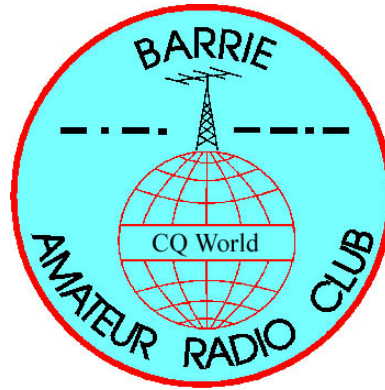




BARC
Newsletter



Issue # 2010-2
March 2010

Club call: VE3GCB

Club repeater: VE3RAG
147.000+ (156.7 Hz tone)

Barrie Amateur Radio Club Newsletter

Editorial

About a half dozen people attended the “Moving up to HF” seminar held on the 30th of January. The club hopes to offer this seminar again.

If you are attending a Hamfest, download and print out a few copies of the Barrie-Orillia Hamfest flyer to take along. [http://www.barriearc.com/Hamfest/2010 Barrie-Orillia Hamfest Flyer.pdf](http://www.barriearc.com/Hamfest/2010%20Barrie-Orillia%20Hamfest%20Flyer.pdf) . Help to promote this upcoming event (more info on page 6).

The next ARES Group meeting will be held at the EOC at Barrie Fire Hall #1. Those attending will have an opportunity to see the new EOC station VE3EOB. See page 2 for directions.

Enjoy your hobby – become involved.

Editor – Al Duncan VE3RRD
FP #2030, NAQCC #2669, FISTS #13952, QRP ARCI #13501,
30MDG #1116, DMC #1583, EPC #6502, FH #1887
ARES, CANWARN, RAC, ARRL

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If you have any inquiries, you can contact the club via the following email address:

HamRadio@barriearc.com

Be sure to visit the Barrie Amateur Radio Club webpage at:

<http://www.barriearc.com/>

Next Club Meeting

The next general BARC meeting will be held on **Thursday 11 March** at Barrie North Collegiate starting at 7pm in the cafeteria. Barrie North is located at 110 Grove St. East. Chairs are available for those finding the cafeteria seating uncomfortable.

You do not need to be a club member or a Ham to attend the BARC meetings. Everyone is welcome.

Minutes of all meetings back to November 2004 can be found by clicking on the BARC Minutes of Monthly Meetings link found on the club webpage.

Back issues of this newsletter for 2007 through the current year can also be downloaded from the BARC website.

If you would like to do a presentation or a “show and tell” at one of the BARC meetings, please contact someone on the executive or email the club. Come and show off your latest ham project.

Other Events

Don't forget the regular Monday evening CBSS ARES (City of Barrie and South Simcoe ARES) net at 7:30pm on the VE3RAG (147.000+) repeater (you must transmit a 156.7Hz tone). The latest RAC bulletins are also read over the air. CBSS ARES members take turns as Net Control.

There is a “Rag-chewers” net each Wednesday evening at 7:30pm on the VE3LSR 146.850 repeater.

Morning Breakfast Groups

Currently there are two “Ham” breakfast gatherings in Barrie – everyone is welcome (talk-in is on VE3LSR 146.850-).

- Every Saturday morning at 8am at “Debb’s Place” restaurant located at 352 Huronia Road just north of the intersection with Big Bay Point road.
- Wednesday morning at 9am at the Paradise Café restaurant in the Atrium building located at the corner of Cundles Rd. and St. Vincent Street.

The next CBSS ARES ([City of Barrie and South-Simcoe Amateur Radio Emergency Service](#)) meeting will be held 16 March at the Barrie EOC, upstairs in Fire Hall #1 (Innisfil St. and Vespra St.). Come to the meeting if you wish to become involved in this expanding aspect of Amateur Radio.

Recent Happenings



The guest speaker at the February 9th BARC meeting was Peter Teminski VA3WET from the Niagara Peninsula Amateur Radio Club.

Peter gave a presentation on the NPARC Radio-thon for Charity which they hold during RAC's Canada Day Contest. He also provided information and documentation on how other ham clubs can organize their own Radio-thon to help raise public awareness of Amateur Radio. More information can be found on the NPARC webpage at:

<http://www.nparc.on.ca/content/club/radiothon.html>

Moving up to HF Radio – Discover the Magic seminar



Those who attended the seminar given by AI VE3RRD on 30 January found it to be very informative. It is hoped to be able to offer this seminar again.

The presentation is available in pdf form (but doesn't include the explanations and discussions for each slide) at:

http://www.barriearc.com/CBSS_ARES_files/HF-Radio.pdf

Ramblings – AI VE3RRD

Fun with QRP

For the past month or so I have been having fun with CW on the HF bands. Not only that, but I made the decision to limit my transmit power on all CW contacts to 5W maximum, which is the maximum power that can be used and still be classified a QRP station.

Does it work? Well here is a list of some of the stations I've had QSO's with recently:

FG/F6AUS	17m	Guadeloupe
J88DR	17m	St. Vincent Island
CW3R	15m	special event station at the Punta Negra Lighthouse in Uruguay
LZ10ARDF	17m	special call for the ARDF club in Bulgaria
E74A	17m	Bosnia
9A2YM	17m	Croatia
US5XD	17m	Ukraine
LX30AK	17m	special call from Luxembourg
C6AKQ	40m	Bahamas
8P3A	15m	Barbados
G3ORY	15m	England
OR0A	15m	Belgium

Plus numerous stations in the USA (mostly on 40m and 80m)

Why does it work? Why can a 5W CW station communicate with areas of the world that require 100W of SSB voice?

When the transmit power is reduced from 100W to 5W, it is being reduced by 13dB, or a little over two S-Units at the receiving end; or so it would seem - BUT:

The 100W of SSB is spread over about 2000Hz of received bandwidth or 50mw per Hz.

The 5W of CW is spread over about 100Hz of received bandwidth or 50mw per Hz.

What this means is that the 5W of CW works just as well as 100W of SSB, or put another way; you would have to transmit SSB at 100W to do as well as what 5W of CW can do.

Of course, another very important factor is the antenna used. Currently I am using a home made KL7JR vertical delta loop for 10m through 80m (bottom center-fed with 4:1 balun). I find that this antenna consistently works better than my Cushcraft R7 vertical.

Most modern transceivers can be adjusted down to 5W for QRP CW, while giving the benefit of a high quality receiver. Give QRP a try.

QRP: More Skill – Less Power



Flying Pigs QRP Club International

Field Day 2010

Field Day will be held on June 26-27 this year. The Barrie Amateur Radio Club will be holding it at the Oro Fairgrounds again.

The setup and operation will be in two separate phases:

Antenna and equipment setup will be performed by the CBSS ARES Group on Friday 25 June, as part of their member training/qualification program. On completion of this phase, Field Day will be turned over to the Barrie Amateur Radio Club.

Starting on Saturday morning, anyone will be permitted to set up their antennas and equipment at the Field Day location to join in on the fun (just be mindful of minimizing interference with existing antennas/stations).

The final decision on how many simultaneously operating transmitters that will be available for use, will be made one half hour prior to the start of the contest (2pm). This should give ample time for others to setup and become part of the BARC Field Day operation if they wish. Generator power will be available so we can be an "A" or Alpha designation, but whether we are a "2A" or a "5A" is up to you.

Note that the club will be using the N3FJP Field Day Logging software in a networked computer configuration. If you want to add your Field Day station to the BARC operation, you will need to download the Field Day Network Log 2.5 software from <http://www.n3fjp.com/>. Contact the club for the use of their license key for this software.

The complete 2010 Field Day package is available from ARRL at: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/forms/fd-2010-packet.pdf>

Barrie-Orillia Hamfest 2010

The Barrie-Orillia Hamfest will be held on Saturday 11 September at the Oro Fairgrounds. This year we will be holding several short seminars/demonstrations on different subjects of interest to ham radio operators. If you have any suggestions or are willing to do a presentation please contact the club. Suggestions received so far include Antennas, APRS, D-STAR, Packet Radio, WinLink2000 and Proper Grounding.

For more information on the Hamfest, go to: <http://www.barriearc.com/Hamfest/hamfest.htm>

You can download the flyer at:

[http://www.barriearc.com/Hamfest/2010 Barrie-Orillia Hamfest Flyer.pdf](http://www.barriearc.com/Hamfest/2010%20Barrie-Orillia%20Hamfest%20Flyer.pdf)