



OAKVILLE A.R.E.S. GROUP

Newsletter

Communication between two parties only happens when the message is Sent, Received, Understood and Acknowledged. Everything else is just noise.



MARCH, 2009

WORLD AMATEUR DAY

WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY TO RECOGNIZE AMATEUR RADIO'S ROLE IN DISASTER COMMUNICATIONS

Each year on April 18, radio amateurs celebrate World Amateur Radio Day. On that day in 1925, 84 years ago, the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) was founded <<http://www.iaru.org/>>. In 2009, the theme of the event is Amateur Radio: Your Resource in Disaster and Emergency Communication.

"It is not by coincidence that last year's meeting of the IARU Administrative Council (AC) <<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2008/06/26/10186/?nc=1>> chose this subject at this time," said IARU International Coordinator for Emergency Communication Hans Zimmermann, F5VKP/HB9AQS. "While the Amateur Radio Service has traditionally made its contributions to emergency and disaster response ever since its very beginnings almost 100 years ago, this role has gained a lot of importance just in the recent past."

Citing the fact that natural, as well as manmade disasters are on the rise, Zimmermann pointed out that today's modern communication technologies are "increasingly complex, infrastructure-dependent and therefore also increasingly vulnerable. The Amateur Radio Service puts two equally valuable assets at its disposal for emergency and disaster prevention, preparedness and response: A large number of very flexible and mostly infrastructure-independent, local, national, regional and global networks, and a large number of skilled operators, who know how to communicate with often very limited means and to establish communications even under the most difficult circumstances."

Zimmermann said that the tools available to Amateur Radio operators "range from the most robust means such as battery-operated stations operating in Morse code, to links through Amateur Radio satellites and interconnectivity with the Internet, in voice, text, image and data modes. They range from local VHF networks of fixed, mobile and portable stations to shortwave networks that span the globe. All these networks are operated on a daily basis by men and women who are thoroughly familiar with their technology and their intricacies."

"Telecommunications have become a commodity that society takes for granted," Zimmermann stated, adding that "the sudden loss of that service is often felt in a similar way to the loss of shelter, food and medical support. When disasters occur in regions that do not have good coverage by public networks -- or when existing communications infrastructures have just been disrupted or destroyed by such events -- the Amateur Radio Service comes to the rescue. Amateur Radio operators provide communications for the rescuers and relief workers and their organizations and they help to provide communications for those affected by a disaster."

Zimmermann continued: "In fact, contributions to emergency and disaster relief are a major argument for the preservation and the extension of the privileges the Amateur Radio Service enjoys in international and national regulations. This is one of the reasons why more and more Amateur Radio operators -- through their clubs and their national societies -- prepare very seriously for their role in emergencies; however, their skills can be put to use only if they are known by other first responders. Effective response to emergencies can only occur with the work of volunteers in all the various fields, from search and rescue to medical assistance and those who can provide food and shelter. Communication skills are a new, but equally vital commodity."

From The ARRL Letter. Published with permission.
The ARRL Letter/American Radio Relay League.

OAKVILLE / BURLINGTON FIELD DAY

Field Day, (June 27-28), this year will be a joint operation with the Burlington A.R.C.. A new site has been found on Appleby Line, just north of the 407. Plans include a change from 2A operations to 3A class, a satellite station, GOTA and 6 Mt./VHF/UHF stations, and a balloon supported antenna.

It is hoped to have a field kitchen/rest area setup and if there is enough interest a family oriented BBQ. Tickets will be sold to cover the food cost.
Please plan on participating.

A Wiki server has been set up to facilitate the organization of Field day between the two clubs. You can log on at:
<http://va3tsk.trasuk.com>

Information will also be provided in this newsletter and the FD 2009 Report.
If you would like to join the fun or need more info contact George, VE3OGP, FDC at:

oarc.fd@interhop.net

BURLINGTON SPRING FLEAMARKET

The Oakville A.R.E.S. Group had an information table at the B.A.R.C. Spring Fleamarket to promote our group, recruit new members from the Halton area, and provide information about this years Field Day. The event was well attended and while we didn't sell much we did make some contacts. We hope to continue this at future Hamfests in the GTA.



Left- VA3NV mans the table.
Below- VA3PRE (Milton AEC) helps out.



OAKVILLE A.R.E.S. REPS INVITED TO 709 HQ COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY

The weekend of 21 Feb., 09, the 70 Command Group ran their EX JUPITER TRILLIUM 09. It's an annual Ontario wide exercise, focused on establishing Bde level CPs. The main effort of this particular exercise was to determine what a CP for a TBG would look like and what equipment they would require.

Hal, VA3HFB, invited Rick, VA3NV EC, and George, VE3OGP AEC, to the site for a tour. A complete report, with pictures, will be in next month's newsletter.

*****REMINDERS*****

*****Oakville A.R.E.S. Group Meeting *****

Sunday, March 15, 2009

Oakville Red Cross

1400 Cornwall Road

Unit 15

1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Peel and Mississauga ARC

Fleamarket

Saturday, March 28, 2009

Brampton, Ontario

Brampton Fair Grounds, Heartlake Road.

<http://www.ham-ex.org/>

North Shore ARC & South Pickering ARC

Fleamarket

Saturday, April 18, 2009

Whitby, Ontario

Iroquois Park Recreation Center.

<http://www.drhamfest.tripod.com>

ONE LINERS

YOU MAY BE AN ADDICTED HAM OPERATOR IF.....

Your cell phone ring tone is a Morse code message of Your Call Sign.

You have accidentally said your Amateur Radio call sign at the end of a telephone conversation.

(Thanks To VE3TGH)

SUPPORT YOU'RE A.R.E.S. GROUP, YOUR CLUB AND THE RAC.

GET INVOLVED, PARTICIPATE AND HAVE FUN!

"Success is going from failure to failure without a loss of enthusiasm." SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

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