

# marcOgram

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



Volume 47, Number 7

April 2002

## “HOMEBREW EVENING WITH SHOW AND TELL”

Wednesday 24 April 2002

Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30

Club meeting: 20:00

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

Once again its time for the popular Homebrew and Show and Tell evening as we have had to move this night up a month to make room for a guest speaker from the RAC in in May. This is always an interesting and informative evening. It's a great opportunity bring out and show that radio related item from your collection whether from cutting edge manufactured (past or present) technology or that handcrafted something from your workbench. So come out and be part of the fun.

### **A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Hello,

As I write this it seems that the previous illusions of spring have become a reality. Rather than being frightful the weather outside is delightful and I am sure that folks will be thinking of doing more outside.

May 25 is coming and the planning for the Grande Parade du Canal is proceeding. As many as 20 operators will be needed for this event. If you are interested please let me know.

For those planning to assist with the Cyclotour St-Lazare the participation of the VE2LZR group has been withdrawn owing to complications of circumstances in St-Lazare.

This month will be the home brew/show and tell

meeting. We have moved it from May in order to accommodate RAC who will be sending a speaker in May to address issues of importance to amateur radio. I hope you'll be bringing something to show off.

Finally as I write this we have had another successful hamfest. The comments which I have heard were all positive and we received some suggestions for improvements next year. Several things make up a successful hamfest and perhaps most important is those of you who come through the door to see your friends and look at the wares, and hopefully make some purchases. The vendors are also required otherwise why would anyone come? Finally there are the volunteers. If I try to name all of the volunteers I will insult one by omitting them, however I do want to thank the students from our basic course who did yeoman service for

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Editor:  
 Craig Brander, VE2YGK craigyul@total.net 514-488-5109

Annual fees are:  
 General Members ... .. \$23.00  
 Associate Members ... .. \$23.00  
 White Cane Members... .. \$10.00  
 Family Members (per family) ... .. \$30.00

The membership year runs from September 1 to August 31. Memberships received on or after June 1 commence immediately and extend through the subsequent membership year - covering a period of up to fifteen months.

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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.

### Directors

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 Dave Melanson, VE2MPD

Club Call Sign: VE2ARC  
 Club Website: <http://www.marc.qc.ca>

### Repeaters

VE2BG 147.06 MHz (+)  
 Owned and operated by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Located on the Pointe Claire water tower.

VE2RED 147.27 MHz (+)  
 Owned and operated by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. Located near Decarie and Cote St. Luc Road.

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

The repeaters are open to all amateurs and VE2RED also offers a phone patch available to all amateurs during the day and evening.

### Meetings of the Board of Directors

Meetings of the Board of Directors are open to any member to attend. Board meetings are held the first Wednesday of the month (Sept. to June) at 7:30 PM at the Montreal Association for the Blind, 7000 Sherbrooke St West. Should you wish to attend one of the meetings you are welcome. Just speak to one of the directors before-hand to make certain that the meeting has neither been cancelled, nor the location changed.

## Club Activities

### Tentative Meeting Schedule

April 24,2002 - Homebrew and Show and Tell  
 As usual, the meetings start with a casual Ragchew at 19:30 and the gavel at 20:00.  
 May 29 2002 - A talk from the RAC  
 22-23 June - ARRL Field Day operations

### Radio Classes

A basic level course will is normally held in January each year. This year's course was recently completed and more information is on page 10 and 11 in the issue of the Marcogram.

### Club 70th Anniversary Dinner

The club will be having a dinner to mark the 70th anniversary of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. The dinner has been postponed until the fall. Details are still being finalized.

### Grande Parade du Canal

Radio operators will be needed Saturday May 25 for the Grande Parade du Canal. The event will mark the opening of the Lachine canal to pleasure boats. More details on page 5.

### Last Month's Meeting

Last month's meeting featured a fascinating film on the Clipperton Island 2000 Dxpedition which was enjoyed by all who attended. John Grow also gave a report on the Montreal Shriners Hospital special event station. John has more information on page 7 in this issue.

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Montreal 911 Centre ..... 514-280-2121  
 Laval 911 Centre .....450-662-4240  
 Longueuil 911 Centre .....450-646-8570  
 Sûreté du Québec ..... 310-4141  
 Kahnawake Peace Keepers 450-632-6505

These numbers are for emergencies ONLY



us  
 yesterday: Yoko Yamashita, Don Devey and Ron Campbell.  
 Thanks to all the volunteers, including Vernon Ikeda's dad who  
 assisted with the ticket sales and seemed have a good time.

One feature of any hamfest which enjoys popularity is the door  
 prizes. We would like to thank Radio Amateurs of Canada,  
 Radio Amateurs du Quebec Inc., Radioworld and Radio HF for  
 their support in contributing door prizes to the event. Your



support of our sponsors will be appreciated.  
 I look forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

73 de Jim, VE2VE  
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### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Just to follow up on Jim's comments thanks to  
 everybody who participated in The Montreal Amateur

Radio Club Hamfest on April 13 making it another success.  
 Congratulations to the students who have worked hard over  
 the last while to earn or upgrade their Amateur Radio  
 qualifications.

John Grow has submitted some interesting articles  
 this month, one on a special event station at the Montreal  
 Shriners Hospital, and the other on Field Day preparations.  
 They both make for some interesting reading. Remember  
 submissions for the Marcogram are welcome.

73 de Craig, VE2YGK  
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### CONTEST CALENDAR

Several interesting contests on this weekend particularly the  
 Ontario QSO Party. The highlight of May is The CQ  
 WPX CW Contest. If you operate SSB or CW on VHF/  
 UHF please get on the air for the June VHF QSO Party -  
 you will also find many contacts to be made on FM simplex  
 frequencies. Do not use 146.52 or repeaters. Take note of  
 the ARRL Field Day on June 22 and 23 - mark your  
 calendar. If you need further information get in touch with  
 me at the meeting or by phone at 613-675-4715, or e-mail:  
 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.

#### April 2002

Michigan QSO Party	1600Z Apr 20 - 0400Z Apr 21
Holyland DX Contest	1800Z Apr 20 - 1800Z Apr 21
Ontario QSO Party	1800Z Apr 20 - 1800Z Apr 21
Helvetia Contest	1300Z Apr 27 - 1300Z Apr 28
Florida QSO Party	1600Z Apr 27 - 0159Z Apr 28 and 1200Z - 2159Z Apr 28

#### May 2002

Indiana QSO Party	1400Z May 4 - 2300Z May 5
Massachusetts QSO Party	1800Z May 4 - 0400Z May 5 and 1100Z - 2100Z May 5
ARI International DX Contest	2000Z May 4 - 2000Z May 5
CQ-M International DX Contest	

2100Z May 11 - 2100Z May 12  
CQ WW WPX Contest, CW 0000Z May 25 - 2400Z May 26

## June 2002

TOEC WW Grid Contest,SSB 1200Z Jun 8 - 1200Z Jun 9  
ARRL June VHF QSO Party 1800Z Jun 8 - 0300Z Jun 10  
All Asian DX Contest, CW 000Z Jun 15 - 2400Z Jun 16  
Marconi Memorial HF Contest  
1400Z Jun 22 - 1400Z Jun 23  
ARRL Field Day 1800Z Jun 22 - 2100Z Jun 23

73 de Don, VE3RM

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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>

### APR 27 Ste. Therese QC

CRALL Hamfest - Ste. Therese, Quebec

Admission: \$5 General Admission, \$10 Tables

Polyvalente de Ste. Therese, 401 Blvd. du Domaine,  
Ste. Therese, QC

Talk-in VE2REL 147.315 (-)

E-mail: hamfest2002@hotmail.com

Web Page: <http://www.ve2crl.qc.ca>

### APR 27 Whitby ON

Saturday, April 27 Durham Region Amateur Radio Hamfest.

Location: Iroquois Park Recreation Centre, Corner of Victoria Street and Henry Street, Whitby, Ontario

Directions: Brock Street (exit #410) off of Highway

401, south to Victoria and then west on Victoria to Henry Street. Vendors 07h30 General Admission

09h00 Admission \$6.00 Tables \$25.00, (Includes one admission) Talk-in VE3SPA 147.375 (+),

Information: Peter Henry (905) 436-9236 after noon and before 21h00. E-mail: va3pwh@idirect.com

Web page: <http://drhamfest.tripod.com>

### MAY 4 Stittsville ON

Saturday, May 4, 2002, The Ottawa Valley Mobile Radio Club Fleamarket - Stittsville, Ontario

Location: Stittsville Arena on Main Street, Stittsville, ON

Vendors 06h30, General Admission 09h00 to 12h00,

Admission 3.00\$ - Tables 7.00\$ includes admission - corner tables 15.00\$ includes admission

Talk-in: VE3TWO 147.300 (+) or 444.200 (+).  
Information/Reservations: Jake at 613-253-3732 ONLY  
between 10h00 and 15h00 or va3tqx@rac.ca

Web page:

<http://www.ovmrc.on.ca/news.htm>

### MAY 11 Etobicoke (Toronto) ON

Saturday, May 11, Skyward Annual Spring Hamfest And Fleamarket. Etobicoke (Toronto), Ontario

Location: Westway United Church, 8 Templar Drive, Etobicoke.

Vendors 08h00 Public 09h00 to 11h30 Admission \$5.00  
Tables \$12.00 {includes one admission} Talk-in

VE3SKY 146.985 (-) or Simplex 146.520 MHz Table  
reservations Derrick Poulter, VE3JNK, 26 Poynter Drive,

Etobicoke Ontario M9R 1L1 Telephone 416-247-7728

E-mail dmpoulter@sympatico.ca

Web page: <http://webhome.idirect.com/~jproc/sarc>

### MAY 11 Smiths Fall ON

18th Annual Smiths Falls Amateur Radio Fleamarket - Smiths Fall, Ontario held by the Rideau Lakes Amateur Radio Club Inc.(formerly the Smiths Falls Amateur Radio Club)

Location: Smiths Falls Youth Centre 150 Beckwith Street North, Smiths Falls, ON. Vendors 07h00 Public 09h00

Tables 10.00\$ General Admission 3.00\$ Talk-in/  
VE3RLR 147.210 (+) Table reservations contact Baxter

Smith VE3BFX, 8 St. Lawrence Street, Smiths Falls ON  
K7A 4K5, (613)-283-7852 or Pierre Lemoyne, VE3FLO  
at (613)-283-2762,

E-mail: baxsmith@falls.igs.net

Web page: <http://www.falls.igs.net/~rlarc>

### MAY 26 Tracy QC

Sunday, May 26, 2002, **Hamfest du Québec** - Tracy, Québec

Location: Curling A. Racine et Centre Culturel, Place du Centre Civique, Tracy, QC

Exposants/Vendors 06h00 Public 09h00 to 15h00  
Indoor Table - 15.00\$ including 1 admission, payable

in advance. Outdoor Table - 7.00\$ General Admission  
5.00\$

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

Information and Reservations:

Denis VE2DSH 450-746-0814 or  
ve2cbs@hotmail.com

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

**JUL 26 to JUL 28**

**Vernon BC**

Friday, July 26 to Sunday, July 28 - **RAC 2002**

**National Convention** Vernon, British Columbia

Location: Best Western Vernon Lodge and Conference Centre. Sponsored by the North Okanagan Radio Amateur Club and the Orchard City Amateur Radio Club. Talk-in VE7RSS 146.880 (-) E-mail [info@rac2002.org](mailto:info@rac2002.org)

Web page:

<http://www.rac2002.org/>

**SEPT 07**

**Pointe Claire QC**

Saturday September 7, the WIARC Hamfest and Auction - Pointe Claire, QC. Location: Saint John Fisher Church, 120 Summerhill, Pointe-Claire, QC. Vendors 07h00, Public 09h00 to 15h00. Admission: Vendors Tables \$10.00 (includes 1 admission) Public \$5.00. Talk-in: VE2RWI 146.910 (-) For information and/table reservations call Janusz VE2ZHP at 514-744-5126

E-mail: [ve2zhp@rac.ca](mailto:ve2zhp@rac.ca)

Webpage: <http://www.pubnix.net/wiarc>

A reminder - if you have web access you can also check the list of hamfests on the club's web page at:

<http://www.marc.qc.ca/festcal.html>

73 de Vernon Erle Ikeda, VE2MBS  
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**MARC 70TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER**

This event has been postponed until the the fall.

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**LACHINE CANAL BOAT PARADE  
GRANDE PARADE DU CANAL**

On May 25, 2002 there will be a marine parade to celebrate the re-opening of the Lachine Canal to pleasure craft. Organizers are expecting as many as 150 vessels of all types and as many as 50,000 spectators. Amateur Radio has a role to play at this event to keep it running smoothly. The

parade itself is expected to start at 11:00 AM from the Atwater Basin and proceed west to Lachine arriving at about 4:00 PM. There will be a radio network in operation for the safety boats involved as well as one for the safety (first aid) personnel. These will be on marine and commercial frequencies. A third network will be required to ensure that all of the volunteer crews have the information which they need. This third network will be manned by amateur radio operators using either VE2RED or an appropriate simplex frequency.

While a few operators will be on boats or in a golf cart most will be on foot. It is important that everyone knows what is going on and that will be our role. This is an excellent opportunity to show off the capabilities of amateur radio to both the the event organizers, Parks Canada and the general public.

If you would like more information or to volunteer please let me know.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

On June 5, 2002 the 18th. annual Caisse Populaire Mistral Golf Tournament will be held at the Lachute Golf Club. The proceeds of the tournament each year benefit a non-profit organization. This year the Regroupement des Loisirs de Quebec is the beneficiary which means that RAQI, our provincial association, will be included.

The amount of money distributed to each group will depend, in part, on the number of entries generated by that group. If you are interested contact Jim Hay, VE2VE, for more information and an entry form.

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**VE2RM ANNUAL MEETING**

For those of you who are interested the annual meeting for VE2RM has been postponed to May 9 and the location has moved to the Royal St. Lawrence Yacht Club, 1350 Lakeshore Drive, Dorval.

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**RAC BULLETINS**



## TOPHAT 2002

Congratulations to the North Shore Amateur Radio Club for taking 1st place at the annual TOPHAT amateur radio competition. Second place went to New Westminster and 3rd place to the Burnaby team. 9 teams, 39 locations and 150 amateurs competed in TOPHAT 2002 on April 6th. TOPHAT is an amateur radio emergency communications competition testing the procedures, training, and capabilities of amateurs under emergency conditions.

The exercise was run on a Saturday morning from 8:30 to 12:00 noon and required amateurs to set up stations at their municipal emergency operations centre, a reception centre for evacuees, the hospital, and one surprise location.

The exercise was based on the 1962 Tropical Storm Freida which resulted in seven fatalities in B.C., 50 in Washington and Oregon, and resulted in power outages up to three weeks in some areas. 20% of the trees in Stanley Park were knocked down and bridges and airports were closed as winds lifted vehicles and flipped planes.

Surprise locations included Nexen Chemical on the North Shore, BC Hydro Emergency Operations Centre, St. John Ambulance, the Salvation Army, Vancouver Police Department, New Westminster Police Department, Pitt Meadows Airport, and the Provincial Emergency Program Regional Emergency Operations Centre.

TOPHAT is designed to improve the communications skills of amateurs and introduce organizations such as hospitals and emergency services to the capabilities of amateur radio. Teams were tested on set-up procedures, formal and informal message handling, HF and packet capabilities, and problem solving.

Teams from Burnaby, Coquitlam, Maple Ridge, New Westminster, North Shore, Richmond, Surrey, the Sunshine Coast, and Vancouver entered.

For further information on TOPHAT 2002, please visit:

<http://www.amateurradio.ca>

(Tom Cox VE7TOX – TOPHAT 2002 Chair)

From: <http://www.rac.ca/dnews.htm>

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**ARISS INTERNATIONAL TEAM MEETS AT  
MONTREAL**

On April 4th to 7th, the ARISS international team, with delegates from The USA, Russia, Japan, Canada and Europe, met at the Canadian Space Agency (CSA) headquarters in St Hubert, just east of Montreal. The meetings were moderated by Roy Neal W6DUE, and chaired by Frank Bauer KA3HDO.

Most of the meetings were devoted to discussions of current and possible new hardware for the amateur station on the ISS. Proposals were received from Russian, American and European members of the team, as well as from Bob Bruninga WB4APR of the US Naval Academy. These proposals will now be reviewed in detail by the ARISS Project Selection and Use Committee, which will prepare recommendations for approval by the ARISS delegates representing the ISS partner countries.

Marilyn Steinberg of the CSA participated in presentations about ARISS school contacts and educational outreach activities, and areas of possible co-operation between ARISS and the CSA were discussed.

Between meetings, Mark Steiner K3MS and Ken Pulfer VE3PU were able to schedule a short visit with Canadian Space Agency President, Marc Garneau. Both had worked with Garneau in the past when he was an active astronaut. During the discussions it was agreed that ARISS and CSA would work together to prepare an umbrella agreement covering co-operation in areas of mutual interest.

From: <http://www.rac.ca/arisnews.htm>

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### COMMUNITY SERVICE

#### VE2LZR GROUP

The VE2LZR group will be participating in the following equestrian events this year:

Sat., June 8 - Blainville Carriage Driving Event -  
Blainville Equestrian Centre

September 28, Carriage Driving Event - details T.B.A

For more information, Please contact Ken Magee at  
ve2lzl@rac.ca

For information on this and other events:

<http://www.marc.qc.ca/events.html>

73 de Vern, VE2MBS

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**MONTREAL SHRINERS HOSPITAL FOR  
CHILDREN SPECIAL EVENT STATION FOR**



Paul 'Mac' MacDougall, VA2YQ, David Melanson, VE2MPD, with the Kenwood TS-2000 transceiver, at the Montreal Shriners Hospital special event radio station.

**"CHILDREN IN HEALTHCARE WEEK 2002"  
USING AMATEUR RADIO**

help of RAQI (Radio Amateur du Quebec) and some faxes and emails to various persons asking for

The week of March 18<sup>th</sup>. 2002, and continuing to March 20<sup>th</sup>. Amateur radio operators from the Montreal Amateur Radio Club and children at various schools, and Shriner's hospitals throughout North America have participated in the "Special event Station" for the "Children in Healthcare week 2002 Conference". This was held at the Montreal Shriners Hospital for Children.

Organized by John Grow VE2EQL, who is a long time Shriners Hospital volunteer and member of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. John discussed the possibility of a special event station with the staff at the hospital. The go ahead was given on the spot, with only a week and a half to go before the conference. With the



The special QSL card, showing the Montreal Shriners Hospital, to mark the operation of the special event station.

assistance. Kenwood Communications Canada, provided the latest High Frequency Transceiver the TS-2000, which covers all of HF through to 70 cm, all mode. Please see the Kenwood Web for details on this fantastic radio.

We were lucky to have Dave Melanson, VE2MPD for the whole three days of operation, and Mac MacDougall, VA2YQ who was able to spend Tuesday at the station. Various HF nets were checked into, and many contacts were made on HF and 2 meters VHF. The conference had two high profile persons, who visited the station. Judge Andree Ruffo, and Dr. Bernard Shapiro, principle of McGill University. In addition to all the patients and their parents who were visiting the clinic, most of the hospital staff had a chance to see and ask questions. We had literature from MARC, RAQI, RAC and the ARRL on Ham radio.

Special Event Station, consisted of the following. Kenwood TS-2000 transceiver, covering 160 to 70 cm, all mode. The radio has a built in Automatic Antenna Tuner. The antennas were a 44" centre feed dipole, with ladder line to a LDG 4:1 balun. A 5/8 wave 2 meter antenna was used for 2 meters. We

used the MARC club call of VE2ARC

Special Thanks to Bernard Boucher of Kenwood Electronics Canada, Dave Melanson VE2MPD and Mac MacDougall, VA2YQ

### **Web Sites to Visit for more information:**

Shriners Web Site:

<http://www.shriners.com>

Montreal Shriners Hospital for Children site:

<http://www.shrinershq.org/shc/canada>

Kenwood Communications:

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

73 de John Grow, VE2EQL

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### **FIELD DAY STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING**

### **YOUR RATING = FUN**

It's getting nearing to that day, where we will cover a location with antennas, radios, personnel and food to help us survive for 2 days of field day operations. On each field day, you have many different groups with different specialities, we have the mega sites with numerous operators, QRP operations, all YL teams, kid operators, military equipment operators, and the list goes on. What ever group you will be with, or even if you're operating solo, there are many things that you could do to increase your point ratings per contact. Here is a list of a few simple things can make a difference.

**Public Relations:** Try to operate where there are people, yes its hard to put up a large antenna site, deal with security, have enough volunteers, provide information to the public, and operate field day at the same time. Depending on the size of your group and how many volunteers you can muster, this will earn you some extra points, but most importantly score points and hopefully educate the public. Who knows who will join our ranks. Even if you don't operate from a public site, send out press releases to local newspapers, media outlets, and your local TV station. Try to write a little piece about Amateur Radio and Field Day and where the public can visit your operation if possible. Local papers are always looking for material about events in the community. Remember, to try and get your press information, with enough time to get it published before your event.

**Power:** Operating off the local power company supply will earn extra points per contact. It doesn't matter if you are using batteries / solar power / generator or human power, depending on the logistics and operating location. The safest power source is sealed batteries, depending on the radios connected and their power output. This will mean that you have to operate at power levels lower than 100 watts, going to levels of 50, 25 or lower. Using 100 watts of power requires up to 22 amps of current. At 50 watts, up to 11 amps, and for 25 watts up to 5 or 6 amps. Depending on how much is transmit versus



receive time, will greatly affect the usable life of the battery before it needs to be recharged. It's best to try out your system on batteries before field day. The type of batteries used will make a great difference on operating time. The best type of batteries are stationary (deep discharge / cycle) sealed lead acid or Gel type. Any type of flood cell is dangerous, due to the hydrogen gas, and possible spillage of the acid. Automotive batteries were made for starting applications. There are many types of stationary batteries. (Please refer to the stationary battery list) Please keep in mind the logistics of operating with battery banks. You have to have a way to carry the batteries to and from the field day site, how you are going to charge the batteries and how you will hook up the batteries. Please keep in mind safety considerations in dealing with any type of battery. Please ensure that the batteries are fused properly.

**Increasing the local contacts on HF:** A great antenna developed for our Military forces to work stations within the skip zone from within 300 to 400 miles is a simple antenna for field day use. The NVIS (Near Vertical Incident Skywave) antenna will help you contact all those other stations that our signal normally overshoots. (Please refer to the Net Sources for NVIS details)

**Preparedness:** What ever you plan to do, planning is the most important and hardest part of preparing for field day. Below is a list of tips / action plans that you could follow, by no means is this a complete list that will suit all situations. You might have to modify, delete or add items that are more suitable for your field day group.

**Special Notes to Clubs / Experienced Operators:** Some people are far too serious about field day, Yes it gives us a chance, so we could fine tune our emergency skills, and nearly 24 hours of continuous operating time. But this is also a chance to give that new ham whatever age he or she is, a chance to operate on HF, be part of a team. Please, don't think of the new person in your club as someone just to help to set up equipment, antennas, towers, and all round gopher. Set schedules so to give everybody a chance,

and let the excitement take over, just as it did for us.

**Planning List / Action Plan**

- What type of field day event do you want to organize, multiple operator, CW only, QRP, all YL?
- What type of equipment will you need? IE: HF radios, antennas, power considerations, sleep area, food, Wash room services, shelter.
- How many operators, volunteers will you need? How dependable and committed are they to the plan.
- With your group, define what special areas need attention and give it to the person who has the technical expertise and experience. Make sure these key persons have help, ideally its best to pair up a person who does not have the experience. This is one of the best ways to learn.
- Prepare a list of all items that are non-radio, antennas, etc that you will need to operate. In other words the support items, staff, etc.
- No matter how big or small your field day plans are, make of list of possibilities of what could go wrong. After, make a list of your back-up plans.
- Make a list of all the tools that you will need? Better to have the tools on hand, than to waste time.
- Make a final plan, with all the times and the associated actions with defining tasks for each member of your group. By doing this, you will have an idea on how much time certain tasks will take, and how soon you will be operating.

**Net Sources:**

ARRL Media Relations Person:

[newsmedia@arrl.org](mailto:newsmedia@arrl.org)

Stationary battery manufacturers: East Penn Manufacturing :

<http://www.eastpenn-deka.com>

Power Battery Company:

<http://www.powbat.com>

Yuasa Exide Inc:

<http://www.yuasainc.com>

GNB Technologies:

<http://www.gnb.com>

NVIS Antenna Information:

<http://www.tactical-link.com>

<http://www.qsl.net/vcars/carl/nvis.htm>

73 de John Grow, VE2EQL

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Editor's note: For those who are looking for other information on batteries and alternative energy sources you might try Home Power magazine, found at some local magazine stores. It is a semi-monthly magazine and you can download the current issue (in pdf format) from their web site at:

<http://www.homepower.com>

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### RADIO COURSE UPDATE

The good News first....Don Devey, Ron Campbell, Robert Paknys and Pil Joo passed. Don and Ron were students in the course and Robert Paknys teaches Electrical Engineering at Concordia. Pil Joo is a student at McGill who wanted to write the exam.

The bad news, Charlotte Scott and Yoko Yamashita did not pass (by a small margin). Not too bad considering that we were in the last week of classes before the exams start.. Both Charlotte and Yoko mentioned to me that they still have some classwork due (Charlotte left for the Hall building as she had to meet the rest of her work group to finish off an assignment on Monday).

John McNear and Robert Warren couldn't make the exam but will write when they both come back from out of town.

Some new call signs, will soon be heard on the

airwaves. The new calls are:

Gul Pil Joo VA2JOO  
Robert Pakneys VE2JBP  
Ron Campbell VE2AIA  
Don Devey VA2DWD

To recap this year's exam results:

### Basic Course Graduates 2002

Course Graduates:

Don Devey, Ron Campbell, Robert H. Warren

Non-Course Graduates:

Robert Paknys and G. Pil Joo and Marc St. Laurent

As well, these Amateurs received upgrades to their licences:

Shawn Englehart, VA3STE      Advanced  
Steven Faguy, VA2SMF      5WPM CW

Congratulations to those passing the basic and to those who have upgraded their Amateur Qualifications.

73 de Vernon, VE2MBS, Course Co-ordinator

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

Due to technical difficulties Fred's column is unavailable this month.

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### CLASSIFIED

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

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Here is a class picture from the March 30th class, taken by taken by student Ron Campbell. In the picture are, l-r, Charlotte Scott, Yoko Yamashita, Jim Hay, Don Devey, Vern Ikeda and Robert Warren.

**DON BRACKET, VE1QZ, SK**

This is to advise of the passing of Don Bracket VE1QZ of Halifax on Thursday March 28, 2002. Our Sympathies to the family and friends of Don Bracket. - Wayne Mills, VE1AGU

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**A REMINDER**

THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER. CONTRIBUTIONS AND ARTICLES ARE WELCOME.

CONTACT MYSELF, CRAIG, OR JIM HAY. CONTACT INFO ON PAGE 2.

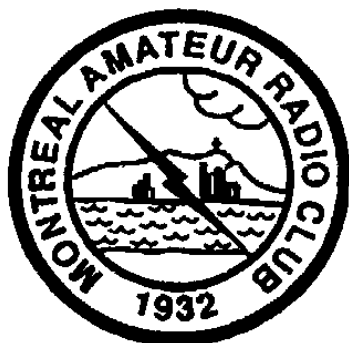
**HUBERT (HERB) MORRISON**

**VE3HMF - (EXVE2AZY), SK**

Hubert (Herb) Morrison, VE3HMF, originally from Kingston Ontario, passed away in Ottawa on Easter Sunday, March 31, 2002, at the age of 89. Herb was first licensed in 1960 as VE2AYZ in St.Lambert, Quebec and then became VE3HMF when he moved to Ottawa in 1979. Although in poor health for some time, Herb was active in his hobby until near the end. He was active in packet radio from its beginnings and was an active VHFer on local repeaters. When he lived in Montreal he was an active member of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club during the 60's and 70's. He was a graduate of Benny Halickman's and Tom Watson's code and theory classes! The funeral was held in Ottawa on Saturday, Apr 6. Our sympathies go out to the family and friends of Herb Morrison on behalf of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club.

Information from Herb's son, Peter Morrison, VE3IDX and Burt Lang, VE2BMQ.

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**RADIO HF**