



FEEDBACK

The Official Newsletter of the
Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club



May 2026
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The Pres Tom VA3TS

It's nice to see the snow finally disappear, May flowers are coming along and we can look forward to a nice summer (I hope). This brings with it, antenna projects and summer events like field day, the Huron Shores Run and BPMR.

It's important to consider safety when working at home or among the public. At this month's meeting let's talk about field day safety since this is our next and busiest activity. Not only do we need to consider our wellbeing, but also anyone from the public who happens to come by to see what we are doing or guests that drop by just by curiosity.

There may also be invited guests from local municipalities or organizations. Let's put our best foot forward to encourage these groups to think of us in a positive light and if we were to help them out, it would be done in a professional manner.

Like everything else, a review of our practices and plans will provide a good pay back for a smooth running and safe event.

Club Meeting 26th May 2026 7 - 9 pm

Updates on the proposed Field Day 2026 at Inglis Falls, Grey Sauble Conservation

This Month

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2025/ 2026 Executive

President ...Tom VA3TS

Vice-President...Dan VA3DNY

Past President...Marvin VE3VCG

Treasurer...Doug VE3DGY

Secretary...Bobby VE3PAV

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[About GBARC](#)

[Join Us](#)



Elsie's Breakfast



Join us at Elsie's for breakfast, 104 Shane Street, Owen Sound, ON N4K 5N7

8:00 a.m. June to October

9:00 a.m. November to May

[Read More](#)



Tech Talk Doug VE3DGY

Each month at our club meeting we start off with a Tech Talk. Members are encouraged to offer their presentations. Subject can be anything of interest in Ham radio, maybe you installed a new radio or antenna, or discovered something new on you-tube. Don't assume that what you have isn't good enough. Bring it along for discussion.



Minutes of Meeting

[Minutes of the Monthly Club Meeting](#) (<-previous months)

Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club
Minutes of club meeting April 28th 2026

Attendance: Tom VA3TS President, Dan VA3DNY Vice president, Doug VE3DGY Treasurer, Bobby VE3PAV Secretary

Frank va3guf, Greg ve3rqy, Kirk ve3kxx, Jim ve3jmd, Dave ve3wi, Bernie ve3bqm, Richard ve3ozw, Mark va3vbe, Tex ve3usi,
Guests: Brian ve2cqa, Paul ve3efq, Marlin, Mary va3ilt

Tech Talk: Frank va3guf talked about the chameleon antenna kit and off-centre dipole.

Previous minutes acceptance, motion to accept, Frank, 2nd: Bernie, AIF: all

Treasury report: acceptance, motion to accept: Bernie, 2nd: Richard, AIF: all

Old business: Field Day 2026 will be at Grey Sauble pavilion at Inglis falls June 27-28
Tom purchased and talked about KWH meters that he got for the repeater sites.
Frank ve3guf will be field day coordinator.

New Business: Frank talked about the BPMR on Aug.8, he needs 5 people to volunteer for the race.



Tobermory race on Sept 12,13 40-80m nvis test.

Frank and Dan picked up donated equipment from a SK in Tobermory.

Show and tell: Tom talked about antenna's used for fox hunts.

Bernie talked about cordless headphones for ham radios using wireless remote to activate the headphones.

Tex won the 50/50 draw, he donated \$15.00 to the club.

Adjourn: motion to accept: Tex, 2nd: Bernie, AIF: all

Minutes by Bobby VE3PAV

Winlink Remote Mail Server

This post is to inform anyone who would like to construct a Remote Mail server and that GBARC has most of the required equipment already on hand. All we need is for someone or a group to take this on and provide a working Winlink RMS for our area.

So far, we already have and more items are currently being added to the club inventory by Frank GUF as we speak. For more information check out our [forums](#)

Several HF radio's to choose from

A dual band VHF/UHF transceiver with a data port

A Raspberry PI3b in a 19" rack case

Power supplies as needed

A 19" rack cabinet on wheels to house the whole project.

A winlink License

A Vara license

Anyone interested? This would be a great learning experience. Hone your construction and programming skills. Learn about winlink and digital communications... a win win for anyone, including emergency preparedness in Grey and Bruce counties..... 73



Cheap HF Quarter-Wave Stubs

By: Al Duncan VE3RRD

Some may ask “why would I need a quarter-wave stub”? When our club is activating a lighthouse, beach or park, we are often setting up two or even three stations with antennas in fairly close proximity to each other. Although some stations may be QRP, many times we are also including a 100W transceiver for SSB.

This can cause major interference between stations, even when everyone is on a different band. For example, a transmitter on 40m (7 MHz) can overload a receiver on the 20m (14 MHz) band, making it almost impossible for the 20m station to copy CW or even voice.

A “shorted” quarter-wavelength (for a particular frequency) piece of coax, will appear as an open at the other end of this shorted stub. For example, if we make a shorted stub for 20m and connect it to the transceiver, it will not affect the SWR on 20m but will appear as a partial short to signals on the 40m band. This is because the 20m quarter-wave stub will appear as an eighth-wavelength shorted stub on 7 MHz and will greatly attenuate these signals. Likewise, also placing a 40m stub on the 7 MHz station can greatly reduce any harmonic RF it is producing on the 14 MHz band.

You can use a regular T-connector (either BNC or UHF as required) attached directly to the transceiver, with the antenna coax connected to one side and the quarter-wavelength shorted stub (for the band you will be operating on) connected to the other side of the T.

After searching the internet and reading several articles on the difficulty of making precision quarter-wave stubs out of expensive 50 ohm coax, and placing them in precise locations on the station feed line; I almost gave up on the idea of trying to make my own.

The fact is that a multiband antenna is not always 50 ohms on every band, and a transceiver’s internal tuner can compensate for mismatches that may be introduced by the antenna or by attaching a quarter-wave stub. Since I didn’t plan on using a KW, any small coax should work for QRP levels. And why should it have to be 50 ohm coax, I had lots of quality 75 ohm RG6 satellite TV coax laying around. I put an F-connector on the RG6 and then used an F to BNC adapter.



I cut the RG6 for each band, using the formula $(468 / \text{MHz}) / 2$ to find the length in feet. I didn't know the velocity factor for my RG6 so I multiplied the result by 0.9 which made it a bit long.

My little YouKits FG-01 antenna analyzer made it very easy to trim the coax to the proper frequency. It can visually display the center frequency for an open quarter-wave stub in real-time also, so I just kept cutting off an inch or so at a time until it looked good while attached to

the T-connector along with a 50 ohm load. Then I shorted the center conductor to the shield braid at the end and used a crimp-on lug, its tab can be cut off and heat shrink used to insulate the end of the stub if desired. After shorting the stub, the exact 1:1 SWR bandwidth can be measured, with a 50 ohm load where the antenna will connect.



attenuation gradually increases above and below centre frequency.



Everyone in our group has made a stub for each of the various HF bands they plan on using when we are operating together. I have found that these stubs even work well on the club TS- 480SAT at 100W, and have also used them on my KXPA-100 PA when operating my KX3 at 100W. I used a UHF type T-connector on the transceiver/PA output and then used a UHF to BNC adapter to mate to the stubs.

When everyone is on a different band and all are using their quarter-wave shorted stubs, interference between stations has been greatly reduced (and in many cases, completely eliminated). Also, the stub tends to attenuate out-of-band signals from other (non-amateur radio) sources.



Maybe my version isn't as effective as the "real thing"; but it's cheap, easy to make and works well for us. This project proved to me that it's better to try it and see if it works, rather than just accept that the "experts" say it probably won't. Total cost was very low - half a dozen type F crimp-on connectors, one or two F to BNC adaptors, a BNC or UHF "T", and a UHF to BNC adaptor if needed; the RG6 coax was free.

Set of 5 quarter-wave stubs for 10, 15, 17, 20 and 40m bands. I plan on also making one for the 80m band. These are compact and light-weight, and all fit into a small bag (wind some in diameters that can nest inside others). Don't forget to label each stub with the band it is for, as you make them. We will definitely be trying them out during the next Field Day with two 100W club stations; usually one is on SSB and the other on CW or a digital mode.



Thank you for joining our club or renewing your existing annual membership. Renewal dues for the 2027 year can be paid anytime after September 1st 2026. Click [HERE](#) to go to our membership page. thanks

**Join us for our weekly get together
"On the Air"**

The club meets each Wednesday evening on VE3OSR
146.940
T97.4 hz at 7:30 pm local time,
and on 3.783 Mhz +/- immediately following.



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

AMENDED January 2026

BE IT KNOWN BY THESE PRESENTS That the Charter Members of the Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club having derived much pleasure from amateur radio through personal experience:

FIRSTLY: Desiring to share that pleasure with their fellow Amateurs,

SECONDLY: Desiring to encourage and assist others to enter their world of Amateur radio,

THIRDLY: Desiring to improve their knowledge and technical skills in electro - magnetic communication, and

FOURTHLY: Desiring to make available to their community that knowledge and those techniques (in which they, as no other civic group, excel) in times of local and national emergency,

HAVE, to those ends, caused to be established The Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club, and BY THESE PRESENTS do hereby constitute themselves as THE GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, and by those enactments following do adopt their Constitution governing THE GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB.

ARTICLE 1 Name

Section I

The Name of the organization shall be "The Georgian Bay Amateur Radio Club" hereinafter referred to as "The Club"

ARTICLE 11 Eligibility for Membership

Section I

Any and all persons, regardless of sex, age, race or creed, may be enrolled as members on submitting their name, address and other pertinent information to an executive member in good standing, the type and class of membership to be in accordance with those types and classes as laid down in the BY-LAWS of the club, and by paying such dues required for such type and class of membership.



THE CONSTITUTION OF THE GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

AMENDED January 2026

ARTICLE III Officers of the Club

Section I Officers of the Club

The officers of the Club shall be President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Past President

Section II Executive Committee

These above shall be constituted as a Committee known as the Executive Committee but nothing herein shall inure to prevent further additions to the Executive Committee; but such power to add shall be within the guidelines set by the BY- LAWS of the club.

Section III Appointment of Auditor

There shall be appointed by the Executive Committee in Committee of the whole, a CLUB AUDITOR, which appointment shall be presented to the entire membership for ratification. Failure to obtain the ratification by a majority vote of the members, the Executive Committee will confer again and submit an acceptable alternate choice.

Section IV Election of Officers

Election of Officers shall take place in September of each alternating year at the general meeting and offices shall be held for a term of two years. In the event that no one is willing to assume their roles, with their permission, the current Treasurer or Secretary may be acclaimed for a maximum of three consecutive terms. The Vice-President will assume the position of President at the end of the current President's two year term. Voting shall be by a secret ballot

Section V Vacancies in Executive Committee

Vacancies in the Executive Committee occurring during the term of office of the person vacating, for whatever reason, shall be filled in the same manner as set out in ARTICLE III Section IV. Where there is a vacancy for an executive office, the President may appoint a member to fill that position for the regular term.



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The office of Past President is a non-elected position and is normally filled by the outgoing President, but should a vacancy occur, it can be either left vacant at the Presidents discretion or filled by an appointment of the President from a list of former Past Presidents.

Section VI When office is assumed

Officers shall assume office on the 1st of January following election, at which time the President elect shall assume the chair when vacated by the outgoing President and the outgoing President shall assume the role of Past President.

ARTICLE IV Duties of Officers

Section I The President shall:

Preside at all meetings of the club, conducting it in accordance with the best rules of order; Recognize each member's rights under the Constitution and By- Laws and give due deference to those rights in questions of order; Sign all official documents on behalf of the club; Perform all the duties customarily associated with the office.

Section II The Vice-President shall:

Assist the president in any capacity designated by the President; Assume the duties of the President whenever the President is unable to carry out those duties.

Section III The Treasurer shall:

Keep an accurate record of all monies received and expended; Keep an up-to-date roster of the membership; Turn his books and records over to the Auditor at the end of their 2 year term On being superseded by the Treasurer elect, turn all books and records over to the Treasurer elect.

Section IV The Secretary shall:

Keep a record of the Minutes of every General meeting, Executive Committee meetings and such other meetings as are formally called by the President and the Executive Committee. The Secretary shall receive and send all correspondence on behalf of the Club Executive. On being



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superseded by the Secretary elect, turn all books and records over to the Secretary elect.

Section V The Past President shall:

Assist the president in any capacity designated by the President ; Serve as a voting member of the Executive Committee

ARTICLE V Form of Business

Section I

All business dealt with at general Meetings shall be in the usual form of mover and seconder, voted on by a show of hands, excepting in those cases where, in the opinion of the Presiding Officer, a secret Ballot is preferable. Voting may also take place with a website submission method, which duplicates the validity, spirit, quorum and notice requirements of a **traditional ballot or show of hands vote.**

Section II Quorum

A Quorum shall consist of at least three full members in good standing who are not members of the Executive Committee, plus at least three members of the Executive Committee. No motions shall be considered or voted on at a general meeting unless a Quorum is present.

Section III Executive Quorum

A Quorum of the Executive Committee shall consist of at least three Executive members.

Section IV Annual General Meeting

Shall be held in January as part of the club meeting with the purpose of:

- a) accepting into record the appointment of the new Executives,
- b) reviewing the annual financial statement,
- c) making amendments to the constitution or bylaws.



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AMENDED January 2026

Section V Fiscal Year

Financial and membership fiscal year will run from Jan 1st to Dec 31st of the current year.

ARTICLE VI Disbanding of Club

Section I

In the event of the club's ceasing operations under this, the Constitution, such may only be accomplished by a motion brought before the entire membership and approved by a two-thirds vote of the membership.

ARTICLE VII Constitutional and By-Law Amendments

Section I Amendments

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the membership present at any meeting providing a Notice of Motion is given at least one month prior to the said meeting and all members of the Club advised of such Notice of Motion in writing (either by normal postal methods or by electronic mail) in the intervening time between the Notice of Motion and the meeting at which the voting is to take place.

Section II Power to amend By-Laws given by Constitution

The Club may, at the discretion of the Executive Committee, entertain motions from the floor relevant to deletions from and alterations to any BY-LAWS in the manner set out in ARTICLE V, Sections I and II; but any such motion which has, or tends to have, a nullifying effect on this, or any part or portions of this constitution, shall be declared Ultra Vires of the powers of the Committee and membership, unless such motion is made under ARTICLE VII, Section I, and if such improper motion is voted on, passed and incorporated in the BY-LAWS, by inadvertence, such Motion or BY-LAW must be vacated by the Executive Committee.



**THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**
AMENDED January 2026

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE GEORGIAN BAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, THROUGH OUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, ADOPT THIS, OUR CONSTITUTION, AND CAUSE SAME TO BE SIGNED BY SAID EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, ON OUR BEHALF.



President Tom St. Amand VA3TS

April 11, 2026

Date



Vice-President Dan Mills VA3DNY

April 11, 2026

Date



Secretary Bobby Pavlovic VE3PAV

apr. 28, 26

Date



Treasurer Doug McDougall VE3DGY

Apr 9, 2026

Date



Past-President Marvin Double VE3VCG

April 11, 2026

Date

Next Month By-Laws

Field Day Safety Officer

I have had the pleasure to attend many field days over the years and I must say that I have experienced few unsafe or hazardous situations during our events. But, injuries have a way of popping up when you least expect them and can have consequences that may be minor to long term. I don't believe that broaching the subject is cause to challenge the professionalism of anyone involved, but merely to bring the topic into focus so we can all leave field day without injuries. What follows is a checklist of things to look out for and as part of our due diligence. I would like a volunteer to be our Safety Captain and we will discuss this at our next meeting... 73 VA3TS



Field Day Safety Officer Checklist

To qualify for the 100-point Safety Officer bonus (for Class A stations), a group must appoint a qualified person/s who are present at their site from the beginning of set-up until the end of break-down.

This form is NOT intended to be all inclusive.

The Safety Officer/s certify by submitting this form that due diligence was made to provide a safe operation. [check any/all that apply] Use the reverse side of this page for notes or lessons learned for next year

- Safety Officer/s or qualified designated assistant/s was on site for the duration of the event.
- Safety Officer is designated point of contact for public safety officials.
- First Aid kit on hand.
- First Aid - CPR versed or trained participant/s on site for full Field Day period.
- Fire extinguisher on hand and appropriately located.
- Access to Weather alerts to monitor for inclement weather.
- Access to a means to contact police/fire/rescue if needed.
- As necessary, monitoring participants for hydration and ensuring an adequate water supply is available.
- Personal protective equipment on hand and utilized ie: climbing belts and/or hard hats

- Fuel for generator properly stored.
- Tent stakes properly installed and marked.
- Temporary antenna structures properly secured and marked.
- Site secured from tripping hazards during both daytime and nighttime.
- Site is set up in a neat and orderly manner to reduce hazards.
- Stations and equipment properly grounded.
- Minimize risks and control hazards to ensure no injuries to public.

_____ signature(s) / call(s) date

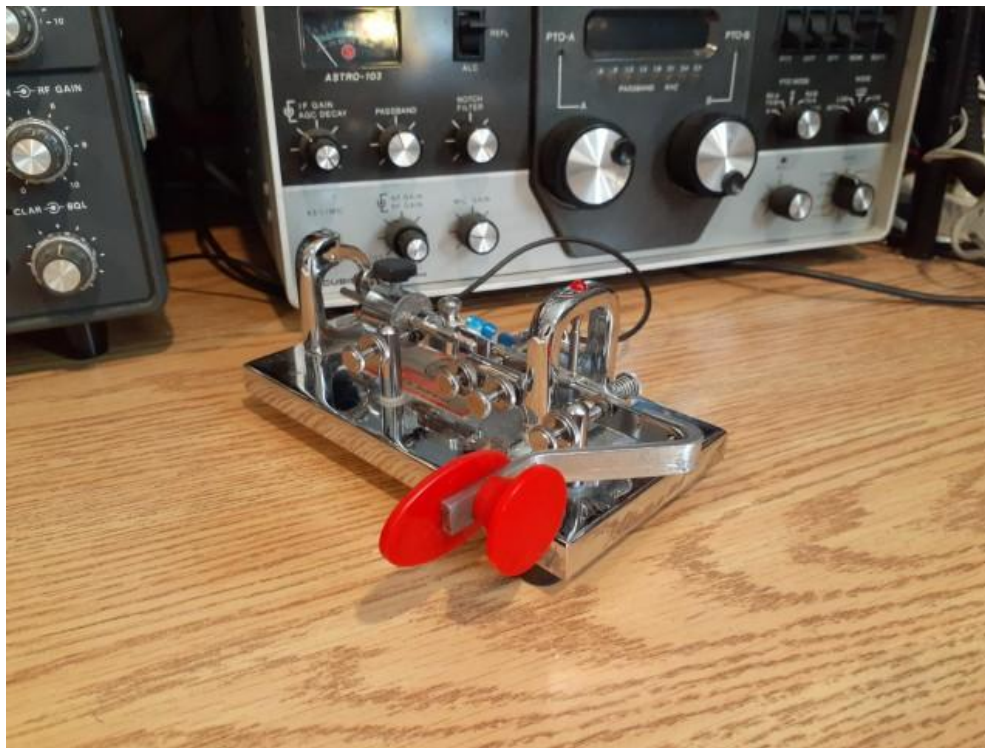
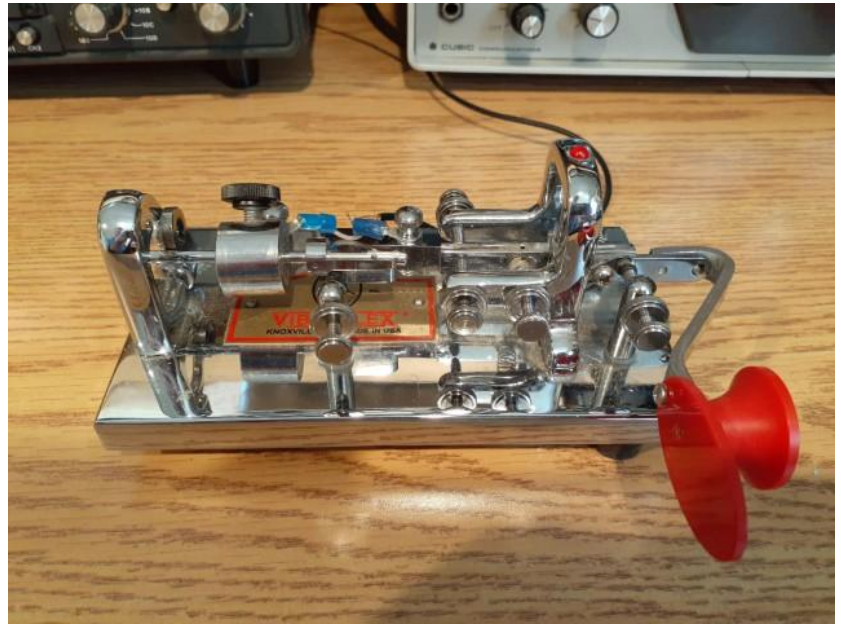
Revised 5/2026





Bench Happenings Don VE3IDS

I just did an updated right angle mod on a vibroplex original deluxe. I think it turned out better than the first attempt on the grey based vibroplex original. I used a strip of flat bar steel that came from the hardware store. I cut a strip about 1/4" wide off the bar with a hack saw and filed the saw blade marks off of the cut, then sanded it so it has a better finish that goes better with the chrome bug. Following up with steel wool gives the steel a bit of a shine. I bent the strip up in a vise with a hammer and drilled clearance holes for the screws on both ends. I used M3 screws to attach the new bracket to the bug. I used the original fingerpiece screw to attach the fingerpieces to the bracket.



The distance between the fingerpieces and the pivot is about the same in the new configuration and the original, just oriented 90°. It feels the same to operate to me. It doesn't introduce any odd movement to the fingerpieces. It does allow the bug to sit closer to the rig and gives more arm space on the desk to operate the bug. You don't have to allow any space

behind the bug for the pendulum rod as it is out the side now and doesn't hit anything if



the bug is pushed up against the rig. Also, if you are a slapper, a right angle bug doesn't walk across the desk like a straight bug can if the feet are old and hard.

For the past while I have been playing and learning a bit about DDS vfo units. I have built a few based on the Arduino Nano and have recently tried one using the ESP 32 module. It is intended for replacing the crystal operation of a boat anchor transmitter such as the Heathkit DX 35. The cool thing that attracted me is the retro analog look to



the display. The new vfo is muted when the key is up so you don't blast your receiver with the vfo signal when you are listening. It also has a spot button so you can tune your TX freq on your receiver before starting transmitting.

I found the Gerber files posted for the circuit board and I had some made from jlcpcb. It is a work in progress yet but it looks like it should work. I may mount it into the front of my old DX 35. That rig came from the scrap heap and is not a collector's item by any stretch. Here is a pic of it and here is a YouTube link of it in operation.

<https://youtu.be/Hkhii1XRC8Y?si=GH9VVJRjaRIDwVlk>

The Last Word

A few words of appreciation to those that contribute to this newsletter by submitting news stories or interesting web links or ideas. If you have something then send us an email with <https://gbarc.ca/contact.php>, and we will get back to you.



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