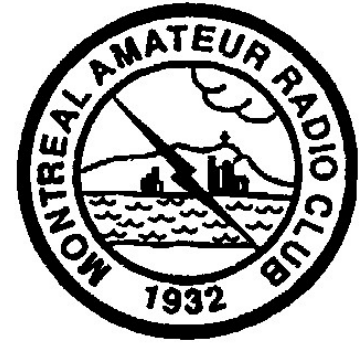


marcOgram

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



Volume 66, Number 2

October 2019

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 29 October 2019

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

**** Annual General Meeting. ****

Your chance to make a difference, discuss issues, run for director, vote, etc.

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

OK folks, here's your chance to make a difference (if needed) in the way our club is run. The Annual General Meeting will be held on 29 Oct 2019, and we hope to see you all there. You could think of joining the Board and becoming a Director, especially if you have new ideas to present.

MARC is still looking for an appropriate space in which to hold our hamfest in April. Anyone with ideas please contact Jim, VE2VE.

MARCOgram can always use more material. Somebody out there must surely have something about which to write an article, and photographs / diagrams are always appreciated.

73 de Nora, VA2NH

- . . . -

MEMBERSHIP

It is that time of year again! September 1 was the start of the new membership year. We'd like to see you back even if it's been a while since you were a member.

Either complete the form on page 7 and return it with your payment by mail, or go to <http://www.marc.ca/memform/> and complete the online form and pay with PayPal. If your information is unchanged, you can simply send a PayPal payment with your dues to paypal@marc.ca.

I hope to see you at a meeting soon.

Jim.

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 ... \$30.00
Family Members (per family) ... \$35.00
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: Marc-André Gingras, VE2EVN... ve2evn@marc.ca
Vice President: Leo Nikkinen, VE2SI... ve2si@marc.ca
Secretary-Treasurer: James R. Hay, VE2VE... ve2ve@marc.ca
Directors: Sheldon Werner, VA2SH... va2sh@marc.ca
Nora Hague, VA2NH... va2nh@marc.ca
George Hedrei, VE2NGH
Eamon Egan, VE2EGN... ve2egn@marc.ca
Mario Piacitelli, VA2TMP... va2tmp@marc.ca
Paul Iarrera, VE2OFH... ve2ofh@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. **Currently OFF AIR**, looking for a new location..

VE2RED 147.27 MHz (+) 103.5

On the air from Ridgewood Ave. in Montreal; CTCSS tone of 103.5 Hz for access. Thanks to Claude Everton, the VE2RMP group and Metrocom for making this possible.

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 on the first Tuesday of the month (Aug to June) at 19:30 in the Wardens' Room, St. Ignatius of Loyola 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

(last Tuesday of the month)

29 Oct - Annual General Meeting

Nov 26 - TBA

Dec 4 - Christmas-Solstice Party

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 2019 flea market was held at the LaSalle Legion on **6 April**. Plans are already afoot for the next hamfest; we'll need a new location. **Ideas are welcome!** Go to <http://www.marc.ca/fest/fest.html> for more information as it happens.

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

CW CLASSES

By Leo VE2SI

Some members have expressed an interest in learning what is now called the International Morse Code and adding CW to their operating capabilities.

If you're interested send an email to VE2ARC@marc.ca and indicate your level of interest.

SolderSpot

Group build Power Supply Project - By Leo VE2SI

If you're interested and even if you've spoken with me before, please send an email to VE2ARC@marc.ca and indicate your level of interest.

Participation is open to everyone and MARC membership is not a requirement. .



UPCOMING FLEAS/EVENTS

2019

What: Montreal South Shore Hamfest

Who: Club RA Rive-Sud de Montréal

When: Samedi, 19 Oct, 2019

Where: Place Desaulniers, Longueuil, QC

What: FLEA at MIT

Who: MIT Radio Soc, Harvard Wireless Club, MIT Electronics Research Soc, & MIT UHF Repeater Assn.

When: Sunday, 20 Oct, 2019

Where: Cambridge, MA

What: 43rd York Region Hamfest

Who: York Region ARC

When: Saturday, 2 Nov, 2019

Where: Markham, ON

NEAR-FEST: AUTUMN 2019

by Leo, VE2SI

leo49@videotron.ca

Some of MARCogram's readers and visitors to the club's monthly meetings might have heard me mention briefly the NEAR-Fest fleamarket, held in Deerfield New Hampshire. This year's event was held on Friday-Saturday, October 11-12. The forecast weather for Deerfield was not promising, particularly early in the week however, as committed attendees, Nora and I will be there rain, shine or snow. Over the 40+ years that we've been attending Hosstraders and its successor NEAR-Fest, we have experienced all forms of precipitation. As it turned out, we had only a few drops of rain on both Friday and Saturday.

Amateur radio fleamarkets provide the opportunity to find whatever item of electronic or radio equipment, tools or supplies you might be looking for. NEAR-Fest covers an area of about 5 to 7 acres, with sellers' tables and open car trunks with goods for sale. Bargaining is not frowned upon; in fact it is expected. Only in rare cases will I offer to pay the asking price, but you must have a reasonable idea of an item's value. NEAR-Fest, like most fleamarkets, has a good selection of radios, anything from older Collins S-Line equipment to modern new and used software define radios (SDR). If you just got your licence and would like to get on the air for a modest cost, then a carefully checked-out radio can usually be found at most fleamarkets. Fleamarkets are also good source of test equipment that would have been sold at much higher prices when it was new. Now replaced by more modern test equipment, something might still work very well and it's available for a small fraction of its original cost. A \$2000 or \$3000 analogue-type Tektronix oscilloscope with a 100MHZ bandwidth can often be

(Continued on page 4)

FOR SALE:

From the Estate of Pierre Lafortune,
VE2ANH SK

Kenwood TS-820s transceiver.

With manual. In quite good condition as Pierre was very meticulous.



Production Manager

Edward Wielgus

D.C.S., B.Eng., M.Eng., VE3VMF

Montréal, Quebec, H2K1J2, Canada

Fax.: (514) 360-2956

ed_die.2@hotmail.com

Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter

(Continued from page 3)

purchased for around \$100. As always, try to plug in and test out something expensive. NEAR-Fest has power outlets throughout the 'fest site and powering-up a potential purchase to check it out is easy. Have a look at the photographs; they show the variety of equipment available, including many mobile and base HF radios, a 6m cavity, test equipment, a gin pole, 10kW dummy loads and a bathroom sink, but no kitchen sink. There's a vast collection of equipment manuals available on-line and a Google search will usually bring up many sources for anything that you've acquired without an instruction manual.

There were many HF radios available at this year's NEAR-Fest, including tube-type Heathkits from the 1960s, older solid-state receivers, transmitters and transceivers, and the latest modern transceivers with an impressive array of features and options. They were notable by their numbers and are possibly an unfortunate reflection of the decline of amateurs who maintain an operational HF station.

NEAR-Fest also includes some forums and talks. Prompted by the recent death of some amateur radio operators while working on antenna towers, one very close to Deerfield about a month ago, the organizers scheduled a talk on tower safety, which we attended. Tower accidents from a lower height can leave one injured but the consequences of falling from the top of a 48 foot, or taller, tower are often lethal. Well prepared and presented by Jim Idelson K1IR, the talk reviewed some recent tower accidents and compared those accidents, by both professional tower workers and amateurs, to accident rates for other professions and activities (such as skydiving). It seems that we're not doing well, but Jim identified some areas in which amateurs can easily improve their technique. With a little effort, it should be possible to cut drastically the accident rate. Taking Jim's advice, we will be adding to our recently upgraded climbing equipment to allow me to climb a tower while being attached 100% of the time (no free climbing).

Hamfests and fleamarkets are also a place to meet people you might have spoken with by radio and renew old friendships. Fest organizers bring food vendors to NEAR-Fest and an array of healthy burgers, hot dogs, French fries and other delicious meals are available on site.

I bring a list of items that I'm looking for and an inventory of our current equipment. Sometimes a newer item is available and it's nice to know exactly what we have at home to help determine whether an upgrade is worthwhile. Older and deaccessioned equipment is brought to Montreal area fleamarkets and passed on to new owners.

How did we do at this fleamarket, NEAR-Fest XXVI? Coming home penniless means that we found lots of interesting things. I wasn't quite penniless, but my U.S. cash reserves were severely depleted. Anyone interested in seeing the new acquisitions should come to our AGM and hear a little about NEAR-Fest XXVI. NEAR-Fest also offers a very good door prize, this year it was an Icom IC-7300! Intrigued, or interested in attending the next NEAR-Fest? NEAR-Fest XXVII will be held on May 1st and 2nd, 2020, in Deerfield NH. Check out the Web site: NEAR-Fest.com.



Two 10,000 watt dummy loads



Gin pole



Two transceivers and an amp - what more could you want?



An entire repeater!!



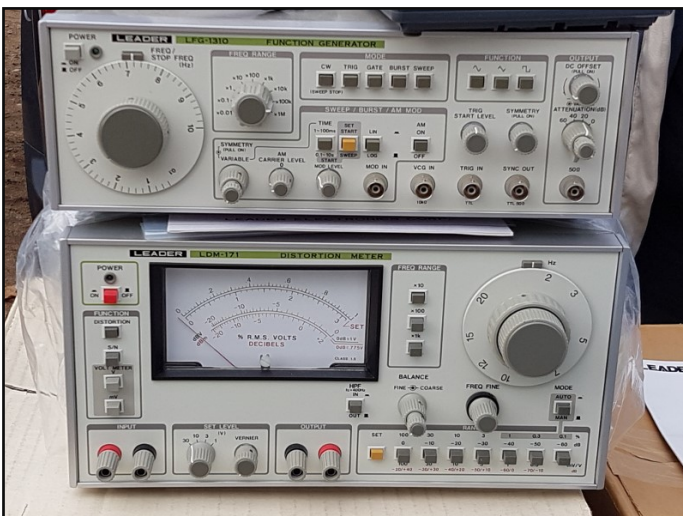
Water-cooled amp. You wanted power out?



Classic HF station.



More modern HF transceivers.



Test equipment: Function generator & distortion meter.



And - the bathroom sink.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the annual general meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club Inc., will be held on Tuesday, October 29, 2018 at 8:00 PM at the St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church, 4455 West Broadway, Montreal, QC.

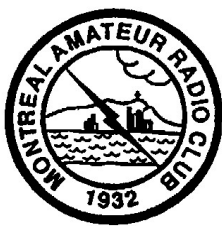
The meeting is called to:

- ♦ Receive and if thought fit approve the reports of the officers;
- ♦ Receive and if thought fit approve the report of the auditor;
- ♦ Elect directors and officers to hold office for the coming year;
- ♦ To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Given at Pointe-Claire this 3rd. Day of October 2019.

(Sgd.) James R. Hay

James R. Hay, VE2VE
Secretary-Treasurer
Montreal Amateur Radio Club, Inc.



MONTREAL AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

R.P.O. Dorval, P.O. Box 53047, Dorval, Que. H9S 5W4

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM - 2019 / 2020

(Membership year is September 1 to August 31)

Is the information from last year correct? ____ If not, please correct address and any other new information below:

Lastname: _____ Firstname: _____ Call: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Prov: _____ Cntry: _____ Pcode: _____

Home Phone: (____) ____ - ____ Work phone: (____) ____ - ____ ext.: _____

e-mail: _____

I am applying for (check only one):

Single membership, newsletter sent by e-mail, \$30 ()

Single membership, newsletter sent by post, \$35 ()

Family membership, newsletter sent by e-mail, \$35** ()

Family membership, newsletter sent by post, \$40** ()

** Please fill a separate sheet for each family member. Call or name of paying member: _____

If you are a first time member, who introduced you to MARC: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Are you a member of Radio Amateurs of/du Canada (RAC) ? YES ___NO___

N.B. Person accepting form for MARC please complete this section

Rcvd \$ _____ by Cash _____ Chq _____ Other _____

Rcvd by _____ Date: _____ dB date _____ by _____

----- (You may cut on this line and retain as your record of payment) -----

Call or name: _____ paid \$ _____ by: Chq_Cash_other_ on (Date): _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____ (Not official receipt unless signed by club officer)

Montreal South Shore Hamfest



Samedi, 19 October, 2019
Place Desaulniers,
1023 Taschereau Blvd,
Longueuil, QC

Vendors 06:00, Doors open 09:00
Table \$ 10,00 (individual entry(s) not included)
General admission \$ 8.00

Accessible to handicapped persons, automated teller machine, free parking.

For more info: Francois Drien VE2FDA, phone: 450-672-9994

Email : hamfest@ve2clm.ca

Webpage: <http://www.ve2clm.ca/activites/hamfests/>