March 2023 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 Auxiliary communication Services 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. For a detailed list of repeaters operated by the club please visit 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)

1

Earle
VE3IMP

President's Message
February 2023

SVARC President's Message
March 2023

Spring is definitely in the air! The longer days and warmer temperatures lead me to think it's almost antenna work time!

Plans for Field Day 2023 are shaping up very nicely. Initial discussions with the *Raisin River Conservation Authority* have yielded green lights. Thanks to Jason Racine for making the initial entry for us. I hope you will mark the date (June 23-25, 2023) and participate this year.

Congratulations to Jason Racine and Hunter Racine for their successes on passing the Amateur Radio examination recently. It's nice to have two more HAMs to the fold!
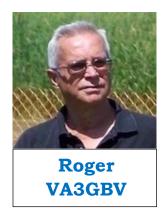
Our last Fox Hunt on Sunday, March 5, 2023 - when Steve (VE3EZB) hid the sneaky transmitter - was a lot of fun! This was the first Hunt which saw the offset attenuators we purchased as a group allow for the actual finding of the transmitter. We had 5 hunters (Roger, Jason, Hunter, Earnest and Earle) participate.

Our April 4, 2023 Emergency Communications exercise with the Glengarry Fire Department is now firmly set. During our monthly meeting on March 29, 2023 or before, please indicate if you plan to attend.

Our Coffee Klatches at Spinners Restaurant continue to be a lot of fun. Please come out and enjoy on the second and fourth Saturdays!

Sincerely,

Earle (VE3IMP), President SVARC

Note from the Editor *et al!*

**Roger
VA3GBV**

1. Spring has sprung!

Spring has sprung on Monday March 20, at 17:24 EDT.

Hopefully the snow is on its way out. We sure had our share of the stuff this winter, over 300 cm to date this winter, while the average is a little over 200cm.

2. 2023 Raisin River Canoe Race 50th anniversary

The raisin river Canoe race will celebrate their 50th anniversary on Saturday April 15th.
Yes, this is not a typo, the race will be held on a Saturday this year, and the SVARC will be there.

This means that members have to step up to the occasion. So please contact Earle (VE3IMP) at: earfran@bell.net if you plan to participate.

3. Iroquois Hamfest

Iroquois Hamfest is held on April 1st at the legion (24 Dundas Street, Iroquois, ON' K0E 1K0).

The SVARC has reserved 2 tables for members who wish to reduce their inventory. The room will open at 8:00 am for vendors, so if you have anything to sell, meet us there before 9:00am.

4. Here is a note from one of our previous newsletter editors:

*"eHam.net is **a community site designed and operated by and run for active Amateur Radio operators (hams)**.*

***eHam.net** is not just a website. It is the Internet's #1 Amateur Radio Community."*

https://www.eham.net/

It is a very useful website that has discussion forums, product and equipment reviews, Ham equipment for sale, interesting news and amateur radio articles and so much more. The equipment reviews by themselves are excellent because the reviews are all done by Ham radio operators who have used and rated the equipment. The products can be easily compared to each other, with the positives and negatives.

Members can ask questions on the forum and receive a lot of great experienced feedback.

The site also included Ham links and Ham tests and a classified column.

Many of us are familiar with the site but newcomers may be interested too.

Jim (VE3AFV)

Show and Tell

March 5 Fox Hunt

Congratulations to the Fox Hunt Team of Roger (VA3GBV), Jason Racine and his son, Hunter, for being the first team to find the cunning Fox during today's Fox Hunt.

Under clear skies and with almost-spring-like temperatures, the cunning transmitter was hiding from the 5 hunters, in a snowbank, behind The Wing House restaurant, at 1730 Vincent Massey Drive.

Thanks to Steve Harvey (VE3EZB) and Ray Gregoire (VE3RGC) for hiding the Fox. Earle and Earnest were the second team to find the Fox (there were only two teams...lol)!

We had a great social time after. Dean (VA3BS) joined us.

Below are the best photos...thanks to Earnest and Earle for providing them.

A great time was had by all!

Ready for the hunt

Earnest (VA3EWV), Roger (VA3GBV), Hunter (Not yet), Jason (Soon)), Earle (VE3IMP)

The hunt is on

Earle (VE3IMP), Earnest (VA3EWV)

We found the beast!

Earle (VE3IMP), Earnest (VA3EWV)

The Fox goes back to sleep.

Many thanks to Steve (VE3EZB)

Celebrating a successful Hunt

Roger (VA3GBV), Earle (VE3IMP), Steve (VE3EZB), Earnest (VA3EWV), Ray (VE3RGC), Hunter (VA3HWF), Jason (VE3PRY) and Dean (VA3BS) who joined us later.

Interesting Note: As we were debriefing the hunt, Earle challenged Jason and Hunter to meet him the following Thursday to pass their Amateur Radio exam.

Well, they sure rose to the occasion, passed the exam and got their callsigns as can be seen on the Coffee Klatches pictures below.

Congratulation guys!

Coffee klatches

March 11

Going clockwise around the table:
Dean Brush (VA3BS), Earnest Vinson (VA3EWV), Brian Boyd, Rick Palmer (VA3EV), Hunter Racine (VA3HWF), Jason Racine (VE3PRY), John Grow (VE2EQL).
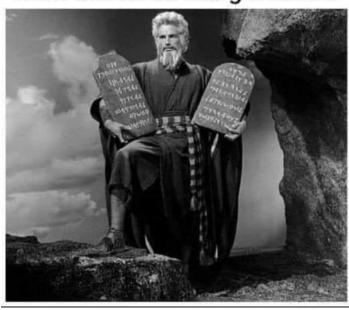
Mach 25, 2023

Don B. (VA3NV), Earnest V. (VA3EWV), Hunter R. (VA3HWF), Dean B. (VA3BS), Doug P. (VE3HTR), Rick P. (VA3EV), Jason R. (VE3PRY), John G. (VE2EQL).

Trend Setters:

So technically Moses was the first man to download files from the cloud using a tablet.

The good old days of Ham Radio

By Ed VE3EAH

CANADA DMR-CHEAT SHEET

This cheat sheet, in English, should help you to understand the digital radio mode "DMR".

Reproduced here with the permission of René Champagne, VE2DMR, Québec

CANADA DMR-CHEAT SHEET

This cheat sheet, in English, should help you to understand the digital radio mode "DMR".

Ham Radio DMR Worldwide Networks in Canada/USA

CAN-TRBO = **DMR-MARC**, is a Net based on MOTOTRBO,
DMR+ DMR+ is a predominantly Hytera-influenced network from DG1HT
BrandMeister is an open Amateur Radio network for different manufacturers and connections to other networks, with worldwide distribution

Timeslot- abbreviated as TS

A TS divides a digital radio signal, the QRG, into usable voice channels. Two timeslots are used in the DMR network, TS1 and TS2 on one frequency. This means that two QSOs can be conducted on one QRG at the same time. In the BrandMeister network, all talk groups are available in both timeslots

Talkgroup, Group call, abbreviated as TG

A TG is a virtual conversation room. A TG can stand for a certain topic of conversation or a geographical region, as well as function. The TG separates the QSOs

PrivatCall, Direct call, abbreviated to PC

With the PC, radio amateurs can be called, regardless of their location. For this purpose, a participant is targeted with his DMR-ID e.g. called from the address book of the radio. Only the 2 required repeaters are used.

Reflector, abbreviated Ref

A reflector is a talk / relay group that is only used via talkgroup 9. There are reflectors in the DMR +. Discontinued on BrandMeister. The command PC 4000 disconnects a reflector and with PC 5000 the status of a connection at the local repeater is requested. A repeater becomes a group e.g. 4322 connected.

Terms

DMR Digital Mobile Radio open spec ETSI TS 102 361-1 V2.2.1
dPMR is a DMR mode without time slots (TIER1)

CC ColorCode 0-15, Network identifier, default is 1
Codeplug is the complete configuration of the radio
CPS Codeplug Programming Software
Firmware the software in the device.
MARC Motorola Amateur Radio Club
Channels the individual repeater memory locations in a code plug
Zonen are groupings of channels in the code plug
RX-Group is a talkgroup list to be received
Dynamic TG can be activated on the repeater via PTT
Static TG are always transmitted and received by the relay
TalkAlias serves to transmit the call sign
Cluster Regional group of several repeaters in a region on TG8
MirrorTG is a mirror TG, e.g. TG8 = TG302245

Hotspot İs a local gateway to the network, usually 10 mW Simplex
Hangtime is a time that the repeater or radio waits for renewed

activity in the last used TG. usually 3 seconds

Roaming, the radio seeks for the closest repeater
TX-Admit-Criteria determines when to send, standard is ChannelFree to avoid simultaneous sending

Web pages

https://www.facebook.com/groups/VE2DMRQuebec/
DMR-MARC/CAN TRBO: http://www.ve2tax.com/
DMR+: http://ham-dmr.de
BrandMeister: https://wiki.brandmeister.network/index.php/Canada
DMR-ID Registration: https://www.radioid.net/

Typical talkgroups in DMR + Network

Info on: http://www.dmrplus.de
Timeslot 1
• TG1 Worldwide, TG2 Europe, TG3 United States
• TG262 Germany connected to DMR DL
Timeslot 2
• TG9 local and connection with reflectors
• Reflectors, 4xxx see DMR+ list of reflectors
Ref 4001 Germany, Ref 4061 Switzerland - Français, Ref 4308 France Centre, Ref 4592 Quebec

SMS services in the BrandMeister network BM262

Info on http://wiki.bm262.de/doku.php?id=servicenummer
• SMS to DAPNET Pager, send to 262994 [recipient call] [blank] [your text message] Example: "DK5RTA Am now QRV on BM TG262"Relais Statusabfrage, sende „rpt" an 262994
Service number 262993
• Help for service number 262993, send "help" to 262993
• Current weather, send "wx hamburg" to 262993
  Further commands: wx help, wx, wx 40217
• Airfield weather, send "metar [ICAO Code]" to 262993
  Example: "metar eddm" for the weather in Munich
• GPS functions, send "gps help" to 262993 Additional commands: gps set, gps home, gps [call],
• Receive report, send "rssi" to 262993

Typical talkgroups in the Brandmeister network

Full listing on
https://wiki.brandmeister.network/index.php/Canada /
Timeslot 1
• TG91 worldwide, TG92 Europe, TG93 North America
• TG262 Germany, TG208 France, TG228 Switzerland
• TG3022 Québec, TG 2023, TG30236 Canada Fusion Linkl
Timeslot 2
• TG2-8 Regional-Cluster,
• TG9 Local,
• Canada's TAC 901,902,903
• Dynamically activated talk groups per relay
  Gateways to other networks (a selection)
• TG30236 Link to C4FMCanada Link
• TG30222 Fusion Link French
• TG302245 Link to VE2MO Net – Tues 20h00
• TG302354 Link to VE2REH Net – Wed 19h00
• TG302220 Link to VE2DMR Québec - Tech Net
Notes
• The parrot, repeats its own broadcast TG 302997
• Disconnect with PC 4000 or TG4000
• Connection status with PC 5000 or TG5000
• All TGs can be used worldwide, e.g. TG3022 can be reached via any BM Repeater / Server

DMR Simplex / Hotspot frequencies

Call 441.0000 MHz TS2 TG99 CH1 446.5000 MHz TS2 TG99CH2 145.7900 MHz TS2 TG99

Auxiliary Repeater Links 433-435Mhz (12.5 kHz Steps)
For HotSpots