



APRIL 2023

Volume 12 Issue 4

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:
Maple Syrup Display:
Newsletter: Bob VE3IXX
ERC Website: <https://ve3erc.ca>

ERC REPEATERS

UHF 444.700 + TONE: 131.8
UHF 444.700 + TONE: 123.0
VHF 147.390 + TONE: 123.0
VHF 147.255 + TONE: 131.8
EMERGENCY SIMPLEX: 146.550
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 146.550
 For coordination and
 assignments.**



**Silo Antenna
 See Page 15 for the story.**



THE PREZ SEZ!

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

President's Update for April 2023

What creates a successful organization or club? I think it's shared experiences, shared goals, shared visions, shared projects, even shared breakfasts :-). As a club, the Elmira radio Club has many of these, but it's important to keep doing these things, like shared Field Days, shared Lighthouse activations, shared build projects, community projects. We have the opportunity to do these things, but we need to put out a bit of effort sometimes to "git 'er done"! The COVID pandemic sure did take the steam out of the shared activities, but now we need to get back in the habit - and leadership, plus the willingness to step up and lead, play a large role in that. We finally have a full slate of candidates for the ERC leadership positions, but the Committee charged with the responsibility of finding these candidates sure had to work hard! Let's support the leaders we elect (or acclaim :-)) at the Annual General Meeting next month. Come out and let them know they are supported, then provide ideas to help them in their (our!) work.



There's another opportunity to get together at the Central Ontario Hamfest at the Police Association Recreation facility in Cambridge (near Roseville) on Sunday June 4. The Elmira radio Club will have three tables there, and Reg is looking for help and volunteers to fill up and staff those tables. Also, if you feel like helping with the event, contact the KWARC member responsible for volunteers (see kwarc.org). Our own Frank VA3FJM will be holding forth on the ON-TARS net from 9 to 10 - he also needs help setting up the antenna and radio. More information about all of these will be mentioned after the AGM in May.

73

Ted VE3TRQ

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)**



WEDNESDAY NITE NET CONTROLLERS

MARCH 22 - M E E T I N G

MARCH 29 - KIRK VA3KXS

APRIL 5 - REG VE3RVH

APRIL 12 - FRANK VA3FJM

APRIL 19 - TOM VE3DXQ

APRIL 26 - M E E T I N G

MAY 3 - TONY VE3DWI

MAY 10 - BRIAN VA3DXK

MAY 17 - BOB VE3IXX

MAY 24 - M E E T I N G

MAY 31 - TED VE3TRQ

JUNE 7 - BILL VA3QB



**From
the**

PAST



Saw this on display at Marianne's physio therapy waiting room. I could not see the inside. It must be really old.

73 Tony VE3DWI

9:1 UNUN

Some of you have this 9:1 UNUN for POTA or other activities and use it with a, not so, random piece of wire for the antenna. This is the graphic depiction in three ways.

73, Tony VE3DWI

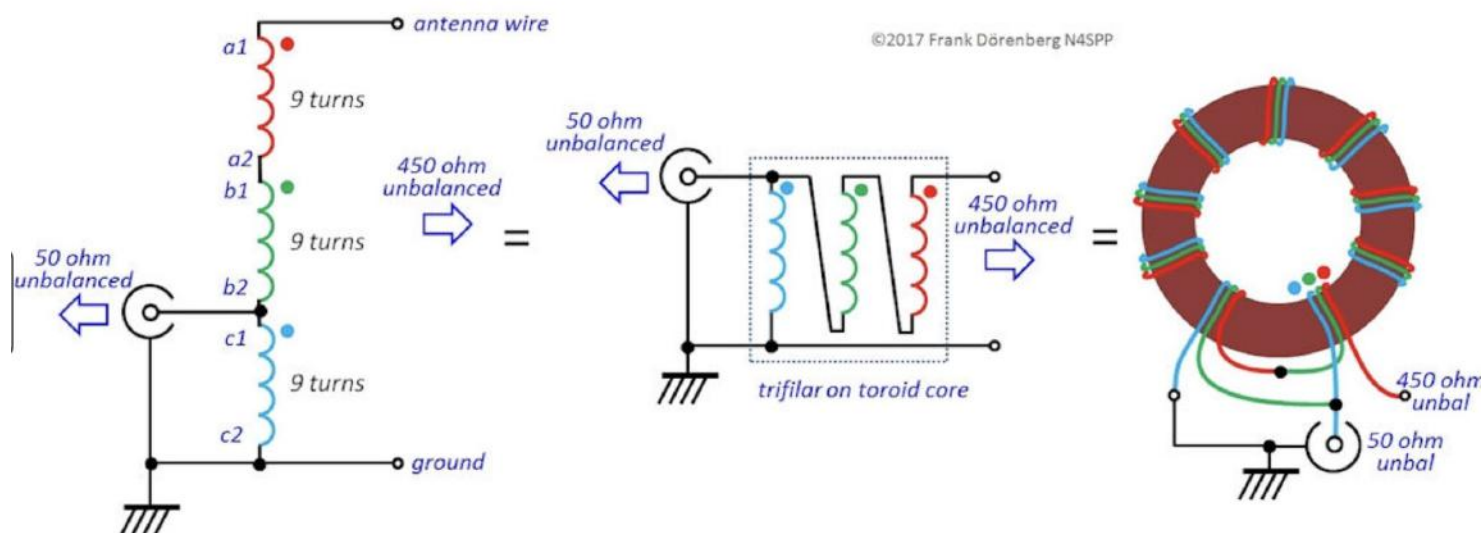
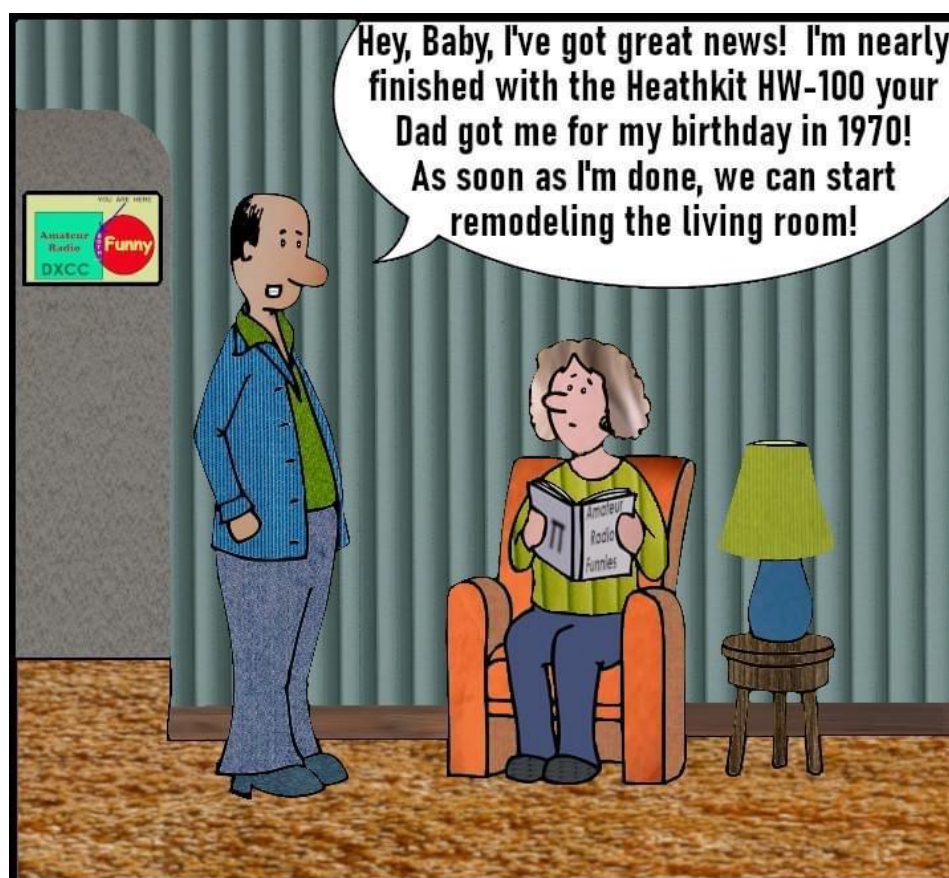
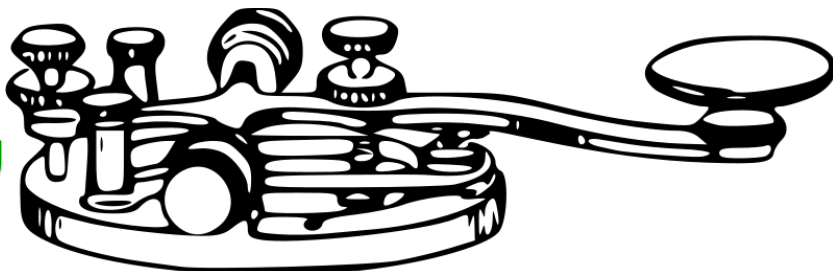


Figure 19: 9:1 UNUN



All Keyed Up by

Dan Romanchik, KB6NU



Jay, WB8TKL—has come up with some more good ideas about how to get the most out of your Hamvention experience.

Someone told me that Hamvention was like Mecca and you MUST go at least once in your lifetime. I got mixed up and thought they said that you can only MISS Hamvention ONCE in your lifetime :) I've been to all of them since 1977 and have a few tips on how you can make the most out of attending Hamvention.

- **WALK!** Weeks in advance you should get out and walk a mile or two or three every day to beef yourself up for all the walking you'll be doing. Get used to being on your feet for several hours.
- Over the weeks leading up to Hamvention, **break larger bills** into \$10, \$5, and \$1 dollar bills. Don't make the sellers burn through all their small bills.
- **Make a wish list.** List the items you need for ongoing projects, and any future projects you hope to do over the next year.
 - Write down the specifications/details of any products you want.
 - Make an estimate of how many you'll need and how much they'll cost. Don't forget to include spares!
 - **Stock up on supplies.** I used to hit Mendelson's first thing Friday morning, with my folding hand cart. I'd purchase 40 or 50 POUNDS of hardware of all sizes (\$1.25 per pound). Then haul that heavy load back to my car well before I'd burn out walking all of Hamvention. This assured a life-long supply of hardware in my workshop. Did the same with rolls of resistors and capacitors, and filled my parts bin drawers back home.
 - **Write down the phone numbers,** flea market space numbers, motel name and room numbers, of any friends you hope to hook up with.
 - **Put together a list of eateries** near your motel that you'd like to try. Include their reservation phone number and address. Maybe make a plan for which place to eat on which night, and share that with your friends and buddies you would like to spend more time with.
 - Make a list of any **evening events or dinners** you'd like to attend.
 - **Make a list of seminars** you plan to attend. Note the day, time, and room number. This will help to keep you on schedule and not miss an important seminar you wanted to see.
 - **Carry a "goodie bag"** to collect all your small items and even some big ones. Picture one of those heavy cloth bags newspaper boys used to use on their routes. Sometimes I even carry smaller bags inside my Goodie Bag, just in case!
 - **Carry a DMM and a multitool.** Sometimes making a resistance check or popping the cover off a case, will confirm if that "deal" is a good one, or a boat anchor.
 - **Be prepared** for intense sunshine, rain, and even sleet! Carry a hat and a plastic rain poncho. If you don't use the poncho to cover yourself from rain, you may be glad you have it to cover that \$1000 radio you just bought.
 - **Keep track of your purchases.** Log every purchase on a small pad or on your wish list. Hamvention is long and tiring and your memory will evade you when trying to figure out where that last \$300 went that you can't account for.

Don't keep all your cash in one pocket or wallet. Place your money in multiple pockets just in case you drop or misplace it!!! Use money clips if you have them. I account for all my cash-on-hand each day before I start out, and reconcile my funds back at the motel in the evening.

By having a plan and a shopping list you are likely to have a much better experience at Hamvention :)

—Jay, WB8TKL

Antenna Building Workshop

Last month featured a class of newly licenced hams.

This month Brendan Barrett VA3BVB whose family hosted the classes, once again sported an antenna workshop. Many of the new hams got together and built copper J-Poles as well as a number of Ladder Line J-Poles.



One of the Ladder Line J-Poles was hung up to be tested on the analyzer shown on the work table.



Jorge VA3INR preparing the end of co-ax cable to solder on a UHF connector.



Brendan VA3BVB soldering an SO-239 connector while Dwayne VE3CQQ holds the J-Pole steady.



Daniel VA3WPZ measuring out a length of copper piping both before (above) and after (below).



Brendan VA3BVB and Darren VE3ZNT double checking the measurements.



John VA3DHI holding his newly constructed copper J-Pole and Ladder Line J-Pole.

ERC Elmira Radio Club Inc. - Meeting Minutes

April 26, 2023

<p><u>Attendance - Members</u></p> <p>Barry Lisoweski VE3ISX</p> <p>Bill Reid VA3QB</p> <p>Bruce McLellan VE3QB</p> <p>Gary Kornstein VE3JGK</p> <p>Jack Sinclair VA3WPJ</p> <p>Jim Heidmiller VE3JMU</p> <p>John Linnerth VE3OVO/VE3PT</p> <p>John Scheeringa VE3JXX</p> <p>Judd Hodge N4WXU/VE3WXU</p> <p>Ken Buehler VE3KCY</p> <p>Linda Willis VE3CZ</p> <p>Marianne Lelieveld VE3MXT</p> <p>Mike Willis VE3FE</p> <p>Reg Horney VE3RVH</p> <p>Rene Paquin VA3RRP</p> <p>Rich Clausi VE3DCC</p> <p>Rod Murray VA3MZD</p> <p>Roger Sanderson VE3RKS</p> <p>Ron Webb VE3WBE</p> <p>Thomas Daniel VA3VRA</p> <p>Tom Mahony VE3DXQ</p> <p>Tony Lelieveld VE3DWI</p>	<p><u>Attendance - Officers</u></p> <p>Ted Rypma VE3TRQ – President</p> <p>Frank Monteith VA3JFM – Vice President (Chair)</p> <p>Paul Curtin VA3PDC – Treasurer</p> <p>Wesley Snarr VE3ML - Trustee</p> <p>Kirk Sinclair VA3KXS – Secretary</p> <p><u>Guests:</u></p> <p>Keith Myles VE3IFT</p> <p>Fred Collings VE4TRO</p> <p>Rick Danby VE3BK</p>
--	---

Meeting Location: Elmira Firehall & Zoom

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order:

- a. Meeting was called to order by Vice President, Frank Monteith VA3FJM at 7:31 pm and he welcomed everyone present.

2. Roll Call:

- a. A roll call established all who were present and it was noted quorum had been attained.

4. Approval of Agenda:

- a. The Agenda had been circulated via email prior to the meeting.
- b. MOTION to approve the agenda as circulated.

Motion By: Reg VE3RVH

Carried

5. Presentation

- a. Keith Myles VE3IFT gave a presentation on Software Defined Radio.
 - i. The Groups.io project for Keith's project is <https://groups.io/g/keithsdr> if you are interested in additional information on his project.

6. Secretary Report: Presented by Kirk Sinclair VA3KXS.

- a. Correspondence Received:
 - i. None
- b. Minutes of the March 22, 2023 meeting were emailed to members on the same day.
 - i. One correction to a typo in the meeting adjournment time (8:e6 vs 8:36) was noted and corrected.
- c. MOTION to approve the minutes of the February 22, 2023 meeting.

Motion By: Kirk VA3KXS

Carried

6. Treasurers Report: Presented by Paul VA3PDC

- a. Details of transactions for the month of March were displayed on the screen.
- b. Paul also reminded the members that Dues are payable now.
- c. MOTION to approve the financial statements for March 2023.

Motion By: Paul Curtin VA3PDC

Carried

7. Presidents Report:

- a. Frank VA3FJM reported inventory of club equipment (excluding repeater sites) has been completed and the lists were passed around at the meeting. Additional detail available in the Club Equipment Review Committee update below.

8. Committee Reports:

- a. Repeater Technical Committee - Bill Reid VA3QB / Tony Lelieveld VE3DWI
 - i. Waiting for weather to clear up so we can go out to the repeaters to check why we are getting interference.
 - ii. Waiting for opportunity to get out to Alma to deploy the Fusion repeater.

- b. Club Equipment Review Committee – Frank VA3FJM / Tony VE3DWI / Kirk VA3KXS
 - i. The inventory from of items immediately for sale can be found in **13. Appendix - Items for Sale**.
 - 1. Please contact Reg VE3RVH if you are interested in any of these items.
 - ii. The club inventory can be found in item **14. Appendix - Club Inventory for Review**.
 - 1. Next month we will discuss which items should be sold at Hamfest.
- c. Nomination Committee - Rich VE3DCC / Tom VE3DXQ
 - i. The committee proposed simplifying the position of President to remove the burden of finding speakers and topics for each meeting, instead the President will be responsible for Chairing club meetings.
 - 1. The task of sourcing speakers & topics can be distributed to a committee (or all club member).
 - 2. Under this condition, Reg VE3RVH volunteered his name for position of President.
 - ii. Tom VE3DXQ has volunteered for position of Secretary again, but will need someone to take over duties in the winter months when he is out of the country.
 - 1. There were a handful of people willing to help.
 - iii. The final List of Nominees for the next Board of Directors for ERC Elmira Radio Club Inc was presented:
 - 1. President - Reg Horney VE3RVH
 - 2. Vice-President - Frank Monteith VA3FJM
 - 3. Treasurer - Ted Rypma VE3TRQ
 - 4. Secretary - Tom Mahony VE3DXQ
 - 5. Trustee - Wes Snarr VE3ML
 - iv. Due to the unopposed slate, these individuals will be elected by acclamation at the AGM in May.

9. Unfinished Business

- a. Central Ontario Hamfest – June 4, 2023 – Reg VE3RVH
 - i. Reg will be arranging for 3 tables
 - ii. Frank will be working ONTARS as VE3ERC from 9-10AM.

10. New Business

- a. Re-imbursements for Domain Name Registration, Donations - Kirk VA3KXS

- i. Ted VE3TRQ has incurred two expenses in the past month and provided receipts to Paul VA3PDC for the same:
 - 1. \$31.17 donation to Groves Hospital in memory of Johan Bouwer VA3JBO (SK) on behalf of the Club. \$30 was a donation and \$1.17 was to cover their processing fees.
 - 2. \$80.51 was paid to easyDNS to renew the ve3erc.ca domain name for multiple years.
- ii. *MOTION to approve re-imbursement of \$117.68 to Ted VE3TRQ for the Club donation to Groves Hospital and for payment of the ve3erc.ca domain name registration renewal.*
Motion By: Kirk VA3KXS
Carried
- b. Field Day - Last full weekend in June (24/25) - Bill Reid VA3QB
 - i. Bill is going to approach Wally about using the airstrip again.
- c. Breakfast Group Meetings - Bill Reid VA3QB
 - i. The location will move to the Harvest Moon (excluding April 27) and it will be there until further notice.
 - ii. There is another option in Elora that Bill will investigate
- d. APRS Net on Thursdays 0:00UTC - Rene Paquin VA3RRP
 - i. Rene highlighted the weekly APRS net which is lots of fun for those with APRS capable radios.
 - ii. Please see the Groups.io messages for additional details regarding how to participate.

11. Announcements

- a. The next meeting will be held Wednesday, May 24, 2023 and is our Annual General Meeting.

12. Adjournment

- a. *MOTION to adjourn at 9:24 pm*

Motion By: Bill VA3QB

Carried

13. Appendix - Items for Sale

1		Quad Beam Antenna	Reg	
2	60 ft	400 Heavy Cable	Reg	
3	84Ft.	Heliac FSJ-50B Heavy Cable	Reg	
4	70 Ft	LMR 400 With Fittings	Reg	
5	25 Ft	LMR 400 With Fittings	Reg	
6	54 Ft	LMR 400 With Fittings	Reg	
7	44 Ft	LMR 400 With Fittings	Reg	
8	35 Ft	Beldon Cable 8214 FR1	Reg	
9	10 Cables	With Fittings LMR - 400 1 -- 2 Ft long	Reg	
10	159 Ft	Phillips 16 awg tw8 cable	Reg	
11	30 Ft	Ladder Line	Reg	
12	150 Ft	Phillips 16 awg tw8 cable	Reg	
13	40 Ft	Bare Copper Wire	Reg	
14	6	Short Cables RG-58U With Fittings	Reg	
15	40 Ft	Bare Copper Wire Size 14	Reg	
16	6	Short Cables RG-58U With Fittings	Reg	
17	40 Ft	RG 58 U	Reg	
18	15 Ft	#18 AWG 6 Conn Rotor Cable	Reg	
19	6 Ft	Short Cables RG-58U With Fittings	Reg	
20	30 Ft	#18 AWG 6 Conn Rotor Cable	Reg	
21	100 Ft	20 AWG White Cable	Reg	
22	30 FT	RG-8U -E8sex Cable with Fittings	Reg	
23	55 Ft	Belden 8367 RG-213 Cable with Fittings	Reg	
24	30 FT	LMR 240 UL Triflex	Reg	
25	30 Ft	8 Conductor Rotor Cable	Reg	
26	45 Ft	RG 58 U Cable With Fittings	Reg	
27	15 Ft	RG 213 Cable With Fittings	Reg	
28	45 Ft	RG-6U	Reg	
29	20 Ft	RG-56 Cable With Fittings	Reg	
30	60 Ft	8 Conductor Rotor Cable	Reg	
31	80 Ft	16 AWG RG-electocom and Fittings	Reg	
32	50 Ft	Rotor Cables	Reg	
33	60 Ft	Rotor Cables	Reg	
34	15 Ft	10 AWG Cable MTW	Reg	
35	3 Bins	Misc. Articles	Reg	

14. Appendix - Club Inventory for Review

Manuf.	Model	Serial #	Description	ERC Inventory 2023	Frank Monteith VA3FJM	Comment	Loc.	Club \$
Alinco	MV330DM	1097	Switching Power Supply with power pole connectors			Silver Metal Box.	Kirk	
Degen	G5RV	New	10-80m tinned flex weave dipole, includes ladder line and 50' of RG8X.			Original Cardboard Box	Kirk	
			with PL259 Connector					
Unadilla	G5RV		Copper wire with plexi-glass center insulator, ladder line and insulator.			Jobmate Plastic Case	Kirk	
Diawa	CN103-L		Watt & SWR meter for VHF & UHF			Black Soft Suitcase	Kirk	
ICOM	IC-746	1637	HF Transceiver with Turner Plus Three Desk Mic (no power cable)			Black Soft Suitcase	Kirk	\$200.00
Kenwood	TS-440S	1010265	HF Transceiver with Power cable (power poles).			Silver Metal Box.	Kirk	\$200.00
			+ Hand Mic + Headphones + Manual + Service Manual			Silver Metal Box.	Kirk	
N/A	Safety Glasses		Qty: 10			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	Safety Vest		Orange - Size X-Large Qty: 4			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	Safety Vest		Orange - Size Medium Qty: 1			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	Safety Vest		Orange - Size Large Qty: 4			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	Small Cones		Qty: 28			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	Hard Hats		Qty: 3			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	4-wire cable		9m(?) black cable			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	3-wire cable		Short			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	1 wire cable		Short			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
N/A	Aluminium Plats		Qty: 3			U-Haul boxes	Kirk	
Yaesu	897		HF, VHF, UHF 100W				Ted	
N/A			13.2V 50A Repeater Power Supply (Approx 200 lbs				Frank	
			Professional UHF Antenna				Frank	
			Quad Beam Antenna				Reg	

A Thank You

Our thanks to John Linnerth VA3PT/VE3OVO for keeping in touch with Annette and passing along her thank-you note.

I would like to thank the E.R.C. members who were able to attend Doug's Celebration of Life on March 11. Perhaps you noticed that Doug's E.R.C. VE3CXU cap was on top of the cremation box.

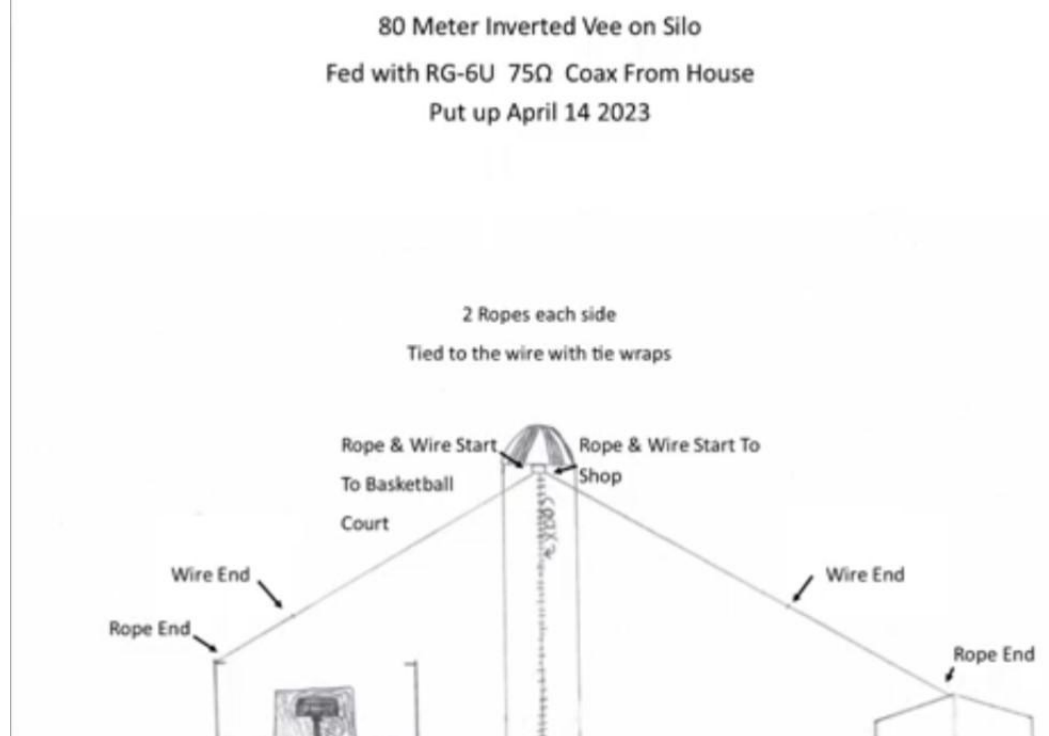
Doug loved being a member and enjoyed the morning net, Lighthouse Days and in-person meetings so much. Despite having a cochlear implant and hearing aid, unfortunately his hearing declined to the point where it prohibited him from being active, despite the use of headphones.

Both Doug and I were so happy to see everyone at the E.R.C. Christmas dinner. I want to thank each one of you for the many "favours" and acts of kindness extended to Doug over his many years with the club.

Sincerely, Annette Kuhn

Silo Antenna

For newly licenced hams, John VA3YAA, James VA3WYA and Daniel Campbell VA3PMF, ham radio has become a family affair. Along with Scott, their dad and their younger sister, everyone helped to put up their new Silo HF inverted vee antenna. With James manning the camera, here is a picture gallery showing the process.

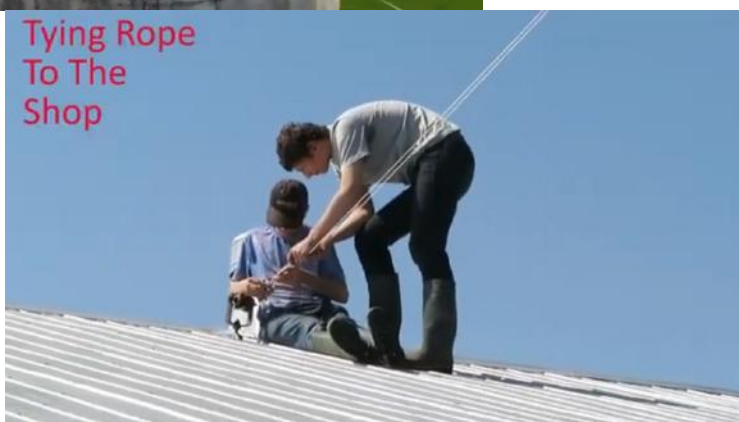


The antenna wire was tie wrapped to the rope. Daniel VA3PMF is on the left, John VA3YAA in centre while their sister helps.





Preparing all the supplies and attaching the centre of the dipole at the top of the silo.



You can watch the video at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l9da9gaslNs>



CORRESPONDENCE

Thanks to Mike VE3MKX for sending the following:

prosigns in cw, where they came from, taken from LICW club groups.io

For example, AR is actually "FN" for "finished" in American Morse. F being "di-dah-dit," and N being "dah-dit." It was originally two separate letters, but they merged together over time and were then imported into wireless communications and International Code.

"SK," or if you are old enough, "VA" is actually the number "30" in American Morse Code, a procedural code meaning "close of work," 3 being "di-di-di-dah-dit" and 0 being the long dash.

"ES" (&) is the ampersand in the American Morse Code. It's actually a single character in American Morse, but it incorporates an internal space as in "dit di-di-dit"

Telegraphers, wire line or radio tend to simplify common phrases and procedures. The "RLF" or "relief" operator on land-line circuits became the "RJ," R in American Morse being "dit di-dit, L being "the dash of intermediate length, and F being "di-dah-dit." Combine the L and F and it becomes "daaah-di-dah-dit," or the letter "J" in American Morse. Through universal use, the language evolved.

So is KN transmitted as two separate letters or a prosign? It probably doesn't matter too much. If I recall that the KN was introduced sometime in the post war era as a way of saying "keep out" of our conversation. No one may enter." It's fairly unique to ham radio, and it may even have been developed by the ARRL Communications Department specifically for ham radio use, rather than any international body. As a matter of fact, if memory serves, the early "Operating an Amateur Radio Station" booklets and the original QST article do refer to it as a "new prosign." W1CJD, known as "Gil" even created a cartoon to introduce the new prosign showing a traffic cop stopping traffic for, if I recall correctly, an attractive girl crossing the street. LOL.

Like you, on the extremely rare cases in which I have sent KN, I send it as a prosign, and to be quite honest, I never seem to have a reason to use it. If someone wants to jump into my CW QSO and join the fun in a round table discussion, the more the better. LOL. If I'm handling important traffic on a net or a point-to-point circuit, such as we did during Hurricane Maria, we won't be using "KN" either. So, in other words....in my opinion, it's up to you!

JW (WB8SIW)

CORRESPONDENCE

MUNSTER CQ CLIP

Everybody has to see this clip. It is safe to click on.

73, Tony VE3DWI



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F-8RItoZE30>