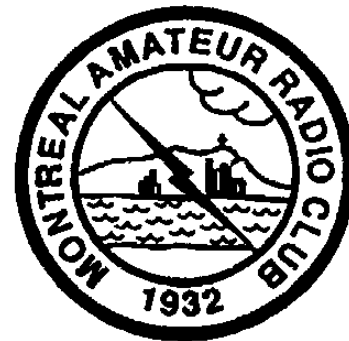


marcOgram

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



Volume 60, Number 5

February 2015

"KIT BUILDING—RADIOS & ACCESSORIES"

Wednesday February 25 2015

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

John Grow, VE2EQL, will focus on the most popular amateur radio kits that are available. Also, a short history of the kits that were offered in the past 20 years. Examining what is available and how easy it is to build and get it on the air. A show and tell with John's recently built kits on display. Kits from Henndrick QRP kits, NORCAL, Small Wonder Labs and Tuna Tin Kits. Handouts will be made available.

There will be a special raffle only available to the attendees at the MARC "QRP Forum". Kits from by QRPme – Rex Harper W1REX - <http://qrpme.com>

FROM THE (TEMPORARY) EDITOR'S DESK

If you enjoy writing or if you enjoy working with computers and want to help the club consider helping with the MarcOgram.

Even though it may not seem like it there is hope that spring will arrive and bring warmer temperatures with it. The course is well underway and we should have a number of enthusiastic new amateurs in time for the hamfest.

This month's meeting topic promises to be interesting, by a good speaker, with lots of samples to look at. I look forward to seeing you all there.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

- . . . -

HAMCON – FEBRUARY 28TH 2015 BURLINGTON, VERMONT

The Radio Amateurs of Northern Vermont will be holding its 33rd hamfest in Burlington, Vermont. Wow, 33 years, this club which started as an offshoot of the Burlington Amateur Radio Club (W1KOO) RANV, has about 62 members, of which a large number of members are very active within the club. The hamfest, will have a few commercial vendors, a lot of hams that are selling their radios. Plus W1REX of Tuna Tin Kits will be selling his line of QRP kits. SEE <http://qrpme.com>

He is best known for restarting the Tuna Tin Transmitter, first created by Doug DeMaw W1CER / W1FB, published in QST on May 1976. (An excellent article on the Tuna Tin 2 can be found at <http://www.arrl.org/files/file/Technology/tis/info/pdf/0003037.pdf>)

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.

Annual fees are:

General Members	...	...	\$25.00
Associate Members	...	...	\$25.00
White Cane Members...	...	...	\$15.00
Family Members (per family)	...	...	\$30.00
Postal delivery of MarcOgram	...	...	\$ 5.00

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.

Articles published in the MarcOgram may be reproduced providing credit is given to the original author and the Montreal Amateur Radio Club as the source.

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

President:	Paul Iarrera, VE2OFH.....ve2ofh@marc.ca
Vice President:	Sheldon Werner, VA2SH.....va2sh@marc.ca
Secretary-Treasurer	James R. Hay, VE2VE.....ve2ve@marc.ca
Directors:	Craig Brander, VE2YKG.....ve2ygk@marc.ca
	George Hedrei, VE2NGH
	Eamon Egan, VE2EGN.....ve2evn@marc.ca
	Marc-André Gingras, VE2EVN...ve2evn@marc.ca
	Mario Piacitelli, VA2TMP.....va2tmp@marc.ca

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 on Covey Hill in Franklin, QC.

The repeaters are open to all amateurs.

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 in the Wardens' Room, St. Ignatius of Loyla Parish, 4455 West Broadway. 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

25 February 2015 - John Grow, VE2EQL

25 March 2015 - Leo Niikinnnen, VE2SI

29 April 2015 - TBA

27 May 2015 - Show & Tell

Radio Classes

A basic level course is held starting in January of each year. If you know of anyone interested in taking the course they should send a message to classes@marc.ca.

MARC Hamfest

The club will be holding its annual hamfest Saturday morning, 11 April 2015 at the Lasalle Branch of the Royal Canadian Legion, 7771 Bouvier, LaSalle (corner Shevshenko). Please contact Jim Hay for more information or to participate in the organization and running of this event.

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

The good news for Canadian Hams, is that you can pay for the HAMCON fee in Canadian dollars at PAR. Entrance fee is \$ 8.00 - Details can be found at <http://www.ranv.org/hamcon.html>

After the hamfest & raffle drawing, many QRPers from the area will be heading to the Windjammer Restaurant (just next door) If you want to join us, at a very large gathering for lunch, you will need reservations. So please RSVP to VE2EQL

Trust me, the food is great. Restaruant details are at: <http://www.windjammerrestaurant.com>

John Grow, VE2EQL

- . . . -

CONTEST CALENDAR

More on contests including full rules can be found on the Internet. Check::

<http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/index.html>

February 2015

QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 20
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW 0000Z, Feb 21 to 2400Z, Feb 22
High Speed Club CW Contest 0900Z-1100Z, Feb 22 and 1500Z-1700Z, Feb 22

QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 25
QRP Fox Hunt 0200Z-0330Z, Feb 27
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB 2200Z, Feb 27 to 2200Z, Mar 1
North American QSO Party, RTTY 1800Z, Feb 28 to 0559Z, Mar 1

March 2015

ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Mar 7 to 2400Z, Mar 8
Wake-Up! QRP Sprint 0600Z-0800Z, Mar 7
North American Sprint, RTTY 0000Z-0400Z, Mar 15
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB 0000Z, Mar 28 to 2400Z, Mar 29

n

- . . . -

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 2listings, go to the American Radio Relay League Hamfest website at:

<http://www.arrl.org/hamfest.html>

- . . . -

SPECIAL EVENT CALLSIGNS

VC3E		2015-03-29 to 2015-05-27
		CQ WPX Contest
VC6K	VE6	2015-03-28 to 2015-05-31
		CQ WPX SSB and CW Contests (March 28-29, May 30-31)
VC7GL		2015-03-27 to 2015-05-31
		CQWPX Contest CW and SSB
XL3A	VA3	2015-03-13 to 2015-04-12
		175th Anniversary of Continuous Weather Observations in Canada (1840-2015)
XL3T	VA3	2015-02-09 to 2015-03-08
		50th Anniversary of the Canadian Maple Leaf Flag (1965-2015)
VE3X		2015-02-04 to 2015-03-06
		2015 Canada winter games

- . . . -

REMEMBERING ROBERT BENSON VE2VW (1922 - 2014)



Bob Benson, VE2VW with Suzanne Thauvette, VE2SZN

Bob Benson, a long time member of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, passed away on December 25th. 2014. For the members who knew him, the club and amateur radio in general lost a valued friend and asset to the club. Bob, was a graduate of both McGill and Harvard. He was a successful lawyer. He also served in the Royal Canadian Air Force working on radar installations and was stationed in Gander, Newfoundland. He always had his hands in electronics and radios, no matter what he did. He served as the chief counsel to the Canadian Radio Relay League (CRRL) now Radio Amateurs of Canada.

One of the major services that Bob did for Canadian Amateurs, was to petition the Government, not to impose duty

on amateur radio equipment, since it was used to help the development of radio technology. To this day, this benefits amateurs throughout Canada. When he was living on Lansdowne Avenue in Westmount, he had his home station and antennas. Many a neighbour, not knowing about amateur radio, looked upon his antennas as an eyesore. But it was at his home station, that took him around the world. His contacts with King Hussein, JY1 – Walter Cronkite, KB2GSD – and Barry Goldwater, K7UGA, were times where you spoke with legends. He was always proud of those contacts, and told everyone who would listen.

His country place in Val Morin, was where he was able to fully relax to enjoy his family and his radios. He was able to build the station and antenna farm of his dreams. His other hobby was photography, and like new radios to purchase, Bob was always looking for something to improve his picture taking experience. We joked, that if he did not have a microphone in his hands, it was a camera. The country retreat or home in Florida, was where he enjoyed his hobby the most. His condo in Westmount, gave permission for a small balcony antenna, which I tried to improve, and one time while on a small ladder and requiring some help, Bob, got on a chair near the end railing of the balcony. His lovely YL, and ham wife Norma Betty VE2NBB, asked him in a loud voice, what he was doing, standing, on a chair near the railing of the balcony. It was then, Suzanne VE2SZN, who was talking with Norma Betty, realised what was going on and rushed to hold and steady Bob. So much for condo antenna installations.

We visited Bob and Norma Betty over the years in their country place and home in Westmount. As we were fortunate to enjoy ham radio, antennas and music over the years. Bob was always thinking of improvements or something else to use in his station or to provide him with more enjoyment. He loved all sorts of radios, and even radio stations. Sometimes, he was a faithful listener to Art Bell's Coast to Coast AM. Or had a classical station in the background.

As with all our friends, ham or not, we can relate many stories that we remember that made us laugh. One particular story comes to mind. We were in the basement garage of his condo. I had brought my tools, Bob had his 2 meter radio equipment. We were preparing the car, for his trip to his Florida home, we were installing an ICOM 2 meter radio in his station wagon. While I was checking the battery connection, and he was on the front driver side seat, seeing the best placement for the radio. He pressed on the car horn, sending me like, "Wyle E. Coyote" jumping up and down in shock and awe. (*Translation:* scared the S out of me)

Even though, Bob was very serious, and had a lot of responsibilities, ham radio was one of the driving forces throughout his whole life. I was very lucky to have known Bob and his wife Norma Betty. May he rest in peace. VE2VW is QRT.

John Grow VE2EQL

- . . . -

ST. PATRICK'S PARADE

March 22, 2015 will be the 192nd continuous St. Patrick's Parade in Montreal. Since 2014 Vernon Ikeda, VE2MBS/VE2QQ and I have operated the control station for the various radio channels used by parade marshals and security personnel. With Vern's untimely death I have been asked to find a person to replace Vern in the control room.

We will also need three radio operators to assist with position information during the parade as we have done for the past several years.

If you are interested in helping out with the 2015 parade please let me know. I expect to have more

73 de Jim, VE2VE

- . . . -

INCOMING QSL CARD SERVICE

As has been mentioned in previous MarcOgrams we are resuming the club's service of having incoming QSL cards sent to the club for members to pick up at meetings. This is a service which we are offering to our members which both saves the individual members money as well as makes more efficient use of our collective resources.

If you would like to avail yourself of this service please send an e-mail to qsl@marc.ca and we will add you to the list of cards that the incoming bureau sends to the club and bring them to the monthly meetings.

- . . . -

CLASSIFIEDS

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

. - . - .

Affordable Dual Band!



The JT270M sells for less than half the price of most dual-band mobiles! Features a 10W output, extended RX, CTCSS/DCS encode/decode. Includes programming software and cable. Nice compact size for even the smallest cars.

Only \$169.95

Baofeng UV-5R Dual Band HT

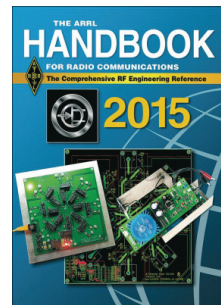
Loaded with features for a very low price. Dual watch and dual receive. Extended RX includes reception of the FM broadcast band! Includes BL-5 (7.4V 1800 mAh) Li-ion battery, charger, belt clip, wrist strap and antenna.



\$69.95

ARRL Handbook 2015

A must-have for hobbyists and technical professionals. Covers just about anything imaginable about radio from fundamentals right up to construction projects. Soft cover version with CD.



\$49.95

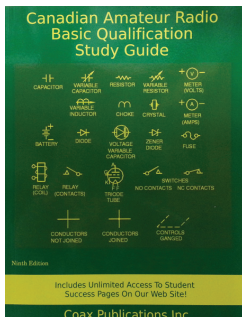
Giant 16' Telescopic Whip



Build your own portable dipole or vertical with our SkyWhip. Use it stationary on your vehicle in place of a hamstick! 10mm threads require 3/8-24 adapter for standard mounts.

Mention this ad and get the SkyWhip with adapter for only \$44.95!

New Study Guide



Hot off the press! Upgraded to include the new Industry Canada content and questions. Also includes corrections and technical advances that have taken place since the last edition.

\$44.95

YouKits TJ5A HF CW/SSB

Covers 40/20/15/10M. SSB 20 Watts - CW 10 Watts. Nice compact size. Package deal includes optional battery, charger and military pouch for portable operation.



Fully assembled!

\$479.95

Kenwood TM-D710GA



The TM-D710GA is a full-featured dual-band mobile that also features APRS functionality and has a built-in GPS.

Now \$669.95!

En Francais?

Si vous desirez parler en francais, demander pour Jami ou envoyer un courriel

jamit@durhamradio.com
Lettres d'appels VA3HAB

Books for Hams

We have a great selection of ARRL and other amateur radio related books. CLICK HERE for details.

FG01A Antenna Analyzer

Covers 1.8 - 35 MHz and plots both SWR and impedance on the colour display. Very easy to operate. Amazing 14 hours of operating time with the optional 18650 battery pack. (get the battery pack and charger now for only \$29.95!)



Only \$219.95

Looking for some really tweet deals!
www.twitter.com/durhamradio

Follow us on facebook! Product info, articles & special offers.
www.facebook.com/DurhamRadio

Flash Deals from Durham Radio

Exclusive subscriber-only deals!
DurhamRadio.com/flash

LDG YT1200

The LDG YT-1200 covers both HF & 6 Metres. Tunes a wide range of impedances and handles up to 100W. It is powered and controlled right from the CAT cable!



\$329.95

Durham Radio

SALES & SERVICE INC.

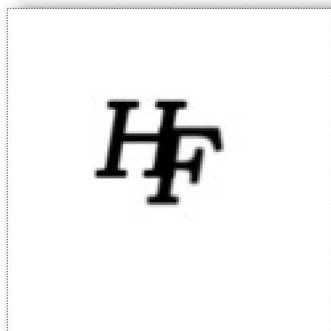
Sep-Apr M-F 9-6 Sat 9-3 May-Aug M-F 9-5 Sat 9-2
10-1380 Hopkins St., Whitby, ON L1N2C3
Tel: (905) 665-5466 Fax: (905) 665-5460

1-888-426-1688
www.DurhamRadio.com



1502M

RADIO H.F.



PO Box 67063-Lemoyne

St-Lambert, Quebec

J4R 2T8

tel/fax :450-671-3773

sans frais - toll free in Canada

1-800-463-3773

email : info@radiohf.ca

Specialists in shortwave radio, scanners, amateur radio, FRS/GMS, CB radio, antennas, accessories

Les spécialistes en radio ondes courtes, balayeurs d'ondes, radio-amateur, dispositifs radio domestiques (DRD/GMS), la bande publique (CB), an-

SHORTWAVE & AM/FM RADIOS / RADIOS ONDES COURTES & AM/FM

A.O.R., ALINCO, GRUNDIG/ETON, ICOM, JRC, S.G.C., YAESU

SCANNERS / BALAYEURS D'ONDES

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

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