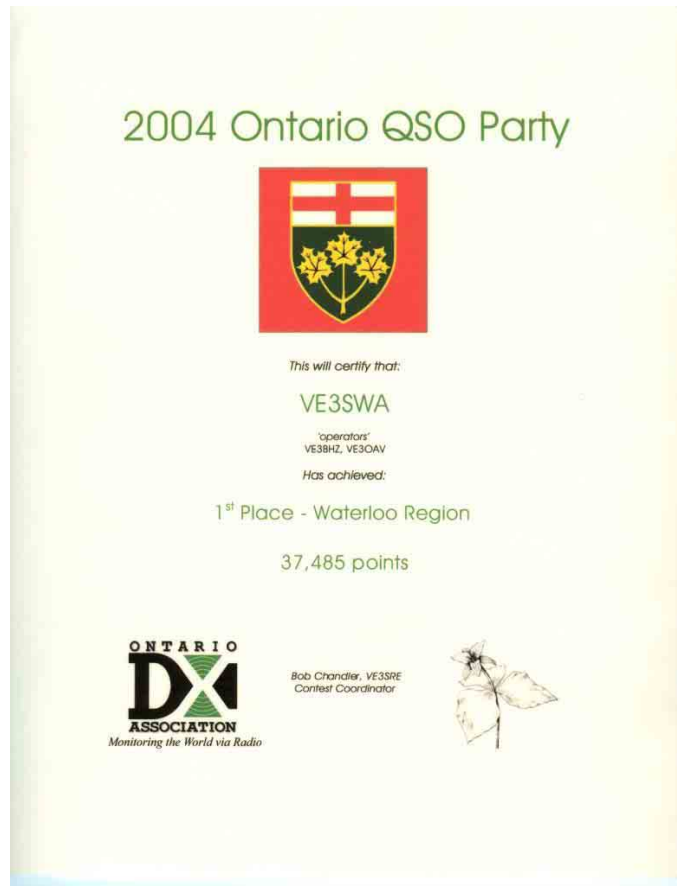
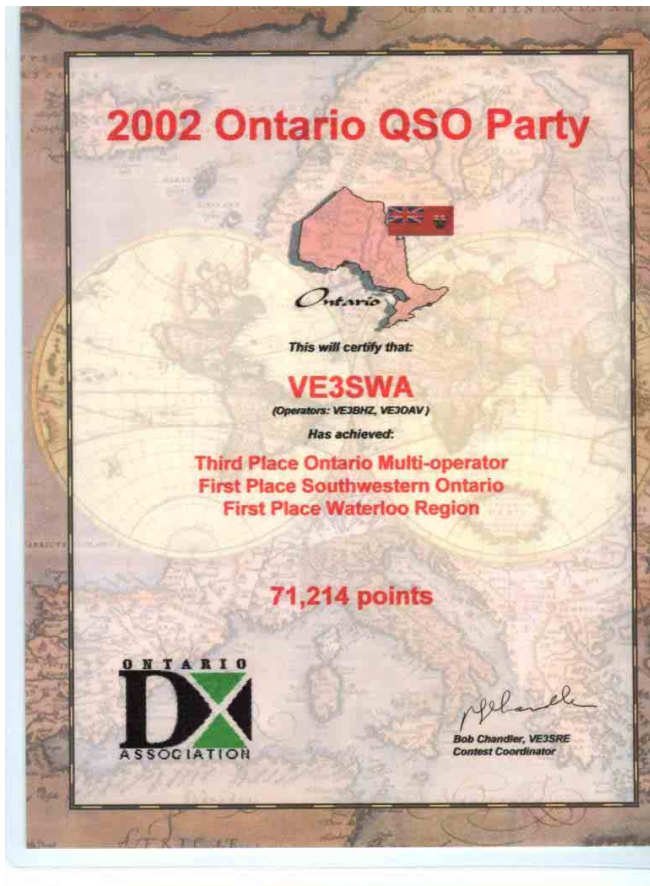
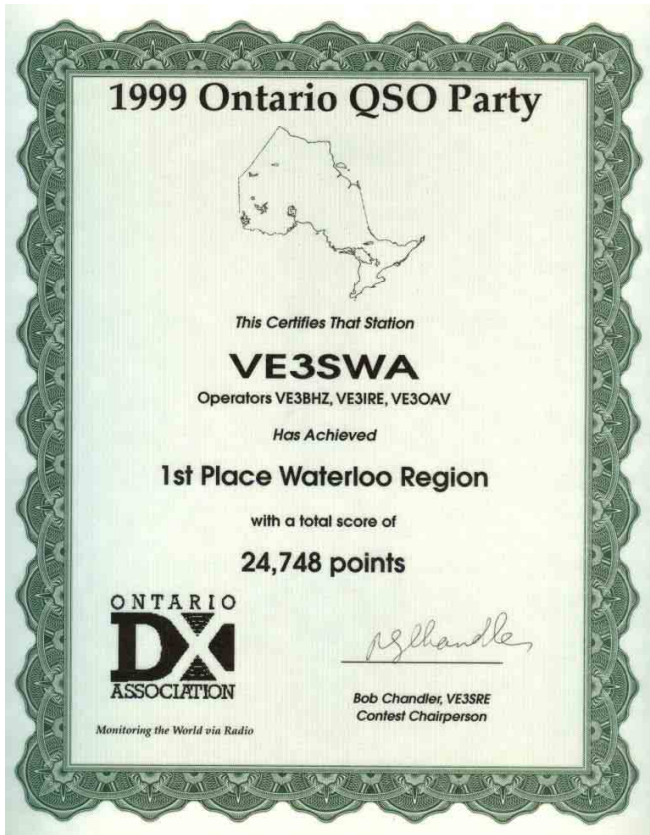
In recognition of our generosity to the CNIB Amateur Radio Program

Our Trillium Grant recognition



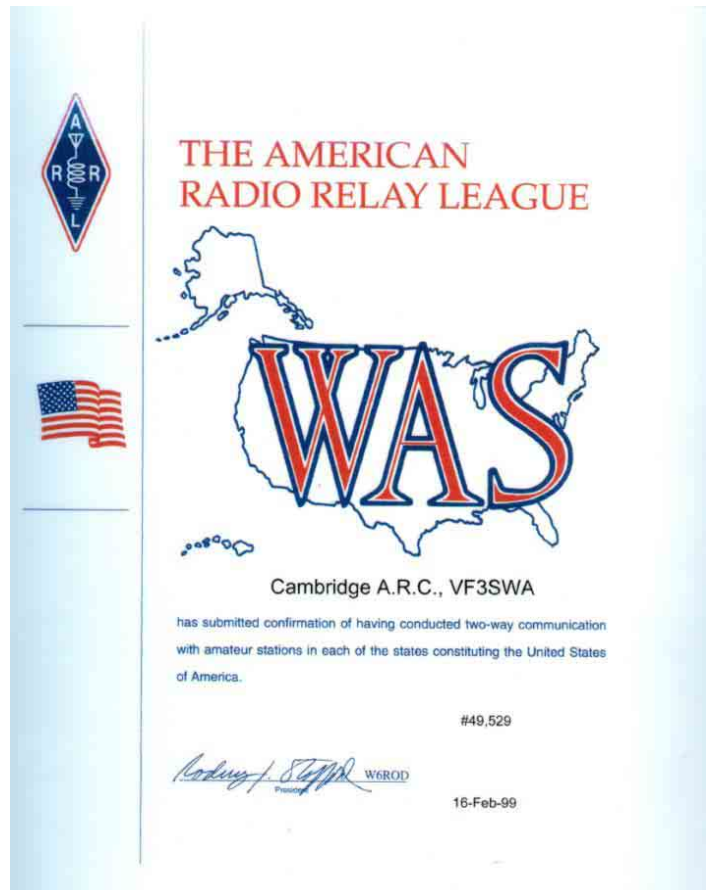
Over the years, our club call VE3SWA has been recognised worldwide through our efforts in the ARRL Field Day contests as well as many other contests and special events. Most contacts using the call VE3SWA and VF3SWA have been garnered by Dave Lott VE3BHZ and a small group of contesters. And so, the following awards and certificates are primarily the work of this group on our behalf.

Dave Lott VE3BHZ; Mike Pap VA3MP; Robin Varcoe VE3OAV; Dan Murphy VE3IRE

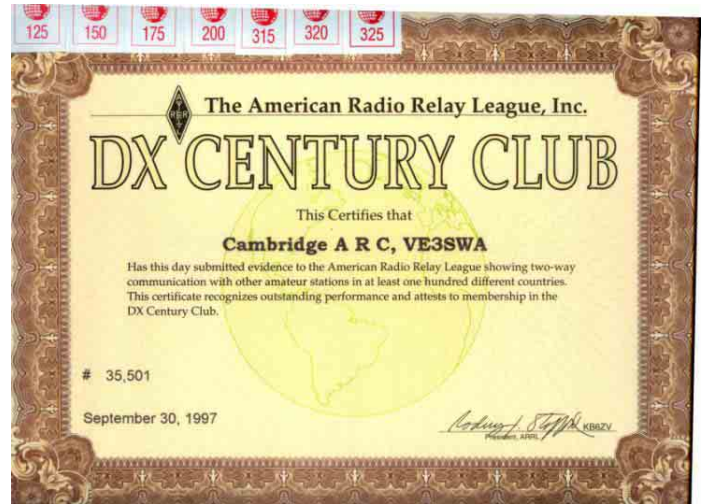
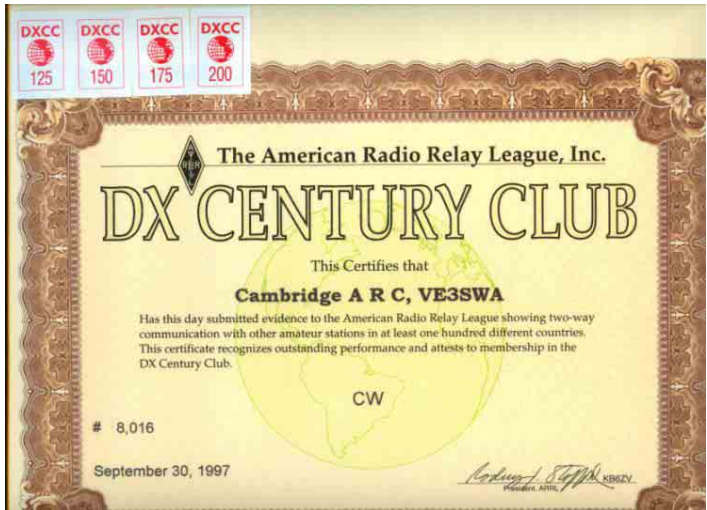




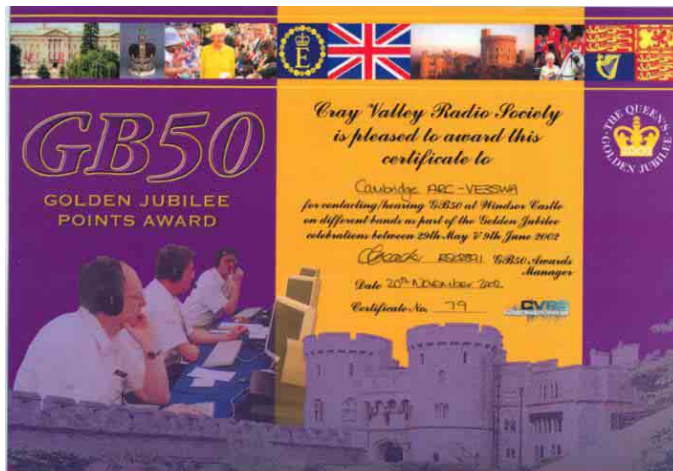
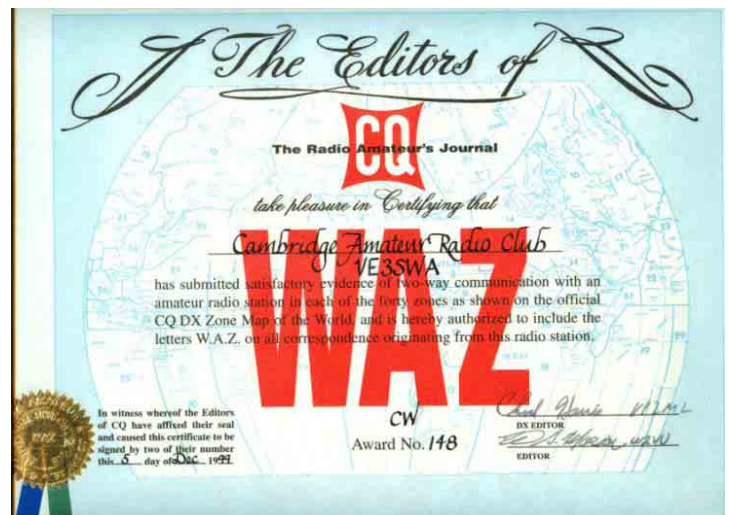
ARRL Awards



The club has 2 DXCC Honor Roll Plaques CW and Mixed Also 2 WAS awards VE3SWA and VF3SWA



Both DX Century Club Awards have stickers showing 325.



GB50 awards for both VE3SWA and VF3SWA

The ongoing DXCC award QSL card collection is missing; Andamann and Nicobar Island; Crozet Islands; Solomon Islands; Marion Island; North Korea; Navassa Island; Peter I Island; Scarborough Reef.

So – if you hear these DX entities – work them for the club on both CW and Phone.
 (Editor's update: thanks to Bob, VE3MF, we now have logged Andaman and Nicobar Island)

Have you worked them? DX news for the month

C6, Bahamas:

John, 9H5G (KK4OYJ) will be active from the Bahamas until late April 2015. Currently he's on South Bimini (NA-048) but activities from NA-001, NA-113 and NA-054 are also planned. QSL via NI5DX (d), LoTW, ClubLog OQRS. <http://kk4oyj.wordpress.com/>

Antarctica:

Nikolai, RW6ACM, will be active as RI1ANZ, beginning Dec. 22, from the Progress base (AN-016), on HF on CW, SSB, and digital modes. QSL via RN1ON (d/B), LoTW.

CE9, Antarctica:

Paolo, IZ2QEJ is staying on Concordia Base (AA MN-06, WAP MNB-03, IOTA AN-016, ANFF-006) until February 2015. During his free time, he will try to get on the air as IA/IZ2QEJ on the HF bands. QSL via IZ2QEJ (d) after his return.

E5, Cook Islands:

Amateurs on the Cook Islands celebrate the 50th anniversary of the islands' self-governing status with the prefix E50 during 2015. So far the following call allocations are known:

Warwick Latham (E50W), Penrhyn Atoll (OC-082)
Desmond Clarke (E50D), Aitutaki Island (OC-083)
Victor Rivera (E50V), Rarotonga Island (OC-013)
Jim Ditchburn (E50J), Rarotonga Island (OC-013)
Robert (Bob) Walker (E50B), Rarotonga Island (OC-013)
Kathryn (Kat) Cheval (E50K), Rarotonga Island (OC-013)
Andrew (Andy) Duncan (E50A), Rarotonga Island (OC-013)

Visitors will receive a call with the E51 prefix as usual. Many thanks to Andy (E51AND) for the information.

JD1, Ogasawara:

Koji, JI1LET and Take, JA1UII, will be active from Chichi-jima (AS-031, WLOTA 2269, JAFF-018, WW Loc. QL17) between Dec. 22 and Jan. 2. QRV as JD1BOI and JD1BON on 80-6m on SSB, CW, and RTTY. QSL JD1BOI via JI1LET (d/B), JD1BON via JA1UII (d/B).

Lord Howe Island - VK9DLX:

QSLs for VK9DLX are being printed as you read this. First cards to be sent out in January 2015.

QSL requests via OQRS. <http://oqrs.lagunaria-dx-group.org/>

FT4TA - Tromelin Island:

A photo gallery of the recent FT4TA DXpedition is now available in their website:

<http://www.tromelin2014.com/en/news/photos-of-tromelin-2014-ft4ta/>