

# Kilowatter

The voice of the KW Amateur Radio Club

June 2009

Since 1922

## Kitchener-Waterloo Amateur Radio Club

133 Weber St. N. Suite #3-138  
Waterloo, Ontario  
N2J 3G9

EDITOR: Gordon Hayward VE3EOS

PHONE: 744-7205

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Web site: <http://www.kwarc.org>

## MONDAY'S MEETING

**Date:** Monday June 1st, 2009  
**Time:** 7:30pm  
**Place:** RCAF Wing 404 Club. End of Dutton Dr. Waterloo. Off Weber St. N.  
**Topic:** Executive elections and Garry Hammond 'Recent KWARC QSL Cards'

## UPCOMING EVENTS

<p><b>Central Ontario Hamfest &amp; Fleamarket</b> GARC &amp; KWARC Saturday, June 6, 2009 Fergus, Ontario</p>	<p><b>London Vintage Radio Club Outdoor Flea Market</b> London Vintage Radio Club Saturday, June 13, 2009 Guelph Ontario</p>
<p><b>Field Day</b> KWARC June 27,28 2009 Breithaupt Park in Kitchener</p>	<p><b>ONTARIO HAMFEST 2009</b> Burlington Amateur Radio Club Saturday, July 11, 2009 Milton, Ontario</p>
<p><b>Hamfest 2009</b> Brantford Amateur Radio Club Saturday, August 15, 2009 Burford, Ontario</p>	<p><b>Ottawa Amateur Radio Club 13th Annual Hamfest</b> Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc Saturday, September 12, 2009 Ottawa (Carp), ON</p>
<p><b>Barrie-Orillia Hamfest</b> Barrie Amateur Radio Club &amp; Orillia Amateur Radio Club Saturday, September 12, 2009 Barrie Ontario</p>	<p><b>32nd Annual London Amateur Radio Club Flea Market</b> London Amateur Radio Club Sunday, September 27, 2009 London Ontario</p>

### KWARC Directors 2007-8

<b>President</b>	Dennis Tabbert	VA3DLT	
<b>Vice President</b>	Ben Sasiela	VE3ST	242-7436
<b>Treasurer</b>	Don Fisher	VE3ESE	578-7328
<b>Secretary</b>	Ken Willmott	VE3MIX	894-1737
<b>Director</b>	Tedd Doda	VE3TJD	513-0377
<b>Director</b>	Nick Waterman	VA3NNW	884-3760
<b>Director</b>	Gord Hayward	VE3EOS	744-7205

### The Executive Committee Chairs

<b>Program</b>	vacant		
<b>Technical</b>	Tedd Doda	VE3TJD	513-0377
<b>Packet</b>	Tedd Doda	VE3TJD	513-0377
<b>Database Mgr</b>	Dave Schwartz	VA3DGS	699-6296
<b>Bulletin Editor</b>	Gord Hayward	VE3EOS	744-7205
<b>Edu. Co-Ord</b>	Ron Gimbel	VE3DBD	584-2009
<b>Chief Examiner</b>	Vern Stroud	VE3RVS	880-8862
<b>Auto Patch</b>	Ben Sasiela	VE3ST	242-7436
<b>ARES Manager</b>	Larry Gorman	VE3LGN	884-6782
<b>CANWARN Mgr.</b>	Ben Sasiela	VE3ST	242-7436
<b>QSL Manager</b>	Gord Gibson	VE3NQK	893-5148
<b>Inventory</b>	Ben Sasiela	VE3ST	242-7436
<b>Field Day</b>	Gord Hayward	VE3EOS	744-7205
<b>Webmaster</b>	Dennis Tabbert	VA3DLT	
<b>Bereavement</b>	Marg Cassel	VE3RE	
<b>Flea Market</b>	Dennis Tabbert	VA3DLT	
<b>QCWA Rep</b>	Harold Braun	VE3DWH	884-2388

### KWARC Owned Repeaters/Nodes

Mode	Call	Freq.	PL	patch	Location
Voice	VE3KSR	146.970	131.8		Baden Hill
Voice	VE3RCK	146.865	131.8		Mannheim
Packet	VE3KSR-0	145.010			Baden Hill
Voice	VE3IXY	224.340	131.8		Mannheim
IRLP	VE3RBM	444.875	131.8		Mannheim
Echolink	VE3SED	53.370	131.8		Baden Hill
Voice	VE3SED	442.200	131.8		Baden Hill
Special Events		147.510			Kitchener

### Other Area Repeaters/Nodes

Mode	Call	Freq.	PL	patch	Location
Voice	VE3ERC	444.700	N		Elmira
Voice	VE3RND	145.330	Y		Plattsville
Voice	VE3SWR	146.790	N		Cambridge
IRLP	VE3WFM	147.090	N		Waterloo
Voice	VE3RSS	147.030	N	members	Acton
ULR Link	VE3BHR	447.075	Y		Baden Hill
Voice	VE3ZMG	145.210	N		Guelph
Voice	VE3BAY	442.350	Y		Kitchener

## The Pres Sez



Greetings all!

Well, summertime will soon be upon us so after our next meeting on Monday, June 1st, we too will take a break until September. This upcoming meeting, we will be holding our annual elections. Holding an executive position doesn't curtail that much so please accept if you're nominated for one! Remember we need an executive committee in order for us to keep our club going!

Monday's meeting will also see a presentation by Garry Hammond, VA3XN. He will be talking about recent KWARC QSL cards & I'm sure it'll be pretty interesting.

At this time, I would like to thank all those people who volunteered their services during the 2008-2009 club meetings. To Linda VA3LWH, our coffee person...thank you so much for your time & patience in preparing snacks, setting up the percolator, etc.

In closing, may all of you, your family & your friends have a safe & enjoyable summer!! Keep an eye out for the kids who'll be done school soon!

That's it for now.

Dennis VA3DLT  
KWARC President

## Short Items and Announcements

Field Day News from Ben, VE3ST:

The Kitchener Waterloo Amateur Radio Club annual Field Day will be held on the last full weekend in June, and all club members are welcome to participate and come to this event. The location of the Field Day this year will be in Breithaupt Park just off Margaret Ave in Kitchener, in the picnic area where shelter is available for the operators. The club has acquired written permission from the city of Kitchener to use these facilities for the 24 hour over night event, and the city has provided us 24 hour access to the rest rooms adjacent to the operating area, as well as granted the club use of this area for erecting our tower, antenna's and generator operation.

Our previous location of Doon Pioneer Crossroads is presently under construction for the new Regional Museum, and was unavailable for this year's field day event.

Breithaupt Park is suitable in elevation with few obstructions in all directions, so we feel that it will be a good choice for antenna effectiveness in making contacts.

Please advise all club members of this location and invite everyone to participate in this annual club event.

The Fergus fleamarket is coming, June 6<sup>th</sup> in Fergus – next weekend! Unlike Rochester and Field Day, it's in the same place this year. We'll need volunteers for the various tasks needed to make the event a success, so please be willing. See the flyer on page 7.

Please keep saving Zehr's tapes and bring them in to the meetings. Zehr's donates a portion of the amount to the Club for the purchase of equipment and community activities. We are grateful to Zehr's for this community service. Marg, VE3RE, is the volunteer who amasses, counts and submits these tapes.

Don't forget the breakfast gatherings: Saturday mornings at Angels in the plaza at Lawrence and Highland, Monday mornings at Benny's at Weber and Lodge in Waterloo and the Wednesday morning coffee gang at Luther Village. All start at about starting about 9 and last about an hour (or two). No agenda or formality, just good food and conversation.

## [Kitchener Waterloo Amateur Radio Club](#)

### [May 4, 2009 Meeting](#)



There were 38 attendees, a good number (right, Members Roll Call).



Ron, VE3DBD announced that there were presently 13 students enrolled in the ham class.



Rick Dorner (left) delivered a presentation about Personal Computer security.

Rick explained Internet Security levels that are communicated by the security software companies. He explained some of the software options that you could use to protect your computer from viruses and worms, and cautioned

against the unintended consequences of using certain "helper" programs that work with some browsers. It was a very detailed technical talk, and so Rick provided a link to his website for details: [deigratia.wordpress.com](http://deigratia.wordpress.com)

Don, VE3ESE presented Rick with an award in gratitude for his presentation (right).



Flea Market: [Next years] "Fergus" flea market can not be held in the same location, so has been moved to the WRPS campgrounds, and will fall on a Sunday not a Saturday due to campground availability.

#### Field Day:

The traditional Doon Village site cannot be used due to construction activities there. The club executive has endeavored to obtain permission from the city to use Brightupt Park as a location. If this fails, a Laurel Creek campsite will be used as an alternative. (editor's note: see the item from Ben on page 2)

QSL manager Gord, VE3NQG reported for VE3IC:  
 1,117 QSLs with 572 prefixes  
 261 Countries verified (worked 274)  
 WAC (worked all continents)  
 #26 in Canadian lighthouse competition  
 Bronze award for Beijing competition. This award is for working 5 Chinese stations. Thanks go to Gary Hammond who worked these stations with the VE3IC call.



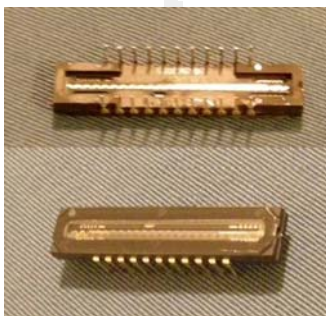
The 50/50 draw of \$19.00 went to Ken, VA3SKN

A motion to adjourn came from VE3ESE, seconded by VE3MWE

Minutes by Ken, VE3MIX

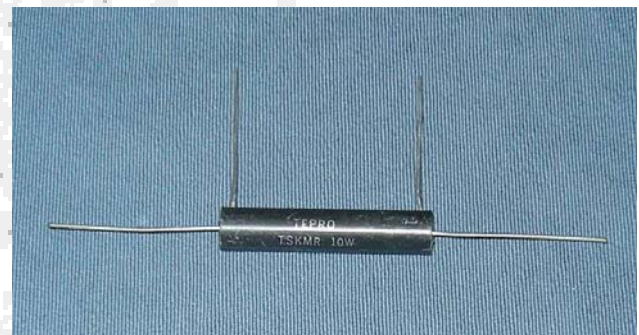
Photos by Ben, VE3ST

### [What Is It?](#)



Last month, the 'what is it' (left) was a line scan camera from an HP scanner. I think it's a CCD array but I couldn't find the data sheet for this particular one. Looking closely, it's a colour unit.

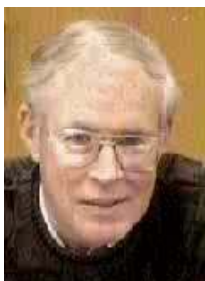
This month, the item is kind of obvious, but the real question is 'Why are there so many wires?'



If you have an obscure part or assembly, send me a picture and I will use it – I'm sure some of you have neat things to stump the readers.

### [ARES IN ACTION](#)

#### [KWARC CANWARN \(VE3YKF\) Severe Weather Monitoring](#)



Our first case of weather severe enough to warrant a Ministry Severe Weather Desk pager alert, and a local CANWARN Net occurred Saturday May 9. While we have had an unusual number of extremely heavy rain storms and wild winds, this was the first to include large hail (and possibly accompanying tornadic conditions). Very large hail was observed in the vicinity of London, and an immediate Alert was sent out by 10:30 AM.

Our local CANWARN net was initiated at 10:35 on VE3KSR. This was an extremely fast moving storm and gusts and rain splatters were upon us almost instantly via the storms front runner. Radio reports began to come in immediately, with mobiles checking in from various parts of the Region. Thanks to the 6 participants who made regular check-ins during the event. Significant hail was reported in the Toronto area, but with only pea sized hail reported locally, we never proceeded past a Level Green, and the Severe Weather Desk relayed a stand down by 11:30 AM. Thanks especially to VE3RE, VA3QF, VE3FSH, VA3BNY, and VE3SJV.

This year we have as Net Controllers Ben VE3ST (our Net manager), BobVE3XNB, assisted by Bonnie VA3BLM, Robin VE3OAV down in Preston, and myself Larry VE3LGN, with Nick VA3NNW as a backup assistant. The duty roster begins in May and has everyone scheduled to cover a series of two week sessions. Our volunteers plan, given adequate notice, to maintain nets whenever local conditions warrant. A reminder to those who have taken the spring CANWARN Refresher at UoW, you can check in on the CANWARN phone line if you are not in range of a net. As that office will be very busy during a storm, contact should only be made for significant Level Yellow phenomena such as very large hail, damaging winds, super heavy rain, or worse.

A reminder: Due to extraneous interference, VE3KSR requires Tone code 131.8 for you to access. You can hear – But you can't make contact into the repeater. Check in with your radio. Does the identifier come up? Have you loaded your Tone Encoder?

Larry VE3LGN  
Emergency Services Coordinator

An E-Mail from Geoff Coulson:

Folks...More than halfway through our Spring training sessions now...the turnouts have been great, both for returning CANWARN members, as well as new members. If you didn't manage to attend a training session near you but are in our CANWARN database from previous years, you will be receiving a new CANWARN ID card in the mail. The mailing will not likely take place for another month or so, to allow us time to update the database from this year's training.

Training in Northwestern Ontario led by Serge Besner of Environment Canada will begin on Tuesday the 19th and training in Eastern Ontario will be taking place at venues in or near Cornwall, Kingston and Perth. For those of you planning to attend one of the Eastern Ontario sessions, please drop an email to Peter Kimbell (peter.kimbell@ec.gc.ca)...so Peter can get an idea of numbers for the different venues.

Once again, thank you to all who have come out to a training session and reaffirmed their commitment to CANWARN and an invitation to those of you in areas where training has yet to take place to come out to a session near you.

Regards,

Geoff Coulson  
Warning Preparedness Meteorologist  
Environment Canada

### [Boatanchor Rehabilitation](#)



This month I've been working on an RCAF AR-2 receiver for a friend. If you're not familiar with this set, below is a picture of the front of the set. I have one of my own and found a third junker for spares (for real cheap at a fleamarket). The only AR-2 reference I found on the web is from the Signals Museum in Kingston. When they see the pictures here, they will cry (or offer to burn me at the stake as a witch). All of them have been heavily modified so I thought I should talk for a bit about the idea of 'blacksmithing' as opposed to 'restoration'. Blacksmithing is the heavy modification of a radio. This involves irreversible changes to the radio, often (in the words of Winston Churchill) with implements ill suited to the task.

This is the front panel of my AR-2 and you can see some of the changes that were done before



I bought it. The ceramic antenna connection has been replaced by a UHF connector, the big connector has been replaced by a plate for a headphone jack and another socket where the sense switch was. Overall not too devastating a job but the set is no longer original.

Inside, there was a lot more hacking. Some stuff was removed and a huge hole for a power transformer was bashed into the chassis. It looks like a chisel was used – the aluminum is too thick for a nibbling tool. I overhauled the power supply but the tube lineup and circuit are more or less original.



Another set I'm currently working on (left) has been more heavily altered. The whole IF section was removed and replaced by additional stages. Of course there's no schematic for the changes so I'm doing a lot of circuit tracing. The good news, after replacing the output transformer it does make music. (The dead transformer had an open primary so that all of the output tube current went through the screen which glowed brilliantly. The glow was modulated by the sound!)

The junker (right) seems to have had the worst of both. The IF has been modified, there's a huge hole for the transformer and there's another huge hole in the front panel for the meter.

So, the bottom line: Where do I stand on the topic of blacksmithing? I will not attack a set in reasonable condition – they are candidates for restoration. If a set has been blacksmithed or has suffered too much from bad (damp) storage or has been dropped and bashed, I'll consider modifying it.

As a learning experience, I learned an incredible amount by modifying an old set and I did document all of the changes. The museum guys still cried when they heard about that set.



# The 35th Annual Central Ontario Amateur Radio ~ Fleamarket and Hamfest ~

Sponsored by the Guelph and the Kitchener-Waterloo Amateur Radio Clubs

## Saturday, June 6th, 2009

at the Centre Wellington Sportsplex

**Admission  
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### Time:

Indoor Vendors 7am;  
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### General Admission:

\$7 (under 12 free)

### Vendors:

Inside tables \$14 per 8ft space  
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### Talk-in:

VE3ZMG 145.210 (-),  
\*VE3KSR 146.970 (-)  
and 146.520 simplex  
when you're in town

\*Tone 131.8

### Information:

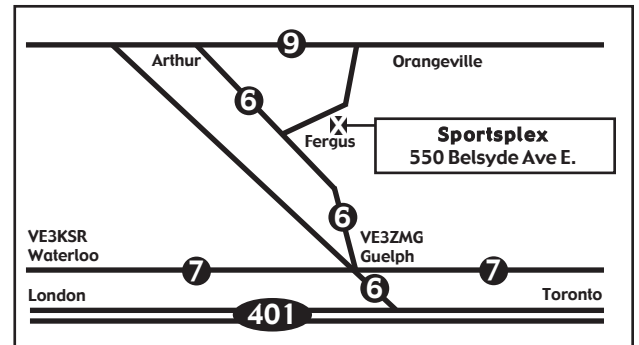
**Website:** [www.hamfest.on.ca](http://www.hamfest.on.ca)

**Email:** [info@hamfest.on.ca](mailto:info@hamfest.on.ca)

Contact Nick, VA3NNW,  
via phone 519-884-3760  
(Evenings & weekends ONLY)

## Centre Wellington Sportsplex (Fergus, Ontario)

At the sportsplex, 10km north of Guelph  
just off Highway 6. Check our website for  
regional attractions.



For advance admission tickets and tables see [www.hamfest.on.ca](http://www.hamfest.on.ca) or write

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Street: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

_____ Admission Tickets	at	\$7.00	=	\$ _____
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_____ Total Enclosed			=	\$ _____

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**CENTRAL ONTARIO  
HAMFEST**

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Waterloo, ON N2T 1Z3

Phone:  
519-884-3760  
(eve & w/e only)

E-mail:  
[info@hamfest.on.ca](mailto:info@hamfest.on.ca)



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**KWARC Membership Renewal**

Please cut out the following renewal form and enclose it with your payment as your renewal date comes due. When you enter the birthday information; just your month and day are needed.

<b>PLEASE MAIL TO: Kitchener-Waterloo Amateur Radio Club</b> 133 Weber Street North, Suite #3-138 Waterloo Ontario N2J 3G9	
<b>First Name</b> _____	<b>Call:</b> _____
<b>Address1:</b> _____	<b>Last Name:</b> _____
<b>City:</b> _____	<b>Address2:</b> _____
<b>Postal Code:</b> _____	<b>Email Address:</b> _____
<b>Phone Number:</b> (____) _____ - _____	<b>Birthday:</b> _____ <b>Month</b> _____ <b>Day</b> _____
<b>This is a [ ] RENEWAL or [ ] NEW APPLICATION</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Membership @ \$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Family membership adder @ \$5.00 each <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors Membership @ \$10.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Student or Challenged individuals @ \$10.00	<b>Kilowatter Preference [ ] MAIL [ ] From WEB</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Associate (non voting) @ \$10.00. I am a member of the _____ Club. <input type="checkbox"/> Printed Kilowatter Newsletter "Mailed" @ \$10.00
<b>Comments:</b> _____ _____	
<b>Total Amount Enclosed: \$</b> _____	<b>Your Cheque Number :</b> _____

 <b>INFORMATION GATEWAY SERVICES</b> Kitchener-Waterloo Cambridge and Guelph	<b>Information Gateway Services</b> (Kitchener-Waterloo) Inc. 151 Frobisher Dr., Suite E-118, Waterloo, Ontario, N2V 2C9 Owner Operator : Don Sinclair VE3ICD
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