

Message from the London Amateur Radio Club

Promoting Amateur Radio in London
and surrounding areas since 1920



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Next Meeting is...

Reminder of the next monthly Club meeting on Thursday, April 15, 2004
Note that the 15th is the 3rd Thursday of the month. The church was unavailable on the 2nd Thursday which forced us to delay the meeting by one week.

All meetings are located at St. Judes Anglican Church,
1537 Adelaide Street North at Fanshawe Park Road East in London, Ontario,

They are normally held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm EST during the months of September to June (no meetings July and August).

Meeting Topic



The next LARC meeting will be held on Thursday April 15, 2004 and will feature **CANWARN training**.

CANWARN is a volunteer organization of ham radio operators who report severe weather when they see it to Environment Canada.

What they do is called ground-truthing. They confirm on the ground what satellites and radars see in the atmosphere.

Environment Canada trains ham radio operators to spot and report severe weather. They learn about the structure of storms, the types of clouds to watch for and what the department's severe weather watches and warnings mean. All CANWARN volunteers are encouraged to sign up for the refresher courses which the department offers each year.

- Reference: <http://www.on.ec.gc.ca/severe-weather/canwarn-e.html>

Other Items of Interest

Next London Amateur Radio Club HAM Radio BASIC course:

Dates: Saturdays April 17, 24 and May 1, 8

Times: Mornings 8:30 to 12:30 AM each day

Location: CNIB board room, 749 Baseline Road East, London, Ontario

At the end of this course, the attendee will have successfully written the examination for the "Industry Canada Amateur Radio Operator Certificate with Basic Qualification". The exam will be administered at the end of the last day of the course and the paperwork to apply for you call-sign will be completed and submitted.

- Reference: http://www.larc.on.ca/basic_course_april_2004.htm

You might have a virus: Each month I send out this newsletter to about 300 people. Within minutes I start receiving viruses in my email. Luckily I never open the attachments addressed to LARC plus I have **anti-virus software** installed.

This tells me that someone in our group is infected. One of the major anti-virus software makers offers a FREE service that will scan your hard drive. You go to their web page, download the program, and start the scanning process. It might take 5 – 15 minutes to scan your machine so please be patient. It will then list your infected files and ask if you want to clean or delete them. We use this service at the University when someone brings in a 'strange' machine. Here is the link to the site, when the page loads, click on the "**Scan Now, It's Free!**" link...

- Reference: <http://housecall.trendmicro.com/>

Ontario Aviation frequencies: There appeared to be lots of interest in the aviation frequencies discussed at the last general meeting. Charles VE3POR has offered the following link as a good starting point:

- Reference: <http://www.canairradio.com/index.html>

A **YAHOO Group "bulletin board"** has been set up for members of LARC to discuss topics of interest "on line". Be sure to check it out and join up (online help is available there for those new to online bulletin boards).

- Reference: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/LARC_ARC/

New executive? It is that time of year again for us to think about the lineup for the club's executive members for 2004-2005. This is your opportunity to see how the club operates from the inside. The club requires at least 7 members each year and if you are interested, we request that you make yourself available one night per month to go over club business. Some of us have been on the executive for several years and enjoy the experience. Any current member of the club can request to be a member of the club's executive.

Field day? Just to keep everyone in the information loop, the current plan is to once again have field day at Reservoir Hill Park in Byron. It was the location used last year and every one was happy with the location.

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the global event, here is a brief description:

Field Day 2004

June 26-27

Ham Radio operators from all over the US and Canada as well as all other parts of the world, take their radios, antennas and equipment into the great outdoors to set up and operate away from electrical power mains.

Purpose: an annual exercise where ham's set up and operate radio communications in the event of emergency or disaster conditions. Priority is placed on skills and equipment developed to meet the challenge of emergency preparedness and to acquaint the public with the capabilities of Amateur Radio. Hams work as many stations as possible on any or all amateur bands and, in doing so, to learn to operate in abnormal situations under less-than-optimum conditions.

Who can attend: the event operates under the supervision of the local radio club (LARC). That means any person, even those with out a valid radio license, are permitted to show up at the field day site and operate any radio on any amateur band using the call-sign of the club. For those of you that have thought about working HF, here is your opportunity to get on the air.

Dayton? Celebrating their 53rd show, **May 14 - 16, 2004**, Hamvention® is the world's largest amateur radio gathering and trade show. Many hams from the London area make the pilgrimage to Dayton, Ohio every year. I have heard some talk about people getting together to share rides or possibly even renting a bus. I recommend those that are interested to sign up to the yahoo group mentioned in this letter and discuss it online with other local hams.

- Reference: <http://www.hamvention.org/>

Rochester? If Dayton Ohio is too much of a drive for you, you might want to consider the Rochester flea market. It is about 1/3 of the size of the Dayton mega-fest and close enough to London for a day trip.

- Reference: <http://www.rochesterhamfest.org/>

LARC Hamfest 2004: We have been confirmed for the last week-end in September at the Western Fair. This is the same location as last year. The actual date is: Sept 26. Just as a reminder, the flea market is a big money earner for the club and we sink or swim based on its success. We need some volunteers to participate in the flea market committee. More information will follow at a later date.

In the meantime, we are accepting requests via email:

- Email: hamfest@hamster.foxhollow.ca

LARC swap shop read on the net: There has been some interest in having the Swap Shop read over the Monday night net. If you are interested in this activity, send me some email.

- Email: mark@foxhollow.ca

Have anything to say? If you have a comment or announcement that might be of interest to the club, feel free to send me a message and I'll include it in the next mail out. My email address is: mark@foxhollow.ca

Our Club Web page is: <http://www.larc.on.ca>

For list of upcoming events:

http://www.larc.on.ca/meet_2003_4.htm

If you want to be added or removed from our
Mailing list, send an email to: mark@foxhollow.ca
