



SEPTEMBER 2026

Volume 15 Issue 9

VE3ERC-LUB

President: John VA3PT
Vice-President: Hagen VE3QVY
Secretary: Rod VA3MZD
Treasurer: Ted VE3TRQ
Trustee: Tony VE3DWI
QSL Manager: Kirk VA3KXS
Repeater Trustee: Wes VE3ML
Website Admin: Ted VE3TRQ
Lighthouse:
Maple Syrup Display:
Newsletter: Bob VE3IXX
ERC Website: <https://ve3erc.ca>

ERC REPEATERS

UHF 444.700 + TONE: 131.8
UHF 444.700 + TONE: 123.0
VHF 147.390 + TONE: 123.0
VHF 147.255 + TONE: 131.8
EMERGENCY SIMPLEX: 146.550
UHF-IRLP node 2404,ECHOLINK VE3ERC-L
VHF- IRLP node 2403,ECHOLINK VE3ERC-R

**In an emergency, tune
Into our repeaters,
UHF 444.700 or
VHF 147.390 or
HF 3.75 The 5 LSB or
Simplex 146.550
For coordination and
assignments.**



**The Elmira Radio Club Repeater in Alma—
VA3TET in memory of
Al McDonald VA3TET-sk. See the
humourous anecdote on page 17.**



Radio Amateurs
of Canada

THE PREZ SEZ!

This club is Radio-ACTIVE
This club is Radio-ACTIVE

President's Update for September 2026

Well fall is here and winter is right around the corner. Hope everyone had a great summer with lots of radio activity.

Now is the time to put up that new antenna or fix an old one that you have been putting off. Don't think I've ever heard a ham say in the middle of winter at 10 below, "boy I'm glad I held off fixing this antenna when it was warm out!"

I've been thinking about the upcoming year and have a few ideas for the club to consider, and welcome any ideas club members may have.

Let's all have a great year.

John VA3PT



ERC Elmira Radio Club Inc.

Not just another amateur radio club

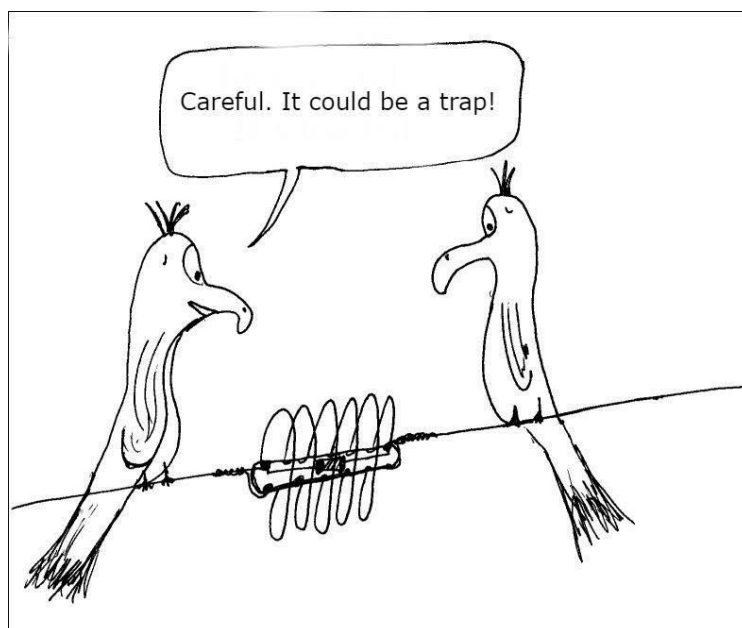
CONTRIBUTIONS TO VE3ERC-CLUB NEWSLETTER

Do you have an article you'd like to submit? Or photos? Do you have any comments you'd like to make?

Perhaps you'd like to share a photo of your shack, a special project you are working on or a special interest!

SEND THEM TO:

**Bob bobve3ixx@gmail.com
(519-787-2279)**



Thanks to Jay VE3CMN, who sent this.

WEDNESDAY NITE NET CONTROLLERS

SEPTEMBER 9 - JAY VE3CMN

SEPTEMBER 16 - TONY VE3DWI

SEPTEMBER 23 - MEETING

SEPTEMBER 30 - ROD VA3MZD

OCTOBER 7 - BOB VE3IXX

OCTOBER 14 - HAGEN VE3QVY

OCTOBER 21 - JOHN VE3JXX—EmComms

OCTOBER 28 - MEETING

NOVEMBER 4 - TED VE3TRQ

NOVEMBER 11 - JAY VE3CMN

NOVEMBER 18 - TONY VE3DWI

NOVEMBER 25 - MEETING

Whose Shack is it?



A



B



C

1. Bob VE3IXX
2. Jay VE3CMN
3. Tony VE3DWI

**Match the Name
with the Shack!**

*See the Answer on last
page!*

Tech Tips

The mysterious UNUN

By Tony Lelieveld VE3DWI

Have you ever built your own UNUN transformer for an EFHW **E**nd-**F**ed **H**alf **W**ave wire antenna? Have you ever wondered how the winding ratio is determined and what the resulting impedance transformation is?

One very important thing to keep in mind is that **EVERY TIME** a wire **crosses through the center of a toroid** it counts as one (1) winding. How does one find the winding ratio? Simply, as in any transformer, divide the Secondary winding count by the Primary winding count. Or vice-Versa.

We are converting the output/input impedance of our transceiver of $50\ \Omega$ to the high impedance of an end-fed wire antenna. In this example, see picture 1, the primary, Black wire, has two (2) windings and the secondary White wire has fifteen (15) windings. The winding ratio is $15 / 2 = 7.5$. Out of this follows that the Impedance ratio is $7.5 \times 7.5 = 56.25$.

So, we call this one a 56:1 UNUN. It transforms the coax feed line impedance of $50\ \Omega$ to $50 \times 56 = 2,800\ \Omega$. If we really want to be picky, it should be $50 \times 56.25 = 2,812.5\ \Omega$.

Since the impedance at the end of a half wave length wire will vary with the influences of the height above terrain, surrounding objects, size of the wire diameter, insulated or bare and the condition of the soil, we don't know what it ultimately will be.

My Half Wave 80 mtr EFHW of approximately 134 feet long, is installed as an inverted "L" with the first 35 feet going up at an angle of about 45° to a mast of about 35 feet tall and the horizontal part of about 100 feet going to a friendly neighbour's tree. I tuned the length to resonate in the lower part of the CW portion of 80 mtr. I can use it on 80, 40, 20, and 10 meters with an SWR well below 2:1.

I usually do use a manual antenna tuner (Matching Device) to get it down to less than 1.5:1. My homebuilt UNUN has a ratio of 14/2. The winding ratio is 7 so the impedance ratio is $7 \times 7 = 49$. It transforms my $50\ \Omega$ to $50 \times 49 = 2450\ \Omega$.

I have attached a picture of the winding counts to show that the transition winding from the left to the right of the toroid also counts as one (1) winding. With this UNUN it is winding #7.

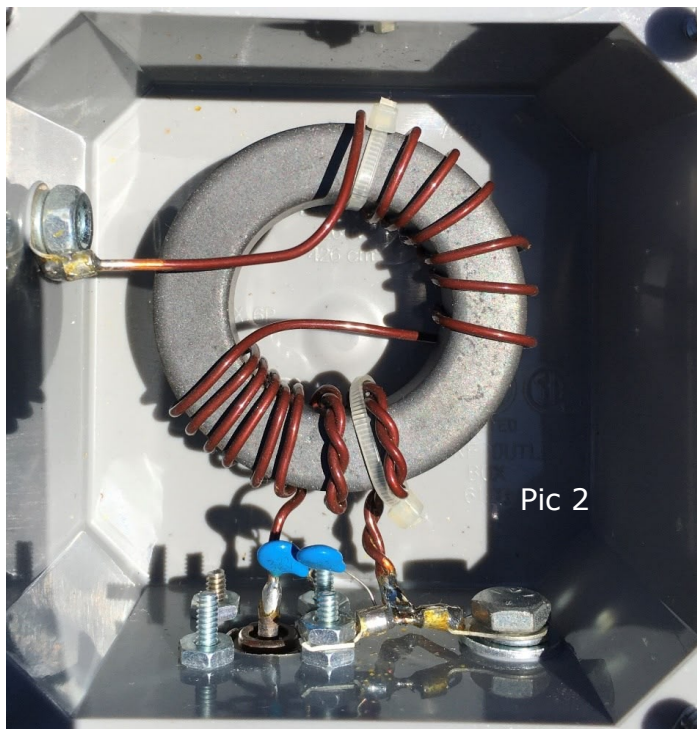


Pic 1

I'm interested to hear from anyone who built this UNUN how it works for you. I always twist the Primary and Secondary winding together to get a good coupling between them. See picture 2 of the UNUN that I built.

BTW, to Type the Ω character, press and hold down the Alt key and type 234. For the degree character $^\circ$ type Alt-248. To type the micro μ character type Alt-230

73, Tony VE3DWI.



GLOSSARY OF ENGINEERING TERMS

Percussive Realignment

(whack it with a hammer) PR

High Impedance Air-Gap

(unplugged) HIAG

Spontaneous Ionic Discharge

(sparks) SID

Cycle Input Bus Power

(turn off, then on) CIBP

Organic Grounding

(got shocked) OG

Thermal Digital Cauterization

(burned finger with soldering iron) TDC

Spontaneous Vapor Output

(let the magic smoke out) SVO

Thermal Reconfiguration

(it melted) TR

Spontaneous Kinetic Disassembly

(it blew up) SKD

Thanks to
Tony VE3DWI

International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend 2026

By Rob Noakes VE3PCP

Overall, our International Lighthouse Weekend at Point Clark Lighthouse activation was a great success.

I arrived just before 7:00 AM, and Paul (VE3PDC) from the Elmira club joined me shortly after to set up a 40M CW Parks on the Air (POTA) activation. Meanwhile, I focused on assembling our portable station equipment. By the 8:00 AM hour, the station was far enough along for me to check into ONTARS.



Rob VE3PCP and Paul VA3PDC



We wrapped up assembly by 9:00 AM and prepared to go on the air using a portable setup connected to RemoteHams.

Tugce (TA3TGC) logged in remotely to join us, but due to a technical glitch with her microphone audio, she unfortunately couldn't participate in the broadcast.

Once the livestream was running, I managed to make several contacts. We experienced occasional connection drops and audio chopping through the VPN system, but the connection remained stable enough to get the job done.

We set up with our Kenwood TS850 and an 80/40/20 Linked Dipole. The combination always works well for us and we used our portable generator as the power source.

Mid-morning brought more visitors. Bob (VE3IXX) and his wife Bonnie from the Elmira club arrived, followed by Kirk (VE3KXX) representing the GBARC club from Sauble Beach.

During their visit, I demonstrated FT8 mode by remotely operating our VY0IRC station and successfully logging a few contacts.

My son, Justin (VA3AQZ), was also on hand and provided invaluable help throughout the day.



Practically silent generator running the console inside the trailer.



Between solving the world's problems locally, Bob (VE3IXX) took a turn on the radio, logging contacts with a couple of POTA operations and other light-houses.

In total, we logged 8 contacts before packing up and hitting the road around 4:00 PM. As the afternoon sun turned quite blazing, we were incredibly grateful for the truck's air conditioning on the ride home!

Thanks to all involved.
Rob





From the PAST



A 20-minute QRP End-Fed Half-Wave antenna coupler

By John VA3KOT

It was almost time to make lunch but I had an idea that just wouldn't wait. I figured I had 20 minutes to zip down to the basement shack/development lab and throw a simple circuit together on the workbench. I had been re-reading (for the 1000th time) AA5TB's website about using a parallel tuned circuit to transform the high impedance of an End-Fed Half-Wave antenna down to 50 ohms. I had built a QRO version already but now I need a QRP version.

Why use a parallel tuned circuit coupler?

The objective was to avoid the use of very high impedance ratio transformers (e.g. 49:1). These transformers have received heavy criticism in online forums for numerous reasons that I won't go into here. An alternative that is often considered to be the best option is an L-network. According to Steve AA5TB, an L-network provides better bandwidth but less feedline isolation.

I do have a QRP tunable L-network coupler on the drawing board. It will use series toroidal inductors where each inductance can be shorted out using a toggle switch. A broad range of inductance values will be selectable in binary fashion by opening and closing the toggle switches. A polyvaricon will provide variable capacitance. It's a bit of a complicated and slow arrangement compared to the tuned circuit coupler where the only adjustment needed is the variable capacitance. So back to AA5TB's design.

In a rush (I was hungry) I dived into my component and junkie drawers, found a polyvaricon with a range of about 16-160pF, then a 2.7Kohm resistor and a BNC jack. But I still needed a coil. I have wound many coils over the years and they fill the graveyard drawer in my shack closet. I picked up one that looked like it might do the job, even though it's a scrappy, ugly beast. When I built it I used a small cutoff of the kind of plastic board that realtors use for their "For Sale" signs. I wound 19 turns of thin solid core telephone wire around it. The winding measured 4 microhenries on my Almost All Digital Electronics L/C meter IIB.

The coil still needed a secondary winding so I wound 3 turns of the same wire over the center of the primary and connected the ends to the BNC jack. The primary winding and the 2.7Kohm resistor (simulating the impedance of the EFHW) were connected in parallel with the polyvaricon. I didn't really expect this rushed, kluge matching circuit to work but it was a first step. I could improve the coil later once I had the initial measurements.

I love it when a project just works!

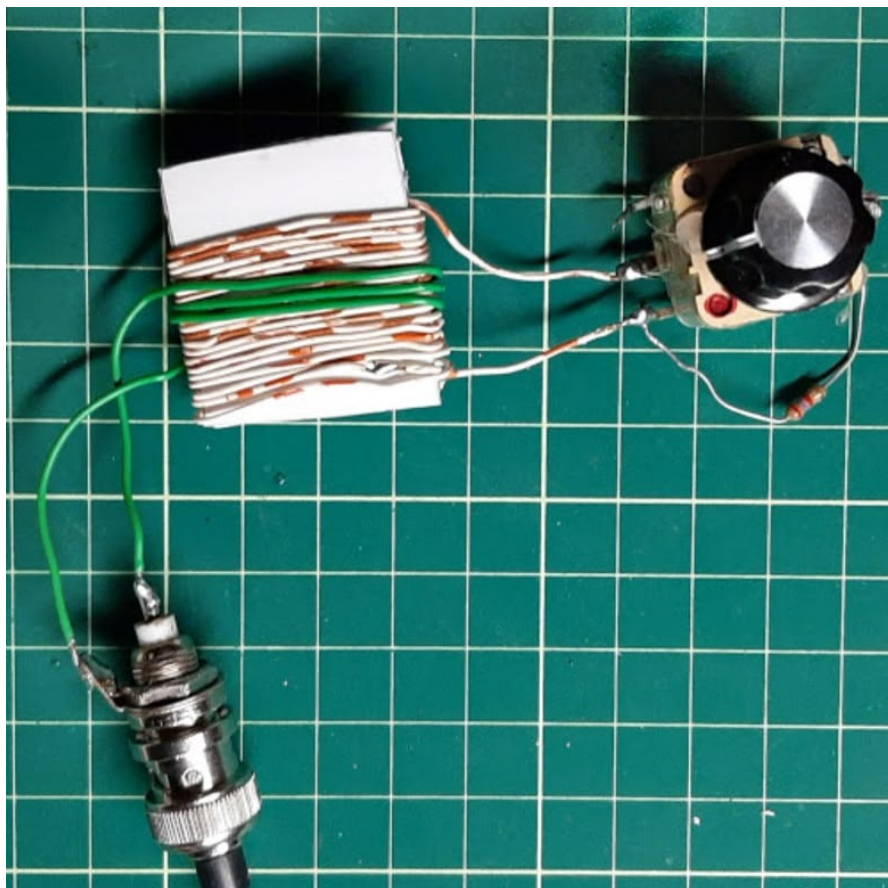
I hooked the ugly bench project up to my RigExpert AA-55 Zoom antenna analyzer and performed a quick SWR measurement on 40m, 30m, 20m, 17m, 15m, 12m and 10m. On each band the SWR could be adjusted to 1.5:1 or less. The polyvaricon does not allow very fine adjustment so tuning is a little touchy. Feeling lucky I also checked 80m – well maybe that was over-optimistic, so no joy there.

Next, I checked for resonance on each band by looking at the R and X measurements on the analyzer. Sure enough I could get resonance (i.e. X=0) on 40m, 30m and 20m. I could not tune X down to zero on the higher bands but came pretty close.

N.B. I am not implying that a single end-fed wire can be used on all bands from 40-10m using this coupler. An EFHW antenna may be tunable on multiple bands but its radiation pattern becomes distorted on its 3rd and higher harmonics. Low SWR does not indicate the antenna is useful on other than its fundamental frequency and its 2nd harmonic.

Gone to the dogs

I have placed an order for quite a lot of toroid cores from Kits and Parts. When my order makes its way through the United States Postal Service and over the border, Canada Post will take charge of it and load it onto a dog sled. It will then be hauled through the frozen barren tundra, crossing multiple time zones and finally end up at my door. No doubt the "postie" will ring my bell and seek payment of further taxes before handing over the package. When that happy day arrives – assuming the dog sled isn't ambushed by hungry polar bears en route – I will replace the coil with a much nicer one wound on a type-2 powdered iron toroid.



You heard the expression "looks like a million dollars"? Well this looks like a single solitary buck – but it works!

Times are hard, so I'm a scavenger

It would be nice if I could find another polyvaricon to wire in parallel with the main one. A lower capacitance device would allow me to make both coarse and fine tuning adjustments. I tear apart old AM/FM radios to scavenge the components so there may be just the part I need sitting in the junk drawer already.

And, of course, the project will get a nice enclosure to make it look nice and protect it against the bumps and grinds it will incur during my back country ham radio missions.

Finally, when the second consecutive Arctic weather season is finally over and I can get outside without wearing parka, mukluks and snowshoes, I will hook up various wires to what I hope will be the finished product. I have prepared a 40m half-wave wire already. It has links for 30m and 20m so it can be used on its fundamental frequency on each of those three bands. And, of course, a 0.05 wavelength counterpoise too.

How to look simply radiant

If the counterpoise is omitted the antenna may still "tune" but the coax becomes the counterpoise and will radiate. Since a lot of portable operators, like myself, like to directly connect the coupler to the radio (or via a very short coax) the operator becomes the counterpoise and will radiate. That thought is perhaps the ultimate endorsement for QRP!

Elmira Radio Club VE3ERC Annual General Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 23, 2026

VENUE • Elmira Fire Hall – 44 Howard Ave, Elmira, Ontario

• Google Meet Link – if you are unable to make it in person, here is the Google Meet link to join in online: <https://meet.google.com/sgg-jidw-vur>

Minutes

7:00pm Virtual Eyeball QSO – Setup, Social time & Coffee

7:30pm

1. Meeting Call to Order - Welcome - John VA3PT - John opened the meeting at 7:30pm

with a welcome and thanks to Frank VA3FJM for his two years of service as President.

2. **Roll Call & Quorum** • Rod VA3MZD - In attendance were: Bob VA3WXW, Jay VE3CMN (OL), Andy Burgess, Rich VE3DCC, Paul VA3PDC, Hagen VE3QVY, Bob VE3IXX, Simon VA3KOE, Tony VE3DWI, John VA3PT, Mark VA3AZH, Rod VA3MZD, Elizabeth VE3YNN, Ted VE3TRQ, John VE3JXX, Mike VE3FE, Alister VE3XAW, Brian VA3DXK, 19/51 Members. Quorum established. Guests: Mike VE3GW. Bob VE3IXX's family Marc VE3VMK (Simon's dad), Jonathan VE3SJM, Isaac VE3IJK, guests: Jackie VA3JZM, Brian VE3NXX, Brendan VA3BVB, John VE3JWV, Joshua VA3JWU, plus children.

3. **Adopt Agenda** - Rod VA3MZD • Motion to adopt Agenda of June meeting - Mark

VA3AZH moved, Paul VA3PDC 2nd- Carried .

4. **Presentations/Speakers/Workshop** • Presentation - Show and Tell - Hagen VE3QVY. 1) Hagen VE3QVY - Board soldering machine. 2) Bob VE3IXX - homemade Morse Key. 3) Rod MZD - Greyline FT8 iOS FT8/FT4 App, Jon KB0RB the programmer has volunteered to present online at a future meeting 4) Mark - A Home made Theremin

5. **Secretary's Report** • Rod VA3MZD - Motion to accept Minutes of June Meeting. Rod

VA3MZD moved. Hagen VE3QVY 2nd. Carried.

6. **Treasurer's Report** • Ted VE3TRQ - Monthly Financial Reports - Motion to accept Treasurer's Report - Summer Expenses June to September highlighted, including Field Day food. Ted VA3TRQ moved Club to pay Tony VE3DWI for Repeater repair expenses. Mike VE3FE 2nd. Carried. Ted VA3TRQ moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Hagen 2nd. Carried.

7. **President's Report** • John VA3PT - John mentioned the successful Field Day in June, including the quantity and quality of the



Mark's VA3AZH home made Theremin

food provided by Hagen VE3QVY. He mentioned ideas for the coming year including a Fox Hunt. He requested members bring new ideas forward to the President.

8. Committee Reports

- **Repeater Technical Committee** Tony VE3DWI/Ted VE3TRQ - DMR Repeater - Tony VE3DWI - Yaesu Repeater - Identified issues with the UHF Repeater so it was removed for troubleshooting. The UHF repeater then stopped working so a Cable was replaced. UHF Repeater taken out and reset. The VHF Repeater was also cleaned up. A Connector was replaced with good results. The UHF repeater became inoperative again. It's too expensive to send back to Yaesu for repair, the cost is prohibitive. There's currently a Club purchase replacement program from Yaesu. Tony VA3DWI suggested the Club move EFH to ERC Feed Mill and replace ERC UHF. Tony VA3DWI moved that

a new repeater be purchased under the Club purchase plan. Hagen VE3QVY seconded. Discussion. Carried.

Ted DMR Repeater - TET Wires X. DMR Repeater now in Alma VE3EUC is 444.5375. Time Slot 1 = Local. Time Slot 2 = International. Also Analog FM 131.8 (tone squelch).

- **EMCOMMS Group** - John VE3JXX - Grant application update: Elizabeth VE3YNN- Grant decision could come in January. John VE3JXX reported that the trailer business that we were planning to buy from has closed. John VA3PT presented John VE3IXX with a \$2000 donation for the trailer from a local business, Elmira Pet Foods. The \$\$ will be kept in the Club account and earmarked for the trailer purchase.

- **Field Day Report** - Paul VA3PDC - 8 stations operated and the food was excellent! Special thanks to Wally, the owner of the abandoned field trip for use of the location. We had a number of visitors this year. A great success!

- **Lighthouse Weekend Report** - Paul VA3PDC - Paul VA3PDC met Rob VE3BCP from Inverhuron Radio Club VE3IHR at Pt Clark Lighthouse Historic Site on Lake Huron. Contacts were made with other Lighthouses. Bob VE3IXX also attended.

- **Youth** - Stewart - VE3HWS - absent - Simon VA3KOE has restarted the Friday Youth Net with 4 participants.

- **Net Control Roster** - Hagen VE3QVY - Club Morning Net daily and Wednesday evening needs a few more Net Controllers. Those interested in Net Controller are encouraged to contact Hagen VE3QVY.

- Other?

9. Unfinished Business

- Club Website - Hagen VE3QVY and Ted VE3TRQ - Hagen VE3QVY reported that a fresh look and new content is being developed. More to come. Jinny will be assisting. Ted VE3TRQ mentioned that the site is to be moved to a Canadian provider.

-

10. New Business

- Other - Christmas Luncheon - reservation at Harvest Moon to be made

11. Announcements • Next meeting: Wednesday, October 28, 2026 7:30pm - Presentation: Tony and Hagen - Testing transceivers with Service Monitors etc

- **Wires-X Net** - Tomorrow! 4th Thursday of the month - Thursday, September 24, 2024 @8pm - Net Control - Rod VA3MZD

• **November Presentation** - Ted VE3TRQ - DMR Repeater -

- **Special Announcement** - Simon VA3KOE announced that Bob VE3IXX had his 50th anniversary of being a licensed Ham in June. Many of Bob's family were in attendance and brought treats to share at the conclusion of the meeting.

12. **Adjournment** • John VA3PT - John adjourned the meeting at 8:47 pm



Extra Guests.

CORRESPONDENCE

Ted VE3TRQ sent the following information regarding the historic Grimeton Radio Station in Sweden. A little historic background precedes Ted's material.

Grimeton Radio Station in southern Sweden, close to Varberg in Halland, is an early longwave transatlantic wireless telegraphy station built in 1922–1924, that has been preserved as an historical site.

Beginning in the 1920s, it was used for wireless communications to North America and other countries, and during World War II was one of Sweden's few telecommunication links to the rest of the world. It is home to the only remaining example of an early pre-electronic radio transmitter technology called an Alexanderson alternator. It was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2004, with the statement: "Grimeton Radio Station, Varberg is an exceptionally well preserved example of a type of telecommunication centre, representing the technological achievements by the early 1920s, as well as documenting the further development over some three decades."

The radio station is also an anchor site for the European Route of Industrial Heritage.[2] The transmitter is still in operational condition, and each year on a day called Alexanderson Day is started up and transmits brief Morse code test transmissions, which can be received all over Europe.

On UN-Day, *October 24th, 2026*, SAQ is scheduled* to spread a peace message to the World on 17.2 kHz CW.

Program and transmission schedule:

10:00 CEST (08:00 UTC): The visitor center and radio station is opened for visitors.

See [grimeton.org](https://us.list-manage.com/1ARhBjSwv0I?e=6fc3f374fb&c2id=ff63f2623a90f7f7b6019aef246a6c0b) <<https://us.list-manage.com/1ARhBjSwv0I?e=6fc3f374fb&c2id=ff63f2623a90f7f7b6019aef246a6c0b>> for more info.

Transmission & YouTube Live stream:

14:20 CEST (12:20 UTC): Live stream

<<https://us.list-manage.com/tqvQYEVHIGX?e=6fc3f374fb&c2id=ff63f2623a90f7f7b6019aef246a6c0b>> on YouTube be-

gins with a technical walk-through of SAQ.

14:30 CEST (12:30 UTC): Startup and tuning of the Alexanderson Alternator SAQ.

14:45 CEST (12:45 UTC) *SAQ in the air* "/VVV VVV VVV de SAQ SAQ SAQ/" (approx. time)

15:00 CEST (13:00 UTC): Transmission of a peace message from SAQ.

Live Video from World Heritage Grimeton Station

The transmission event can be seen *live* on our YouTube Channel <https://us.list-manage.com/1B3lfUq8aZm?e=6fc3f374fb&c2id=ff63f2623a90f7f7b6019acf246a6c0b> or by following the link below.

<https://us.list-manage.com/EXIbSsDSfFL?e=6fc3f374fb&c2id=ff63f2623a90f7f7b6019acf246a6c0b>

Live video from World Heritage Grimeton Radio Station is scheduled at 14:20 CET(12:20 UTC), Oct 24th, 2026.

Check out the trailer here!

<https://us.list-manage.com/BupxAQvnLVu?e=6fc3f374fb&c2id=ff63f2623a90f7f7b6019acf246a6c0b>

Test Transmissions

We are planning to carry out some test transmissions on Friday, October 23rd, 13:00 – 16:00 CEST (11:00 -14:00 UTC). SAQ will be on the air shorter periods of time during this interval, when we will be carrying out tuning, tests and measurements.

Your comments are welcome to info@alexander.n.se.

QSL Reports to SAQ

Your QSL reports to SAQ are, as usual, most welcome and much appreciated!

For _guaranteed_ E-QSL from us,
please report using our
ONLINE QSL FORM

https://us.list-manage.com/dRG2hv2_nzw?e=6fc3f374fb&c2id=ff63f2623a90f7f7b6019acf246a6c0b.

We can not guarantee that reports by Email / mail / bureau will be confirmed.
The online form will be open from October 24th, 2026 until November 22nd, 2026.

Amateur Radio Station SK6SAQ

The Amateur Radio Station with the call "*SK6SAQ*" will be QRV during the day on the following frequencies:

- 3 517.2 kHz CW
- 7 017.2 kHz CW
- 14 017.2 KHz CW
- 3 755 kHz SSB
- 7 140 kHz SSB

QSL-reports to SK6SAQ*(NOT SAQ)* are kindly received via:

- Email to info@alexander.n.se
- or via: SM bureau
- or direct by postal mail (link to address here

<https://us.list-manage.com/12Xy1T8AocA?e=6fc3f374fb&c2id=ff63f2623a90f7f7b6019acf246a6c0b>)

Two stations will be on the air most of the time.

As well, Tony VE3DWI sent the following interesting data regarding Canadian call signs:

*	VE0 call signs are only intended for use when the amateur radio station is operated from a vessel that makes international voyages. First assigned in 1954, Canada is the only country to assign a special prefix to operators on its ships in international waters. ^[14] None of the operators reside at sea, but have residence within one of the other call-sign areas.
**	Industry Canada lists five (5) call signs with VY9 prefix issued to individuals related to that government department. These individuals reside in or near Ottawa, as well as Sherbrooke, Quebec, and Fort Smith, NWT. ^[15]
***	Sable Is. and St-Paul Is. are assigned separate call sign prefixes by virtue of being directly under the authority of the federal government of Canada. They are respectively DXCC entities #211 & #252. St.-Paul Is. used to be covered by the VY9 prefix and Sable Is. used to use VX9 (which is now used by experimental stations).
	Note: calls issued do not reflect the actual number of amateurs in a call area – some amateur operators have more than one call sign, and due to lag in reporting changes some might currently be issued to an operator living in another call sign area

Prefixes	Province/Territory	ITU Region	ITU Zone	CQ Zone	# within prefix issued ^{[10][11]}	# amateurs ^[12]
VE1 VA1	Nova Scotia	2	9	5	2,986	2,536
VE2 VA2	Quebec	2	4, 9	2, 5	17,031	16,975
VE3 VA3	Ontario	2	3, 4	2, 4, 5	20,623	20,752
VE4 VA4	Manitoba	2	3	4	1,844	1,810
VE5 VA5	Saskatchewan	2	3	4	1,465	1,452
VE6 VA6	Alberta	2	2	4	5,942	5,967
VE7 VA7	British Columbia	2	2	3	13,836	14,130
VE8	Northwest Territories	2	2, 3	1	113	73
VE9	New Brunswick	2	9	5	1,447	1,853
VE0*	International Waters				582	0*
VO1	Newfoundland	2	9	5	1,260	1,242
VO2	Labrador	2	9	2	179	66
VY1	Yukon	2	2	1	186	172
VY2	Prince Edward Island	2	9	5	273	335
VY9**	Government of Canada				5	
VY0	Nunavut	2	3, 4	2	37	19
CY0***	Sable Is. ^[13]	2	9	5	0	0
CY9***	St-Paul Is. ^[13]	2	9	5	0	0
	Overseas addresses					29

Al McDonald (VA3TET-sk) Funny Story

By Paul V. Birke PEng

Al's secret 160m rotatable beam antenna

Al told me a great story of a prank he played on a fellow amateur in the USA. (BTW Al hated the use of the word "ham" favouring amateur radio operator!)

Al was operating with ~ 100 watts but had a linear amplifier handy.

After making contact, the ham said Al's signal was just over the noise-a bit low for a good copy.

Sharp Al said the following to this fellow:

" Just hold on a bit while I swing my 160m 3-element beam your way !! "

Al quickly flipped on the linear to lowest setting while the tubes warmed up

After about 30 seconds Al started talking to the ham while he slowly but continually turned up the power on the linear, a delta from 100 to 600 watts.

It was one of the funniest stories Al told to me, but taught me a lot about Al.

Sharp, smart, quick witted and always ready for a joke, Al and I had a ball together at most meetings !! and yes a great cook, always made me fresh coffee from beans when we were together for "Poynting Vector Antenna talks and development of related ideas. Al introduced the PVA to the Elmira Club in 2002 !!

I sorely miss him.

Paul Victor BIRKE VE3PVB

The Answer to

Whose Shack is it?

1. Bob VE3IXX—Shack B
2. Jay VE3CMN—Shack A
3. Tony VE3DWI—Shack C