

marcOgram

Official Publication of The Montreal Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Box 53047 - RPO Dorval, Dorval Quebec H9S 5W4



Volume 47, Number 2

October 2001

“MONTREAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB ANNUAL MEETING”

Wednesday 31 October 2001

Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30

Club meeting: 20:00

St. Thomas Anglican Church, Corner Somerled and Rosedale
(Please use side entrance off Rosedale)

The October meeting will be the Annual General Meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. The details were published in last month's Marcogram and are also on page seven, inside this month's Marcogram. As this is Halloween night, do your Trick or Treating early so you will have time to make the meeting. This is an important meeting which you are encouraged to attend. Please remember that in order to participate you must be a paid up member of the M.A.R.C.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello,

Fall is upon us which means that not only is winter approaching but that the Annual General Meeting is this month. This is the time for the club to take stock and the members to choose the new directors and offer some guidance in the management of our club. The coming year will also see the seventieth anniversary of the club and the director will be planning a dinner to mark the occasion. While there is some pessimism regarding the future of Amateur Radio I continue to have confidence that not only can the club look forward to the next seventy years but that Amateur Radio will continue. While perhaps not the brave new frontier that it once was radio

continues to fascinate people. How do we talk without wires? There are new ways of practicing the art and while the modern ham may not be at the leading edge of technology he still has skills which are useful and valuable in the community.

By the time of the meeting we will be well on the way to seeing the activation of the HF station of the MAB in its new location and also the Red Cross station will be operational. At the meeting we will be reminding you that the MAB will be needing assistance for the November Sweepstakes contest so please let me know if you can help or contact Earl Paris, VE2ESP.

This month's is an important meeting so please show your support and offer your guidance to your club. While the present Board of Directors will be standing for

another term there are two open positions for director if you would like to help out. You will find it a rewarding experience.

73 de Jim, VE2VE
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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Thanks go out to our President, Jim Hay for his work preparing last month's Marcogram. Things have been hectic for me on many fronts lately and Jim's efforts are much appreciated.

This month's meeting is our club's annual meeting so I hope you will be come out and participate.

And a reminder. It is now the time to return your membership form and dues for the upcoming year if you have not already done so. Thank-you to those who have already renewed.

73 de Craig, VE2YGK
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CORRECTION

Oops! - In the September issue of the MarcOgram a picture caption appeared incorrectly identifying the subject as Steven Donovan, VE2OCT, when in fact it was Mitchell Herf, VE2BAB. I apologize to all for any inconvenience or confusion which this misattribution may have caused. Simply put I failed to verify the subject matter of the photo for which I sincerely apologize.

73 de Jim, VE2VE
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CONTEST CALENDAR

More on contests including full rules can be found on the internet. Check:

<http://home.sol.no/~janalme/hammain.html>

or

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Montreal 911 Centre 514-280-2121
Laval 911 Centre450-662-4240
Longueuil 911 Centre450-646-8570
Sûreté du Québec 310-4141
Kahnawake Peace Keepers 450-632-6505

These numbers are for emergencies ONLY

This one has concise rules etc., for the current week's contests.

October 2001

CQ World-Wide DX Contest,SSB 0000Z Oct 27-2400Z Oct 28

November 2000

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW 2100Z Nov 03 - 0300Z Nov 03
Japan Int. DX Contest, Phone 2300Z Nov 09 - 2300Z Nov 11
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB 2100Z Nov 17 - 0300Z Nov 19
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW 0000Z Nov 24 - 2400Z Nov 25

December 2000

ARRL 160-Meter Contest 2200Z Dec 07 - 1600Z Dec 09
ARRL 10-Meter Contest 0000Z Dec 15 - 2400Z Dec 16
RAC Winter Contest 0000Z - 2400Z Dec 29
Stew Perry Topband Challenge 1500Z Dec 29 - 1500Z Dec 30

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COMING EVENTS

For up to date Canadian Fleamarket listings, please check the Radio Amateurs of Canada site at:

<http://rac.eton.ca/>

or for up to date American listings, go to the American Radio Relay League Hamfest website at:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfest.html>

**OCTOBER 27
QC**

Longueuil

On Saturday October 27, the South Shore ARC Hamfest - Longueuil, Québec Location: Place

Desaulniers, Corner of Taschereau and Desaulniers,
Longueuil, QC. Time: Vendors 06:00 Public 09:00
- Admission: 5.00\$ Tables: 10.00\$

Talk-in: VE2RSM 145.390 (-) - Tables or
Information: Francois Drein, VE2FDA at (450)-672-
9994 e-mail: ve2clm@amsat.org

Web page:

<http://www.cam.org/~ve2clm/hamfesta.htm>

OCTOBER 27

Markham

ON

On Saturday, October 27, the York Region Hamfest
2001 in Markham, Ontario. Location: Markham
Fairgrounds - McCowan Road at Elgin Mills Road
East, Markham

Vendors 06h30 Public 09h00 to 14h00. Admission
\$5.00 Talk-in VE3YRA 145.350 (-)

Information:

York Region Amateur Radio Club
c/o Hamfest Co-ordinator Jan Gibson,
Box 28590, Aurora, Ontario
L4G 6S6

E-mail: YRARC_HAMFEST@hotmail.com

Web page: <http://www.yrarc.on.ca/fallfest.htm>

2002

APRIL 13

LaSalle (Montreal)

QC

On Saturday, April 13 the Montreal Hamfest and
Fleamarket at LaSalle, QC.

Location: Royal Canadian Legion Branch 212
(LaSalle), 7771 Bouvier - corner of Shevchenko.
STCUM Bus 109 at the door.

Vendors 07h30 Public 08h30 to 12h00. Admission -
4.00\$ Talk-in VE2RED 147.270 (+) -

Information:

James R. Hay, VE2VE
(514)-697-7205

E-mail: ve2arc@rac.ca

<http://www.marc.qc.ca/fest.html>

A reminder - if you have web access you can also
check the list of hamfests on the club's web page at:

<http://www.marc.qc.ca/festcal.html>

73 de Vernon Erle Ikeda, VE2MBS

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NEAR VERTICAL SKYWAVE ANTENNAS

For those of you unable to attend last month's
meeting here is an overview of a very interesting meeting we
had. John Grow, VE2EQL had a presentation on "Near
Vertical Incidence Skywave Antennas" and some of their
applications.

NVIS , short for Near Vertical Incidence Skywave,
utilizes high-angle skywave paths between stations instead of
ground-wave or surface-wave in order to communicate via
HF radio. These antennas are ideal for local HF
communications with in a 400 mile radius using frequencies
between 2 and 12 MHz. When using NVIS the signal
strength can be weaker, but the communications is very
reliable and less subject to fading.

John also mentioned that NVIS can be a solution
during emergency communications should VHF fail due to
line of sight problems. NVIS could also be used during field
day or contests to increase the number of contacts with
nearby stations, less the 400 miles away.

After John's presentation there was an interesting
question and answer session.

Thanks to John Grow, VE2EQL for his
presentation.

Here are some of the references and web pages with
NVIS information supplied by John:

- NVIS Antennas, QST Magazine, Jan 1995 by Edward
Farmer AA6ZM

- US Field Manual 24-18, "Single channel communications
Techniques", (has a section on NVIS antennas

- Build Yourself an NVIS Antenna, 73 Amateur Radio
Today, Mar 2001, by John Grow VE2EQL

- Surplus: Easy Setup Portable HF Antenna, 73 Amateur
Radio Today, Aug 2001, by John Grow VE2EQL

NVIS Antenna Information

<http://www.tactical-link.com>

Construction of an NVIS Antenna,

by Dr Carl O. Jelinek

<http://www.qsl.net/vcars/CARL/NVIS.html>

NIVS Community at onelist.com
<http://www.onelist.com/community/nvis>

An NVIS paper
<http://www.sedata.net/nvis.html>

Interesting Antenna Sources
<http://hamgate1.sunyerie.edu/races/antenna.htm>

73 de Craig, VE2YGK

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RAC BULLETINS

First 24 GHz EME QSO

August 18, 2001 at 14:19 UTC VE4MA and W5LUA completed the first 24 GHz EME QSO after exchanging M reports. Signals were quite good with slightly less than the normal buzz experienced at 10 GHz. Weather at VE4MA was cool & clear while at W5LUA it was hot, cloudy and humid. The clouds and the moon's proximity to the sun made optical tracking impossible and thus keeping our antennas pointed at the moon was difficult.

Barry VE4MA was using 60 Watts at the feed of an offset fed 8 ft dish & W5LUA had 80 Watts at the feed of his 10 ft dish. Pictures are available from the ARRL at

<http://www.arrl.org/news/stories/2001/08/20/1/?nc=1>

and more details at the web site of the North Texas Microwave society

<http://www.ntms.org/>

(From Barry Malowanchuk VE4MA ve4ma@home.com)

The World Radiosport Team Championship, Finland July 2002.

The World Radiosport Team Championship, 'WRTC', the "Olympics" of international Amateur Radio contesting, will take place in Finland in July 2002. WRTC 2002 is being organised jointly by Contest Club Finland (CCF) and The Finnish Amateur Radio Society (SRAL).

These periodic WRTC events bringing together over fifty (50) teams comprised of the "Best of the Best" contest operators from around the world for a week of super-charged operating skills competitions. The WRTC is organised around an on-the-air competition among two-person teams. By bringing the competitors together in one geographical area and providing equal operating conditions (antennas, power etc), the variables normally associated with a radio

contest are neutralised, thus the operating skills are emphasised.

Radio Amateurs of Canada has been asked by the WRTC2002 organising committee to select the two "best" contesters in Canada to form a two-person team that would eventually represent Canada in the forthcoming WRTC2002 competition. The team selection deadline is October 15th, 2001. The team members are assumed to have some good scores made over the past 2-3 years and that selected team would be equally proficient in handling SSB and CW operating effectively in contest environment.

The WRTC2002 organising committee will take care of the team's housing and meals, but not the travel costs to Finland.

Canadian contesters interested in participating in WRTC2002 are asked to submit their names and a brief outline of their contest activities to the RAC Contest Committee no later than September 15, 2001. All applications received by that date will form a "pool" of eligible candidates for selection of the Team Captain. The names of interested parties in the "pool" will be posted at <http://www.rac.ca/wrtc2000.htm>

The RAC Contest Committee will select the Canadian Team Captain by October 1, 2001. The Team Captain will select his or her team mate from the remaining "pool" of candidates and advise the Committee of the selection of the second team member by October 10, 2001.

Interested amateurs can submit their names and qualifications to RAC Contest Committee Chair, Tim Ellam, VE6SH (ve6sh@rac.ca) with copies to Committee members Gord Kosmenko, VE6SV (ve6sv@rac.ca) and Dave Shipman, VE7CFD(ve7cfd@rac.ca).

The RAC Contest Committee is mindful of the following requirement imposed by the WRTC2002 Organising Committee:

General rules

a) National teams

National teams must be selected in a way that both competitors are either citizens or permanent residents of the particular country. For greater clarity, the RAC Contest Committee will consider amateurs to be "permanent residents" of Canada if they meet the definition of that term as used by Immigration Canada and the Canadian Customs and Revenue Agency.

THINK ABOUT IT .

From the RAC web page:

<http://www.rac.ca/dnews.htm>

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RED CROSS NEWS

The 20 and 40 metre dipoles are working reasonably well and all that remains to be done is getting the 80 metre dipole to tune and to connect up the 2 metre vertical. Thanks to James Hay, VE2VE, Don Dashney, VE3RM, Paul MacDougall, VA2YQ and Vernon Ikeda, VE2MBS.

73 de Vernon, VE2MBS

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YOUR HELP IS REQUESTED

As stated in Jim's message the MAB radio station is looking for assistance for an upcoming contest in November, the ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB from 2100Z, Nov 17 to 0300Z, Nov 19. Contact Jim Hay or Earl Paris if you can assist.

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**SCANNERS HEAR IT FIRST
BY FREDERICK HART, VE2LSQ
REMT-P, ESD/EMD**

The bright colours of the Fall foliage come just at the right time to take our minds away from the horrific events of last month. A stroll down a leaf-laden forest path, hand in hand with someone special guides our thoughts to more peaceful environs. This column usually shares frequency and system information about the emergency services. We monitor Police, Fire and EMS units racing to give their best to the victims that require aid. This month I would like to go beyond the lights and sirens and focus on the personnel that ride aboard these emergency vehicles and to those give their best, and a tribute to those who gave their all..

I wish you could comprehend a wife's horror at 3 in the morning as I check her husband of 40 years for a pulse and find none. I start CPR anyway, hoping to bring him back, knowing intuitively it is too late. But wanting his wife and family to know everything possible was done to save his life.

I wish you could read my mind as I respond to a to an EMS call, "What is wrong with the patient? Is it minor or life-threatening? Is the caller really in distress or is he waiting for us with a gun?"

I wish you could be in the emergency room as a doctor pronounces dead the beautiful five-year old girl that I have been trying to save during the past 25 minutes. Who will never go on her first date or say the words, "I love you Mommy" again.

I wish you could know the frustration I feel in my cruisers or the cab of the rescue, with my foot pressing down hard on the pedal, my siren and air blasting again and again, as you fail to yield the right-of-way at an intersection or in traffic. BUT when you need us however, your first comment upon our arrival will be, "It took you forever to get here!" or "What took you so long ?"

I wish you could know my thoughts as I help extricate a girl of teenage years from the remains of her automobile. What if this was my sister or my friend? What are their parents reaction going to be when they opened the door to find a police officer with hat in hand?"

I wish you could know how it feels to walk in the back door and greet my parents and family, not having the heart to tell them that I nearly did not come back from the last call.

I wish you could know how it feels dispatching police officers, fireman and EMT's out and when we call for them and our heart drops because no one answers back or to here a bone chilling 911 call of a child or wife needing assistance.

I wish you could feel the hurt as people verbally, and sometimes physically, abuse us or belittle what we do, or as they express their attitudes of "It will never happen to me."

I wish you could realize the physical, emotional and mental drain or missed meals, lost sleep and forgone social activities, in addition to all the tragedy my eyes have seen.

I wish you could know the brotherhood and self-satisfaction

of helping save a life, or being able to be there in time of crisis, or creating order from total chaos.

I wish you could understand what it feels like to have a little boy tugging at your arm and asking, "Is Mommy okay?" Not even being able to look in his eyes without tears from your own and not knowing what to say.

Or to have to hold back a long time friend who watches his buddy having rescue breathing done on him as they take him away in the ambulance. You know all along he did not have his seat belt on. A sensation that I have become too familiar with.

Unless you have lived with this kind of life, you will never truly understand or appreciate who I am, who we are, or what our job really means to us...I wish you could though.

APPRECIATE AND SUPPORT THE LOCAL EMS



WORKERS, FIRE-FIGHTERS, & LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS IN YOUR AREA. ONE DAY THEY'LL PROBABLY BE SAVING YOUR PROPERTY OR YOUR OWN LIFE.

WHEN YOU SEE THEM COMING WITH LIGHTS FLASHING, MOVE OUT OF THE WAY QUICKLY. THEN PRAY FOR THEM.

Author Unknown

May God bless everyone.

LLOYD SIMPSON, VA3LPS EX VE2ZAD, SK

Lloyd Simpson passed away peacefully, at home, in August 2001. Lloyd had not been well for some time and was found in his bed after not answering phone calls.

Lloyd was extremely knowledgeable and was active with the Bell Pioneers as well as MARC. Lloyd was a director from 1992 to 1995 and his contributions at board meetings were always appreciated.

While he was a quiet man Lloyd always had a positive outlook and frequently had only encouragement to offer when problems might occur.

Lloyd had planned to move to Toronto to be closer to his family and we extend our sympathy to that family and his friends.

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NOTICE OF MEETING (SECOND NOTICE)

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be held at St. Thomas Anglican Church, corner of Somerled and Rosedale, in the City of Montreal on Wednesday, October 31st, 2001 at eight o'clock in the evening.

The meeting is called to:

- Receive and if thought fit, approve the reports of the officers,
- Receive, and if thought fit, approve the report of the auditor,
- Elect a President and elect the other executive positions for the ensuing year,
- Elect the remaining Board of Directors for the ensuing year,
- Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Given at Montreal this 16h day of September, 2001.

(sgd) Sheldon Werner
Sheldon Werner, VA2SH
Secretary.

RADIO HF