



**AUGUST 2015**

**Volume 4 Issue 8**

# **VE3ERC-LUB**

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**President: Rich VE3DCC**

**Vice-President: Johan, VA3JBO**

**Secretary: Tom VE3DXQ**

**Treasurer: Reg, VE3RVH**

**Newsletter Editor Bob VE3IXX**

**QSL Manager and Lighthouse: Bill, VE3WBJ**

**Repeater manager and maintenance: Carl, VE3FEF**

**Website Admin: Johan, VA3JBO**

**Maple Syrup Joyce, VA3WXU**

**Display: Judd, VE3WXU**

**ERC REPEATER 444.700**

**EMERGENCY SIMPLEX 147.51**



ERC antenna site at the Elmira Fire Station.

# THE PREZ SEZ!

This club is Radio-ACTIVE  
This club is Radio-ACTIVE



## President's Update for August 2015

It is hard to believe that we are almost at the end of summer. The good news is that our "Ham" season is about to begin in earnest.

Priorities for this coming year will include:

- completing our incorporation ( I had hoped to have details by now!!!)
- completing our affiliation with RAC and acquiring RAC insurance (this may affect our dues structure)
- completing our station at the fire hall
- resolving our uhf and vhf repeater licensing issues
- activating our new repeaters
- setting up a notification system so members can be instantly updated on our club status

I have chatted with the township fire chief today and to his knowledge there is one "table-top" exercise planned. Not quite our cup of tea, as we prefer "hands-on" and real-time exercises--That said, I hope we can involve ourselves in the national SET and Scout events as we did last year. This will certainly get the cob-webs out of our system.

Bill Graham has again invited us to his station for a presentation in October. I am looking for ideas for presentations or mini-talks on current Ham projects.

I welcome you all back.

de Rich, ve3DCC

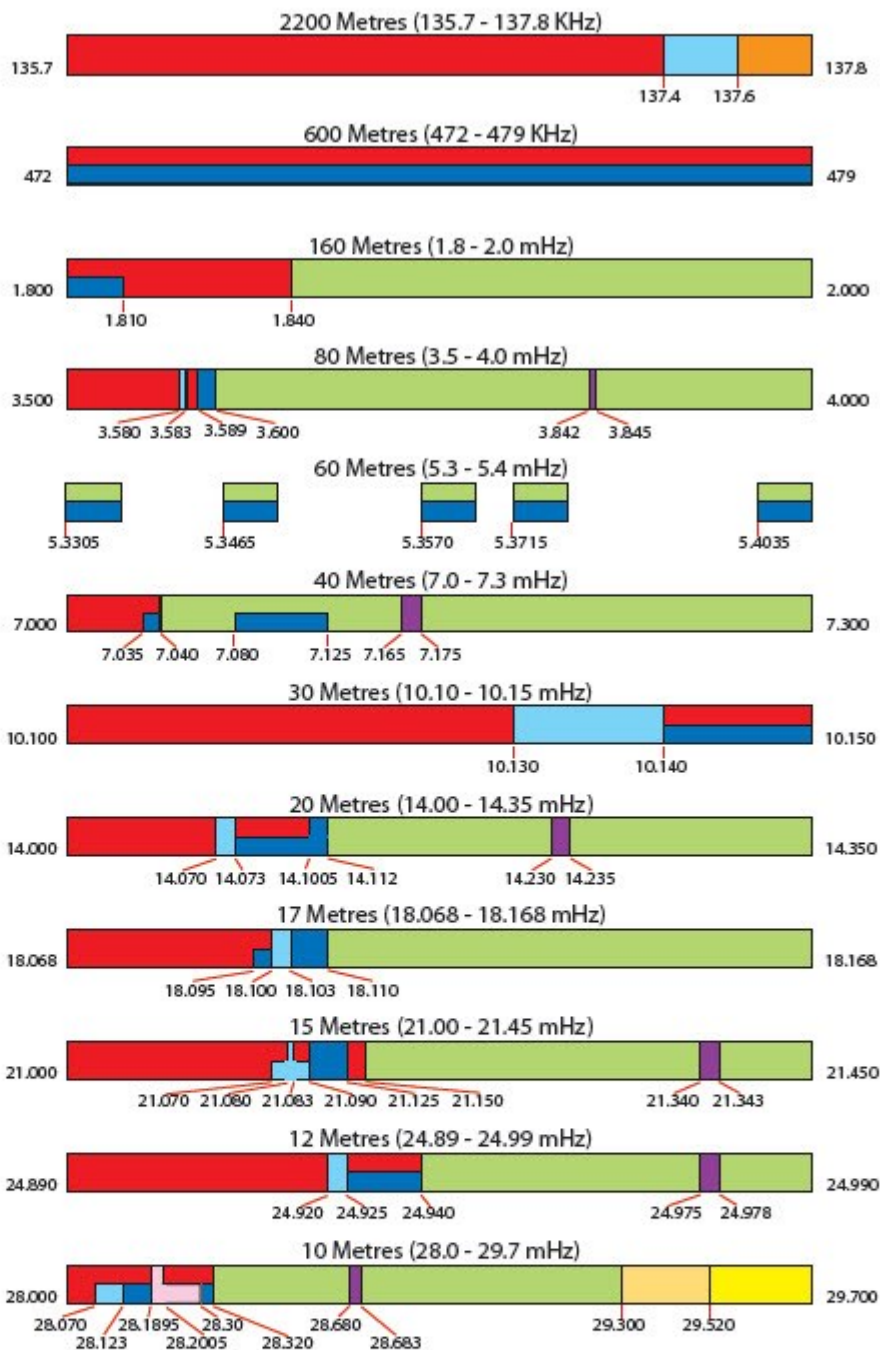


# Canadian 0 - 30mHz Band Plan

**Effective Date:  
January 1, 2015**

1. This is a simplified version of the official RAC Band Plan. Not all permissible modes/activities are represented.
2. LSB is used on 160, 80 and 40M. USB is used on all other bands that permit SSB, including 60M.
3. Narrow Digital modes are up to 500 Hz bandwidth. Digital includes all digital modes.
4. Maximum bandwidth permitted on 2200M is 100 Hz. Maximum power is 1 Watt EIRP.
5. Maximum power on 600M band is 5 Watts EIRP, with recommended maximum bandwidth of 1 KHz. Details are still being developed.
6. Refer to the IC and RAC websites for full details before operating on the new 60M channels.
7. Remember not to allow your signal to spill over into adjoining band segments when operating close to the edges. During major weekend contests, activity in certain modes can spill over into other segments.
8. This graphic is a living document and will be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect changes in the band plans and operating habits.

www.rac.ca



Key		
<span style="color: red;">■</span> CW	<span style="color: yellow;">■</span> FM	<span style="color: purple;">■</span> SSTV
<span style="color: orange;">■</span> CW QRSS	<span style="color: pink;">■</span> Beacons	<span style="color: blue;">■</span> Digital
<span style="color: green;">■</span> Phone	<span style="color: gold;">■</span> Satellite	<span style="color: lightblue;">■</span> Narrow Digital



# **LIGHTHOUSE WEEKEND**

## **A PHOTO MONTAGE (AUG. 15-16, 2015)**



The Point Clarke lighthouse. All pictures courtesy of Joyce VA3WXU



Setting up!





Operating.





The event attracted lots of people.



## **WEDNESDAY NITE NET CONTROLLERS**

**SEPTEMBER 2 - JUDD VE3WXU**

**SEPTEMBER 9 - TED VE3TRQ**

**SEPTEMBER 16 - AL VA3TET**

**SEPTEMBER 23 - M E E T I N G**

**SEPTEMBER 30 - REG VE3RVH**

**OCTOBER 7 - PAUL VE3PVB**

**OCTOBER 14 - BOB VE3IXX**

**OCTOBER 21 - JUDD VE3WXU**

**OCTOBER 28 - M E E T I N G**

## **NEWEST HAM**

**D**ennis Buonafede VE3DTW finished the course for his Basic Licence in July and passed the exam with an Honours. He achieved a mark of 86 percent. A Basic with Honours requires a minimum of 80 percent. In taking the course, Dennis, a high-school teacher from Orangeville, was a highly motivated student, as well as being a good friend. Dennis is keenly interested in getting involved with emergency communications.

Congratulations Dennis!

Bob VE3IXX





# ANTENNA



## ON THE FIREHALL

BY JOYCE HODGE  
VA3WXU



**R**eg (VE3RVH), John (VE3JXX), Bruce (VE3QB), Al (VA3TET), Judd (VE3WXU) and I (VA3WXU) met up at the Elmira fire-hall. We went there intending to install the "bracketry" needed for attaching the antenna to the tower of the fire-hall that would, eventually, be used for the two club repeaters. This was the first day of many other days to come in the completion of this project.

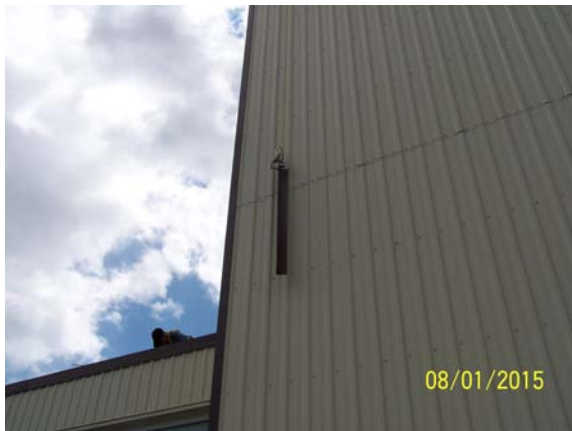


Bruce (VE3QB) watches John (VE3JXX) sort through the assortment of tools needed for the installation.



Reg (VE3RVH) secures the ladder for John (VE3JXX) as he climbs up. Judd (VE3WXU) watches the ominous rain clouds move in.

Together, John (VE3JXX) and Reg (VE3RVH) worked on installing the stand-off mounts needed to install the antenna mounting pole. Then angle iron was hauled up to the tower so that the guys on the roof could mark the holes that would then be drilled for the placement of the bolts.



Just then the rain began to fall.







Al (VA3TET), Bruce (VE3QB), Judd (VE3WXU) and myself (VA3WXU) sought shelter in our cars or under umbrellas. In the meanwhile, the guys on the roof... well, they just got wet. Soaking wet!



When the sun came back out and the downpour was finally over, even though soaked to the skin, our guys were still smiling.



Work commenced down on the ground.



This gave Reg (VE3RVH) and John (VE3JXX) time to dry out while the others were drilling the marked holes.

It took quite a long time to drill the holes through the angle iron. Lubrication, fortitude and endurance was needed to get the job done.

**AT LAST! A HOLE IS MADE!**

This was the first of the eight that would be needed.

Johan (VA3JBO) arrived and like a relief pitcher in a baseball game, helped out by taking turns doing the drilling and bringing home some more of the holes.

Eventually, the holes were drilled and the angle iron was sent back up to the roof. John (VE3JXX) mounted the "bracketry" to the tower. Watching these breath taking aeronautics was incredibly mesmerizing.







At the end of this day, there was a large amount of work still needing to be done. I was not present there in person to witness the miracle on those days, but Judd (VE3WXU) shared that Al (VA3TET), Ted (VE3TRQ) and John (VE3JXX) modified the previous day's installation to allow for the erection of the mast and antenna to a near vertical position. On the following Monday, John (VE3JXX) routed the coax and the cabling into the hose tower. The following Tuesday, he and Reg (VE3RVH) routed and connected the AC feed line to provide power. Later on the shelving that was needed in the rafters was designed, manufactured, and installed by this duo. At this point we are waiting for the installation of the repeaters, duplexers, and a power connection for the mesh nodes.

I am pretty sure that all the ERC club members are grateful for the work that has been done at the fire-hall. I know that I am absolutely in awe of the efforts of those members who persevered downpours, angle iron drilling, and dizzying heights. Well done to all!

VA3WXU

**On Aug. 6, 2015 Ted (VE3TRQ)**

sent an e-mail giving some details on the Mesh nodes which were also installed on the tower.

We plan to try out the mesh nodes as soon as we have power in the hose tower. We have one 5.8 G narrow dish node pointing to Waterloo, and one 2.4 G 120 degree panel node pointing west into Elmira. One suggestion is to get a pair of nodes on John's tower, with a 5.8 G long-range repeater node pointing to Fergus, then have one there pointing to Belwood :-). What we're trying to do is use 5.8 G nodes as long-haul and 2.4 G as local distribution. We'll see how this goes.

Ted Rypma VE3TRQ

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**  
**WEDNESDAY SEPT. 23, 2015**  
**ERC CLUB MEETING**  
**AT**  
**ELMIRA FIRE-HALL**  
**6:30 PM**