

marcOgram

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



Volume 64, Number 8

May 2018

NEXT MEETING



Tuesday 29 May 2018



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

**** SHOW AND TELL ****

Bring in projects, finished, successful or not.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Please note! All future General meetings, will be held on the last **Tuesday** of the month, at St. Ignatius of Loyola lounge in the basement.

Finally someone has located Spring. As usual, we have leaped from winter into Summer and skipped most of Spring, but at least we know where it went.

In looking around the meetings, it occurs to me (as it has to others) we need more young people! So get out there and inspire some of those app-writers to get into a wider world of amateur radio.

73 de Nora, VA2NH

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Donation to MARC

The following equipment is for sale. Please contact Jim VE2VE or Marc-André VE2EVN to arrange the details.

Atlas 215X transceiver	\$325.00
ICOM IC-2AT transceiver	\$75.00
Heathkit HW-2036A transceiver	\$70.00
Heathkit HWA-2036-3 AC power supply	\$35.00
Denton GLA-1000 amplifier	\$350.00
Atlas model 206 oscillator	\$100.00
Realistic pro-2003 direct entry programmable scanner	\$30.00
Yaesu YD 148 dynamic microphone	\$30.00
Earphones (1 of 2)	\$20.00
Earphones (2 of 2)	\$20.00



UPCOMING FLEAS

2018

What: Rochester Hamfest 2018
Who: RARA, Rochester Amateur Radio Association
When: Saturday, 02 Jun, 2018
Where: 137 South Ave., Hilton, NY

What: Central Ontario Hamfest & Fleamarket
Who: Guelph & Kitchener-Waterloo ARCs
When: Sunday 03 Jun, 2018
Where: Cambridge, ON

What: London Vintage Radio Club Flea Market
Who: London Vintage Radio Club
When: Saturday, 09 Jun, 2018
Where: Guelph, ON

What: SteelTown "Tailgate Treasures" Summer Swap Meet
Who: Hamilton Amateur Radio Club
When: Saturday, 16 Jun, 2018
Where: Hamilton, ON

What: Ontario HamFest
Who: Burlington Amateur Radio Club
When: Saturday 14 Jul, 2018
Where: Milton, ON

What: ARES Hamfest 2018
Who: Association Radio Expérimentale du Sud de Québec
When: Samedi, 11 août, 2018
Where: Saint-Jean-Chrysostome, QC

What: 10th annual Junk In The Trunk
Who: Ontario Swap Shop
When: Saturday, 25 Aug, 2018
Where: Newmarket, ON

Cuba and Radios

By Matt Salenius VE2MTA

I was in Cuba recently for a week's vacation, the first time that I had the opportunity to go there. I want to say at the outset that I was pleasantly surprised, not only by the beautiful beaches and resort hotel facilities and mainly by the genuine friendliness and openness of the Cuban people.

I was staying at an all-inclusive resort on the island of Cayo Coco where food and drink was unlimited and all staff spoke fluent English and went out of their way to accommodate us tourists. Of course we bring in money which enables them to make a good living so they ought to treat us well. And they did not hassle us constantly for tips for every minor routine task as is the case in some other countries like Mexico.

I don't know what it would be like to wander around the country side, small towns, or the capital city area since I did not have the opportunity to go there. So much for the travelogue; now the radio story.

When I travel with the XYL, I usually take along a pair of FRS radios to keep in touch with her. FRSs come in handy especially at various tourist spots and on shopping trips where we often wander different ways. Normally I don't carry my ham H/Ts since the FRSs are smaller and lighter and cheaper in case of loss or damage.

When I passed through the airport arrivals in Cuba, their customs spotted the FRS units in my bag with their X-ray inspection, the only country where I encountered X-ray inspection at arrivals. They pulled me and my bag aside. An agent explained that radio walkie talkies are a "controlled item" in Cuba.

A controlled item? What does that mean? Is that like a "controlled substance"? What on earth have I done? I suddenly feared the worst and to my horror visions of concrete walls and jail bars and incarceration in a foreign land flashed in my mind.

To my surprise the customs agent turned out to be quite polite and explained to me in perfect English language that walkie talkies must be registered upon entry and that I can keep them but I must show and declare them upon leaving Cuba. She subsequently filled a long paper form with model numbers, serial numbers, my passport

number, ticket number, flight number, etc, a process that took nearly one hour and I almost missed my airport-to-hotel bus.

Why would an imported walkie talkie be a "controlled item"? I suspect that such a procedure probably dates back to that country's revolutionary era when someone carrying a portable radio was regarded with suspicion. I guess the law was still on the books over half a century later and government agents are required to follow it.

I even checked the international radio rules and there is no prohibition against ham radio communication between citizens of Cuba and other countries. Later in my hotel room TV I was also surprised to find, in addition to the local Spanish language stations, several American channels including CNN.

Many of us older hams remember the 60s and CB radios when someone with long hair and beard driving a van with those sunset murals on the back window and a prominent CB antenna on the roof was regarded with suspicion. I know, I had one. Somebody like that had to be up to something no-good. Right? Fortunately such attitudes have improved since then.

When I got settled in the hotel I noticed that most of the staff were equipped with portable radios. However they were those cheap Chinese models and some staff members complained about their poor range and performance.

Upon departing from Cuba for my return flight home, I kept the FRSs in my carry-on bag to show them to the departure customs agent along with the long form paper they had given me. They took one look at the radios via the X-ray machine and kept the long form paper and I was on my way home, no problem or delay.

In summary I would recommend anyone to visit Cuba, especially during our cold and dreary winter season. It helps to break up the winter nicely and at a reasonable cost. Just be prepared for this minor inconvenience if you decide to take any H/T's along.

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CHANGES TO THE HIGHWAY CODE

The following is an announcement from RAQI.

Montreal, 9 May, 2018

Hello Montreal Amateur Radio Club, VE2ARC

To all automobile radio users.

An important change to the Highway Code will take effect as of 1 July 2018. The new legislation concerns telephone and mobile radio usage inside road vehicles.

Many members of Quebec amateur radio clubs have contacted RAQI, asking whether amateur radio equipment and mobile radios will be affected by the new legislation.

Following publication of the new legislation, your humble servant made it his duty to go to the sources, to verify in what way this will affect our hobby, and to find out if we can continue to communicate, using our equipment in our vehicles while we are in motion.

We got the following response to the effect that, in the SAAQ regulation, there would be an amendment which would allow users of two-way radios to be able to continue using their equipment as before, so there is no change as it concerns us.

However, we encourage you to use your equipment cautiously when you drive. Do not be reckless on the roads.

73

Jacques Savard, VE2CYJ
General director, RAQI

NEWS FROM RAQI

We are happy to announce that we have been recognized by the Ministry of Education, Sports and Hobbies for the next three years. This means that we will be funded each year until 2020; for us that's really welcome news.

The annual General Meeting will be held 26 May at the Centre Roussin community centre, 12125 Notre Dame Street east in Pointe-aux-Trembles.

We would like to remind you that we are present on the province-wide RTQ net. To find the frequencies for your region, we invite you to go to the following link, <http://ve2csc.com/nodes/carte.html>. We hope to meet you on the net.

A word from your editor: I'm not sure how many of you know that Quebec has a 2m network linking

repeaters in widespread areas of the province. I remember being very impressed when standing on the railway station platform in Mont-Joli, and using my handheld to talk to Leo, VE2SI, in Montreal.

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A LITTLE HISTORY FROM THE RAQI BULLETIN

(With additions from your editor.)

The first amateur radio club founded in Quebec was VE2MO in Trois-Rivières, 15 October 1923. The 95-year-old club still exists, and in five years we will be celebrating its 100th birthday. We wish it long life.

In the same vein, on 28 Nov 1923 at 03:30 GMT, the first Europe-North America contact took place, between Fred Schnell (1MO, US) and Léon Deloy (8AB, France), on 100 metres, using 1 kW, joined by John Reinartz at 1XAM in Connecticut. **QST** offered a “genuine Brown Derby” to the first American to make contact. Both stations were using the same Reinartz-modified Hartley oscillator, 8AB’s being powered by 25-cycle unrectified AC, which made it copyable using a non-oscillating detector. All receivers were based on regenerative Reinartz tuners: a Grebe at 1XAM, and a version at 1MO that was, as described by Warner [ARRL Secretary Kenneth Warner], “at best a pile of junk”. For their parts in the achievement, Deloy was later made a Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur, and Schnell won the ARRL Brown Derby.

The second Quebec amateur radio club was that of Quebec City, founded 23 Mar 1926. The club name was VE2CQ, C for Champlain and Q for Quebec. The club name was changed shortly afterwards to CRAQ.

In October 1932 the Montreal Amateur Radio Club was officially founded, even though the club had existed since 1928. MARC still exists, and has joined the RAQI federation of clubs.

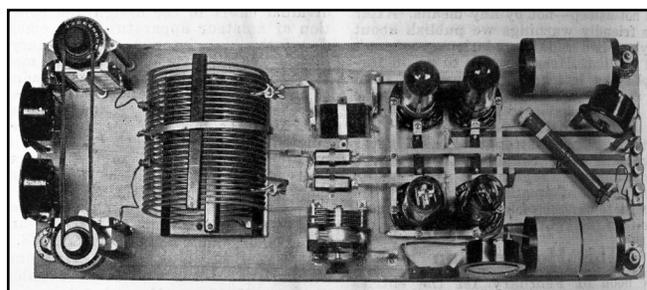
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Leon Deloy



Fred Schnell, wearing his prize.



The transmitter used at 1MO.

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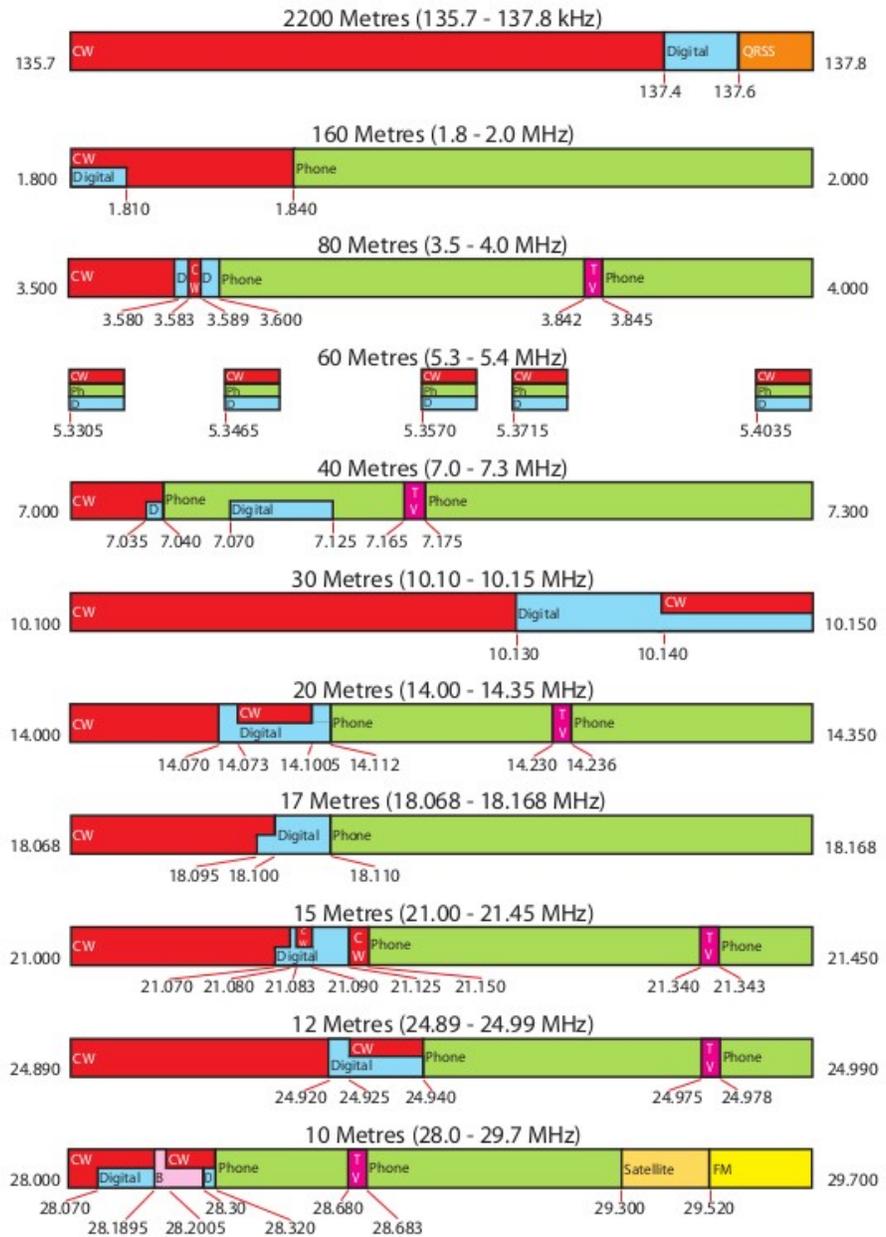


Canadian 0 - 30MHz Band Plan

**Effective Date:
December 1, 2015**

1. This is a simplified version of the official RAC Band Plan. Not all permissible modes/activities are represented.
2. LSB is used on 160, 80 and 40m. USB is used on all other bands that permit SSB, including 60m.
3. Consult various online resources for detailed information on what digital modes are used.
4. Maximum bandwidth permitted on 2200m is 100 Hz. Maximum power is 1 Watt EIRP.
5. Refer to the IC and RAC websites for full details before operating on the new 60m channels.
6. Remember not to allow your signal to spill over into adjoining band segments when operating close to the edges. During major weekend contests, activity in certain modes can spill over into other segments. Operators should avoid NCDXF beacons on 14.100, 18.110, 21.150, 24.930 and 28.200 MHz.
7. This graphic is a living document and will be reviewed and updated periodically to reflect changes in the band plans and operating habits.

www.rac.ca



Key					
	CW		FM		SSTV
	CW QRSS		Beacons		Digital
	Phone		Satellite		