

marcOgram

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



Volume 47, Number 6

March 2002

“CLIPPERTON ISLAND 2000 DXpedition Video - FO0AAA”

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

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

We will be showing the FO0AAA - Clipperton Island 2000 official DXpedition Video, written and filmed by James Brooks 9V1YC. This is one of the world's most remote and mysterious islands. Come out and join us to watch this fascinating adventure that you are sure to enjoy.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello,

Well, spring seems to be here even though I'm not sure where winter was. The plans for the hamfest are coming along with 3/4 of the tables already reserved. I look forward to seeing you all there.

The plans for the Grande Parade du Canal are coming along. We are likely to need about 15 operators with portable equipment to help keep everything running smoothly. Please let me know if you are able to assist on May 25th.

Since it is spring it is time to think about spring cleaning and repairing the damage done to our antenna systems during the winter. We need to schedule a work party at the MAB to take the HF beam down so that it can

be taken apart and given a thorough check-up and a bit of an overhaul since we noticed that some work is needed on the antenna. Once the work is done the antenna will have to be put back in place. Please let me know if you are able to assist and I will see about scheduling for the work.

While we're in the antenna department David Melanson, VE2MPD, may be looking for some assistance to check his own antennas. If anyone might be able to assist please give David a call.

This month should be an interesting meeting and I look forward to seeing you there.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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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.

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

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 General Members \$23.00
 Associate Members \$23.00
 White Cane Members... .. \$10.00
 Family Members (per family) \$30.00

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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Directors

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 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.

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

March 27, 2002 - Clipperton Island Dxpedition Video
 As usual, the meetings start with a casual Ragchew at 19:30 and the gavel at 20:00.
 April 24 2002 - TBA
 May 29 2002 - Show and Tell

Radio Classes

A basic level course will is normally held in January each year. This year, we have ten eager students taking the course on Saturday mornings. The course is nearing completion and students should be taking their exam in the near future. Many thanks to Sheldon Harvey of Radio H.F. for procuring the books for us and to the Concordia University A.R.C. for providing the extra help.

Club 70th Anniversary Dinner

The club will be having a dinner to mark the 70th anniversary of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. The dinner will be held Saturday May 11th, 2002. Details are still being worked on and we should have further details at the upcoming meeting

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 hamfest.

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

May 2002

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Time sure has gone by quickly this season. The basic radio course seems like it only just started, yet it is near completion and the students will soon be taking their exams. Hopefully by the time the MARC hamfest comes around we will have some new amateur radio operators among our ranks.

The Montreal Amateur Radio Club hamfest on April 13 is fast approaching. Spread the word around, and remember everybody's support and participation is need to help make the event the great success it is every year. Details are on page 7.

73 de Craig, VE2Y GK

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CONTEST CALENDAR

The CQ WPX SSB Contest is on the weekend after this months meeting We are planning a Multi-op entry and could use operators. If interested please get in touch with me at the meeting or by phone 613-675-4715, or e-mail ve3rm @rac.ca

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.

March 2002

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

Indiana QSO Party	1400Z May 4 - 2300Z May 5
Massachusetts QSO Party	1800Z May 4 - 0400Z May 5
	and 1100Z - 2100Z May 5
ARI International DX Contest	
	2000Z May 4 - 2000Z May 5
CQ-M International DX Contest	
	2100Z May 11 - 2100Z May 12
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW	0000Z May 25 - 2400Z May 26

73 de 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.arri.org/hamfest.html>

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>

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>

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 4 Stittsville ON
Saturday, May 4, 2002, The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Fleamarket - Stittsville, Ontario
Location: Stittsville Arena on Main Street, Stittsville, ON
Vendors 06h30 , General Admission 09h00 to 12h00 , Admission 3.00\$ - Tables 7.00\$ includes admission - corner tables 15.00\$ includes admission
Talk-in: VE3TWO 147.300 (+) or 444.200 (+). Information/Reservations: Jake at 613-253-3732 ONLY between 10h00 and 15h00 or va3tqx@rac.ca
Web page: <http://www.ovmrc.on.ca/news.htm>

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

MAY 11 Smiths Fall ON
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>

JUNE 8 Fergus ON
Saturday, June 8, the Central Ontario 28th Annual Amateur Radio Hamfest. - Fergus, Ontario
Location: Fergus & District Community Centre, 10 km north of Guelph off Highway 6. See
<http://www.hamfest.on.ca>

for a map.
Vendors 06h00 Public 08h00 Admission \$5.00; Vendors - Inside tables \$10.00, Outside Tailgater spaces \$5, both plus admission. Talk-in: VE3ZGM 145.210 (-) and 146.520 Simplex in town. Information/reservations: Mike Peleschak, VE3OGE, via phone (519)-822-3552.
E-mail: info@hamfest.on.ca
Web page: <http://www.hamfest.on.ca>

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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MARC 70TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

On Saturday, May 11, 2002, the Montreal Amateur Radio club is planning to hold a 70th anniversary dinner. Details are still being worked out as we go to print and we hope to have more details at the upcoming meeting. This should prove to be a entertaining occasion and chance to exchange stories with both old and new friends. Jim Hay is the contact for this event.

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RAC BULLETINS

LOGBOOK OF THE WORLD COMING SOON

ARRL's "Logbook of the World" (LOTW) electronic contact-verification program will spark "a culture change" when it's introduced later this year, predicts Project Manager Wayne Mills, N7NG. Once LOTW is operational, participants will be able to qualify for awards such as DXCC or WAS without having to first secure verification in the form of hard-copy QSL cards. But Mills--who heads ARRL's Membership Services Department--is quick to add that LOTW will complement the conventional exchange of QSL cards, not replace it.

Logbook of the World "is really a system to offer credits for awards--and not just our awards," Mills explained. He hopes to enlist the participation of other organisations that grant operating awards, such as CQ and RSGB. Central to the LOTW concept is a huge repository of constantly updated log data provided by individual DXers, contesters and DXpeditions and maintained by ARRL. Once it's up and running, Logbook of the World will be able to provide quick contact credit. Mills adds that the system will be open to all--ARRL members and nonmembers.

Registering and uploading electronic log data to LOTW will be free. The only time users will incur charges is when they wish to apply contact credits toward a particular award, such as DXCC, WAS or VUCC. Mills said he hopes to announce an inauguration date for Logbook of the World within a few months. (thanks to ARRL letter)

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UKRS CEASES OPERATIONS

The United Kingdom Radio Society, Britain's alternative amateur radio representative body, has ceased operation. The UKRS was set up to provide an alternative to the long-established Radio Society of Great Britain. The departure of two members of the UKRS' governing body left the organisation under strength, and dependent on its two co-founders, who did not wish to effectively start over again. (GB2RS and APC News)

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AUSTRALIAN VIEW ON ARRL PROPOSED NOVICE BAND RESTRUCTURE

The possibility of American amateurs being allowed to use SSB lower down in the HF bands moved a step closer with the American Radio Relay League planning to file a proposal with the Federal Communications Commission.

As things currently stand, the US has large CW allocations on its HF bands. These, in part, provided bandspace for the formerly CW-only novice licence. Declining activity on these segments and the abolition of the Novice licence have led to plans to reallocate these frequencies and provide more room for other modes. In particular, the League is proposing expanded phone

allocations on 40 and 80 metres.

If the change goes ahead, it will not affect Australian amateurs on eighty metres. This is because the ARRL plan calls for the SSB segment to be extended down to 3.725 MHz, whereas (apart from the DX window), the Australian eighty metre band stops at 3.700 MHz. On forty metres the only change will be that we will start hearing US SSB operators down to 7.125 MHz. This compares to current activity, where US operators commonly operate just above 7.150 MHz. (Thanks to ARRL Letter and APC News Australia)

From:

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

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COMMUNITY SERVICE
LACHINE CANAL OPENING

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 ve2lzs@rac.ca

73 de Vern., VE2MBS

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SCANNERS HEAR IT FIRST
BY FREDERICK HART, VE2LSQ

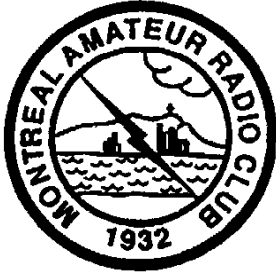
Kiss me I'm Irish! (Actually tinted scotch) Only women need apply, no males please! March is upon us, the snow is almost gone but as I write there are white giant flakes falling heavily. They are calling for 10 centimetres. I say call back and order spring sunshine instead! (PS. Did I mention no males please?)

Monitoring has been abundant this month and there are a few new pieces to the regional puzzle. The first is a new simplex 800 MHz frequency that combines EDACS with APCO 25 and enables everyone on the island to communicate amongst themselves on the fireground at scenes. This talk-around frequency is low power simplex on 867.5125. I was able to pick up fireground traffic of the SSIM at a fire scene 1-1/2 kilometres from my home QTH with no problem so keep this one in memory as it is island wide. All 28 municipality fire services are now heard on 412.7625 at the moment with the new on scene 867.5125. The SSIM has been quite busy again with the help of mother nature and a recipe of ice and wind (104 km/h). Saturation! of the main fire dispatch frequency of SSIM withstood 18 hours of continuous calls that in my opinion sounded even busier than the ice storm of '98. Lucky for the SSIM there were no major fires break out in that wind because "conflagration" would have been the word of the day.

The rumour mill still spins as always. Some of the more interesting ones are an all 800 MHz/non-trunked system is near for SSIM... (I like this one, no trunk-tracker needed). Multiple dispatch frequencies for sectioning the island into two or three regions (the saturation of the windy weekend will help prove this one helpful).

Request: Again we are on the lookout for new 800 MHz frequencies in Laval. The fire/police have left the 900 MHz system of ELYPS and have moved onto Bell Mobility EDACS but not on the present group of repeaters in the area. Anyone that can listen up in Laval and come up with frequencies/talk groups/sites are welcome to share with us here at VE2ARC@RAC.CA. I'm sure it won't take long to find the info out.

Urgence Sante has now added radio bases to the Sacre Coeur Hospital (Cartierville) and the Montreal General (downtown) in their trauma departments. Major accident traffic off the Ridgewood hub of frequencies can be heard as the EMS crews advise the trauma centres as to what they are about to receive. Talk group 02-090. Interesting chatter as this type of traffic has operated in most major U.S. cities for the last 25 years. Experimental systems were tried at Royal Victoria and Jewish General Hospitals in the mid to



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.

late seventies but never expanded. We are finally catching up to civilized emergency services. 412.4875 (Montreal SSIM 10-52) is used solely now for the purpose of first responders in the regions who presently operate in conjunction with Urgence Sante. This was confirmed to my ears when I heard two non-EMS units tell each other to go to 10-52 and the dispatcher at SSIM came on and proclaimed 10-52 is for medical first response calls only.

That's it for another issue. Keep listening and getting those earfuls and as time passes those who can't understand the lingo will get better at it. You just have to have patience and a good scanner.

73 de Frederick, VE2LS and a Q and the Cats

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CLASSIFIED

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

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PS FOR FRED'S COLUMN



By the way, here they are for you to see, the cats. Foreground (lazy pose) "Elmo" and in the background (upright timid pose) "Kiddo."

73 de Frederick, VE2LS and a Q and the Cats

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RADIO HF