

marc



gram



Next meeting - May 29, 2013

Ragchew and Fleamarket : 19h30, Club meeting : 20h00

St-Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church
4455 West Broadway, N.D.G. - Montreal

This month is Show & Tell. Bring your projects.

MarcOgram

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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The marcOgram team needs you!

We're always on the lookout for interesting articles to include into your monthly newsletter. Do you have a ham radio news item you would like to contribute or just pass along to the marcOgram editors? Just send your document or links to Cliff Tooher, VA2UTC
va2utc@marc.ca

Club Activities - Monthly Meetings

Club meetings are held on the last Wednesday of the month at St-Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church, 4455 West Broadway, N.D.G. - Montreal. 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!

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 same venue as the monthly meetings (see above).

Should you wish to attend one of the meetings you are welcome. Just speak to one of the directors beforehand to make certain that the meeting has neither been cancelled, nor the location changed.

Club Directors

President:

Paul Iarrera, VE2OFH

Vice President:

Sheldon Werner, VA2SH

Treasurer - Secretary:

Jim Hay, VE2VE

Membership:

Vernon Ikeda, VE2QQ

Directors at Large:

Craig Brander, VE2YGK

Eamon Egan, VE2EGN

Marc-Andre Gingras, VE2EVN

George Hedrei, VE2NGH

Cliff Tooher, VA2UTC

MARC Fundraiser WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

In order for MARC to reach some of its goals, we have decided to re-introduce advertising in the marcOgram newsletter. The rates are as follows:

- Business card \$ 5.00 per issue
- Quarter page \$ 7.00 per issue
- Half page \$12.00 per issue
- Full page \$20.00 per issue

The "Marcogram" publishes from September to June, which is nine issues. We also publish a summer edition during the months of August/September, which becomes a free month. So we actually publish ten issues. We have a list distribution of about 200 persons. A business card placed for 9 issues would only be \$ 40.00. We are asking for all members with family or friends who have a business to place an ad. You could also advertise a special function.



A Word from the President

Hello all,

Has another season of MarcOgram already gone by? I can't believe it...what does this even mean? Cliff, VA2UTC our trusty content editor must explain this to me. In an email I got from him two short days ago, this is what he seems to be telling me. Full of editorial verbiage such as "Final edition of the season", "It's a wrap" and "Let's put this baby to bed". It's enough to cause a poor ham to panic. Field day has yet to come and go? Radio Talk 2013 is still in it's infancy. How can I have so many things on my plate and yet be at the last edition of the season? I am overwhelmed by events, dates and colleagues who always seem to know what day it is before I do.

Speaking of field day, I have an important update for you all. Our very own Jim (VE2VE) Hay has come out swinging with the various city bureaucracies and has added another feather to his already well adorned political cap. Folks we are in the presence of a master here when it comes to dealing with city counsel and it's denizens. The mark of a true expert in any discipline is their ability to make what they are doing appear to be easy. I was privy to the email exchanges Jim undertook with the city. In not one of these emails was a sense of urgency

or nervousness as to the outcome of our requests. Meanwhile, George VE2NGH and myself were in a panic as to what we were going to do with field day. We pressed Jim, bugged him, came up with contingency plans. It was almost infuriating to watch Jim go along all nonchalantly and handing out soothing platitudes to George and myself while we twisted in the wind. I had even gone so far as to predict that no borough would partner with us for this event and didn't hesitate to bring up the matter at our Board of Director meetings. Well Jim I have to say, this crow pie I'm eating here tastes delicious especially knowing that I'll be sharing a Bar-B-Que with you all on field day at centennial park in Beaconsfield this year. Jim, from all of us involved in the annual tri-club field day effort, a heartfelt thanks goes out to you along with our admiration for your considerable diplomatic skills. The other night at my monthly WIARC meeting, somebody asked me who was in charge of field day? My response was, well it depends on what you are talking about. For the past month, Jim has definitely been in charge with field day and the rest of us have been content to follow along on the sidelines, wringing our hands and gnashing our teeth. I think only Jim could have pulled off what he did and my hat goes off to him for his excellent (Cont. Page 4)



Annual Fees are:

General Members	\$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.

Club Call Sign: VE2ARC

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

Club Email: ve2arc@rac.ca

Repeaters

VE2BG 147.06 MHz (+)
Owned and operated by Montreal Amateur Radio Club.
Located on the Pointe Claire water tower.

VE2RED 147.27 MHz (+)
Owned and operated by Montreal Amateur Radio Club.

work. George is now officially as of this writing, in charge of field day. I will be his gopher... not to say that we don't want or need help from anybody else, too the contrary we welcome new ideas and contributions. A number of suggestions have already been made to improve on our setup and tear down performance and safety. Those of you who've suggested, know of what I speak and you can rest assured, that I will be tapping you on the shoulder bright and early next year to have you help us implement some of your ideas.

This month's meeting topic is show and tell. Here's your chance to shine and make everyone else in the club jealous with your mad skilz in home brewing. Bring in any project you feel may be of interest to the rest of us and by the way, there is a very wide range on interests amongst the club members so don't sell yourself short here. Bring it in who knows you may start a movement. I'll be looking forward to seeing you and your projects on the 29th in the mean time, good DX.

73 de Paul, VE2OFH

From the Desk of VA2UTC

Wow the last edition for the season has come upon us here at the Marcogram world HQ. Ok it's here at my QTH in Montreal North and maybe it's more like the world of ham radio a la Montreal. Still we have touched on the local and international stories that have been of interest to the local ham nation. And, I had a blast doing the content for this season. I will be back again in the fall as the Content Editor.

I would like to take a bit of space here on the page to thank all of those who contributed articles and to the editorial crew, Sheldon VA2SH, Marc-Andre VE2EVN and Nora VE2NH. Each contributed to the making of the Marcogram in they're own unique way and I thank them for a job well done. The Macogram will be back again in August with a special summer edition featuring Field Day and a few other odds and ends tossed in for good measure.

In the meantime I plan to do some antenna work and of course I also will be doing some contesting. In June I will be at Field Day, this year it's at Centennial Park out in Beaconsfield.

As always I hope to see many of you on the bands if not face to face.

I hope you have had plenty of enjoyment reading the Marcogram. Thanks for the trust and the stories we'll see you in August.



Cliff T VA2UTC
Marcogram Content Editor.

The mobile ham

Well it's been sometime since I've written anything about mobile/portable communications and it's high time that I did. In case you haven't noticed, members of the MARC and WIARC have in the past year increased their contacts on just about every band, by going mobile, portable, luggable and bringing their rigs and gear with them to the mountain tops. This past weekend saw two reconnoitering expeditions launched. Dan, VA2KEY and Sheldon, VA2SH have reported a successful mission to New Brunswick in preparation for this years golden packet trail event. The golden packet is an APRS oriented event. Where APRS packets are sent from one end of the Appalachian trail to the other. Hams man mountain tops along the trail and digipeat APRS packets across the entire range. Dan and Sheldon tell me they climbed mount Carlton, using the "easy route" Apparently the easy route requires hand and foot holds to get to the summit. Let me make this clear here. Dan and Sheldon drove to New Brunswick and climbed Mount Carlton in order to do a site survey for a possible

location from where, they can extend the range of the golden packet trail event into New Brunswick. Yes folks that's right they will be going back again in July so they can capture and digipeat a packet which starts out life somewhere in Alabama Georgia. Last year the packet made it's way all the way to Georgia to Massachusetts and then from New Hampshire to Main (with a break in the chain in New Hampshire). I'm sure with Sheldon and Dan on the job, that packet will make it quite a bit further this year. Go guys!

That was not the only mountain topping going on though as Frank VE2TOR, Ray VA2RY and myself headed north into St-Donat and up Mount de Canelles. The weather was wonderful, the road up the mountain quite muddy (no I didn't climb it I drove up with my pickup truck) and the puddles of water at the top were limpid, clear and deep enough to swallow a 500\$+ Kenwood mobile rig. The rig has since dried out and is working fine, but let me tell you mountain topping is not for the faint of heart. It can be hard on both the body (climbing and/or black flies) and the gear. (Continued on Page 5)

From Mont de Canelles, I was able to have a QSO with Claude VE2YI while he was wandering around the fair grounds in Dayton over DMR via the Covey Hill repeater VA2CYH. That was pretty cool, but the height sure didn't hurt my chances as Mont de Canelles must be something like 100 miles from Montreal. Since our cross band repeater was a little soggy, we didn't do any crossband repeater testing and instead drove along to the Mont St-Zenon area for more prospecting. Not too lucky from there getting into any Montreal area repeaters a beam would have been handy but this was as Frank calls it, a Ninja deployment. Hardly any preparation or planning and just driving to see what happens. Almost makes me suspect that

after a long winter, I was not the only one chomping at the bit to get out of the city. I almost sent Frank and Ray away at one point so I could stay and fish the St-Michel river (a very nice little stream). I had my fly fishing gear in the back of the truck and would have stayed, except neither Frank nor Ray would promise that they'd come back and pick me up afterward... What's a poor fishing ham to do?

Guys as we head into another season of mountain topping, there is one thing to keep in mind. It's not the 20 meter fall that hurts you, it's the sudden stop at the end that does the trick...

73 de Paul, VE2OFH

Chris Hadfield VA3OOG

One very busy man, Chris Hadfield who recently returned from space after spending 146 days on the ISS is adjusting to life back on earth. His adventure in space aboard the ISS included activity on the Internet via Twitter at https://twitter.com/Command_Hadfield and on Youtube doing a rendition of David Bowie's Space Oddity, <http://youtu.be/lc8BcBZ0tAI>. He also did some work on the ham bands according to the ISS fan site on the web at <http://www.issfanclub.com>. Chris has been a part of the Canadian Astronaut program since 1992. Besides working on space shuttle safety Chris was the voice of NASA to

astronauts in orbit for 25 missions as chief CapCom. Chris has an amazing flight history certified on 70 aircraft



including the CF-18 Hornet. This was his 3rd trip into space. Who says hams can't take flight.

Welcome home Chris you have done Canada proud.

VA2UTC



VE2CVR Club Tailgate Fest Event

Le club de radioamateur de la vallée du Richelieu tiendra son Tailgate fest le dimanche 26 mai 2013.

Nous serons installés dans le stationnement de la succursale de la banque Royal situé au 185 boul. Omer-Marcil à Saint-Jean tout juste de biais avec le Wal-Mart. De l'autoroute 35 direction sud, prendre la sortie 45 (boul. Pierre Caisse) et vous tombez directement sur Omer-Marcil. Il n'y aura aucun frais pour exposer mais les contributions volontaires seront les bienvenues. Le tout ouvrira pour affaire à 09h00. Les exposants pourront s'installer à partir de 08h00.

Pour les exposants, vous devez confirmer avec Jean VA2DJD (va2djd@videotron.ca) le 21 mai au plus tard.

Cliquez ICI pour voir la carte

Bienvenu à tous

Mario VE2MRW

Président de VE2CVR

The amateur radio club of the Richelieu Valley will hold its Tailgate Fest Sunday, May 26 2013.

We will be holding the event in the parking lot of the Royal Bank branch located at 185 Blvd. Omer-Marcil in Saint-Jean just past the Wal-Mart. To get to the event take highway 35 south and get off at exit 45 (Boulevard Pierre Caisse) continue until you connect directly on to Omer-Marcil. There will be no charge to be an exhibitor but voluntary contributions are welcome. The event starts at 9:00. Exhibitors will be able to set up at 08:00.

For exhibitors, you must confirm with Jean VA2DJD (va2djd@videotron.ca) on 21 May at the latest.

Click [HERE](#) to see the map

Welcome to all

Mario VE2MRW

President VE2CVR

Special thank you to John VE2EQL for sending this note to us for publication.



VE2DKU Alex Shack Sale

I was recently contacted by Alex VE2DKU and asked to help him with selling some gear he has.

The following list is for items he has up for sale.

1. Versa Tuner II MFJ Model 948 \$75
2. Realistic PRO 2006 Scanner \$70
3. 20 Amp DC power supply \$100
4. Kenwood TS-820 \$300
5. Drake MN 200D Matching Network \$60
6. AEA PK 232 Controller Multi-Mode Data \$100
7. MFJ 816 Watt/SWR meter \$20
8. Yaseu YH-55 Headphones \$20
9. Sure Mic Model 444 with 4 pin connector plug \$50
10. Vectronics HF/VHF Dry Dummy Load rated 1.5 KW \$60
11. Drake low pass TVI filter Model Tv-30/300-LP \$25
12. CW Keys on wood base \$30 no base \$20
13. Para Dynamics heavy duty coax switch model PDC2N \$30
14. Daiwa Coax switch CS201A \$40
15. Lightning arestors, LT EMP trap 200W through 300MHZ, RT EMP trap 200W through 500MHZ, RT/N EMP trap 200w through 10HZ \$80 for the lot
16. Realistic TH-202 2m HT \$100
17. 8 Ohm speaker, snap on chokes, toroids, coax plugs and seal for the lot \$50

Contact Alex VE2DKU at alex64@yamil.com All sales final please no returns or refunds.

Also please note that the MARC executive and club as a whole are not responsible for the condition of the goods. This is a private sale request and you are requested to contact this seller directly.

VA2UTC



VKOJJJ

VKOJJJ Craig is on the air on all bands including 6. He is operating from Mawson Station in the Antarctic. The station consists of the following.

- Rig- Flex 5000A (SDR)
- 160m - 10m @ 1000 watts
- 160m - 10m Amplifier Emtron DX-2sp
- 6m - 400 watts
- 6m Beacon antenna - 2 x M2HO loops
- 6m beacon frequency 50.300 MHz
- 6m beacon power 280 watts EIRP
- 6m beacon call sign VK0RTM
- 6m antenna - 5 element yagi (M2 6M5XHP) 12m ASL, 6m AGL
- 160 - 10m antenna - terminated sloping triangle (100m x 100m x 80m & 19mH)
- 160 - 40m antenna - 34m Vertical
- Satellite - 2m/70cm - Arrow antenna

Craig reports that he has made EME CONTACTS FROM MAWSON the stations were G8BCG, SM7FJE and SM7AED. It is not verified of these were the first ever EME contacts, but Craig has made the claim that they are.

The actual location he is at is 67°36' S 62°52' E 7151 Grid MC12kj.

For more info including QSL information visit the QRZ site for VKOJJJ.

VA2UTC

FP/KV1J

Let's not forget that there is life on the bands even as summer approaches. In July FP/KV1J will be active. Eric will be



active from Miquelon pretty much the whole month of July. For more details including station and QSL info you can visit KV1J.com Just to give you some perspective on where the Dxpedition is going to be here are some particulars.

Grid GN17, CQ Zone 5, ITU Zone 9 and IOTA NA-032 are the locators for the Dxpedition.

Here is a link to the grid map for that area, http://www.levinecentral.com/ham/grid_square.php?Grid=GN17 The island is not considered to be Canadian territory, but in fact is an entity of France.

VA2UTC



"P5 Project" Announced at Visalia

CQ Magazine is reporting that two DX groups are joining up to work on a project called P5. The goal is to activate the prefix belonging to North Korea.

The Intrepid and World Wide DX group have put together a proposal for a four week operation in the DPRK. With the help of a Chinese emissary the proposal was submitted to officials in the DPRK.

For more on this story visit the CQ Newsroom via <http://cqnewsroom.blogspot.ca/2013/04/p5-project-announced-at-visalia.html>.

It should be noted that P5 is the only prefix not heard on the ham bands making this the rarest and most wanted one in the world. I can just imagine what the pile ups would be like if a station went live from the DPRK. The sound alone would probably be one heck of a din.

VA2UTC.



Self Healing Chips Are A Reality

The team from the High-Speed Integrated Circuits laboratory in Caltech's Division of Engineering and Applied Science

repeatedly blasted tiny power amplifiers with a high-power laser, vaporizing many of their components. They then watched the chips develop their own work-arounds in less than a second.

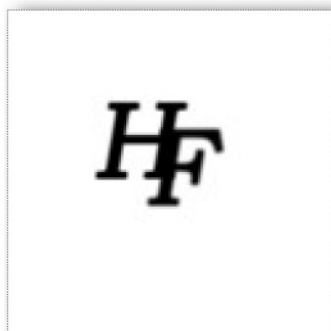
The new integrated circuits are so small that 76 of them, including the amplifier and everything needed to heal it, can fit on one penny. The amplifiers developed by the team use on-chip sensors that monitor temperature, current, voltage, and power. These sensors send the information to a custom application-specific integrated circuit or ASIC which is a central processor on the same chip that functions as the system's brain. The ASIC evaluates the information it receives from the sensors about the amplifier's performance, decides what adjustments need to be made to the system's actuators, and makes those changes. The unit was designed to get to the optimum state for all actuators in any situation without outside intervention. The benefits of this approach go beyond overcoming severe damage. Because of the self sensing, these amplifiers used about half as much power as those without the self-healing capability, and performance was more predictable and reproducible.

In addition to working around damage to parts of the circuits, the amplifier's self-healing can repair static variation due to differences across components and long-term aging problems that arise over time as use changes the internal properties of the system. It can also handle short-term variations caused by changes in load, temperature, and differences in supply voltage. Since chips such as these are useful for next-generation communications, imaging, sensing, and radar applications, showing successful self-healing here should mean that it also can be done in less cutting-edge electronic systems such as cellphones and maybe someday even in ham radio gear.

Amateur Radio Newsline May 17 Report 1866

That's A Wrap! See YOU in August



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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

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