



THE ISLAND BEACON

CHARLOTTETOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the **March 2026** edition of the [Charlottetown Amateur Radio Club](#) Newsletter! We'll try to keep you up-to-date with what's happening this month and any future events we're planning or are aware of. This newsletter is automatically distributed to club members, prospective future students who have reached out to us in the last year, and other interested amateur operators in the region. If you do not wish to receive these monthly newsletters, let us know and we can remove you from our distribution list. Alternatively, if you are not included on the mailing list, but would like to receive a copy of our newsletter, please reach out to our secretary.

March 2026 Club Meeting - Tuesday night March 3rd, Stratford Town Centre

Astronomically, this should be the last month of winter. If that's not exciting, I don't know what is! 😊 This month's club meeting will be held Tuesday, March 3rd, at the Stratford Town Centre. Start time: 7:00 P.M. As always, everyone is welcome to attend, not just club members. If you're a licensed radio operator and would like to become a member, or you're perhaps interested in becoming licensed and would like to find out more about us and the hobby, then please come and join us. We would love to meet you. For anyone who would like to become a member, membership dues are \$30 for those who are not currently members of the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC). For RAC members, it's \$20 for the year. Our students and graduates from the Fall 2025 class are automatically members of the club for 2026. Our meetings run from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. (1900–2100) in the Southport room at the Stratford Town Centre on Shakespeare Drive. Alongside monthly club reports we usually enjoy an information exchange.

Clock Change - Spring Forward One Hour - March 8th 🕒

It's that time of year again (thankfully!) when the clocks spring forward one hour, ready for the longer, warmer evenings. The jump will take place Sunday, March 8th, 2026, at 2:00 A.M.

Bouvet Island DX-Pedition, 3Y0K

The DX teams are assembling at the island now and plan to operate for about three weeks. Bouvet is the most isolated uninhabited island in the world and is very high on the DXCC most wanted list. The web site is at <https://3y0k.com/> and gives lots of operating tips, as well as requests for donation to this \$1.7 million effort.

WIARC Spring Flea Market (Hamfest) – March 7th, 2026, Montreal, QC

The West Island Amateur Radio Club (WIARC) hosts its annual Spring Flea Market on Saturday, March 7th, in Pointe-Claire (Montreal). This well-attended hamfest features vendors, used equipment tables, components, antennas, and opportunities to meet operators from

across Quebec and Ontario. Event details can be found on their website at this link:
<https://wiarc.ca/events-archive/spring-2026-wiarc-flea-market/?occurrence=2026-03-07>.

Spring 2026 Basic Licensing Course – Summerside ARC – Begins March 23rd, 2026

The Summerside Amateur Radio Club is offering another Basic Licensing Course starting on Monday, March 23rd, and running for 8 weeks until Monday, May 11th. Classes will be held in person in Summerside twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays from 7:00-09:00 P.M. For more information and to put your name on the list, click here:

<http://www.summersidearc.com/index.php/2026/02/16/spring-radio-licensing-course-2026/>

Contest Calendar - March

[NSARA Contest](#) – 1200Z-1600Z, Mar 1 and 1800Z-2200Z, Mar 1, 2026

[ARRL International DX Contest \(SSB\)](#) – 0000Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8, 2026

[North American Sprint, RTTY](#) – 0000Z-0359Z, Mar 15, 2026

[CQ WPX SSB Contest](#) – 0000Z, Mar 28 to 2359Z, Mar 29, 2026

Also check out <https://contestcalendar.com> for other contests.

Meetings and Events Calendar - March

2: 2M Simplex net, at 8:00 P.M. (2000) on 146.550 MHz, hosted by Joel, VY2KW (to be confirmed)

3: CARC Monthly club meeting (in Stratford)

4, 11, 18, 25: Wednesday night 2M net at 8:00 P.M. (2000) on the VE1CRA repeater(s)

5, 12, 19, 26: Thursday night HF nets, on 3727 LSB (+/- QRM) at 7:00 P.M. (1900)

7, 14, 21, 28: Virtual Breakfast 2M nets, 8:00 A.M. (800) on the VE1CRA repeater(s)

7, 14, 21, 28: Actual real life breakfast at Sam's Restaurant in Charlottetown (121 St. Peters Rd), ~8:00 A.M. (800)

11: SPARC Monthly club meeting (in Summerside at 7:00 P.M.)

Future Events:

April 4, 2026 – [Iroquois ARC Hamfest & Flea Market, Cardinal, ON](#)

April 18, 2026 – [World Amateur Radio Day](#)

April 18, 2026 – [Durham Hamfest, Pickering, ON](#)

April 18–19, 2026 – [Ontario QSO Party](#)

April 25, 2026 – [CRALL Hamfest 2026, St-Eustache \(Montreal\), QC](#)

June 6, 2026 – [Atlantic Canada QSO Party](#)

June 28–29, 2026 – [ARRL Field Day](#)

July 11–12, 2026 – [IARU HF World Championship](#)

September 12, 2026 - [Ottawa \(Carp\) 2026 Hamfest](#)

Help Us Out! Do you have something you would like to contribute to this newsletter? Find us over on the club's Discord server under #newsletter, or drop us an email at secretary@charlottetownarc.com.