

# marcOgram

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



Volume 47, Number 4

January 2002

## “A FORUM ON TECHNICAL AND OPERATING ISSUES”

Wednesday 30 January 2002

Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30

Club meeting: 20:00

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

Don Dashnery, VE3RM will moderate a discussion on technical and operating issues.

So bring in your technical questions and knowledge and participate to help make this a evening of discovery and fun. This is always a very popular topic and should prove once again to be a very interesting and informative evening.

### **A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Hello there,

Well, winter hasn't broken any great records for cold or snowfall this year. So far "The Great Merger" hasn't been a disaster as some predicted. Time will tell and the wheels of change do move slowly.

One change that will come this spring is the re-opening of the Lachine Canal. It is anticipated that on May 25 a Marine Parade will take place to celebrate the opening. It is also hoped that this will become an annual event to celebrate the opening of the canal each spring. Our assistance in providing safety communications will be needed for this event. It is anticipated that something over 100 watercraft will be involved along with several

hundred participants and thousands of spectators. It will be a forum to demonstrate our hobby in a good light.

While I know that it is scheduled for the day before the St-Lazare Cyclo-Tour I am hopeful that many of you will offer your assistance, particularly if you don't usually participate in the Cyclo-Tour. Here is a local event where we can offer a valuable public service. How about it folks? I hope to see you all volunteer for one of our events this year.

As you may know the annual hamfest is planned for April 13 at the LaSalle Legion. I hope that you will all mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you have items to sell consider booking one or more tables. If you can assist us with the planning or with the event please let me know.

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:  
 Craig Brander, VE2YGK craigyul@total.net 514-488-5109

Annual fees are:  
 General Members ... .. \$23.00  
 Associate Members ... .. \$23.00  
 White Cane Members... .. \$10.00  
 Family Members (per family) ... .. \$28.00

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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The opinions expressed herein are, unless otherwise stated, solely those of the authors concerned, and not those of the Club, the Directors or members and do not represent the policy of the Club.

### Directors

President: James R. Hay, VE2VE.....514-697-7205  
 jrhay@HayA.qc.ca  
 Vice President: Steven Faguy, VA2SMF va2smf@rac.ca  
 Secretary: Sheldon Werner, VA2SH  
 Treasurer: Vernon Ikeda, VE2MBS.....514-684-7944  
 ve2mbs@rac.ca  
 Directors: Don Dashney, VE3RM/VE2SH.....613-675-4715  
 dash@hawk.igs.net  
 Paul MacDougall, VA2YQ  
 Earl Paris, VE2ESP.....514-524-4633  
 Dave Melanson, VE2MPD

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.

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

January 30 2002 - A Forum on Technical and Operating Issues. Meeting chaired by Don Dashney, VE3RM  
 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 be normally held in January each year. At the moment a basic level course has just started. Five students are participating this year and we hope to have progress report as the course progresses. A code course started in the fall is still on going.

## 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 Centre .....450-662-4240  
 Longueuil 911 Centre .....450-646-8570  
 Sûreté du Québec ..... 310-4141  
 Kahnawake Peace Keepers 450-632-6505

These numbers are for emergencies ONLY

As always this should be an interesting meeting and I look forward to seeing you all there.

73 de Jim, VE2VE  
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### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Best wishes to everybody for a healthy and successful New Year. It looks to be a year of change locally and change often brings some challenges to be met. I hope we will all be take part in some of the club activities and other communication events in the region this year. It looks like we once again have some interesting events that we can participate using our communication skills.

Thank-you to the members and the board of directors for your expressions of sympathy on the passing of my father in November. Also a big thanks to our President, Jim Hay and Vernon Ikeda keeping the Marcogram in smooth production last fall during during my father's illness when schedules became difficult to keep. Their efforts are much appreciated. Things continue to be hectic but less so then before.

We have just started another basic course this winter, so good luck to the 5 participating students. May this be start of a long and enjoyable relationship with amateur radio.

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.

#### January 2002

CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW 2200Z Jan 25 - 1600Z Jan 27

#### February 2002

Vermont QSO Party 0000Z Feb 2 - 2400Z Feb 3  
New Hampshire QSO Party 0000Z Feb 2 - 2400Z Feb 3  
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB 0001Z Feb 2 - 2400Z Feb 3  
North American Sprint, Phone 0000Z - 0400Z Feb 3  
YL-OM Contest, SSB 1400Z Feb 9 - 0200Z Feb 11  
RSGB 1.8 MHz Contest, CW 2100Z Feb 9 - 0100Z Feb 10  
North American Sprint, CW 0000Z - 0400Z Feb 10  
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW 0000Z Feb 16 - 2400Z Feb 17  
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, Phone 0000Z Mar 2 - 2400Z Mar 3  
World Wide Locator Contest 0000Z Mar 9 - 2400Z Mar 10  
RSGB Commonwealth Contest, 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

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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>

#### FEB 02

#### St. Catharines

ON

Saturday, February 2, Niagara Peninsula ARC Big Event 24 St. Catharines, Ontario

Location: Canadian Auto Workers Hall, 125 Bunting Road, St Catharines, Ontario

Vendors 07h00, Public 09h00 to 13h00 Admission \$6.00, Tables \$20.00 (includes 1 admission)

Talk-in VE3NRS 147.240 (+) Table reservations call Brian at 905-386-6826 or E-Mail [ve3xtr@rac.ca](mailto:ve3xtr@rac.ca)

Other information call John at 905-227-0155 or E-Mail [va3boz@rac.ca](mailto:va3boz@rac.ca)

[Web page: http://www.qsl.net/ve3vm/](http://www.qsl.net/ve3vm/)

#### FEB 16

#### Burlington

ON

Saturday, February 16 Burlington Spring Fleamarket - reservations: Bob Kungl VE7KW, 604-524-9177  
Burlington, Ontario VE7KW@rac.ca or Lou Beaubien VE7CGE, 604-  
Location: Royal Canadian Legion - 828 Legion Road, 291-1569 VE7CGE@rac.ca or Jim McGill VE7IED,  
Burlington, Ontario 604-946-9801

Vendors 07h00, Public 09h00 to 12h00. Admission \$5.00 Tables \$10.00

Talk-in VE3RSB 147.210 (+) Information and Table reservations: Chuck Wilson, VE3IUO at 905-333-5785. Mail reservations and cheques to:

Chuck Wilson at 4113 Marcia Place, Burlington, Ontario L7L 5B6 E-Mail va3iou@rac.ca

[Web page: http://barc.burlington.on.ca](http://barc.burlington.on.ca)

**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@arrl.net

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

**MAR 2**

**Montréal,**

**QC**

Saturday, March 2 UMS Annual Fleamarket

Location: Centre Rousillon, 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

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

**MAR 23**

**Brampton**

**ON**

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**

**Iroquois**

**ON**

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>

**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/>

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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## **RAC BULLETINS**

### **TOPHAT 2002 PLANNED FOR APRIL 6TH**

Tophat 2002, an emergency communications competition for British Columbia's Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley regions is set for April 6th, 2002. Teams of 10, representing various municipalities, compete in an emergency scenario, including set-up and standard operating procedures, formal messaging, and problem solving. Teams

staff their municipal EOC, hospital, reception centre and one surprise remote location. The scenario is announced at the start of the exercise and is based on an actual event in Canadian history.

Last year, 140 amateurs representing 13 municipalities formed 10 teams. Tophat 2001 was based on the 1945 ship explosion in Vancouver harbour.

While the competition is limited to teams in British Columbia, any other group that wants to participate in their municipality using the same scenario and problems can contact the Tophat design team for further information.

All information about Tophat 2002 can be found at <http://www.amateurradio.ca>  
(Thanks to Tom Cox VE7TOX)

From the RAC web page:

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

### **SOLAR DOUBLE HEADER !**

The NOAA Space Environment Center in the US is predicting that the current solar cycle (Number 23) will be a double header. Solar flux and sunspot numbers peaked in the year 2000 and started to decrease, but recent increased activity on the sun has driven the 27 cm flux to new highs, and will result in a second maximum around the beginning of 2002.

Good news for HF propagation as the higher frequency HF bands will be open more and for a longer period of time before we drop back to the sunspot minimum. For more details visit NASA science news at

[http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2002/18jan\\_solarback.htm?list475816](http://science.nasa.gov/headlines/y2002/18jan_solarback.htm?list475816)

Information from:

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

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### **CANADIAN SKI MARATHON**

(Editor's Note: This arrived just at the deadline so if you are interested respond as soon as possible.)

Once again, the Canadian Ski Marathon requires radio volunteers to support the routine and safety communications during the event which takes place all weekend of February 9 & 10.

Richard VE3UNW has asked us if any hams wish to participate from the Montreal area. The information pertaining to ham operations is taking shape at the following web page:

<http://206.47.37.125/csm/>

Also the official CSM web page is always at:

<http://www.csm-mcs.com/>

It is probably easier for me to collect info and give a summary to Richard so contact me for details.

What is required is:

2 x 2m mobile rigs (30-40W essential) there are 2 frequencies to operate at the same time, good antennae (you will be in the woods, on your own) lots of power (batteries).

The instructions we use for the ski marathon are very close to what we do for the ski marathon. It is only "more rugged" conditions

I need to know which days you are available, and what equipment you have.

Typically, a day starts anywhere between 6AM to 10AM and ends anywhere from 14h00 to 20h00. It's a lot of fun.

Please respond quickly if you are interested. The schedules are already almost done.

73 de JF, VE2TDH

Jeff <jeff.g@pubnix.net>

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### SCANNERS HEAR IT FIRST

BY FREDERICK HART, VE2LSQ

Happy New Year to all. Welcome to January... Unless this month has been merged with another and is called something else and the dates change daily not necessarily in order and mix old dates with new but rebel and refuse to use the new dates! Hey, this sounds just like the merger of the Montreal Fire Department with the area municipalities officially Service de Securite Incendie de Montreal (SSIM) from the old SPIM, just take out the prevention part which nowadays we are prevented from our sanity as the puzzle pieces get put together. The big department is 66 stations strong and for our listening delight will be heard on 412.7625 for quite some time as the trunking 800 MHz are retransmitted onto the UHF 412.4875 is also in use for now

as the medical first response calls. The changeover is certainly keeping frenetic hobbyists and scanner people busy trying to make heads or tails of the new happenings. Who said scanning was getting boring? Confusion rules! Last month we listed the stations and the types of apparatus. Enclosed this month is an up to date apparatus roster as we know it so far. Changes will continue to happen but you will get the gist of what's around. Many thanks to Jim, VE2VE and Vern, VE2MBS, for their help on getting the facts, and to the many firebuffs whom I associate with and have for many years. Its fun to collect all the data and set up where its all going to go and the end result is a better understanding of what we are listening to. If you think that that ride at "La Ronde" the Monster is a hoot... Try a spin on the rumour mill in the new SSIM... The ultimate e-ticket ride! Better get the ears ready folks because you are in for quite the earful this year.

73 de Fred.

#### District 11

- 51 251, 451
- 56 356
- 57 257, 457, 6057
- 58 258
- 61 111, 131, 261, 361, 461, 861

#### District 12

- 52 652
- 53 253
- 54 254, 854
- 55 112, 132, 255, 455, 855

#### District 13

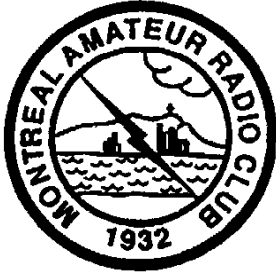
- 62 262
- 63 263, 4063, 8063
- 71 113, 133, 271, 771, 1671, 2071
- 72 272, 472
- 73 273, 473, 2073

#### District 14

- 64 264, 464
- 77 677
- 78 114, 134, 278, 478
- 79 679

#### District 15

- 65 115, 135, 265, 465, 2065, 4065
- 66 266, 766, 2066
- 67 367



# Hamfest

## Montréal Amateur Radio Club

Amateur Radio Flea Market

Saturday April 21, 2001

Royal Canadian Legion Branch 212

7771 Bouvier (corner Shevchenko), LaSalle QC

Information and Reservations

Jim HAY 514-697-7205

E-mail: [ve2arc@rac.ca](mailto: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.

### District 16

3 203, 403, 8003  
15 215, 415, 1515, 1815  
23 116, 136, 423, 523, 623, 1423  
33 233, 433, 1533

### District 17

4 404, 604  
27 227, 427, 527  
34 234, 734  
46 246, 446  
76 117, 137, 158, 159, 276, 476, 876

### District 18

2 202 (2019 is moved during the summer)  
5 118, 128, 405, 605, 1005, 1605  
10 210, 410  
19 219, 419, 2019, 7019  
20 220, 720, 1520  
25 225, 425

### District 19

16 216, 716  
26 226, 526  
30 230, 430, 1230, 1330  
75 119, 139, 275, 475, 875, 2075

### District 20

9 409, 609, 1409  
37 237, 537  
41 241, 441  
74 120, 140, 274, 474, 2074

### District 21

35 235, 535, 1535  
42 242, 442, 1842  
43 243, 743  
49 121, 141, 249, 449

### District 22

29 122, 142, 229, 429, 1729, 1929  
31 631, 8031  
47 247, 747, 1147  
50 250, 450, 550

### District 23

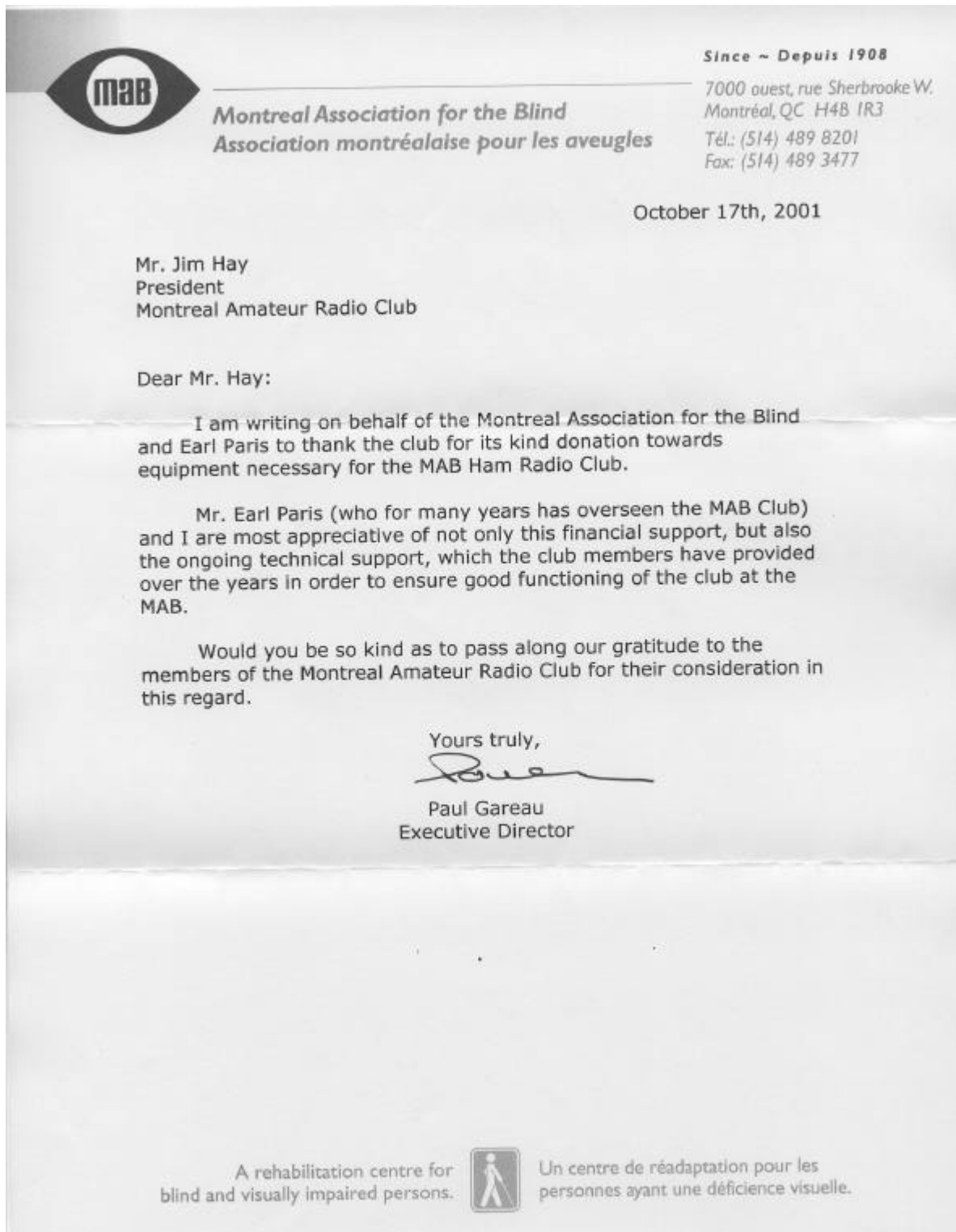
13 213, 513, 935, 1413  
39 239, 739  
40 240, 440  
45 123, 143, 245, 445, 1645, 1845, 8045  
48 248, 748

### District 24

17 124, 144, 217, 417

## NOTE OF THANKS FROM THE MONTREAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE BLIND

Here is a letter our club president, Jim Hay received thanking the club for its efforts in helping the MAB Ham radio club. Thank-you to those who have helped with this cause in the past and we look forward to further contributions in the future. The assistance we provide is much appreciated.



18 218  
 21 221, 421  
 22 222, 422

**District 25**

8 608, 3008  
 14 614  
 28 125, 145, 228, 428, 1428  
 38 238, 538, 638, 738, 1838  
 44 244, 444, 2044 .....continued on page 9

**Headquarters**

101 Director  
 102 Assistant Director - Prevention,  
 Suppression & Operations  
 103 Assistant Director - Emergency Measures  
 104 Assistant Director - Strategic Planning  
 105 Assistant Director - Administrative  
 Support  
 107 Chief - Emergency Measures

**First Responders**

129 Chief - First Responders

**Prevention**

911 Investigator  
 912 Investigator  
 913 Investigator - Lieutenant

**Strategy & tactics**

126 Chief - Strategy & Tactics  
 151 Chief - Equipment  
 158 Chief - Strategy & Tactics  
 159 Chief - Strategy & Tactics

**Training Centre**

108 Chief - Training Centre  
 152 Chief - Tools  
 153 Chief - Tactics  
 935 Lieutenant - Water Supply

**Technical Services**

109 Chief - Technical Services  
 961 Mechanic  
 964 Radio Technician

**Workers Health & Safety**

155 Chief - SST  
 156 Chief - SST

**Vehicle Types**

200 Pump  
 300 Quint  
 400 Ladder  
 500 Manpower Squad  
 600 Multifunction Pump  
 700 Aerial Platform  
 800 First Responder  
 1000 Command Post  
 1100 Specialized Equipment  
 1200 First Aid  
 1300 Canteen  
 1400 Bus  
 1500 Zodiac  
 1600 Air Bottle Truck  
 1700 Hazardous Materials  
 1800 Boat  
 1900 Trailer  
 2000 Second Pump in a station  
 3000 Quint (extra large!)  
 4000 Second ladder in a station  
 7000 50 Metre aerial Platform  
 8000 Intra-departmental delivery

73 de Frederick, VE2LS and a Q

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**CLASSIFIED**

DEADLINE for classified ads is the second Wednesday before the monthly meeting.

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**EARL BLAKELY, VA2EB, SK**

Earl Blakely, VA2EB, passed away 16 December 2001 in New Brunswick. We was a member of the MARC. We extend our sympathy to his family and friends.

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**HF**