

marcOgram

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



Volume 45, Number 8

May 2000

“AN EVENING OF SHOW AND TELL AND HOME BREW”

Wednesday 31 May 2000

Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30

Club meeting: 20:00

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

It's that time of year again. Once again the club is having a "Show and Tell and Homebrew" evening. Come on out and see what curiosities and projects will be on show this year. It will be an opportunity to share and discuss what fellow members have been working on. It's also an opportunity to show that special radio-related item from your collection, whether its the latest in technology, or a marvel from times past. Its going to be an an interesting and informative meeting.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello,

First an apology to Carole Albert and those expecting to see a picture of the draw box/handy-talky in this issue. Some technical problems conspired with other problems to keep this from happening. I will be making a concerted effort to see that the picture is in the next issue.

Summer weather is finally here and the first of the equestrian events will have been held by the time you read this with several more to come. Don't forget to call Ken Magee, VE2EXC, to let him know when you plan to help out. While you're checking your calendar June 10 & 11 is the annual Lake St. Louis Soccer Tournament and operators are also needed to assist with this project. The VE2BG repeater will be used for this event so please give the tournament stations priority on the repeater that weekend. If you might be able to assist contact Jean-

Francois Gagnon, VE2TBH, and let him know when you're available. Jean-Francois can usually be found on the VE2RWI repeater.

Field Day will be on June 24 & 25 this year in Kahnawake. This is an event which serves many purposes. It provides operating practice under conditions which we don't always experience, it tests our field preparedness and it is a form of contest. This is an enjoyable event and I hope that many of you will be participating. Please let me know if you might be able to attend for even a few hours.

Don't forget that we'll be helping the City of Dorval with their Canada Day celebrations at Pine Beach Park. We'll be assisting with communications on the park and some safety related duties so if you're able to come and join a great party your help will be appreciated. This is one of the best fireworks displays in the west end so why not lend a hand and enjoy the show at the same time.

This month is our annual Show and Tell meeting

and I'm sure that there are some interesting gizmos and projects to be shown off. This is always an interesting meeting and I'm sure that this year will be no exception.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The month's meeting will our annual show and tell meeting. Why not bring something to show and participate in another successful event.

There are important events are coming up in the near future, the ARRL Field Day and the RAC Canada contest. You can help your club and hobby by participating with the club with these events. The Canada event is a good opportunity to showcase amateur radio to the public. If you are unable to help out in person how about making an effort to have your radio operating for a while during these contests. This will help the participants score points and ensure that demonstration stations will have some activity to share with the public.

73 de Craig, VE2YGK

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CONTEST CALENDAR

Below are some of the contests coming during the summer. Note the ARRL Field Day and RAC Canada Day dates and times. If you get this issue before the weekend you may be want to try the CQWW WPX CW. As mentioned last month and at the meeting you are welcome to work in this or other contests from my station - or perhaps come and observe. Call me at 613-675-4715 or e-mail to 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.

May 2000

CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z May 27 - 2400Z May 28

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Montreal 911 Centre	...	...	280-2121
Laval 911 Centre	...	...	662-4240
Longueuil 911 Centre	...	...	646-8570
Surete du Quebec	...	...	598-4242
Kahnawake Peace Keepers			632-6505

These numbers are for emergencies ONLY

June 2000

WW South America CW Contest	0000Z Jun 3 - 1600Z Jun 4
Asia-Pacific Sprint, SSB	1100Z - 1300Z Jun 10
TOEC WW Grid Contest, SSB	1200Z Jun 10 - 1200Z Jun 11
ARRL June VHF QSO Party	1800Z Jun 10 - 0300Z Jun 12
All Asian DX Contest, CW	0000Z Jun 17 - 2400Z Jun 18
Marconi Memorial HF Contest	1400Z Jun 24 - 1400Z Jun 25
ARRL Field Day	1800Z Jun 24 - 2100Z Jun 25

July 2000

RAC Canada Day Contest	0000Z Jul 1 - 2359Z Jul 1
IARU HF World Championship	1200Z Jul 8 - 1200Z Jul 9
CQ Worldwide VHF Contest	1800Z Jul 8 - 2100Z Jul 9
IOTA Contest	1200Z Jul 29 - 1200Z Jul 30

August 2000



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North American QSO Party, CW 1800Z Aug 5 - 0600Z Aug 6
 ARRL UHF Contest 1800Z Aug 5 - 1800Z Aug 6
 North American QSO Party, SSB 1800Z Aug 19 - 0600Z Aug 20
 TOEC WW Grid Contest, CW 1200Z Aug 26 - 1200Z Aug 27

June 17 Kingston ON
 Kingston Amateur Radio Emergency Service at the Glenburnie United Church Hall, 1028 Unity Road, Kingston 6km north of highway 401 at Exit 617 or Exit 619. Vendors 7:30am, Public 9:00am to noon. Admission \$2 (Donation to Church Funds); 8' Tables \$5. Talk-in VE3KBR 146.940 (-) Information and table reservations: Roy Clarke VE3VJF at (613)-384-5900 or email: ve3vjf@king.igs.net

73 de Don, VE3RM

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A reminder - if you have web access you can check out the list of hamfests on the club's web page at:
<http://www.marc.qc.ca/upcoming.html>

COMING EVENTS

73 de Vern, VE2MBS
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May 26-28 Tracy QC

"Un Siecle de Communication Radio/A Century of Radio Communications" - Convention on May 26-27 and Hamfest du Quebec 2000 Fleamarket on May 28. Location: Curling Aurèle Racine, 3010 Place du Centre Civique. Time 06:00 Vendors, 09:00 General Admission
 Admission : 5.00\$... Table : 15:00\$ Talk-in: VE2RBS 145,370 -avec tonalité de 103,5, ve2fct : 146,610 - avec tonalité de 103,5.
 Information: Internet: fflauz@enter-net.com
 FAX : 450-742-8703 attn Fernand Lauzier, VE2MFL
 Table Reservations. Alain VE2 EAG Tél: (450)-836-3072
 Internet - alaing@autray.net
<http://www.enter-net.com/~9sflauzi/ve2cbs/hamfest.html>

MARC FOXHUNT

Those of you who haven't been living under a rock for the past few months should have known about the MARC Foxhunt which happened on May 13th. We started showing up at the Fairview Pointe-Claire parking lot at around 9am, and the teams started grabbing their direction finding equipment and testing their skills for the hour before the hunt began. (Sorry I couldn't get pictures for this month, I still have to finish the roll so we'll have an entire photo album for June.) Needless to say, with the doppler systems, small yagis and quads-on-a-stick, we got a few heads turning from the passers-by. At 10am the fox (my father, Ray VE2SJA) started transmitting on 146.550MHz FM using a controller built by J.F. VE2TBH. Everyone was on alert, and within ten minutes everyone was on the road looking for it (although not exactly in the same direction, original bearings from various groups were everywhere from north-west to south, despite the transmissions actually coming from east. Nevertheless, despite the interference from the Holiday Inn (a.k.a. Intermod Plaza Hotel) just cross the highway, the winning teams were still very fast in their direction-finding. For those of you who still don't know where the fox was, he found a small spot just behind St. Joseph's Oratory. At least one of the participants had to climb all those stairs with his beam to locate the fox.

June 10 Fergus ON

Central Ontario Amateur Radio Fleamarket, Fergus, Ontario Kitchener-Waterloo ARC, Location: Fergus and District Community Centre. Vendors 06:00am Public at 08:00am Adm \$5.00 for general Adm. Indoor tables \$10 per 8ft table Tailgater spaces \$5.00 per parking space. Talk-in 145.210 VE3ZMG and 146.520 when in town Information: Bill Smith VE3WHS, 32 Mcelderry Road, Guelph, ON, N1G 4K6 or (519) 821-6642 e-mail info@hamfest.on.ca or <http://www.hamfest.on.ca>

June 10 Doaktown NB

7th Annual DAARC Fleamarket - Doaktown, New Brunswick Doaktown Area Amateur Radio Club, Location: Anglican Church Hall, Main Street across from the Fire Hall. Vendors: 8:00am Public : 10:00am Admission : \$3.00 TABLES :\$3.00 - Talk-in VE1XI - 146.910 (-) Information: Ron at 506-365-467

The winning team, consisting of Real, VE2DSK and Georges, VE2WGJ, located the fox in a blinding fast 34 minutes, 15 seconds using a 3-element quad (not bad since it took the fox 20 minutes to get there). In second place came the team of Michel VE2MBU, Jean VE2ITU, and Claude VA2CM with a time of exactly one hour. Third place came Tremblay VE2JX (1:12:30) and only seven minutes behind him his twin brother Louis VA2JX (1:17:30). Also signed up from around the English clubs

were a few novices, Andy VE2DNN and Alex VE2GKW (1:44:20), the team from Covey Hill: Mark VE2JT, Bob VA2DBJ, Jim VE2DKK and Jacques VE2CT, who didn't find the fox in the end but certainly gained a lot of experience from the endeavour. There was even one who didn't sign up but nevertheless located the fox (Mario VE2MMW). Doppler-lovers take note: the first two teams didn't use doppler systems at all, whereas 3rd and 4th place finishers did.

When it was all over we went to Scores restaurant for some ribs and shared stories, handed out certificates, and discussed everything else under the sun relating to radio and direction-finding. What also came up are a few other foxhunts going on around town, one on the 28th of May and some even weekly by some clubs. So for those of you who missed this one you have plenty of opportunity to visit some others.

As for ours, we will plan a second annual foxhunt next year sometime, stay tuned to the MarcOgram for details. See you then!

73 de Steven VA2SMF

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MONTREAL FOX HUNT - ARDF

There will another fox hunt on Sunday the 28th of May 10am at Thomas-Chapais Park which is located 2 streets north of Sherbrooke Street and east of Route 25. There will be three transmitters to be found in a small park and the chase is by foot. Talk-in is available on VE2REM 145.350 (-). For more information check out the web page <http://www.colba.net/~jacbro/index.html> or contact Réal VE2DSK, or Jacques VE2EMM.

73 de Real Martel VE2DSK , ve2dsk@aei.ca

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FREQUENCY - THE MOVIE

As some of you may know there is a movie now playing which features amateur radio. The movie is Frequency and stars an old Heathkit radio as well as Dennis Quaid (as the fire-fighter father) and Jim Caviezel (the police officer son). The son, in 1999, pulls the old rig out of a storage trunk and sets it up. He is able to make a local contact. Through the magic of amateur radio and freak atmospheric conditions caused by exceptionally strong Northern Lights the son comes to realise he is communicating with his long dead father 30 years in the past in 1969.

The father, who died during a heroic but doomed rescue attempt at a 1969 fire, is saved by his son who with the hindsight of 30 years is able to provide advance warning of a possible escape route. However this rescue changes history and the current reality. Changes in history result in father and son

joining together to try to stop a serial killer. Each change in the past creates a change in the current reality with which the two have to contend. Ham radio serves as the only link between the two eras.

I found this to be an interesting and enjoyable movie where they were able to weave past and present together. You do, however need a bit of an imagination to appreciate parts of the film. Besides accepting communicating through time, I am sure we would all like to know how a beam antenna seemingly neglected for 30 years stays up and remain operational for all that time. But then again this is part of the lure of the movies.

73 de Craig VE2YGK

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RAC NEWS

NEWS FROM THE RAC WEB PAGE

RAC 12 WPM VOTE

The RAC is conducting a poll on the requirement to have 12 words per minute code to have access to the HF bands in Canada. The choices are:

- i) I would like to see the 12 wpm Morse test remain as it is now. or
- ii) I am in favour of dropping the 12 wpm Morse test, to be replaced by a 5 wpm test and more comprehensive written examinations, for full access to the HF bands.

If you wish to vote please go to the web page for more detail and to vote.

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

If you wish to vote you will need to provide your call sign.

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UPCOMING EVENTS - THE VE2LZR GROUP

(Note: all but Cyclo-Tour are equestrian type events)

St. Lazare Cyclo -Tour (Family oriented pleasure cycling)
Date: 28 May 2000 (Sunday) Location: St. Lazare, QC
Will need up to 20 operators. From 1000 to 1500 or more cyclists (30 km course). A few spaces left

The Harmony Horse Trails (Cross country jumping event)
Date: 18 June 2000 (Sunday)
Location: Windedge Farm, Ste-Justine de Newton, QC

Marathon Course Combined Driving Event (Carriage event)
Date: 09 Sept (Saturday) - **Corrected Date**
Location: Sandridge Farm, St. Lazare, QC

Pleasure Driving Event (Carriage driving event)
Date: 30 September 2000 (Saturday)

Location: Windedge Farm, Ste-Justine de Newton, QC

If anyone else would like to join the team, please contact Ken VE2EXC via: VE2RM or VE2BG , by phone (450) 458-7447, or by e-mail: ve2exc@rac.ca

Can-Am 2000 update - held at the Windedge Farm in Ste. Justine de Newton Quebec on May 20, 2000 was a big success (Vern).

For details see the club's web page at <http://www.marc.qc.ca/canam2000.html>

73 de Ken, VE2EXC for the VE2LZR Group

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EMERGEX

The Covey Hill Amateur Radio Club is currently organising the next Emergex Exercise and is looking for participants. Emergex is a series of very interesting and instructive emergency radio exercises which allows operators the opportunity to develop and use their skills in a formal radio network as might be required in a public service event or during a disaster. If you have never been out why not come out and experience an Emergex Exercise. If you have been out before its time to come out again to polish your skills and renew acquaintances. Either way it will be a day well spent.

This season's exercise will be in the Ormstown area on Saturday June 3rd. If you are interested and or need more information contact Contact Jacques Boucher VE2CT at ve2ct@amsat.org or at 450-462-0523.

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MARC EVENTS

The Montreal Amateur Radio Club will be having a number of events coming up a bit latter in the year. We will have more details at a later date. So keeps the dates in mind:

June 24-25 ARRL Field Day

July 01 Canada Day contest and public demonstration station

September 17 Go for Guide Dogs Walk-a-Thon

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CAR RALLY AND CORN ROAST

Pierre-Alain VA2GPA, Albert VA2AAI and Michel VE2MEG from the club radio amateur Laval-Laurentides (CRALL) are organizing car rally and corn roast for the 12th of August 2000 and you are invited to participate.

To confirm details you can check the the CRALL nets on Mondays and Wednesdays on 147.315 +, or web page

<http://pages.infinit.net/pagoulet/rallye/> .

The rally will start at 8h00 from the club station at 327 Curé Labelle, Fabreville Laval and will end at the Petit Chalet d'Oka at the entrance to Oka. The will other activities and door prizes.

73 de Pierre-Alain Goulet VA2GPA

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SCANNERS HEAR IT FIRST

BY FREDERICK HART VE2LSQ

My apologies to the executive and the membership for the last minute change of events that prevented me from presenting my little A/V exhibit on the 26th. Due to the scheduling of certain criteria in my professional pursuences. I promise to make a later date appearance with a more informative program with the hopes of getting the time allotments and materials for an ever larger earful and eyeful (and that's no shovelful). Thx for being understanding when duty calls.

It's May... how come all of the April showers are happening now?? It was a real good showing for the Hamfest last month. I got to see many new faces and many old ones (missed the cutest though..). Thx to co-organisers, James Hay, VE2VE and Vernon Ikeda, VE2MBS for their hard work at getting the show on the road. A hectic time for us all and the rumour of making their lives miserable was all I could ask for! (who's helping you guys next year, guys). Also many thanks to Raymond Faguy, VE2SJA for picking me up and his son Steven, VA2SMF for his talents at photo arranging and ticket sales (Thanks Steven - Vernon) when called upon. Last but not least, thx to Carole Albert, VA2MOO for your giant HT raffle box . You are due an official hug for your beautiful and much appreciated efforts.

The frequencies have been busy in the last thirty days or so. The West Island Mutual Aid group sure knows the east end of Verdun now. Several recent calls for assistance heave occurred in the last few weeks. (See Earfuls Heard). Dollard des Ormeaux Fire/Rescue/EMS is now fully on the 800 MHz trunking system though the DDO volunteers are still being paged on 159.300 for the time being.

Thx to Jim, VE2VE for finding out that there is another repeater site in the System 2 group (Urgences Sante/Dorval Airport Emergency Rescue). It is identical to the Ridgewood and Parthenais sites.

5757 Upper Lachine Road (NDG) Callsign VDJ780

866.1125 866.3625 866.6125 866.8625 867.1125
867.3625 867.6125 867.8625

your foot and you will require a Yellow truck. OUCH!

Earfuls heard:

412.5125

Note: It has been discovered that both the Pointe Claire and DDO talk-groups can be heard on this site at all times. Further experimentation to follow to support this theory.

Pointe Claire/Dollard des Ormeaux Fire/EMS talk-groups.

- 1- PTCINCO 04-031 Pointe-Claire Incendie Operations
- 2- ENTOUEST 04-016 Entraide de l'Ouest
- 3- PTC_SP 04-032 Pointe-Claire Securite Publique
- 4- PTC_VCRU 04-033 Pointe-Claire Volunteer Rescue Unit
- 5- PTC_MU 04-033 Pointe-Claire Mesures d'Urgences
- 6- INCREGMM 04-017 Incendie Region Montreal Metropolitain
- 7- PTCADMIN 04-034 Pointe-Claire Administration
- 8- PTCFLOT 04-030 Pointe-Claire Flotte (ALL CALL)

A real smorgasbord of action heard on the Regie LaSalle Verdun. Multiple incidents recently with good fireground action. Ethel Street and Strathmore was a scanner listeners delight as the Regie showed a stand of strength so the fire could not jump the street again. Mutual aid took in all nine usual guests from the West Island and a special appearance by Westmont, St. Laurent and Montreal.

154.160

Southwest Quebec Mutual Aid Association battled a blaze in downtown Huntingdon that required the hosing down of adjoining structures in a Commercial/Residential block. Good on-scene chatter and some good descriptive chatter by the SQ. on 166.800.

Dollard des Ormeaux

412.7625

- 1- DDO_TAC_1 04-044 Dollard des Ormeaux Tactical 1
- 2- DDO_OPER 04-045 Dollard des Ormeaux Operations
- 3- ENT_OUEST 04-016 Entraide de l'Ouest
- 4- MES_URG 04-011 Mesures d'Urgences
- 5- INCREGMM 04-017 Incendie Region Montreal Metropolitain

Montreal fire department are always keeping the airwaves ablaze with a several incidents giving our ears something to digest. During one incident near the corner of Note Dame and St. Ferdinand, there was a mutual aid fire in Verdun on Evelyn. When the PC officer of the Regie called his dispatch to verify if there was a fire in nearby St. Henri, I was already on the line with the Regie dispatcher and before he could finish his sentence she replied to him that the smoke in Verdun that he was seeing was from the aforementioned fire in St. Henri. I've gone from scanner listener to reliable source, actually she referred to me to an officer at her console as her "Delateur de Nuit". I've called her on a few occasions to offer information they require. As for the St Ferdinand blaze, it kept burning all night with multiple calls for back-up apparatus. Five alarms plus lots of fireground chatter and a big sigh of relief from the mutual aid cities on the Evelyn Street fire in Verdun.

More of you are now proud owners of BC-245XLT's and are confused as the rest. This is good because by the time I get mine, you folks will have already figured them out and I can learn about the operation of the 245 (Now where's that friggin winning Lotto 6/49 ticket?). Looks from some of the personnel of the Fire/EMS/Rescue services already on EDACS when they see the same old faces showing up at incidents point to "Hey, these guy's are good!". Hobbyists needs and demands surpass that of the Emergency Services because: They were assigned new radios, We had to buy new scanners. They just go to their assigned frequencies, We had to search out the new frequencies; They just turn the dial to right talk-group, we have to scan to find the talk-groups then they have to leave the radios at work but WE have ours at work and home all the time.

73 de Fred and the cats, VE2LS and a Q

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CLASSIFIED

Notes: One observation by one of the West Island's Emergency Service's (Nice tattoo Sylvie), Sylvie, now knows why steel-toed shoes are part of the dispatcher's uniform. If you drop one of those new Ericsson EDACS portables on

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



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