

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 5 February 2009

Next meeting - Wednesday 25, February 2009

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

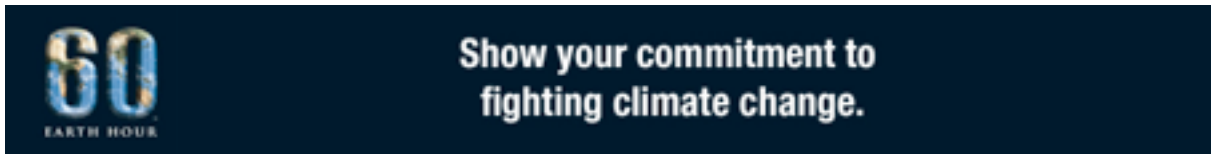
Donald Courcy, VE2GG

will be giving a presentation on submarine radio communications

St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church

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

Please enter by the back door)



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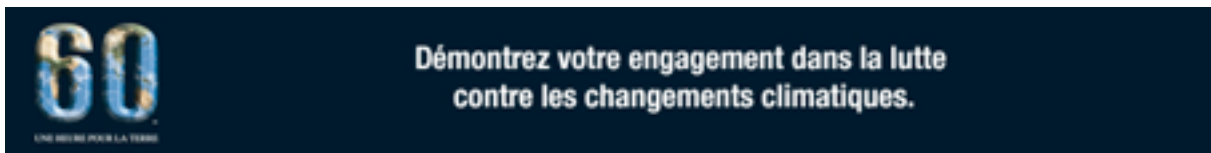
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A Word from The

President

Hello,

Last month we made the decision to postpone the talk to a later meeting when seven hardy souls braved the elements. As you'll see we've re-scheduled the speaker to this month's meeting and so we are hopeful that Mother Nature will be kinder to us this month.

We often hear that there isn't much place for the amateur to experiment but it seems that this is changing. While most of us can't make multi-level printed circuit boards there is growing interest among electrical engineering students to get an amateur certificate so that they can true out some of their projects. Also the growing field of software defined radio is another area where we can try things out and next month we'll hear from Jim Nagle, KF4OD and Loftur Jonasson, TF3LJ on this interesting aspect of radio.

As a follow-up to Jim Dean's talk last spring and number of questions relating to amateur radio regulatory matters Richard Ferch, VE3KI, has agreed to speak to us in April and answer your questions.

Our spring programme line-up is interesting and I hope to see you all at the meetings starting with this month as the topic of submarine communications is an interesting one.

73 de Jim.

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

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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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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.

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Club Activities - Monthly Meetings

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

From the Editor's Desk

In this issue you will notice some reference to "Earth Hour" which this year is to be exercised on Saturday March 28t at 8:30 PM.

Everyone can participate in Earth Hour and it's as simple as flicking off a

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.

switch – literally. You can participate by yourself or with family, friends and just a few candles. Or check out what's happening in your own community. There are many cities, community groups, restaurants and bars that participate or host Earth Hour events. Here are a couple of tips to make Earth Hour a success:

1. Turn off all non-essential lights on Saturday, March 28 at 8:30 pm.
2. Encourage family, friends and local businesses to participate.

For more info:

<http://wwf.ca/EarthHour/>

In our "ORIGIN OF HAM STUFF" in this issue we've covering the origins and some views on "73"

That's it -

Your editor..

Rjcam the Video-n-Podcast Ham, VA2RJC

From the ARRL

ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONSIDERS INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL GOALS FOR 2009

The ARRL Board of Directors held its 2009 Annual Meeting on January 16-17 in Windsor, Connecticut, under the chairmanship of President Joel Harrison, W5ZN. Radio Amateurs of Canada President David Goodwin, VO1AU/VE3AAQ, and IARU President Larry Price, W4RA, were guests of the Board.

The Board considered and acted on a number of organizational and regulatory issues. Election of the Executive Committee, committee appointments and awards were also on the agenda for the Annual Meeting.

Organizational Issues

ARRL Strategic Plan: At its July 2008 meeting, the Board voted to develop a timeline to review and revise the ARRL Strategic Plan. The Board directed Chief Executive Officer David Sumner, K1ZZ, to release the Plan's long-range goals to the membership and to solicit comments from members "on the future direction and priorities of their national organization." At this meeting, Sumner led an in depth led an in depth discussion of the membership input. The Executive Committee is tasked with developing materials for use in completing the Plan revision at the July 2009 Board meeting.

ARRL Membership and Deployed Active Duty Military: The Board voted unanimously to amend Bylaw 5 <<http://www.arrl.org/aabl.html>>, stat-

ing that the Executive Vice President is authorized to maintain ARRL membership privileges without charge for the duration of a member's active military deployment outside the ARRL operating territory as described in Bylaw 30, with or without the delivery of QST at the member's option. Bylaw 30 delineates which states (or portions of states) belong to the 15 ARRL Divisions. This action brings in to the Bylaws a policy adopted earlier by the Board.

Budget: The Board voted to adopt the 2009-2010 Plan (as amended), as presented by the Administration and Finance Committee.

Scouting: The Board voted to offer assistance to the Boy Scouts of America and their 2010 National Scout Jamboree. By representing Amateur Radio and participating with K2BSA at the Jamboree in conjunction with the Boy Scouts, the ARRL plans to build on the success of past National Jamborees where thousands of youth learned about the value and enjoyment

dvcam-ham productions



Ronald J Campbell, VA2RJC

Editor - marcOgram

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podcam@gmail.com

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<http://podcam.libsyn.com>



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

of Amateur Radio. Teaching the Radio merit badge program, license classes and VE exam sessions have been parts of the quadrennial event that attracts more than 40,000 Scouts and leaders.

Technology Task Force: This group, created in 1999, was formed to develop a strategy and plan of work for exploring new technologies, assessing their applicability to Amateur Radio and also developing a plan as to how to incorporate such new technology in the Amateur Radio Service. Since its inception, the Technology Task Force has carried out studies and offered recommendations -- particularly with regard to digital voice, high-speed multimedia, and software-defined radio. The Board resolved that the exploration and promotion of new Amateur Radio communications technologies shall continue to be an essential element of the ARRL's mission and that the original mission of the Technology Task Force may now be carried out more effectively by other means. With sincere thanks and gratitude, the Board voted to dissolve the group.

IARU Member-Society Admissions: The Board voted unanimously to instruct the Secretary to cast ballots in favor of admitting the Emirates Amateur Radio Society and the Kazakhstan Federation of Radiosports and Radioamateur to the IARU

Awards

2008 International Humanitarian Award: The Board selected the Amateur Radio operators of the Sichuan Radio Sports Association, the Chinese Radio Sports Association and the many operators from around China who supported communications efforts in the aftermath of the May 2008 earthquake, as the recipient of the 2008 International Humanitarian Award.

Ham Eatery Closed

The popular St. Jacques St. W. eatery closed Friday, 13th February. The locks had to be changed first - no one could find the keys to the 24-hour-a-day eatery. While the restaurant served up almost every fare except Chinese food, it was best known for its always-available breakfast specials and smoked meat." It's a loss to the neighbourhood and it's going to be missed," said Barbara Spencer, who has met there every Wednesday morning the past decade with a group of eight to 12 fellow Protestant School Board of Greater Montreal retirees for a coffee klatch.

"There's no other big restaurant like it in the area and you got a good meal for your buck," added the spry 78-year-old, who lives a 15-minute walk away. and you always saw familiar faces."

As with others, members of MARC will also miss Picasso's, they have been eating their prior to monthly meetings.

Humber College makes contact with ISS.

On Monday, February 2, 2009, students at Humber College using the callsign VA3JUV made a contact with the International Space Station.

From what I understand, all of the equipment used in the contact was homemade - i.e. no commercially available gear was used in this contact.

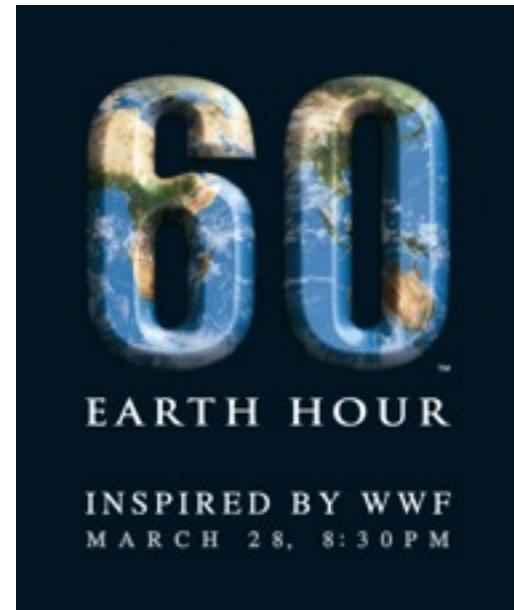
The students are in a telecommunications oriented course and were putting into practice what they learned in class.

See the url's below for more information. Thanks to Peter West, VE3HG, Radio Amateurs of Canada Vice-President, Public Relations and Daniel Lamoureux, VE2KA, RAC Vice President International Affairs for the following information.

<http://www.cbc.ca/mrl3/8752/asithapens/20090202-aih-1.wmv>

http://cp24.com/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20090202/0900202_space_station/20090202/?hub=CP24Home

<http://www.cbc.ca/technology/story/2009/02/02/students-iss.html>



ORIGIN OF HAM STUFF

Part III

FACT, LEGENDS AND MYTHS!

(Via Louise Ramsey Moreau, W3WRE, & Charles A. Wimer, KC8EHA)

The traditional expression "73" goes right back to the beginning of the landline telegraph days. It is found in some of the earliest editions of the numerical codes, each with a different definition, but each with the same idea in mind - it indicated that the end, or signature, was coming up. But there are no data to prove that any of these were used.

The first authentic use of 73 is in the **THE ORIGIN OF 73** publication "The National Telegraphic Review and Operators' Guide", first published in April 1857. At that time, 73 meant "My love to you"! Succeeding issues of this publication continued to use this definition of the term. Curiously enough, some of the other numerals used then had the same definition as they have now, but within a short time, the use of 73 began to change.

In the National Telegraph Convention, the numeral was changed from the Valentine-type sentiment to a vague sign of fraternalism. Here, 73 was a greeting, a friendly "word" between operators and it was so used on all wires.

In 1859, the Western Union Company set up the standard "92 Code." A list of numerals from one to 92 was compiled to indicate a series of prepared phrases for use by the operators on the wires. Here, in the 92 Code, 73 changes from a fraternal sign to a very flowery "accept my compliments", which was in keeping with the florid language of that era.

Over the years from 1859 to 1900, the many manuals of telegraphy show

variations of this meaning. Dodge's "The Telegraph Instructor" shows it merely as "compliments." The Twentieth Century Manual of Railways and Commercial Telegraphy defines it two ways, one listing as "my compliments to you"; but in the glossary of abbreviations it is merely "compliments". Theodore A. Edison's Telegraphy Self-Taught shows a return of "accept my compliments". By 1908, however, a later edition of the Dodge Manual gives us today's definition of "best regards" with a backward look at the older meaning in another part of the work where it also lists it as "compliments".

"Best regards" has remained ever since as the "put-it-down-in-black-and-white" meaning of 73 but it has acquired overtones of much warmer meaning. Today, amateurs use it more in the manner that James Reid had intended that it be used - a "friendly word between operators".

I hope that this helps you in some way....

73,
Charles A. Wimer
Amateur Radio Call: KC8EHA

Assistant Emergency Coordinator,
Trumbull County (OH)
ARRL Official Emergency Station
(OH)

Actually "73" was a term the old telegraph operators would use back in the old west days. It meant that they owned a Winchester 1873 rifle (their most prized possession) and that when they died they would give it to the other operator. Hence '73' meant I will will you my 73 rifle. "73s" meant you had more than one rifles that you would give to them (they were a really good friend).

Jim, N2EY wrote:

Hello--It's a nice story, but it has no basis in fact. The actual source of "73" and "88" was the list of numerical ab-

brevisions used by wire telegraphers. These abbreviations were used in a manner similar to Q signals today. Here's a partial list of number abbreviations:

- # 1 - Wait
- # 2 - Important business
- # 3 - What is the time?
- # 6 - I am ready
- # 7 - Are you ready?
- # 12 - Do you understand?
- # 13 - I understand
- # 14 - What is the weather?
- # 17 - Lightning here
- # 19 - Form 19 train order (used by RR)
- # 21 - Stop to eat
- # 23 - All copy
- # 24 - Repeat this back
- # 30 - No more, end
- # 31 - Form 31 train order (used by RR)
- # 44 - Answer promptly by wire
- # 73 - Best regards
- # 88 - Love and kisses
- # 92 - Deliver promptly
- # 134 - Who is at the key?

Note that American Morse was used by landline telegraphers. The signal "30" in American Morse is "... . ____" (zero is an extra long dash). This was

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)

corrupted into a single character, "..._" which is usually thought of today as SK or VA, with the space between letters removed.

73 (never plural!) de Jim, N2EY

DX: KP5 - Deshero Island DX-pedition.

On February 13, the Dx-pedition to KP5, Desecheo Island commenced Tx. For those of you do not know Desecheo Island, it is one of the more sought after DX locations in the world. For more information go to their site at: <http://www.k5d.us>

Desecheo is a small, mountainous island in the Mona Channel, approximately 14 miles or 21 km west of Punta Higüero, Puerto Rico. The island lies outside the 100 fathom depth boundary used to define the Puerto Rican Bank. However, it's considered to be part of the Río Culebrinas Formation, which extends from Desecheo through northwestern Puerto Rico, indicating that the two islands were connected at one time.

On Feb 26th all equipment, structures, antennas and personnel plus every trace of their two-week stay will depart for Puerto Rico.

Vernon Erle Ikeda - VE2MBS
Rédacteur de service des nouvelles RAC.
RAC News Bulletin Editor

Wanted

from Steven Fell, VE2SWC
Looking for 20-25 ampere 13.8 v regulated power supply for Icom IC-751.
Contact: Steve VE2SWC at 514-748-8611 or grenthomas@hotmail.com

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

Montreal Fleamarket - Saturday, April 11, 2009

Royal Canadian Legion Hall Branch #212 (LaSalle)

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

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

Ouverture/Opening:

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

Renseignements - Reservations - Information

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

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

Items Stolen

On Dec 8th 2008 Ve2 ATW vehicle was broken into and the following items were stolen:

1. A remote control head for a Kenwood Transceiver T M D 700A
2. A Tom Tom G.P.S. Satellite Receiver
3. A MFG Speaker

If any info is available for the recovery of these items it would be appreciated
Contact: Stan Lesser (Ve2 ATW)
514-931-5469

**Birthday Party
25 January 2009
Don Dashney, VE3RM**



On January 24 the Prescott-Russell ARES group organized a party to celebrate Don Dashney, VE3RM's 80th birthday which occurred the previous day. The party took the form of a dinner held at Le Vieux Chateau Restaurant in Hawkesbury.

Approximately 25 persons were in attendance including several MARC members. The occasion afforded Don an opportunity to reminisce about his long time interest in radio with an audience which was both appreciative and attentive.

Along with the traditional birthday

cake, Don was presented with a plaque from the Prescott-Russell ARES group in appreciation of his generous assistance to the group, local amateur radio operators and the hobby as a whole.

Among those attending were Matt Salenius, VE2MTA, Marten Guthrie, VE2WU, Annie Golanowski, VE2YAK, Hans Vandenberg, VE3REL, Vernon Ikeda, VE2QQ, Jim Hay, VE2VE, Sheldon Werner, VA2SH, Leo Nikkinen, VE2SI, Nora Hague, VA2NH and Normand Pitre, VE3NHK.

For many years Don has been a pillar of the MARC and we wish him many happy returns of the occasion.

**ARLB012 W1AW to QSY
on 160 Meters**

Starting Monday, March 9, Maxim Memorial Station W1AW will be using a new 160-meter frequency for its CW transmissions. To accommodate increasing activity near the current bulletin frequency of 1817.5 kHz, W1AW will move to 1802.5 kHz to reduce the possibility of interference.

RADIO H.F.



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A.O.R., ALINCO, ICOM, UNIDEN/BEARCAT, WINRADIO

AMATEUR RADIO / RADIO-AMATEUR

ALINCO, ICOM, KENWOOD, RANGER, S.G.C., YAESU

CITIZENS BAND (CB) / BANDE PUBLIQUE (CB)

ASTATIC, COBRA, GALAXY, K40, MACO, PARADYNAMICS, RANGER, ROAD NOISE, SHAKE-SPEARE, SOLARCON/ANTRON, UNIDEN, VALOR/PRO-AM, WILSON, WORKMAN

FRS & GMRS TWO WAY RADIOS / FRS ET GMRS PORTATIFS UHF

COBRA, GARMIN, ICOM, MOTOROLA

ANTENNAS / ANTENNES

ALPHA DELTA, ARROW, BUTTERNUT, COMET, COMPROD, CUBEX, CUSHCRAFT, DIAMOND, FIRESTICK, FORCE 12, HUSTLER, HYGAIN, ISOTRON, LARSEN, MALDOL, MFJ, MIRACLE ANTENNA, OUTBACKER, PRYME, RADIOWAVZ, TENNADYNE, VALOR/PRO-AM, WORKMAN

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PUBLICATIONS / PUBLICATIONS

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

NATURE BOOKS / LIVRES DE LA NATURE

SIBLEY GUIDES, PETERSON FIELD GUIDES, NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY