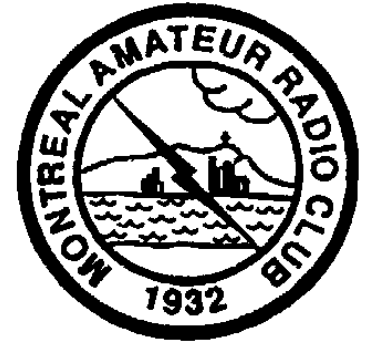


marcOgram

Official Publication of The Montreal Amateur Radio Club Inc.
Box 500, Victoria Station, Montreal, Quebec H3Z 2Y6



Volume 44, Number 3

November 1998

“M.A.R.C. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING”

Wednesday 25 November 1998

Ragchew and Fleamarket: 19:30

Club meeting: 20:00

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

The November meeting will be the Annual General Meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. The details were published in last month's Marcogram and are also inside this month's Marcogram. This is an important meeting you are encouraged to attend. Please remember that in order to participate you must be a paid up member of the M.A.R.C. After the general meeting, time permitting, we hope to be able to show a very interesting video.

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello,

Well as I write this the wind is starting to howl and it is getting quite cool outside. Its time to finish up the antenna inspection and repairs before the coming winter. Thanks to the assistance of Rafael Celedon, VE2HKI, the tri-band beam at the MAB is now working after what turned out to be minor damage to the antenna was repaired. Only the broken loop antenna remains to be repaired and that should be done by the time you read this. The MAB station is entering the phone contest on November 21/22 and Earl is

looking for folks to help log so please give him a call and volunteer your services.

We often talk of Amateur Radio being of value because of the public service performed. In the case of MARC we concluded an arrangement with the MAB some years ago which allows us to hold our Board meetings and assemble the Marcogram for mailing there as well as store our files and some equipment. In return the club is asked to carry out the maintenance of the equipment. We are also asked to help with logging during a couple of contests each year. If the club had to pay for these services it would considerably increase our budget and not everyone as a dining room table big enough for 8 to 10 directors to sit around. This is, in effect, cheap rent and it should not fall to the directors to do the work. We speak of

Directors

President: James R. Hay, VE2VE.....697-7205
jrhay@HayA.qc.ca
Vice President: Lanny Conroy, VE2AZK.....684-6327
lconroy@teleglobe.ca
Secretary: To be confirmed
Treasurer: Vernon Ikeda, VE2MBS.....684-7944
vern@hamgate.concordia.ca

Directors: Don Dashney, VE3RM/VE2SH.....613-675-4715
dash@hawk.igs.net

Earl Paris, VE2ESP.....524-4633
Andre Sipos, VA2ASS..... 482-5903
Sheldon Werner, VA2SW
Craig Brander, VE2YGK.....488-5109

Club Callsign: VE2ARC

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

Repeaters

VE2BG 147.06 MHz (+)

Owned by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club and operated on the Club's behalf by the Amateur Radio Club of McGill University. Located on the McGill University Campus.

VE2RED 147.27 MHz (+)

Owned and operated by the Montreal Amateur Radio Club. 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.

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.

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)	...	...	\$28.00

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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AAA Electronics and Communications

10386A Gouin Blvd. West, Roxboro

683-3955 or 592-2454 after 11:30 AM

AMATEUR EQUIPMENT all makes and models and satellite and shortwave receivers available including towers etc

REPAIRS: TV's, VCR's, microwave ovens and most radio and electrical equipment

Store Hours: 11:15 - 17:30

11:15 - 20:30

11:15 - 16:30

Closed

Tues. and Wed.

Thurs. and Fri.

Sat.

Sun. and Mon.

We try for the best prices

George, VE2GW

Amateur Radio as a community so let's pull together and offer some help within our community and make sure that the logging gets done during the contest.

The Board is working to confirm the date and place of the next hamfest. It is likely to be in the west end at the end of March or beginning of April.

This will be our annual general meeting. This is an important meeting where the members choose the President and Board of Directors for the coming year. I am willing to stand for election as President and Vern, Don, Earl, Sheldon, Andre and Craig have also expressed their willingness to stand for election as directors. Since our by-laws require that the Board of Directors be eight, nine, or ten persons we need at least one more person to join the board. Should we be so lucky as to have more than three persons come forward then an election will be required.

Since the directors elect the Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer from among their ranks it is important that there be interest among the directors to fill these positions. It would be ideal for whomever becomes Vice President to be interested in becoming President - I don't want to hold this post forever! The Secretary and Treasurer are both important positions and while they could both be filled by one person I would prefer not to act as Secretary next year. Taking an active part in the routine management of the club is a rewarding experience and frequently enjoyable. Ours is an old club with a long and honourable history and a bright future, why not help guide us into the next millenium.

That's all for now, I look forward to seeing you all at the annual meeting and we will be showing an amateur radio video which I'm sure you will all find interesting.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

As this is the last issue of the MarcOgram before the holiday season I wish to take this opportunity to wish everybody the best for the holidays and healthy and prosperous new year.

The holiday season is often a time where we get to meet lots of people at family and social gatherings. Perhaps you will have an opportunity to promote our hobby to some prospective members and encourage them to take a basic course in the new year. The year 2000 problem (Y2K) is attracting some people who wish to learn

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Montreal 911 Centre	...	...	280-2121
Laval 911 Centre	...	...	662-4240
Longueuil 911 Centre	...	...	646-8570
Surete du Quebec	...	...	598-4242
Kahnawake Peace Keepers			632-6505

These numbers are for emergencies ONLY

more about alternative methods of communications and amateur radio might be the answer for some of these people. Here are more potential candidates for our basic course starting early in the new year.

As always I am looking for articles for MarcOgram, so if you have an idea or some knowledge to share which relates to amateur radio how about putting it on paper and submitting for the MarcOgram.

73 de Craig, VE2YGK

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CONTEST CALENDAR

Here are reminders of many of the contests coming up. The ARRL phone Sweepstakes this weekend is a lot of fun. For rules see QST or www.arrl.org/contests/ on the web.

With the improvement in HF conditions the Arrl 10 Metre contest should be better than ever. You can enter on SSB or CW or mixed (CW and SSB) modes.

Of course don't forget the RAC Canada Winter Contest on Sunday December 27. You can work this one on 6 and 2 M as well as the HF bands. Check 146.58 and other simplex frequencies except 146.52. In January the VHF Sweepstakes give you another chance to work "dx" on 2M simplex.

It is not necessary to be "in the contest" to work a contest station and it is not necessary to submit a log unless you want to see your results in QST, CQ or The Canadian Amateur, etc.

ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, Phone	2100Z Nov 21 - 0300Z Nov 23
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	0000Z Nov 28 - 2400Z Nov 29
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	2200Z Dec 4 - 1600Z Dec 6
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	0000Z Dec 12 - 2400Z Dec 13
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	1500Z Dec 26 - 1500Z Dec 27
RAC Canada Winter Contest	0000Z - 2400Z Dec 27

January, 1999

ARRL RTTY Roundup	1800Z Jan 2 - 2400Z Jan 3
Japan Int.DX Contest, 160-40m	2200Z Jan 8 - 2200Z Jan 10
North American QSO Party, CW	1800Z Jan 9 - 0600Z Jan 10
North American QSO Party, Phone	1800Z Jan 16 - 0600Z Jan 17
ARRL January VHF Sweepstakes	1900Z Jan 23 - 0400Z Jan 25
CQ 160-Meter Contest, CW	2200Z Jan 29 - 1600Z Jan 31

73 de Don, VE3RM

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DX NEWS - NOVEMBER 1998

To all HF DXers (and to future DXers)

We are getting to the high end of the sunspot cycle. The 10 and 12 meter bands are open. even with a few days for ups and downs on those bands, good DXs are possible on a regular basis, such as:

Mid morning: Eastern Europe, Middle East
a bit latter: South and Central Europe, western Europe.

Mid afternoon: South Africa, South America
and a bit latter: central America, The Caribbean, the U.S.
West Coast as well as the South East U.S.

After Sunset and early morning: on "good days" Japan,
Australia, and New Zealand

All these DXs are possible on CW and SSB "bare foot" with simple omni-directional antennas such as verticals, long wires, and ordinary dipoles operated even on harmonics of the resonant frequency.

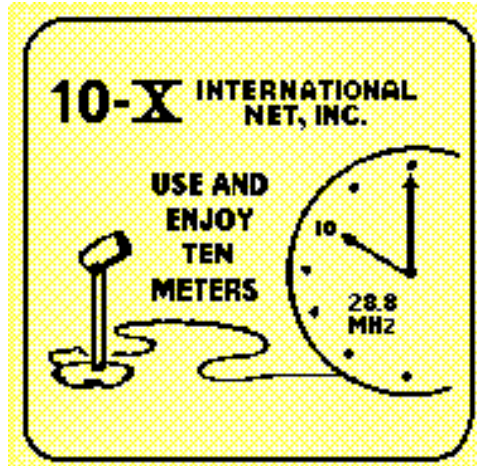
73 and good DXing de Andy, VA2ASS

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THE 10-10 NUMBER

For 11 years the sun spot cycle has been interfering with operation on some of the VHF and UHF amateur bands. One of which is the 28 MHz or 10 metre band which has been dead anytime I listened there, except for occasional bursts.

On October 17, 1998 I happened to be listening



around the frequency of 28.410 MHz and discovered the band was wide open. I called CQ and had several hams coming back to me. It was bedlam. I finally contacted N5IKD, Robert, from Dallas, Texas. After exchanging signal reports he came back to me, "Can I have your 10-10 number?"

"My gosh," I said. "It's been a time long ago. I have forgotten it." Just then another ham broke on the frequency, "Can I help you, I have a list of all the 10-10 numbers. What was your call when you were operating before?" I replied, "It was VE4NW (North Wind)." He came back shortly with, "Your 10-10 number is 3573."

So I was able to pass this on to Robert, and thanked him very much. A few days later in the mail comes a QSL card with a money order for \$1.05 to pay the costs of sending back a QSL card.

10-10 numbers are very popular on this band, and when your have collected 10 numbers you can write away for your own 10-10 number. I believe it costs \$5.00, but details can be obtained from any American ham operating this band. Come on sometime and join the fun on 10 metres. There will be much more activity on these HF bands now the sun spots are better here.

73 de Harry Easton, VA2HE (Happy Engineer)

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TEN-TEN INTERNATIONAL NET NOTES

The Ten-Ten International Net has its beginning in 1962 as an organization to promote the daily use of the 10 metre band. At that time poor propagation lead many radio amateurs to seek out other frequencies. This lead to decreased use of 10 metres and a fear that FCC might then allocate this band to another service.

A small group of enthusiasts from Southern California arranged to meet everyday, except Sundays, at 10am local time (18:00 UTC) on 10 metres. This became known as the 10-10 net (10 o'clock on 10 metres)

US Members:

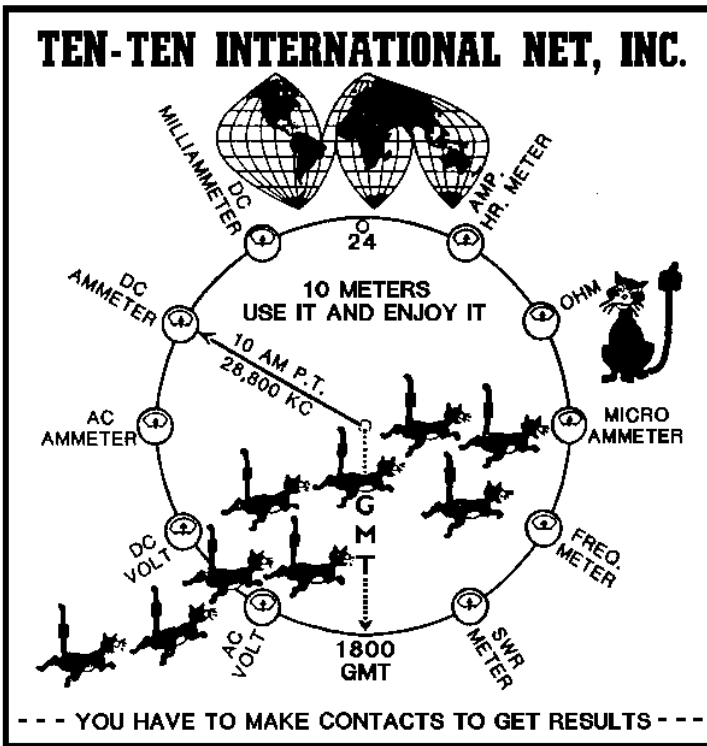
Data Manager
 10-10 International Net, Inc.
 642 North 98th Street, #142
 Omaha, NE 68144-3663

DX Members:

DX Manager
 Carol Hugentober, K8DHK, #29588
 4441 Andreas Avenue
 Cincinnati, OH USA 45211-2622

73 de Craig, VE2YKG

SCANNERS HEAR IT FIRST
 BY FREDERICK HART VE2LSQ



and used 28.800MHz as the primary daytime frequency. Certificates were printed and read Ten-Ten Net of Southern California. As the group grew in size it became more international in scope and the official name became The 10-10 International Net, Inc. incorporated in the State of California. There have been over 70,000 10-10 numbers issued.

If you are interested in more details you can visit the group's web site at:

<http://listserv.lehigh.edu/lists/tenten-l/index.html>

where most of the above information and graphics were obtained. Here are also some contact addresses:
 For a 10-10 Information Pack for information about 10-10 send \$2US and a return address label to the 10-10 Information Manager:

Jeff Ritter, N5VAV
 6959 Hovenkemp
 Richland Hills, TX USA 76118
 email: N5VAV@flash.net

For renewals and inquiries about lost and forgotten 10-10

Presto! I'm Back! Miss me? Isn't computer technology grand? In my column for September I had purposefully made my contribution of words greater than could have space, so in case we ran into deadline problems, the extra was to be October's issue, but when the appreciated efforts of Vern, VE2MBS, encountered the all too familiar push buttons, oops! Where did the file go? Cyberlimbo. Right now Jimmy Hoffa is reading my October issue. Where? Who knows? Where's Jimmy Hoffa? Where's that file? Who shot J.R.? Life can be such a mystery some times. Apologies to the readership but its good to be back again and give you some frequency/scanning info as per usual. (Although full time I'm a big loveable, huggable teddy bear, my part time radio hobby keeps me going).

You've heard it many times recently I'm sure...

Well, we will have to sell our scanners, everyone is going digital or scrambled, or computerized. Before paranoia sets in folks if you have been scanning for as long as I have, the threat of losing earfuls of our favourite radio traffic has passed down this road before. Remembering when Montreal Fire Dept. Was on VHF 169.050 they were switching in the late `70's/early `80's to UHF. No problem there are UHF scanners but lo and behold they were going to the UHF-T spectrum. Hell! No scanner reaches there! That's it, the end of listening to the fire dept. As we know it! Wrong! Funny thing these technological changes, the manufacturers of the products we buy to do this hobby are not interested in going out of business. So, as in the past there has always been a counter-attack to changes made in listening devices when ever they upgrade the system, to always end up getting figured out by someone sitting at the old drawing board. That's why they go back there. Give it time, in future I'm certain that the secret formula will be hacked into and voila! Our ears will be serenaded to the tunes of ongoing, on scene, back on track scanning the way we like it, busy!!! Don't throw those scanners out yet, but prepare to have to put up more \$\$\$ to buy the new technologies. We complain but eventually we comply and why is that? Because we LOVE IT!

New Quick Picks

If you're into scanning fire departments on the South Shore along Highway 132/15/10, 149.170 seems to be the voice paging frequency for most of that region's fire/rescue/ems/first response services all the way down to the U.S. border.

Monteregie Region Ambulance

- 867.9375 South East Mont St-Gregoire
- 867.9625 North West Rigaud
- 867.9875 South West Covey Hill
- 868.0375 Central Greenfield Park
- 868.0675 South St. Bruno

*NOTE: These seem to be the main area dispatch/regions. I'm still monitoring to confirm but they are quite active.

St. Lambert Fire Dept. Was on 155.790 and now on 410.0875. Dorval Fire Dept. was on 151.160 and are now on 411.4875. Vaudreuil-Dorion Fire Department

are on 410.8575 and Hudson Fire Department are on 412.8625.

*NOTE: The rumour mill is in full swing in the fire service. Merging departments will soon become fact in the new year and they will bring new materials to scan. Can't wait...

*NOTE: Those of you who scan the Urgences Santé, frequencies should realize the on-board computer screens are on line since a few weeks. There are still much needed voice transmissions like that of the MUCH Police and remember this is the age of the computer! System crashes - voice rejoices!

*NOTE: We are on the lookout for the crash/rescue fire service at the Dorval Airport. They were on the mini-trunk system there but seem to have disappeared. If anyone gets an earful of them let me know.

Dorval Airport

In-house mini-trunk system (Believe it or not about 75% English)

- 862.7125 862.9625 863.2125 863.4625 863.7125

*NOTE: Each day a frequency is chosen as the data channel (we think). You will hear buzzing on one of these frequencies and each day is a new frequency so 4 out of 5 are voice active and you can hear: ramp utility crews (ramp rats), refuelling crews, baggage handlers, gate security, airline passenger processing and more...

See you in the next issue.

73 de Frederick, VE2LS and a Q

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RADIO COURSES

The MARC is planning to have a basic radio course early in the new year. The course details have yet to be finalized, but is likely to take place at the downtown campus of Concordia University on Saturday mornings. If you are interested or know of anybody who is please contact Jim Hay at 697-7205, or Vern Ikeda at 684-7944.

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NEWS FROM RADIO HF

November 12, 1998

Effective immediately, Les Produits Electroniques Elkel Ltee. has decided to terminate their agreement with Radio H.F. to operate a branch of their operation from the premises of Radio H.F. in Montreal.

After a 6 month trial period, Elkel owner Mr. Andre Falardeau has decided to return all stock to their Trois Rivieres head office and cease the operation of the Montreal area branch of Elkel. This decision was taken due to the low volume of sales of amateur radio related products generated over the 6 month period.

Any MARC members who had purchased equipment from the Elkel Montreal area branch in the last 6 months will now have to deal directly with Elkel-Trois Rivieres for warranty repairs, service, etc.

Radio H.F. wishes to advise all amateurs that we will be returning to our former operation, offering all types of amateur radio accessories, including antennas, power supplies, SWR meters, batteries, and other products in the amateur radio field. At this time we will not be selling any transceiving equipment (handhelds, mobiles, HF, etc.) Negotiations are under way which might see this change at some time early in the new year.

For the time being, we hope that all MARC members will continue to support Radio H.F. as they have in the past. If any members have any questions as to the types of products available at Radio H.F., please feel free to contact me. Radio H.F. will do its best to serve the amateur community of the Montreal region to the best of our ability.

A mailing will be generated in the next few weeks, including a new price list, indicating the products and brand names once again available through Radio H.F.

Thank you all for your continued support in these difficult times for amateur radio.

Radio H.F. operating hours:
Tuesday to Friday- Noon to 8 PM
Saturday- 10 AM to 4 PM
TELEPHONE: 450-671-3773

FAX: 450-671-3775
TOLL FREE ORDER LINE: 1-800-463-3773
E-MAIL: ve2shw@yahoo.com

Sheldon Harvey, VE2SHW
Owner, Radio H.F.

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WELCOME TO THE CLUB

On behalf of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, I would like to welcome new members William (Bill) Oscroft, VA2HHV, Stan Petacic, VE2QXP, Jeff Reed and Danny Wong, VE2DXW. Jeff will be taking the basic course with us in the New Year.

73 de Vernon Ikeda, VE2MBS

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CLASSIFIED

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

1) FOR SALE

a) **SWR meter - Heathkit HM102** - 2000 Watts capacity asking \$40

b) **RG8X-95 cable** - transparent 25 feet - asking \$15

c) **16 bit SVGA Graphics Adapter 256k** upgradable to 1Meg - Generic brand in original packaging- asking \$30

d) **Modem - US Robotics Sportswear 33.6 Fax-modem** in unopened original packing asking \$125

Contact Alex Poulos, VE2DKU 514-337-9506

2) FOR SALE

a) **Kenwood 440** with speech synthesizer and 2 CW filter with matching power supply, low pass filter, and miscellaneous items. An excellent radio which is also suitable for a visually impaired or blind person. This unit is in mint condition with packaging and manuals,

with approximately 40 hours of use.

Price to be discussed .

b) **Cushcraft ATB34 Beam Antenna** - Good for 10-15-20 metres and a Ham 3 Rotor with console. Manuals for both items. These two items are currently installed and would need to be taken down. Price to be discussed.

For more information contact Earl Paris, VE2ESP at 524-4633 (home) or 489-8201 local 300 (work - Montreal Association for the Blind Tuesdays to Thursdays).

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A NOTE OF THANKS

The thanks of the club are due to two members who have decided to take a less active role than they have in the past.

Gerry Ippersiel, VE2AMY, resigned at the end of the summer after many years of service on the Board of Directors. With Gerry's help we were able to hold our Board meetings at the MAB as well as prepare the MarcOgram for mailing. While Gerry will continue to attend general meetings he will be missed on the Board of Directors.

Lanny Conroy, VE2AZK, has decided to retire from the Board and will not stand for re-election due to pressures of work. Lanny has offered invaluable contributions to the deliberations of the directors and has worked hard on behalf of the club and its members. While Lanny will attend meetings when he can and help wherever he can working for an employer who requires considerable travel makes it difficult to remain as an active director. We look forward to the day when Lanny will have more time to re-take his place on the Board and will miss his support and guidance until that time.

73 de Jim, VE2VE

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COMMUNITY SERVICE

Earl Paris, VE2ESP, 524-4633 is looking for volunteers to help the Montreal Association for the Blind radio station, to operate during the ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, Phone from 2100Z Nov 21 to 0300Z Nov 23. For more details and information contact Earl, 489-8201 local 300 (work - Montreal Association for the Blind Tuesdays to Thursdays).

NOTICE OF MEETING

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be held at St. Thomas Anglican Church, corner of Somerled and Rosedale, in the City of Montreal on Wednesday, November 25th, 1998, at eight o'clock in the evening.

The meeting is called for the purpose of:

- Receive and if thought fit, approve the reports of the officers,
- Receive, and if thought fit, approve the report of the auditor,
- Elect a President for the ensuing year,
- Elect a Board of Directors for the ensuing year,
- Transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Given at Montreal this 15th day of October, 1998.

(sgd) Jim Hay

Jim Hay, VE2VE
Secretary.

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