



marcOgram

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

A MARC Monthly Newsletter

Volume 54, Number 4 January 2009

Next meeting - Wednesday 28, January 2009

Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30, Club meeting: 20:00

Donald Courcy, VE2GG

will be giving a presentation on submarine radio communications

St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church

4455 West Broadway (corner of Terrebonne) in N.D.G. - Montreal

Please enter by the back door)

WELCOME TO 2009

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A Word from The President

Hello,

Well, winter has certainly arrived. We have lots of snow and as I write this the freezer door has been closed for now. I hope that you all enjoyed a good holiday season with your family and friends and wish that 2009 is a good year for you.

While our membership is at the same level as we finish last year I know that it can be better and I urge you to remind your friends who may not have renewed to please do so as we need your support. If there is something that the club should be doing to help folks out please let us know.

The flea market is coming up on April 11 at the legion so have a look around your basement and please let me know if you need a table. Not only does the event support the club but it also affords an opportunity to sell some of the things you no longer use and to find some new treasures. It is also a good occasion to meet your friends.

The topic of submarine communications this month should be an interesting one and I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

73 de Jim.

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Club Call Sign: VE2ARC

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

Club Email: ve2arc@rac.ca

Repeaters

VE2BG 147.06 MHz (+)

Owned and operated by Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Located on the Point Claire water tower.

VE2RED 147.27 MHz (+)

Owned and operated by the Montreal Amateur radio Club.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

Meetings of the Board of Directors are open to any member to attend. Board meetings are held on 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.

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

Ron Campbell, VA2RJC
va2rjc@videotron.ca

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Annual Fees are:

General Members...	\$25.00
Associate Members	\$25.00
White cane members	\$15.00
Family members (per family)	\$30.00

The membership year runs from September 1 to August 31. Membership received on or after June 1 commences immediately and extends 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.

Club Activities - Monthly Meetings

Club meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month. The meetings will be held in the Lounge which is the rearmost door on the South side of the building unless we have reason to hold it in the Parish Hall which is the first door on the South side of the building. An informal flea-market and ragchew session starts at 19:30 with the formal meeting starting at 20:00. STM buses 51, 162, and 105 stop-

From the Editor's Desk

Well, happy new year to you all, we're now into 2009 and this is the first edition of the marcOgram for this year, also you haven't heard from me in a couple of months.

I plan to introduce a few new subjects in this years editions. As you will note, on page seven there's a start of an article titled "ORIGIN OF HAM STUFF." In this issue we've started with some views on "CQ" and if you have any comments or some specific information please pass them on to me and I can include them in future edi-

MARC Fundraiser WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

In order for MARC to reach some of its goals, the BOD have decided to increase the advertising in the marcOgram newsletter. The rates are as follows:

Business card	\$ 5.00 per issue	Quarter page	\$ 7.00 per issue
Half page	\$12.00 per issue	Full page	\$20.00 per issue

The "Marcogram" from September to May, which is eight issues. This year we added June, which becomes a free month. So we actually publish nine issues. We have a list distribution of about 200 persons. A business card placed for 8 issues would only be \$ 40.00. We are asking for all members to try and contribute either via a donation, or asking a friend or family who has a business to place an ad.

tions. Next month we'll cover "73" and it's origins..

I'm also planning to start a column regarding Digital Communications for Amateur Radio. The start will be an article by Bob Bruninga, WB4APR the father of APRS.

One other topic, I was asked recently when the next podcast will be available, hopefully within the near future.

That's it -
Your editor..
Rjcam the Video-n-Podcast Ham, VA2RJC

From the ARRL

HAMS STOOD BY TO HELP AS NEW ENGLAND RECOVERED FROM AN ICE STORM AND PREPARED FOR MORE

The major ice storm that hit New England December has pretty much gone away, but the forecasters called for more winter weather to follow. During the storm, Amateur Radio operators from all over the area responded to calls for assistance from various served agencies.

According to Eastern Massachusetts Section Emergency Coordinator Rob Macedo, KD1CY, almost 400,000 customers in Massachusetts lost power at the height of the storm. Phone service, particularly landline service, was disrupted in some areas. New Hampshire was also heavily hit.

Southern New England received

2-4 inches of rainfall; isolated higher amounts caused river, stream and urban flooding. Strong winds in the region resulted in tree and wire damage, as well as coastal flooding along the shoreline.

In Western Massachusetts, Section Emergency Coordinator John Ruggerio, N2YHK, reported that ARES units in his Section responded to calls for assistance from local EOCs.

Ruggerio said that the local hospital in Gardner lost phone service for one time and Amateur Radio was the only means of two-way communications between the hospital and EOC. "Message traffic on prescription fills and other priority, but non-emergency traffic, were fulfilled during that timeframe, he said.

"The Gardner operation was the largest Amateur Radio Emergency Services Mutual Aid Team (ARES/MAT) that Eastern Massachusetts ARES has supplied since the September 11 terrorist attacks," Macedo said. "Including the

one amateur provided for the Worcester EOC, a total of 16 hams assisted for all the ARES/MAT needs in Western Massachusetts."

Throughout the storm, Section leadership from across the region met in twice-daily conference calls with ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD.

The Milford animal shelter folks also used ham radio for coordination in a limited way for several days as they retrieve chilly animals.

According to American Red Cross Communications Volunteer Tom Carrigan, NE1R, the Disaster Operations Center (DOC) at the Central Massachusetts Chapter of the American Red Cross was a "beehive of activity trying to cover all the demands for services from the many towns operating shelters and for mobile feeding operations throughout the affected area.

dvcam-ham productions

Ronald J Campbell, VA2RJC
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**Submissions for entry into
marcOgram**

For submissions of text only it is preferable that you send as a ".txt" file, however, MS Word is acceptable.

For pictures please use "jpg" format with maximum size 400 x 240. Where possible use at least 240 dpi.

For clip art if possible use "gif". Maximum size 480 x 340 pix. This will give a picture size of approximately 8 Kb.

Contact me at:

va2rjc@videotron.ca

Home Tel: 514-767-2804

**FREQUENCY CHANGE FOR
CANADIAN TIME TRANSMISSION
STATION CHU**

After 70 years of broadcasting Canada's official time, the National Research Council's shortwave station CHU
<http://inms-ienm.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/time_services/shortwave_broadcasts_e.html> moved the transmission frequency for the 7335 kHz transmitter to 7850 kHz. The change went into effect at 0000 UTC on January 1, 2009.

Broadcasting 24 hours a day, CHU is a part of NRC's system for disseminating official time throughout Canada. Listeners hear tones to mark the seconds, a voice to announce the time in French and English and digital data to set computers. The atomic clocks at CHU are part of the ensemble of clocks in the time and frequency research laboratories at the National Research Council Canada in Ottawa. The NRC clocks are used in conjunction with clocks in the time laboratories of other countries to construct the internationally accepted scale of time, UTC (Coordinated Universal Time). Time transmissions on 3330 and 14670 kHz

were not affected and will continue as before.

In April 2007, the ITU reallocated the 7300-7350 kHz band from the fixed service to the broadcasting service. Since then, the NRC said there has been a lot of interference on the 7335 kHz frequency from many information broadcasters around the world. "CHU listeners in Canada and around the world who have for so long considered the 7335 kHz frequency exclusively for time signals, are very vocal about this interference," said Raymond Pelletier, Technical Officer at the NRC-Institute for National Measurement Standards, who oversees the CHU facility. "We have heard from Amateur Radio operators, watchmakers, astronomers and navigators who use the tones and voice signals. We also received comments from those who use the carrier as a calibration source at a distance for their equipment."

Pelletier stated that a leap second <http://inms-ienm.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/faq_time_e.html> was added at the end of December 2008; this was indicated in the digital code until the time of the leap second. DUT1 will go from -0.6 to +0.4 seconds and will be indicated by double tones near the start of the minute and in the broadcast code <http://inms-ienm.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/time_services/chu_e.html>.

ARLB001 W1AW 2009 Winter Operating Schedule

Morning Schedule:

Time	Mode	Days
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWs	Wed, Fri
1400 UTC (9 AM EST)	CWf	Tue, Thu

Daily Visitor Operating Hours:

1500 UTC to 1700 UTC - (10 AM to 12 PM EST)
1800 UTC to 2045 UTC - (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST)

(Station closed 1700 to 1800 UTC (12 PM to 1 PM EST))

Afternoon/Evening Schedule:

2100 UTC (4 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
2100 "	CWs	Tue, Thu
2200 " (5 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
2300 " (6 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0000 " (7 PM EST)	CWs	Mon, Wed, Fri
0000 "	CWf	Tue, Thu
0100 " (8 PM EST)	CWb	Daily
0200 " (9 PM EST)	RTTY	Daily
0245 " (9:45 PM EST)	VOICE	Daily
0300 " (10 PM EST)	CWf	Mon, Wed, Fri
0300 "	CWs	Tue, Thu
0400 " (11 PM EST)	CWb	Daily

Frequencies (MHz)

CW: 1.8175 3.5815 7.0475 14.0475
18.0975 21.0675 28.0675 147.555
RTTY: - 3.5975 7.095 14.095
18.1025 21.095 28.095 147.555
VOICE: 1.855 3.990 7.290 14.290
18.160 21.390 28.590 147.555

Notes:

CWs = Morse Code practice (slow) = 5, 7.5, 10, 13 and 15 WPM
CWf = Morse Code practice (fast) = 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 WPM
CWb = Morse Code Bulletins = 18 WPM

CW frequencies include code practices, Qualifying Runs and CW bulletins.

RTTY = Teleprinter Bulletins = BAUDOT (45.45 baud) and AMTOR-FEC (100 Baud). ASCII (110 Baud) is sent only as time allows.

Code practice texts are from QST, and the source of each practice is given at the beginning of each practice and at the beginning of alternate speeds.

On Tuesdays and Fridays at 2330 UTC (6:30 PM EST), Keplerian Elements

for active amateur satellites are sent on the regular teleprinter frequencies.

A DX bulletin replaces or is added to the regular bulletins between 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Thursdays and 0100 UTC (8 PM EST) Fridays.

In a communications emergency, monitor W1AW for special bulletins as follows: Voice on the hour, Teleprinter at 15 minutes past the hour, and CW on the half hour.

All licensed amateurs may operate the station from 1500 UTC to 1700 UTC (10 AM to 12 PM EST), and then from 1800 UTC to 2045 UTC (1 PM to 3:45 PM EST) Monday through Friday. Be sure to bring your current FCC amateur radio license or a photocopy.

The W1AW Operating Schedule may also be found on page 100 in the January 2009 issue of QST or on the web at, <http://www.arrl.org/w1aw.html>.

Joint ARRL-RAC EmComm Event Canceled

Joint ARRL-RAC EmComm Event Canceled (Jan 16, 2009) -- The Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) have cancelled their joint special event with the ARRL, scheduled for March 16-17 in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. This was to be a follow-up to an event held in September 2007 in Newfoundland. "The meeting was to showcase the co-operation between Canada and the United States in emergency communications matters," said RAC Vice President for Field Services Bob Cooke, VE3BDB. "The event had to be halted when Canadian government funding was suddenly and severely reduced due to the current world economic situation." Cooke thanked all who were associated with the preparation for the event: "Sincere thanks are extended to all who participated in planning for the event, including Canadian Consulate officials in Atlanta and Ral-

leigh. I would also like to thank ARRL Horry County Emergency Coordinator Matt McGuire, AF4UZ, who did so much of the leg work at Myrtle Beach, and his group of local Amateur Radio volunteers." There is no word on when the event will be rescheduled

This ARRL material was provided by The ARRL Letter/American Radio Relay League

Radio Society of Bermuda.

Good Day,

2009 is the 400th anniversary of the settlement of Bermuda by Sir George Somers. Most local organisations are having an event of some kind during the year. The Radio Society of Bermuda has been issued with a special call sign that can be used all year, it is VP9400/xx.

The xx suffix is the operator's call sign, i.e. VP9400/LP. There are a few novice licence holders who have a 3 digit suffix, i.e. VP9400/NMT. +Special pictorial postcards will be used to QSL.

We would be grateful if you would kindly pass this information on to your members through your usual channels.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter,

73's

Rose Spershott, VP9LP
Secretary, Radio Society of Bermuda.

The International Year of Astronomy

Special Prefix Callsign started January 1st 0h UT and ends Feb 27th 23:59 UT Feb 28 2009.

All Canadian Amateurs are encouraged to use it to commemorate

Galileo Galilei's first look through an optical instrument towards the heavens. The Special Prefix are

VE changes to CG
VA changes to CF
VO changes to CH
VY changes to CI

The official kickoff date for IYA was January 10th and on that date many astronomy clubs across Canada and around the world participated in local astronomical activities.

Displays at Shopping Malls, talks in Public Libraries, star parties for the public will be happening. To find out more about this unique ham radio Special prefix and related projects visit <http://www.hamiya2009.info>

Malcolm Scrimger, VE7DAO

First of Eight New Section Training Coordinators Announced.

RAC's National Training Coordinator (NTC), Dave Drinnan, VE9FK, who

**VOYAGES
Aladdin
TRAVEL**

suite 204
489-5723

STEPHEN PICKFORD --TRAVEL EXPERT

Host of The Travel Hour with Stephen Pickford and Friends (formerly CIQC's Travel World Radio Show)

is also the editor of the recently introduced and highly acclaimed ARES Operations Training Manual, has named the first two appointees to a planned eight Section Training Coordinator (STC) positions.

Jim Forsyth, VA7FJE, becomes STC for British Columbia/Yukon Section, while Bill Boskwick, VE6BOZ, is now STC for Alberta Section.

The NTC, who resides in the Maritimes Section, will assume the STC role there temporarily, pending identification of a willing and qualified candidate.

The STC's function is to make available consistent training methods, documents and other training support to RAC ARES units and members, reporting to and acting under the direction of the NTC. Full details of this new position may be found at www.rac.ca/fieldorg/racfsforms.htm

Qualified candidates interested in becoming the STC for Newfoundland/Labrador, Maritimes, Québec, Ontario, Manitoba or Saskatchewan Sections should contact the RAC VPFS at ve3bdb@sympatico.ca.

Bob Cooke VE3BDB,
Vice President Field Services
Radio Amateurs of Canada

Canadian Ski Marathon 2009 - February 7 and 8, 2009

I would appreciate it if you would help me by spreading the word throughout your local ham radio communities.

Once again the Canadian Ski Marathon is spooling up. This year we are looking forward to much more "normal" conditions and by that I mean snow!

The CSM depends on ham radio volunteers to provide important and

Marche aux Puce de Montréal - Samedi le 11 Avril, 2009

Montreal Fleamarket - Saturday, April 11, 2009

Royal Canadian Legion Hall Branch #212 (LaSalle)

7771 Bouvier (Coin de Shevchenko/Corner of Shevchenko),
Ville LaSalle, Quebec

Autobus STCUM # 109 Arrêt au coin/stops at corner.
Planibus/Bus Schedule - 109
<http://www.stm.info/English/bus/planibus/109.pdf>

Ouverture/Opening:

Vendeurs/Vendors 08h00 - 08:15 AM
Public/Public 09h00 - 12h00/09:00 AM - noon
Prix de Presence - Door Prizes
Radio-Guidage/Talk-in To Be Announced
Frais D'Admission/General Admission 5.00\$
Tables/Tables 10,00\$ chacun/each 18,00\$
pour deux/for two

Renseignements - Reservations - Information

James R. Hay Telephone (514)-697-7205
(evenings) (514)-990-1965 (days)
courriel/email:ve2arc@rac.ca
<http://www.marc.qc.ca/fest/fest.html>

7771 Bouvier (Coin de Shevchenko/Corner of Shevchenko)
Ville LaSalle, Quebec
Autobus STCUM # 109 Arrêt au coin/stops at corner.
Planibus/Bus Schedule - 109
<http://www.stm.info/English/bus/planibus/109.pdf>

timely safety and logistical communication for the benefit of the skiers. The amateur radio CSM web page (<http://radio.admin2.ca>) is up and running with 2009 information and assignments are already being filled. If you would like to volunteer this year, please email Harold VA3UNK (radio1@admin2.ca). Although I can't promise anything, assignment requests are generally first-come, first-served.

Please join me the second weekend in February (7th-8th) and help make the 36th our best year yet!

73 de Harold, VA3UNK

*Basic Amateur Radio Course**Class of 2009***ORIGIN OF HAM STUFF*******FACT, LEGENDS AND MYTHS!*******THE ORIGIN OF "CQ"**

(By Jeff, KH2PZ)

"CQ" originated, as does much of the "ham" terminology from the days in which telegraphy was the only mode. I (Jeff, KH2PZ) would imagine it was a shortened form of the words "Seek You", as in looking for someone to talk to.

CQ was the pre-SOS. CQ was translated as "seek you" by Hashifisti Scratchi's column in CQ magazine in the 1950's, which may account for the "seek you" legend. The premise of the column would almost preclude there being any historical accuracy behind it.

There was a distress version of CQ used by Marconi Company shipboard and coastal operators which was CQD and which was used before SOS. CQD was sent in letters, unlike SOS which is a single procedural signal. But none of this helps advance the archeology of CQ except to confirm that it was already in use in the very earliest days of spark radio.

"I" was used by Ships in distress, before SOS was used. It meant "Come Quick".

Let's turn to page 4 of Baarslag's Famous Sea Rescues (formerly titled: SOS To The Rescue): "By 1904 a number of ships in the trans-Atlantic trade were equipped with wireless telegraphy. The British operators were nearly all landline telegraphers who had left railroad or post-office keys to go to sea in the newly opened field. They brought along with them not only their Morse code but also many of their telegraphic abbreviations and signals. One was the general call - CQ, which had been used to attract attention of all operators along a wire. It preceded the time signal in the morn-

*Photo by Vern, VE2MBS**Back l to r: Naveen Goswamy, Scott Russell, Wayne Beck**Front l to r: Lianne Dzygala, Michael Dumitrescu*

ing at 10 o'clock and also all notices of general importance. CQ went to sea and became a general call to all ships."

A couple paragraphs later, "Early in 1904 the Marconi Company, realizing the desirability of some universal distress signal, filled the need by issuing the following general order: 'It has been brought to our notice that the call 'CQ' (All Stations) while being satisfactory for general purposes, does not sufficiently express the urgency required in a signal of distress. Therefore, on and after the 1st of February, 1904, the call to be given by ships in distress, or in any way requiring assistance, shall be 'CQD.' " "

This seems to imply that prior to February 1st 1904, some ship did use CQ as a distress call, and possibly her calls for help didn't draw the needed atten-

tion (this was before the twice-per-hour silent periods were created - 600m was pure bedlam, and a CQ would have gone unheeded).

For more radio history, visit your local research library. But please don't make up "facts" (am I the only one who believes that questions concerning radio history should be included in the amateur exams?)

73, Jeff KH2PZ / KH6

RADIO H.F.



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PUBLICATIONS / PUBLICATIONS

AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE (ARRL), ARTSCI, BAYLIN PUBLICATIONS, BILLBOARD (WRTH), CQ, CRB, HIGHTEXT, IBS (PASSPORT), KLINGENFUSS, KRAUSE, LOOMPANICS, NATIONAL RADIO CLUB, RADIO SOCIETY OF GREAT BRITAIN, RADIO AMATEUR CALLBOOK, RADIO AMATEURS DU QUEBEC, SCHIFFER BOOKS, SONORAN, TAB, TIARE

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