

marcOgram

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



Volume 51, Number 1

September 2005

“A INTRODUCTION TO GPS WITH JIM NAGLE, KF4OD”

Wednesday 28 September 2005

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

(Please enter by the back door)

Jim Nagle, KF4OD, will be giving an introductory overview of GPS, or in other words, GPS 101. This is a prelude to a follow up meeting in November on WAAS, (Wide Area Augmentation System). This is a great chance to learn about GPS which has some interesting applications in amateur radio, including APRS, as well as being a tool that is being used more and more areas everyday. Jim hopes to bring along a few different types of GPS receivers and equipment that interfaces with APRS and other fun stuff. If the room and conditions allow, Jim will setup a "poor-man's" version of a GPS re-radiation capability that will allow an indoor demo. Come on out to this very informative evening which will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about GPS and some of its applications.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello,

Summer is drawing to a close and soon the fall colours will be making their annual appearance. That means many of us are getting our outdoor antenna work done in preparation for winter. Yes, I'm afraid winter is coming. We still have work to do to replace the MAB antennas but I am optimistic that once this

done less maintenance will be required and it will be easier when it is needed.

The big news of the summer is, of course, the change in requirements for access to the HF bands. Congratulations to those who now have access to HF. I hope to see you all helping out at Field Day next year!

The September and November meetings promise to be very interesting as GPS is a topic of

Membership Renewal Reminder - Your membership renewal form is enclosed with this month's Marcogram. Now is the time to return your form and dues to show your support for M.A.R.C. and amateur radio. Thank-you.

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:
 Craig Brander, VE2YKG 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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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.

VE2RJS 449.975 MHz (-)
 Owned by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club and operated by the Cote St Luc Amateur Radio Association.

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

Club meetings are held at the St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church which is located at 4455 West Broadway (the corner of West Broadway and Terrebonne) in the N.D.G. District of Montreal. 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 fleamarket and ragchew session starts at 19:30 with the formal meeting starting at 20:00. STM buses 51, 162 and 105 stop nearby.

- 28 September - GPS basics with Jim Nagle, KE4OD
- 26 October - MARC Annual General Meeting
- 30 November - WAAS with Jim Nagle, KE4OD
- 25 January 2006 - TBA
- 22 February 2006- TBA
- 29 March 2006- Video Project Presentation
- 26 April 2006 - TBA
- 31 May 2006 - Annual Show and Tell Meeting

Radio Classes

Each year the MARC holds a basic radio course. This year's session is in the planning stages. The start date will be some time in January. For more information please contact Vern Ikeda or Jim Hay.

December - Year End Dinner

A year end dinner is being planned. Further details will be available in the near future.

Other Activities

Other club activities include, a hamfest - amateur radio flea-market, support for the MAB radio room, ARRL Field Day, Canada Day station, as well a communications support for some community events.

DVCAM- Ham Project

Production of a video to promote Amateur Radio is currently ongoing. For a status report on the project check:

<http://rjcam.blogspot.com>

If you have an interesting story to share on camera please email video@marc.qc.ca or contact Jim Hay or Ron Campbell.

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

general interest. I am looking forward to these talks as I am sure many of you are also.

We will be holding the Christmas dinner again this year so details of that will be forthcoming.

I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

I would like to welcome back everybody from the summer vacation period. I hope everyone had a good summer and is looking forward to the fall activities. I hope you will all take the opportunity to renew your membership to the MARC as it is now due. September is getting of to a good start with a meeting topic of GPS.

Two personal notes to pass along, I would like to thank Doug Last, VE3NBL, for a quick tour of the VA3CWM radio station at the Canadian Warplane Museum outside Hamilton during a recent visit. Doug was also gave me a demonstration of the Skype program , and we were able to make contact with Marty Hornstein, VE2MH, in Montreal.

Also, due to personal reasons and upcoming time conflicts over the winter, I will be resigning as Marcogram editor after the October newsletter. I would like to thank the club members, the board, as well as Jim Hay and Vern Ikeda for all your support during my time as editor. If you are interested in taking over the editor position please contact Jim Hay, Vern Ikeda or myself.

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.

September 2005

CQ Worldwide DX Contest RTTY	0000Z Sep 24 to 2400Z Sep 25
Tesla Cup	0000Z-2400Z Sep 24 (Phone) and 0000Z-2400Z Sep 25 (CW)
Texas QSO Party	1400Z Sep 24 to 0200Z Sep 25 and 1400Z-2000Z Sep 25
AGCW VHF/UHF Contest	1600Z-1900Z Sep 24 (144)

UBA ON Contest 6m
Fall QRP Homebrewer Sprint

and 1900Z-2100Z Sep 24 (432)
0600Z-1000Z Sep 25
0000Z-0400Z Sep 26

October 2005

TARA PSK Rumble Contest	0000Z-2400Z Oct 1
Oceania DX Contest Phone	0800Z Oct 1 to 0800Z Oct 2
EU Autumn Sprint SSB	1500Z-1859Z Oct 1
California QSO Party	1600Z Oct 1 to 2200Z Oct 2
UBA ON Contest SSB	0600Z-1000Z Oct 2
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest SSB	0700Z-1900Z Oct 2
German Telegraphy Contest	0700Z-0959Z Oct 3
YLRL Anniversary Party CW	1400Z Oct 5 to 0200Z Oct 7
432 MHz Fall Sprint	1900 local - 2300 local Oct 5
SARL 80m QSO Party	1700Z-2000Z Oct 6
Makrothen RTTY Contest	0000Z-0759Z Oct 8 and 1600Z-2359Z Oct 8 and 0800Z-1559Z Oct 9
Oceania DX Contest CW	0800Z Oct 8 to 0800Z Oct 9
EU Autumn Sprint CW	1500Z-1859Z Oct 8
Pennsylvania QSO Party	1600Z Oct 8 to 0500Z Oct 9 and 1300Z-2200Z Oct 9
FISTS Fall Sprint	1700Z-2100Z Oct 8
North American Sprint RTTY	0000Z-0400Z Oct 9
UBA ON Contest CW	0600Z-1000Z Oct 9
10-10 Int. 10-10 Day Sprint	0001Z-2359Z Oct 10
YLRL Anniversary Party SSB	1400Z Oct 14 to 0200Z Oct 16
JARTS WW RTTY Contest	0000Z Oct 15 to 2400Z Oct 16
Microwave Fall Sprint	0600 local - 1300 local Oct 15
Worked All Germany Contest	1500Z Oct 15 to 1459Z Oct 16
Asia-Pacific Fall Sprint CW	0000Z-0200Z Oct 16
UBA ON Contest 2m	0600Z-1000Z Oct 16
RSGB 21/28 MHz Contest CW	0700Z-1900Z Oct 16
Illinois QSO Party	1800Z Oct 16 to 0200Z Oct 17
ARCI Fall QSO Party	1200Z Oct 22 to 2400Z Oct 23
50 MHz Fall Sprint	2300Z Oct 22 to 0300Z Oct 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest SSB	0000Z Oct 29 to 2400Z Oct 30
10-10 Int. Fall Contest CW	0001Z Oct 29 to 2359Z Oct 30
FISTS Coast to Coast Contest	0000Z-2400Z Oct 30

November 2005

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest CW	2100Z Nov 5 to 0300Z Nov 7
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest SSB	2100Z Nov 19 to 0300Z Nov 21
CQ Worldwide DX Contest CW	0000Z Nov 26 to 2400Z Nov 27

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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.arrl.org/hamfest.html>

2005 Hamfests

Saturday September 24 Drummondville QC

On Saturday, September 24 the 17th Annual Hamfest Centre du Québec - 17eme Annuale Hamfest Centre du Québec to be held at College St. Bernard, 25 Avenue des Freres, Drummondville, QC.

Talk-in: VE2CRD - 146.625 (-) CTCSS 110.9 -

Information: Jacques Genereux at 819-478-2847

E-mail: jacques@9bit.qc.ca

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

Sunday September 25 London ON

On Saturday, September 25, the London Amateur Radio Club 28th Annual Fleamarket at the Western Fair Grounds, Special Events Building, London, Ontario.

Vendors 07h30 - Public 09h00 to 13h00

Admission: General Admission \$6.00 - Tables \$10.00 Talk-

in VA3LON 147.060 (+) ctcss 114.8

Information: 519-439-5113

E-mail at: hamfest2005@hamster.foxhollow.ca

<http://www.larc.ca/newsletter/LARC-HAMFEST-2005.pdf>

Fri Oct 7 and Sat Oct 8 Hopkinton NH

On Friday, October 7 and Saturday, October 8, Hosstraders 2005 at the Hopkinton State Fairgrounds, Warner Street, Hopkinton, NH. Gates are open at 9 AM on Friday through the night till the end of event on Saturday.

Talk-in W1CPL - 146.895 (-) 100Hz CTCSS

Cost: Friday 09:00 to 15:00 (3 PM) - \$10 per person and \$10 per sellers space. After 3 PM on Friday, \$5 per person and \$10 per sellers space.

Note: There is a \$10.00 fee for camping on Friday night.

Information: Joe Demaso, K1RQG att: k1rqq@aol.com

<http://www.qsl.net/k1rqq/>

Saturday October 15 Ancaster ON

On Saturday, October 15, the Hamilton Amateur Radio Club Hamfest 2005 to be held at Merritt Hall (Ancaster Fair Grounds) on Highway 53 (Rymal Road) between Southcote Road and Kittymurry Lane, Ancaster ON.

Vendors 07h00 - General Admission 09h00

Tables - 10.00\$ - General Admission 6.00\$

Talk-in: VE3NCF 146.760 (-)

Reservations: Mardy Edson (905)-648-0187

e-mail at meedson@cogeco.ca

<http://www.hwcn.org/link/radio>

Saturday October 22 Longueuil QC

On Saturday, October 22 the Hamfest de Rive-sud de Montréal to be held at Place Desaulniers, 1023 Blvd

Taschereau, Longueuil, QC

Vendors 06h00 - General Admission 09h00 - 13h00

Talk-in: VE2RSM 145.390 (-)

Information E-mail: ve2fda@rac.ca

Reservation E-mail: ve2gxe@raqi.ca

<http://www.raqi.ca/~ve2clm/hamfesta.htm>

Saturday October 29 Markham

On Saturday, October 29, the 29th Annual York Region Hamfest to be held at the Markham Fairgrounds, McCowan Road at Elgin Mills Road East, Markham Ontario.

General Admission at 09h00

General Admission \$5.00

Vendor Tables - see web page for more information.

Vendor Information: Tables are available by Mail only and payment must accompany your registration No bookings will be taken by E-Mail, Phone, over the air or via Packet.

Tables will be reserved only if pre-payment is received.

Talk-in: VE3YRA 145.350 (-)

Information/Reservations: yrarc_hamfest@sympatico.ca

or via The York Region Amateur Radio Club,

P.O. Box 28590, Aurora, Ontario, L4G 6S6

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

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73 de Vernon Erle Ikeda, VE2QQ

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MARC REPEATER NEWS

Presently we are working on the relocation of both VE2BG and VE2RED. VE2BG is moving to a new building at the water tower. I expect that this will be completed by the time of the AGM in October. Presently VE2RED is operating from the apartment of VE2TOR. The board has prioritized a list of sites which we are working on for a final home for the repeater. Our first choice is to return to the Bonavista location. Hopefully by the time of the meeting I will have news on whether we will be acting on Plan A, B, C or D. I am optimistic that Plan E will not be needed.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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**RAC BULLETINS FROM OVER THE SUMMER
RAC BULLETIN 013-05 INDUSTRY
CANADA INTRODUCES
ALTERNATIVES TO MORSE REQUIREMENTS
FOR HF**

Date: Fri, 29 Jul 2005 14:51:44 -0400
Subject: RAC Bulletin 013-05 Industry Canada Introduces
Alternatives to Morse Requirements for HF.

**Industry Canada Introduces Alternatives to Morse
Requirement for HF**

Per Canada Gazette notice DGRB-003-05 22 July 2005, Industry Canada has adopted elements of the RAC "Proposal on Morse Code and Related Matters" and has removed the mandatory requirement for the Morse Qualification for access to the HF bands below 30 MHz.

Effective immediately, amateurs certified with BASIC Qualification prior to 2 April 2002, and amateurs certified with both BASIC and ADVANCED Qualifications, may operate on HF. Amateurs with BASIC only Qualification certified after 1 April 2002, and who achieved a pass mark of 80% or greater, will also be allowed to operate on HF.

Amateurs certified BASIC only Qualification after 1 April 2002 having achieved less than 80% pass mark, will either have to qualify in Morse, write the Advanced or re-write the Basic examination to obtain HF privileges. This latter requirement is related to a decision to increase the BASIC examination pass mark to ensure that candidates have been tested in all areas of the syllabus.

For details, see the Canada Gazette notice at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/sf08435e.html>

and the "Latest News" page on the RAC web site at

<http://www.rac.ca/news/index.htm>

Editors Note: The above changes and along with some other revisions have been incorporated in updated RIC 2 and RIC 3. All amateurs should review and keep an available copy of these revised documents.

RIC-2, Issue 5, dated July 2005, Standards for the Operation of Radio Stations in the Amateur Radio Service, is available at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/sf05478e.html>

RIC-3, Issue 2, dated July 2005, Information on the Amateur Radio Service, is available at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/sf05478e.html>

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**RAC BULLETIN 014-05
INDUSTRY CANADA INITIATES A
PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON BPL**

Date: Fri, 29 Jul 2005 15:39:41 -0400
Subject: RAC Bulletin 014-05 Industry Canada Initiates a
Public Consultation on BPL .

**Industry Canada Initiates a Public Consultation on
BPL**

Industry Canada (IC), with Canada Gazette Notice SMSE-005-05 dated 19 July 2005, has initiated the public consultation process for the introduction of BPL in Canada. This consultation will decide the process by which BPL will be introduced in Canada, including the development of a new certification standard (ICES-00x) for medium voltage powerline carrier systems. RAC will reply to this consultation paper both through the Radio Advisory Board of Canada (RABC), of which it is a member, and directly to IC. RAC Vice President of Regulatory Affairs Jim Dean, VE3IQ, a member of the RABC executive, has been named chairperson of the Working Group (WG) formed under the RABC Electromagnetic Committee (EMC) to prepare the industry's response. Joe Parkinson, VE3JG, will represent RAC on the WG. All comments on the questions in the consultation paper should be addressed to Joe Parkinson c/o the RAC office or direct via e-mail to ve3jg@rac.ca. Comments to the RAC office or via e-mail direct should be sent prior to November 1 to be considered in the formulation of the RAC response to IC.

For details, see the Canada Gazette notice at:

<http://strategis.ic.gc.ca/epic/internet/insmt-gst.nsf/en/sf08432e.html>

and the "Latest News" page on the RAC web site at

<http://www.rac.ca/news/index.htm>

Comments to: rachq@rac.ca

From:

<http://www.rac.ca/news/bulletins.htm>

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FOX HUNTING AMATEUR RADIO DIRECTION FINDING IN NORTH AMERICA



COMPETITORS POSE FOR A GROUP PHOTO NEAR THE START OF
THE EIGHTY METER (HF) COMPETITION .

The week of August 1-6, 2005, competitors from around the United States and the rest of the world travelled to Albuquerque, New Mexico for the third IARU Region II Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) Championships.[1] Organized by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU)[2], Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) is a map and compass sport where the locations of transmitters are not marked on the map. Competitors must use detailed topographic maps and handheld radio receivers to find the radio transmitters. The Region II Championships this year were organized and hosted by the Albuquerque Amateur Radio Club.

Amateur Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) is often referred to in Amateur Radio society as "on-foot foxhunting." While that is accurate, there's more to it than that. ARDF is a sport with formalized, international rules that borrow a lot from orienteering.[3] In fact, ARDF is often called "radio orienteering" in orienteering society. Like orienteering, ARDF includes navigation across diverse, wooded terrain, always with the use of a detailed topographic map, sometimes with the aid of a compass, and including

navigation off-trail. The transmitters in the woods are marked with standard orange-and-white orienteering controls (which look a little like box kites) and have some sort of punching system where the runner can record their visit to the control. The event is a timed race, where competitors leave a start area in five-minute intervals, must find a certain set of the transmitters out in the woods, and then run to the finish area marked on their map.

Twenty-nine radio orienteers, 23 men and 6 women, participated in the championships in New Mexico. California, Colorado, Indiana, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Montana, North Carolina, New Mexico, Ohio, and Texas were all represented. Four of the competitors travelled to the meet from outside Region II, travelling from Australia, the Czech Republic, and Kazakhstan to North America to experience ARDF on new terrain. Even though not eligible for Region II competitive rankings, they were warmly welcomed to enter the event and share the experience. Many of the competitors have been entering the IARU Region II or USA ARDF Championships for several years, and the quality of competition improves every year. 12 of the 14

members of the 2004 Team USA[4] came to New Mexico for this competition, making it the place to be to see the very best North American athletes in the sport.

The results from these championships and the 2006 USA ARDF Championships (to be held in the Raleigh, NC area sometime in spring or early summer) will help determine who will represent the USA at the 2006 World ARDF Championships, which will be held at a Black Sea beach resort near Bourgas, Bulgaria the week of 12-27 September 2006. Each country is allowed to bring up to three competitors in each of the nine entry classes to the World Championships. It would be fantastic if Canadians once again tried their hand at this sport. Canada has never sent a team to the ARDF World Championships, and no Canadians have attended an IARU Region II ARDF Championship since the first one held in 1999 in Portland, Oregon. Any Canadians looking to learn more about ARDF are encouraged to get in touch with Joe Young VE7BFK[5], the ARDF Coordinator for the Radio Amateurs of Canada. All Canadians are of course welcome and encouraged to participate in ARDF meets south of the border, including the USA ARDF Championships.

ARDF is still a growing sport in North America. The level of competition improves every year, and there's still plenty of opportunity for newcomers to get involved. The third IARU Region II ARDF Championships[6] was an exceptional event, put on by a very dedicated group of individuals. The next IARU Region II ARDF Championship will be in 2007, at a location yet to be determined.

Links:

- [1] Third IARU Region II ARDF Championships
<http://mywebpages.comcast.net/ardf-usa/>
- [2] ARDF in IARU Region II
<http://www.ardf-r2.org/>
- [3] Orienteering in Canada
<http://www.orienteering.ca/>
- [4] ARDF in the USA
<http://members.aol.com/homingin/farsnews.html>
- [5] ARDF in Canada
<http://www.rac.ca/opsinfo/ardf.htm>

- [6] More photos from the championships
http://www.wm5r.org/photos/2005_iaru_r2_ardf/



A licensed Amateur Radio Operator since 1993, and an active orienteer since 2000, Ken Harker is a computer scientist for a company that specializes in e-business performance management, monitoring, and analysis. Ken is a member of the Central Texas DX & Contest Club (CTDXCC) and the Houston Orienteering Club (HOC.) You can contact the author by surface mail at 7009 Fireoak Dr, Austin, TX 78759, on the Web:

<http://www.kenharker.com/>

or via e-mail at kenharker@kenharker.com.

73 de Ken Harker, WM5R

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HELP THE SSETI EXPRESS TEAM CALLING ALL RADIO AMATEURS

Radio amateurs world-wide are being asked to help collect data from the student-built SSETI Express satellite, due to be placed in orbit on 27 September. To encourage them, ESA's (European Space Agency) Education department has organised two competitions and is supplying free downloadable software.

"We will be happy to receive all the help we can, particularly during the early operations phase," says SSETI Express Project Manager, Neil Melville. "If a radio amateur receives a signal from SSETI Express before we do then the main ground station in Aalborg, Denmark will be delighted to hear from them." Radio amateurs wherever they live are being asked to help with the downlink of housekeeping and payload data. In return, various

functionalities of the SSETI Express UHF and S-Band communications systems will be made freely available to the radio amateur community, along with the mission data downlink, once the main mission objectives of SSETI Express are complete.

SSETI Express will downlink telemetry in AX25 format at 9600 baud on 437.250MHz and at 38400 baud on 2401.835MHz. It will also be available for radio amateurs to use as a single channel FM transponder. The software needed to downlink data and to submit telemetry to the SSETI Express Mission Control can be downloaded free from the Radio Amateur Connection pages on the SSETI Express Mission site. Submissions will be automatically recorded and published on the site.

The first prize includes a private visit and tour of ESOC Radio amateur competitions

Once radio amateurs have the software needed it will be up to them to demonstrate that the amateur radio ground station 'network' is a valuable resource for satellite projects. To provide extra motivation, ESA has organised two competitions.

The winner of the first will be whoever submits the largest number of valid telemetry payload packets to SSETI Express Mission Control by 00:00 of 1 January 2006.

The prize is an invitation to the three-day STEC06 (Student Technology Education Conference) conference and exhibition, to be held in Germany in spring 2006, as well as a private visit and tour of ESA's Spacecraft Operations Centre (ESOC) near Darmstadt.

A unique "I heard it first" SSETI Express T-shirt is the prize for the second competition. This will be sent to the first person to receive, decode and submit a transmission from the spacecraft to SSETI Express Mission Control. All information on equipment needed, software available and where to send data can be found on the Radio Amateur Connection pages of the student SSETI Express Mission site.

Radio amateurs are involved in the UHF and S-Band sub-systems

SSETI Express sub-systems for radio amateurs

Of the 12 sub-systems on SSETI Express, two involve radio amateurs. The ultra high frequency unit (UHF) has been designed and built by a radio amateur in Hohhenbrunn, Germany. It contains a radio and terminal node controller, and is the spacecraft's primary communications system. It will provide uplink of telecommands from the ground station, audio uplink from amateur radio users and downlink of mission data at 9600 bps, all via a top-mounted rigid monopole antenna.

Radio amateurs from AMSAT-UK, although no longer students, are also involved in the project as they developed the S-Band, microwave radio communications transmitter. This provides both high-speed mission data downlink at 38400 baud and in combination with the UHF system, a single-channel audio transponder.

Graham Shirville (call sign G3VZV) is co-ordinating the team of radio amateurs from AMSAT-UK, the club for users of amateur radio satellites. "I'm involved in frequency co-ordination of spacecraft using the amateur satellite service. In early 2004 a group of us from AMSAT, UK were asked if we wanted to help with the project. The answer was 'yes' and we prototyped the S-Band TX within eight weeks."

"It has been a real challenge and not always easy," he says "particularly when some of the hardware we built did not perform 100% - we felt we were letting everyone else down. But we have learnt an amazing amount of skills and knowledge which we hope to invest in future space projects."

Shirville will be present at the launch, a nail-biting moment for all the team. "I will be elated if we hear the radio signals but sad and worried if we don't ". He hastily adds that he is not expecting failure. "The SSETI Express students are bright, enthusiastic and determined to succeed; they have also put an incredible amount of time and effort into this project. Now it is up to the radio amateur community to do our bit to help them. Over to you fellow amateurs and 73 from G3VZV."

SSETI Express is a micro-satellite weighing about 62 kg with a 24 kg payload. It is scheduled to be launched into low-Earth Sun-synchronous orbit in the morning of 27 September by a Russian Cosmos 3M launcher from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome.

The name SSETI Express comes from the speed with which it has been built. Organised by the SSETI, the Student Space Exploration and Technology Initiative, 23 university groups, scattered in 13 countries across Europe, took just 18 months to build the satellite under the supervision of ESA's Education Department. Once in orbit it will deploy three CubeSat pico-satellites, take pictures of the Earth, act as a test-bed and technology demonstrator, and also function as a radio transponder for the global amateur radio community.

This information from:

http://www.esa.int/esaCP/SEMARJ7X9DE_index_0.html

For mission information and downloads check:

<http://sseti.gte.tuwien.ac.at/WSW4/MOPWS/ham.php>

For additional information on the project please check:

http://www.esa.int/SPECIALS/sseti_express/SEM18AA5QCE_0.html

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**COMMUNITY SERVICE
SUMMER 2005**

M.A.B. ANTENNA WORK

On Saturday August 27, a group of volunteers showed up at the Montreal Association for the Blind station to do some antenna repair work. They had to take down the old tribander, VHF antenna, mast and rotor and as well do some work on the 40 and 80 metre dipoles.

They were:

- * Raymond Faguy, VA2RY
- * Paul MacDougall, VA2YQ
 - * Earl Paris, VE2ESP
 - * Nora Hague, VE2HAX
 - * Juan Osorio, VE2ITZ
 - * Leo Nikinnen, VE2SI
- * Patrik Boghosian, VE2UNO
 - * James Hay, VE2VE

Thanks to everybody who helped in this venture.

73 de Vernon Ikeda, VE2QQ

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CLASSIFIED

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

FOR SALE: "48 foot DMX tower for sale" - Town of Mount Royal - terms negotiable, for further information please contact. robert_charette@sympatico or 514-739-3522.

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Editor needed for the marcOgram

If you are interested in a rewarding position with the MARC, please contact

Jim Hay,

jrhay@HayA.qc.ca

Vern Ikeda,

ve2mbs@rac.ca

or Craig Brander

craigyul@total.net

NOTICE OF MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be held on Wednesday, October 26th, 2005 at eight o'clock in the evening at the St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church, 4455 West Broadway (corner of Terrebonne) in N.D.G., Montreal

The meeting is called to

- Receive and if thought fit, approve the reports of the officers,
- Receive, and if thought fit, approve the report of the auditor,
- Elect a President and elect other officers for the ensuing year,
- Elect the remaining Board of Directors for the ensuing year,
- To consider a motion, "BE IT RESOLVED that the annual dues be as follows:

Regular membership	\$25.00
Family membership	\$30.00
White cane membership	\$15.00"

- Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Given at Montreal this 1st day of September, 2005.

(sgd) Paul MacDougall

Paul MacDougall, VA2YQ

Secretary.



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SHORTWAVE & AM/FM RADIOS / RADIOS ONDES COURTES & AM/FM
A.O.R., DRAKE, FAIRHAVEN, GRUNDIG/ETON, ICOM, SANGEAN, SONY, YAESU

SCANNERS / BALAYEURS D'ONDES
A.O.R., ALINCO, ICOM, UNIDEN/BEARCAT, WINRADIO, YUPITERU

AMATEUR RADIO / RADIO-AMATEUR
A.D.I., ALINCO, ICOM, KENWOOD, RANGER, YAESU

CITIZENS BAND (CB) / BANDE PUBLIQUE (CB)
ALAN, ASTATIC, COBRA, GALAXY, K40, MACO, MAGNUM, MIDLAND, PARADYNAMICS,
RANGER, ROAD NOISE, SHAKESPEARE, SOLARCON/ANTRON, UNIDEN, VALOR/PRO-AM,
WILSON, WORKMAN

FAMILY RADIO SERVICE (FRS) / DISPOSITIFS RADIO DOMESTIQUES (DRD)
AUDIOVOX, COBRA, ICOM, KENWOOD, MOTOROLA

ANTENNAS / ANTENNES
ALPHA DELTA, ANTENNA SUPERMARKET, ARROW, ATOC, BUTTERNUT, COMET, CREATE,
CUSHCRAFT, DIAMOND, FIRESTICK, FORCE 12, HUSTLER, HYGAIN, LARSEN, MFJ, MIRACLE AN-
TENNA, OUTBACKER, PRYME, SCANMASTER, VALOR/PRO-AM, VAN GORDEN, WORKMAN

SPECIALTY PRODUCTS / PRODUITS SPECIALISES
AMERITRON, ASTRON, BENCHER, DAIWA, D.C.I., GARMIN, GEOCRON, HEIL, KANTRONICS,
KIWA ELECTRONICS, L.D.G., MAGELLAN, MAHA, MFJ, MIRAGE, NYE VIKING, OPTOELECTRON-
ICS, PALOMAR ENGINEERS, PALSTAR, PREMIER, RF CONCEPTS, R.F. SYSTEMS, RIGBLASTER,
S.G.C., TIMEWAVE, UNADILLA, UNIVERSAL, VECTRONICS, VIBROPLEX,
WEST MOUNTAIN RADIO

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