

OCTOBER 2021

Volume 10 Issue 10

VE3ERC-LUB

President: Ted VE3TRQ

Vice-President: Frank VA3FJM

Secretary: Kirk VA3KXS

Treasurer: Paul VA3PDC

Trustee: Wes VE3ML

QSL Manager: Kirk VA3KXS

Repeater Trustee: Wes VE3ML

Website Admin: Ted VE3TRQ

Lighthouse: Al VA3TET

Maple Syrup : 123.0

VHF 147.255 + TONE: 131.8

EMERGENCY SIMPLEX: 147.51

UHF-IRLP node 2404,ECHOLINK VE3ERC-L

VHF- IRLP node 2403,ECHOLINK VE3ERC-R



**In an emergency, tune
Into our repeaters,
UHF 444.700 or
VHF 147.390 or
HF 3.755 LSB or
Simplex 147.510
For coordination and
assignments.**

One of the many Antenna arrays at the Home of
Bob Morton of

Maple Leaf Communications.

Picture taken in 2010.



Radio Amateurs
of Canada

THE PREZ

This club is Radio-ACTIVE

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President's Update for October 2021

It's Fall! Gloomy weather that discourages outdoor activity, including erecting antennas. On the other hand, this is the exact weather to encourage indoor amateur radio activity. And if for some reason you are stuck inside, amateur radio not only keeps you involved, it may keep you sane. There are so many areas of interest in amateur radio that anyone can be involved and challenged.

There are, of course the old standbys CW and SSB, but when you get into the digital modes, the sky is the limit! Add the different bands with differing antenna requirements, and anyone can participate, no matter the space for antennas. I have used microwave antennas and frequencies to great success, with only a 10 or 20 square inch panel antenna - very "stealth".

If one needs to be stealthy in the house, i.e. make little to no noise, both CW and digital will serve very well. With digital both keyboard-to-keyboard and store-and-forward messaging are possible. JS8Call even allows one to relay messages through another station, like a digipeater. Of course CW with headphones will allow the same thing, and with no computer required.

If staying in the house is not your desire, there are so many outdoor activities during the year, including Parks on the Air (POTA), Summits on the Air (SOTA), Islands on the Air (IOTA), Jamboree on the Air (JOTA), etc. And all of the above can be paired with satellite communication and moon bounce (although that needs a bit of power :-).

Meteor scatter can also be pursued either at home or in the field, using WSJT-X modes such as MSK144. QSOs are required to be very short, with the ephemeral propagation provided by meteor ionization trails. The same program, WSJT-X was first designed for Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) communication. Just these two activities have consumed every available moment for a number of people.

And then there is the whole world of SDR - Software Defined Radio. Everything from Flex radios to RTL dongles at opposite ends of the financial scale. This opens the world of panadapters and waterfall displays, either commercial or homebrew.

In the end, amateur radio is as broad as your imagination!

Ted VE3TRQ



G5RV vs 80M FULL-WAVE HORIZONTAL QUAD LOOP (LoG)

By Randy VA3XV

I know that I am not the first to discover this; however, I stumbled across the LoG (loop on the ground) antenna somewhat by accident back in 1994. I needed an antenna that hopefully would reduce heavy hydro noise on 80 metres and read somewhere that full-wave loops were quieter on receive than standard open-end type antennas. Also, they had increased gain on transmit as well. Therefore, I cut and laid an 80-metre long wire down on the ground in a square formation feeding it with RG-213 coax through a 1:1 current balun intending to raise the antenna in the air for transmission but ran out of time that day. I went back into the shack and curiously tested it on RX vs my G5RV. Need I say more the video says it all. Raised to 30 feet the next day did not make much difference on TX vs the G5RV. Unable to get it higher to better the transmit performance, I dropped it back down onto the ground freeing up some space. Due to its performance on receive, however, the LoG became one of my primary RX antennas. Mission accomplished.

During the time following, I was on hiatus from amateur radio for some 20 years getting back on the air in September 2020 at a different location. My first antenna then was also the G5RV, unfortunately with the same noise issues as before. In early April 2021, I set up another simple loop with materials I had laying around the shack and got the same RX results as in 1994. Mission accomplished again. Here is the setup of the two antennas demonstrated in the video:

The 80-metre quad loop construction uses coated or jacketed 12 AWG stranded wire 67' per side total of 268' directly laying on the ground. Fed at one corner with 67' of 300-ohm twin-lead terminated in the shack with a cheap 1:1 QRP balun and a 2' RG-8x coax jumper to the switch box. Remember, this antenna is for RX only. The G5RV is a commercially bought unit mounted at 20' directly above the loop. I am not using an attenuator or pre-amp.

Subsequently, I tried a 40-metre version of LoG using my feeding method. It worked well; however, both loop antennas seemed a bit noisier, possibly due to the time of year tested in August with higher atmospheric noise.

Although my system was successful, I suggest trying 50 or 75-ohm waterproof coax with a 9:1 or 6.25:1 transformer like the KK5JY version. It would be more durable and possibly efficient down to 30 metres, where mine worked best on 80 and 160. S/N above 10 MHz is usually not an issue anyhow.

I cannot guarantee you will get the exact results as I did, but it's worth the effort. The video can be viewed on my QRZ page. (Or the following website: Ed. It is well worth watching.)

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/rhmWod3BH9c?rel=0>

The next page shows the station location from an arial view.

73, Randy VA3XV



200' ABOVE VA3XV STATION FACING NORTH EAST: (ground elevation - 1680')



200' ABOVE VA3XV STATION FACING NORTH:

CONTRIBUTIONS TO VE3ERC-CLUB NEWSLETTER

Do you have an article you'd like to submit? Or photos? Do you have any comments you'd like to make?

Perhaps you'd like to share a photo of your shack, a special project you are working on or a special interest!

SEND THEM TO:

Bob bobve3ixx@gmail.com
(519-787-2279)

**THE CLOCKS GO
FORWARD NEXT
WEEKEND. NOT SURE
HOW FAR FORWARD,
BUT I THINK 4 MONTHS
SHOULD DO.**

Thanks to **Judd Hodge - VE3WXU / N4WXU** and **Bob VA3ZZS** wrote: A few years ago a co-worker friend of mine came into work laughing and grinning.

His girlfriend had just asked him how the Earth knew to change its time twice a year???

Hmmm Bob VA3ZZS

WEDNESDAY NITE NET CONTROLLERS

SEPTEMBER 15 - BILL VA3QB

SEPTEMBER 22 - M E E T I N G

SEPTEMBER 29 - KIRK VA3KXS

OCTOBER 6 - REG VE3RVH

OCTOBER 13 - FRANK VA3FJM

OCTOBER 20 - TOM VE3DXQ

OCTOBER 27 - M E E T I N G

NOVEMBER 3 - TONY VE3DWI

NOVEMBER 10 - BRIAN VA3DXX

NOVEMBER 17 - BOB VE3IXX

NOVEMBER 24 - M E E T I N G

DECMEBER 1 - TED VE3TRQ

DECEMBER 8 - BILL VA3QB



From the PAST



Remember When—Bill Wallace VE3WBJ at Point Clark Lighthouse in August 2010. Below Barry VE3ISX running ONTARS at the Lighthouse. It's a long history.



ERC Elmira Radio Club Inc. - Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2021

<p><u>Attendance - Members</u></p> <p>Bill Reid VA3QB</p> <p>Bob Koechl VE3IXX</p> <p>Bruce McLellan VE3QB</p> <p>Doug Kuhn VE3CXU</p> <p>Gary Kornstein VE3JGK</p> <p>Graham Bauman VE3BYP</p> <p>Jack Sinclair VA3WPJ</p> <p>Jim Heidmiller VE3JMU</p> <p>John Linnerth VE3OVO</p> <p>Judd Hodge N4WXU/VE3WXU</p> <p>Ken Buehler VE3KCY</p> <p>Linda Willis VE3CZ</p> <p>Mike Willis VE3FE</p> <p>Rich Clausi VE3DCC</p> <p>Rod Murray VA3MZD</p> <p>Ron Webb VE3WBE</p> <p>Thomas Daniel VA3VRA</p>	<p><u>Attendance - Officers</u></p> <p>Ted Rypma VE3TRQ - President</p> <p>Paul Curtin VA3PDC – Treasurer</p> <p>Kirk Sinclair VA3KXS – Secretary</p> <p><u>Guests:</u></p> <p>Allan Boyd VE3AJB</p> <p>David Bell VE3CSB</p>
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Meeting Location: Zoom

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order:

- a. Meeting was called to order by President, Ted Rypma VE3TRQ at 7:30pm and he welcomed everyone present.

2. Roll Call:

- a. Roll call established those present and it was noted quorum had been attained.

3. Approval of Agenda:

- a. The agenda was circulated via email prior to the meeting and Kirk displayed a copy on the screen.
- b. *The agenda was adopted as presented.*

4. Presentation – Allan Boyd VE3AJB

- a. Allan Boyd of the Manitoulin Amateur Radio Club gave an excellent presentation on the history of DMR, DSTAR and Digital Voice devices.

5. Secretary Report: Presented by Kirk Sinclair VA3KXS.

- a. Correspondence Received:
 - i. Three new eQSL cards were received. Guy West N0MMA for Field Day and Ryan Perillat W2LAT and Jason McClaren W5ZP for the Point Clark Lighthouse activation.
 - ii. The VE3ERC membership for eQSL.cc was renewed at the Bronze level, per the motion from the September meeting.
 - iii. Radio Amateurs of Canada sent an email notification that Applications for the RAC Insurance Program 2022 are now open.
- b. Minutes of the September 22, 2021 meeting were emailed to members on the same day.
 - i. A few errors were corrected and revised minutes were sent out on September 23.
- c. MOTION to approve the revised minutes of the September 22, 2021 meeting.

Motion By: Bill VA3QB

Carried

6. Treasurers Report: Presented by Paul Curtin VA3PDC

- a. Details of transactions for the month of September was displayed on screen.
- b. MOTION to approve the financial statements for September 2021.

Motion By: Ken VE3KCY

Carried

7. Presidents Report: Presented by President Ted Rypma VE3TRQ.

- a. Ted thanked Allan for the great presentation and commented on all of the fantastic different aspects of amateur radio.
- b. The goal for this year is to arrange speakers for each meeting discussing a wide range of radio topics.
- c. We may be meeting virtually for some time, however it would be nice to continue to use Zoom when we start in person meetings again so more people can participate.

8. Committee Reports:

- a. Safety Committee - Kirk Sinclair VA3KXS
 - i. Nothing to report this month.
- b. Winter Field Day Committee
 - i. Ted VE3TRQ called for people interested in Winter Field day - January 29 & 30, 2022.
 - ii. Bill VA3QB will investigate whether we can arrange a virtual field day.
- c. Other Contests/Events
 - i. CQ World Wide SSB contest on this weekend (October 30, 2021)

10. Unfinished Business

- a. Repeater Technical Committee - Bill Reid VA3QB / Tony VE3DWI

- i. Bill VA3QB plans to visit repeater site to add protection to the front and back of the repeater cabinets tomorrow (October 28, 2021).
- ii. Tony VE3DWI has the Fusion UHF repeater with the intention to match it with a 100W amplifier (but limited to 30-40W). Once that is complete, it will be installed at the Feed Mill. The Kenwood UHF repeater will then be moved to the Fire Hall.
 1. There is still an intermittent noise problem, which Tony feels on the antenna side of the repeater. This will need to be investigated.
- iii. Bill VA3QB suggested we could possibly link the Feed Mill and Alma repeater sites via the Internet. Ted VE3TRQ will at some point talk to the Internet provider at the Feed Mill to see if they are willing to donate Internet access there.
- iv. Ted VE3TRQ noted that the UHF antenna at his house for the IRLP/Echolink radio has an issue and connections are spotty. It may be some time before it can be investigated

11. New Business:

- a. RAC Insurance Program 2022
 - i. Paul VA3PDC observed that System Fusion repeaters are now \$2500 new - it would be quite expensive to replace the ones we have at the Feed Mill. They may now be more vulnerable to theft/vandalism/accident at ground level. We do need to investigate if the RAC insurance offering is replacement value, or current value.
 - ii. Ted VE3TRQ - we need to decide as a club if we want to invest in the RAC equipment insurance. Listed rate is \$1 insurance cost per \$100 equipment value.
 - iii. *MOTION to have Paul VA3PDC and Kirk VA3KXS to create a report for presentation at the November meeting, recommending the items the club should consider insuring and the cost associated.*

Motion By: Kirk VA3KXS

Carried

- b. Wednesday Coffee Get Togethers
 - i. Thank you to John VE3OVO for hosting Wednesday Coffee Get Togethers in the social room of his building.
- c. Update on in-person meetings
 - i. We have not talked to anyone at the Fire Hall this month about when the facility will be available. It is unlikely to be available before the end of the year.

11. Announcements

- a. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, November 24, 2021.

12. Adjournment

- a. *MOTION to adjourn at 8:49pm*

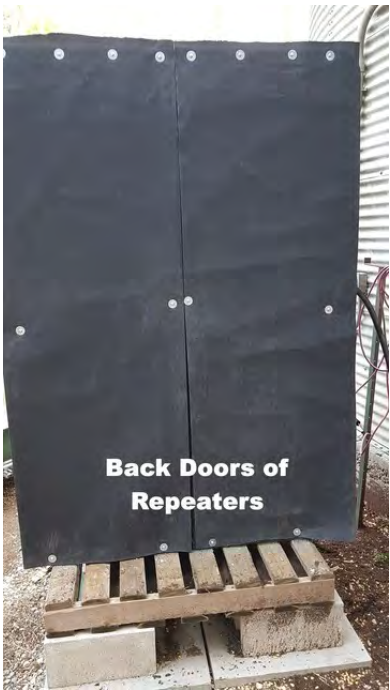
Motion By: Bill VA3QB - **Carried**

Action Sheet:

Action Required	Reference(s)	Action By	Deadline Date
Create a report for presentation at November meeting recommending the items the club should consider insuring and the cost associated.	11.a.iii	Paul VA3PDC & Kirk VA3KXS	Before November meeting

CORRESPONDENCE

Bill VA3QB and Paul VE3PDC completed more work at the club’s repeater site. Bill wrote:



Yesterday, Paul (PDC) and myself installed the weather coverings for repeater cabinets at the feed mill and installed a 30 amp power supply. It was a 2 extra strength Tylenol night last night ! LOL
73-Bill Reid-VA3QB



Every Sunday evening at 7 pm, Kevin Adams VA3RCA runs the 3640 Net on the 80M band. Each week there is a topic of discussion. The past week included a fascinating discussion in Kevin's own words:

Topic this week on the 3640 Net: Favorite Ham Radio Podcasts, YouTube Channels, Video/Audio programs of interest to hams.

Following is a list of the YouTube sites that can provide hours of interesting listening and watching-

YouTube Video Channels discussed on tonight's net:

KB9VBR Antennas
Mr. Carlson's Lab
OH8STN Ham Radio
Outdoors on the Air
Ham Radio A2Z - IC-7300 Beginner Videos
Jim Fergusson's Radio Story - KC9VKV - VLOG
Ham Radio with K0PIR - IC-7610 Videos
Dave Casler - Ham Radio Answers
HamRadioConcepts
Ham Radio Adventure Guy
ElectroBOOM
Jim W6LG
DX Commander
Jeff Doran NJ2US - VLOG
Mike-M0MSN
ND3N Ham Shack Chat
Ham Radio Crash Course - KI6NAZ - Josh
Antique Wireless Museum
Ham Radio Live! - K7HN
VA3HDL Amateur Radio

73, Kevin VA3RCA

Also! Forgot to mention.

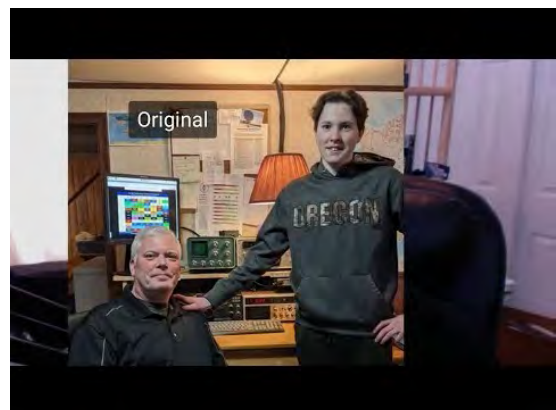
Colin VA3BLW and I talked about an episode of Ham Radio Live! that told the personal story of Colin and his Son and

how they developed a love for Ham Radio together.

A fun watch! Check it out here: (Editor Note: both Cameron VE3FBY and Colin VA3BLW are Elmira Cub members)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EeaCfZQrOV0>

Preview YouTube video Ham Radio Live!
Show 134. The Story Of A Three Generation Love For Radio And How It Sparked A Hobby.



Graham VE3BYP also sent a link to a fascinating video from the ARRL in 1970. It brings back a lot of memories as Graham says:

<https://youtu.be/v6-ydrdTPhM>

Kinda Interesting, for me at least, from 1970 arrl ham radio promotion video.



Tony VE3DWI sent the following picture:



This prompted a few interesting comments such as from Terry VE3XTM:

Maybe that should now be, "The Attack of the Drone Killers."

Trevor's (VE7FYQ) POTA activation back in August. Trevor wrote:

Had a successful Parks On The Air (POTA) activation at Brae Island Regional Park on Saturday. Lots of fun.

73,
Trevor Batstone VE7FYQ

