

marc gram

Volume 59, Number 01 - September 2013



Field Day 2013.
Centennial Park, Beaconsfield.

Next meeting - September 25, 2013

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

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

**Presentation by Leo, VE2SI.
Impedance Matching and Power Transfer.**

Next month... **MARC Annual General Meeting**
Wednesday, October 30th 2013, 8PM.

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,

My goodness what a busy summer season we've been having. I've hardly had any time for many of my usual summer occupations. I may not have gone to as many Hamfests as I would have liked, but nevertheless myself and the rest of the board have kept busy organizing events and taking care of club business.

Jim Hay, VE2VE kindly agreed to have the brand new hard line the club ordered for the VE2BG repeater shipped to his address. There is knowledge that we acquire by studying and that which we acquire by doing. Knowing something intellectually is not the same as experiencing it outright. I think this was brought home to me when I got a call from Jim. He sounded mildly alarmed and was explaining to me how the crated spool was huge and taking up a significant portion of his driveway and that he didn't see how we could possibly keep it there for any length of time. Thank you Jim for storing it all through the summer season. I don't think any of us wanted to move that spool more times than absolutely necessary.



The Montreal Solder Spot held an extremely successful antenna workshop led by Gilles Renucci, VE2TZT fellow solder spotters left their soldering irons at home this time and came equipped with laptops and geometry sets. For an in-depth look at antenna systems and the tools used to evaluate and predict performance for our own particular usage cases and operating situations. Gilles taught us so much in those four sessions and



yet as I write these words, I'm sitting up north (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.



at my fishing camp under a makeshift dipole antenna built using the cut and try method. I threw it up in the trees as high as I could (around 40ft or so) I've been using it for QSOs on the 40 and 20 meter bands and having a good time familiarizing myself with a recently purchased IC-765. Gilles, my dipole is a very sketchy home brew affair put together in a few minutes time and the feed point is randomly off center by a small

distance. Perhaps when I come back into the city, I'll measure it precisely and if nobody else has fed their antenna at the exact same point, I'll call it the VE2OFH antenna HI HI!

Radio Talk 2013 is on September 21st this year and it's an event that you won't want to miss. We have an interesting roster of speakers lined up for you this year with topics of interest for all tastes and levels of experience. Come on out and support your club at this all day event at the Loyola Parish Hall (the same QTH as the MARC general meetings). You will not regret it.

At the time of this writing, the speaker for our September meeting is still a Top Secret Item and I am not a liberty to divulge this information at this time. Nevertheless I look forward to seeing you at this month's meeting and will expect that we have lots to catch up on.

Until then, I wish you many happy QSOs.

73 de Paul, VE2OFH



Lobstercon 2013 A New England QRP Gathering in its 14th year.

By John Grow, VE2EQL.

It has been stated by a past attendee on his first Lobstercon visit, a few years back, that this is nothing like a Ham event, but more of a family reunion. And since, I have attended every year, I can attest to that comment. The event is held at Thomas Point Beach & Campground, in Brunswick, Maine in July. The campground provides all the needed items for campers or RV'ers. They also have tall trees for great wire antennas. The format is very relaxed, which provides a great escape for a few days. This is one event where everybody is

socializing, and the wives or girlfriends are involved. Over the years they have formed the Lobstercon Ladies Auxiliary Society and Drinking Club. And these ladies are involved, and are already planning for next year's event.



In past years, the event started on Friday, with most of the attendee arriving in the afternoon. Due to the popularity, hams are arriving on Wednesday, and leaving on Monday, making the best of seafood, great company and relaxing activities like operating or putting up antennas. This provides us with the opportunity of joint meals with other campers. Bill Richardson, NG1P and his lovely wife Melissa, prepared smoked briskets and a Mexican bean soup. Its amazing how good food creates a crowd? Usually, a no-host dinner for Friday evening is arranged, and many campers enjoy sampling Maine's finest-fresh caught seafood. The evenings, provides round table discussions of any topic, with some help of liquid beverage's. For those lucky campers (Continued on Page 5)

who venture out at sunrise, will be surprised to be greeted with coffee and donuts / muffins. It was decided early on that it was best to get the sugar high as early as possible. At this time the Ladies Auxiliary and Drinking club are busy planning on a precision shopping trip for provisions for the BBQ lunch and follow-up Lobster supper. They prepared lists at their morning meeting, and went out in teams, each armed with a task of items to purchase. Military planners would be proud.

The ladies (and we are lucky they are involved) prepare all the foods, drinks, and other items needed for the BBQ lunch. We



were lucky to have our own member of the MARC, Eamon Eagan, VE2EGN brought his whole family along. His wife Hisako and daughters Moegi, Mayu and Lumine got right into the action to help out. His family, were also the largest winners in the raffle. Charlie, Rex Harper's, WIREX, university professor was the BBQ chef, a task that he has fulfilled for many past years, and we Thank him for his great service. After the BBQ lunch, tables were cleared, and hams brought out their flea market goodies. There were many QRP related items, and many nice radios for sale. At the same time, Rex Harper WIREX gave each ham attendee a "Tuna Tin 2" to build. So Eamon, VE2EGN, headed up the build-a-ton and parts selection. This was very popular and went on until 2:00 AM. We were lucky to have power and lights. For our supper, our Lobster provider Bill Legge NT1R is very appreciated. The lobsters are fetched fresh from the ocean that day, and arrive ready for their hot water bath. We usually have around ~ 225 lobsters for the supper. There are reports of some hams, helping themselves to 3 or 5 Lobsters. During the supper, we are very lucky to have generous support of Ham radio suppliers, and individuals. Our master of ceremonies is John Grow, VE2EQL, helped by his YL, Suzanne VE2SZN. Each prize was identified, and then with the help of our winnings ticket picker, Willie and a young lady, Isabelle (daughter of Pete VE2XPL) who was taking pictures of each happy winner. Our grand-prizes; were provided by Elecraft,

Pignology, and Sierra Radio Systems. For the complete list of sponsors / donors and the winners, please see <http://www.lobstercon.me/Lobstercon%20door%20prizes.pdf>

After the supper and general clean up, many "QRP'ers" bought out their musical instruments for a sing along jam. These went very well, with visiting campers stopping by to see what the celebrations were about. We even had a family from Norway who were traveling thru North America for the summer. This was a great introduction for the family to the joys of amateur radio and its people. Our DX visitors were Ken & Karen LoCasale, WA4MNT & KF4EEL from Clarkdale, Arizona and Jim & Jan Rodenkirch, K9JWV from St. George, Utah.

Our special guest was Ed Hare, W1RFI, who brought along the original "Tuna Tin" build by Doug DeMaw, W1FB.



Lobstercon is not done by just 1 organizer, but a community of helpers, too many to name, since everyone helps out to make this an unforgettable even. But a special, Thank you has to go



to Bill NT1R, Kayti Harper, Carl WA1ZCQ, Bruce N1RX, Brad N1VWD, John KK1X, Jim KC1FB, Jeff KA1OLE, Eamon VE2EGN, Pete VE2XPL, Howard WA1CFX, Arn K0ZK, Bill NG1P, Steve KD1JV, Seab AA1MY, Peter W1PNS, Mike N2HTT, Dennis K1LGQ and Jean K1AVM, Ann K1QO, Burt W1DFU, Jim W1PID, Mike KB1IUI, John VE3NFK and Uncle Cy (The Led Guy) (Continued on Page 6)

KITES. Special mention goes to Robert Schmeichel N1RXV, who has taken hundreds of Lobstercon pictures. http://www.n1rxv.com/neqrp/lobstercon13_w/Page.html

Great weather, fantastic food, great company, time to operate and put up antennas and flowing solder. Life is good. For more information check out <http://www.lobstercon.me>

John Grow, VE2EQL

Notice Of Meeting.

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Montreal Amateur Radio Club, Inc. will be held on Wednesday, October 30th 2013 at eight o'clock in the evening at the St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish Church, 4455 West Broadway (corner Terrebonne) in N.D.G., Montreal. The meeting is called to Receive and if thought fit, approve the reports of officers, Receive and if thought fit, approve the reports of the auditor, elect a board of directors for the ensuing year and to transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Given in Montreal this 16th day of September. 2013

Secretary. Jim Hay, VE2VE.



Field Day 2013



Radio Talk 2013

September 21, 2013 is a big day to put on your calendar again this year. MARC and WIARC will be hosting the event at the same location for this year's Radio Talk conference. Radio Talk 2013 will be held starting at 9am at :

St. Ignatius of Loyola Parish
4455 West Broadway
Montreal, QC H4B 2A7

Radio Talk is a significant new event on the MARC calendar of yearly activities. It's a big happening among the amateur radio community. Here is the list of guest speakers you can expect to hear at this year's conference.

- John Grow, VE2EQL - Remote station operation.
- Alex Wenzl, VA2FPV - Using amateur radio in first-person view remote control flying.
- Jimmy Howard, JWH - Topic to be announced.
- Donald Courcy, VE2CW - Submarine and navy radio operations.
- Jacques Audet, VE2AZX - A comprehensive examination of ferrites and baluns.
- Guy Lamoureux, VE2 LGL, Président-directeur general, Radio Amateur du Québec
- Antenna height restrictions and guidelines in Quebec municipalities.



Speakers and their topics are still subject to change. Watch for updates and schedule at www.radiotalk.ca.

Your presence at this event will be key to a successful event and as such, we are counting on you to be there as well as get the word out to your friends and relations in the amateur radio community. Our two clubs, WIARC and MARC coordinating on this event shows how inter-club cooperation is not only possible, but quite fruitful here in Montreal. Lets show them the robust community of amateur radio enthusiasts that montreal really is.

Marc-André, VE2EVN

NEAR-FEST – May 4th. & 5th. 2013

I just came back from a 3-day trip to Near-Fest, and wow what an event, not to be missed. Besides the perfect weather, and hundreds of sellers and commercial exhibits, the only thing that I can say was not perfect, was not winning the Elecraft K3 radio that was the main door prize. Michael Crestohl, W1RC who has been the event organizer for the past 13 events, has a success with Near-Fest. Check out the website <http://www.near-fest.com:8084/nearfest/> This years, focus was to raise funds for the victims of the Boston Marathon.

The website is <https://secure.onefundboston.org/page/-/donate11.html> At the time of writing this, it is not known how much the Near-Fest organizers collected, and they stated that they will match all donations that were collected.

What was seen and what was interesting: I did not see Leo's heliax coax for \$ 5.00, but there was a lot of amateur radio items for everybody. Antennas, Baluns, Coax, Dipoles, Earth – Moon Earth Stations, Fans, Golf balls, Heliac, Insulators, Junk, Kilowatt amplifiers, Linears, Microphones, Nuts, Opinions, Potentiometers, QSO's, Resistors, Standoff's, Tesla Coils, Un-un's, Vintage Gear, X-rays, Windom antennas, Yankee Tangos, and Zulu Time pieces. A lot of the stuff looked like it came out of the show room, and other equipment, left in the barn for 50 years. An added attraction is the Military radio guys, who show up in their military communications vehicles and jeep's. They are buying and selling all sorts of military communications equipment. Some Commercial Vendors and their wares:

QuickSilver Radio Products, <http://www.qsradio.com>

Owner, Joe Bee, N1GNV, featured Anderson Power Poles and various power pole products. LMR-400 Coax at great prices, and lots of products for DC power applications. He also sells the popular BaoFeng UV-5R 136-174/400-480 MHz Dual-Band DTMF CTCSS DCS FM Ham Two Way Radio.



For the QRP'er, they have the "QuickKit", which is a metal Altoids box with a printed circuit board, and mounting hardware. So the box is ready to accept your new project.

HamSource, <http://www.hamsource.com>

Owner, John Kalotai, N1OLO has lot of products for hams, but his DC components are unique. The EZ series of products, include the EZmeter DC Power Monitor, EZ-Gate 80, which is a DC UPS combiner, just add your back up battery and power supply. The unit will maintain & charge your batteries while



hooked up to your power supply. So your load (radio & accessories) will always have back-up power. The have lower current versions for 30 or 40 amps. This saves you from having a dedicated battery charger.

For the QRP'er, he has many products for the Yaesu FT-817, WLB-817, the lithium polymer or LiPo battery pack with



charger. He also has a very portable, windom antenna. No antenna tuner is required if you operating on the 40 to 6 meter bands. I have many of the above products, and I'm very happy.

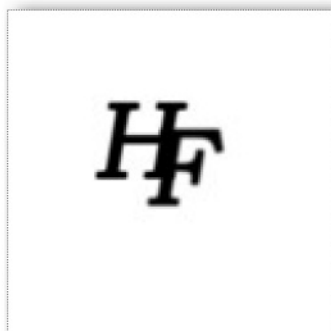


Davis Rope and Cable, www.davisropeandcable.com

Owner Steve Davis, was in the commercial section, and he had specials on ropes, coax, and ladder line. I was lucky to purchase a 1000 ft roll of 3/16" Double braided Dacron rope. What I like about Davis rope and Davis RF, all his products are US Made. And if there was any product problem, Steve would handle it.

The next NEAR-FEST XIV will be October 11th & 12th. The fall is the perfect time for a weekend trip, and to enjoy the joys and friendships of Hamradio. I hope more members of the MARC will attend in the fall.

John Grow, VE2EQL

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