

marc0gram



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

A MARC Monthly Newsletter

Volume 54, Number 2 October 2008

Next meeting - Wednesday 29 October 2008

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

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church

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

(Please enter by the back door)

Christmas Dinner

The Christmas dinner will be at
Antico Martini, 6450 Somerled. NDG

Date & Time: Friday, December 5, 19:00

Cost: \$38 per person (cash or cheque)

Menu: similar to the 75th. with a choice of veal,
salmon or chicken.

We have a section of the restaurant reserved.

Please inform our President if you plan to attend.

James R. Hay

jrhay@HayA.QC.CA

514-697-7205

A Word from The President

Hello,

Well, the colour of the leaves tells us that its definitely fall. The weather is cooler and we're getting closer to winter and spending more time indoors. We'll be holding the Christmas dinner again this year, this time at Antico Martini. If you plan to attend please let me know.

You should all have received a notice of the Annual General Meeting. It was mailed separately as we did not get it into the September MarcOgram and since we were sending out renewal notices the additional cost to send a notice to all members is not that great. IF you have not renewed your membership for this year please do so as the club needs your support. IF there is something you'd like to see the club doing please let us know.

The AGM is your opportunity to provide direction to the club. This year I have been advised that Bob Paknys, VE2JBP, and Nick Kalantzis, VE2WPT, are stepping down from the board owing to work commitments. I would like to thank them both for their contribution to the board.

This month is an important meeting so I hope to see you all there.

73 de Jim.

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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
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Tel: 514-767-2804

Annual Fees are:

GeneralMembers... \$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.

Articles published in the MarcOgram may be reproduced provided credit is given to the original author and the Montreal Amateur radio club.

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-

September 08 Presentation

John Grow, VE2EQL

Jim Hay, VE2VE



There're trying to sought things out!!

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.

From the Editor's Desk

It was great to include the first article in the ARRL group, "Montana Ham helps Washington Ham." This kind of story explains what were' all about.

The piece about Canadian and American hams giving a "textbook example" of amateur radio's emcomm role by providing situational awareness and disaster intelligence for Hurricane Kyle. This kind of cooperation I'm sure will be essential in the future.

The article on page-9 regarding the use of 7.1-7.6 MHz band using a 20 kHz bandwidth digital emission at a transmitter output power of 100 kW within a radius of 1500 kilometers of Delta Junction, Alaska by DART should also be a concern to Canadian hams. The Yukon Territory is only about 600 Km from the transmitters,

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

From the ARRL**MONTANA HAM ASSISTS IN RESCUE OF FELLOW AMATEUR 600 MILES AWAY**

On Sunday, September 21, Bob Williams, N7ODM, of Bozeman, Montana, was just tuning around on 40 meters, giving his rig a test just before a scheduled QSO with his brother Rich, K7URU, in Spokane, when he heard a faint CW signal around 1 PM (MDT): Glenn Russell Ruby Jr, W7AU, of Corvallis, Oregon had broken his leg and was using a portable radio and Morse code to send out a call for help. Williams said he was able to understand the injured man's code even when his signal became very weak.

"He called me. He must have heard me testing out the radio. When I finished, I signed off with my call, and then I heard, 'N7ODM, this is W7AU/7,' so I answered," Williams told the ARRL. "I told him to go ahead, I had solid copy. He told me that he was a hiker that had fallen and broken his leg. He identified himself as Russ, provided information

as to his GPS coordinates, the shelter, food and water on hand, as well as his detailed physical condition. He told me exactly who I needed to contact for assistance."

According to Williams, Ruby had slipped on a wet rock and broken his leg while out hiking in the Buck Creek Pass area of the high Cascades in Western Washington, 600 miles away from Williams. "Russ really had his act together," Williams said. "Before he even called for help, he set up his tent. It was raining when he fell, so he climbed into his tent and got into some warm clothes and had a snack of sunflower seeds and dried apricots. After that, he strung up a wire antenna, fired up his Elecraft K1 and called me." Williams said that Ruby told him he had a "couple of weeks worth of battery power" for the radio.

Ruby asked Williams to notify the Snohomish County Search and Rescue in Washington State. "I didn't have their number, so I called my local 911 dispatcher. All they had was the info for King County in Washington, so

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

I called them and they gave me the number for Snohomish. When I got a hold of Snohomish County Search and Rescue, they asked me to obtain additional info from Russ, such as the color of his tent and if he was in a clear or wooded area, and remain in contact with him as long as possible," Williams said.

"Russ and I were able to maintain contact until about 8 PM on Sunday, during which time I was able to pass additional traffic between Russ and Search and Rescue, but then his signal got so weak where I couldn't copy it anymore. Before he faded, we had agreed to try and make contact in the morning. I tried, starting around 6:30, but he never heard me. I finally heard him calling me around 9 on 7.051 MHz. We kept in contact until he was evacuated from the site by Search and Rescue at about 10:35 AM," Williams told the ARRL.

On Sunday, rescue crews reached Ruby, who had set up camp on Buck Creek Pass, at about 6000 feet just west of the Chelan County line. He was taken to safety Monday on horseback. Williams said that bad weather Sunday prevented a helicopter rescue: "It was snowing all night; Russ

told me that when he woke up Monday morning, his tent was all covered in snow."

"I just happened to be at the same frequency," Williams said. "It's just a stroke of luck that turned out great. It was quite an experience. I'm just glad that he was a ham radio operator and that I was able to talk to him. It made the difference for him. What I did was not anything special. I'd like to think that any ham in Montana would've done the same thing."

ARU AWARD CERTIFICATES GET NEW LOOK

On September 19, the ARRL Awards Branch unveiled a new design for two IARU award certificates: the Worked All Continents Award (WAC) and the 5 Band Worked All Continents Award (5BWAC)

<http://www.arrl.org/awards/wac/>.

WAC is awarded to amateurs who have confirmed contacts on any band with Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, North America and Oceania, while 5BWAC recognizes hams who have made confirmed contacts with those continents on 10, 15, 20, 40 and 80 meters.

The WAC/5BWAC rules state that all contacts must be made from the same country or separate territory within the same continental area of the world. Contacts made on 10/18/24 MHz or via satellites are void for the 5-band certificate and 6-band endorsement. All contacts for the QRP endorsement must be made on or after January 1, 1985 while running a maximum power of 5 W output or 10 W input. US amateurs must be ARRL members to receive these awards; foreign amateurs must be members of their IARU Member-Society and should apply through their Member-Society.

According to ARRL DXCC Manager Bill Moore, NC1L, the WAC award -- originally announced in the April 1926 issue of QST -- continues to be a popular award around the world with more than 6000 participants since

its inception. "Besides the certificate design change, the WAC certificate will also display the award holder's name alongside their call sign. We do this already on the 5BWAC certificate."

Moore said there are a couple of ways that hams interested in applying for WAC or 5BWAC can do so. "They can download the form from the WAC Web site

<http://www.iaru.org/wac/wac.pdf>

and send it via regular mail (along with QSL cards and payment) to ARRL, or DXCC recipients can send an e-mail wac@arrl.org, referring to their DXCC award. We can look into your account to verify the contacts; just include your payment information in your message," he said.

WAC is currently not supported in ARRL's Logbook of The World (LoTW), but Moore said that an upgrade to do so is currently in the planning stages. Any comments or questions regarding the WAC or 5BWAC program should be referred to the WAC Desk wac@arrl.org.

The meeting was attended by President Reinaldo Leandro, YV5AMH; Vice President Dario Jurado, HP1DJ; Secretary Ramon Santoyo V., XE1KK; Treasurer and Area E Director Noel E. Donawa, 9Y4NED; Area A Director Daniel A. Lamoureux, VE2KA; Area B Director Rod Stafford, W6ROD; Area C Director Pedro Rodriguez, CO2RP; Area D Director Marco Tulio Gudiel, TG9AGD, and Area G Director Reinaldo Szama, LU2AH. IARU President Larry Price, W4RA was also present, representing the IARU International Secretariat.

CANADIAN AND AMERICAN HAMS PROVIDE "TEXTBOOK EXAMPLE" OF AMATEUR RADIO'S EMCOMM ROLE

On Sunday, September 27, the VoIP Hurricane Net

<http://www.voipwx.net/>

formally activated at 5 PM EDT to provide surface reports as Hurricane Kyle affected portions of extreme Northeastern Maine, New Brunswick

and Nova Scotia, Canada. The activation was in coordination with WX4NHC

<<http://www.wx4nhc.org/>>, the Amateur Radio Station at the National Hurricane Center (NHC), to support their operations for Hurricane Kyle.

"The Canadian Maritimes rarely get hurricanes, but we received some of our highest quality reports that included measured wind data every 15-20 minutes, as well as damage reports from radio amateurs in the area. They did a fantastic job," said Director of Operations for the VoIP Hurricane Net Rob Macedo, KD1CY. "We reached out to many of the IRLP and EchoLink stations in this area and the response rate from those amateurs connecting to our Net was extremely high."

Assistant WX4NHC Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R, agreed: "The Canadian amateurs provided critical surface reports to the National Hurricane Center that we wouldn't have received otherwise. I was very impressed with the level and detail of the reports we received." The National Hurricane Center in Miami works closely together with the Canadian Hurricane Centre <http://www.atl.ec.gc.ca/weather/hurricane/index_e.html> when tropical events impact this area of the world.

The storm downed trees and wires, prompting power outages over portions of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, Canada. A measured wind gust to near 95 MPH was reported in Lockeport, Nova Scotia by a ham radio operator with a weather station within a couple hundred feet of the coast of the Atlantic Ocean.

ARRL Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager Dennis Dura, K2DCD, acted as Net Control for most of the Net's activation; Dura also serves as Assistant Director of the VoIP Hurricane Net Operations. "I, too, was extremely impressed with the level of support from the Canadian amateurs in providing situational awareness and disaster intelligence for

Hurricane Kyle," he said. "The work these hams performed was a textbook example of the role Amateur Radio plays in events like this. Many lessons were re-learned tonight, lessons that need to be re-taught in areas impacted by tropical events."

On Saturday, prior to Kyle's arrival in the Canadian Maritimes, Dura began providing information to the Radio Amateurs of Canada (RAC) <<http://www.rac.ca>> through their ARES e-mail reflector. Sunday's information sharing was escalated with direct contact with RAC Vice President for Field Services Bob Cooke, VE3BDB. "This event provides an opportunity for cross border support, as it's certainly not every day that a tropical event is aimed at a Canadian Province without first hitting the States," Dura said. Cooke echoed this in his message to the RAC Section Emergency Coordinators, District Emergency Coordinators and local Emergency Coordinators, urging "every Radio Amateur to participate to the best of his or her ability."

ANOTHER WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP MEDAL FOR ARDF TEAM USA

Ten years ago, only a few hams in North America knew that on-foot hidden transmitter hunting is an international sport with many names such as fox tailing, fox hunting, radio-orienting and Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) <<http://www.homingin.com/index.html>>. Few were aware that Eastern European countries had begun playing with ARDF decades ago; the first World Championships were in 1980. In 1988, stateside ARDF active hams in Portland, Oregon and Southern California were learning the ARDF ropes by holding on-foot fox hunting events using international rules.

In the past 10 years, more hams in more places have discovered that this form of radiosport is great exercise for the body and the brain. According to ARRL ARDF Coordinator Joe Moell, K0OV, as the USA catches up with the

rest of the world, the US's ARDF "big guns" continue to improve.

Earlier this month, the Korean Amateur Radio League <<http://www.karl.or.kr/>> hosted the ARDF World Championships <<http://www.2008ardf.org/>>, and for the sixth time, Team USA made the trip. Members of the American team ranged in age from 23 to 66, representing seven states. Team members earned their positions at the 2007 USA Championships near South Lake Tahoe, California as well as the 2008 USA Championships near Bastrop, Texas.

"Overall, this was Team USA's best performance ever," Moell said. "We had four Top 10 finishes in the two days of fox-finding competition, first with 2 meter AM signals, and then with 80 meter CW signals. ARRL's team faced more than 300 of the planet's best fox tailers that represented 24 other national Amateur Radio societies."

"This was an excellent World Championships," Neal said. "The courses were very hard, almost brutal!" Radio-orienters are used to running among trees in forested land, using an orienteering map as a guide, but this year's 2 meter event on September 4 was quite different. According to Jay Hennigan, WB6RDV, of Goleta, California, the terrain of the 2400 acre site was unlike any he had ever experienced.

"The course was long and narrow, about three times as long as it was wide," Hennigan explained. "The start was in the north and the finish was in the south. On the map, it was about three-fifths woods, but that was all marked dark green, which meant you couldn't get through it unless you could find a pathway. Fortunately, there were a few trails in there to make it doable. The rest was marked yellow, which turned out to be cultivated fields and drained rice paddies. There were roads on

either side, so it became a matter of running down the road until you thought you were perpendicular to a transmitter, slogging to it through the mud, punching in and then running to one of the side roads, depending on where the next fox appeared to be. It wasn't just rice, there were other crops including some kind of cabbage. We couldn't avoid trampling the plants, but the farmers weren't yelling or coming after us."

The 80 meter event on September 6 was mostly in more familiar forested terrain. It was a bigger site and a 10 percent longer course.

Competitors said that they felt like mountain goats because it seemed as if each fox was on top of a different hill.

Excellent radio-orientees abound in Europe and Asia. Fourteen of the 25 nations at this year's World Championships took home one or more medals, but only five countries brought home gold. Three of them -- Russia, Ukraine and the Czech Republic -- dominated the medal count, capturing 71 percent of all medals and 92 percent of the golds. In these countries, ARDF is an important Amateur Radio activity in nearly every city and town. With so many hams doing radio-orienting, these countries can fill complete team rosters with the maximum allowable three persons in each age category for males and females.

Having a large team does not provide a cooperative advantage. Each competitor must work independently on championship courses. Any collusion or collaboration among team members is strictly forbidden; team scores are based only on the sum of individual performances.

Long-time map-and-compass orienteer Bob Cooley, KF6VSE, of Pleasanton, California, explained, that "It is important to make a lot of mistakes while practicing and to learn from them so that you don't make them in the future. I got the opportunity to get fooled in a variety of ways."

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)
--www.stephenpickford.com

For more information on ARDF, including international rules, suggestions for equipment and ideas for local events, go to Moell's Web site <<http://www.homingin.com/index.html>>. "I welcome your local event stories and photos for future ARDF Updates," he said.

2009 ARRL HANDBOOK (EIGHTY-SIXTH EDITION) NOW AVAILABLE

"The 2009 ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications" uniquely serves both amateur experimenters and industry practitioners, emphasizing connections between basic theory and application. "The ARRL Handbook" is simply the standard in applied electronics and communications. This 86th edition is both a useful introduction to radio communication and Features the most current material on electronics and Amateur Radio.

Topics in the 2009 edition include:

- * Principles of Electronics -- including basic theory, components, analog and digital circuit construction.
- * Radio Communications Fundamentals and Design -- including modes and

systems, filters, EMI, digital signal processing and software radio design, and RF power amplifiers.

- * Real-World Applications and Operating -- including practical projects, station setup, antennas, transmission lines, and methods for testing and troubleshooting.
- * References -- filled with hundreds of detailed tables, illustrations and photos.
- * And much more!

The "Handbook" is filled with valuable references, practical examples and projects. The CD-ROM at the back of the book includes all of the fully searchable text and illustrations in the printed book, as well as companion software, PC board templates and other support files.

Revisions to the 2009 "Handbook" include updated material on amateur satellites, including details for today's fleet of operational satellites, as well as updated versions of accessory software on the CD-ROM included with the book.

New projects in the 86th edition include:

- * RockMite QRP CW transceiver -- now expanded to cover 80, 40, 30 or 20 meters.
- * Audio Interface for Field Day or Contesting -- audio and mic connections for two operators sharing a radio.
- * Remote Power Controller -- turn high current devices off and on.
- * Audible Antenna Bridge -- tune for the lowest SWR by ear.

The softcover edition of the "Handbook" sells for \$44.95; the hardcover sells for US \$59.95
<<http://www.arrl.org/catalog/?item=no-hb2009>>.

Both editions are available now.

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Global Simulated Emergency Test – November 2008

**Saturday November 8th 2008
04.00 - 08.00 UTC**

IARU Region 1 invites the HQ- Stations of all IARU member societies and stations of Emergency Communications Groups to participate in a Global Simulated Emergency Test on Saturday November 8th, 2008 04.00 – 08.00 UTC. The operation will take place on and near the emergency Centre-of-Activity (CoA) frequencies on 80, 40, 20, 17 and 15 metres (+- QRM).

The objectives of the test are;

- 1/ increase the common interest in emergency communications.
- 2/ test how usable the CoA frequencies are across ITU regions.
- 3/ create practices for international emergency communication and
- 4/ practice the relaying of messages using all modes.

Please remember that this is not a contest, it is an emergency communications exercise !

Following the recommendation of the GAREC conferences, participating stations are requested to use /D in their callsign (D=distress/disaster) where permitted by their licensing administration. (NOT IN CANADA)

Traffic may be passed on voice (SSB), Data or CW modes as detailed below.

Voice mode

Each IARU Region will have a HQ station operating on voice as follows:

- Region 1 – TBA
- Region 2 – TBA
- Region 3 – TBA

HQ stations will be QRV simultaneously on all CoA frequencies appropriate to their region +- QRM as shown below.

Region 1

3760
7060
14300
18160
21360

Region 2

3750 or 3985
7060, 7240 or 7290

Region 3

3760 7060

- Stations intending to participate are requested to send their callsigns to globalset08@raynet-hf.net <<http://e1.mc326.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=globalset08@raynet-hf.net>> before the exercise so that HQ stations can be aware of the number of stations calling them. A list of participating stations will also be available at www.raynet-hf.net

To practice relaying messages, each participating station is allowed to send six (6) messages: three during the first two hours and three more during the last two hours of the test.

After sending their own messages, participating stations should start to relay messages of other stations, when a message has been relayed twice

it should then be sent to the HQ station of their own region. It is very useful if messages "jump" between countries and/or Regions.

Participating stations should call 'CQ GLOBALSET' giving their callsign and organisation (ARES, RAYNET, NETMAR etc.).

Each participating station will send up to six messages to their Regional HQ station as follows;

- Time of sending the message in UTC
- The callsign of the sending station
- Message number - 1,2 or 3 in the first half of the exercise, 4,5 or 6 in the second half.
- Bands available for use – use the meter band designation NOT frequency.
- Number of operators at the station
- Emergency power available:

1=None, 2=Battery, 3=Generator (of any kind), 4= Battery and Generator.
- Emergency Communications Group or National Society
- As messages are relayed, add via... via... to show the callsigns of stations which have relayed this message.

A one-character prefix will be used before each part of the message in order to make it easier to decode

Where:

- M(ike) = Message number
- B(ravo) = Band available
- O(scar) = Operators
- P(apa) = Power available

When a station other than an HQ station receives a message, it should relay the message towards the destination in whatever way it can.

For example :- a message originated by SU1KM in Egypt for the Region 1 HQ station might be passed initially to a station in Malta on 40m, from there to a French station on 80m, and finally to the destination HQ station on 80m.

For example :-

1. ZS6BUU sending message number 1 at 0430UTC, 80,40,20,10m bands available, 3 operators, no emergency power, member of HAMNET.

"0430 ZS6BUU M1 B80 B40 B20 B10 O03 P1 HAMNET"

2. MM3UJL/P sending message number 4 at 0700UTC, 160, 80, 40, 20,1 0m bands available, 2 operators, both battery and generator available, member of RAYNET

"0700 MM3UJL/P M4 B160 B80 B40 B20 B10 O02 P4 RAYNET"

Regional HQ stations will not send-messages, only receive them. To avoid QRMing the HQ stations, please move to frequencies near the CoA in steps of 5KHz for contacts with others.

To create a more realistic situation, please limit your transmitting power during the exercise to 100 Watts. Special value is given to stations operating mobile/portable and/or on emergency power.

Data modes

Data stations must send the same format as used for voice messages. There will not be any HQ stations for data modes, data stations should use the frequencies defined for their preferred mode in national bandplans. This makes the use of 'CQ GLOBALSET' and registering your intended participation particularly important.

'Structured' modes such as Winlink, ALE, PSKmail should send their messages directly to globalset-data@raynet-hf.net <<http://e1.mc326.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=globalset-data@raynet-hf.net>>, other data modes should attempt to relay the messages through two other stations before sending them to globalset-data@raynet-hf.net <<http://e1.mc326.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=globalset-data@raynet-hf.net>> for analysis.

CW Mode

CW is included in this SET to increase the possibility of stations making contacts in difficult conditions and should be used when SSB or data contacts are proving impossible. There will not be any HQ stations for CW, CW stations should operate near the CoA frequencies when SSB traffic cannot be heard.

CW stations must send the same format as used for voice messages and not exceed 15wpm. If necessary CW messages can be relayed through two other stations before sending them to globalset-cw@raynet-hf.net <<http://e1.mc326.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=globalset-cw@raynet-hf.net>> for analysis.

Conclusion

Please send your logs with com-

ments, pictures and suggestions for future exercises to; globalset08@raynet-hf.net <<http://e1.mc326.mail.yahoo.com/mc/compose?to=globalset08@raynet-hf.net>> as soon as possible after the SET. A brief report of the event is required for the IARU Region 1 conference in Cavtat on 16th November but the full report is hoped to be available in December 2008.

To be fair to all regions we use three different time slots for the exercise, the next exercise will be on May 2nd 2009 at 11.00 -15.00 UTC with the event in November 2009 being at 18.00 – 22.00 UTC.

Thanks for your support of emergency communications.

Greg Mossop, G0DUB
GlobalSET Organiser

VE7RAC will be on the air as the RAC HQ station, operated by RAC NTSC Hew Lines, VA7HU

The above notice was sent to us by: James Keep, VE2KHC RAC Certified Emergency Coordinator (EC) – Vaudreuil-Soulanges ARES FN25xq 514-945-2120

Using the 40 Meter Band

On Monday, October 20, the ARRL filed a Petition for Modification or Cancellation of Experimental Authorization (Petition) with the FCC with respect to WE2XRH. According to the FCC, this experimental license, issued to Digital Aurora Radio Technologies (DART), proposes to "test digital transmissions in 4.50-5.10 MHz, 7.10-7.60 MHz and 9.25-9.95 MHz for a terrestrial digital radio service to the citizens of Alaska."

The League's Petition states that DART's hopes that this experimentation "will lead to a terrestrial, high-frequency (HF) digital aural (domestic broadcast) service in Alaska. Ostensi-

bly to study the operation of this 'shortwave' system at high latitudes, and apparently in order to roll out this domestic broadcast service, DART specifies exceptionally high power operation in various segments of the HF spectrum. ARRL's interest in this matter is limited to the fact that the experimental license includes the band 7.1 -7.3 MHz, allocated domestically exclusively to the Amateur Radio Service."

"It is astonishing that the FCC would grant this experimental license for operation at such a high power level in a band that is allocated exclusively to a service with which such operation is clearly incompatible," said ARRL Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ. "The only possible explanation is that it was an error; the only reasonable step for the FCC to take is to correct its error immediately, either by cancelling the license or by amending the frequency ranges to delete 7.1 -7.3 MHz."

It is the ARRL's view that "Simply stated, there is a 100% certainty of severe, continuous, harmful interference from operation of the DART facilities as authorized by the Commission to ongoing Amateur Radio operation at 7.1 to 7.3 MHz. This authorization must be modified immediately (if not cancelled completely), so as to delete the band 7.1-7.3 MHz" from DART's experimental license application.

The ARRL ascertains that DART has been permitted operation in the 7.1-7.6 MHz band using a 20 kHz bandwidth digital emission at a transmitter output power of 100 kW and an ERP of 660 kW within a radius of 1500 kilometers of Delta Junction, Alaska. In the Petition, ARRL General Counsel Chris Imlay, W3KD, points out that while DART says it will coordinate with the High Frequency Coordination Conference (HFCC), "[i]t does not propose any coordination with any individual or entity in the Amateur Service. There is no showing whatsoever how DART proposes to avoid interference

to Amateur Radio operation at 7.1-7.3 MHz. In fact, there is no indication that DART is even aware of the allocation."

Calling the 40 meter band "perhaps the most heavily-utilized Amateur HF band in the United States," the ARRL states that it can see "no compatible use that DART can make of this band in any state or territory of the United States, at any time of the day or night" and will cause "preclusive interference" to amateurs using that portion of the band. "The entire 7.0 - 7.3 MHz band is used heavily within Alaska, especially by radio amateurs located in its remotest areas, at all times. It is particularly critical in times of emergency due to its daytime and nighttime propagation characteristics. The band is also used at all times of the day and night for worldwide communications by radio amateurs."

The League's Petition points out that the FCC's Rules at Section 5.83(b) state that experimental license grants are subject to change or cancellation by the Commission at any time without hearing if in the Commission's discretion the need for such action arises: "ARRL submits that this application should never have been granted as applied for in the first place, and there is an urgent need to prohibit operation of the DART high power transmitters in the entirety of the 7.1-7.3 MHz band. It is likely that DART has been under a misapprehension that the band is among the international broadcast allocations, because, in ITU Regions 1 and 3, the band is allocated to that Service. However, in Region 2, in Alaska, it is not." After March 29, 2009, 7.1-7.2 MHz will not be available for broadcasting anywhere.

The League goes on to say that Section 5.85 of the Commission's Rules governs the selection and use of frequencies by holders of experimental authorizations and adamantly states that "there is no justification submitted by DART for the use of the frequency bands requested, particularly with respect to 7.1-7.3 MHz. It is unclear

why such large segments of spectrum were specified by DART, given its stated course of experimentation, and given its narrow occupied bandwidth" and notes that DART "should have been required to conduct its frequency coordination efforts in advance of the filing of its application."

The ARRL contends that DART's proposed facility cannot meet the FCC's requirements, as outlined in the Commission's Rules, Section 5.111(a)(2), "and there is no showing that the transmitter power is the lowest practical value consistent with the program of experimentation. Nor has it even taken Amateur Radio operation into account." This portion of the Rules state that when transmitting, the experimental licensee "must use every precaution to ensure that the radio frequency energy emitted will not cause harmful interference to the services carried on by stations operating in accordance with the Table of Frequency Allocations of part 2 of this chapter and, further, that the power radiated is reduced to the lowest practical value consistent with the program of experimentation for which the station authorization is granted. If harmful interference to an established radio service develops, the licensee shall cease transmissions and such transmissions shall not be resumed until it is certain that harmful interference will not be caused."

Calling for DART's WE2XRH experimental license to "be cancelled entirely, or at least modified so as to delete the reference to any Amateur HF allocation," the ARRL reminded the FCC that DART failed to make any showing as to how it would avoid interference to Amateur radio operation at 7.1-7.3 MHz: "ARRL submits that such a showing could not be made in any case." NNNN

Clipboards hijacked in web attack

Computer security firms are warning about an attack that hijacks the clipboard where copied text is stored.

The attack puts a hard-to-delete weblink into the clipboard that, if followed, leads people to a website selling fake security software. The code that inserts the link has been found in flash-based adverts seen on many legitimate websites.

The attack on the clipboard has hit both Windows and Mac users of the Firefox web browser.

The attack came to light as victims log reports in discussion forums of a weblink that appears in the clipboard in place of text they thought they had placed there.

It seems to work by exploiting Adobe Flash files used to make display adverts in such a way as to endlessly flush the clipboard of other text and constantly re-insert the malicious link in its place.

Getting rid of the link has proved problematic. Some report resorting to re-booting their machine to free themselves of it but others stopped it by killing the Firefox process thread.

Story from BBC NEWS:

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