

April 2003

FEEDBACK



The OFFICIAL Newsletter

of the

Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club Inc.

P.O. Box 113, Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 5P1

GBARC Meetings

are held on the 4th Tuesday of every month except July and August in our CLUBHOUSE, Unit 6 Rockford Plaza, Rockford On. 5km S of Owen Sound. 7:30 p.m.

Breakfast Anyone?

Any Saturday 9:00 a.m., at the Rockford Restaurant.

Nets

80 metre net on Sunday at 9:30 a.m. on 3.783 Mhz. Two metre net on Thursday at 9 p.m. on VE3OSR 146.94-Mhz.

Submissions

are always welcome. Send them to Barry/Steven

This Month

MINUTES OF MEETING

FOR SALE

AN AM RF AMP FOR INTERNAL ANTENNAS

IARU CELEBRATES WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY

IN CUMBERLAND, 100 PERCENT CHANCE OF AIDING WEATHER FORECASTER

HAM RADIO TRIVIA

MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

GBARC Mail Box

NEXT MEETING May 27

President

Bernie
VE3BQM



Vice-President

Bob
VE3XOX



Secretary

Susan
VE3TLK



Treasurer

Bob
VE3LKD



Newsletter Team

Editor
Barry VA3WBG



Newsletter Team

Mailing
Steven VE3SEG



Newsletter Team

Mailing
Tom VE3CVL



GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO
CLUB
MINUTES OF MEETING

Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of March 25, 2003 Meeting

The Meeting was called to order by President Bernie BQM at 7:30 p.m. Welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Motion to accept minutes was made by Gene IJD and seconded by Walter FFN. Motion passed.

Treasurer's report was given by Bob LKD. There are no outstanding cheques.

Old Business

A motion was made by Tom TSA "to discontinue the usage of the Rockford Clubhouse as of April 30, 2003". Seconded by JNA. A discussion about the motion was made. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Nominations committee person for next year's executive is Bob XOX. Bob XOX asked everyone present if they would be interested in running for a position. He will call members not present.

Field Day is June 28 at Gene's IJD.

Next meeting will be at the clubhouse. Let Bernie BQM know if you have equipment etc. to be returned.

Moved by Tom Merner NEM and seconded by Gene IJD that "there will be no partial refund of this year's membership dues due to the closing of the clubhouse." Discussed. Motion passed.

Gene IJD, Tom TSA, Bob XOX, Bob LKD, Bob MCK and Bernie BQM will form a committee to bring recommendations to the club on a club membership dues structure.

The Kiwanis Club issued another cheque for \$75.00 as a donation to the club.

Canwarn training will be held at the Visitor Centre at the BNPD on April 23, 2003 at 7:00 p.m.
There is a new program for retraining.

There will be a Grey Aries meeting Thursday April 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Grey Gables in Markdale.

The 50/50 draw of \$22. was won by Bob LKD.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse.

Moved by Bert AEG and seconded by Jack DTS that the meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

OKKE Bob LKD Stan
Aubrey Walter & YL Randy
Dave Dixon Dr. Bob Bert
Dieter Jack Henry
R. McKay Tom TSA Gene
Bob XOX Bennie Steven
Barry Bernie Susan
Ashley Tom Merner

FOR SALE

One Yaesu FL2100z HF Amplifier

Coverage is 10 through 160 meters including warc bands...

Unit runs a pair of 572b tubes..Approx. Output is 600+ watts ...Unit in great shape....

Picture of unit www.bmts.com/~bvary/IM000616.jpg

Asking 675.00 Canadian Dollars

Contact Bob Vary VE3NX/VE3XOX R.R.#8 Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada N4K-5W4
519-376-8060

Do you have some ham equipment for sale or are you looking for something, well then what better place to do that then in the GBARC feedback. If you are looking for something or have something for sale just send your name Callsign and what you have for sale to ve3seg@rogers.com where it will then be posted in the sale/wanted section of the GBARC feedback.

AN AM RF AMP FOR INTERNAL ANTENNAS

Figure 1 shows the antenna input circuitry of a typical AM radio. There may be some slight variations on this, but the circuit described here will compensate for them.

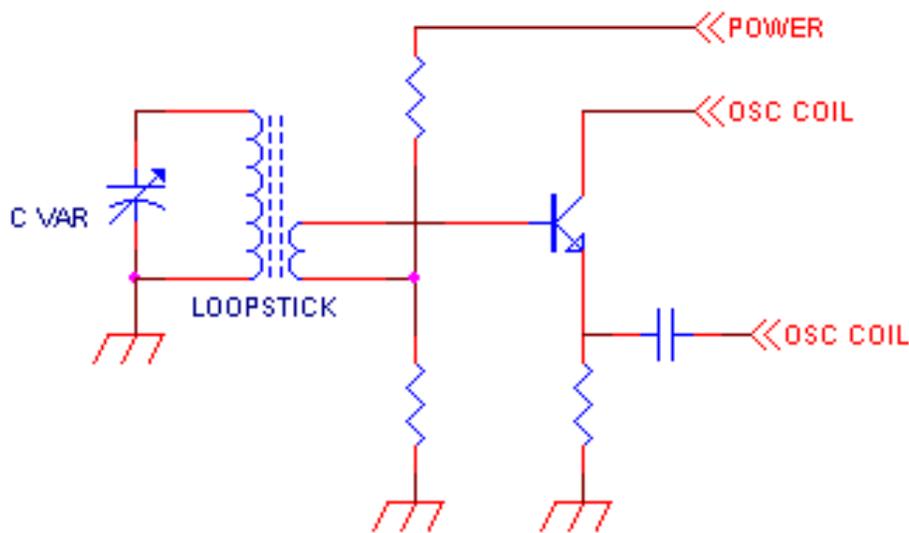


Figure 1: AM radio input circuitry before the modification

The author described assembling this circuit on a 1"*1" perf board, I actually laid out a small PC board with excellent results. In this era of surface mount components, I think a much smaller version can be laid out on a PC board, allowing this circuit to be put inside even the smallest radios, such as Walkmans. If I do such a board, I will put the PC board artwork here.

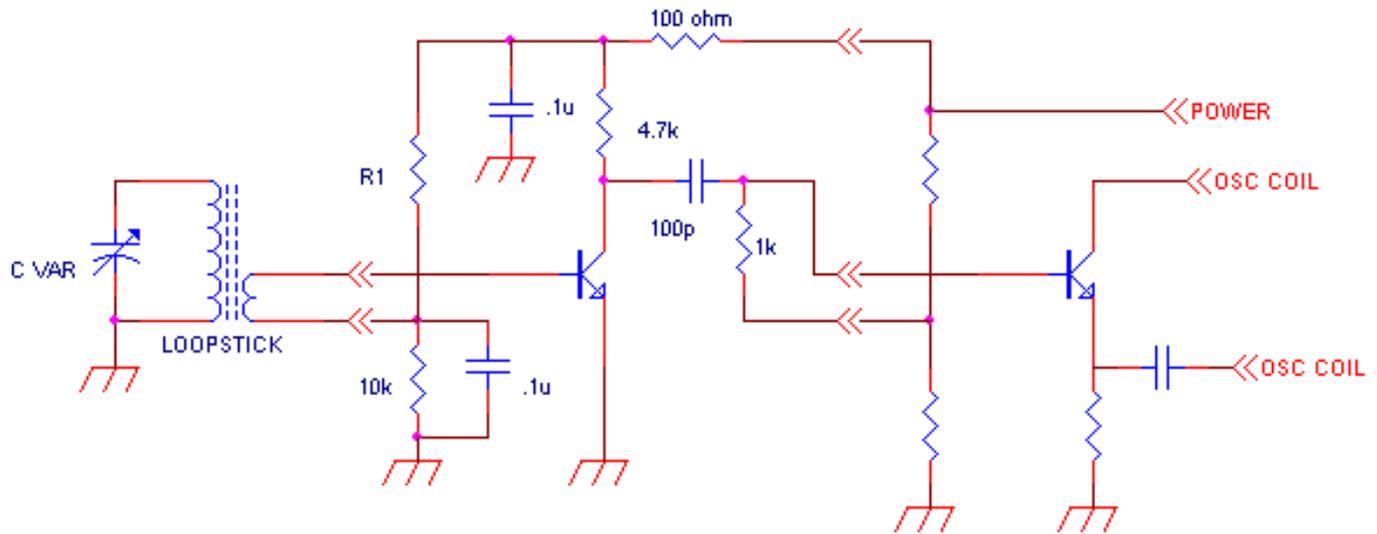


Figure 2: AM radio input circuitry after the modification

From the article: After the booster is built, open the radio and locate the antenna. Trace out the secondary winding (it does *not* go to the tuning capacitor!) and snip the leads. Connect these leads to the input of the booster. Run leads from the booster's output to where the antenna secondary went. You must finally connect up the power and ground and mount the board to be finished. When that is done, turn on the radio and tune in a weak station above 1400. Adjust the set's antenna trimmer and you are done. Happy Listening!

To the above I would add:

- Any NPN transistor can be used. The author used a 2N3904, but a 2N2222A should work just as well. A good, low noise transistor would be even better.
- Some radios only have three connections to their ferrite bar antenna: the antenna connection to the tuning capacitor, ground (two wires twisted together) and secondary (the smaller number of turns). In this case, treat the twisted wires as ground, and the secondary wire as the base connection to the transistor. The transistor will then receive its base bias from the radio.
- R1 changes with the supply voltage. If your radio is 9V, use 56K. If it is 6V, use 47k. If it is 3V, use 33k. The goal is to bias the collector of the transistor to one half the supply voltage.
- The schematic shown is for a negative ground radio. For a positive ground radio, substitute a PNP transistor.

IARU CELEBRATES WORLD AMATEUR RADIO DAY

Friday, April 18, is World Amateur Radio Day, celebrated each year on the anniversary of the founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). The IARU is the worldwide federation of national Amateur Radio organizations representing radio amateurs in 158 countries. On this, the 78th anniversary of its inaugural meeting in Paris, the IARU dedicates World Amateur Radio Day to the radio amateurs, educators, and administrators who use Amateur Radio to support technology education in the classroom.

Such programs are not confined to the developed countries. They are even more valuable in countries where telecommunications technology is not yet commonplace and where natural disasters and other calamities can overload or even disrupt regular communications circuits.

Radio technology offers a wide array of tools for teachers to use as they integrate technology into the curriculum. In schools without an Internet connection, Amateur Radio can fill that void through interactive communications and shortwave reception. Elementary school teachers using AM radios can interject fun while helping students learn basic electricity and regional geography. Social studies teachers can use Amateur Radio and shortwave receivers to teach about different cultures the world over, as well as advancing deeper into geopolitics and geography. Earth science and physics teachers can use radio to teach electricity and electronics, radio wave propagation, weather and atmospheric science. Language arts teachers may use radio to supplement writing, speaking and listening skills while providing access to numerous foreign languages from the lips of native speakers.

With almost three million licensees in nearly every country on Earth, the amateur service provides an ample reservoir of expertise for use in classrooms throughout the world.--IARU news release

Source:

The ARRL Letter Vol. 22, No. 16 April 18, 2003

IN CUMBERLAND, 100 PERCENT CHANCE OF AIDING WEATHER FORECASTER

Are you a firefighter? An angler? How about just someone who likes to relax by viewing the nighttime sky? The National Weather Service wants you to become a volunteer "weather spotter."

"We're not talking about making people into weather forecasters," said Joe Miketta, meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Mount Holly. "The problem is we can only be one place. We need the eyes and the ears of people throughout the area to help us spot weather patterns."

To recruit people, Miketta travels to various areas throughout the state to give a seminar called "SkyWarn/

Weather Spotter Program."

He held a well-attended program in March in Egg Harbor Township for Atlantic County residents and is holding one Wednesday for Cumberland County residents.

The weather spotters keep the National Weather Service, or NWS, informed of both impending bad weather and the damage after a major weather event, Miketta said.

Bill Davis, of the Cumberland County Office of Emergency Management, is a longtime weather spotter.

An amateur radio operator, Davis is one of dozens of people who keep an eye out for any change in wind or weather patterns, snowfall depth, and other meteorological events.

"This is big with amateur radio operators," Davis said. "It helps us stay in contact (with the NWS) when we know we have severe weather coming."

"We're on the lookout for high winds, any damage from high winds, any formations of tornadoes or lightning," Davis said.

Davis and Miketta agree that a large part of a weather spotter's job is to keep track of

snowfall.

"Whenever we have a nor'easter, that's when the weather spotters are really helpful," Miketta said.

"This last President's Day we had a major snow event and they were able to help us keep track of the rain/snow line as it crossed into Cape May and Atlantic counties," he added.

The Mount Holly office of the NWS services every county in New Jersey except the five bordering New York, eastern Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland.

"We really do depend on our weather spotters. People think the Midwest has the worst weather. But it's really a matter of weather and population. We're more densely populated here, and it affects more people," he added.

Miketta said the NWS has about 75 weather spotters in each of the southern counties - many of them are amateur radio operators, but that's not a qualification for the job.

The job is open to anyone 16 or older. It's free, it's fun and it's informative, Miketta said.

"Anyone who wants to become a spotter is welcome. It's really a fantastic job," he added.

HAM RADIO TRIVIA

1. **Who invented the 'walkie-talkie'?**

Stephen Gross
Steve Thompson
Al Gross
Thomas Cross

2. **If you receive a CW RST report of 569c, what does the 'c' mean?**

You have key clicks
You have a nice clean signal
You have a chirpy signal
It means nothing

3. **What is an OO?**

A trained Official Observer
A trained officer of RAC
A licensed ham who has advanced his or her ticket to Advanced
An officer of the court, over ham radio

Answers for these questions will appear in the May edition of the Feedback

MESSAGE FROM THE NEWSLETTER TEAM

Have you made an interesting contact or read a really interesting article that you think others would like? well then what better way of doing that then in the GBARC newsletter. The GBARC newsletter is always looking for interesting stories so if you have one done be a chicken be a ham and send it to Steven VE3SEG and Barry VA3WBG and ve3seg@rogers.com

From The Mailbox

ZEROBEAT

THE BRUCE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER

IS NOW POSTED 73 DE JIM COVERLEY VE3OVV

<http://www.brucearc.on.ca>

When in Barrie stop in at the **Barrie Amateur Radio Club Meeting**

Georgian college, Rowntree Theatre

Date: TBA Time: 7:30 PM

73 de ken ve3kpp
