



MAY 2022 Newsletter

Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club

The **Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club** is a 'not for profit' organization incorporated in the Province of Ontario that promotes Amateur Radio and provides emergency communications in Cornwall and surrounding area. The Club's mailing address is 4672 O'Keefe Road, St. Andrews West, ON. K0C 2A0.

The **Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club** operates several repeaters in Cornwall and surrounding area. VE3SVC is a VHF analog FM repeater operating on 147.180 + and a tone of 110.9 Hz. Also, on VHF is VA3SDG, a Yaesu Fusion digital C4FM and analog FM repeater on 145.570 – and a tone of 110.9 Hz. On UHF, VE3PGC, also a Yaesu Fusion repeater with wide area coverage, is located at Bonville. It operates at 443.650 + and a tone of 110.9 Hz. For other repeaters, including D-Star and DMR, see the Repeater Page of our website at SVARC.ca.

- **President:** Earle DePass (VE3IMP)
- **Vice-President:** Joe Scott (VE3ADB)
- **Secretary:** Roger Bélanger (VA3GBV)
- **Treasurer:** Chris Lauzon (VA3CRR)
- **Technical Director:** Doug Pearson (VE3HTR)
- **Net Manager:** Joe Scott (VE3ADB)
- **ACS Coordinator:** Earle DePass (VE3IMP)
- **Newsletter:** Roger Bélanger (VA3GBV)
- **Past President:** Larry Giguere (VA3RSQ)

In this issue:

President's Message

Note from the editor

ACS Report

Art's Corner VE3AIH

ITU News

Show and Tell:

MAY Fox Hunt

Coffee Klatch

Winter Jackets

Tower work experience



President's Message

SVARC President's Message May 2022

Summer is finally here! The birds chirping before the crack of dawn, longer days and hot summer evenings are just sure signs. Here's hoping that you remember to do that tower work while it's still comfortable, as opposed to waiting until it's hard on the fingers while climbing towers.

The plan to obtain Club summer jackets continues to grow. If you wish to order a jacket, please let Joe (VE3ADB) know. Those who have purchased their personalized coffee mugs have enjoyed using them at our Coffee Klatches. If you wish a coffee mug, please let Roger (VA3GBV) know.

Our last Coffee Klatch which should have taken place on Saturday, May 20, 2022 at *The Village Diner* on Tollgate Road was a "bust" due to a "busted" water pipe. This was disappointing for those who had planned to enjoy each other's company. We hope to see you at the next Coffee Klatch planned for June 4, 2022.

Our last Fox Hunt planned for Saturday, May 15th 2022 had to be postponed due to a sick Fox. The Fox has now been repaired and is ready to "hide" once again. Roger has ordered some offset attenuator kits which should help those who wish to participate in future Fox Hunts. With some false

starts and no starts due to weather issues and the failure of the Fox, we hope to have another Hunt soon.

The promise of a new repeater within the Township of South Glengarry has great potential. We hope this new repeater comes to fruition!

As Field Day (June 24-26, 2022) approaches, we hope you will think about; helping out, coming out to visit and socialize or simply sharing the word that we will be at The Lost Villages that weekend. That event promises to be a lot of fun.

Our summer BBQ at the home of Earnest and Sue Vincent promises to be a lot of fun. Earnest continues to be enrolled in the on-line HAM course. We continue to wish him much success.

We hope to see you at our next hybrid meeting planned for May 25, 2022 at St. John Ambulance.

Happy HAMming!

73,

Earle DePass (VE3IMP)

President, SVARC (2022-2024)



**Roger
VA3GBV**

Note from the Editor

May it is and summer is in sight!

We had lots of warm even very warm weather this month so now we are all abuzz, mowing the lawn, planting the garden, putting up antennas.

In my case, both my HF and VHF/UHF antennas had to be brought down due to some winter damage.

Thanks to Red Stewart, they are now back on top of the tower.

By the way if you plan to do tower work this spring, make sure you read Andy Clark's, (WA4PRF) experience on his tower in the show and tell section of this newsletter.

Please send me your material for the newsletter, bio's, your other hobby, pictures of your shack, projects, equipment reviews, good stories, it is all interesting.

See you all next month. Until then stay safe, stay warm wherever you are.



A thought for the XYL:

A man may be a fool and not know it, but not if he is married.

H. L. Mencken



**Earle
VE3IMP**

ACS Report

The SD&G RAC Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Group [Formerly ARES]

Monthly Report For April 2022

Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club (SVARC) Inc.:

The SD&G RAC Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS) Group [Formerly ARES] is associated with the SVARC. The SVARC held its most recent “hybrid” meeting on April 27, 2022.

Repeater Checks: (Ongoing):

The SVARC weekly net is conducted first on VE3SVC (147.180MHz.+). Checks are then made by switching the Net to the VE3PGC (UHF) repeater where first an EchoLink check is performed. A check is also performed on VE3VSW then DMR, Ch. 2 or. This process confirms the serviceability of nearby *Seaway Valley Amateur Radio Club* (SVARC) repeater systems at least once a week, should they be required by the RAC Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS). On average there are 25 total check-ins. The weekly reporting system has been enhanced to show the names and callsigns as those who check in. These as opposed to just recording the number of weekly check ins.

Our AECs are:

1. Hal Green (VE3HWG), South Glengarry,
2. Stan Fortune (VA3JSF), South Stormont,
3. Ed Halliwell (VE3EAH), South Stormont,
4. Doug Pearson (VE3HTR), City of Cornwall,
5. Rick Palmer (VA3EV), City of Cornwall,
6. Art Horovitch (VE3AIH), City of Cornwall.

City Of Cornwall ARES Interface:

There still has not been any response from either Leighton Woods LWoods@cornwall.ca (Alternate CEMC for the City of Cornwall) or Jeff Weber (CEMC) to further discuss ARES support for the City of Cornwall.

South Glengarry ARES Projects:

Further to 2021 discussions between David Robertson, Fire Chief South Glengarry, Murray MacDonnell (VE3XLJ) then early 2022 discussions between Douglas Pearson (VE3HTR), David and Earle DePass, we formally requested permission to install a new Amateur Radio Repeater at the Township of South Glengarry landfill site on Beaverbrook Road. Alternately, as the lifecycle of this site is nearing its’ end, we indicated to David that we would also be willing to install our equipment at the Glen Gordon (former CJOH) site now and avoid having to relocate it at a later date when the Beaverbrook Road site is decommissioned.

Field Day 2022 Plans:

The SVARC is now planning in earnest for Field Day at *The Lost Villages* historical site in Long Sault, Ontario.

Earle DePass, (VE3IMP)

Group Coordinator (GC), SD&G ARES

RAC Auxiliary Communications Service (ACS)
Group

Art's Corner

VE3AIH



Springer, age 24, earned his ham radio license when he was 9 years old.

In his interview with ITU News, he explained the variety of operating techniques and social connections is part of what motivates young people to become active in ham radio in an increasingly digital world. "It's technical parts like experimenting with radio science, soldering, developing, and building electronics, in practice and not just theory," he said.

"Secondly, it's [the] social part: we are connecting with other communities, meeting radio operators from all around the world. Lastly, we connect with other cultures: we practice foreign languages, visit other countries, and get on the air at so-called 'expeditions.'" Springer is also featured in an ITU video on YouTube.

Sinanis explained that "ITU plays a key role in amateur radio by overseeing the standardization and regulatory processes of the radiocommunication sector, with special emphasis on its utility in emergency communications." The ITU is the United Nations specialized agency for information and communication technologies.

Show and Tell

May Fox Hunt,

Well, this one did not go well. The fox refused to turn-on. At first I suspected the battery and tried the cigar lighter but to no avail.

After screwing around we decided to cal off the hunt and go to Earle's place and trouble shoot.

To make a long story short we quickly found the the fuse was blown.

A replacement fuse was used and the Fox stated to sing again.

The fuse was a 3 A fuse. According to the manual, the transmitter of the HTX-202 draws 1.1A at full power and 0.5A at low power with a 13.8V supply.

Why did the fuse blow ??? Your suggestions are welcome!



We used the opportunity to make a small experiment.

- We put the Fox in low power mode, e.g.: 1 watt
- We removed the antenna from the HT. Just bare female SMA connection from the HT.
- Walked away 75 metres plus and still got the fox loud and clear

Conclusion: Unless you get an frequency offset attenuator you wont be able to get a bearing on a fox when you are within 100m.

A simple and affordable kit is available at:

<https://kc9on.com/product/fox-hunt-offset-attenuator/>

APRIL 30th , Coffee Klatch



From, left to right: Rich Parker (VA3EV), Earnest Vinson, Roger B elanger (VA3GBV) missing from the picture, Earle DePass (VE3IMP) Don Brownlee (VA3NC),

May 7 Coffee was attended only by Rick VA3EV and Roger VA3GBV.

May 21 coffee was cancelled as the Village Diner was closed due to a water main break.

We got our Cub Winter Jackets!

Check it out.



Just like the FAB Four

If other club members wish to get jackets, please contact Joe (VE3ADB).and he will collate another order.

If you plan to do some tower work this year, read this first

Dear Ms. Jones
Patsy Insurance Co.
Wata'ohoh, HI 96999-0101

I am writing in response to your request for additional information for Block 3 of the Accident Report Form (ARF) I submitted to you on April 1, 1997. I put "poor planning" as the cause for the accident. You said in your letter that I should explain more fully. I trust the following detail will be sufficient.

I am an Amateur Radio operator and on the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80 foot tower. When I had completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought up about 300 pounds of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and material down by hand, I decided to lower the items down in a small barrel by using a pulley, which was fortunately attached to the gin pole at the top of the tower.

Securing the rope at ground level, I went back to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and material into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to ensure a slow decent of the 300 pounds of tools.

You will note in Block 11 of the Accident Report Form that I weigh only 155 pounds. Due to my surprise of being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope.

Needless to say, I proceeded at a rather rapid rate of speed up the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken collarbone. Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time I had regained my presence of mind and in spite of my pain, I was able to hold on to the rope. At approximately the same time, however, the barrel of tools hit the ground and the bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed approximately 20 pounds. I refer you again to my weight, shown in Block 11 of my submission.

As you might imagine, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. In the vicinity of the 40 foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles, and the lacerations of my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell onto the pile of tools and, fortunately, only 3 vertebrae were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools, in pain, unable to stand and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind and let go of the rope ...!

Sincerely,

Andy Clark, WA4PRF
TIARA (Tokyo International Radio Association)