



THE ISLAND BEACON

CHARLOTTETOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the **May 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.

May 2026 Club Meeting - Tuesday night May 5th, Stratford Town Centre

This month's club meeting will be held Tuesday, May 5th, 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.

[SMART 2026](#) - May 2nd, Springhill, NS

SMART 26 is happening this Saturday. Doors to the public open at 8:00 A.M. Volunteers and vendors can enter from 7:00 A.M. There will be a meet and greet this evening, Friday, May 1st, at the Old Train Station in Amherst, NS, from 7:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. Check out their website for more details: <https://www.smartevent.ca/>

[Rideau Lakes Hamfest](#) - May 2nd, Smiths Falls, ON

For anyone who might be in the area, the Rideau Lakes Hamfest includes a canteen, consignment table, and equipment testing facilities. There will also be an examiner present to administer exams for Basic, Advanced and Morse qualifications. Doors open at 8:00 A.M. for buyers and 7:00 A.M. for vendors. Admission is \$5, tables are \$15 each.

[Hamfest du Quebec a Sorel-Tracy - May 31st, Sorel-Tracy, QC](#)

This event is open to the public from 9:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M., but you can stay until 16:00 A.M. Vendors can enter from 6:00 A.M. onwards to set up. Admission is \$10; tables are an additional \$10.

Contest Calendar - May

[New England QSO Party](#) – 2000Z, May 2 to 0500Z, May 3 and 1300Z-2400Z, May 3, 2026

[ARI International DX Contest](#) – 1200Z, May 2 to 1159Z, May 3, 2026

[Canadian Prairies QSO Party](#) – 1700Z, Saturday, May 9 to 0300Z Sunday May 10, 2026

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

Meetings and Events Calendar - May

4: 2M Simplex net, at 8:00 P.M. (2000) on 146.550 MHz, hosted by Joel, VY2KW (to be confirmed)

5: CARC Monthly club meeting (in Stratford)

6, 13, 20, 27: Wednesday night 2M net at 8:00 P.M. (2000) on the VE1CRA repeater(s)

7, 14, 21, 28: Thursday night HF nets, on 3727 LSB (+/- QRM) at 8:00 P.M. (2000)

2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Virtual Breakfast 2M nets, 8:00 A.M. (800) on the VE1CRA repeater(s)

2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Actual real life breakfast at Sam's Restaurant in Charlottetown (121 St. Peters Rd), ~8:00 A.M. (800)

Future Events:

June 6, 2026: [Halifax Flea Market](#)

Location: The Royal Canadian Legion, 2234 Rocky Lake Drive, Waverley, NS

Time: Sellers may set up after 8 AM – Buyers allowed in after 10 AM

General Admission – \$5.00

Seller Tables: \$10.00 for a 3' X 6' selling space - 46 available, 23 with power. The Tables will be covered with paper which will be supplied by the Club. Tables reservations are going quickly. To reserve yours please contact Ken VE1PDL, kaspsey@icloud.com or call/text 902-471-6443.

June 6, 2026: [Kemptville Hamfest & Flea Market](#) (near Ottawa, ON)

June 7, 2026 – [Atlantic Canada QSO Party](#)

June 20, 2026: [ARRL Kids Day](#)

June 28–29, 2026: [ARRL Field Day](#)

July 1: [RAC Canada Day Contest](#)

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

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

October 16-17, 2026: NEAR-Fest XL (Fall Edition) (tentative)

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.