

marcOgram

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



Volume 47, Number 5

February 2002

“MEET GABRIEL HOULE, VE2KGH, THE NEW PRESIDENT OF RAQI”

Wednesday 27 February 2002
Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30
Club meeting: 20:00

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

Gabriel Houle, VE2KGH, the new president of RAQI will be at the February meeting so he will be telling us about RAQI and how he sees the organization and his plans for the future. This should be an interesting meeting topic and an excellent opportunity to learn about this dynamic organization.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello,

Well, winter comes and goes but we haven't had a lot of snow and it hasn't been very cold. I suppose that I should be grateful that winter hasn't been harsh but what will the summer be like? I like to go boating and that requires water...

We're well into the new year now and things seem to be rolling along. The Red Cross station is operational, the MAB station is working well and classes are also going well. Planning for the hamfest is coming along and as I write this we have booked 42% of the tables. If you are thinking about taking a table don't wait too long.

As some of you know there is a new president at RAQI. Gabriel Houle, VE2KGH will be at our meeting

and as has been the case with his predecessors I am sure that he will have some interesting things to say about RAQI and his plans for the future. As always this should be an interesting meeting and I hope that I will see you all there.

Finally from the "I goofed again" department some errors crept into my transcription of information for Scanner's Hear it First last month. In the list of vehicle types for the fire department 3000 should be a quint with a bucket and 4000 should be a ladder with a bucket. My apologies to those who were confused by the error.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The MarcOgram is published nine times per year on the second to last Wednesday of September through June, excepting December by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Advertising and copy deadline is one week prior to publication.

Editor:
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 White Cane Members... .. \$10.00
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The membership year runs from September 1 to August 31. Memberships received on or after June 1 commence immediately and extend through the subsequent membership year - covering a period of up to fifteen months.

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Club Call Sign: VE2ARC
 Club Website: <http://www.marc.qc.ca>

Repeaters

VE2BG 147.06 MHz (+)
 Owned and operated by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Located on the Pointe Claire water tower.

VE2RED 147.27 MHz (+)
 Owned and operated by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Located near Decarie and Cote St. Luc Road.

VE2RJS 449.975 MHz (-)
 Owned by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club and operated by the Cote St Luc Amateur Radio Association. Located near Decarie and Cote St. Luc Road.

The repeaters are open to all amateurs and VE2RED also offers a phone patch available to all amateurs during the day and evening.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

Meetings of the Board of Directors are open to any member to attend. Board meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month (Sept. to June) at 7:30 PM at the Montreal Association for the Blind, 7000 Sherbrooke St West. Should you wish to attend one of the meetings you are welcome. Just speak to one of the directors before-hand to make certain that the meeting has neither been cancelled, nor the location changed.

Club Activities

Tentative Meeting Schedule

February 27, 2002 - Gabriel Houle, VE2KGGH, the new President of RAQI

As usual, the meetings start with a casual Ragchew at 19:30 and the gavel at 20:00.

February 27 2002 - TBA

March 27 2002 - TBA

April 24 2002 - TBA

May 29 2002 - Show and Tell

Radio Classes

A basic level course will normally be held in January each year. We have ten eager students currently taking the course on Saturday mornings. Many thanks to Sheldon Harvey of Radio HF for procuring the books for us and to the Concordia University A.R.C. for providing the extra help.

Auditor's Report

The Auditor's report will be read at the meeting on February 27th. I have been in touch the Auditor and I was told it will be made available at that time.

Vernon Erle Ikeda

Treasurer of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club

Hamfest

Montreal Amateur Radio Club Hamfest and Fleamarket, Saturday, April 13, 2002 - LaSalle (Montreal), Quebec. Royal Canadian Legion Branch 212 (LaSalle, QC), 7771 Bouvier corner Shevchenko. More details on page seven of this month's Marcogram. Your directors look forward to your assistance with both planning and running the

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

Spring is on the way. How do we know? The local hamfest season is starting with the Northern Vermont Winter Hamfest in Milton on February 23rd and the UMS Hamfest in Montreal on March 2nd.

This brings me to the next point and a correction from last month's Marcogram. Last month's hamfest ad on page 7 had last year's date and has been properly updated this month to show this year's date. My apologies to everybody. The MARC hamfest will be on Saturday April 13, 2002. You can help make it a success by participating in our hamfest this year.

Best wishes to everybody for a healthy and successful hamfest season this year.

73 de Craig, VE2YGK

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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>

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

February 2002

CQ 160-Meter Contest SSB 2200Z Feb 22-1600Z Feb 24
RSGB 7 MHz DX Contest CW 1500Z Feb 23-0900Z Feb 24

March 2002

ARRL Inter. DX Contest Ph. 0000Z Mar 2-2400Z Mar 3
World Wide Locator Test 0000Z Mar 9-2400Z Mar 10
RSGB Commonwealth CW 1200Z Mar 9-1200Z Mar 10
North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z - 0400Z Mar 10
Alaska QSO Party 0000Z Mar 16-2400Z Mar 17
Russian DX Contest 1200Z Mar 16-1200Z Mar 17
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB 0000Z Mar 30-2400Z Mar 31

April 2002

JIDX HF CW Contest 2300Z Apr 12-2300Z Apr 14
Michigan QSO Party 1600Z Apr 20-0400Z Apr 21
Holyland DX Contest 1800Z Apr 20-1800Z Apr 21
Ontario QSO Party 1800Z Apr 20-1800Z Apr 21
Helvetia Contest 1300Z Apr 27-1300Z Apr 28
Florida QSO Party 1600Z Apr 27-0159Z Apr 28
and 1200Z-2159Z Apr 28

73, Don VE3RM

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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.arrrl.org/hamfest.html>

FEB 23

Milton,

VT

Northern Vermont Winter Hamfest - ARRL Vermont State Convention, Milton Hamfest - Milton, Vermont. Location: Milton High School, Route 7, Milton, VT Time: 08h00 until 13h00.

Vendors: Early Vendors Entrance (via rear door) 06h30 - Regular Vendor Entrance (via main door) 08h00 - Call or write for more information.

Admission: \$3.00 U.S. Under 18 years, free. Canadian money accepted at par from Canadian residents, exact change only. Cash only, no checks. Talk-in: 145.150 (-) WB1GQR. Pre-recorded hamfest information and announcements on 146.67 MHz on the day of the hamfest.

Information: Phone: (802)879-6589, before hamfest day or via E-mail at: wlsj@arrrl.net

Web page: <http://www.ranv.org/milton.html>

MAR 2

Montréal,

QC

Saturday, March 2 UMS Annual Fleamarket Location: Centre Rousillion, 12125 Notre Dame Est (East), Montréal, QC

Time: Vendors 07h00 am - Public 09h00

Admission: 5.00\$ Tables 10.00\$ Talk-in VE2RXW 146.700 (-), Reservations call Jean-Guy 450-653-3237 or Claudette 450-678-1069

E-mail: hamfest@ve2ums.ca

Web page: <http://www.ve2ums.ca>

MAR 10

New Westminster

BC Western Canada's Largest Amateur Radio Flea Market - Location: Queensborough Community Centre, 920 Ewen Ave, New Westminster, B.C.

Vendors: 08h30 Public 10h00 to 14h00 Admission:

5.00\$ per person. Tables: in advance 20.00\$ Talk-in: VE7RBY 145.35 MHz (-), Information and reservations: Bob Kungl VE7KW, 604-524-9177 VE7KW@rac.ca or Lou Beaubien VE7CGE, 604-291-1569 VE7CGE@rac.ca or Jim McGill VE7IED, 604-946-9801

Web page: <http://www.qsl.net/ve7bar>

MAR 23

ON

Brampton

HAMEX 2002 - Location: Brampton Fall Fairgrounds, Heart Lake Road corner of Old School Road, Brampton, Ontario
Time: 09h00 to 13h00 Talk-in VE3PRC 146.880 (-) or VE3MIS 145.430 (-) 103.5 Hz PL Tone.
Information: Jason Staines - VA3NGV - va3ngv@rac.ca - 416-878-0576 or Lorne Jackson - VE3CXT - ve3cxt@rac.ca - 905-858-8594

Web page: <http://www.peelarc.org/hamex.html>

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. STM (STCUM) Bus 109 at the door. Tables: \$8.00 each, \$15.00 for two. 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>

APR 13

ON

Iroquois

Saturday, April 13 - Iroquois A.R.C. 7th Annual Flea Market Iroquois, Ontario
Location: Iroquois Civic Centre, Iroquois, Ontario
Vendors: 08h00 Public: 09h00 - 12h00, Admission - Free, Tables \$10.00. Talk-in VE3IRO 145.290 (-)
Table reservations/Information: Gord, VE3UGW (613)-657-3640 or E-mail ve3ugw@recorder.ca

Web Site: <http://cc.recorder.ca/~ve3ugw>

APR 27

Ste. Therese QC

CRALL Hamfest - Ste. Therese, Quebec

Admission: \$5 General Admission, \$10 Tables
Polyvalente de Ste. Therese, 401 Blvd. du Domaine,

Ste. Therese, QC

Talk-in VE2REL 147.315 (-)

E-mail: hamfest2002@hotmail.com

Web Page: <http://www.ve2crl.qc.ca>

APR 27

Whitby

ON

Saturday, April 27 Durham Region Amateur Radio Hamfest.

Location: Iroquois Park Recreation Centre, Corner of Victoria Street and Henry Street, Whitby, Ontario

Directions: Brock Street (exit #410) off of Highway 401, south to Victoria and then west on Victoria to Henry Street. Vendors 07h30 General Admission 09h00 Admission \$6.00 Tables \$25.00, (Includes one admission) Talk-in VE3SPA 147.375 (+), Information: Peter Henry (905) 436-9236 after noon and before 21h00. E-mail: va3pwh@idirect.com

Web page: <http://drhamfest.tripod.com>

MAY 11

Etobicoke (Toronto)

ON

Saturday, May 11, Skyward Annual Spring Hamfest And Fleamarket. Etobicoke (Toronto), Ontario

Location: Westway United Church, 8 Templar Drive, Etobicoke.

Vendors 08h00 Public 09h00 to 11h30 Admission \$5.00 Tables \$12.00 (includes one admission) Talk-in VE3SKY 146.985 (-) or Simplex 146.520 MHz Table reservations Derrick Poulter, VE3JNK, 26 Poynter Drive, Etobicoke Ontario M9R 1L1 Telephone 416-247-7728

E-mail dmpoulter@sympatico.ca

Web page: <http://webhome.idirect.com/~jproc/sarc>

MAY 11

ON

Smiths Fall

18th Annual Smiths Falls Amateur Radio Fleamarket - Smiths Fall, Ontario held by the Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club Inc. (formerly the Smiths Falls Amateur Radio Club)

Location: Smiths Falls Youth Centre 150 Beckwith Street North, Smiths Falls, ON. Vendors 07h00 Public 09h00

Tables 10.00\$ General Admission 3.00\$ Talk-in/VE3RLR 147.210 (+) Table reservations contact Baxter Smith VE3BFX, 8 St. Lawrence Street, Smiths Falls ON K7A 4K5, (613)-283-7852 or Pierre Lemoyne, VE3FLO at (613)-283-2762,

E-mail: baxsmith@falls.igs.net

Web page: <http://www.falls.igs.net/~rlarc>

JUL 26 to JUL 28

Vernon

BC

Friday, July 26 to Sunday, July 28 - **RAC 2002 National Convention** Vernon, British Columbia
Location: Best Western Vernon Lodge and Conference Centre. Sponsored by the North Okanagan Radio Amateur Club and the Orchard City Amateur Radio Club. Talk-in VE7RSS 146.880 (-) E-mail info@rac2002.org

Web page: <http://www.rac2002.org/>

SEPT 07 Pointe Claire QC

Saturday September 7, the WIARC Hamfest and Auction - Pointe Claire, QC. Location: Saint John Fisher Church, 120 Summerhill, Pointe-Claire, QC. Vendors 07h00, Public 09h00 to 15h00. Admission: Vendors Tables \$10.00 (includes 1 admission) Public \$5.00. Talk-in: VE2RWI 146.910 (-) For information and/table reservations call Janusz VE2ZHP at 514-744-5126

E-mail: ve2zhp@rac.ca

Webpage: <http://www.pubnix.net/wiarc>

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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RED CROSS STATION UPDATE

On Friday, February 8th, three members of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club visited the Red Cross on Nun's Island and tested the station. The station seemed to work well and as well we had a brief conversation with the Co-ordinator concerning the operation of the station. He seemed very impressed with the fact we made contact with Aruba (P49MR) on 15 metres as well as Prince Edward Island (VY2DA) and Ontario (VE2QQ/VE3) on 20 metres and VE3TVH on 40 metres. We also made a brief contact on 17 metres (W4FA). The crew was James R. Hay, VE2VE; Paul MacDougall, VA2YQ and myself, VE2MBS.

73 de Vern, VE2MBS

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RAC BULLETINS

INDUSTRY CANADA CONSULTING ON DOMESTIC 3 TO 30 GHz SPECTRUM ALLOCATIONS.

Industry Canada has finally released its long awaited consultation paper on spectrum allocations between 3 and 30 GHz.

The paper, announced in Gazette Notice, DGTP-001-02, invites public comments on spectrum policy proposals. The paper is entitled: Consultation on Revisions to Spectrum Utilization Policies in the 3-30 GHz Frequency Range. A copy can be downloaded in pdf format from the Industry Canada web site at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/SSG/sf05609e.html>

There are at least two areas of possible change which may affect the amateur services in Canada.

1. The first proposal involves the 5 GHz amateur band (5650-5925 MHz).

Amateur satellite operation is also allowed in this band, with an uplink between 5650 and 5670, and a downlink between 5830 and 5850.

This is a shared frequency band.

In Canada, the upper part of band, in the range 5850-5925 MHz is allocated on a primary basis to Fixed Services, Fixed-Satellite Service (Earth-to-space) links and on a secondary basis to Amateur and Radiolocation services.

Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) are intended to improve the safety and efficiency of transportation, including short range wireless links to transfer information between vehicles and roadside systems. Examples of such information transfer include: traffic light control, traffic monitoring, travellers' alerts, automatic toll collection, traffic congestion detection, emergency vehicle signal preemption of traffic lights and electronic inspection of moving trucks through data transmissions with roadside inspection facilities.

Industry Canada says "Recognizing the importance of safety and efficiency to Canada's transportation infrastructure, the Department is proposing to designate 75 MHz of spectrum for ITS in the band 5850-5925 MHz". Fortunately this band does not overlap our satellite downlink band.

2. The second proposal of interest is in the 24.00-24.25 GHz band

The section between 24 and 24.05 GHz is Amateur Primary, and is not affected by the proposal

The section between 24.05 and 24.25 is currently

allocated to Radio Location Services on a primary basis and to the Amateur service and Earth Exploration-Satellite service (active) on a secondary basis.

In the USA, the FCC has formally approved the use of Safety Warning Systems in the band 24.05-24.25 GHz on a secondary basis. These systems alert drivers as far as a mile away that they are approaching road hazards such as railroad crossings, stopped school buses, utility crews, road constructions and traffic accidents.

With a view toward designating the band 24.05-24.25 GHz to Safety Warning Systems on a secondary basis, Industry Canada has requested comments on " the level of interest in the provision of these systems in Canada, as well as any other potential uses that would increase the flexibility of this band".

The Radio Advisory Board of Canada will comment on the IC proposals, and as RAC is a member of the RABC we will have an opportunity to make our concerns known. Our volunteer Microwave Band Planning committee will be providing advice concerning the possible impact of the proposed changes.

However, as Amateurs are already sharing with other services in these valuable frequency bands, new allocations are almost inevitable.

It is worth noting that IC has avoided our satellite up and down links at 5 GHz, and they have left our primary allocation at 24.0 to 24.05 GHz, untouched. From the RAC web page:

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

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COMMUNITY SERVICE LACHINE CANAL OPENING

We have been informed that the Montreal Amateur Radio Club has been asked by organizers of the Lachine Canal committee to help with auxillary commnications on Saturday, May 25, 2002. The reason is the celebration of the opening of Lachine Canal to pleasure craft under the operation of Parks Canada.

There will be more information forthcoming in the upcoming weeks as James Hay will attending meetings concerning this event.

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

VE2LZR GROUP

The VE2LZR group will be participating in the following equestrian/bicycle events this year:

Sunday, May 26 - St-Lazare Cyclotour - Parc Bedard, St. Lazare.

Saturday, June 8 - Blainville Carriage Driving Event - Blainville Equestrian Centre
T.B.A. - Harmony Horse Trials - Windedge Farms, Ste Justine de Newton

For more information, Please contact Ken Magee at ve2lzl@rac.ca

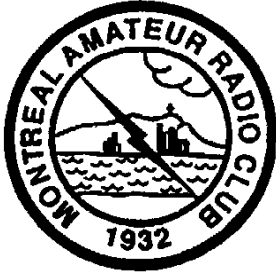
73 de Vern., VE2MBS

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SCANNERS HEAR IT FIRST BY FREDERICK HART, VE2LSQ

Another month... Another column... and more chapters in the saga of the new SSIM as they go about integrating the 28 fire departments into one. There has been a vicious flurry of activities on main dispatch 412.7625. So much that when they get the complete radio system up and running to capacity they will most likely need at least two





Hamfest

Montréal Amateur Radio Club

Amateur Radio Flea Market

CORRECTED DATE: Saturday April 13, 2002

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 212

7771 Bouvier (corner Shevchenko), LaSalle QC

Information and Reservations

Jim HAY 514-697-7205

E-mail: ve2arc@rac.ca <http://www.marc.qc.ca/fest.html>

Time: Vendors 07h30, Public 08h30-12h00 (noon). Tables: 8,00\$, or 15,00\$ for two. General Admission 4,00\$ Talk-in VE2RED 147.270 (+) Volunteers are required to help with this year's event.

dispatch frequencies. Apart from the many auxilliary fireground. As the system sits now its trunked for the main Montreal original department and UHF matched to 800 through 412.7625 with EMS/medical first response calls completed on 412.4875. Not all cities are as yet fully dispatched by Montreal. There are only about five or six left to transfer their whole kit and kaboodle

over to Montreal. So as you may have noticed the old usual municipal fire frequencies are still in use to communicate with apparatus for local calls but as soon as they go to 10-07 working incident a Montreal chief is dispatched and the ops are then run through Montreal Central. Several

cities have had working fires and the new format of next in help is quite interesting. Montreal downtown has had quite a few major outbreaks that brought the municipalities in which for some was quite the experience. The earfuls heard section tells all. This fire service revision has certainly made monitoring a great interest for many. The end result will be to the public's safety which will be better served in coming times. Now go get some earfuls. See you next month (remember to pamper your honey for valentines, they are worth it!)

Earfuls heard

412.7625 St. Catherine St. E. at Cuvilliers was the

scene of a major fire that was the cat's meow for monitoring. Great fireground action and with all the special calls for back-up units after the general alarm was in (29 major apparatus alone extra) plus dispatch playing a good game of parcheesie just trying to cover empty stations. Lots of action and strategies.

412.7625 Notre Dame St. W. at De Courcelles was the stage for yet another biggie. Multiple alarm and extra assignments the municipal fire departments are truly getting a taste of big city blazes.

412.7625 Allard at Bannantyne in Verdun. A 10-13 (third alarm) one early morning being the second of two fires twenty minutes apart but much more serious than the first which was about ten blocks away. This montjh's photo on page 6 was taken during the height of the 10-13 on Allard. Thanks to photo contributor J. Glover.

73 de Frederick, VE2LS and a Q

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RADIO HF