

SS Keewatin

Great Lakes Museum, Kingston ON

Amateur Radio Station VA3VGC

Photo Gallery



ARRIVING
IN KINGSTON
OCTOBER
26TH



GREAT LAKES
MUSEUM

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**SS Keewatin arriving at her new retirement home
Great Lakes Museum, Kingston ON**

26 October 2024



Photo by Ron Walsh, VE3GO

Contributors to VA3VGC Radio Station onboard SS Keewatin

Pieter Johannes Kooiman VE3NXE

A Proven Pedigree in Performance
The TS-590SG

HF/50MHz TRANSCEIVER
TS-590SG



Additional Contributors to this Station...

'Friends of Keewatin', Port McNicoll ON
Ron Walsh, VE3GO (Current Custodian of the VA3VGC callsign)
Rick Reeve VE3ORY, Tom Fischer VE3TEF, Bert Walsh VE3KBW
Greg Foster VE3PJ

The Boat Deck Radio Shack on arrival at Great Lakes Museum



The HF station donated by Pieter Kooiman, VE3NXE

Kenwood TS-590 SG, all mode HF transceiver
100 watts covering all amateur bands from 1.6 MHz to 50 MHz

A Proven Pedigree in Performance
The TS-590SG

HF/50MHz TRANSCEIVER
TS-590SG



Pieter Johannes Kooiman, VE3NXE

Royal Dutch Navy and Merchant Marine Radio Officer



Photo of an early CPR Telegraph Station for comparison

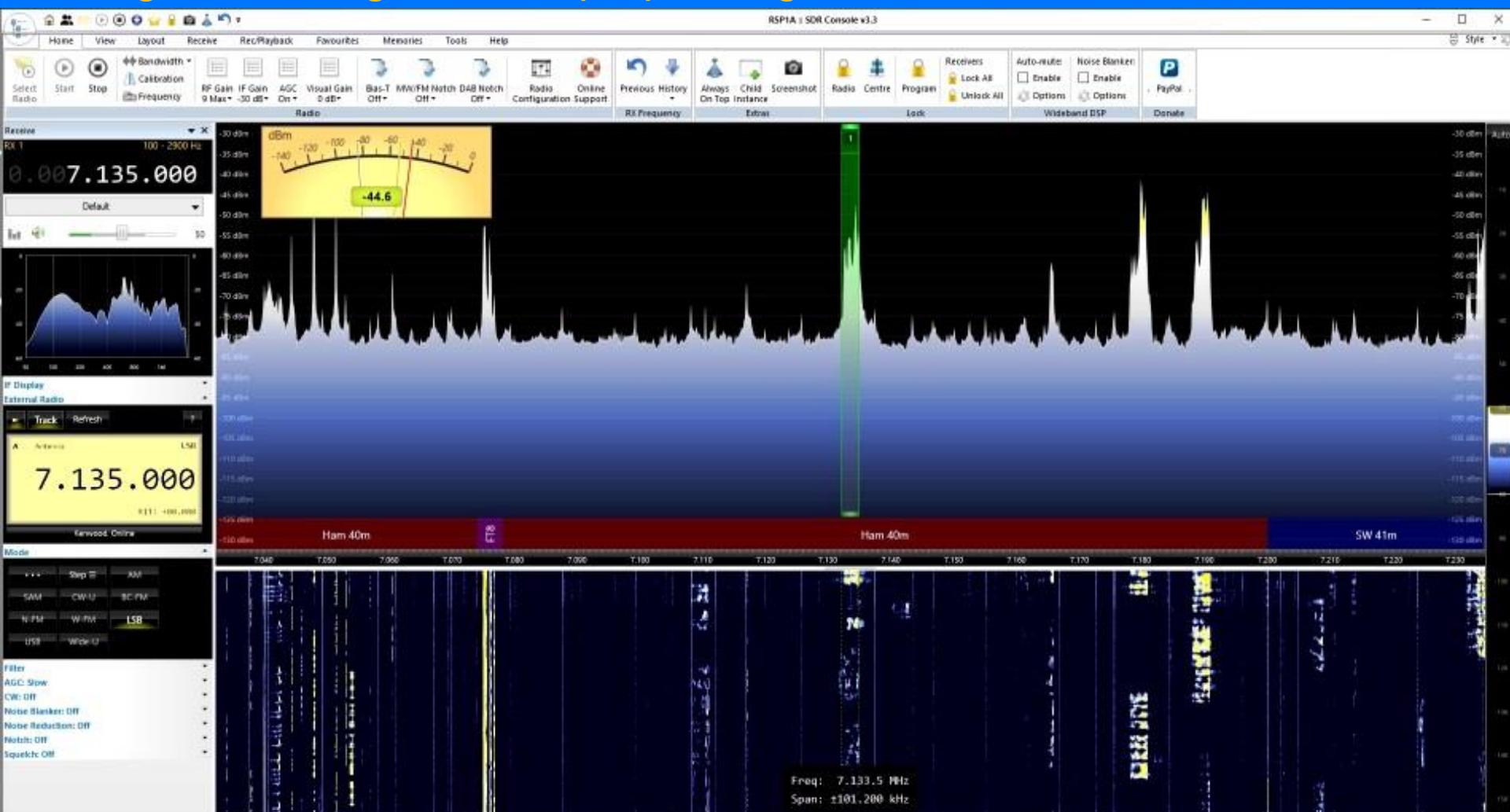


The current VA3VGC station being set up in the Boat Deck Radio Shack

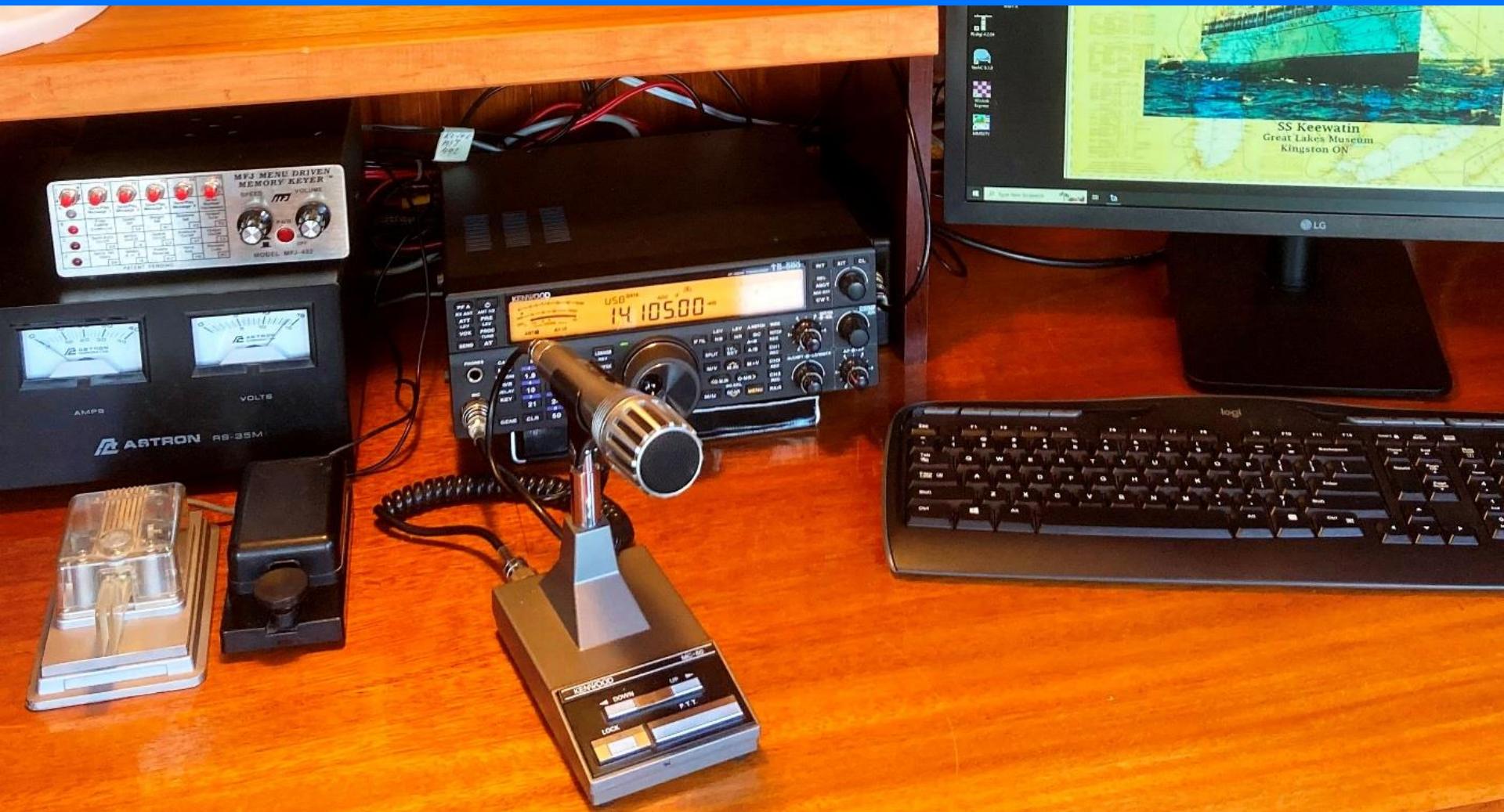


An 'SDR Play' RSP-1A software defined radio (also donated by Pieter, VE3NXE) along with 'SDR Console' software installed and configured to provide a pan-adaptor display of signals being received on the 40 meter amateur band.

The VA3VGC station computer communicates in full duplex mode with the TS-590SG radio via a PC COM port interface, providing computer control of the radio and tracking of signals that it is receiving...showing (L to R on the waterfall display) Morse Code (CW) signals / DATA mode signals / and Single Sideband (SSB) voice signals.



Morse (CW), Voice, and DATA mode capability at VA3VGC



The HF antenna... built and donated by Rick, VE3ORY



- 80 meter Off-Center Fed Dipole (OCF)
- Covering HF amateur bands from 3.5 MHz to 28 MHz
- Overall length 150 feet, and the active portion 132 feet between end insulators, with the fed line at 20% offset.
- Fed with a 4:1 impedance matching transformer by 'Balun Designs' and RG-213 high-flex coax by 'ABR Industries'

Hardware for the forward end of the HF antenna installed on Keewatin's forward mast



Hardware for the aft end of the HF antenna being installed on Keewatin's funnel



Feed Point for the HF antenna hoisted into place



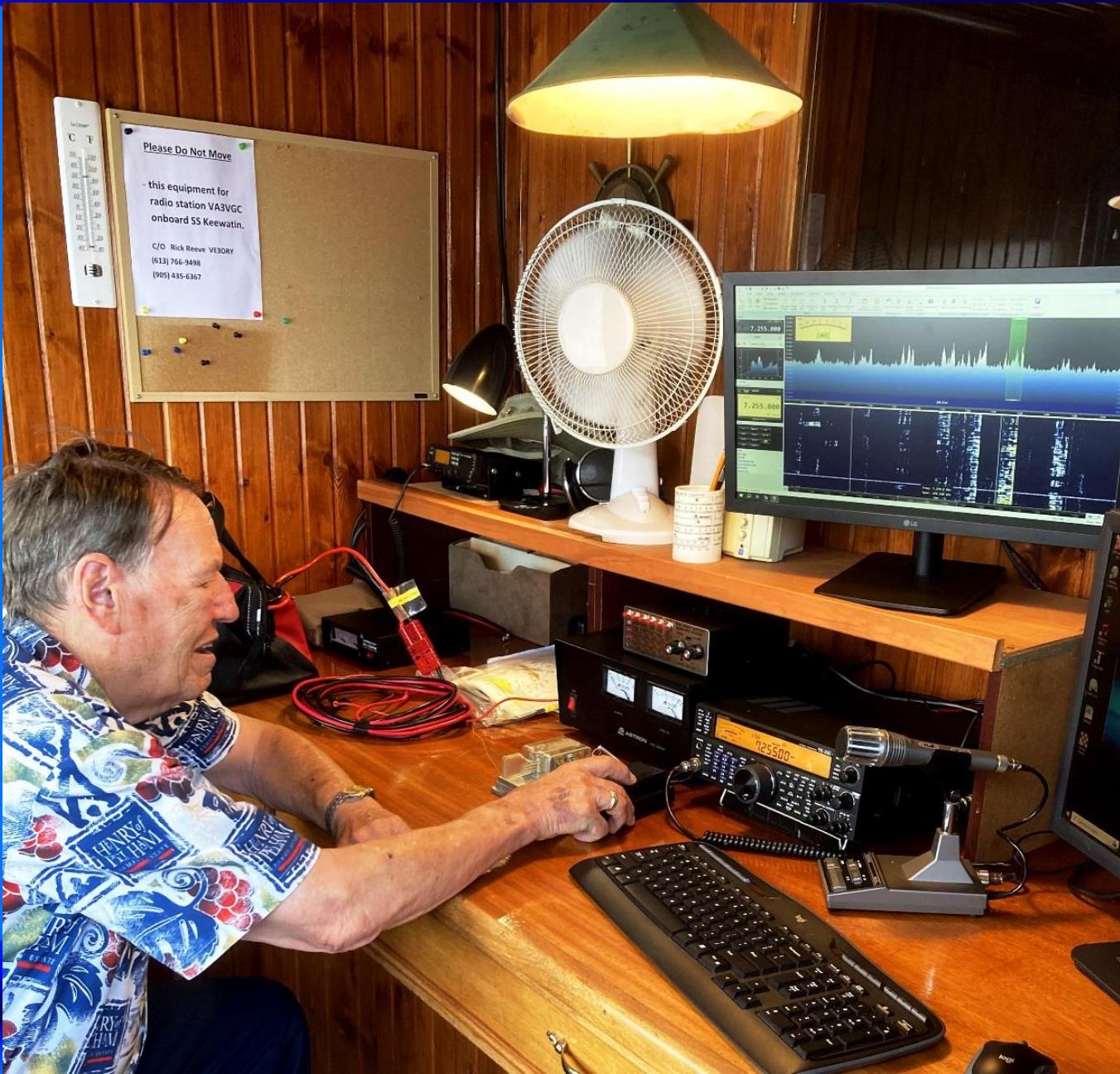
The HF antenna now in place between Keewatin's funnel and her forward mast



Diamond X50A UHF / VHF antenna installed for amateur 144 MHz communication



Pieter VE3NXE, checking operation of his donated HF radio, now in operation as VA3VGC onboard SS Keewatin



A beautiful old RME 'Electro -Voice' model 4350 dual conversion / all tube / amateur band communications receiver found in one of the aft storage rooms onboard SS Keewatin...old and newest radios now on display in the VA3VGC station.



Radio station call signs

- Current amateur station call sign VA3VGC issued for SS Keewatin
- VGMC Marine Radio call sign issued to SS Keewatin (originally VGC)
- and VGKX Marine Radio call sign issued to Keewatin's sister ship SS Assiniboia



VA3VGC

VGMC
S.S. Keewatin

VGKX
S.S. Assiniboia





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