

# marc0gram



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

A MARC Monthly Newsletter

Volume 56, Number 09 August 2011

## *Next meeting - September 28, 2011*

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

Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church

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

(Please enter by the back door)

**Summer 2011 - Special Edition**



The Gazebo at Pine Beach Park with George VE2NGH, Dorval City Councilor Mrs. Margo Heron, and Paul VE2OHF.  
(Centre Picture)

## A Word from The President.

Hello,

The summer is drawing to a close and the fall season is about to begin and with that is the resumption of the club season as well as other fall activities. As you will read in this issue Field Day was successful and credit goes to George Hedrei, VE2NGH and his assembled crew for a job well done.

Next year is the club's eightieth anniversary and the board will be looking at suitable ways to mark the occasion. As has already been announced we will be hosting the RAC annual general meeting and we likely will plan some sort of activities around that.

We are working on finalizing the topic for the September meeting. Perhaps a propos given some of the events of this summer we are working on having a representative from CANWARN Quebec give a talk. This will be confirmed in the September MarcOgram.

The weather is warming up even if it doesn't seem to be drying up. Amateur radio is providing communications in Alberta around the Slave Lake fire as well as in the flooded areas out west. Doubtless there are other activation's as well.

The April meeting topic proved to be an interesting one which led right into the first Solder Spot project and meeting which was quite successful. This month is our annual Show and Tell so perhaps we'll see some of the antennas built and I hope that next year's Show and Tell

will show off more of folks handiwork from Solder Spot projects.

Planning for Field Day and Canada Day are underway and I hope to see the club well represented at both as well as seeing you all at the meeting.

73 de Jim.

## DIRECTORS

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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.

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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 stops at or near the door!

## From your Editor's Desk

I had planned to run an article re social networking and the amateur radio community but I'll hold off until a later edition. As you'll see from what follows, subjects such as hurricanes don't provide too much warning as to when and where they take place.

One of the reasons that I've included the article from the ARRL Newsletter is the signifiants of Hurricane Irene coverage along the Atlantic seaboard. Watching various newscast that show how serious different States have reacted to such an event and yet, we still here seem to act that we are imune to such weather patterns. Since I became a 'ham' in 2002, I have on numerous occasions made enquiries regarding radio amateur activity in support of natural disasters and my own participation. Nine years later the status quo hasn't changed.

Before I finnish, I wish to congratulate all those who participated in the very

## Frederick Hart, VE2LSQ

On April 22, 2011 Frederick Hart, VE2LSQ passed away. Funeral services were held at Alfred D'Allaire Funeral Home in LaSalle at which the amateur radio community was well represented by members of both the Montreal and West Island Amateur Radio Clubs.

Fred was active on two metres and assisted at a number of communications events. In his professional life he was an ambulance technician with Urgences Santé having started out with private ambulance companies and served through the formation of Urgences Santé where during the 1980s he often appeared in English media responding to questions. A work-related injury ended his career although in the past few years he had assisted with the formation of the special unit to transport obese patients.

Always looking to help, Fred was very well known for his knowledge of Montreal streets and ability to provide directions. As a result it was commonplace to hear an amateur appear on a local repeater, having come from somewhere in Canada or the U.S., looking for Fred saynig that he had been told by another ham that if directions were needed it Montreal to look for VE2LSQ.

Fred was a frequent participant in the late night roundtables on local repeaters and if a late night driver needed company on their journey inevitably VE2 L S and a Q would appear to chat with them until they arrived at their destination or drove out of range of the local repeaters.

More than once Fred advised hams who had come across an accident scene on what to do to assist the victims and he frequently checked on those he knew had health problmes to be sure that they were safe and sound especially during power failures and inclement weather.

Fred will be missed on the local repeaters and he will be missed by his family and innumerable friends as well as the countless thousands whom he help either as an amateur technician or as a friendly voice coming out of a radio.

Rest in Peace Fred.



successful 2011 Field Day and in particular George Hedrei, VE2NGH for his technical handling and very detailed report (see later).

Summer is almost over, have a good fall.

*Ron, VA2RJC*

## Amateurs Continue to Prepare for Hurricane Irene As Storm Nears North Carolina

08/26/2011

As Hurricane Irene -- currently a Category 2 storm -- makes its way toward the North Carolina's Outer Banks, radio amateurs in the Carolinas, Virginia and up the Atlantic coast are making preparations to assist served agencies. As always, the ARRL cautions those amateurs who wish to volunteer and provide support to check in with their local Emergency Coordinators for further instructions. In no case should amateurs self-deploy to the affected areas.

At ARRL Headquarters, the ARRL HQ Emergency Response Team (HQERT) has established a website to keep amateurs informed of the latest developments and developments in the affected areas. This website will also provide links to the NHC, WX4NHC — the Amateur Radio station at the NHC — the Hurricane Watch Net (HWN) and the Voice over Internet Protocol Weather Net (VOIPWX), where radio amateurs can send in their reports. The HQERT is currently monitoring various nets and provid-

ing support to the affected Field Organizations, and will be at W1AW, the Hiram Percy Maxim Memorial Station beginning 7 AM EDT Saturday, August 27. W1AW will be monitoring and using HF, EchoLink, Winlink, D-STAR and IRLP to assist in any ways needed. WX4NHC is monitoring the Hurricane Watch Net on 14.325 MHz. Secondary HF frequencies will be 7.268 MHz and 3.950 MHz +/- QRM, should propagation be lost on 20 meters. EchoLink "WX-Talk" Conference Room and IRLP node 9219 is also being monitored. WX4NHC is also monitoring CWOP, APRS and MADIS/MESONET automated weather stations in the affected area, as well as EchoLink "WX-Talk" Conference Room and IRLP node 9219. Surface reports using WX4NHC's On-line Hurricane Report form are also being monitored.

"We request all land based stations, as well as ships at sea in the areas affected, to send us weather data (measured or estimated) and damage reports," said WX4NHC Assistant Coordinator Julio Ripoll, WD4R. "If you are in the affected area and normally monitor on a local Net on VHF, 40 or 80 meters, we would appreciate your checking into the HWN NET or EchoLink/IRLP Net once per hour to receive the latest hurricane advisories and to report your local conditions."

Hurricane Watch Net

The Hurricane Watch Net has been active on 14.325, off and on since Monday, August 22. According to Stan Broadway, N8BHL, the net will be active beginning at 6:30 AM EDT Saturday, August 27 on two frequencies for the duration of the storm: 14.325 and 7.268 MHz. Broadway thanked amateurs for keeping the HWN's frequency clear: "It has been very important to have a clear frequency, since we were receiving reports from stations like C6AGG and C6AID, whose antennas were lying on the ground after 100 MPH winds took them down. They were still able to transmit information to us under those conditions and we thank you! We were able to relay those important reports directly to WX4NHC at the National Hurricane Center."

Voice over Internet Protocol Weather Net

The VoIP invites Amateur Radio operators to use EchoLink node #7203 and IRLP #9219 to report information regarding Hurricane Irene. The VoIP then will relay that information directly to the National Hurricane Center in Florida.

"We have been doing this for a number of years," said Rob Macedo, KD1CY. He told the ARRL that they had received reports on Hurricane Irene from as far away as the Turks and Caicos Islands.

"These reports are used as 'ground truth intelligence,' allowing NHC meteorologists to 'tweak' their forecasts," he said.

## Hurricane Irene's Track

As of 2 PM EDT Friday, August 26, Hurricane Irene is about 300 miles south-southwest of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina; it is moving north at 14 MPH, with maximum sustained winds topping 100 MPH with higher gusts. A hurricane warning is in effect for Little River Inlet, North Carolina, northward to Sandy Hook, New Jersey. This includes the Pamlico, Albemarle, and Currituck Sounds, Delaware Bay and Chesapeake Bay south of Drum Point. A hurricane watch is in effect for north of Sandy Hook to the mouth of the Merrimack River, Massachusetts. This includes New York City, Long Island, Long Island Sound, Block Island, Boston, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket. A tropical storm warning is in effect for north of Edisto Beach, South Carolina to Little River Inlet on the Chesapeake Bay, from Drum Point northward and the tidal Potomac.

Watches and warnings will likely be extended northward into New England this afternoon. A hurricane warning means that hurricane conditions are expected somewhere

within the warning area. A warning is typically issued 36 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds. A hurricane watch means that hurricane conditions are possible within the watch area. A watch is typically issued 48 hours before the anticipated first occurrence of tropical-storm-force winds.

Some of the outer rain bands from Irene will brush the Florida, Georgia and South Carolina coasts on Friday and into Friday night. Rain and wind will increase steadily from Northeast South Carolina and the coast of North Carolina on Friday afternoon, with hurricane conditions likely along the Eastern North Carolina coast later Friday night.

The center of Hurricane Irene is expected to make landfall as a borderline Category 2 or 3 hurricane on Saturday morning in Eastern North Carolina, most likely between Morehead City and Hatteras. Rain and wind will begin to pick up in Eastern Virginia late Friday night and into Saturday, moving up to Maryland, Delaware, and Southern New Jersey on Saturday. Hurricane

conditions are possible along the coast, with tropical storm conditions possible as far inland as I-95. Hurricane conditions are likely on Saturday night for New Jersey's Delmarva Peninsula and even extreme Southeastern Pennsylvania on Saturday night. Inland sections from Baltimore and Washington, DC to Eastern Pennsylvania can expect tropical storm conditions and heavy rain.

The New York Metropolitan Area will experience the worst conditions later on Saturday night and Sunday, with hurricane conditions possible along with destructive wind, heavy flooding rain and storm surge with coastal flooding. Tropical storm conditions expected in Western New Jersey and the Upstate New York up the Hudson River Valley. Irene will then race through New England on Sunday and Sunday night and could still bring some hurricane conditions. Conditions in the Mid-Atlantic up through Southeastern New York, New Jersey and New England are expected to have extreme gusty winds, flooding rains and coastal flooding.

## TRI-CLUB 2011 ARRL FIELD DAY EVENT

**Prepared by: George Hedrei VE2NGH**

As coordinator for this year's 2011 Field Day event for the West Island Amateur Radio Club (WIARC), I decided to do something very different from last year to involve more amateur radio operators and to have more public exposure to amateur radio. Being also an active member of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club (MARC), and also helping to revive the Concordia University Amateur Radio Club (CUARC), I had thought

of organizing this year's field day involving all three clubs.

As many of you may know, during the past few years WIARC had held its Field Days at the Morgan Arboretum which is a large forest conservation area on the West Island of Montreal. It is very difficult for the public and amateurs to get to and virtually impossible if you have no car. The only public that you would meet were nature-lovers who would spend time walking through the conservation area. Because of the trees, only wire antennas were practical and the trees make for difficult VHF and satellite operation. The mosquitoes and bugs make operating in a closed tent essential which gets very warm when the sun is out and with this year's very wet spring would have made life just miserable.

So I had an idea inspired by the yearly Canada Day activities hosted by the city of Dorval at Millennium Park on the shores Lake St. Louis on the West Island of Montreal. The MARC has operated Canada Day there many times and the location would be perfect. After checking with the city it was discovered that we could not use that park due to the St. Jean Baptiste Holiday celebrations on the Friday before our event. We then scouted around in the winter and found a beautiful park on the lake just down the road – Pine Beach Park. This park is right in the middle of a suburban residential area and is also on a main road. Public transportation is around the corner and there is plenty of free parking. I presented my idea to all three clubs during the January club meetings and it was very well received by all members and almost everyone welcomed this change in Field Day operations not to mention the MARC who had not held a field day in a number of years. Once the idea was approved by the executives of all three clubs, we started to organize as there was a lot of work to do! First we had to secure permission from the city of Dorval to use the park. We still kept Morgan Arboretum as our backup plan B since we found out that the park gazebo is sometimes reserved for outdoor activities. Right from the beginning we decided to use the Concordia University club call VE2CUA in order to get this call back on the air again after many years of dormancy.

As leader of the technical group I had started the plans for our station. I would have liked to operate as 2A but in looking at the time required to design, build, and test the various filters involved quickly made me shelve this idea for a future event. This year we were allowed a free VHF/UHF station without changing our operating class. So I had decided to go with a 6m and 2m station in addition to the HF station. This was also the first field day where I had decided to use Yagi antennas with towers for the higher bands.

Now the race was on to acquire all the equipment and put it all together. Since a part of my own shack consists of a Yaesu FT-1000D complete with computer interfaces, keyer and PSK/RTTY interface, I decided to use this setup for our HF station since it was already configured and working. We borrowed Sheldon Verner's (VA2SH) IC-7000 radio to use on 6m and 2m. I decided to use two computers running N1MM logger but they would log separately. I had prepared the power and grounding buss arrangement which I had used last year. I also decided to use my FT-736R and laptop running SAT-PC32 for the satellite station. Last year Malcolm Harper (VE2DDZ) and I built a set of Lindenblad antennas for 2m and 70cm which would be used along with an Arrow antenna mounted on a camera tripod. I also had GaAs-FET preamps and power amps for both bands.

For the antennas, the MARC had an old Cushcraft A4 tri-bander which was not used for over 15 years. We also borrowed a 5-element 6m beam. Paul Iarerra (VE2OFH) and I spent two weekends cleaning the HF elements and traps and figuring out how to properly put everything back together to make the antenna work. To check the tuning, we had brought the HF beam to a local park and raised it to 20 feet with using Paul's fiberglass sections as a mast. This antenna design has not changed in 20 years since the only manual we had was the one for the current A4-S that we had downloaded. I think we were very lucky here!

The WIARC club had a DMX 40 foot tower which they used to use for past Field Days. The MARC also had a 30 foot Dehi TV tower which we would use for the VHF station. We also decided to make a "test-run" to walk up the

towers since none of us had any experience in doing this before. We took HF the tower to a local park on a Saturday morning and measured out all the guy ropes. I was surprised that 8 men were able to set this up and take it back down again in under two hours in a light rain! All the guy ropes were measured out, labeled, and tied to the tower ready for field day and we knew exactly how many men it would take, and the procedure to safely walk up this tower. I was NOT leaving anything for the last minute inviting the possibility of an accident!

I had decided to use a 40m sloping vertical which would be held up by the HF tower. It would use a single elevated horizontal radial. I would use the same antenna for 80 meters but in order to obtain an ideal sloping angle of no more than 30 degrees from vertical, I needed a 68 foot high support. The park does not have trees that high. Fortunately Paul (VE2OFH) had purchased 60 feet of surplus fiberglass mast that comes in 4 ft sections. I decided to use this as the support for the 80m sloper. We also did a "test run" with this mast and after a few hesitant moments we managed to hoist it up and back down again. We used three levels of three guys for each level. In retrospect I really suggest that these fiberglass masts should have 4 guy supports rather than three to give a more even support to the structure.

The last few weeks before the event were spent getting everything ready and most importantly to test each radio system beforehand. You do not want to give Murphy a chance to play his tricks! Each radio station was bench tested with the logging computers. Each interface was verified that it worked for CAT control, RTTY, CW, and PSK31. We needed around 150 feet of rotor cable and we could not afford to buy it so we put our "HAM" inventiveness to work and made the rotor cable out of 12 gauge electrical cable for the power conductors and CAT-V cable for the direction signal. We needed a lot of coax so we begged, and borrowed it from different Hams.

The permits were acquired, the park was reserved, and the food was bought a few days before Field day. When we got the permission from the city of Dorval even the mayor promised to stop by the day of the event.

It was pouring rain when we arrived at the park and I admit my heart sunk. I hardly slept or ate during the last few days, and I have a day job too. But Mother Nature can also be kind, and the rain stopped occasionally and sometimes it came back as a light mist. We quickly went to work and got the HF tower set up without any difficulties as we had rehearsed it. While I was setting up the VHF tower and antennas another crew started hoisting up the 60 foot fiberglass mast. All of a sudden, I heard a loud crack and some yelling. The poles were almost fully assembled and hoisted when at around the 45 foot mark, one of the poles broke and the entire mast came down. Luckily no one was injured but the mast sections that fell dug a 6 inch carrot out of the ground. I was told that the top of the mast was bent over like a piece of spaghetti before it broke. The hardest thing in this situation was to coordinate all the people on the guy ropes as the mast went up. The HF tower went up faster since we had only one set of guys compare to three sets for the fiberglass mast. It is extremely important to designate only ONE person as the "boss" for this type of job. He should be the only person giving orders. If not then you are inviting disaster and possible serious injury.

The rain really delayed us in the morning. When it was time to install the 2m antenna above the 6m beam, a rusted boom to mast clamp broke apart. I forgot to check the clamp and its bolts! I decided then and there to abandon 2 meters and concentrate on 6m. When all the antennas were up and the cables were brought to the gazebo, I started setting up the equipment. While that was being done, other crews set up tents for sleeping, and started setting out the food and Barbeque. I even brought from home a small fridge, microwave, and hotplate for cooking breakfast and to warm up Paul's famous chili. We had decided to buy food to feed only the participants but it turned out that there was so much food that we even fed some of our Ham colleagues who dropped by during the event.

I had decided to rent an inverter generator with a capacity of 3.5 KW. This was set up with its own shelter around 50 feet from the gazebo. Two 12 gauge extension cords fed power back to the radio stations and each line had



surge suppressors installed. I even had a line voltage and frequency meter to monitor AC line performance. The inverter generator kept excellent regulation of both voltage and frequency with two 100 watt radios, computers, rotors, lights, etc connected as loads. The generator was much quieter than the regular construction types so we did not have to install it too far away thus preventing excessive voltage drop in the extension cords. This also turned out great for neighborhood relations. I highly recommend this type of generator and it is recommended for powering sensitive electronic equipment.

I was still setting up the radio equipment when the start time approached. To top things off, it started to rain again and we had to install tarps on the gazebo side openings to block us from the wind and rain blowing off the lake. Then Murphy showed up. The Winkey interface did not work and the radio gave no RF power on SSB and CW, only on FM! My heart was sinking fast and I was ready to go home! Now I had to do some debugging and it was approaching 3 PM. An incorrect drive setting on the radio fixed the RF output but the computer was acting strange along with the Winkeyer. Meanwhile the 6m radio was set up and working and the boys started on 6 and to our surprise the band was open! Back at the HF camp, it turned out that the gazebo frame which is made of steel was not properly grounded. Even with a single-point grounding system with a copper ground buss, copper braid, and 6 foot copper ground rod, we had stray RF floating around messing up the computer and USB keyer. I repositioned some of the coaxial cables and rerouted some grounding and finally got the system to work. The computer still needed to be rebooted once in a while and I had grounded its enclosure too. One can never predict beforehand and without testing how the ground system will perform with HF RF at a field day location.

At 4:30 PM we started operating HF CW with one of our best CW operators Vlad (VA2AN). He started running on 15m and the band was open. The 6m operator Cliff Tooher (VA2UTC) was putting away the QSO's since 6m was open to the USA due to a sporadic E opening. I had watched the spotting networks all week and 6 was open on Friday. I hoped that this would hold over the weekend. Now that my work was done for now I could sit down for the first time. I was cold, hungry and very tired, and I even started to lose my voice from too much yelling instructions. We were lucky that the weather was decent for the rest of the afternoon into the evening. Our cook Charles Robitaille (VE2RFI) started to prepare some delicious BBQ chicken, hamburgers, and hotdogs. Then the crowds started to come by. We had visitors not only from our three clubs but from the general public. This went on all evening. At one point when I was operating HF SSB with the headphones on, I was going to make a comment on amount of talking I heard behind me which was disturbing. I turned around to see I was surrounded by a crowd of teenagers mesmerized at what we were doing with the radios. Our public relations chief Keith Glashan (VE2MTL) had set up a very nice information booth with club flyers, ham radio pamphlets, and even a code practice oscillator. We were a real attraction that Saturday evening!

During the night it started to rain and we had to put extra tarps in front of the gazebo to keep the rain from blowing in. When the rain stopped, the wind started to really pick up off the lake. I had the crew continually check the towers but they held up fine and did not even move. Even the fiberglass mast stayed in place. We operated on 15 then on 20 meters till late in the evening. We then switched to 40 meters which was very busy. We had our CW operators Vlad and Bob Loranger (VE2AXO) operate a total of 6 hours that evening since Bob could not come on Sunday. Cliff and I took over with SSB to give them a break. 6 meters finally died a little after sunset. At around 4 AM we switched to 80m with Vlad at the key. I then decided to go to one of the tents to get some much needed sleep since I was up almost 24 hours.

The next morning Paul treated us to a great breakfast of bacon, sausage, eggs which we ate heartily. 6 meters opened up again around 10 AM but we could see that the sporadic E cloud was dissipating since the contacts were fewer than on Saturday. After 80 meters closed down after sunrise, we moved to 40 and ran until past 9 AM. Then we tried 10 meters and it seemed to be in good shape. We finished the event on 15 and 20 meters.

On Sunday I had the station open to all operators in order to teach some new Hams how to operate on HF in a contest situation. When one was coached on HF, another was on the 6 meter radio. Louis-Philippe Querel



(VA2LPQ) did a few nice runs on HF and 6 meters, as well as some other students from the Concordia University club.

The previous week I had trained Marc-Andre (VE2EVN) from the Concordia club on how to operate the satellite station. I helped him set up the station but we encountered quite a few equipment problems on Saturday, and coupled with the rain could not get much operating done. We heard a few QSO's but just could not make the contact even when we switched to the Arrow antenna. Also with the loss of HO-68 and the fact that AO-51 was shutting down at eclipse, there were not many favorable satellite passes. I had the station set up for both V/U and U/V capability with pre-amps and power amps on both bands. We had no pre-amp relays though and had to change modes manually. Something happened and the 70cm GaAs-FET pre-amp died. That just about killed our hope in getting the 100 points for a satellite QSO. The next morning when the weather was nicer (but still humid), I brought the entire satellite radio table out of the gazebo onto the park sidewalk. I was going to use the shorter coax cables from the Arrow antenna on the tripod along with the built-in pre-amp of the 70cm power amp to try one last pass of AO-51 which we found out was operational. Then we heard a very strong pulse-type interference on the 436.800 MHz downlink frequency. The interfering signal seemed to come from all over the place so we could not null it out with the Arrow antenna. I tried to transmit to AO-51 and I heard my voice come back from the satellite but the interfering signal was swamping the discriminator and there was no way I could even pick up an entire call sign even though the signal from the satellite was fairly strong between the interfering pulses. That ended our satellite chances for the event. Some of our hams had portable scanners and they traced the interference to a Videotron fiber-optic to cable translator on a pole around 250 feet from our site across the street. We also found many unterminated cable taps just leaking cable RF! I think we found the downside operating in this park!

Even though we lost our 100 satellite bonus points one of the councilors for the city of Dorval Mrs. Margot Heron came by to check out our operations so we gained 100 points there.

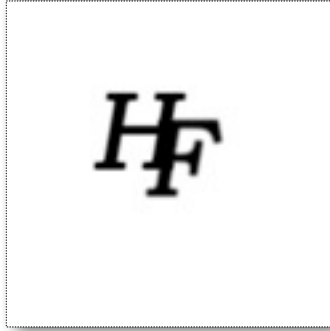
After the event ended at 2 PM we started to tear down the site and it went very quickly with no major problems even though everyone was very tired. The weather on Sunday afternoon was very nice and that also helped in the teardown. We were all packed up by around 5 PM and I went home to some very much needed rest, but not before performing a preliminary check on the logs and our score!

Despite being delayed over 2 ½ hours due to the weather we managed some very decent results. We managed a total 505 CW and 620 SSB QSO's out of which 207 QSO's were on 6 meters thus giving us a total of 3260 QSO points. Coupled with our 850 bonus points we had arrived at a total of 4110 FD points for our class 1A. Not bad at all for a first try with portable towers at a completely new and different location.

I must thank everyone from the WIARC, MARC, and CUARC clubs for all their enthusiasm and effort in making this year's Field Day a huge success. It was very nice to see all of the members of these three clubs work together in harmony to make this field day a safe, fun, and extremely sociable event despite the poor weather. A very public location helps tremendously in showing people in general what amateur radio is all about.

I thoroughly enjoyed preparing for this Field Day event despite the equipment problems, weather, frustration, lack of sleep, lost voice, and on top of it all, catching a cold. Everyone had a lot of fun with Ham radio, socializing outdoors, and meeting new friends. As for myself as a Ham, I say that it was all worth it. After all we are all Hams right?

73 de  
George  
VE2NGH

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

**CITIZENS BAND (CB) / BANDE PUBLIQUE (CB)**

ASTATIC, COBRA, GALAXY, K40, MACO, PARADYNAMICS, RANGER, ROAD NOISE, SHAKESPEARE, 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

**SPECIALTY PRODUCTS / PRODUITS SPECIALISES**

AMERITRON, ASTRON, BENCHER, CONNECT QUICK, DAIWA, D.C.I., GARMIN, GEOCRON, HEIL, KANTRONICS, KIWA ELECTRONICS, L.D.G., MAGELLAN, MAHA, MFJ, MIRAGE, NYE VIKING, OPTOELECTRONICS, OREGON SCIENTIFIC, PALOMAR, PALSTAR, PRYME, RF CONCEPTS, R.F. SYSTEMS, RIGBLASTER, S.G.C., TIMEWAVE, UNADILLA, VECTRONICS, VIBROPLEX, WEST MOUNTAIN RADIO

**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