

marcOgram

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



Volume 48, Number 8

May 2003

“MARC ANNUAL SHOW AND TELL SHOW MEETING”

Wednesday 28 May 2003

Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30

Club meeting: 20:00

St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church

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

Come on out to the Annual Show and Tell meeting. This is always an interesting and informative meeting. One never knows for sure what will show up, from home brew to an antique classic to a modern marvel and what discussions will follow. Be sure to come out and bring along something to show. This is always an entertaining and informing evening.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello,

The editor probably wants to shoot me for getting this column in late but the weather has been rather nice lately... This month is the annual Show and Tell and I am sure that there will be some interesting items to share with fellow members.

The planning for the annual Canada Day celebration in Dorval is underway and the club will again be participating. In addition to the usual demonstration station and information booth we will

need a few members for safety related communications and activities particularly during the boat race and the fireworks. Its a great family event and I hope that I will see you all at Pine Beach Park in Dorval on July 1.

Field Day is also coming up and a decision has to be made about the club's participation in the event. There has been a trend for the directors to do much of the organizing for club events and I have noted that there has been little input from the membership regarding Field Day.

It was felt that this question should be put to the

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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) \$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

President: James R. Hay, VE2VE.....514-697-7205
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 dash@hawk.igs.net
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 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.

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 Monthly Meetings

28 May 2003 - Show and Tell

Radio Classes

Each year the MARC holds a basic radio course, usually starting in January. This year's session was recently completed and was held in association with the Concordia University ARC.

MARC Hamfest

Planning is now underway for next year's event.

Field Day

Field day is held on the weekend of Jun 28 - 29. Options and sites are still being considered. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

Canada Day

The club will be having a demonstration amateur radio station during Canada Day celebrations in Dorval. This is still in the preliminary planning stages so details are to follow.

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

membership for a decision. We have the possibility of holding our own Field Day if we can identify a suitable location or joining the group in Grenville or joining the Concordia University ARC. What is your preference? Each possibility has its good points and drawbacks? Is Field Day important to the club? We participate in various equestrian events and other public service events where possible, and perhaps Field Day is not high on the members' list of priorities.

Given the amount of time and energy required to organize a Field Day I hope that there will be a good participation by club members and as much as I do not believe in over-organizing what is, in theory at least, an emergency exercise someone does have to give some basic thought to its organization. Owing to other commitments, while I look forward to participating, I cannot do the basic organizing as I did for five of our past six field days.

This year there will be at least two equestrian events and I hope that I will see many of you assisting with these very enjoyable events. Not only is it a day to enjoy in the country but the participants and organizers very much appreciate the assistance which we give to the event.

John Grow has approached the club with two very interesting projects. The first is a construction evening for those wishing to build the Tiny Trak III APRS unit. If you've been thinking about APRS this would be one way to get into the field. Let John or I know if you are interested. The second project is very much worthwhile is it is to spend some time demonstrating and showing off amateur radio to a scout troop in Lachine. While we don't have a set date John has agreed to co-ordinate this event but he will need assistance. We need to make more people aware of amateur radio and your assistance is needed. Please let me know if you are able to assist in this most worthy of projects.

Last month I mentioned to you the very generous donation of a power supply to the MAB Radio Room by Stabylex. This month I would like to let you know that we need some help to bring down the HF antenna there and give it an overhaul and re-install it. The antenna has a tendency to want to try non-standard polarisation's and we should try to ensure that it is in top condition early this summer rather than the week before the Sweepstakes next November.

Unfortunately, as happens each year I will not be able to attend the May meeting and our Vice-President, Steven will take my place. I look forward to hearing the news of the meeting and to seeing many of you during the summer at our various events.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Hope you enjoyed the great weather on the holiday weekend. This month's meeting should be another informative and entertaining meeting. Be seeing you.

73 de Craig, VE2YGK

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CONTEST CALENDAR

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

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

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

May 2003

CQ WW WPX Contest CW	0000Z May 24 - 2400Z May 25
MI QRP Memorial Day CW Sprint	2300Z May 26 - 0300Z May 27
Great Lakes QSO Party	0000Z May 31 - 2359Z Jun 1

June 2003

IARU Region 1 Field Day CW	1500Z Jun 7 - 1500Z Jun 8
ANARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z Jun 14 - 2400Z Jun 15
Portugal Day Contest	0000Z - 2400Z Jun 14
WW South America CW Contest	0000Z Jun 14 - 1600Z Jun 15
Asia-Pacific Sprint SSB	1100Z - 1300Z Jun 14
West Virginia QSO Party	1600Z Jun 14 - 0200Z Jun 15
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z Jun 14 - 0300Z Jun 16
All Asian DX Contest CW	0000Z Jun 21 - 2400Z Jun 22
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z - 2100Z Jun 21
Kid's Day Contest	1800Z - 2400Z Jun 21
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z Jun 28 - 1400Z Jun 29
ARRL Field Day	1800Z Jun 28 - 2100Z Jun 29
QRP ARCI Milliwatt Field Day	1800Z Jun 28 - 2100Z Jun 29
His Maj. King of Spain Contest SSB	1800Z Jun 28 - 1800Z Jun 29

July 2003

RAC Canada Day Contest	0000Z - 2359Z Jul 1
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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>

2003 Hamfests

May 25

Tracy QC

On Sunday May 25, Hamfest du Québec - Tracy, Québec at the Curling A. Racine et Centre Culturel, Place du Centre Civique, Tracy, QC. Exposants/Vendors 06h00 Public 09h00 to 15h00 Indoor Table - 15.00\$ including 1 admission, payable in advance. Outdoor Table - 7.00\$ General Admission 5.00\$

Talk-in: VE2RBS 145,370 (-), tone 103.5 Hz

Information and Reservations: Denis - ve2dsh at 450-746-0814 or ve2cbs@hotmail.com

<http://www.ve2cbs.qc.ca/>
or <http://www.hamfest.qc.ca>

June 1

Amherstburg ON

On Sunday, June 1, the Amherstburg Radio Club 1st Annual Fleamarket - Amherstburg, Ontario at the Scout Hall on the corner of Victoria and Simcoe Streets

Vendors 07h30 and the Public 09h00 to 13h:30 (1:30 PM)

Tables 5.00\$ General admission Free

Talk-in: 145.290 (-) VE3EXT and 146.520 simplex

Information and Reservations: Carey Collard, ve3cfq at 519-736-7694 or via e-mail at va3trl@rac.ca

June 7

Fergus ON

On Saturday, June 7, the Central Ontario Fleamarket and Hamfest. at the Fergus & District Community Centre, 10 km north of Guelph off Highway 6.

See www.hamfest.on.ca for a map.

Vendors at 06h00, Tailgaters at 07h00 and the Public at 08h00 to 12h30. Admission \$5.00 -- Vendors - Inside tables \$10.00 plus admission, Outside Tailgater spaces \$5, plus admission. Talk-in: VE3ZGM 145.210 (-) and 146.520 Simplex in the Town of Fergus.

Information/reservations: Mike Peleschak, VE3OGE, via phone (519)-822-3552

E-mail: info@hamfest.on.ca

<http://www.hamfest.on.ca>

July 5

Milton ON

On Saturday, July 5, the Ontario Hamfest 2003 at the Milton Agricultural Fairgrounds, Milton. Times Inside Vendors: 07h00 - Robert Street Gate only - Tailgaters: 08h00 - Robert Street gate only

General Admission: 09h00 - Thomas St gate only.

General Admission - \$6.00 Inside Vendors - \$10.00 per table plus \$6.00 per person Tailgaters - \$5.00 tailgate permit (per

space) + \$6.00 per person. Talk-in: 146.520 Simplex
Reservations: Mary McCully, VE3QLF at (905) 333-0826.

E-mail: ve3qlf@rac.ca

<http://www.barc.ca>

July 12

Thorold ON

On Saturday, July 12, the NPARC 1st Annual Tailgate Hamfest & Auction at Basil Reid Park, 699 Allanburg Road, Thorold, Ontario. Times: Gates open from 07h00 until 15h00 (3 pm) - Auction starts at 10h00. Cost: \$5 per person, under 16 free, 70 and over with both parents free

Talk-in: VE3NRS 147.240 (+)

Information/Reservations: Dave Wilson VE3BBN at (905)262-5588 or by email at ve3bbn@hotmail.com or John Boswell at (905)227-0155 or by email at va3xm@rac.ca

<http://www.gsl.net/ve3vm/tailgate.htm>

August 2

St. Romuald QC

On Saturday, August 2, the Hamfest 2003 (St. Romuald Hamfest) at the Arena St. Romuald, St. Romuald, QC

Vendors 06h00 - General Admission 09h00 - 15h00

Admission \$5.00 - Tables \$15.00 Talk-in: 145.450 (-)

Information/reservations: Pierre Racine,

ve2coh@sympatico.ca 418-527-8680

Serge Berube, ve2bpu@sympatico.ca

<http://www.aresqc.org>

August 2

Burlington VT

On Saturday, August 2, the Burlington (Vermont) 2003 Hamfest at the Essex Skating Rink at the Essex Skating Centre, Old Colchester Road. Times: Vendors 07h00 - Public 08h00 to 15h00 Admission \$5.00 (U.S.) Vendor Tables \$10 (U.S.) VE Session at noon. Talk-in: 146.610 (-)

Information: Renee Berteau, N1UXK via e-mail at n1uxk@juno.com or Telephone at (802)-893-7660

Reservations: Sam Conant, N1PDL via e-mail at sconant@sover.net or Telephone at (802)-655-1664

<http://www.vtstetson.net/barcpage>

Saturday, **August 23** - Victoria-Haliburton ARA Hamfest 2003 - Manvers Township, Ontario

<http://yodeler.myftpsite.net/vhara/>

Saturday, **August 30** - Ottawa Amateur Radio Club 6th Annual Hamfest. - Carp, Ontario

<http://oarc.net/fleamarket>

Saturday, **September 6** - WIARC Hamfest and Auction - Pointe Claire, QC

<http://shell.pubnix.net/~wiarc>

Saturday, **September 27** - 14th Annual Hamfest Centre du Québec - Drummondville, Québec

<http://www.9bit.qc.ca/~ve2crd/hamfest.html>

Saturday, **October 25** - Hamfest de Rive-sud de Montréal - Longueuil, Québec

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

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

© 2003 - Vernon Erle Ikeda

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NORTHERN VERMONT QRP SOCIETY FIELD DAY 2003

As was mentioned at the last club meeting, all MARC members who are interested in joining the NVQS Field day are welcome. If you can attend both days or only one day is OK. Due to the number of operators and equipment you will have to let us know who is coming and when you will attend. The site is a closed State Park 1800 ft. on the slope of Mount Mansfield (Vermont's highest mountain). If you are interested please advise John Grow as soon as possible so you can be included in the plans.

WHEN: June 28 to June 29th, 2003 Please check out the ARRL Field Day Rules

WHERE: Underhill State Park, Vermont

FACILITIES: Porta toilet, BBQ, Tables, Bring your tent, and have fun.

FOOD: The club is preparing Breakfast, Lunch and Supper. Donations of attending Amateurs will be required to offset costs.

STATION: 4A, using QRP radios, No Generator, Wireless Laptops, 2 HF Beams, VHF/UHF

Beam, 1000 ft Loop Antenna, Vertical 40 meter Loop. GOTA Station

TENTS: We will have operating tents, comfort tent, Dining Tent.

CONTACT: John Grow VE2EQL jgrow@sympatico.ca
450-672-1545

<http://www.wulfden.org/nvqs/fd2003/index.shtml>

<http://www.wulfden.org/nvqs/index.shtml>

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APRS "TINY TRAK 3" GROUP BUILD

At the last talk, I asked if there was interest in being part of a group build for the "Tiny Trak 3" APRS tracker. Here are the details:

WEB SITES:

<http://www.byonics.com/index.html>

<http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/TinyTrak/>

COSTS: \$ 42.00 US, payable to Byonics.

LOCATION: TO BE DETERMINED

WHAT IS REQUIRED: 2 METER RADIO, INTERFACE CABLES, GPS UNIT

TIMEFRAME: 3 MEETINGS, SPACED OUT 1 OR 2 WEEKS.

CONTACT: John Grow VE2EQL jgrow@sympatico.ca
450-672-1545

73 de John Grow, VE2EQL

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25TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MAY 31, 2003

I was reading the most recent issue of Radioamateur (the RAQI newmagazine) and spent the last few days trying to come up with something half readable and I decided instead to come up with something that I had found earlier on the World Wide Web a while back. It is pretty much sums up what happened that night twenty-five years ago this month. Thanks to Burton Lang, VE2BMQ, a piece of Montreal Amateur Radio history has been preserved.

Vernon E. Ikeda, VE2MBS

At around 9pm on May 31, 1978 the first known transmissions of packet over Amateur Radio were sent. The place was the upstairs banquet hall of Bill Wong's Restaurant on Decarie Blvd. in Montreal, Quebec,

Canada. The event was a special meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club (MARC) called to discuss and debate proposed changes to the Canadian amateur frequency allocations that were being contemplated at the time by the Canadian Government Department of Communications (DOC). In attendance were several DOC officials from Ottawa, including the Director General - Regulations, Dr. John deMercado. Dr. deMercado is considered by some to be the "father" of amateur packet radio due to his persistent pressure to open up an exclusive portion of amateur band to experiment with the new mode and due to his early experience on the Aloha project in Hawaii. Others take a less charitable view of his role in the matter.

The first packet message was reported to have been:

"From John deMercado to the Montreal group - Bravo, well done!"

or something like that. As is common with many historical events, the participants did not bother to record the particulars and memory now is less than perfect.

The Montreal Packet Net group consisted of:

- * Bob Rouleau VE2PY
- * Norm Pearl, VE2BQS
- * Fred Basserman, VE2BQF
- * Bram Frank, VE2BFH
- * Jacques Orsali, VE2EPH (Now VA2JOT)
- * Ted Baleshta VE3CAF
- * Ian Hodgson, VE2BEN
- * and others not mentioned.

A detailed description of the Montreal Protocol and hardware used in the experiments is given in the TAB book #1345 "PACKET RADIO" by Bob Rouleau and Ian Hodgson published in 1981. An interesting note is that the Montreal Modem design used the Exar XR-2206/2211 chip set. I am told that a sample of the Montreal Modem was sent to the Vancouver group (VADCG) in the fall of 1978 and it is probably no coincidence that the same chip set appeared in the TAPR TNC modem of which Doug Lockhart of VADCG had a hand in designing.

It is ironic that none of the original Montreal Packet Net group are presently in Amateur Packet Radio. After an initial spurt of activity in amateur packet, Bob Rouleau and several others in the group turned to

commercial applications for packet radio. The resulting company, DataRadio Inc, today is building and marketing commercial packet radio systems around the world. A typical application is the Canadian Weather Radio packet service introduced some years ago using DataRadio equipment specially designed for the application.

We should congratulate these early pioneers in amateur packet radio for the work they did in getting the hobby started. It is through their early efforts that today's worldwide packet system has grown, often chaotic, seldom planned but with a continuous forward progress due to the efforts of countless others in the intervening years to advance and refine the technology. In the words of the first packet message:

BRAVO, WELL DONE!!!!!!!!!!

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by Burt, VE2BMQ

From:

<http://www.cam.org/~burt/neda/pranni.html>
<http://www.cam.org/~burt/neda/neda.html#docindex>

73 de Vern, VE2MBS

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**SCANNERS HEAR IT FIRST BY
FREDERICK HART, VE2LSQ**

Greetings from scanning central wedged somewhere between intensive care and the nursery. Live from room 173 in the B ward I get to keep my sanity and scan the emergency services. As a guest of the nurses and doctors (103 days and 56 pounds lighter and still counting) I am slowly but surely improving on all of the rest of the reasons I'm here. I get to walk a little bit each day (about 45 metres) with a walker and two support staff using a wheelchair backup. On the day of the hamfest in April Frank, VE2TOR, dropped in and wheeled me outside for a half hour of fresh air. The first in many months. Poor Frank looked like he needed intensive care after wheeling me around through the entire hospital. Thanks Frank and thanks for letting me get on the air with your portable. Its been a while.

So as I convalesce I sit here and trunk track and scan the emergency services. The staff here are quite

**COMMUNITY SUPPORT
BLAINVILLE CARRIAGE DRIVING EVENT
JUNE 21, 2003**

VE2LZR Communications Group

interested in the goings on on the air and often come in the room and sit with me and tune in to some earfuls of fire, rescue or ambulance frequencies. My old colleagues from Urgence Santé know I'm monitoring them and usually say hi on the air when local to the hospital then drop in to visit. SSIM Station 65 not only gives me chatter on the radio but their main run to the east part of LaSalle runs right behind the hospital so I heard the engine drone and sirens before they report en route. One day some scanner listeners were tuned in to the day I was taken in here. Vehicle 285, 412, 191 and 725 from US and 2065 and 4065 of SSIM. A few grunts and groans later and I was evacuated to the ER to begin my long journey to a new lease on life. To those who have called and visited, thank you for all the morale boost. Special thanks to Jim, Vern, Joe, Carole, Ryan and Scott, some of the regulars. I even got a visit from the governor of Vermont, N1YQA, Jeff and his wife Michelle and friend Matt. The light at the end of the tunnel is getting brighter and I hope to walk normally again in a much smaller body within the year. Surgeons and support staff are the best and the food is great.

Earfuls of SSIM and US keep my sanity and have helped immensely in my convalescence. Again thanks to all who cared see you next month. A quick frequency note, Urgence Santé on the Ridgewood hub have assigned two talk groups the first is 02-090 which is the on-air from ambulance to emergency department with Sacre-Coeur and Montreal General Hospitals (trauma centres) and Montreal Children's and St. Justine's Children's Hospitals.

The other is talk group 02-091, technicians who are trained in the five medications plus category report to a doctor on this frequency and request standing orders. Other talk groups to follow. Another frequency note - public security frequencies on the West Island in Dollard, Roxboro, Pointe-Claire, Pierrefonds, Ste-Anne-de-Bellevue and others will soon be using the 800 MHz EDACS system previously used by the Pointe-Claire and Dollard fire services with repeater sites on the Pointe Claire water tower and the hospital in Ste-Anne's. A list of talk groups and frequencies will follow in next month's column. 73 and go get an earful .

PS. This is where I used to sign 73 from me and the cats, haven't seen the cats in 102 days, miss them a bunch but they are being cared for until I get out.

73 Fred, VE2LS and a Q.

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Hi All,

I have been asked like in the past to provide communications for the Blainville Driving Event to be held on Saturday June the 21st in Blainville at the Blainville Equestrian Centre which is located about ten minutes north-east of the junction of Autoroutes 15 and 640. It is very easy to get to and there is lots of parking on-site. A pre-Event breakfast is supplied for those hardy volunteers.

You need 2 Metre equipment that will work for about 8 to 10 hours minimum as there is no electricity available, so being portable and self sufficient is a must - Also this is event is rain or shine.....

So again let me know if you are available for that day, as usual its from 8:00 - 8:30 A.M. to about 4:30 P.M. For more information contact Ken Magee at ve2lzl@rac.ca

73 de Ken (VE2EXC) for the VE2LZR Group

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CLASSIFIED

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

1) FOR SALE:

**KENWOOD 7950 2 MTR . MANUAL INCL. \$170.
DAIWA CROSS NEEDLE SWR METER FOR HF. \$75.** Call Bill, VE2QL 514-488-6870:

2) FOR SALE:

Hy-Gain TH-4, four element 20m/15m/10m yagi. Asking \$125. Call Leo, VE2SI / Nora, VE2HAX 514-489-0907 or email leo@physics.mcgill.ca

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RADIO HF