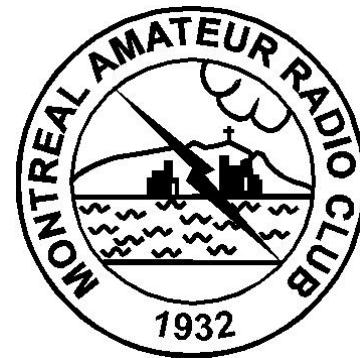


marcOgram

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Box 53047 - RPO Dorval, Dorval Quebec H9S 5W4



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October 2020

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 27 October 2020 at 20:00 via ZOOM.

As you are all aware by now, covid-19, and its 2nd wave has made it impossible to hold in-person meetings right now. Instead, we will hold General Meetings via the Zoom platform. The October meeting will be the first virtual Annual General Meeting held by the MARC. Below are the details you need to join the meeting. A rag-chew session starts at 19:30 with the formal meeting starting at 20:00.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/92218952458?pwd=N1gyREJwYTVkdUdYN0F2RUJXZmdNZz09>

Meeting ID: 922 1895 2458 Passcode: 076888 Or by phone 438-809-7799 using the above meeting ID and passcode.
Important: Please use a headset or headphones and make sure to test your mic/camera ahead of the meeting.

We hope to see you there.

Marc-Andre Gingras, VE2EVN
President - Montreal Amateur Radio Club

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

The upcoming meeting is important - it's the MARC Annual General Meeting. Reports will be presented, and we will hold elections for the positions on the Board of Directors. Without input from the membership, the club is like a rudderless ship so please show up digitally, and vote.

Due to the continuing threat of COVID-19, the AGM will be held digitally, by Zoom. The details are printed above; please attend and take part in your club's direction.

In brighter news, on this page you will find the new improved ways of renewing your membership. If you renew on the MARC web site, you can use PayPal or Interac; the paper version is for payment **by cheque only**.

73 de Nora, VA2NH

- . . . -

Membership Time!

- It is that time of the year again! September 1st was the start of the new membership year. It's not too late, please renew. We'd like to see you back.
- You can either complete the form online at <https://marc.ca/memform/> and pay with PayPal or Interac e-Transfer (new this year), or you can print the membership form and post it with your cheque.
- You'll find the pdf form here: <https://marc.ca/membership/marcform2021.pdf>

We hope to see you soon.

• Marc-Andre Gingras, VE2EVN
• President - Montreal Amateur Radio Club

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.

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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-Pres:	Leo Nikkinen, VE2SI..... ve2si@marc.ca
Treasurer:	Harrison Kyle, VE2HKW..... va2hk@kylenet.org
Secretary:	Nora Hague, VA2NH..... va2nh@marc.ca
Directors:	Sheldon Werner, VA2SH..... va2sh@marc.ca
	George Hedrei, VE2NGH..... ve2ngh@marc.ca
	Eamon Egan, VE2EGN..... ve2egn@marc.ca
	Mario Piacitelli, VA2TMP..... va2tmp@marc.ca

Club Call Sign: VE2ARC

Club Website: <http://www.marc.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 held on the first Tuesday of the month (Aug to June) at 19:30 on-line using the Zoom platform. The club no longer holds in-person board meetings. If you have questions, concerns or suggestions for the Board to discuss, please send an email to ve2arc@marc.ca for inclusion to the meeting agenda.

Club Activities

Monthly Meetings are by ZOOM

(last Tuesday of the month)

Oct 27 - AGM

Nov 24 - Leo, VE2SI, TBA

Every Wednesday, @ 20:00 (00:00Z), go to the net on VE2RED. See page 3.

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 2020 MARC flea market has been cancelled.

It will be back next year but we still need a good location. Any ideas? Please contact any of the board members.

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 email to qsl@marc.ca and we will add you to the list of cards that the incoming bureau sends to the club and bring them to the monthly meetings.

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

2020

What: NEAR-Fest XXVIII

Who: New England AR Festival

When: **CANCELLED**

(16-17 Oct, 2020)

Where: Fair grounds, Deerfield NH

What: Montreal South Shore Hamfest

Who: Club RA Rive-Sud de Montréal

When: **CANCELLED**

(17 Oct, 2020)

Where: Place Desaulniers, Longueuil, QC

2021

What: Iroquois ARC Fleamarket

Who: Iroquois Amateur Radio Club

When: Saturday, 3 Apr 2021

Where: Iroquois ON

What: NEAR-Fest XXIX

Who: New England Amateur Festival, Inc

When: Fri & Sat, 30 Apr & 1 May, 2021

Where: Deerfield Fairgrounds
Deerfield, NH

What: London Vintage Radio Club Flea Market

Who: London Vintage Radio Club

When: Tuesday, 8 Jun, 2021

Where: Guelph, ON

What: Carp 24th Annual Hamfest

Who: Ottawa Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

When: Saturday, 11 Sep, 2021

Where: Carp Agricultural Fair Grounds,
Carp, ON

VE2RED TUESDAY NET REPORT

Any discrepancies, please inform Leo, VE2SI

Please join us every **Wednesday** evening at 20:00 local on VE2RED on 2m output frequency of 147.270 MHz (+600 kHz input offset) CTCSS tone of 103.5 Hz. Everyone is welcome.

We have a few Net operators hosting it, but we're always interested in adding to this team if you're interested. Send me an email if you would like to try out Net Operations for an evening.

Marc-Andre, VE2EVN

President - Montreal Amateur Radio Club

2020-09-23 Net commenced 20:00 local, 00:00Z

Net control Marc-André, VE2ARC (VE2EVN)

VA2ASS, Andy, Cote St. Luc

VE2SI, Leo, St-Lazare

VE2WRH, Wayne, Cote St. Luc

VA2NH, Nora, St. Lazare

VA2XS, Michael, St, Laurent

VA2LY, Lubo

20:52 Net closed.

7 check-ins.

Discussion: tube experience; ISS ham station; QSOs from a camper at VE2HKW's; portable operation; digital modes.

2020-09-30 No records

2020-10-07 Net commenced 20:03 local, 00:03Z

Net control Leo, VE2ARC (VE2SI)

VA2ASS, Andy, Cote St. Luc

VA2NH, Nora, St. Lazare

VE2WRH, Wayne, Cote St. Luc

VA2LEQ, Lee, Laval

VE2YI, Claude, Laval

VE2KFC, Norm, St. Constant

VE2MVY, David, Oka

20:56 Net closed.

8 check-ins.

Discussion: everyone's first experience listening to short-wave.



THE TRAVELS OF CLUB REPEATER VE2BG

By Leo Nikkinen, VE2SI
leo49@videotron.ca

VE2BG (147.060 MHz), one of the Club repeaters, has moved around over the years. It was intended to provide good downtown, west-end Montreal, and West Island coverage. It had been located on Burnside Hall on McGill downtown campus for several years and was moved in 1999 to the top of the Pointe Claire water tower. In 2019 the Club was notified that, due to new security arrangements, we would no longer be able to operate VE2BG from the water tower. It would need to be removed, pending installation at a new site. With no new site available at the time, several of us gathered and at the base of the water tower on May 23 2019 and removed the repeater and all associated hardware. Removal of the antenna and coax cable required professionals and some time later the antenna and cable were delivered to Jim Hay's (VE2VE) home.

Anyone who has worked on tower-mounted antennas usually ends up saying "it didn't look that big when it was up there". HF beams, particularly, seem to grow as they are brought down from the tower into a back yard but the "effect" occurs for all antennas. The weight of anything larger than a short VHF or UHF antenna is also often underestimated. Multi-band HF beams can weigh close to, and exceed, 100 pounds, which is a lot of weight to handle when you're on top of a tower and still significant if you

have to try moving it around single-handed at ground level. VE2BG's antenna is a Sinclair VHF 4-bay array of folded dipoles on a vertical mast. The Sinclair is a robust commercial-grade antenna designed to withstand just about anything that the elements can throw at it and that sturdiness is not achieved using lightweight construction. It is 20 feet (6.1 metres) long and weighs 60 pounds (27kg).

As with many garages, particularly an amateur radio operator's garage, the space is used as a storeroom rather than a place to keep a car. Those who have had the opportunity to add significantly to

their stock of equipment and supplies can appreciate the volume and storage options provided by a garage. The antenna had been at Jim's place since 2019, but the space was needed now for other things, and the Club had to move the antenna. With barely constrained enthusiasm, Nora VA2NH and I offered to store the antenna. We have some outdoor space and a large shed that might even be able to shelter the antenna from the weather.

However, moving the antenna was an issue. A disassembled multi-band HF beam will usually fit onto the roof rack of a family car, but the Sinclair's mast is one 20-foot section. Smart cars and even an SUV were out of the question. Our best option was a pickup truck, preferably one with a long bed. Fortunately U-Haul carries a suitable long-bed pickup truck and there was an outlet within a few minute drive from Nora's and my home. The antenna would have to extend over the cab from the back of the bed, but it could all be accommodated within the legal limits. A team was assembled, with George VE2NGH and myself, and Jim would assist at his end.

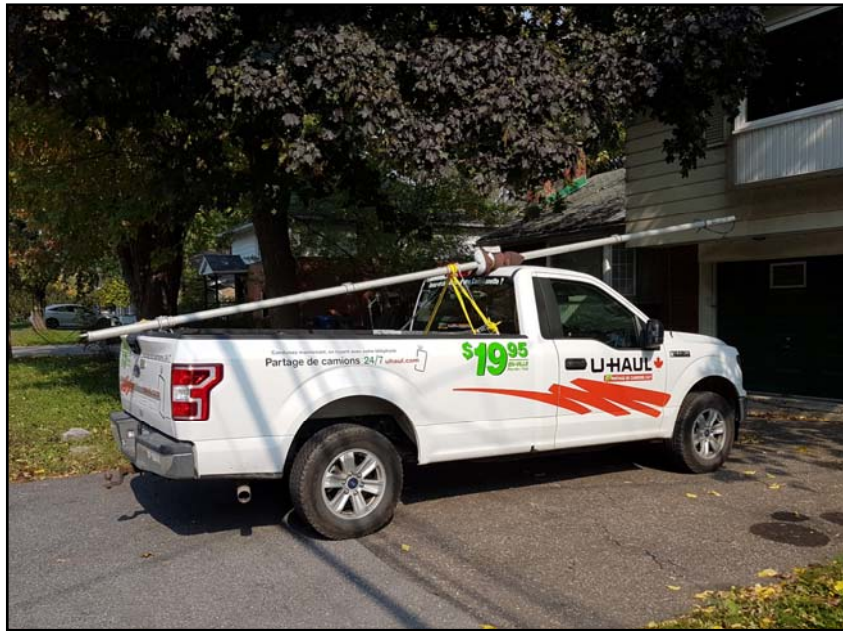
Saturday morning October 10th I picked up the truck, drove to Jim's place in Pointe-Claire and met up with George. Fortunately, it

was sunny and the temperature was perfect for doing light work. With Jim's help we managed to load the antenna into the truck. Cushioning was placed between the antenna mast and the cab, and the antenna was roped and strapped securely in place.

With George driving behind the U-Haul and watching for any antenna movement, and while maintaining communication on 446.400MHz direct, we moved the antenna from Pointe Claire to Saint-Lazare.

As you might have read in previous MARCo-

grams, we obtained a much newer, used, commercial-grade Motorola MTR2000 as a replacement for the old VE2BG repeater. So, we have a "new" repeater, a good antenna and the cable to connect the two together. We are only lacking a site for VE2BG. COVID-19 made it difficult to consider installing the repeater this summer but we are looking for a suitable location and hope to be able to report before much longer that VE2BG is once again operational. If anyone knows of a suitable repeater location, please feel free to get in touch with Marc-Andre VE2EVN, George VE2NGH or myself VE2SI.





SK - VE2YG Reg Walker - SK

Reginald James Walker, born 27 November, 1929, passed away on 7 October, 2020 in Montreal. Son of Reginald James Walker (deceased) and Ruby Alice Wyatt (deceased), Reg died after a short illness in his 91st year. Predeceased by his wife Valerie May Walker, VE2DRI. Survived by his brother, David Walker (Natalie) and sister, Ann Dalton Walker (Des), and nieces and nephews. Reg was a retired TCA (Trans-Canada Airlines) and Air Canada pilot and engineer who loved flying and all things aeronautical. He was a keen amateur radio enthusiast, holding the callsign VE2YG, and several other exotic callsigns as a result of flying around the world. He was also a member of the Air Canada DX Club, and holder of their license VE2RY. In his later years he loved to walk. A Montrealer born and bred. Many thanks to the staff of St Mary's Hospital for their care during his short illness. Any donations in Reg's memory should be to St Mary's Hospital or the SPCA.

Credit: Montreal Gazette, 10 October, 2020

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 27, 2020 at 8:00 PM via the Zoom platform due to COVID-19 restrictions in place.

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 in St. Lazare this 13th day of October 2020.

(Sgd.) Nora Hague

Nora Hague, VA2NH
Secretary
Montreal Amateur Radio Club, Inc.